



The City of New York
Department of Investigation

JOCELYN E. STRAUBER
COMMISSIONER

180 MAIDEN LANE
NEW YORK, NY 10038
212-825-5900

Release #01-2023
nyc.gov/doi

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
MONDAY, JANUARY 9, 2023**

**CONTACT: DIANE STRUZZI
(212) 825-5931**

**DEFENDANT WHO ACCEPTED HALF-A-MILLION DOLLARS IN BRIBES IS SENTENCED TO 18 MONTHS IN PRISON
AND ORDERED TO PAY \$570,000 IN FORFEITURE AND RESTITUTION**

Jocelyn E. Strauber, Commissioner of the New York City Department of Investigation (“DOI”), issued the following statement on today’s sentencing of GEORGE DJURASEVIC to 18 months in prison for violating the Travel Act and, concurrently, eight months in prison for Tax Evasion; followed by 30 months of supervised release. United States District Court Judge LaShann DeArcy Hall sentenced DJURASEVIC today in federal court in Brooklyn. In addition to a term of imprisonment, DJURASEVIC must also pay a fine of \$25,000, \$457,000 in forfeiture, and \$114,000 in restitution. The office of Breon Peace, the United States Attorney for the Eastern District of New York, prosecuted this investigation.

In September 2022, DJURASEVIC, 54, of Armonk, N.Y., pleaded guilty to accepting approximately half-a-million dollars in bribe payments in his role as a manager of a company contracted by the New York City Water Board (“NYCWB”) to provide sewer and water pipe repair services to New York City homeowners. In return for the bribe payments, among other things, DJURASEVIC allowed the sub-contractor to overbill for work performed or to not perform certain repairs to the homeowners’ sewer and water pipes. DJURASEVIC also failed to report his true income to the Internal Revenue Service, which resulted in his failure to pay more than \$114,000 in income taxes.

DOI Commissioner Jocelyn E. Strauber said, “This defendant used his company’s contract with New York City as an opportunity to accept hundreds of thousands of dollars in bribes and in exchange failed to properly oversee a sub-contractor — permitting that entity to overbill and to fail to meet its obligations to the City and its residents. Today’s sentencing demonstrates that DOI and its federal partners will pursue this misconduct, which carries serious consequences.”

Commissioner Strauber thanked DOI’s partners on this investigation: U.S. Attorney for the Eastern District of New York Breon Peace and his staff, specifically Assistant United States Attorneys Philip Pilmar, Robert Polemeni and Dana Rehnquist, of the office’s Public Integrity Section; Michael J. Driscoll, Jr., Assistant Director-in-Charge, Federal Bureau of Investigation, New York Office; and Thomas Fattorusso, Special Agent in Charge, Internal Revenue Service Criminal Investigation, New York Field Office.

At DOI, this investigation was conducted by Special Investigator John Bourke and Director of Law Enforcement Services Noah Mohney, under the supervision of Deputy Inspector General Michael Antolini, Inspector General Juve Hippolyte, Deputy Commissioner/Chief of Investigations Dominick Zarrella and First Deputy Commissioner Daniel G. Cort.

DOI is one of the oldest law-enforcement agencies in the country and New York City’s corruption watchdog. Investigations may involve any agency, officer, elected official or employee of the City, as well as those who do business with or receive benefits from the City. DOI’s strategy attacks corruption comprehensively through systemic investigations that lead to high-impact arrests, preventive internal controls and operational reforms that improve the way the City runs.

DOI’s press releases can also be found at twitter.com/NYC_DOI

Know something rotten in City government? Help DOI Get the Worms Out of the Big Apple.

Call: 212-3-NYC-DOI or email: Corruption@DOI.nyc.gov