



The City of New York
Department of Investigation

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**DOI STATEMENT ON GUILTY PLEA OF FORMER QUEENS ELECTRICAL CONTRACTOR TO
MAKING ILLEGAL PAYMENTS TO BRIAN MCLAUGHLIN**

ROSE GILL HEARN, Commissioner of the New York City Department of Investigation ("DOI"), issued the following statement regarding today's guilty plea of SANTO PETROCELLI, SR. to one count of making an unlawful payment to a labor representative. PETROCELLI, the former owner of Petrocelli Electric Company, pleaded guilty in U.S. District Court in Manhattan. The United States Attorney's Office for the Southern District of New York is prosecuting the case.

DOI Commissioner Rose Gill Hearn said, "This conviction is a red light to any City contractor contemplating doling out pay offs as a way of doing business: They will be brought to justice. This conviction closes the chapter on the blatant fraud perpetrated by this former electrical contractor with the City and a one-time labor leader and State assemblyman. DOI investigators applied their expertise on City contracts and agencies and worked hand-in-hand with our federal law enforcement partners to expose and stop the corruption."

Commissioner Gill Hearn thanked Acting United States Attorney for the Southern District of New York, Lev. L. Dassin; Joseph M. Demarest Jr., Assistant Director-in-Charge of the Federal Bureau of Investigation's New York Field Division; and Daniel R. Petrole, Acting Inspector General of the United States Department of Labor, and their staffs, for their joint work on this investigation.

DOI is one of the oldest law-enforcement agencies in the country. The agency investigates and refers for prosecution City employees and contractors engaged in corrupt or fraudulent activities or unethical conduct. 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.

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