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> Office of Public Information 718-250-2300

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Kings County District Attorney Kenneth P. Thompson Announces Conviction in Fraud Trial Involving MTA Funds

The Defendant Was a Former Assistant District Attorney

Brooklyn, NY. Kings County District Attorney (KCDA) Kenneth P. Thompson announced the conviction of John Headley who was found guilty of fraud and official misconduct in a case involving New York City Transit Authority funds. The jury reached its verdict the day after District Attorney Thompson announced his <u>Public Integrity Hotline</u> where citizens can report public corruption. Headley was a former KCDA prosecutor, from 1991-1995.

"I am pleased with this verdict that shows that my office stands firm in bringing to justice any individual who would engage in fraud against the government. This jury worked hard to reach the right verdict and we commend them for their duty," said District Attorney Kenneth Thompson.

"I wish to thank District Attorney Thompson and his staff for their vigorous and successful prosecution of John Headley for defrauding the MTA. The jury verdict is particularly satisfying given the importance of the issue and the significant investment of resources made by both of our offices during this intensive joint investigation and subsequent prosecution," said MTA Inspector General Barry L. Kluger

In 2007, John Headley was on the outside counsel panel for the MTA's New York City Transit Authority and represented NYCTA in lawsuits; he was also a prosecutor in Brooklyn from 1991-1995. Headley submitted documents using a false name to Jacqueline Jackson, a NYCTA manager in the Law Department, asking her to hire Advance IME, an independent medical examination company he owned. Headley and Jackson were in a romantic relationship. Jackson faces charges of hiring Advance and steering about \$98,000 in NYCTA business to Headley's company.

Headley was paid for the government business Jackson assigned to him. During this time, Headley made payments to benefit Jackson and also sent numerous e-mails to NYCTA where he continued to use this false name to hide that he was behind the company. Had Headley used his real name, he likely would have been disqualified from the work because of the conflict of interest caused by his relationship with the government official. Headley and Jackson were both arrested and arraigned in Supreme Court in March of 2010. Jackson is being tried separately.

On Thursday, March 19, 2014, a jury found Headley guilty of four counts involving fraud – Offering a False Instrument for Filing in the First Degree and for giving kickbacks to MTA employee Jackson – two counts of Rewarding Official Misconduct in the Second Degree. Each count is a Class "E" Felony. Headley faces 1 1/3rd- to 4 years on each count. The jury was unable to reach a verdict on seven other counts of Rewarding Official Misconduct.

DA Thompson reminds the public that anyone with information about public corruption can call the KCDA's Public Integrity Hotline at **718-250-2747**, and there's more information about this effort at <u>www.brooklynda.org</u>

The Assistant District Attorney on this case was Michael Spanakos of the KCDA Rackets Bureau; also assisting on this case was the MTA's Office of the Inspector-General with Special Investigative Counsel Marcie Kaplan and Investigator Peter Van Wygerden, under Inspector-General Barry Kluger.

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