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**FORMER CITY INSPECTORS ALLEGEDLY SCHEMED TO PROVIDE STATE FOOD
SANITATION CERTIFICATES TO HUNDREDS OF UNQUALIFIED INDIVIDUALS**

CHICAGO – Federal fraud charges were filed today against two retired Chicago Public Health Department food sanitation inspectors, including a west suburban woman who was authorized by the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) to teach state-mandated food sanitation courses and administer exams to individuals seeking certificates as food service sanitation managers. By arranging for hundreds of unqualified individuals to fraudulently obtain City of Chicago and State of Illinois food service sanitation certificates, the defendants allegedly enabled those individuals to prepare and serve food while working in restaurants, grocery stores, care facilities and schools and at events where food is served to the public. One defendant, **Maryanne Koll**, who operated Kollmar Food Safety Institute from her home in Burr Ridge, allegedly caused approximately 584 state food sanitation certificates to be fraudulently issued since 2003 to individuals who, in various instances, either had not attended an approved course or taken or passed an approved exam. Co-defendant **Robert Henry** allegedly referred approximately 98 of those individuals to Koll and collected a fee between \$300 and \$400 from each of them, splitting the proceeds with Koll, according to the charges announced by federal law enforcement officials and the city's Inspector General.

Koll, 64, of Burr Ridge, and Henry, 64, of Olympia Fields, were each charged with one count of mail fraud in a criminal information filed in U.S. District Court. The charges were announced by Patrick J. Fitzgerald, United States Attorney for the Northern District of Illinois; Robert D. Grant, Special Agent-in-Charge of the Chicago Office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation and David Hoffman, Inspector General for the City of Chicago.

Koll was released on her own recognizance after she was arrested on June 5 on similar charges in a criminal complaint. Agents executed a search warrant at her residence at that time. Henry was charged publicly for the first time in the information filed yesterday. Both will be arraigned at a later date in U.S. District Court.

Federal authorities said they have provided state officials with information about the unqualified individuals who received fraudulent state certificates.

According to the charging document, Koll was employed as a Sanitarian II between 1994 and 2002 in the Chicago Public Health Department's Food Protection Division. She was approved by the IDPH in 1995 as an instructor for the state certificate courses. Henry retired from the city food protection unit in 2004 after 15 years, part of which he was employed as a Supervising Sanitarian.

The charges allege that between January 2003 and May 2007, Koll and Henry engaged in a fraud scheme in which they took money from individuals – usually at least \$300 – to fraudulently arrange to provide them with State of Illinois and City of Chicago Food Service Sanitation Manager Certificates without passing the required examination. Through a reciprocity agreement between the city and state, an individual holding an Illinois certificate could obtain a Chicago certificate without taking a second exam by submitting a copy of the state certificate to the city along with a fee.

A state-approved course includes 15 hours of training, including instruction regarding food borne illnesses, time/temperature relationships, personal hygiene, pest control and prevention of food

contamination. All public food service establishments must have an individual holding a sanitation certificate on site during operation.

Koll allegedly made false representations to the state public health department, including that a certain number of individuals would be taking a sanitation certificate course on specific dates, that a certain number of students would be enrolled, and that she would administer an exam provided by the state at the conclusion. As a result, Koll caused the state to ship her the exact number of Sanitation Certificate Exam Books that she requested and which were intended by the state to be used to test an individual's knowledge of topics relating to food service preparation and sanitation.

As part of the scheme, Koll allegedly completed or altered individuals' answers on the exams, ensuring that they would pass the course and exam to obtain a state certificate. Koll then mailed or sent via commercial interstate carrier a class enrollment form, the exam books, the answer sheets, and an attendance list to the IDPH, falsely representing that the individuals listed on the documentation had passed the exam necessary to obtain sanitation certificates. The IDPH would ultimately ship state certificates to the individuals listed on the documentation, entitling them to serve and prepare food for the public, even though they had not completed either the course or exam.

The case is being prosecuted in Court by Assistant U.S. Attorneys Michelle Nasser Weiss and Tinos Diamantatos.

If convicted, Koll and Henry each face a maximum penalty of 20 years in prison and a \$250,000 fine. The Court, however, would determine the appropriate sentence to be imposed.

The public is reminded that an information contains only charges and is not evidence of guilt. The defendants are presumed innocent and are entitled to a fair trial at which the government has the burden of proving guilt beyond a reasonable doubt.

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