



*United States Attorney  
District of New Jersey*

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CONTACT: Rebekah Carmichael  
Office of Public Affairs  
(973) 645-2888

**FORMER JERSEY CITY MAYORAL CANDIDATE LOUIS MANZO AND BROTHER  
CHARGED WITH ADDITIONAL COUNT OF MAIL FRAUD**

NEWARK, N.J. – A federal grand jury returned a Superseding Indictment against former Jersey City, New Jersey mayoral candidate Louis Manzo and his brother, Ronald Manzo, United States Attorney Paul J. Fishman announced.

The seven-count Superseding Indictment, returned this week and filed by the court today, adds one count of mail fraud to the original, six-count Indictment returned on October 6, 2009.

According to Count 7 of the Superseding Indictment:

The Manzos devised a scheme to defraud candidates running for Jersey City council of \$27,500 in cash payments received from the cooperating witness in the case (the "CW") – payments the Manzos intentionally concealed from the candidates and the campaign committee treasurer. Louis Manzo ran for Mayor of Jersey City on a ticket that included seven other candidates for elective office, all of whom agreed with Louis Manzo to join a campaign committee to raise funds for, and defray the costs of, their respective campaigns. On April 21, 2009, the Manzos allegedly caused the mailing of a New Jersey Election Law Enforcement Commission ("ELEC") report that intentionally failed to disclose \$17,500 of the cash payments the Manzos received from the CW.

The first six counts charge that the Manzos accepted and agreed to accept this money, as well as a future payment, to influence Louis Manzo's official action in favor of the CW were he elected Mayor.

The additional mail fraud count carries a maximum statutory penalty of 20 years in prison and a \$1,000,000 fine. The government is also seeking forfeiture of the \$27,500 in corrupt payments.

In determining an actual sentence, United States District Judge Jose L. Linares will consult the advisory United States Sentencing Guidelines, which provide appropriate sentencing ranges that take into account the severity and characteristics of the offense, the defendant's criminal history, if any, and other factors. The judge, however, is not bound by those guidelines in determining the sentence. Parole has been abolished in the federal system. Defendants who are given custodial terms must serve nearly all that time.

U.S. Attorney Fishman credited Special Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation,

under the direction of Special Agent in Charge Michael B. Ward, in Newark, New Jersey, and the Internal Revenue Service Criminal Investigation Division, under the direction of Special Agent in Charge William P. Offord, for the investigation of the Manzos. Fishman also thanked the Monmouth County Prosecutor's Office, under the direction of Prosecutor Luis A. Valentin, for their assistance in the investigation.

The case against the Manzos is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Christopher J. Gramiccioni.

The charges and allegations contained in the Superseding Indictment are merely accusations, and the defendants are presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty.

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Defense counsel:

Louis Manzo – John D. Lynch, Esq., Union City, New Jersey

Ronald Manzo – Samuel R. DeLuca, Esq., Jersey City, New Jersey