

United States Attorney Southern District of New York

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NEW ROCHELLE MAN ARRESTED FOR CONSPIRING TO COMMIT MURDER FOR HIRE

LEV L. DASSIN, the Acting United States Attorney for the Southern District of New York, JOSEPH M. DEMAREST JR., the Assistant Director-in-Charge of the New York Field Office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation ("FBI"), and RAYMOND W. KELLY, the Police Commissioner of the City of New York, announced today the arrest of ANTHONY V. PILIERO for conspiring to commit murder for hire. According to the criminal Complaint unsealed today in Manhattan federal court:

Beginning in November 2008, PILIERO conspired with another individual ("CC-1") to murder one of PILIERO's former business partners (the "business partner") in order to collect on an insurance policy issued on the life of the business partner. PILIERO understood that CC-1 would make the murder appear as if it had occurred during a home invasion at the business partner's Connecticut residence.

Insurance records show that since March 1999, PILIERO has been the sole beneficiary of a \$1,000,000 life insurance policy covering the business partner. PILIERO agreed to pay CC-1 from insurance proceeds received following the business partner's death.

PILIERO, 48, of New Rochelle, New York, is charged with one count of murder for hire. If convicted, PILIERO faces a maximum sentence of twenty years in prison and a fine of \$250,000, or twice the gross gain or loss from the scheme.

PILIERO is expected to be presented today before United States Magistrate Judge THEODORE H. KATZ in Manhattan federal court.

Mr. DASSIN praised the outstanding investigative work of the FBI and the New York Police Department.

The case is being prosecuted by the Office's Organized Crime Unit. Assistant United States Attorney KENNETH A. POLITE is in charge of this prosecution.

The charge set forth in the Complaint is merely an accusation and the defendant is presumed innocent unless and until found guilty.

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