



*United States Attorney
Southern District of New York*

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**VICE PRESIDENT OF MIDDLETOWN SAFETY CONSULTING FIRM
PLEADS GUILTY TO CONSPIRING TO DEFRAUD THE NEW YORK CITY
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION**

LEV L. DASSIN, the Acting United States Attorney for the Southern District of New York, announced that JOHN MEYER, 58, a Vice President of IMS Safety, Inc., ("IMS") a corporation based in Middletown, New York, pled guilty today before United States Magistrate Judge LISA M. SMITH in federal court in White Plains, New York, to participating in a conspiracy to defraud the New York City Department of Environmental Protection ("DEP"). According to the Information to which MEYER pled and statements at his plea allocution:

IMS held itself out as a firm specializing in, among other things, regulatory compliance in the area of worker health and safety. IMS was hired by DEP contractors to provide safety oversight at DEP construction sites. DEP contracts required such safety oversight, and required that safety oversight personnel be trained in rules and regulations relating to worker safety and experienced in the construction industry and construction safety. However, from approximately 2006 through January 2008, MEYER and others engaged in a scheme in which they made and caused to be made false representations to DEP regarding the experience and training of certain IMS employees so that DEP would approve their appointments to safety oversight positions. These included false representations concerning the employees' experience in the construction industry and with construction safety, and concerning the employees' training on rules and regulations relating to worker health and safety.

In pleading guilty, MEYER admitted that he had engaged in a scheme from 2006 to 2008 to place unqualified employees with DEP. He also admitted to having furnished a resume containing false representations to one IMS employee and coaching that employee to confirm the false representations on the resume during an interview for a DEP safety position. He admitted that DEP paid \$1,035,000 as a result of fraudulent scheme.

Sentencing is scheduled for March 19, 2009, before United States District Judge STEPHEN C. ROBINSON in federal court in White

Plains. MEYER faces a maximum sentence of five years in prison and has agreed to pay restitution in the amount of \$1,035,000. In connection with his guilty plea, MEYER also agreed to forfeit \$1,035,000.

Mr. DASSIN praised the efforts of the United States Environmental Protection Agency's Criminal Investigation Division, the United States Department of Labor Office of Inspector General, and the New York City Department of Investigation in connection with this investigation. Mr. DASSIN thanked the New York State Department of Health and the New York State Department of Labor for their assistance in the investigation.

Assistant United States Attorneys MARCIA S. COHEN and ANNE C. RYAN are in charge of the prosecution.

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