



THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY'S OFFICE
DISTRICT *of* RHODE ISLAND

[U.S. Attorneys](#) » [District of Rhode Island](#) » [News](#)

Department of Justice

U.S. Attorney's Office

District of Rhode Island

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Friday, May 11, 2018

Union Officer Sentenced for Embezzlement, Aggravated ID Theft

PROVIDENCE, RI – A former business manager and financial secretary for the Operative Plasterers and Cement Masons International Association Local 40 in Rhode Island was sentenced today to 36 months in federal prison for embezzling \$319,795 in union and union benefit funds.

At sentencing, U.S. District Court Chief Judge William E. Smith also ordered Richard D'Antuono, 42, to pay full restitution to the union funds and to serve 3 years supervised release upon completion of his term of incarceration. D'Antuono pleaded guilty on January 18, 2018, to a three-count information charging him with embezzlement from a labor organization, embezzlement from an employee benefit plan, and aggravated identity theft.

The U.S. Sentencing guideline range of imprisonment in this matter is 24-30 months incarceration on the embezzlement charges, plus a consecutive mandatory sentence of 24 months incarceration on the charge of aggravated identity theft. The government recommended a term of imprisonment of 48 months.

D'Antuono's sentence is announced by United States Attorney Stephen G. Dambruch and Jonathan Russo, District Director, U.S. Department of Labor, Office of Labor-Management Standards, Boston-Buffalo District Office.

At the time of his guilty plea, D'Antuono admitted to the Court that for two years, beginning in 2015, he embezzled \$319,795 from a union operational account and from an apprentice fund, an employee benefit plan used to finance training programs for apprentice plasterers and masons and for the retraining or refresher training of journeymen union members.

D'Antuono admitted that he made checks out to himself substantially in excess of his salary and a stipend to which he was entitled. In some instances, he had the authorized signatories sign blank

checks, which he later used to embezzle funds from the operational account. In other instances, he forged the signature of the authorized signatories on checks. D'Antuono admitted that he also embezzled funds from the Apprenticeship Fund by writing checks payable to the Local 40 operation account and then embezzling the funds in the same manner.

D'Antuono was the sole full-time officer of the Operative Plasterers and Cement Masons International Association Local 40.

The case was prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney John P. McAdams.

The matter was investigated by U.S. Department of Labor, Office of Labor-Management Standards with the assistance of the Office of Inspector General Office of Investigations - Labor Racketeering & Fraud, and the Employee Benefits Security Administration.

###

Topic(s):

Financial Fraud

Component(s):

USAO - Rhode Island

Contact:

Jim

Martin (401) 709-5357

Press Release Number:

18-51

Updated May 11, 2018