

Miami-Dade Commission on Ethics & Public Trust

Investigative Report

Investigators: Breno Penichet & Kennedy Rosario

Case K 12-075	Case Name: Data Industries/ Paradyne Consulting	Date Open: November 20, 2012	<u>Date Closed</u> : June 04, 2013
Complainant(s): Miami Dade County General Services Administration	Subject(s): Jesus "Jay" Pons Diana D. Pons Bruno Diaz		

Allegation(s):

On December 20, 2011 the MDPD-PCIB initiated an investigation into allegations that Mr. Phil Raifaizen (Raifaizen) dba /Data Industries/Paradyne Consulting Services (Paradyne), was involved in fraudulent activities.

Paradyne was a contractor with Miami-Dade County (MDC) to create and maintain infrastructure technology.

According to the information obtained, Paradyne was engaged in a well-organized scheme to defraud M D C, accomplished with the help of at least two MDC employees. PCB Detective Luis Rodriguez interviewed an employee of Paradyne, Tony Mei (Mei). Mei advised that Raifaizen ordered company employees to submit forged time sheets for overtime hours that were not worked.

Investigation:

Interviews

COE investigators Kennedy Rosario and Breno Penichet were requested to assist Detective Luis Rodriguez MDC- PCIB with the investigation into the allegation of fraudulent invoicing by Paradyne, and MDC Internal Services Employee Jesus "Jay" Pons, and Bruno Diaz.

In the ensuing months the COE was periodically advised of the pro-active investigation.

Although the COE investigators did not participate in any of the pro-active aspects of the investigation COE investigators consulted with both the PCIB and SAO via investigative updates and meetings.

The investigation culminated in the arrest of Jesus Francisco Pons, Diana D. Pons, and Bruno Diaz via an arrest warrant sworn to by PCIB Detective Luis Rodriguez on the 3rd of June 2013.

The COE Advocate assisted in the formulation of misdemeanor conflict of interest charges, but ASA Breeze Telfair decided to withhold the charges at the time the Warrant was issued due to the fact that each defendant was already being charged with multiple counts of RICO, Conspiracy to commit RICO, Bribery, Bid Tampering, Official Misconduct, Unlawful Compensation, Extortion, Fraud, Money Laundering, Organized Scheme to Defraud, and Grand Theft.

It is also noted that none of the PCIB reports or any evidentiary material gathered through the investigation is held by the COE.

A copy of the Affidavit in support of Arrest Warrants has been made part of the investigative file.

Document/Audio/Video Review:

(Description of item reviewed including date) Summary of findings

Affidavit in support of Arrest Warrant.

(Description of item reviewed including date)

Summary of findings

Sworn Statements of several employees

(Description of item reviewed including date)

Summary of findings

Miscellaneous files

Conclusion(s):

Search warrants and arrest warrants were executed and three Miami Dade County employees were arrested. Efforts are underway to recover some of the stolen money.						
No other action required case closed.						

(Signature)				1
				6/11/2013
Breno Penich	et	N	de	OE Investigator

Approved by:

Michael Murawski, Advocate

Miriam S. Ramos, Deputy General Counsel

Joseph Centorino, Executive Director