




Memorandum



Miami-Dade County Office of the Inspector General
A State of Florida Commission on Law Enforcement Accredited Agency
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To: The Honorable Carlos A. Gimenez, Mayor, Miami-Dade County
The Honorable Jean Monestime, Chairman
and Members, Board of County Commissioners, Miami-Dade County

From: Mary T. Cagle, Inspector General 

Date: May 1, 2015

Subject: Former County Vendor Pleads Guilty to Workers' Compensation Fraud
Ref. IG11-50

Pedro M Diaz (Diaz), the owner and president of Best Janitorial & Supplies, Inc. (Best Janitorial), a former Miami-Dade County vendor, pled guilty yesterday to one count of Workers' Compensation Fraud over \$20,000 (a second degree felony) and one count of Grand Theft (a third degree felony). Diaz, who was arrested in September 2014¹ following a joint investigation by the Miami-Dade Office of the Inspector General (OIG) and the State Attorney's Office, was sentenced to six years of probation.

Best Janitorial provided cleaning services to County facilities from 2004 to 2013. Diaz underreported the salaries of his employees in a scheme to underpay workers' compensation premiums and administrative fees. As part of his sentence, Diaz is required to pay restitution to several employees for wages that he withheld from them, in addition to reimbursing the OIG for the cost of the investigation. Further, Diaz is prohibited from future contracting with the County.

The OIG would like to thank ISD's Contract Monitoring & Compliance Section of the Small Business Development Division for their assistance and cooperation during the course of our investigation.

cc: Alex Ferro, Chief of Staff, Office of the Mayor
Edward Marquez, Deputy Mayor
Lester Sola, Director, Internal Services Department
Alice Hidalgo-Gato, Section Chief, Contract Monitoring & Compliance, ISD
Cathy Jackson, Director, Audit & Management Services Department
Charles Anderson, Commission Auditor

¹ OIG Memorandum detailing the fraud scheme and arrest.
<http://www.miamidadeig.org/newsreleases2014/IG11.50BestJanitorialWC.pdf>