

GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
Office of the Inspector General

Inspector General



July 12, 2016

The Honorable Muriel E. Bowser
Mayor
District of Columbia
1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Mayor's Correspondence Unit, 2nd Floor, Suite 316
Washington, D.C. 20004

Re: SIGNIFICANT ACTIVITY REPORT

Dear Mayor Bowser:

This letter is to inform you that on June 27, 2016, a U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia judge sentenced Londra Watson, a D.C. Water employee, to 12 months of probation and ordered Mr. Watson to pay a special assessment in the amount of \$100 for pleading guilty to one count of federal conflict of interest.

The joint Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) and D.C. Office of the Inspector General (OIG) investigation revealed that from November 2007 through February 2012, applicants seeking permits from D.C. Water provided checks totaling \$141,066 to Mr. Watson's private company, Ardnol of DC, LLC (Ardnol). In return, Ardnol assisted applicants in preparing design plans, permit applications, plumbing, and utility plans, as well as provided D.C. Water "permit expediting" services. Many permit applicants were referred to Watson's company by former clients who previously had permits approved by D.C. Water with Ardnol's assistance.

Once the applicant paid Ardnol its required fee, Watson delivered a completed permit package to the client. The client then submitted the permit application to D.C. Water for approval. In his official capacity as Permit Office Supervisor, Watson approved applications, directly or indirectly through his subordinates, and issued D.C. Water permits to a number of applicants who were Ardnol clients. Watson intentionally failed to disclose his financial interest in the company to D.C. Water.

On March 30, 2016, Watson pled guilty in the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia to a felony charge of criminal conflict of interest in violation of Title 18 U.S.C. § 208.

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If you need any additional information, please feel free to call me or Martin J. Kenney, Assistant Inspector General for Investigations, at (202) 727-2540. When calling, please reference OIG Control Number 2012-0443.

Sincerely,



Daniel W. Lucas
Inspector General

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