

The Federal Crimes Watch Daily

When The FBI Comes Calling...*

Federal Criminal Defense Lawyers

Sunday, September 4, 2011

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FBI Arrests Prominent Democratic Campaign Treasurer

McNabb Associates, P.C. (Federal Criminal Defense Lawyers)

Submitted at 8:36 AM September 4, 2011

Miami Herald on September 4, 2011 released the following:

"BY BRIAN JOSEPH

THE ORANGE COUNTY REGISTER SACRAMENTO, Calif. — A prominent Democratic campaign treasurer who works for federal, state and Orange County, Calif., lawmakers including U.S. Sen. Dianne Feinstein. U.S. Rep. Loretta Sanchez and state Assemblymen Lou Correa and Jose Solorio has been arrested by the FBI on suspicion of mail fraud, The Orange County Register has learned. U.S. Attorney's Office spokesman Thom Mrozek confirmed Saturday afternoon that Kinde Durkee of Burbank, Calif.-based Durkee and Associates, was arrested by the FBI on a criminal complaint filed by the U.S. attorney's office in Sacramento. Special Agent Steve Dupre of the bureau's Sacramento office said she was arrested in connection with her position as a campaign treasurer.

State Sen. Lou Correa told the Register on Saturday afternoon that he was called by the FBI late Friday night and told that Durkee had been arrested and that he is a likely victim along with "many, many

other victims." The Santa Ana Democrat said he believes he has lost "hundreds of thousands of dollars" in campaign funds. "This is clearly a sense of betrayal of someone I have trusted for a number of years," said Correa, who has used Durkee as his campaign treasurer since 1995. "This is a punch straight to the gut." Federal Election Commission records show that Durkee is the treasurer for Feinstein and Sanchez, who could not be reached Saturday. California Secretary of State records show she currently serves as the treasurer for at least 115 state-level committees. Those committees include campaign accounts for Solorio, California Assemblymen Gilbert Cedillo and Roger Hernandez; state Sens. Ted Lieu, and Curren Price; Los Angeles City Councilman Paul Krekorian; and former Orange County lawmaker Tom Umberg. Durkee also oversaw the political-action committees of the Democratic Party of Orange County and the Democratic Foundation of Orange County, among

Durkee and Associates says on its website: "Since 1972 we have worked for 5 presidential campaigns, 4 gubernatorial campaigns, numerous senate, congressional, state and local candidates, initiatives, political action committees and many non-profit associates and small businesses."

Durkee has had enforcement actions taken against her four times by the state Fair Political Practices Commission, primarily for failing to report transactions or information. She has also received at least a half a dozen enforcement warning letters from the commission and stipulated to a violation before the City of San Diego Ethics Commission.

Mrozek said in an email that he expects Durkee to make her initial court appearance Tuesday afternoon, most likely in Santa Ana, but he won't know for certain until Tuesday morning."

To find additional federal criminal news, please read Federal Crimes Watch Daily. Douglas McNabb and other members of the U.S. law firm practice and write extensively on matters involving Federal Criminal Defense, INTERPOL Red Notice Removal, International Extradition and OFAC SDN Sanctions Removal. The author of this blog is Douglas McNabb. Please feel free to contact him directly at

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Brooks Kellogg Sentenced by U.S. District Court Judge Christine M. Arguello to Serve 72 months (6 years) in Federal Prison for a Murder for Hire Scheme

McNabb Associates, P.C. (Federal Criminal Defense Lawyers)

Submitted at 8:21 AM September 4, 2011

The U.S. Attorney's Office District of Colorado on September 1, 2011 released the following:

"BROOKS KELLOG SENTENCED TO FEDERAL PRISON FOR MURDER FOR HIRE SCHEME

DENVER – Brooks Kellogg, age 72, and a resident of Chicago, Illinois, was sentenced this afternoon by U.S. District Court Judge Christine M. Arguello to serve 72 months (6 years) in federal prison, followed by 2 years on supervised release, for traveling in interstate commerce in commission of murder-for-hire, United States Attorney John Walsh

and FBI Special Agent in Charge James Yacone announced. Judge Arguello also ordered Kellogg to pay a \$100,000 fine. Kellogg, who appeared at the sentencing hearing in custody, was then remanded. Brooks Kellogg was arrested based on a Criminal Complaint on October 20, 2010. He was then charged by Information on November 1, 2010, which was followed by an indicted returned by a federal grand jury on November 3, 2010. Kellogg was later charged by superseding indictment on February 8, 2011. On April 28, 2011, Kellogg pled guilty before Judge Arguello. He was sentenced today, September 1, 2011.

According to court documents, on October 19, 2010, after flying from

Minneapolis, Minnesota and arriving at Denver International Airport, Kellogg met at the airport with an FBI agent acting in an undercover capacity. Kellogg paid the undercover agent \$2,000 in cash to murder a Florida man with whom he was involved in a real estate transaction that resulted in civil court litigation. Kellogg had already paid an additional \$6,000 for the hit. The Florida man had sued Kellogg, obtaining a multi-million judgment.

"As today's sentence reveals, anyone attempting to hire a contract killer will be prosecuted to the full extent of the law," said U.S. Attorney John Walsh.

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"This case demonstrates the FBI's commitment to aggressively investigate all levels of violent crimes," said FBI Denver Special Agent in Charge James Yacone. "Mr. Kellogg's criminal activity was thwarted through a quick and decisive investigation."

This case was investigated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation, with the Denver Police Department assisting with the arrest

Kellogg was prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Robert Brown."

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