

SUMMARY

Falsification of Signal Inspections

OIG received information in 2009 that despite its investigative findings and recommendations in 2000 and 2005, there were again serious problems concerning the inspection and maintenance of NYC Transit switches and signals. Thereafter, during the course of its third investigation, the OIG again found evidence indicating that signal maintainers were falsifying records and supervisors pressured workers to finish large quantities of work though the supervisors knew or should have known that the assigned work was impossible to complete in the time available.

The OIG then entered a partnership with the Office of the New York County District Attorney to identify those directly and indirectly responsible for the falsification, and determine the nature and extent of any criminal conduct. (See Inspector General's Statement to the City Council below.)

In March 2011, as a result of an OIG investigation, a subway signal maintainer was indicted on three counts of Tampering with Public Records in the First Degree, a class D felony, and one count of Official Misconduct, a class A misdemeanor. In essence, the defendant was charged with falsely reporting that subway signal inspections had been completed.

Not long after, NYC Transit signal maintenance supervisor was also arrested and charged with Grand Larceny in the Third Degree, a felony, in a complaint filed in Manhattan Criminal Court. It is estimated that through these activities, the supervisor allegedly obtained at least \$18,000 in unearned salary and overtime.

Press

[New York County District Attorney's Office Press Release - 10 MTA Employees Charged in Connection with Subway Signal Inspection Fraud, 8/20/2012](#)

[NY Times 8/20/2012 - 8 Subway Inspectors Charged with Filing False Reports](#)

[NY Post 8/21/2012 - MTA chain gang](#)

[NY Daily News 3/17/2011 - MTA worker faces rap in 'signalgate'](#)

[New York County District Attorney's Office Press Release - District Attorney Vance Announces Indictment of MTA Employee Ilya Klyauzov, 3/17/2011](#)

[NY Daily News 1/13/2011 - Authorities raid crew rooms and seize evidence in fake signal inspection probe](#)

[NY Post 1/7/2011 - 90% of signal inspectors faked reports. Subway danger shocker](#)

[NY Daily News 1/7/2011 - City Council members call for ax of subway inspection cheaters, want to deter future misconduct](#)

[Statement of MTA Inspector General Barry L. Kluger - New York City Council Committee on Transportation, 1/6/2011](#)

[NY Daily News 11/19/2010 - MTA workers didn't do thousands of subway safety checks on time, filed bogus reports, sources say](#)

[NY Times 11/20/2010 - New York City Transit Falsified Subway Signal Inspections, Investigation Shows](#)