



Department of Justice

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District of Massachusetts

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BOSTON CITY COUNCILOR ARRESTED ON FEDERAL PUBLIC CORRUPTION CHARGE

BOSTON, MA - Five term Boston City Councilor **CHARLES "CHUCK" TURNER** was arrested this morning for taking a \$1,000 bribe and then making false statements to FBI agents who questioned him about it.

United States Attorney Michael J. Sullivan, Warren T. Bamford, Special Agent in Charge of the Federal Bureau of Investigation - Boston Field Office and Police Commissioner Edward Davis of the Boston Police Department announced today that **CHARLES "CHUCK" TURNER**, 68, of Boston, was arrested on a federal Complaint charging him with attempted extortion under color of official right as a Boston City Councilor and making false statements to federal agents. **TURNER** was arrested at Boston City Hall this morning.

"The public deserves, and should expect, honest services from our public officials," said U.S. Attorney Sullivan. "Public officials who line their pockets with cash while claiming to act in the public interest, violate our laws and the trust and confidence of the public we serve," Sullivan concluded.

Special Agent in Charge Warren Bamford said, "The FBI will continue to investigate allegations of corruption at all levels of government."

The Complaint alleges that law enforcement authorities were alerted to **TURNER's** acceptance of cash in connection with the use of his public office in the spring of 2007. The Federal Bureau of Investigation, in conjunction with the Boston Police Anti-Corruption Unit, undertook a long-term covert operation, which included audio and videotaped recordings, commencing in May 2007 aimed at exploring allegations against **TURNER** and former Massachusetts State Senator Dianne Wilkerson. It is alleged that in early August 2007, **TURNER** solicited, and then accepted, \$1,000 in cash from a cooperating witness who was seeking to obtain a liquor license for a proposed club in Roxbury, Massachusetts. The payment, which was made in **TURNER's** District Office, was captured in a surreptitious video recording.

The Complaint also alleges that on October 28, 2008, shortly after former State Senator Wilkerson was arrested on related federal corruption charges, agents met with **TURNER** in his City Hall office. According to the Complaint, when agents asked **TURNER** about his

interactions with the cooperating witness and whether the witness ever paid him any money, **TURNER** falsely denied ever taking any cash payments.

TURNER will make an initial appearance before U.S. Magistrate Judge Timothy S. Hillman in Federal District Court in Worcester, Massachusetts this afternoon.

If convicted **TURNER** faces up to 20 years imprisonment, 3 years of supervised release and a \$250,000 fine on the attempted extortion charge. He faces 5 years in imprisonment, 3 years of supervised release and a \$250,000 fine on the false statements charge.

The case was investigated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation - Boston Field Office, in conjunction with the Boston Police Department Anti-Corruption Unit and the Internal Revenue Service - Criminal Investigation - Boston Field Office. It is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney John T. McNeil in Sullivan's Public Corruption and Special Prosecutions Unit.

The details contained in the Complaint are allegations. The defendant is presumed to be innocent unless and until proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt in a court of law.

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