

IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS OF PHILADELPHIA COUNTY

TRIAL DIVISION

IN RE : MISC. NO. 0009901-2008

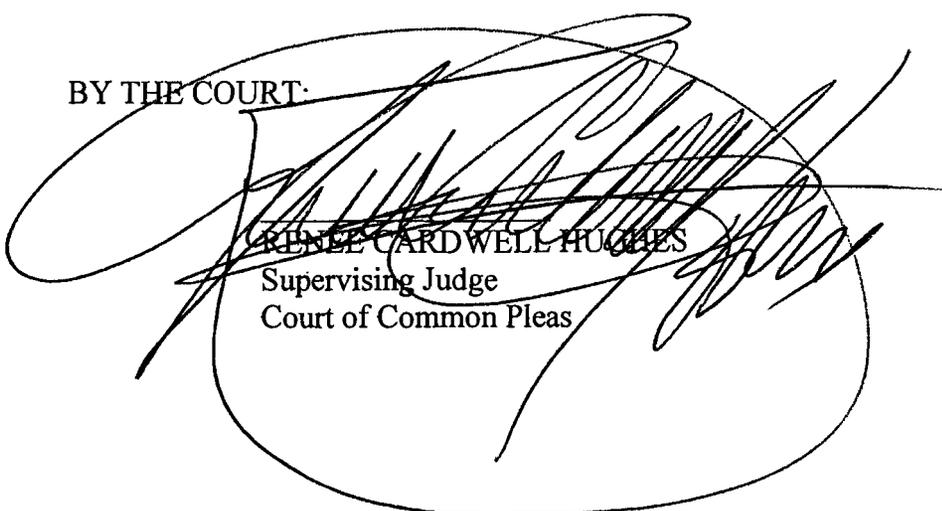
COUNTY INVESTIGATING :

GRAND JURY XXIII : C-2

FINDINGS AND ORDER

AND NOW, this 15th day of December, 2009, after having examined the Presentment of the County Investigating Grand Jury XXIII, this Court finds that the Presentment is within the authority of the Investigating Grand Jury and is otherwise in accordance with the provisions of the Investigating Grand Jury Act, 42 Pa.C.S. §4541, et. seq. In view of these findings, the Court hereby accepts the Presentment and orders it sealed until further order of the Court. At that time, the Presentment shall be unsealed and the Court will refer it to the Clerk of Court for filing as a public record.

BY THE COURT:



GRACIE CARDWELL HUGHES
Supervising Judge
Court of Common Pleas

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CRIMINAL MOTION COURT

PRESENTMENT

TO THE HONORABLE RENEE CARDWELL HUGHES, SUPERVISING
JUDGE:

We, County Investigating Grand Jury XXIII, having been charged by the Court to investigate the flow of illegal firearms and the activities of gun traffickers in the city of Philadelphia, and to determine whether or not criminal charges should be brought against a group of employees and former employees of the city of Philadelphia assigned to the Community Life Improvement Program (CLIP), who allegedly stole guns, which were later sold illegally, and other items from houses they were supposed to clean and/or seal; and having obtained knowledge of such matters from witnesses sworn by the Court and testifying before us and from subpoenaed documents; and having found thereon reasonable grounds to believe, and so believing, that various violations of the criminal laws have occurred, upon our respective oaths not fewer than twelve concurring, do hereby make this Presentment to the Court.

DATE 12/15/09 :

Date: 12/15/09

K. Lett
Active Criminal Records

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GRAND JURY XXIII : C-2

PRESENTMENT

**TO THE HONORABLE RENEE CARDWELL HUGHES, SUPERVISING
JUDGE:**

We, the County Investigating Grand Jury of January 21, 2009, were impaneled pursuant to the Investigating Grand Jury Act, 42 Pa.C.S.A. §4541 et. seq., and have been charged to investigate the flow of illegal firearms and the activities of gun traffickers in the city of Philadelphia. In this investigation, we heard statements and testimony from 43 witnesses. We also reviewed more than 200 documents. As a result of our investigation, we have concluded from the evidence that there is probable cause to believe that, from June 2006 through January 2008, RYCHARDE (RICK) SICINSKI, ALGIE CUFFEE, SR., ALGIE CUFFEE, JR., HENRY TURRENTINE, ANTHONY SCARCIA, JERMAINE ADDERLY, LAMONT WILLIAMS, WILLIAM ROLDAN and WILFREDO CINTRON, all employees and former employees of the City of Philadelphia assigned to the Community Life Improvement Program (CLIP), a program supervised by the Managing Director's Office and supported by the department of Licensing and Inspections (L&I), engaged in a criminal conspiracy to steal firearms, ammunition, money, jewelry, furniture, tools, clothing, and other items from homes that CLIP was

ordered to clean and/or seal. Several of the firearms were later sold illegally on the street, and recovered by Philadelphia police.

INTRODUCTION

This Grand Jury investigated a crew of city workers employed by the Philadelphia's Department of Licenses and Inspections (L&I) or the Mayor's Office of Community Service (MOCS) who used their jobs as a license to steal the entire contents of houses they were supposed to clear of various code violations. At least eight workers and supervisors abused their positions with the Community Life Improvement Program (CLIP) to enter houses without permission or legal authority, sometimes ordering elderly residents to leave their homes. The crew systematically took items of value from the homes. They didn't simply pocket stray knickknacks. They drove trucks to the houses and took everything: televisions, dining room furniture sets, money from safes, silver flatware settings, clothing, family heirlooms, and several large gun collections.

This crime wave, supported by city funds and carried out by city employees, was abetted by a total lack of oversight. Although the crew violated every purported policy governing their supposed "clean and seal" program, supervisors never enforced the rules that would have protected the possessions of the Philadelphians whose houses they invaded. Even when the brazen thefts were reported to superiors, no action was taken to investigate or stop the crew's violation of their job performance. And no one at L&I or the Managing Director's Office seemed to care if the crew ever remedied the alleged code violations that served as a pretense for the break-ins and thefts.

Three of the houses targeted by the crew contained large gun collections. At 1859 Greymont Street, a gun collector's 66-year-old widow lived in a house filled with her

husband's gun collection, an arsenal of ammunition, a machine her husband used to manufacture his own bullets, and the raw materials to make the bullets – lead and gunpowder. The guns were locked in four safes and a carrying case that were scattered throughout the house. Only two permanent, unmovable safes remained after the crew completed their “cleanup.” The crew stole 10 to 14 handguns and 7 rifles while supposedly sealing a building at 7200 Marsden Street.

Guns from three of these houses were recovered by police during various arrests and searches in 2007 and 2008. In each case, the recovered gun could be traced back to a city employee – the son of one of the CLIP crew's supervisors. One of the stolen guns was recovered as that L&I worker was trying to sell it. Many of the guns are still unaccounted for. One was recovered from a murder suspect.

In several cases, the property owners were forced out or locked out of their houses, even though the CLIP crew had no legal authority to enter the properties or displace the occupants. Although there are circumstances under which CLIP inspectors can request a court order to enter properties without the permission of the owners, such a procedure requires notice to the property owners and a chance to be heard. In none of the “jobs” investigated by this Grand Jury did the CLIP crew bother with the legal niceties of a court order. Instead, the city employees simply broke in – sometimes kicking down a garage door, climbing in a window, or using a locksmith to gain entry.

One 75-year-old woman was at home on Convent Street with her husband and disabled daughter when one of the CLIP crew members climbed in through her kitchen window and an L&I inspector broke in through her basement door. After removing the family from the house, the crew ransacked their home, stealing over \$25,000 in cash and

almost all of the furniture. The elderly woman walked two miles back to her house to see what was going on, but the supervisor would not “allow” her stay. When she later asked the supervisor of the crew what had happened to all of the money and furniture from the house, he told her to get a lawyer. One of the crew members testified that the supervisor, Rick Sicinski, allowed them to take money from houses, saying it was “a fire hazard.”

At another house, on Harrison Street, no trash was taken from the residence in the course of a “cleaning” – only TVs, camera equipment, dining room furniture, an entertainment center, an antique hutch, and other family possessions. The pretense for entering the house was that there had been a small fire that damaged the back of the house slightly. But the owner was repairing the damage and it posed no danger. Emptying the house of all of its valuables certainly did not make it any safer. When the owner returned home while the crew was “working,” Sicinski, who was once again supervising the job, refused to tell him where his things had been taken.

It was clear from the testimony of the crew members that stealing from houses was their routine practice. They said that Sicinski, as the inspector at the sites, would go through the properties first with another supervisor, Henry Turrentine. The two supervisors would take a look around and then tell the workers what was in the houses and where to find it. Sicinski was seen taking at least five guns from the Greymont Street house. Turrentine was seen taking money from the Convent Street house. Both supervisors allowed the crew to steal guns, valuables, furniture, electronics, and tools from the houses where they worked, even though L&I policy strictly forbade workers from taking anything from the properties except trash that was to be disposed of in a trash truck.

The supervisors further abetted the thefts by failing to follow prescribed procedures such as photographing the properties and possessions before and after the cleanups or contacting police whenever firearms were found. One neighbor who watched as the CLIP crew emptied the Greymont Street house described how the street was lined with the trucks of city workers who were loading them up with the owners' possessions as the supervisors watched. The neighbor described the theft-fest as a "free for all."

These were not operations to clean up blight in a Philadelphia neighborhood. They were home invasions perpetrated by city employees. They violated one of our nation's most protected rights – the right of citizens to be secure in their homes. They also made Philadelphians less safe outside of their homes, by delivering still more illegal guns to the streets.

CORRUPTION IN MANAGING DIRECTOR'S CLIP PROGRAM

The Community Life Improvement Program (CLIP), started in 2002, is supervised by the Managing Director's Office and supported by the department of Licensing and Inspection. CLIP employees are all city employees assigned to CLIP by L&I, MOCS (Mayor's Office of Community Service) or the Managing Director's Office. CLIP is supposed to clean and seal properties in response to complaints about code violations. Much of its work is outdoor work, clearing yards of debris and cutting grass and weeds, and sealing open and vacant properties. CLIP only operates in Northeast Philadelphia. For the rest of the city, regular L&I crews perform the function of cleaning and sealing dangerous properties.

Deputy Managing Director Thomas Conway explained to the Grand Jury the normal procedure when CLIP is called to clean or seal a property. CLIP action is triggered when a complaint comes into the CLIP office – sometimes from City Council members, sometimes from neighbors of the subject property, sometimes through referrals from the police, the fire department, or L&I. When CLIP receives a complaint, an inspector is sent out to investigate the property. CLIP inspectors are employees of L&I who are assigned to CLIP. Their job, according to Mr. Conway, is to enforce exterior and quality-of-life issues with regard to “high grass and lights and stuff like that.”

If the CLIP inspector finds code violations, the inspector enters the violations into the L&I’s computer system (referred to as the Hanson system), which then generates a notice that is mailed to the owner on record at the Bureau of Revenue and Taxes. Usually the notice provides 20 days for the owner to fix the violations. Mr. Conway testified that some situations constitute “emergencies” and the violation notices may give the owner only one day to comply (which means that the notice often arrives after the compliance period has expired). At the end of the compliance period, the inspector is supposed to return to the property to see if the problems have been corrected. If code violations occurring in Northeast Philadelphia have not been remedied, the inspector submits the violations to CLIP for abatement. The task of clearing up the violations then falls to a crew of CLIP employees supervised by Crew Chief Henry Turrentine.

One of the inspectors associated with CLIP, Roseanne Elia, confirmed Mr. Conway’s description of the intended scope of CLIP’s mission. Even though she was called a housing and fire inspector, she said that CLIP inspectors do not issue fire code violations. Nor do they normally inspect the interiors of buildings. Their charge, Ms. Elia

said, is limited to violations of the Property Maintenance Code relating to the exteriors of buildings, trash, and yards.

However, under the auspices of Rick Sicinski, the head CLIP inspector with the title of Chief Code Enforcer, the scope of activities carried out by CLIP crews greatly expanded – turning them in fact into a criminal enterprise. While Deputy Managing Director Conway initially described the job of the CLIP inspectors as enforcing exterior issues such as high grass and lighting, he then said that Sicinski was also authorized to conduct interior inspections. Sicinski himself testified that he assisted other agencies – for example, the police and the fire marshal – to determine whether the interiors of properties should be cleaned out immediately. The evidence presented to the Grand Jury showed that Sicinski often worked in conjunction with L&I building and fire inspectors to determine that certain houses “needed” to be cleaned out immediately. Some of these houses were filled with guns and money.

Under Sicinski’s supervision, CLIP teams did not merely clean up yards and exteriors and seal vacant buildings; they performed wholesale clear-outs of houses, in some cases emptying owner-occupied residences without the owner’s consent. Not only were the jobs well beyond CLIP’s intended scope, they were carried out in a manner at odds with the procedures described by Deputy Managing Director Conway. In the cases looked at by the Grand Jury, there were no inspections followed by 20 days notice and a chance for owners to abate any violations. The inspectors sometimes had not even set foot in the houses to conduct an inspection until the day Sicinski, sometimes accompanied by other L&I inspectors, illegally entered to start “cleaning.”

Sicinski described to the Grand Jury what the procedures were once the cleanup crews were on location. But, once again, his practices did not comply even with his own description of how things were supposed to be done. For example, Sicinski said that he and Crew Chief Turrentine were required to take photographs before, during, and after every job. He said that any valuables were to be photographed and left in the house. He said that items such as stuffed furniture and clothing might have to be thrown out because of infestation, but that wooden furniture, TVs, and other impenetrable items were to be left. Appliances, tools, construction materials, window coverings and other personal items are to remain in the property.

Sicinski said that crew members were strictly forbidden from taking any items from a house for their own personal use. They were not permitted to bring their personal vehicles to cleanup sites, and could not put items from the houses into the CLIP trucks. Everything that came out of a house had to be disposed of in the trash truck that was on the site. These rules were published in an L&I policy statement entitled, Personal Property, Salvage Items & Equipment Policy. In their testimony before the Grand Jury, the CLIP crew members showed that they knew these rules. Yet neither Sicinski nor his crew complied with any of them.

Sicinski testified that if anyone on the crew found a gun while cleaning out a house, they were to immediately tell him. Sicinski would then order everyone to stop work and leave the house until the police had come and cleared the area. The inspector was supposed to photograph any guns found before turning them over to police. Yet none of these procedures was followed when CLIP crew members found large arsenals of guns at three addresses investigated by the Grand Jury.

In fact, CLIP crews and L&I inspectors have no authority to enter homes without the consent of the owner. Andrew Ross, the City's Chief Deputy City Solicitor for housing and code enforcement, explained that absent "imminent danger," such as a piece of a building dangling precariously, L&I inspectors and CLIP crews cannot enter someone's house without the owner's permission or a court order. And he confirmed that no one from L&I had obtained a court order before entering the properties at the center of this investigation. But the elderly people whose homes they invaded didn't know that policy. These were city workers with official identification; who acted as if they were entitled to entry. By the time the homeowners figured out what was happening, their possessions were gone.

Even when the supposed code violations did not require entry into properties, and the crew was ordered simply to seal an open window or door, they still used the job as an excuse and opportunity to trespass and steal.

The individuals we are recommending for prosecution with this presentment are city employees who abused their positions as public servants to commit crimes. The blame for those crimes, if not the legal liability, however, has to extend also to the supervisors and administrators who allowed these public employees to prey on innocent citizens, steal valuable possessions from their homes, dump dozens of guns on the streets of Philadelphia, and neglect the jobs they were supposed to perform. L&I has procedures to protect the public from the types of crimes perpetrated by the CLIP crew and supervisors, but someone has to enforce those procedures.

For example, what good is it to purportedly "require" inspectors and supervisors to photograph before and after jobs, if no one looks at the photos or even checks to see

that they were taken? None of the people responsible for supervising Sicinski ever seem to have noticed or cared if he did not take photographs as required. Nor did anyone check to see if the properties were properly cleaned. And although the CLIP abatement program is set up to charge homeowners when CLIP crews have to be dispatched to fix violations and clean private yards, no one noticed that Henry Turrentine did not turn in bills on several of the properties where the most egregious thefts occurred. (To do so would have identified the workers who were at these locations.)

The problem was far more pervasive than a rogue work crew. Even though several of the victims of the CLIP crew's thefts complained to their supervisors at CLIP and L&I, not a single complaint has been forwarded to the Inspector General. One crew supervisor's drunkenness and marijuana-smoking on the job did not result in his firing. Nor did his habit of spending work hours at home drinking with other crew members.

The crew's victims did not get off so easily. If being driven from her home and losing all of her possessions, including her husband's large and valuable gun collection, were not enough, the 66-year-old widow who lived at 1859 Greymont Street was billed \$17,854.72 by L&I for the so-called cleanup of her house. This figure was almost certainly inflated by the number of workers who showed up on time sheets because they joined the "free for all" theft of her belongings.

The individuals charged in this presentment, and the administrators and supervisors who looked the other way, essentially hijacked a program intended to improve the quality of life in Northeast Philadelphia and perverted it into a gang-like enterprise that bullied and stole from the neighborhood's most vulnerable residents. At

the same time they criminally added firepower to the city's crisis of gun violence. The evidence presented to the Grand Jury is detailed below:

1859 GREYMONT STREET

The Grand Jury heard testimony that 1859 Greymont Street is a four-bedroom single family home located in the 8th police district. The owner, Loretta Veale, age 66, told the Grand Jury that she and her late husband, Clinton Veale, purchased the house in 1974. The Veales raised three children in the home, and Mrs. Veale continues to reside in the house. Mrs. Veale said that her husband, Clinton Veale, passed away in 1998 and had been an avid gun collector and made his own ammunition at their home.

Mrs. Veale testified that her late husband stored his guns in safes located throughout the house. Mr. Veale kept most of the ammunition and materials to make ammunition in their son's former bedroom, which was located on the second floor next to the bathroom. A large safe was on the first floor by the garage; two smaller ones were located upstairs, one in the hall bathroom and one in the closet in the master bedroom. According to Mrs. Veale, her husband was the only person with the combinations to the safes. No one, she said, had opened or removed any of the safes before January 2007.

Mrs. Veale also stated that she still kept a large number of her husband's tools in the garage. She herself was a regular shopper on QVC, the home shopping network, and had around the house several unopened packages containing clothes she had ordered. Mrs. Veale testified that trash and debris had begun to accumulate inside her home shortly before her husband's death in 1998.

Mrs. Veale explained that on or about January 16, 2007, she was out of her house, going to a doctor's appointment and having her nails done, when she received a telephone call from a neighbor informing her that city officials were at her home and that there were all kinds of trucks outside her house. On arriving at her house, she spoke to CLIP Inspector Rick Sicinski. He told her that there were violations in her home and that she would not be allowed in the house during the duration of the cleanup. He would not allow her even to go in the house to get some clothes and personal items. When she said that she needed her medicine, they got her pill bag and sent her on her way. She spent the next couple of months in a Days Inn.

Although admitting that her home had debris in it, Mrs. Veale denied receiving any notices before the arrival of the CLIP crew. Her house was locked when she left for her doctor's appointment that morning and she had not given anyone from CLIP permission to enter it. Sicinski used a locksmith to enter the property. Mrs. Veale testified that Sicinski did not give her any help or information about where to go. She was not allowed back into her home for several weeks, and upon her return was unable to enter the house because the locks had been changed. Sicinski arrived to open the door and left immediately.

Mrs. Veale testified that when she got back in her home she noticed numerous items missing from the house. She said that many of her husband's tools were missing, as were unopened boxes of clothes, a set of sterling silver that her parents had given her as a wedding gift, furniture, and some appliances. A friend of hers took photographs around the house upon their return. The photograph of the second floor hall bathroom shows that the safe is missing.

Mrs. Veale said that Manuel Santiago, an agent with the Office of the Attorney General of Pennsylvania, came to her house and confirmed that the safe in the master bedroom closet and the large safe by the garage were still there, but the safe in the hall bathroom was missing. Also, two big bottles full of change that she and her husband had collected over the years were both gone when she returned.

When Mrs. Veale later confronted Sicinski about the missing items, he claimed he did not see anything taken from the house. She stated that she did not give anyone, including her children, permission to take any of the safes, guns, or any other items from the house. Mrs. Veale said that, a couple of months after CLIP “cleaned” the house, she received a bill from the city for \$17,854.72. She had to take out a second mortgage on her house to pay it.

Patrick Ennis, Mrs. Veale’s son-in-law, testified to the Grand Jury that he had known Mr. Veale well and was aware of the guns and the safes. He stated that there were four safes located throughout the house. He indicated the biggest safe was by the garage, another was in the upstairs hall bathroom, one was in the master bedroom closet, and still another in the family room on the first floor. Mr. Ennis testified that the safe in the hall bathroom and the one in the family room were not professional safes, and they were smaller than the one in the master bedroom. All of the safes had combination locks, and only Mr. Veale knew the combinations.

Mr. Veale, according to Mr. Ennis, also kept some guns in a hand-made carry case that he used to transport guns to shows. That carry case was also kept in the family room, along with other antique and specialty guns such as black powder guns. Mr. Ennis

stated that none of the family members took any of the guns out of the house after Clinton Veale's death.

Mr. Ennis testified that, for the past few years, he was the only one allowed in the house and that, as the debris grew, he was unable to check for the guns. He stated that Mr. Veale had also enjoyed working on cars and around the house and owned a great number of tools. Mr. Ennis described hydraulic jacks and other tools that were in the garage and living room area of the house.

Mr. Ennis and his wife received a call in January 2007 about the city workers in Mrs. Veale's house. They went to the police and were told that the city removed Mrs. Veale so they could clean out the house. The police officer said that two guns had been recovered, and Mr. Ennis told the police there were numerous additional guns in the house, along with ammunition and gunpowder.

After the cleanup was finished, Mr. Ennis called the CLIP inspector and asked to go through the house. The Ennis' met Sicinski at the Greymont house. Mr. Ennis testified that Sicinski allowed them in the house for only about 10 to 15 minutes. During that time, Mr. Ennis noticed that the safes in the bathroom and the family room were missing, along with many tools. When asked about this, Sicinski stated that maybe the safe was moved into the master bedroom. Mr. Ennis did not see the safe in the master bedroom, and he noticed there was furniture in the master bedroom that had been downstairs. Mr. Ennis asked what happened to all the tools. Sicinski told him he didn't know and that he was not there everyday.

Mrs. Veale's daughter, Barbara Ennis, testified that china, silverware, and dishes were also missing. She was shown photographs taken by Mrs. Veale's friend after the job

was supposedly finished. There was still debris all over the house, including carpet, curtains, and clothing – the type of soft materials the workers were supposed to remove in order to clean the house and perform extermination as required by work orders. There was also stray ammunition remaining.

Joseph Marshall testified that he lives across the street from 1859 Greymont and in January 2007 was unemployed. He remembers the activity outside the Veale house and testified that there were numerous city vehicles, including a trash truck, at the scene. He stated that, toward the end of the week, he noticed several city workers setting bags aside instead of putting them in the trash truck. They eventually put these bags into other city trucks and personal vehicles. He described the scene as a “free-for-all.”

Sicinski testified before the Grand Jury. He stated that he is an L&I employee assigned to the Community Life Improvement Program as the Chief Code Enforcer for CLIP. He testified that before even inspecting the house at 1859 Greymont Street – after just looking in the windows on January 6 or 7, 2007, and seeing debris – CLIP told Mrs. Veale she would have to move out of her property. CLIP employees never secured her permission to enter her house, however, and when they returned on January 16, they found the doors locked.

Sicinski testified that he called a locksmith to gain entry and claimed, untruthfully, that he thought they had had a “court order” to enter the house and clean it out. In fact, Deputy Chief City Solicitor Andrew Ross testified that Sicinski would have had to ask the Law Department for a court order – and that no one requested or obtained court orders to enter or clean out any of the properties that are the subject of this

investigation. Nevertheless, Sicinski explained the 10-day delay between January 6 and 16 by asserting that it took a week to get the nonexistent court order.

Sicinski and the crew started the clean-out on January 16, 2007. On site was an unnamed fire marshal; Rosemary Ames, a housing inspector from L&I (who also testified, incorrectly, that they “asked for immediate court action” to enter the property and clean it); a locksmith to open the door; and Henry Turrentine, crew chief for CLIP. After the locksmith unlocked the door, Sicinski and Turrentine entered first and inspected the house to see what needed to be done. The work crew from CLIP then arrived, along with a trash truck assigned to CLIP.

They remained at the Greymont house until January 25, 2007. During that time, anywhere from five to nine crew members would be present. Sicinski identified Algie Cuffee, Sr. (“Cuffee”) as the sub crew chief who was present the majority of the time. (Turrentine oversaw two CLIP crews – one headed by Algie Cuffee, Sr. and one headed by Ricky Lai.) Also present for at least part of the job were Jermaine Adderly, Lamont Williams, Wilfredo Cintron, Luis Huertas, William Roldan, John Hanagan, Steven Bradley, Fred Hewitt, Ricky Lai, Joseph Bradley, and Anthony Scarcia.

Sicinski testified that he was there every day of the clean-out. He stated that, as soon as he got into the property, he started to take photographs. Sicinski said that when someone found two guns under a reclining chair in the family room on the first day of the clean-out, he ordered everyone to leave the property until the guns were removed. He turned those two guns over to the police.

Sicinski acknowledged seeing a large safe on the first floor by the garage, but denied seeing any other safes in the house. He claimed they cleaned out all of the closets

and left all hard furniture and valuables. He insisted that he and crew chief Turrentine took photographs of the house, as required by L&I policy, throughout the clean-out process and at the end of the project, though he was able to produce only a few after photos. He also said that he photographed any ammunition they found and where they found it. All valuables, according to Sicinski, were also photographed.

Sicinski testified that, when he inspected the upstairs, he found bio-hazardous matter that required an outside firm, Bio-Clean, to come in and remove it. He said that Bio-Clean was there for only a few hours on one day, and the CLIP crew was not inside the house during that time. He testified that they could not clean out the master bedroom until Bio-Clean was finished. He could not explain why his photos of Bio-Clean containers were dated January 25, 2007, the last day of the project.

Police Officer Daniel Glass of the Philadelphia Police Bomb Disposal Unit also testified about being called to the Greymont Street site on January 25, 2007. He specifically recalled Sicinski telling him at the scene about “several” safes (even though Sicinski claimed in his sworn testimony to have seen only the large safe by the garage door). Sicinski told the officer that they were unable to open the safes.

Officer Glass said that he initially thought Sicinski was a family member because he spoke so knowledgeably about Mr. Veale’s gun hobby and the different gun clubs to which he belonged. He said that Sicinski spoke about pricing and selling different items as if he were a family member. Officer Glass did not recover any guns and removed only ammunition and gunpowder from the scene.

Police Officer Stephen Bys testified that he was called to the Greymont Street house on January 16, 2007, at which time Sicinski turned over two 9mm handguns to

him. The officer did not know from where inside the house the guns were recovered or by whom. Sicinski did not tell Officer Bys about any other guns or about the safes. The officer did see, however, that the garage was “filled with a lot of tools.” He testified that, in May or June of 2009, Sicinski approached him in a bar and told him that an investigation was under way regarding missing guns from the Greymont Street property.

The Grand Jury heard testimony from Andrew Yurchuck, the owner of Bio-Clean, the company hired by the city to remove bio-waste from the Greymont Street house. Mr. Yurchuck testified that the CLIP crew was still in the house while the Bio-Clean team worked. Mr. Yurchuck testified and produced invoices that showed they were at the Greymont Street property over a two-day period, January 24 and 25, 2007.

Mr. Yurchuck stated that he had a conversation with Sicinski about the ammunition in the house, and Sicinski asked Mr. Yurchuck what type of gun he owned. After learning that Mr. Yurchuck owned a .40 caliber handgun, Sicinski went into the garage and gave Mr. Yurchuck a bag of .40 caliber ammunition for his firearm. Mr. Yurchuck testified that he returned the ammunition to Sicinski the next day.

Wilfredo Cintron, a member of Cuffee’s CLIP crew at Greymont Street, testified that he saw several safes inside of the residence. He said that, as they were taking trash bags from the upstairs to the trash truck, he noticed one bag felt different. When he looked inside, he saw two safes about 2 by 4 feet in size in the bag. At Cuffee’s direction, Cintron put that bag outside to the right of the front door. At lunchtime, he saw Lamont Williams, the driver of the trash truck, put the bag with the safes in it, along with four or five other bags set aside by Cuffee, inside the back of the trash compactor and drive off

with them. Cintron testified that a few days later he heard Cuffee say that there were guns in the bags.

Cintron testified that, on January 16 or 17, 2007, he was cleaning a room on the first floor and found two guns. He turned the guns over to Sicinski. Cintron also testified that he saw another crew member, Jermaine Adderly, find a gun in the same room where Cintron found the other two guns. He stated that the room was in the back of the first floor facing the backyard, and that it looked like a family room. He saw Adderly pick up the gun and put it in his waistband. Cintron also saw several guns lying on a beach towel in the front yard of the house. He testified that at the Greymont Street house, he helped put containers full of lead into the CLIP truck, and then moved them into Cuffee's personal vehicle back at the yard at CLIP facilities on Torresdale Avenue just north of Holmesburg Prison.

Although Cintron implicated Adderly and Cuffee, he was untruthful about the extent of his own involvement. After admitting that he set aside the trash bag with the safes in it, and saying that Williams put the bag in the trash truck and drove off, Cintron testified that he did not know where Williams went with the truck. He also said that he only heard two or three days later that there had been guns in the trash bag. Other witnesses, however, testified that Cintron was present when at least one safe was broken open and that he took the guns out of the safe.

Another crew member, Luis Huertas, testified that he was assigned to the Greymont Street house for several days. He was there the first couple of days of the clean-out and saw considerable amounts of ammunition and gunpowder. Sicinski told Huertas to separate the shells from the lead bullets and to put the lead into buckets.

Huertas testified that he saw four trash bags set aside and looked into one that contained copper bullet shells and lead. Huertas testified that Adderly told Huertas that the bags belonged to Cuffee. Huertas later saw Cuffee and Williams put the four bags in the back of the CLIP truck (not in the trash compactor).

William Roldan, another CLIP crew member, testified that he worked on Cuffee's crew at Greymont Street. He stated that he started upstairs in the master bedroom with John Hanagan. He observed a safe in the closet in the bedroom and reported it to Sicinski. He also saw the large safe downstairs by the garage and another safe whose location he could not recall. Roldan also saw several trash bags located outside, near the driveway, that were put into the CLIP truck. He later saw Cuffee take those bags from the CLIP truck and place them in his personal truck. Roldan also testified that he observed Adderly and Cuffee take a large jar full of change out of the house.

Roldan stated that Williams and Cuffee took a safe from the Greymont Street house and put it into the back of the compactor. Once back at Solly Street, near the CLIP yard, Williams used the compactor to open the safe. Inside the safe were guns. Roldan testified that the guns were placed in bags and then put into Cuffee's car. Roldan could not recall who took the guns from inside the safe, but he stated that all of Cuffee's regular crew members were present, including Jermaine Adderly, Wilfredo Cintron, Anthony Scarcia, John Hanagan, Lamont Williams, and Algie Cuffee, Sr.

Anthony Scarcia testified that he was assigned to the trash truck along with Williams at the Greymont Street house. He testified that he saw lots of guns in the house and observed two safes upstairs in the master bedroom closet and two downstairs by the

garage. He observed five guns and a couple of rifles in Sicinski's personal truck at the Greymont Street location.

Scarcia also testified that Cuffee and Adderly came to his house one night during the Greymont Street job and gave him a gun. He described the gun as a 9mm handgun that the police subsequently recovered in 2008 from his house. Agent Santiago with the Attorney General's Office confirmed that the gun recovered from Scarcia's house in 2008 was registered to Clinton Veale. Scarcia testified that Cuffee told him to be careful with the gun because it came from the Greymont Street house. Scarcia testified that he also took a hydraulic jack and two jack stands from Greymont Street and brought them home. He said he observed Roldan and Cintron take a water jug full of change.

Scarcia testified that he saw Roldan, Cintron, Cuffee, and Adderly load a very heavy trash can into the back of the trash truck. Later, they all stopped at Cuffee's personal truck near the yard and put everything they took, including the trash can, into Cuffee's personal vehicle. Scarcia testified that he saw Cuffee take a box of silverware from inside the Greymont Street house and place it in a trash bag and later put it into his personal truck. Scarcia indicated that both Turrentine and Sicinski were present when the bags went into the back of the trash truck. Scarcia said he later learned from Cuffee that in the big trash can was a safe, and the safe was opened at Cintron's house, and guns were inside. According to Scarcia, Cintron, Adderly, and Cuffee got guns from the safe.

Jermaine Adderly testified that he recalled the Greymont Street job, though he remembered it lasting only two days. He testified that, before entering the house, Sicinski told the crew members that there were guns in the house, specifically in a metal box in the family room. Sicinski also told them there were guns upstairs. Adderly stated that he

and Cintron started cleaning in the family room and found the metal box. He said he observed Cintron put two guns in a bag and give the box to Sicinski. Adderly did not know what Cintron did with the bag containing the guns, only that it was put aside.

Adderly testified that, at the end of the second day at Greymont Street, he saw Cuffee and Cintron pulling out a heavy object inside a trash container. When they put it in back of the trash compactor, he saw that it was a safe. Adderly stated that the trash compactor crew, Williams and Scarcia, and Cuffee's crew then met up on a side street near the CLIP yard. He saw Cuffee and Cintron crush the safe, and saw them put guns in city trash bags and then put those bags into their personal cars. Adderly stated that he went back to Cuffee's house and Cintron's car was already there in the alley near Cuffee's garage. He observed Cuffee and Cintron unloading city brown bags into the garage. Several minutes after that, Adderly saw guns spread out in Cuffee's garage.

Lamont Williams testified that he was assigned to drive and operate the trash compactor at the Greymont Street job. While at the house, he observed a lot of ammunition and gunpowder. At some point he saw Cintron (the crew member he was least friendly with, according to testimony) bring a trash can covered with a city trash bag out of the house. With the help of others (whose identity Williams contended, unconvincingly, he could not recall), Cintron put the item in the back of the compactor. At that point, Williams saw that it was a safe. He acknowledged that it was his action in running the compactor that opened the safe, but insisted that it was inadvertent – he was just doing his job, compacting the trash. And the safe door just opened.

After the safe was open, Williams said he observed Cintron take the brown trash bag that had covered the safe and put "black objects" from the safe into the bags.

Williams believed the objects were guns, but said he was just assuming that because they were black objects. (He acknowledged that he had previously given a statement to Agent Santiago in which he admitted that he had seen guns, but he denied telling Agent Santiago that he had asked the others what they planned to do with the guns.)

Williams said that Cintron was discussing with Roldan and Huertas whether to split up the “metal objects.” (He did not mention Adderly or Cuffee, who were also present. Testimony indicated they were his good friends.) Cintron then put the bag of guns in the back of the CLIP pickup truck.

Williams also observed Cuffee take some brown city-issued bags containing unknown items from the house and put them in the back of the compactor. Then he asked Williams to meet him at his personal truck. Williams met Cuffee at his truck and Cuffee took the bags and put them into his personal vehicle. Williams denied taking anything from the Greymont Street house.

Algie Cuffee, Sr. testified that he worked for L&I for 18 years and had been a CLIP sub crew chief for 10 years. He was in charge of a crew each day and was responsible for completing work sheets. The work sheets keep track of which crew members are at a site, how many hours they work, and the amount of materials used at the site. After filling out the worksheets, Cuffee would give them to his supervisor, crew chief Henry Turrentine, who would submit them for billing to the homeowner.

Cuffee was the sub crew chief for the crew that was at the Greymont Street house for the entire job. He testified that when he arrived at the site, Sicinski was already there, but the property was locked. Before the crew entered the house, Sicinski told them that there were guns in the house and that he wanted them turned in to him.

Cuffee testified that he saw handguns, rifles, and antique guns on the bed of a second floor bedroom where they collected the guns as they found them. He said that the police were supposed to come get the guns, but he did not see Sicinski give the guns to the police. He claimed that he saw only two safes in the house – the large safe downstairs by the garage and a smaller one upstairs in the second floor bathroom.

Cuffee testified that Sicinski allowed Cuffee to take the empty brass ammunition shells and the lead. Cuffee took those items and sold them and said that he split the money with the crew. Cuffee admitted that he took women's sweaters from the Greymont Street property and intended to sell them. He denied seeing or hearing about any safes being taken from the home. He denied putting any trash bags in his CLIP truck or asking anyone else to do so. He denied taking anything from any house he cleaned with CLIP except the sweaters he took from Greymont Street.

Manuel Santiago, a Gun Task Force Special Agent with the Pennsylvania Attorney General's Office, testified that, pursuant to a search and seizure warrant, he conducted a search of Algie Cuffee, Sr.'s house on August 13, 2009, more than two years after the Greymont Street job was completed. During the search, he found numerous sweaters still in packaging from QVC. He also found silverware and tools identified by Loretta Veale, her daughter, and her son-in-law, as stolen from the Greymont Street home. Agent Santiago also testified that QVC confirmed that the packing numbers on the sweaters recovered at Cuffee's house had been sold to Loretta Veale.

The Grand Jury heard testimony from Belal Lami, who was arrested on July 9, 2007, in possession of a 9mm handgun owned by John Owens, 2911 Boudinot Street. This house had been sealed by L&I in June 2007. When arrested on July 9, 2007, Lami

was a passenger in Algie Cuffee, Jr.'s ("AJ's") car. Cuffee Jr. was an employee of the Mayor's Office of Community Services (MOCS), and worked on a vacant lot crew. The vacant lot unit is also supervised by Thomas Conway and the Managing Director's Office. Algie Cuffee Jr. is the son of Algie Cuffee, Sr., the CLIP sub crew chief at the Greymont Street location.

Lami testified that Cuffee Jr. had just given him the 9mm gun for Lami to sell. Lami testified that "AJ" would bring him guns in exchange for marijuana. Lami said that Cuffee Jr. would come to the barbershop where Lami cut hair in order to buy marijuana. In early spring of 2007, Cuffee Jr. brought four handguns (a .22 caliber, a .357 caliber, a .40 caliber, and a .41 caliber Ruger) to Lami in exchange for marijuana. Lami testified that, when he asked "AJ" where he had obtained the guns, Cuffee Jr. told him that he worked for the city cleaning out houses and took all kinds of stuff, including guns.

Lami further testified that he sold several of the handguns received from Cuffee Jr. to Victor Vemba, to one of Vemba's friends, and to Reggie Hamilton. Lami said that he knew Vemba and his friends, Gregory Page, Derrell Adams, and Nahir Jones, from the neighborhood. He said that he introduced Cuffee Jr. to Vemba and his friends.

Vemba testified before the Grand Jury and corroborated Lami's testimony. Vemba admitted that he and his friends bought two guns from Lami – a .357 handgun and a .22 caliber handgun. In January 2008, Vemba was arrested by the police in possession of a .357 caliber handgun registered to Clinton Veale. Also recovered from Vemba's house was a .22 caliber handgun that belonged to Mr. Veale. The .22 had been given to Vemba by his friend Gregory Page for safekeeping. Page was subsequently

murdered, allegedly by Nahir Jones. Another gun from Mr. Veale's collection, a 9mm handgun, was recovered from Jones at the time of his arrest for murder.

Agent Santiago testified that he recovered a 41 Ruger handgun from Reggie Hamilton. That gun was identified by Lami as the one given to him by Cuffee Jr. in exchange for marijuana. Hamilton also gave a statement to Agent Santiago in which he stated that he bought that gun from Lami.

Agent Santiago testified that in January 2008 he went to 1859 Greymont Street and located two safes inside the house. The first one was on the first floor near the garage and was very large. The second one was in the closet of the master bedroom. According to Agent Santiago, there were pry marks around the hinges of the safe and the handle, indicating that someone had tried to pry open the safe. With the permission of Mrs. Veale, a locksmith came to the house and opened both safes. Inside the large safe were numerous rifles and other guns. The smaller safe also contained numerous handguns. A total of 19 guns were found inside the safes. According to the gun registration records for Mr. Veale, a total of seven guns remain unaccounted for.

7200 MARSDEN STREET

Gun Task Force Special Agent Thomas Perks testified that on May 6, 2007, a .22 caliber handgun owned by Anthony Swisher was recovered during the arrest of a man named Jeffrey Burgos. The Grand Jury heard testimony from Mr. Swisher that, on January 8, 2007, he owned and resided on the bottom floor of 7200 Marsden Street in Northeast Philadelphia.

According to Mr. Swisher, his home was a two-story corner row house with a garage and a street-level basement that was once a store. Mr. Swisher resided in the former storefront area of the house. He stated that he had renters in the upper floors of the house, which had a separate entrance and could not be accessed from the storefront area. Also living in the street-level area with Mr. Swisher were two people who rented space from him.

Mr. Swisher testified that he owned 10 to 14 handguns and approximately 7 rifles, which he kept locked in a long metal box in the storefront area where he lived. He kept the keys to the box with him at all times.

On or around January 4, 2007, according to Mr. Swisher, he was handed a violation notice by a city worker and was told that the renters would have to leave. Mr. Swisher testified that the city representative told him that only the owner could stay in the property. Because the house was subject to a Sheriff's sale in a few days, Mr. Swisher did not contact anyone about gaining entrance to the house and retrieving his guns or other possessions. Mr. Swisher testified that he left the house on January 7, 2007, and when he returned the morning of January 8, the house had been sealed and he could not get into it.

A few days later the house was sold at a Sheriff's auction. John Budo, the new owner, testified that he bought the property and its contents at the Sheriff's sale. He was unable to enter the property before the purchase, but he did notice workers from the city present at the location before the sale. Mr. Budo testified that when he did enter the property it contained a lot of trash and other items. He did not find any guns in the storefront area, but did find some ammunition.

John Wallace told the Grand Jury that he was the L&I inspector assigned to 7200 Marsden Street. He stated that the occupants of the main house let him in for the inspection. He testified that he went into the storefront area later in the afternoon on January 4, 2007. He claims he met with the owner, who told him that the people in the house did not have permission to live there. Mr. Wallace told the owner that the city was issuing a “cease operations” on the property, claiming it was unfit for human habitation.

Mr. Wallace testified that the property had plumbing issues, but he did not give any violations for such a problem. The violations issued by Inspector Wallace on January 4, 2007, were for fire code violations and a general finding that the home was unfit. The January 4, 2007, notice of violations gave the owner five days to comply. Mr. Wallace testified that he gave a copy of the cease order to the owner on January 4 – but the document produced to the Grand Jury is dated January 8.

Other documents produced in response to a Grand Jury subpoena show a notice for a cease operations order issued on January 4, to take effect the same day. In any case, Inspector Wallace testified that he called CLIP and told them to come and seal the property. Mr. Wallace testified that Sicinski came out the first day, on January 4, 2007, and used a screw gun to secure the property.

On January 5, 2007, according to Mr. Wallace’s testimony, he returned to Marsden Street and allowed the “tenants” to come back and remove personal property. He did not see anyone removing any furniture or boxes. He did not see the owner again after January 4. Mr. Wallace said Sicinski was present again on January 5 to secure the building. Mr. Wallace admitted that most of the violations that he issued pertained to

homes containing multiple residences. He agreed that once the “tenants” were removed those violations would no longer apply to the property.

Mr. Wallace testified that a couple of days later Sicinski called him about something and he drove by the property. He saw Sicinski and the CLIP crew cleaning out the property and sealing it. Mr. Wallace testified that he usually kept notes about properties that he visited in a “comments section” on the L&I computer system. However, he indicated that those comments don’t print out with the report, and that anyone with access to the system can change or delete the comments.

Sicinski testified that he and a CLIP crew, including Henry Turrentine and Algie Cuffee, Sr., did a sealing job at 7200 Marsden Street. He said that there was no cleanup involved, and that none of the crew took anything from the property. Their work was limited to sealing the garage, the back door, and the storefront windows and door.

Sicinski admitted speaking to “Tony,” but claimed that he was a squatter, and not the owner. (L&I had no authority to make the owner leave the property, or to enter and seal the property while the owner was living there.) Sicinski said he did go into the property looking for fire hazards. He observed a television in the storefront area but denied seeing any guns. He testified that they could not get into the garage, so they took the garage door down and there was nothing inside so they then sealed it. He did not explain why he needed to get into the garage as part of a sealing job.

Algie Cuffee Sr. testified that he and his crew performed a sealing job at 7200 Marsden St. He said that Turrentine called him to come seal the garage door and window, but when they arrived at the location neither Turrentine nor Sicinski was there. The only ones there were Scarcia and Williams with the trash truck. Cuffee stated that, because

their orders were simply to seal the property, the crew was not supposed to go inside. He said they didn't. He testified that he did not see anyone take anything.

Anthony Scarcia testified that he worked the trash compactor at the Marsden Street house. He said that Cuffee's crew did in fact enter and clear out items from the house. He testified that Cuffee kicked in the garage door and was going to take it for scrap metal but couldn't fit it in the crew truck. He instead left it for trash. Scarcia also saw Cuffee come out of the storefront area carrying long, metal boxes that looked like keyboard boxes.

Luis Huertas did not testify about Marsden Street, but he said that he had observed Cuffee taking scrap metal and copper piping from several houses. Huertas also said that when Cuffee sealed windows, he did not seal them inside the window frame, so as to preserve the window. Instead, he would remove the window for his own use, and have the workers seal up the opening.

William Roldan testified that he was also at the Marsden Street location. He described it as just a seal job, but he recalled removing some debris around the furnace. Roldan testified that Cuffee and Adderly took a television and other items from the house and put them in the back of the CLIP truck. They later put them into Cuffee's personal truck. Roldan said that it was common for Cuffee, Adderly, and Williams to take radios, TVs, and other items from the houses that they cleaned out. He said Cuffee told him that he could help himself, and seemed unhappy when Roldan did not want to.

Jermaine Adderly acknowledged being on the Marsden Street job. He testified, under oath, that the garage door was kicked in by the police and that the crew sealed it. He also testified that he never went inside the property.

The Grand Jury subpoenaed any records relating to 7200 Marsden Street, but was told by Deputy Managing Director Conway that he could find no records or worksheets in the CLIP offices for that address documenting which workers were present or what work was completed. The only photographs presented were taken after the property was sealed. Mr. Conway explained that every time CLIP workers are sent to a property to do work, a worksheet should be prepared by the sub crew chief (Cuffee, in this case) and turned in to Turrentine so that a bill would be generated and sent to the owner. The Grand Jury was told that no such invoice was found for 7200 Marsden Street in the CLIP offices or in L&I.

The only document produced to show CLIP's involvement was a copy of the daily assignment sheet for January 9, 2007, which was given by Turrentine to Cuffee. That sheet showed that Cuffee's crew was assigned to 7200 Marsden St. But there is no recording of that address in a log book that Turrentine used to keep track of all the crew's jobs. Also, all other assignment sheets for the year 2007 were missing from the CLIP offices.

Deputy Chief City Solicitor Andrew Ross testified that he trains L&I inspectors every year and explains to them their legal obligations when attempting entry into a home. Mr. Ross stated that cease work orders are not a substitute for a court order. In his experience, he said, cease work orders are most commonly used at construction sites or homes undergoing construction work. He stated that they can be used for private homes but the inspector would still have to afford the homeowner the opportunity to contest the cease order. Mr. Ross also testified that a cease order should not be issued without an inspection, and that it is not a means to enter a home.

2911 BOUDINOT STREET

Gun Task Force Special Agent Robert Burke testified that, on July 9, 2007, police confiscated a 9mm Cobra handgun, serial #94-0023045, from Belal Lami during a car stop. Belal Lami testified that "AJ" Cuffee, Jr., had picked him up in AJ's car at the barber shop. Cuffee Jr. told Lami that he had a gun for him, and gave him the 9mm. Lami testified that he and AJ were driving with the intent of selling the gun that night when the police stopped the car. The gun was recovered from Lami, and Cuffee Jr. was not arrested.

The Grand Jury heard testimony from 59-year-old John Owens that he had owned and lived at 2911 Boudinot Street, Philadelphia, for 29 years. A review of Bureau of Revision of Taxes records confirmed that John Owens and Lillian Owens are the owners of 2911 Boudinot St.

Mr. Owens testified that the house was in disrepair and that the stairs to the second floor had collapsed. Mr. Owens used a makeshift ladder to get upstairs. He testified that he had a number of handguns and rifles in his bedroom on the second floor. The rifles were kept in the corner and some of the guns were in a locked floor safe. The remaining guns, approximately 10 handguns, were kept in a white metal cabinet that was not locked. The 9mm Cobra recovered by police was kept in the unlocked cabinet. The guns were kept in gun boxes inside the cabinet. Mr. Owens also had ammunition for the guns stored in his bedroom.

Mr. Owens testified that, before June 3, 2007, he had seen a partial orange sticker on his front door but did not know what it meant. He did not recall having received any notices from the city regarding his house. He stated that, on or about June 3, 2007, he

returned home at night to find that the front door was unlocked and that someone had ransacked his bedroom and taken the guns out of the unlocked cabinet. The empty gun boxes were left on the bed. A few days after that, Mr. Owens returned home to find the front door sealed.

Rosemary Ames testified that she is a housing inspector for L&I, and was told by then Deputy Commissioner Dominick Verdi to go to 2911 Boudinot Street on June 5, 2007. When she arrived, several other city employees were already there, including Kevin Daly from L&I's nuisance department, police, and someone she thought was from the water department. Although no one was home, the city workers gained entry, she thought with the help of a locksmith. Once inside, she observed that there was a lot of stuff inside, including a chair, a television, and other personal items. Ms. Ames also noticed that there were no stairs to the second floor, so she did not go in any further. She wrote up violations based on what she could see without going inside the house.

Ms. Ames said she did not see anyone seal the property but testified that L&I would not leave the property open – it had to be sealed in some way. Ms. Ames was shown a photograph showing an orange “danger” sticker on the front door. She said that it must have been put there by a building inspector after she left the property. Based on other photographs, Ames testified that it appeared that the front door and front windows were sealed.

Kevin Daly from L&I testified that he got called to 2911 Boudinot Street on June 5, 2007. He recalled Ms. Ames being present at the scene along with police officers. He testified that the front door was locked and secure. He stated that they pried open the

front door in order to get inside. They did not have any court order or administrative warrant for the property.

Michael Ross testified that he was the L&I inspector assigned to emergency duty on June 6, 2007. He received a call on municipal radio about an open window at 2911 Boudinot Street. He testified that he drove to the location after 6 p.m. and observed that the basement window in the front of the house was open. The next day, he wrote up violations for the window. He was unaware that another inspector had been in the property previously and testified that he only wrote three violations, even though the violation report indicated more violations. He testified that when a second inspector goes to a location and issues violations, the second inspector's name overrides the first inspector in the computer, so that every violation ever issued for that property will print with the second inspector's name on it. Mr. Ross testified that he did not go inside the property. He indicated on his report that the property should be sealed and sent a message to L&I's clean and seal department.

In response to a subpoena for records relating to 2911 Boudinot Street, the Grand Jury received a copy of a violation notice for the property. The notice was in the name of Jack Owen, but was not addressed to Boudinot Street, where he lived. The address on the notice was 6609 Greenway Street, Philadelphia, an address that bore no connection to Mr. Owens. Because the mailed notice was misaddressed, and no notice was left by inspectors at 2911 Boudinot, Mr. Owens never received any notice of violations or any warning that his house would be broken into and then sealed.

Agent Robert Burke testified that, on August 30, 2007, after police had recovered Mr. Owens's gun from Belal Lami, he went to 2911 Boudinot Street with Mr. Owens.

Mr. Owens had not been back in the house since it was sealed. Agent Burke met Sylvia Roundtree from L&I's Clean and Seal program so that she could let Agent Burke and Mr. Owens into Mr. Owens's house. Ms. Roundtree indicated to Agents Burke and Santiago that she searched Clean and Seal's records and did not find any records pertaining to 2911 Boudinot Street. She stated that Clean and Seal did not seal that property. Agent Burke testified that he went to the second floor and observed opened, empty gun boxes on the bed. He and Mr. Owens opened the safe, which was still in the house, and recovered five handguns from the safe.

1358 HARRISON STREET

The Grand Jury heard testimony from Phillip Chase, the former owner of 1358 Harrison Street, Philadelphia. Mr. Chase testified that he purchased the house in 1999 and lived at the home with his family. In February 2007, a fire occurred in the area of the garage, which was located at the back of the house below the kitchen. Mr. Chase said that the garage and kitchen area incurred fire damage and that he and his family moved out. He added that, as a result of the fire, the windows in the kitchen and at the back of the house were not secure. They were approximately 13 feet above the ground, however, and difficult to access.

Mr. Chase testified that after the fire he worked at the house to repair the damage. He told the jurors that he put in a new front door and that it was locked and secure whenever he left the house. Mr. Chase noted that he still had numerous personal items inside the property. He indicated that he had furniture in the living room and dining

room. Also in the house were a washer, a dryer, a refrigerator, bedroom furniture, a hutch, a 61-inch Phillips television, two older televisions for his children, a playstation and xbox video games for his kids, clothes, and other personal items. He said that his friend, Glenn Bruce, also stored some of his personal property in the room to the right of the front door. Mr. Chase testified that he was still receiving mail at the property in April 2007 and did not receive any notices from L&I.

In April 2007, Mr. Chase recalled, a neighbor called to inform him that CLIP was at his house and was cleaning it out. Mr. Chase went to the house and noticed a trash truck and a white truck at his house. He observed that the front door and a window were open. Inside he found approximately nine city workers. His possessions were gone and he asked the workers where his things were. One of the men told him that they had an order to clean out the house. Mr. Chase testified that at that point none of the windows had been sealed.

Mr. Chase's friend, Mr. Bruce, came to the scene and also asked where the items had been taken. Again, no one answered the question. Mr. Chase testified that he asked the workers to just give back his grandmother's 100-year-old hutch because of its sentimental value to him. He received no response from the workers.

Mr. Chase identified Algie Cuffee, Sr. as the person he spoke to at the scene. He identified Sicinski as the supervisor whom Cuffee called to the house. Mr. Chase said that Sicinski told him that they had a work order, but would not give the homeowner a copy. Sicinski also told Mr. Chase that the contents of his house had been taken to the dump, but he refused to say which one. Mr. Chase identified Roldan, Adderly, Williams, Scarcia, and Huertas as also being at his house. He testified that everything of value was

missing from the house, including his appliances, television, and furniture. He estimated the value of his missing possessions as several thousand dollars.

Mr. Chase testified that he went to the CLIP office to file a complaint and was met by someone who identified himself as the manager. The manager showed Mr. Chase some work order and photos from the back of the house, but gave Mr. Chase no explanation for what happened to his items. The manager would not allow Mr. Chase to file a complaint and refused even to tell him where to go to file one because, the CLIP manager said, the workers had done nothing wrong.

Mr. Bruce testified that in March and April of 2007 he was in the process of obtaining a divorce and fixing up a new residence and had, therefore, stored a large number of personal items at Mr. Chase's house on Harrison Street. According to Mr. Bruce, he received a call from Mr. Chase telling him to come over because city workers had taken his stuff. He arrived on the scene and noticed that all of his personal items were gone. Mr. Bruce testified that his expensive photography equipment, including large lights and camera, were missing from the house. His furniture and other personal items were also missing. Mr. Bruce said that the CLIP personnel would not tell them where they had taken the items. He testified that he had been at the house the day before CLIP arrived and everything was still in the house and the front door secured.

Flora Figueora testified that, in April 2007, she lived two doors down from 1358 Harrison Street and knew Mr. Chase. According to Ms. Figueora, she saw a city truck with workers come to the scene and start to take trash, furniture, and televisions out of 1358 Harrison Street. She heard the driver of the city truck say that he was going to call his daughter. A short time later, a pickup truck driven by a female arrived at Mr. Chase's

house. Ms. Figueroa said she observed one of the Hispanic workers ask a black male where to put an oak table and a television, and the black male told him to put the stuff in the truck. She then observed the Hispanic man put those items into the pickup truck operated by the black female.

Algia Cuffee testified that she is the daughter of Algie Cuffee, Sr. She told the Grand Jury that she recalled her father calling her in April 2007 and asking her to bring his truck to Harrison Street. She testified that Lamont Williams, Jermaine Adderly, William Roldan, and someone named Tony were at the house when she arrived. Ms. Cuffee testified that, while her father was talking to her, two of the men were putting things in the back of the truck. She saw them load some chairs, something heavy that they lay down, and something with a long silver pole sticking out on the side.

Ms. Cuffee testified that she took the truck with the items back to her father's house on Tulpehocken Street. Later that same day, she picked up her father from work and he dropped her at home. He left with the items still in the back of the truck. A few days later, according to her testimony, Cuffee called Algia and asked her if she knew anyone interested in buying a big screen television.

Jermaine Adderly testified that he was present at 1358 Harrison Street. He indicated that he was working on sealing the garage and noticed a television, furniture, and stereo equipment inside the house. He later saw the television in the back of Cuffee's personal pickup truck, which was parked around the corner from the house. He also saw other crew members take items out of the house in city trash bags and put them into the back of the CLIP truck.

Anthony Scarcia testified that he was assigned to the trash truck that went to 1358 Harrison Street in April 2007. He said that when he arrived he saw Cuffee's personal truck already on the scene. Scarcia described the inside of the house as messy, but he said it was clear that someone lived there and was trying to repair the fire damage. He observed work supplies inside the house as well as personal items. Scarcia testified that he saw Adderly and Cintron carry an entertainment center, a playstation, a television, a china cabinet, work equipment, and yellow spotlights from the house to Cuffee's personal truck. Scarcia admitted that he took an Atari console, but claimed it did not work.

William Roldan testified that he was one of the workers assigned to the Harrison Street location. He said he was told to clean out the house. He observed two televisions in the house, one upstairs and a 50' or 60' one downstairs. He said Cuffee put both televisions in his personal pickup truck, which was parked around the corner. He recalled that the owner arrived and was very upset. Roldan said that Turrentine and Sicinski came to the scene and spoke with the owner. Turrentine later told the crew not to go back to Harrison Street.

Lamont Williams testified that he was at Harrison Street operating the trash truck. He said he observed a television, a dining room set, a hutch, and some Xbox games inside the house. He later saw Cuffee's daughter Algia arrive in Cuffee's pick up truck. Williams observed Cintron and Cuffee load the dining room set and hutch into the back of Cuffee's truck. Williams said he did not take any trash from the house at that time. He returned a few hours later in the afternoon and observed the owner arrive at the scene. Williams testified that a few bags of trash may have been put into the compactor but he wasn't there long.

Deputy Managing Director Conway testified that he searched CLIP records and could not locate any file for 1358 Harrison Street. He was unable to find any court orders allowing entry, any work sheets documenting the crew's time and materials, or any invoices to bill the owner for the city's materials and labor. Mr. Conway also testified that, if someone came to CLIP's office to make a complaint, a report should have been sent to the Inspector General's office for investigation. If it involved one of the abatement workers, he would also refer the complaint to Sicinski and/or Turrentine for review. He did not recall a complaint regarding 1358 Harrison Street.

Roseanne Elia testified that she is an L&I inspector assigned to CLIP. She indicated that usually CLIP inspectors write violations only for exterior parts of a property. She testified that they don't often go inside properties, but when they do they usually call in other L&I inspectors to issue interior violations. Ms. Elia testified that she went to 1358 Harrison Street in March 2007 in response to a complaint about unsecured openings at the house.

When she arrived, Ms. Elia went to the back of the house and observed fire damage to the garage and kitchen area. She testified that the garage was open but nothing was inside, and that the windows in the kitchen and the second floor rear were open and unsecured. Ms. Elia acknowledged that it was not possible to see inside the kitchen, since the windows were approximately 10 to 20 feet above the street. She also observed unsecured windows in the front of the house on the second floor. Ms. Elia took photographs of the unsecured areas and they were shown to the Grand Jurors. She testified that she did not knock on the door, and that the front door was secured. She

issued violations for the unsecured openings, which she said were mailed to the owner of the property.

Ms. Elia testified that when she returned to the property a few weeks later and observed that the violations still existed, she sent the address to the abatement crew via Henry Turrentine for the house to be sealed only. Ms. Elia testified that she did not request that the house be cleaned and sealed and did not see any reason for it to be cleaned out. She testified that the workers could have sealed the property from the outside without entering the property. Ms. Elia did not obtain any court orders or other legal documents allowing CLIP to enter the home.

Task Force Special Agent Santiago testified that he executed a Search and Seizure warrant on Algie Cuffee Sr.'s home on October 7, 2009. He recovered photography lights that are yellow and have silver poles. Glenn Bruce identified the photo equipment as his.

9021 CONVENT AVENUE

Frances McKay is a 75-year-old woman who, along with her husband James, owns and lives at 9021 Convent Avenue. Mrs. McKay told the Grand Jury that she has lived at Convent Avenue since 1964. The home is a two-story row house with a garage in the back. Mrs. McKay testified that she takes care of her 88-year-old husband, who suffers from dementia, and her 50-year-old daughter, Michelle. Her daughter Michelle was in a serious car accident 30 years ago, shortly after her wedding. As a result, Michelle is physically and mentally disabled. Divorced, Michelle has resided with her parents since the accident and relies on the care provided by her mother.

The aging Mrs. McKay testified that she tries to keep up her house but becomes overwhelmed. She said that, in June 2006, she had accumulated a great deal of trash inside her home. But in the months and weeks leading up to June 22, 2006, Mrs. McKay did not receive any violation notices from L&I regarding her property.

On June 22, 2006, Mrs. McKay was home with her husband and daughter when she heard someone coming in the basement door. When she went to check, she also encountered a man coming in her kitchen window. Needless to say, she was frightened. She was also confused to learn that they were city workers employed by L&I. Mrs. McKay testified that no one knocked on the front door, and she did not give consent to anyone to enter her home.

Once inside, John Wallace, a fire inspector for L&I, and another man insisted that Mrs. McKay, her husband, and her daughter leave the house, and physically escorted them out. A police officer put them in the back of a patrol car and took them to the 8th District station to await relocation to a hotel. Mrs. McKay was not given the opportunity to collect any personal items, medicine, clothes, or other essentials before being removed from her home. She was told that she was not permitted to stay at the property, even outside on the sidewalk, while the workers were in the house. She was not provided with any court order, warrant, or other legal document providing L&I access to her home.

Mrs. McKay testified that no one explained anything to her, so that when she got to the police station she turned around and walked back the two miles to her home. When she returned to find out what was going on, she was again escorted away from the property and taken by police to a hotel. Mrs. McKay said that her cousin drove her back at night, and she went into the house to check on everything.

Mrs. McKay testified that her daughter received social security checks each month, and that she would cash them and put the money in a small, metal lockbox which was kept under her daughter's bed. She said the key was kept on her daughter's bureau. Mrs. McKay estimated there was four years' worth of cashed checks inside the box, for a total of \$23,000. She also said there was another metal box in her bedroom where her husband kept money.

Mrs. McKay testified that she asked the workers about those lockboxes, and also asked them not to touch items in her mother's cedar chest. When she returned to the house, she discovered that everything was thrown out from the cedar chest. At the end of the week, one of the CLIP workers gave her the metal boxes, and when she opened them they were empty. All of the money was missing.

According to Mrs. McKay, the city workers took out all of her furniture. There was nothing left in the living room, not even a chair to sit on. Her television console in her living room and a small television in the kitchen were also missing. Several bureaus located throughout the house and the basement were missing. So was liquor that she stored in the basement.

Mrs. McKay confronted one of the CLIP inspectors in the parking lot of a grocery store shortly after they had cleaned out her house. She indicated that the person looked like Sicinski's photo but was not 100 percent positive. She asked the CLIP inspector what happened to all of her things and the money, and he told her to get a lawyer. Mrs. McKay did go to an attorney's office, John Sabatina, Sr., and gave him \$2,000 as a retainer. A couple days later, Mr. Sabatina returned the money, telling her he could not help her.

Lamont Williams testified that he was assigned to the Convent Avenue location in June 2006. He recalled he cleaned out the garage and then tried to gain access to the main house but the doors were locked. He testified that he got a ladder and climbed through a kitchen window. He said that police were not on the scene when he went in the window. He did not see any orders about entering the locked home. He testified that Cuffee's crew was also at the house.

Williams told the Grand Jury that he found a white, fireproof safe upstairs and it was locked. He testified that he used a crowbar and hammer to open it, and inside were envelopes of money. Williams admitted to taking approximately \$4,500 in cash from the safe. He testified that he also saw piles of silver certificates and cash in the front bedroom. He saw Cuffee working in that front bedroom, but did not know if he took the money. Williams said that Adderly told him he took money too, but did not say how much.

Wilfredo Cintron testified that he saw Henry Turrentine take money from the front room of the house. Cintron described the house as the one with all of the money in it.

Jermaine Adderly testified that he was at the Convent Avenue residence and saw a lot of money in the house, coming out of envelopes, coming out of the trash. He told the Grand Jury that he took only \$20 from that home and does not know what happened to the rest of the money.

Anthony Scarcia testified that he and Williams were called in June 2006 to go to Convent Avenue immediately. When they arrived he observed the owner, an elderly

woman, was upset. He saw her taken away. Scarcia testified that, when he went inside, everyone on Cuffee's crew was talking about all the money inside the house.

William Roldan testified that he was in the Convent Avenue house and knew there was a complaint about missing money. Roldan said that he heard Adderly and Williams talking about the money, and Adderly was upset that he didn't get as much money as Williams. Roldan recalled two safes in the house, one of which was in an upstairs bedroom.

Mr. Conway, the Deputy Managing Director, provided documents to the Grand Jury regarding 9021 Convent Avenue, which he found in a file in CLIP's offices. The documents are the original work orders. They indicate that CLIP was at the Convent Avenue residence for seven days, for at least six hours each day. At least six crew members, including the truck drivers, were present on each day.

A review of the documents presented to the Grand Jury shows that no bill was ever sent to the McKays for the cost of the clean-out of their home. Further, the documents contain no court orders, or any other order, allowing access to the home. There are no receipts for any valuables. There is no itemization of the furniture removed from the house. There are no photographs taken of the property after the clean-out was completed, as supposedly required by L&I procedures. The only photographs submitted were taken on June 22, 2006, the first day of the project.

As for the alleged violations written up by L&I housing inspector John Wallace – the violations that Sicinski and the CLIP crew purportedly relied on to justify entering the McCays's home – they were mostly inapplicable to an existing owner-occupied home. One was a violation for not having the kind of lock required on dwelling units that are not

owner-occupied – obviously irrelevant to the McCays, who owned and occupied their house. Inspector Wallace also cited violation of a minimum square footage requirement for a dwelling. When questioned why he included that violation, Wallace contended, incredibly, that the code requirement meant that there could not be debris covering the required floor area. Without ever going in the house (according to him, anyway), Wallace concluded that the premises were “dangerous to human life and/or public welfare.”

It was on this basis that the city employees broke into the McCays’s home, cruelly turned out its frail occupants, and helped themselves to the social security savings and other valuables they found inside.

1313 UNRUH STREET

On February 27, 2004, Herbert Gold, a 75-year-old Philadelphian, called the police to report a theft. Detective Mike Clancy, who at the time was a patrol officer, responded to the call. In the complaint, Mr. Gold indicated to the police that a CLIP inspector, Sicinski, had come to his house and asked if he could go through the back to take pictures of his neighbor’s house. Mr. Gold said he had his briefcase in his home with \$900 in cash inside. The briefcase was missing after Sicinski left the house.

Detective Thomas Lauf of the Northeast Detective Division testified that he followed up on the complaint and spoke to the deputy commissioner of L&I, Robert Solvible. Mr. Solvible said he would check with Sicinski and get back to the detective. Later, Mr. Solvible called Det. Lauf and reported that Sicinski did in fact have the briefcase. Sicinski claimed he had found it next to trash outside an abandoned property located next door to Mr. Gold’s home. Photographs taken by Sicinski on the day he was

there were presented to the Grand Jury, and they do not show any trash outside either property.

Sicinski returned the briefcase with the money to Mr. Gold, and Mr. Gold said he did not want to prosecute the case. That does not explain why no report regarding the complaint was sent to the Inspector General's office for investigation. Neither does it explain why no report of the incident was put in Sicinski's personnel file, which was provided to the Grand Jury.

THEFT OF CITY PROPERTY

Anthony Scarcia testified that, while working with CLIP, he took equipment owned by the city to his house. He told the Grand Jury that he had the items in his truck and, after he was fired, he just kept them. Agent Santiago testified that he recovered, from inside a storage unit used by Scarcia, the following items: a Dewalt power drill, a Dewalt electric grinder, a ratchet set, a little red box, a Dewalt circular saw, a spade, a rake, a broom, a red ratchet strap, a Dewalt battery charger, and a red ratchet socket.

Agent Santiago testified that he spoke to a CLIP employee, Ed Guzak, who is responsible for inventorying the equipment used by the crew members. Mr. Guzak told Agent Santiago that workers often report that equipment has been lost or stolen while they were out at a job site. Agent Santiago took Mr. Guzak to the evidence room and the city employee identified numerous tools recovered from Cuffee's and Scarcia's houses as belonging to CLIP. Mr. Guzak noticed that several of the tools had markings indicating they were city property. Others had markings that Mr. Guzak recognized as coming from CLIP. Mr. Guzak said the value of the recovered items was over \$2,000.

PERJURY

All of the members of Cuffee's CLIP crew testified before the Grand Jury, under oath. For the most part, they implicated each other but tried to minimize their own involvement, as well as that of their closest friends. This inevitably led to significant finger-pointing and fabrication. Despite all of the lies, however, most of the facts were easy to determine. By lying to the Grand Jury, these individuals have committed another serious crime – perjury. There was far more criminal untruthfulness than we can list; below are just some of the material falsehoods the jurors heard:

Rick Sicinski

When asked about the procedure he followed when guns were found in a house during a CLIP job, Sicinski testified under oath as follows:

Q: And when you have weapons – when you find weapons at a property, you say you call the police?

Sicinski: We call the police, yeah.

Q: Okay. And while the police are at the site, where are the crew?

Sicinski: Well, on this house [1859 Greymont Street] – this particular house we were in, we came upon a couple of guns on the floor. As soon as we found them, they were ordered to leave the property until the guns were removed.

This testimony was contradicted by the testimony of many other witnesses.

When asked about how the crew gained entry to Mrs. Veale's home at 1859 Greymont Street, Sicinski acknowledged that he was not admitted voluntarily by Mrs. Veale. He explained the use of a locksmith to open the door and why it was more than a week between the time an inspector concluded that the house was a fire hazard and the crew's arrival:

Sicinski: . . . We discussed with [Mrs. Veale] about getting out. And I think we received a court order to go in and do the clean-out, which took a week.

But Deputy Chief City Solicitor Ross, whose department would have had to get the court order, testified that Sicinski had not obtained or requested a court order when he and his crew entered Mrs. Veale's home without her permission.

When Sicinski was asked if he had seen any of the four safes while inspecting, photographing, and supervising the cleanup of 1859 Greymont Street, the inspector answered as follows:

Q: When you were in there during those days, did you see safes?

Sicinski: I saw one safe, yeah.

Q: Where was that safe?

Sicinski: It was a five-foot tall safe that as you went to the right – as you went in the front door to your right to the garage area, it was right there before you went into the garage. It was against the wall.

Q: Did you see any other safes in the house?

Sicinski: No other safes in the house.

When he was asked a second time if he'd seen any more safes after the clean-up was done, Sicinski's answer remained the same:

Q: When you inspected the bedroom and bathroom after you guys were completed, CLIP was done, did you see any safes then?

A: No.

Q: Did you go into closets as well while you were there?

A: We do a search of everything, yeah.

On its face this testimony is impossible to believe. Sicinski was the first one in the house. He was required to photograph the interior before, during, and after the cleanup.

There were four safes in the house when the job began – two small ones that were stolen during the cleanup, a larger one that was still in the master bedroom closet at the end of the job (with signs that someone had tried to pry it open), and the very large one that Sicinski acknowledged seeing. Sicinski’s testimony is also contradicted by the testimony of two witnesses. Roldan testified that he told Sicinski when he found the safe in the upstairs closet. And L&I inspector Rosemary Ames testified that Sicinski told her they had moved another safe. That would mean that Sicinski knew of at least two safes in addition to the large immovable one near the garage.

When Sicinski was asked if his crew took anything from the Marsden Street property, he lied again, answering: “Not that I remember, no. Whoever was squatting with the girl, there were two of them there. They took their valuables and left.” In fact, Sicinski’s crew took a television and a case holding approximately 20 guns.

Sicinski lied, too, when he claimed that he had no knowledge of complaints against his crew:

Q: Okay. Have you ever had any complaints of people on your crew removing items from houses?

Sicinski: Not that I know of, no.

Even ignoring Herbert Gold’s complaint against Sicinski himself regarding the stolen briefcase, the evidence presented to the Grand Jury proves Sicinski’s assertion false. Mr. Chase directly and adamantly complained to Sicinski when his crew emptied 1358 Harrison Street.

Henry Turrentine

Turrentine, the CLIP crew chief, told some of the same lies that Sicinski did. For example, he insisted that he saw only one safe and one gun in the Greymont Street house:

Q: Okay. And when you were in the house, do you recall seeing any safe in the house?

Turrentine: I did see one big one off to the right by the garage. I did see that one.

Q: Okay. And did you see any others?

Turrentine: I did not see any others.

* * *

Q: Okay. Did you actually see the guns?

Turrentine: I seen the one.

Q: The one?

Turrentine: Yes.

This testimony is not believable for the same reasons that Sicinski's was not. Turrentine was responsible for supervising the workers, for taking photographs throughout the process, and for inspecting the job when it was complete. According to the testimony of other witnesses, there were four safes, a carrying case full of guns, and dozens of guns lying at various times on the upstairs bed, and out on the lawn. Moreover, Adderly placed Turrentine right in the family room when the metal box containing a stash of guns was found:

Q: And that's where you saw Tito [Cintron] find the guns?

Adderly: In the den, yes.

Q: In the den, where were the guns?

Adderly: I'm not sure about it because back in the meeting, Rick said that there was another box in that room and that was that metal box right there.

Q: He told you then – he told the group that there was a metal box in the family room with guns in it?

Adderly: Yes.

Q: And did you and Tito go right to that room and to the metal box?

Adderly: No. We cleaned – we cleaned that room up first. We have to work our way in anyway.

Q: Because it was packed full?

Adderly: Yes. We have to work in. After we worked our way in, then that's where the box was at.

Q: Okay.

* * *

Q: And were you present when Tito opened the box?

Adderly: Yes, It was me, Tito and Rick Sicinski and Henry Turrentine was right there.

Q: And how many guns were in the box?

Adderly: I can't be sure, but I saw him toss two guns in the bag.

Q: Who?

Adderly: Tito.

Q: Toss two guns where?

Adderly: I can't say – all right. When we clean up, we pop the bag open and just use our hands, but this is how he did it when he picked the box up, gave it to them, so to distract them while they were looking in the box, he shove it in.

Q: All right let me just see if I can have this clear. You're saying he gives the metal box to Rick and Henry?

Adderly: Right.

And Turrentine, like Sicinski denied ever hearing any complaints about the crew stealing from houses:

Q: Do you recall any kind of complaints being filed against any of the crew regarding thefts from houses?

Turrentine: I haven't received any complaints from anyone.

But crew member Roldan's credible testimony about Harrison Street refutes that claim:

Q: And did you and the crew clean out the entire house?

Roldan: We didn't get to clean the whole house because once the guy came – he called the cops once he noticed that things was gone. So once the cops came, our supervisor came to talk to the cops, then we were told not to come back.

Q: Who told you not to go back there?

Roldan: Henry Turrentine.

* * *

Q: Do you remember if Rick Sicinski was at that site?

Roldan: He did show up. And I do believe that he was – it was him and Henry that was talking to the cops.

These lies are material to Turrentine's own guilt. His awareness and acceptance of his crew's criminality, coupled with his efforts to cover for them, prove his own complicity.

Jermaine Adderly

Adderly, like the others, lied to minimize his culpability. For example, he denied that he and Cuffee delivered a gun to Scarcia, even though Scarcia, who had no motive to lie, said that they did. Scarcia's credibility is further bolstered because a gun from one of the houses was later recovered from his house by police.

Adderly also lied to help his friends. He testified, for example, that he never saw Lamont Williams take anything from a house, even though just about everyone else did. But perhaps his biggest lie was this:

Q: Other than the \$20 that you told us about at Convent Street, did you take anything else from any of the houses?

A: No.

The Grand Jury heard abundant evidence that this bald denial is false. From the Greymont Street house alone, Adderly stole a gun from the family room (according to Cintron), a jar of coins (according to Roldan), a very heavy trash can containing a safe (according to Scarcia), and more guns once the safe was opened (according to Scarcia). From the Marsden Street property, he took a TV (according to Roldan). From the Harrison Street house, he took an entertainment center, a playstation video game, a television, a china cabinet, work equipment, and yellow spotlights and put them in Cuffee's truck (according to Scarcia).

Given how many guns he took from the Greymont Street house, the Grand Jury finds that Adderly also lied when he testified: "I don't touch guns."

Algie Cuffee, Sr.

We found much of Cuffee's testimony to be unbelievable. For example, he was asked about the Greymont Street job:

Q: Did you see any of your crew members take any of the guns?

A: No, I did not.

Q: Did you see anybody take any of the safes out of the house?

A: No.

Q: Did you hear about anyone taking any safes out of the house?

A: No.

The evidence presented to the Grand Jury clearly establishes that this testimony is a lie. Cuffee not only saw his crew steal guns and safes, he instructed them to. There were only three movable safes in the house and Cuffee enlisted the help of his men to take all three. Two were in the brown CLIP trash bag that Cuffee ordered Cintron to set aside. According to Cintron, Lamont Williams then loaded the bag with the safes into the trash compactor. The larger safe required four of the crew members to carry out of the house. Scarcia testified that Cuffee himself, along with Adderly, Roldan, and Cintron, carried the large safe out of the house inside a large trashcan.

If Cuffee didn't see guns at the house, he certainly saw them when he and his crew broke open the safes. And he must have seen them at his own house, where witnesses testified they were laid out.

Equally without credence was Cuffee's testimony that he did not put CLIP trash bags in his CLIP truck or ask others to do so. Most of the evidence we heard in this investigation involved putting bags of other people's things in Cuffee's trucks – the one he drove for CLIP, as well as his own truck, where bags were often transferred after leaving the worksite.

Cuffee testified that 1358 Harrison Street contained nothing but a "whole bunch of – it was burnout, trash all over everywhere and that's about it." Except that the testimony of his own men was that barely any trash was taken from the house. Everything went in the CLIP truck or Cuffee's personal truck. He even had his daughter come pick up a load of furniture and equipment.

Algie Cuffee, Jr. (AJ)

The only witness possibly with less credibility than Cuffee, Sr. was Cuffee, Jr. – “AJ.” Cuffee Jr. is the one who completed the supply line from the theft of people’s homes to the acquisition of guns by Philadelphia criminals. He was the distribution end of the enterprise, and what he distributed were illegal weapons. His lies were simple and obvious. He pretended he had nothing to do with a gun stolen from one of his father’s CLIP locations – a gun that was found in AJ’s car, on a man who testified that AJ asked him to sell guns for him:

Q: Do you know where [Belal Lami] got the gun?

A: No, ma’am.

Q: Did you give him the gun?

A: No, ma’am.

No one was fooled by the “no, ma’am.” The Grand Jury believed the testimony of Belal Lami. There is no conceivable way that Lami could have been caught in AJ’s car, carrying a weapon stolen from 2911 Boudinot Street, unless it came from AJ – through his father, Cuffee Sr. And Belal could not have come up with a story that the source of his guns was a city worker who cleaned out houses, unless AJ told him that. We, therefore, find that Cuffee Jr. was also lying when he testified:

Q: Did you ever tell [Belal] that you got the guns from houses that were cleaned out in the city?

A: No, ma’am.

Q: You indicated that your father works for CLIP, Clean and Seal, right?

A: Yes, ma’am.

Q: Did your father ever give you any guns that he recovered from houses?

A: No, ma'am.

Q: Did you ever see anything in your father's house that he had taken out of houses that he cleaned?

A: I haven't been there for a few years, so I'm not sure if he has.

AJ testified on August 14, 2009. In April 2008, little more than a year before he testified before the Grand Jury, AJ told Special Agent Santiago that he was living at 122 E. Tulpehocken Street – his father's address. One of those statements is another lie.

RECOMMENDATIONS

We, the County Investigating Grand Jury of January 21, 2009, recommend that RICK SICINSKI, ALGIE CUFFEE, Sr., ALGIE CUFFEE, Jr., HENRY TURRENTINE, ANTHONY SCARCIA, JERMAINE ADDERLY, LAMONT WILLIAMS, WILLIAM ROLDAN and WILFREDO CINTRON be charged with the following offenses respectively:

RICK SICINSKI

Corrupt Organization, 18 Pa.C.S.A. §911 (1 count) (F1)
Criminal Conspiracy, 18 Pa.C.S. §903 (2 counts) (F2)
Criminal Conspiracy, 18 Pa.C.S. §903 (2 counts) (F3)
Theft by Unlawful Taking, 18 Pa.C.S. §3921 (2 counts)(firearms) (F2)
Theft by Unlawful Taking, 18 Pa.C.S. §3921 (2 counts)(value over \$2,000) (F3)
Theft by Receiving Stolen Property 18 Pa.C.S. §3925 (2 counts)(firearms) (F2)
Theft by Receiving Stolen Property 18 Pa.C.S. §3925 (2 counts)(over \$2,000) (F3)
Burglary, 18 Pa.C.S. §3502 (2 counts) (F2)
Criminal Trespass, 18 Pa.C.S. §3503 (2 counts) (F2)
Official Oppression, 18 Pa.C.S. §5301 (4 counts) (M2)
Perjury, 18 Pa.C.S. §4902 (1 count) (F3)

ALGIE CUFFE, Sr.

Corrupt Organization, 18 Pa.C.S. §911 (1 count) (F1)
Criminal Conspiracy, 18 Pa.C.S. §903 (2 counts) (F2)
Criminal Conspiracy, 18 Pa.C.S. §903 (2 counts) (F3)
Theft by Unlawful Taking, 18 Pa.C.S. §3921 (2 counts)(firearms) (F2)
Theft by Unlawful Taking, 18 Pa.C.S. §3921 (2 counts)(value over \$2,000) (F3)
Theft by Receiving Stolen Property 18 Pa.C.S. §3925 (2 counts)(firearms) (F2)
Theft by Receiving Stolen Property 18 Pa.C.S. §3925 (2 counts)(over \$2,000) (F3)
Burglary, 18 Pa.C.S. §3502 (2 counts) (F2)
Criminal Trespass, 18 Pa.C.S. §3503 (2 counts) (F2)
Official Oppression, 18 Pa.C.S. §5301 (4 counts) (M2)
Perjury, 18 Pa.C.S. §4902 (1 count) (F3)
Illegal Transfer of Firearm, §6111 (1 count) (F3)
Illegal Transfer of Firearm, §6111 (3 counts) (F2)

ALGIE CUFFEE, Jr.

Corrupt Organization, 18 Pa.C.S. §911 (1 count) (F1)
Criminal Conspiracy, 18 Pa.C.S. § 903 (2 counts) (F2)
Theft by Receiving Stolen Property, 18 Pa.C.S. 3925 (2 counts)(firearms) (F2)
Official Oppression, 18 Pa.C.S. §5301 (1 count) (M2)
Perjury, 18 Pa.C.S. §4902 (1 count) (F3)
Illegal Transfer of Firearm, §6111 (1 count) (F3)
Illegal Transfer of Firearm, §6111 (4 counts) (F2)

HENRY TURRENTINE

Corrupt Organization, 18 Pa.C.S. §911 (1 count) (F1)
Criminal Conspiracy, 18 Pa.C.S. §903 (2 counts) (F2)
Criminal Conspiracy, 18 Pa.C.S. §903 (1 count) (F3)
Theft by Unlawful Taking, 18 Pa.C.S. §3921 (1 count)(value over \$2,000) (F3)
Theft by Receiving Stolen Property 18 Pa.C.S. §3925 (1 count)(firearms) (F2)
Theft by Receiving Stolen Property 18 Pa.C.S. §3925 (1 count)(over \$2,000) (F3)
Criminal Trespass, 18 Pa.C.S. §3503 (1 count) (F2)
Official Oppression, 18 Pa.C.S. §5301 (3 counts) (M2)
Perjury, 18 Pa.C.S. §4902 (1 count) (F3)

ANTHONY SCARCIA

Corrupt Organization, 18 Pa.C.S. §911 (1 count) (F1)
Criminal Conspiracy, 18 Pa.C.S. §903 (1 count) (F2)
Criminal Conspiracy, 18 Pa.C.S. §903 (2 counts) (F3)
Theft by Unlawful Taking, 18 Pa.C.S. §3921 (1 count)(firearms) (F2)
Theft by Unlawful Taking, 18 Pa.C.S. §3921 (2 counts)(value over \$2,000) (F3)
Theft by Receiving Stolen Property 18 Pa.C.S. §3925 (1 count)(firearms) (F2)
Theft by Receiving Stolen Property 18 Pa.C.S. §3925 (2 counts)(over \$2,000) (F3)
Burglary, 18 Pa.C.S. §3502 (1 count) (F2)
Criminal Trespass, 18 Pa.C.S. §3503 (1 count) (F2)
Official Oppression, 18 Pa.C.S. §5301 (3 counts) (M2)
Perjury, 18 Pa.C.S. §4902 (1 count) (F3)
Illegal Transfer of Firearm, §6111 (1 count) (F3)

JERMAINE ADDERLY

Corrupt Organization, 18 Pa.C.S. §911 (1 count) (F1)
Criminal Conspiracy, 18 Pa.C.S. §903 (2 counts) (F2)
Criminal Conspiracy, 18 Pa.C.S. §903 (2 counts) (F3)
Theft by Unlawful Taking, 18 Pa.C.S. §3921 (2 counts)(firearms) (F2)
Theft by Unlawful Taking, 18 Pa.C.S. §3921 (2 counts)(value over \$2,000) (F3)
Theft by Receiving Stolen Property 18 Pa.C.S. §3925 (2 counts)(firearms) (F2)
Theft by Receiving Stolen Property 18 Pa.C.S. §3925 (2 counts)(over \$2,000) (F3)
Burglary, 18 Pa.C.S. §3502 (1 count) (F2)
Criminal Trespass, 18 Pa.C.S. §3503 (1 count) (F2)
Official Oppression, 18 Pa.C.S. §5301 (4 counts) (M2)
Perjury, 18 Pa.C.S. §4902 (1 count) (F3)
Illegal Transfer of Firearm, §6111 (1 count) (F2)
Illegal Transfer of Firearm, §6111 (1 count) (F3)

LAMONT WILLIAMS

Corrupt Organization, 18 Pa.C.S. §911 (1 count) (F1)
Criminal Conspiracy, 18 Pa.C.S. §903 (1 count) (F2)
Criminal Conspiracy, 18 Pa.C.S. §903 (2 counts) (F3)
Theft by Unlawful Taking, 18 Pa.C.S. §3921 (1 count)(firearms) (F2)
Theft by Unlawful Taking, 18 Pa.C.S. §3921 (2 counts)(value over \$2,000) (F3)
Theft by Receiving Stolen Property 18 Pa.C.S. §3925 (2 counts)(firearms) (F2)
Theft by Receiving Stolen Property 18 Pa.C.S. §3925 (2 counts)(over \$2,000) (F3)
Burglary, 18 Pa.C.S. §3502 (1 count) (F2)
Criminal Trespass, 18 Pa.C.S. §3503 (1 count) (F2)
Official Oppression, 18 Pa.C.S. §5301 (2 counts) (M2)
Perjury, 18 Pa.C.S. §4902 (1 count) (F3)
Illegal Transfer of Firearm, §6111 (1 count) (F3)

WIFREDO CINTRON

Corrupt Organization, 18 Pa.C.S. §911 (1 count) (F1)
Criminal Conspiracy, 18 Pa.C.S. §903 (1 count) (F2)
Criminal Conspiracy, 18 Pa.C.S. §903 (1 count) (F3)
Theft by Unlawful Taking, 18 Pa.C.S. §3921 (1 count)(firearms) (F2)
Theft by Unlawful Taking, 18 Pa.C.S. §3921 (1 count)(value over \$2,000) (F3)
Theft by Receiving Stolen Property 18 Pa.C.S. §3925 (1 count)(firearms) (F2)
Theft by Receiving Stolen Property 18 Pa.C.S. §3925 (1 count)(over \$2,000) (F3)
Official Oppression, 18 Pa.C.S. §5301 (2 counts) (M2)
Perjury, 18 Pa.C.S. §4902 (1 count) (F3)
Illegal Transfer of Firearm, §6111 (1 count) (F3)

WILLIAM ROLDAN

Corrupt Organization, 18 Pa.C.S. §911 (1 count) (F1)
Criminal Conspiracy, 18 Pa.C.S. §903 (2 counts) (F2)
Theft by Unlawful Taking, 18 Pa.C.S. §3921 (2 counts)(firearms) (F2)
Theft by Receiving Stolen Property 18 Pa.C.S. §3925 (2 counts)(firearms) (F2)
Official Oppression, 18 Pa.C.S. §5301 (1 count) (M2)
Perjury, 18 Pa.C.S. §4902 (1 count) (F3)
Illegal Transfer of Firearm, §6111 (1 count) (F3)