PRESS RELEASE

Florida couple pleads guilty to their roles in a scheme to provide and receive prohibited labor payments

Wednesday, April 2, 2025

For Immediate Release

U.S. Attorney's Office, Eastern District of Virginia

ALEXANDRIA, Va. – A Florida couple pled guilty today to conspiracy to provide and receive prohibited labor payments, in violation of the Labor Management Relations Act, also known as the Taft-Hartley Act.

According to court documents, since at least 2010 until November 2023, Ricky Dallas O'Quinn, 63, of Melbourne, Florida, served as both an officer and employee of International Union, Security, Police and Fire Professionals of America (SPFPA), a labor organization that represents protective security officers at federal workplaces. SPFPA executed collective bargaining agreements with several employers covering the security industry in several states. Ricky's wife, Mabel O'Quinn, was the founder, incorporator, and an initial director of Company-2, which provided protective security officers at federal workplaces in numerous states. While Mabel served as Company-2's chief executive officer and president, Ricky was involved in the finance, budget, and operations of the company since its inception in a clandestine role. Both Ricky and Mabel O'Quinn hid Ricky's involvement in operating Company-2.

From at least 2010 to 2023, Individual-1 was the president of Company-1, which provides protective security officers at federal workplaces in numerous states. The O'Quinns conspired with Individual-1 to obtain government contracts by exploiting Company-2's status as a small, woman service-disabled owned business.

Company-1 used Company-2 as a subcontractor and advised Company-2 on what contracts to bid on and in which geographic locations, which produced financial benefits for both companies. In exchange, Individual-1 and his family would receive 40 percent of the ownership and/or profits of Company-2.

From at least April 2013 through June 2024, Individual-1 agreed to award subcontracts from Company-1 to supply private security guards at various federal installations to Company-2. The proceeds from those awards totaled tens of millions of dollars.

Individual-1 specified which vendors and consultants Company-2 would hire and monitored and directed Company-2's finances. At Individual-1's direction, Company-2 paid three of Individual-1's relatives as consultants at rates of \$195 and \$225 per hour, totaling millions of dollars in payments.

Ricky and Mabel O'Quinn are scheduled to be sentenced on Sept. 17, 2025, and face up to five years in prison. Actual sentences for federal crimes are typically less than the maximum penalties. A federal district court judge will determine any sentence after considering the U.S. Sentencing Guidelines and other statutory factors.

Erik S. Siebert, U.S. Attorney for the Eastern District of Virginia; Matthew R. Galeotti, head of Justice Department's Criminal Division; and Troy W. Springer, Special Agent in Charge, National Capital Region, U.S. Department of Labor - Office of Inspector General, made the announcement after U.S. District Judge Rossie D. Alston Jr. accepted the pleas.

Assistant U.S. Attorneys Kathleen Robeson and Drew Bradylyons for the Eastern District of Virginia and Trial Attorney Vincent Falvo Jr. for the Criminal Division's Violent Crime and Racketeering Section are prosecuting the cases.

A copy of this press release is located on the website of the <u>U.S. Attorney's Office</u> for the Eastern District of Virginia. Related court documents and information are located on the website of the <u>District Court</u> for the Eastern District of Virginia or on <u>PACER</u> by searching for Case Nos. 1:25-cr-70 (Ricky) and 1:25-cr-71 (Mabel).

Contact

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