



RIVERSIDE COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY
NEWS RELEASE
MIKE HESTRIN, DISTRICT ATTORNEY

WEBSITE: WWW.RIVCODA.ORG

TWITTER: @RIVCODA

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
OCT. 20, 2017

CONTACT: JOHN HALL
PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER
951.955.8662

**FORMER BEAUMONT DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS
PLEADS GUILTY IN PUBLIC CORRUPTION CASE**
The city's former police chief pled guilty earlier this week

RIVERSIDE – Two of the seven defendants in the City of Beaumont public corruption case pled guilty this week, including the city's former director of public works who entered a guilty plea today, Oct. 20, 2017, to one felony count.

Deepak Moorjani, DOB: 11-14-46, pled guilty to one count of conflict of interest (Government Code section 1090) at the Hall of Justice in Riverside this afternoon. Moorjani was sentenced to three years of formal probation and was ordered to pay \$3 million in restitution to the City of Beaumont. Moorjani admitted that his company, Urban Logic Consultants (ULC) advised the city on and participated in the making of city contracts that financially benefitted his company. That is in violation of the criminal conflict of interest statute. Moorjani also admitted that ULC received millions of dollars from city funds collected from local developers as transportation fees that should have been sent to the regional agency in charge of overseeing such funds.

Because of the conviction, Moorjani is disqualified for life from holding any public office in California.

On Wednesday, Oct. 18, 2017, former Beaumont police chief Francis Dennis Coe Jr., DOB: 8-3-64, pled guilty to one misdemeanor count of conspiracy to commit theft and was sentenced to three years of summary probation. Coe was also ordered to serve 200 hours of community service and is required to pay back to the City of Beaumont restitution for the \$50,000 in interest-free loans he took from the city while serving as its police chief. Coe has paid the city back the \$50,000 loan.

District Attorney Mike Hestrin is committed to ensuring that public officials in Riverside County are held accountable for their criminal behavior and that the citizens of this county are able to trust their elected officials.

Moorjani and Coe are two of the seven former City of Beaumont officials charged in May 2016 by the DA's Office. Also charged are former city manager Alan Kapanicas, former planning director Ernest Egger, former finance director William Aylward, former city attorney Joseph Aklufi, and former director of economic development David Dillon. All seven are charged in a 33-count complaint alleging crimes of conflict of interest, embezzlement of public funds, misappropriation of public funds, and conspiracy. The prosecution of the five remaining defendants is ongoing.

The case, RIF1602262, is being prosecuted by Deputy District Attorneys Amy Barajas and Emily Hanks of the DA's Public Integrity Team.

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