

Henry J. "Buddy" Cianfrani
Pennsylvania Senate

HENRY J. "BUDDY" CIANFRANI

Pennsylvania Senate
(1967 – 1977)

Corruption charge: Cianfrani was charged with racketeering, bribery, and obstruction of justice, including paying "ghost employees" in his office.

Outcome: Cianfrani was convicted and sentenced to 5 years in federal prison. He only served 28 months.

Cianfrani was a shameless rogue. "I'm going to steal every vote I can," he once said. "I'm going to buy every vote I can. That's the kind of guy I am." Even when he knew he was being investigated, he was unrepentant. In 1975, he said about special prosecutor Walter Phillips, "If he can't get anything on me, what kind of an investigator is he?"



Herbert Fineman
Pennsylvania House Speaker

HERBERT FINEMAN

Pennsylvania House Speaker
(1969 – 1977)

Corruption charge: Obstruction of justice relating to a grand jury investigation of alleged payoffs to politicians

Outcome: Convicted; although he appealed his case all the way to the US Supreme Court, he ultimately lost and served a prison sentence

In an effort to avoid conviction, Fineman—who claimed "self-serving zealots" fueled the investigation—founded FREE, an organization to help returning citizens find jobs. No word if he utilized their services when he completed his sentence.



Matthew Cianciulli
Pennsylvania House of Representatives

MATTHEW CIANCIULLI

Pennsylvania House of Representatives
(1977 – 1979)

Corruption charge: Charged with conspiring to encourage people to give false address in voter registration forms.

Outcome: He was convicted and sentenced to three years in federal prison.

"Matt was the personification of the grass roots Italian politician. He was always doing favors for people," said James J. Tayoun, a former state representative and City Council member—before his own imprisonment on corruption charges.



Joshua Eilberg
U.S. House of Representatives

JOSHUA EILBERG

U.S. House of Representatives
(1967 – 1979)

Corruption charge: Conflict of interest. While a Congressman, Eilberg was investigated for money he received in connection to a federal contract awarded to Hahneman Hospital. Eilberg, in turn, called Jimmy Carter's White House, which then had the investigating U.S. Attorney, David Marston, fired.

Outcome: Pleaded guilty, and was sentenced to five years of probation and a \$10,000 fine.

Eilberg described his misdeeds thusly: "I want to say very emphatically that what we're accused of here is really bookkeeping irregularities." Before his corruption was uncovered, Eilberg ran against, and defeated, a young Chris Matthews—now an MSNBC host—in the Democratic primary. Even decades later, Eilberg never forgave Matthews for his campaign.



Budd Dwyer
Pennsylvania Treasurer

BUDD DWYER
Pennsylvania Treasurer
(1965 – 1981)

Corruption charge: Dwyer was charged with receiving almost \$300,000 in return for using the Pennsylvania Treasury Office to hand a contract over to an accounting company.

Outcome: Dwyer was found guilty on 11 counts of conspiracy, mail fraud, perjury and interstate transportation in aid of racketeering. The day before his expected sentencing to 55 years in prison, he called a press conference...and then committed suicide by self-inflicted gun shot in front of the cameras.

"I am going to die in office in an effort to...see if the shame(-ful) facts, spread out in all their shame, will not burn through our civic shamelessness and set fire to American pride," Dwyer said before pulling out his gun. "Please tell my story on every radio and television

station and in every newspaper and magazine in the U.S. Please leave immediately if you have a weak stomach or mind since I don't want to cause physical or mental distress."



Raymond F. Lederer
U.S. House of Representatives,

RAYMOND F. LEDERER
U.S. House of Representatives,
(1977 – 1981)

Corruption charge: Lederer was videotaped on Sept. 11, 1979, at a New York motel accepting \$50,000 in cash from two undercover agents posing as representatives of a fictitious Arab sheik—a widespread FBI and Justice Department investigation into politicians accepting bribes from a fake Arabian company in return for political favors, known as Abscam.

Outcome: Lederer was convicted of bribery, sentenced to three years in prison and fined \$20,000. The House Ethics Committee voted to expel him on April 28, 1981. Lederer resigned the following day, citing "personal legal problems" that had supposedly interfered with his ability to serve his constituents.

Lederer, the only Abscam legislator who was reelected, is said to have told the agents "I don't think what you're asking is impossible because if it was I'd walk through the door. It's a big ball game, all right, I don't think you're Boy Scouts. I'm not a Boy Scout."



Michael J. "Ozzie" Myers
U.S. House of Representatives

MICHAEL J. "OZZIE" MYERS
U.S. House of Representatives
(1976 – 1980)

Corruption charge: In another Abscam episode, Myers was videotaped accepting a bribe of \$50,000 from undercover FBI agents on August 22, 1979.

Outcome: Myers was expelled from the House of Representatives on October 2, 1980, by a vote of 376 to 30, becoming the first member of the House to be expelled since 1861. Myers was convicted of bribery and conspiracy and sentenced to three years in prison in 1981.

Myers is famous for boasting on the tape that "money talks and bullshit walks."



Mario Driggs
Elected Municipal Court Judge

MARIO DRIGGS
Elected Municipal Court Judge
(1987 – 1987)

Corruption charge: Driggs was indicted for extortion for receiving a \$300 cash gift from Stephen Traitz, Jr., business manager of the Roofers' Union in Philadelphia. At the time of the offense, Driggs had been elected but not yet sworn in as a Judge of the Philadelphia Municipal Court.

Outcome: Driggs was convicted of extortion.

On a tape, Traitz can be heard saying, "All's I want is, is a break." Driggs replies, "The break comes at sentencing."



Louis C. Johanson
Philadelphia City Council

LOUIS C. JOHANSON

Philadelphia City Council
(1968 – 1981)

Corruption charge: Johanson was implicated in the Abscam sting, for taking a bribe from FBI agents who were posing as representatives of an Arab sheik.

Outcome: Convicted and sentenced to three years in prison.

Johanson's lawyer, John J. Duffy, told The New York Times that his client "believes in retrospect that he acted the fool" because of the "dazzle of the dollars."



Leland M. Beloff
Philadelphia City Council

LELAND M. BELOFF

Philadelphia City Council
(1997 – 1984)

Corruption charge: Beloff was charged with extortion for demanding, along with Philadelphia mob boss Nicodemo Scarfo, \$1 million from developer Willard Rouse for legislation that would have allowed development on the waterfront.

Outcome: Beloff was convicted and sentenced to 10 years in prison. In 1998, Beloff was again convicted, this time on voter fraud charges, along with his wife; he received a three-year sentence served concurrently with his earlier sentence. He was paroled in 1993 and went on to become Democratic ward chairperson.

"He committed the worst kind of breach of public trust. He sold his office and attempted to make City Council a branch of the local Mafia," Chief U.S. Judge John Fullam said.



George X. Schwartz
Philadelphia City Council

GEORGE X. SCHWARTZ

Philadelphia City Council
(1960 – 1980)

Corruption charge: Another Abscam catch, Schwartz was indicted on charges of accepting a bribe, extortion and conspiracy.

Outcome: Schwartz was convicted, and sentenced to one year in prison and a fine of \$10,000.

Schwartz was caught on tape telling an FBI agent dressed as a sheik, "We got five or six members (of City Council)...You tell me your birthday. I'll give them to you for your birthday."



Harry P. Jannotti
Philadelphia City Council

HARRY P. JANNOTTI

Philadelphia City Council
(1970 – 1984)

Corruption charge: Jannotti was indicted on charges of extortion, accepting bribes and conspiracy in the Abscam sting.

Outcome: Jannotti was convicted, and sentenced to 6 months in prison and a \$2000 fine.

When the pseudo-sheiks asked Jannotti how their money would be used, he was recorded saying, "Problems might arise, but problems ah, you might say problems can be solved."



Herbert R. Cain, Jr.
Court of Common Pleas Judge

HERBERT R. CAIN, JR.

Court of Common Pleas Judge
(1976 – 1988)

Corruption charge: Cain was charged with two counts of extortion.

Outcome: A federal jury found Cain, Jr. guilty of having extorted \$1,500 from lawyer Barry H. Denker in return for favorable action in an auto-theft case. In April 1988, Cain, Jr. was sentenced to three years in prison, in a case prosecuted by future Attorney General Eric Holder.

According to The New York Times, after the verdict, Mr. Cain was asked if he maintained that he was innocent. "Absolutely—here is no question about it," he said.



Kenneth S. Harris
Court of Common Pleas Judge

KENNETH S. HARRIS

Court of Common Pleas Judge
(1984 – 1988)

Corruption charge: Charged with conspiracy based partly on FBI tapes of secretly recorded conversations in which Harris accepted cash from the roofers' union.

Outcome: Harris was convicted of racketeering, extortion, and conspiracy, charges that carried a maximum penalty of 120 years in prison and a \$1.5 million fine.

Prosecutors said the 64-year-old Harris accepted \$5,600 for favorable orders in trials, probation violation hearings, bail revocation hearings and sentencings.



Al Benedict
Pennsylvania Auditor General

AL BENEDICT

Pennsylvania Auditor General
(1977 – 1985)

Corruption charge: Racketeering and tax evasion.

Outcome: Benedict pleaded guilty in 1988, and was sentenced to six years in prison and a \$20,000 fine.

"I probably will never have a clear conscience, but a big weight has been lifted off my shoulders," Benedict told the court during his hearing. "I was guilty of being naive and stupid and greedy for power. I wanted to be somebody, and I was willing to take those steps."



James J. Tayoun
Philadelphia City Council

JAMES J. TAYOUN

Philadelphia City Council
(1988 – 1991)

Corruption charge: Tayoun was charged in 1991 with 10 counts of racketeering, mail fraud, tax evasion, obstruction of justice and receipt of money in exchange for political favors.

Outcome: Tayoun avoided trial by pleading guilty just days after his indictment. He spent 40 months in prison.

He used his time in prison to author a helpful book for similarly-situated colleagues called *Going to Prison? A Primer On Prison Etiquette*. "A lot of people reach out to me," Tayoun said. "They cry out to me. They just don't understand the system."



Rolf Larsen
Pennsylvania Supreme Court Justice

ROLF LARSEN

Pennsylvania Supreme Court Justice
(1978 – 1994)

Corruption charge: Criminally charged with forgery for sending his aides to obtain prescription medication for him. Impeached by the Pennsylvania Senate for meeting with an attorney friend to decide which appeals to accept or reject.

Outcome: He was convicted on two counts of criminal conspiracy and removed from the bench. Afterwards, he was also convicted in his impeachment trial in 1994.

A grand jury report noted that Larsen was being treated for clinical anxiety and depression but didn't use the state's insurance plan for several years because he didn't want anyone to find out. The silver lining was that Larsen's case changed the way judicial ethics cases are handled in PA. According to Pennsylvanians for Modern Courts, "It led to a constitutional amendment

strengthening the way that Pennsylvania judges are disciplined for misconduct in Pennsylvania. They needed to have a new judicial discipline system. His case gave it legs."



Milton Street
Pennsylvania Senate

MILTON STREET

Pennsylvania Senate
(1981 – 1984)

Corruption charge: Street was indicted by a federal grand jury on fraud and tax evasion charges.

Outcome: Convicted in 2008 on three counts of tax evasion, Street was sentenced to 30 months in prison and ordered to pay \$413,000 in back taxes.

"No corruption, no fraud, no wrongdoing on the part of Milton Street. I didn't file. That's it," Street said afterward. "That's a major victory."



Ernie Preate
Pennsylvania Attorney General

ERNIE PREATE

Pennsylvania Attorney General
(1989 – 1995)

Corruption charge: Mail fraud, resulting from his mailing of falsified campaign finance reports, which failed to disclose \$20,000 in illegal cash contributions from video poker operators.

Outcome: Pleaded guilty, sentenced to 14 months in prison.

Federal prosecutors found that Preate had engaged in "a nearly decade-long scheme of repeated violations of state campaign finance laws through a pattern of fraud, concealment and deception." Preate was unfazed. "I'm not afraid to do time," he said. "I can do federal prison standing on my head."



Angel Ortiz
Philadelphia City Council

ANGEL ORTIZ

Philadelphia City Council
(1992 – 2004)

Corruption charge: Ortiz was investigated by the city of Philadelphia for driving without a license for 25 years —17 years of which he was driving a city car.

Outcome: After Fox 29 revealed Ortiz did not have a license, he finally acquired one. A few months later, he was stripped of his license for six months, and was convicted and fined \$550.

Ortiz said he meant to get a license, and had merely "procrastinated" for 25 years.



Barbara Hafer
Pennsylvania Treasurer

BARBARA HAFER

Pennsylvania Treasurer
(1997 – 2005)

Corruption charge: Hafer was indicted last July for misleading the FBI and IRS about nearly \$700,000 in consulting payments that she had accepted from a campaign donor, businessman Richard Ireland.

Outcome: The court case is pending.

Hafer's lawyers said that Hafer had "simple lapses in memory" when she denied accepting money.



Joan Orie Melvin
Pennsylvania Supreme Court Justice

JOAN ORIE MELVIN

Pennsylvania Supreme Court Justice
(2003 – 2009)

Corruption charge: Melvin was charged with theft of service and campaign corruption.

Outcome: Melvin was convicted on several counts related to using judicial staff as well as the legislative staff of her sister, former State Sen. Jane Orie, to campaign in 2003 and 2009 for the state Supreme Court. She was sentenced to three years of house arrest. Her sister was also convicted on corruption charges.

In an apology letter she wrote, "As a former member of the Pennsylvania Judiciary, I realize that my conduct has impacted the public's perception toward the judiciary and the difficulty it has imposed upon the discharge of your responsibilities as a judge." But that wasn't enough to mollify the three judge panel at her trial,

which also sentenced her to write apologies to her judicial peers on a picture of her in handcuffs. That part of the punishment was later overturned on appeal.



Richard T. Mariano
Philadelphia City Council

RICHARD T. MARIANO

Philadelphia City Council
(1996 – 2006)

Corruption charge: Arrested on charges that he let his friends pay his credit card bills in exchange for political favors, including tax breaks and schools contracts.

Outcome: Convicted of federal bribery, money laundering and tax charges. Sentenced to six years and six months in jail.

"Like many other troubled people, I have turned to God in search of some measure of peace and understanding," Mariano said later. "I take great comfort in my new-found knowledge of God's love and promise of hope for people like me who have made terrible mistakes."



Vincent J. Fumo
Pennsylvania Senate

VINCENT J. FUMO

Pennsylvania Senate
(1978 – 2008)

Corruption charge: Indicted in February 2008 on 139 felony corruption charges, conspiracy, mail fraud, wire fraud, conspiracy to obstruct justice, and aiding the filing of a false tax return.

Outcome: Found guilty of defrauding the state Senate and two nonprofits, tax violations and obstructing the FBI investigation, and sentenced to 55 months in prison. Fumo was also fined \$411,000 and ordered to pay nearly \$1.3 million in restitution to the Senate and \$676,000 to the nonprofit, Citizens Alliance.

"Maybe I should not have asked my staff to do the favors I did," Fumo told the court before he was sentenced. "Judge, I never intended to steal. The last thing on my mind was taking money from anybody. I've never done that." But Assistant U.S. Attorney John

Pease wasn't buying it. "He didn't need to steal," Pease argued. "He stole because he could, because he was drunk with power."



Chaka Fattah
U.S. House of Representatives

CHAKA FATTAH

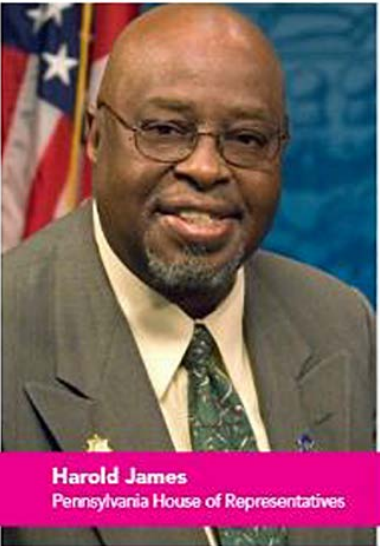
U.S. House of Representatives
(1995 – 2016)

Corruption charge: Fattah was indicted for his role in a racketeering conspiracy that was intended to further his political and financial interests by misappropriating hundreds of thousands of dollars of federal, charitable and campaign funds. Among other things, Fattah used \$23,000 in nonprofit funds to pay college loans for his son, Chip—himself later convicted of fraud—and took an \$18,000 bribe which he then used for a down payment on a vacation home.

Outcome: Fattah was found guilty on all 22 counts including racketeering, fraud and money laundering. He was sentenced to 10 years in prison.

U.S. District Judge Harvey Bartle noted that Fattah's crimes were particularly "astonishing given that he and his wife had an annual income that put them at or near

the top 1 percent." Fattah, meanwhile, has maintained his innocence. "I've helped tens of millions of people," he said. "(That) has nothing to do with the fact that I've been found on the wrong side of these questions by a jury."



Harold James
Pennsylvania House of Representatives

HAROLD JAMES

Pennsylvania House of Representatives
(2012 – 2013)

Corruption charge: James was charged with bribery and conspiracy.

Outcome: James pleaded guilty, and was sentenced to 23 months of probation.

Lobbyist Tyron Ali, wearing a wire, handed James money and was recorded telling him, "You know that I want to take care of you because I am going to need you later." James replied, "OK." But that wasn't all: Prosecutors said James' intent was made even clearer when he reached out to Ali later and asked how he could help him while in office.



Cherelle Parker
Pennsylvania House of Representatives

CHERELLE PARKER

Pennsylvania House of Representatives
(2005 – 2015)

Corruption charge: Cherelle Parker was charged with a DUI, discovered because she was driving the wrong way on a one-way street in Germantown. According to police, her blood alcohol level was twice the legal limit.

Outcome: Parker was convicted, sentenced to three days in jail, and fined \$1,000.

Originally, Parker's case was dismissed by Municipal Judge Charles Hayden—who, as it turns out, was Facebook friends with Parker. Once that was revealed, a second judge reinstated the charges. Her career hasn't suffered much, though: In 2015, she was elected to City Council, where she still serves.



John Perzel
Pennsylvania House of Representatives,
House Speaker

JOHN PERZEL

Pennsylvania House of Representatives, House Speaker
(1979 – 2010)

Corruption charge: Perzel was charged with theft, conflict of interest and conspiracy.

Outcome: In August, 2011, Perzel pleaded guilty to eight criminal charges. He was later sentenced to 30 months in prison and \$1 million dollars in restitution to the state.

"I've embarrassed myself, my family and the people of Pennsylvania," Perzel said.



Joseph C. Waters, Jr.
Philadelphia Municipal Court Judge

JOSEPH C. WATERS, JR.
Philadelphia Municipal Court Judge
(2001 – 2014)

Corruption charge: Waters was charged with fixing cases on behalf of campaign donors and political allies, who in addition to cash gave him event tickets and alcohol.

Outcome: Waters was convicted and sentenced to two years in prison and a \$5,500 fine as part of a deal with prosecutors.

"I've been over it and over it, and I can't point out a single incident and say there was a switch that got turned," Waters said. "I wasn't paying enough attention to my professional responsibility. My head was just out of the game."



Kathleen Kane
Pennsylvania Attorney General

KATHLEEN KANE
Pennsylvania Attorney General
(2013 – 2016)

Corruption charge: On the heels of the Porngate scandal that rocked the state judiciary, Kane was charged with perjury and abuse of her office.

Outcome: Kane was found guilty of two felony perjury charges and seven misdemeanors, and was sentenced to 23 months in prison.

"Maybe I deserve everything I get; they don't," she said, in reference to her sons. "I am not going to ask for your mercy because I don't care about me anymore."



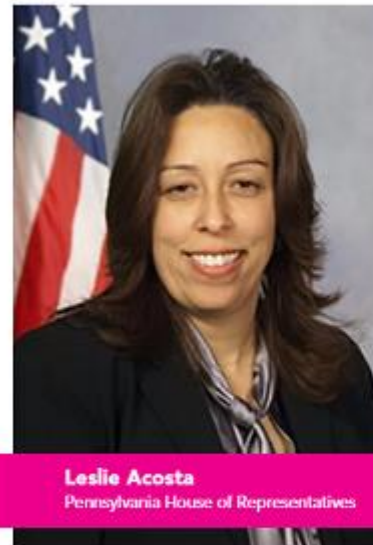
LeAnna M. Washington
Pennsylvania Senate

LEANNA M. WASHINGTON
Pennsylvania Senate
(1993 – 2015)

Corruption charge: Indicted on felony charges of diversion of services and conflict of interest.

Outcome: In 2014, Washington—who had already lost in the primary—agreed to leave office early in exchange for retaining her retirement benefits, which included lifetime health insurance and a state pension. She faced three months of house arrest.

"I am the fucking Senator, I do what the fuck I want, and ain't nobody going to change me," Washington once told her chief of staff.



Leslie Acosta
Pennsylvania House of Representatives

LESLIE ACOSTA
Pennsylvania House of Representatives
(2015 – 2017)

Corruption charge: Acosta was charged with embezzlement, in a scheme that involved Renee Tartaglione, her boss at a North Philly mental health clinic and the daughter of former City Commissioner Marge Tartaglione. Her illegal actions occurred before she was elected to the House—but she was charged while in office.

Outcome: Acosta pleaded guilty to conspiring to commit money laundering, and apparently cooperated with investigators.

At the time of her guilty plea last March, Acosta was running unopposed for reelection, which she won in November—without telling voters she was a convicted felon. She resigned on January 3, the date she would have been sworn in for the new session.



Michelle F. Brownlee
Pennsylvania House of Representatives

MICHELLE F. BROWNLEE
Pennsylvania House of Representatives
(2011 – 2015)

Corruption charge: Brownlee was charged with felony conflict of interest.

Outcome: She pleaded guilty for accepting money from a confidential informant. She was ordered to make \$2,000 in restitution and pay \$3,500 for the cost of prosecution to the Philadelphia District Attorney's office.

According to investigators, lobbyist-turned-informant Tyron Ali handed Brownlee \$2,000 in cash wrapped in a napkin during a walk in 2011. Brownlee later told The Inquirer she couldn't remember whether she accepted the money.



Rob McCord
Pennsylvania Treasurer

ROB MCCORD
Pennsylvania Treasurer
(2009 – 2015)

Corruption charge: Charged with extortion for using threats to try to squeeze around \$125,000 in contributions from a law firm and a property management company to support his failed 2014 campaign for governor.

Outcome: McCord agreed to turn informant, and secretly wore a wire to record millionaire businessman Richard Ireland, who last summer was indicted for fraud in a sting that also captured former state Treasurer Barbara Hafer. McCord—himself caught through a wiretapped conversation—pleaded guilty. On the stand in March, he admitted engaging in a quid pro quo to secure a job for Ireland's son. His sentencing has been delayed.

"Clearly, that was wrong," McCord has said. "I was wrong. It was a mistake. I stand ready to pay the price for that mistake."



Ronald D. Waters
Pennsylvania House of Representatives

RONALD D. WATERS
Pennsylvania House of Representatives
(1999 – 2015)

Corruption charge: Waters was charged with criminal conspiracy, bribery, conflict of interest and failure to make required disclosures in statement of financial interests, during a widespread sting launched in 2010 by the state Attorney General's office.

Outcome: Waters pleaded guilty and was sentenced to 23 months probation.

Soon-to-be-disgraced Attorney General Kathleen Kane dropped the case when she took office in 2013, only to have it picked up by Philadelphia District Attorney Seth Williams, also soon-to-be-disgraced. "I got caught up and I don't know where my mind was," Waters told the judge in court in Dauphin County. "I'm not trying to make any excuses. The only thing I ask is, please look at the whole man."



J.P. Miranda
Pennsylvania House of Representatives

J.P. MIRANDA
Pennsylvania House of Representatives
(2012 – 2014)

Corruption charge: Miranda—along with his sister, Michelle Wilson—was charged with conflict of interest, perjury and conspiracy for hiring a fake employee in order to funnel money to Wilson, against state ethics rules.

Outcome: Pleaded guilty and was sentenced to five years probation.

Miranda, a one-term Congressman, never had time to make his mark. He was elected in 2012, and lost his bid for reelection two years later.



John Green
Philadelphia Sheriff

JOHN GREEN

Philadelphia Sheriff

(1988 – 2010)

Corruption charge: Green was charged with taking bribes of upwards of six figures from firms owned by James R. Davis Jr., essentially giving Davis exclusive access to managing the sale of foreclosed properties.

Outcome: Case pending.

Green spent 22 years as Sheriff before retiring just as City Controller Alan Butkovitz was getting ready to release an audit that revealed Green's alleged corruption. It was a dramatic downfall for Green, who took office promising to be a reformer, and who is credited with establishing a foreclosure diversion program that helps poor homeowners keep their houses.



Seth Williams
Philadelphia District Attorney

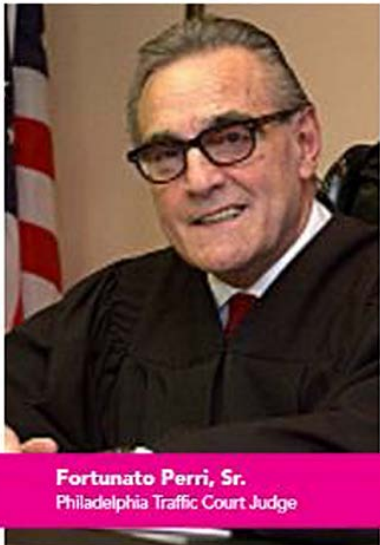
SETH WILLIAMS

Philadelphia District Attorney

(2010 – present)

Corruption charge: In March, Williams was indicted on a bevy of corruption charges, including selling his influence, accepting bribes and—the kicker—stealing \$20,000 from his mother to cover utility bills. The gifts he received included a Louis Vuitton tie, a trip to Punta Cana and a sofa.

Outcome: Two weeks into his trial on June 29th, Williams abruptly resigned and pled guilty to one charge of corruption. Already, the Philadelphia Board of Ethics has fined him \$62,000, the largest penalty ever. Now he faces a maximum sentence of five years in prison. Given U.S. District Judge Paul Diamond's attitude towards Williams, he may get it. Diamond ordered Williams to be handcuffed and immediately jailed—an action which surprised most everyone, including it seems Williams himself. "He betrayed his office and he sold his office," Diamond said. "I am appalled by the evidence that I have heard."



Fortunato Perri, Sr.
Philadelphia Traffic Court Judge

FORTUNATO PERRI, SR.

Philadelphia Traffic Court Judge

(2006 – 2013)

Corruption charge: Perri was charged with conspiracy, mail fraud, wire fraud and ticket fixing in a widespread corruption case that eventually led to the shuttering of Philadelphia Traffic Court.

Outcome: Perri was convicted and sentenced to two years of federal probation.

Perri was recorded on wiretap telling one businessman, "When you call, I move, brother. Believe me, I move everybody."



Michael Lowry
Philadelphia Traffic Court Judge

MICHAEL LOWRY

Philadelphia Traffic Court Judge

(2008 – 2014)

Corruption charge: Lowry was one of several traffic court judges indicted in a ticket-fixing scheme.

Outcome: He was convicted of perjury, and sentenced to 20 months in prison for lying to a grand jury, as well as 100 hours of community service.

"I do regret allowing people outside my courtroom to ask for considerations," Lowry said. "I had the opportunity to say no. I didn't do it."



Michael Sullivan
Philadelphia Traffic Court Judge

MICHAEL SULLIVAN

Philadelphia Traffic Court Judge
(- 2013)

Corruption charge: Charged with tax fraud and ticket fixing, and with paying most of the staff at his family's bar in South Philadelphia under the table in cash.

Outcome: Pleaded guilty for failing to report taxes and received a 10 month sentence for tax fraud.

Sullivan's lawyer tried to convince the judge to be lenient on his client by claiming his crime was no big deal. "I'm not saying he didn't plead guilty. I'm not saying he didn't admit responsibility," Henry Hockeimer said. "But should he go to jail for that?" For Sullivan's part, he told reporters that, "As far as I am concerned, I was indicted for doing my job."



H. Warren Hogeland
Philadelphia Traffic Court Judge

H. WARREN HOGELAND

Philadelphia Traffic Court Judge
(2006 - 2012)

Corruption charge: Hogeland was charged with conspiracy, mail fraud, routinely dismissing traffic tickets, and reducing fines or acquitting offenders at the request of other judges.

Outcome: Hogeland pleaded guilty and died prior to being sentenced.

In a statement referring to all the indicted traffic court judges, U.S. Attorney Zane Memeger said, "The defendants participated in a widespread culture of giving breaks on traffic citations to friends, family, the politically connected, and business associates."



Kenneth Miller
Philadelphia Traffic Court Judge

KENNETH MILLER

Philadelphia Traffic Court Judge
(2011 - 2012)

Corruption charge: Miller was charged by federal authorities for his involvement in a Philadelphia Traffic Court ticket-fixing incident.

Outcome: He pleaded guilty and was sentenced to one year probation and \$1000 fine.

"Mr. Miller was the only defendant who cooperated with the government," Assistant Attorney General Anthony Wzorek said. "His participation (in the scheme) was minimal. He was only in traffic court for a short period of time."



Robert Mulgrew
Philadelphia Traffic Court Judge

ROBERT MULGREW

Philadelphia Traffic Court Judge
(- 2013)

Corruption charge: Charged with federal mail and fraud charges for siphoning tens of thousands of dollars of state funds intended for the Friends of Dickinson Square for his own personal benefit, including for leases on pickup trucks, extermination charges and cigarettes. He was also charged with perjury for lying to investigators during the Traffic Court scandal.

Outcome: Mulgrew was sentenced to two-and-a-half years in prison and ordered to pay the state nearly \$200,000 in retribution, as well as \$123,000 in back taxes for the fraud. He later was given another 18 months, served consecutively, for lying to investigators.

"I'm very remorseful for my actions," Mulgrew told the judge at his sentencing. "I am sorry for my mistakes. They will never happen again."



Thomasine Tynes
Philadelphia Traffic Court Judge

THOMASINE TYNES

Philadelphia Traffic Court Judge
(1989 – 2012)

Corruption charge: Charged with bribery for taking a \$2,000 bracelet in an undercover sting, and with perjury related to the ticket fixing scandal.

Outcome: Tynes pleaded guilty to felony fraud for the bribery charge and was sentenced to 24 months in prison. She was also sentenced to 24 months for perjury, which she served concurrently.

"I don't have any animosity toward anybody because I know how the system works," Tynes told the Inquirer when she was released. "It's all about politics. It's all about how you can get ahead in life and what you need to do. And people do things to advance their careers and what they want to do in life." She also said she was working on a memoir, titled *From Judge to Jail*.



Willie Singletary
Philadelphia Traffic Court Judge

WILLIE SINGLETARY

Philadelphia Traffic Court Judge
(2008 – 2012)

Corruption charge: Charged with conspiracy, fraud and perjury.

Outcome: He was acquitted of the corruption charges but he was sentenced to 20 months in jail for lying to the FBI investigators.

Singletary's sentencing hearing was more like a church service than a trial, with the disgraced former traffic court judge playing the part of the minister. "I just wanted to help people, and that's the God's honest truth," Singletary said, according to the Inquirer.

"Nothing—nothing—and I mean nothing—in this world satisfies me more than when I help someone and know I helped someone." He followed this up with a call to the packed audience—fellow congregants from his South Philly Baptist church—to stand with him. They did—and contributed some "Hallelujahs" and "Amens" to the proceedings.