

***WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE'S
COMMISSION ON SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS***

45th ANNUAL REPORT

July 1, 2024 - June 30, 2025



RANDY SMITH
SENATE PRESIDENT
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

ROGER HANSHAW
SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE

RICK EPLIN
DIRECTOR



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Commission on Special Investigations
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Mission Overview

The Mission of the Commission on Special Investigations is broadly outlined under Chapter 4, Article 5 of the West Virginia State Code and includes investigation into the purchasing practices and procedures of the State, conflicts of interest, bribery of State officials, malfeasance, misfeasance or nonfeasance in office by any employee or officer of the State, and to conduct investigations to determine if any criminal or civil statutes have been violated at any level of State government. The Commission has conducted hundreds of investigations into fraud and public corruption in which the State of West Virginia was the victim. Commission Investigators work in conjunction with the United States Attorney's offices in West Virginia, the 55 County prosecuting attorneys, local, county and State law enforcement, as well as the FBI, IRS and other Federal law enforcement, regulatory and investigative agencies.

The Commission Staff is currently comprised of a Director, Deputy Director, six Investigators and an Administrative Assistant. The law enforcement and investigative experience of individual Investigators ranges from 29 to 47 years. At any one time the Commission may have a dozen or more active investigations.

The Commission was originally formed as a result of a Federal corruption investigation of Governor W. W. Barron and several members of his Administration conducted in the late 1960s by the Internal Revenue Service. The six-year investigation revealed a need for an independent investigative agency within State government empowered to investigate public corruption unimpeded by politics or other traditional barriers.

In September 1968, Governor Hulett Smith convened a special legislative session and then Senator William T. Brotherton proposed the creation of a special commission to investigate the purchasing practices of the State. The result was the creation of the Purchasing Practices and Procedures Commission (PPPC), which was in 1980 renamed the Commission on Special Investigations, or as it is more commonly known, CSI.

The Commission is comprised of ten members of the Legislature, with the President of the Senate and Speaker of the House of Delegates serving as its Co-Chairmen. The remaining eight members (four from the Senate and four from the House)



represent both political parties. Meetings are conducted during interim sessions of the Legislature and are generally held in executive session. By statute, all of CSI's records are exempt from the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA).

Today CSI is responsible for the investigation and prosecution of any crimes involving public corruption at any level of State government. Commission Investigators have investigated and successfully prosecuted cases involving embezzlement, larceny, forgery, bribery, extortion, falsifying accounts, obtaining money by false pretenses, and mail and wire fraud, among other criminal violations. CSI Investigators have been actively involved in prosecuting cases in both State and Federal court.

Investigations may involve "any level of State government," i.e., any level where there is an involvement or infusion of State money, resources or personnel. CSI has investigated not only State agencies, officers, elected officials and employees, but also county and municipal entities which receive or use State or Federal funds passed through the State. While some investigations are completed in short order, it is not unusual for CSI matters to remain open for weeks, months and, at times, years.

Many investigations begin with a call from a concerned citizen who has become aware of something "that just doesn't seem right" or which is obviously a violation of law. Investigators work closely with many people within and outside of State government and our reputation for professionalism is second to no other investigative agency, State or Federal.



Commission Members

§4-5-1

The Commission shall be composed of the President of the Senate and four members of the Senate, to be appointed by the President of the Senate, no more than two of whom shall be from the same political party; and the Speaker of the House of Delegates and four members of the House of Delegates, to be appointed by the Speaker of the House of Delegates, no more than two of whom shall be appointed from the same political party: Provided, That in the event the membership of a political party is less than 15 percent in the House of Delegates or Senate, then the membership of that political party from the legislative house with less than 15 percent membership may be one from that house. The commission shall be chaired by the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Delegates. All members appointed to the commission by the commission chairs serve until their successors are appointed as provided herein.



Senate Chambers

These Legislators are responsible for overseeing the investigative activities of the Commission Staff, which are reviewed in executive session during Legislative interim meetings. A quorum, consisting of the majority of the total authorized membership, is required to open or close an investigation or refer a matter to the appropriate Legislative Committee, if the subject falls outside the Commission's purview.



House Chambers

Commission Membership

June - December 2024

Craig Blair (R)
Senate President
Lieutenant Governor
Co-Chairman
Joined the Commission-2021



Roger Hanshaw (R)
House Speaker
Co-Chairman
Joined the Commission-2018



Charles Trump IV (R)
Member 1993-2007
Reappointed-2015



Shawn Fluharty (D)
Minority Whip
Joined the Commission-2021



Ryan Weld (R)
Majority Whip
Joined the Commission-2019



Brandon Steele (R)
Joined the Commission-2021



Mike Caputo (D)
Joined the Commission-2023



Vernon Criss (R)
Joined the Commission-2023



Chandler Swope (R)
Joined the Commission-2023



Commission Membership

January – May 2025

Randy Smith (R)
Senate President
Lieutenant Governor
Co-Chairman
Joined the Commission-2025



Roger Hanshaw (R)
House Speaker
Co-Chairman
Joined the Commission-2018

Ryan Weld (R)
Joined the Commission-2019



Shawn Fluharty (D)
Minority Whip
Joined the Commission-2021

Vince Deeds (R)
Joined the Commission-2025



Vernon Criss (R)
Joined the Commission-2023

Joey Garcia (D)
Joined the Commission-2025



James Akers II (R)
Joined the Commission-2025

Tom Willis (R)
Joined the Commission-2025



David Kelly (R)
Joined the Commission-2025

Commission Membership

June 2025

Randy Smith (R)
Senate President
Lieutenant Governor
Co-Chairman
Joined the Commission-2025



Roger Hanshaw (R)
House Speaker
Co-Chairman
Joined the Commission-2018

Ryan Weld (R)
Joined the Commission-2019



Shawn Fluharty (D)
Minority Whip
Joined the Commission-2021

Vince Deeds (R)
Joined the Commission-2025



Vernon Criss (R)
Joined the Commission-2023

Joey Garcia (D)
Joined the Commission-2025



James Akers II (R)
Joined the Commission-2025

Tom Willis (R)
Joined the Commission-2025



Commission Staff

§4-5-2(b)(3)

The Commission is empowered to: *“Employ necessary legal, technical, investigative, clerical, stenographic, advisory and other personnel and, within the appropriation specified in §4-5-4 of this code, fix reasonable compensation of any persons and firms that are employed. The commission’s investigative staff may consist of a director, deputy director, senior investigators, and investigators as approved by the co-chairs: Provided, That the commission may authorize certain employees of the commission to administer oaths and take affidavits and deposition anywhere in the state.”*

The current investigative staff has previously distinguished themselves with successful law enforcement careers, ranging from first-line to senior supervisors and senior administrators in large municipal police departments, Sheriff’s Offices, State Police and Federal agencies.



Commission Staff designated as “Investigator” are issued special identification credentials including photo identification and Commission badges. Investigators are also authorized to carry firearms in the performance of their duties.

Staff Investigators are responsible for conducting comprehensive and detailed investigations on behalf of the West Virginia Legislature into the

purchasing practices and procedures of the State and matters of public corruption. To that end, Investigators work with their counterparts in local, State and Federal law enforcement agencies as well as other State entities and local and Federal prosecutors.

Rick D. Eplin, Director

Joined CSI – 2015

39 years law enforcement experience

Professional Experience:

Huntington, WV Police Department

Captain - O.I.C.

Criminal Investigation Division

Education:

WV State University

FBI National Academy

WV State Police Academy



Jeff Shriner, Deputy Director

Joined CSI – 2017

35 years law enforcement experience

Professional Experience:

Investigative Specialist – FBI

Master Corporal – New Castle County

Police Department, DE

Education:

St. Joseph's University

West Liberty University

New Castle County Police Academy



James S. Powers, Senior Investigator

Joined CSI - 2002

48 years law enforcement experience

Professional Experience:

WV State Police

Lieutenant Colonel - Chief of Staff

Chief of Administrative Services

Director – Procurement

BCI Grant Forfeiture Officer

Education:

Radford University

Virginia Polytechnic Institute

FLETC – Glynco

WV State Police Academy





Michael Robinson, Senior Investigator

Joined CSI – 2015

35 years law enforcement experience

Professional Experience:

WV State Police-BCI Regional Coordinator
Multi-jurisdictional Task Force Coordinator
Detachment Commander

Education:

Marshall University
Glennville State College
WV State Police Academy

Barry Parsons, Senior Investigator

Joined CSI – 2019

34 years law enforcement experience

Professional Experience:

Special Agent – Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA)
DEA Technical Operations Coordinator for WV

Education:

Eastern Kentucky University
Kentucky Department of Criminal Justice Training Center
FLETC - Glynco



Jesse Bailes, Investigator

Joined CSI – 2021

39 years law enforcement experience

Professional Experience:

Captain - Kanawha County Sheriff's Office
Chief of Police - City of Dunbar
Kanawha County Magistrate

Education:

West Virginia State University
WV State Police Academy
Certified Fraud Examiner





Pat Boone, Investigator

Joined CSI – 2021

33 years law enforcement experience

Professional Experience:

Kanawha County Sheriff's Department
Captain – Division/Shift Commander
Metropolitan Drug Enforcement
Network Team (MDENT)
WV State Auditor's Office
Fraud Investigator

Education:

WV State University
WV State Police Academy

Sean Wolfe, Investigator

Joined CSI – 2023

30 years law enforcement experience

Professional Experience:

West Virginia State Police
First Sergeant – Bureau of Criminal
Investigations
Detachment Commander
Senior Investigator detailed to
US Attorney's Office SDWV

Education:

University of Tennessee Chattanooga
WV State Police Academy



Sherry Lawson, Administrative Assistant

Joined CSI – 2018

40 years Professional Experience

WV State Police Administrative Assistant
WV Supreme Court Certified Court Reporter

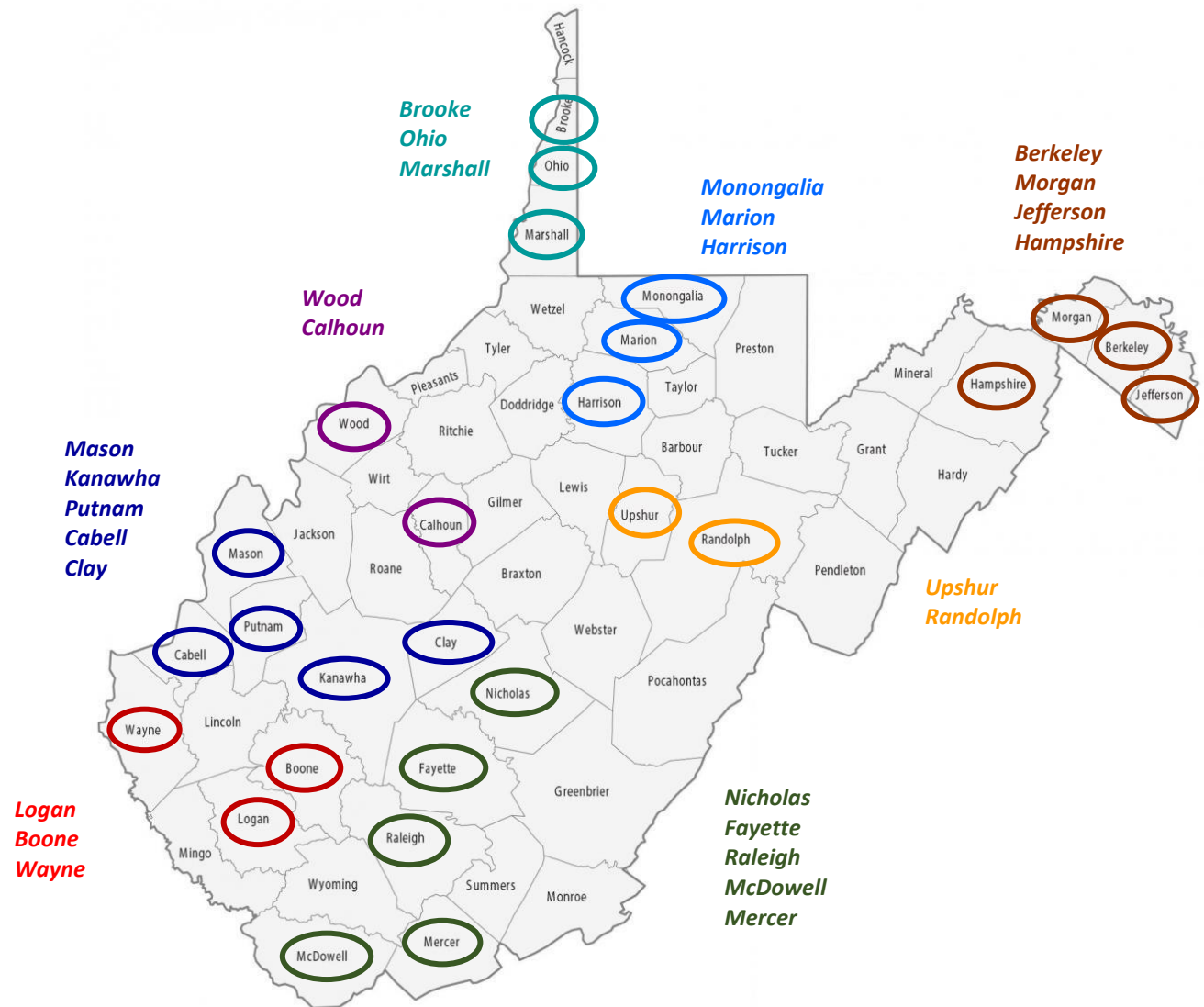
Activities of the Commission

July 1, 2024 - June 30, 2025

The Commission on Special Investigations met in Executive Session on five occasions during the 2024 fiscal year. The Commission authorized the opening of 18 new cases. The Commission authorized the closure of 13 previous investigations.

Several complex investigations are ongoing, and it is not uncommon for CSI cases to extend over several years due to their complexity and the amount of evidence to be reviewed.

During the 2024 fiscal year, CSI Investigators worked in 27 of the state's 55 counties. The following counties were visited by CSI Investigators during the last fiscal year while conducting investigations.





Putnam County Sheriff's Department

The Commission on Special Investigations was contacted in April 2023 by the Putnam County Prosecutor's Office. It was alleged that former Putnam County Sheriff and current County Commissioner Steve Deweese may have misappropriated certain public monies that had come into his possession while serving as Sheriff. WV Code §7-6-8 defines public moneys to, "...include all money which by law the sheriff in his capacity as such, and as treasurer of the county and districts, is authorized to collect, receive and disburse for public purposes...". WV Code §7-5-1 further establishes that, "The sheriff and his sureties on his official bond shall be held liable for all public moneys coming into his hands as ex-officio treasurer from every source, whether or not the same shall be deposited in a bank."



The investigation established that during his tenure as sheriff, Steve Deweese entered into a verbal agreement with Scholarship Calendar Company to produce annual calendars. The calendars were on behalf of the Putnam County Sheriff's Department and used their name, imagery, personnel and equipment for production of the calendar. In his capacity as Sheriff, Deweese detailed his employees to appear for photographs for inclusion on the yearly calendars. The Sheriff's Department employees were compensated with public funds for their time. In addition to the depiction of Sheriff's Department personnel and equipment Scholarship Calendar Company solicited local businesses and organizations to purchase advertising space on the calendars. Interviews with participating businesses and organizations revealed that there was an assumption that money they spent on advertising would in some way benefit the Putnam County Sheriff's Department.

Investigators determined that Scholarship Calendar Company issued four checks between 2017 and 2019 designated "proceeds" for \$1,000.00 each. The checks were made payable to Steve Deweese with no reference to the Putnam County Sheriff's Department or the Putnam County Commission. A review of bank records revealed that the four \$1,000.00 checks were either deposited into a personal account of Deweese or cashed by Deweese. The funds were not remitted to the Putnam County general fund account. In response to a WV Ethics Commission complaint Deweese, through his attorney, claimed the funds were used for donations and departmental purchases. CSI Investigators interviewed many county employees and reviewed financial records but found nothing that would corroborate the claims made by

Deweese. It was determined that Deweese simply converted the funds to his own use and benefit.

Deweese entered into a plea agreement and subsequently pled guilty to one count of Fraudulent Schemes and agreed to pay \$4,000.00 in restitution to the Putnam County Deputy Sheriff's Association. Additionally, Deweese agreed to resign from the Putnam County Commission, and to never again seek public office. Deweese was sentenced on February 12, 2025, to one year probation with the aforementioned terms.

Law Enforcement officers in West Virginia are certified by the Law Enforcement Professional Standards Program (LEPS). LEPS is tasked with oversight of law enforcement training and the establishment of standards related to that training. The oversight is conducted through the LEPS Subcommittee of the Governor's Committee on Crime, Delinquency and Corrections. In March of 2025 DeWeese appeared before the Law Enforcement Professional Standards (LEPS) Subcommittee. As a result of the hearing the Subcommittee voted unanimously to decertify Deweese, effectively preventing him from serving as a law enforcement officer in the state of West Virginia.



NEWS

Former Putnam County Commissioner and Sheriff pleads guilty to fraud

By [Katherine Skeldon](#)

December 16, 2024 - 1:44 pm

CHARLESTON, W.Va. — Former Putnam County Commissioner and Sheriff Steve Deweese pleaded guilty to a misdemeanor charge of fraudulent schemes in Kanawha County Circuit Court Monday.

However, Deweese entered an Alford Plea meaning he is not required to present any factual basis for the plea and does not admit to the guilty act.

He will have to repay \$4,000 in restitution and agree to not seek public office in the future. The allegations stem from money paid to the Sheriff's department for a calendar created for four years of his tenure as sheriff and the money never being directed to the appropriate entity. Deweese appeared before Kanawha County Circuit Judge Kenneth Ballard Monday to enter the plea.

Wayne County Assistant Prosecuting Attorney Scott Maddox filling in for Wayne County Prosecuting Attorney Matthew Deerfield, who was the special prosecutor in the case told Judge Ballard Monday that an investigator on the case testified that none of the involved parties received the money they were owed for the calendar. "He testified that between the years of 2017, 2018 and 2019, the Putnam County Sheriff's Department Deputy Sheriff's Association did not receive any checks or deposits related to the sells or the ads of this calendar," said Maddox.

According to Deerfield, Deweese entered a four-year agreement with the Scholarship Calendar Company to allow use of a Sheriff's department picture for a calendar to sell advertisements. He had previously stated that between those four years, Deweese received a \$1,000 check from the company, but the check was never forwarded.

"We can present bank records to show that Mr. Deweese cashed each of these checks, four checks amounting to \$1,000 dollars each and didn't turn those over to the sheriff's department, the commission or the clerk, and kept them for his own use," said Maddox. In addition to the money Deweese must now pay back, he could also face up to one year in prison.

His sentencing is set for February 12, 2025.



Former Putnam County commissioner, sheriff sentenced

By [Ryan Epling](#)

Published: Feb. 12, 2025 at 10:19 AM EST

PUTNAM COUNTY, W.Va. (WSAZ) - Former Putnam County commissioner and sheriff Steve Deweese has been sentenced, two months after pleading guilty after an investigation into misappropriation of funds.

Deweese was sentenced to one year probation and to pay restitution. He has one year to pay the restitution.

Deweese entered an Alford plea in December, in which he maintained his innocence, but admitted the evidence would likely result in a guilty verdict at trial.

The investigation focused on money raised by the Putnam County Sheriff's Office through the sale of advertisements on a calendar between 2017 and 2019.

According to prosecutors, The Putnam County Sheriff's Department Deputy Sheriff's Association did not receive any checks or deposits related to the sales of ads on the calendar. Prosecutors say the association was supposed to receive \$4,000.

Investigators say Deweese cashed four checks for \$1,000 apiece for personal use.

Deweese served two terms as Putnam County sheriff before winning election to the Putnam County Commission in 2022. He resigned in Nov. of 2024 due to the investigation

Indictment – Charles Bickford



The Commission on Special Investigations received a complaint of possible embezzlement involving the Wilderness Volunteer Fire Department in Nicholas County. It was alleged that the former Fire Chief, Charles W. Bickford paid himself over and above what had been authorized by members of the Volunteer Fire Department. As a result of the investigation The Commission on Special Investigations forwarded information to the Nicholas County Prosecutor’s Office for review.

The Nicholas County Prosecutor’s Office presented the results of the investigation to a Grand Jury in February of 2025. Charles W. Bickford was subsequently indicted * on twelve charges related to the allegations set forth by the investigation.

The matter is pending trial in Nicholas County Circuit Court.

****An Indictment is a formal accusation in writing found and presented by a grand jury. Individuals who have been indicted are considered innocent until proven otherwise in a court of law.***

Former Nicholas County volunteer fire chief indicted on embezzlement, fraud charges

by SHANNON STOWERS

Tue, February 4, 2025 at 2:01 PM

Updated Tue, February 4, 2025 at 5:45 PM



A former volunteer fire chief in Nicholas County was indicted last month in an embezzlement investigation, court records said. (WCHS)

NICHOLAS COUNTY, W.Va. (WCHS) — A former volunteer fire chief in Nicholas County was indicted last month in an embezzlement investigation, court records said.

Charles W. Bickford was indicted by Nicholas County Grand Jury in January on charges of embezzlement and 11 counts of computer fraud in an investigation dating back to September 2021, according to court records.

Bickford is accused of using his status at the Wilderness Volunteer Fire Department to fraudulently pay himself \$33,278.75 between September 2021 and December 2022.

The indictments also allege that from January 2022 to November 2022, Bickford increased his salary on 11 different occasions totaling more than \$22,000.

Noah Allen, who took over fire chief duties in November 2022, said in a statement Tuesday that he has worked to bring “transparency, growth and unwavering commitment to the community we serve.”

“The dedicated members of WVFD remain steadfast in our commitment to providing top-tier fire and rescue services,” Allen said in the statement. “Protecting lives and property is our mission, and we will continue to work tirelessly to earn and maintain your trust.”

Allen said he has focused on rebuilding the trust with the community, including strengthening financial oversight, modernizing the fire department’s fleet, improving its facilities, expanding its roster and increasing training.

Thompson Construction Group

The State of West Virginia received catastrophic flooding on June 23, 2016. The flooding affected multiple counties and municipalities primarily throughout central and southern West Virginia. In response to the massive destruction, federal disaster recovery grants were made available to mitigate the damage or to replace homes as needed.

The Commission on Special Investigations was actively investigating allegations that grant funds were being misappropriated and that some individuals were filing false claims for the recovery of damages. Thompson Construction Group was awarded a series of contracts in September of 2018 to provide replacements for modular homes. In October of 2018 Thompson Construction Group received contracts to replace stick-built homes in the regions that had been damaged by flooding.

The WV Department of Commerce, in conjunction with the State Auditor's Office, began an internal audit of billing being submitted by Thompson Construction Group in November 2019. The billing discrepancies triggered further on-site inspection of construction projects by CSI Investigators and the internal auditor. CSI Investigators entered the crawlspaces of many homes throughout the affected area to document and create a photographic record of conditions.

In April of 2021 US Housing and Urban Development officials requested CSI participate in the investigation on Thompson Construction Group. Investigators identified multiple structural and construction deficiencies in the homes they inspected. They repeatedly identified foundations that were out of plumb, structural supports that were not properly positioned or anchored, cracked or broken structural supports, cracked foundations, standing water in crawlspaces and water entering through foundation walls.



A Smart Sump

A high-quality sump system is essential and must include a perforated sump liner, reliable pump, alarm system, pump stand, check valve, and airtight lid with a floor drain. Basement Systems' SmartSump system is shown here.



The contract with Thompson Construction Group required the installation of a crawlspace drainage system distributed by Basement Systems of WV located in Clarksburg West Virginia. Investigators did not find that any of these drainage systems were installed in the homes they inspected.

Investigators determined that none of the drainage systems had ever been purchased from the distributor by Thompson Construction Group or their subcontractors. A review of the invoices submitted by Thompson Construction Group revealed however that they routinely billed the WV Department of Commerce for the installation of the crawlspace drainage systems at \$2,895.00 per unit.

Some homes had a sump pump installed in a 5-gallon bucket below grade to capture water, but these were not compliant with the requirements of the contract.



As a result of the investigation by the Commission on Special Investigations, the Department of Commerce, and HUD Office of Inspector General, Thompson Construction Group entered a civil settlement with the United States Attorney's Office for the Southern District of WV. Thompson Construction Group agreed to pay \$95,535 dollars in restitution and \$95,535 dollars in double damages to settle the allegations.





Press Release

South Carolina Construction Company to Pay \$191,070 to the United States to Resolve False Claims Allegations

Monday, March 31, 2025

For Immediate Release

U.S. Attorney's Office, Southern District of West Virginia
Claims Relate to Fraudulent Disaster Recovery Services After Devastating 2016 Flooding in West Virginia

CHARLESTON, W.Va. – Acting United States Attorney Lisa G. Johnston announced today that Thompson Construction Group Inc., of Sumter, South Carolina, has agreed to pay the United States \$191,070 to resolve civil allegations that it violated the federal False Claims Act by submitting false claims for payment from federal disaster recovery grant funds and by falsely certifying that homes it had constructed were compliant with contract conditions.

On June 26, 2016, portions of central and southern West Virginia experienced extreme levels of rainfall, resulting in historic flooding over a vast swath of the region. Flood waters rushing across West Virginia's mountainous landscape damaged or swept away thousands of homes, businesses, bridges and other infrastructure, leaving thousands of West Virginia residents homeless and at least 23 dead. Following a presidential disaster declaration issued in response to the flooding, Congress appropriated funds for disaster recovery in West Virginia to be administered by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) in the form of Community Development Block Grant – Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) funds. These funds were made available to fund an array of recovery needs in West Virginia including housing rehabilitation and replacement for low income homeowners.

Thompson was awarded a series of contracts to reconstruct homes that were damaged or destroyed during the catastrophic flood. Because future flooding and water intrusion was a concern, the contracts included specific requirements for water management including crawlspace drainage systems and sump pumps to be installed in homes constructed in a flood plain. These requirements were detailed in pre-bid construction specifications and incorporated into the contracts awarded.

Thompson completed construction of these homes and submitted invoices certifying compliance with the contract terms and was paid from federal CDBG-DR funds. Investigators later learned, however, that crawlspace drainage systems and sump pumps had not been installed as required, making Thompson's claims and certifications false.

The Settlement Agreement announced today requires Thompson to pay \$95,535 in restitution and \$95,535 in double damages pursuant to the False Claims Act.

“Numerous West Virginia families devastated by the 2016 flooding relied on Thompson Construction, which received significant taxpayer dollars only to leave these families vulnerable to future flooding,” said Acting United States Attorney Lisa G. Johnston. “I commend HUD-OIG and the West Virginia Commission on Special Investigations for conducting the civil investigation, the Affirmative Civil Enforcement-Health Care Fraud Investigative Specialist Tyler E. Japhet in our office for assisting the investigation, and Assistant United States Attorney Gregory P. Neil for securing this settlement.”

“Thompson Construction Group’s actions diverted limited federal taxpayer resources that were intended to help victims rebuild homes that had been damaged by devastating floods and instead used that money to line their pockets.” said Special Agent-in-Charge Shawn Rice with HUD-OIG. “HUD OIG remains steadfast in its commitment to working with our prosecutorial, law enforcement, and oversight partners to aggressively pursue individuals who engage in activities that threaten the integrity of HUD programs.”

“The Commission on Special Investigations is committed to investigating all matters involving the misappropriation and theft of public funds,” said Commission Director Rick Eplin. “Commission investigators spent many days in the field interviewing homeowners and contractors in this matter. In addition, they collected photographic evidence that clearly supported the allegations set forth. We are thankful for the support of our federal partners with HUD-OIG and the United States Attorney’s Office who made a successful resolution of this case possible.”



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Commission on Special Investigations receives information from a variety of sources, both public and private. CSI solicits and accepts information of potential wrongdoing from individual citizens, governmental employees and governmental agencies, many of whom do so at substantial personal risk. Absent this assistance, it would be difficult for the Commission to perform its duties.

While we recognize the contributions to CSI efforts made by various County Prosecuting Attorneys, United States Attorneys and Assistant United States Attorneys, Federal Special Agents, State Troopers, Sheriffs and their Deputies and local police agencies, there have been some who have provided extraordinary assistance to us over the past year that significantly aided in the successful investigation and prosecution of important matters. Due to the ongoing nature of some investigations, and the need to protect the confidentiality of some who have worked closely with CSI, we cannot acknowledge every individual by name; however, we would like to acknowledge the contributions of those listed on the following pages.



IN RECOGNITION

Jonathan Storage, Assistant United States Attorney, SDWV

SA Brian Whitley, US Internal Revenue Service

Debra Rusnak, Kanawha County Prosecuting Attorney

Brian Cochran, Mercer County Prosecuting Attorney

Matthew Deerfield, Wayne County Prosecuting Attorney

Robert Leslie, General Counsel to Speaker of the House of Delegates

SA Andrew Hayden, US Department of Homeland Security

Dana Eddy, Executive Director, WV Public Defender Services

James Doughty, WV Treasurer's Office

Jess Gundy, WV Law Enforcement Professional Standards Program

Lesley McCallister, WV Board of Optometry

Nikohl Allen, WV Fusion Center

Leah Capehart, WV Fusion Center

Alyssa Ledbetter, WV Fusion Center

Ryan Pullin, WV Fusion Center

Jason Graves, Deputy Director, WV Board of Barbers & Cosmetologists

Zachary Carder, WV State Auditor's Office

F/Sergeant Brad Burner, WV State Police

Sergeant Chris Eastridge, WV State Police

Corporal Justin Garren, WV State Police

Putnam County Sheriff's Department

Putnam County Commission

Putnam County Clerk's Office

