



OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY
RICHMOND COUNTY

MICHAEL E. MCMAHON
DISTRICT ATTORNEY

130 STUYVESANT PLACE
STATEN ISLAND, NEW YORK 10301
TELEPHONE (718) 876-6300

PRESS RELEASE

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Contact: Ryan Lavis (718) 556-7150
Ryan.Lavis@rcda.nyc.gov

D.A. McMahon Announces Economic Crimes Bureau to Investigate and Prosecute Financial Crimes

Bureau handles all forms of financial crimes and asset forfeiture matters

Staten Island, N.Y. – Richmond County District Attorney Michael E. McMahon today announced the formation of the Economic Crimes Bureau to investigate and prosecute all forms of financial crimes. This includes cases of fraud, grand larceny, identity theft, wage theft, and tax evasion. The Bureau will also handle cases of entitlement fraud such as Medicaid or unemployment fraud, construction fraud including the prosecution of construction site fatalities, and theft of goods or services. Additionally, the Economic Crimes Bureau assists RCDA by seeking the forfeiture of funds which were earned via illegal activity. Some of these assets come back to the Office, to be used in furthering the Office’s mission of preventing crime before it happens. McMahon also announced today that he has named ADA Jeffrey Curiale to serve as the Bureau’s inaugural Chief, with ADA Gregg Brown taking on the role of Deputy Bureau Chief.

Prior to being turned into a full Bureau, the Economic Crimes Unit was responsible for handling all forms of financial crime. During its inaugural year in 2017, the Unit recovered more than \$1.2 million from prosecutions stemming from the New York State Crimes Against Revenue Program (CARP), which is designed to hold accountable those who deliberately fail to pay tax obligations, as well as those who commit Medicaid, welfare, unemployment and workers’ compensation fraud.

“Part of this Office’s mission is to protect Staten Islanders from all forms of wrongdoing – this includes financial crimes and other types of fraud, which can have serious consequences for the victims in these cases. The prosecutors working under our new Economic Crimes Bureau, led by Bureau Chief ADA Jeffrey Curiale, will have the tools and resources necessary to take on these often long-term and time consuming investigations in order to hold these criminals accountable for their ill-gotten gains,” said **District Attorney Michael E. McMahon**.

ADA Jeffrey Curiale, a lifelong Staten Island resident, will serve as the Chief of the Economic Crimes Bureau. Curiale began his career with RCDA in 2003, working in the Criminal Court Bureau from 2003 to 2005, the Investigations Bureau from 2005 to 2012 and the Supreme Court Bureau from 2012 to 2013. He served as the Deputy Bureau Chief in the Criminal Court Bureau from 2013 to 2015 and Acting Bureau Chief from 2015 to 2016. He was named head of the Economic Crimes Unit in 2017 prior to the formation of the

Economic Crimes Bureau in 2018. Curiale also worked as an Adjunct professor at NY Law School for two years from 2012 to 2014. During his tenure at RCDA, Curiale has prosecuted organized crime, homicides, felony narcotics cases, and violent crimes including burglaries, robberies, shootings, and assaults. He also prosecuted economic crimes involving franchise disputes, crimes against revenue, embezzlement, tax evasion, grand larceny, scheme to defraud by contractors and attorneys, and fraud cases involving workers compensation, unemployment, welfare, and federal and city housing fraud. Additionally, Curiale helped start RCDA's participation in the New York State Crimes Against Revenue Program (CARP).

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