



THE YEAR IN REVIEW (2016-2017)

Commission investigations with our law enforcement partners resulted in arrests of 152 individuals on state and federal charges as well as the seizure of over 94 kilos of heroin, 2,590 kilos of cocaine, 500 pounds of marijuana, 100,091 Oxycodone pills, 1 kilo of Fentanyl, as well as the seizure of over \$7 million in proceeds from drug transactions, loan sharking and illegal gambling and the recovery of 48 stolen vehicles.

The Commission worked with the following law enforcement agencies on investigations and prosecutions:

- U.S. Attorneys' Offices for the Southern and Eastern Districts of New York, and the District of New Jersey
- U.S. Department of Justice – Organized Crime and Gangs
- U.S. Customs and Border Patrol
- U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement – Homeland Security Investigations
- U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement – El Dorado Task Force
- U. S Department of Labor – Office of the Inspector General
- U.S Drug Enforcement Administration
- Federal Bureau of Investigation
- Internal Revenue Service – Criminal Investigation Division
- New Jersey Attorney General's Office – Division of Criminal Justice
- New York County District Attorney's Office
- Queens County District Attorney's Office
- Richmond County District Attorney's Office
- Essex County Prosecutor's Office
- Union County Prosecutor's Office
- New Jersey State Police – Auto Theft Task Force
- New Jersey State Police – Cargo Theft Task Force
- New York City Police Department
- New York City Business Integrity Commission
- New Jersey State Commission of Investigation



WATERFRONT COMMISSION OF NEW YORK HARBOR CASE SUMMARY (2016-2017)

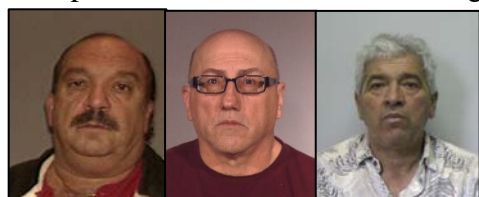
July 12, 2016 – DeCavalcante Crime Family Associate Sentenced to Five Years in Prison for Cocaine Distribution.

James Heeney of Elizabeth, NJ, an associate of the DeCavalcante organized crime family was sentenced to 60 months in prison for his role in distributing more than 500 grams of cocaine. Heeney previously pleaded guilty before U.S. District Judge William H. Walls to conspiring to distribute more than 500 grams of cocaine. As reported last year, Heeney was arrested and charged by complaint in March 2015, along with eight members of the DeCavalcante crime family. At his plea hearing, he admitted that between August 2012 and March 2013, in conjunction with other family associates, he sold more than one-half a kilo of cocaine to an undercover agent for at least \$30,000. In addition to the prison term, Judge Walls sentenced Heeney to four years of supervised release.



July 12, 2016 – Five Individuals Indicted for Operating Bayside Gambling Wire Room. Five individuals were indicted on charges of operating an illegal sports gambling wire room in Bayside, Queens that is alleged to have annually booked more than \$750,000 in bets. Defendants were variously charged in a 14-count indictment with enterprise corruption – a violation of New York State’s Organized Crime Control Act – as well as first-degree promoting gambling and fifth-degree conspiracy. The investigation leading to the arrests began in January 2014 when the NYPD’s Organized Crime Investigation Division, in conjunction with the Queens County District Attorney’s Office’s Organized Crime and Rackets Bureau and the Waterfront Commission, developed information about an internet and traditional illegal sports betting ring operating in Queens County and elsewhere. The investigation included physical surveillance, intelligence information and court-authorized electronic eavesdropping that intercepted thousands of hours of allegedly incriminating gambling-related conversations. According to the indictment, defendants conspired to make money illegally through the operation of unlawful gambling that accepted bets on sporting events through a wire room located in Bayside, Queens. Bettors would place wagers by calling one of two phones set up at the location.

Theodore Simon, the alleged boss of the wire room, is accused of acting as the bookmaker who controlled and oversaw the entire operation and profited from each criminal pursuit by the other defendants. Frank Nista is alleged to have been Simon’s primary agent and manager of the wire room located at 211-11 45 Road in Bayside, the Queens, which is owned by James Greene, who was allegedly paid a monthly income for its rental and is the listed subscriber of the two landline phones installed at the location. Russell Bellatera and Jason Levin allegedly manned the two phones and handled the betting action for Nista at the location. Levin and Bellatera also allegedly doubled as money collectors/runners for the gambling operation. In addition to the arrests, court-authorized search warrants were executed at locations allegedly owned or used by the defendants, resulting in the seizure of cash, gambling records and gambling paraphernalia.



Theodore Simon Frank Nista Russell Bellatera

July 19, 2016 – More than 20 Defendants Charged In Multimillion-Dollar Marijuana, Oxycodone and Gambling Schemes. More than 20 individuals were indicted for multiple schemes involving the distribution of marijuana and oxycodone pills, an illegal gambling operation, and tax fraud. Defendants were charged in multiple New York State Supreme Court indictments with crimes including Criminal Sale of a Controlled Substance in the Second and Third Degrees, Criminal Sale of Marijuana in the First Degree, Criminal Tax Fraud in the Third Degree, Promoting Gambling in the First Degree, and Conspiracy in the Fourth Degree, among other charges.

Marijuana Distribution Scheme

As charged in one indictment, between February 2014 and November 2015, more than 20 defendants were charged with participating in a scheme to cultivate and purchase marijuana grown in California, transport the marijuana to New York, and distribute the marijuana to buyers and sellers for a profit of hundreds of thousands of dollars per month. During this time, John Kelly, and Richard Sinde allegedly acted as the ringleaders of the operation, and with the assistance of the other defendants, coordinated the collection and shipment of hundreds of pounds of marijuana from California to New York for distribution and resale. Destiny Saetern and Michael Giammarinaro were charged with assisting with the cultivation of medical-grade marijuana on farms in California and purchasing marijuana from other local growers for export to New York, where the marijuana was typically mailed by U.S. Postal Service in individual packages weighing between 5-to-15 lbs., or packed into boxes and loaded into vans and other vehicles for transport, each holding between 100-to-150 lbs. of marijuana.

Stephen Gallo was charged with acting as a primary distributor and seller. Gallo picked up packages of marijuana from UPS stores throughout Manhattan and transported the packages to storage locations until the contents could be redistributed and sold. Louis Paone, Edward Pullini, and Barry Sussman participated in the scheme by allowing the other defendants to store, unpack, and process the marijuana at locations they sanctioned for use, including PAONE's personal residence, Pullini's relative's business premises, and SUSSMAN's warehouse in Long Island.

Gallo then delivered and sold the marijuana to co-defendants who participated in the transportation, re-distribution, and sale of the marijuana, including: Ivan Gabbe, John Gillette, Christopher Kelly, Vincent Molinari, Carl Muraco, John Muraco, William Oliva, Gambino Capo Michael Paradiso, Frank Parisi, and Todd Poskitt. Gallo was also charged with selling marijuana directly to two undercover NYPD detectives posing as buyers. Following the indictment and subsequent incarceration of Sinde on a separate criminal matter in June 2015, Lawrence Dentico (grandson of Genovese Capo "Little Larry" Dentico) assumed greater responsibility for working with John Kelly and coordinating the shipping and distribution of marijuana from California, where Dentico resided and oversaw farming operations, to New York. Kelly's wife, Zhanna Dumorne, also assisted her husband by funneling the proceeds of the scheme from New York to California through the use of a fictitious corporation, Regional Food Brokers, Inc.

In total, the marijuana distribution scheme allegedly generated more than \$15 million in illegal revenue, based on average proceeds of more than \$350,000 per month over a 21-month period.

Oxycodone Distribution Scheme

As charged in a separate indictment, between April 2014 and March 2015, Gallo, Gillette, and a co-defendant, Christopher Alvino, also profited from the sale of hundreds of illicitly acquired prescription pills. As part of the scheme, Alvino supplied Gallo with oxycodone pills, which were then provided to Gillette for redistribution, or sold to individual buyers—which, in at least two cases, included undercover detectives posing as customers. The oxycodone distribution scheme allegedly generated at least \$18,000 in profit, based solely on the transactions between the defendants and undercover detectives.

Gambling Scheme

A separate indictment charged that between November 2014 and November 2015, Frank Galesi as well as Gallo, Parisi, and Carl Muraco, conspired to profit from illegal gambling. As part of the scheme, Galesi maintained a set of bettors, dealt directly with a gambling wire room, and served as a liaison for Carl Muraco, who acted as a master agent and maintained a master account to manage bettor accounts associated with a gambling website. Gallo and Parisi acted as Carl Muraco's agents and were responsible for managing their own sets of bettors under Carl Muraco's account with the wire room, recruiting new bettors, and collecting and distributing funds between winners and losers. The defendants shared losses and split the winnings, and for their role in the scheme, each individual received a so-called percentage or commission for his services. The illegal gambling scheme allegedly generated more than \$1 million in revenue, based on records corresponding to bets placed through the wire room website.

Tax Fraud

Six separate indictments also charged individual defendants Dumorne, Gallo, Sinde, John Kelly, Galesi, and Carl Muraco. with tax fraud for failing to submit tax returns corresponding to illegal income generated by some of the alleged schemes.



Michael Paradiso
Gambino Capo

Lawrence Dentico

Richard Sinde

Carl Muraco

Stephen Gallo

Frank Galesi



August 9, 2016 – Associate of DeCavalcante Crime Family Sentenced To 30 Months In Prison For Distributing Cocaine.

DeCavalcante associate Mario Galli of Toms River, NJ, was sentenced today to 30 months in prison for his role in distributing more than 500 grams of cocaine. Galli previously pleaded guilty before U.S. District Judge William H. Walls to distribution of more than 500 grams of cocaine. Galli was arrested and charged by complaint in March 2015, along with nine members of the DeCavalcante crime family. He admitted that between

December 2014 and March 2015, in conjunction with other family associates, he sold more than one-half a kilo of cocaine to an undercover agent for at least \$78,000. In addition to the prison term, Galli was sentenced to three years of supervised release and was fined \$1,000.

August 24, 2016 – Dock Worker Admits to Witness Tampering. Courtney Wallace, a longshore worker from Irvington, NJ, pleaded guilty to Witness Tampering in New Jersey Superior Court, Union County. Earlier this year, she caused a witness to make false statements to law enforcement in order to falsely implicate another longshore worker on assault and weapon charges. Wallace’s registration as a longshore worker was suspended following her arrest in April of 2016 by detectives from the Union County Prosecutor’s Office and the Waterfront Commission. An administrative hearing before the Waterfront Commission is pending.

September 13, 2016 – Former Checker Registration of PNCT Rail Foreman Revoked After Conviction in “Christmas Extortion” RICO.

The Commission unanimously revoked the checker registration of Ramiro Quintans of Basking Ridge, NJ. Quintans was the Rail Foreman at PNCT and extorted money from fellow longshoremen from their Container Royalty checks on behalf of the Genovese Organized Crime Family. Quintans was arrested on January 20, 2011 and immediately suspended by the Commission. On October 9, 2015 Quintans was convicted of Extortion Conspiracy in the United States District Court for the District of New Jersey. The Administrative Law Judge found that such conviction would have permitted his disqualification from inclusion in the longshore register as a checker upon original application and recommended revocation of his registration. The Commission adopted the ALJ’s findings and recommendation.



September 13, 2016: Commission Revokes Registration of Longshoreman Convicted for Orchestrating Mortgage Fraud Scheme Targeting Co-Workers at Maher Terminals.

The Commission unanimously ordered the revocation of the registration of longshoreman Pedro Lopez of Elizabeth, NJ. Lopez’s registration as a longshoreman had been suspended by the Commission since June 2015, following his arrest for Theft by Deception. In October of 2015, in the Superior Court of New Jersey, Union County, Pedro Lopez pled guilty to the charge, admitting that, from 2010 to 2015, he bilked over \$75,000 from six fellow longshoremen via a fraudulent mortgage loan modification program. Lopez had promised his co-workers at Maher Terminals, in Elizabeth, New Jersey, that, if they each paid him and a co-conspirator \$15,000 or more, the modification program would lower their monthly mortgage payments or eliminate their mortgages completely. The program was a fraud and the longshoremen were never compensated. In December of 2015, Lopez was sentenced to six months of incarceration, and was ordered to pay restitution to his victims. Following his conviction, Pedro Lopez appeared at a hearing before an Administrative Law Judge to determine whether the Commission should revoke his registration as a longshoreman. During the hearing, Lopez claimed he was innocent and contradicted his guilty plea in the Superior Court. The ALJ found that Pedro Lopez’s “denial of knowledge and complicity” in the fraud was “incredible.” The ALJ found that Lopez “was not only guilty of a felony, but he committed that felony against fellow workers on the waterfront. . . . Every time his defrauded co-workers would see him, they would be reminded of how he victimized them, and if he is allowed to continue as a Longshoreman, how he got away with it.” The ALJ concluded that Lopez’s presence on piers or other waterfront terminals represented a danger to the public peace or safety. The Commission adopted the ALJ’s recommendation and revoked Lopez’s registration as a longshoreman. The case against Lopez was the result of a joint investigation of the Union County Prosecutor’s Office and the Waterfront Commission.

September 13, 2016 – Special Craft Longshoreman Revoked for Refusing to Cooperate with the Commission’s Investigation of the January 29, 2016 Illegal Walkout. Mario Gutierrez a “Special Craft” longshoreman from Jersey City, NJ, had his registration revoked following an administrative hearing for refusing to answer material questions at an Article IV interview. The interview, which occurred in February 2016, was part of investigation by the Waterfront Commission into the cause of a work stoppage on January 29, 2016 by longshore workers in the Port of New York-New Jersey. An arbitrator subsequently ruled that the work stoppage violated the collective bargaining agreement between the ILA and NYSA. The Administrative Law Judge who presided over Gutierrez’s administrative hearing noted that Gutierrez was repeatedly cautioned about the requirement to answer questions , refused to answer questions, interrupted Commission counsel with questions and comments of his own, and finally walked out of the hearing before its conclusion.

September 13, 2016 – Checker Revoked for Possession of Heroin; Fraud, Deceit and Misrepresentation in a Sworn Commission Interview and Failing to Report an Arrest to Commission as Required.

The Commission unanimously revoked the checker registration of Ronald Paglio, Jr. of Clifton, NJ. Paglio had been arrested on January 27, 2015 in Clifton, New Jersey, in possession of heroin. He failed to report that arrest to the Commission as required. In addition, Paglio committed, fraud, deceit or misrepresentation during his sworn Commission interview by denying possessing the heroin even after having already pled to the charge in Clifton Municipal Court. The Administrative Law Judge found that Paglio lacked the good character and integrity required of a checker. The Commission adopted the ALJ’s findings and recommendation.

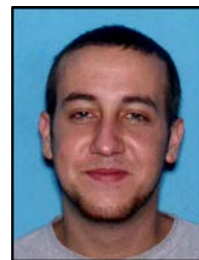


September 27, 2016 - DeCavalcante Crime Family Associate Sentenced to More than Two Years in Prison for Cocaine Distribution.

DeCalvalcante associate John Capozzi of Union, NJ was sentenced today to months in prison for his role in distributing more than 500 grams of cocaine. Capozzi previously pleaded guilty before U.S. District Judge William H. Walls to distribution of more than 500 grams of cocaine. According to documents filed in this case and statements made in court, Capozzi was arrested and charged by complaint in March 2015, along with nine members of the DeCavalcante crime family. He admitted that between December 2014 and March 2015, in conjunction with other family associates, he sold more than one-half a kilo of cocaine to an undercover agent for at least \$78,000. In addition to the prison term, Capozzi was sentenced to two years of supervised release.

October 11, 2016: Longshoreman’s Registration Revoked for Repeated Drug Use.

The registration of Timothy Chaffiotte of Ridgewood, NJ was revoked due to his repeated use of cocaine and marijuana, even after being warned by the Commission not to use drugs. Chaffiotte, who had been a maintenance man at APM Terminal since 2007, was initially arrested in 2013 by River Edge, New Jersey police for Driving While Intoxicated following a traffic violation. In 2014, Chaffiotte was convicted of that offense in River Edge Municipal Court and as a result, had his driver’s license suspended for three months. During a sworn Commission interview in March 2016, Chaffiotte admitted to his drunk driving offense, as well as to using cocaine and marijuana only two months earlier. The



Commission sternly warned Chaffiotte that his repeated drug use would affect his registration as a longshoreman. In April 2016, Chaffiotte was re-interviewed by the Commission and admitted to additional cocaine and marijuana use since his previous interview only a month earlier. A notice of hearing was issued and following an administrative hearing, the Administrative Law Judge found that Chaffiotte “admittedly has a drug problem yet he has demonstrated minimal urgency to address it” and found that his presence at the piers or other waterfront terminals was a danger to the peace and safety. The Commissioners agreed with the ALJ’s findings and recommendation.



October 11, 2016 - Suspended Longshoreman Pleads Guilty to Conspiracy to Commit Insurance Fraud and Surrenders Registration with Prejudice.

The Commission accepted the Surrender with Prejudice of Rosario Savastano’s Longshoreman’s Registration. Savastano, of Brooklyn, NY had been a longshoreman since 2005. He agreed to surrender his longshoreman registration as part of a plea bargain when he pled guilty to Conspiracy to Commit Insurance Fraud on October 3, 2016 in Supreme Court in Richmond County. Savastano was one of nine individuals arrested on December 17, 2013 in Operation Shore Thing, a joint Waterfront Commission and NYPD investigation. He was charged with Conspiracy, Insurance Fraud, Grand Larceny, and with Falsifying Business Records. Savastano had been suspended from working on the Port since the date of his arrest.

October 21, 2016 – Staten Island Doctor Who Headed Prescription Drug Scheme Pleads to Fraud, Conspiracy.

The doctor at the center of an oxycodone distribution conspiracy involving longshoremen, a chiropractor and a pharmacist, pleaded guilty to fraud and other charges. Dr. Mihir Bhatt, was part of a scheme in which 1.8 million oxycodone pills were sold to longshoremen on Staten Island and in Brooklyn, and to others. Bhatt was among nine defendants arrested in December 2013 by the NYPD and the Waterfront Commission and charged in the plot. The physician also dispensed prescriptions from his home in Edison, NJ, yet told insurance companies he was prescribing from one of his medical offices. The longshoremen indicted in the scheme were assigned to either Brooklyn Cruise Terminal or the New York Container Terminal in Mariners Harbor.



A co-defendant, Steven John Alcaras, who worked at the Brooklyn Cruise Terminal, arranged prescription pickups, and would tell the doctor and chiropractor which longshoremen were suitable patients. He'd also coordinate which longshoremen needed bogus medical exams, or, often doctor's notes to prevent them from losing their jobs through “decasualization” because they had not put in enough days at work. The conspirators enlisted the help of Rita Patel, who was in charge of Shayona Pharmacy in Perth Amboy, NJ, to fill the doctor's scripts when pharmacies on the Island rejected them. Bhatt pleaded guilty to felony counts of insurance fraud, conspiracy and offering a false instrument for filing. He admitted to committing insurance fraud between January 2012 and August 2013, while acting in concert with DiNardo and Alcaras and others and had conspired with Patel and Shayona Pharmacy to sell controlled substances in violation of the law between March 2012 and November 2013. Bhatt also admitted to acting together with DiNardo, Alcaras and others on April 26, 2013, in providing false information to the Waterfront Commission on exams he conducted. In exchange for his pleas, which satisfy all charges brought against him in three indictments, Bhatt was sentenced to six months in jail and five years’ probation. He was ordered to forfeit \$2 million, and his medical license will be revoked.

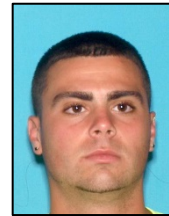
November 4, 2016 – Essex County Man Charged in “Operation Corridor” Sentenced to 12 Years in State Prison for his Role in Major Carjacking/ Theft Ring that Sold Stolen Cars Overseas.

Rashawn Gartrell of Irvington, NJ was sentenced to 12 years in state prison, including five years of parole ineligibility, by Superior Court Judge Stephen J. Taylor in Morris County. Gartrell pleaded guilty in September to first-degree money laundering. In pleading guilty, Gartrell admitted that he was a member of the stolen car trafficking ring and that he transported or possessed high-end stolen vehicles worth more than \$500,000, including models of Mercedes Benz and BMW and shipped them to West Africa. Gartrell was indicted earlier this year in “Operation 17 Corridor,” a joint investigation led by the New Jersey Attorney General’s Office – Division of Criminal Justice and the New Jersey State Police, with assistance from the Port Authority of New York & New Jersey Police, ICE Homeland Security Investigations, the Waterfront Commission and numerous other agencies. Most of the defendants were arrested in October of 2015, when the partnering agencies broke up the theft ring. Ninety stolen cars worth more than \$4 million were recovered in the investigation. Of the 90 vehicles recovered, 23 were recovered at ports used by the ring, including Port Newark, Port Elizabeth, Global Terminal in Bayonne, and the Howland Hook Seaport in Staten Island, NY. The ring operated in Rockland County, NY, and numerous counties in New Jersey, including Morris, Bergen, Essex, Union, Hudson, Monmouth, Middlesex, Hunterdon and Somerset.



November 16, 2016 – Two Men Arrested in Connection to Plastic Theft Ring. Detectives arrested Yih Tan of Staten Island and Rong Wu of Brooklyn for allegedly operating a theft ring that sold stolen plastics overseas. A four-month long investigation revealed that various individuals and groups would steal plastic storage and transportation containers, commonly used by pharmaceutical retailers, bakeries, and food distributors. They would then take the stolen plastics to the recycling facility where Tan and Wu would purchase them. It is believed that some of these individuals would then use the profits from the transactions to purchase drugs for personal use. At the facility, Tan and Wu would shred the plastics into small pieces called grinds. The grinds were then sold and shipped to businesses in China that would use the material for other products. During an undercover operation, detectives were able to sell plastic products to the facility with no questions asked. On November 2, 2016, detectives searched the Bayonne facility and seized more than 45,000 pounds of plastic grinds valued at approximately \$67,000. Investigators also seized more than \$20,000 in currency and other items associated with the investigation. It took detectives several days working around the clock to sort through the evidence, which was enough to fill two tractor trailer box containers. Tan and Wu were charged with receiving stolen property and fencing. They were released pending a court appearance. The case was investigated by detectives from the New Jersey State Police Interstate Theft North Unit, Trafficking North Unit, Gangs and Organized Crime North Unit, Official Corruption North Unit, Cyber Crimes Unit, and the Waterfront Commission.

November 29, 2016 – Three Barred from Waterfront for Fraud, Deceit and Misrepresentations on Their Applications. The Commission denied the Port watchman application of Lloyd Patrick and accepted Withdrawals with Prejudice of Joseph Infuso’s Port Watchman application and the Maintenance Man application of Christopher Guido. Lloyd Patrick, of Irvington, NJ, was found by the Commission to lack the good character and integrity required of a Port Watchman and of committing fraud, deceit and misrepresentation as he falsely indicated on his application that he had never been arrested. In fact, Patrick had been arrested in 1992 in Newark, NJ and again in 2006 in East Orange, NJ. The Commission accepted the Withdrawal with Prejudice of the Port Watchman application of Joseph Infuso, of Monroe Township, NJ. Infuso had been charged in a Notice of Hearing with lacking the required good character and integrity required of a Port watchman and fraud, deceit and misrepresentation in his application for failing to disclose recent, illegal drug use. Infuso chose to withdraw his application with prejudice rather than proceed to hearing on the charges. The Commission also accepted the Withdrawal with Prejudice of the Maintenance Man application of Christopher Guido of South Amboy, NJ. Guido had been charged in a Notice of Hearing with fraud, deceit and misrepresentation after he gave numerous false and contradictory statements regarding previous occupations and business interests. These false statements were made in both his applications and interviews under oath. Rather than proceed to hearing on the charges, Guido withdrew his application with prejudice.



Christopher Guido



December 7, 2016: Decavalcante Capo Admits Use Of Interstate Facility To Commit Murder. Decavalcante Capo Charles “Charlie the Hat” Stango, of Henderson Nevada pleaded guilty before U.S. District Judge William H. Walls to knowingly using an interstate facility – the telephone – with the intent to murder a rival. He also pleaded guilty to violating the terms of his supervised release, which he was serving following his imprisonment on racketeering charges in New York. Stango was arrested on April 14, 2015, as part of a sweep

of Decavalcante crime family members that operated in New Jersey and elsewhere. The Decavalcante family engages in numerous criminal activities, including conspiracy to commit murder, distribution of controlled substances, prostitution, extortion, and other crimes of violence. Stango admitted that he used the telephone to plan the murder of a crime family rival (identified in court papers as “Victim 1”). Based on tape recorded evidence uncovered during the investigation, Stango believed that Victim 1 had falsely held himself out to be a “made man” within the family structure. Stango refused to recognize Victim 1’s alleged new status. Stango also believed that Victim 1 had intentionally insulted a high-ranking family member, which Stango felt deserved the ultimate punishment. He offered up to \$50,000 to two assassins to carry out the order. The two assassins were, in fact, undercover agents. Law enforcement officials closed down the investigation to ensure Victim 1’s safety, and he was never harmed. Six of Stango’s co-defendants, including his son, Anthony Stango, have pleaded guilty to various crimes – including distribution of significant amounts of cocaine and attempting to set up a prostitution business – to enrich the crew members and the crime family. On January 5, 2017, Stango was sentenced to 6 years in federal prison. In addition to the prison term, Stango was sentenced to serve five years of supervised release.

January 10, 2017 – Two Barred from Working on the Waterfront for Fraud, Deceit and Misrepresentation on their Applications. The Commission accepted the withdrawal with prejudice of a warehouseman applicant and denied a pier superintendent's application – both for fraud, deceit and misrepresentation on their applications. In the first matter, the Commission unanimously voted to accept the withdrawal with prejudice of Bernard Wimbush of Linden, NJ for longshoreman's registration as a warehouseman. In his application, Mr. Wimbush indicated that he had been arrested only once before for weapons possession. However, Wimbush had five additional undisclosed arrests, including for weapons possession, aggravated assault, and marijuana possession. Wimbush also failed to disclose his prior drug use in his application, despite later admitting to a daily use of marijuana during two separate time periods. The failure to disclose such material facts on his application showed clear fraud, deceit, and misrepresentation. Mr. Wimbush was instructed to take a drug test based upon his prior marijuana use, but refused and instead opted to withdraw his application with prejudice, which the Commission accepted.

In the second matter, the Commission denied the application of Krenar Zhuta for a pier superintendent's license. Zhuta, of Wayne, NJ, was found by the Commission to lack the good character and integrity required of a pier superintendent and of committing fraud, deceit and misrepresentation when he failed to indicate on his application and in a sworn Commission interview that he had been arrested for the possession of marijuana in Ringwood, NJ in 2003. In addition, Zhuta falsely indicated on his application and in a sworn interview that he had never used illegal drugs later admitting that he had in fact used marijuana on a number of occasions. After a hearing, the Administrative Law Judge noted that the position of pier superintendent is one of great responsibility, which is why the Waterfront Commission Act requires that pier superintendents meet the higher standard of good character and integrity. In recommending the application be denied the ALJ found, that based on the evidence presented, the applicant did not meet this standard. The Commission adopted the findings of the ALJ and accepted his recommendation.



January 10, 2017 – Former Longshoreman Barred from Returning to Waterfront Because of Illegal Bookmaking, Selling Drugs, Associating with an Organized Crime Figure/Convicted Racketeer, and Fraud. The Commission unanimously ordered the denial of a petition by former longshoreman Salvatore Gregorio who had sought the restoration of his longshore registration. Gregorio was found to have been involved in illegal bookmaking; selling marijuana; associating with an organized crime figure,

career offender, and convicted racketeer; committing fraud, deceit, or misrepresentation in connection with his petition. He was found to have abandoned his petition for restoration after declining to answer Commission questions. Gregorio had been employed as a longshoreman at the Howland Hook Marine Terminal, in Staten Island, New York. After a joint investigation by the Waterfront Commission and the Kings County District Attorney's Office, he was arrested on June 7, 2011 and subsequently indicted for Promoting Gambling in the First Degree and two counts of Conspiracy. Gregorio was taking bets from other longshoremen at the piers and receiving a percentage of the proceeds from the illegal operation. Pursuant to a plea agreement with the Kings County District Attorney's Office, Gregorio pleaded guilty to Disorderly Conduct and agreed to surrender his longshoreman's registration with prejudice. On May 10, 2016, Gregorio filed a petition, with sponsorship from employer GCT New York LP, asking that the Commission restore his registration as a longshoreman. Following an investigation, the Commission found evidence of the following:

- Gregorio had associated with Mario Gallo, who is on the ILA Barred List and is an associate of the Bonanno and Lucchese crime families, a convicted racketeer, and a career offender. The crime families had employed Gallo as a hitman. He was convicted of murder in aid of racketeering and conspiracy to distribute cocaine, among other charges. Following Gallo's release from prison, Gregorio attended Gallo's birthday dinner and shared a vacation with him.
- Gregorio committed fraud, deceit, or misrepresentation in connection with his sworn petition for restoration of his registration as a longshoreman. Despite associating with Mario Gallo, Gregorio indicated that he had never knowingly associated with a person known or reputed to be a member or associate of an organized crime group.
- Gregorio knowingly and unlawfully sold marijuana.
- Gregorio knowingly advanced or profited from unlawful gambling activity by knowingly engaging in bookmaking. He received bets, oversaw wagers, managed illegal online gambling accounts, and collected debts from longshoremen at the employee parking lot of New York Container Terminal (now GCT New York LP at the Howland Hook Marine Terminal). The Commission further noted the risks of organized crime influence as a result of an illegal gambling operation on the waterfront.
- Gregorio appears to have abandoned his Petition for Restoration in that he never contacted the Commission since declining to answer questions or provide requested documents at the Commission's offices.

The Commission further found that Gregorio's presence at the piers or other waterfront terminals would constitute a danger to the public peace or safety.



Londonio

Caldwell

February 13, 2017- Two Men Charged With Racketeering, Including a 2013 Mob Murder and an Attempted Murder Of a Bonanno Soldier.

Lucchese Soldier Christopher Londonio and Terrance Caldwell were charged with offenses related to their role in the November 15, 2013, murder of Michael Meldish, as well as their participation in a long-running racketeering conspiracy composed of Londonio and Caldwell leaders, members, and associates of the Lucchese Crime Family. Londonio and Caldwell were charged with racketeering conspiracy, conspiracy to commit murder, murder, and firearms offenses. Caldwell is also charged with assault and attempted murder in aid of racketeering, in connection with his role in the shooting of a Bonanno Family member on May 29, 2013. From in or about 2011 to 2017, Londonio and Caldwell, along with other members and associates of the Lucchese Crime Family, committed a wide range of crimes, including murder, attempted murder, assault, robbery, extortion, gambling, and narcotics trafficking. In particular, and as charged in the Indictment, on May 29, 2013, Caldwell attempted to murder a Bonanno Soldier in the vicinity of First Avenue and 111th Street, in Manhattan. Separately, and as also charged in the Indictment, on November 15, 2013, Londonio and Caldwell together murdered Purple Gang Leader Michael Meldish in the vicinity of Baisley Avenue and Ellsworth Avenue in the Bronx. Londonio of Hartsdale, NY and Caldwell of Manhattan, NY, are each charged with conspiracy to commit racketeering, conspiracy to commit murder in aid of racketeering, murder in aid of racketeering, possessing a firearm in furtherance of a crime of violence resulting in death, and possessing a firearm in furtherance of a crime of violence on dates other than November 15, 2013. Caldwell is also charged with assault and attempted murder in aid of racketeering.

March 7, 2017 – Foreman at Port Newark Container Terminal Suspended after Arrest for Possession of Assault Weapon, a Large Capacity Ammunition Magazine, a Handgun without the Proper Permit, a Machete and Cocaine.

The Commission issued a Notice of Hearing and suspended longshoreman Peter Law Jr., a foreman at Port Newark Container Terminal, as a result of his arrest on February 22, 2017, in Monroe Township, New Jersey, on multiple weapons charges, a drug possession charge, and simple assault. The Notice of Hearing alleged that Law's presence at the piers or other waterfront terminals in the Port of New York district represents a danger to the public peace or safety for the following reasons:



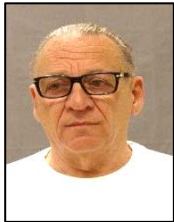
1. He possessed an assault firearm with a large capacity ammunition magazine, as a result of which, he was charged with Unlawful Possession of an Assault Firearm (a crime of the second degree), Possession of a Large Capacity Ammunition Magazine (a crime of the fourth degree), and Violation of the Regulatory Provision Relating to Firearms (a crime of the fourth degree);
2. He knowingly obtained a .40 caliber handgun without obtaining the proper permits, as a result of which, he was charged with Violation of the Regulatory Provision Relating to Firearms (a crime of the fourth degree);
3. He possessed a machete, as a result of which, he was charged with Possession of a Weapon (a crime of the fourth degree);
4. He knowingly or purposely possessed, actually or constructively, a controlled dangerous substance or its analog (cocaine), as a result of which, he was charged with Possession of a Controlled Dangerous Substance (a crime of the third degree); and
5. He purposely, knowingly, or recklessly caused bodily injury to a victim, as a result of which, he was charged with Simple Assault.



March 7, 2017 – Foreman Barred from Waterfront for Thefts from Red Hook Container Terminal and Fraud.

The Commission ordered the removal of "special craft" longshoreman Giandomenico Recupero from the waterfront by accepting his request for the surrender of his longshore registration with prejudice. That acceptance has the same effect as a revocation. Recupero had been facing administrative charges. Red Hook Container Terminal had employed Recupero as the foreman of container crane mechanics. The Commission's notice of hearing charged that Recupero, while employed as foreman, had used his employer's credit card without authorization to purchase \$4,527.48 of goods for his own personal use or benefit. In addition, Recupero, as foreman, directed other crane mechanics to work on his boat instead of the work that Red Hook Container Terminal paid them to perform. Recupero was also charged with committing fraud, deceit, or misrepresentation during a sworn interview by falsely denying that he ordered mechanics to perform work on his boat. Recupero was also charged with falsely denying that he ordered one of the mechanics to purchase items for Recupero's personal use with his employer's credit card. In light of the foregoing, the notice of hearing charged that Recupero's presence on the piers or other waterfront terminals in the Port of New York district represented a danger to the public peace or safety. The case against Recupero was the product of an investigation by the Waterfront Commission Police Division.

March 26, 2017 - \$4.1 Million in Cash and 3 Kilos of Heroin Seized in Multi-State Drug Trafficking Probe Three members of a narcotics drug trafficking organization were indicted and just over \$4.1 million and six pounds of heroin were seized. The Office of the Special Narcotics Prosecutor charged Bronx-based ringleader Jorge Pizarro and co-defendants Nelson Dejesus and Miguel Angeles with Criminal Possession of a Controlled Substance in the First and Third Degrees. The defendants were arrested on March 18th in the Bronx, NY. Agents and officers conducted additional court authorized searches of a U-Haul and a Dodge Caravan that were seized from the location at the time of the defendants' arrests. At the outset of the investigation, law enforcement learned that Pizarro oversaw an interstate narcotics trafficking operation that transported large quantities of heroin from Texas for sale in New York City and Lawrence, Mass. Shipments of narcotics were concealed inside furniture that Pizarro stored inside a Secure Self Storage unit leased in his name. Law enforcement developed further intelligence that Pizarro also transported large quantities of cash to pay for the narcotics from New York City back to Texas inside the same wooden furniture. On March 18th, agents and officers observed Pizarro and Dejesus moving multiple pieces of furniture into and out of the unit. HSI's Special Response Team (SRT) members approached the storage unit and effected the arrest of three individuals. Agents and officers executed the search warrant on the storage unit and recovered three kilograms of heroin weighing more than six pounds from one nightstand and approximately \$750,000 cash from a second wooden nightstand. Both nightstands were outfitted with hidden compartments. The Dodge Caravan and the U-Haul truck were seized. Agents and officers executed additional search warrants that were obtained by the Special Narcotics Prosecutor's Office for the vehicles. Inside the U-Haul truck, agents and officers found three pieces of wooden furniture that contained approximately \$3.4 million dollars in cash wrapped in dozens of packages. The pieces of furniture were outfitted with secret compartments. The Dodge Caravan contained a large empty compartment in the floor. A bottle of fox urine, intended to be used to disguise the smell of narcotics, was recovered from the glove compartment.

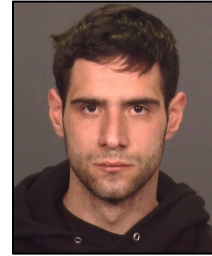


March 28, 2017 - DeCalvalcante Capo Sentenced to Ten Years in Prison for Use of Interstate Facility to Commit Murder. Decavalcante Capo Charles "Charlie the Hat" Stango was sentenced to 120 months in prison for planning the murder of an organized crime rival. Stango previously pleaded guilty to knowingly using an interstate facility (the telephone) with the intent to murder a rival. He also pleaded guilty to violating the terms of his supervised release, which he was serving following imprisonment on racketeering charges in New York.

March 28, 2017 – Applicant Barred from Waterfront for Convictions for Assault of a Law Enforcement Officer and Other Crimes, Filing a False Unemployment Benefits Claim, and Fraud on His Application. The Commission denied the application of Curtis McKelvey as a warehouseman. Following an administrative hearing, the Commission established that McKelvey had been convicted of Assault of a Law Enforcement Officer (a felony), Assault (a misdemeanor), Trespass to Real Property (a misdemeanor), and Harassment by Telephone (a misdemeanor). The Commission further found that McKelvey had committed fraud by filing a claim for unemployment benefits even though he was employed. He also committed fraud, deceit, or misrepresentation on his sworn Commission application by failing to disclose a prior Trespass arrest. The Administrative Law Judge found that McKelvey's presence at the Port of New York district was a danger to the public peace or safety. The Commission adopted the ALJ's recommendations.

March 28, 2017 - Longshoreman's Temporary Registration Revoked and Application Denied for Theft and Illegal Drug Use.

The Commission unanimously revoked the temporary longshoreman registration of Michael Natoli, of Belle Harbor, NY, as well as denied his application for permanent inclusion in the longshore register. Natoli's temporary registration was initially suspended since in April 2015, after his arrest for stealing over \$1,000 worth of copper tubing from a refrigeration company in Brooklyn, NY. Natoli advised the sentencing judge that he stole the copper to support his drug habit.



After an administrative hearing, the Administrative Law Judge determined that the Commission proved all the charges contained in the Amended Notice of Hearing, including that Natoli stole copper tubing on October 30, 2014, attempted to steal additional copper tubing on December 4, 2014; used illegal drugs while registered by the Commission; and committed fraud, deceit or misrepresentation on two sworn documents submitted to the Commission, including his application, by denying his drug use. The ALJ recommended revocation of his temporary registration and denial of his application. Natoli appeared before the Commissioners and when asked how he was able to pass the industry drug test, given his drug habit, Natoli stated that he was warned sufficiently ahead by an ILA Local 1814 Officer so he could test clean. After considering the entire record, and hearing from Natoli himself, the Commission unanimously ordered that Natoli's temporary longshoreman registration be revoked and his application denied.

April 3, 2017 - Longshoreman Suspended after Arrest for Assaulting Police Officer and Robbery.



The Commission issued a Notice of Hearing and suspended Vito Lavignani, a longshoreman employed by Global Container Terminals, as a result of his arrest on March 30, 2017, in Manhattan, for assaulting a police officer and committing a robbery. According to the criminal complaint, Lavignani robbed a police officer of his cellular phone and then assaulted officers who attempted to arrest him. He was charged with the Class D felonies of Assault in the Second Degree and Robbery in the Third Degree.

April 4, 2017 – Two DeCavalcante Crime Family Associates Sentenced to Prison Terms for Cocaine Distribution.

Two associates of the DeCavalcante organized crime family were sentenced to prison terms for their roles in distributing more than 500 grams of cocaine. Rosario Pali of Linden, NJ was sentenced to 76 months in prison, and Nicholas DeGidio of Union, NJ, was sentenced to 17 months in prison. Both had previously pleaded guilty before U.S. District Judge William H. Walls to conspiracy to distribute more than 500 grams of cocaine. DeGidio and Pali were arrested and charged by complaint in March 2015, along with eight other members of the DeCavalcante crime family. Both admitted selling cocaine in conjunction with other family associates. In addition to the prison term, DeGidio was sentenced to two years of supervised release and Pali to three years of supervised release.



Rosario Pali

Nicholas DeGidio



April 18, 2017: Maintenance Man's Registration Revoked For Cocaine and Marijuana Use And Multiple DWIs.

Following an administrative hearing, the Commission revoked the registration of Patrick Walsh, of Woodside, NY. The evidence at the hearing showed that between September and December 2015, Walsh used cocaine on multiple occasions and that he used marijuana in May 2015. The Commission also established that in August 2013 Walsh was driving in an intoxicated condition when he broadsided another vehicle causing extensive damage to both vehicles and

that he left the scene of the accident without exhibiting his license or insurance card. Walsh was arrested by NYPD officers approximately seven blocks away from the accident when a witness identified him as the driver. Walsh smelled of alcohol. He subsequently refused a breathalyzer test. Walsh was later convicted in Queens County Criminal Court of Driving While Impaired, a violation, and received a one-year conditional discharge with a 90-day suspension of his driver license. The evidence showed that Walsh was again arrested in November 2014 in Sparta, NJ, for Driving While Intoxicated after a Sparta Police Department officer observed Walsh fail to stop for a stop sign. Upon stopping Walsh's vehicle, the officer noticed alcohol on Walsh's breath and Walsh failed the field sobriety tests. Walsh was again convicted of Driving While Intoxicated and his license was suspended for 90 days. The Administrative Law Judge found that Walsh's explanation for using cocaine as a means of self-medication following a different automobile accident was unconvincing and that his use of cocaine was "the product of choice rather than desperation." Given Walsh's substance abuse, the Court determined that Walsh's presence at the piers or other waterfront terminals constitutes a danger to the public peace or safety and recommended revocation of his registration. After considering the entire record, the Commission unanimously ordered that Walsh's longshoreman registration be revoked.

April 18, 2017: Longshoreman's Registration Revoked For Fraud and Illegal Drug Use.

The Commission unanimously revoked the longshoreman registration of Orlando Lee of Union, New Jersey for the second time. Lee's registration was previously revoked by the Commission in 2013 for illegal drug use and committing fraud, deceit or misrepresentation during a Commission interview regarding that illegal drug use. Lee was then issued temporary probationary registration after providing proof of rehabilitation and was issued permanent registration in February 2015. In 2016, Lee again used an illegal drug and committed fraud, deceit or misrepresentation during a sworn Commission interview regarding his illegal drug use. Following an administrative hearing, the ALJ determined that the Commission proved all the charges contained in the Notice of Hearing, including that Lee used an illegal drug while registered by the Commission, he committed fraud, deceit or misrepresentation during his May 2016 Commission interview regarding his illegal drug use, and committed these offenses after having been previously revoked for illegal drug use and fraud during a Commission interview. The ALJ determined that Lee's presence at the piers or other waterfront terminals constitutes a danger to the public peace or safety and recommended revocation of his registration. After considering the entire record, the Commission unanimously ordered that Lee's longshoreman registration be revoked.



April 27, 2017 – Former Longshoreman Arrested for Unemployment

Fraud. On April 27, 2017, former longshoreman Kelvin Denson of Newark, NJ was arrested by the Essex County Prosecutor’s Office for Theft by Deception, a crime of the third degree. The case was referred to the Prosecutor’s Office by the Waterfront Commission. Mr. Denson is alleged to have collected unemployment for approximately five months in 2016, during which time he was employed and working as a longshoreman. During those months, Mr. Denson failed to accurately report his longshoreman earnings to the New Jersey Department of Labor and Workforce Development. This failure allowed him to receive money through unemployment that he was not entitled to because of the salary he was earning at that time as a longshoreman. The Commission learned of this crime while interviewing Mr. Denson regarding his Request for Retention to remain on the longshore workers’ register despite failing to meet the register’s work and work availability requirements. Mr. Denson was subsequently removed from the longshoreman’s register pursuant to the Waterfront Commission Act, which requires “deep-sea” longshoreman to work or apply for work during six-month intervals for a minimum number of days established by the Commission. Longshore workers who fail to meet these requirements may be removed from the longshoreman’s register in a process referred to as “decasualization.” The purpose of decasualization is to balance the supply of eligible longshoreman with the demand for labor and to remove casual workers who threaten the earning power of other longshoreman.



May 2, 2017 – Checker Application Denied for Fraud and Various Associations with Organized Crime Figures. The Commission unanimously denied the application of Angelo Ruggiero of Staten Island who sought longshore registration as a checker, a sensitive position on the ports of New York and New Jersey. After a hearing, an Administrative Law Judge found that Ruggiero had associated with the following organized crime figures in violation of the Waterfront Commission Act:

- John “Johnny Hollywood” Brescio, a capo or captain of the Genovese crime family with convictions pertaining to forgery and illegal gambling. After filing his waterfront application, Ruggiero was in contact with Brescio who had inquired about his employment. The ALJ dismissed Ruggiero’s defense that Brescio had accidentally telephoned him.
- Joseph “Joe Marco Polo” Chirico, a soldier of the Gambino crime family who was convicted of a money laundering conspiracy. Ruggiero has known Chirico since childhood. Ruggiero’s family received discounts at Chirico’s restaurant, Marco Polo Ristorante. The ALJ found that Ruggiero committed fraud, deceit, or misrepresentation in connection with his sworn waterfront application and related interview by failing to disclose his association with Chirico.
- Giuseppe “Joe the Baker” Generoso, an associate of the Gambino crime family. Ruggiero is a close friend of Generoso, whom he has known since childhood. The ALJ found that Ruggiero committed fraud, deceit, or misrepresentation in connection with his sworn application and interview by failing to disclose his association with Generoso.
- Matteo “Matty Square” Ruggiero, an associate of the Gambino crime family and former port worker. Matty Square was ultimately convicted of intentionally conspiring to import and distribute cocaine while employed on the waterfront. Matty Square is the applicant’s uncle and friend with whom he is in regular contact.

The ALJ found that Ruggiero’s calculated association with Matty Square “clearly falls within the ambit of the anti-association statute.” The ALJ found that Ruggiero lied on his waterfront application by failing to disclose his association with Matty Square.

- John Staluppi, a soldier of the Colombo crime family. Ruggiero claimed that, while employed as a restaurant’s wine manager, he served Staluppi and then gave him his personal phone number. Ruggiero and Staluppi later exchanged calls with each other. Ruggiero offered the same defense that he made for calls from Genovese capo Brescio – he claimed that Staluppi called him by accident. The ALJ found Ruggiero’s defense as “incredible and damning.” The ALJ further found that Ruggiero lied during a sworn interview by failing to disclose his association with Staluppi.

The ALJ found that the checker job that Ruggiero seeks is “especially vulnerable to favoritism and no-show activity, a plum for organized crime on the Waterfront.” The ALJ noted that three of the five organized crime figures with whom Ruggiero associated were connected to “Sonny Ciccone, the point man for the Gambino family’s stranglehold on the longshoreman jobs in Brooklyn.” In addition to voluntarily associating with organized crime figures, Ruggiero “chose to lie in his application and lie under oath about his association with those individuals.” The Commissioners adopted the findings and the recommendation of the ALJ to deny Ruggiero’s application for inclusion in the longshore register as a checker.



Angelo Ruggiero

John Brescio
Genovese Capo

Joseph Chirico
Gambino Soldier

John Staluppi
Colombo Soldier

Matteo Ruggiero Giuseppe Generoso

May 2, 2017: Checker Applicant Denied Registration For Frauds and Ties To Genovese Soldier Stephen DePiro.

The Commission denied the application of Mark Caruso, Jr. of East Hanover, NJ for inclusion as a checker in the deep sea longshore workers’ register following a hearing before an Administrative Law Judge. The denial was based on his long association with Stephen DePiro, a soldier in the Genovese Crime Family, who is a convicted racketeer and career offender and fraud, deceit and misrepresentation in his application. The Commission also denied Caruso’s application based on his lack of good character and integrity, the standard to be a checker in the Port of New York district. The Commission established at a hearing that DePiro had been, and continues to be in a longstanding romantic relationship with Caruso’s mother, Michele, and that he began living with Caruso and Caruso’s mother when Caruso was about ten years old. DePiro lived there until he was arrested in 2010 in New Jersey and ultimately sent to prison as one of the defendants in the “Christmastime Bonus” extortion ring of Port workers. In that prosecution, longshoremen were forced to convey part or all of their annual container royalty funds to DePiro, on behalf of the



Mark Caruso, Jr. Stephen DePiro

Genovese Crime Family. The extortion plot, which lasted over twenty years, netted the Genovese Crime Family in excess of a million dollars. The Commission also proved that Mark Caruso, Jr., despite having read on the internet about DePiro's reputation as a member of the Genovese Crime Family, failed to list DePiro on his Waterfront Prequalification Request as someone with whom he had associated, and thereby committed fraud, deceit or misrepresentation on his application. In addition, the Commission established that Caruso denied on his application that he had obtained assistance in preparing his application. During the administrative hearing, Caruso admitted obtaining assistance from his father, thereby contradicting his sworn statement that he had received no help. The ALJ found that Caruso's misrepresentation on his application about seeking help from his father not to be a minimal transgression, especially in light of Caruso's failure to list his association with DePiro on the same application. Thus, the ALJ found that Caruso lacked the good character and integrity required to become a checker and the Commission agreed. Caruso, who was an ILA referral, was not prequalified upon initial Commission review, because of fraud, deceit and misrepresentation on his application and association with Genovese soldier Stephen DePiro. The ILA subsequently sponsored him as a checker nonetheless.

May 2, 2017 – Port Elizabeth Mechanic Removed from Waterfront for Cocaine Possession Conviction, Failed Drug Tests, and Refusal to Answer Material Question at Commission Proceeding.

The Commission unanimously revoked the registration of Thomas Zaccagnino as a maintenance man (chassis mechanic) in Port Elizabeth, NJ. Following a hearing, an Administrative Law Judge found that Zaccagnino had violated the Waterfront Commission Act on multiple occasions. The ALJ found:



- In 2016, the City Court of New Rochelle, NY, convicted Zaccagnino of a disqualifying misdemeanor of unlawfully possessing a controlled dangerous substance, specifically cocaine.
- Zaccagnino tested positive for cocaine on three (3) occasions in 2016 while registered to work on the waterfront. He failed two drug tests administered at the direction of the Commission and one drug test administered at the direction of his employer in Port Elizabeth following an accident.
- Zaccagnino sustained an “unacceptable number” of convictions for driving while intoxicated, resulting in the revocation of his driver’s license since 2011. During a sworn interview, he claimed that, because he lacks a valid license, he relies on a fellow port worker to drive him to and from work. Asked for the identity of that port worker to confirm his testimony, Zaccagnino, during the interview and his hearing, refused to identify him. By refusing to answer a material question lawfully required to be answered at a Commission interview, Zaccagnino violated the Waterfront Commission Act. The ALJ concluded that it was “not credible that the Respondent, who has not had a valid driver’s license since 2011, has been driven to work in Elizabeth, New Jersey from his home in New Rochelle, New York by a coworker, who he refused to identify, allegedly at the coworker’s request . . .”

The ALJ determined that Zaccagnino was not a credible witness. Despite his three failed drug tests and misdemeanor conviction, Zaccagnino claimed he was only an “occasional dabbler” in cocaine. The ALJ noted that Zaccagnino has a “history of substance abuse at or around work hours.” Employed at repairing chassis “used to support containers holding tons of cargo,” his “mistakes risk property damage and serious physical injury.” The ALJ found that Zaccagnino’s presence at the piers or other waterfront terminals in the Port represents a danger to the public peace or safety. After considering the record, the Commission adopted the ALJ’s findings and his recommendation.

May 30, 2017 – Warehouseman Suspended After Arrest for Sexual Assault. Warehouseman Carlton C. Maynard of Newark, NJ was suspended and a Notice of Hearing was issued after he was arrested in Warren County for Sexual Assault, a second degree crime, and Endangering the Welfare of a Child, a third degree crime. The Notice of Hearing alleges that Maynard sexually assaulted a child younger than thirteen years of age. The Notice of Hearing charges that Maynard’s presence at the piers or other waterfront terminals in the Port of New York district represents a danger to the public peace or safety. The Commission temporarily suspended Maynard’s registration as a warehouseman pending the outcome of an Administrative Hearing.

May 30, 2017 – Longshoreman’s Registration Revoked for Association with Three Bonanno Crime Family Figures. Filippo Bonura of Oceanside, NY, who has been a longshoreman since 2005, had his registration revoked by the Commission following an administrative hearing. The evidence at the hearing showed that Bonura associated with three Bonanno Crime Family members: Giacomo “Jack” Bonventre, an acting capo in the Bonanno Crime Family who is a career offender; Ronald “Ronnie G” Giallanzo, a capo in the Bonanno Crime Family who is a career offender and convicted racketeer; and Sandro “Santo” Aiosa, a soldier in the Bonanno Crime Family who is a career offender and convicted racketeer. The Commission established that as a teenager, Bonura worked for Bonventre in a deli owned by Bonventre and later worked as a tow truck driver for a collision shop operated by Bonventre. In addition, the Commission proved that Bonura and Bonventre continued to communicate frequently as recently as October 2015. Regarding Bonanno Crime Family members Aiosa and Giallanzo, the Commission established that Bonura was in communication with each of them on multiple occasions as recently as September and October, 2015, respectively. The Administrative Law Judge found that Bonura’s association with three members of the Bonanno Crime Family gave “the clear perception that he could be influenced by them and presents the perception of an unacceptable risk of corruption that should not be tolerated.” The ALJ also cited Bonura’s previous addiction to drugs and problems with gambling and found that Bonventre’s conviction for gambling and extortion and his association with Aiosa, who also had gambling convictions, put Bonura “at a risk for corruption if he should ever lose so much gambling that he needs money” The ALJ recommended that Bonura’s registration be revoked. The Commissioners accepted his findings and recommendation.



Filippo Bonura

Giacomo Bonventre
Bonanno Acting Capo

Ronald Giallanzo
Bonanno Capo

Sandro Aiosa
Bonanno Soldier

May 31, 2017: Alleged Street Boss and Underboss of La Cosa Nostra Family Charged With Murder And Racketeering Offenses In White Plains Federal Court – Charges Filed Against Entire Administration of the Luchese Family (Boss, Underboss, and Consigliere), As Well As Four Captains, Five Soldiers, and Seven Associates. Nineteen members and associates of the Luchese Family of La Cosa Nostra were charged with racketeering, murder, narcotics, and firearms offenses. A superseding indictment builds on charges previously filed against Luchese soldier Christopher Londonio and Luchese associate Terrence Caldwell, who were charged in February 2017 with racketeering offenses, including the murder of Michael Meldish, a Luchese associate who was killed in the Bronx on November 15, 2013. The superseding Indictment charges Matthew Madonna, the alleged street boss of the Luchese Family, Steven Crea, Sr., the alleged underboss of the Family, and Steven Crea, Jr., Londonio’s alleged captain in the Family, with ordering the murder of Meldish. The Superseding Indictment also contains additional racketeering charges against Madonna, Crea, Sr., and Crea, Jr., as well as the alleged consigliere of the Luchese Family, Joseph DiNapoli and numerous other members and associates of La Cosa Nostra.

According to the allegations in the superseding indictment: Madonna was the street boss of the family – that is, the individual who managed the affairs of the Family on behalf of the formal boss, who is serving a life sentence in federal prison. Steven Crea, Sr., a/k/a “Wonder Boy,” was the Underboss of the Luchese Family, and Joseph DiNapoli was the Consigliere of the Luchese Family. Additionally, Steven Crea, Jr., Dominic Truscello, John Castellucci, a/k/a “Big John,” and Tindaro Corso, a/k/a “Tino,” were Captains or Acting Captains in the Luchese Family. Joseph Venice, James Maffucci, a/k/a “Jimmy the Jew,” Joseph Datello, a/k/a “Big Joe,” a/k/a “Joey Glasses,” Paul Cassano, a/k/a “Paulie Roast Beef,” and Christopher Londonio were Soldiers in the Luchese Family.

It is alleged that from 2000 up to approximately 2017, Madonna, Crea, Sr., DiNapoli, Crea, Jr., Truscello, Castellucci, Corso, Venice, Maffucci, Datello, Cassano, Londonio, Terrence Caldwell, a/k/a “T,” Vincent Bruno,, Brian Vaughan, Carmine Garcia, a/k/a “Spanish Carmine,” Richard O’Connor, Robert Camilli, and John Incatasciato, along with other members and associates of La Cosa Nostra, committed a wide array of crimes in connection with their association with the mafia, including murder, attempted murder, assault, robbery, extortion, gambling, narcotics trafficking, witness tampering, fraud, money laundering, and trafficking in contraband cigarettes. Of particular significance, in November 2013, Madonna, Crea Sr., Crea, Jr., Londonio and Caldwell murdered and procured the murder of Michael Meldish in order to maintain or increase their status in La Cosa Nostra. The following violent incidents are also alleged: In late 2012, Paul Cassano and Vincent Bruno, acting at the direction of Crea, Sr. and Crea Jr., attempted to murder a mafia associate who had shown disrespect toward Crea, Sr. As charged in the initial indictment, in May 2013, Caldwell attempted to murder a Bonanno soldier in Manhattan. In or about October 2016, Crea, Sr. and Datello attempted to murder a witness who had previously provided information regarding the activities of La Cosa Nostra to state and federal law enforcement.