

NEWS RELEASE



Monmouth County Prosecutor's Office
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HOLMDEL MAN, OWNER OF SOUTH AMBOY MEDICAL TRANSPORT COMPANY, ARRESTED FOR MISSAPPROPRIATING FUNDS FROM EMPLOYEES, THEFT FROM HAZLET FIRE COMPANY

On January 8, 2010, Jeffrey Walker, 51, of Holmdel, N.J., was arrested by Detectives from the Monmouth County Prosecutor's Office and charged with one count of second degree Theft by Failure to Make Required Disposition of Property Received and one count of third degree Theft by Deception. The Holmdel Police Department assisted in making the arrest. The charges relate to Walker's role as the owner/operator Maximum Care Ambulance Service, Inc., and as Treasurer of the Hazlet Fire Company No.1.

The arrest follows an investigation which was conducted by the Monmouth County Prosecutor's Office into Walker's failure to remit employee withholdings for medical, dental and supplemental insurance, and 401(k) contributions. Walker is the owner and operator of Maximum Care Ambulance Service, Inc. Maximum Care Ambulance Service, Inc., is currently located in South Amboy, N.J. It previously operated out of Tinton Falls, N.J. Walker's theft came to light after employees filed insurance claims which were supposed to be covered under their benefits package and the claims were denied by the insurance carrier because Walker had not paid the premium.

The investigation further revealed that from March 2007 through May 2009, Walker withheld over \$155,000 from approximately 113 employees. The withholdings from the employees' salaries were earmarked for dental, medical and supplemental insurance, and 401 K contributions. The withheld funds were never transferred from Maximum Care Ambulance Service, Inc., to the respective carrier or the employees' 401(k) plan.

The investigation additionally revealed that Walker, in his capacity as a member and Treasurer of the Hazlet Fire Company No. 1, diverted approximately \$37,000 from the Fire Company's operating account to himself, as well as Maximum Care Ambulance Service Inc. Walker accomplished this by issuing checks from the Fire Company's account to himself and also by making wire transfers directly to Maximum Care Ambulance Service, Inc.

If convicted of second degree Theft by Failure to Make Required Disposition of Property Received, Walker faces a maximum potential custodial sentence of up to a 10 year State Prison term. If convicted of third degree theft by deception Walker faces a maximum potential custodial sentence of up to a five year State Prison term.

Following his arrest, Walker was lodged in the Monmouth County Correctional Institution in lieu of \$100,000 bail which was set by Monmouth County Superior Court Judge Thomas F. Scully.

Despite these charges, every defendant is presumed innocent, unless and until found guilty beyond a reasonable doubt, following a trial at which the defendant has all of the trial rights guaranteed by the United States Constitution and State law.

The case is assigned to Assistant Monmouth County Prosecutor Michael J. Costanzo. Defense counsel has not yet entered an appearance with the Monmouth County Prosecutor's Office on behalf of Walker.

Released: January 8, 2010