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- To: The Honorable Daniella Levine Cava, Mayor, Miami-Dade County The Honorable Anthony Rodriguez, Chairman and Members, Board of County Commissioners, Miami-Dade County
- From: Felix Jimenez, Inspector General
- Date: July 9, 2025
- Subject: Former Employee of the Department of Transportation and Public Works (DTPW) and his Wife Sentenced in Federal Court for Role in Bribery Scheme, Ref. IG21-0015-I

Dale Robinson, the former Acting General Superintendent of DTPW's Track and Guideway (Rail) Division, was sentenced yesterday afternoon in federal court in Miami to a term of imprisonment of 18 months, to be followed by a 3-year term of supervised release, a criminal fine in the amount of \$1,000, and a forfeiture money judgment in the amount of \$75,956. Mr. Robinson's wife, Marcia Robinson, was sentenced to a 3-year term of probation and a \$1,000 criminal fine. The pair had previously pled guilty, on April 25, 2025, to federal offenses related to a bribery scheme.

The bribery scheme, which also involved Jessie Bledsoe, the principal and owner of JB Railroad Contracting, Inc. (JB Railroad), a county contractor, concerned the procurement of Miami-Dade County railway parts and maintenance for DTPW's Track and Guideway (Rail) Division. As part of the scheme, Mr. Robinson illegally solicited money from Mr. Bledsoe, in exchange for recommending contract awards to JB Railroad providing for the removal and replacement of railway fasteners and other rail-related maintenance services. These contracts were partially funded by Federal grant monies, including grant funds awarded to the County from the Federal Transit Administration (FTA). The federal grants, *CARES Act 5307 Operating Assistance, Capital Security and Capital Cost of Contracting*, Federal Award Identification No. FL-2020-051-00, provided DTPW funds to help respond to and recover from the COVID-19 pandemic and Federal Award Identification No. FL-2022-048-00, funds for rail and vehicle maintenance.

All three individuals were charged by the United States Attorney's Office, Southern District of Florida, with felonies related to the bribery scheme. Mr. Bledsoe had also previously entered a guilty plea to the federal offenses on May 9, 2025, and is scheduled to be sentenced on October 3, 2025.

This case was initiated by the OIG based on an anonymous complaint originally sent to the Strategic Procurement Division (SPD) and forwarded to the OIG. The evidence developed by the OIG during its investigation revealed that federal crimes had likely been

committed in light of the funding sources involved. The OIG then presented the case to the Federal Bureau of Investigation Miami Area Corruption Task Force and continued its investigation jointly with that Task Force. The case was prosecuted by the United States Attorney's Office, Southern District of Florida.

Attached is a press release from the United States Attorney's Office for the Southern District of Florida with additional details.

Attachment

Cc: Jimmy Morales, Chief Operating Officer, Office of the Mayor Stacy Miller, Director, Department of Transportation and Public Works Namita Uppal, Director, Strategic Procurement Department Ofelia Tamayo, Director, Internal Compliance Department Yinka Majekodunmi, Commission Auditor



PRESS RELEASE

Former Miami-Dade Transit Supervisor and Wife Sentenced for Roles in Metrorail Bribery Scheme

Wednesday, July 9, 2025

For Immediate Release

U.S. Attorney's Office, Southern District of Florida

Dale Robinson, a former Miami-Dade Transit Track and Guideway Supervisor, and Marcia Robinson, his wife, were sentenced yesterday by U.S. District Judge K. Michael Moore after pleading guilty to federal charges. Dale Robinson pleaded guilty to soliciting a bribe from a contractor for Miami-Dade Transit in connection with the issuance of Metrorail repair and maintenance contracts. Marcia Robinson pleaded guilty to misprision of a felony for helping her husband cover up the bribery scheme.

Dale Robinson was sentenced to 18 months imprisonment to be followed by 3 years of supervised release. In addition, a forfeiture judgment of \$75,956 was previously entered against Dale Robinson, which he has already paid to the United States. Marcia Robinson was sentenced to 3 years of probation for her lesser role.

According to the facts admitted at the change of plea hearings, Dale Robinson was the acting General Superintendent and lead Rail Structure and Track Supervisor in the Track and Guideway unit of Miami-Dade Transit. His responsibilities included making recommendations for the selection of contractors to do Metrorail track maintenance and repair work for the transit unit and overseeing the work done by those contractors, including Jessie Bledsoe. Bledsoe was the co-owner and operator of JB Railroad Contracting, Inc. (JB Railroad), a North

Dakota-based company that did railroad track and rail replacement, repair, and maintenance work throughout the United States.

In or around January 2021, while JB Railroad was working on a previously obtained contract for the removal and replacement of Metrorail track fasteners and was in the process of seeking an additional contract to perform welding work on the Metrorail system for Miami-Dade Transit, Dale Robinson requested a large bribe from Bledsoe. Bledsoe agreed to pay Robinson that bribe, which was intended to influence Robinson's selection of a contractor for the upcoming welding project. Bledsoe also agreed to conceal the payment by making it to a company specified by Dale Robinson.

After this, in late January 2021, Dale Robinson directed Marcia Robinson, who lived in Maryland, to create a company and open a company checking account on which she would serve as the sole signatory. Marcia Robinson formed Tailored Railroads & Consulting LLC (Tailored Railroads), filing the company paperwork in the State of Maryland.

Between February 2021 through February 2022, Dale Robinson directed Marcia Robinson to send a total of four invoices from Tailored Railroads to JB Railroad. When Marcia Robinson sent each of these invoices, she knew that Tailored Railroads had not provided any goods or services to JB Railroad. Bledsoe then caused JB Railroad to issue four checks to Tailored Railroads to pay the invoices, which were actually payments for the bribe solicited by Dale Robinson. Bledsoe ultimately provided \$75,956 to Tailored Railroads for Dale Robinson's personal benefit as part of Dale Robinson's bribe solicitation.

While not knowing all the details of her husband's illegal bribery agreement with Bledsoe, Marcia Robinson knew that the four checks were being paid by Bledsoe for Dale Robinson's recommendation to select JB Railroad to perform work for Miami-Dade Transit. Despite this, she did not inform authorities of her husband's crime, and her actions helped conceal his criminal activity.

In a related case, Bledsoe pled guilty to paying a bribe to Dale Robinson in connection with his contracts with Miami-Dade Transit. Bledsoe's sentencing hearing before U.S. District Judge Beth Bloom is set for October 3, 2025.

U.S. Attorney Hayden P. O'Byrne for the Southern District of Florida, Special Agent in Charge Brett D. Skiles of FBI Miami, and Inspector General Felix Jimenez of the Miami-Dade County Office of Inspector General (MDC-OIG) made the announcement.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Edward N. Stamm prosecuted the case. Assistant U.S. Attorney Marx Calderon is handling forfeiture matters.

You may find a copy of this press release (and any updates) on the website of the United States Attorney's Office for the Southern District of Florida at <u>www.usdoj.gov/usao/fls</u>.