



**NEWS FROM:
THE JOINT COMMISSION ON PUBLIC ETHICS**

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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JCOPE SETTLES WITH FORMER MTA EMPLOYEE OVER PUBLIC OFFICERS LAW VIOLATIONS

Used Authority Personnel, Resources, and Equipment for Unauthorized Outside Work

The Joint Commission on Public Ethics (“Commission”) today announced that it has reached a settlement agreement, including a \$4,000 fine, with a former employee of the Metropolitan Transportation Authority (“MTA”) over multiple violations of Public Officers Law.

Ritchie Tyson worked for New York City Transit (“NYCT”) for about 30 years, and was Senior Director in Capital Programs Management before he resigned late last year. He left the MTA after NYCT began investigating allegations that he was engaged in unauthorized outside activities, and utilized his subordinates in connection with those activities, during NYCT work hours.

Under the settlement agreement, Tyson admitted to failing to get approval for his outside business activities, and to failing to disclose those activities, his outside income, and certain related information in his annual financial disclosure statements. He also admitted that for at least three years, he used NYCT resources to engage in outside business activities, including using NYCT employees to prepare invoices and estimates for an outside home repair business, and that he himself used agency resources and equipment to engage in outside business activities.

“The Public Officers Law governs the behavior of state officials and employees while carrying out their official duties. Mr. Tyson clearly disregarded the law and violated the public’s trust,” said Commission Executive Director Seth H. Agata.

The MTA referred the Tyson matter to the Commission for its consideration.

To read the Commission’s settlement with Tyson, click [here](#).