

# News Release

#### OFFICE OF ATTORNEY GENERAL ALAN WILSON STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

For Immediate Release March 20, 2017

## Former S.C. Department of Transportation Employees Plead Guilty to Public Corruption Charges

(**COLUMBIA**, S.C.) South Carolina Attorney General Alan Wilson announced today that Joe Edward Butler, Allen Kent Ray and Curtis C. Singleton, pleaded guilty to multiple charges involving public corruption in front of Judge Alison Lee in Richland County.

#### Joe Edward Butler

Former SCDOT inspector, pleaded guilty to:

- Four counts of receiving anything of value to influence action of public employee, in violation of section 8-13-705 of the South Carolina Ethics Act; and
- Acceptance of rebates or extra compensation, in violation of section 16-9-230.

#### **Allen Kent Ray**

Former SCDOT contractor, pleaded guilty to:

- Accessory after the fact to criminal conspiracy, in violation of section 16-17-410; and
- Offering money for advice or assistance of public official, in violation of section 8-13-720 of the South Carolina Ethics Act.

### **Curtis C. Singleton**

Former head of SCDOT's signal shop in District 1, pleaded guilty to:

- Use of official position or office for financial gain, in violation of section 8-13-700 of the South Carolina Ethics Act;
- Receiving anything of value to influence action of public employee, in violation of section 8-13-705 of the South Carolina Ethics Act;
- Official misconduct in office; in violation of the common law of South Carolina;
- Acceptance of rebates or extra compensation, in violation of section 16-9-230;
- Four counts of receiving anything of value to influence action of public employee, in violation of section 8-13-705 of the South Carolina Ethics Act;
- Official misconduct in office, in violation of the common law of South Carolina; and
- Acceptance of rebates or extra compensation, in violation of section 16-9-230.

Sentencing is deferred for cooperation until resolution of existing or possible future codefendants.

The case was prosecuted by Assistant Deputy Attorney General S. Creighton Waters, Assistant Attorney General Brian Petrano and Assistant Attorney General Joel Kozak.

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