

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS  
HOUSTON DIVISION

United States Courts  
Southern District of Texas  
FILED

MAR 09 2017

David J. Bradley, Clerk of Court

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

vs.

CHRISTOPHER W. OLIVER

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§

CRIMINAL NO. 17-cr-

17 CR 0132

INDICTMENT

The United States Grand Jury charges:

**INTRODUCTION**

At all times material herein:

1. The Houston Community College Board of Trustees (HCCBT) consists of nine (9) board members, who are each elected from single member districts. Each board member serves a six-year term.
2. Christopher W. Oliver is an elected member of HCCBT. As such, Oliver is an agent of HCCBT.
3. Oliver currently holds the position of District IX trustee for HCCBT. He was originally elected to this term in 1995. His current term expires in December 2017.
4. At all times material to this Indictment, the HCCBT received benefits in excess of \$10,000 per year under a Federal program involving a grant, contract, subsidy, loan, guarantee, insurance, or other form of federal assistance.

5. The HCCBT is given final authority to interpret and determine the policies that govern Houston Community College (HCC). The Board is also responsible for approving the finances for HCC, and has final approval for any contract with HCC that exceeds \$50,000 in value.

**COUNT 1:**

**(Hobbs Act Extortion Under Color of Official Right – 18 U.S.C. § 1951(a) and (b)(2) and 2)**

From at least in or about December 2010, up to and including in or about August 2013, in the Houston Division of the Southern District of Texas and elsewhere, the defendant,

**CHRISTOPHER W. OLIVER**

being an agent and board member of HCCBT, obstructed, delayed, and affected, and attempted to obstruct, delay and affect in any way and degree commerce and the movement of articles and commodities in commerce by extortion, as those terms are defined in Title 18, United States Code, Section 1951; that is, OLIVER obtained property, to wit, approximately \$77,143.34, not due OLIVER or his office, from a victim, K.S., with K.S.'s consent, under color of official right, in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 1951 and 2.

**COUNT 2:**

**(Bribery – 18 U.S.C. § 666(a)(1)(B) and 2)**

From at least in or about May 2015, up to and including in or about May 2016, in the Houston Division of the Southern District of Texas and elsewhere, the defendant,

**CHRISTOPHER W. OLIVER**

being an agent and board member of HCCBT, willfully, knowingly, and corruptly, solicited and

demanding for the benefit of a person, and accepted and agreed to accept something of value from a person, intending to be influenced and rewarded in connection with a business, transaction, and series of transactions of HCCBT involving something of value of \$5,000 or more, while such organization was in receipt of federal assistance in excess of \$10,000 within the one year period before May 2015, under a Federal program involving a grant, contract, subsidy, loan, guarantee, insurance, and other form of Federal assistance, to wit, OLIVER solicited, agreed to accept, and accepted cash payments and Visa gift cards totaling approximately \$12,000, intending to be influenced and rewarded for actions that OLIVER took, and agreed to take in the future, in his capacity as a board member of the HCCBT, all in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 666 and 2.

**NOTICE OF CRIMINAL FORFEITURE**  
**18 U.S.C. § 981(a)(1)(C) and 28 U.S.C. § 2461(c)**

Pursuant to Title 18, United States Code, Section 981(a)(1)(C), and Title 28, United States Code, Section 2461(c), the United States gives notice to the defendant,

**CHRISTOPHER W. OLIVER**

that upon conviction of an offense in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Sections 1951 and 2, as charged in Count One of this Indictment, all property, real or personal, which constitutes or is derived from proceeds traceable to such offense, is subject to forfeiture.

**NOTICE OF CRIMINAL FORFEITURE**  
**18 U.S.C. § 982(a)(3)**

Pursuant to Title 18, United States Code, Section 982(a)(3), the United States gives notice to



the defendant,

**CHRISTOPHER W. OLIVER**

that upon conviction of an offense in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Sections 666(a)(1)(B) and 2, as charged in Count Two of this Indictment, all property, real or personal, which represents or is traceable to the gross receipts obtained, directly or indirectly, as a result of such offense, is subject to forfeiture.

**Money Judgment**

The defendant is notified that upon conviction, a money judgment may be imposed equal to the total value of the property subject to forfeiture, which is at least \$89,143.34 in U.S. dollars.

**Substitute Assets**

The defendant is notified that in the event that property subject to forfeiture, as a result of any act or omission of the defendant,

- (A) cannot be located upon the exercise of due diligence;
- (B) has been transferred or sold to, or deposited with, a third party;
- (C) has been placed beyond the jurisdiction of the court;
- (D) has been substantially diminished in value; or
- (E) has been commingled with other property that cannot be divided without difficulty,

it is the intent of the United States to seek forfeiture of any other property of the defendant up to the total value of such property pursuant to Title 21, United States Code, Section 853(p), which has been

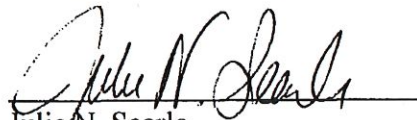
incorporated by Title 18, United States Code, Section 982(b), and Title 28, United States Code, Section 2461(c).

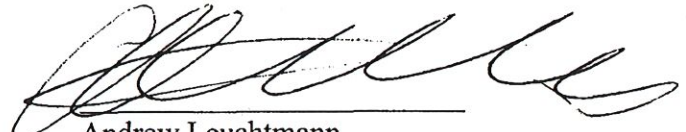
A TRUE BILL:

Original signature on File  
FOREPERSON OF THE GRAND JURY

KENNETH MAGIDSON  
United States Attorney

By:

  
Julie N. Searle  
Assistant United States Attorney  
713.567.9000

  
Andrew Leuchtmann  
Assistant United States Attorney  
713.567.9000

**U.S. District Court  
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS (Houston)  
CRIMINAL DOCKET FOR CASE #: 4:17-cr-00132 All Defendants**

Case title: USA v. Christopher W. Oliver

Date Filed: 03/09/2017

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Assigned to: Judge Vanessa D Gilmore

**Defendant (1)**

**Christopher W. Oliver**  
*25,000 Unsecured*

represented by **Philip G Gallagher**  
Office of the Fed Pub Def  
440 Louisiana  
Ste 1350  
Houston, TX 77002-1634  
713-718-4600  
Email: philip\_gallagher@fd.org  
*LEAD ATTORNEY*  
*ATTORNEY TO BE NOTICED*  
*Designation: Public Defender or*  
*Community Defender Appointment*

**Federal Public Defender - Houston**  
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713-718-4600  
Fax: 713-718-4610  
Email: hou\_ecf@fd.org  
*ATTORNEY TO BE NOTICED*  
*Designation: Public Defender or*  
*Community Defender Appointment*

**Genesis Elaine Draper**  
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713-718-4600  
Email: genesis\_draper@fd.org  
*TERMINATED: 06/23/2017*  
*ATTORNEY TO BE NOTICED*  
*Designation: Public Defender or*  
*Community Defender Appointment*

**Pending Counts**

HOBBS ACT EXTORTION UNDER  
COLOR OF OFFICIAL RIGHT  
(1)  
BRIBERY CONCERNING PROGRAMS

**Disposition**

RECEIVING FEDERAL PROGRAMS  
(2)

**Highest Offense Level (Opening)**

Felony

**Terminated Counts**

None

**Highest Offense Level (Terminated)**

None

**Complaints**

None

**Disposition**

**Disposition**

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**Plaintiff**

USA

represented by **Andrew Leuchtmann**

US Attorneys Office  
1000 Louisiana  
Ste 2300  
Houston, TX 77002  
713-805-6517  
Fax: 713-718-3300  
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*LEAD ATTORNEY*  
*ATTORNEY TO BE NOTICED*  
*Designation: Retained*

**Julie N Searle**  
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**Financial Litigation**  
U S Attorney's Office  
Southern District of Texas  
1000 Louisiana St  
Ste 2300  
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713-567-9000  
Fax: 713-718-3391 fax  
Email: flu.usatxs-@usdoj.gov

*ATTORNEY TO BE NOTICED*

*Designation: Retained*

**US Marshal - H**

*ATTORNEY TO BE NOTICED*

*Designation: Retained*

**US Pretrial Svcs - H**

*ATTORNEY TO BE NOTICED*

*Designation: Retained*

**US Probation - H**

*ATTORNEY TO BE NOTICED*

*Designation: Retained*

Date Filed	#	Docket Text
03/09/2017		Judge update in case as to Christopher W. Oliver. Judge Vanessa D Gilmore added. (gclair, 4) (Entered: 03/10/2017)
03/09/2017	<u><a href="#">1</a></u>	INDICTMENT (The original indictment with the signature of the grand jury foreperson is on file under seal with the clerk) as to Christopher W. Oliver (1) count(s) 1, 2, filed. (gclair, 4) (Entered: 03/10/2017)
03/09/2017	<u><a href="#">2</a></u>	US Attys Criminal Docket Sheet as to Christopher W. Oliver, filed.(gclair, 4) (Entered: 03/10/2017)
03/09/2017	<u><a href="#">3</a></u>	MOTION to Seal by USA as to Christopher W. Oliver, filed. (gclair, 4) (Entered: 03/10/2017)
03/09/2017	<u><a href="#">4</a></u>	ORDER granting <u><a href="#">3</a></u> Motion to Seal as to Christopher W. Oliver (1).(Signed by Magistrate Judge Frances H Stacy.) Parties notified.(gclair, 4) (Entered: 03/10/2017)
03/09/2017	<u><a href="#">5</a></u>	ORDER for Issuance of Bench Warrant as to Christopher W. Oliver ( Signed by Magistrate Judge Frances H Stacy) Parties notified. (gclair, 4) (Entered: 03/10/2017)
03/23/2017		Arrest of Christopher W. Oliver, filed. (wbostic, 4) (Entered: 03/23/2017)
03/23/2017		***Set Hearing as to Christopher W. Oliver: Initial Appearance set for 3/23/2017 at 02:00 PM in Courtroom 703 before Magistrate Judge Stephen Smith. (wbostic, 4) (Entered: 03/23/2017)
03/23/2017	<u><a href="#">6</a></u>	Minute Entry for proceedings held before Magistrate Judge Stephen Smith: INITIAL APPEARANCE as to Christopher W. Oliver, (Deft informed of rights) held on 3/23/2017. Defendant appeared without counsel, requests appointed counsel, financial affidavit executed, Order appointing FPD, Bond Set advised of condition of release, Appearances: Julie Searle, Andrew Leuchtmann Julie N Searle.(ERO:yes) (Interpreter:no) Deft remanded to Custody, filed.(mmapps, 4) (Entered: 03/24/2017)
03/23/2017	<u><a href="#">7</a></u>	Sealed Financial Affidavit CJA 23 by Christopher W. Oliver, filed. (Entered: 03/24/2017)
03/23/2017	<u><a href="#">8</a></u>	ORDER APPOINTING FEDERAL PUBLIC DEFENDER ( Signed by Magistrate Judge Stephen Smith) Parties notified. (mmapps, 4) (Entered: 03/24/2017)
03/23/2017	<u><a href="#">9</a></u>	ORDER for Parital Reimbursement of Court Appointed Counsel in the amount of \$500.00 as to Christopher W. Oliver ( Signed by Magistrate Judge Stephen Smith) Parties notified. (mmapps, 4) (Entered: 03/24/2017)



03/23/2017	<a href="#">10</a>	Minute Entry for proceedings held before Magistrate Judge Stephen Smith: ARRAIGNMENT as to Christopher W. Oliver (1) Count 1,2 held on 3/23/2017. Not Guilty on all counts. Scheduling Order Issued Appearances: Julie Searle, Andrew Leuchtmann Federal Public Defender - Houston.(ERO:yes) (Interpreter:no) Deft remanded to Custody, filed.(mmapps, 4) (Entered: 03/24/2017)
03/23/2017	<a href="#">11</a>	SCHEDULING ORDER as to Christopher W. Oliver. ETT:5 days: Motion Filing due by 4/12/2017. Responses due by 4/24/2017. Pretrial Conference set for 5/15/2017 at 09:30 AM in Courtroom 9A before Judge Vanessa D Gilmore Proposed Voir Dire due by 5/12/2017. Jury Trial set for 5/22/2017 at 01:30 PM in Courtroom 9A before Judge Vanessa D Gilmore ( Signed by Magistrate Judge Stephen Smith) Parties notified. (mmapps, 4) (Entered: 03/24/2017)
03/24/2017	<a href="#">12</a>	Unsecured Bond Entered as to Christopher W. Oliver in amount of \$ 25,000,, filed. (ckrus, 4) (Entered: 03/27/2017)
03/24/2017	<a href="#">13</a>	ORDER Setting Conditions of Release as to Christopher W. Oliver (1) 25,000 Unsecured ( Signed by Magistrate Judge Stephen Smith) Parties notified. (ckrus, 4) (Additional attachment(s) added on 3/27/2017: # <a href="#">1</a> Unredacted) (ckrus, 4). (Entered: 03/27/2017)
03/29/2017	<a href="#">14</a>	Arrest Warrant issued 3/9/17 Returned Executed on 3/22/17 in case as to Christopher W. Oliver. Document restricted from PACER under privacy policy, filed. (ckrus, 4) (Entered: 03/30/2017)
04/20/2017	<a href="#">15</a>	Sealed Event, filed. (With attachments) (Entered: 04/20/2017)
04/21/2017	<a href="#">16</a>	ORDER as to Christopher W. Oliver (1) granting <a href="#">15</a> Sealed Motion. The criminal indictment to remain under seal for an additional thirty days.(Signed by Judge Vanessa D Gilmore.) Parties notified.(bthomas, 4) (Entered: 04/21/2017)
05/09/2017	<a href="#">17</a>	NOTICE OF SETTING as to Christopher W. Oliver. Re-Arraignment set for 5/15/2017 at 09:30 AM in Courtroom 9A before Judge Vanessa D Gilmore, filed. (bthomas, 4) (Entered: 05/09/2017)
05/11/2017	18	DOCKETED IN ERROR. SENTENCING DATA SHEET by USA as to Christopher W. Oliver, filed.(bthomas, 4) Modified on 5/15/2017 (bthomas, 4). (Entered: 05/11/2017)
05/12/2017	<a href="#">19</a>	AMENDED SENTENCING DATA SHEET by USA as to Christopher W. Oliver, filed. (bthomas, 4) (Entered: 05/12/2017)
05/15/2017		Minute Entry for proceedings held before Judge Vanessa D Gilmore: RE-ARRAIGNMENT held on 5/15/2017 Christopher W. Oliver pleads Guilty to Count 2. Plea agreement executed on the record. Sentencing set for 8/28/2017 at 9:30 a.m.. The case to remain under Seal until further notice. Appearances: Andrew Leuchtmann, Julie Searle, Genesis Draper. (Court Reporter: Kathleen Miller) Deft continued on Bond, filed. (bthomas, 4) (Entered: 05/15/2017)
05/15/2017	<a href="#">20</a>	ORDER for Presentence Investigation and Disclosure & Sentencing Dates as to Christopher W. Oliver. PSI Completion due by 7/10/2017 Objection to PSI due by 7/31/2017 Final PSI due by 8/21/2017 Sentencing set for 8/28/2017 at 09:30 AM in Courtroom 9A before Judge Vanessa D Gilmore. (Signed by Judge Vanessa D Gilmore) Parties notified. (bthomas, 4) (Entered: 05/15/2017)
05/15/2017	<a href="#">21</a>	Sealed Plea Agreement, filed. (Entered: 05/15/2017)
06/08/2017	<a href="#">22</a>	MOTION to Unseal Case by USA as to Christopher W. Oliver, filed. (Attachments: # <a href="#">1</a> Proposed Order)(pyebernetsky, 4) (Entered: 06/08/2017)
06/30/2017	<a href="#">23</a>	RESPONSE to <a href="#">22</a> Motion to Unseal by Christopher W. Oliver, filed.(bthomas, 4)

		(Entered: 07/03/2017)
07/06/2017	<u>24</u>	ORDER as to Christopher W. Oliver (1) granting <u>22</u> Motion to Unseal Case, including the re-arraignment proceedings, while allowing docket entries 7, 13, 14, 15 and 21 to remain sealed. (Signed by Judge Vanessa D Gilmore.) Parties notified.(bthomas, 4) (Entered: 07/07/2017)
07/07/2017		NOTICE OF ATTORNEY APPEARANCE Philip G Gallagher, Federal Public Defender, in case as to Christopher W. Oliver, filed.(Gallagher, Philip) (Entered: 07/07/2017)