



Joseph M. Ferguson  
Inspector General

**OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL**  
*City of Chicago*

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December 02, 2014

Rahm Emanuel  
Mayor  
City of Chicago  
121 N. LaSalle, Suite 500  
Chicago, IL 60602

**Re: Significant Activity Report**

Mayor Emanuel:

This letter is to inform you that on December 1<sup>st</sup>, 2014, Daniel Rankins pled guilty to devising or intending to devise a scheme and participating in a scheme to defraud the City of Chicago in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 157. *United States of America v. Daniel Rankins* 13-CR-331 (U.S.D.C. ND IL). Rankins faces a maximum sentence of up to five years in prison.

The investigation, which was conducted by the Chicago Office of Inspector General and the Federal Bureau of Investigation, revealed that Rankins (also known as "Little D") orchestrated and assisted in the filing of false Chapter 7 bankruptcy petitions to avoid paying City impound fees. Specifically, Rankins solicited and accepted \$600 cash payment from an undercover officer in exchange for assisting the officer in filing a false bankruptcy case. You will find the indictment and plea declaration attached to this report.

As a result of OIG and FBI work, the Law Department is now working more closely with the U.S. Trustee's Office to carefully screen suspicious bankruptcy petitions before releasing an impounded vehicle whenever the owner submits proof of bankruptcy.

If you need any additional information, please feel free to call me or Rachel Leven, Public Affairs Coordinator, at (773) 478-0534.

Respectfully,

Joseph M. Ferguson  
Inspector General  
City of Chicago