

FILED
JANUARY 27, 2021
STATE GRAND JURY JUDGE

SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY
LAW DIVISION - CRIMINAL

State Grand Jury
Number SGJ750-21-6
Superior Court
Docket Number 21-1-9-S

STATE OF NEW JERSEY)

v.)

SUDHAN THOMAS)

INDICTMENT

The Grand Jurors of and for the State of New Jersey, upon their oaths, present that:

COUNT ONE

(Official Misconduct - Second Degree)

SUDHAN THOMAS

between on or about February 27, 2019 and on or about July 29, 2019, at the City of Morristown, in the County of Morris, elsewhere, and within the jurisdiction of this Court, did commit the offense of official misconduct, in that the said SUDHAN THOMAS, being a public servant and acting with the purpose to obtain a benefit for himself or another in excess of \$200 or to injure or deprive another of a benefit in excess of \$200, did commit an act relating to his office, but constituting an unauthorized exercise of his official functions, knowing that such act was unauthorized or that he was committing it in an unauthorized manner, or did

refrain from performing a duty imposed upon him by law or clearly inherent in the nature of his office; that is, the said SUDHAN THOMAS, then and there being a public servant, to wit: President of the Jersey City Board of Education, having thereby the official functions and duties of said position, including among others, to make no personal promises nor take private action that may compromise the Board of Education, to refuse to surrender his independent judgment to special interest or partisan political groups or to use the schools for personal gain or the gain of friends, to vote to appoint the best qualified personnel after consideration of the recommendation of the Chief Administrative Officer, to display good faith, honesty and integrity, and to be impervious to corrupting influences, did solicit or accept one or more unlawful payments of funds or did agree to provide public work or public contracts in exchange for funds, with the purpose to secure a benefit to himself or another in excess of \$200, contrary to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 2C:30-2, and against the peace of this State, the government and dignity of the same.

COUNT TWO

(PATTERN OF OFFICIAL MISCONDUCT - SECOND
DEGREE)

SUDHAN THOMAS

between on or about February 27, 2019 and on or about July 29, 2019, at the City of Morristown, in the County of Morris, elsewhere, and within the jurisdiction of this Court, did commit the offense of Pattern of Official Misconduct in that he did commit two or more acts of Official Misconduct, each in violation of N.J.S.A. 2C:30-2, that is, the said SUDHAN THOMAS, being a public servant, that is, President of the Jersey City Board of Education, did commit two or more acts of Official Misconduct, at least one of which was a crime of the second degree, including, but not limited to, those acts described in Count One, which allegations are incorporated by reference as if fully set forth herein, contrary to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 2C:30-7a, and against the peace this State, the government and dignity of the same.

COUNT THREE

(Bribery in Official and Political Matters - Second Degree)

SUDHAN THOMAS

between on or about February 27, 2019, and on or about July 29, 2019, at the City of Morristown, in the County of Morris, elsewhere, and within the jurisdiction of this Court, knowingly did directly or indirectly solicit, accept, or agree to accept from another a benefit that is, funds in excess of \$200, as consideration for the performance of official duties or the violation of official duties, that is, the said SUDHAN THOMAS did solicit, accept or agree to accept approximately \$35,000 in United States currency from another, whose identity is known to the grand jurors (Person #1), as consideration for agreeing to use his official position as President of the Jersey City Board of Education to provide public contracts or work for Person #1 with the said Jersey City Board of Education, contrary to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 2C:27-2, and against the peace of this state, the government, and dignity of the same.

COUNT FOUR

(Acceptance or Receipt of Unlawful Benefit by Public Servant for
Official Behavior - Third Degree)

SUDHAN THOMAS

Between on or about February 27, 2019 and July 29, 2019, at the City of Morristown, County of Morris, elsewhere, and within the jurisdiction of this Court, did commit the offense of Acceptance or Receipt of Unlawful Benefit by Public Servant for Official Behavior, in that the said SUDHAN THOMAS, being a public servant, that is, President of the Jersey City Board of Education, under color of his office and in connection with an official act performed or to be performed by him, did directly or indirectly, knowingly solicit, accept, or agree to accept a benefit in excess of \$200 to influence the performance of an official duty or to commit a violation of an official duty, to wit: to use his official position as President of the Jersey City Board of Education to provide public contracts or work for Person #1 with the said Jersey City Board of Education, contrary

to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 2C:27-10(a), and against the peace of this state, the government, and dignity of the same.



Thomas Eicher, Director
Office of Public Integrity &
Accountability

A TRUE BILL:

_____ Foreperson

Dated: 1/27/2021