

About the Public Integrity Bureau

The Public Integrity Bureau ("PIB") investigates and seeks to vindicate the public's interest in honest government. When government actors, or private individuals acting in concert with them, engage in corruption, fraud or illegal behavior in the course of their public duties, the PIB may investigate or take enforcement action to restore the public's interest in honest government and the integrity of government officials at the state and local level. Specifically, PIB handles complex investigations into government corruption, fraud and abuse of authority. Although PIB is part of the Criminal Division, PIB brings cases pursuant to both civil and criminal authority. The Bureau can also issue reports about its investigations and findings.



Since taking office in 2007, Attorney General Andrew M. Cuomo has made public integrity a primary focus in his efforts to restore the public's faith in honest government and to promote transparency throughout state government. Attorney General Cuomo has tasked the PIB to take on milestone public integrity initiatives, including a thorough review of approximately 6,000 legislative budget member items, a multi-layered legality review of any further proposed items, "Project Sunlight," a statewide Internet database where New Yorkers can examine links between elected officials, campaign donations, lobbyists, special interests, and/or state contracts (www.sunlightny.com), as well as the issuing of reports and maintaining an ongoing effort to prosecute those who abuse their positions in state government and/or defraud public officials.

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