

Bruce Rappaport

Case ID:

ARW-27

Jurisdiction of Origin of Public Official or Entity Allegedly Involved:

Antigua and Barbuda

Position of Public Official(s) (yrs in office):

Former Ambassador for Antigua and Barbuda to Israel and Russia (Rappaport, dates of position not specified but it was in 1990 when he was appointed to negotiate the debt repayment terms)

Jurisdiction of Asset Recovery:

United States

Jurisdiction of Asset Recovery ? Description:

Location of Recovery Effort, Asset Location / Alleged Asset Location

Asset Recovery Start:

1996

Asset Recovery End:

2009

UNCAC Offenses Implicated:

Art.18

Money laundering Implicated:

Yes

Legal Basis for Asset Recovery:

Private Civil Action

Intl.Cooperation: MLAT/Letter of Request?:

No

Basis for Intl Cooperation:

NA

Contributing Factors in Asset Recovery:

In his July 2009 announcement of the Government of Antigua and Barbuda's settlement agreement and payment received from Rappaport, the Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs, Hon. Justin Simon QC stated, "Shortly after this Administration took office, I informed you by way of a Press Statement that the government had commissioned a financial forensic investigation and had secured the services of Mr. Robert Lindquist who had himself led like-investigations in Trinidad and Tobago where over Seven Million U.S. Dollars of illegal payments to public officials had been recovered, and that he was instrumental in the arrests and prosecutions of persons involved in the Piarco International Airport scandal in Trinidad."

(Mr. Simon's statement is posted at

http://www.ab.gov.ag/gov_v4/article_details.php?id=68&category=38).

Status of Asset Recovery :

Completed

Agreement for Returned Assets:

No

Agreement for Returned Assets - Description:

NA

Case Summary:

According to a statement by the Attorney General of Antigua and Barbuda that was published on the official website of the Government of Antigua and Barbuda, Mr. Rappaport agreed to pay the government \$12 million in settlement. In 2006, the Attorney General of Antigua Barbuda had obtained an injunction from the High Court of Antigua to freeze the Antigua account of Mr. Rappaport's Miami-based IHI Debt Settlement Associates, LLC. and Miami accounts of Mr. Rappaport's companies. (Source: Press Release by the Government of Antigua Barbuda, "Government of Antigua Barbuda Recoups U.S. \$12 million dollars in case against former government officials and others," posted on July 10, 2009, at http://www.ab.gov.ag/gov_v4/article_details.php?id=68&category=38, and Statement by Hon. Justin L. Simon QC, Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs, "On the filing of Lawsuits against members of the former Government," March 1, 2006, posted at http://www.ab.gov.ag/gov_v2/government/pressreleases/pressreleases2006/p....)

Disposition of Criminal Case(s):

No known criminal proceedings; Mr. Rappaport passed away in January 2010. (Source: Juliet Benjamin, "Rappaport Dies," Antigua Observer, January 9, 2010, accessed at <http://www.antiguaobserver.com/?p=20689>.)

Jurisdiction of Origin: Investigative Agency:

Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs

Jurisdiction of Origin: Prosecuting Authority/Civil Attorney(s):

Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs

Jurisdiction of Origin: Courts Involved:

NA

Jurisdiction of Asset Recovery: Investigative Agency:

NA

Jurisdiction of Asset Recovery: Prosecuting Authority/Civil Attorney(s):

Astigarraga David (Attorney Edward H. Davis, Jr.)

Jurisdiction of Asset Recovery: Courts Involved:

Miami-Dade County Circuit, Florida, United States

Documents:

Rappaport_Antigua_AttyGen_Statement_March_1_2006.pdf

Rappaport_Antigua_Govt_PR_Settlement_Jul_10_2009.pdf

Rappaport_Antiguaobserver_Obituary_Jan_9_2010.pdf

Rappaport_GOAB_Notice_Dropping_Feb_20_2009.pdf

Rappaport_US_Second_Amended_Complaint_Oct_10_2007_Part_1of2.pdf

Rappaport_US_Second_Amended_Complaint_Oct_10_2007_Part_2of2.pdf

Documents Links:

http://www1.worldbank.org/finance/star_site/documents/arw/Rappaport_Anti..._2006.pdf

http://www1.worldbank.org/finance/star_site/documents/arw/Rappaport_Anti...

http://www1.worldbank.org/finance/star_site/documents/arw/Rappaport_Anti...

http://www1.worldbank.org/finance/star_site/documents/arw/Rappaport_GOAB...

Other Sources:

Press Release by the Government of Antigua and Barbuda, "Government of Antigua Barbuda Recoups US \$12 million dollars in case against former government officials and others,"

Posted On: July 10, 2009, at

http://www.ab.gov.ag/gov_v4/article_details.php?id=68&category=38, and Statement by Hon. Justin L. Simon QC, Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs, "On the Filing of Lawsuits against Members of the Former Government," March 1, 2006, posted at

http://www.ab.gov.ag/gov_v2/government/pressreleases/pressreleases2006/p...

Antigua and Barbuda v. Bruce Rappaport, et al, Case No. 06-03560 CA 25 (Eleventh Judicial Circuit Court in and for Miami-Dade County, Florida), Second Amended Complaint filed on October 10, 2007; Plaintiff's Notice of Dropping Certain Parties, dated February 20, 2009.

See also, Juliet Benjamin, "Rappaport Dies," Antigua Observer, January 9, 2010, accessed at <http://www.antiguaobserver.com/?p=20689>.