



DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA | OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL

SIGNIFICANT ACTIVITY REPORT

To: Hon. Muriel Bowser
Mayor of the District of Columbia

From: Daniel W. Lucas 
Inspector General

Date: March 4, 2026

Subject: **Yelake Meseretu Sentenced and Ordered to Pay \$35,300 for Bribing District of Columbia Employees | [OIG No. CRM-20-00456](#)**

Between approximately September 2019 and August 2023, as part of an under-delivery of goods and services scheme, Mr. Yelake Meseretu, Owner, US Office Supplies, defrauded the District of Columbia Government by submitting fraudulent invoices to the DC Public Schools for goods and services not provided or rendered. A federal jury found Mr. Meseretu guilty of one count of conspiracy, in violation of 18 USC § 371 (Conspiracy to Defraud the United States; Conspiracy); one count of bribery, in violation of 18 USC § 201(b)(1)-(2) (Graft and Conflict of Interest; Bribery); and one count of wire fraud, in violation of 18 USC § 1343, 1346 (Fraud by Wire, Radio, or Television; Wire Fraud).

On February 6, 2026, the US District Court for the District of Columbia sentenced Mr. Meseretu to 36 months of probation, the first twelve (12) months to be served on home detention. The court ordered him to pay a special assessment of \$100 for each convicted count, for a total of \$300. Additionally, the court ordered him to pay a \$25,000 fine and \$10,000 in restitution.

If you need any additional information, please contact me or Kathryn Jones, Assistant Inspector General for Investigations, at (202) 727-5864 or kathryn.jones@dc.gov.