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Accused water plant operator takes plea deal in Flint water crisis



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FLINT, MI -- The city's utilities director has accepted a plea deal with prosecutors, admitting to filing false information about lead in Flint water and agreeing to cooperate in other in prosecutions related to the city's [water crisis](#).

Mike Glasgow, 40, accepted the plea agreement during an appearance in Genesee District Court today, May 4, and special prosecutor Todd Flood said Glasgow has already provided important testimony showing how state officials orchestrated the manipulation of water test results here.

Reading from the transcript of an interview with investigators, Flood repeated Glasgow's claim that two Michigan Department of Environmental Quality regulators told him to removes selected test results that registered high lead levels, skewing overall readings.

Steve Busch, a former district supervisor in the DEQ Office of Drinking Water and Municipal Assistance, and Mike Prysby, a district engineer for the division, have already been charged with criminal misconduct related to the water crisis, and Flood said the pair directed Glasgow to change his

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Mike Glasgow appears in Genesee District Court before agreeing to a plea agreement in which he pleaded no contest to a misdemeanor related to the Flint water crisis today, May 4.

Rachel Woolf | The Flint Journal

report to avoid exceeding a federal drinking water threshold.



[Two state DEQ workers arraigned on criminal charges in Flint water crisis](#)

Two state employees have been arraigned on charges stemming from an investigation into Flint's water crisis.

"We're using this in our investigation going forward ..." Flood said after a hearing before District Court Judge Jennifer Manley. "Mr. Glasgow has a lot of equities in his favor. This is a very interesting situation."

Flood said Glasgow had the right intent even as he filed reports that claimed water sampled for lead and copper levels came from high-risk homes when he had no documentation to support the claim.

"He was the one that was attempting to give notice to the world that we have the Titanic, and people are telling us to have the violins keep on playing," Flood said.

In an interview with The Flint Journal-MLive, Glasgow has said Flint was not ready to treat and safely distribute water from the Flint River but did just that for 17 months, starting in April 2014.

The utilities administrator has said he was pressured by his supervisors to take on the job of treating river water despite too few experienced workers and too little time to prepare for the job.

Glasgow answered questions from Manley about his understanding of the plea deal today but the did not speak directly about his dealings with city, state or federal officials in court.

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He declined to comment further after the hearing, but the judge told Glasgow she would not immediately accept his no contest plea, keeping it under advisement until up to a year from now when the charge would be dismissed provided he complies with the terms of the plea deal.



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The city of Flint is paying the legal bills for Mike Glasgow, the utilities administrator facing criminal charges in connection to the Flint water crisis.

"Mr. Glasgow will continue to cooperate with the investigators ..." said Robert Harrison, the Bloomfield Hills attorney representing Glasgow. "He will answer any and all questions he is asked."

The most serious charge against Glasgow -- tampering with evidence, a felony punishable by up to 4 years in prison -- was dismissed as part of the plea agreement.

MLive-The Flint Journal could not immediately reach Richard Hillman, an attorney for Prysby, and Mark Kriger, an attorney for Busch, declined comment.

Both men pleaded not guilty when they were arraigned on charges last month.

The pair are charged with two counts of misconduct in office, conspiracy of tampering with evidence, tampering with evidence, two county of violation of the Safe Drinking Water Act.



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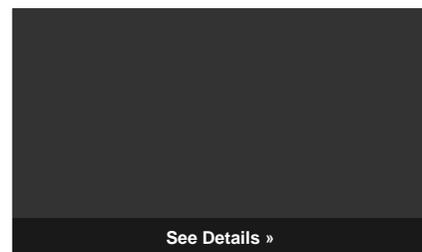
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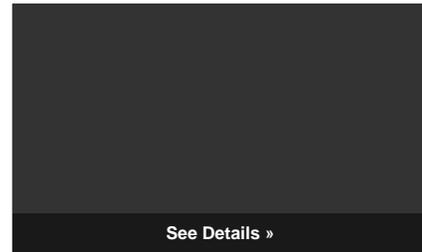
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