

United States v. Samuel Mebiame (E.D.N.Y. 2016)

Nature of the Business.

According to court documents, Samuel Mebiame is a Gabonese national who worked as a consultant for a joint venture between an unnamed U.S.-based hedge fund (publicly known to be Och-Ziff Capital Management Group) and an unnamed Turks & Caicos Islands incorporated entity.

Influence to be Obtained.

According to the DOJ, Mebiame worked as a “fixer” to obtain rights to mineral concessions in Africa by bribing government officials in Niger, Guinea, and Chad. The alleged bribes included payments for cars and a \$100,000 payment to a charity run by a Niger official; payment of \$440,000 to rent a private jet for a Guinean official; and cash payments and paying for travel and shopping expenses of a Chad official and his spouse.

Enforcement.

On August 16, 2016, Mebiame was arrested in Brooklyn, New York and charged with violating the FCPA. Mebiame later, on December 15, 2016, agreed to plead guilty to one count of conspiracy to violate the FCPA.

Key Facts

Citation. *United States v. Mebiame*, No. 1:16-cr-00627 (E.D.N.Y. 2016); *United States v. Mebiame*, No. 1:16-mj-00752 (E.D.N.Y. 2016).

Date Filed. September 30, 2016.

Country. Chad; Guinea; Niger.

Date of Conduct. 2007 – 2015.

Amount of the Value. Not Stated.

Amount of Business Related to the Payment. Not Stated.

Intermediary. None.

Foreign Official. Unnamed government officials from Niger, Guinea, and Chad.

FCPA Statutory Provision. Conspiracy.

Other Statutory Provision. None.

Disposition. Plea Agreement.

Defendant Jurisdictional Basis. Territorial Jurisdiction.

Defendant's Citizenship. Gabon.

Total Sanction. Pending.

Related Enforcement Actions. *United States v. Och-Ziff Capital Management Group LLC*; *United States v. OZ Africa Management GP, LLC*; *In the Matter of Och-Ziff Capital Management Group, OZ Management LP, Daniel S. Och, and Joel M. Frank*; *SEC v. Cohen & Baros*.