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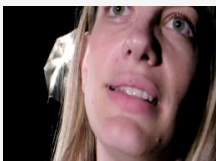
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## Nephew of assemblyman charged in alleged kickback scheme

by [Steve Chambers](#)/*The Star-Ledger*

Wednesday January 21, 2009, 2:27 PM

The nephew of state Assemblyman Thomas Giblin was charged today in an alleged kickback scheme as federal prosecutors continued to investigate what sources have called a corruption probe into a union local and the politically active family that has run it for decades.

Dennis J. Giblin, president of the International Union of Operating Engineers Local 68 and administrator of its Education Fund, appeared before a federal magistrate in Newark in handcuffs this afternoon after turning himself in to federal authorities.

Giblin is the son of Vincent J. Giblin, national president of the union and chairman of the board of directors of Horizon Blue Cross-Blue Shield of New Jersey.

Dennis Giblin had been previously named a co-conspirator by his title and initials in a criminal complaint filed against one of his friends and employees, Christopher Ruton. That complaint has now been dismissed, according to Anthony Moscato, an assistant U.S. attorney handling the case.

Citing a new criminal complaint, Moscato said Giblin allegedly had audio visual equipment installed in his Jersey City condominium in 2005 at a reduced price by a vendor that had done similar work for the union fund. In exchange, he said, Giblin threw more work to the vendor and paid for the labor done at his house with union funds.

The criminal complaint also alleges that a couch purchased with fund money wound up in Giblin's apartment.

Giblin faces up to three years in prison and \$250,000 on the first of a three-count complaint, and an additional five years and additional fines on the other counts. Magistrate Mark Falk released Giblin on \$25,000 bail.

"We were very disappointed they have chosen to bring these charges," said his attorney, Cathy Fleming of the New York firm Nixon Peabody. "We are confident he will be vindicated, and we look forward to it."

Both prosecutors and Thomas Giblin (D-Essex), who ran Local 68 for decades and is currently its business manager, stressed that the fund and the union are wholly separate entities. Giblin said he has never been asked to appear before a grand jury hearing testimony in the case.

"They asked in the normal course of their investigation for a lot of records," he said. "All requests were complied with. As far as I know, the issues being presented do not impact on Local 68."

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Posted by [itsoverjonny](#) on [01/21/09](#) at 4:38PM


And the news here is what? The SL can reprint this article every day and change the legislator's name, affiliation and relative.

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