

AECOM FACT SHEET

THE PROPOSED CONTRACTOR FOR THE COP ACADEMY

WHAT IS AECOM?

*A massive, multi-national, publicly traded engineering firm based in Los Angeles, California. AECOM designs and leads construction projects for prisons, police headquarters, stadiums, bridges, and other infrastructure projects. **They made \$18 billion in profits last year.***

CONTROVERSIAL PROJECTS

US Military Contract: In 2004, AECOM carried out a \$683 million contract for maintenance activities for the U.S. army, Iraqi army, and Afghan army. Additionally, they overbilled, or could not support the charges, of 14% of what researchers studied. (2004) They had a similar situation with a contract for the Australian government.¹

Australian Toll Road Lawsuit

In 2015, AECOM paid out \$201 million in Australia to settle a lawsuit charging fraudulent practices with investors.²

NOTABLE SCANDALS

False Claims Act Violation (defrauding governmental programs)

Approximately \$65.5 million in cumulative penalties over time³

Examples include: Falsely represented and charged U.S. Department of Energy for deficient goods and services, which **failed to be of the highest quality for nuclear facilities**. False claims to the DOE for overtime and premium pay and complying with the contract's internal audit requirements. Ultimately paid out a \$135 million settlement to the US DOE.⁴ (2016)

Fraud Violations

Example: Tishman Construction, a subsidiary of AECOM, admitted to **fraudulently overbilling clients** and agreed to pay more than \$20 million in restitution to victims and penalties to the federal government.⁵

Cost Overruns

Example: Construction of a 2,000-bed in Michigan jail stopped due to going **\$91 million over budget**. They terminated the project after the County has already spent \$154 million on it.⁶

POLITICAL MOTIVATIONS

Daniel R. Tishman | *AECOM Director, Board of Directors* | *Runs Tishman Realty*

One and only political donation: \$50,000 to Citizens for Rahm Emanuel of February 23, 2015,⁷ one day before the February Mayoral Election in which Jesús “Chuy” García forced Mayor Emanuel into a runoff.

***AECOM PAC has made \$109,980 in political contributions** over the years in Illinois. Such as the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District Commissioners and Toni Preckwinkle, current Cook County Board President and a mayoral candidate.⁸

***Most recently in December:** AECOM PAC even **donated \$1,500 to Alderman Ed Burke**, half of which came weeks after the **FBI raided his office in an extortion investigation.**⁹

FOOTNOTES

1 http://psm.du.edu/media/documents/us_research_and_oversight/sigir/audits/us_sigir_10-005.pdf

2 <https://www.wsj.com/articles/aecom-unit-pays-us-201-million-to-settle-australia-toll-road-law-suit-1442826365>

3 <https://violationtracker.goodjobsfirst.org/parent/aecom>

4 <https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2017/feb/02/corporate-corruption-and-government-failure-to-act-whos-running-this-country>

5 <https://violationtracker.goodjobsfirst.org/parent/aecom>

<https://www.prisonlegalnews.org/news/2017/apr/5/cost-overruns-halt-construction-massive-michigan-jail/>

6 <https://www.prisonlegalnews.org/news/2017/apr/5/cost-overruns-halt-construction-massive-michigan-jail/>

7 <https://illinoissunshine.org>

8 <https://illinoissunshine.org>

9 <https://www.chicagoreporter.com/to-build-cop-academy-chicago-picks-aecom-firm-with-checkered-past/#>