

Contractors pay up more than \$1M after office probed

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As a result of a police investigation into Jersey City's Office of Construction Code, the city has recovered more than \$1 million from contractors, city officials said Monday.

In April, the city hired Sax Macy Fromm & Co., an accounting firm based in Clifton, to perform a forensic audit of the department.

The audit has so far led to the city collecting more than \$1 million from contractors who have done business with the city, officials said.

City officials declined to say whether the heretofore uncollected money was due to oversight, an antiquated computer system, or deliberate activity on

the part of city employees.

Police and administration officials said yesterday the investigation, led by the Police Department's Special Investigations Unit, is ongoing, but refused to comment further.

For three days in March, neither the public nor employees were allowed access to the Office of Construction Code, while SIU investigators reviewed records and copied checks and files. Sax Macy Fromm & Co. signed a contract with the city in April not to exceed \$35,000.

The council plans to vote on a resolution tonight to pay the firm \$80,000 more.

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