

# Former House speaker DiMasi, co-defendant, seek Supreme Court review of their convictions

By [Martin Finucane](#) | GLOBE STAFF | DECEMBER 23, 2013

Convicted former House speaker Salvatore F. DiMasi and co-defendant Richard W. McDonough are seeking a review of their case by the US Supreme Court, their attorneys said today.

The two have filed petitions for a writ of certiorari — requests for the court to take up their case, said Thomas R. Kiley and Martin Weinberg, the lawyers for DiMasi and McDonough, respectively.

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A federal appeals court in Boston in August rejected appeals by DiMasi and McDonough, saying they had raised a “panoply of arguments” that were “myriad and complex,” but the court could find no flaws in the actions of a lower court judge.

DiMasi and McDonough, a lobbyist who was his friend, were convicted after a 2011 trial. They were convicted of honest services fraud in a kickback scheme to funnel \$65,000 to DiMasi in exchange for his help securing state contracts for a Burlington software company, Cognos. DiMasi was also convicted of extortion.

A third man, DiMasi friend and financial adviser Richard Vitale, was acquitted. A fourth man, former Cognos salesman, Joseph P. Lally Jr., pleaded guilty in a deal with prosecutors.

DiMasi, 68, is battling cancer and being held at a prison in North Carolina, records show. He is scheduled to be released in November 2018, according to the Federal Bureau of Prisons website.