

The Bucks County Intelligencer Sunday, October 22, 2006

Lawmakers get mystery money:

A Japanese executive gave \$21,000 to Bucks Co. politicians two months after his firm received a \$244 million SEPTA contract.

Harrisburg - Bucks County Republican state lawmakers are at a loss to explain why a Japanese business executive based in New York is a top contributor to their 2006 campaigns.

Hatsuhiko Kageyama, the vice president of Sojitz Corporation of America, the US subsidiary of a large Japanese business conglomerate, donated \$5,000 each to four Bucks County Republicans and \$1,000 to fifth in May and early June.

The checks came in two months after a Sojitz consortium managed by Kageyama won a \$244 million contract with SEPTA to build regional rail cars.

None of the candidates said they had heard of Kageyama or Sojitz Corp. and couldn't explain why the donor was interested in Bucks County. Several candidates said the check came through Bucks County Republican chairman **Harry Fawkes**.