

'You are a dead man': Railway workers union boss accused of death threat

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Montreal police are investigating a railway workers union boss for allegedly uttering a death threat against a member who is accusing him of misusing funds, [CTV News has learned](#).

A [cellphone video](#) shows a combative teamsters meeting on Nov. 14 involving William Brehl, president of the Teamsters Canada Rail Conference Maintenance of Way Employees Division.

The video was recorded by the union's secretary-treasurer, Louis Wilson, who claims Brehl misused union funds.

PHOTOS



An image taken from a cellphone video of a Nov. 14 meeting with William Brehl, president of the Teamsters Canada Rail Conference Maintenance of Way Employees Division.

"You can put it on Facebook. You can put it up your ass. You are out of this meeting," Brehl says in the video, which was obtained by CTV's Ottawa Bureau Chief Robert Fife.

Brehl then forces Wilson out the door, and is heard saying: "You are a dead man."

Sources [told CTV News](#) that Montreal police arrested Brehl after the incident. He is to appear in court in December, where he is expected to be charged with uttering a death threat.

Brehl denied making a threat when CTV News spoke with him at his home outside Ottawa.

"I didn't make a threat toward him. It's a political thing. He's running against me for president," Brehl said. "This is what he is doing."

At the heart of the dispute is \$300,000 of union money with missing receipts and \$56,000 racked up on Brehl's union credit card.

"There was approximately \$60,000 in personal expenditures like Popeye supplements, cigars, airplane tickets for his family," Wilson said.

The union reports to the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, run by James P. Hoffa, whose father once ran the union until he vanished in the 1970s.

The U.S. union investigated and asked Brehl to repay approximately \$10,000.

But Brehl says no money is missing.

"It has all been accounted for," Brehl said. "This is unbelievable."

Wilson said Teamsters' International has refused to make public its audit or account for the missing receipts.

"I truly believe members have a right to see what their union leadership is spending their money on," Wilson said.

The Conservative government currently has a bill before Parliament to force unions to publicly disclose details of their spending.

With a report by CTV News' Ottawa Bureau Chief Robert Fife

[Correspondence on alleged misspending](#)