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From: POLITICO Pro Energy Whiteboard
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Subject: Michigan health official indicted in Flint water crisis

By Annie Snider

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The head of Michigan's Department of Health has been charged with involuntary manslaughter related to the city of Flint's drinking water crisis, according to [the Associated Press](#).

Charges were read in court this morning against health chief Nick Lyon, the highest-ranking member of GOP Gov. Rick Snyder's administration to be caught in the criminal probe of the impoverished city's lead contamination crisis.

Lyon is accused of failing to alert the public about an outbreak of Legionnaire's disease that some experts have linked to the switch in the city's water supply and resulting poor water quality.

Emergency managers appointed by Snyder switched Flint's water supply in 2014 from treated water supplied by Detroit to water from the Flint River that the city treated itself. However, officials failed to include corrosion controls in that treatment, causing dangerous lead to leach from service lines into tap water.

Michigan Attorney General Bill Schuette, who is widely expected to run for the GOP nomination in the 2018 governor's race, is leading the criminal probe, which has previously filed charges against 11 lower level state and local officials and two former emergency managers.

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