



Members of a South Philadelphia Drug Trafficking Organization Arrested and Charged

McNabb Associates, P.C. (Federal Criminal Defense Lawyers)

Submitted at 8:36 AM September 28, 2011

The Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) on September 27, 2011 released the following:

“PHILADELPHIA— Federal agents and Philadelphia Police officers this morning arrested 15 members of a drug trafficking organization operating out of the federally subsidized Courtyard Apartments-Riverview and other areas of South Philadelphia, announced United States Attorney Zane David Memeger and FBI Special Agent in Charge George C. Venizelos. A 60-count indictment unsealed this morning charges Mayoshi Sanders and his co-defendants in a drug conspiracy in which the Sanders Drug Trafficking Organization (“DTO”) peddled crack cocaine and other controlled substances within the housing development and various other locations, primarily in South Philadelphia, and used residences at the housing development as stash houses.

According to the indictment, the Sanders DTO distributed in excess of 500 grams of cocaine and 280 grams of crack cocaine between March 2009 and August 30, 2011, with Sanders obtaining his cocaine supply from co-defendant Alfred Jenkins, among others. The Sanders DTO allegedly sold drugs in and around the South Philadelphia Courtyard Apartments, including: the 500, 600 and 700 blocks of Christian Street; and the 700 block of South 4th Street. The indictment alleges that the organization’s sales were not limited to crack cocaine and sometimes included cocaine, heroin, marijuana, Oxycodone, and Alprozalam, with members at times unknowingly selling the drugs to undercover officers and individuals acting at the direction of law enforcement.

“Thanks to the successful partnership between the FBI and the Philadelphia

Police Department, another significant drug trafficking organization in Philadelphia has been disrupted,” said Memeger. “The residents who reside in the area in which the Sanders DTO operated deserve to live in an area which is free from the negative quality of life consequences associated with illicit drug dealing.”

“Our partnership with the Philadelphia Police Department in these types of investigations has proven very successful,” said Venizelos. “Our goal in these cases is two-fold: to rid our communities of criminal predators who destroy the very fabric of safety and security that all law-abiding citizens deserve, and to send the clear message that we are working together to aggressively address the violent drug and gang problems that our communities face.”

“Law abiding city residents should not have to live in fear of a domino effect from illegal activity that is happening across the street, down the block, or in their own development,” said Philadelphia Police Commissioner Charles Ramsey. “Thanks to the successful working relationship between the FBI and the Philadelphia Police Department, the door is closing on another alleged drug trafficking organization.”

Charged with Sanders and Jenkins are: Tiyeak Cook, Jamal Stewart, Thomas Bowie, Elizabeth Cadogan, William Frisby, Kwane Glover, Harold Jackson, Philis McAllister, Betty Ann McKinney, Malani Sanders, Davon Stokes, Frank Wade, and Terrance Wade. In addition to the numerous drug charges, the indictment contains charges of maintaining a drug house (against Elizabeth Cadogan, Betty Ann McKinney, and Philis McAllister), unlawful use of a communication facility in furtherance of a drug crime (Sanders, Bowie, Cadogan, Cook, Frisby, Jackson, McAllister, McKinney, Malani Sanders,

Stokes, Wade), and weapons offenses (Sanders, Cook).

If convicted, each defendant faces a maximum possible sentence of life in prison.

The case was investigated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation’s Safe Streets Violent Gang Task Force which includes members of Philadelphia Police Department’s Narcotics Field Unit North and the Philadelphia Police Department’s 3rd District. It is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Faithe Moore Taylor and Special Assistant United States Attorney Joseph Whitehead, Jr.

Information Regarding the Defendants
Name Address Age
Mayoshi Sanders Philadelphia 36 Tiyeak Cook Philadelphia 34
Jamal Stewart Philadelphia 27
Thomas Bowie Philadelphia 19
Elizabeth Cadogan Philadelphia 38
William Frisby Philadelphia 33
Kwane Glover Philadelphia 24
Harold Jackson Philadelphia 46
Alfred Jenkins Philadelphia 43
Philis McAllister Philadelphia 25
Betty Ann McKinney Philadelphia 48
Malani Sanders Philadelphia 34
Davon Stokes Philadelphia 22
Frank Wade Philadelphia 20
Terrance Wade Philadelphia 20

An indictment or information is an accusation. A defendant is presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty.”

To find additional federal criminal news, please read [Federal Crimes Watch Daily](#).

Douglas McNabb and other members of the U.S. law firm practice and write and/or report extensively on matters involving Federal Criminal Defense, INTERPOL Red Notice Removal, International Extradition and OFAC SDN Sanctions Removal.

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Online System Can Help Consumers Avoid Buying Flood-Damaged Vehicles

Tracy Russo (USDOJ: Justice Blog)

Submitted at 6:24 PM September 28, 2011

The following post appears courtesy of Denise E. O’Donnell, Director of the Bureau of Justice Assistance. On August

29th, the sixth anniversary of Hurricane Katrina, Hurricane Irene was devastating the eastern coastline of the United States. Hurricane Irene and Tropical Storm Lee both caused major

flooding. Evacuations were ordered from Vermont to North Carolina. As recovery efforts are underway, [...]



Even Those Cleared of Crimes Can Stay on F.B.I.'s Watch List

McNabb Associates, P.C. (Federal Criminal Defense Lawyers)

Submitted at 9:54 PM September 28, 2011

The New York Times on September 27, 2011 released the following:

“By CHARLIE SAVAGE

WASHINGTON — The Federal Bureau of Investigation is permitted to include people on the government’s terrorist watch list even if they have been acquitted of terrorism-related offenses or the charges are dropped, according to newly released documents.

The files, released by the F.B.I. under the Freedom of Information Act, disclose how the police are instructed to react if they encounter a person on the list. They lay out, for the first time in public view, the legal standard that national security officials must meet in order to add a name to the list. And they shed new light on how names are vetted for possible removal from the list.

Inclusion on the watch list can keep terrorism suspects off planes, block noncitizens from entering the country and subject people to delays and greater scrutiny at airports, border crossings and traffic stops.

The database now has about 420,000 names, including about 8,000 Americans, according to the statistics released in connection with the 10th anniversary of the Sept. 11 attacks. About 16,000 people, including about 500 Americans, are barred from flying.

Timothy J. Healy, the director of the F.B.I.’s Terrorist Screening Center, which vets requests to add or remove names from the list, said the documents showed that the government was balancing civil liberties with a careful, multilayered process for vetting who goes on it — and for making sure that names that no longer need to be on it came off.

“There has been a lot of criticism about the watch list,” claiming that it is “haphazard,” he said. “But what this illustrates is that there is a very detailed process that the F.B.I. follows in terms of nominations of watch-listed people.”

Still, some of the procedures drew fire from civil liberties advocates, including the Electronic Privacy Information Center, which made the original request and provided the documents to The New York Times.

The 91 pages of newly disclosed files include a December 2010 guidance memorandum to F.B.I. field offices showing that even a not-guilty verdict may not always be enough to get someone off the list, if agents maintain they still

have “reasonable suspicion” that the person might have ties to terrorism. “If an individual is acquitted or charges are dismissed for a crime related to terrorism, the individual must still meet the reasonable suspicion standard in order to remain on, or be subsequently nominated to, the terrorist watch list,” the once-classified memorandum says.

Ginger McCall, a counsel at the Electronic Privacy Information Center, said: “In the United States, you are supposed to be assumed innocent. But on the watch list, you may be assumed guilty, even after the court dismisses your case.”

But Stewart Baker, a former Homeland Security official in the Bush administration, argued that even if the intelligence about someone’s possible terrorism ties fell short of the courtroom standard of “beyond a reasonable doubt,” it could still be appropriate to keep the person on the watch list as having attracted suspicion.

Mr. Baker noted that being subjected to extra questioning — or even kept off flights — was different than going to prison.

The guidance memo to F.B.I. field offices says someone may be deemed a “known or suspected terrorist” if officials have “particularized derogatory information” to support their suspicions.

That standard may be met by an allegation that the suspect has terrorism ties if the claim is corroborated by at least one other source, it said, but “mere guesses or ‘hunches’ are not enough.”

Normally, it says, if agents close the investigation without charges, they should remove the subject’s name — as they should also normally do in the case of an acquittal. But for exceptions, the F.B.I. maintains a special file for people whose names it is keeping in the database because it has decided they pose a national security risk even though they are not the subject of any active investigation.

The F.B.I.’s Terrorist Screening Center shares the data with other federal agencies for screening aircraft passengers, people who are crossing the border and people who apply for visas. The data is also used by local police officers to check names during traffic stops.

The December memorandum lays out procedures for police officers to follow when they encounter people who are listed. For example, officers are never to tell the suspects that they might be on the watch list, and they must immediately call the federal government for instructions.

In addition, it says, police officers and

border agents are to treat suspects differently based on which “handling codes” are in the system.

Some people, with outstanding warrants, are to be arrested; others are to be questioned while officers check with the Department of Homeland Security to see whether it has or will issue a “detainer” request; and others should be allowed to proceed without delay.

The documents show that the F.B.I. is developing a system to automatically notify regional “fusion centers,” where law enforcement agencies share information, if officers nearby have encountered someone on the list. The bureau also requires F.B.I. supervisors to sign off before an advisory would warn the police that a subject is “armed and dangerous” or has “violent tendencies.”

The F.B.I. procedures encourage agents to renominate suspects for the watch list even if they were already put on it by another agency — meaning multiple agencies would have to be involved in any attempt to later remove that person.

The procedures offer no way for people who are on the watch list to be notified of that fact or given an opportunity to see and challenge the specific allegations against them.

Chris Calabrese, a counsel with the American Civil Liberties Union, called the watch list system a “Star Chamber” — “a secret determination, that you have no input into, that you are a terrorist. Once that determination is made, it can ripple through your entire life and you have no way to challenge it.”

But Mr. Healy said the government could not reveal who was on the list, or why, because that would risk revealing intelligence sources. He also defended the idea of the watch list, saying the government would be blamed if, after a terrorist attack, it turned out the perpetrator had attracted the suspicions of one agency but it had not warned other agencies to scrutinize the person.

Mr. Healy also suggested that fears of the watch list were exaggerated, in part because there are many other reasons that people are subjected to extra screening at airports. He said more than 200,000 people have complained to the Department of Homeland Security about their belief that they were wrongly on the list, but fewer than 1 percent of them were actually on it.”

To find additional federal criminal news, please read [Federal Crimes Watch Daily](#).



On the run for 41 years, hijacker traced to Portugal

McNabb Associates, P.C. (Federal Criminal Defense Lawyers)

Submitted at 9:47 PM September 28, 2011

CNN on September 28, 2011 released the following:

“By Tim Lister, CNN

(CNN) — He had been on the run for four decades. He escaped from prison when Richard Nixon was in the White House, joined the Black Liberation Army in Detroit, hijacked a plane and (in)famously demanded that FBI agents deliver ransom money in bathing suits. And they did.

Now, after a manhunt spanning three continents that often appeared to run cold, the FBI has finally found George Wright.

At age 68, he was living quietly in the resort of Sintra near Lisbon in Portugal when he was arrested Monday.

The United States is seeking his extradition from Portugal to serve the remainder of a 15- to 30-year sentence for murder. Portuguese judicial authorities could not be reached Tuesday for details of the extradition process.

Wright is fighting extradition, a U.S. federal agent said, and his next court appearance in Portugal is in about two weeks.

Wright’s life story reads like an international crime novel. In 1962, at the age of 19, he and three associates carried out a series of robberies in New Jersey. Wright and another man shot and killed a World War II veteran in a gas station robbery in Farmingdale.

He was arrested soon afterward and, after pleading no defense, was sentenced to 15 to 30 years in prison. But in 1970, Wright escaped from Bayside State Prison in Leesburg, New Jersey, reportedly stealing the warden’s car to make his getaway.

Wright made his way to Detroit, then a hotbed of militant black politics, and joined the Black Liberation Army. (He is also reputed to have made some money during this period as a part-time model,

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continued from page 2

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Justice Department Asks the Supreme Court to Review the Affordable Care Act

Tracy Russo (USDOJ: Justice Blog)

Submitted at 2:51 PM September 28, 2011

The Department of Justice filed a cert petition today asking the Supreme Court

using an alias.)

On July 31, 1972, Wright and four other members of the Black Liberation Army went to Detroit airport and boarded Delta Flight 841 for Miami. Wright was dressed as a priest and carried a handgun in a hollowed-out Bible.

Airport security was different in those days. Various Palestinian groups were hijacking planes regularly, as were individuals keen to go to Cuba. Altogether, the U.S. Department of Transportation recorded 364 hijackings worldwide between 1968 and 1972: more than one a week on average.

The hijackers of Delta 841 — three men and two women accompanied by three children — seized the plane as it approached Miami. The FBI says “subsequent investigation identified Wright as one of the hijackers.”

Once on the ground, the hijackers demanded that FBI agents dressed only in bathing suits deliver \$1 million ransom to the plane. They wanted to be sure the agents were not carrying guns. The money was duly delivered by the scantily clad agents.

The hijackers allowed the 88 passengers off but kept the flight crew on board and ordered that the plane fly to Boston. With the addition of an extra navigator (wearing swim trunks and a shirt), the DC-8 was refueled there and flew on to Algiers.

Algeria in the early 1970s was run by a hard-line socialist government that was no friend of the United States and allowed various dissidents, militants and alleged terrorists to take sanctuary there. A leading member of the Black Panthers, Eldridge Cleaver, had been welcomed as a political refugee there in 1968 after jumping bail in California.

The Algerian government confiscated and returned the \$1 million in ransom money to the U.S., but Wright and his associates melted away. Some of the hijackers were

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arrested in Paris in 1976, but for decades, there was no trace of Wright.

Then, nine years ago, a fugitive investigator with the New Jersey Department of Corrections working with the U.S. Marshals Service got a lead. Officials won’t comment on reports that Wright had begun to contact relatives in the United States.

Juan Mattos, U.S. marshal for the District of New Jersey, said: “Over the course of nine years, their tenacious resolve has proven to be very powerful in seeking justice and closure for the victims.”

And in a press release Tuesday, Michael Ward of the FBI’s Newark Division said the case should “serve notice that the FBI’s determination in pursuing subjects will not diminish over time or distance.”

At the time of the hijacking, there was limited screening of passengers at U.S. airports. This screening system did not require every passenger to be examined, only those who met a profile established by the Federal Aviation Administration.

After the Algiers flight and several hijackings that turned violent, the Nixon administration instructed the FAA to adopt emergency regulations to improve screening. At the end of 1972, the FAA ordered airports to ensure that all passengers and their carry-on baggage be inspected before boarding.”

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Florida Man Indicted for Transportation, Receipt and Possession of Child Pornography

(USDOJ: Justice News)

Submitted at 10:57 AM September 28, 2011

Anthony Mangione, 50, of Parkland, Fla., was charged in an indictment unsealed today with child pornography offenses.

this action. “The Department has consistently and successfully defended this law in several court of appeals, and [...]



Former Executives from Panasonic Corp., Whirlpool Corp. Subsidiary, and Tecumseh Products Co. Subsidiary Indicted in Alleged Compressor Price-Fixing Conspiracy

McNabb Associates, P.C. (Federal Criminal Defense Lawyers)

Submitted at 8:47 AM September 28, 2011

The Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) on September 27, 2011 released the following:

“First Executives Charged in Ongoing Investigation into the Worldwide Refrigerant Compressors Market

WASHINGTON—A Detroit federal grand jury returned an indictment today against three former executives from Panasonic Corporation, a Whirlpool Corporation subsidiary, and a Tecumseh Products Company subsidiary for their role in an international conspiracy to fix the prices of refrigerant compressors, which are used in refrigerators and freezers in homes and businesses, the Department of Justice announced.

The indictment, returned today in U.S. District Court in Detroit, charges Ernesto Heinzelmann, former president and chief executive officer of Empresa Brasileira de Compressores S.A. (Embraco), a division of Whirlpool S.A.; Gerson Veríssimo, former president of Tecumseh do Brasil Ltda., a subsidiary of Tecumseh Products Company; and Naoki Adachi, general manager of global sales & SE group, refrigeration devices division at Panasonic Corporation, with conspiring to suppress and eliminate competition by coordinating price increases for refrigerant compressors to customers in the United States and elsewhere. Heinzelmann and Veríssimo

are charged with participating in the conspiracy from at least as early as Oct. 14, 2004, until on or about Dec. 31, 2007. Adachi is charged with participating in the conspiracy from at least as early as May 10, 2006, until on or about Dec. 31, 2007. Heinzelmann, Veríssimo and Adachi are the first executives charged in the ongoing investigation into the worldwide refrigerant compressors market.

Refrigerant compressors take in low-pressure refrigerant, compress it, and then pump out a high-pressure vapor, which condenses and subsequently cools devices such as refrigerators and freezers.

“Cracking down on international price fixing cartels has been and will continue to be among the most significant priorities for the Antitrust Division,” said Sharis A. Pozen, Acting Assistant Attorney General in charge of the Department of Justice’s Antitrust Division. “Our investigation into the refrigerant compressors industry has already resulted in two companies—Panasonic and Embraco North America—pleading guilty and paying a total of \$140.9 million in criminal fines. Our investigation is continuing.”

According to the indictment, Heinzelmann, Veríssimo, and Adachi carried out the conspiracy by participating in or directing the participation of subordinate employees in meetings and conversations to coordinate price

increases of refrigerant compressors in the United States and elsewhere. As part of the conspiracy, Heinzelmann, Veríssimo, Adachi, and co-conspirators sold and accepted payments for the compressors at collusive and non-competitive prices.

Heinzelmann, Veríssimo, and Adachi are charged with price fixing in violation of the Sherman Act, which carries a maximum penalty of 10 years in prison and a \$1 million fine for individuals. The maximum fine may be increased to twice the gain derived from the crime or twice the loss suffered by the victims of the crime, if either of those amounts is greater than the statutory maximum fine.

On Nov. 15, 2010, Panasonic Corporation pleaded guilty and was sentenced to pay a \$49.1 million criminal fine, and on Dec. 16, 2010, Embraco North America Inc. pleaded guilty and was sentenced to pay a \$91.8 million criminal fine.”

To find additional federal criminal news, please read [Federal Crimes Watch Daily](#).

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Blackwater Case Gets Fresh Prosecution Team

McNabb Associates, P.C. (Federal Criminal Defense Lawyers)

Submitted at 9:41 PM September 28, 2011

Main Justice on September 28, 2011 released the following:

“By Mary Jacoby

The federal prosecutors who oversaw a troubled investigation of Blackwater security guards accused in a deadly 2007 shooting incident in Baghdad have been replaced.

District of Columbia Assistant U.S. Attorneys Kenneth Kohl and Jonathan Malis, along with Department of Justice trial attorneys Stephen Ponticello and Barry Jonas, are off the case, [according](#) to the BLT. D.C. Assistant U.S. Attorneys Anthony Asuncion, John Han and T. Patrick Martin are on.

U.S. District Judge Ricardo Urbina in December 2009 [dismissed](#) the Blackwater case in a scathing opinion, citing prosecutor misconduct, as Main Justice

[reported](#) at the time. But the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit in April [reversed](#) Urbina, calling his analysis flawed and sending the case back to him to be reheard. Urbina has asked for a status update from prosecutors by the end of the month.

In the 2007 incident, the Blackwater guards were accused of firing on Iraqi civilians, killing 17. Urbina’s dismissal of the case was greeted with shock and anger in Iraq. Blackwater has since been named Xe Services.

At issue was the extent to which the first team of prosecutors used immunized statements from the Blackwater guards to build their case. Because the guards worked under contract to the State Department and were required to answer questions about the shooting, the defense argued those statements were compelled and could not be used to convict the defendants.

The fresh legal team was installed “out of an abundance of caution to place this prosecution on the strongest possible footing with respect to any future Kastigar litigation,” D.C. U.S. Attorney’s office spokesman William Miller said in a statement, the BLT reported.”

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Heroin Epidemic Leads to Largest DEA Operation Against Deadly Drug

McNabb Associates, P.C. (Federal Criminal Defense Lawyers)

Submitted at 8:14 AM September 28, 2011

The U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) on September 27, 2011 released the following: "SEP 27 – ST. LOUIS, MO – The Drug Enforcement Administration, in collaboration with 32 other Law Enforcement Agencies, conducted an aggressive and unprecedented heroin enforcement operation resulting in the arrest of 53 individuals. DEA Special Agent in Charge Harry S. Sommers of the St. Louis Field Division announced the arrests, which mark the first phase of the bi-state partnership between law enforcement agencies targeting not just street level heroin dealers but also those responsible for trafficking heroin in and around St. Louis.

Since July, DEA and their law enforcement counterparts have coordinated efforts, which included 165 undercover purchases of heroin, in order to respond to the increase in heroin-related overdoses and deaths, as well as the overwhelming increase of heroin use in suburban and rural areas. Within the city of St. Louis, alone, there have been 57 heroin related deaths since the beginning of this year. It is the largest single strike against heroin in St. Louis law enforcement history.

Former Guard Charged with Attempting to Communicate National Defense Information to People's Republic of China

(USDOJ: Justice News)

Submitted at 2:20 PM September 28, 2011

Bryan Underwood, a former contract guard working at a U.S. Consulate in China, has been charged in a superseding indictment with one count of attempting to communicate national defense information to a foreign government, two counts of making false statements and one count of failing to appear in court pursuant to his conditions of release.

Public Awareness Campaign Launched to Seek New Information in the Murder of Assistant U.S. Attorney

(USDOJ: Justice News)

Submitted at 6:16 PM September 28, 2011

Attorney General Eric Holder joined U.S. Attorney for the Western District of Washington Jenny A. Durkan, the Wales

The widespread arrests ranging from southern Illinois to Franklin and Lincoln County, MO, was a deliberate act intended to send a clear message to heroin violators. DEA and their law enforcement partners will not tolerate heroin use, abuse and trafficking. SAC Sommers stated: "Even after today, we will continue to target with vigor those using and bringing heroin into our communities. We are working to save lives and keep communities safe."

Of the 53 arrests, 49 will be referred for State prosecution and charges include Violation of the Missouri Controlled Substance Act (VMCSA) possession, possession with intent to distribute. Four (4) of the arrests will be referred for Federal Prosecution and charges include conspiracy to distribute and possession with intent to distribute.

Other Agencies: St. Louis Metropolitan Police Department, St. Louis County Police Department, Granite City (IL) Police Department, St. Clair County (IL) Sheriff's Department (Drug Tactical Unit), Illinois State Police (MEGSI), Hazelwood (MO) Police Department, St. Charles County Regional Drug Task Force, Franklin County Sheriff's Department, Jefferson County Sheriff's Department, Lincoln County Sheriff's Department (Narcotics Enforcement Team), the US Marshals Service,

Six Japanese Freight Forwarding Companies Agree to Plead Guilty to Criminal Price-Fixing Charges

(USDOJ: Justice News)

Submitted at 12:33 PM September 28, 2011

Six Japanese freight forwarders have agreed to plead guilty and to pay criminal fines totaling \$46.8 million for their roles in a conspiracy to fix certain fees in connection with the provision of freight forwarding services for air cargo shipments from Japan to the United States.

Public Awareness Campaign Launched to Seek New Information in the Murder of Assistant U.S. Attorney

family and the FBI in Seattle today to announce a new media and social media effort to seek information related to the 2001 slaying of Assistant U.S. Attorney Thomas C. Wales.

Overland Police Department, St. Ann Police Department, O'Fallon (MO) Police Department, St. Charles County Sheriff's Department, St. Charles City Police Department, Maryland Heights Police Department, St. Louis Airport Police, St. Peters Police Department, Chesterfield Police Department, Florissant Police Department, Bridgeton Police Department, Kirkwood Police Department, St. John Police Department, Brentwood Police Department, Richmond Heights Police Department, Clayton Police Department, Cahokia Police Department, Collinsville Police Department, Fairview Heights Police Department, Park Hills (MO) Police Department and the Festus Police Department."

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Attorney General Eric Holder Speaks at the Thomas C. Wales Investigation Announcement

(USDOJ: Justice News)

Submitted at 6:17 PM September 28, 2011

"Although this case remains unsolved, and Tom's killer remains unknown, our resolve to uncover the truth – and to help Tom's family, friends, colleagues, and neighbors find the answers and the closure that they deserve – has never been stronger," said Attorney General Holder.

Justice Department Signs Agreement with Warrenton, Virginia, to Ensure Civic Access for People with Disabilities

(USDOJ: Justice News)

Submitted at 4:07 PM September 28, 2011

The Justice Department today announced an agreement with the town of Warrenton, Va., to improve access to all aspects of civic life for individuals with disabilities. The agreement was reached under Project Civic Access.



Justice report shows backlog in clemency petitions

McNabb Associates, P.C. (Federal Criminal Defense Lawyers)

Submitted at 9:49 PM September 28, 2011

CNN on September 27, 2011 released the following:

“By Terry Frieden, CNN

Washington (CNN) — The number of federally convicted felons seeking pardons or commuted sentences has risen sharply in recent years, causing a growing backlog in the processing of the applications, according to a Justice report released Tuesday.

The report by the Justice Department inspector general says the backlog jumped by 92% from 2005 to 2010. During that period, the number of petitions received more than doubled, accounting for much of the backlog increase. It has gone down slightly in 2011.

However, the report says there’s no evidence that chances of favorable presidential action by either the Bush or Obama White House improved. From 2005 to 2010, only 177 petitions — 3% of nearly 6,000 clemency petitions received

— were granted.

The Constitution gives sole authority to grant clemency to the president. Although the chief executive makes the final decision, most of the work falls to the Justice Department’s Office of Pardon Attorney, which first receives the applications.

Presidential pardons restore certain rights lost as a result of the pardoned offense but do not erase the record of conviction. Presidential commutations of sentences reduce the sentences being served but do not have any impact upon the convictions themselves.

The inspector general report said the procedures used by the pardon attorney and his staff are appropriate. The recommendation for granting or denying a petition is sent to the deputy attorney general, who rarely overrules the pardon attorney, the report says. It is then forwarded to the White House for a final approval.

The report does not discuss the crimes involved in the petitions. The inspector

general was interested in the procedures used to conduct investigations of the petitioners and how quickly they are processed.

U.S. clemency records date to 1900. Since then, 95,000 petitions have been received. Twenty-two percent were granted. As time has passed, the number of pardons and commutations has continued to decline.”

To find additional federal criminal news, please read [Federal Crimes Watch Daily](#).

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Federal agents charge Ashland man with targeting Pentagon, Capitol with aerial explosives

McNabb Associates, P.C. (Federal Criminal Defense Lawyers)

Submitted at 2:59 PM September 28, 2011

Boston.com on September 28, 2011 released the following:

“By Milton J. Valencia, Globe Staff

Federal authorities today arrested and charged a 26-year-old Ashland man with plotting to damage the Pentagon and US Capitol with a remote-controlled aircraft filled with C-4 plastic explosives.

Rezwan Ferdous, a US citizen, was also charged with attempting to provide material support and resources to a foreign terrorist organization, specifically to al-Qaida, in order to carry out attacks on US soldiers stationed overseas, the US attorney’s office said in a statement.

He appeared for an initial status hearing today in US District Court in Worcester. Prosecutors are seeking that he be detained without bail. A hearing will be held in the next few days.

“The conduct alleged today shows that Mr. Ferdous had long planned to commit

violent acts against our country,” US Attorney Carmen Ortiz said. “Thanks to the diligence of the FBI and our many other law enforcement partners, that plan was thwarted.”

She added, “I want the public to understand that Mr. Ferdous’ conduct, as alleged in the complaint, is not reflective of a particular culture, community or religion. In addition to protecting our citizens from the threats and violence alleged today, we also have an obligation to protect members of every community, race, and religion against violence and other unlawful conduct.”

The statement said that the public was never in danger from the explosive devices, which were controlled by undercover FBI employees.

Ferdous also was closely monitored as his alleged plot developed and undercover agents were in frequent contact with him.

Federal prosecutors said that Ferdous, a Northeastern University graduate with a physics degree, began planning to commit

violent “jihad” against the US in early 2010.

Richard DesLauriers, special agent in charge of the FBI’s Boston Division said, “Today’s arrest was the culmination of an investigation forged through strong relationships among various Massachusetts law enforcement agencies to detect, deter, and prevent terrorism.””

To find additional federal criminal news, please read [Federal Crimes Watch Daily](#).

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Federal Court Bars Southern California Man from Preparing Federal Tax Returns

(USDOJ: Justice News)

Submitted at 2:28 PM September 28, 2011

A federal court has permanently barred Dennis Giroud from preparing federal tax

returns for others.



Houston-based Principals of A&O Entities Sentenced in Virginia for \$100 Million Fraud Scheme

(USDOJ: Justice News)

Submitted at 4:04 PM September 28, 2011

Two principals of A&O Resource Management Ltd. have been sentenced for their roles in a \$100 million life settlement fraud scheme, which included more than 800 victims across the United States and Canada.

Trident Seafoods Corp. to Pay \$2.5 Million to Resolve Clean Water Act Violations and Spend More Than \$30 Million to Upgrade Processing Plants

(USDOJ: Justice News)

Submitted at 1:59 PM September 28, 2011

Trident Seafoods Corp., one of the world's largest seafood processors, has agreed to pay a \$2.5 million civil penalty and invest millions in seafood processing waste controls to settle alleged violations of the Clean Water Act.

Operation Neighborhood Watch Completed in Shelby County, Ohio

(U.S. Marshals Service News)

Submitted at 5:36 PM September 28, 2011

September 28, 2011 - The U.S. Marshals Service in the Southern District of Ohio, the Shelby County Sheriff's Office, the Jackson Center Police Department, State of Ohio Adult Parole Authority and the Shelby County Adult Probation, conducted a joint law enforcement compliance operation designed to verify the current residences of offenders living in Shelby County Ohio.

Arkansas Men Sentenced for Federal Hate Crimes Related to the Assault of Five Hispanic Men

(USDOJ: Justice News)

Submitted at 3:42 PM September 28, 2011

Frankie Maybee, 20, and Sean Popejoy, 19, both of Green Forest, Ark., were sentenced for their roles in committing federal hate crimes.