

The Federal Crimes Watch Daily

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Federal Criminal Defense Lawyers

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# Viktor Bout Wants Better Prison Conditions

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

Submitted at 8:35 AM February 9, 2012

The Wall Street Journal on February 9, 2012 released the following: "By Chad Bray

A suspected Russian arms dealer convicted last year of conspiring to sell surface-to-air missiles and other weapons after getting caught in a sting operation in Thailand wants to be held under less restrictive conditions while he's awaiting sentencing.

Viktor Bout, a former Soviet air force officer who inspired the character played by Nicolas Cage in the movie "Lord of War," no longer wants to be held in the special housing unit, or SHU, at the Metropolitan Correctional Center in lower Manhattan. He has been held there since he was extradited from Thailand in 2010 after two years of legal wrangling. His lawyer, Albert Dayan, said in a letter to the court that Mr. Bout, 45 years old, is

essentially held in solitary confinement with no human contact, no fresh air and no access to the prison commissary to supplement his diet. Mr. Dayan said the prison diet is inadequate for Mr. Bout's needs as a vegetarian.

Mr. Bout was arrested by Thai authorities and U.S. narcotics agents in a sting in March 2008. A Thai court initially freed Mr. Bout in August 2009, but the U.S. appealed the ruling and he remained in custody. After diplomatic pressure, an **Department of Justice Reaches Agreement to Compensate Servicemembers for Wrongful Foreclosures** 

(USDOJ: Justice News)

#### Submitted at 4:45 PM February 9, 2012

The settlement agreement with the nation's five largest servicers announced today by Attorney General Eric Holder and the Department of Justice's federal and state partners includes substantial financial compensation to homeowners who are servicemembers and establishes significant new protections for servicemembers in the future. appeals court in the Southeast Asian nation ruled to extradite the suspect to face his charges in the U.S., overturning an earlier ruling.

Mr. Dayan asked that Mr. Bout be moved to the prison's general population, noting that Monzer al-Kassar, an alleged Syrian arms trafficker, was allowed to be in general population while at the MCC. Kassar, 66, was sentenced to 30 years in prison in 2009 after he was convicted of conspiring to sell weapons and murder U.S. citizens following a similar sting operation by the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration.

"[Bout] doesn't know when the sun rise or sets," Mr. Dayan said in the letter, which was read during a court hearing on Wednesday.

U.S. District Judge Shira Scheindlin seemed to agree with Mr. Dayan's arguments.

"It seems harsh. It seems brutal," she said. "It seems unnecessary. It seems like something should be done about it." Still, the judge upheld the November verdict finding him guilty of four conspiracy charges that he sold weapons to South American terrorists with the understanding that they would be used to shoot down U.S. helicopter pilots, the Associated Press reported. The judge said the reasons submitted by the defense were the same ones offered before the trial and the verdict, AP said.

### The judge set a hearing for Friday to Food Storage and Processing Facility in Washington State Agrees to Resolve Seizure Action

(USDOJ: Justice News)

Submitted at 11:52 AM February 9, 2012

The U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Washington has entered a consent decree against Dominguez Foods of Washington Inc. to resolve a food seizure action alleging violations of the Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act (FDCA), the Justice Department announced today. discuss the issue of his confinement further. Prosecutors on Wednesday said they need time to consult with the U.S. Bureau of Prisons before responding. Mr. Dayan said that he wants to resolve the issue before Mr. Bout is sentenced, otherwise the special designation may follow him to the prison where he ultimately serves his time. Mr. Bout faces up to life in prison on the charges. Sentencing is set for March 12."

Douglas McNabb – McNabb Associates, P.C.'s

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## Justice Department Dismisses Antitrust Lawsuit Against Deutsche Börse and NYSE Euronext

(USDOJ: Justice News)

Submitted at 9:53 AM February 9, 2012

The Department of Justice today filed a notice with the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia to dismiss its antitrust lawsuit regarding the potential merger of Deutsche Börse AG and NYSE Euronext.

# Three Northern California Real Estate Investors Agree to Plead Guilty to Bid Rigging at Public Foreclosure Auctions

(USDOJ: Justice News)

Three Northern California real estate

investors have agreed to plead guilty today for their roles in conspiracies to rig bids and commit mail fraud at public real estate foreclosure auctions in Northern California.

Federal Government and State **Attorneys General Reach \$25 Billion Agreement with Five** Largest Mortgage Servicers to Address Mortgage Loan Servicing and Foreclosure Abuses

#### (USDOJ: Justice News)

Submitted at 10:25 AM February 9, 2012

The federal government and 49 state attorneys general today have reached a landmark \$25 billion agreement with the nation's five largest mortgage servicers to address mortgage loan servicing and foreclosure abuses.

### Attorney General Eric Holder **Delivers Remarks at the** Mortgage Servicers Settlement **Press Conference**

(USDOJ: Justice News)

Submitted at 10:30 AM February 9, 2012

"This agreement reflects our commitment – at both the federal and state levels – to ensure justice, and to recover losses, for victims of reckless and abusive mortgage practices," said Attorney General Holder.

# U.S. v. Hisamitsu Takada

(Antitrust Division: Criminal Case Filings)

Document filed on January 30, 2012

Submitted at 1:46 PM February 9, 2012

### Former Owner of Illinois **Technology Company Sentenced** to Serve 30 Months in Prison for Role in Multi-State Scheme to **Defraud Federal E-Rate Program**

(USDOJ: Justice News)

Submitted at 12:17 PM February 9, 2012 A former owner of two Illinois-based technology companies was sentenced today to serve 30 months in prison for her participation in a conspiracy to defraud the federal E-Rate program.

# U.S. v. Shigeru Ogawa

(Antitrust Division: Criminal Case Filings)

Submitted at 1:48 PM February 9, 2012 Document filed on January 30, 2012 • Information