



Department of Justice

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ATLANTA MAN SENTENCED FOR MAKING BOMB THREAT AT THE RICHARD B. RUSSELL FEDERAL BUILDING

ATLANTA, GA - SALEM FARD LOFTON, 41, of Atlanta, Georgia, was sentenced today by United States District Court Judge Clarence Cooper on a charge of making a false bomb threat involving the Richard B. Russell Federal Building in Atlanta. LOFTON was sentenced to 2 years in federal prison.

“We have a zero tolerance policy for false claims that someone possesses a bomb. In the wake of September 11th, we must vigilantly investigate every threat. False threats can cause real fear and require law enforcement to expend time and resources at the expense of investigating real threats,” said United States Attorney David E. Nahmias.

According to United States Attorney David E. Nahmias and the documents and information presented in court:

On March 21, 2005, LOFTON entered the Richard B. Russell Federal Building in downtown Atlanta and proceeded to the offices of the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA). LOFTON told the DEA main lobby receptionist that he had a bomb and he was going to “blow up the building.” LOFTON was wearing a backpack from which electrical wires were protruding. DEA agents responded to the receptionist’s alarm call, whereupon LOFTON again stated that he had a bomb in the bag and intended to “blow it up.” LOFTON further stated that he came to the Federal Building looking for a federal judge to threaten, but was unable to find a judge, and thus proceeded to the DEA lobby. The DEA agents subdued and arrested LOFTON. Upon investigation, federal agents learned that Lofton did not have a bomb.

This case was investigated by Special Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

Assistant United States Attorney J. Elizabeth McBath prosecuted the case.

For further information please contact David E. Nahmias (pronounced NAH-me-us), United States Attorney, or Yonette Buchanan, through Patrick Crosby, Public Affairs Officer, U.S. Attorney’s

Office, at (404) 581-6016. The Internet address for the HomePage for the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Northern District of Georgia is <http://www.usdoj.gov/usao/gan/>.