



# Department of Justice

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**FORMER CRISPERS CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER IS  
SENTENCED ON EMBEZZLEMENT CHARGES**

Tampa, Florida - U.S. District Judge Richard A. Lazzara today sentenced David C. Haas, a 45-year-old resident of East Hanover, New Jersey, to two years' imprisonment, three years' supervised release, restitution in the amount of \$153,750, and forfeiture of \$153,750. On June 3, 2008, Haas pleaded guilty to unlawful interstate transportation of stolen property.

According to court documents in 2007, Haas was the interim Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Crispers LLC in Lakeland, Florida, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Publix Supermarkets. Crispers operates restaurants in Florida and elsewhere. Haas, in his capacity as the interim CEO, stole embezzled, or converted to his own use and benefit, approximately \$403,750.00 of funds belonging to Crispers and used them for his own personal benefit.

The criminal investigation was conducted jointly by the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Florida Department of Law Enforcement, and the investigators received the full cooperation of Crispers and Publix officials. The case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Terry A. Zitek.