



U.S. Department of Justice

Michael J. Sullivan
United States Attorney
District of Massachusetts

Press Office: (617) 748-3139

John Joseph Moakley United States Courthouse, Suite 9200

1 Courthouse Way
Boston, Massachusetts 02210

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PRESS RELEASE

**FEDERAL JURY CONVICTS LOGAN AIR TRAFFIC CONTROLLER
FOR LYING ABOUT OUIs**

Boston, MA... A Logan air traffic controller was convicted today in federal court of five counts of making false statements about his previous operating under the influence convictions on a form he was required to submit each year to the Federal Aviation Administration to remain certified for his job.

United States Attorney Michael J. Sullivan and Theodore L. Doherty, Special Agent in Charge of the U.S. Department of Transportation, Office of the Inspector General in New England, announced today that **RONALD MYLES HATCH, II**, age 49, of Lynnfield, was convicted by a jury sitting before U.S. District Judge Rya W. Zobel of five counts of using a false document knowing it to contain a false statement.

Evidence presented during the three-day trial proved that each year from 1999 through 2003, **HATCH** made false statements on his annual Federal Aviation Administration medical certification form by stating that there was no change in his conviction history for driving while under the influence. In fact, **HATCH** had been convicted on two occasions for driving while under the influence, in May of 1983 and July 1995, that he had not disclosed to the FAA.

There was no evidence presented during the trial that **HATCH** was impaired while working as an air traffic controller.

Judge Zobel scheduled sentencing for August 11, 2004. **HATCH** faces up to 5 years' imprisonment, to be followed by 3 years of supervised release, and a \$250,000 fine on each of the five counts.

The case was investigated by the U.S. Department of Transportation's Office of the Inspector General with assistance from the Federal Aviation Administration. It is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Sandra S. Bower in Sullivan's Major Crimes Unit.

Press Contact: Samantha Martin, (617) 748-3139