



PRESS RELEASE
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For Immediate Release

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FORMER USSOCOM OFFICIAL CONVICTED OF ALL CHARGES

Tampa, FL - A jury in U.S. District Court in Tampa, today found Thomas F. Spellissy, age 49, of Clearwater and Strategic Defense International, Inc. guilty on all charges. Both Spellissy and Strategic Defense International, Inc. were charged with five counts including conspiracy to defraud the United States and to commit offenses against the United States, bribery and wire fraud. The maximum penalty is twenty years' imprisonment and a \$250,000 fine, although the sentencing guidelines will be taken into account. The sentencing hearing is scheduled for August 14, 2006 at 1:30 p.m.

The investigation was initiated by SOCOM, and the case was investigated by the Department of Defense, Defense Criminal Investigative Service, Office of the Inspector General; Federal Bureau of Investigation; and United States Special Operations Command, Inspector General's Office. The case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Robert E. O'Neill.