

Office of the Inspector General Information Release

Department of Defense

FOR MMEDIATE RELEASE

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<u>Former Vice President of Freight Forwarding Company Sentenced for</u> <u>Conspiracy to Pay Illegal Gratuities</u>

The Office of the Inspector General (OIG), Department of Defense (DoD), announced today that Stephen Dale Wiley, the former Vice President of Expedited Cargo Service Incorporated (Expedited), Virginia Beach, VA, was sentenced in the U. S. District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia, Norfolk, VA, to 6 months home confinement, 3 years supervised probation, 200 hours of community service and a \$100 special assessment fee.

On July 18, 2005, Wiley waived indictment and pled guilty in U. S. District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia, Norfolk, VA, to a one count criminal information charging him with conspiracy to pay illegal gratuities, in violation of Title 18 of the United States Code, Sections 371, and 201(C)(1)(A). Wiley was the point of contact in Norfolk, VA for Team Air Express Incorporated (Team Air), Winnsboro, TX. Both Team Air and Expedited shared in the profits generated by business arranged by Wiley. Team Air is registered to transport freight in support of the military at the Military Surface Deployment and Distribution Command, Ft. Eustis, VA.

The investigation uncovered that from approximately August 2003 until August 2004, Wiley agreed to provide cash payments to an independent contractor at the Fleet & Industrial Supply Center Detachment at the Norfolk Naval Shipyard, Portsmouth, VA, who was acting on behalf of the U. S. Government, in return for an increased number of freight transportation contract awards, known as bills of lading, to Team Air. Wiley arranged to provide 41 cash payments either directly to the contractor or into the individual's bank account, for a total of approximately \$76,000. The cash payments ranged between \$1000 and \$4,600, and were disguised as commission payments to one of Wiley's employees at Expedited.

The investigation was conducted jointly by the Defense Criminal Investigative Service (the criminal investigative arm of the OIG, DoD), the Naval Criminal Investigative Service, and the Federal Bureau of Investigation. Audit support was provided by the Defense Contract Audit Agency. Assistant U. S. Attorney, Robert J. Seidel, Jr., of the U. S. Attorney's Office, Norfolk, VA, handled the prosecution of this case.

For further information contact Joseph A. McMillan, Special Agent in Charge (SAC), Mid-Atlantic Field Office, at (703) 604-8411.

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