

Public Affairs SANDY RAYNOR Telephone: (602) 514-7625 Cell: (602) 525-2681

U.S. SECURES \$2.3 MILLION JUDGMENT AGAINST FLORIDA MAN FOR FALSE CLAIMS RELATED TO FEDERAL CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTS AT GRAND CANYON NATIONAL PARK

PHOENIX - The United States has obtained a judgment in the amount of \$2,346,600 against Ernest Robert McFarland, Jr., 68, of Fort Meyers, Florida, for submitting false claims related to federal construction contracts at the Grand Canyon National Park and the Lake Mead National Recreational Area.

McFarland was the owner and president of Pacific General, Inc. (PGI). Between November 2003 and January 2004, McFarland falsely certified that PGI was properly bonded to perform federal construction work and that PGI was paying its subcontractors for work on federal construction projects in the Grand Canyon National Park and the Lake Mead National Recreational Area.

The investigation was conducted by the Department of Interior - Office of Inspector General, the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the General Services Administration - Office of Inspector General. The matter was handled by Robert K. Lu, Assistant U.S. Attorney, District of Arizona.

CASE NUMBER: CV-09-0809-PHX-SRB RELEASE NUMBER: 2009-135(McFarland)

###

For more information on the U.S. Attorney's Office, District of Arizona, visit http://www.usdoj.gov/usao/az/