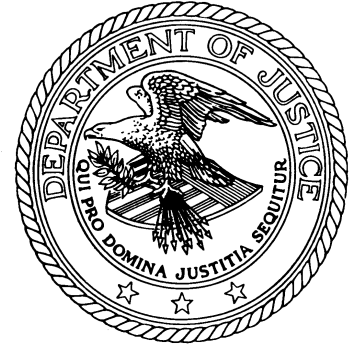


NEWS RELEASE



***OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA
San Diego, California***

***United States Attorney
Karen P. Hewitt***

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For Immediate Release

NEWS RELEASE SUMMARY - March 24, 2009

United States Attorney Karen P. Hewitt announced that Lionel Hampton pled guilty today in federal court in San Diego to an information charging him with one count of theft of government property, in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 641. Hampton tendered his guilty plea before United States Magistrate Judge Nita L. Stormes subject to final acceptance by United States District Court Judge William Q. Hayes at the time of sentencing.

According to the court records, Hampton admitted that starting in 2008 and continuing through January 23, 2009, while employed as a civilian with the United States Navy, he took various items belonging to the United States Navy, including boat equipment and accessories, tools, and a saw, and posted the items for sale on Ebay. He further admitted that he reaped a profit of over \$32,000 from the Ebay sales. The case opened when Naval Criminal Investigative Service received an anonymous letter identifying Hampton's Ebay account with the stolen equipment for sale.

At the time of his arrest, Hampton was employed as a civilian employee at the 32nd Street Navy base.

He is a retired from the United States Navy.

Sentencing for Hampton is scheduled for June 22, 2009 at 9:00 a.m., before Judge Hayes.

DEFENDANT

Case Number: 09cr0540-WQH

LIONEL HAMPTON

SUMMARY OF CHARGES

Title 18, United States Code, Section 641 (Theft of Government Property)

Maximum Penalties: 10 years' incarceration, \$250,000 fine, and three years of supervised release.

AGENCY

Naval Criminal Investigative Service