

U.S. Department of Justice

United States Attorney District of Maryland

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EMPLOYEE PLEADS GUILTY TO DEFRAUDING HIS FIRM OF ROUGHLY \$400,000

Baltimore, Maryland - Patrick McDevitt, age 38, of Timonium, Maryland, pleaded guilty today to wire fraud arising from a scheme to submit approximately \$399,537 in false claims to his employer for reimbursement of expenses that he did not incur, announced United States Attorney for the District of Maryland Rod J. Rosenstein.

According to the plea agreement presented to the court, McDevitt was employed at SAFT America Inc. as a communications manager. He worked out of the Cockeysville, Maryland office, but the advertising and promotions services he provided required him to travel to trade shows around the United States. From March 2005 to February 2006 McDevitt submitted invoices to his employer for promotional expenses that he did not incur. He also falsified signatures on documents to make it appear that certain requests for reimbursement had been approved. McDevitt sent fraudulent documents via email, and accessed data over the internet. As a result of this scheme, McDevitt wrongfully obtained and caused the loss of approximately \$399,537 from SAFT America Inc. As part of the plea, McDevitt has agreed to forfeit to the government 12 Rolex watches and other items he bought for his personal benefit with his employer's funds.

McDevitt faces a maximum sentence of 20 years in prison followed by 3 years of supervised release and a \$250,000 fine. U.S. District Judge J. Frederick Motz scheduled sentencing for February 20, 2007 at 9 a.m.

United States Attorney Rod J. Rosenstein praised the investigative work performed by the U.S. Postal Service - Office of Inspector General and the Federal Bureau of Investigation. Mr. Rosenstein thanked Assistant U.S. Attorney Michael J. Leotta, who is prosecuting the case.