



# Department of Justice

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Defense Contractor CEO Sentenced After Defrauding United States Navy

Orlando, Florida – Acting United States Attorney A. Lee Bentley, III announces that U.S. District Judge Roy B. Dalton, Jr., today sentenced Thomas Frank Robeson to one and a half years in federal prison for conspiracy to commit money laundering. The court also ordered as part of his sentence, the court also entered a money judgment in the amount of more than \$2.1 million, the proceeds of money laundering conspiracy.

Robeson was found guilty on June 4, 2013.

According to court documents, Robeson owned and operated Nomad Aviation, Inc. (Nomad), which was located in Sanford, Florida, and repaired avionics systems in military aircrafts. Naval Air Systems Command (NAVAIR) selected Nomad as the sole and prime contractor for a \$43 million avionics integration contract for the T 44, Pegasus, fleet of aircraft (the Contract). On May 20, 2008, Nomad submitted an invoice for \$5,075,907 pursuant to the terms of the Contract. In July 2008, the Administrative Contracting Officer assigned to the contract requested that the Defense Contract Audit Agency (DCAA) evaluate the \$5 million invoice, known internally to the DCAA as Voucher NOM0028 (NOM0028). On or about October 17, 2008, ROBESON, and someone acting on ROBESON's behalf, provided the DCAA with four vendor invoices, including one for \$2,171,621 from South Peck LLC, which was dated October 15, 2008.

ROBESON created South Peck Aviation (SPA) and provided SPA invoices as if SPA was an unrelated, third-party vendor that had billed Nomad. Nomad or SPA actually purchased parts from third-party vendors, "marked up" the costs of the purchases, and submitted the inflated amounts in NOM0028 as if Nomad had purchased the parts from SPA, who was a third-party vendor. ROBESON, and others acting at his direction, submitted the fictitious invoices via wire, specifically e-mail communication that traveled in interstate commerce. SPA was a bakery that ROBESON and his wife owned in Hawaii.

This case was investigated by the Internal Revenue Service, Defense Criminal Investigative Service, Naval Criminal Investigative Service, and the Defense Contract Audit Agency. It is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Vincent A. Citro.