



PRESS RELEASE

Office of the United States Attorney
Middle District of Florida

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For Immediate Release
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FORMER SOCOM EMPLOYEE IS SENTENCED

Tampa, Florida - U.S. District Judge Susan C. Bucklew, today sentenced William E. Burke, a 50 year old resident of Odessa, Florida, to a term of three years' probation, with a special condition of six months home detention; a fine of \$4,500, and a special assessment of \$100.

William E. Burke was found guilty on October 14, 2005, having pleaded guilty to bribery. According to the plea agreement, Mr. Burke had been employed by the Sentel Corporation. As such, he had been assigned to the United States Special Operations Command (SOCOM) which is located at MacDill Air Force Base, Tampa, Florida. Burke had been assigned to SOCOM since 1999.

Among other matters, Mr. Burke was hired to provide analysis, acquisition and sustainment of special operations forces unique equipment and material. Mr. Burke was assigned to the Special Operations Acquisitions and Logistics Center Organization.

Specifically, he was assigned to the International and Industry Division of the Special Operations Acquisitions and Logistics Center.

Mr. Burke and another individual entered into an agreement whereby Mr. Burke would give preferential treatment in the contracting process to contractors who were represented by this other individual. As a result, this other individual paid Mr. Burke, through their respective companies, \$4,500 in two, separate payments for Mr. Burke's assistance.

The case was investigated by the Department of Defense, Defense Criminal Investigative Service, Office of the Inspector General; Federal Bureau of Investigation; and U.S. Special Operations Command, Inspector General's Office. The case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Robert E. O'Neill.