



PRESS NOTICE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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CHARLESTON MAN GUILTY IN KICKBACK SCHEME ON FORCE PROTECTION CONTRACTS

Columbia, South Carolina ---- United States Attorney Reginald I. Lloyd stated that Michael Timothy Carter, age 49, of Charleston, pled guilty in federal court to accepting kickbacks from a subcontractor to a military contract. Chief United States District Judge David C. Norton accepted the plea and will sentence Carter at a later date.

Carter was employed as a project engineer by Force Protection Industries, a Ladson-based, Department of Defense contractor that builds military vehicles specially designed to withstand land mines and improvised explosive devices. The company has built hundreds of vehicles for the armed forces in Iraq and other countries.

Carter sought and received cash payments from Spartan Chassis, a Michigan-based subcontractor that provided chasses for Force Protection's vehicles being built for the military. Carter admitted in court that in 2004 and 2005, he steered Force Protection's chassis orders to Spartan Chassis, in exchange for \$1,500 from Spartan Chassis for each chassis provided. Carter resigned from Force Protection when the company learned of the scheme, which resulted in Carter pocketing more than \$100,000.00.

The investigation of Spartan Chassis remains ongoing.

Mr. Lloyd stated that the case was investigated by agents of the Defense Criminal Investigative Service, Naval Criminal Investigative Service, and the United States Army Criminal Investigative Division Command, and is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Winston D. Holliday, Jr., of the Columbia office.

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