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**MAN WHO ACCEPTED KICKBACKS FROM WATERBURY
DEFENSE SUBCONTRACTOR SENTENCED TO FEDERAL PRISON**

Kevin J. O'Connor, United States Attorney for the District of Connecticut, announced that EDWARD KIENER, of Port St. Lucie, Florida, formerly of San Clemente, California, was sentenced today by Senior United States District Judge Peter C. Dorsey in New Haven to four months of imprisonment, followed by two months of home confinement and two years of supervised release, for accepting kickbacks from a Connecticut-based subcontractor while employed by a prime contractor with the United States Department of Defense. On May 11, a federal jury in New Haven found KIENER guilty of the offense.

The evidence at trial established that KIENER, the Director of Sales at *QPC Fiber Optic, Inc.*, solicited a kickback from *Optical Fiber Connections*, a company based in Waterbury, Connecticut. Under the agreement between KIENER and *Optical Fiber Connections*, KIENER agreed to purchase products from *Optical Fiber Connections* "whenever possible" in return for a 10 percent kickback, which was to be paid to "Contronix," a sham corporation created by KIENER. In 2001, KIENER purchased fiber optic cable connectors from *Optical Fiber Connections* to fulfill a contract with the U.S. Department of Defense, for which KIENER received a kickback of \$377.89.

This case was investigated by the Defense Criminal Investigative Service of the United States Department of Defense. The case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Edward Chang.

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