



THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY'S OFFICE
SOUTHERN DISTRICT *of* INDIANA

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Department of Justice

U.S. Attorney's Office

Southern District of Indiana

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Two men face federal charges for their role in stealing government property

Seven "Humvees" marked for destruction, alleged to have been stolen and resold

PRESS RELEASE

Indianapolis – United States Attorney Josh Minkler announced today that two men are facing federal charges for their role in stealing Humvee vehicles that were meant to be destroyed and sold for scrap. Richard S. Treloar, 63, St. Louis, Missouri, faces seven counts of conversion of government property and seven counts of false statements; co-defendant Mark W. Collier 52, Bedford, Indiana, faces seven counts of false statements.

"Theft, waste, fraud and abuse of government funds and equipment is never acceptable," said Minkler. "When it involves stealing from our military, it is a particularly egregious offense and those responsible will be held accountable."

Treloar owned a St. Louis based company called Treloar Enterprises International, Inc., (TEI) which contracted with the Department of Defense, Defense Logistics Agency (DLA) to demilitarize military vehicles, mostly High Mobility Multipurpose Wheeled Vehicles commonly known as Humvees. The Humvee is a four-wheel drive military light truck capable of being outfitted with armor, ballistic glass and high-powered weapons and is currently being used in the Iraq and Afghanistan theaters.

As part of Treloar's contract with DAL, his company was responsible for demilitarizing the Humvees which would include eliminating the functional capabilities and inherent design features of vehicles. In many cases, that included the total destruction of the Humvee. When the Humvees were demilitarized, both Treloar and Collier verified in writing that the process had been completed.

From January 2014, through November 2015, TEI took delivery of all Humvees from Naval Support Activity Crane (Crane) which is located in Southern Indiana. To facilitate the contract, TEI opened a facility in nearby Spencer, Indiana, where the purported demilitarization took place. The indictment alleges Treloar converted at least seven fully armored Humvees for his own use and sold or attempted to sell them for his own benefit. The value of the Humvees was over \$589,000. Both defendants also certified that each and every Humvee was demilitarized, when in fact they were not.

This case was investigated by the Department of Defense, Office of Inspector General-Defense Criminal Investigative Service, Naval Criminal Investigative Services, and Defense Logistics Agency-Office of the Inspector General.

"Today's indictments demonstrate the commitment of the Defense Criminal Investigative Service and its law enforcement partners to protect the integrity of all Department of Defense programs," said Special Agent in Charge John F. Khin, Southeast Field Office. "DCIS' efforts in this investigation mitigated further significant loss and waste of taxpayer dollars from this fraudulent scheme."

"Not only is fraud of this type a serious financial crime, the equipment involved is concerning," said Mike Wiest, Special Agent in Charge of the NCIS Southeast Field Office. "There are no legitimate civilian uses for an armored military vehicle. NCIS will continue to work with our law enforcement partners to hold accountable those who siphon resources away from America's warfighters."

Assistant United States Attorney Bradley P. Shepard who is prosecuting this case for the government, said Treloar faces up to 10 years' imprisonment on each count of conversion of government property and Collier faces up to five years' imprisonment on each count of false statements.

An indictment is only a charge and not evidence of guilt. All defendants are presumed innocent until proven otherwise in federal court.

In October 2017, United States Attorney Josh J. Minkler announced a Strategic Plan designed to shape and strengthen the District's response to its most significant public safety challenges. This prosecution demonstrates the Office's firm commitment to prosecuting complex, large-scale fraud schemes, particularly those that exploit positions of trust. See United States Attorney's Office, Southern District of Indiana Strategic Plan 5.1

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Component(s):

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