



# Department of Justice

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## **JACKSONVILLE MAN SENTENCED TO ONE YEAR AND ONE DAY IN FEDERAL PRISON FOR RECKLESS INTERFERENCE WITH NAVAL AIRCRAFT**

Jacksonville, FL - United States Attorney A. Brian Albritton announces today United States District Judge Honorable Henry Lee Adams, Jr., today sentenced Henry J. Gros (age 56, of Jacksonville) to one year and one day in federal prison for interference with military air navigation. Gros had pleaded guilty on December 4, 2008.

According to the plea agreement, Gros exhibited a reckless disregard for the safety of U.S. Navy pilots (Squadron VAW-120) when, in May 2008, he used a 15-million-candlepower spotlight to blind the pilots as they were landing at Naval Outlying Landing Field Whitehouse on the west side of Jacksonville. The facility is used as a training area for Navy pilots.

This case was investigated by the Jacksonville Sheriff's Office and the Naval Criminal Investigative Service. It was prosecuted by Special Assistant United States Attorneys Ron DeSantis and Jonathan McKay and Assistant U. S. Attorney Ronald T. Henry.

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