



# Department of Justice

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## **ST. AUGUSTINE MAN SENTENCED TO ONE YEAR'S PROBATION FOR FALSELY CLAIMING THAT HE WAS A PURPLE HEART RECIPIENT**

Jacksonville, FL - United States Attorney A. Brian Albritton announces that United States Magistrate Judge Monte C. Richardson today sentenced Charles T. White (age 68, of St. Augustine) to one year of probation for falsely claiming to be a recipient of the Purple Heart medal, in violation of the Stolen Valor Act. White had pleaded guilty on January 30, 2009.

According to court records, White wore a Purple Heart medal, in ribbon format, on various occasions over the past year. He also made false verbal claims, on numerous occasions over the same time period, that he was a Purple Heart medal recipient. In September of 2008, White was selected to give the keynote address at a Naval Air Station Jacksonville ceremony honoring former prisoners of war and those missing in action. Prior to the event, White gave an interview to the Navy Air Station Jacksonville newspaper in which he claimed to be a four-time Purple Heart recipient, and he ultimately repeated those claims at the event. As White now admits, all of his assertions about receiving four Purple Heart medals were false.

This case was investigated by the Naval Criminal Investigative Agency. It was prosecuted by Special Assistant United States Attorneys Ron DeSantis and Jonathan McKay.

