



Department of Justice

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Tampa Orlando
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FORMER GOVERNMENT CONTRACTOR FOUND GUILTY OF LYING TO GOVERNMENT TO OBTAIN HOUSING ON MACDILL AIR FORCE BASE

Tampa, Florida - U.S. Attorney Robert E. O'Neill announces that a federal jury yesterday found Scott Allan Bennett (40, Washington, DC) guilty of lying to government officials to obtain housing on MacDill Air Force Base, as well as wearing a U.S. military uniform without authorization and violating a defense property security regulation with regard to firearms he had on MacDill Air Force Base. Bennett faces a maximum penalty of seven-and-a-half years in federal prison. United States District Judge Virginia M. Hernandez Covington revoked Bennett's bond finding he was a danger to the community. He will remain detained until his sentencing hearing scheduled for October 25, 2011.

Bennett was indicted by Superseding Indictment on April 28, 2011.

According to testimony and evidence presented at trial, Bennett falsely held himself out as an active duty military member, although he was only working on MacDill Air Force Base as a civilian contractor. Further, Bennett told Base housing employees that he was an aide to Admiral Eric Olson of U.S. Special Operations Command, which is headquartered at MacDill Air Force Base. Once he obtained on-base housing, Bennett possessed 10 guns and over 9,000 rounds of ammunition in his residence, which he failed to register as required by MacDill Air Force Base's security regulation.

This case was investigated by the Department of the Air Force Police, 6th Security Forces Squadron at MacDill Air Force Base. It is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorneys Sara C. Sweeney and Kelley C. Howard-Allen, as well Special Assistant United States Attorney Captain Timothy Goines.