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# **News Release**

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## **Minneapolis man indicted for interfering with flight attendants**

A 67-year-old Minneapolis man was recently indicted in federal court for allegedly assaulting the flight attendants during a flight to the Twin Cities. The indictment was unsealed last week following Haibe's initial appearance.

Abdalia Abdi Haibe was charged Oct. 14 in Minneapolis with one count of interference with flight crew members and attendants and one count of assault within territorial jurisdiction. Haibe's indictment alleges that on July 27 he assaulted and intimidated the flight attendants of the aircraft, he interfered with the performance of the flight attendants' duties, and lessened the ability of the flight attendants to perform their duties.

The indictment also alleges that on July 27, Haibe committed a simple assault on a person by head-butting and spitting on another passenger.

If convicted, Haibe faces a potential maximum penalty of 20 years in prison on the interference count and one year on the assault count. All sentences are determined by a federal district court judge.

This case is the result of an investigation by the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airport Police Department, and is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Carol M. Kayser.

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An indictment is a determination by a grand jury that there is probable cause to believe that offenses have been committed by a defendant. A defendant, of course, is presumed innocent until he or she pleads guilty or is proven guilty at trial.