



**United States Department of Justice
United States Attorney's Office
District of Minnesota**

**B. Todd Jones,
United States Attorney**

**Jeanne F. Cooney
Director of Community Relations
(612) 664-5611
email: jeanne.cooney@usdoj.gov**

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Wednesday, July 20, 2011
WWW.JUSTICE.GOV/USAO/MN

Prior Lake man indicted for manufacturing false postage stamps

MINNEAPOLIS – Yesterday in federal court in St. Paul, a federal indictment was unsealed charging a 31-year-old Prior Lake man with manufacturing counterfeit postage meter stamps. Andre George Mehilove was charged with one count manufacturing counterfeit postage stamps. The indictment, which was filed on July 6, 2011, was unsealed following Mehilove's initial appearance in federal court.

The indictment alleges that between August of 2006 and April 3, 2009, Mehilove, also known as Andre George Solanikov and Andrejs Solanikovs, produced and copied the stamps on his computer from other postage meter stamps he purchased online. On April 3, 2009, during an executed search warrant at Mehilove's residence and place of employment, authorities seized various computers, items with counterfeit postage, PayPal identity devices and online postage labels.

If convicted, Mehilove faces a potential maximum penalty of five years in prison. All sentences will be determined by a federal district court judge. This case is the result of an investigation by the United States Postal Inspection Service and U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement's Homeland Security Investigations. It is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Laura M. Provinzino.

###

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.

