



U.S. Department of Justice

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PRESS RELEASE

United States Attorney Richard S. Hartunian announced today that SALVATORE “TORRE” VITI, 38 of Utica, New York, was sentenced in U.S. District Court in Syracuse to 18 months imprisonment, followed by three years of supervised release, following his guilty pleas to six counts of money laundering.

SALVATORE “TORRE” VITI admitted that, while employed as an automobile salesman in Herkimer, New York, he assisted a drug dealer in laundering money generated from cocaine sales through the purchase and resale of motor vehicles in order to conceal the source of the funds. VITI used his access to online auto auctions around the country to purchase cars, including two Maseratis, which were later resold, effectively laundering the drug proceeds from the cocaine sales.

This prosecution resulted from a joint federal and state narcotics investigation by the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration (Syracuse Office), the Internal Revenue Service - Criminal Investigations (Syracuse Office), and the New York State Police Community and Narcotics Enforcement Team (C-NET Central) .

Further inquiries can be directed to AUSA Richard R. Southwick at 315-448-0672.