Department of Justice

United States Attorney Richard S. Hartunian

Northern District of New York

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
August 6, 2012
WWW.USDOJ.GOV/USAO/NYN

CONTACT: JOHN G. DUNCAN
PHONE: (315) 448-0672

United States Attorney Richard S. Hartunian announced today that Patrick M. O'Brien, 36, of Massena, New York, was sentenced in U.S. District Court in Utica on August 3, 2012 in connection with his guilty plea to a one count Indictment charging him with theft of government monies in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 641. U.S. District Judge David N. Hurd ordered O'Brien to serve five years on probation with the first 5 months on home detention with electronic monitoring. He also ordered O'Brien to complete100 hours of community service and pay restitution to the U.S. Coast Guard in the amount of $12,465.92.

O'Brien had previously admitted that between October 2006 and March 2007, while a member of the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary, he improperly received in excess of $12,000 for mileage reimbursement to which he was not entitled by submitting false vouchers to the U.S. Coast Guard claiming that he had conducted 75 shore patrols along the St. Lawrence River.

Following discovery of O'Brien's misconduct by U. S. Coast Guard representatives, a thorough investigation was conducted by the United States Coast Guard Investigative Service, Resident Agent Office, Buffalo, New York.

The case was prosecuted by Executive Assistant U.S. Attorney John G. Duncan.

For further information contact the U.S. Attorney's Office at 315-448-0672