



***United States Attorney
Southern District of New York***

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MAN ARRESTED FOR WEARING UNEARNED SERVICE MEDALS
AND BADGES, INCLUDING SILVER CROSS,
PURPLE HEART, AND SILVER STAR

MICHAEL J. GARCIA, the United States Attorney for the Southern District of New York, and MARK J. MERSHON, the Assistant Director-in-Charge of the New York Office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation ("FBI"), announced that LOUIS LOWELL McGUINN, a/k/a "Lowell Craig McGuinn," was arrested today by agents of the FBI for wearing service medals and badges, including the silver cross, purple heart, and silver star, that he did not earn. According to the Complaint filed in Manhattan federal court:

McGUINN, who was discharged from the armed service in 1968 as a private, stated that he changed his name and date of birth to reinvent himself and provide himself with maturity when applying for employment. In addition, he informed at least one security company that he was a Lieutenant Colonel attached to the Special Forces in order to obtain employment with them as a security consultant. Later, in December, 2006, he similarly told a New York Police Officer that he was a Lieutenant Colonel, and further stated that he was currently working with Homeland Security as an outside contractor and was involved with the Latin American Caribbean Security Council.

As part of his ruse, MCGUINN wore numerous medals and badges on his uniform without authorization, including a Purple Heart, Silver Star, and Distinguished Service Cross, among others, in violation of 18 U.S.C. 704(a) & (d). MCGUINN was observed wearing the medals at social functions, including an event at the United States Merchant Marine Academy in Kings Point, Long Island, where the Executive Director of the Soldiers,

Sailors, Marines & Airmen Club noticed that McGUINN wore decorations on his uniform in the incorrect manner. McGUINN was photographed wearing the medals to a social event at the Pierre Hotel in Manhattan.

McGUINN faces a maximum sentence of one year in prison, among other possible penalties.

Mr. GARCIA praised the investigative work of the FBI and the Department of the Army Criminal Investigation Division.

Assistant United States Attorney Michael M. Rosensaft is in charge of the prosecution.

The charges and allegations contained in the Complaint are merely accusations and the defendant is presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty.

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