



*United States Attorney
Southern District of New York*

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
June 12, 2007

CONTACT: U.S. ATTORNEY'S OFFICE
YUSILL SCRIBNER
REBEKAH CARMICHAEL
PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICE
(212) 637-2600

LONG ISLAND MAN PLEADS GUILTY TO STEALING
EMPLOYER'S PROPRIETARY INFORMATION AND
DISCLOSING IT TO COMPETITOR

MICHAEL J. GARCIA, the United States Attorney for the Southern District of New York, announced today that LOUIS GIUFFRE pleaded guilty late yesterday to stealing proprietary and confidential data from his then employer Netsoft USA, Inc. ("Netsoft") and disclosing it to a competitor of Netsoft. Based on public filings and statements during the guilty plea proceeding:

New York-based Netsoft provides information technology consulting services to entities that use Microsoft operating systems. While employed by Netsoft in a sales position, GIUFFRE had access to proprietary and confidential business information stored in electronic form. GIUFFRE's employment agreement with Netsoft barred him from disclosing this information to unauthorized persons or entities. In June and July 2006, GIUFFRE e-mailed some of this information to one of Netsoft's competitors in Manhattan and also made his Netsoft-issued laptop computer, which contained additional proprietary Netsoft data, available to this competitor, which then copied the contents of the laptop. In an e-mail message, GIUFFRE told the president of the competitor that he was providing the "tools" to help the competitor secure a contract with a prospective client, with whom Netsoft had also been negotiating to perform services. This competitor ultimately won the contract for this prospective client.

GIUFFRE pleaded guilty before United States District Judge JOHN G. KOELTL to one count of interstate transportation of stolen property. GIUFFRE faces a maximum sentence of 10 years' imprisonment and a fine of the greatest of \$250,000, twice the gross gain from the offense, or twice the gross loss to the victim. GIUFFRE is scheduled to be sentenced on September 14,

2007 at 10 a.m. before JUDGE KOELTL.

GIUFFRE, 46, resides in Lake Grove, New York.

Mr. GARCIA praised the investigative efforts of the FBI's New York Computer Hacking and Intellectual Property Squad.

This matter is being prosecuted by the Computer Hacking and Intellectual Property group of the Office's Major Crimes Unit. Assistant United States Attorney NICHOLAS S. GOLDIN is in charge of the prosecution.

07-146

###