



U.S. Department of Justice

United States Attorney

Eastern District of Pennsylvania

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February 8, 2010

**BUCKS COUNTY CHIROPRACTOR CHARGED WITH SETTING THE
ARSON THAT DESTROYED HIS OFFICE**

PHILADELPHIA - Jonathan P. Wiktorchik, Jr. was charged today in a seven-count Indictment¹ with arson, mail fraud, and making false statements to federal investigators in the arson investigation, all in connection with the explosion and fire that occurred at approximately 2:30 a.m. on March 30, 2008 inside the Bucks County Chiropractic Center he owned with his wife, announced United States Attorney Michael L. Levy. According to the indictment, Wiktorchik set fire to the business, at 2540 - 48 Mountain View Road in Ottsville, Nockamixon Township, Bucks County, PA, using gasoline, that destroyed not only his business, but four others, then filed a proof of loss claim with Maryland Casualty Company, t/a Zurich American Insurance Company ("Zurich"), in accordance with the terms and conditions of this insurance policy. He received a partial payment from the insurance company in the amount of \$50,000.

The indictment further alleges that during the investigation, on three separate dates, Wiktorchik made false statements to federal agents claiming first that he was on a camping trip with his son during the time the fire was set and was not at the scene of the arson. He subsequently admitted to investigators that his first explanation was false and that he left the camp site in the early morning hours to check on his business. When he arrived here, he was assaulted by Spanish speaking gang members, who, he claimed, caused the explosion and fire.

Wiktorchik was also charged with obstruction of the Internal Revenue Service with regard to his 2005 business tax records, which investigation was ongoing at the time of the arson. According to the indictment, Wiktorchik falsely told an IRS agent that all of his 2005 business tax records were destroyed in the March 30, 2008, fire when, in fact, those records were stored in his residence inside his closet.

INFORMATION REGARDING THE DEFENDANT

NAME	ADDRESS	AGE OR YEAR OF BIRTH
Jonathan P. Wiktorchik, Jr.	Southampton, PA	57

¹An Indictment or Information is an accusation. A defendant is presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty.

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If convicted the defendant faces a maximum possible sentence of 68 years in prison, a mandatory minimum of 15 years imprisonment, a fine of \$1,505,000, and a mandatory \$700 special assessment.

The case was investigated by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, the Pennsylvania State Police, the Bucks County District Attorney's Office, the Bucks County Fire Marshal's Office, the Philadelphia Fire Department, and the Internal Revenue Service. It is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Jose R. Arteaga.

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