



U.S. Department of Justice

United States Attorney

Eastern District of Pennsylvania

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NEWS RELEASE

PHILADELPHIA - An indictment¹ was filed today against Valerijs Nikolaevich Belovs charging him with 15 counts of making false statements to the United States Department of Transportation between December 20, 2008 and January 23, 2009, announced United States Attorney Zane David Memeger.

The indictment alleges that the defendant falsified his federally-required driver daily logbooks to conceal the fact that he was driving in excess of the lawful number of allowable driving hours without the required period of rest. According to the indictment, commercial truck drivers must certify the truthfulness and accuracy of the logbooks, which are inspected by the United States Department of Transportation. Inspection of logbooks is allegedly conducted to ensure that, among other things, truck drivers have not exceeded the 11 hour maximum allowable daily driving hours without having the required 10 consecutive hours of rest or off-duty time. According to the indictment, this is to ensure that truck drivers operate their multi-ton trucks in a safe, unimpaired manner to protect the public from commercial trucking-related accidents on the nation's highways.

According to the indictment, Belovs made 15 false entries in his driver daily logbooks. For example, the defendant allegedly stated that he was off duty between December 20, 2008 and January 14, 2009, when, in fact, he was driving in New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Illinois, Ohio, and Indiana, during that time period. On January 22, 2009, the defendant allegedly stated that he was in a sleeper berth in Wyethville Virginia when he was actually driving to Pennsylvania.

INFORMATION REGARDING THE DEFENDANT

NAME	ADDRESS	AGE OR DATE OF BIRTH
Valerijs Nikolaevich Belovs	Philadelphia, PA	57 years old

If convicted on all charges, the defendant faces a substantial term of imprisonment, a fine of up to \$3.75 million, three years supervised release, and a \$1,500 special assessment.

The case was investigated by the United States Department of Transportation, Office of Inspector General, and has been assigned to Assistant United States Attorney Seth Weber.

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

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