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For Immediate Release

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## BROOMALL MAN SENTENCED FOR ILLEGAL TRADING WITH IRAN

PHILADELPHIA - Mohammad Reza Vaghari, 43, of Broomall, PA, was sentenced today to 33 months in prison for crimes relating to his participation in illegal business transactions with Iran between 2002 and 2005. Vaghari was convicted in February 2011 of one count of conspiracy to violate the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (IEEPA), two substantive counts of violating IEEPA, and one count of Naturalization Fraud stemming from his attempt to procure U.S. citizenship.

Vaghari operated in this country through a Pennsylvania corporation called Saamen Company, purchasing items from other American companies and exporting the items to co-conspirators in the United Arab Emirates, who would then deliver the items to customers in Iran. Vaghari also made false statements in connection with his attempt to obtain U.S. citizenship in November 2004.

In addition to the prison term, U.S. District Court Judge Jan E. DuBois ordered three years of supervised release and a \$400 special assessment.

This case was investigated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Department of Commerce, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement Homeland Security Investigations, U.S. Department of State Bureau of Diplomatic Security Service and the Bureau of Consular Affairs. It was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorneys Nancy B. Winter and Lauren Ouziel.

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