



U.S. Department of Justice

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March 1, 2011

**BUCKS COUNTY CHIROPRACTOR CONVICTED OF SETTING FIRE
TO HIS OFFICE**

PHILADELPHIA - Jonathan P. Wiktorchik, Jr., 59, of Southampton, PA, was convicted today of arson, mail fraud, and making false statements to federal investigators, in connection with an explosion and fire that occurred at the Bucks County Chiropractic Center he owns with his wife. The arson occurred at 2540 - 48 Mountain View Road in Ottsville, Nockamixon Township, Bucks County, PA on March 30, 2008, at approximately 2:30 a.m. Wiktorchik set fire to the business using gasoline and 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 for \$50,000.

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 there, he was assaulted by Spanish speaking gang members, who, he claimed, caused the explosion and fire.

Bail was immediately revoked. Sentencing is scheduled for June 3, 2011. Wiktorchik faces a mandatory-minimum prison term of 15 years, with a maximum possible sentence of 63 years, and a fine of up to \$1.5 million.

The case was investigated by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, the Pennsylvania State Police, the Bucks County Fire Marshals 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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