



# United States Department of Justice

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## **TWO EAST BAY SMOKE SHOP OWNERS CHARGED WITH SELLING COUNTERFEIT GOODS**

OAKLAND, Calif.– A federal grand jury in Oakland indicted Ahmed Mohammed Obaid of Oakland, and Faisal Mohamed Kaid Alomari, of Richmond, Calif., on Sept. 30, 2010, with trafficking in counterfeit goods, United States Attorney Melinda Haag announced.

According to the indictments, which were unsealed today, Obaid, 48, and Alomari, 34, are alleged to have sold counterfeit apparel and athletic shoes at their Bay Area stores. Obaid is the owner of the San Pablo Smoke Shop in San Pablo and the Rex Market in Oakland. Alomari is the owner of the Richmond Smoke Shop in Richmond. The indictments allege that the stores sold goods bearing fake trademarks for companies such as Nike, True Religion, and Roca Wear. Obaid was charged with six counts of trafficking in counterfeit goods and Alomari was charged with two counts.

Obaid and Alomari were arrested and made their initial appearances in federal court in Oakland today. They were each released on \$100,000 bond. The defendants are next scheduled to appear on Oct. 6, before U.S. Magistrate Judge Donna Ryu.

The maximum statutory penalty for each count of trafficking in counterfeit goods in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 2320(a) is 10 years imprisonment and a fine of \$2,000,000, plus restitution if appropriate. However, any sentence following conviction would be imposed by the court after consideration of the U.S. Sentencing Guidelines and the federal statute governing the imposition of a sentence, 18 U.S.C. § 3553.

Michelle Kane is the Assistant U.S. Attorney who is prosecuting the case with the assistance of Laurie Gomez. The prosecution is the result of a six month investigation by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement Homeland Security Investigations.

*Please note, an indictment contains only allegations against an individual and, as with all defendants, Messrs. Obaid and Alomari must be presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty.*

### **Further Information:**

Case #: CR 10-00713 CW (U.S. v. Obaid)  
Case #: CR 10-00714 DLJ (U.S. v. Alomari)

A copy of this press release may be found on the U.S. Attorney's Office's website at [www.usdoj.gov/usao/can](http://www.usdoj.gov/usao/can).

Electronic court filings and further procedural and docket information are available at <https://ecf.cand.uscourts.gov/cgi-bin/login.pl>.

Judges' calendars with schedules for upcoming court hearings can be viewed on the court's website at [www.cand.uscourts.gov](http://www.cand.uscourts.gov).

All press inquiries to the U.S. Attorney's Office should be directed to Jack Gillund at (415) 436-6599 or by email at [Jack.Gillund@usdoj.gov](mailto:Jack.Gillund@usdoj.gov).

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