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United States Attorney's Office
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**SHREVEPORT JURY CONVICTS GENERAL MANAGER/FORMER
OWNER OF ARKLA DISPOSAL SERVICES OF VIOLATIONS OF
CLEAN WATER ACT AND OBSTRUCTING AN EPA
INVESTIGATION**

Untreated Wastewater Dumped into Red River

Shreveport, La.: United States Attorney Stephanie A. Finley announced that a federal jury has convicted John Tuma, 54, of Centerville, TX, of discharging untreated wastewater directly into the Red River without a permit, discharging untreated wastewater into the City of Shreveport sewer system in violation of its permit, and obstructing an Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) inspection.

John Tuma and Cody Tuma, 28, of Shreveport, La., father and son, were both charged in a five-count indictment with violations of the Clean Water Act, conspiracy and obstruction of justice related to illegal discharges coming from the Arkla Disposal Services, Inc., a facility in Shreveport. The Arkla facility received off-site wastewater from industrial processes and from oilfield exploration and production facilities for treatment at the Arkla facility.

U.S. Attorney Finley stated, "This case was about a defendant who had no concern about the effects of discharging untreated wastewater into the Red River or the people that his actions harmed. The verdict of this jury should send a message that disregarding laws designed to protect citizens will not be taken lightly. Louisiana is a state with precious natural resources which our office, along with the Environmental Protection Agency, will continue to protect."

Cody Tuma pled guilty in February of 2012 to one count of negligently discharging pollutants into the Red River without a permit. He faces a penalty of one year imprisonment or a fine of not more than \$100,000, or twice the gross gain or loss resulting from the unlawful conduct, or both. **Sentencing for Cody Tuma has been set for June 20, 2012.**

John Tuma will be sentenced July 25, 2012. He faces a penalty of five years on the conspiracy charge, three years on each of the Clean Water Act violations and five years on the obstruction of justice charge. He also faces a fine of not more than \$250,000, or twice the gross gain or loss resulting from the unlawful conduct, or both, per count.

The case is being investigated by EPA's Criminal Investigation Division and is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney C. Mignonne Griffing and Trial Attorney Leslie E. Lehnert of the Environmental Crimes Section of the Department of Justice.

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