

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT OF LOUISIANA**

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

v.

PAUL TALLMAN

*** CRIMINAL NO. 18-118**

*** SECTION "F" (1)**

FACTUAL BASIS

Defendant Paul Tallman, ("Tallman") has agreed to enter a plea of guilty to a one count Bill of Information charging him with knowingly aiding and abetting the sale and export of wildlife, that is birds, when in the exercise of due care he should have known that the birds had been illegally transported in interstate commerce, in violation of the Lacey Act, 16 U.S.C. §§ 3372(a)(1) and 3373(d)(2). Were this matter brought to trial, the United States would prove, through competent witnesses and documentary evidence, the following facts beyond a reasonable doubt.

Tallman owns and operates Aerotyme Inc., a freight forwarding business in Kenner, Louisiana. As the owner of a freight forwarding business, Tallman prepares shipping paperwork and makes arrangements for merchandise to be exported from the United States. In June 2015, Tallman entered into a business arrangement with co-defendant one, a bird breeder and exporter from California, to ship 90 birds protected under the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species ("CITES") originating in California to Taiwan.

AUSA
Defendant
Defense Counsel

Co-defendant one owns a bird business located in Buena Park, California. On February 11, 2015, co-defendant one submitted a CITES export permit application to the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (“USFWS”) that falsely listed the address of his business as 78490 Church Street, Falsom, Louisiana 70437, and included false breeder’s certificates signed by codefendants two and three. In order to circumvent a 2015 Taiwanese moratorium on the import of all California birds, in June 2015, co-defendant one hired Tallman to prepare paperwork and arrange the details for the export of the birds from the Port of New Orleans to Taiwan. Co-defendant one provided Tallman with shipping paperwork and a health certificate containing false information which Tallman used to create a USFWS export declaration form and other shipping documents. The health certificate falsely listed co-defendant one’s address as 78490 Church Road, Falsom, Louisiana, 70437, rather than his correct Buena Park, California home address.

On or about July 19, 2015, co-defendant one drove the birds from his home in Buena Park, California to Kenner, Louisiana. The boxes containing the birds were affixed with labels with the false return address of 78490 Church Road, Falsom, Louisiana, 70437.


On July 14, 2015, Tallman caused an Aerotype, Inc. employee to submit to the USFWS an export package and a 48-hour notice on behalf of co-defendant one that notified the USFWS of its planned shipment of the birds from the Port of New Orleans to Taiwan.

On July 21, 2015, during a USFWS inspection of the birds at Aerotype, Inc., Tallman submitted a USFWS declaration form containing false information to USFWS agents.

Specifically, the form listed co-defendant one's address as 78490 Church Road, Falsom, Louisiana, 70437 rather than his correct Buena Park, California home address.


On July 21, 2015, Tallman caused the birds and the export paperwork, including the false export declaration form and a USFWS CITES export permit issued to co-defendant one, to be transported by truck from the Eastern District of Louisiana to the China Airlines terminal at the George Bush International Airport in Houston, Texas, for export to Taiwan.

APPROVED AND ACCEPTED:




MARY DEE CARRAWAY
Trial Attorney, U.S. Dept. of Justice, ENRD

12/16/19
Date



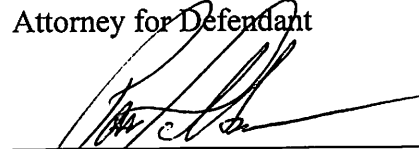
MELISSA E. BUCHER
Assistant United States Attorney

12/16/19
Date



WILLIAM P. GIBBENS
Attorney for Defendant

12/16/19
Date



PAUL TALLMAN
Defendant

12/16/2019
Date