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Subject: USAO News Release: League City Businessman Charged With Fraud Involving Space Vehicle Parts



Department of Justice

U.S. Attorney's Office
Southern District of Texas

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League City Businessman Charged With Fraud Involving Space Vehicle Parts

HOUSTON - Roger Lewis Pulley, 63, of League City, Texas, has been indicted and charged with fraud involving space vehicle parts and making a false statement in a matter within the jurisdiction of NASA, United States Attorney José Angel Moreno announced today.

A two-count indictment charging Pulley with fraud involving space vehicle parts and making a false statement was returned by a Houston federal grand jury in June 2011. Today, Pulley surrendered to the United States Marshal's Service and appeared before United States Magistrate Judge Stephen Wm. Smith for his initial appearance and arraignment. Pulley has pleaded not guilty and was ordered release upon posting a \$25,000 bond. Pulley's case was set for trial on Sept. 6, 2011, before United States District Judge Kenneth M. Hoyt.

The indictment alleges that Pulley, an owner and operations manager of Aerotech Precision Manufacturing Inc. in League City obtained more than 40 contracts with NASA and their prime contractor totaling more than \$286,000. Pulley allegedly certified the certificates of inspection which stated that all the parts were up to quality standards. According to the indictment however, the parts - which were to be used on the International Space Station - did not meet tolerance limits and did not conform to the order.

Pulley is charged with one count of fraud involving space vehicle parts in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 38, which, upon conviction carries a maximum possible penalty of 10 years imprisonment and \$250,000 fine. Pulley also faces a maximum five years imprisonment and a \$250,000 fine upon conviction for one count of making a false statement in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 1001(a).

The criminal charges are the result of an investigation conducted by NASA - Office of Inspector General. The case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Jennifer Lowery.

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