

PRESS NOTICE

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MAN WHO FORGED NCIS CREDENTIALS TO GAIN ENTRANCE TO NAVAL WEAPON STATION SENTENCED

Columbia, South Carolina---- United States Attorney William N. Nettles stated today that Harry Edgar Lewis, III, age 55, of Ladson, South Carolina, was sentenced today in federal court in Charleston, South Carolina, for Impersonating an Officer, a violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 912, and Possessing a Firearm in a Federal Facility with Intent to Use in a Crime, in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Sectes District Judge Patrick Michael Duffy of Charleston sentenced Lewis to Time Served -73 days followed by 3 years supervised release.

Evidence presented at the change of plea hearing established that Lewis had been working at NWS (Naval Weapon Station) as a subcontractor for SPAWAR (Space and Naval Warfare Systems Command) and was terminated from his employment. Thereafter, Lewis manufactured identification as an NCIS (Naval Criminal Investigation Service) officer. On August 12, 2009, he entered the NWS using the false identification while dressed with a NCIS hat, NCIS badge, handcuffs and loaded handgun in a shoulder holster. Once on base, he continued to represent himself as an NCIS officer. He gained entrance into a secure building and asked to speak to a specific individual regarding his termination from employment. After he found this individual, he confronted the person regarding his termination while still maintaining he was an NCIS officer. When asked to leave by this individual, Lewis departed indicating that it was not the last he had seen of him.

Mr. Lewis was arrested at his home later that day where the items used to impersonate an NCIS officer were found.

The case was investigated by agents of NCIS. Assistant United States Attorney Matthew J. Modica of the Charleston office handled the case.

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