



Criminal charge filed against FBI employee

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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A criminal information was filed against Michael C. Stoner, age 41, of North Royalton, Ohio, charging him with unauthorized accessing of a computer to obtain government agency information, said Steven M. Dettelbach, United States Attorney for the Northern District of Ohio.

The information alleges that Stoner, while employed as a Technical Information Specialist in the Cleveland FBI office, intentionally exceeded his authorized access to government law enforcement data bases by retrieving information about various persons for non-law enforcement purposes.

On approximately 17 times over eight days during the period from August 2010 through March 2011, he retrieved personal and biographical information about individuals through queries of Law Enforcement Automated Data System (LEADS) and the National Crime Information Center (NCIC). On two occasions in December 2010 and February 2011, he retrieved information from the FBI's Automated Case Support (ACS) system about persons named in connection with an FBI investigation, according to the information.

If convicted, the defendant's sentence will be determined by the Court after review of factors unique to this case, including the defendant's prior

criminal record, if any, the defendant's role in the offense and the characteristics of the violation. In all cases the sentence will not exceed the statutory maximum and in most cases it will be less than the maximum.

The government's case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney John M. Siegel, following an investigation by the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of the Inspector General, Detroit Area Office.

An information is only a charge and is not evidence of guilt. A defendant is entitled to a fair trial in which it will be the government's burden to prove guilt beyond a reasonable doubt.