



U.S. Department of Justice

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For Immediate Release:

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Dec 1, 2006

EVENT: Indictment

Defendant: Hassan Saad et al

FORMER BORDER INSPECTOR INDICTED

Adam Bender, 49, of Eastpointe, a former U.S. Border Inspector, was indicted by a federal grand jury in Detroit on charges of alien smuggling, and conspiracy to commit that offense. Indicted along with Bender were Hassan Saad, 35, of Detroit, and Ibrahim Saad and Hani Bazzi, both of Windsor, United States Attorney Stephen J. Murphy announced today.

Murphy was joined in the announcement by Daniel D. Roberts, FBI Special Agent in Charge, and Thomas M. Frost, Special Agent in Charge of the Department of Homeland Security's Office of the Inspector General. The 7-count indictment charges that between May of 2004 and March of 2005, Bender, along with both Hassan Saad and Ibrahim Saad, conspired to allow illegal entry into the United States by persons without proper authorization to enter. Bazzi is charged in the indictment with illegal entry.

United States Attorney Stephen J. Murphy said, "The protection of our borders is the keystone without which the structure of our homeland security would be unsound. This office will be vigilant in prosecuting any cases in which federal officials cross the line into criminal activity."

Special Agent in Charge Frost further noted that "the criminal activity attributed to Office Bender is not indicative of the outstanding service provided by the men and women of the U.S.

Customs and Border Protection on a daily basis. Misconduct by DHS employees which may compromise the security of our borders will not be tolerated, and will receive aggressive investigation by the OIG.”

An indictment 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.

The case was investigated by special agents of the FBI and DHS-OIG. The case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Kathryn McCarthy.