

U.S. ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

DISTRICTS OF GUAM AND THE NMI U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Thursday, October 6, 2011

FEDERAL GRAND JURY INDICTS DAVID P. PRESTON ON WIRE FRAUD CHARGES

ALICIA A.G. LIMTIACO, United States Attorney for the Districts of Guam and the Northern Mariana Islands, announced the issuance of an Indictment against DAVID P. PRESTON, an applicant for the position of Drinking Water and Wastewater Division Manager of the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation ("CUC"), in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. The Indictment charges the defendant with four counts of Wire Fraud. The defendant was arrested in Houston, Texas on October 4, 2011 and will face removal proceedings to the District of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The indictment alleges that defendant obtained monies by means of material false and fraudulent pretenses, representations and promises, and by omissions of material facts. The defendant allegedly sent by fax transmission his employment application which contained false information to the CUC, caused CUC to expend monies towards his salary and moving expenses, and the wire transfer of funds from the CUC to his personal bank account.

Wire Fraud, Title 18 U.S.C. § 1343, carries a maximum prison term of twenty years and a fine of up to \$250,000.00.

The Environmental Protection Agency – Office of the Inspector General conducted this investigation, with assistance from the CNMI Office of the Public Auditor.

Members of the public are reminded that an Indictment is only a charge and is not evidence of guilt. A defendant is presumed innocent and is entitled to a fair trial at which the government must prove guilt beyond a reasonable doubt.

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