

# U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Office of Criminal Enforcement, Forensics and Training: Environmental Crimes Case Bulletin/January – March, 2021



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The United States Environmental Protection Agency (“EPA”) Office of Criminal Enforcement, Forensics and Training publishes an Environmental Case Crimes Bulletin (“Bulletin”) that summarizes publicized investigative activity and adjudicated cases supported by EPA Criminal Investigation Division special agents, forensic specialists, and legal support staff.

A copy of the January – March, 2021, edition has been published.

The January – March Bulletin lists the follow matters:

| Region | Defendants   | Case Type/Status  |
|--------|--|---|
| 1      | JP Ellis Enterprise, Inc. d/b/a Cape Cod Ice                   | Sentencing/Fined and placed on probation for three years for allegedly repeatedly failing to implement a Risk Management Plan to be executed in the event of an accidental release of anhydrous ammonia |
| 2      | James Petro, Richard McGoey                                    | Plea Agreement/Pleaded guilty to one count of allegedly negligently causing the release of asbestos into the ambient air  |
| 2      | James S. Marshall  | Plea Agreement/Pleaded guilty to alleged negligent endangerment under the Clean Air Act   |
| 2      | Gunay Yakup  | Plea Agreement/Pleaded guilty to allegedly illegally removing and disposing of large quantities of asbestos-containing materials  |
| 3      | Filibuster Distillery LLC, Filibuster Barrels LLC, Sid Dilawri | Indictment/Indicted on 115 counts of allegedly violating the State Water Control Law for dumping over 40,000 gallons of industrial waste into a stream in Shenandoah County, Virginia                   |

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|---|--------------------------------------|--|
| 4 | Andrew Walker                        | Plea Agreement/Pleaded guilty to allegedly illegally discharging industrial waste into the Jackson, Mississippi, Sewer System  |
| 5 | Robert J. Massey                     | Plea Agreement/Pleaded guilty to a criminal charge of violating the Clean Water Act stemming from alleged discharges of landfill leachate totaling more than forty-seven million gallons into the Flint, Michigan, sanitary sewer system |
| 5 | Bonnie Dennee                        | Sentencing/Sentenced to five years in federal prison, followed by a three-year term of supervised release, for alleged conspiracy to store and transport hazardous waste without required permits and manifests                          |
| 5 | Andrew Ecklund                       | Sentencing/Sentenced to two years of probation and ordered to pay a \$2,500 fine for allegedly falsifying laboratory test results  |
| 5 | Eric Jay Weckworth-Pineda            | Plea Agreement/Pleaded guilty to one count of alleged negligent discharge of a pollutant   |
| 5 | Tanner John Sik                      | Plea Agreement/Pleaded guilty to one count of alleged negligent discharge of a pollutant   |
| 6 | James Tassin                         | Plea Agreement/Pleaded guilty to allegedly violating the Clean Water Act in connection with an oil spill in 2016   |
| 6 | E.I. du Pont de Nemours and Co, Inc. | Indictment/Indicted for allegedly knowingly violating requirements of federal safety regulations and allegedly negligently releasing 24,000 pounds of methyl mercaptan   |
| 6 | Patrick Huse                         | Indictment/Indicted for alleged criminal conduct related to oil extraction in the Gulf of Mexico   |
| 6 | Brandon Wall                         | Indictment/Indicted for alleged criminal conduct related to oil extraction in the Gulf of Mexico   |
| 7 | Wyatt Travnichek                     | Indictment/Indicted on a federal charge accusing Travnichek of alleged tampering with a public water system and one count of alleged reckless damage to a protected computer during unauthorized access                                  |
| 7 | Russell McKeehan, Sr.                | Sentencing/Sentenced to four years of probation for alleged storage of hazardous waste without a permit (including a six-month term of home confinement)   |
| 7 | Aaron Rochester                      | Plea Agreement/Pleaded guilty to one count of alleged unlawful storage of hazardous waste and one count of transportation of hazardous waste   |

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| 9  | Beatriz Santillan  | Sentencing/Sentenced to 70 days in prison and ordered to pay \$20,079 restitution for allegedly smuggling illegal pesticides   |
| 10 | 4 Brothers Dairy, Andrew Fitzgerald  | Sentencing/Sentenced for alleged unlawful discharge of pollutant into a water of the United States, a misdemeanor violation of the Clean Water Act and ordered 4 Brothers to pay a \$95,000 fine and owner Fitzgerald to pay a \$35,000 fine   |
| 10 | Tae Ryung Yoon, aka Thomas Yoon, Yoo Jim Management Company, Ltd, Mush Inn Corp. | Sentencing/Sentenced for alleged asbestos work violations under the Clean Air Act. Yoo Jim Management Company, Ltd. and Mush Inn Corporation sentenced to 3 years of probation and ordered to jointly and severally pay \$30,000 in restitution and a \$35,000 fine. Tae Ryung Yoon sentenced to a term of 2 years' probation and ordered to complete 100 hours of community service |
| 10 | PurEnvironment   | Sentencing/Sentenced to a year of probation, ordered to pay a \$15,000 fine, and come into compliance with state and federal regulations for alleged crimes regarding the company's false claims that its products could provide "90+ day protection" against COVID-19   |

A copy of the bulletin can be downloaded [here](#).