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Environmental Criminal Enforcement/Motor Fuels: California Attorney General Files Felony Charges Addressing Alleged Sale of Hazardous Waste Fuel to Gasoline Stations

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The California Attorney General (“AG”) filed on January 18th felony charges against Lamb Fuels, Inc. (“Lamb Fuels”) and two employees for allegedly illegally treating and transporting hazardous waste in California.

The Defendants are alleged to have collected waste fuel gathered at scrap yards and sold it to gasoline stations from 2012 to 2021.

The Complaint alleges the following counts:

- Conspiracy
- Treatment of hazardous waste at an unauthorized facility
- Transportation of hazardous waste to an unauthorized facility

An accompanying news release alleges that gasoline station customers unknowingly paid for and placed waste fuel into their vehicles. Further, the Complaint alleged that the Defendants:

... acting from their headquarters in San Diego County, directed Lamb Fuels’ truck drivers to pick up waste fuel from multiple scrapyards per day, illegally treat it, and deliver it to gas stations. The waste fuel consisted of contaminated fuel drained from wrecked and abandoned vehicles. Lamb Fuels, operating without permits to treat and transport hazardous waste, grossly profited ...

The alleged violations are stated to have been investigated by the California Department of Toxic Substances Control.

Links to the press release and Complaint can be found below:

<https://oag.ca.gov/news/press-releases/attorney-general-bonta-files-felony-charges-against-lamb-fuels-and-its>

https://oag.ca.gov/system/files/attachments/press-docs/Lamb%20Fuels%20Inc.%20et%20al._Complaint_Redacted.pdf