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## Criminal Enforcement/Resource Conservation and Recovery Act: United States Department of Justice Announces Guilty Plea of Metal Plating Government Contractor

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The United States Department of Justice (“DOJ”) announced in an October 18th news release that Phillip Michael Huddleston pleaded guilty to violating the Resource Conservation Recovery Act (“RCRA”).

DOJ states alleges that the individual illegally stored hazardous waste without a permit at Protech Metal Finishing, LLC (“Metal Plating Facility”) which he owned and operated in Vonore, Tennessee.

The news release also states that Protech’s production manager (John Thomas Hatfield) had previously pleaded guilty on October 2nd to being an accessory after-the-fact to the alleged illegal storage of hazardous waste. It further states:

... In order to hinder an investigation of Protech’s compliance with the RCRA, Hatfield represented that containers of hazardous waste were accurately labeled when he knew that they were not.

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