Department of Justice

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MAN PLEADS GUILTY TO COMPUTER HACKING

BUFFALO, N.Y.--Lee James Garvin, age 30 , of Tonawanda, NY, pleaded guilty before U.S. District Court Chief Judge Richard J. Arcara, to a felony charge of computer hacking, U.S. Attorney Terrance P. Flynn of the Western District of New York announced today. The computer hacking violation carries a maximum penalty of 10 years imprisonment, a fine of $250,000, or both.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Martin J. Littlefield, who handled the case, stated that the defendant had a former business association with Uniform NameMakers of Buffalo, New York up until the fall of 2006. Mr. Garvin had been responsible for much of the computer hardware and software utilized by Uniform NameMakers in their business operations. (Uniform NameMakers is an embroidery company in the business of providing logos and other insignias on clothing and other materials.) After the failure of the business deal, Mr. Garvin illegally obtained remote access to the Uniform NameMakers office computers and then deleted all of the electronic records regarding the company's clients.

The plea was the culmination of an investigation on the part of Special Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, under the direction of Laurie Bennett and the New York State Attorney General's Office under the direction of New York State Attorney General Andrew Cuomo.

Sentencing is scheduled for April 11, 2008, at 12:30 p.m. EST, in Buffalo, N.Y., in front of U.S. District Court Chief Judge Richard J. Arcara.

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