U.S. Department of Justice

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Eastern District of Michigan

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For Immediate Release:
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March 20, 2008

EVENT: Sentenced

Defendant: Joseph Patrick Nolan

FORMER INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY EMPLOYEE OF PENTASTAR AVIATION SENTENCED FOR COMPUTER INTRUSION AND DESTROYING PAYROLL AND PERSONNEL RECORDS

A former information technology employee of Pentastar Aviation, LLC, was sentenced to four years probation with the first six months to be served at a halfway house and six months to be served as house arrest after his conviction for unlawful computer intrusion into the company's computer system in 2007 and causing damage to the system by destroying payroll and personnel records, United States Attorney Stephen J. Murphy announced today.

Murphy was joined in the announcement by Andrew G. Arena, FBI Special Agent in Charge.

Joseph Patrick Nolan, 27, of Ann Arbor, Michigan was sentenced in U.S. District Court by Judge David Lawson. The court also ordered that Nolan pay restitution in the amount of $1,158.25 to Pentastar Avaiation.

The evidence at trial showed, on February 1, 2007, Nolan, was a former employee of Pentastar Aviation, LLC, a Waterford, Michigan aviation leasing and maintenance company. On that date, and acting without authorization, Nolan gained unauthorized access to

Pentastar's computer system and destroyed payroll and personnel records. Repairing the damage caused from this intrusion, cost Pentastar in excess of $50,000.

United States Attorney Stephen J. Murphy said, "Computer security is a fundamental component of our nation's security. Those who may have the technical ability to breach the walls protecting our computer networks should realize that doing so is a serious federal offense that will be prosecuted. I commend the FBI, and the staff at Pentastar, for their investigative work."

The case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Christopher Varner.