



DEPARTMENT OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

News Release

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BUSINESSMAN PLEADS GUILTY IN AIRPORT INVESTIGATION

HONOLULU-Attorney General Mark Bennett announced today that Roy T. Yoshida, 59, pled guilty to committing the offense of Theft in the Second Degree before Circuit Judge Dan T. Kochi. In pleading guilty to the theft charge, Yoshida acknowledged that his business, Yoshida Auto Paint Shop, over billed the Airports Division of the State Department of Transportation by at least \$6,500.00 while performing auto body and painting work for the Airport Division from July 14, 1997 through January 10, 2002. Attorney General Bennett indicated that Yoshida's guilty plea is the second to occur as a result of his Department's investigation into violations of state procurement and criminal laws that allegedly occurred at the Honolulu International Airport. Other pleas are expected to take place in the near future.

Attorney General Bennett further stated that Mr. Yoshida and others who reach plea agreements with the Department of the Attorney General will be expected to cooperate with both his office and the United States Attorney's office in furthering their joint investigation into other individuals who had greater involvement in the scheme that allegedly led to the defrauding of the State Department of Transportation.

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