

## United States v. Richard G. Pitchford (D.D.C. 2002)

### Nature of the Business.

Former vice-president of a special fund created by U.S. Congress for the development of the private sector in Central Asia received illegal kickbacks in several different schemes. One scheme provided Pitchford a payment for assisting a British company to acquire a contract to do business in Turkmenistan. In exchange for cash, Pitchford provided a British government official confidential bid information on a contract in Turkmenistan that enabled the British company to underbid its competitors. In another scheme, Pitchford and a co-conspirator, Patrick Dickey, at the Central Asia American Enterprise Fund ("Enterprise Fund") arranged for the investment by the Enterprise Fund in clothing companies in Turkmenistan. Pitchford and his co-conspirator then arranged for a Pakistani individual to purchase goods from those companies at an inflated price. The excess funds were transferred back to Pitchford and his co-conspirator.

### Influence to be Obtained.

Assist in obtaining contracts from the Central Asia American Enterprise Fund for Turkmenistan.

### Enforcement.

Pitchford pleaded guilty to conspiracy, theft from a government program, and a violation of the FCPA and was sentenced to a year and a day in prison, to be followed by 3 years supervised release, \$400,000 in Restitution, forfeiture of \$142,797.95 from bank accounts in New York and a luxury yacht, and 200 hours of community service.

### Key Facts

**Citation.** *United States v. Pitchford*, No. 1:02-cr-00365 (D.D.C. 2002).

**Date Filed.** September 3, 2002.

**Country.** Turkmenistan.

**Date of Conduct.** 1997 – 1998.

**Amount of the Value.** Approximately \$400,000.

**Amount of Business Related to the Payment.** Approximately \$6 million.

**Intermediary.** A Pakistani Citizen.

**Foreign Official.** A British Government Official.

**FCPA Statutory Provision.** Conspiracy; Anti-Bribery.

**Other Statutory Provision.** Conspiracy (Theft from a Federal Program); Theft from a Federal Program.

**Disposition.** Plea Agreement.

**Defendant Jurisdictional Basis.** Domestic Concern; Agent of Domestic Concern; Conspiracy.

**Defendant's Citizenship.** United States.

**Total Sanction.** 12-Months and 1-Day Imprisonment, \$400,000 in Restitution; \$142,797.95 Criminal Forfeiture.

**Related Enforcement Actions.** None.