

HMG/DB: USAO#2019R00861

#### IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF MARYLAND

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

CRIMINAL NO. 19 CR 593

v.

(False Statements, 18 U.S.C. § 1001)

DAVID LAUFER,

**UNDER SEAL** 

Defendant.

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## **INDICTMENT**

### **COUNTS ONE THROUGH FIVE – FALSE STATEMENTS**

The Grand Jury for the District of Maryland charges:

## INTRODUCTION

At times material to this Indictment:

- 1. Defendant DAVID LAUFER ("LAUFER") was a resident of Bethesda, Maryland.
- 2. LAUFER was an employee of Walter Reed National Military Medical Center ("Walter Reed"), which was the largest joint military medical center in the United States.
- 3. Walter Reed was located in Bethesda, Maryland. Prior to 2011, Walter Reed was located in the District of Columbia.
- Walter Reed was part of the Department of Defense, which was part of the 4. executive branch of the United States Government.

- 5. Walter Reed provided orthotic and prosthetic services to U.S. service members and their dependents, including wounded soldiers.
- 6. **LAUFER** worked as the Chief of the Prosthetics and Orthotics Department at Walter Reed until in or about May 2019.
  - a. Persons B and C, Companies B and C
- 7. From at least in or about 2012 to in or about 2019, Company B provided prosthetics and orthotics materials to the Prosthetics and Orthotics Department at Walter Reed in return for payments from the government.
- 8. Person B lived in Montgomery County, Maryland. Person B owned, operated and controlled Company B, which was located in Germantown, Maryland.
- Person B regularly interacted with LAUFER about Company B's business with Walter Reed.
  - 10. Person C operated Company C, which was based in Baltimore County, Maryland.
    - b. LAUFER's Ethics Training
  - 11. **LAUFER** received annual training on government ethics.
  - 12. **LAUFER**'s government sponsored ethics training warned him about:
    - a) the dangers of accepting financial benefits from a prohibited source, *i.e.* a person or organization seeking to do business with the Department of Defense; and
    - b) the federal conflict of interest statutes, and the prohibition on a federal government employee working on a matter affecting certain financial interests.

- c. LAUFER's Financial Reporting
- 13. **LAUFER's** government job required him to complete annual Confidential Financial Disclosure forms, OGE Form 450 and OGE Form 450-A.
- 14. **LAUFER** submitted an OGE Form 450 in 2013, 2016, and 2017, and an OGE Form 450-A in 2014 and 2015.
  - 15. The OGE Form 450 required **LAUFER** to report the following:
  - (a)(1) all sources of salary, fees, commissions, and other earned income greater than \$200; (a)(2) honoraria greater than \$200; and (a)(3) other non-investment income such as scholarships, prizes, and gambling income greater than \$200;
  - (b) all positions outside the U.S. Government during the reporting period, whether or not compensated and whether or not the position was currently held, including any business entity in which **LAUFER** (and his spouse) was an employee or consultant;
  - (c) any agreements and arrangements concerning past, current, and future employment; and
  - (d)(1) Travel-related reimbursements (items such as lodging, transportation, and food) totaling more than \$350 from any one source during the reporting period and (d)(2) Any other gifts totaling more than \$350 from any one source during the reporting period.
- 16. The OGE Form 450-A required **LAUFER** to report any changes during the reporting period to the information listed on his prior OGE Form 450.
- 17. The OGE Form 450s and OGE Form 450-As required **LAUFER** to "certify that the statements I have made on this form and all the attached statements are true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge."

#### THE OFFENSES

18. On or about the dates set forth below, in the District of Maryland and elsewhere,

# DAVID LAUFER,

the defendant herein, did willfully and knowingly make the following materially false, fictitious, and fraudulent statements and representations, which the defendant then and there knew were false, in a matter within the jurisdiction of the Department of Defense and the Department of Justice, which were branches of the Government of the United States:

Count	Date	False Statements	Facts Known By Defendant
1	1/7/2015	LAUFER stated on his Confidential Financial Disclosure form, OGE-450-A, that he had (a) no reportable sources of income; (b) no reportable outside positions; (c) no reportable agreements concerning future, current, or past non-governmental employment; and (d) no reportable gifts or travel reimbursements.	LAUFER had received reportable financial benefits, including travel benefits, which were paid for by Person B and Company B.
2	1/7/2016	LAUFER stated on his Confidential Financial Disclosure form, OGE-450, that he had (a) no reportable sources of income; (b) no reportable outside positions; (c) no reportable agreements concerning future, current, or past non-governmental employment; and (d) no reportable gifts or travel reimbursements.	LAUFER had received reportable financial benefits, such as travel, which were paid for by Person B and Company B.
3	10/26/2016	LAUFER told federal agents that (a) he did not recall any occasions when he engaged in travel with Person B; (b) he had never received money, gifts, or sporting event tickets from any vendor doing business before the Prosthetics and Orthotics Department; and (c) "Nobody is getting paid off, nobody is getting anything extra."	LAUFER had previously received financial benefits, including travel and sporting event tickets, from Person B and Company B.
4	2/7/2017	LAUFER stated on his Confidential Financial Disclosure form, OGE-450, that he had (a) no reportable sources of income; (b)	LAUFER had received reportable financial benefits, including travel

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		no reportable outside positions; (c) no reportable agreements concerning future, current, or past non-governmental employment; and (d) no reportable gifts or travel reimbursements.	and sporting event tickets, from Person B and Company B.
5	9/5/2019	LAUFER told federal agents that from 2013 to 2015, he earned \$10,000-\$12,000 in cash doing work for Person C and Company C, and deposited the cash in his bank accounts.	LAUFER had not earned any income from 2013- 2015 doing work for Person C and Company C.

18 U.S.C. § 1001(a)(2) 18 U.S.C. § 2

ROBERT K. HUR

United States Attorney

A TRUE BILL:

SIGNATURE REDACTED

Foreperson

Date: / 2/16/19