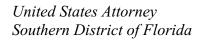
## **U.S. Department of Justice**



99 N.E. 4 Street, Miami, FL 33132 (305)961-9001

November 22, 2011

## **NEWS RELEASE:**

## WEST PALM BEACH SELLERS OF UNNECESSARY SEPTIC TANK PRODUCTS PLEAD GUILTY TO WIRE FRAUD

Wifredo A. Ferrer, United States Attorney for the Southern District of Florida, and Arthur A. Elkins, Jr., Inspector General, United States Environmental Protection Agency - Office of Inspector General (EPA-OIG), announced defendants **Mary Moore**, 54, **Joseph Nouerand**, 52, and **Christopher Lincoln**, 46, all residents of Pam Beach County, pled guilty yesterday to one count of conspiracy to commit wire fraud. Sentencing has been scheduled for February 10, 2012, before U.S. District Judge Kenneth L. Ryskamp.

According to court documents and statements at the hearing, Moore, Nouerand and Lincoln, in concert with other employees of FBK Products, LLC., knowingly participated in a scheme to fraudulently market and sell an unnecessary and unneeded septic treatment product to residents of various states across the country.

During the plea, the defendants admitted to participating in a scheme beginning from March 12, 2009 through October 2010. Using the name FBK and Septic Remedy, the defendants and their employees made sales pitches to possible customers in various states that misled them into believing that the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the Food and Drug Administration, and the U.S. Department of Agriculture were affiliated with the septic treatment product that the defendants were marketing telephonically under the name Septic Remedy. As a further part of the scheme, the defendants and others fraudulently misled residents into believing that Septic Remedy would eliminate the need for having their septic tank pumped; that government regulations had changed the components of toilet paper; and that the version of Septic Remedy being marketed by the defendants was a second generation product, reformulated to work on allegedly new toilet papers. Through this scheme, some elderly customers were defrauded into purchasing more than seventy years worth of toilet paper. The fraud was valued at approximately \$1,000,000.

Mr. Ferrer commended the EPA-OIG for their work on this case. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Norman O. Hemming, III.

A copy of this press release may be found on the website of the United States Attorney's Office for the Southern District of Florida at <u>www.usdoj.gov/usao/fls</u>. Related court documents and information may be found on the website of the United States District Court for the Southern District of Florida at <u>www.flsd.uscourts.gov</u> or on <u>http://pacer.flsd.uscourts.gov</u>.

