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District of Massachusetts

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PRESS RELEASE

**EASTON, CONNECTICUT MAN CHARGED WITH OBSTRUCTION OF JUSTICE**

Boston, MA... A federal grand jury returned an indictment today charging an Easton, Connecticut man with obstruction of justice in connection with an ongoing civil litigation.

United States Attorney Michael J. Sullivan and Federal Bureau of Investigation Acting Special Agent in Charge William D. Chase, announced today that SUNI MUNSHANI, of 14 Wells Hill Road, Easton, Connecticut, was charged in an indictment with two counts of criminal contempt and two counts of obstruction of justice in connection with a federal civil suit that MUNSHANI had filed against an Andover company.

The indictment alleges that on or about January 29, 2001, MUNSHANI filed, in federal court, an opposition to a motion to dismiss his federal civil suit against Terago Communications, Inc., a high-tech company based in Andover, Massachusetts, and Signal Lake Venture Fund II LP, a venture fund managed by members of Terago's board of directors. It is alleged that MUNSHANI attached to his opposition motion a fraudulent email communication that he had created to support his claim that there had been a previously existing written contract with Terago.

The indictment further alleges that on or about February 20, 2001, MUNSHANI filed, in federal court, a sworn affidavit in which he falsely attested to the authenticity of the email indicating again the existence of a written contract, although he knew the email to be fabricated.

An independent computer data recovery expert filed a report in a related state suit that concluded that the email was inauthentic and had been created by MUNSHANI and not by Terago. Following receipt of the report the State Court dismissed the case. Subsequent to the State Court finding, the U.S. District Court Judge presiding over the federal civil suit, also adopted the computer data recovery expert's findings and as a result, dismissed the federal case filed by MUNSHANI and imposed sanctions.

If convicted, MUNSHANI faces a maximum sentence of 10 years' imprisonment, to be followed by 3 years of supervised release, and a \$250,000 fine.

This case was investigated by Special Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. It is being

prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Allison D. Burroughs in Sullivan's Economic Crimes Unit, Computer Hacking and Intellectual Property Section.

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