

2 accused of selling visas for up to \$30,000

The Atlanta Journal-Constitution
February 16, 2007 Friday, Main Edition

Copyright 2007 The Atlanta Journal-Constitution

The Atlanta Journal-Constitution
ajc.com

Section: GWINNETT NEWS; Pg. 3J

Length: 277 words

Byline: MARY LOU PICKEL

Staff

Body

In a crime described as "white-collar smuggling," two men who run a vocational school in Norcross were charged with immigration document fraud for selling work visas for as much as \$30,000, according to federal prosecutors.

Sheng Feng Sun, 45, of Roswell, and Sang Hun Oh, 35, of Norcross, were arrested Thursday and appeared before a federal magistrate using a Korean translator. Sun was released on bail and Oh was held in federal custody until his bond hearing continues Wednesday.

The men pretended three foreigners --- with Russian and Korean names --- worked at their school, federal prosecutors said.

They applied for H-1B visas for the workers and charged them money in exchange, according to an indictment from a federal grand jury in the Northern District of Georgia.

H-1B visas allow employers to hire foreign workers in a specialty occupation for up to three years.

"Employers who abuse their ability to apply for employee visas will face prison time, and the criminal proceeds they generate from their schemes will be forfeited to the United States," U.S. Attorney David Nahmias said in a news release.

According to the indictment, Sun is the principal officer of Edgewood College of Georgia in Norcross and Oh is the financial and accounting agent.

The vocational institution teaches English as a Second Language as well as traditional Asian medicine such as acupuncture and herbology.

"In defrauding the government by using this scheme, these individuals were allegedly selling access to the United States for their private gain," said Ken Smith, special agent in charge of the Atlanta office of U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, in a news release.

Classification

2 accused of selling visas for up to \$30,000

Language: ENGLISH

Publication-Type: Newspapers

Subject: PASSPORTS & VISAS (92%); US FEDERAL GOVERNMENT (90%); INDICTMENTS (90%); EMPLOYMENT VISAS (90%); FRAUD & FINANCIAL CRIME (90%); PRESS RELEASES (90%); VOCATIONAL & TECHNICAL TRAINING (90%); FOREIGN LABOR (90%); PUBLIC PROSECUTORS (90%); IMMIGRATION (89%); BAIL (78%); LAW ENFORCEMENT (78%); GRAND JURY (78%); ARRESTS (78%); MULTILINGUALISM (76%); SMUGGLING (73%); JAIL SENTENCING (73%); LANGUAGE ACQUISITION (71%); LANGUAGE & LANGUAGES (71%); RECRUITMENT & HIRING (69%); HERBAL MEDICINE (64%); ACUPRESSURE & ACUPUNCTURE (64%); ALTERNATIVE MEDICINE (64%)

Industry: VOCATIONAL & TECHNICAL TRAINING (90%); HERBAL MEDICINE (64%); ACUPRESSURE & ACUPUNCTURE (64%); ALTERNATIVE MEDICINE (64%)

Geographic: ATLANTA, GA, USA (79%); GEORGIA, USA (92%); UNITED STATES (92%)

Load-Date: February 16, 2007

End of Document