Department of JusticeU.S. Attorney's Office Middle District of Florida

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Wednesday, April 19, 2017

Ponte Vedra Man Indicted For Lying To OSHA Investigators About Fatal Workplace Accident

Jacksonville, Florida – Acting United States Attorney W. Stephen Muldrow announces the return of an indictment charging Peter Nees (49, Ponte Vedra Beach) with making false statements to federal Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) investigators during the course of an official investigation. If convicted on all counts, he faces a maximum penalty of 15 years in federal prison.

According to the <u>indictment</u>, in the course of an investigation into a workplace accident that resulted in a fatality, Nees falsely stated to OSHA investigators that he did not alter the scene of the accident in any way after the accident had occurred when, in truth and fact, he knew those statements were false.

An indictment is merely a formal charge that a defendant has committed one or more violations of federal criminal law, and every defendant is presumed innocent unless, and until, proven guilty.

This case was investigated by the U.S. Department of Labor - Office of Inspector General. It will be prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Ashley Washington.