

CRIME

NH firm to pay \$140K over export violations

■ Intertech Trading Corp. failed to file export information for shipments to Russia and Ukraine.

By Paul Feely
Union Leader Staff

Intertech Trading Corp., a laboratory equipment distribution firm in Atkinson, has been sentenced to pay \$140,000 after the company pleaded guilty to 14 felony charges of failure to file export information in regards to equipment it shipped to Russia and Ukraine, the U.S. Attorney's Office announced.

Judge Paul Barbadoro ordered Intertech to pay the maximum allowable fine of \$10,000 per count, and be subject to a two-year term of corporate probation and monitoring, U.S. Attorney Jane Young said in a news release.

According to court documents and statements made in court, between 2015 and 2019, Intertech exported laboratory equipment to Russia, Ukraine, and elsewhere, falsely describing the nature and value of the exported items on commercial invoices and shipping forms.

The parts, which included laser assemblies, were falsely identified as being for use in products including an aquarium and a welding system, at much lower values than they actually were.

In a plea agreement, Inter-

tech admitted that it used false, innocuous descriptions such as "lamp for aquarium" or "spares for welding system," rather than accurately identifying the sophisticated scientific equipment actually contained in the shipments.

Intertech admitted it undervalued the shipments, evading the requirement to file Electronic Export Information, which would have been reported to the Departments of Commerce and Homeland Security.

The charges against Intertech were filed June 6 by the U.S. Attorney's Office in federal district court in Concord, involving exports between 2016 and 2019, prior to Russia's invasion of Ukraine in February.

"Evasion of export control requirements is a serious felony and undermines the government's ability to ensure that sensitive equipment does not end up in the wrong hands," said Young in a statement. "Our office works closely with our law enforcement partners to detect, deter, and punish companies and individuals that violate export control laws."

"Through lies and deceit, Intertech Trading Corporation evaded U.S. export laws to illegally send sophisticated scientific equipment to Russia and Ukraine, jeopardizing our national security," said Joseph R. Bonavolonta, Special Agent in Charge of the FBI Boston Division, in a statement.

pfeely@unionleader.com

EDUCATION

NH charter schools receive start-up funds

By Paul Feely
Union Leader Staff

Federal grants totaling \$8,339,865 are being awarded to eight public charter schools across New Hampshire — four existing or recently approved schools, and four schools still in the process of seeking approval from the state's Board of Education, officials said Monday.

The grant awards are funded through the latest round of installments from a \$46 million federal grant received by the New Hampshire Department of Education three years ago.

The funds, awarded by the federal Department of Education's Charter School Program (CSP), were earmarked to support the state's charter school program with a focus on at-risk students.

New Hampshire was one of only three states to receive grant awards through the CSP in 2019.

To date, a total of \$17 million from the \$46 million federal grant has been awarded.

The latest round of \$8.3 million includes:

Birches Academy in Salem (\$550,000);

Coastal Waters in Exeter (\$1,362,050);

North Star Academy in the Lakes Region (\$1.1 million);

Robert Frost Academy in Conway (\$218,975);

And four developing public

► See **Charter Schools**, Page A4

Fresh start for Station 9



JOSH GIBNEY/UNION LEADER

Members of the community gathered for a groundbreaking ceremony for the new Fire House 9 on Calef Road Monday morning in Manchester.

Manchester breaks ground on new 'modern' firehouse



JOSH GIBNEY/UNION LEADER

Alongside Congressman Chris Pappas, left, and Manchester Fire Chief Ryan Cashin, Mayor Joyce Craig speaks at a groundbreaking ceremony for the new Fire House 9 on Calef Road Monday morning in Manchester.

By Jonathan Phelps
Union Leader Staff

Manchester officials are expecting an aggressive construction schedule for a new Fire Station 9 to be built in its current spot on Calef Road with the new building expected to open next summer.

During a groundbreaking ceremony Monday, Fire Chief Ryan Cashin said the station was built in 1963 and the city was growing. It replaced the Bakersville Firehouse built in 1894 for a horse-drawn hose carriage, according to the city website.

"A fire station is a cornerstone of any community," the chief said. "Station 9 is a place for neighborhood kids to stop by to visit the firefighters and see the fire trucks. Community meetings are held here, and this is a place where people feel safe and are always welcome."

Cashin, who spent time working out of the station, said there were talks of replacing the

station when he started with the department more than two decades ago.

Station 9 serves a densely populated area with mixed occupancy, elderly apartments, large commercial buildings, the South Willow Street corridor, South Beech Street, Queen City Avenue and Brown Avenue.

In a memo to city officials, Cashin wrote Ward 9's population has grown by 10% over the last 10 years, leading to an increase in both fire and EMS call volume.

The new station is expected to cost \$5.5 million and will be constructed by Fulcrum Associates of Amherst. It is expected to be completed by mid-July.

The 11,000-square-foot station will include two bays on the first floor as well as an office, which are often called the "watch room" at firehouses. The gear room will feature decontamination equipment for turnout gear, Cashin said.

► See **Firehouse**, Page A4

NASHUA

19-year-old arrested after 'short standoff'

Staff Report

A 19-year-old Nashua man has been charged after threatening people with a gun Sunday night, which led to a standoff with police, police said.

Aaron Rushton was arrested just before 6:40 p.m. and charged with four counts of criminal threatening with a firearm and one count of felonious use of firearms, all Class B felonies, according to a news release.

Police responded to a disturbance just after 4:30 p.m. in the area of Pine Street.

"On arrival, officers learned that Aaron Rushton threatened several subjects with a firearm and subsequently fled into a nearby residence," the news release said.

A "short standoff" ensued before officers got Rushton to cooperate and placed him under arrest.

Each Class B felony is punishable by up to seven years imprisonment, exclusive of fines, police said.

Rushton is being held on preventive detention and is scheduled to be arraigned at Hillsborough County Superior Court — South on Monday.



AARON RUSHTON

MANCHESTER

Developer gets variance for 100 apartments on Elm Street

■ Five-story office building previously housed workers from SNHU.

By Jonathan Phelps
Union Leader Staff

Brady Sullivan was granted a variance from the Manchester Zoning Board of Adjustment last week to convert a five-story office building downtown into

100 apartments.

The well-known Manchester developer had sought up to 110 units for the project at 1230 Elm St., but agreed to reduce it to 100, according to Michael Landry, deputy director of the Planning and Community Development Department.

The 95,479-square-foot building recently housed about 300 workers from Southern New Hampshire

University.

The variance was needed to exceed the density allowed.

The current city zoning would allow only 36 apartment units, a third of what the company is proposing, according to a project summary.

Most of the units will be two-bedrooms rented at market rates.

The building is next to Residences at Manchester

Place at the corner of Bridge and Elm streets, which has more than 200 units over nine-stories.

Other downtown office buildings are also being converted into apartments, including buildings on Chestnut Street, Lowell Street and Hanover Street.

Brady Sullivan already is in the process of converting several floors of office space at 1000 Elm St. into more than 100 apartments.



DAVID LANE/UNION LEADER

Brady Sullivan is proposing converting its building at 1228-1230 Elm St. in Manchester into 110 apartments.