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Palauans facing many challenges after 'American dream' becomes nightmare

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Rubashkin arrested again & held on allegations

Sholom Rubashkin, son of Agriprocessors owner Aaron Rubashkin, was re-arrested and taken back into federal custody Monday afternoon.

Rubashkin, 56, was released from federal custody on November 14, Rubashkin, who was arrested at his home in Postville, is charged with fraud for using the company’s accounts to divert millions of dollars from the company to pay personal debts.

An unnamed informant who was employed by the company said federal agents wiretapped Rubashkin’s phones and that he admitted to diversion of millions of dollars.

The federal complaint states that “in the course of his employment with First Bank National, Sholom Rubashkin would divert payments to different accounts in violation of law.”

According to the informant, all corporate income was supposed to go to a Decorah Bank that First Bank could tap for repayment of its line of credit. The employee said that instead millions of dollars were diverted to other accounts at different banks.

Prosecutors said that actions included the diversion of $10.6 million in Agriprocessors income through an account at the Freedom Bank in Postville.

Rubashkin was released to stay in jail pending a preliminary hearing today (Wednesday) at 2 p.m.

Proud to serve
Randall Schultz, center, a member of the United States Marine Corps Reserve, was the guest speaker at the Veterans Day program at school.

Randall Schultz, who graduated from the Middle School in 2000 and is a member of the Marine Corps Reserve, was the guest speaker at the Veterans Day event held at the high school gym.

The group said they were offered free housing for three months and a round trip plane ticket if they decided to stay. They said they had been forced to leave their families after losing their jobs and financial support at Agriprocessors.

After losing heat and water, many of the Palauans chose to move in with friends in Postville. Jeff Abbas, manager of KPVL radio, has been helping the Palauans fill out the proper immigration documents that would allow them to stay in the country.

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The Palauans, who arrived in Postville about three weeks ago from the Federated States of Micronesia, have been staying with friends and relatives.

The physicians of the group said they were not receiving health care because they were new to the country and did not have insurance.

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