

Produce Worker Pleads Guilty To Fraud

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BIRMINGHAM, Ala. (AP) — An employee of a defunct Alabama produce company is pleading guilty to a charge of defrauding the government through dozens of deals involving hundreds of thousands of dollars.

Federal prosecutors say 41-year-old Christopher Alan Pfahl of Birmingham reached the plea bargain in an agreement filed Thursday.

Pfahl worked for Adams Produce, which was a major Southeastern supplier that employed about 400 people until it closed and filed for bankruptcy in April.

Adams Produce had millions of dollars in contracts to supply fruits and vegetables to military bases, schools, junior colleges and universities.

Prosecutors say Pfahl and others worked with another company to create false paperwork that showed an inflated cost to Adams Produce to food. Adams Produce then submitted false invoices to the government for overpayment.

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