



Whistleblower's Profile

U.S. Customs Service



No Picture



The Michael Wallace Story

Tampered Urinalysis, Slandered by the Agency then Terminated

Michael Wallace was a long-time black male Customs employee who became a federal whistleblower. He was a Communications Specialist located in Orlando at the National Law Enforcement Communications Center. This was the hub of communications in the U.S. Customs Service. He was in a position to hear radio transmissions from all over the United States therefore, he knew what went on in the Customs Service.

Michael reported to the Department of Treasury's Inspector General on many occasions that **U.S. Customs had over 10 million dollars worth of MISSING communication equipment - computers, telephones, etc.** in the National Law Enforcement Communications Center in Orlando, Florida.

He had stated on many occasions that he had watched equipment arrive in the communication center and disappear overnight. This computer equipment which ran into the hundreds, thousands and then millions of dollars were suppose to fit into consoles. The computer never fitted into the consoles and when he arrived for work the next day

the equipment would always be missing overnight from the building. It was apparent that someone had their own computer company at the expense of the government.

Michael also stated that he and other co-workers watched employees at the communication center pack the trunk of their cars with new equipment that arrived at the center. Again this equipment were computers, radios and telephones.

When Michael visited the busiest Special Agents' Office in Customs on the Southern Border, he returned and complained to his supervisors because the communication equipment was so **outdated and barely usable**. He felt, like many others, that the reasons U.S. Customs refused to give this office updated equipment was because **(ninety-nine percent (99%) of the Customs office employees were of Indian descent)**.

After making several disclosures to the Department of Treasury Inspector's General office, Michael arrived at work one day - his supervisor met him at his desk and told him he had to take a "drug urinalysis test." Michael responded with "no problem." After leaving the restroom and handing the specimen to the lab technician, the technician poured the urine from one cup into another cup and then it was sealed. Michael questioned the technician's procedures and he was told that this was the new way of conducting the test.

Three days later, Michael Wallace, got a call from the lab in Kansas City, and the technician told him "his urine was **un-testable and not human**." He told Michael that he would be contacted by Customs.

The next day Michael's supervisor, a GS-13, called him at home and told him his urine was un-testable and not human. Instead of allowing the Black male to take another urinalysis test, the supervisor told Michael to bring his Customs credentials and ID into the job and that he was now on paid leave, pending an investigation by Internal Affairs. Customs told him to stay at home by the phone. This illegal type of suspension with pay lasted for 8 months.

While he was away from the job, he was slandered over the Radio Communication system nationwide. The vilification included stories that Michael Wallace had been caught with a car load of drugs or he had been caught driving while drunk.

After eight months passed, and still no word from Internal Affairs, Michael Wallace received a "Proposed Termination Letter" via Federal Express.

On July 2, 2000, Michael Wallace was terminated from U.S. Customs supposedly for tampering with his urine test.

He was blackballed by the agency and could not receive any type of unemployment benefits. Customs was notorious for blackballing employees.

Michael lost his home and had to relocate out of the state of Florida.

