

## ***Testing Laboratory Falsified Reports***

On January 23, 2002, Jerry Martin, owner of Martin Environmental Laboratories in Livonia, Michigan, pled guilty to federal mail fraud charges for falsifying the results of tests on soil and water samples.

According to the United States Department of Justice, Martin was hired by various clients to test for volatile organic compounds in environmental samples using United States Environmental Protection Agency approved methods. Instead, however, Martin did not run the tests at all and issued reports with falsified test results. In most cases, Martin reported that the samples were “non-detect.”

This case marks the first conviction resulting from an investigation by the Multi-Agency Environmental Crimes Task Force, which is a cooperative effort among the Office of Attorney General of Michigan, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the United States Environmental Protection Agency Criminal Investigation Division, the United States Coast Guard, the United States Customs Service, and the United States Attorney for the Eastern District of Michigan.

The fraudulent tests reports were written between October 1999 and February 2000. Martin is scheduled to be sentenced on April 24, 2002 at the federal courthouse in Ann Arbor.