

# Press Release

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## **RESPONSE TO THE INDICTMENT FILED BY THE US GOVERNMENT**

I became aware of the indictment filed against me today, and although I was not surprised by the move of bringing new allegations against Mr. Bout given for the failure of the old ones in Belgium and Thailand in 2008 and 2009 respectively, I am surprised that the United States government had my name included.

It appears that the US government is now trying a new technique to silence me after the failure of the repeated immunity offers I rejected. I am being targeted because the evidence I placed in the public domain may have contributed to their case against Bout to fail. I am not an attorney for and I do not represent Mr. Bout, but I am rather defending my own self and if defending myself benefited the case of Victor Bout, it is then the US government to blame. They were the ones who portrayed Victor Bout and me as one person.

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The allegations against me are unfounded and not true in their entirety. On the contrary to what stated in the indictment:

- I neither had an airline or any other business in Tajikistan with or without Mr. Bout, nor have I ever created, owned, controlled, or maintained any interest in business in that country.
- I neither had any interest in the money that were frozen for Samar airlines nor have or ever had any control over the companies that allegedly paid money to purchase the aircraft.
- I am an aircraft broker and my role was limited to locating aircraft for sale or the people who can help to locate what the airline needed. I connected the people of Samar airlines to a friend broker in California and that was the extent of my service.
- I neither transacted, nor paid, nor received money from a US entity in violation of OFAC sanctions. The allegations falsely state that I have sourced the aircraft from two aviation companies in Florida; I neither sourced the aircraft nor negotiated prices nor contracted the owners of the same. I do always recommend buying US made aircraft, from the United States because I am an American and my objective is to promote American products and to create jobs in the United States.

The US government investigated me thoroughly for six years from 2002 until 2008 and the investigation was concluded and closed after proving no wrongdoing on my part. I was, and I am still being used as scapegoat in the Bout affair. It is ironic to see the indictment referring to the UN given that the United States government was the party that supplied the false information to the UN; including the false allegations that I was an employee of Victor Bout during the period when I was serving in the United States Armed Forces or was a full-time employee of the US Department of Justice.

I was an accountant serving hundreds of taxpayers, an adjunct faculty of accounting teaching in North Texas colleges, an entrepreneur, a United States soldier, a public servant, and a husband and father. I was not an employee of Victor Bout or any of his businesses; and I never received any salary or compensation from the same. I know Victor Bout and I know his family, he was my friend and what I say about him is my opinion and what is known to be facts to me. The US Constitution guarantees one's right to state his opinion, as well, there is no law that dictates who should be one's friends.

This case is all about politics and it is my intention to fight these allegations in a court of law, as the place where facts rather than politics are presumed to be justly and impartially tried.       -End -