



STAGED CAR COLLISION IN TRAIN ACCIDENT
JANUARY 6, 2016
CASE OIG-I-2016-507

In April 2015, the United States Attorney for the District of South Carolina announced the indictment and arrest of James Duvall Love and Deon Dovell Roberts, for conspiracy to commit mail and wire fraud, causing a train wreck, and unlawful interference with a train operator. The OIG investigation found that in the early morning hours of September 6, 2013, the two men parked a car in the path of an oncoming Amtrak train and got out of the car prior to the collision. They returned to the car after the collision and feigned injuries for the purposes of submitting bogus claims for personal injuries and other losses. We investigated this case with the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, the Allendale County Sheriff's Department and the Fairfax Police Department. On June 17, 2015, Love pleaded guilty to conspiracy to commit wire fraud, wreck or disable a passenger train, and interfere with the operation of a train. On November 2, 2015, Roberts pleaded guilty to the same conspiracy charge, and additionally to the charge of actually interfering with the operation of a train. By pleading guilty, both individuals accepted responsibility for causing the train accident. Sentencing for Love and Roberts is pending.