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- ARSENAL HISTORY
- TOUR OF HOMES

Home / News / State and Regional News / Iowa News

Flight school tipped off FAA about pilot's fraud

- Story

Flight school tipped off FAA about pilot's fraud

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An Iowa flight school tipped off federal regulators that a man hoping to become a commercial pilot falsely inflated his experience to get a license.

Fahad Nabeel Hussein Al-Daous pleaded guilty Friday to one count of lying to the Federal Aviation Administration.

He admitted he falsely listed on an application for an instrument-rated license that he had 50 hours of cross-country flight experience that is required. After he passed a ride with an FAA pilot examiner in Ottumwa, he received the license in May 2011.

Hussein Al-Daous claimed he'd conducted his flights through Waterloo-based Livingston Aviation. Months later, that company told the FAA that billing records showed he hadn't taken many flights he claimed.

Hussein Al-Daous told investigators he planned to use inflated data to get a commercial pilot license.

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