

Former business exec charged in embezzlement of \$579,000

By Tim McGlone
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A former vice president of a Virginia Beach stone company was arrested Thursday on a federal indictment charging him with embezzling more than a half-million dollars from the company.

Iraj "Roger" Ahmadian, 53, made an initial appearance in U.S. District Court in Norfolk, where a magistrate judge released him on a \$10,000 unsecured bond. A federal grand jury Tuesday indicted Ahmadian on 20 counts of bank fraud and tax evasion.

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As executive vice president, Ahmadian had the authority to order payments to subcontractors. According to the indictment, Ahmadian submitted payment requests for bogus subcontractors and as a result received 200 paychecks totalling \$579,000, the indictment says.

Ahmadian set up bo-

gus companies to receive the checks and then transferred the funds for his own benefit, including paying his mortgage and medical and travel expenses, the indictment alleges. He's also accused of not paying income taxes on that money.

Dillon Stone initially sued Ahmadian in Virginia Beach Circuit Court over the payouts and the case was settled out of court. The terms were not disclosed.

Ahmadian lives in Williamsburg and runs another company, Atlantic Coast Tile and Marble, as well as a Memphis firm, National Marble Tile and Terrazzo.

His attorney, James Broccoletti, declined to comment Thursday.

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