

Navy lawyer's court-martial begins

by UPI

NORFOLK, Va. - A military hearing opened in Virginia Monday for a Navy lawyer accused of leaking names of Guantanamo Bay detainees in a valentine to a law firm.

U.S. Navy Lt. Cmdr. Matthew Diaz faces up to 24 years in a military prison on five charges that included conduct unbecoming an officer at a court-martial before a jury of seven Navy officers, the Miami Herald reported.

Authorities accused Diaz of putting a list of detainees' name in a Valentine's Day card and mailing it to the Center for Constitutional Rights in January 2005, pretrial documents said, the Herald reported. The group was filing habeas corpus briefs on behalf of hundreds of unidentified prisoners at the military base in Cuba at the time.

Diaz's lawyer said the list wasn't marked "secret."

"The government says it was classified," Patrick McLain told the Herald. "Our position is, prove it."

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