

The Federal Crimes Watch Daily

When The FBI Comes Calling...*

Federal Criminal Defense Lawyers

Friday, October 7, 2011

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California Man Pleads Guilty to Million-Dollar Investment Fraud

McNabb Associates, P.C. (Federal Criminal Defense Lawyers)

Submitted at 8:22 AM October 7, 2011

The Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) on October 6, 2011 released the following:

"TRENTON, NJ— A California man pleaded guilty today to wire fraud and tax evasion for his role in a \$1 million investment fraud scheme, U.S. Attorney Paul J. Fishman announced.

Robert Schroy, 66, of California, pleaded guilty before U.S. District Court Judge Joel A. Pisano in Trenton federal court to a criminal information charging him with one count each of wire fraud and tax evasion.

According to documents filed in the case and statements made in court:

Schroy said from 2004 through 2009 he solicited people to invest in an alleged "international bank trade." Schroy admitted he and his co-schemers falsely promised prospective investors extraordinary gains—ranging between 10 and 100 percent per week for a minimum period of 25 weeks—plus the return of their principal investment. Based on Schroy's misrepresentations, numerous investors, including investors in New Jersey, wired investment monies to accounts controlled by Schroy and his coschemers. The money was wired to the designated accounts, however, Schroy admitted it was not invested in any supposed bank trade. Instead it was used by Schroy and his co-schemers for

New York Resident and His Company Plead Guilty to Conspiracy to Export Computer-Related Equipment to Iran

(USDOJ: Justice News)

Submitted at 12:53 PM October 7, 2011

Jeng "Jay" Shih and Sunrise
Technologies and Trading Corporation
pleaded guilty today in the District of
Columbia to conspiracy to illegally export
U.S.-origin computers from the United
States to Iran through the United Arab
Emirates.

personal expenditures, including automobiles, vacations, and meals at restaurants. In total, Schroy admitted he and his coschemers misappropriated at least \$1 million in investor money.

In pleading guilty to the tax evasion count, Schroy specifically admitted he failed to file a 2007 U.S. Individual Income Tax Return and failed to report \$479,566 of taxable income, upon which an additional tax of \$151,781 was owed to the IRS.

The wire fraud charge carries a maximum penalty of 20 years in prison and the tax evasion charge carries a maximum penalty of five years in prison. Both charges carry a maximum fine of \$250,000. Sentencing before Judge Pisano is scheduled for Jan 25, 2012.

U.S. Attorney Fishman praised special agents of the FBI, under the direction of Special Agent in charge Michael B. Ward, and special agents of the IRS, under the direction of Special Agent in charge Victor W. Lessoff, and the N.J. Bureau of Securities, under the direction of Bureau Chief Abbe R. Tiger, with the investigation that resulted in today's guilty plea.

The government is represented by Assistant U.S. Attorney Christopher J. Kelly of the U.S. Attorney's Office Economic Crimes Unit in Newark. This case was brought in coordination with President Barack Obama's Financia

with President Barack Obama's Financial Fraud Enforcement Task Force. President Obama established the interagency

Financial Fraud Enforcement Task Force to wage an aggressive, coordinated, and proactive effort to investigate and prosecute financial crimes. The task force includes representatives from a broad range of federal agencies, regulatory authorities, inspectors general, and state and local law enforcement who, working together, bring to bear a powerful array of criminal and civil enforcement resources. The task force is working to improve efforts across the federal executive branch, and with state and local partners. to investigate and prosecute significant financial crimes, ensure just and effective punishment for those who perpetrate financial crimes, combat discrimination in the lending and financial markets, and recover proceeds for victims of financial crimes.

Defense Counsel: Joshua Markowitz Esq., Lawrenceville, N.J."

To find additional federal criminal news, please read Federal Crimes Watch Daily. Douglas McNabb and other members of the U.S. law firm practice and write and/or report extensively on matters involving Federal Criminal Defense, INTERPOL Red Notice Removal, International Extradition and OFAC SDN Sanctions Removal.

The author of this blog is Douglas McNabb. Please feel free to contact him directly at

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Chambers County Woman Charged with Conspiring and Aiding Her Deceased Husband to Make 122 Destructive Devices

McNabb Associates, P.C. (Federal Criminal Defense Lawyers)

Submitted at 8:17 AM October 7, 2011

The Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) on October 6, 2011 released the following:

"HOUSTON— A federal grand jury has charged 32-year-old Pamela Leggett of aiding and abetting her deceased common -law husband, Gilbert Ortez, in the making and possessing, along with conspiring to make and possess, destructive devices and firearms, United

States Attorney Kenneth Magidson announced today along with Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) Special Agent in Charge J. Dewey Webb.

The six-count indictment returned by the grand jury today alleges that beginning in March 2006 through July 2009, Leggett and her deceased common-law husband, then residents of Baytown, Texas, Chambers County, accumulated a supply

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Houston Man Charged with Sex Trafficking

McNabb Associates, P.C. (Federal Criminal Defense Lawyers)

Submitted at 8:27 AM October 7, 201

The Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) on October 6, 2011 released the following:

"HOUSTON— A federal grand jury has charged 30-year-old Jerald Bland, aka "Moe Betta," with sex trafficking of two minors and one adult, as well as transporting one adult and one minor for the purposes of prostitution, United States Attorney Kenneth Magidson announced today.

The five-count indictment returned by the grand jury today, alleges that beginning in March 2010 through June 2010, Bland used force, fraud, or coercion to cause two minors and one adult female to engage in commercial sex acts. Bland is also accused of transporting one minor and one adult female from Texas to Louisiana to engage in prostitution in violation of federal statutes.

The United States has sought a court order to transfer Bland from state custody into federal custody to face the charges

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of precursor chemicals that they used to assemble a total of 122 destructive devices. In some instances the chemicals were allegedly obtained via eBay. The destructive devices, according to the indictment, were improvised explosives that, in some cases, contained pieces of rebar, nails, and bullets. Leggett is also accused of being in possession of a machine gun, a short-barreled rifle, and three illegal silencers in violation of federal firearms statutes.

The United States has sought a court order to transfer Leggett from state custody into federal custody to face the charges and appear for arraignment on a date to be set by the court.

Each of the four counts accusing Leggett of aiding and abetting the possession or making of destructive devices and firearms, to include the illegal silencers and the short-barreled rifle, carries a and appear for arraignment on a date to be set by the court.

Each of the three counts accusing Bland of sex trafficking carries a maximum penalty of life imprisonment and a fine of up to \$250,000 upon conviction. Depending on whether a jury were to find that the victims were minors or that he used force, fraud, or coercion, Bland would face minimum mandatory sentences of 10 to 15 years on the sex trafficking charges. The transportation charge relating to the adult victim carries a maximum sentence of up to 10 years in prison. The transportation of a minor charge carries a minimum penalty of 10 years in prison with a maximum of life in prison. Each of those charges also carries a \$250,000 fine. If convicted, upon release from any prison sentence Bland would be subject to at least five years of supervised release in which the court would require the defendant conform to certain requirements based on the nature of the charges. The defendant could be on supervised release for life, and if convicted, the defendant would have to

maximum penalty of 10 years' imprisonment and a fine of up to \$10,000 upon conviction. Possession of a machine gun carries a maximum penalty of 10 years' imprisonment and a fine of up to \$250,000 upon conviction. The conspiracy charge carries a maximum penalty of five years' imprisonment as well as a \$250,000 fine.

This investigation leading to the federal charges was conducted by the Texas Rangers, FBI, ATF, the Chambers County Sheriff's Office, the Baytown Police Department, the Bay Area Regional Bomb Squad, the Texas Department of Public Safety, the Houston Police Department, Metro Police Department Bomb Squad and the Pasadena Police Department. Assistant U.S. Attorney John D. Jocher is prosecuting the case.

An indictment is a formal accusation of criminal conduct, not evidence.

register as a sex offender.

This investigation leading to the federal charges was conducted by the Houston FBI Innocence Lost Task Force in conjunction with Houston Police Department. Assistant U.S. Attorney Sherri L. Zack is prosecuting the case. An indictment is a formal accusation of criminal conduct, not evidence. A defendant is presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty by due process of law."

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