



Royal West Owner Charged in Alleged Securities Fraud Scheme

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

Submitted at 12:05 PM January 5, 2012

The Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) on January 4, 2012 released the following:

“Wifredo A. Ferrer, United States Attorney for the Southern District of Florida, and John V. Gillies, Special Agent in Charge, Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), Miami Field Office, announce that Gaston E. Cantens, 73, of Miami, was charged in a criminal information with one count of conspiracy to commit mail and wire fraud, in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 371.

According to the Information filed in court, Royal West Properties, Inc. (“Royal West”) was a Miami-Dade corporation that promised to pay investors a fixed rate of return on investments made with the company. Gaston E. Cantens was the president of Royal West Properties, Inc. In this capacity, Cantens allegedly recruited individuals to invest in Royal West by promising investors that their investments would be guaranteed by properties or mortgages that acted as collateral.

According to the information, Cantens misappropriated money from investors by making materially false representations and concealing and omitting to state material facts concerning, among other things, the financial condition of Royal West, the manner in which mortgages and properties were assigned as collateral to investors, the assignment of non-performing mortgages, the assignment of mortgages that were paid in full, the

New York Return Preparer Pleads Guilty to Preparing False Tax Returns

(USDOJ: Justice News)

Submitted at 5:35 PM January 5, 2012

The owner of a Dix Hill, N.Y., tax preparation business pleaded guilty today in U.S. District Court in the Eastern District of New York in Central Islip, N.Y., to endeavoring to obstruct the internal revenue laws and aiding in the preparation of false income tax returns.

proper recording of mortgages, and the recording of investors’ interests in properties and mortgages.

Specifically, the Information alleges that Cantens told investors that their moneys were collateralized by individual properties but failed to inform them that the collateralized properties had previously been assigned to other investors. Cantens received moneys from investors based on these misrepresentations, and used the moneys for his personal benefit and to further the fraud scheme.

The information alleges specific instances of fraud. For example, according to the Information, in February 2008, Cantens allegedly assigned a property to Our Lady of Belen Jesuit as collateral for an investment. In May 2008, Cantens assigned the same property again as collateral to investor “R.R.” for an investment. In addition, according to the factual proffer in the plea agreement filed today, Royal West sold the property to “V.R.” and assigned the mortgage on the property to yet another investor, “S.M.” Cantens never informed the investors, including Our Lady of Belen Jesuit, of the existence of other investors or their interests in the property.

Mr. Ferrer commended the investigative efforts of the FBI. Mr. Ferrer also commended the efforts of SEC Regional Director Eric Bustillo and his staff for their contributions to this investigation and its successful prosecution. The case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney H. Ron Davidson.

An information is merely an accusation

Man Pleads Guilty in \$3.4 Million Las Vegas Mortgage Fraud Scheme

(USDOJ: Justice News)

Submitted at 4:01 PM January 5, 2012

Hugo Patrick Coutelin, 62, a resident of Santa Fe, N.M., pleaded guilty before U.S. District Judge Kent J. Dawson in the District of Nevada to conspiring to commit wire fraud, mail fraud and bank fraud.

and a defendant is presumed innocent until proven guilty.

A copy of this press release may be found on the website of the United States Attorney’s Office for the Southern District of Florida at <http://www.usdoj.gov/usao/fls>. Related court documents and information may be found on the website of the District Court for the Southern District of Florida at <http://www.flsd.uscourts.gov> or on <http://pacer.flsd.uscourts.gov>.”

Douglas McNabb – McNabb Associates, P.C.’s

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Home Health Agency Owner Pleads Guilty in Connection with Detroit Fraud Scheme

(USDOJ: Justice News)

Submitted at 6:05 PM January 5, 2012

Detroit-area resident Tausif Rahman pleaded guilty today for his role in organizing a \$14 million Detroit-area home health care fraud and money laundering scheme.



Fort Lauderdale Police Officer Charged with Alleged Wire Fraud

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

Submitted at 3:07 PM January 5, 2012

The Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) on January 4, 2012 released the following:

“Wifredo A. Ferrer, United States Attorney for the Southern District of Florida; John V. Gillies, Special Agent in Charge, Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), Miami Field Office; and Franklin Adderley, Chief of Police, Fort Lauderdale Police Department, announced the filing of a criminal information charging defendant David Michael McElligott, 47, of Warner Robins, GA and currently stationed at Robins Air Force Base, GA, with one count of wire fraud, in violation of 18 U.S.C. §1343. If convicted, the defendant faces a statutory maximum of 20 years in prison.

The information alleges that McElligott, a Fort Lauderdale police officer since 1991, has been on extended military leave, serving in the U.S. Air Force since 2001. Since September 2003, he allegedly submitted falsified Military Leave and Earnings Statements and military orders to the Fort Lauderdale Police Department and the City of Fort Lauderdale. According to the information, the defendant submitted the falsified Leave and Earnings Statements to increase the supplemental pay he received from the

City of Fort Lauderdale pursuant to the City’s Supplemental Pay Policy. The information further alleges that the defendant submitted the falsified military orders so that he could falsely assert his entitlement to extend his rights under federal law to return to his job as a police officer. According to the information, McElligott transmitted the falsified documents via facsimile and/or e-mail to an employee in the payroll department of the Fort Lauderdale Police Department.

This investigation began as a result of information discovered by the Fort Lauderdale Police Department during an internal review. The Fort Lauderdale Police Department immediately contacted the FBI Public Corruption Task Force, and continued to assist in the investigation that resulted in today’s charges.

Mr. Ferrer commended the investigative efforts of the FBI’s Broward County Public Corruption Task Force and the Fort Lauderdale Police Department. The case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Richard P. Murad.

An information is only an accusation and a defendant is presumed innocent until proven guilty.

A copy of this press release may be found on the website of the United States Attorney’s Office for the Southern District of Florida at <http://www.usdoj.gov/usao/fls>. Related court documents and

information may be found on the website of the District Court for the Southern District of Florida at <http://www.flsd.uscourts.gov> or on <http://pacer.flsd.uscourts.gov>.”

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Madison Federal Grand Jury Returns Indictment

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

Submitted at 8:07 AM January 5, 2012

The Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) on January 4, 2012 released the following:

“MADISON, WI—A federal grand jury in the Western District of Wisconsin, sitting in Madison, returned the following indictment today. You are advised that a charge is merely an accusation and that a defendant is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty.

Rock Springs Man Charged with Distributing and Possessing Child Pornography

Anthony J. Bonham, 43, Rock Springs, Wis., is charged with distribution of child pornography and possession of child pornography. The indictment alleges that on August 5, 2011, Bonham distributed computer image and video files which

depicted minors engaged in sexually explicit conduct. The indictment further alleges that on November 16, 2011, he possessed four computer hard drives and a CD-R which contained child pornography.

If convicted, Bonham faces a mandatory minimum penalty of five years and a maximum penalty of 20 years in federal prison on the distribution count, and a maximum penalty of 10 years in federal prison on the possession count. The charges against him are the result of an investigation by the Federal Bureau of Investigation. The prosecution of this case has been assigned to Assistant U.S. Attorney Timothy M. O’Shea.”

Douglas McNabb – McNabb Associates, P.C.’s

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Florida Man Pleads Guilty to Transportation of Child Pornography

(USDOJ: Justice News)

Submitted at 6:28 PM January 5, 2012

A Largo, Fla., resident pleaded guilty today in the Middle District of Florida to

one count of transportation of child pornography.



APNewsBreak: Feds charge DC councilman with theft

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

Submitted at 12:22 PM January 5, 2012

The Associated Press (AP) on January 5, 2012 released the following:
"By BEN NUCKOLS and ERIC TUCKER

Associated Press
WASHINGTON (AP) — D.C. Councilman Harry Thomas Jr. was charged Thursday with stealing more than \$350,000 in government funds and filing false tax returns.

The two felony counts against Thomas, a 51-year-old Democrat, were detailed in a criminal information document filed in U.S. District Court on Thursday. That document typically indicates a defendant intends to plead guilty.

Although the document does not say what Thomas did with the alleged stolen funds from the District of Columbia. He had been previously accused of spending the money on a luxury SUV, travel and rounds of golf. Thomas agreed to pay back \$300,000 in a civil settlement with the District of Columbia attorney general, although he missed a scheduled \$50,000 payment that was due Tuesday.

Delaware Man Sentenced to 30 Years in Prison for Production and Transportation of Child Pornography

(USDOJ: Justice News)

Submitted at 3:18 PM January 5, 2012

Leonard Wasylyk, 49, was also sentenced to lifetime supervised release and will be required to register as a sex offender in any jurisdiction in which he lives, works or attends school.

Office Manager for Miami Home Health Company Sentenced to 78 Months in Prison for Role in \$25 Million Health Care Fraud Scheme

(USDOJ: Justice News)

Submitted at 4:31 PM January 5, 2012

Two of her co-defendants were also sentenced to prison today for their roles in the fraud scheme.

The tax return charge accuses Thomas of failing to report \$356,000 in income between 2007 and 2009.

Thomas was also ordered to forfeit an SUV and a motorcycle that were seized last month by federal agents who raided his home.

His attorney, Frederick Cooke, did not immediately return a call seeking comment. The U.S. Attorney's Office also had no immediate comment.

Thomas is the son of a longtime D.C. councilmember. He was elected in 2006 to represent Ward 5, a majority-black, mixed-income section of the district that includes parts of its northeast and northwest quadrants. He was re-elected in 2010.

Within the past two weeks, he has encouraged his remaining staff to search for new jobs, according to multiple council employees with knowledge of his actions who spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to disclose that information.

District of Columbia law would allow him to continue serving until he goes to prison, but a guilty plea related to misuse of city funds would make it difficult for

Minnesota Man Pleads Guilty to Sexual Abuse of Minors

(USDOJ: Justice News)

Submitted at 6:25 PM January 5, 2012

A Minnesota man pleaded guilty today in federal court in Minneapolis to abusive sexual contact of two minor boys.

Wendy's Robbery Suspect Captured

(U.S. Marshals Service News)

Submitted at 11:26 AM January 5, 2012

January 04, 2012 - A Savannah man wanted for the Armed Robbery of the Wendy's on Wilmington Island was arrested by the Macon Office of the U.S. Marshals Service Southeast Regional Fugitive Task Force. Ronnie James Holder was wanted by the Savannah Chatham Metropolitan Police Department (SCMPD) for the Armed Robbery of the Wendy's on Wilmington Island.

him to remain in office."

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