



Michael Wilkerson, Joyce Wilkerson, Lee Garell, and Denise Haines Indicted by a Philadelphia Federal Grand Jury in an Alleged Mortgage Fraud Scheme

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

Submitted at 4:10 PM September 30, 2011

The Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) on September 29, 2011 released the following:

“Pennsylvania Pastor Charged in Mortgage Fraud Scheme

PHILADELPHIA— Michael Wilkerson, Joyce Wilkerson, Lee Garell, and Denise Haines were charged today with engaging in a scheme to defraud JP Morgan Chase’s predecessor, Chase Manhattan Bank, by fraudulently obtaining home loans valued at more than \$6 million for properties located in Schwenksville and Glenmoore, Montgomery County, Penn., announced U.S. Attorney for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania Zane David Memeger.

According to the indictment, Michael Wilkerson, pastor of New Life Millennium Life Restoration Fellowship in Montgomery County, recruited several of his congregants and the congregants’ families and friends to participate in a number of real estate transactions. If they had good credit and acted as “straw purchasers”—meaning they would sign loan documents as the purchaser of a house and attend the property settlement—Michael Wilkerson would pay them \$15,000. Wilkerson would allegedly pay another \$5,000 if they referred other straw purchasers to him. Wilkerson recruited at least five individuals who agreed to be straw purchasers of homes. The indictment alleges that Joyce Wilkerson participated in the fraud scheme by assisting Michael Wilkerson, explaining the transactions to the “straws,” paying the “straws” and also pretending to be a co-purchaser of each of the homes at the time of settlement. The indictment alleges that Garell, a real estate broker with Long & Foster Companies, prepared the sales paperwork for each of

the homes that was sold to the “straws” and, along with Michael Wilkerson, dictated the fraudulent terms set out in the settlement sheets.

The indictment alleges that Haines, a mortgage broker with American Group Mortgage Corporation, submitted fraudulent loan applications in the transactions to Chase Manhattan Bank. These fraudulent loan applications falsely represented the appraised value of the homes, the identification of the “straws,” the source of funds, the borrower’s income and assets, and their intent to take possession of the homes as their primary residence. Based on the representations made in the loan documents, Haines knew she could get Chase Manhattan Bank to approve the loans with little verification of the information on the loan applications.

When the loans were funded at the time of settlement, Michael Wilkerson, Joyce Wilkerson, Garell and Haines allegedly manipulated the documents prepared at settlement and, later, forwarded the settlement documents to Chase Manhattan Bank to make it appear to the bank that the “straws” brought considerable cash to the closings, when, in fact, all of the money involved at the settlement actually came from Chase Manhattan Bank. The defendants allegedly shared in the profits from the fraudulent sales.

According to the indictment, after settlement on the homes, Michael Wilkerson took possession of all of the homes, rented four of them and lived in another. He paid the mortgages with rental income for approximately six months then told the “straw” purchasers that they had to pay the mortgages. This last act led to the loans falling into default and then foreclosure, resulting in a loss of approximately \$3 million.

If convicted, each defendant faces a maximum possible sentence of 180 years

in prison, five years’ supervised release, a fine of up to \$6 million, and a \$600 special assessment.

The case was investigated by the FBI and is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Anita Eve.

An indictment or information is an accusation. A defendant is presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty.

President Obama established the 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.”

To find additional federal criminal news, please read [Federal Crimes Watch Daily](#).

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Attorney General Holder Meets with Muslim Leaders in Portland

Tracy Russo (USDOJ: Justice Blog)

Submitted at 1:28 PM September 30, 2011

This week, Attorney General Eric Holder and U.S. Attorney for the District of Oregon Dwight Holton met with Arab-

American and Muslim leaders in Portland to discuss the department’s commitment to protecting the rights of the Muslim, Sikh, Arab-American, and South Asian communities. Attendees included: Salma

Ahmad, Gulzar Ahmed, Shariar Ahmed, Shamima Banu, Mohammed Ridha, Mostafa Arifin, [...]



Thirty-Six Defendants with Alleged Ties to Hells Angels Motorcycle Club Charged in Federal Drug Conspiracy Investigation

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

Submitted at 3:57 PM September 30, 2011

The Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) on September 29, 2011 released the following:

"Keith Slotter, Special Agent in Charge of the San Diego FBI office, announces the arrest of 26 people with ties to the Hells Angels Motorcycle Club. Six defendants were already in custody and four are considered fugitives at this time.

On Thursday, September 29, 2011, over 250 law enforcement officers, deputies, and agents from San Diego County participated in arrests and searches of individuals and locations with ties to the Hells Angels Motorcycle Club.

Twenty-six people were arrested today on federal drug charges, and 19 locations searched. The searches resulted in the seizure of thousands of dollars in U.S. currency, 10 firearms, and quantities of drugs.

The charges in this matter stem from a two-year investigation conducted by the FBI's Violent Crime Gang Task Force. The investigation focused on the methamphetamine trafficking and violent crimes committed by the Hells Angels Motorcycle Club (San Diego Charter) and their criminal partners. As set forth in the complaint, the defendants are members and associates of the Hells Angels Motorcycle Club. During this investigation agents and detectives prevented a kidnapping.

The complaint charges the following defendants with Title 21, United States Code, Section 841(a)(1), 846-Conspiracy

Justice Department Requires Morgan Stanley to Disgorge \$4.8 Million in Profits from Anticompetitive Agreement

(USDOJ: Justice News)

Submitted at 2:04 PM September 30, 2011

The Department of Justice today reached a settlement with Morgan Stanley that requires Morgan to pay \$4.8 million for violating the antitrust laws by entering into an agreement with KeySpan Corporation that restrained competition in the New York City electricity capacity market.

U.S. v. Gloria F. Harper

(Antitrust Division: Upcoming Public Hearings)

Submitted at 6:06 AM September 30, 2011

to Distribute Methamphetamine.

- Michael Edward Ottinger Jr. (1)
- David Raymond Garcia (2)
- Ernesto Verdugo Jr. (3)
- Jonathan Alfredo Garcia-Jara (4)
- Robert Cota Jr. (5)
- Martin Francisco Moreno (6)
- Jaime Mota-Marquillo (7)
- Hugo Gomez Flores (8)
- Rory Cruz Flanigan (9)
- Jason Alex Scanlon (10)
- Stephan Paul Vukelich (11)
- Eduardo Andres Sarquiz (12)
- Juan Antonio Mendez (13)
- Philip John Castagnola (14)
- Billy Manuel Castellano (15)
- Daniel Joseph Seiler (16)
- Grant Eugent Bisel Jr. (17)
- Cynthia Marie Stephan (18)
- Matthew Joseph Mooney (19)
- Cheryl Marie Frega (20)
- Darrel Lee Cooper (21)
- Robert Blaine Hodges (22)
- Mercedes Nina Cohen (23)
- Bruce Kevin Lambert (24)
- Jason Michael Bradford (25)
- Douglas Edward Witcher (26)
- Phalen Farber (27)
- Tina Marie Bray (28)
- Derek Ralph Low (29)
- Mary Elizabeth Saber (30)
- Martin Thomas Forschner (31)
- Quinton Lynn Koonce II (32)
- Anthony James Medvec (33)
- Andre Guy Almarez (34)

Charged in a separate complaint were Patrick James Haggerty and Leo David Garcia, Jr. Both were charged with Title 21, United States Code, Section 841(a)

Former Colombian Maritime Training Instructor and Co-Conspirator Sentenced to Prison on U.S. Drug Charges

(USDOJ: Justice News)

Submitted at 1:12 PM September 30, 2011

A former Colombian maritime training instructor and a co-conspirator were sentenced to federal prison today for conspiring to transport thousands of kilograms of cocaine from various ports along the coast of Colombia to waiting vessels that transported the cocaine to the United States and other countries.

Sentencing hearing has been scheduled for December 15, 2011 at 9:30 a.m.

(1), 846-Conspiracy to Distribute Methamphetamine.

Members of the FBI Violent Crime Gang Task Force are as follows: San Diego Police Department, San Diego Sheriff's Department, Bureau of Prisons, National City Police Department, Chula Vista Police Department, Internal Revenue Service, U.S. Attorney's Office, San Diego District Attorney's Office, and San Diego County Probation Department.

Those arrested in today's operation have been booked into the Metropolitan Correctional Center and will have their initial appearance before a U.S. Magistrate Judge on Friday, September 30, 2011. This case is being prosecuted by the U.S. Attorney's Office.

An arrest itself is not evidence that the defendants committed crimes charged. The defendants are presumed innocent until the government meets its burden in court of proving guilt beyond a reasonable doubt."

To find additional federal criminal news, please read [Federal Crimes Watch Daily](#).

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Attorney General Eric Holder Speaks at the Installation Ceremony for Assistant Attorneys General Virginia Seitz and Lisa Monaco

(USDOJ: Justice News)

Submitted at 3:28 PM September 30, 2011

"Today, as Lisa Monaco and Virginia Seitz are officially sworn into their leadership roles, we not only celebrate the latest achievements in two remarkable careers; we also mark an exciting, and historic, new chapter in the history of our nation's Department of Justice," said Attorney General Holder.

Eastern.



Six Additional Defendants Charged in “Operation Prairie Eagle”

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

Submitted at 4:21 PM September 30, 2011

The Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) on September 29, 2011 released the following:

“PEORIA, IL—A federal grand jury has returned indictments against six additional defendants as a result of “Operation Prairie Eagle,” a cooperative investigation targeting distribution of crack cocaine and marijuana in the Bloomington-Normal area. Fifteen defendants were previously indicted in May 2011.

The charges are the result of an Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Force (OCDETF) investigation by the Federal Bureau of Investigation – Springfield Division and the Normal Police Department, with assistance provided by the Bloomington Police Department, the McLean County Sheriff’s Office, the McLean County State’s Attorney’s Office, and the U.S. Attorney’s Office for the Central District of Illinois.

Four defendants, Richard George Martin, 32, of Bloomington, Ill.; Shane C. Crawford, 30, of Streator, Ill.; Chad Joseph Graff, 35, also of Streator; and Alex William Guhlstorff, 39, of Normal, are charged with conspiracy to distribute and possession with intent to distribute cocaine and marijuana. The one-count indictment alleges the conspiracy began in 2001 and continued to the present and involved more than five kilograms of cocaine and more than 100 kilograms of marijuana. The indictment also seeks

criminal forfeiture of Martin’s bank accounts and cash totaling approximately \$107,059.

If convicted, the statutory mandatory minimum penalty for conspiracy to distribute and possess with the intent to distribute cocaine and marijuana is 10 years to life in prison. If a defendant has one or more prior felony drug convictions, the mandatory minimum penalty is 20 years to life in prison. With two or more prior felony drug convictions, the statutory penalty is life in prison.

In a separate indictment, Kelsie Linea Thirtyacre, 26, currently of Las Vegas, previously of Springfield, Ill., and Julie Lynn Foster, 32, of Cicero, Ill., are charged with one count of conspiracy to distribute and possession with intent to distribute marijuana. The indictment alleges the conspiracy began in 2001 and continued to Apr. 5, 2011, and involved more than 100 kilograms of marijuana. The women also each face three additional charges of using a telephone in furtherance of a drug trafficking crime.

If convicted, conspiracy to distribute and possess with the intent to distribute marijuana carries a mandatory minimum penalty of five years to life in prison; if a defendant has one or more prior felony drug convictions, the mandatory minimum penalty is 10 years to life in prison. For using a telephone in furtherance of a drug trafficking crime, the penalty is up to four years in prison.

The two indictments were returned yesterday; however, the charges had

remained sealed pending the defendants’ arrests and court appearances today. Crawford, Graff, Guhlstorff, and Foster were arrested this morning and appeared in federal court in Peoria this afternoon before U.S. Magistrate Judge John A. Gorman. All were detained in the custody of the U.S. Marshals Service pending hearings scheduled next week. Foster’s next hearing date is Oct. 6; hearings for Crawford, Graff and Guhlstorff are scheduled on Oct. 7. Martin, who is currently in the custody of the Illinois Department of Corrections, will appear at a later date. Thirtyacre was arrested this morning in Las Vegas, and will make an initial appearance in federal court in Las Vegas.

Members of the public are reminded that an indictment is merely an accusation; the defendants are presumed innocent unless proven guilty.”

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.

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ICE ‘most wanted’ fugitive indicted for human trafficking

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

Submitted at 3:43 PM September 30, 2011

The U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) on September 29, 2011 released the following:

“TAMPA, Fla. – A former fugitive on U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement’s (ICE) Homeland Security Investigations (HSI) list of most wanted criminals was indicted Thursday on four counts of conspiracy to entice a minor to engage in a commercial sex act, four counts of enticing a minor to engage in a commercial sex act, three counts of production of child pornography, and one count of being a felon in possession of a firearm.

Eric Antwan Bell, 37, was featured in June on the television show “America’s

Most Wanted.” He was arrested Aug. 31 in Parsippany, N.J. by ICE HSI and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI).

If convicted on all counts, he faces a maximum penalty of life in federal prison. According to the indictment, Bell, along with a co-conspirator, enticed four minor victims to engage in prostitution. Bell and his co-conspirator lived off of the prostitution proceeds. Bell produced child pornography of the four minors and possessed multiple firearms after being convicted of a felony offense.

The indictment notifies Bell that the United States intends to forfeit numerous items of electronic media and firearms seized from his residence.

This case was investigated by the Clearwater Area Human Trafficking Task Force, ICE HSI and the FBI. Other task

force members include state and local law enforcement agencies and non-governmental partners.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Stacie B. Harris will prosecute the case.”

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David Riley Burke Indicted by a Jefferson City Federal Grand Jury with Alleged Bank Robbery

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

Submitted at 6:02 AM September 30, 2011

The Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) on September 29, 2011 released the following:

“Higginsville Man Indicted for Bank Robbery

JEFFERSON CITY, MO— Beth Phillips, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that a Higginsville, Mo., man was indicted by a federal grand jury today for robbing U.S. Bank in Sedalia, Mo.

David Riley Burke, 40, of Higginsville, was charged with bank robbery in an indictment returned by a federal grand jury in Jefferson City. Today’s indictment replaces a federal criminal complaint that was filed against Burke on Sept. 12, 2011.

The indictment alleges that Burke stole \$2,622 from U.S. Bank, 116 W. 4th St., Sedalia, on Aug. 29, 2011.

According to an affidavit filed in support of the original criminal complaint, Burke entered the bank at about 1:18 p.m. on

Japanese Freight Forwarding Company Agrees to Plead Guilty to Criminal Price-Fixing Charge

(USDOJ: Justice News)

Submitted at 2:12 PM September 30, 2011

A Japanese freight forwarder has agreed to plead guilty and to pay a \$1.84 million criminal fine for its role in a conspiracy to fix certain fees in connection with the provision of freight forwarding services for air cargo shipments from Japan to the United States.

Virginia Real Estate Businessman Sentenced to 10 Years in Prison for Mortgage and Investment Fraud Schemes

(USDOJ: Justice News)

Submitted at 1:15 PM September 30, 2011

Alexander Otis Matthews, a Virginia real estate businessman, was sentenced today to 10 years in prison in connection with mortgage and investment schemes to obtain more than \$12 million in fraudulent loans.

Justice Department Files Lawsuit Against Truman, Minnesota, to Protect the Employment Rights of U.S. Army Reservist

(USDOJ: Justice News)

Submitted at 1:08 PM September 30, 2011

The Department of Justice filed a lawsuit

Aug. 29, 2011, and waited in the teller line behind another customer. When he approached the teller, Burke allegedly handed her a note that said he had a gun and wanted money. The teller gave Burke the money from her drawer, the affidavit says, which he grabbed and then ran out of the bank.

The bank’s surveillance cameras captured images of Burke, the affidavit says, and a Higginsville, Mo., police officer recognized Burke’s photo in an alert that was distributed to law enforcement agencies. Burke’s mother and former girlfriend confirmed that identification, and Burke’s fingerprint was found on the robbery note that was left behind at the teller’s counter.

According to the affidavit, Burke indicated he was planning to travel to Mexico. A sealed criminal complaint was filed for bank robbery and an arrest warrant was issued for Burke, who was arrested in Texas.

Phillips cautioned that the charge contained in this indictment is simply an

Florida Man Sentenced for Filing False Liens Against Federal Law Enforcement Employees

(USDOJ: Justice News)

Submitted at 1:20 PM September 30, 2011

Mark D. Leitner was sentenced to 30 months in prison after pleading guilty in July to filing false liens against federal law enforcement employees and corruptly endeavoring to impede and impair the Internal Revenue Service.

Hitachi-LG Data Storage Inc. Agrees to Plead Guilty to Participating in Bid-Rigging and Price-Fixing Conspiracies Involving Optical Disk Drives

(USDOJ: Justice News)

Submitted at 1:55 PM September 30, 2011

Hitachi-LG Data Storage Inc. has agreed to plead guilty and to pay a \$21.1 million criminal fine for its participation in a series of conspiracies to rig bids and fix prices for the sale of optical disk drives.

today on behalf of Michael Schutz, a member of the U.S. Army Reserves, against the city of Truman, Minn.

accusation, and not evidence of guilt. Evidence supporting the charge must be presented to a federal trial jury, whose duty is to determine guilt or innocence.

This case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Anthony P. Gonzalez. It was investigated by the FBI, the Sedalia, Mo., Police Department, the Higginsville, Mo., Police Department and the Missouri State Highway Patrol.”

To find additional federal criminal news, please read [Federal Crimes Watch Daily](#).

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Harris County, Texas, Commissioner Pleads Guilty to Making a False Statement to FBI; Real Estate Developer Pleads Guilty to False Tax Statement

(USDOJ: Justice News)

Submitted at 2:35 PM September 30, 2011

Harris County Commissioner Gerald R. Eversole and Houston-based real estate developer Michael D. Surface both pleaded guilty today in federal court in Houston to making false statements.

Justice Department Seeks to Bar Former Owner of Brooklyn, N.Y., Tax Firm from Preparing Federal Tax Returns

(USDOJ: Justice News)

Submitted at 2:05 PM September 30, 2011

The United States has filed a lawsuit against Annie P. Williams to bar her from preparing federal tax returns for others.

U.S. v. Allen K. French

(Antitrust Division: Criminal Case Filings)

Submitted at 7:13 AM September 30, 2011

Document filed on September 15, 2011
• [Criminal Information](#)



U.S. v. Chien Chung Chen, aka Andrew Chen

(Antitrust Division: Upcoming Public Hearings)

Submitted at 6:06 AM September 30, 2011

Sentencing hearing has been rescheduled
for July 17, 2012 at 2:30 p.m. Pacific.

FBI's Top Ten News Stories for the Week Ending September 30, 2011

fbi (Current)

Submitted at 6:00 AM September 30, 2011

— Washington, D.C.