

ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE FIGHTS MORTGAGE FRAUD

CHARGED 20 CASES WITH FRAUD TOTALING OVER \$1.75 M.

The Attorney General's Office has made prosecuting mortgage fraud a priority for his office. A mortgage fraud unit was created and teamed up with the Michigan State Police and other law enforcement agencies to tackle the problem. Since January 2009, the Attorney General's Office has arrested twenty individuals charged with mortgage fraud related crimes totaling at least \$1.75 million in losses. They have been charged with some of the toughest crimes a prosecutor can charge for white collar crime - racketeering, uttering and publishing and false pretenses.

These mortgage fraud schemes involve the use of inflated appraisals and straw buyers to gain mortgages far greater than the value of the property. The criminals take the extra money from the mortgage and leave the straw buyer hanging with a mortgage they cannot afford and property worth far less than the mortgage amount. The following twenty people have been charged and this is only the beginning:

NAME	CHARGE	COURT
1. People v. Patricia Michno	Uttering & Publishing	6 th Circuit Court – Oakland
2. People v. Dequincy Hyatt	Racketeering/False Pretenses	16 th Circuit Court – Macomb
3. People v. Seaesther Thompson-Hayes	Racketeering/False Pretenses	16 th Circuit Court – Macomb
4. People v. Aaron Brooks	Racketeering/False Pretenses	16 th Circuit Court – Macomb
5. People v. Pietro Biundo	False Pretenses	41B District Court – Clinton Township
6. People v. Evelyn Santana	ID Theft/False Pretenses	3 rd Circuit Court – Wayne
7. People v. Dagoberto Reyes	ID Theft/False Pretenses	3 rd Circuit Court – Wayne
8. People v. Bilal Hashem	Uttering & Publishing/False Pretenses	3 rd Circuit Court – Wayne
9. People v. Ali Haidous	Uttering & Publishing/False Pretenses	3 rd Circuit Court – Wayne
10. People v. Sami Makky	Uttering & Publishing/False Pretenses	3 rd Circuit Court – Wayne
11. People v. Mahmed Beydoun	Uttering & Publishing/False Pretenses	3 rd Circuit Court – Wayne
12. People v. Eddie Zaben	Racketeering/False Pretenses	3 rd Circuit Court – Wayne
13. People v. Hayder Azawi	Racketeering/False Pretenses	3 rd Circuit Court – Wayne
14. People v. Jeffrey Barry	False Pretenses	29 th Circuit Court – St. Johns
15. People v. Damon Clark	Racketeering/False Pretenses	8 th Circuit Court - Stanton
16. People v. Reginald Tardy	Racketeering/False Pretenses	8 th Circuit Court - Stanton
17. People v. Maria Hernandez	False Pretenses/Identity Theft	17 th Circuit Court – Grand Rapids

18. People v. Richard Gosselin	Racketeering/False Pretenses	3 rd Circuit Court – Wayne
19. People v. Rita Gosselin	Racketeering/False Pretenses	3 rd Circuit Court – Wayne
20. People v. John Klein	Uttering & Publishing/False Pretenses	6 th Circuit Court – Oakland

*** The Attorney General's Office and the Michigan State Police are investigating many mortgage fraud cases and expect to be issuing charges.**

ARE YOU A VICTIM OF MORTGAGE FRAUD

If you feel you may have been a victim of mortgage fraud, you should immediately file a complaint with the Attorney General's Consumer Protection Division.

You can file your complaint online at:

<https://secure.ag.state.mi.us/complaints/foreclosure.aspx>;

or print out the form at:

http://www.michigan.gov/documents/ag/Foreclosure_Rescue_Complaint_Form_11-6-09_299895_7.pdf

and mail or fax to the Consumer Protection Division at:

**Consumer Protection Division
P.O. Box 30213-7713
Lansing, MI 48909**

Toll Free No: 1-877-765-8388

Facsimile: 517-241-3771

