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WLERK US DISTRICT COUNTY SOUTHERN BISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

BY KNH BEPUTY

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

July 2007 Grand Jury

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, Criminal Case No. 06CR1806-W Plaintiff. INDICTMENT (2nd Superseding) Title 18, U.S.C., Sec. 371 -Conspiracy; Title 18, U.S.C., Sec. 1344 - Bank Fraud; Title 26, STERLING WAYNE PIRTLE (1), RONALD ALLEN FISHER (2), MARK EDWARD FISHER (3), U.S.C., Sec. 7201 - Tax Evasion; NANCY FISHER (5), Title 18, U.S.C., Sec. 1343 - Wire Fraud; Title 18, U.S.C., Defendants. Sec. 1957 - Money Laundering; Title 18, U.S.C., Sec. 2 - Aiding and Abetting; Title 18, U.S.C., Sec. 3147 - Commission of Offense While on Pretrial Release

The grand jury charges:

#### INTRODUCTORY ALLEGATIONS

At all times material herein unless otherwise noted:

#### General Background

- 1. Defendant STERLING WAYNE PIRTLE was a United States citizen who resided in Las Vegas, Nevada.
- 2. Defendants RONALD ALLEN FISHER and NANCY FISHER were United States citizens who resided in San Diego County, California, and Tierra Verde, Florida.

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- 4. In or about the calendar years 1999, 2000, and 2001, each of the defendants received substantial sums of money from the operation of a corporation named Commercial Money Center, Inc. (hereinafter "CMC"). Instead of receiving all of their compensation directly from CMC, the defendants paid themselves "commissions" or "management fees" through a variety of separate shell corporations. During the relevant period, the following defendants received income, and/or held assets and property, in the names of the following nominees:
- a. Defendant STERLING WAYNE PIRTLE through Capital Markets Corp., Sterling Trust, Capital Leasing Corp., and FSBO Inc.;
- b. Defendant RONALD ALLEN FISHER through Capital Markets Corp., Edward Allen Trust, and Care-Med Centers, Inc.; and
  - c. Defendant MARK EDWARD FISHER through Stegie, Inc.
- 5. The Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (hereinafter, "FDIC") was an agency of the United States government established, in part, to regulate, supervise, and insure the deposits of financial institutions. During the relevant period, the following financial institutions' deposits were federally insured by the FDIC:
- a. Lakeland Bank, A State Charter, located in Oak Ridge, New Jersey (hereinafter, "Lakeland Bank");
- b. Ameriana Bank & Trust of Indiana, located in New
  Castle, Indiana (hereinafter, "Ameriana Bank");
- c. Bank of Waukegan, located in Waukegan, Illinois
  (hereinafter, "Bank of Waukegan");

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- d. Atlantic Coast Federal, located in Waycross, Georgia (hereinafter, "Atlantic Coast Federal");
- e. United Security Bank, located in Fresno, California (hereinafter, "United Security Bank");
- f. The Huntington National Bank, located in Cleveland, Ohio (hereinafter, "Huntington National Bank"); and
- g. Sky Bank Mid Am Region, located in Toledo, Ohio (hereinafter, "Sky Bank").

#### CMC's Operations

- 6. CMC was a Nevada corporation registered to do business in the state of California, with offices in Escondido, California, Las Vegas, Nevada, and Tampa, Florida. Defendants STERLING WAYNE PIRTLE and RONALD ALLEN FISHER founded CMC in 1997, with defendant STERLING WAYNE PIRTLE serving as a director and the president of CMC, and defendant RONALD ALLEN FISHER as a director and the secretary and treasurer. Shortly thereafter, defendant MARK EDWARD FISHER became the chief operating officer of CMC.
- 7. CMC was engaged in the business of leasing equipment such as trucks, pumps, and, allegedly, medical kiosk equipment (purportedly interactive computer terminals for use in doctors' offices and pharmacies; hereinafter, "kiosks") to lessees. The lease agreements between CMC and the lessees required CMC to purchase the equipment and make it available for the lessees' use in return for monthly lease payments (hereinafter, the "lease payment streams").

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8. Defendants RONALD ALLEN FISHER and MARK EDWARD FISHER controlled and directed the departments within CMC that were responsible for the equipment leases, including the requirement to purchase equipment.

- 9. After a number of lease agreements were signed by lessees, CMC would gather them together into a lease pool and then cause sureties or insurance companies to guarantee the lease payment streams through bonds or insurance policies. Defendants STERLING WAYNE PIRTLE, RONALD ALLEN FISHER, and MARK EDWARD FISHER were responsible for the pooling, and bonding or insuring of leases at CMC.
- either directly or indirectly assigning rights associated with that pool to a financial institution for money provided directly or indirectly by those financial institutions. The rights CMC assigned to the financial institutions included the right to receive the lease payment streams and the rights to the bonds or insurance policies on those leases. The financial institutions also were granted a security interest in the equipment underlying the pooled leases. CMC entered into a "Sale and Servicing Agreement" (hereinafter, "SSA") documenting the sale, assignment, and granting of these rights and interests. Defendants STERLING WAYNE PIRTLE and MARK EDWARD FISHER signed the SSAs with consultation from defendant RONALD ALLEN FISHER.
- 11. The financial institutions paid between \$2 million and \$50 million to buy lease pools. The Las Vegas, Nevada office of CMC, controlled by defendant STERLING WAYNE PIRTLE, received the payments from the financial institutions for the purchases of lease pools. In consultation with defendants RONALD ALLEN FISHER and/or MARK EDWARD FISHER, defendant STERLING WAYNE PIRTLE determined the amount of money

12. Beginning in or about July 2001, CMC also caused the rights and security interests associated with lease pools to be used as collateral for loans on a revolving line of credit with Sky Bank (hereinafter, the "Credit Line").

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- Through its servicing department, then later through its wholly-owned subsidiary Commercial Servicing Corporation ("CSC"), CMC serviced the leases by collecting lessees' monthly payments and providing reports of its servicing efforts on the leases to the financial institutions (hereinafter "servicing reports"). Defendant MARK EDWARD FISHER, in consultation with defendants RONALD ALLEN FISHER and STERLING WAYNE PIRTLE, directed CMC's servicing operations through the head of CMC's servicing department (who later became CSC's President) who sent the servicing reports to the financial institutions on a monthly basis.
- 14. The defendants caused CMC to obtain over \$300 million dollars from financial institutions for their purchases of lease pools and then declare bankruptcy in May 2002.

## Defendants' Roles At CMC

15. Defendant STERLING WAYNE PIRTLE directed CMC's operations in Las Vegas, Nevada, made and participated in decisions regarding CMC's operations in Escondido, California, and was responsible for locating financial institutions to purchase lease pools, sometimes through the use of investment brokers. He also communicated with financial institutions and sureties/insurance companies, described the CMC lease program to them, and closed most of the lease pool sales.

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27. 28 The financial institutions paid money as consideration for the lease pools to CMC bank accounts in Las Vegas under the control of defendant STERLING WAYNE PIRTLE who directed the transfer of those funds to the Escondido office of CMC as needed.

- Defendant RONALD ALLEN FISHER directed CMC's operations in Escondido with his son, defendant MARK EDWARD FISHER. Both defendants RONALD ALLEN FISHER and MARK EDWARD FISHER were responsible for the equipment leases and pooling for financial leases sale institutions. Like defendant STERLING WAYNE PIRTLE, defendants RONALD ALLEN FISHER and MARK EDWARD FISHER communicated with the financial institutions and sureties/insurance companies, and described the CMC lease program to them. Defendant MARK EDWARD FISHER also closed lease pool sales, directed the payment of funds from the Escondido office, and caused money to be paid by financial institutions to CMC bank accounts in Las Vegas.
- 17. Defendants STERLING WAYNE PIRTLE, RONALD ALLEN FISHER, and MARK EDWARD FISHER oversaw CMC's servicing operations and provided direction to the head of CMC's day-to-day servicing operations.

#### CONSPIRACY - 18 U.S.C. § 371

(Count 1 - All Defendants)

- 18. The Introductory Allegations contained in paragraphs 1 through 17 of this Indictment are realleged and incorporated in this Count as if set forth fully herein.
- 19. Beginning on a date unknown to the grand jury, and continuing until in or about May 2002, within the Southern District of California and elsewhere, defendants STERLING WAYNE PIRTLE, RONALD ALLEN FISHER, and MARK EDWARD FISHER knowingly did conspire with each other, and others known and unknown to the grand jury, to commit

offenses against the United States, to wit, to knowingly execute and attempt to execute a material scheme to defraud, and to obtain money and property from financial institutions, by means of materially false and fraudulent representations and promises and the concealment, failure to disclose, and omissions of material facts; in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 1344 (bank fraud).

Manner and Means

- 20. It was part of the conspiracy that the defendants would not purchase the equipment underlying "leases" that were contained in lease pools sold to financial institutions and used as collateral on the Credit Line (hereinafter, "unfunded leases").
- 21. It was further part of the conspiracy that the defendants would make, and cause others to make, materially false, fraudulent, and misleading representations to financial institutions that equipment had been purchased or promptly would be purchased for the unfunded leases.
- 22. It was further part of the conspiracy that the defendants would conceal from, and fail to disclose to financial institutions, the material fact that the lease pools contained unfunded leases.
- 23. It was further part of the conspiracy that the defendants would make, and cause others to make, materially false, fraudulent, and misleading representations to cause the issuance of bonds or insurance policies on unfunded leases.
- 24. It was further part of the conspiracy that the defendants would cause the transmission of materially false and misleading documents to financial institutions, including false and misleading:
  - a. servicer reports;
  - b. trial balances;

- c. UCC filings;
- d. equipment invoices;
- e. certificates of acceptance;
- f. delivery and acceptance receipts;
- g. schedules of equipment locations;
- h. Quiktrak reports;
- i. promotional materials and offerings;
- j. manuals; and
- k. certificates of insurance.
- 25. It was further part of the conspiracy that the defendants would include and keep "leases" that were "dead," "killed," and incomplete in lease pools.
- 26. It was further part of the conspiracy that the defendants would include and keep "leases" of non-existent kiosks (hereinafter, "kiosk leases") in lease pools.
- 27. It was further part of the conspiracy that the defendants would use companies, including straw kiosk companies, to act as sham lessees on kiosk leases, which were included in lease pools.
- 28. It was further part of the conspiracy that the defendants would conceal defaults on leases from financial institutions.
- 29. It was further part of the conspiracy that the defendants would conceal from financial institutions the extent of delinquencies and shortfalls in the lease payments CMC collected on leases.
- 30. It was further part of the conspiracy that the defendants would misrepresent to financial institutions that CMC was collecting lease payments on "leases" when in reality it was not.

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31. It was further part of the conspiracy that the defendants would conceal from the financial institutions and fail to disclose in CMC's promotional materials the United States Securities and Exchange Commission's 1994 complaint and permanent injunction against defendant RONALD ALLEN FISHER.

## OVERT ACTS

- 32. In furtherance of this conspiracy and to effect the objects thereof, the following overt acts were committed within the Southern District of California, and elsewhere:
- a. In or about 2001, defendant RONALD ALLEN FISHER caused a CMC employee to sign kiosk leases on behalf of a sham kiosk lessee (Countrywide Medical), which leases were used as collateral on the Credit Line, and included in lease pools 2001-6-1 (sold to United Security Bank), 2001-21-12 (sold to Huntington National Bank) and 2001-3-3 (sold to Lakeland Bank);
- b. On or about June 5, 2001, defendant STERLING WAYNE PIRTLE signed an SSA with Ameriana Bank causing the sale of lease pool 2001-4-1 to Ameriana Bank for \$6,002,405.77 that contained unfunded leases;
- C. On or about June 5, 2001, defendant STERLING WAYNE PIRTLE signed an SSA with Lakeland Bank causing the sale of lease pool 2001-3-2 to Lakeland Bank for \$5,000,015.34 that contained unfunded leases;
- d. On or about June 22, 2001, defendant STERLING WAYNE PIRTLE signed an SSA with Bank of Waukegan causing the sale of lease pool 2001-2-2 to Bank of Waukegan for \$2,500,000.00 that contained unfunded leases;

- f. In or about 2001, defendant RONALD ALLEN FISHER caused a CMC employee to sign kiosk leases on behalf of a sham kiosk lessee (National Kiosk Advertising) in the Southern District of California, which leases were used as collateral on the Credit Line, and included in lease pool 2001-4-2 (sold to Ameriana Bank);
- g. On or about August 3, 2001, defendant STERLING WAYNE PIRTLE signed an SSA with Atlantic Coast Federal causing the sale of lease pool 2001-5-1 to Atlantic Coast Federal for \$2,011,449.86 that contained unfunded leases;
- h. On or about August 28, 2001, defendant STERLING WAYNE PIRTLE signed an SSA with Bank of Waukegan causing the sale of lease pool 2001-2-3 to Bank of Waukegan for \$2,497,884.32 that contained unfunded leases;
- i. On or about September 4, 2001, defendant MARK EDWARD FISHER signed an SSA with United Security Bank causing the sale of lease pool 2001-6-1 to United Security Bank for \$6,135,492.50 that contained unfunded leases;
- j. On or about September 4, 2001, defendant STERLING WAYNE PIRTLE signed an SSA with Ameriana Bank causing the sale of lease pool 2001-4-2 to Ameriana Bank for \$6,000,908.83 that contained unfunded leases;

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- 1. In or about 2001, defendant RONALD ALLEN FISHER caused a CMC employee to sign kiosk leases on behalf of a sham kiosk lessee (Countrywide Medical), which leases were used as collateral on the Credit Line, and included in lease pool 2001-21-14 (sold to Sky Bank);
- m. In or about 2001, defendant RONALD ALLEN FISHER caused a CMC employee to sign kiosk leases on behalf of a sham kiosk lessee (National Kiosk Advertising) in the Southern District of California, which leases were used and remained as collateral on the Credit Line;
- n. In or about 2001, defendant STERLING WAYNE PIRTLE caused his step-daughter to sign kiosk leases on behalf of a sham kiosk lessee (Visual Communications), which leases were used as collateral on the Credit Line;
- o. In or about 2001, defendant RONALD ALLEN FISHER caused a CMC employee to sign kiosk leases on behalf of a sham kiosk lessee (Commercial Advertising Agency) in the Southern District of California, which leases were used and remained as collateral on the Credit Line;
- p. On or about November 16, 2001, defendant STERLING WAYNE PIRTLE signed an SSA with Lakeland Bank causing the sale of lease pool 2001-3-4 to Lakeland Bank for \$3,090,263.24 that contained unfunded leases;
- q. On or about November 30, 2001, defendant MARK EDWARD FISHER signed an SSA causing the sale of lease pool 2001-21-14 to Sky Bank for \$5,000,000.00 that contained unfunded leases.
- All in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 371.

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(Counts 2 through 11 - All Defendants)

- 33. The Introductory Allegations contained in paragraphs 1 through 17, and paragraphs 20 through 32 of this Indictment are realleged and incorporated in these Counts as if set forth fully herein.
- 34. Beginning on a date unknown to the grand jury, and continuing thereafter until in or about May 2002, within the Southern District of California and elsewhere, defendants STERLING WAYNE PIRTLE, RONALD ALLEN FISHER, and MARK EDWARD FISHER, and others known and unknown to the grand jury, did knowingly execute and attempt to execute a material scheme and artifice to defraud financial institutions, and to obtain money owned by and under the control of financial institutions, by means of materially false and fraudulent pretenses, representations and promises, and the concealment and omission of material facts, by the means described in paragraphs 20 through 31 of this Indictment.
- 35. On or about the following dates, in the Southern District of California, and elsewhere, defendants STERLING WAYNE PIRTLE, RONALD ALLEN FISHER, and MARK EDWARD FISHER, and their co-schemers, executed and attempted to execute the aforesaid described scheme and artifice to defraud by selling to financial institutions the following lease pools which contained fraudulent unfunded leases:

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Counts	Date SSA Signed	Financial Institution	Amount Financial Institution Paid For Pool
2	June 5, 2001	Ameriana Bank	\$6,002,405.77
3	June 5, 2001	Lakeland Bank	\$5,000,015.34
4	June 22, 2001	Bank of Waukeegan	\$2,500,000.00
5	August 3, 2001	Atlantic Coast Federal	\$2,011,449.86
6	August 28, 2001	Bank of Waukeegan	\$2,497,884.32
7.	September 4, 2001	Ameriana Bank	\$6,000,908.83
8	September 4, 2001	United Security Bank	\$6,135,492.50
9	September 7, 2001	Huntington National Bank	\$5,000,000.00
10	November 16, 2001	Lakeland Bank	\$3,090,263.24
.11	November 30, 2001	Sky Bank	\$5,000,000.00

All in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Sections 1344 and 2.

TAX EVASION - 26 U.S.C. § 7201

(Count 12 - Defendant STERLING WAYNE PIRTLE)

- 36. The Introductory Allegations contained in paragraphs 1 and 4 of this Indictment are realleged and incorporated in this Count as if set forth fully herein.
- 37. From on or about January 1, 1999, up to and through August 15, 2000, within the Southern District of California, and elsewhere, defendant STERLING WAYNE PIRTLE did willfully attempt to evade and defeat individual income taxes due and owing by him to the United States of America for the calendar year 1999, by committing various affirmative acts of evasion, including filing a false United States Individual Income Tax Return for calendar year 1999 wherein he fraudulently reported only \$36,000 in taxable income, utilizing trusts, concealing assets and income by maintaining bank accounts in nominee names, and receiving income in a nominee name.

All in violation of Title 26, United States Code, Section 7201.

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(Count 13 - Defendant STERLING WAYNE PIRTLE)

- 38. The Introductory Allegations contained in paragraphs 1 and 4 of this Indictment are realleged and incorporated in this Count as if set forth fully herein.
- 39. From on or about January 1, 2000, up to and through January 19, 2002, within the Southern District of California, and elsewhere, defendant STERLING WAYNE PIRTLE did willfully attempt to evade and defeat individual income taxes due and owing by him to the United States of America for the calendar year 2000, by committing various affirmative acts of evasion, including filing a false United States Individual Income Tax Return for tax year 2000 wherein he fraudulently reported only \$31,700 in taxable income, utilizing trusts, concealing assets and income by maintaining bank accounts in nominee names, and receiving income in a nominee name.

All in violation of Title 26, United States Code, Section 7201.

## TAX EVASION - 26 U.S.C. § 7201

(Count 14 - Defendant STERLING WAYNE PIRTLE)

- 40. The Introductory Allegations contained in paragraphs 1 and 4 of this Indictment are realleged and incorporated in this Count as if set forth fully herein.
- 41. From on or about January 1, 2001, up to and through April 15, 2002, within the Southern District of California, and elsewhere, defendant STERLING WAYNE PIRTLE did willfully attempt to evade and defeat individual income taxes due and owing by him to the United States of America for the calendar year 2001, by failing to file a United States Individual Income Tax Return despite earning income of sufficient amount to require the filing of an individual

income tax return, and by committing various affirmative acts of evasion, including utilizing trusts, concealing assets and income by maintaining bank accounts in nominee names, and receiving income in a nominee name.

All in violation of Title 26, United States Code, Section 7201.

#### TAX EVASION - 26 U.S.C. § 7201

(Count 15 - Defendant RONALD ALLEN FISHER)

- 42. The Introductory Allegations contained in paragraphs 2 and 4 of this Indictment are realleged and incorporated in this Count as if set forth fully herein.
- 43. From on or about January 1, 1999, up to and through April 15, 2000, within the Southern District of California, and elsewhere, defendant RONALD ALLEN FISHER did willfully attempt to evade and defeat individual income taxes due and owing by him to the United States of America for the calendar year 1999, by failing to file a United States Individual Income Tax Return despite earning income of sufficient amount to require the filing of an individual income tax return, and by committing various affirmative acts of evasion, including filing an extension for calendar year 1999 falsely indicating that he had no income taxes due, utilizing trusts, concealing assets and income by maintaining bank accounts in nominee names, and receiving income in a nominee name.
- 23 All in violation of Title 26, United States Code, Section 7201.

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(Count 16 - RONALD ALLEN FISHER)

- The Introductory Allegations contained in paragraphs 2 and 4 of this Indictment are realleged and incorporated in this Count as if set forth fully herein.
- 45. From on or about January 1, 2000, up to and through April 15, 2001, within the Southern District of California, and elsewhere, defendant RONALD ALLEN FISHER did willfully attempt to evade and defeat individual income taxes due and owing by him to the United States of America for the calendar year 2000, by failing to file a United States Individual Income Tax Return despite earning income of sufficient amount to require the filing of an individual income tax return, and by committing various affirmative acts of evasion, including filing an extension for calendar year 2000 falsely indicating that he had no income taxes due, utilizing trusts, concealing assets and income by maintaining bank accounts in nominee names, and receiving income in a nominee name.

All in violation of Title 26, United States Code, Section 7201.

## TAX EVASION - 26 U.S.C. § 7201

(Count 17 - Defendant RONALD ALLEN FISHER)

- The Introductory Allegations contained in paragraphs 2 and 4 of this Indictment are realleged and incorporated in this Count as if set forth fully herein.
- From on or about January 1, 2001, up to and through April 15, 2002, within the Southern District of California, and elsewhere, defendant RONALD ALLEN FISHER did willfully attempt to evade and defeat individual income taxes due and owing by him to the United States of America for the calendar year 2001, by failing to

file a United States Individual Income Tax Return despite earning income of sufficient amount to require the filing of an individual income tax return, and by committing various affirmative acts of evasion, including filing an extension for calendar year 2001 falsely indicating that he had no income taxes due, utilizing trusts, concealing assets and income by maintaining bank accounts in nominee names, and receiving income in a nominee name.

All in violation of Title 26, United States Code, Section 7201.

TAX EVASION - 26 U.S.C. § 7201

(Count 18 - Defendant MARK EDWARD FISHER)

- 48. The Introductory Allegations contained in paragraphs 3 and 4 of this Indictment are realleged and incorporated in this Count as if set forth fully herein.
- 49. From on or about January 1, 1999, up to and through April 15, 2000, within the Southern District of California, and elsewhere, defendant MARK EDWARD FISHER did willfully attempt to evade and defeat individual income taxes due and owing by him to the United States of America for the calendar year 1999, by failing to file a United States Individual Income Tax Return despite earning income of sufficient amount to require the filing of an individual income tax return, and by committing various affirmative acts of evasion, including filing an extension for calendar year 1999 falsely indicating his amount of income taxes due, concealing assets and income by maintaining bank accounts in nominee names, and receiving income in a nominee name.
- All in violation of Title 26, United States Code, Section 7201.

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#### TAX EVASION - 26 U.S.C. § 7201

(Count 19 - Defendant MARK EDWARD FISHER)

50. The Introductory Allegations contained in paragraphs 3 and 4 of this Indictment are realleged and incorporated in this Count as if set forth fully herein.

51. From on or about January 1, 2000, up to and through April 15, 2001, within the Southern District of California, and elsewhere, defendant MARK EDWARD FISHER did willfully attempt to evade and defeat individual income taxes due and owing by him to the United States of America for the calendar year 2000, by failing to file a United States Individual Income Tax Return despite earning income of sufficient amount to require the filing of an individual income tax return, and by committing various affirmative acts of evasion, including filing an extension for calendar year 2000 falsely indicating his amount of income taxes due, concealing assets and income by maintaining bank accounts in nominee names, and receiving income in a nominee name.

All in violation of Title 26, United States Code, Section 7201.

#### TAX EVASION - 26 U.S.C. § 7201

(Count 20 - Defendant MARK EDWARD FISHER)

- 52. The Introductory Allegations contained in paragraphs 3 and 4 of this Indictment are realleged and incorporated in this Count as if set forth fully herein.
- 53. From on or about January 1, 2001, up to and through April 15, 2002, within the Southern District of California, and elsewhere, defendant MARK EDWARD FISHER did willfully attempt to evade and defeat individual income taxes due and owing by him to the United States of America for the calendar year 2001, by failing to file a

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United States Individual Income Tax Return despite earning income of sufficient amount to require the filing of an individual income tax return, and by committing various affirmative acts of evasion, including filing an extension for calendar year 2001 falsely indicating his amount of income taxes due, concealing assets and income by maintaining bank accounts in nominee names, and receiving income in a nominee name.

All in violation of Title 26, United States Code, Section 7201.

## Wire Fraud - 18 U.S.C. § 1343

(Count 21 - Defendants RONALD ALLEN FISHER and NANCY FISHER)

- 54. The Introductory Allegation contained in paragraph 2 of this Indictment is realleged and incorporated in this Count as if set forth fully herein. C.K. was a former state Governor who was paid for his services of interceding with public officials.
- 55. Beginning on a date unknown to the grand jury, and continuing until on or about May 31, 2007, within the Southern District of California and elsewhere, defendants RONALD ALLEN FISHER and NANCY FISHER and others known and unknown to the grand jury, did knowingly devise and attempt to devise a material scheme and artifice to defraud, and to obtain money and property by means of materially false and fraudulent pretenses, representations, and promises, and the intentional concealment and omission of material facts.
- 56. A purpose of the scheme to defraud was to raise money to make payments to C.K. for his services that included meeting with the United States Attorney's Office and the Federal Bureau of Investigation on behalf of defendant RONALD ALLEN FISHER in an attempt to help him avoid prosecution on the charges set forth in Counts 1 through 11 of this Indictment.

#### Manner and Means

- 57. It was part of the scheme to defraud that defendants RONALD ALLEN FISHER and NANCY FISHER would attempt to refinance the mortgage on their condominium located in Tierra Verde, Florida, by causing a fraudulent home loan application in the name of defendant NANCY FISHER to be submitted to a prospective lender.
- FISHER's gross monthly income and her employment history and status that defendant NANCY FISHER certified as true and correct when she executed the loan application.
- 59. It was further part of the scheme to defraud that defendants RONALD ALLEN FISHER and NANCY FISHER would cause false and fraudulent verification of employment letters to be submitted to a mortgage lender, falsely verifying the employment of defendant NANCY FISHER.
- RONALD ALLEN FISHER and NANCY FISHER would cause a mortgage lender to transmit the fraudulently obtained loan proceeds to a title agency in Clearwater, Florida, from which defendants RONALD ALLEN FISHER and NANCY FISHER would cause the disbursement of the fraudulently acquired funds.

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61. It was further part of the scheme to defraud that after the existing mortgage had been paid off by the title agency, defendants RONALD ALLEN FISHER and NANCY FISHER would cause \$119,601.08 of fraudulent loan proceeds to be transferred by check (made out to defendants RONALD ALLEN FISHER and NANCY FISHER) into a bank account in the name of defendant NANCY FISHER.

## EXECUTION OF THE SCHEME

62. On or about May 30, 2007, within the Southern District of California, and elsewhere, defendants RONALD ALLEN FISHER and NANCY FISHER, for the purpose of executing and attempting to execute the aforesaid material scheme to defraud, knowingly transmitted and caused to be transmitted by means of a wire communication in interstate commerce certain writings, signs, signals, and sounds, that is, a wire transfer of \$454,730 from Clearwater, Florida to San Diego, California, to pay off the existing mortgage on their Tierra Verde, Florida, condominium.

All in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 1343.

# Money Laundering - 18 U.S.C. § 1957

(Count 22 - Defendants RONALD ALLEN FISHER and NANCY FISHER)

- 63. The Introductory Allegation contained in paragraph 2 and the allegations contained in paragraphs 54 through 62 of this Indictment are realleged and incorporated in this Count as if set forth fully herein. Mercantile Bank and Colonial Bank were financial institutions with deposits insured by the FDIC.
- 64. On or about June 1, 2007, within the Southern District of California and elsewhere, defendants RONALD ALLEN FISHER and NANCY FISHER did knowingly engage and attempt to engage in a monetary transaction by, through, and to a financial institution, affecting

interstate commerce, in criminally derived property of a value greater than \$10,000, that is, the transfer by check of \$30,000 from defendant NANCY FISHER's account at Mercantile Bank to C.K.'s account at Colonial Bank, such property having been derived from specified unlawful activity, that is, wire fraud in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 1343, as described in paragraphs 54 through 62 of this Indictment.

All in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Sections 1957 and 2.

# PRETRIAL RELEASE ALLEGATION

It is further alleged that defendant RONALD ALLEN FISHER committed the offenses alleged in Counts 21 and 22 while he knowingly was on pretrial release from the United States District Court, Southern District of California, for the offenses charged in Counts 15, 16 and 17, and, therefore, is subject to an enhanced penalty of up to ten years imprisonment, pursuant to Title 18, United States Code, Section 3147.

DATED: November 4, 2008.

A TRUE BILL:

Foreperson

KAREN P. HEWITT United States Attorney

By:

STEVEN E. STONE

26 Assistant U.S. Attorney