



Department of Justice

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SEVEN CHARGED WITH FEDERAL MONEY LAUNDERING

Jackson, Miss - Seven individuals have been charged in two separate money laundering schemes stemming from large marijuana distribution conspiracies being operated out of central Mississippi, U.S. Attorney John Dowdy announced today. Patrina Bester Hayes, 35, of Paulding, MS, and Lornell Von Moore, 46, of Louin, MS, have been charged in a 19-count indictment with conspiring to launder drug proceeds and money laundering and evasion of Internal Revenue Service reporting requirements.

In a separate indictment, Jessie J. Hall, 38, of Forest, MS, Sylvania Laranda Young, 40, of Ferriday, LA, Bridget Michelle Bland, 43, of Newton, MS, Willie Charles Rhodes, 53, of Brandon, MS, and Shannon Denise Hall, 40, of Morton, MS, were also charged with conspiring to launder drug proceeds and with money laundering and evasion of Internal Revenue Service reporting requirements.

Investigating officers seized as part of the investigation:

- \$853,859.26 cash
- 10 tractor trucks
- 8 tractor trailers
- 12 personal cars including luxury vehicles;
- Jewelry
- 3 houses
- thousands of pounds of marijuana;

Lornell Von Moore, Jessie J. Hall, and Shannon Denise Hall are all currently serving time in the Federal Bureau of Prisons for conspiracy to distribute marijuana.

The Drug Enforcement Administration, in conjunction with officers from the Ridgeland Police Department, Jackson Police Department, Hinds County Sheriff's Office, and the Mississippi Bureau of Narcotics, initially investigated the drug distribution rings of Jessie J. Hall and Lornell Von Moore, which led to the conviction of 14 defendants of various counts of conspiring to distribute thousands of kilograms of marijuana. Further investigation by the Internal Revenue Service and the Drug Enforcement Administration led to the current two indictments.

The public is reminded that, as in any criminal case, a person is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty. The charges filed merely contain allegations of criminal conduct.