U.S. Department of Justice

United States Attorney
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TWO WOMEN CONVICTED OF REAL ESTATE MORTGAGE FRAUD

Little Rock - Bud Cummins, the United States Attorney for the Eastern District of Arkansas, and William J. Temple, Special Agent in Charge, Federal Bureau of Investigation, announced that on May 18 2005, a jury in United States District Court returned guilty verdicts convicting two Arkansas women of conspiracy and wire fraud. The trial began on May 2, 2005 and was presided over by the Honorable James M. Moody, United States District Judge.

Tina Leigh Brown, 33, of Sheridan, Arkansas was found guilty on one count of conspiracy and 21 counts of wire fraud. Brown was acquitted of one count of wire fraud and the jury was unable to reach a verdict on a final count of wire fraud.

Shanna Moore Allen, 33, of Maumelle, Arkansas, was found guilty of one count of conspiracy and 22 counts of wire fraud. She was acquitted of one count of wire fraud.

The indictment in the case had alleged that between February, 2001, and December, 2003, Moore, Brown and others engaged in a multi-million dollar real estate and mortgage scheme involving more than 30 properties in central Arkansas. The

scheme involved the selling of low cost housing at inflated prices for the purpose of channeling funds to the various participants. The conspiracy involved submitting false documentation to mortgage, lenders and banks to induce over financing of questionable mortgages. Moore and Brown did business as Guaranty Lending. The co-conspirators utilized other business names in the course of the conspiracy.

Other defendants in the case, Paul Robertson, Kesha Miller McIntosh, 32, and Kenneth Dwayne Kelly, 50, each previously pled guilty to conspiracy. Robertson has already been sentenced and is now serving 57 months in federal prison. McIntosh and Kelly await sentence.

Brown and Allen face up to five years in prison, a $250,000 fine on the conspiracy count and up to 30 years in prison and a $1,000,000 fine on each count of wire fraud.

The investigation in the case was conducted by the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

"The investigators and prosecutors in this case did an outstanding job. These cases involve thousands of documents and require countless hours of patient investigation before the criminals can be brought to justice," Cummins stated.

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