

Department of Justice

United States Attorney Nicholas A. Klinefeldt Southern District of Iowa

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Monday, February 13, 2012 http://www.justice.gov/usao/ias/ CONTACT: Kevin VanderSchel (515) 473-9300 kvanderschel@usdoj.gov

## NEVADA MAN SENTENCED IN FRAUD CONSPIRACY

DES MOINES, IA - On February 10, 2012, Kenneth Allen Siebert, age 35, of Las Vegas, Nevada, was sentenced in United States District Court for his participation in a conspiracy to commit wire fraud and fraudulently use deceased persons identities, announced United States Attorney Nicholas A. Klinefeldt. Senior United States District Court Judge Ronald E. Longstaff sentenced Siebert to 36 months imprisonment, plus three (3) years of supervised release following his imprisonment, and imposed a \$100.00 special assessment for the Crime Victim Fund. Siebert was also ordered to pay restitution in the amount of \$400,165.49 and to remain in the custody of the United States Marshal pending designation of the Federal Bureau of Prison facility at which he will serve his sentence.

On October 14, 2011, Siebert pled guilty to a United States Attorney's Information charging him with conspiracy to commit wire fraud and to commit fraudulent use of unauthorized access devices (financial account numbers). Siebert was originally charged in a federal indictment filed on February 23, 2011. On February 11, 2011, Siebert was stopped by the Iowa Department of Transportation and the Iowa State Patrol on Interstate 29 in southwest Iowa. Incident to the stop, officers discovered what appeared to be a large number of fraudulent money cards. State authorities contacted the Secret Service, who became involved in the investigation. Investigators found that Siebert was on a six state trip in which he was using money cards to obtain money from money accounts corresponding to a number of tax refunds which had been obtained using the identities of various deceased persons. Prior to his arrest in the Southern District of Iowa, Siebert had last used the money cards at a casino in Council Bluffs, Iowa, to obtain and attempt to obtain money from the fraudulent accounts. From the money cards found in his possession, the Secret Service was able to determine that Siebert had obtained at least \$400,165.49 from the Internal Revenue Service, by filing fraudulent tax returns, and having the tax refunds paid to the fraudulent accounts.

This case was investigated by the Iowa Department of Transportation, the Iowa State Patrol and the United States Secret Service, and was prosecuted by the United States Attorneys Office for the Southern District of Iowa.

###