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## HAROLD L. ROSBOTTOM, JR. AND GIRLFRIEND, ASHLEY KISLA, FOUND GUILTY OF BANKRUPTCY FRAUD AND RELATED CHARGES

**Shreveport, La. -** United States Attorney Stephanie A. Finley announced today that Harold L. Rosbottom, Jr., age 55, a Shreveport businessman, along with his girlfriend and co-conspirator, Ashley Kisla, age 44, of Coushatta, La., was convicted late last night by a federal jury for concealing nearly \$2 million from Rosbottom's creditors in the course of his bankruptcy proceeding. Rosbottom and Kisla were also found guilty of conspiracy to launder money in order to purchase a 65' Hatteras sport fisherman boat and a half-interest in a private jet.

Rosbottom's bankruptcy case is currently pending in the U.S. Bankruptcy Court in Shreveport, La. These convictions center on the concealment of assets from creditors and the United States Trustee; specifically, a series of 17 cashier's checks totaling \$1,820,195, all payable to Rosbottom. The federal jury, after hearing five days of testimony and reviewing hundreds of documents, convicted Rosbottom of one count of Conspiracy to Commit Bankruptcy Fraud, one count of Illegal Transfer of Assets, three counts of Concealment of Assets, two counts of Giving a False Oath and Account, and one count of Conspiracy to Commit Money Laundering. Rosbottom faces a maximum penalty of 20 years in prison and a fine of twice the amount of money involved in the transaction for the Conspiracy to Commit Money Laundering. He also faces a maximum penalty of five years in prison and a \$250,000 fine for each of the other counts of conviction.

Rosbottom's co-defendant, Ashley Kisla, was convicted of one count of Conspiracy to Commit Bankruptcy Fraud, one count of Giving a False Oath, and one count of Conspiracy to Commit Money Laundering. Kisla also faces a maximum penalty of 20 years in prison and a fine of twice the amount of money involved in the transaction for the Conspiracy to Commit Money Laundering. She also faces a maximum penalty of five years in prison and a \$250,000 fine on the two other counts of conviction.

After the jury rendered its verdict, U.S. District Court Judge Donald Walter ordered that both Rosbottom and Kisla be taken into custody and detained pending their sentencing hearings. Sentencing for both defendants is scheduled for January 3, 2013 at 10:00 am.

U.S. Attorney Stephanie Finley stated, " This verdict reflects the hard work of the FBI, the U.S. Trustee's Office, and the prosecutors in this case. They have spent a lot of long hours making sure that these defendants did not get away with defrauding the bankruptcy court and their creditors. This case was about the greed of Rossbottom and Kisla, and their attempts to make a mockery of the bankruptcy process. Bankruptcy is designed to assist those who find themselves in financial hardships and look to bankruptcy as a last resort. Rossbottom and Kisla decided that they would play by their own rules and illegally use bankruptcy to rid themselves of their debt while still hanging on to their affluent lifestyle. The verdict should send a message that there is a heavy price to pay for

those who misuse and manipulate the bankruptcy process."

The case was investigated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Shreveport Resident Agency, and the United States Trustee's Office, Region V. The case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Cytheria D. Jernigan and Senior Litigation Counsel Joseph J. Jarzabek, Jr.

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