



*U.S. Department of Justice  
United States Attorney  
Southern District of Mississippi*

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
March 28, 2011**

**RANKIN COUNTY MAN SENTENCED IN MORTGAGE FRAUD SCHEME**

Jackson, Miss - Shane Rothery, 33, of Brandon, Mississippi, was sentenced in federal court today to serve 33 months in prison for his part in an elaborate mortgage fraud scheme in the Jackson metro area, U.S. Attorney John M. Dowdy, Jr. announced.

Rothery pled guilty on October 26, 2010 to mail fraud relating to a scheme with co-conspirators who purchased homes throughout the Jackson metro area, secured inflated appraisals from Rothery, which overvalued such homes, and sold those same homes to straw buyers or unwitting purchasers for more than the homes were worth. The co-conspirators then pocketed the excess proceeds from the fraudulently-obtained loans. Rothery, who was not a licensed appraiser, prepared and provided these fraudulent appraisals using the name and signature of his father, who was a licensed real estate appraiser. The loss amount attributable to this scheme, involving seven different properties and spanning less than one year, was \$907,837.21.

The case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Mike Hurst.

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