

Information for Victims

Posted on May 25, 2010

Charges Filed

On April 26, 2010, a federal complaint was filed against Robert Baschmann charging him with mail fraud in connection with fees he accepted for loan applications on behalf of Empire Logging and Timber.

At this time, we are at the preliminary stages of the prosecution. Generally, and in fraud cases especially, the case takes a long time to progress through the criminal justice system. You will receive written notice from the U. S. Attorney's Office for major case events (such as a scheduled plea hearing). For all other case status hearings, you will be able to log into the Victim Notification System (VNS) to see future court dates. Please note that the VNS system is an automated system and therefore, does not provide information on the outcome of any court appearance.

RESTITUTION

Restitution is mandatory in this case and will be ordered (but NOT disbursed) at sentencing. The amount of money you may be entitled to could be affected by any amounts you may have received as a result of a civil lawsuit **initiated by the escrow account holder relating to the account where the funds of numerous victims were deposited. You of course would not be entitled to recover the same losses twice.**

For those to whom restitution still may be due, a restitution **order** does **not** guarantee **payment** of the restitution. Full recovery of loss is, unfortunately, very rare in these types of cases, because the money has long ago been spent, and the defendant doesn't have many assets and won't be earning money. In some cases, there is no restitution. Again, more information regarding the restitution process will be provided after there is a conviction.

VICTIM IMPACT STATEMENT

Victims will be able to complete a Victim Impact statement, including a request for restitution, after there is a conviction in this case. Information about completing a victim impact statement will be provided once there is a conviction in this case.

TAX QUESTIONS

We can NOT advise you regarding the filing of tax returns, claiming of losses or income, etc. You will need to contact your tax advisor for this information or you may visit the IRS web site (www.irs.gov) for further information.

Should you have any questions not addressed here, you may email us at usanyw-victimwitness@usdoj.gov Due to the number of victims in this case, it may take us a week or more to respond. Thank you for your patience and understanding.