



**U.S. Department of Justice  
U.S. Attorney's Office  
Western District of Texas**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**FEDERAL JURY CONVICTS SAN ANTONIO MAN  
IN FRAUD AND MONEY LAUNDERING SCHEME**

**United States Attorney Johnny Sutton** announced that a federal jury in San Antonio this afternoon convicted Alvin W. Byrd, Jr., of his role in a real estate fraud scheme.

In all, the jury convicted Byrd of one count of mail fraud, one count of interstate transportation of stolen property and five counts of money laundering. The jury found that Byrd, posing as a successful real estate investor who just moved from the Washington, D.C. area, engaged in a complex get-rich-quick scheme from December 2006 to February 7, 2007. The jury also ordered the forfeiture to the government of the 2006 Hummer, approximately \$87,000 seized from the defendant's bank and investment accounts plus a \$10,000 cashier's check secured by the defendant.

In the scheme, Byrd agreed to purchase a house at 25307 Mesa Ranch for \$395,000. In addition, the agreement called for the seller to loan Byrd \$192,000 to cover closing costs. Byrd convinced the seller that his money was tied up but provided the seller with a post dated check in excess of \$325,000 to cover the loan plus additional costs. Unbeknownst to the victim, the check was drawn on a closed brokerage account. Byrd converted the victim's \$192,000 check into a cashier's check, then subsequently into five cashier's checks. Byrd used the money to pay a Maryland hotel bill in excess of \$17,000 where he and his wife lived without paying for almost one year, a hotel bill totaling \$4,800 he amassed while he and his wife lived here in San Antonio during a two-month period and for the purchase of a 2006 Hummer for \$66,000.

Byrd, who remains in federal custody, faces up to 20 years in federal prison per money laundering charge; up to five years in federal prison on each of the remaining charges. Sentencing is scheduled for February 2008 before United States District Judge Orlando Garcia.

This case was investigated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation. It is being prosecuted for the government by Assistant United States Attorneys Ray and Leroy Jahn.

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