



U.S. Department of Justice

***United States Attorney
Eastern District of Arkansas***

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
May 5, 2005**

**CONTACT: Bud Cummins
United States Attorney
501-340-2650**

LITTLE ROCK, AR – Bud Cummins, U.S. Attorney for the Eastern District of Arkansas, announced today that former Little Rock tax attorney Bobby Keith Moser was sentenced by The Honorable Chief Judge, Susan Webber Wright to 188 months imprisonment, 3 years supervised release, \$1,200 special assessment and \$2,249,635.49 restitution. Moser had plead guilty to charges emanating from three separate cases, the first involved Moser's theft of roughly \$2million in clients funds. These charges included, one count of Transportation of Stolen Money (18 U.S.C. §2314); one count of Engaging in a Monetary Transaction in Property Derived From Unlawful Activity (18 U.S.C. § 1957); and two counts of Mail Fraud (18 U.S.C. § 1341). In addition, Moser waived indictment and pled guilty to a Superceding Information charging him with engaging in a conspiracy with an unnamed Little Rock executive to defraud the United States by impeding, impairing, obstructing and defeating the lawful government function of the Internal Revenue Service in violation of Title 18 U.S.C. § 371. Finally, Moser had pled guilty to charges stemming from money laundering activities which occurred in the Eastern District of Michigan but were transferred to the Eastern District of Arkansas (at Moser's request) under Rule 20 of the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure. These charges were brought

News Release
U.S. Attorney's Office
05/05/2005

Page 1 of 3

by the United States Department of Justice Anti-Trust Division which charged, one count of Conspiracy to Commit Mail Fraud (18 U.S.C. § 371); one count of Mail Fraud (18 U.S.C. §§ 1341, 1346); two counts of Wire Fraud (18 U.S.C. §§ 1343, 1346); one count of Conspiracy to Commit Money Laundering (18 U.S.C. 1956(h)); one count of Obstruction of Justice (18 U.S.C. § 1503); and one count of Making a False Declaration Before a Grand Jury (18 U.S.C. § 1623).

Moser, a successful Little Rock tax planning attorney formerly associated with the law firm of Jewell, Moser, Fletcher, and Holliman and later Moser & Associates, reached in February 2004 an agreement with the government to plead guilty to the aforementioned tax conspiracy and Michigan based money laundering charges. At Moser 's request the plea was to take place in Detroit. However, instead of appearing to enter his plea as agreed, he drove to Canada, flew to Paris and then to the country of Madagascar. Madagascar is an island country with a population of approximately 17,000,000 and is slightly less than twice the size of Arizona. It is the world's fourth largest island, just off the coast of Southern Africa east of Mozambique.

Moser's whereabouts were identified as a result of an investigation conducted by Special Agents of the Internal Revenue Service Criminal Investigation Division (IRS-CID), along with assistance from the Department of Justice Office of International Affairs, Bureau of Diplomatic Security of the U.S. Department of State, the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), the United States Marshals Service (USMS) and the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE). Moser was detained there by Malagasy authorities on March 15, 2004, and was held in a Malagasy detention facility until he was returned from that country and transported back to the United States via South Africa. It was during the manhunt for Moser that the theft of almost his entire client trust account was discovered.

"Anticompetitive schemes like the one that Moser participated in are damaging to the economy and are ultimately harmful to consumers," said Scott Hammond, Deputy Assistant Attorney General for the Antitrust Division's Criminal Enforcement Program. "This conduct, along with Moser's false statements and obstruction warrant the serious punishment handed down by the court today."

US Attorney Cummins stated, "This defendant committed a number of serious crimes, but without question the worst thing he did was violate the confidence of his legal clients. A client should be able to place unqualified trust in their attorney."

US Attorney Cummins praised all involved in the capture and prosecution of Moser, including First Assistant United States Attorney Sandra Wilson Cherry, United States Department of Justice Tax Division Trial Attorney Bob Kemins, United States Department of Justice Anti-Trust Division Trial Attorney Kevin C. Culum and lead investigator Special Agent Richard Elliott of the Internal Revenue Service Criminal Investigations Division.

###