



U.S. Department of Justice

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LITTLE ROCK STORE OWNERS SENTENCED FOR TRAFFICKING IN COUNTERFEIT GOODS

Little Rock – United States Attorney Bud Cummins and Michael A. Holt, Special Agent-In-Charge, Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) announced that Jamileh K. Afsordeh (aka Kobra Afsordeh, aka Jamileh Hamran), 52, and her brother Jalil Kamran, (aka Jim Kamran), 56, both of Little Rock, Arkansas, were sentenced today for trafficking in counterfeit goods. Both Jamileh K. Afsordeh and Jalil Kamran pled guilty to trafficking in counterfeit goods, in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 2320.

Each defendant was sentenced by The Honorable J. Leon Holmes, Chief United States District Judge, to pay a \$10,000 fine, \$2,470.52 in restitution, and to forfeit any and all counterfeit items. The court additionally ordered each defendant to serve a one year period of federal probation. The restitution was paid by the defendants prior to sentencing.

The sentencing came on the same day that United States Attorney General Alberto Gonzales spoke to the U.S. Chamber of Commerce in Washington, D.C. on the subject of piracy and counterfeiting.

“Intellectual property — patented inventions of all sorts, copyrighted material, trademarked goods, and trade secrets painstakingly developed — is the lifeblood of our strong economy and the source for making it even stronger. As rich as America’s natural resources are,

and as strong as our labor force is, it is our creativity and innovation and entrepreneurship that have been the great engine of our growth,” Gonzales told the audience at the Chamber.

[General Gonzales’s complete remarks on this subject can be found at www.usdoj.gov].

According to testimony in court, ICE agents received information regarding the sale of counterfeit goods in certain locations in Little Rock. Following the purchase of several counterfeit items, a search warrant was executed in this investigation at the Jamileh Kamran Store, owned by Jamileh K. Afsordeh, and the Rejuvenation Clinic and Day Spa, owned by Jalil Kamran, on August 24, 2005, by ICE agents from the United States Department of Homeland Security. During the search of the two businesses, agents seized hundreds of counterfeit Louis Vuitton, Prada, Burberry, Kate Spade, Chanel, Coach, Fendi and Gucci purses, wallets and other items. Additionally, agents seized hundreds of counterfeit labels which had not yet been attached to merchandise. The agents also seized several letters from at least one victim going back as far as 2002, warning Jamileh to cease and desist the selling of counterfeit merchandise.

“The Department of Justice is putting a large emphasis on protecting all forms of intellectual property,” stated Cummins. “This case is just one example.”

This investigation was conducted by agents with the Immigration and Customs Enforcement under the United States Department of Homeland Security. Assistant U.S. Attorney Jeffrey P. LaVicka represented the United States.

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