U.S. Department of Justice



United States Attorney
Eastern District of Arkansas

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GRAND JURY CHARGES LITTLE ROCK ATTORNEY WITH FRAUD, MONEY LAUNDERING AND TAX EVASION

<u>Little Rock</u> - U. S. Attorney Tim Griffin and U.S. Department of Justice Tax Division Assistant Attorney General Eileen J. O'Connor announced that Barry J. Jewell, 47, of Little Rock, Arkansas, was indicted Wednesday by a federal grand jury in the Eastern District of Arkansas. Jewell, an attorney, was charged with one count of conspiracy to defraud the United States, three counts of money laundering, and one count of income tax evasion. The indictment also seeks the forfeiture of over \$1.9 million from Jewell.

According to the indictment, from September 1996 until approximately August 2002, Jewell conspired with Bobby Keith Moser, his former law partner, to violate the laws of the United States. It is alleged that Jewell and Moser obtained leverage and control over Scanning Technologies, Inc. (STI), an Arkansas corporation in the business of creating computer software for inventory management, by using over one million dollars of their client trust account assets.

Additionally, the indictment alleges that Jewell and Moser used client trust funds to pay \$105,786.61 of Jewell's child support payments and approximately \$500,000 in general operating expenses of their law firm, all at a time when the account had insufficient assets with which to pay clients. The indictment also charges Jewell with money laundering related to three separate transfers of more than \$10,000.

Jewell was also charged with one count of income tax evasion pertaining to taxes due and owing to the United States by certain clients for the calendar year 2000. Jewell is alleged to have caused the clients to file a tax return with the Internal Revenue Service reporting \$392,060 in taxable income for 2000, when in fact, their taxable income for that year was far greater. Jewell allegedly created fraudulent documents to substantiate the false return, which resulted in a tax loss to the government of over \$700,000.

This investigation was conducted by IRS Criminal Investigation. Assistant U.S. Attorneys George C. Vena and Department of Justice Tax Division Trial Attorney Robert A. Kemins will represent the government.

An indictment contains only allegations. The defendant is presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty.