

Department of Justice

United States Attorney Sally Quillian Yates Northern District of Georgia

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CONTACT: Patrick Crosby (404)581-6016 FAX (404)581-6160

NORCROSS MAN SENTENCED FOR TRAFFICKING IN STOLEN CREDIT CARD NUMBERS

Mohamed Was in Possession of More than 400,000 Stolen Credit Card Numbers When Arrested

ATLANTA, GA - GULED ABDULLAHI MOHAMED, 26, of Norcross, Georgia, was sentenced today by United States District Judge Charles A. Pannell, Jr. to serve 6 years in federal prison for trafficking in stolen credit card numbers.

United States Attorney Sally Quillian Yates said of the case, "Defendant Mohamed was caught with confidential credit card information belonging to more than 400,000 United States citizens, most of whom were unaware that their information was up for sale on the underground market. This type of criminal activity represents a serious threat to the citizens of our community and to our financial system."

"Identity theft causes irreparable harm to its victims and when criminals prey on the citizens of the United States, they themselves will become the prey of the long arm of law enforcement whose partnerships are far reaching," said Acting Special Agent in Charge Reginald Moore, Atlanta Field Office, United States Secret Service.

MOHAMED was sentenced to 6 years in prison, to be followed by 3 years of supervised release. MOHAMED pleaded guilty to these charges on February 2, 2010.

According to United States Attorney Yates, the charges and other information presented in court: From August 2008 through November 2009, MOHAMED trafficked in and used stolen credit card numbers in the Atlanta metropolitan area. When MOHAMED was arrested during an undercover buy at a gas station on Bouldercrest Road in Atlanta, he had in his possession a laptop computer and a thumb drive containing more than 400,000 stolen credit card numbers and security codes, as well as the names and addresses of the card holders.

CLEVELAND WALKER, 38, of Tucker, Georgia, was also sentenced today by Judge Pannell to serve 1 year, 6 months in federal prison, to be followed by 3 years of

supervised release, for conspiring with MOHAMED to sell the stolen information. MOHAMED and WALKER were both ordered to pay restitution in the amount of \$136,978. WALKER acted as a middle-man for MOHAMED and assisted MOHAMED in selling approximately 100 stolen account profiles, which were used to purchase \$136,978 worth of merchandise from various Home Depot, Lowe's, and other retail stores in and around the Atlanta area.

This case was investigated by Special Agents of the United States Secret Service.

Assistant United States Attorney Russell Phillips prosecuted the case.

For further information please contact Sally Q. Yates, United States Attorney, or Charysse L. Alexander, Executive Assistant United States Attorney, through Patrick Crosby, Public Affairs Officer, U.S. Attorney's Office, at (404) 581-6016. The Internet address for the HomePage for the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Northern District of Georgia is www.usdoj.gov/usao/gan.