



# Department of Justice

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## **OWNER OF INTERNET PRESCRIPTION DRUG RING GOING TO PRISON FOR SELLING CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES OVER THE INTERNET**

### ***Stoufflet Illegally Distributed Controlled Substances and Prescription Drugs Over the Internet***

ATLANTA, GA - CHRISTOPHER STOUFFLET, 42, of Buckhead, Georgia, and formerly of Woodstock, Georgia, was sentenced today by United States District Judge Clarence Cooper to serve over 5 years in federal prison on charges of conspiring to both distribute controlled substances and to commit money laundering.

United States Attorney Sally Quillian Yates said of the sentencing, "This defendant used the internet to provide \$75 million worth of controlled substances and prescription drugs to anyone willing to pay. Without a legitimate doctor - patient relationship, patient safety was sacrificed for profit."

STOUFFLET was sentenced to 5 years, 10 months in prison to be followed by 3 years of supervised release, and assets forfeited in the amount of \$1.75 million. STOUFFLET pleaded guilty to the charges on March 4, 2008. Judge Cooper also ordered STOUFFLET to be immediately remanded to custody following today's sentencing hearing.

According to United States Attorney Yates, the charges and other information presented in court: STOUFFLET pleaded guilty to conspiracy to violate the controlled substance act and conspiracy to launder money. This case centers around an Internet-based business, "eScriptsmd.com," operated by STOUFFLET and others. In 2001, STOUFFLET sought to capitalize on the internet boom by setting up an online business to sell pharmaceutical products, including controlled substances. STOUFFLET's business plan was based upon finding a physician, or several physicians, who would issue prescriptions for customers who simply requested medication online. STOUFFLET would then cause the dispensing of the medication, based on the physician's so-called "prescriptions," to customers throughout the United States.

Over the course of the conspiracy, STOUFFLET distributed over \$75 million worth of prescription drugs, including Schedule III and IV controlled substances like Phendimetrazine (including brand name Bontril) and Phentermine (including brand name “Adipex-P”) and sibutramine hydrochloride (including brand name “Meridia”).

This case was investigated by Special Agents of the Food and Drug Administration.

Assistant United States Attorneys Randy S. Chartash and Lawrence Sommerfeld 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.justice.gov/usao/gan](http://www.justice.gov/usao/gan).