



*United States Attorney
Southern District of New York*

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MANHATTAN WOMAN SENTENCED TO 70 MONTHS IN PRISON
FOR MULTIMILLION-DOLLAR INVESTMENT SCAM

MICHAEL J. GARCIA, the United States Attorney for the Southern District of New York, announced that AUDREY ALOYSIUS was sentenced today to seventy months in prison for defrauding over twenty victims of millions of dollars through a bogus investment scheme involving purported scrap steel shipments bound for China. In addition to the prison term, United States District Court Judge WILLIAM H. PAULEY III ordered ALOYSIUS to forfeit the proceeds of her crime and to pay more than \$3.8 million in restitution to her victims. ALOYSIUS was sentenced in Manhattan federal court after pleading guilty on November 17, 2005 to four counts of wire fraud.

In sentencing ALOYSIUS, Judge PAULEY called her criminal conduct "reprehensible" and motivated only by greed. According to the superseding Information to which ALOYSIUS pleaded guilty, statements made during the sentencing proceeding, and papers filed in court:

Using various shell companies, ALOYSIUS held herself out as a successful international businesswoman and offered investors the opportunity to invest in purported shipments of scrap steel that she claimed would be sent to China for sale, supposedly earning substantial profits. To promote the legitimacy of her scheme and to induce people to invest, ALOYSIUS had victims execute elaborate contracts and provided them with promissory notes, share certificates, forged documents, and photographs purporting to relate to scrap steel shipments.

In fact, all of the scrap steel shipments were fictitious. Rather than investing the money as she said she would, ALOYSIUS used it to fund a luxurious lifestyle, spending it on, among other things, travel, expensive club memberships, fine dining, credit card purchases, and personal legal bills. In

one instance, ALOYSIUS required a set of investors to send her the majority of their \$2.5 million investment by a certain date. Instead of paying for a scrap steel shipment, as she had indicated to the investors, ALOYSIUS used the money to meet the closing deadline on a \$1.5 million apartment on Manhattan's Upper West Side the day after she received her victims' money.

ALOYSIUS continued her fraudulent scheme even after she was arrested in December 2004 on federal charges, resulting in her re-arrest and pretrial detention beginning in March 2005. Through her criminal scheme, ALOYSIUS stole more than \$3.8 million dollars from more than 20 victims.

Mr. GARCIA praised the investigative work of the United States Postal Inspection Service.

AUDREY ALOYSIUS, 42, a Malaysian national, lived in Manhattan prior to her arrest.

The prosecution is being handled by the Major Crimes Unit of the United States Attorney's Office for the Southern District of New York. Assistant United States Attorney THOMAS G. A. BROWN is in charge of the prosecution.

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