

United States Attorney Southern District of New York

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TITLE INSURANCE EMPLOYEE ARRESTED IN SCHEME TO STEAL MILLIONS BY SUBMITTING PHONY INVOICES FOR OFFICE SUPPLIES

MICHAEL J. GARCIA, the United States Attorney for the Southern District of New York, announced that DORRELL GRANT was arrested this afternoon on charges that he stole at least \$2 million from his employer, First American Title Insurance Company of New York ("First American"), by submitting numerous phony invoices, purportedly for office supplies. DORRELL then allegedly transferred the money he stole to Jamaica in a series of wire transfers.

According to the criminal Complaint filed today in Manhattan federal court:

From 2001 to the present, DORRELL GRANT was responsible for ordering office supplies for First American from various vendors. As part of a scheme that stretched from November 2004 to November 2007, GRANT submitted to First American numerous phony invoices supposedly from a purported office-supply company, Graceco Solutions, Inc. ("Graceco"). In fact, GRANT owned Graceco, and simply deposited the payments he received from First American into a bank account that he controlled. After getting money from First American, GRANT then engaged in a complex series of money transfers to ultimately deposit large portions of the stolen funds to a bank account in Jamaica.

The fraudulent invoices appeared to reflect office supplies and other services that First American purportedly received from Graceco. GRANT submitted multiple Graceco invoices for the same goods and services to different First American managers for approval. He also caused Graceco to bill First American for large quantities of office supplies that the company either does not use, or uses in far smaller quantities than invoiced. In fact, First American does not have sufficient room on its premises to store the amount of office supplies that GRANT caused Graceco to invoice.

GRANT submitted approximately \$700,000 worth of Graceco invoices for payment in 2005, approximately \$600,000 in 2006, and approximately \$600,000 in 2007 to date, all of which First American paid.

DORRELL GRANT is charged with one count of interstate transportation of stolen property. If convicted on this charge, he faces a maximum sentence of 10 years in prison and a maximum fine of \$250,000 or twice the gross pecuniary loss or gain derived from the offense. GRANT, 49, resides in Brooklyn, New York.

GRANT will be presented tomorrow before U.S. Magistrate Judge ANDREW J. PECK.

Mr. GARCIA praised the work of the United States Postal Inspection Service and thanked them for their assistance in this case.

This case is being prosecuted by the Office's Major Crimes Unit. Assistant United States Attorney SEETHA RAMACHANDRAN is in charge of this prosecution.

The charges in the criminal Complaint are merely accusations, and the defendant is presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty.

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