

Department of Justice

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SUPERSEDING INDICTMENT FILED AGAINST WAYNE COUNTY MANFOR ONLINE TRAFFICKING OF COUNTERFEIT MERCHANDISE

BUFFALO, N.Y.- U.S. Attorney William J. Hochul, Jr., announced today that a federal grand jury has returned a Superseding Indictment charging Ryan Breen, 32, of Savannah, New York, with continued trafficking in counterfeit goods involving the sale of unauthorized merchandise from the FX Network Television series "Sons of Anarchy." The charges carry a maximum penalty of 10 years in prison and a \$2,000,000 fine. Breen was also charged with committing a federal offense while on pretrial release, which carries an additional penalty of up to 10 years in prison.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Fauzia K Mattingly, who is handling the case, stated that according to the Superseding Indictment, Breen operated two web sites which offered for sale over the Internet counterfeit t-shirts and goods using the Sons of Anarchy trademark. This was done without the permission of the Twentieth Century Fox Film Corporation, the producer and exclusive owner of the Sons of Anarchy TV series.

Homeland Security Investigations (HSI) seized one of the web sites in July of 2011 at the time of Breen's original arrest. Agents seized the second web site this week after discovering Breen modeling the allegedly counterfeit clothing earlier this month. The Superseding Indictment further states that the government is seeking nearly \$90,000 in forfeiture from Breen.

Breen was arraigned this afternoon before U.S. Magistrate Judge H. Kenneth Schroeder, Jr.

The Superseding Indictment is the result of an investigation by Special Agents of Immigration and Customs Enforcement, Homeland Security Investigations, under the direction of Special Agent-in-Charge James C. Spero.

The fact that a defendant has been charged with a crime is merely an accusation, and the defendant is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty.

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