

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA**

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA	:	CRIMINAL NO. <u>12-_____</u>
v.	:	DATE FILED: <u>February 29, 2012</u>
JESSECA BATTON	:	VIOLATION :
	:	18 U.S.C. §§ 1349 and 1343
	:	(conspiracy to commit wire fraud - 1 count)

INFORMATION

COUNT ONE

THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY CHARGES THAT:

At all times material to this information:

1. The Office of the Sheriff, City and County of Philadelphia (“Philadelphia Sheriff’s Office”), located in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, sold properties subject to mortgage foreclosure, tax liens and tax delinquency at Sheriff’s sales.
2. The Philadelphia Sheriff’s Office was responsible for paying the expenses, debts and liens owing with regard to the properties sold at Sheriff’s sale.
3. From in or about 2009, to in or about 2010, defendant

JESSECA BATTON

conspired and agreed, together and with others known and unknown to the United States Attorney, to knowingly devise a scheme to defraud the Philadelphia Sheriff’s Office and to cause interstate and foreign wire communications to further the scheme to defraud, in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 1343.

MANNER AND MEANS

It was part of the conspiracy that:

4. Defendant JESSECA BATTON knowingly obtained from an employee at the Philadelphia Sheriff's Office, Richard Bell, who is charged elsewhere, approximately five checks fraudulently drawn on the Philadelphia Sheriff's Office's TD Bank accounts and made payable to defendant BATTON ("fraudulent checks"), that totaled approximately \$29,623.48.

5. Defendant JESSECA BATTON cashed the fraudulent checks and/or deposited the fraudulent checks into defendant BATTON's bank account and withdrew the proceeds.

6. Defendant JESSECA BATTON and Richard Bell divided the proceeds from the fraudulent checks.

OVERT ACTS

In furtherance of the conspiracy and to accomplish its objects, defendant JESSECA BATTON committed the following overt acts, among others, in the Eastern District of Pennsylvania and elsewhere:

1. In or about December 2009, in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, defendant JESSECA BATTON received fraudulent Check No. 16208, drawn on the Philadelphia Sheriff's Office's TD Bank account, dated October 29, 2009, in the amount of \$8,626.24, made payable to defendant BATTON.

2. On or about December 30, 2009, defendant JESSECA BATTON deposited the \$8,626.24 fraudulent check into defendant BATTON's bank account.

3. On or about December 30, 2009, defendant JESSECA BATTON, for the purpose of executing the scheme, caused TD Bank to electronically transmit by means of wire communication in interstate and foreign commerce, that is, from Mount Laurel, New Jersey, to

Toronto, Canada, an image of the \$8,626.24 fraudulent check, for processing and posting.

All in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Sections 1349 and 1343.

ZANE DAVID MEMEGER
United States Attorney