Case 1:11-cr-00708-LY Document 2 Filed 12/27/11 Page 6 of 13 Case 2:11-cr-01170-URC Document 6 Filed 12/09/11 Page 1 of 7 Page ID #:83 FILED 1 2011 DEC -9 AMII: 23 2 CLERK, U.S. DISTRICT COURT CENTRAL DIST. OF CALIF, LOS ANGELES 3 4 5 6 7 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT 8 FOR THE CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA 9 CR 11 01170 10 UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, 11 INFORMATION Plaintiff, 12 [18 U.S.C. § 157(3): Bankruptcy Fraud; 18 U.S.C. 13 § 2: Aiding and Abetting and FREDERIC ALAN GLADLE, aka "Jake Menefee," 14 Causing an Act to be Done; 18 aka "Larry Stauffer," aka "Walter Fred Boyd," aka "Jack Heller," aka "Kevin Dorsey," U.S.C. § 1028A: Aggravated 15 Identity Theft] 16 17 Defendant. 18 The United States Attorney charges: 19 COUNT ONE 20 [18 U.S.C. §§ 157(3), 2] 21 INTRODUCTORY ALLEGATIONS 22 At all times relevant to this Information: 23 Defendant FREDERIC ALAN GLADLE, also known as "Jake 24 Menefee," "Larry Stauffer," "Walter Fred Boyd," "Jack Heller," 25 and "Kevin Dorsey" ("defendant GLADLE"), was a resident of 26 Austin, Texas, who operated a foreclosure-delay scheme in Los 27

Angeles and San Bernardino Counties, within the Central District

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of California, among other locations. In perpetrating the scheme, defendant GLADLE did not use his true name and instead used the following aliases: Jake Menefee, Larry Stauffer, Walter Fred Boyd, Jack Heller, and Kevin Dorsey.

- 2. A bankruptcy case is typically commenced with the filing of a petition for bankruptcy. A person seeking relief from debts, referred to as the "debtor," can file a "voluntary petition" for bankruptcy.
- 3. The filing of a bankruptcy petition triggers what is known as an "automatic stay" against the debtor's creditors, who would be immediately forbidden from taking any action on claims they might have against the debtor or any property owned by the debtor when the bankruptcy case was commenced, including foreclosure and eviction actions, unless permission of the bankruptcy court is first obtained.

B. THE SCHEME TO DEFRAUD

4. Beginning in or about October 2007, and continuing to on or about October 19, 2011, in Los Angeles and San Bernardino Counties, within the Central District of California, and elsewhere, defendant GLADLE, together with others known and unknown to the United States Attorney, knowingly and with intent to defraud, devised, participated in, and executed a scheme to defraud lenders, some of whom, such as Wells Fargo Bank, were recipients of funds under the Troubled Asset Relief Program, who were attempting to foreclose on real properties through trustee sales, by means of making fraudulent representations, claims, and promises concerning and in relation to a proceeding under

delay, and obstruct lenders' lawful foreclosure and eviction

actions against property owners who had defaulted on their

mortgages.

follows:

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The fraudulent scheme operated, in substance, as

The purpose of the fraudulent scheme was to hinder,

Defendant GLADLE distributed and caused to be distributed advertisements to solicit distressed homeowner clients who were interested in delaying the foreclosure of their homes.

- In addition, defendant GLADLE obtained clients through referrals from existing clients and from salespersons hired by defendant GLADLE.
- c. Through these advertisements and salespersons, defendant GLADLE told potential clients whose properties were being foreclosed upon (the "distressed properties") that, in exchange for a monthly fee, defendant GLADLE would assist in postponing the foreclosure for at least six months. The clients generally were not told that the postponement would be achieved through defendant GLADLE's use of bankruptcy petitions filed by debtors who were unaware of defendant GLADLE's use of their names and bankruptcy petitions.

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electronic bankruptcy court docketing system called PACER.

- Defendant GLADLE would direct the client and the salesperson to record the deed transferring the fractional interest to the debtor, and to send the recorded deed to defendant GLADLE by facsimile.
- Defendant GLADLE would download the debtor's f. bankruptcy petition from PACER.
- After obtaining the bankruptcy petition and the recorded fractional deed, defendant GLADLE or a co-schemer operating at his direction would fax a copy of the recorded fractional deed and the bankruptcy petition, both of which listed the same debtor's name, to the client's lender or the lender's representative, thereby notifying the lender of the automatic stay in order to stop the foreclosure sale.
- Upon receiving the facsimile from defendant GLADLE containing the recorded fractional deed and bankruptcy petition, some lenders would file a motion for relief from stay in the debtor's bankruptcy case. Generally, in response to the motion, the debtor would disclaim any knowledge of owning the fractional interest in the distressed property, and the bankruptcy court. would grant the motion and permit the foreclosure on the distressed property to continue.
- Once another foreclosure sale was scheduled, defendant GLADLE would cause the client to sign another deed transferring another fractional share of the distressed property to a different debtor, print out the debtor's bankruptcy petition from PACER, and send both documents to the lender or the lender's representative.

- j. Defendant GLADLE would repeat this course of action, thereby repeatedly delaying the sale of the subject properties, for as long as the client paid the monthly fee. In this way, defendant GLADLE was able to delay the foreclosure for years on some properties.
- k. If a client requested that defendant GLADLE reverse the fractional deed transfers and paid a fee to defendant GLADLE, then defendant GLADLE would prepare pre-notarized reconveyance documents showing that the debtors were transferring their fractional interests to the client, forge the signatures of the debtors, and send the reconveyance documents to the client.
- 7. As part of the above-described fraudulent scheme, from on or about December 1, 2007, through on or about October 19, 2011, defendant GLADLE and his co-schemers delayed the foreclosure sales of approximately 1,128 distressed properties. During that same period, defendant GLADLE collected at least \$1,600,000 from clients in monthly fees paid for his illegal foreclosure-delay services.

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C. EXECUTION OF THE SCHEME TO DEFRAUD

8. On or about June 15, 2009, within the Central District of California, and elsewhere, for the purpose of executing and attempting to execute the above-described scheme, defendant GLADLE, using the alias "Kevin Dorsey," sent and caused to be sent a facsimile from Austin, Texas, to California Reconveyance in Chatsworth, California, containing a grant deed from M.A.G. and L.A. to S.C., along with a bankruptcy petition bearing case number 09-21169-AJC in the name of S.C., filed in the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Southern District of Florida, with the intent to defraud a lender.

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COUNT TWO

[18 U.S.C. § 1028A]

9. On or about October 19, 2011, in Travis County, within the Western District of Texas, defendant FREDERIC ALAN GLADLE, also known as "Jake Menefee," "Larry Stauffer," "Walter Fred Boyd," "Jack Heller," and "Kevin Dorsey," knowingly transferred, possessed, and used, without lawful authority, a means of identification of another person, that is, a social security number issued to J.M., during and in relation to using unauthorized access devices to obtain a thing of value totaling at least \$1,000, a felony violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 1029(a)(2).

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