



The United States Attorney's Office

Southern District of Iowa

CLINTON STORE OPERATOR SENTENCED TO THIRTY SEVEN MONTHS FOR TRAFFICKING IN COUNTERFEIT GOODS

DAVENPORT, IA - On October 1, 2010, Charles Edwin Sampson-Snyder, age 56, was sentenced to 37 months imprisonment for trafficking in counterfeit goods. United States District Judge John A. Jarvey also ordered Sampson-Snyder to serve two years of supervised release after he is released from custody, and was ordered to pay an assessment of \$100.00 to the Crime Victims Fund, announced U.S. Attorney Nicholas A. Klinefeldt.

As part of his guilty plea and plea agreement entered on February 25, 2010, Sampson-Snyder admitted that he operated and conducted business as Bama & Heather Clothing and then Bama's Clothing, which were clothing and apparel stores, located on 5th Avenue South in Clinton, Iowa. Sampson-Snyder was the buyer for the business and purchased more than \$100,000 worth of counterfeit merchandise to sell in Clinton, Iowa. During searches in 2007 and 2009, federal agents working with local law enforcement recovered numerous items of counterfeit goods including counterfeit "Coach", "Louis Vuitton", "Chanel", "Gucci", "Dolce & Gabbana", "Baby Phat", "Breitling", and "Nike" clothing, jewelry, watches, and leather goods.

"By this prosecution, we underscore our commitment to vigilantly protect the value of product ingenuity and creativity with a strong and coordinated response through our federal and local partners," said U.S. Attorney Nick Klinefeldt. "Selling and purchasing counterfeit goods is not a victimless crime," said Michael Vail, resident agent in charge of ICE HSI in Cedar Rapids, Iowa. "Counterfeiting commercial products undermines the economy, robs American jobs, stifles innovation, and promotes other types of crime. Our agents are committed to protecting the good names, reputations and trademarks of American business interests."

This investigation was conducted by the Clinton Police Department and Immigration and Customs Enforcement an agency of the Department of Homeland Security, and prosecuted by the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Southern District of Iowa.