



Department of Justice

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USED CAR DEALERS SENTENCED TO FEDERAL PRISON FOR LAUNDERING MONEY FROM DRUG DEALERS

ATLANTA, GA – STANLEY KIM, 50, of Norcross, Georgia; KEVIN CHANG, 41, of Buford, Georgia; TONY KIM, 35, of Norcross, Georgia; and YUEN CHEOL “DON” CHU, 42, of Duluth, Georgia; were sentenced on January 15 and 30, 2009, by United States District Judge Charles A. Pannell, Jr., on charges of money laundering and/or failing to report cash transactions of more than \$10,000 (structuring cash transactions).

David E. Nahmias, United States Attorney for the Northern District of Georgia, stated: “This case demonstrates our continued commitment to investigate and prosecute not only drug dealers, but also those who provide drug dealers the means by which they can spend or clean their dirty money.”

IRS-Criminal Investigation Special Agent in Charge Reginael D. McDaniel said, “Let the sentencing in this case send a clear message to all those who launder cash for drug dealers – the IRS Criminal Investigation Division will be there with our law enforcement partners to follow the money trail, which will ultimately lead to prosecution.”

STANLEY KIM was sentenced to 8 years in prison to be followed by 3 years of supervised release and 100 hours of community service. On November 15, 2008, KIM pleaded guilty to 17-counts of money laundering and structuring cash transactions.

KEVIN CHANG was sentenced to 2 years in prison to be followed by 3 years of supervised release. On May 9, 2008, CHANG pleaded guilty to money laundering.

TONY KIM was sentenced to 18 months in prison to be followed by 3 years of supervised release. On February 14, 2008, KIM pleaded guilty to money laundering.

YUEN CHEOL “DON” CHU was sentenced to a year and a day in prison to be followed by 3 years of supervised release. On November 10, 2008, CHU pleaded guilty to structuring more than \$100,000 in cash transactions within a 12-month period.

According to United States Attorney Nahmias and the information presented in court:

From December 2003 through April 2007, the defendants, who were all high-ranking employees at the used-car dealership King Kong Motors, sold luxury vehicles to drug traffickers. The defendants allowed the drug dealers to pay for their vehicles in cash amounts of more than \$10,000. The defendants would then purposefully falsify the sales paperwork to make it appear that the dealership had not received more than \$10,000 in cash – in an attempt to avoid the IRS reporting requirements. Federal law requires that all trades and businesses, including car dealerships, file a Form 8300 with the IRS when they receive more than \$10,000 in cash. Additionally, certain defendants generated false sales paperwork and liens, in the names of nominee buyers, in an effort to conceal the identity of the drug dealers – and made it seem as though the cars had been purchased by legitimate buyers.

This case was investigated by Special Agents of the Internal Revenue Service, Criminal Investigation Division and the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

Assistant United States Attorneys Jeffrey W. Davis and John Horn prosecuted the case.

For further information please contact David E. Nahmias (pronounced NAH-me-us), United States Attorney, or Charysse L. Alexander, Executive Assistant United States Attorney, through Patrick Crosby, Public Affairs Officer, U.S. Attorney's Office, at (404) 581-6016. The Internet address for the HomePage for the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Northern District of Georgia is www.usdoj.gov/usao/gan.