

FILED
U.S. DISTRICT COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT OF LA.
2019 AUG 22 P 3:25
WILLIAM W. BLEVINS
CLERK

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT OF LOUISIANA

FELONY

INDICTMENT FOR WIRE FRAUD AND NOTICE OF FORFEITURE

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

*

CRIMINAL NO.

19-00163

v.

*

SECTION:

SECT. A MAG. 5

STEVEN ROLAND HANSEN

*

VIOLATION: 18 U. S. C. § 2

18 U. S. C. § 1343

* * *

The Grand Jury charges that:

COUNT 1

A. AT ALL MATERIAL TIMES HEREIN:

1. Business "A" located in Salt Lake City, Utah was a business entity engaged in the intrastate and interstate sale of postal meter machines, among other things. Business "A" made use of interstate wire communication systems. Business "A" also granted credit to customers who possessed business postal meters.

2. On or about September 20, 2005, in the Eastern District of Louisiana, the defendant, **STEVEN ROLAND HANSEN**, established a series of fraudulent businesses to advance his scheme and artifice to defraud Business "A" of money.

Fee _____
Process _____
X Dkt'd _____
Clk/RmDep _____
Doc. No. _____

3. In or around 2005, **STEVEN ROLAND HANSEN** established Reality Management Services, which opened Business "A" Postal Machine Accounts, numbers 3428706 and 3820627. Business "A" was owed \$1,570.37 when **STEVEN ROLAND HANSEN** closed the Business "A" account in 2010.

4. In or around 2017, in the Eastern District of Louisiana, **STEVEN ROLAND HANSEN** established a fraudulent business known as "The Reference Source, Inc.," which opened a Business "A" Postal Meter Account, number 9066296. Business "A" was owed \$2,557.69 when **STEVEN ROLAND HANSEN** closed the Business "A" account in 2018.

5. In 2007, **STEVEN ROLAND HANSEN** established Access, Inc., which opened a Business "A" Postal Machine Account, number 242958. Business "A" was owed \$2,929.90 when **STEVEN ROLAND HANSEN** closed the Business "A" account in 2007.

6. In or around 2009, **STEVEN ROLAND HANSEN** established USA Properties, Inc., which opened a Business "A" Postal Machine Account, number 3113283. Business "A" was owed \$3,128.62 when **STEVEN ROLAND HANSEN** closed the Business "A" account in 2009.

7. In or around 2011, **STEVEN ROLAND HANSEN** established Investment Products, Inc., which opened a Business Postal Machine Account, number 3181728. Business "A" was owed \$6,105.90 when **STEVEN ROLAND HANSEN** closed the Business "A" account in 2012.

8. In or around 2011, **STEVEN ROLAND HANSEN** established Business Corp., which opened a Business "A" Postage Meter Account, number 3182894. Business "A" was owed \$7,016.46 when **STEVEN ROLAND HANSEN** closed the Business "A" account in 2012.

9. In or around 2016, **STEVEN ROLAND HANSEN** established Access, Inc., which opened a Business "A" Postage Meter Account, number 879834. Business "A" was owed \$6,608.57 when **STEVEN ROLAND HANSEN** closed the Business "A" account in 2016.

10. The United States Postal Service is an independent agency of the Executive Branch of the United States.

B. THE SCHEME TO DEFRAUD BUSINESS "A":

11. Beginning on or around July 25, 2017, and continuing until on or about March 23, 2018, in the Eastern District of Louisiana and elsewhere, the defendant, **STEVEN ROLAND HANSEN**, did knowingly devise and intend to devise a scheme and artifice to defraud, and to obtain money and property by means of materially false and fraudulent pretenses, representations, and promises, by fraudulently printing metered postage envelopes on the accounts of Business "A" and redeeming them at post offices to unlawfully enrich himself.

12. To further the scheme and artifice defraud, The Reference Source, Inc., controlled by defendant **STEVEN ROLAND HANSEN**, applied for a line of credit with Business "A" in order to rent a postage meter machine to print postage funded by this line of credit.

13. To further the scheme and artifice to defraud, defendant **STEVEN ROLAND HANSEN**, printed or caused to be printed envelopes with metered postage in an inflated or incorrect amount.

14. To further the scheme and artifice to defraud, defendant **STEVEN ROLAND HANSEN**, presented these envelopes with the inflated postage to the United States Post Offices in Chalmette, Meraux, and New Orleans, all in the Eastern District of Louisiana.

15. To further the scheme and artifice to defraud, defendant **STEVEN ROLAND HANSEN** presented the Postal Service Form 3533, Application for Refund of Fees, to these post offices to receive money orders for the fraudulently inflated postage envelopes. Business "A" was ultimately responsible for charges for which defendant **STEVEN ROLAND HANSEN** received money orders, as it had issued the credit. Put another way, defendant **STEVEN**

ROLAND HANSEN turned the line of credit with Business "A" into cash by willfully presenting false and fraudulent inflated forms 3533 to the Post Office. As he well knew, the envelopes were not a mistake, but were misprinted intentionally to cause the U.S. Postal Service to issue defendant **STEVEN ROLAND HANSEN** postal money orders, which he could use as cash. Furthermore, defendant **STEVEN ROLAND HANSEN** presented Postal Form 3533 in amounts under \$500.00 because any refund request \$500.00 and above would result in a higher level of scrutiny and cause a physical check of money orders to be issued, which would result in delays in his obtaining cash and increase the chance of detecting the fraud.

C. THE WIRE TRANSMISSIONS:

16. On or about the dates specified in each Count below, in the Eastern District of Louisiana and elsewhere, the defendant, **STEVEN ROLAND HANSEN**, for the purpose of executing and attempting to execute the aforesaid scheme and artifice to defraud, did transmit and cause to be transmitted in interstate commerce certain signs, signals, and sounds by means of wire communications, that is, emails and phone calls between his office located on 2104 Nemeth Drive, Violet, Louisiana, and Business "A" in Utah.

COUNT	DATE	FROM	TO	USE OF WIRE
1	7/26/17	The Reference Source Inc.- Louisiana	Business "A"- Utah	Meter lease signed electronically
2	8/8/17	The Reference Source Inc.- Louisiana	Business "A"- Utah	Requested credit limit increase
3	8/9/17	The Reference Source Inc.- Louisiana	Business "A"- Utah	Added \$100.00 in credit
4	8/10/17	The Reference Source Inc.- Louisiana	Business "A"- Utah	Requested credit limit increase

5	12/5/17	The Reference Source Inc.- Louisiana	Business "A"- Utah	Requested account balance
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All in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Sections 1343 and 2.

NOTICE OF FORFEITURE

1. The allegations of Count 1 are realleged and incorporated by reference as though set forth fully herein for the purpose of alleging forfeiture to the United States.

2. As a result of the offense alleged in Count 1, the defendant, **STEVEN ROLAND HANSEN**, shall forfeit to the United States pursuant to Title 18, United States Code, Section 981(a)(1)(C), and Title 28, United States Code, Section 2461(c), any property real or personal which constitutes or is derived from proceeds traceable to said offense.

3. If any of the above-described property, as a result of any act or omission of the defendant:

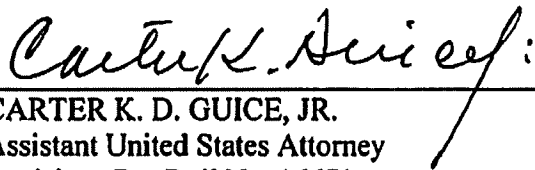
- a. cannot be located upon the exercise of due diligence;
- b. has been transferred or sold to, or deposited with, a third person;
- c. has been placed beyond jurisdiction of the Court;
- d. has been substantially diminished in value; or
- e. has been commingled with other property which cannot be divided without difficulty;

the United States shall, pursuant to Title 21, United States Code, Section 853(p), seek forfeiture of any other property of the defendant up to the value of the above-described property.

A TRUE BILL: 


FOREPERSON

PETER G. STRASSER
UNITED STATES ATTORNEY


CARTER K. D. GUICE, JR.
Assistant United States Attorney
Louisiana Bar Roll No. 16671

New Orleans, Louisiana
August 22, 2019