



Department of Justice

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**ID Theft Conspiracy Leader Sentenced to 16 years in Federal Prison
and Ordered to Pay \$88,131 in Restitution**

Defendant Arrested at Luxury Hotel in Dallas in a Room Full of Stolen and Fake IDs

DALLAS — A Cedar Hill, Texas man, who was convicted at trial on various federal felony offenses stemming from an identity (ID) theft conspiracy he ran in the metroplex from October 2009 to July 2013, was sentenced today, announced Acting U.S. Attorney John Parker of the Northern District of Texas.

Anthony Minor, 28, was sentenced by U.S. District Judge Sam A. Lindsay to 16 years in federal prison and ordered to pay \$88,131 in restitution. A federal jury convicted Minor in September 2014 on one count of conspiracy to commit bank fraud, five counts of bank fraud, one count of using or trafficking in an unauthorized access device, and two counts of aggravated identification theft.

Minor is the last defendant convicted in the conspiracy to be sentenced. Other defendants pleaded guilty to the conspiracy charge. Minor's girlfriend, Tilisha Morrison, 25, of Dallas, was sentenced to 48 months in federal prison and ordered to pay \$88,131 in restitution. Katrina Thomas, 41, of Garland, Texas, was also sentenced to 48 months in federal prison, and she was ordered to pay \$76,831 in restitution. Defendants Kario Butler, 29, of Mansfield, Texas; Cyrus Pritchett, 25, of Dallas; and Jamilah Karriem, 21, of Dallas and Desoto, Texas, were sentenced to time served. One defendant, Karen Mendoza, 44, most recently of Dallas, remains a fugitive.

Minor was the leader of the conspiracy. The government presented evidence at trial that he stole identities in a variety of ways, including purchasing them from a group of safe robbers and recruiting a Federal National Mortgage Association (Fannie Mae) employee, Katrina Thomas, to steal more than 1000 identities from her Fannie Mae workstation. Once the IDs were in hand, Minor and Morrison accessed the victims' bank accounts and performed hundreds of account take-overs. As part of the conspiracy, they recruited their co-conspirators to walk into banks and withdraw cash.

Law enforcement caught Minor and arrested him at the W Hotel in Dallas. Law enforcement found numerous stolen and fake IDs, counterfeit checks, a laptop computer containing a template for

the Texas Department of Public Safety Temporary Driver License, a printer, and a \$900 bottle of Dom Pérignon champagne he had just ordered from room service using one of the stolen credit cards. He had rented the room using another's identification.

Minor and the conspirators stole personal identifying information for true Bank of America and JP Morgan Chase account holders (the victim-customers) and used this information to fraudulently access funds contained in their bank accounts. They also created false identities using the stolen personal identifying information.

The U.S. Secret Service and the Federal Housing Finance Agency Office of Inspector General investigated the case.

Assistant U.S. Attorney P. J. Meitl and Special Assistant U.S. Attorney Christopher G. Poor prosecuted.

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