



United States Attorney's Office District of Connecticut Press Release

**March 5, 2008 EAST HARTFORD RESIDENTS INDICTED FOR ILLEGAL CASH
STRUCTURING**

Kevin J. O'Connor, United States Attorney for the District of Connecticut, today announced that a federal grand jury has returned an Indictment charging **MOHAMMAD GHOUSE**, 43, and **KATHRYN EMILIA**, 31, both of 441 Main Street, East Hartford, with structuring and conspiracy to structure cash transactions in violation of federal law. The two-count Indictment was returned today.

The Indictment alleges that, between February and December 2005, GHOUSE and EMILIA made multiple cash deposits into a business bank account within a single day and broke up cash deposits into individual transactions involving less than \$10,000 to avoid triggering the reporting requirements for cash transactions of more than \$10,000.

Federal law requires that financial institutions file a report with the U.S. Treasury Department for any currency transaction that exceeds \$10,000.

If convicted, GHOUSE and EMILIA face a maximum term of imprisonment of five years and a maximum fine of \$250,000 on the conspiracy count, and a maximum term of imprisonment of 10 years and a maximum fine of \$500,000 on the structuring count. The Indictment also seeks the forfeiture of all money involved in the offense totaling \$1,126,398.22.

U.S. Attorney O'Connor stressed that an indictment is only a charge and is not evidence of guilt. The defendants are entitled to a fair trial at which it is the Government's burden to prove guilt beyond a reasonable doubt.

This matter was investigated by the Internal Revenue Service – Criminal Investigation Division and the Federal Bureau of Investigation. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Susan L. Wines.

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