



# Department of Justice

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**DEFENDANT SENTENCED TO 20 YEARS FOR \$20 MILLION MORTGAGE  
FRAUD ATTEMPT COMMITTED WHILE ON ESCAPE FROM SENTENCE  
FOR ANOTHER MORTGAGE FRAUD CONVICTION**

*Wayne Sherrod Milton sentenced to prison in a multimillion dollar mortgage and church grant fraud; Deputy US Marshal assaulted with deadly weapon while attempting arrest*

Atlanta, GA - WAYNE SHERROD MILTON, 32, of Stone Mountain, GA, was sentenced today to over 20 years in prison by United States District Judge Charles A. Pannell, Jr. on charges of escape from federal prison, conspiracy to commit mortgage fraud, grant fraud and aggravated assault on a Deputy US Marshal.

United States Attorney David E. Nahmias said, "This defendant is a dangerous con man and he deserves to be locked up for many years. This case is aggravated by many factors, including the continued mortgage fraud committed by a defendant already serving a mortgage fraud sentence, his escape from federal custody to commit additional crimes, and his aggravated assault on the Deputy US Marshal trying to arrest him. Also disturbing is the fact that this defendant, who pretended to hold a Bachelors of Theology and a Doctorate of Divinity from Georgia universities and pastored several churches, preyed upon those churches and other faith-based organizations in seven states by fraudulently collecting fees they could not afford to loose."

MILTON was sentenced to serve 20 years and one month in federal prison followed by 3 years of supervised release and ordered to pay \$319,856 in restitution. MILTON pleaded guilty to these charges on October 21, 2005.

According to United States Attorney Nahmias and the information presented in court: MILTON unlawfully left the federal facility where he was serving time for mortgage fraud to attempt other crimes, including over \$20 million in new mortgage fraud involving dozens of residential properties and a church. While a federal fugitive, MILTON also traveled around Georgia and to other states to defraud churches and other faith-based organizations in Florida, Alabama, North Carolina, South Carolina, Connecticut, and Illinois by promising to deliver over \$200 million in grant funding in exchange for "administrative fees." MILTON "delivered" a number of \$25 million counterfeit cashiers checks, while using the

money collected from the charitable organizations for personal use including travel with his girlfriend to attend the Stella Awards in California. When located by the US Marshal Service in Pelham, GA, MILTON tried to run over a Deputy U.S. Marshal with his car while fleeing at speeds up to 100 mph through downtown Pelham, around farmyards, down dirt roads and across a cotton field where he was finally apprehended.

This case was investigated by a Special Agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

Assistant United States Attorney Gale McKenzie prosecuted the case.

For further information please contact David E. Nahmias (pronounced NAH-me-us), United States Attorney or William L. McKinnon, Chief, Economic Crime and Cybercrime, 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 <http://www.usdoj.gov/usao/gan/>.