

U.S. Attorney's Office Western District of Texas

Johnny Sutton, U.S. Attorney

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SAN ANTONIO BUSINESS OWNER INDICTED ON FRAUD, TAX AND MONEY LAUNDERING CHARGES

United States Attorney Johnny Sutton and FBI Special Agent in Charge Ralph G. Diaz announced the arrest of 40-year-old Andrew Maxwell Parker, owner of San Antonio Trade Group, Inc., on conspiracy, wire fraud, money laundering, false statements and tax charges.

An indictment returned this week by a federal grand jury sitting in San Antonio, alleges that from February 2003 to November 2006, Parker schemed to defraud the Export-Import Bank of the United States (Ex-Im Bank) by stealing millions of dollars in loan proceeds from private U.S. lenders to Mexican business owners and causing multi-million dollar losses to Ex-Im Bank who guaranteed or insured those loans based on false applications and support documentation submitted by Parker. The indictment also charges Parker with defrauding lenders in transactions not insured or guaranteed by the Ex-Im Bank.

The indictment further alleges that Parker attempted to evade paying taxes owed in calendar years 2003 and 2004 by disguising account transfers of \$588,000 and \$816,720.55, respectively. Parker allegedly claimed the money was used to purchase equipment being exported to Mexico when in fact, he used the \$588,000 to purchase a house in Dallas, Texas, and the \$816,720.55 to purchase two Ferrari automobiles and one Bentley automobile for himself. He also funneled money to relatives, all from nominee accounts. Furthermore, the indictment alleges that he under-reported his actual income on his 2003 and 2004 tax returns.

In all, Parker is charged with conspiracy, nine counts of wire fraud, two counts of use of a false document, 12 counts of money laundering, two counts of tax evasion, and two counts of filing a false income tax return. The indictment also seeks the criminal forfeiture of his San Antonio residence at 407 E. Wildwood Dr. and his 2004 GMC Hummer H2, plus a monetary judgement in the amount of \$10 million representing proceeds obtained directly or indirectly as a result of Parker's alleged scheme.

This case is being investigated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Internal Revenue Service - Criminal Investigation together with U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement and the Social Security Administration - Office of Inspector General. Assistant United States Attorneys Judith Patton and Jim Blankinship are prosecuting this case on behalf of the government.

An indictment a formal accusation of criminal conduct, not evidence of guilt. The defendant is presumed innocent unless and until convicted through due process of law.