



Department of Justice

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Southern District of Indiana**

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MAN SENTENCED FOR BANK FRAUD

PRESS RELEASE

Timothy M. Morrison, Acting United States Attorney for the Southern District of Indiana, announced that DALE M. PARENTEAU, 71, was sentenced to 12 months and 1 day imprisonment today by U.S. District Judge Sarah Evans Barker following his guilty plea to Bank Fraud. This case was the result of an investigation by the United States Secret Service.

PARENTEAU participated in a scheme with co-defendant Bryon L. Ashlock and others to defraud financial institutions by the use of false identification documents in the negotiation of fraudulent checks. In January 2007, Ashlock approached PARENTEAU on an interstate exit ramp in the Los Angeles area, where PARENTEAU was panhandling. Ashlock advised PARENTEAU that they could make some money, and soon thereafter provided PARENTEAU with some cash and new clothes. Ashlock also took PARENTEAU to a photographer to obtain a passport-type photo of PARENTEAU.

Approximately one week following their initial meeting, Ashlock took PARENTEAU to the Los Angeles Airport where an unidentified man provided numerous checks, bank documents and identification documents to Ashlock. PARENTEAU was provided an airline ticket by Ashlock and the two flew together to begin execution of the scheme. The scheme was executed in various Midwestern states, generally in the following fashion. All of the transactions occurred at JP Morgan Chase Bank branches and all involved use of fraudulent documents pertaining to legitimate Chase customers. In each case, PARENTEAU would directly conduct the transaction inside the bank, while Ashlock provided the fraudulent documents and directed PARENTEAU'S actions.

The April 3, 2007 transaction at a Chase Bank in Richmond, Indiana will serve as an example. PARENTEAU purported to be an individual of Brighton, Michigan, who holds a valid Chase account. PARENTEAU presented a Michigan identification or drivers license bearing his own picture but other data regarding the other man. With this, he presented a check payable to the other man, with a forged endorsement and a counter deposit slip with that man's information

written on it. He then made a split deposit, obtaining cash back in an amount less than the full amount of the fraudulent check. The proceeds (\$2,450 in this case) were then given by PARENTEAU to Ashlock.

This procedure, or a very similar one, was carried out at several branches in each city visited and then the two flew back to Los Angeles. According to PARENTEAU, he was paid at least \$1,000 by Ashlock for each trip.

PARENTEAU defrauded JP Morgan Chase Bank in Indiana, Ohio, Michigan, and Kentucky. PARENTEAU received \$7,300 in Indiana, \$12,500 in Ohio, and \$42,355 in Michigan. The total aggregate amount that PARENTEAU is responsible for defrauding JP Morgan Chase Bank is \$62,155.

According to James M. Warden, who prosecuted the case for the government, Judge Barker also imposed 3 years supervised release following PARENTEAU's release from imprisonment. PARENTEAU was ordered to make restitution in the amount of \$62,155.

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