



# Department of Justice

United States Attorney Robert E. O'Neill  
Middle District of Florida

Tampa

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Fort Myers

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CONTACT: STEVE COLE

PHONE: (813) 274-6136

FAX: (813) 274-6300

## **FORT MYERS MAN INDICTED FOR BANK FRAUD**

Fort Myers, Florida - United States Attorney Robert E. O'Neill today announced that a federal grand jury returned an indictment charging Khaled Mohammed Fatayer with 35 counts of bank fraud, and one count of conducting a prohibited monetary transaction from the proceeds of bank fraud. Khaled Fatayer is 35 years old and a resident of Fort Myers. If convicted, he faces a maximum term of imprisonment of 30 years, a fine of up to \$1million, and a term of supervised release of up to 5 years on each of the bank fraud counts. If convicted of the prohibited monetary transaction count, Fatayer faces a maximum term of imprisonment of 10 years, a maximum fine of \$250,000, and a term of supervised release of up to 3 years. Fatayer also would be ordered to pay restitution to victims of the offenses and forfeit any property constituting or derived from proceeds obtained as a result of the offenses.

The indictment charges that Fatayer formed a scheme to defraud and to obtain money from three Fort Myers banks, Bank of America, Wachovia Bank, and AmSouth Bank, by means of false and fraudulent pretenses, representations and promises. The indictment charges that Fatayer operated the S & A Community Store, located at 3340 Martin Luther King Boulevard, Fort Myers, and that through a company called Speed Buy, Inc., the defendant operated a check cashing business at the S & A Community Store.

The indictment further charges that Fatayer opened bank accounts in the name of

Speed Buy, Inc., at Bank of America, Wachovia Bank, and AmSouth Bank under a false name and that he then deposited or attempted to deposit 35 stolen and forged checks into the bank accounts of Speed Buy, Inc., at Bank of America, Wachovia Bank, and AmSouth Bank, as well as into bank accounts in the names of other persons. The indictment charges that Fatayer deposited or attempted to deposit stolen and forged checks totaling approximately \$266,728.00 into the accounts.

The case was investigated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Department of Homeland Security, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, the Florida Department of Law Enforcement, and the Fort Myers Police Department. The case will be prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Jeffrey F. Michelland.

An Indictment is merely a formal charge that a defendant has committed a violation of the federal criminal laws, and every defendant is presumed innocent until, and unless, proven guilty.