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RAYVILLE MAN SENTENCED IN FEDERAL COURT

Defendant and his wife defrauded victims out of over \$800,000 by claiming to arrange medical scans and treatment administered by CIA Officers

Monroe, Louisiana . . . United States Attorney Donald W. Washington announced that **BRENT ERIC FINLEY**, age 38, of Rayville, Louisiana, was sentenced yesterday by U.S. District Judge Robert G. James in United States District Court in Monroe to **spend 51 months in prison**, followed by 3 years of supervised release. FINLEY was also **ordered to pay restitution in the amount of \$873,786.94**, jointly and severally with STACEY FINLEY.

A bill of information was filed May 3, 2007 charging FINLEY with one count of wire fraud and he pled guilty to the charge in August. This case began as an investigation into allegations that BRENT FINLEY and his wife, STACEY FINLEY, had devised a scheme to defraud their friends and family members out of hundreds of thousands of dollars. In the scheme, STACEY FINLEY, aided by her husband, BRENT FINLEY, falsely posed as an agent of the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA).

Testimony at the hearing revealed that BRENT and STACEY FINLEY convinced numerous victims, who were their family, friends and neighbors, that through STACEY FINLEY's contacts as an agent with

the CIA, she could arrange and schedule a medical scan of the victims' bodies by satellite imaging that would detect any hidden medical problems; and that in return for payment of money to FINLEY, she would arrange for secret agents to administer medicine to the victims as they slept. All of this information that FINLEY conveyed to the victims was false.

Agents learned during their investigation that STACEY FINLEY instructed victims who lived in the local area to write checks to pay for the scans and treatments, which she deposited into their personal account. For those victims who lived out of state, FINLEY instructed them to wire transfer money to the account for these payments. All of the money which BRENT and STACEY FINLEY received was used for their own personal benefit.

STACEY FINLEY also pleaded guilty and was sentenced in August of this year to spend 63 months in prison and ordered to pay restitution in the amount of \$873,786.94, jointly and severally with BRENT FINLEY.

U.S. Attorney Washington stated: "These audacious criminals should remind all of us that scam artists will go to great lengths to take our life's savings. We must never forget that if it's too good to be true, it probably isn't true. If you are the victim of a scam, don't hesitate to quickly report it to local, state, or federal law enforcement agencies."

This case was investigated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Monroe Resident Agency, and was prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney James G. Cowles, Jr.

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