

## Department of Justice

United States Attorney David E. Nahmias Northern District of Georgia

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE 08/20/08 http://www.usdoj.gov/usao/gan/ CONTACT: Patrick Crosby (404)581-6016 FAX (404)581-6160

## MAN INDICTED IN SCHEME TO DEFRAUD HEDGE-FUND INVESTORS OUT OF MORE THAN \$20 MILLION

Atlanta, GA - MANYU OGALE, 44, of Jacksonville, Florida, was arraigned today before United States Magistrate Judge Russell G. Vineyard on charges of wire fraud related to a "Ponzi" investment scheme.

United States Attorney David E. Nahmias said of the case, "This defendant is charged with using a Ponzi scheme to steal millions of dollars from investors who believed they were making wise investment choices. We continue to advise members of the public to use caution when investing their hard-earned money, even with someone they know, especially when the promised rates of return sound too good to be true."

According to Nahmias and the documents and information presented in court: OGALE was indicted by a federal grand jury on August 12, 2008. The indictment charges that from January 2003 through May 2007, OGALE owned and operated "Den Haag Capital, LLC," which he represented to be "a private hedge fund" for "sophisticated investors." OGALE falsely represented to investors that he had created an algorithm that allowed him to determine whether various foreign currencies were undervalued or overvalued, and he promised to invest his clients' money in the foreign currency markets using the algorithm that he had created. OGALE guaranteed investors an annual rate of return of 50%.

In less than 5 years, OGALE took in over \$20 million from investors. OGALE sent monthly statements to investors, falsely claiming that their investments had substantially increased in value, and OGALE used some of the money that he received from later investors to pay substantial returns to some of the early investors—the classic "Ponzi" fraud scheme. OGALE never invested any of the money, however, and, instead, used much of it to pay his own personal expenses in an effort to create an aura of legitimacy for himself.

Members of the public are reminded that the indictment only contains charges. The defendant is presumed innocent of the charges and it will be the government's burden to prove the defendant's guilt beyond a reasonable doubt at trial.

This case is being investigated by Special Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

Assistant United States Attorney Russell Phillips is prosecuting the case.

For further information please contact David E. Nahmias (pronounced NAH-meus), United States Attorney, or Charysse L. Alexander, Executive Assistant United States Attorney, 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 <a href="www.usdoj.gov/usao/gan">www.usdoj.gov/usao/gan</a>.