



Department of Justice

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**FORMER FLORIDA ATTORNEY AND
HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY CO-CONSPIRATOR
PLEAD GUILTY TO BANK AND MAIL FRAUD CONSPIRACY**

Tampa, Florida - United States Attorney Robert E. O'Neill today announced that Mark W. Jackson, a 57 year old resident of Pinellas County and a former Florida attorney, and William W. Dykstra, a 65 year old resident of Hillsborough County, both pleaded guilty to a bank and mail fraud conspiracy. The maximum penalty they face is up to 30 years' imprisonment, a \$1 million fine, and 5 years of supervised release.

According to the plea agreement, the conspiracy took place from a time prior to April, 2000, and continued through July 2, 2004, and as part of the conspiracy, Jackson and Dykstra would: steal mail matter containing personal information as well as personal and business checks from the U.S. Mail (Jackson was in possession of over 200 photocopies of stolen checks on July 2, 2004); produce and use counterfeit personal identification documents; unlawfully obtain through the U.S. Mail copies of other individuals valid Florida driver licenses; open numerous accounts and rent mail boxes at Commercial Mail Receiving Agencies (CMRAs) using fraudulent identification documents; open bank accounts in names other than their own proper names using stolen identification information of other individuals; produce counterfeit personal and business checks, deposit those checks into the fraudulently opened bank accounts, then withdraw funds from the accounts using automated teller machines (ATMs); and produce counterfeit personal and

business checks based on checks stolen from the U.S. Mail, and then negotiate and attempt to negotiate the checks at drive-through teller windows of various bank branches throughout the Middle District of Florida using stolen or fraudulent identity documents.

As a result of this conspiracy, defendants Jackson and Dykstra fraudulently obtained and attempted to obtain more than \$200,000.00 in U.S. currency from the compromised banks during the existence of the conspiracy.

The case was investigated by the United States Postal Inspection Service and the Florida Department of Law Enforcement. The case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Donald L. Hansen.