



# Department of Justice

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## **ALABAMA MAN SENTENCED FOR ATTEMPTING TO SELL BOGUS U.S. BOND IN TAMPA**

Tampa, FL - U.S. District Judge Susan C. Bucklew, today sentenced TIMOTHY WAYNE CARTWRIGHT, age 42, of Birmingham, Alabama, to 21 months' imprisonment and 5 years' supervised release for fraudulently possessing and attempting to broker a fictitious Federal Reserve note. CARTWRIGHT was also ordered to pay \$185,000 to a victim of the offense. CARTWRIGHT pled guilty pursuant to a written plea agreement on December 20, 2007.

According to court documents, from at least as early as April 2002 to August 2002, CARTWRIGHT possessed a fictitious \$100 million "Federal Reserve Note" purporting to be "legal tender for all debts" and bearing fictitious signatures of the Treasurer of the United States and the Secretary of the Treasury. Even after he had been informed by a bank in May, 2002 that the note was bogus, CARTWRIGHT fraudulently attempted to sell an interest in the fictitious instrument to three Tampa area businessmen, who ostensibly would use it as collateral for a \$50 million business loan. In return, CARTWRIGHT would acquire a percentage of the businesses these individuals funded with the loan. Before the deal could be consummated, however, one of the intended victims determined that the note was suspicious and informed law enforcement.

The case was investigated by United States Secret Service and the Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office. The case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Cherie L. Krigsman.