



## United States Attorney's Office District of Connecticut Press Release

May 2, 2007

### TWO DERBY RESIDENTS CHARGED WITH ILLEGAL CASH STRUCTURING

Kevin J. O'Connor, United States Attorney for the District of Connecticut, today announced that a federal grand jury sitting in New Haven has returned an Indictment charging **CHARLES R. KEOSHERIAN**, age 59, and **IDALINA C. KARKER**, age 57, both of 273 Derby Avenue, Derby, Connecticut, with conspiracy to structure cash transactions in violation of federal law. The Indictment was returned yesterday, May 2. The defendants were arrested this morning and will be arraigned at 2:00 p.m. today before United States Magistrate Judge Joan G. Margolis in New Haven.

The Indictment alleges that, on 30 separate days between February and December 2004, KEOSHERIAN and KARKER purchased a total of 164 U.S. postal money orders having a total value of \$152,299.55. The Indictment further alleges that the money order purchases were broken up into individual transactions involving less than \$3,000 in cash, to avoid triggering the reporting and record-keeping obligations governing the sale of money orders. Federal law requires that financial institutions keep records of, and file reports with the U.S. Treasury Department about, money order purchases involving \$3,000 or more.

The Indictment also alleges that, prior to committing the charged offense, KEOSHERIAN had failed to timely file tax returns and to pay taxes for the years 2000 through 2003, and that the structuring conduct occurred while KEOSHERIAN and the Internal Revenue Service were having communications about his unpaid federal tax liability.

If convicted, KEOSHERIAN and KARKER each face a maximum term of imprisonment of five years and a fine of up to \$250,000. The Indictment also seeks the forfeiture of proceeds of the offense totaling \$152,299.55.

U.S. Attorney O'Connor stressed that an indictment is only a charge and is not evidence of guilt. The defendants are entitled to a fair trial at which it is the Government's burden to prove guilt beyond a reasonable doubt.

This matter was investigated by the Internal Revenue Service – Criminal Investigation Division and the United States Postal Inspection Service. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorneys Henry K. Kopel and Mark D. Rubino.

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