



Department of Justice

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Southern District of Indiana**

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INVESTOR AND MORTGAGE BROKER CHARGED WITH MORTGAGE FRAUD

PRESS RELEASE

Timothy M. Morrison, United States Attorney for the Southern District of Indiana, announced that TIMOTHY HAMPTON, 41, and MIA WEIR, 43, Indianapolis, Indiana, were charged in a 32 count indictment by a federal grand jury sitting in Indianapolis for conspiracy to commit mail fraud and mail fraud in a mortgage fraud scheme, following more than one year's investigation by the U.S. Postal Inspection Service.

The indictment alleges that between 2003 and 2005 TIMOTHY HAMPTON operated a business called Home Corp. and that MIA WEIR was a mortgage broker with AK Mortgage. HAMPTON purportedly recruited buyers who he then paid to buy houses in Indianapolis. HAMPTON promised the buyers that they would not have to pay any money as a down payment and that he would find renters for the houses. HAMPTON also allegedly promised the buyers that he would find new renters and make up any missed mortgage payments if renters did not pay.

WEIR was the mortgage broker who worked with HAMPTON. She collected the buyers' financial information and sent loan documents to the lending institution. The lending institution received documents with incorrect and inflated amounts attributed to the buyers' income and bank account balances. The lending institutions were not told the true nature of the buyers' debt ratio because the loan applications did not disclose all of the buyers' prior property purchases with HAMPTON and WEIR. The lending institutions believed that these investment properties would be the buyers' personal residences. The lending institutions also believed the buyers had brought the down payment funds represented on the settlement statements, which they had not done. The lending institutions also did not know that HAMPTON had paid the buyers to purchase the houses.

TIMOTHY HAMPTON and MIA WEIR are the second and third individuals charged as part of this investigation. Marvin Hampton has already been charged with mail fraud on May 7, 2008 in connection with a similar mortgage fraud scheme.

According to Assistant U. S. Attorneys Gayle L. Helart and Doris L. Pryor, who are prosecuting the case for the government, each defendant faces a maximum possible prison sentence of 20 years on each count and a maximum possible fine of \$250,000. An initial hearing will be scheduled before a U.S. Magistrate Judge in Indianapolis, Indiana.

The indictment is an allegation only, and each defendant is presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty at trial or by guilty plea.

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