



Department of Justice

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Southern District of Indiana**

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TWO MEN INDICTED IN ARSON CONSPIRACY

PRESS RELEASE

Timothy M. Morrison, United States Attorney for the Southern District of Indiana, announced that CHRISTOPHER KIMBROUGH, 36, of Chandler, Indiana, and TRAVIS ADAMS, 26, of Evansville, Indiana, were indicted by a federal grand jury sitting in Indianapolis for aiding and abetting in commission of arson, mail fraud, arson, and conspiracy to commit arson following an investigation by the Bureau of Alcohol Tobacco Firearms and Explosives, the Evansville Fire Department, the Indiana State Police, the Vanderburgh County Sheriff's Department, and the Warrick County Sheriff's Department.

The indictment alleges that on June 21, 2008, a building located at 117 East Oregon Street in Evansville, Indiana, was destroyed by fire. The building, owned by Christopher KIMBROUGH, was used as a residential rental property.

The indictment contains several allegations regarding an agreement between KIMBROUGH and ADAMS to destroy the 117 East Oregon building by burning it down. The allegations set forth in the indictment include the following:

1. that KIMBROUGH agreed to pay ADAMS \$10,000 to set the building on fire;
2. that ADAMS set the building on fire;
3. that KIMBROUGH provided ADAMS with gasoline to use in setting the fire;
4. and that KIMBROUGH purchased merchandise for ADAMS as partial payment for setting the fire.

The indictment charges KIMBROUGH with aiding and abetting arson, ADAMS with arson, and KIMBROUGH and ADAMS with conspiracy to commit arson. In a separate count KIMBROUGH is charged with mail fraud based on his attempt to defraud Property-Owners Insurance Company by collecting insurance proceeds after causing the destruction of the building.

According to Assistant U. S. Attorney Todd S. Shellenbarger, who is prosecuting the case for the government, KIMBROUGH and ADAMS face a maximum possible prison sentence of 20 years and a maximum possible fine of \$250,000. An initial hearing will be scheduled for before a U.S. Magistrate Judge in Evansville, Indiana.

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

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