



Department of Justice

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Northern District of Georgia

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FT. OGLETHORPE MAN CHARGED WITH FRAUD SCHEME OVER eBAY

ROME, GA - KARY DEAN HEAD, 48, of Ft. Oglethorpe, Georgia, has been arraigned before a federal magistrate in Rome this afternoon after being indicted by a federal grand jury on charges of mail fraud and wire fraud in connection with a scheme to defraud customers of eBay, the nationwide internet auction service.

United States Attorney David E. Nahmias said of the case, "This indictment alleges that the defendant offered American Silver Eagle Dollars for sale on eBay, but when successful bidders in good faith mailed and electronically sent in their payments, he just kept all the money. Criminals who are tempted to hide behind the anonymity of the internet should know that federal law enforcement will aggressively seek them out for prosecution."

Martin D. Phanco, Inspector In Charge, Atlanta Division of the U.S. Postal Inspection Service said, "The U.S. Postal Inspection Service's mission is to protect the nation's mail system from criminal misuse. Postal Inspectors aggressively investigate anyone who uses the U.S. Mail to defraud the American public. We will not accept anything less than full confidence in the mail system that we have established for more than 200 years."

According to United States Attorney Nahmias, the indictment, and the information already presented in court: HEAD allegedly defrauded more than 50 victims from all over the United States who had seen his auctions on eBay, won the bids, and mailed or electronically sent in their money. But instead of sending the bidders the advertised American Silver Eagle Silver Dollars, HEAD allegedly kept their money and did not deliver the coins. The indictment alleges the loss to the consumers at approximately \$180,000. HEAD, who had promised the successful bidders that the coins would be shipped two to three weeks after the end of the auctions, used the money for personal purchases.

Members of the public are reminded that the indictment only contains charges. The defendant is presumed innocent of the charges and it will be the government's burden to prove the defendant's guilt beyond a reasonable doubt at trial.

This case is being investigated by Inspectors from the United States Postal Inspection Service.

Assistant United States Attorney William L. McKinnon, Jr. is prosecuting the case, represented in court today by Assistant United States Attorney Lawrence Sommerfeld..

For further information please contact David E. Nahmias (pronounced NAH-me-us), United States Attorney, or Charysse L. Alexander, Executive Assistant United States Attorney, through Patrick Crosby, Public Affairs Officer, U.S. Attorney's Office, at (404) 581-6016. The Internet address for the HomePage for the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Northern District of Georgia is www.usdoj.gov/usao/gan.