



The United States Attorney's Office

Eastern District of Louisiana

Press Releases

TAX PREPARER PLEADS GUILTY TO HIS ROLE IN "HOUSE-FLIPPING" SCAM

April 11, 2007

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ROBERT GREEN, age 51, a resident of Baton Rouge and formerly of New Orleans, pled guilty today to a Bill of Information before United States District Judge A.J. McNamara, in connection with an on-going federal investigation into a "house-flipping" scam, U. S. Attorney Jim Letten announced today.

The Information charged the defendant with aiding and abetting a conspiracy to make false statements to obtain HUD insurance. **GREEN** faces a possible maximum penalty five (5) years imprisonment and a fine of \$250,000.00. Restitution can be ordered by the sentencing court. Sentencing has been set for July 18, 2007 at 11:00 A.M.

GREEN pled guilty to preparing false tax returns for "straw buyers" in connection with fraudulent FHA loan applications at Citywide Mortgage. The fraudulent loan applications included not only false tax information, but also false credit information and an inflated real estate appraisal. Citywide approved the loans and applied for HUD insurance for the loans. Based on the fraudulent applications, the Department of Housing and Urban Development insured the loans. Citywide then sold the loans to another mortgage company. Various properties eventually went into default and HUD became responsible for paying off those loans. **GREEN** admitted that his actions were part of a larger scheme and that he prepared false tax returns for several "straw buyers." According to a plea letter filed in court, **GREEN** is expected to provide cooperation.

GREEN is the fourth person to plead guilty to charges stemming from this investigation. Three "straw buyers" **TIMOTHY FALLS**, **DENNIS ADDISON** and **DENNIS LEBLANC** have recently pled guilty to similar charges and will be sentenced at a later date.

This case was investigated jointly by Special Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Department of Housing and Urban Development, Office of Inspector General, the Internal Revenue Service Criminal Investigation Division and the United States Postal Inspection Service.

This case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorneys Richard R. Pickens II and Matthew M. Coman and the Chief of the Organized Crime Strike Force Unit, Mark A. Miller, who will continue conducting this important program fraud investigation.