



# Department of Justice

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## WEST AFRICAN IMMIGRANTS CONVICTED OF TRAFFICKING IN COUNTERFEIT MERCHANDISE

*Montgomery, Alabama* --- a federal jury convicted Kemo Krubally, age 39, of the Gambia, Abdoulaye Barry, age 22, of Ivory Coast, and Momadou Noussy Diallo, age 26, of Guinea, of conspiracy to traffic in counterfeit merchandise, U.S. Attorney Leura G. Canary announced today.

Evidence presented at trial established that Krubally, an illegal alien, obtained millions of dollars in fake handbags, shoes, clothing, jewelry, and other goods from New York and other states and sold them to various distributors in the southeast United States. Krubally, with the assistance of Barry and Diallo, also out-of-status aliens, and others, sold goods to peddlers and street vendors, who in turn sold the merchandise to other customers.

The operation moved merchandise out of two Montgomery locations – one in the Governor's Square shopping center, catering to distributors of large quantities of goods, as well as a booth at Flea Market Montgomery on the Southern Boulevard. Search warrants executed in May, 2008, led to the seizure of more than 5 tractor trailer loads of counterfeit merchandise imitating manufacturers such as Nike, Prada, Coach, Chanel, Ralph Lauren, Louis Vuitton, Polo, and others. Industry representatives estimate the value of the seized items at over 5 million dollars. Sentencing for the defendants will take place in March, 2009. Each defendant faces up to 10 years in prison and over a half-million dollars in fines. Following imprisonment, the

defendants face deportation to Africa. A fourth defendant, Momadou Cellou Diallo, of Guinea was acquitted, but faces deportation.

The case was investigated by the Bureau of Immigration and Customs Enforcement, the U.S. Postal Inspection Service, and the Montgomery County Sheriff's Office. The case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorneys Todd Brown and Brent Woodall.