



PRESS RELEASE

Internal Revenue Service - Criminal Investigation
Detroit, MI

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FORMER TROY MAN FOUND GUILTY OF STRUCTURING

Detroit, MI - On March 26, in the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan, a federal jury convicted Irvin Flemming, formerly of Troy, Michigan, of structuring financial transactions, announced U.S. Attorney Barbara L. McQuade.

McQuade was joined in the announcement by Jarod J. Koopman, Special Agent in Charge, Internal Revenue Service – Criminal Investigation.

At trial, witness testimony and exhibits established that Flemming supported convicted narcotics trafficker Carlos Powell's large-scale drug operation by making financial transactions in a manner that was meant to conceal Powell's illegal activities and the true source of the funds from law enforcement. In September and October 2010, Flemming structured, or caused to be structured, approximately \$230,824 in cash that belonged to Powell into bank accounts that he controlled. By structuring the deposits of the cash into amounts of \$10,000 or less, Flemming caused the financial institutions to fail to file the legal requirement to report transactions exceeding \$10,000.

Of that \$230,824, Flemming caused a wire transfer in the amount of \$152,372.89 to be made on October 25, 2010, to purchase a condominium in Atlanta, Georgia. The purchase was made in the name of Grand Towers, Inc., a company whose president is Carlos Ellis Powell. Flemming also used the funds to purchase high-end vehicles including a Hummer, a Mercedes Benz and a Bentley.

A sentencing hearing for Flemming was set by U.S. District Court Judge Stephen J. Murphy, III for July 24, 2015. The maximum penalty for structuring transactions to evade reporting requirements is up to 5 years imprisonment.

The investigation of the Carlos Powell drug trafficking organization was a multi-year investigation and included agents from the Drug Enforcement Agency, Internal Revenue Service – Criminal Investigation, Immigration and Customs, Homeland Security and local officers in Northville, Plymouth, Warren, Redford, Detroit, Macomb County and the Michigan State Police. AUSA Julie Beck prosecuted this case.