

ATTORNEY GENERAL COX FIGHTS MORTGAGE FRAUD

CHARGED 17 CASES WITH FRAUD
TOTALING OVER \$1.75 M.

Attorney General Cox has made prosecuting mortgage fraud a priority for his office. In 2008, Cox created a mortgage fraud unit and teamed up with the Michigan State Police and other law enforcement agencies to tackle the problem. Since January 2009, Cox has arrested seventeen individuals charged with mortgage fraud related crimes totaling at least \$1.75 million in losses. They have been charged with some of the toughest crimes a prosecutor can charge for white collar crime - racketeering, uttering and publishing and false pretenses.

These mortgage fraud schemes involve the use of inflated appraisals and straw buyers to gain mortgages far greater than the value of the property. The criminals take the extra money from the mortgage and leave the straw buyer hanging with a mortgage they cannot afford and property worth far less than the mortgage amount. The following twelve people have been charged and this is only the beginning:

NAME	CHARGE	COURT
1. People v. Patricia Michno	Uttering & Publishing	6 th Circuit Court – Oakland
2. People v. Dequincy Hyatt	Racketeering/False Pretenses	16 th Circuit Court – Macomb
3. People v. Seaesther Thompson-Hayes	Racketeering/False Pretenses	16 th Circuit Court – Macomb
4. People v. Aaron Brooks	Racketeering/False Pretenses	16 th Circuit Court – Macomb
5. People v. Pietro Biundo	False Pretenses	16 th Circuit Court – Macomb
6. People v. Evelyn Santana	ID Theft/False Pretenses	3 rd Circuit Court – Wayne
7. People v. Dagoberto Reyes	ID Theft/False Pretenses	3 rd Circuit Court – Wayne
8. People v. Bilal Ali Hashem	Uttering & Publishing/False Pretenses	3 rd Circuit Court – Wayne
9. People v. Ali Hassan Haidous	Uttering & Publishing/False Pretenses	3 rd Circuit Court – Wayne
10. People v. Sami Makky	Uttering & Publishing/False Pretenses	19 th District Court – Dearborn
11. People v. Mahmoud Beydoun	Uttering & Publishing/False Pretenses	19 th District Court – Dearborn
12. People v. Eddie Zaben	Racketeering/False Pretenses	19 th District Court – Dearborn
13. People v. Hayder Azawi	Racketeering/False Pretenses	19 th District Court – Dearborn
14. People v. Jeffrey Barry	False Pretenses	65A District Court – St. Johns
15. People v. Damon Clark	Racketeering/False Pretenses	64B District Court - Stanton
16. People v. Reginald Tardy	Racketeering/False Pretenses	64B District Court - Stanton
17. People v. Maria Hernandez	False Pretenses/Identity Theft	61 st District Court – Grand Rapids

*** AG Cox and Michigan State Police are investigating many mortgage fraud cases and expect to be issuing charges.**

ARE YOU A VICTIM OF MORTGAGE FRAUD

If you feel you may have been a victim of mortgage fraud, you should immediately file a complaint with Attorney General Cox's Consumer Protection Division.

You can file your complaint online at:

<https://secure1.state.mi.us/complaints/foreclosure.aspx>;

or print out the form at:

http://www.michigan.gov/documents/ag/Foreclosure_Rescue_Complaint_Form_11-6-09_299895_7.pdf

and mail or fax to the Consumer Protection Division at:

**Consumer Protection Division
P.O. Box 30213-7713
Lansing, MI 48909**

Toll Free No: 1-877-765-8388

Facsimile: 517-241-3771

