



This Month at the WFO

A newsletter from the FBI Washington Field Office

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Three Women Arrested on Charges of Providing Material Support to a Foreign Terrorist Organization

Earlier this month, three women were arrested on charges of providing material support to al-Shabaab, a designated foreign terrorist organization that is conducting a violent insurgency campaign in Somalia. Muna Osman Jama, was arrested at her home in Reston, Va.; Hinda Osman Dhirane, was arrested at her home in Kent, Wash.; and Farhia Hassan was arrested at her residence in the Netherlands. Two more fugitives are being sought in Kenya and Somalia. Jama and Dhirane are alleged to be the leaders of an al-Shabaab fundraising conspiracy operating in the U.S., Kenya, the Netherlands, Somalia and elsewhere. They allegedly directed a network composed primarily of women who provided monthly payments that were coordinated, facilitated and tracked to Kenya and Somalia. Jama was principally responsible for sending money to Kenya through her conduit in Kenya, while Dhirane was primarily responsible for sending money to Somalia through her conduit in Somalia. According to court records, the Jama and Dhirane would refer to the money they sent overseas as “living expenses,” and they repeatedly used code words such as “orphans” and “brothers in the mountains” to refer to al-Shabaab fighters, and “camels” to refer to trucks needed by al-Shabaab. The funds were allegedly intended for use by al-Shabaab insurgents operating in Somalia.

Former Virginia-Based Attorney Convicted of Multi-Million Dollar Fraud Schemes

Michael Eisner, of Mastic, N.Y., pled guilty this month to several different fraud schemes that he conducted while a practicing attorney and licensed member of the Virginia State Bar. Eisner admitted to defrauding financial institutions and his own clients of approximately \$4.8 million in intended losses. When defrauding institutions, Eisner took advantage of the lag time between when a victim financial institution realized that one of Eisner’s checks or credit card payments was fraudulent and when Eisner could obtain real money from that victim. In another scheme, Eisner obtained automobile loans from financial institutions, which he purportedly paid off using phony checks. Before the financial institutions realized the checks were phony, they released the automobile titles to Eisner. And before the financial institutions could reclaim title, Eisner worked to sell the automobiles to CarMax so that he could keep the proceeds despite not having valid title to the car. In addition to these schemes to defraud institutions, Eisner admitted to defrauding his own clients of money he was supposed to have kept in trust. In or about January 2013, Eisner acknowledged that he never deposited client funds into a trust account and, in fact, did not have a trust account during the time he conducted this scheme.

Owner of Herndon Engineering Firm Convicted of Paying Bribes to a Government Official

This month, Francisco Bituin, of Sterling, Va., pled guilty to and was convicted for paying bribes to a GSA official in exchange for the official’s assistance in obtaining government contracts for Bituin’s engineering firm. FLBE, Inc. is an engineering firm located in Herndon, Va., that has received over \$30 million in government contracts since 2003. Bituin admitted to paying bribes to a GSA employee who was in a position to recommend FLBE for GSA-managed contracts. The bribes included a golf club membership and cash passed by the Bituin to the GSA employee during lunch at a Tysons Corner, Va., restaurant. On another occasion, Bituin offered the GSA employee other things of value in exchange for his assistance in obtaining GSA contracts, including access to a retirement home in Las Vegas, the down payment on a home in Virginia, and 5% of the equity in FLBE.

Stafford Doctor Indicted for Allegedly Running Pill Mill

The former chief of medicine at Stafford Hospital was indicted this month on 45 counts charging the defendant with operating a chronic pain management practice through which she allegedly illegally distributed a wide range of prescription drugs to over 100 patients. Nibedita Mohanty, of Stafford, Va., was a physician and served as the Chief of Medicine at Stafford Hospital from June 2009 to February 2013. Starting in 2008, Mohanty represented herself as a chronic pain management doctor and treated over 100 patients. According to court records, Mohanty allegedly distributed controlled substances, often for excessive dosages, to patients outside the bounds of professional practice, in exchange for cash sums paid by these patients for visits.

Mohanty also allegedly issued prescriptions for controlled substances such as oxycodone, fentanyl and morphine, despite knowing that her patients were abusing, misusing, distributing or selling the controlled substances.



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