considered innocent unless and until proven guilty.

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Woodlands Man Sentenced to Prison for Using Fake **CIA Credentials**

U.S. Attorney's Office

Southern District of Texas

June 21, 2013

(713) 567-9000

HOUSTON-Paul Alan White, aka Jonathan Alan Davenport, 57, of The Woodlands, has been ordered to prison following his two convictions of impersonated a public servant, United States Attorney Kenneth Magidson announced today. Davenport pleaded guilty Tuesday, April 3, 2013.

Today, U.S. District Judge Ewing Werlein, Jr., who accepted the guilty plea, handed White a sentence of 24 months on each of the two counts of conviction, to be served concurrently. He was further ordered to pay a \$500 fine. In handing down the sentence, Judge Werlein noted to the defendant that the worthiness of what a person is is not gauged by what title they seek.

White posed as a CIA agent to others at different times during 2011 and 2012 in order to obtain personal information from individuals and to have authorities give him privileges as well as official record documents.

During March 2011, White had convinced a co-worker that he worked with Special Ops within the CIA and that the co-worker had to fill out an application form for a security clearance with the CIA. White apparently obtained the form from the Internet. The co-worker completed the form, which included personal information, such as names of family members and friends, education, employment history, and personal identification data such as a Social Security number, a Texas driver's license number, and a U.S. passport number. As directed by White, the co-worker also ordered his/her own credit report and gave White a copy of his/her passport.

The next month, White also attempted to recruit the co-worker's friend from the co-worker's Facebook site by using an alias. White reported to be conducting a reference check and also tried to recruit him/her for a position with the CIA. At the request and demand of White, pretending to act as an agent under the authority of the CIA, the friend sent the security clearance form via Fed-Ex with his/her personal information on it, along with a copy of his/her birth certificate, Social Security card, driver's license, and passport.

Also that month, White introduced himself to Texas Department of Public Safety troopers as an agent working for the CIA. White showed a badge and a credential thought to be from the CIA and stated he had retired from CIA and was rehired to run "backgrounds" on people. White, while pretending to be an officer and employee of the United States, asked the trooper to run a criminal history check on his coworker. White represented the request as an "official request" from a CIA officer. The trooper complied with White's request and provided the result.

Later, the CIA was contacted to conduct a check for any and all employment either directly or indirectly of White, aka Davenport. The CIA confirmed he did not work for the agency in any capacity. A search warrant was executed at White's home revealed several false and fraudulent purported official U.S. government identifications and badges allegedly belonging to the CIA.

White will remain in custody pending transfer to a U.S. Bureau of Prisons facility to be determined in the near future.

The case was investigated by the FBI and Houston Police Department. Assistant U.S. Attorney Joe Porto is prosecuting the case.









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Former Enron CEO Jeffrey Skilling Resentenced to 168 Months on Fraud and Conspiracy Charges

U.S. Department of Justice June 21, 2013

Office of Public Affairs

(202) 514-2007/TDD (202) 514-

WASHINGTON-Former Enron Chief Executive Officer Jeffrey K. Skilling has been resentenced to 168 months in prison on conspiracy, securities fraud, and other charges related to the collapse of Enron Corporation. In addition to the prison sentence, Skilling, 59, was ordered to forfeit approximately \$42 million to be applied toward restitution for the victims of the fraud at Enron.

Acting Assistant Attorney General Mythili Raman of the Criminal Division made the announcement after Skilling was resentenced before U.S. District Judge Sim Lake at the U.S. District Court in Houston.

"The sentence handed down today ends years of litigation, imposes significant punishment upon the defendant, and precludes him from ever challenging his conviction or sentence," said Acting Assistant Attorney General Raman. "With today's court action, victims of Skilling's crimes will finally receive more than \$40 million that he owes them. We appreciate the hard work and dedication of all the prosecutors and agents who have handled this important case from the initial investigation to today's successful conclusion."

A federal jury found Skilling guilty in Houston on May 25, 2006, of one count of conspiracy, 12 counts of securities fraud, one count of insider trading, and five counts of making false statements to auditors. Judge Lake initially sentenced Skilling to serve 292 months of imprisonment on October 23, 2006. On January 6, 2009, the United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit affirmed Skilling's convictions but vacated his sentence and remanded for a new sentencing hearing. The court of appeals concluded that the district court erred by increasing Skilling's sentence for having substantially jeopardized the safety and soundness of a financial institution—that is, Enron's pension plan. As a result, the court of appeals effectively reduced Skilling's guidelines range of imprisonment by approximately nine years.

In May 2013, the government and Skilling entered into an agreement to recommend jointly to the district court a sentence between 168 months and 210 months of imprisonment, a limited reduction in Skilling's guidelines range of imprisonment in exchange for Skilling agreeing, among other things, not to contest the original forfeiture and restitution order and to waive all appeals and other litigation. As court documents make clear, the government entered into this agreement, in part, to bring finality to Skilling's convictions and thereby allow the government to promptly seek the distribution of approximately \$42 million to victims of Skilling's crimes.

Skilling's convictions stemmed from a scheme to deceive the investing public, the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission, and others about the true performance of Enron's businesses. The scheme was designed to make it appear that Enron was growing at a healthy and predictable rate, consistent with analysts' published expectations, that Enron did not have significant write-offs or debt and was worthy of an investment-grade credit rating, that Enron was comprised of a number of successful business units, and that the company had an appropriate cash flow. This scheme had the effect of artificially inflating Enron's stock price, which increased from approximately \$30 per share in early 1998 to over \$80 per share in January 2001, and artificially stemming the decline of the stock during the first three quarters of 2001.

The fraud scheme eventually unraveled, and Enron filed for bankruptcy in December 2001, making its stock virtually worthless.

The investigation into Enron's collapse was conducted by the Enron Task Force, a team of federal prosecutors supervised by the Justice Department's Criminal Division and special agents from the FBI and IRS-Criminal Investigation. The task force received considerable assistance from the Securities and Exchange Commission. The resentencing hearing was handled by Patrick Stokes, Albert Stieglitz and Robert Heberle of the Criminal Division's Fraud Section.











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Folsom Man Sentenced to 16 Years in Prison in \$80 Million Ponzi Scheme

U.S. Attorney's Office June 21, 2013

Eastern District of California

(916) 554-2700

SACRAMENTO, CA-United States District Judge Garland E. Burrell, Jr. sentenced Anthony Vassallo, 34, of Folsom, today to 16 years in prison, to be followed by three years' supervised release, for wire fraud in connection with a Ponzi scheme that took in more than \$80 million between April 2006 and December 2008, United States Attorney Benjamin B. Wagner announced.

According to court records, beginning in 2006, Vassallo and co-conspirator Kenneth Kenitzer ran Equity Investments Management & Trading (EIMT). Vassallo claimed that he had developed computer software that enabled him to make profits of approximately three percent per month, or 36 percent per year. Investors were told that this strategy had worked successfully for years with one loss situation that had been corrected so that it would not happen again. In fact, Vassallo's strategy had been historically unsuccessful, losing money overall.

According to court documents, Vassallo told investors that he traded online on the Russell 2000 index through TradeStation, a licensed securities broker-dealer. In fact, by September 2007, EIMT had been barred from trading at the brokerage. Nonetheless, Vassallo continued to tell investors and sub-fund managers that he was investing in reputable stocks through that brokerage. Instead, he was using the money for his own benefit, to pay interest to other investors, and investing in a number of shady schemes, all of which failed.

The scheme began to unravel in late 2008, and investors began demanding their money back. Vassallo and his intermediaries engaged in stalling tactics, claiming that Vassallo was "restructuring" the funds, TradeStation was conducting an audit, or the SEC had frozen the TradeStation account due to a baseless complaint. Vassallo continued to recruit new investments. One investor transferred \$250,000 to Vassallo's account less than two weeks before Vassallo admitted to a group of investors that he had ceased trading and their money had been lost.

At sentencing, Judge Burrell addressed Vassallo: "You are a liar. Numerous victims have described their financial crisis as a result of your crime and the heart rendering consequences they are enduring because of your fraudulent conduct....A substantial prison sentence will be important...to protect the public."

More than 300 individuals invested in Vassallo's scheme, contributing at least \$83 million. Of that amount, more than \$55 million was returned to investors, although nearly \$17 million of that constituted amounts paid to some investors above the amount of their original investments. Thus, actual loss to the investors totaled more than \$44.8 million. A hearing to determine restitution is set for August 23, 2013. Co-conspirator Kenitzer pleaded guilty in a related case, and he is set for sentencing on September 6, 2013.

U.S. Attorney Wagner said, "This lengthy sentence is justice served, though it is small comfort to the victims of Vassallo's crimes, many of whom lost their homes, health, and retirements to this fraud. This case was unusual in its scope, but not in the nature of the fraudulent conduct. This office has been very active in prosecuting investment frauds, and we will continue to work closely with the FBI and the IRS to root out fraudsters and make sure they are held to account for violating the trust of law-abiding members of our community."

"Vassallo knowingly victimized unsuspecting investors for personal gain. The magnitude of Vassallo's misconduct is unacceptable," said Acting Special Agent in Charge Manuel Alvarez, Jr. of the Sacramento Division of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. "The FBI is committed to identifying and thoroughly investigating greed-motivated financial crimes and will continue to seek justice for victims."

"This was a classic Ponzi scheme, where you rob Peter to pay Paul," said IRS-Criminal Investigation Special Agent in Charge José M. Martínez. "Eventually, you run out of Peters and Pauls. Today's sentencing sends a clear message that IRS-CI is committed to identifying and investigating those who take advantage and impact the financial well-being of others for their own personal financial benefit."

This case was the product of an investigation by the Internal Revenue Service-Criminal Investigation and the Federal Bureau of Investigation. Assistant United States Attorneys Jean M. Hobler and Lee S. Bickley prosecuted the case.

This case is part of the President's Financial Fraud Enforcement Task Force that was established to wage an aggressive, coordinated, and proactive effort to investigate and prosecute financial crimes. With

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more than 20 federal agencies, 94 U.S. attorneys' offices and state and local partners, it is the broadest coalition of law enforcement, investigatory, and regulatory agencies ever assembled to combat fraud. Since its formation, the task force has made great strides in facilitating increased investigation and prosecution of financial crimes; enhancing coordination and cooperation among federal, state, and local authorities; addressing discrimination in the lending and financial markets and conducting outreach to the public, victims, financial institutions, and other organizations. Over the past three fiscal years, the Justice Department has filed nearly 10,000 financial fraud cases against nearly 15,000 defendants including more than 2,900 mortgage fraud defendants. For more information on the task force, please visit www.StopFraud.gov.



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