

## **PRESS RELEASE**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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### **THREE MEN SENTENCED IN MAGAZINE SUBSCRIPTION FRAUD**

**PHOENIX, ARIZONA** –The United States Attorney’s Office for the District of Arizona, announced that on February 25, 2004, Dennis James Ward, D.O.B. 06/05/45, of Byron, California, and Michael O’Malley McKee, D.O.B. 04/23/41, of San Carlos, California, were each sentenced to six months home confinement, five years probation, \$100 special assessment fee, five hundreds (500) hours of community service including giving five oral presentations per year to high school students regarding integrity and a fine of \$185,658.00 each. In addition, Thomas Albert Cavanaugh IV, D.O.B. 02/22/71, of Des Moines, Iowa, was sentenced to five years probation, \$100 special assessment fee, 250 hours of community service and a fine of \$30,686.00 by United States District Judge James A. Teilborg in Phoenix, Arizona.

From on or about March 28, 1997, to September 2000, in the District of Arizona, Ward and McKee operated various magazine subscription businesses, and solicited renewal subscriptions from current magazine subscribers via the United States Mail. They obtained the current subscriber lists by fraud and deceit from magazine publishers or their agents and by purchasing current lists from Cavanaugh in the amount of \$30,686.00, who retrieved the lists from his employer’s database without their consent.

Ward, Mckee and Cavanaugh had entered pre-indictment pleas of guilty on November 12, 2002 to one count each of Conspiracy to Commit Mail Fraud.

The investigation in this case was conducted by the U.S. Postal Inspection Service in Phoenix, Arizona

The prosecution was handled by Darcy A. Cerow, Assistant United States Attorney, District of Arizona, Phoenix, Arizona.

CASE NUMBER: CR-02-1139-PHX-JAT

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