



**U.S. Department of Justice  
U.S. Attorney's Office  
Western District of Texas**

**Johnny Sutton, U.S. Attorney**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**FEDERAL JUDGE SENTENCES SAN ANTONIO MAN  
FOR FRAUD AND MONEY LAUNDERING SCHEME**

**United States Attorney Johnny Sutton** announced that Alvin W. Byrd, Jr., of San Antonio was sentenced to 150 months in federal prison this morning for his role in a real estate fraud scheme.

In addition to the prison term, United States District Judge Orlando Garcia ordered that Byrd pay a \$100,000 fine and restitution of \$271,403.33. Judge Garcia also ordered that Byrd be placed under supervised release for a period of three years and perform 100 hours community service at a homeless shelter after completing his prison term.

In December 2007, a jury convicted Byrd of one count of mail fraud, one count of interstate transportation of stolen property and five counts of money laundering. The jury found that Byrd, posing as a successful real estate investor who just moved from the Washington, D.C. area, engaged in a complex get-rich-quick scheme from December 2006 to February 7, 2007. The jury also ordered the forfeiture to the government of a 2006 Hummer, approximately \$87,000 seized from the defendant's bank and investment accounts, plus a \$10,000 cashier's check secured by the defendant.

In the scheme, Byrd agreed to purchase a house at 25307 Mesa Ranch for \$395,000. In addition, the agreement called for the seller to loan Byrd \$192,000 to cover closing costs. Byrd convinced the seller that his money was tied up but provided the seller with a post dated check in excess of \$325,000 to cover the loan plus additional costs. Unbeknownst to the victim, the check was drawn on a closed brokerage account. Byrd converted the victim's \$192,000 check into a cashier's check, then subsequently into five cashier's checks. Byrd used the money to pay a Maryland hotel bill in excess of \$17,000 where he and his wife lived without paying for almost one year, a hotel bill totaling \$4,800 he amassed while he and his wife lived here in San Antonio during a two-month period and for the purchase of a 2006 Hummer for \$66,000.

This case was investigated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation. Assistant United States Attorneys Ray and Leroy Jahn prosecuted this case for the government.

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