



**U.S. Department of Justice**

**United States Attorney  
Eastern District of  
Arkansas**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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**LAST DEFENDANT CONVICTED BY A FEDERAL JURY IN  
FREEDOM FINANCIAL CASE**

Bud Cummins U.S. Attorney for the Eastern District of Arkansas and William Temple, Special Agent in Charge, Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) Little Rock Division, announced today that a jury returned guilty verdicts against Bertram Case "Casey" Miller, 40 of Little Rock, AR, on one count of conspiracy, a violation of 18 U.S.C. § 371 and three counts of wire fraud, a violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1343 charged in a Superceding Indictment. On the conspiracy count, Mr. Miller is facing a statutory maximum term of 5 years imprisonment and a \$250,000 fine. The wire fraud counts each carry maximum penalties of no more than thirty years imprisonment, and no more than \$1,000,000 in fines. The actual sentence will be determined at a later date by Chief, United States District Judge J. Leon Holmes with the advise of the U.S. Sentencing Guidelines.

Miller, through Freedom Financial Services of Arkansas, Inc. and Absolute Abstract and Title, caused loan application documents to be sent to financial institutions containing false information. The false information concerned appraisals, title status, and creditworthiness of buyers. The intent was to induce lenders to make loans they otherwise would not have made, or would not have made in such large amounts had the defendant furnished truthful information to them.

Others, associated with Miller and Freedom Financial and Absolute Abstract, previously entered guilty pleas as follows:

## FREEDOM FINANCIAL

| Defendant   | Judge | Plea Date | Instrument Pled to | Statute                                       | Potential Penalty or Actual Sentence   |
|---|-------|-----------|--------------------|---|--|
| <p>Jones, Nicole</p> <p>Hot Springs Village, AR<br/>Age 31</p> <p>Attorney:</p>     | JMM   | 03/22/05  | Information        | 18:1014<br>Fraud related to loan applications | <p>Sentenced 5/17/06</p> <p>1 day BOP; 6 mths home detention; 5 yrs Supervised Release; Restitution \$146,673.30</p> |
| <p>Fleming, David</p> <p>Cordova, TN<br/>Age 45</p> <p>Attorney:</p>                | GH    | 03/29/05  | Information        | 18:1012<br>Fraud related to HUD transactions  | <p>Sentenced 6/17/05</p> <p>2 yrs probation; Restitution \$11,965.50</p>   |
| <p>Byrd, Robert</p> <p>Gautier, MS<br/>Age 55</p> <p>Attorney:</p>                  | SWW   | 04/06/05  | Information        | 18:1014<br>Fraud related to loan applications | <p>Sentenced 10/25/05</p> <p>1 day BOP; 6 mths home detention; 3 yrs SR; Restitution \$21,491.50</p>                 |
| <p>Ladd, Arlene</p> <p>Mabelvale, AR<br/>Age 46</p> <p>Attorney:<br/>Ellen Reif</p> | GH    | 03/31/05  | Information        | 18:4<br>Misprison of a felony                 | <p>Sentenced 8/10/06</p> <p>5 yrs probation; Restitution \$354,425.50</p>  |

|   |     |          |  |  |  |
|---|-----|----------|--|--|--|
| Dorsey,<br>Mike<br><br>Metairie, LA<br><br>Attorney:<br>Jack Lassiter                           | JLH | 07/25/06 | Superseding<br>Indictment -<br>Count 1 | 18:371<br><br>Conspiracy to<br>commit fraud<br>related to loan<br>transactions<br>and wire fraud | Not More Than(NMT)<br>5 yr.; NMT \$250,000                       |
| Miller,<br>Nelson<br><br>Attorney:<br>Gary Corum  | JLH | 08/24/06 | Information                            | 18:1012<br>18:2<br>Fraud related<br>to HUD<br>transactions                                       | NMT 1 yr.; NMT<br>\$100,000<br>NMT 1 yr.; NMT<br>\$100,000       |
| Melissa<br>Horner<br><br>Attorney:<br>Cathleen<br>Compton                                       | JLH | 07/14/06 | Information                            | 18:4<br>18:1341<br>Misprison of a<br>felony and<br>Mail Fraud                                    | NMT 3 yr.; NMT<br>\$250,000<br>NMT 20 yr.; NMT<br>\$250,000      |
| Soukkaseum,<br>Katrina<br><br>Fort Smith,<br>AR<br>Age 43<br><br>Attorney:<br>Jerome<br>Kearney | JLH | 05/19/05 | Indictment -<br>Count 1                | 18:371<br>Conspiracy to<br>commit fraud<br>related to loan<br>transactions<br>and wire fraud     | Sentenced 3/08/06<br>3 yrs probation;<br>Restitution \$15,734.71 |
| Freedom<br>Financial  | JLH | 8/24/06  | Information                            | 18:1014<br>Fraud related<br>to loan<br>transactions  | NMT \$1,000,000  |

"This concludes our prosecutions related to Freedom Financial," stated U.S. Attorney Cummins. "The agents and prosecutors stayed committed to this case in spite of the volumes of documents they had to review to prove the case. They did a fine job."

This case is the result of an investigation conducted by the Federal Bureau of Investigation. The case was prosecuted by AUSA John Bush and AUSA George Vena. Defendant Bertram Miller is represented by Charles A. Banks.

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