# UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT DISTRICT OF OREGON PORTLAND DIVISION

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Case No.: 3:15-CR-00438-JO

Plaintiff,

Defendant.

SUPERSEDING INDICTMENT

Counts 1 through 7 18 U.S.C. § 514(a)(1) (Fictitious Obligations)

v.

WINSTON SHROUT,

Counts 8 through 10

18 U.S.C. § 514(a)(2)

(Fictitious Obligations)

Counts 11 through 13 18 U.S.C. § 514(a)(3) (Fictitious Obligations)

Counts 14 through 19 26 U.S.C. § 7203

(Willful Failure to File Return)

THE GRAND JURY CHARGES:

**Introductory Allegations** 

At times relevant to this Superseding Indictment,

#### Background

- 1. Defendant Winston SHROUT was a resident of Hillsboro, Oregon.
- 2. SHROUT operated a business using the name Winston Shrout Solutions in Commerce ("WSSIC").
- 3. SHROUT received payments for services as a presenter at seminars, through which SHROUT promoted, among other things, the use of bonds as a means to pay off debts.
- 4. SHROUT received licensing fees associated with the sale of SHROUT and WSSIC products, such as DVD recordings of seminars and private consultations with clients.

5. SHROUT received regular pension payments from a pension trust.

## The Scheme and Artifice to Defraud

6. Beginning in or about February 2008, and continuing through at least June 2015, defendant SHROUT knowingly devised and participated in a material scheme and artifice to defraud financial institutions and the United States out of funds and monies by making, presenting, and transmitting fictitious financial instruments, variously called, among other things, "International Bills of Exchange" ("IBOE") and "Non-Negotiable Bills of Exchange." SHROUT claimed that these fictitious financial instruments had monetary value when he knew those instruments were in fact worthless. During the course of this scheme to defraud, SHROUT produced and issued more than three hundred of these fictitious financial instruments, purported to be worth in total over \$100,000,000,000,000 (\$100 trillion), on his own behalf and for credit to third parties.

## Execution of the Scheme and Artifice to Defraud

- 7. It was part of the scheme and artifice to defraud that SHROUT produced fictitious financial instruments, which he falsely claimed had monetary value, when he knew they had no monetary value.
- 8. It was further part of the scheme and artifice to defraud that SHROUT would produce these fictitious financial instruments naming himself as "Maker," "Drawer," or "Principal" and use a fabricated account number at the United States Department of Treasury, which number matched SHROUT's Social Security number. SHROUT would make and issue these fictitious financial instruments on behalf of himself and third parties.
- 9. It was further part of the scheme and artifice to defraud that SHROUT would send these fraudulent and fictitious financial instruments and other documentation to financial institutions

both within and outside the United States, as well as the United States Department of Treasury, via a private commercial carrier and the United States Postal Service, commanding the financial institutions and the Treasury Department to pay SHROUT and third parties through the fabricated account.

- 10. It was further part of the scheme and artifice to defraud that SHROUT would provide verification procedures to third parties, through which he asserted the fictitious instruments were "obligations of the United States," "legal tender as a national Bank note, or note of a National Banking Association," and a "legal tender obligation of the United States."
- 11. It was further part of the scheme and artifice to defraud that SHROUT generated personal income by promoting and marketing the use of fictitious financial instruments as a means to pay off debts, including federal income tax. SHROUT would provide handouts to seminar attendees that contained examples and templates for the creation of these fictitious financial instruments.
- 12. It was further part of the scheme and artifice to defraud that SHROUT would have these seminars recorded and make recordings and handout materials available for purchase through his website: wssic.com. SHROUT marketed his materials and seminars through the website wssic.com and by direct marketing emails to existing clients for the purpose of generating income for himself.

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## Counts 1 through 7

## 18 U.S.C. § 514(a)(1)

## **Fictitious Obligations**

- 13. The Introductory Allegations contained in Paragraphs 1 through 12 of this Superseding Indictment are re-alleged and incorporated herein as if copied verbatim.
- 14. On or about the dates listed below, within the District of Oregon and elsewhere, WINSTON SHROUT, with the intent to defraud as to a material matter, drew, printed, processed, produced, published, and otherwise made and attempted to make within the United States, false and fictitious instruments, documents and other items appearing, representing, purporting, and contriving through material scheme and artifice to be actual securities and other financial instruments issued under the authority of the United States and an organization, to wit, documents titled "International Bill of Exchange" that were issued for credit to the entities listed below, in the amounts listed below, and bearing the serial numbers listed below, each instrument constituting a separate count of this superseding indictment:

Count	Date Made	Purported Value	For Credit To	Serial Number
1	August 5, 2011	\$1 billion	Clarington Capital Group LLC	CCG10001
2	December 14, 2011	\$10 million	Rainmaker Services Inc.	RSI10B10002
3	December 22, 2011	\$10 million	A&P Management Corporation, S.A.	A&P10M10004
4	January 20, 2012	\$1 billion	Capital International Investments Limited	CIIL1B10002
5	February 9, 2012	\$500 billion	World-Wide Funding, LLC	WWF500B10004
6	February 27, 2012	\$25 billion	Asset International Funding	AIF25B10001
7	March 8, 2012	\$100 million	America Pacific Global Exchange Corporation	APGEC100M10006

All in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 514(a)(1).

## Counts 8 through 10

18 U.S.C. § 514(a)(2)

## **Fictitious Obligations**

- 15. The Introductory Allegations contained in Paragraphs 1 through 12 of this Superseding Indictment are re-alleged and incorporated herein as if copied verbatim.
- 16. On or about the dates listed below, within the District of Oregon and elsewhere, WINSTON SHROUT, with the intent to defraud as to a material matter, passed, uttered, presented, offered, brokered, issued, sold, and attempted and caused to do the same within the United States, false and fictitious instruments appearing, representing, purporting, and contriving through material scheme and artifice to be actual securities and other financial instruments issued under the authority of the United States and an organization, to wit, documents titled and issued in the amounts listed below, bearing the serial numbers listed below, and presented to the entities listed below, each instrument constituting a separate count of this superseding indictment:

Count	Date Presented	Document Title	Purported Value	Serial Number	Presented To
8	October 3, 2011	International Bill of Exchange	\$1 trillion	MGH10001	American Metro Bank
9	October 3, 2011	International Bill of Exchange	\$1 trillion	MGH11000	American Metro Bank
10	June 9, 2015	Non-Negotiable Bill of Exchange	\$1.9 billion	DMV1001	United States Dept. of Treasury

All in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 514(a)(2).

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#### Count 11

## 18 U.S.C. § 514(a)(3)

## **Fictitious Obligations**

- 17. The Introductory Allegations contained in Paragraphs 1 through 12 of this Superseding Indictment are re-alleged and incorporated herein as if copied verbatim.
- 18. On or about October 3, 2011, within the District of Oregon and elsewhere, WINSTON SHROUT, with the intent to defraud as to a material matter, utilized interstate commerce, including the use of the mails, to transmit, transport, ship, move, transfer, and attempt and cause the same, through the United States, a false and fictitious instrument appearing, representing, purporting, and contriving through material scheme and artifice to be an actual security and other financial instrument issued under the authority of the United States and an organization.

  Specifically, SHROUT transmitted and caused to be transmitted via FedEx a document titled "International Bill of Exchange," issued in the amount of \$1,000,000,000,000 (\$1 trillion) and bearing the serial number MGH10001, from Hillsboro, Oregon, to American Metro Bank in Chicago, Illinois.

All in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 514(a)(3).

#### Count 12

### 18 U.S.C. § 514(a)(3)

### **Fictitious Obligations**

- 19. The Introductory Allegations contained in Paragraphs 1 through 12 of this Superseding Indictment are re-alleged and incorporated herein as if copied verbatim.
- 20. On or about October 3, 2011, within the District of Oregon and elsewhere, WINSTON SHROUT, with the intent to defraud as to a material matter, utilized interstate commerce,

SUPERSEDING INDICTMENT United States v. Shrout including the use of the mails, to transmit, transport, ship, move, transfer, and attempt and cause the same, through the United States, a false and fictitious instrument appearing, representing, purporting, and contriving through material scheme and artifice to be an actual security and other financial instrument issued under the authority of the United States and an organization.

Specifically, SHROUT transmitted and caused to be transmitted via FedEx a document titled "International Bill of Exchange," issued in the amount of \$1,000,000,000,000 (\$1 trillion) and bearing the serial number MGH11000, from Hillsboro, Oregon, to American Metro Bank in Chicago, Illinois.

All in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 514(a)(3).

#### Count 13

#### 18 U.S.C. § 514(a)(3)

## **Fictitious Obligations**

- 21. The Introductory Allegations contained in Paragraphs 1 through 12 of this Superseding Indictment are re-alleged and incorporated herein as if copied verbatim.
- 22. On or about June 9, 2015, within the District of Oregon and elsewhere, WINSTON SHROUT, with the intent to defraud as to a material matter, utilized interstate commerce, including the use of the mails, to transmit, transport, ship, move, transfer, and attempt and cause the same, through the United States, a false and fictitious instrument appearing, representing, purporting, and contriving through material scheme and artifice to be an actual security and other financial instrument issued under the authority of the United States and an organization.

  Specifically, SHROUT transmitted and caused to be transmitted via the United States Postal Service a document titled "Non-Negotiable Bill of Exchange," issued in the amount of \$1,900,000,000 (\$1.9 billion) and bearing the invoice number DMV1001, which was attached to

a 2015 IRS Form 1040-ES Estimated Tax Payment Voucher, from Hillsboro, Oregon, to the Internal Revenue Service in Washington, D.C.

All in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 514(a)(3).

#### Count 14

## 26 U.S.C. § 7203

#### Willful Failure to File Return

- 23. The factual allegations contained in Paragraphs 1 through 5 of this Superseding Indictment are re-alleged and incorporated herein as if copied verbatim.
- 24. During calendar year 2009, WINSTON SHROUT received gross income in excess of \$18,700. By reason of such gross income, he was required by law, following the close of the calendar year 2009, and on or before April 15, 2010, to make an income tax return to any proper officer of the Internal Revenue Service, stating specifically the items of his gross income and any deductions and credits to which he was entitled. Well knowing and believing all of the foregoing, he willfully failed, on or about April 15, 2010, in the District of Oregon and elsewhere, to make an income tax return.

In violation of Title 26, United States Code, Section 7203.

#### Count 15

#### 26 U.S.C. § 7203

#### Willful Failure to File Return

- 25. The Introductory Allegations contained in Paragraphs 1 through 5 of this Indictment are re-alleged and incorporated herein as if copied verbatim.
- 26. During calendar year 2010, WINSTON SHROUT received gross income in excess of \$18,700. By reason of such gross income, he was required by law, following the close of the

calendar year 2010, and on or before April 18, 2011, to make an income tax return to any proper officer of the Internal Revenue Service, stating specifically the items of his gross income and any deductions and credits to which he was entitled. Well knowing and believing all of the foregoing, he willfully failed, on or about April 18, 2011, in the District of Oregon and elsewhere, to make an income tax return.

In violation of Title 26, United States Code, Section 7203.

#### Count 16

### 26 U.S.C. § 7203

#### Willful Failure to File Return

- 27. The Introductory Allegations contained in Paragraphs 1 through 5 of this Indictment are re-alleged and incorporated herein as if copied verbatim.
- 28. During calendar year 2011, WINSTON SHROUT received gross income in excess of \$19,000. By reason of such gross income, he was required by law, following the close of the calendar year 2011, and on or before April 17, 2012, to make an income tax return to any proper officer of the Internal Revenue Service, stating specifically the items of his gross income and any deductions and credits to which he was entitled. Well knowing and believing all of the foregoing, he willfully failed, on or about April 17, 2012, in the District of Oregon and elsewhere, to make an income tax return.

In violation of Title 26, United States Code, Section 7203.

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SUPERSEDING INDICTMENT United States v. Shrout

#### Count 17

#### 26 U.S.C. § 7203

#### Willful Failure to File Return

- 29. The Introductory Allegations contained in Paragraphs 1 through 5 of this Indictment are re-alleged and incorporated herein as if copied verbatim.
- 30. During calendar year 2012, WINSTON SHROUT received gross income in excess of \$19,500. By reason of such gross income, he was required by law, following the close of the calendar year 2012, and on or before April 15, 2013, to make an income tax return to any proper officer of the Internal Revenue Service, stating specifically the items of his gross income and any deductions and credits to which he was entitled. Well knowing and believing all of the foregoing, he willfully failed, on or about April 15, 2013, in the District of Oregon and elsewhere, to make an income tax return.

In violation of Title 26, United States Code, Section 7203.

#### Count 18

### 26 U.S.C. § 7203

### Willful Failure to File Return

- 31. The Introductory Allegations contained in Paragraphs 1 through 5 of this Indictment are re-alleged and incorporated herein as if copied verbatim.
- 32. During calendar year 2013, WINSTON SHROUT received gross income in excess of \$21,200. By reason of such gross income, he was required by law, following the close of the calendar year 2013, and on or before April 15, 2014, to make an income tax return to any proper officer of the Internal Revenue Service, stating specifically the items of his gross income and any deductions and credits to which he was entitled. Well knowing and believing all of the

foregoing, he willfully failed, on or about April 15, 2014, in the District of Oregon and elsewhere, to make an income tax return.

In violation of Title 26, United States Code, Section 7203.

#### Count 19

## 26 U.S.C. § 7203

### Willful Failure to File Return

- 33. The Introductory Allegations contained in Paragraphs 1 through 5 of this Indictment are re-alleged and incorporated herein as if copied verbatim.
- 34. During calendar year 2014, WINSTON SHROUT received gross income in excess of \$21,500. By reason of such gross income, he was required by law, following the close of the calendar year 2014, and on or before April 15, 2015, to make an income tax return to any proper officer of the Internal Revenue Service, stating specifically the items of his gross income and any deductions and credits to which he was entitled. Well knowing and believing all of the foregoing, he willfully failed, on or about April 15, 2015, in the District of Oregon and elsewhere, to make an income tax return.

In violation of Title 26, United States Code, Section 7203.

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DATED this 15 day of MARCH, 2016.

A TRUE BILL.

OFFICIATING FOREPERSON

Presented By: BILLY J. WILLIAMS United States Attorney

STUART A. WEXLER RYAN R. RAYBOULD Trial Attorneys

U.S. Dept. of Justice, Tax Division