FILED
7/23/2026
THOMAS G. BRUTON
CLERK, U.S. DISTRICT COURT

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS
EASTERN DIVISION

1:26-cr-00405
Judge Franklin U. Valderrama
Magistrate Judge Maria Valdez
Random/Cat 3

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

v.

JASON CLOTH

Violation: Title 18, United States Code, Section 1343

~~UNDER SEAL~~

COUNT ONE

The SPECIAL JANUARY 2026 GRAND JURY charges:

1. At times material to this indictment:

a. Defendant JASON CLOTH operated Creative Wealth Media Finance Corporation, a Canadian-based company.

b. CLOTH solicited and received funds from investors through Creative Wealth Media Finance Corporation, which funds were to be invested by CLOTH for the benefit of the investors.

c. Victim A was an individual residing in the Northern District of Illinois. Victim A had an investment advisory firm comprised of victim clients who also invested with CLOTH and Creative Wealth Media Finance Corporation.

d. Production Company 1 and its affiliates were in the business of producing motion picture films.

e. Investment 1 was a gaming entertainment investment platform.

f. Investment 2 was a motion picture produced by Production Company 1 and its affiliates.

2. Beginning no later than in or around April 2019, and continuing through in or around June 2026, in the Northern District of Illinois, Eastern Division, and elsewhere,

JASON CLOTH,

defendant herein, knowingly devised, intended to devise, and participated in a scheme to defraud investors, and to obtain money and property from investors by means of materially false and fraudulent pretenses, representations, and promises, which scheme is further described below.

3. It was part of the scheme that CLOTH fraudulently solicited and obtained over $100 million from Victim A, Victim A's clients, and other investors as investments made through Creative Wealth Media Finance Corporation, based on false representations about the performance and value of the investments.

4. It was further part of the scheme that to induce them to invest, CLOTH told Victim A, Victim A's clients, and other investors that their investments with Creative Wealth Media Finance Corporation would be used for specific purposes, including a specific film or other entertainment project.

5. It was further part of the scheme that to induce them to invest, CLOTH told Victim A that money Victim A raised from Victim A's clients would be used for

Investment 1 to fund a gaming entertainment investment platform, when CLOTH knew that he intended to use those investments for other purposes.

6. It was further part of the scheme that to induce them to invest, CLOTH told Victim A that money that Victim A raised from Victim A's clients would be used for Investment 2 to fund a motion picture, when CLOTH knew that he intended to use those investments for other purposes.

7. It was further part of the scheme that based on CLOTH's representations to potential investors about the intended use of their investments, Victim A, Victim A's clients, and other investors invested money with CLOTH and Creative Wealth Media Finance Corporation, including for Investment 1 and Investment 2, believing that CLOTH would use their investments as CLOTH had represented, while CLOTH knew at the time of those investments that he would use it for other purposes, including the development of a real estate project in Canada and for other personal purposes.

8. It was further part of the scheme that after receiving investor funds, in order to obtain additional investments, CLOTH falsely told Victim A, Victim A's clients, and other investors that CLOTH and Creative Wealth Media Finance Corporation had used their investments to produce entertainment projects with Production Company 1, including Investment 1 and Investment 2, when in actuality, CLOTH had used those investor funds for unrelated projects, including the development of a real estate project in Canada, and for other personal purposes.

9. It was further part of the scheme that, in order to convince Victim A, Victim A's clients, and other investors to invest more money with CLOTH, CLOTH falsely represented to victims that the value of their investments was greater than they were actually worth.

10. It was further part of the scheme that CLOTH, rather than investing their funds for their benefit, used some of the investors' funds to repay prior investors.

11. It was further part of the scheme that CLOTH, in order to lull victims into believing their investment funds would be returned to them, misrepresented to victims his ability to repay their investment funds by, among other things, falsely claiming that their funds were inaccessible due to Production Company 1's bankruptcy, when, in fact, he knew that not to be true.

12. It was further part of the scheme that CLOTH misrepresented, concealed, and hid, and caused to be misrepresented, concealed, and hidden, the existence, purpose, and acts done in furtherance of the scheme.

13. On or about December 9, 2021, in the Northern District of Illinois, Eastern Division, and elsewhere,

JASON CLOTH,

defendant herein, for the purpose of executing the above-described scheme, did knowingly cause to be transmitted by means of wire communication in interstate and foreign commerce certain writings, signs, and signals, namely, a wire transfer of funds in the amount of $499,982.50 from Victim A's client to a Canadian bank account in the name of Creative Wealth Media Finance Corp.;

In violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 1343.

COUNT TWO

The SPECIAL JANUARY 2026 GRAND JURY further charges:

1. Paragraphs 1 through 12 of Count One are incorporated here.

2. On or about December 9, 2021, in the Northern District of Illinois, Eastern Division, and elsewhere,

JASON CLOTH,

defendant herein, for the purpose of executing the above-described scheme, did knowingly cause to be transmitted by means of wire communication in interstate and foreign commerce certain writings, signs, and signals, namely, a wire transfer of funds in the amount of $499,982.50 from Victim A's client to a Canadian bank account in the name of Creative Wealth Media Finance Corp.;

In violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 1343.

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COUNT THREE

The SPECIAL JANUARY 2026 GRAND JURY further charges:

1. Paragraphs 1 through 12 of Count One are incorporated here.

2. On or about February 4, 2022, in the Northern District of Illinois, Eastern Division, and elsewhere,

JASON CLOTH,

defendant herein, for the purpose of executing the above-described scheme, did knowingly cause to be transmitted by means of wire communication in interstate and foreign commerce certain writings, signs, and signals, namely, a wire transfer of funds in the amount of $249,982.50 from Victim A's client to a Canadian bank account in the name of Creative Wealth Media Finance Corp.;

In violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 1343.

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<u>**COUNT FOUR**</u>

The SPECIAL JANUARY 2026 GRAND JURY further charges:

1. Paragraphs 1 through 12 of Count One are incorporated here.

2. On or about February 4, 2022, in the Northern District of Illinois, Eastern Division, and elsewhere,

JASON CLOTH,

defendant herein, for the purpose of executing the above-described scheme, did knowingly cause to be transmitted by means of wire communication in interstate and foreign commerce certain writings, signs, and signals, namely, a wire transfer of funds in the amount of $749,982.50 from Victim A's client to a Canadian bank account in the name of Creative Wealth Media Finance Corp.;

In violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 1343.

COUNT FIVE

The SPECIAL JANUARY 2026 GRAND JURY further charges:

1. Paragraphs 1 through 12 of Count One are incorporated here.

2. On or about February 4, 2022, in the Northern District of Illinois, Eastern Division, and elsewhere,

JASON CLOTH,

defendant herein, for the purpose of executing the above-described scheme, did knowingly cause to be transmitted by means of wire communication in interstate and foreign commerce certain writings, signs, and signals, namely, a wire transfer of funds in the amount of $499,982.50 from Victim A's client to a Canadian bank account in the name of Creative Wealth Media Finance Corp.;

In violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 1343.

COUNT SIX

The SPECIAL JANUARY 2026 GRAND JURY further charges:

1. Paragraphs 1 through 12 of Count One are incorporated here.

2. On or about February 4, 2022, in the Northern District of Illinois, Eastern Division, and elsewhere,

JASON CLOTH,

defendant herein, for the purpose of executing the above-described scheme, did knowingly cause to be transmitted by means of wire communication in interstate and foreign commerce certain writings, signs, and signals, namely, a wire transfer of funds in the amount of $499,982.50 from Victim A's client to a Canadian bank account in the name of Creative Wealth Media Finance Corp.;

In violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 1343.

COUNT SEVEN

The SPECIAL JANUARY 2026 GRAND JURY further charges:

1. Paragraphs 1 through 12 of Count One are incorporated here.

2. On or about February 4, 2022, in the Northern District of Illinois, Eastern Division, and elsewhere,

JASON CLOTH,

defendant herein, for the purpose of executing the above-described scheme, did knowingly cause to be transmitted by means of wire communication in interstate and foreign commerce certain writings, signs, and signals, namely, a wire transfer of funds in the amount of $1,499,982.50 from Victim A's client to a Canadian bank account in the name of Creative Wealth Media Finance Corp.;

In violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 1343.

FORFEITURE ALLEGATION

The SPECIAL JANUARY 2026 GRAND JURY further alleges:

1. Upon conviction of an offense in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Sections 1343, as set forth in this Indictment, defendant shall forfeit to the United States of America any property which constitutes and is derived from proceeds obtained directly and indirectly as a result of the offense, as provided in Title 18, United States Code, Section 982(a)(2)(A).

2. The property to be forfeited includes, but is not limited to:

a. a personal money judgment in an amount of at least $12.25 million.

3. If any of the property described above, as a result of any act or omission by a defendant: cannot be located upon the exercise of due diligence; has been transferred or sold to, or deposited with, a third party; has been placed beyond the jurisdiction of the Court; has been substantially diminished in value; or has been commingled with other property which cannot be divided without difficulty, the United States of America shall be entitled to forfeiture of substitute property, as provided in Title 21,United States Code Section 853(p).

A TRUE BILL:

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FOREPERSON

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UNITED STATES ATTORNEY