

Former Bend Man Sentenced in Identity Theft "Fast Track"™ Program

by Bend Weekly News Sources

Milton Scott is third transient resident of Bend and Eugene/Springfield areas sentenced to federal prison in new Oregon identity theft program

Milton Eugene Scott was sentenced by United States District Judge Michael Hogan to serve two years in federal prison for aggravated identity theft. Scott, 41, was a transient resident of Bend, Eugene, Springfield, and Junction City, Oregon prior to his arrest.

In pleading guilty, Scott admitted that in October and November of 2005, he used stolen identity information for the purpose of committing bank fraud. He did so in part by cashing counterfeit checks.

Scott was also ordered to serve a one-year period of supervised release after completion of his two year sentence and was ordered to pay \$7,256.57 in restitution to victims of the offense. His restitution was ordered to be joint and several with two associates, Vincent Palumbo and Carrie Zumbrum, who were previously sentenced for their role in the same identity theft ring.

On April 27, 2006, Vincent Palumbo, 31, was sentenced to serve two years in federal prison for aggravated identity theft by Judge Ann Aiken. On June 30, 2006, Carrie Zumbrum, 43, received the same sentence for the same crime. Both Palumbo and Zumbrum were ordered to serve a one-year period of supervised release after completion of their sentences and to pay \$7,256.57 in restitution to victims of the offense.

The convictions were obtained under a new identity theft program launched by the United States Attorney's Office for the District of Oregon. The program requires defendants to plead guilty to an aggravated federal charge of identity theft and agree, without litigation, to a 24-month mandatory minimum sentence. In exchange for their plea of guilty, defendants will not be charged with certain predicate offenses, which would result in a longer sentence under the United States Sentencing Guidelines.

The investigation of this case was a joint effort by the Bend Police Department and the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

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