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### **DEFENDANT RECEIVES PRISON SENTENCE IN MORTGAGE FRAUD**

KANSAS, KAN. – Scott Alexander, 70, Merriam, Kan., has been sentenced to one year and a day in federal prison for mortgage fraud, U.S. Attorney Lanny Welch said today.

Alexander pleaded guilty in January to one count of conspiracy to commit wire fraud and money laundering. In his plea he admitted that in 2003 and 2004 he conspired with co-defendant Wildor Washington, Jr., and others to obtain mortgage loans by fraudulent means including submitting inflated property appraisals to lenders.

Alexander's company, Atlantic Mortgage, had a contract to process loans originated by one of Washington's companies, Heritage Financial Investments, Inc., through other business entities owned by Washington. The entities used the mortgage broker's license issued to Alexander, with his knowledge and consent, to disguise and conceal from lenders the fact that Heritage Financial Investments, Inc., and Washington's other business entities did not have a valid mortgage broker's license. In December 2003, Alexander received \$198,266 from a loan on a house in the 12400 block of East 58th in Kansas City, Mo. The loan was based on an appraisal with an inflated value and a forged signature.

Co-defendants include:

**Victoria Bennett**, who is set for sentencing July 6, 2009.

**Terrence Cole**, who is set for sentencing Dec. 21, 2009.

**Wildor Washington, Jr., Maurice Ragland**, and **Kara E. Robinson-Franks**, who are set for trial Nov. 17, 2009

Welch commended the Internal Revenue Service - Criminal Investigations Division, the Johnson County Sheriff's Department, the Overland Park Police Department, the U.S. Secret Service's Financial Crimes Task Force and Assistant U.S. Attorney Marietta Parker for their work on the case.

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