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# UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

FOR THE CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

### SOUTHERN DIVISION

October 2007 Grand Jury

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Plaintiff,

V.

INDICTMENT

[18 U.S.C. § 1343: Wire Fraud]

MICHAEL SCOTT GRAYSON
and CHANCE WEAVER,

Defendants.

The Grand Jury charges:

COUNTS ONE THROUGH ELEVEN

[18 U.S.C. § 1343]

## I. <u>INTRODUCTION</u>

At all times relevant to this Indictment:

 Defendant MICHAEL SCOTT GRAYSON owned and operated Axis Communications, a purported equipment vendor, located in Tarzana, California.

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- 2. Defendant CHANCE WEAVER owned and operated Platinum PC, a computer retailer and purported equipment vendor, located in Irvine, California.
- 3. Defendants GRAYSON and WEAVER partnered with Brickbanc Capital ("Brickbanc"), also known as Louiscifer Holdings, Channel Equities, Geneva Roth Holdings, Heat Rock, and Tech Capital Holdings, located in Orange County, California.

## II. THE SCHEME TO DEFRAUD

- 4. Beginning in or around June 2004 and continuing until at least late 2005, in Orange and Los Angeles Counties, within the Central District of California, and elsewhere, defendants GRAYSON, WEAVER, and others known and unknown to the Grand Jury, knowingly and with the intent to defraud, devised, executed, and participated in a scheme to defraud funding sources as to material matters, and to obtain funds from funding sources by means of materially false and fraudulent pretenses, representations, and promises, and the non-disclosure and concealment of material facts, in connection with a fraudulent equipment lease scheme.
- 5. The fraudulent equipment lease scheme was designed to operate and did operate, as follows:
- a. Brickbanc advertised working capital loans for small businesses who would not qualify for such loans through financial institutions.
- b. Brickbanc communicated with the small businesses (the "lessees") that responded to the advertising, and reiterated that Brickbanc could obtain working capital loans for them.

Brickbanc told the lessees that they would get a working capital loan, but would sometimes have to accept computer equipment.

c. Once the lessees agreed to use Brickbanc's services, Brickbanc referred the transactions to Axis Communications and Platinum PC.

- d. Defendants GRAYSON and WEAVER used false statements and promises to induce funding sources to provide equipment leases to the lessees.
- e. At the direction of defendant GRAYSON, Axis
  Communications caused false and misleading invoices to be
  submitted to funding sources to make it appear as though the
  lessees were receiving computer equipment worth a substantial
  amount of money. These invoices were designed to cause the
  funding sources to release funds for non-existent and over-valued
  equipment. Axis Communications, in turn, provided computers to
  the lessees that were worth substantially less than what was
  represented to the funding sources and, in some instances, no
  equipment at all was provided to the lessees.
- f. At the direction of defendant WEAVER, Platinum PC caused false and misleading invoices to be submitted to funding sources to make it appear as though the lessees were receiving computer equipment worth a substantial amount of money. These invoices were designed to cause the funding sources to release funds for non-existent and over-valued equipment. Platinum PC, in turn, provided computers to the lessees that were worth substantially less than what was represented to the funding sources and, in some instances, Platinum PC did not provide all the equipment represented in the invoices.

- g. Before funding the equipment leases, the funding sources contacted the lessees to confirm that the lessees, in fact, had received, installed, and were using the equipment provided by Axis Communications and Platinum PC. With the knowledge of defendants GRAYSON and WEAVER, the lessees were instructed to provide false information to the funding sources in response to these questions.
- h. Based upon the false invoices provided by defendants GRAYSON and WEAVER and false information received from the lessees, the funding sources approved the lease applications and transferred funds to Axis Communications and Platinum PC for the purported equipment leases.
- i. Defendants GRAYSON and WEAVER took the funds received from the funding sources, deducted expenses and commissions, and caused the remaining funds to be transferred to accounts controlled by Brickbanc who sent the majority of the funds to the lessees as working capital loans.
- 6. In order to execute the scheme, defendants WEAVER and GRAYSON made and caused to be made false statements and false promises and caused the non-disclosure and concealment of material facts to funding sources, including, without limitation, the following:
- a. Defendant GRAYSON and Axis Communications worked with small businesses to obtain financing from funding sources to lease computer equipment.
- b. Defendant WEAVER and Platinum PC worked with small businesses to obtain financing from funding sources to lease computer equipment.

- c. Defendant GRAYSON and Axis Communications provided sales invoices to the funding sources and delivered to lessees the products described in the invoices.
- d. Defendant WEAVER and Platinum provided sales invoices to the funding sources and delivered to lessees the products described in the invoices.
- e. At defendants GRAYSON's and WEAVER's direction, the lessees provided information to funding sources concerning the receipt, installation, and use of the computer equipment allegedly leased from Axis Communications and Platinum PC.
- 7. At the time defendants GRAYSON and WEAVER made the false statements and false promises, and caused them to be made, they knew that such statements and promises were false, in that:
- a. Brickbanc obtained working capital loans for small businesses disguised as fraudulent equipment leases.
- b. Brickbanc, Axis Communications, and Platinum PC worked with small businesses to obtain working capital loans not equipment leases.
- c. Axis Communications and Platinum PC submitted false invoices to the funding sources describing equipment to be leased by the lessee that was over-valued and that, in some instances, was never provided to the lessee at all.
- d. With the knowledge of defendants GRAYSON and WEAVER, the lessees were instructed to falsely represent to the funding sources that the lessees had received and used the equipment described in the invoices submitted by Axis Communications and Platinum PC.

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- e. With the knowledge of defendants GRAYSON and WEAVER, the lessees were instructed to hide from the funding sources the fact that they were receiving working capital loans.
- f. Defendants GRAYSON and WEAVER did not inform the funding sources that the lease proceeds were partially used to provide working capital loans to lessees.
- 8. By devising, executing, and participating in the fraudulent equipment lease scheme, defendants GRAYSON and WEAVER caused the funding sources to lose millions of dollars when the lessees defaulted on the equipment lease agreements and the equipment securing the leases were worthless.

#### III. THE WIRINGS

9. On or about the dates listed below, in the Central District of California, and elsewhere, defendants GRAYSON and WEAVER, for the purpose of executing the above-described scheme to defraud, caused the transmission of the following items by means of wire communication in interstate commerce:

COUNT	DATE	DEFENDANT	ITEM WIRED
ONE	8/27/04	GRAYSON	A Credit Application sent by facsimile to American Express Business Finance Corporation in Houston, TX from Brickbanc in Costa Mesa, CA in connection with a 9 Alarm 1 equipment lease
TWO	9/23/04	GRAYSON	An Equipment Lease Agreement sent by facsimile to CitiCapital in West Chester, PA from the Central District of California in connection with a Silver Industries equipment lease

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1	THREE	9/28/04	GRAYSON	A Master Lease Agreement sent by facsimile to American			
2				Express Business Finance Corporation in Houston, TX from the Central District of			
4				California in connection with a Silver Industries equipment			
5	norm.	10/00/04	CDAVCON	lease			
6	FOUR	10/22/04	GRAYSON	An Equipment Lease Agreement sent by facsimile to CitiCapital in West Chester, PA from the Central District			
7 8				of California in connection with a Silver Industries equipment lease			
9	FIVE	11/17/04	GRAYSON	An Equipment Lease Agreement			
10				sent by facsimile to CitiCapital in West Chester, PA from the Central District			
12				of California in connection with a Tomato Auto Sales			
13				equipment lease			
14	SIX	1/13/05	WEAVER	A \$98,050 payment wired from Citibank in Dallas, TX to			
15 16				Platinum PC's Wells Fargo Ban account in Irvine, CA in connection with a 4Men			
17				Electric, Inc. equipment lease			
18	SEVEN	1/27/05	WEAVER	A Delivery and Acceptance Certificate sent by facsimile			
19 20				to CitiCapital in West Chester, PA from Brickbanc in Costa Mesa, CA in connection			
21				with a Bill Hauskins Motors Inc. equipment lease			
22	EIGHT	2/4/05	WEAVER	An Equipment Lease Agreement			
23		2, 1, 00		sent by facsimile to Kirk M. in Orange County, CA			
24				from Jim H. at Bill Hauskins Motors Inc. in Glenwood			
25				Springs, CO			
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1	NINE	3/8/05	WEAV	ER	A Customer Application sent by facsimile to Wells Fargo Financial Leasing in Des Moines, IA from the					
2										
3					Central Distriction	rict of C	alifornia			
4					Hauskins Moto lease					
5	TEN	4/14/05	WEAVER	A \$134,090 payment wired from						
6					Citibank in Mahwah, New Jersey to Platinum PC's Wells Fargo					
7 8					Bank account in Irvine, CA in connection with The Flash equipment lease					
9	ELEVEN	4/14/05	MEA V	WEAVER	7 (100 000	rod from				
10	ELEVEN		WEAV		A \$129,850 payment wired from Citibank in Mahwah, New Jersey to Platinum PC's Wells Fargo					
11					Bank account connection w	in Irvin ith the W	e, CA in orld Wide			
12 13					Gymnastics ed	quipment	lease			
14				А	RUE BILL					
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18		P. O'BRIEN States Atto								
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20	CHRISTINE C. EWELL Assistant United States Attorney Chief, Criminal Division									
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23 24	CARMEN R. LUEGE Assistant United States Attorney Acting Chief, Santa Ana Branch Office									
25		R L. WAIER	(L _ L	7 -						
26	Assistant United States Attorney									
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