



All Alabama ▾



Set Weather

Sign in | Join



NEWS BUSINESS SPORTS H.S. SPORTS ENTERTAINMENT LIVING

Former Birmingham real estate lawyer sentenced to 2 years, restitution in mortgage fraud scheme

7
comments



By [Kelsey Stein](#) | kstein@al.com
[Email the author](#) | [Follow on Twitter](#)
on June 26, 2013 at 5:28 PM



BIRMINGHAM, Alabama - A former real estate lawyer from Birmingham was sentenced today to two years in prison for wire fraud in a mortgage scheme that exceeded \$1 million over five years.

Kelvin Leonard Davis, 42, pleaded guilty in February to **four counts of wire fraud** for knowingly submitting false mortgage documents and statements to various lenders to get approval of mortgage loans.

Davis was the closing attorney on the transactions that took place between October 2007 and January 2012.

At a sentencing hearing this afternoon before U.S. District

Most Comments

Most Read

1516

Phil Steele: Gus Malzahn will have Auburn contending for national titles in the future

1450

The NCAA didn't so maybe Alabama will punish Oregon in the BCS Championship Game (Scarbinsky)

468

Live chat with Joey Kennedy today at 1 p.m. right here via comments will focus on immigration reform, Voting Rights Act

457

Live chat: Talk Auburn sports with beat reporter Brandon Marcello at 3 p.m.

406

'Let's get going:' Auburn athletics director Jay Jacobs ready to move forward after 'tough' year

[See more comments »](#)

Judge Karon O. Bowdre, Davis apologized to the banks and stakeholders who he harmed with his actions.

"I've definitely been humbled by this experience, and humiliated," he said. "It was a test of my integrity, my character, and I failed."

As part of his plea agreement, he agreed to pay restitution to the banks and forfeit \$269,335 to the government as proceeds of the illegal activity.

Before pronouncing a sentence, Bowdre told Davis she believes he can still contribute to his community because of his experience, serving as a "clear voice warning people not to take shortcuts" and to stand by their convictions.

"I believe this experience will strengthen your integrity and better equip you to be of service," she said. "We need people who understand what it is to be tempted and to fail."

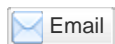
Davis' attorney Michael V. Rasmussen requested the judge's mercy for Davis because he has already lost much that is important to him, including his business, his status in the community and his self-respect.

"Up until these transactions, Mr. Davis has led an exemplary life, a quiet life," Rasmussen said. "Not to excuse his conduct but to explain it, he buckled under some financial pressure he was in."

According to the plea agreement, Davis submitted false statements with loan documents in order to obtain approval for mortgage loans that would, otherwise, not have been approved. In many instances, Davis, while serving as closing attorney, would use his trust account to provide money to the borrower when a mortgage loan was closing.

Davis would recover the money by subtracting the amount he provided from the proceeds he issued to the seller. Davis also would assess the seller a fee, ranging from \$1,000 to \$6,000, and make checks for the fee payable to Peaceful Valley Homes, a corporation he had formed. Total losses to the various lenders as a result of Davis' fraud were nearly \$1 million.

The FBI and the Department of Housing and Urban Development, Office of Inspector General, investigated the case. Assistant U.S. Attorney Robin Beardsley Mark prosecuted the case.



Related Stories

Authorities said fatal South East Lake shooting happened when toddler went for father's pistol

Birmingham pianist Aleksandra Kasman captures prize in South Carolina competition (video)

Add Your Comment

[Sign in with your al.com or Facebook account](#)

Sort By: Most Recent

7 comments so far

[Pause Live Updates »](#)



roadkingman


Affirmative action lawyer . . . whatdayaexpect???
Just like the godless lib communist Kenyan.

 13 Hours Ago · [Reply](#)



outsider64

Can you read; he was a business owner that got greedy. I can point out a bunch of good ole boy lawyer, engineers the list goes on and on. Like I keep saying, I had to be three times better than my white counterparts. Most should not have been hired; they were simply hired because they were white. I can attest to this since some were there for years, but they were asking me how to questions before the end of my first month. Some of them and their families benefitted from the racist culture called Alabama.

 10 Hours Ago · [Reply](#)



fostery

"buckled under some financial pressure he was in." LOL; everybody faces financial pressure all the time but do not scheme to steal \$1 million! He should have gotten more time for using that BS excuse.

 13 Hours Ago · [Reply](#)



bloutedgangster

First patient, pull out the skull, remove the cancer
Breaking his back, chisel necks for the answer
Supersonic bionic robot voodoo power
Equator ex my chance to flex skills on Ampex
With power meters and heaters gauge anti-

freeze
Octagon oxygen, aluminum intoxicants
More ways to blow blood cells in your face
React with four bombs and six fire missiles
Armed with seven rounds of space doo-doo
pistols
You may not believe, living on the Earth planet
My skin is green and silver, warhead looking
mean
Astronauts get played, tough like the ukelele
As I move in rockets, overriding, levels
Nothing's aware, same data, same system
you feels me - blouted gangster ---out!

 15 Hours Ago · [Reply](#)



Leeds2013





Davis is a common criminal. No need to dress him up as anything else with words like he "buckled" under financial pressure, and he lost his "integrity", etc. Us old folks know a con man when we see one. IMO he got off too light.

 17 Hours Ago · [Reply](#)



gtr53

A lawyer going to prison. I love a story with a happy ending.



  fostery,  GetReal180 and  Leeds2013 like this.


 17 Hours Ago · [Reply](#)



au92536

"...and they lived happily ever after."

  gtr53 likes this.

 16 Hours Ago · [Reply](#)

Best of al.com

Candidates blast Supreme Court's ruling

Report ranks Alabama 49th for student-loan debt

Judge gives break to supervisor in eBay theft ring



About Us

- [About Alabama Media Group](#)
- [Jobs at Alabama Media Group](#)
- [Advertise with us](#)

- [About AL.com](#)
- [Contact Us](#)

Customer Service

- Report a delivery problem or speak to customer service about your newspaper:
 - [The Huntsville Times, 800-239-5271](#)
 - [The Birmingham News, 800-283-4001](#)
 - [Mobile's Press-Register, 800-239-1340](#)

- [Place an ad](#)
- [Get home delivery](#)
- [Promote your event in our calendar](#)
- [Send us an email](#)
- [Submit a news tip](#)

AL.com Sections

- News
- Business
- Sports
- High School Sports
- Entertainment
- Living
- Travel
- Opinion

- Obituaries
- Jobs
- Autos
- Real Estate
- Apartment Rentals
- Classifieds
- Shopping Good Deals
- Local Businesses

Your Regional News Pages

- Anniston/Gadsden
- Birmingham
- Huntsville
- Mobile

- Montgomery
- Tuscaloosa
- Gulf Coast Beaches

On the Go

[Mobile View](#) | [Mobile Apps](#) | [Tablet Apps](#)

More on AL.com

- [Forums](#)

- Videos
- Photos
- Interact with us
- Weather

- Post a job
- Post a free classified ad
- Sell your car
- Sell/rent your home
- Site Map & search

Subscriptions

- The Birmingham News
- The Huntsville Times
- Mobile's Press-Register
- Free newsletters

Follow Us

[Twitter](#) | [Facebook](#) | [Google+](#) | [Pinterest](#) | [Instagram](#)

ADVANCE
DIGITAL

Registration on or use of this site constitutes acceptance of our [User Agreement](#) and [Privacy Policy](#) (Revised November 1, 2011)

© 2013 Alabama Media Group All rights reserved ([About Us](#)).

The material on this site may not be reproduced, distributed, transmitted, cached or otherwise used, except with the prior written permission of Alabama Media Group

Community Rules apply to all content you upload or otherwise submit to this site. Contact [interactivity management](#).

[▶ Ad Choices](#)