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California Central District Court Case No. 2:13-cr-00098 USA v. Powell

Document 1



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FILEN 1 2013 FEB -8 FM 3: 57 2 CLERK U.S. DISTRICT COURT CENTRAL DIST. OF CALIF. LOS ANGELES 3 4 5 6 7 8 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT 9 FOR THE CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA October 2012 Grand Juny 10 11 CR 13-UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, 12 Plaintiff, INDICTMENT 13 [18 U.S.C. § 1341: Mail Fraud; v. 18 U.S.C. § 1343: Wire Fraud; 14 DANIEL CHRISTIAN STANLEY 18 U.S.C. § 1512(c)(2): POWELL, Obstruction of Justice; 15 aka "Daniel C.S. Powell," 18 U.S.C. § 2(b): Causing an Act To Be Donel 16 Defendant. 17 18 The Grand Jury charges: 19 COUNTS ONE THROUGH FIVE 20 [18 U.S.C. § 1341] 21 INTRODUCTORY ALLEGATIONS At all times relevant to this Indictment: 22 23 Defendant DANIEL CHRISTIAN STANLEY POWELL, also a. known as ("aka") "Daniel C.S. Powell" ("defendant POWELL"), was a 24 25 resident of Los Angeles County, California, within the Central 26 District of California; 27 Defendant POWELL owned, operated, and controlled 28 Christian Stanley, Inc., Christian Stanley, L.L.C., Daniel Christian Stanley Powell Realty Holdings, Inc., and related BU.

entities (collectively, "Christian Stanley"). Christian Stanley was an investment company, among other things, located in Los Angeles, California, within the Central District of California.

c. Defendant POWELL controlled Bank of America account number XXXXX-X2239 (the "B of A Account").

B. THE SCHEME TO DEFRAUD

- 2. Beginning in or about March 2009, and continuing through in or about July 2011, in Los Angeles County, within the Central District of California, and elsewhere, defendant POWELL, together with others known and unknown to the Grand Jury, knowingly and with intent to defraud, devised, participated in, and executed a scheme to defraud individuals and entities (collectively, the "victims") as to material matters, and to obtain money and property from victims by means of material false and fraudulent pretenses, representations, and promises, and the concealment of material facts relating to their investments with Christian Stanley.
- 3. The fraudulent scheme operated, in substance, in the following manner:
- a. Defendant POWELL solicited funds from the victims by falsely representing, and causing others to falsely represent, that:
- (i) The funds from the victims would be used by Christian Stanley to purchase life insurance policies from individual policy holders at their present value, which defendant POWELL termed "reverse life insurance policies;"
 - (ii) The funds from the victims would be used to

1	develop natural resources, such as a gold mine in Nevada;		
2	(iii) The victims would receive "debentures" from		
3	Christian Stanley that were secured by:		
4	(a) Reverse life insurance policies;		
5	(b) A gold mine in Nevada; and/or		
6	(c) Coal leases in Kentucky;		
7	(iv) Christian Stanley owned reverse life		
8	insurance policies, a gold mine in Nevada, and coal leases in		
9	Kentucky;		
10	(v) Christian Stanley would pay the victims		
11	specific rates of interest over specific periods of time, after		
12	which it would return their investments; and		
13	(vi) Christian Stanley was profitable and		
14	successful.		
15	b. Also as part of the fraudulent scheme, defendant		
16	POWELL failed to disclose to, and concealed from, the victims th		
17	following material facts, among others:		
18	(i) Christian Stanley did not own any reverse		
19	life insurance policies;		
20	(ii) Christian Stanley did not own any gold mines		
21	in Nevada;		
22	(iii) Christian Stanley did not own any coal		
23	leases in Kentucky;		
24	(iv) Christian Stanley was not profitable; and		
25	(v) Defendant POWELL was spending the victims'		
26	investment money on the following:		
27	(a) Commissions to debenture sales people;		
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1	(b) Daily living expenses for defendant		
2	POWELL;		
3	(c) Luxury automobiles;		
4	(d) Non-business, personal expenditures for		
5	defendant POWELL;		
6	(e) Rent for various individuals;		
7	(f) Donations relating to a tribute to		
8	Michael Jackson and another foundation;		
9	(g) Non-business payments to defendant		
10	POWELL's family members; and		
11	(h) Non-business luxury goods for defendant		
12	POWELL.		
13	c. Also as part of the scheme to defraud, defendant		
14	POWELL concealed his material misrepresentations and omissions		
15	from the victims, and lulled, and caused others to lull, the		
16	victims into maintaining their investments with defendant POWELL		
17	by:		
18	(i) Using the funds invested by other victims		
19	to make interest payments to the victims;		
20	(ii) Sending purported refunds of the victims'		
21	investments;		
22	(iii) Misrepresenting how the victims' funds were		
23	being spent;		
24	(iv) Misrepresenting the profitability and		
25	success of Christian Stanley;		
26	(v) Misrepresenting that defendant POWELL and/or		
27	Christian Stanley had over one million dollars in bank accounts;		
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Asking the victims to sign false affidavits

1 2 in an attempt to clear himself of wrongdoing and enticing the 3 4 5 6 7

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victims to do so by misrepresenting that the affidavits would help defendant POWELL prevail in a civil case filed by the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission and would allow defendant POWELL to refund the investments made by the victims; and (vii) Using the funds invested by the victims to promote the business.

In connection with this scheme to defraud, defendant 4. POWELL defrauded approximately 50 victims out of approximately \$4.5 million.

THE USE OF THE MAILS

On or about the dates set forth below, in Los Angeles County, within the Central District of California, and elsewhere, defendant POWELL, for the purpose of executing and attempting to execute the above-described scheme to defraud, caused the following items to be placed in an authorized depository for mail matter to be sent and delivered by the United States Postal Service or a private or commercial interstate carrier, as specified below, according to the directions thereon:

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COUNT	DATE	ITEM MAILED
ONE	September 11, 2010	An envelope containing investment documents that was delivered by the U.S. Postal Service from A.W. to Christian Stanley
TWO	April 12, 2011	An envelope containing investment documents that was delivered by Federal Express from J.L. to defendant POWELL

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COUNT	DATE	ITEM MAILED
THREE	June 13, 2011	An envelope containing a letter that was delivered by the U.S. Postal Service or a private or commercial interstate carrier from defendant POWELL to K.S.
FOUR	August 30, 2011	An envelope containing investment documents and a check that was delivered by Federal Express from R.R. to defendant POWELL
FIVE	September 1, 2011	An envelope containing a check for \$10,000 that was delivered by Federal Express from defendant POWELL to A.K.

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COUNTS SIX THROUGH TEN

[18 U.S.C. § 1343]

The Grand Jury repeats and re-alleges paragraphs one through four of this Indictment as though fully set forth herein.

THE USE OF THE WIRES

7. On or about the dates set forth below, in Los Angeles County, within the Central District of California and elsewhere, defendant POWELL, for the purpose of executing the abovedescribed scheme to defraud, transmitted, and caused the transmission of, the following items by means of wire and radio communication in interstate and foreign commerce:

COUNT	DATE	ITEM WIRED
SIX	June 21, 2010	Wire of \$59,855 from First Community Bank, Inc. through the Federal Reserve Wire Network in New Jersey, to the B of A Account in California
SEVEN	July 1, 2010	Wire of \$9,955 from First Community Bank, Inc. through the Federal Reserve Wire Network in New Jersey, to the B of A Account in California
EIGHT	September 10, 2010	Wire of \$50,000 from Boulder Dam Credit Union through the Federal Reserve Wire Network in New Jersey, to the B of A Account in California
NINE	May 19, 2011	Wire of \$119,600 from U.S. Bank through the Federal Reserve Wire Network in New Jersey, to the B of A Account in California
TEN	May 26, 2011	Wire of \$60,000 from Susquehanna Bank through the Federal Reserve Wire Network in New Jersey, to the B of A Account in California

COUNT ELEVEN

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[18 U.S.C. §§ 1512(c)(2), 2(b)]

- 8. The Grand Jury repeats and re-alleges paragraphs one and two of this Indictment as though fully set forth herein.
- On or about January 10, 2012, in Los Angeles County, within the Central District of California, and elsewhere, defendant POWELL corruptly obstructed, influenced, and impeded, and corruptly attempted to obstruct, influence, and impede an official judicial proceeding, namely, Securities and Exchange Commission v. Christian Stanley, Inc., et al., Case No. 11-CV-7147-GHK (MANx) (hereinafter, the "SEC civil case"), by knowingly and willfully persuading victim S.S. to execute an affidavit containing materially false, misleading, and evasive statements. Defendant POWELL did so by misrepresenting to victim S.S. that the affidavit would help defendant POWELL prevail in the SEC civil case and enable defendant POWELL to refund victim S.S.'s investment in Christian Stanley.
- The affidavit contained the following materially false, misleading, and evasive statements, among others:
- Victim S.S.'s investment was a private loan rather than a security;
- Victim S.S. understood that her investment would b. be used to pay Christian Stanley's operational expenses;
- Christian Stanley and defendant POWELL had c. disclosed to victim S.S. that Christian Stanley had not generated sufficient revenue to make interest payments to investors and was making those payments from the victims' investments; and

d. Victim S.S. had read the allegations in the complaint filed in the SEC civil case and believed that the allegations were false.

COUNT TWELVE

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[18 U.S.C. §§ 1512(c)(2), 2(b)]

- The Grand Jury repeats and re-alleges paragraphs one 11. and two of this Indictment as though fully set forth herein.
- 12. On or about January 31, 2012, in Los Angeles County, within the Central District of California, and elsewhere, defendant POWELL corruptly obstructed, influenced, and impeded, and corruptly attempted to obstruct, influence, and impede an official judicial proceeding, namely, Securities and Exchange Commission v. Christian Stanley, Inc., et al., Case No. 11-CV-7147-GHK (MANx) (hereinafter, the "SEC civil case"), by knowingly and willfully persuading victim H.B. to execute an affidavit containing materially false, misleading, and evasive statements. Defendant POWELL did so by misrepresenting to victim H.B. that the affidavit would help defendant POWELL prevail in the SEC civil case and enable defendant POWELL to refund H.B.'s investment in Christian Stanley.
- The affidavit contained the following materially false, misleading, and evasive statements, among others:
- Victim H.B.'s investment was a private loan rather than a security;
- b. Victim H.B. understood that her investment would be used to pay Christian Stanley's operational expenses;
- Christian Stanley and defendant POWELL had disclosed to victim H.B. that Christian Stanley had not generated sufficient revenue to make interest payments to investors and was making those payments from the victims' investments; and

d. Victim H.B. had read the allegations in the complaint filed in the SEC civil case and believed that the allegations were false.

COUNT THIRTEEN

investment in Christian Stanley.

[18 U.S.C. §§ 1512(c)(2), 2(b)]

- 14. The Grand Jury repeats and re-alleges paragraphs one and two of this Indictment as though fully set forth herein.
- 15. On or about February 22, 2012, in Los Angeles County, within the Central District of California, and elsewhere, defendant POWELL corruptly obstructed, influenced, and impeded, and corruptly attempted to obstruct, influence, and impede an official judicial proceeding, namely, Securities and Exchange Commission v. Christian Stanley, Inc., et al., Case No. 11-CV-7147-GHK (MANX) (hereinafter, the "SEC civil case"), by knowingly and willfully persuading victim A.K. to execute an affidavit containing materially false, misleading, and evasive statements. Defendant POWELL did so by misrepresenting to victim A.K. that the affidavit would help defendant POWELL prevail in the SEC civil case and enable defendant POWELL to refund victim A.K.'s
- 16. The affidavit contained the following materially false, misleading, and evasive statements, among others:
- a. Victim A.K.'s investment was a private loan rather than a security;
- b. Victim A.K. understood that her investment would be used by Christian Stanley for general business purposes;
- c. Christian Stanley and defendant POWELL had disclosed to Victim A.K. that Christian Stanley had not generated sufficient revenue to make interest payments to investors and was making those payments from the victims' investments; and

1 d. Victim A.K. was familiar with the allegations in 2 the complaint filed in the SEC civil case and believed that the 3 allegations were false. 4 5 A TRUE BILL 6 7 8 Foreperson 9 ANDRÉ BIROTTE JR. 10 United States Attorney 11 1) own DONNY C. KIM 12 Dep. Chief. crim. Div. FOR . 13 ROBERT E. DUGDALE Assistant United States Attorney Chief, Criminal Division 15 RICHARD E. ROBINSON Assistant United States Attorney 16 Chief, Major Frauds Section 17 JILL T. FEENEY Assistant United States Attorney 18 Deputy Chief, Major Frauds Section 19 STEPHEN I. GOORVITCH Assistant United States Attorney 20 Major Frauds Section 21 22 23 24 25 26 27