

# **OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL**

Catherine Cortez Masto, Attorney General

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# ATTORNEY GENERAL MASTO ANNOUNCES INDICTMENT OF TWO LAS VEGAS MEN INVOLVED IN MORTGAGE LENDING FRAUD

Las Vegas, NV – Nevada Attorney General Catherine Cortez Masto announced that on August 15 a Clark County grand jury returned an 18 count indictment against Gary Dimattia, 62 and Lawrence Bateman, Jr., 36, both of Las Vegas for their involvement in a mortgage lending fraud case operating under the name Financial Link Services involving numerous victims.

Dimattia is charged with for four felony counts of mortgage lending fraud, four felonies counts of theft, one felony count of multiple transactions involving fraud and deceit in the course of enterprise or occupation, and one felony count of pattern of mortgage lending fraud indictment. Bateman is charged with for three felony counts of mortgage lending fraud, three felonies counts of theft, one felony count of multiple transactions involving fraud and deceit in the course of enterprise or occupation, and one felony count of multiple transactions involving fraud and deceit in the course of enterprise or occupation, and one felony count of pattern of mortgage lending fraud and deceit in the course of enterprise or occupation, and one felony count of pattern of mortgage lending fraud indictment.

"Mortgage and foreclosure rescue scams continue to be a big threat to Nevadans," said Masto. "I encourage potential fraud victims of Financial Link Services and others in similar cases to report it to our office so we can investigate and prosecute."

From April 2009 to August of 2010, Dimattia and Bateman made false representations that they were capable of rescuing homeowners who were looking to refinance their mortgages by negotiating new loans through a balance reduction program that did not exist. They collected an up-front fee, in most cases ranging from \$3,495 to \$3,895, for the proposed service but the work was never performed. The indictment includes seven currently identified witnesses.

Both Dimattia and Bateman face a 20 year prison sentence. Their initial court appearance is September 6, 2012 at 9:00 a.m. in Las Vegas District Court 15. An indictment is merely an accusation and the defendants are presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

Anyone with additional information regarding Dimattia, Bateman or Financial Link Services, is urged to contact the Attorney General's Office Bureau of Consumer Protection Hotline at 702-486-3132 and press "9" to receive instructions on how to submit a complaint.

This case was investigated by the AG's Mortgage Fraud Unit and is being prosecuted by Deputy Attorney General, Jeffrey Segal and Deputy Attorney General, Gary Mathews.

Read the criminal indictment by visiting: <u>http://bit.ly/DimattiaBatemanIndictment</u> .





GARY BATEMAN, LAWRENCE (Photos courtesy of Nevada Department of Motor Vehicles)

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	10 11	(702) 486-3768 – fax gmathews@ag.nv.gov Attorneys for the State of Nevada
	12	DISTRICT COURT AUG 1 5 2012
	13	CLARK COUNTY, STATE OF NEVADA CLERK OF THE COURT
	14	THE STATE OF NEVADA, )
	15 16	Plaintiff, ) Case No.: C-12-283462-1 ) Dept. No.: XV
	17 18 19	GARY DIMATTIA, d/b/a Financial Link Services, LAWRENCE BATEMAN, JR. ) 1933019
	20	Defendants.
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	22	CATHERINE CORTEZ MASTO, Attorney General of the State of Nevada, by and through
	23	her deputy, JEFFREY H. SEGAL, complains and charges that the above named Defendant has
	24	committed the following offenses:
	25	GARY DIMATTIA, (hereinafter "DIMATTIA") d/b/a Financial Link Services ("FLS"), has
	26	committed four (4) counts of MORTGAGE LENDING FRAUD, all category "C" felonies in
	27	violation of NRS 205.372; four (4) counts of THEFT – OBTAINING MONEY IN THE AMOUNT
	28	OF \$2,500 OR MORE BY A MATERIAL MISREPRESENTATION, all category "B" felonies, in
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violation of NRS 205.0832(1)(c); one (1) count of MULTIPLE TRANSACTIONS INVOLVING FRAUD AND DECEIT IN THE COURSE OF ENTERPRISE OR OCCUPATION, all category "B" felonies in violation of NRS 205.377; and one (1) count of PATTERN OF MORTGAGE LENDING FRAUD, a category "B" felony in violation of NRS 205.372.

LAWRENCE BATEMAN, JR. (hereinafter "BATEMAN") has committed three (3) counts of MORTGAGE LENDING FRAUD, all category "C" felonies in violation of NRS 205.372; three (3) counts of THEFT – OBTAINING MONEY IN THE AMOUNT OF \$2,500 OR MORE BY A MATERIAL MISREPRESENTATION, all category "B" felonies, in violation of NRS 205.0832(1)(c); one (1) count of MULTIPLE TRANSACTIONS INVOLVING FRAUD AND DECEIT IN THE COURSE OF ENTERPRISE OR OCCUPATION, all category "B" felonies in violation of NRS 205.377; and one (1) count of PATTERN OF MORTGAGE LENDING FRAUD, a category "B" felony in violation of NRS 205.372.

All of the acts alleged herein have been committed on or between November 2009 and August 2010, by the above-named Defendant, within the County of Clark, State of Nevada, in the following manner:

# COUNT I

#### MORTGAGE LENDING FRAUD CATEGORY "C" FELONY - NRS 205.372

From on or about April 2009 to June 2009, within the County of Clark, State of Nevada, **DIMATTIA**, either by virtue of his own actions or by the actions of his agents or employees, knowingly and unlawfully made one or more false statements or misrepresentations concerning a material fact or knowingly concealed or failed to disclose a material fact, as a participant in a mortgage lending transaction, knowingly and unlawfully received money in connection with a mortgage lending transaction that he knew resulted therefrom, including, without limitation, to wit:

On or about April 16, 2009, **DIMATTIA** met with STEPHANIE VARGAS (hereinafter "VARGAS") at **DIMATTIA'S** office located in Clark County, Nevada. After VARGAS informed **DIMATTIA** that her mortgage payments were several months delinquent and her home was.on

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the verge of foreclosure, **DIMATTIA** misrepresented that he would save her home from foreclosure by first negotiating a loan modification and arranging for a refinance of her mortgage. with a principal equal to the fair market value of her home. DIMATTIA gave false assurances of the success rate of his efforts and falsely stated that he would provide VARGAS a 100% refund should he be unsuccessful in negotiating the loan modification. **DIMATTIA** also falsely stated that after obtaining a loan modification, through his proprietary "Balance Reduction Program," he would arrange for a refinance of her mortgage at the current fair market value of her home, thereby eliminating the negative equity and providing an affordable payment. **DIMATTIA** used one or more of these false statements and misrepresentations to induce VARGAS to pay an 9 upfront fee of \$3495.00. VARGAS paid the fee in full and performed all obligations pursuant to 10 her agreement with **DIMATTIA**. **DIMATTIA** failed to perform the services he agreed to perform and, upon her request, failed to refund the money he accepted from VARGAS.

Moreover, DIMATTIA concealed or failed to disclose to VARGAS one or more material facts, including, without limitation, that he lacked proper licensing or expertise to perform the services he agreed to perform, that he failed to provide the services he promised to provide in most cases, that the "Balance Reduction Program" had little, if any, record of success and was essentially unworkable, that the ability to honor the 100% refund guarantee was conditioned upon **DIMATTIA'S** ability to continue to sell his services by making similar misrepresentations to future clients.

Furthermore, **DIMATTIA** is liable as a principal to the offense as he either directly committed the act constituting the offense, or aided or abetted in its commission, and whether present or absent; directly or indirectly, counseled, encouraged, hired, commanded, induced or otherwise procured another to commit the offense.

All of which constitutes the crime of MORTGAGE LENDING FRAUD - a category "C" felony in violation of NRS 205.372.

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COUNT II

# <u>THEFT – OBTAINING MONEY IN THE AMOUNT OF \$2,500 OR MORE BY A MATERIAL</u> <u>MISREPRESENTATION</u> CATEGORY "B" felony - NRS 205.0832(1)(c)

On or about April 2009, within the County of Clark, State of Nevada, **DIMATTIA** did knowingly, and without lawful authority obtain the personal or intangible property of another person by material misrepresentations with intent to deprive that person of the property, to wit:

On or about April 16, 2009, **DIMATTIA** obtained \$3495.00 from STEPHANIE VARGAS by one making one or more material misrepresentations, including, without limitation, that he would save her home from foreclosure, that he would obtain a loan modification for her, that after he obtained the loan modification he would arrange through his proprietary "Balance Reduction Program" a refinance of her home at its current market value eliminating her negative equity, that he had a high rate of success, and that he would provide a 100% refund of her money if he did not perform the services he agreed to perform.

In reliance upon these material misrepresentations, VARGAS paid to **DIMATTIA** the sum of 3495.00. VARGAS complied with all requirements pursuant the agreement with **DIMATTIA**.

**DIMATTIA** failed to perform the services he agreed to perform and failed to refund VARGAS'S money upon her request.

Furthermore, **DIMATTIA** is liable as a principal to the offense as he either directly committed the act constituting the offense, or aided or abetted in its commission, and whether present or absent; directly or indirectly, counseled, encouraged, hired, commanded, induced or otherwise procured another to commit the offense.

All of which constitutes the crime of THEFT – OBTAINING MONEY IN THE AMOUNT OF \$2500.00 OR MORE BY MATERIAL MISREPRESENTATION, a category "B" felony in violation of NRS 205.0832(1)(c).

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# MORTGAGE LENDING FRAUD CATEGORY "C" FELONY - NRS 205.372

From on or about April 2009 to June 2009, within the County of Clark, State of Nevada, **DIMATTIA**, either by virtue of his own actions or by the actions of his agents or employees, knowingly and unlawfully made one or more false statements or misrepresentations concerning a material fact or knowingly concealed or failed to disclose a material fact, as a participant in a mortgage lending transaction, knowingly and unlawfully received money in connection with a mortgage lending transaction that he knew resulted therefrom, and that he conspired with another person to violate NRS 205.372 including, without limitation, to wit:

At all times relevant to the allegations herein, **DIMATTIA** was an officer and/or director, and/or controlled the operations of FINANCIAL LINK SERVICES, an active Nevada domestic corporation. Furthermore, **DIMATTIA** entered into an agreement with **LAWRENCE BATEMAN**, JR. (hereinafter "**BATEMAN**") whereby, in return for a substantial fee or commission, **BATEMAN** would sell the services offered by **DIMATTIA** and FLS. **DIMATTIA** provided **BATEMAN** with marketing materials including a PowerPoint type presentation for **BATEMAN**'S to use in soliciting prospective clients. **DIMATTIA** also maintained an internet site containing similar information about the services **DIMATTIA** and FLS provided. **DIMATTIA** knew these marketing materials contained false statements and material misrepresentations and concealed or failed to disclose material facts as more fully described herein. **DIMATTIA** intended for **BATEMAN** to use these false statements and material misrepresentations to obtain upfront fees from prospective clients in connection with a mortgage lending transaction.

On or about November 2009, BATEMAN met with CONNIE HOLTMAN-SPANGLER and CHRISTOPHER SPANGLER in Clark County, Nevada, pursuant to the aforementioned agreement with **DIMATTIA**. At the meeting **BATEMAN**, utilizing the aforementioned marketing materials provided by **DIMATTIA**, solicited the SPANGLER'S to purchase a service called the "Balance Reduction Program" offered by **DIMATTIA** and FLS. Based upon information provided by **DIMATTIA**, **BATEMAN** explained that in return for an upfront fee of \$3,495.00, **DIMATTIA** would arrange for investor(s) to purchase the SPANGLER'S mortgage note at a discount to the their home's current fair market value and then refinance the SPANGLER's mortgage at a principal amount equal to the fair market value of their home. **BATEMAN** falsely stated that **DIMATTIA** had investors ready and able to complete such a transaction, that it was likely the holder of the SPANGLER'S mortgage would likely agree to sell the note at a steep discount, that **DIMATTIA** had an impressive record of success in arranging these transactions, and that the SPANGLER'S would receive a full refund if **DIMATTIA** was unsuccessful in arranging such a transaction.

Moreover, **BATEMAN** concealed or failed to disclose to THE SPANGLER'S one or more material facts, including, without limitation, that **DIMATTIA** lacked proper licensing or expertise to perform the services he agreed to perform, that **DIMATTIA** failed to provide the services he promised to provide in most cases, that the "Balance Reduction Program" had little, if any, record of success and was essentially unworkable, that the ability to honor the 100% refund guarantee was conditioned upon **DIMATTIA**'S ability to continue to continue to sell his services by making similar misrepresentations to future clients.

On or about March 2010, the SPANGLER'S paid the upfront fee of \$3495.00 to **DIMATTIA** and FLS (by cashier's check received by **BATEMAN**). Thereafter, **DIMATTIA** and FLS failed to perform the services agreed upon and failed to honor the refund guarantee.

**DIMATTIA** is liable as a principal to the offense as he either directly committed the act constituting the offense, or aided or abetted in its commission, and whether present or absent; directly or indirectly, counseled, encouraged, hired, commanded, induced or otherwise procured another to commit the offense.

All of which constitutes the crime of **MORTGAGE LENDING FRAUD** - a category "C" felony in violation of NRS 205.372.

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# <u>THEFT – OBTAINING MONEY IN THE AMOUNT OF \$2,500 OR MORE BY A MATERIAL</u> <u>MISREPRESENTATION</u> CATEGORY "B" felony - NRS 205.0832(1)(c)

On or about November 2009, within the County of Clark, State of Nevada, **DIMATTIA**, either by virtue of his own actions or by the actions of his agents or employees, did knowingly, and without lawful authority obtain the personal or intangible property of another person by material misrepresentations with intent to deprive that person of the property, to wit:

On or about March 2010, **DIMATTIA** obtained \$3495.00 from CONNIE HOLTMAN-SPANGLER and CHRISTOPHER SPANGLER by knowingly and unlawfully inducing, directing and otherwise causing LAWRENCE **BATEMAN**, JR. to make one or more material misrepresentations, including, without limitation, that **DIMATTIA** would arrange through his proprietary "Balance Reduction Program" a refinance of their mortgage at its current market value eliminating their negative equity, that he had a high rate of success, and that he would provide a 100% refund of her money if he did not perform the services he agreed to perform.

In reliance upon these material misrepresentations, THE SPANGLER'S paid to **DIMATTIA** and FLS the sum of \$3495.00. THE SPANGLERS complied with all requirements pursuant the agreement with **DIMATTIA**.

**DIMATTIA** failed to perform the services he agreed to perform and failed to refund THE SPANGLERS money upon her request.

At all times relevant to the allegations herein, **DIMATTIA** was an officer and/or director, and/or controlled the operations of FINANCIAL LINK SERVICES, an active Nevada domestic corporation. Furthermore, **DIMATTIA** entered into an agreement with LAWRENCE **BATEMAN**, JR. (hereinafter "**BATEMAN**") whereby, in return for a substantial fee or commission, **BATEMAN** would sell the services offered by **DIMATTIA** and FLS. **DIMATTIA** provided **BATEMAN** with marketing materials including a PowerPoint type presentation for **BATEMAN**'S to use in

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soliciting prospective clients. **DIMATTIA** also maintained an internet site containing similar information about the services **DIMATTIA** and FLS provided. **DIMATTIA** knew these marketing materials contained false statements and material misrepresentations and concealed or failed to disclose material facts as more fully described herein. **DIMATTIA** intended for **BATEMAN** to use these false statements and material misrepresentations to obtain upfront fees from prospective clients in connection with a mortgage lending transaction.

**DIMATTIA** is liable as a principal to the offense as he either directly committed the act constituting the offense, or aided or abetted in its commission, and whether present or absent; directly or indirectly, counseled, encouraged, hired, commanded, induced or otherwise procured another to commit the offense.

All of which constitutes the crime of THEFT – OBTAINING MONEY IN THE AMOUNT OF \$2500.00 OR MORE BY MATERIAL MISREPRESENTATION, a category "B" felony in violation of NRS 205.0832(1)(c).

# <u>COUNT V</u>

## MORTGAGE LENDING FRAUD CATEGORY "C" FELONY - NRS 205.372

From on or about January 2010 to August 2010, within the County of Clark, State of Nevada, **DIMATTIA**, either by virtue of his own actions or by the actions of his agents or employees, knowingly and unlawfully made one or more false statements or misrepresentations concerning a material fact or knowingly concealed or failed to disclose a material fact, as a participant in a mortgage lending transaction, knowingly and unlawfully received money in connection with a mortgage lending transaction that he knew resulted therefrom, and that he conspired with another person to violate NRS 205.372 including, without limitation, to wit:

At all times relevant to the allegations herein, **DIMATTIA** was an officer and/or director, and/or controlled the operations of FINANCIAL LINK SERVICES, an active Nevada domestic corporation. Furthermore, **DIMATTIA** entered into an agreement with LAWRENCE BATEMAN, JR. (hereinafter "BATEMAN") whereby, in return for a substantial fee or commission, BATEMAN

would sell the services offered by DIMATTIA and FLS. DIMATTIA provided BATEMAN with 1 marketing materials including a PowerPoint type presentation for BATEMAN'S to use in soliciting 2 prospective clients. **DIMATTIA** also maintained an internet site containing similar information 3 about the services DIMATTIA and FLS provided. DIMATTIA knew these marketing materials 4 contained false statements and material misrepresentations and concealed or failed to disclose 5 6 material facts as more fully described herein. **DIMATTIA** intended for BATEMAN to use these false statements and material misrepresentations to obtain upfront fees from prospective clients 7 in connection with a mortgage lending transaction. 8

On or about January 14, 2010, BATEMAN met with LAURA MARSCHECK and KENT 9 MARSCHECK (hereinafter "THE MARSCHECKS") in Clark County, Nevada, pursuant to the 10 aforementioned agreement with **DIMATTIA**. 11 At the meeting BATEMAN, utilizing the aforementioned marketing materials provided by **DIMATTIA**, solicited THE MARSCHECK'S to purchase a service called the "Balance Reduction Program" offered by DIMATTIA and FLS. Based upon information provided by **DIMATTIA**, BATEMAN explained that in return for an upfront fee of \$3,495.00, DIMATTIA would arrange for investor(s) to purchase THE MARSCHECK'S mortgage note at a discount to the their home's current fair market value and then refinance mortgage at a principal amount equal to the fair market value of their home. BATEMAN falsely stated that **DIMATTIA** had investors ready and able to complete such a 18 transaction, that it was likely the holder of THE MARSCHECKS mortgage would likely agree to 19 20 sell the note at a steep discount, that **DIMATTIA** had an impressive record of success in 21 arranging these transactions, and that THE MARSCHECKS would receive a full refund if DIMATTIA was unsuccessful in arranging such a transaction. 22

Moreover, BATEMAN concealed or failed to disclose to THE MARSCHECKS one or more material facts, including, without limitation, that **DIMATTIA** lacked proper licensing or expertise to perform the services he agreed to perform, that **DIMATTIA** failed to provide the services he promised to provide in most cases, that the "Balance Reduction Program" had little, if any, record of success and was essentially unworkable, that the ability to honor the 100% refund

guarantee was conditioned upon **DIMATTIA**'S ability to continue to continue to sell his services by making similar misrepresentations to future clients.

On or about March 2010, THE MARSCHECKS paid the upfront fee of \$3895.00 to **DIMATTIA** and FLS (by cashier's check received by BATEMAN). Thereafter, **DIMATTIA** and FLS failed to perform the services agreed upon and failed to honor the refund guarantee.

**DIMATTIA** is liable as a principal to the offense as he either directly committed the act constituting the offense, or aided or abetted in its commission, and whether present or absent; directly or indirectly, counseled, encouraged, hired, commanded, induced or otherwise procured another to commit the offense.

All of which constitutes the crime of **MORTGAGE LENDING FRAUD** - a category "C" felony in violation of NRS 205.372.

#### COUNT VI

# <u>THEFT – OBTAINING MONEY IN THE AMOUNT OF \$2,500 OR MORE BY A MATERIAL</u> <u>MISREPRESENTATION</u> CATEGORY "B" felony - NRS 205.0832(1)(c)

On or about January 2010 to August 2010, within the County of Clark, State of Nevada, **DIMATTIA**, either by virtue of his own actions or by the actions of his agents or employees, did knowingly, and without lawful authority obtain the personal or intangible property of another person by material misrepresentations with intent to deprive that person of the property, to wit:

On or about January 14, 2010, **DIMATTIA** obtained \$3495.00 from THE MARSCHECKS by knowingly and unlawfully inducing, directing and otherwise causing LAWRENCE BATEMAN, JR. to make one or more material misrepresentations, including, without limitation, that **DIMATTIA** would arrange through his proprietary "Balance Reduction Program" a refinance of their mortgage at its current market value eliminating their negative equity, that he had a high rate of success, and that he would provide a 100% refund of her money if he did not perform the services he agreed to perform.

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In reliance upon these material misrepresentations, THE MARSCHECK'S paid to **DIMATTIA** and FLS the sum of \$3895.00. THE MARSCHECK'S complied with all requirements pursuant the agreement with **DIMATTIA**.

DIMATTIA failed to perform the services he agreed to perform and failed to refund THE MARSCHECK'S money upon her request.

At all times relevant to the allegations herein, **DIMATTIA** was an officer and/or director, and/or controlled the operations of FINANCIAL LINK SERVICES, an active Nevada domestic corporation. Furthermore, **DIMATTIA** entered into an agreement with LAWRENCE BATEMAN, JR. (hereinafter "BATEMAN") whereby, in return for a substantial fee or commission, BATEMAN would sell the services offered by **DIMATTIA** and FLS. **DIMATTIA** provided BATEMAN with marketing materials including a PowerPoint type presentation for BATEMAN'S to use in soliciting prospective clients. **DIMATTIA** also maintained an internet site containing similar information about the services **DIMATTIA** and FLS provided. **DIMATTIA** knew these marketing materials contained false statements and material misrepresentations and concealed or failed to disclose material facts as more fully described herein. **DIMATTIA** intended for BATEMAN to use these false statements and material misrepresentations to obtain upfront fees from prospective clients in connection with a mortgage lending transaction.

**DIMATTIA** is liable as a principal to the offense as he either directly committed the act constituting the offense, or aided or abetted in its commission, and whether present or absent; directly or indirectly, counseled, encouraged, hired; commanded, induced or otherwise procured another to commit the offense.

All of which constitutes the crime of **THEFT – OBTAINING MONEY IN THE AMOUNT OF \$2500.00 OR MORE BY MATERIAL MISREPRESENTATION**, a category "B" felony in violation of NRS 205.0832(1)(c).

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# MORTGAGE LENDING FRAUD CATEGORY "C" FELONY - NRS 205.372

From on or about January 2010 to August 2010, within the County of Clark, State of Nevada, **DIMATTIA**, either by virtue of his own actions or by the actions of his agents or employees, knowingly and unlawfully made one or more false statements or misrepresentations concerning a material fact or knowingly concealed or failed to disclose a material fact, as a participant in a mortgage lending transaction, knowingly and unlawfully received money in connection with a mortgage lending transaction that he knew resulted therefrom, and that he conspired with another person to violate NRS 205.372 including, without limitation, to wit:

At all times relevant to the allegations herein, **DIMATTIA** was an officer and/or director, and/or controlled the operations of FINANCIAL LINK SERVICES, an active Nevada domestic corporation. Furthermore, **DIMATTIA** entered into an agreement with LAWRENCE BATEMAN, JR. (hereinafter "BATEMAN") whereby, in return for a substantial fee or commission, BATEMAN would sell the services offered by **DIMATTIA** and FLS. **DIMATTIA** provided BATEMAN with marketing materials including a PowerPoint type presentation for BATEMAN'S to use in soliciting prospective clients. **DIMATTIA** and FLS provided. **DIMATTIA** knew these marketing materials contained false statements and material misrepresentations and concealed or failed to disclose material facts as more fully described herein. **DIMATTIA** intended for BATEMAN to use these false statements and material misrepresentations to obtain upfront fees from prospective clients in connection with a mortgage lending transaction.

On or about January 29, 2010, BATEMAN met with KAREN HAAS and BILL HAAS (hereinafter "THE HAAS") in Clark County, Nevada, pursuant to the aforementioned agreement with **DIMATTIA**. At the meeting BATEMAN, utilizing the aforementioned marketing materials provided by **DIMATTIA**, solicited THE HAAS'S to purchase a service called the "Balance Reduction Program" offered by **DIMATTIA** and FLS. Based upon information provided by **DIMATTIA**, BATEMAN explained that in return for an upfront fee of \$3,895.00, **DIMATTIA** would arrange for investor(s) to purchase THE HAAS'S mortgage note at a discount to the their home's

1 current fair market value and then refinance mortgage at a principal amount equal to the fair 2 market value of their home. BATEMAN falsely stated that **DIMATTIA** had investors ready and 3 able to complete such a transaction, that it was likely the holder of THE HAAS'S mortgage would 4 likely agree to sell the note at a steep discount, that **DIMATTIA** had an impressive record of 5 success in arranging these transactions, and that THE HAAS'S would receive a full refund if 6 **DIMATTIA** was unsuccessful in arranging such a transaction.

Moreover, **BATEMAN** concealed or failed to disclose to THE HAAS'S one or more material facts, including, without limitation, that **DIMATTIA** lacked proper licensing or expertise to perform the services he agreed to perform, that **DIMATTIA** failed to provide the services he promised to provide in most cases, that the "Balance Reduction Program" had little, if any, record of success and was essentially unworkable, that the ability to honor the 100% refund guarantee was conditioned upon HAAS'S ability to continue to continue to sell his services by making similar misrepresentations to future clients.

On or about January 29, 2010, THE HAAS'S paid the upfront fee of \$3895.00 to **DIMATTIA** and FLS (by cashier's check received by BATEMAN). Thereafter, **DIMATTIA** and FLS failed to perform the services agreed upon and failed to honor the refund guarantee.

**DIMATTIA** is liable as a principal to the offense as he either directly committed the act constituting the offense, or aided or abetted in its commission, and whether present or absent; directly or indirectly, counseled, encouraged, hired, commanded, induced or otherwise procured another to commit the offense.

All of which constitutes the crime of **MORTGAGE LENDING FRAUD** - a category "C" felony in violation of NRS 205.372.

## **COUNT VIII**

# <u>THEFT – OBTAINING MONEY IN THE AMOUNT OF \$2,500 OR MORE BY A MATERIAL</u> <u>MISREPRESENTATION</u> CATEGORY "B" felony - NRS 205.0832(1)(c)

On or about January 29, 2010, within the County of Clark, State of Nevada, DIMATTIA, either by virtue of his own actions or by the actions of his agents or employees, did knowingly,

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and without lawful authonty obtain the personal or intangible property of another person by material misrepresentations with intent to deprive that person of the property, to wit:

On or about January 29, 2010, **DIMATTIA** obtained \$3895.00 from THE HAAS by knowingly and unlawfully inducing, directing and otherwise causing LAWRENCE BATEMAN, JR. to make one or more material misrepresentations, including, without limitation, that **DIMATTIA** would arrange through his proprietary "Balance Reduction Program" a refinance of their mortgage at its current market value eliminating their negative equity, that he had a high rate of success, and that he would provide a 100% refund of her money if he did not perform the services he agreed to perform.

In reliance upon these material misrepresentations, THE HAAS'S paid to **DIMATTIA** and FLS the sum of \$3895.00. THE HAAS'S complied with all requirements pursuant the agreement with **DIMATTIA**.

**DIMATTIA** failed to perform the services he agreed to perform and failed to refund THE HAAS'S money upon her request.

At all times relevant to the allegations herein, **DIMATTIA** was an officer and/or director, and/or controlled the operations of FINANCIAL LINK SERVICES, an active Nevada domestic corporation. Furthermore, **DIMATTIA** entered into an agreement with LAWRENCE BATEMAN, JR. (hereinafter "BATEMAN") whereby, in return for a substantial fee or commission, BATEMAN would sell the services offered by **DIMATTIA** and FLS. **DIMATTIA** provided BATEMAN with marketing materials including a PowerPoint type presentation for BATEMAN'S to use in soliciting prospective clients. **DIMATTIA** also maintained an internet site containing similar information about the services **DIMATTIA** and FLS provided. **DIMATTIA** knew these marketing materials contained false statements and material misrepresentations and concealed or failed to disclose material facts as more fully described herein. **DIMATTIA** intended for BATEMAN to use these

false statements and material misrepresentations to obtain upfront fees from prospective clients in connection with a mortgage lending transaction.

**DIMATTIA** is liable as a principal to the offense as he either directly committed the act constituting the offense, or aided or abetted in its commission, and whether present or absent; directly or indirectly, counseled, encouraged, hired, commanded, induced or otherwise procured another to commit the offense.

All of which constitutes the crime of **THEFT – OBTAINING MONEY IN THE AMOUNT OF \$2500.00 OR MORE BY MATERIAL MISREPRESENTATION**, a category "B" felony in violation of NRS 205.0832(1)(c).

# COUNT IX

# MULTIPLE TRANSACTIONS INVOLVING FRAUD OR DECEIT CATEGORY "B" FELONY - NRS 205.377

From on or about April 2009 to August 2010, within the County of Clark, State of Nevada, **DIMATTIA**, either by virtue of his own actions or by the actions of his agents or employees, knowingly and with the intent to defraud, engage in an act, practice or course of business or employed a device, scheme or artifice which operates or would operate as a fraud or deceit upon a person by means of a false representation or omission of a material fact.

**DIMATTIA'S** actions constitute the crime of multiple transactions involving fraud or deceit in course of enterprise or occupation, a felony in violation of NRS 205.377.

# COUNT X

# PATTERN OF MORTGAGE LENDING FRAUD CATEGORY "B" FELONY - NRS 205.372(2)

From on or about April 2009 to August 2010, within the County of Clark, State of Nevada, **DIMATTIA**, either by virtue of his own actions or by the actions of his conspirators, agents or employees, knowingly and unlawfully committed mortgage lending fraud in two or more mortgage lending transactions having the same or similar purposes, results, accomplices,

victims or methods of commission, or having other interrelated distinguishing characteristics; to wit:

As set forth in Counts I, III, V, and VII, **DIMATTIA** has committed mortgage lending fraud in two or more mortgage lending transactions as set forth more fully in those counts. The purposes, results and methods of commission in all four instances was the same or similar.

Furthermore, **DIMATTIA** is liable as a principal to the offense as he either directly committed the act constituting the offense, or aided or abetted in its commission, and whether present or absent; directly or indirectly, counseled, encouraged, hired, commanded, induced or otherwise procured another to commit the offense.

All of which constitutes the crime of Pattern of Mortgage Lending Fraud - a category "B" felony in violation of NRS 205.372.

#### COUNT XI

#### MORTGAGE LENDING FRAUD CATEGORY "C" FELONY – NRS 205.372

Defendant, **BATEMAN**, on or about November 2009 to August 2010, within the County of Clark, State of Nevada, either by virtue of his own actions or by the actions of his agents or employees, knowingly and unlawfully claimed, demanded, charged, collected or received compensation for the performance of a mortgage lending transaction and failed to complete the paid for mortgage lending transaction or to return the payments, which constitutes mortgage lending fraud, to wit:

On or about November 2009, CHRISTOPHER SPANGLER and CONNIE HOLTMAN-SPANGLER, were referred to **LAWRENCE BATEMAN**, a broker for FLS. The SPANGLERS stated the following. The SPANGLERS were looking to refinance their home but learned about the Balance Reduction Program from **BATEMAN**.

**BATEMAN** went to the Spangler's home and discussed the Balance Reduction Program offered by FLS using a power point presentation. **BATEMAN** made a material misrepresentation when he stated that FLS would be negotiating on their behalf—and if no balance reduction was

obtained, they would be given a 100 percent refund. On or about March 2010, **BATEMAN** collected a check for \$3,895 along with a signed FLS contract from the SPANGLERS.

For the next five months, the SPANGLERS made phone calls to FLS to inquire about their home's status, but their questions were not answered. On or about August 27, 2010, the SPANGLERS sent **DIMATTIA**, both an email and a certified letter, requesting a refund. The SPANGLERS never obtained a balance reduction through FLS and were never issued any refund as agreed to in the contract.

The check received by **BATEMAN** was deposited into a Nevada State Bank account that was solely controlled by **DIMATTIA**. **BATEMAN** in turn received a commission from **DIMATTIA** in the amount of \$1000.00 per each transaction. **BATEMAN** knowingly and unlawfully collected and received compensation for the performance and negotiation of a balance reduction service that was never performed.

Furthermore, **BATEMAN** is liable as a principal to the offense as he either directly committed the act constituting the offense, or aided or abetted in its commission, and whether present or absent; directly or indirectly, counseled, encouraged, hired, commanded, induced or otherwise procured another to commit the offense.

All of which constitutes the crime of **MORTGAGE LENDING FRAUD** - a category "C" felony in violation of NRS 205.372.

# COUNT XII

## <u>THEFT - OBTAINING MONEY IN THE AMOUNT OF \$2,500 OR MORE BY A MATERIAL</u> <u>MISREPRESENTATION</u> CATEGORY "B" felony - NRS 205.0832(1)(c)

On or about March 2010, within the County of Clark, State of Nevada, the Defendant, LAWRENCE BATEMAN, did knowingly, and without lawful authority, obtained real, personal or intangible property or the services of another person by material misrepresentations, which are incorporated by reference from Count Ten as though fully set forth herein, with the intent to

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deprive that person of the property or services, and/or did convert, make an unauthorized transfer of an interest in or without authorization control any property of another person, or use the services or property of another person entrusted to him or placed in his possession for a limited, authorized period of determined or proscribed duration or for a limited use, a felony in violation of NRS 205.0832, to wit:

In reliance upon the material misrepresentations made by **BATEMAN**, either directly or indirectly, and which are more fully set forth in Count Ten and incorporated by reference as though fully set forth herein, the SPANGLERS entrusted the total sum of \$3,895 to **BATEMAN** for the sole purpose of receiving a mortgage lending transaction through the Balance Reduction Program. Alternatively, if the service could not be completed, the SPANGLERS would be entitled to a 100 percent refund, as stated in the contract. Under this false pretense, the SPANGLERS made a cashier's check payable to FLS in the amount of \$3,895. **BATEMAN**, knowingly and with the intent to deprive the SPANGLERS of their money, converted the money without providing the agreed services.

The check was deposited in a Nevada State Bank account solely controlled by Defendant **DIMATTIA.** The SPANGLER'S \$3,895 was used for personal expenses. The SPANGLERS paid **BATEMAN** believing they would receive loan modification services through the Balance Reduction Program or a complete refund. The services were not provided and the SPANGLERS were never paid back any of their money. **BATEMAN** mislead consumers because he does not nor does his agent have the ability to purchase notes and reduce the principal balance and he did not refund their money when no solution was reached.

Furthermore, **BATEMAN** is liable as a principal to the offense as he either directly committed the act constituting the offense, or aided or abetted in its commission, and whether present or absent; directly or indirectly, counseled, encouraged, hired, commanded, induced or otherwise procured another to commit the offense.

**BATEMAN** actions constitute the crime of **THEFT – OBTAINING IN THE AMOUNT OF \$2500.00 OR MORE BY MATERIAL MISREPRESENTATION**, a felony in violation of NRS 205.0832.

## COUNT XIII

# MORTGAGE LENDING FRAUD CATEGORY "C" FELONY – NRS 205.372

Defendant, **BATEMAN**, on or about November 2009 to August 2010, within the County of Clark, State of Nevada, either by virtue of his own actions or by the actions of his agents or employees, knowingly and unlawfully claimed, demanded, charged, collected or received compensation for the performance of a mortgage lending transaction and failed to complete the paid for mortgage lending transaction or to return the payments, which constitutes mortgage lending fraud, to wit:

On or about November 2009, LAURA MARSCHECK and KENT MARSCHECK were referred to LAWRENCE BATEMAN, a broker for FLS. The MARSCHECK'S stated the following. The MARSCHECK'S were looking to refinance their home but learned about the Balance Reduction Program from BATEMAN.

**BATEMAN** went to the MARSCHECK'S's home and discussed the Balance Reduction Program offered by FLS using a power point presentation. **BATEMAN** made a material misrepresentation when he stated that FLS would be negotiating on their behalf—and if no balance reduction was obtained, they would be given a 100 percent refund. On or about March 2010, **BATEMAN** collected a check for \$3,895 along with a signed FLS contract from the SPANGLERS.

For the next eight months, the MARSCHECK'S made phone calls to FLS to inquire about their home's status, but their questions were not answered. On or about August, 2010, the MARSCHECK'S sent **DIMATTIA**, both an email and a certified letter, requesting a refund. The MARSCHECK'S never obtained a balance reduction through FLS and were never issued any refund as agreed to in the contract.

The check received by **BATEMAN** was deposited into a Nevada State Bank account that was solely controlled by **DIMATTIA**. **BATEMAN** in turn received a commission from **DIMATTIA** in the amount of \$1000.00 per each transaction. **BATEMAN** knowingly and unlawfully collected and received compensation for the performance and negotiation of a balance reduction service that was never performed.

Furthermore, **BATEMAN** is liable as a principal to the offense as he either directly committed the act constituting the offense, or aided or abetted in its commission, and whether present or absent; directly or indirectly, counseled, encouraged, hired, commanded, induced or otherwise procured another to commit the offense.

All of which constitutes the crime of **MORTGAGE LENDING FRAUD** - a category "C" felony in violation of NRS 205.372.

#### COUNT XIV

# <u>THEFT – OBTAINING MONEY IN THE AMOUNT OF \$2,500 OR MORE BY A MATERIAL</u> <u>MISREPRESENTATION</u> CATEGORY "B" felony - NRS 205.0832(1)(c)

On or about January 2010, within the County of Clark, State of Nevada, the Defendant, LAWRENCE BATEMAN, did knowingly, and without lawful authority, obtained real, personal or intangible property or the services of another person by material misrepresentations, which are incorporated by reference from Count Thirteen as though fully set forth herein, with the intent to deprive that person of the property or services, and/or did convert, make an unauthorized transfer of an interest in or without authorization control any property of another person, or use the services or property of another person entrusted to him or placed in his possession for a limited, authorized period of determined or proscribed duration or for a limited use, a felony in violation of NRS 205.0832, to wit:

In reliance upon the material misrepresentations made by **BATEMAN**, either directly or indirectly, and which are more fully set forth in Count Thirteen and incorporated by reference as though fully set forth herein, the MARSCHECK'S entrusted the total sum of \$3,895 to

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**BATEMAN** for the sole purpose of receiving a mortgage lending transaction through the Balance Reduction Program. Alternatively, if the service could not be completed, the MARSCHECKS would be entitled to a 100 percent refund, as stated in the contract. Under this false pretense, the SPANGLERS made a cashier's check payable to FLS in the amount of \$3,895. **BATEMAN**, knowingly and with the intent to deprive the MARSCHECKS of their money, converted the money without providing the agreed services.

The check was deposited in a Nevada State Bank account solely controlled by Defendant **DIMATTIA.** The MARSCHECKS \$3,895.00 was used for personal expenses. The MARSCHECKS paid BATEMAN believing they would receive loan modification services through the Balance Reduction Program or a complete refund. The services were not provided and the MARSCHECKS were never paid back any of their money. **BATEMAN** mislead consumers because he does not nor does his agent have the ability to purchase notes and reduce the principal balance and he did not refund their money when no solution was reached.

Furthermore, **BATEMAN** is liable as a principal to the offense as he either directly committed the act constituting the offense, or aided or abetted in its commission, and whether present or absent; directly or indirectly, counseled, encouraged, hired, commanded, induced or otherwise procured another to commit the offense.

**BATEMAN** actions constitute the crime of **THEFT – OBTAINING IN THE AMOUNT OF \$2500.00 OR MORE BY MATERIAL MISREPRESENTATION,** a felony in violation of NRS 205.0832.

## COUNT XV

# MORTGAGE LENDING FRAUD CATEGORY "C" FELONY – NRS 205.372

Defendant, **BATEMAN**, on or about November 2009 to August 2010, within the County of Clark, State of Nevada, either by virtue of his own actions or by the actions of his agents or employees, knowingly and unlawfully claimed, demanded, charged, collected or received compensation for the performance of a mortgage lending transaction and failed to complete the

paid for mortgage lending transaction or to return the payments, which constitutes mortgage lending fraud, to wit:

On or about November 2009, KAREN AND BILL HAAS were referred to LAWRENCE **BATEMAN**, a broker for FLS. The HASS' stated the following. The HASS' were looking to refinance their home but learned about the Balance Reduction Program from **BATEMAN**.

**BATEMAN** went to the HASS' home and discussed the Balance Reduction Program offered by FLS using a power point presentation. **BATEMAN** made a material misrepresentation when he stated that FLS would be negotiating on their behalf—and if no balance reduction was obtained, they would be given a 100 percent refund. On or about January 2010, **BATEMAN** collected a check for \$3,895 along with a signed FLS contract from the HASS'.

For the next several months, the HASS' made phone calls to FLS to inquire about their home's status, but their questions were not answered. On or about August, 2010, the HASS' contacted **DIMATTIA** requesting a refund. The HASS' never obtained a balance reduction through FLS and were never issued any refund as agreed to in the contract.

The check received by **BATEMAN** was deposited into a Nevada State Bank account that was solely controlled by **DIMATTIA**. **BATEMAN** in turn received monetary compensation for each transaction from **DIMATTIA**. **BATEMAN** knowingly and unlawfully collected and received compensation for the performance and negotiation of a balance reduction service that was never performed.

Furthermore, **BATEMAN** is liable as a principal to the offense as he either directly committed the act constituting the offense, or aided or abetted in its commission, and whether present or absent; directly or indirectly, counseled, encouraged, hired, commanded, induced or otherwise procured another to commit the offense.

All of which constitutes the crime of **MORTGAGE LENDING FRAUD** - a category "C" felony in violation of NRS 205.372.

# <u>THEFT – OBTAINING MONEY IN THE AMOUNT OF \$2,500 OR MORE BY A MATERIAL</u> <u>MISREPRESENTATION</u> CATEGORY "B" felony - NRS 205.0832(1)(c)

On or about January 2010, within the County of Clark, State of Nevada, the Defendant, **LAWRENCE BATEMAN**, did knowingly, and without lawful authority, obtained real, personal or intangible property or the services of another person by material misrepresentations, which are incorporated by reference from Count Fifteen as though fully set forth herein, with the intent to deprive that person of the property or services, and/or did convert, make an unauthorized transfer of an interest in or without authorization control any property of another person, or use the services or property of another person entrusted to him or placed in his possession for a limited, authorized period of determined or proscribed duration or for a limited use, a felony in violation of NRS 205.0832, to wit:

In reliance upon the material misrepresentations made by **BATEMAN**, either directly or indirectly, and which are more fully set forth in Count Fifteen and incorporated by reference as though fully set forth herein, the HASS'S entrusted the total sum of \$3,895 to **BATEMAN** for the sole purpose of receiving a mortgage lending transaction through the Balance Reduction Program. Alternatively, if the service could not be completed, the HASS'S would be entitled to a 100 percent refund, as stated in the contract. Under this false pretense, the HASS' made a cashier's check payable to FLS in the amount of \$3,895. **BATEMAN**, knowingly and with the intent to deprive the HASS' of their money, converted the money without providing the agreed services.

The check was deposited in a Nevada State Bank account solely controlled by Defendant **DIMATTIA.** The HASS'S \$3,895 was used for personal expenses. The HASS'S paid **BATEMAN** believing they would receive loan modification services through the Balance Reduction Program or a complete refund. The services were not provided and the HASS were never paid back any

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of their money. **BATEMAN** mislead consumers because he does not nor does his agent have the ability to purchase notes and reduce the principal balance and he did not refund their money when no solution was reached.

Furthermore, **BATEMAN** is liable as a principal to the offense as he either directly committed the act constituting the offense, or aided or abetted in its commission, and whether present or absent; directly or indirectly, counseled, encouraged, hired, commanded, induced or otherwise procured another to commit the offense.

**BATEMAN** actions constitute the crime of **THEFT – OBTAINING IN THE AMOUNT OF \$2500.00 OR MORE BY MATERIAL MISREPRESENTATION**, a felony in violation of NRS 205.0832.

# COUNT XVII

# MULTIPLE TRANSACTIONS INVOLVING FRAUD OR DECEIT CATEGORY "B" FELONY - NRS 205.377

From on or about April 2009 to August 2010, within the County of Clark, State of Nevada, **BATEMAN**, either by virtue of his own actions or by the actions of his agents or employees, knowingly and with the intent to defraud, engage in an act, practice or course of business or employed a device, scheme or artifice which operates or would operate as a fraud or deceit upon a person by means of a false representation or omission of a material fact.

**BATEMAN'S** actions constitute the crime of multiple transactions involving fraud or deceit in course of enterprise or occupation, a felony in violation of NRS 205.377.

# COUNT XVIII

# PATTERN OF MORTGAGE LENDING FRAUD CATEGORY "B" FELONY - NRS 205.372(2)

From on or about April 2009 to August 2010, within the County of Clark, State of Nevada, **BATEMAN**, either by virtue of his own actions or by the actions of his conspirators, agents or employees, knowingly and unlawfully committed mortgage lending fraud in two or more mortgage lending transactions having the same or similar purposes, results, accomplices,

victims or methods of commission, or having other interrelated distinguishing characteristics; to wit:

As set forth in Counts XI, XIII, and XV BATEMAN has committed mortgage lending fraud in two or more mortgage lending transactions as set forth more fully in those counts. The purposes, results and methods of commission in all four instances was the same or similar.

Furthermore, **BATEMAN** is liable as a principal to the offense as he either directly committed the act constituting the offense, or aided or abetted in its commission, and whether present or absent; directly or indirectly, counseled, encouraged, hired, commanded, induced or otherwise procured another to commit the offense.

All of which constitutes the crime of Pattern of Mortgage Lending Fraud - a category "B" felony in violation of NRS 205.372.

SUBMITTED BY

Attorney General

CATHERINE CORTEZ MASTO

By:

JÈEÀREY Deputy Attorney General Nevada Bar Number 005491 isegal@ag.nv.gov GARY J. MATHEWS **Deputy Attorney General** Nevada Bar Number 12255 Office of the Attorney General **Criminal Justice Division** 555 East Washington Ave., Ste. 3900 Las Vegas, Nevada 89101 (702) 486-3130 - office (702) 486-3768 - fax gmathews@ag.nv.gov Attorneys for the State of Nevada

ENDORSEMENT: A True Bill

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Foreperson, Clark County Grand Jury

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