



# Department of Justice

**United States Attorney Jill Westmoreland Rose  
Western District of North Carolina**

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**CHARLOTTE MAN SENTENCED MORE THAN 7.5 YEARS IN CONNECTION WITH  
BANK FRAUD AND IDENTITY THEFT SCHEME**

CHARLOTTE, N.C. –Christopher Bryan Roach, 34, of Charlotte, was sentenced today to 95 months in prison for his involvement in a bank fraud and identity theft scheme, announced Jill Westmoreland Rose, U.S. Attorney for the Western District of North Carolina. Chief U.S. District Judge Robert J. Conrad, Jr. also sentenced Roach to two years of supervised release.

According to today's sentencing hearing and documents filed in the case, from December 2010 to January 2017, Roach and others used the stolen social security numbers and dates of birth of identity theft victims to take over the victims' already existing credit card accounts and to open new accounts at stores such as Best Buy and Sam's Club. Roach and others then used the accounts to purchase items, which resulted in losses in excess of \$263,000. According to the indictment, Roach obtained some of the identity theft victims' information by buying that information from an employee of a medical practice.

Roach pleaded guilty in January 2017 to one count of aggravated identity theft and one count of conspiracy to commit bank fraud. According to statements made at today's hearing, Roach continued to engage in fraudulent activity, including identity theft, after he entered his guilty plea by providing a co-conspirator with the stolen personal information of an identity theft victim in order to buy iPhones.

Roach will be ordered to report to the Federal Bureau of Prisons upon designation of a federal facility. All federal sentences are served without the possibility of parole.

In a related case, co-defendant Kendell Bowden pleaded guilty on March 28, 2017, to one count of conspiracy to commit bank fraud and two counts of aggravated identity theft and is awaiting sentencing.

In making today's announcement, U.S. Attorney Rose thanked the U.S. Postal Inspection Service in Charlotte, the United States Secret Service's Charlotte Field Office, and the Charlotte Mecklenburg Police Department, and noted that the case is the result of the Charlotte Financial Crimes Task Force (CFCTF). The task force was formed in early 2016 by the U.S. Postal Inspection Service and currently comprises over 25 local, state and federal law enforcement

agencies located in the Western District of North Carolina. The goal of the taskforce is to focus on the identification and development of financial fraud investigations in the Charlotte area. Based on crime trends in the area, the task force began to focus its efforts on violent offenders with lengthy criminal histories who are committing fraud.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Kimlani Ford, of the U.S. Attorney's Office in Charlotte, prosecuted the case.

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