



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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## FLORIDA MAN SENTENCED TO 37 MONTHS IN FEDERAL PRISON FOR \$433,000 FRAUD SCHEME

WASHINGTON, DC - Christy Romero, Special Inspector General for the Troubled Asset Relief Program (SIGTARP); and Melinda Haag, United States Attorney for the Northern District of California; and David J. Johnson, Special Agent in Charge of the Federal Bureau of Investigation San Francisco Field Office today announced that Leigh Farrington Fiske, 51, of Tampa, Fla., was sentenced on December 10, 2014, to 37 months in federal prison and ordered to pay restitution for a fraud scheme he perpetrated against small business owners and others seeking lines of credit around the nation.

Fiske was indicted by a federal grand jury and charged on November 21, 2013, on five counts of wire fraud and one count of conspiracy. On June 11, 2014, Fiske pleaded guilty to all of the wire fraud counts. Pursuant to the plea agreement, the government dismissed the conspiracy charge at sentencing.

According to the plea agreement, Fiske and his partner, Michael Ramdat, operated a business referred to as "Corporate Funding Solutions." The purported purpose of this business was to obtain credit lines for customers in exchange for a fee. Fiske's role was to solicit customers, which he generally did over the Internet and by word of mouth. In reality, neither Fiske nor Ramdat ever intended to provide any services to their customers. Instead, Fiske and Ramdat accepted approximately \$433,000 from approximately 30 victims and never helped any of these victims obtain credit. Fiske admitted that he kept \$102,000 of these payments for himself and that he passed the remainder on to Ramdat.

The sentence was handed down by The Honorable Edward M. Chen, United States District Court Judge. Judge Chen also sentenced the defendant to a three-year period of supervised release and restitution. Fiske will begin serving the sentence on March 31, 2015. Ramdat is scheduled to be sentenced on December 17, 2014, before Judge Chen.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Benjamin Kingsley is prosecuting the case with the assistance of Mary Mallory and Jessica Meegan. The prosecution is the result of an investigation by SIGTARP and the FBI.

This prosecution was brought in coordination with President Barack Obama's Financial Fraud Enforcement Task Force, which was established to wage an aggressive and coordinated effort to investigate and prosecute financial crimes. SIGTARP is a member of the task force. To learn more about the President's Financial Fraud Enforcement Task Force, please visit [www.StopFraud.gov](http://www.StopFraud.gov).

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