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**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
DISTRICT OF OREGON
EUGENE DIVISION**

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

6:18-CR- 67-AA

v.

INDICTMENT

RODNEY PAUL GREGORY,

18 U.S.C. §§ 1343 and 1957

Defendant.

Forfeiture Allegation

THE GRAND JURY CHARGES:

COUNTS 1 THROUGH 3

**(Wire Fraud)
(18 U.S.C. § 1343)**

1. Beginning no later than May 2017 and continuing through the present, in the District of Oregon and elsewhere, defendant **RODNEY PAUL GREGORY** devised and intended to devise a scheme and artifice to defraud and to obtain monies by means of false and fraudulent pretenses, representations, and promises, and during such period stated above, executed and attempted to execute such scheme and artifice and, in so doing, transmitted and caused to be transmitted in interstate and foreign commerce, by means of wire communications, certain electronic sounds, signals and writings, such scheme and artifice and wire communications being more fully and specifically set forth below.

MANNER AND MEANS AND SCHEME TO DEFRAUD

2. **GREGORY** used the following manner and means to carry out the material scheme and artifice to defraud:

3. Unknown co-conspirators would target individuals through online dating websites with various romance scams. The unknown co-conspirators would impersonate military or civilian personnel working overseas, feigning the need for funds to help with foreign taxes, travel costs, or other false representations. Based on the co-conspirators false statements and concealments, the individuals parted with their money.

4. **GREGORY** incorporated companies and opened numerous business bank accounts in order to receive wires and other deposits from victims of the online romance scams.

5. **GREGORY** would provide the banks false information regarding the businesses, including the businesses' primary business activity.

6. Victims, following the directions of the unknown co-conspirators, would wire or otherwise deposit money to the accounts set up by **GREGORY**.

7. Upon receipt of the money into the bank account, **GREGORY** would wire the money to overseas bank accounts.

8. On May 11, 2017, federal agents interviewed **GREGORY** regarding the actions listed above. **GREGORY** claimed that he would receive instructions regarding setting up bank accounts and companies from a woman he met through an online dating website.

9. Agents informed **GREGORY** that the thousands of dollars he was receiving and transferring out of the country were proceeds of fraud. **GREGORY** claimed he was not aware that the funds wired to the accounts were proceeds of fraud, and that he did the work as a result of promises of love from the woman he met on the online dating website.

10. Agents informed **GREGORY** that his actions could constitute wire fraud and money laundering. **GREGORY** acknowledged that he understood.

11. Following the May 11, 2017 interview, **GREGORY** continued to open new business bank accounts using fraudulent information.

12. Following the May 11, 2017 interview, **GREGORY** continued to receive wire transfers from victims of fraud into these and other business bank accounts he established, and **GREGORY** continued to wire money from the business bank accounts to international bank accounts, including accounts in China.

13. Between May 11, 2017 and the end of August 2017, **GREGORY** either transferred or withdrew over \$200,000.

WIRE COMMUNICATIONS

14. On or about the dates set forth below in each Count, in the District of Oregon and elsewhere, **GREGORY**, for purposes of attempting to execute and executing the above-described material scheme and artifice to defraud and for obtaining money and property by means of materially false and fraudulent pretenses, representations, promises, and omissions of material facts, knowingly caused the following communications via interstate wire:

COUNT	DATE	DESCRIPTION OF EXECUTION
1	May 26, 2017	A \$20,000 transfer via interstate wire from victim A.K. to GREGORY'S account at Banner Bank.
2	June 29, 2017	A \$6,000 transfer via interstate wire from victim G.W. to GREGORY'S account at Red Canoe Credit Union.
3	August 17, 2017	A \$30,000 transfer via interstate wire from victim R.S. to GREGORY'S account at Maps Credit Union.

All in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1343.

COUNT 4**(Money Laundering)
(18 U.S.C. § 1957)**

15. Paragraphs 1 through 14 are re-alleged and incorporated herein.

16. As set forth below, in the District of Oregon and elsewhere, defendant **RODNEY PAUL GREGORY** knowingly engaged in and attempted to engage in a monetary transaction, by, through, and to a financial institution, in and affecting interstate commerce, in criminally derived property that was of a value greater than \$10,000 and was derived from a specified unlawful activity (wire fraud):

COUNT	MONETARY TRANSACTION
4	On or about May 31, 2017, GREGORY caused \$78,000 to be transferred from his Banner Bank account to an account at the Agricultural Bank of China.

In violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1957.

FORFEITURE ALLEGATION

Upon conviction of the offenses alleged in Counts 1 through 4 of this indictment, **RODNEY PAUL GREGORY** shall forfeit to the United States, pursuant to Title 18, United States Code, Sections 981(a)(1)(C), 982(a)(2), and Title 28, United States Code, Section 2461(c), any property, real or personal, which constitutes or is derived from proceeds traceable to the violations.

If any of the above-described forfeitable property, as a result of any act or omission of **GREGORY**:

- (a) cannot be located upon the exercise of due diligence;
- (b) has been transferred or sold to, or deposited with, a third party;
- (c) has been placed beyond the jurisdiction of the court;

- (d) has been substantially diminished in value; or
- (e) has been commingled with other property which cannot be divided without

difficulty;

it is the intent of the United States, pursuant to Title 21, United States Code, Section 853(p) as incorporated by Title 18, United States Code, Section 982(b), to seek forfeiture of any other property of **GREGORY** up to the value of the forfeitable property described above.

Dated this 21 day of February 2018.


A TRUE BILL.



OFFICATING FOREPERSON

Presented by:

BILLY J. WILLIAMS
United States Attorney

for 
GAVIN W. BRUCE
Assistant United States Attorney