

GREGORY D. TOTTEN District Attorney

NEWS RELEASE

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20-044

Former County Resident Charged with Tax Evasion

VENTURA, California – District Attorney Gregory D. Totten announced today the filing of criminal charges against Neil L. Camenker (DOB 5/12/58), of Phoenix, Arizona. Camenker is charged with 12 felony violations of tax evasion. The filing of criminal charges is the result of a joint investigation conducted by the California Franchise Tax Board and the District Attorney's Office Bureau of Investigation.

Camenker, a former resident of Camarillo and Newbury Park, was the sole member of two Ventura County based LLCs: Transaction Data Services and Strategic Risk Services. One of Camenker's business practices was to send letters to homeowners across the country that appeared to be authentic government documents to induce unwitting consumers to purchase copies of their property deeds; something a consumer can obtain for only a few dollars from their local recorder's office. From 2011 to 2015, the Attorneys General of Indiana, Iowa and Washington sued Camenker, and obtained consent decrees prohibiting him from engaging in this scheme in those states. Based on the investigation in this case, from 2013 to 2016, Camenker allegedly failed to report approximately \$7.3 million in personal income, resulting in a substantial unpaid tax liability. It is also alleged Camenker failed to report that Transaction Data Services and Strategic Risk Services generated more than \$20.2 and \$2.1 million in income from 2013 to 2016, respectively.

The case is set for an early disposition conference on August 6, 2020, at 1:30 p.m. in courtroom 12 of the Ventura County Superior Court. If convicted of all charges, Camenker faces a maximum sentence of 10 years 8 months in prison.

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The Ventura County District Attorney's Office is the public prosecutor for the county's 850,000 residents. The office employs approximately 280 employees including attorneys, investigators, victim advocates, and other professional support staff who strive to seek justice, ensure public safety, and protect the rights of crime victims. Follow the Ventura County District Attorney's Office on Twitter @VenturaDAOffice