



# UNITED STATES ATTORNEY'S OFFICE EASTERN DISTRICT OF VIRGINIA

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

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## **IDENTITY THEIF SENTENCED TO MORE THAN TEN YEARS IN MULTI-STATE SCHEME**

**(Richmond, VA)** – Carroll Paul Bacon, age 24, of Baltimore, Maryland, was sentenced today for his involvement in an identity theft scheme that took place in Virginia, Maryland and North Carolina. Bacon was sentenced to 82 months for conspiracy to commit bank fraud, and to a consecutive term of 48 months for two counts of aggravated identity theft. He was also ordered to pay restitution of \$350,846.08 to seven different victims. The sentence was announced by Chuck Rosenberg, United States Attorney for the Eastern District of Virginia.

According to court documents, Bacon was arrested on July 14, 2006, in Richmond, Virginia, after attempting to purchase an Audi SUV for \$79,195.00 using the name and credit of a victim whose identity Bacon had stolen. Bacon arranged for the purchase over the telephone with a Richmond car dealership using a stolen identity. Dealership employees suspected fraud and contacted law enforcement officers. When Bacon arrived to pick up the vehicle, he was arrested by members of the Metro-Richmond Identity Theft Task Force, including Secret Service agents and officers from the Henrico County Police Department. It was later learned that Bacon had purchased a 2005 Maserati and a 2006 Infiniti SUV within the 10 days prior to his arrest in Richmond. Both cars were purchased from dealerships using stolen identities and have since been recovered by law enforcement. Bacon eventually pled guilty to the charges he was sentenced on today. As part of his plea, Bacon admitted to being involved in an identity theft scheme since November 2005. He further admitted that he used stolen identities to purchase luxury vehicles and obtain credit from retailers. While in Richmond, Bacon went to two different large retailers and purchased electronics with stolen identities that he intended to sell on the street.

The sentence was imposed one day after U.S. Attorney Rosenberg and Virginia Attorney General Bob McDonnell held a press conference to announce that 51 defendants have been charged for committing identity theft and related crimes. Arrests were made by members of the

Task Force. Twenty-six of the defendants were charged with aggravated identity theft. That statute carries a mandatory penalty of two years for each count of conviction.

U.S. Attorney Rosenberg stated, “This sentence – like the recent indictment of 51 individuals on identity theft charges - is illustrative of the commitment that we have in prosecuting and deterring identity theft.”

The Task Force was formed in the fall of 2004 and is housed at the offices of the United States Postal Inspection Service, located in Henrico County. Full-time member agencies include: the Postal Inspection Service; United States Secret Service; Federal Bureau of Investigation; U.S. Treasury Inspector General, Office of Investigations; Henrico County Police Department; Richmond Police Department; and Chesterfield Police Department. Prosecutions for the Task Force are handled by the United States Attorney’s Office and the Office of the Attorney General for the Commonwealth of Virginia.

For more information on the Task Force, including assistance for victims of identity theft, visit: [www.richmondIDtheft.com](http://www.richmondIDtheft.com). The case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Laura Colombell Marshall.

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