

Feds allege Bergen County man defrauded foreign country, bought property, luxury cars

Richard Khavkine/The Star-Ledger By Richard Khavkine/The Star-Ledger Email the author \mid Follow on Twitter

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NEWARK — A Franklin Lakes man allegedly conned representatives of a foreign nation into signing a lucrative contract with a sham firm he had set up and then used the money to buy property worth a total of \$1.5 million, a Rolls-Royce and other luxury goods, the office of U.S. Attorney Paul Fishman said in a press release today.

Bobby Boye, 50, was arrested today at Newark Liberty International Airport on one count of wire fraud conspiracy and six counts of wire fraud after returning from a trip abroad, Fishman's office said.

According to the complaint, Boye, also known as Bobby Ajiboye and Bobby Aji-Boye, was working as a legal adviser to the unnamed nation when he deceived the representatives in 2012 into awarding a



The office of U.S. Attorney Paul J. Fishman, pictured above, announced the arrest today of a Franklin Lakes man on wire fraud charges. Bobby Boye, 50, is alleged to have defrauded a foreign country of about \$3.5 million.

Robert Sciarrino/The Star-Ledger

\$3.5 million legal and tax-accounting advice contract to a New York City firm, Fishman's office said. Unbekownst to the country's representatives, Boye had only recently founded the firm, Opus & Best Services LLC.

Bid documents submitted by Opus & Best, and allegedly authored by Boye and an unnamed co-conspirator, misrepresented several aspects about the firm, including that it was founded in 1985. The documents also included a bogus list of Opus & Best employees, described as "first class talent of attorneys, accountants and economists," and a false reference to prior consulting work for another country, the complaint says.

Opus & Best was awarded the contract in June 2012. Under its terms, Boye was a project coordinator acting on behalf of the country, giving him authority to receive and approve invoices for payment.

Starting that June and until December 2012, the country wired about \$3.5 million to Opus & Best's checking account.

Authorities allege that Boye used those funds to buy property in Ramsey, North Haledon, Oakland and Elizabeth; a new Bentley, a late model Rolls Royce and a new Range Rover; and two designer watches.

Boye is scheduled to make his initial appearance Friday in Newark federal court.

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The Record



NORTHJERSEY.COM: NEWS

Franklin Lakes man accused of scheme to defraud foreign nation of more than \$3.5M

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ASSOCIATED PRESS

A Franklin Lakes man was arrested Thursday on charges of orchestrating a scheme to defraud a foreign nation of more than \$3.5 million, U.S. Attorney Paul J. Fishman announced.

Bobby Boye, 50, has been charged with a single count of wire fraud conspiracy and six counts of wire fraud. He was arrested on Thursday at Newark Liberty International Airport after re-entering the United States from a trip aboard, federal authorities said.

In February 2012 – after working for two years as an international petroleum legal advisor for the foreign nation, which has not been identified in the complaint – Boye served on a three-member committee responsible for evaluating bids for a multi-million dollar contract to provide legal and tax accounting advice for that country, the U.S. Attorney's Office said.

Boye then deceived that country's representatives into awarding the contract to Opus & Best Services, LLC, a sham New York law and accounting firm that was controlled by him, authorities said.

A bid submitted by Opus & Best Services contained numerous misrepresentations, including a reference to prior consulting work performed by the company for another country that never occurred, authorities said.

The contract awarded to Opus & Best Services named Boye as one of two project coordinators for the country who had the authority to receive and approve invoices for payment, authorities said.

The country wired more than \$3.5 million to the phony company. Boye then used the money to buy four properties in Ramsey, North Haledon, Oakland and Elizabeth; three luxury vehicles including a \$215,000 Rolls Royce; and two designer watches that totaled \$20,000.

Boye, who is scheduled to make a first appearance before U.S. Magistrate Judge Mark Falk today in federal court in Newark, faces up to 20 years in prison for each count and a \$250,000 fine.

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Criminal Justice

NJ man is accused of conning foreign nation into paying \$3.5M to sham law firm

Posted Jun 20, 2014 7:47 AM CDT By <u>Debra Cassens Weiss</u>

A New Jersey man was arrested on Thursday and charged with conning a foreign nation into paying \$3.5 million to a phony law and accounting firm called Opus & Best Services.

Bobby Boye, 50, of Franklin Lakes, was arrested as he arrived at Newark International Airport from a trip abroad, report the Newark Star-Ledger, the Associated Press, the Cliff View Pilot and a press release. Boye is also known as Bobby Ajiboye and Bobby Aji-Boye, the press release says. He is charged with one count of wire fraud conspiracy and six counts of wire fraud.

According to the press release, Boye worked as an international legal adviser to the foreign nation, referred to in the criminal complaint as "Country A."

Boye is accused of submitting phony bid documents claiming that Opus & Best was formed in 1985 and listing phony employees, whom he described as a "first class talent of attorneys, accountants and economists."

Country A wired more than \$3.5 million to the sham firm's checking account in 2012, according to the complaint. Boye allegedly used the money to buy four New Jersey properties for more than \$1.5 million in cash, three luxury cars (a Bentley, Range Rover and Rolls Royce), and two designer watches.

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