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May 5, 2010

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**Indicted Mortgage Broker Charged in New Scam to Bilk Investors**

(Houston, Tx) Mortgage broker Kevin Lavelle Kent, indicted in an alleged \$1.4 million theft and money laundering scheme, has now been charged with stealing nearly \$500,000 more in a later financial scam, the Harris County District Attorney's Office announced today.

The District Attorney's Office indicted Kent Thursday on charges of theft and money laundering in a scheme that began in 2003 and ran through 2008. Kent used his Orlando Mortgage firm to defraud investors by falsely stating that he could obtain financing for them to purchase a multi-million-dollar business. Kent is alleged to have requested money from them that would be placed in an escrow account to show "good faith". Over a five year period, Kent collected approximately \$1.4 million that he spent instead of depositing the funds in the promised escrow account.

When Kent was arrested last month, further evidence was revealed that led to a new charge. It alleges that as owner of OMC Capital, he opened a business account in June 2009 and began offering to obtain financing for investors and commercial businesses. He provided potential buyers with fabricated documents and told them he would need deposits in each case that would be maintained in an escrow account. Kent is accused of defrauding these investors of almost half a million dollars until his arrest on March 4 of this year.

Authorities are attempting to identify other complainants that may have done business with Kent. Anyone who believes they may have been victimized is asked to contact the Financial Crimes Division of the Harris County District Attorney's Office at 713 755-8333. (END)