

PRESS RELEASE

Luzerne County Man Charged With Pandemic Fraud Offenses

Wednesday, April 1, 2026

For Immediate Release

U.S. Attorney's Office, Middle District of Pennsylvania

SCRANTON- The United States Attorney's Office for the Middle District of Pennsylvania announced that George Moses, age 45, of Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania, was indicted yesterday by a federal grand jury on wire fraud, mail fraud, and bank fraud charges.

According to United States Attorney Brian D. Miller, the indictment alleges that Moses submitted applications for unemployment compensation, pandemic unemployment compensation, economic injury disaster loan, and paycheck protection program loan benefits falsely representing that he had qualifying income from the operation of multiple businesses in 2019 and 2020. Based upon the false representations, Moses is alleged to have received benefits totaling \$134,083.88. The indictment further alleges that during the same time-period, Moses orchestrated a bank fraud scheme, writing checks to himself from financial institution accounts which had been closed or did not maintain sufficient funds, and then depositing those checks, causing total losses of approximately \$11,656.90 to financial institutions.

The U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) Office of Inspector General (OIG), the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), and the Pennsylvania Department of Labor & industry (PA DLI) investigated the case. Assistant United States Attorney Sarah R. Lloyd is prosecuting the case.

The Fraud Section leads the Criminal Division's efforts to combat fraud related to the COVID19 pandemic, particularly with respect to the resources made available by Congress through the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act for programs including the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP), the Economic Injury Disaster Loan (EIDL) program, and the Provider Relief Fund.

The maximum penalty under federal law for these offenses is 30 years of imprisonment, a term of supervised release following imprisonment, and a fine. A sentence following the finding of guilt is imposed by the Judge after consideration of the applicable federal sentencing statutes and the Federal Sentencing Guidelines.

Indictments and Criminal Informations are only allegations. All persons charged are presumed to be innocent unless and until found guilty in court.

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