FILED RECEIVED ENTERED 1 JASON M. FRIERSON SERVED ON COUNSEL/PARTIES OF RECORD United States Attorney Nevada Bar No. 7709 DANIEL R. SCHIESS MAR 2 9 2023 **Assistant United States Attorney** Nevada Bar No. 5483 CLERK US DISTRICT COURT 4 ERIC C. SCHMALE DISTRICT OF NEVADA **Assistant United States Attorney** BY: DEPUTY 501 Las Vegas Blvd. South, Ste. 1100 Las Vegas, Nevada 89101 Phone: 702-388-6336 Email: dan.schiess@usdoj.gov 7 Email: eric.schmale@usdoi.gov 8 Attorneys for the United States of America 9 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT DISTRICT OF NEVADA 10 UNITED STATES OF AMERICA. CRIMINAL INDICTMENT 11 Case No. 2:23-cr-0066-JAD - DJA Plaintiff, 12 v. 13 **VIOLATIONS:** MATTHEW WADE BEASLEY. 14 Wire Fraud, 18 U.S.C. § 1343 Defendant. (Counts One through Five) 15 Money Laundering. 16 18 U.S.C. § 1956(a)(1)(A) (Counts Six through Eight) 17 THE GRAND JURY CHARGES THAT: 18 At all times relevant to the indictment: 19 INTRODUCTION 20 1. Defendant Matthew Wade Beasley was licensed to practice law in the State of 21 Nevada. 22 2. Defendant Beasley conducted a Ponzi scheme, that is, Beasley solicited (and 23 caused to be solicited) investors to invest in fake investment contracts, then used money 24 J & J Wells Fargo Ponzi Scheme Lawsuit

from new investors to pay interest on purportedly maturing investments owed to earlier investors.

- 3. It was part of the scheme and artifice that Beasley conducted and caused to be conducted the activities stated in paragraphs 4 through 13 below, among others.
- 4. Beginning no later than in or about 2017, Beasley falsely and fraudulently represented to Individual-1 that he could find plaintiffs in personal injury lawsuits who wanted to borrow money against their pending settlements with insurance companies and were willing to pay high interest rates to borrow the money for 90 days.
- 5. Beasley arranged for Individual-1 to loan money to purported personal injury plaintiffs and created fake contracts (known as "Purchase Agreements") between Individual-1 and the purported personal injury plaintiffs.
- 6. Beasley caused Individual-1 to find investors to invest in the Purchase Agreements between Individual-1 and the purported personal injury plaintiffs.
- 7. Beasley created contracts between Individual-1 and the investors (known as "Investment Agreements") regarding the investments in the Purchase Agreements between Individual-1 and the purported personal injury plaintiffs.
- 8. As the number of investors greatly multiplied, Beasley caused Individual-1 to recruit several investors to become "promoters" to help Individual-1 recruit new investors and manage their investments in the Purchase Agreements.
- 9. Beasley made and caused Individual-1 and promoters to make the following material misrepresentations, among others, to induce investors to invest in Purchase Agreements:

- a. Beasley had access to personal injury plaintiffs who wanted to borrow money against their settlements with insurance companies and would pay high interest rates to borrow money for 90 days;
- b. Beasley had arranged for Individual-1 to lend money to personal injury plaintiffs, and Beasley drafted the Purchase Agreements between personal injury plaintiffs and Individual-1;
  - c. Investors could invest in Purchase Agreements;
  - d. Investments were available in \$80,000 or \$100,000 increments;
  - e. Investments lasted 90 days and returned high rates of interest;
- f. At the end of 90 days, Beasley would receive principal and interest payments from personal injury plaintiffs and would send them to Individual-1 and promoters who would distribute them to investors;
  - g. Investors could reinvest in new Purchase Agreements; and
- h. The investments carried no apparent risk because personal injury plaintiffs always paid the principal and interest on time.
- 10. Beasley caused investors to wire transfer their investments to Beasley's IOLTA account (a bank account set up by an attorney to hold client monies) and to promoters who wire transferred the investments to Beasley's IOLTA account. Beasley used new investor money to pay interest and return principal to earlier investors to create the illusion that personal injury plaintiffs existed, were borrowing money from Individual-1, and were repaying the loans with interest.
- 11. From in or about 2017 to in or about March 2022, Beasley caused hundreds of investors to "invest" more than \$460 million in Purchase Contracts and he used a

substantial amount of that money to pay investors to maintain the appearance that the investments were genuine.

- 12. Beasley sent and caused to be sent thousands of emails, text messages, and wire transfers of money between himself, Individual-1, promoters, investors, potential investors, financial institutions, and others.
- 13. Beasley used money from the scheme to buy luxury homes, cars, and recreational vehicles, and to otherwise live an opulent lifestyle.

## **COUNTS ONE THROUGH FIVE**

Wire Fraud (18 U.S.C. § 1343)

- 14. Paragraphs 1 through 13 are incorporated herein in full.
- 15. From in or about 2017 to in or about March 2022, in the State and Federal District of Nevada,

## MATTHEW WADE BEASLEY,

- defendant herein, did knowingly devise and intend to devise a scheme and artifice to defraud and for obtaining money and property by means of false and fraudulent pretenses, representations, and promises.
- 16. It was part of the scheme that Beasley made and caused to be made the materially false and fraudulent pretenses, representations, and promises set forth in paragraph nine in the introduction to this indictment.
- 17. On or about the dates set forth below, in execution of the scheme, defendant caused the following wire communications to be sent in interstate commerce, with each count identified below constituting a separate violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1343:

1	COUNT	DATE	DESCRIPTION
2	1	6/17/2019	Investor-1 wire transferred \$160,000 from a bank account in Utah to Beasley Law Group IOLTA account in Nevada
4	2	2/1/2021	Investor-2 wire transferred \$100,000 from a bank account in Arizona to Beasley Law Group IOLTA account in Nevada
6	3	3/1/2021	Investor-3 wire transferred \$100,000 from a bank account in Arizona to Beasley Law Group IOLTA account in Nevada
8	4	8/17/2021	An FBI undercover agent wire transferred \$100,000 from a bank account in New York to Beasley Law Group IOLTA account in Nevada
10	5	8/30/2021	Investor-4 wire transferred \$200,000 from a bank account in California to Beasley Law Group IOLTA account in Nevada

## **COUNTS SIX THROUGH EIGHT**

Money Laundering (18 U.S.C. § 1956(a)(1)(A))

18. Paragraphs 1 through 13 are incorporated herein in full

19. On or about the dates set forth below, in the State and Federal District of Nevada,

## MATTHEW WADE BEASLEY,

defendant herein, did knowingly conduct and attempt to conduct a financial transaction affecting interstate commerce and involving property that represented the proceeds of Wire Fraud, including as that crime is more fully described in Counts One through Five in this indictment, knowing that the property represented the proceeds of Wire Fraud, and acting with the intent to promote the carrying on of specified unlawful activity, that is, Wire Fraud, with each count identified below constituting a separate violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1956(a)(1)(A).

J & J Wells Fargo Ponzi Scheme Lawsuit

C	OUNT	DATE	FINANCIAL TRANSACTION
	6	5/19/2021	Wire transfer from Beasley Law Group IOLTA account to a promoter's bank account in the amount of \$393,000
	7	6/2/2021	Wire transfer from Beasley Law Group IOLTA account to a promoter's bank account in the amount of \$501,000
	8	8/4/2021	Wire transfer from Beasley Law Group IOLTA account to a promoter's bank account in the amount of \$847,000

DATED: this 29th day of March, 2023.

A TRUE BILL:

/S/ FOREPERSON OF THE GRAND JURY

JASON M. FRIERSON

United States Attorney

DANIEL R. SCHIESS

Assistant United States Attorne