

The San Luis Obispo Tribune November 15, 2002 Friday

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HEADLINE: Osos man gets term for money laundering;
Baywood Park resident was convicted in connection with nationwide scam

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BODY:

A Baywood Park man convicted in one of the nation's biggest money laundering and tax-evasion operations has been sentenced to nearly five years in prison.

Richard Marks, 59, was sentenced Thursday to 59 months and fined \$25,000 for helping lead a Costa Rica-based organization that concealed the assets of its clients.

His partner, Wayne Anderson, 63, of Squaw Valley was sentenced to 81 months or nearly seven years in prison. Their business, **Anderson Ark & Associates**, obtained more than \$30 million in illegal refunds for between 1,500 and 2,000 clients, and received approximately \$50 million in fees and other funds from its clients, prosecutors said. They said the money was moved out of the country, through a maze of offshore accounts, then back into the country between 1996 and 2001.

A third person, Karolyn Grosnickle, 59, of Hoodspport, Wash., pleaded guilty to money laundering last spring and was sentenced last month to 26 months in prison.

A final defendant, Keith Anderson, 61, is in custody in Costa Rica, awaiting extradition to face charges in Sacramento federal court and separate tax evasion conspiracy charges in Seattle.

Wayne Anderson was second in command of the business, Marks was its chief accountant, and Grosnickle was its chief administrative officer, prosecutors said.

Marks still faces a federal charge of being a felon in possession of firearms at his Baywood Park residence. He, Drummer and Keith Anderson each have previous fraud convictions, prosecutors said.

Marks' arrest in March 2001 surprised his neighbors and friends.

At the time, Mike Charnik, manager of the laundry on Second Street, described the bookkeeper neighbor as a pleasant person.

"They're nice people," Charnik said of Marks and the woman he lives with. "They see me, and it's 'Hello, how ya doing.' They're normal people. They went to the beach and stuff like that same as you."

During a two-year undercover operation, Internal Revenue Service agents posing as **Anderson Ark** clients laundered \$370,000 through the business.

Of that, \$100,000 in cash was delivered to Wayne Anderson in a Fresno parking lot, which he was told was proceeds from a bank fraud, while Marks was given \$50,000 in his Sacramento office, money he was told was being concealed from a bankruptcy court, prosecutors said. Grosnickle admitted laundering \$60,000 in cashiers checks she was given at the business' office in Washington state.

Stanley Monroe, lead defense counsel for Marks, objected during trial to the government's tactics, including its use of a phony bankruptcy petition to support its agents' cover story.

The IRS said its analysis of Wayne Anderson's laptop computer showed more than \$40 million was laundered through a Costa Rican account dubbed, in Spanish, "the white machine."

In addition to the four alleged **Anderson Ark** operators, nine people have been convicted.

They include Michael Gonet, of Stow, Mass., and Richard L. Castellini of Bridgeton, N.J., convicted of money laundering in Massachusetts earlier this year; Wayne Anderson's children, Terri Yvonne Lewis, 42, and Steven Lyle Anderson, 37, both of Squaw Valley, pleaded guilty to obstructing justice in Fresno federal court; and former **Anderson Ark** accountants Roosevelt L. Drummer, 46, of Sacramento, and Roy Lenz, of Washington state, both pleading guilty to defrauding the IRS.

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