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SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA
   COUNTY OF ORANGE, CENTRAL JUSTICE CENTER
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   THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA, )
                                            FELONY COMPLAINT
                                             WARRANT
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                               Plaintiff, )
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                  vs.
                                             No.12CF2662
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                                             DOI 080C06883
   BRIAN SMART
                                 10/28/76 )
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                              Defendant(s))
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   The Orange County District Attorney charges that in Orange
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   County, California, the law was violated as follows:
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   COUNT 1: On or about November 18, 2005, in violation of Section
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   368(d) of the Penal Code (THEFT FROM ELDER), a FELONY, BRIAN
   SMART did willfully and unlawfully steal and embezzle money and
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   property which had a value exceeding four hundred dollars ($400)
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   from VIRGINIA P., who was an elder of sixty-five (65) years of
   age and older, and the defendant knew and reasonably should have
   known VIRGINIA P. was an elder of sixty-five (65) years of age
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  and older.
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   COUNT 2: On or about May 09, 2005, in violation of Section 368
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   (d) of the Penal Code (THEFT FROM ELDER), a FELONY, BRIAN SMART
   did willfully and unlawfully steal and embezzle money and
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   property which had a value exceeding four hundred dollars ($400)
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   from VIRGINIA P., who was an elder of sixty-five (65) years of
   age and older, and the defendant knew and reasonably should have
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   known VIRGINIA P. was an elder of sixty-five (65) years of age
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   and older.
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COUNT 3: On or about May 12, 2005, in violation of Section 368 (d) of the Penal Code (THEFT FROM ELDER), a FELONY, BRIAN SMART did willfully and unlawfully steal and embezzle money and property which had a value exceeding four hundred dollars (\$400) from VIRGINIA P., who was an elder of sixty-five (65) years of age and older, and the defendant knew and reasonably should have known VIRGINIA P. was an elder of sixty-five (65) years of age and older.

COUNT 4: On or about May 16, 2005, in violation of Section 368 (d) of the Penal Code (THEFT FROM ELDER), a FELONY, BRIAN SMART did willfully and unlawfully steal and embezzle money and property which had a value exceeding four hundred dollars (\$400) from VIRGINIA P., who was an elder of sixty-five (65) years of age and older, and the defendant knew and reasonably should have known VIRGINIA P. was an elder of sixty-five (65) years of age and older.

COUNT 5: On or about January 06, 2006, in violation of Section 368(d) of the Penal Code (THEFT FROM ELDER), a FELONY, BRIAN SMART did willfully and unlawfully steal and embezzle money and property which had a value exceeding four hundred dollars (\$400) from VIRGINIA P., who was an elder of sixty-five (65) years of age and older, and the defendant knew and reasonably should have known VIRGINIA P. was an elder of sixty-five (65) years of age and older.

COUNT 6: On or about January 19, 2006, in violation of Section 368(d) of the Penal Code (THEFT FROM ELDER), a FELONY, BRIAN SMART did willfully and unlawfully steal and embezzle money and property which had a value exceeding four hundred dollars (\$400) from VIRGINIA P., who was an elder of sixty-five (65) years of age and older, and the defendant knew and reasonably should have known VIRGINIA P. was an elder of sixty-five (65) years of age and older.

COUNT 7: On or about November 21, 2005, in violation of Section 186.10(a) of the Penal Code (MONEY LAUNDERING), a FELONY, BRIAN SMART did unlawfully conduct and attempt to conduct a transaction and transactions within a seven (7) day period involving a monetary instrument of a value exceeding five thousand dollars (\$5,000.00), through ORANGE COUNTY CREDIT UNION, a financial institution, with the intent to promote, manage, establish, carry on, and facilitate that promotion, management, establishment, and carrying on of criminal activity, and knowing that the monetary instrument represented the proceeds, and was derived directly and indirectly from the proceeds of, criminal activity, namely: THEFT FROM ELDER.

COUNT 8: On or about December 07, 2005, in violation of Section 368(d) of the Penal Code (THEFT FROM ELDER), a FELONY, BRIAN SMART did willfully and unlawfully steal and embezzle money and property which had a value exceeding four hundred dollars (\$400) from VIRGINIA P., who was an elder of sixty-five (65) years of age and older, and the defendant knew and reasonably should have known VIRGINIA P. was an elder of sixty-five (65) years of age and older.

COUNT 9: On or about January 18, 2006, in violation of Section 470(a) of the Penal Code (FORGERY), a FELONY, BRIAN SMART, with the intent to defraud, did willfully, unlawfully, and knowingly without authority sign the name of KATHERINE B., a fictitious person, to a CHECK, an item listed in Penal Code section 470(d).

COUNT 10: On or about February 01, 2006, in violation of Section 487(a) of the Penal Code (GRAND THEFT), a FELONY, BRIAN SMART did unlawfully take money and the personal property of KATHERINE B., which had a value exceeding four hundred dollars (\$400).

COUNT 11: On or about March 24, 2006, in violation of Section 368(d) of the Penal Code (THEFT FROM ELDER), a FELONY, BRIAN SMART did willfully and unlawfully steal and embezzle money and property which had a value exceeding four hundred dollars (\$400) from MARY JO O., who was an elder of sixty-five (65) years of age and older, and the defendant knew and reasonably should have known MARY JO O. was an elder of sixty-five (65) years of age and older.

COUNT 12: On or about March 27, 2006, in violation of Section 368(d) of the Penal Code (THEFT FROM ELDER), a FELONY, BRIAN SMART did willfully and unlawfully steal and embezzle money and property which had a value exceeding four hundred dollars (\$400) from MORRIS O., who was an elder of sixty-five (65) years of age and older, and the defendant knew and reasonably should have known MORRIS O. was an elder of sixty-five (65) years of age and older.

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COUNT 13: On or about November 21, 2005, in violation of Section 487(a) of the Penal Code (GRAND THEFT), a FELONY, BRIAN SMART did unlawfully take money and the personal property of DAGMAR C., which had a value exceeding four hundred dollars (\$400).

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COUNT 14: On or about January 25, 2006, in violation of Section 487(a) of the Penal Code (GRAND THEFT), a FELONY, BRIAN SMART did unlawfully take money and the personal property of DAGMAR C., which had a value exceeding four hundred dollars (\$400).

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OTHER ALLEGATION(S)

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As to Count(s) 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13 and 14, it is further alleged pursuant to Penal Code section 1203.045(a) (OVER \$100,000 LOSS), that defendant BRIAN SMART committed the crime of theft of an amount exceeding one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000).

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As to Count(s) 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13 and 14, it is further alleged pursuant to Penal Code sections 803 (c)/801.5 (STATUTE OF LIMITATION TOLLED), that the offense(s) of THEFT FROM ELDER, GRAND THEFT & FORGERY are felonies, and no victim of the offense and no law enforcement agency chargeable with the investigation and prosecution of the offense had actual or constructive knowledge of the offense prior to the date of JANUARY 2, 2008, when it was discovered by MORRIS AND MARY JO By means of receiving documents from the defendant Brian Smart which showed that their investments had gone into the defendant's company without their knowledge in January, 2006. The offense was not discovered earlier because the defendant had the O'Brien's sign documents transferring their American Equity IRA to FISERV, then the defendant without permission had the FISERV account over to his own account on March 24, 2006.

In July, 2008, as part of his duties as an Investigator with the California Department of Insurance (CDI), Investigator Tomas Petokas (Petokas) received an assignment to investigate complaints alleging that SMART, while doing business as Smart Assets, LLC and AIM/Smart, accepted money intended for insurance and real estate investments, diverted the funds to undisclosed investments and has failed to return the principal as demanded by his victims.

Petokas reviewed the CDI licensing records that show SMART was issued a California Individual Insurance License (#0C71102) to transact in the following capacities: Life Agent from August 17, 1999 through August 31, 2007, and is currently inactive. SMART was issued a number for his Limited Liability Company, Smart Assets, LLC (200531110077) by the California Secretary of State on November 4, 2005, type of business described as Financial Services. SMART named himself as the Manager, Executive Officer, Owner of Smart Assets, LLC, and Kelli Smart as a member in his Statement of Information filing for Smart Assets, LLC, filed on January 5, 2006.

Victims - Virginia Padilla & Lisa Maria Padilla

Lisa Maria Padilla contacted the California Department of Insurance on June 26, 2008 alleging SMART stole money from her 81 year old mother Virginia Padilla and The Padilla Family trust. Virginia Padilla, in declining health, resigned as the trustee of her trust March 3, 2005, and appointed her daughter Lisa Maria Padilla as the sole trustee of The Padilla Family Trust. SMART represented to Lisa Maria Padilla that he was a financial advisor and insurance agent who could manage her mother's money in a safe manner to provide the monthly income needed to pay for her mother's anticipated assisted living expenses.

SMART directed Lisa Maria Padilla to consolidate her mother's money held in savings accounts and mutual funds and invest them into a safe and secure annuity with American Equity Investments (AE). Following SMART'S instructions Lisa Maria Padilla closed her mother's savings accounts held in banks and mutual funds. On May 26, 2005 an annuity application was received by AE and an annuity account was established in Virginia Padilla's name. AE received multiple deposits into the account from June 2005 through July 2005 with a deposit total of \$404, 317.94.

Virginia Padilla moved into a nursing home located in the City of Anaheim, California in 2005 due to declining health and SMART recommended that he could arrange the sale of her La Habra, California home. Lisa Maria Padilla believing that SMART was acting in her mother's best interest agreed to the sale. SMART stated that he was going to invest the \$385,000 from the sale of the house into a safe place with a good rate of return. On October 19, 2005 the \$385,000 was sent to an escrow account in Utah based on transfer instructions provided by SMART, these funds are currently unaccounted for.

SMART in November 2005 directed Lisa Maria Padilla and her mother to withdraw the entire amount from the recently established AE annuity promising the new investment would be just as safe but earn a higher rate of return. SMART presented Lisa Maria Padilla and her mother with transfer document to sign directing AE to have the proceeds of policy # 562984 sent to First American Title Insurance "FBO-Smart Assets, LLC". A total of \$407,013.43 was transferred on November 18, 2005 from the AE annuity, these funds are currently unaccounted for.

Lisa Maria Padilla began to receive monthly payments of \$3,173.75 from SMART beginning in early 2006. Lisa Maria Padilla believed the payments were interest dividends from her mother's money that was invested by SMART. The interest payments from SMART stopped in February of 2008 and Lisa Maria Padilla received promises from SMART throughout 2008 that the monthly payments needed to pay for her mother's care would resume but they did not.

Lisa Maria Padilla demanded that SMART return all of her mother's money and provide her with documentation detailing where the money was invested. SMART failed to respond to Lisa Maria Padilla's demands for documentation, the resumption of interest payments and the return of her mother's money. Lisa Maria Padilla does not know where her mother's \$385,000 from the house sale and the \$407,013.43 from the AE annuity are.

It was also found that five of the checks that Lisa Maria Padilla issued payable to "AMERICAN EQUITY INVESTMENTS/BRIA" with a total sum of \$250,000 and sent to SMART were never received by AE. Annuities are a form of Life Insurance and investors make payments directly to the insurer therefore life insurance agents do not operate trust accounts or deposit client money intended for life insurance. The five missing checks bear an endorsement believed to be SMART'S hand written signature deposited into two bank accounts at Orange County's Credit Union, believed to belong to SMART and/or Smart Assets, LLC. The missing payments issued to AE are: (1) \$80,000 issued May 9, 2005 deposited May 17, 2005 into account# 91492430. (2)\$80,000 issued May 12, 2005 deposited May 17, 2005 into account #91492430. (3)\$40,000 issued May 16, 2005 deposited June 10, 2005 into account#91942080 & 91492430. (4)\$25,000 issued January 8, 2006 deposited January 2006 into account# 91942080. (5) \$25,000 issued January 19, 2008 deposited January 24, 2006 into account #91942080. The five checks totaling \$250,000 issued to AE but deposited into bank accounts believed to belong to SMART are unaccounted for.

Over One MILLION DOLLARS belonging to Virginia Padilla were transferred to SMART and/or Smart Assets, LLC and Lisa Maria Padilla's repeated demands to SMART for the return her mother's money have gone unanswered.

Victim - Morris & Mary Jo O'Brien

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SMART doing business as Smart Assets, LLC and AIM/Smart, instructed Morris and Mary Jo O'Brien to invest their retirement money into American Equity Investments (AE) annuities and two annuities were purchased in April 2005. In late 2005 SMART directed the O'Briens to withdraw their money from AE, on the grounds he was moving the money to a new company named FISERV, that was just as safe, paid a higher yield and they would be credited for any early withdrawal penalties incurred from the early surrender of the AE annuity. Morris O'Brien at age 65 and Mary Jo O'Brien at age 68 told SMART that these are their retirement accounts that they depend on and believing SMART was looking out for their best interest agreed to the transfer. SMART directed the O'Briens to sign transfer documents moving their IRA money from AE to Fiserv and the transfers took place on March 20, 2006.

The O'Briens received occasional interest dividend payments and asked SMART in 2008 to begin sending them monthly interest payments to help them pay their monthly living expenses. All payments from SMART ceased in 2008 and SMART made promises that they would resume but they have not. The O'Briens questioned where their money was and demanded SMART provide documentation on where their money was and explain why they cannot withdraw their money none of which has happened.

The O'Briens learned that when they signed the documents moving their money from AE to FISERV, SMART also had the O'Briens sign documents transferring their money from FISERV to Smart Assets, LLC. The O'Briens IRA retirement account money of \$56,000 and \$51,000 went from AE to FISERV then immediately to Smart Assets, LLC. The money was transferred from FISERV to Smart Assets, LLC on March 20, 2006, into Wells Fargo account # 2018669606, for the benefit of Smart Assets, LLC.

The O'Briens believed their retirement money was invested with FISERV and SMART never disclosed or mentioned that he intended to put their money into Smart Assets LLC. The O'Briens later learned that FISERV is not an insurance company but an administrator for retirement accounts from where money is then directed into investments. The O'Briens stated that they would never have agreed to invest their retirement money in a limited liability corporation. The O'Briens have made repeated demands that Smart return their principal plus interest, SMART has made repeated promises that he will comply but the O'Briens have not received their retirement money.

Victim - Dagmar Chaplin

SMART doing business as Smart Assets, LLC and AIM/Smart, represented himself to Dagmar Chaplin as a financial advisor, who could invest her retirement savings in a safe place where it could grow. SMART represented to Dagmar Chaplin that he would invest her \$200,000 in a residential property located in La Mirada with the intent of repair and resale of the home. Dagmar Chaplin on November 21, 2005 sent \$200,000 to Order Express Casa De Comido by wire transfer following SMART'S instructions. Months later Dagmar Chaplin received a Membership Certificate for 200,000 units of membership in Smart Assets, LLC attached to a Promissory Note and Loan Agreement contract from SMART, terms of the contract cited an interest rate of 8.5% per annum with a maturity date of March 22, 2006, none of which she had agreed to.

SMART promised the money was invested in a safe place and convinced Dagmar Chaplin to lend him an additional \$50,000 on February 6, 2006, the Promissory Note and Loan Agreement gave a maturity date of April 13, 2006. Repeated promises and assurances were made by SMART that the invested \$250,000 was safe: however, at maturity without Chaplin?s approval the money was lent to Golden Key Investments, Inc., and was later told by SMART her money was invested in property located in Utah but the current whereabouts of her money are unknown.

Dagmar Chaplin received several Smart Assets, LLC statements from SMART showing interest accruing on her money and she did receive several interest payments from SMART when she needed to pay for her hospitalization. The last payment Dagmar Chaplin received from SMART was in early 2008 and since then she has made repeated demands to SMART that he return all of her money. To date Dagmar Chaplin has not received her \$250, 000 in retirement money from SMART or most of the interest promised by SMART.

Additionally it is alleged pursuant to Penal code Section 803(d) that the defendant has resided in the State of Utah during and after the offenses were committed.

ENHANCEMENT (S)

It is further alleged pursuant to Penal Code section 186.11(a) (1)/(2) (AGGRAVATED WHITE COLLAR CRIME - OVER \$500,000), that as to counts 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13 and 14, defendant BRIAN SMART engaged in a pattern of related fraudulent felony conduct involving the taking of more than five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000).

As to Count(s) 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13 and 14, it is further alleged pursuant to Penal Code section 12022.6(a)(3) (PROPERTY DAMAGE OVER \$1,000,000), that defendant BRIAN SMART intentionally took, damaged, and destroyed property valued in excess of one million dollars (\$1,000,000) during the commission and attempted commission of the above offense.

As to Count(s) 7, it is further alleged pursuant to Penal Code section 186.10(c)(1)(B), that the value of the transaction and transactions exceeded one hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$150,000), but was and were less than one million dollars (\$1,000,000).

	BRIAN SMART DOI 080C06883 PAGE 11
1	I declare under penalty of perjury, on information and belief,
2	that the foregoing is true and correct.
4	Dated <u>09-12-2012</u> at Orange County, California. ML/DM 12F01337
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6	TONY RACKAUCKAS, DISTRICT ATTORNEY
7	by:
8	Deputy District Attorney
9 10	RESTITUTION CLAIMED
11	[] None
12] \$ X] To be determined
13 14	BAIL RECOMMENDATION:
	BRIAN SMART - \$ 1,786,000.00
16	NOTICES:
17	The People request that defendant and counsel disclose, within 15 days, all of the materials and information described in Penal Code section 1054.3, and continue to provide any later-acquired materials and information subject to disclosure, and without
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	further request or order.
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22	Pursuant to Penal Code Section 296.1, defendant, BRIAN SMART, is required to provide DNA samples and thumb and palm prints.
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