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Money Laundering Through Art: A Criminal Justice Perspective

Author:

Fausto Martin De Sanctis, Sao Paulo's Tribunal Regional Federal

This volume provides a bird's eye view of novel ways in which money is laundered through illegal activities involving art. Criminals and those involved in illegal activities have discovered the art world to be an effective and clandestine arena through which they can launder money internationally. Unfortunately, investigators, prosecutors, judges and regulatory agencies in most countries are not equipped to accurately detect, investigate and prosecute this type of criminal activity. Furthermore, international laws and treaties involving the art world have many loopholes that can

potentially lead to the laundering of large sums of money.

Addressing this gap in the literature, this volume can serve as a guide for academics, prosecutors, judges, law enforcement officials and others involved in efforts to curb money laundering and the financing of terrorism. It provides an overview of methods of money laundering through art, as well as specific case studies. Additionally, this book reveals why new techniques used by criminals have been largely neglected by law enforcement in many countries.

The author, drawing from his own experience with the matter in both Brazil and the United States, makes a case for broader institutional and regulatory improvement, extending beyond mere regulation of the art market. He concludes with a number of concrete recommendations to improve the fight against illegal money laundering via artwork.

About the Author:



Fausto Martin De Sanctis holds a Doctorate in Criminal Law from the University of São Paulo's School of Law (USP) and an advanced degree in Civil Procedure from the Federal University of Brasilia (UnB) in Brazil. He was a Public Defender in São Paulo, from 1989-1990, and a State Court Judge, also in São Paulo, from 1990 and 1991. He is currently a Federal Appellate Judge in Sao Paulo's Tribunal Regional Federal – with jurisdiction over Sao Paulo and Mato Grosso do Sul states. From April 2 to September 28 2012, he was a fellow at Federal Judicial Center in Washington DC, USA. Judge De Sanctis was selected to handle a specialized federal court created in Brazil to exclusively hear complex cases involving finance and money laundering. He is a world

known expert on this topic and he has been invited to participate in programs and conferences both in Brazil as well as internationally. Judge De Sanctis has published extensively about money laundering and related crimes.

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

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Introduction

Chapter I: Civil and Criminal Legislation Regarding Money Laundering and the Protection of Cultural Heritage

I.1. Money Laundering – the crime defined.

I.2. International Laws and Treaties Regarding Money Laundering and the Protection of Cultural Heritage – a general perspective

I.3. National Laws and Enforcement – A Perspective from the United States and Brazil.

Chapter II: Deterring Criminals from Engaging in Financial Crimes

Chapter III: Investigating and Preventing Crime in the Art World

III.1. The Art World: Its Actors, Crime Investigation and Crime Prevention

III.2. The Art of Money Laundering and the Roles of Those Who Combat It

III.3. The International Council of Museums (ICOM)

III.4. Cultural Entities and Incentives for the Diffusion of Art

III.5. Insurance Companies

III.6. Financial Crimes Enforcement Network (FinCEN) and the Council for Financial Activities Control (COAF), Suspicious Activity Reports and Banking Risks

III.7. Agencies Involved in Investigating Tax Fraud

 $\label{eq:chapter_IV: Cases in Jurisprudence and in the \ Press$

IV.1. Jurisprudence

IV.2. Cases in the Press

Chapter V: Payments through Illegal and Disguised Means, and Misuse of NGOs, Trusts, Associations and Foundations

V.1. Wire Transfers and Black Market Moneychangers

V.2. Prepaid Access Cards, Stored Value Instruments and Bitcoins

V.3. Using NGOs, Trusts, Associations and Foundations for Illegal Ends

Chapter VI: International Legal Cooperation and Repatriation of Assets

VI.1. International Legal Cooperation

VI.2. Freezing, Confiscating and Repatriating Assets

Chapter VII: Answers to Initial Questions and Conclusions

VII.1. Answers to Initial Questions

VII.2. Conclusions

Chapter VIII: Proposals to Improve the War Against Money Laundering and Terrorism Financing

VIII.I. An International Perspective

VIII.I.1. Financial Action Task Force (FATF)

VIII.I.2. Tax Havens, Offshore Accounts and Trusts

VIII.I.3. International Legal Cooperation

VIII.II. A National Perspective

VIII.II.1. Institutional Measures (Executive and/or Legislative Branch)

VIII.II.2. Freezing, Seizing, Confiscating and Repatriating Assets

VIII.II.3. Regulatory Agencies

VIII.II.4. Art Dealers

VIII.II.5. Loans, Equity Holdings, Benefits and Payments (in Cash, Cards, Remittances, Stored Value Cards and via the Internet)

VIII.II.6. Offshore Accounts and Trusts

VIII.II.7. NGOs, NPOs and Foundations

VIII.II.8. Money Laundering as a Crime

VIII.II.9. The Administration of Justice and the Role of Judges

VIII.II.10. Law Enforcement Agencies, Financial Intelligence Units (FIUs) and an Agency to Regulate Art

VIII.II.11. Investigating and Prosecuting Tax Fraud

VIII.II.12. Insurance Companies

VIII.II.13. International Auction Houses, Art Galleries, Museums and Libraries

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