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## DARCEL D. CLARK DISTRICT ATTORNEY, BRONX COUNTY

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## BRONX MAN PAYS \$570,000 TO VICTIMS HE DEFRAUDED IN ONLINE CAR-SELLING SCAM Defendant Paid Restitution As Part of Plea Agreement

Bronx District Attorney Darcel D. Clark today announced that the head of an online company which sold salvaged cars has made a final payment on \$570,000 in restitution to 63 victims across the globe who purchased vehicles and never received them.

District Attorney Clark said, "The defendant Mark Alexopoulos defrauded people worldwide. Individuals looking to buy a vehicle, whether it was a 2004 Jaguar for \$5,000 or a 2008 Lamborghini for \$50,000, lost their money in this scheme. We will pursue criminals who use the Internet to prey on people."

According to the investigation, in early 2010 the Bronx District Attorney's Office received several complaints from individuals who had used EZSalvage.com to bid on salvaged vehicles. Complainants had wired thousands of dollars in payments and despite numerous attempts to contact the seller, never got the vehicle they purchased or their money back.

Alexopoulos' company had two offices in the Bronx but was out of business by August 2010 and Alexopoulos himself had left the country. He was arrested on a warrant flying back to Miami in February 2011 and was extradited to Bronx County.

Alexopoulos, a 43-year-old resident of the Bronx, pleaded guilty to third-degree Grand Larceny and first-degree Scheme to Defraud on April 10<sup>th</sup>, 2014. Alexopoulos was sentenced on Friday, February 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2016, in Bronx Supreme Court before Justice Miriam R. Best to a three-year conditional discharge following completion of the terms of the plea and the final restitution payment of \$22,000.

The case was prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Jessica Lupo of the Bronx District Attorney's Arson/Auto/Economic Bureau.