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April 4, 2017

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**MADIGAN: CHAMPAIGN COUNTY MORTGAGE LOAN OFFICER SENTENCED FOR FRAUD**

**Chicago** — Attorney General Lisa Madigan today announced that a Rantoul man was sentenced to prison after pleading guilty in February to continuing financial crimes enterprise and stealing over \$100,000 in the process.

Brandon L. Jackson, 30, of Rantoul, was sentenced to four years in prison and two years of supervised release by Champaign County Circuit Court Judge Roger B. Webber. Jackson was also ordered to pay over \$106,000 in restitution to the victims of his cons.

During the course of the investigation, investigators discovered more than 15 victims mostly from the Champaign area, ranging from individuals to financial institutions, who lost more than \$100,000.

Jackson met several of his victims while he was working as a licensed mortgage loan originator at different mortgage companies. In several instances, Jackson used his position as a broker for mortgage loan transactions to access victims' personal information that he used to write forged checks and open credit accounts in their names. He lured victims into providing this information using false loan approvals and fake mortgage services. In some cases, Jackson directed victims to pay him what they believed were transaction-related fees that he then pocketed.

"The defendant is a con man who took advantage of unknowing customers for personal profit," Madigan said.

Investigator Anthony Willner with the Attorney General's Investigations Bureau along with the Champaign Police Department, the Rantoul Police Department, and the Leroy Police Department conducted the investigation.

Assistant Attorney General Sandra Talbott handled the case for Madigan's Special Prosecutions Bureau.

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