

THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY'S OFFICE  
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**Department of Justice**

U.S. Attorney's Office

District of Utah

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Thursday, December 16, 2021

## **Taylorsville Woman Charged with Making False Statements to Obtain Millions of Dollars in PPP Loans.**

SALT LAKE CITY – Allison Marie Bayer, 41, of Taylorsville, has been charged with nine federal criminal counts related to making false statements on loan applications to obtain funds obtained through the Small Business Administration's Paycheck Protection Program (PPP). In the indictment, Bayer is charged with eight counts of making a false statement to a bank and one count of money laundering.

According to the allegations contained in the federal indictment, Bayer is the listed owner and agent for Allison Bayer Entertainment, LLC, and submitted eight PPP loan applications from April 13, 2020, through April 26, 2020 to Northeast Bank and Meridian Bank. In each of the loan applications, Bayer allegedly sought 10 million dollars of PPP loan funding for her entertainment company. However, prosecutors allege that Bayer falsely stated in each loan application that ABE's average monthly payroll was between \$4,000,000 to \$4,769,583, when ABE had no average monthly payroll; and, that ABE had between 100 to 430 employees, when ABE had no employees. Prosecutors also allege that these false statements resulted in Bayer fraudulently obtaining 10 million dollars in PPP loans from Meridian Bank, and that Bayer accepted that money and transferred it to a separate bank account where she began using a portion of the funding to invest in a movie.

On May 17, 2021, the Attorney General established the COVID-19 Fraud Enforcement Task Force to marshal the resources of the Department of Justice in partnership with agencies across government to enhance efforts to combat and prevent pandemic-related fraud. The Task Force bolsters efforts to investigate and prosecute the most culpable domestic and international criminal actors and assists agencies tasked with administering relief programs to prevent fraud by, among other methods, augmenting and incorporating existing coordination mechanisms, identifying resources and techniques to uncover fraudulent actors and their schemes, and sharing and harnessing information and insights gained from prior enforcement efforts. For more information on the Department's response to the pandemic, please visit <https://www.justice.gov/coronavirus>.

Anyone with information about allegations of attempted fraud involving COVID-19 can report it by calling the Department of Justice's National Center for Disaster Fraud (NCDF) Hotline at 866-720-5721 or via the NCDF Web Complaint Form at: <https://www.justice.gov/disaster-fraud/ncdf-disaster-complaint-form>.

Assistant United States Attorneys are prosecuting the case and the FBI and the Small Business Administration Office of Inspector General are conducting the investigation.

Allegations are not findings of guilt and defendants are presumed innocent until proven guilty at trial.

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**Topic(s):**

Financial Fraud

**Component(s):**

USAO - Utah

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