

# PROJECT SCOFFLAW CASE SUMMARY

U.S. v. Utah Bureau of Collections, Inc. and Douglas **Beardall**, C-80-0574-A (D. Utah)

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[Underlying Final Order](#)

(1981) debt collection

[Contemptuous Conduct](#)

(criminal) violated order and FDCPA by failing to provide debtors with required notices and making misrepresentations

[Result](#)

(2000) 24 months in jail for contempt, mail fraud and perjury

FTC v. Giving You Credit, Inc. and Keith **Berggren**, No. 96C2088 (N.D. Ill.)

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[Underlying Final Order](#)

(1996) credit repair services

[Contemptuous Conduct](#)

(civil) continued to misrepresent credit repair services

[Result](#)

(1997) banned from credit repair services

FTC v. Satellite Broadcasting Corp. and Joe **Champion**, No. SACV-95-336 (C.D. Cal.)

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[Underlying Final Order](#)

(1996) FCC license investment scam

[Contemptuous Conduct](#)

(criminal) made misrepresentations re: investments in software in violation of order

[Result](#)

(2000) sentenced to 21 months in jail for mail and wire fraud

FTC v. Michael **Chierico**, 96-1754-Civ. Moore (S.D. Fla.)

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[Underlying Final Order](#)

(1996) toner-phoner scam

[Contemptuous Conduct](#)

(civil 2x) continued to fraudulently telemarket toner and failed to pay court-ordered redress

[Result](#)

(1998) 4 days of jail; ordered to pay \$3 million, including \$2 million in redress; (2001) banned from telemarketing and direct mail of office supplies

FTC v. American Fortune 900 and Rory **Cypers**, CV96-305-RAP (C.D. Cal.)

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[Underlying Final Order](#)

(1996) 900-number investment scam

[Contemptuous Conduct](#)

(criminal) failed to post bond and fraudulently telemarketed precious metals as investments

[Result](#)

(1999) 60 months incarceration for contempt

U.S. v. Ronald **Dante** dba Perma-Derm Academy, 90-CV-945 (C.D. Cal.)

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[Underlying Final Order](#)

(1991) misrepresented training and certification given to attendees of his permanent makeup workshop

[Contemptuous Conduct](#)

(criminal) failed to make required disclosures re: permanent makeup classes and misrepresented potential earnings in connection with paralegal training

[Result](#)

(1998) sentenced to 67 months in jail for contempt

FTC v. Fortuna Alliance and Augustino **Delgado**, No. C96-799M (W.D. Wash.)

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[Underlying Final Order](#)

(1997) illegal pyramid scheme

[Contemptuous Conduct](#)

(civil) failed to provide additional \$2.2 million for consumer refunds

[Result](#)

(1998) court ordered defendants to pay 15,622 consumers refunds

FTC v. Infinity Corp. and Gregory **Duvall**, CV 95-4819-R (C.D. Cal.)

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[Underlying Final Order](#)

(1996) Franchise Rule violations in offering medical billing franchises

[Contemptuous Conduct](#)

(civil) continued to misrepresent medical billing services opportunity

[Result](#)

(2001) 1996 agreement modified to add performance bond and more stringent restrictions

FTC v. Pase Corp. and Robert J. **Febre**, No. 94C 3625 (N.D. Ill.)

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[Underlying Final Order](#)

(1996) work at home scam

[Contemptuous Conduct](#)

(criminal) credit repair scam, business opportunity scam and violating asset freeze

[Result](#)

(2001) indicted on contempt charges

FTC v. Keith **Gill** and Richard **Murkey**, No. 98-1436 (C.D. Cal.)

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[Underlying Final Order](#)

(1999) credit repair

[Contemptuous Conduct](#)

(civil) Murkey continued to sell credit repair services in violation of ban, and both defendants failed to comply with order's monitoring provisions

[Result](#)

(2001) Murkey must pay consumers full restitution and is subject to \$5,000 daily fines if he violates ban, misrepresents credit repair services or demands payment for such services; Gill and Murkey subject to \$1,000 daily fines if fail to send rescission notices

FTC v. Goddard Rarities and Dennis **Goddard**, 93-CV-4602 (C.D. Cal.)

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[Underlying Final Order](#)

(1994) rare coins investment opportunity

[Contemptuous Conduct](#)

failed to post bond and misrepresented 900-number investment opportunities

[Result](#)

(2000) sentenced to 24 months in jail for contempt

FTC v. Meridian Capital Management and Jeffrey **Jordan**, CV-S-96-63 PMP (D. Nev.)

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[Underlying Final Order](#)

(1997) recovery room scam

[Contemptuous Conduct](#)

(criminal) violated asset freeze

[Result](#)

(1997) sentenced to 3 months in jail for contempt

FTC v. Golden Oak Numismatics and Ronald Henry **Michel**, No. 91-6741 (C.D. Cal.)

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[Underlying Order](#)

(1993) fraudulent telemarketing of rare coins investment opportunity

[Contemptuous Conduct](#)

(criminal) ran fraudulent investment scheme involving wireless cable

[Result](#)

(2001) pled guilty to two counts of wire fraud, two counts of mail fraud and one count of money laundering; awaits sentencing

FTC v. Jordan Ashley and Thomas **Norton**, 93 2257-Civ-Nesbitt (S.D. Fla.)

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[Underlying Final Order](#)

(1995) greeting card franchise scheme

[Contemptuous Conduct](#)

(civil) failed to notify Commission of new employment

[Result](#)

(1999) jailed until complied with reporting requirement

U.S. v. Elliston Funeral Home and Edward **Olenec**, No. 92-C-4294 (N.D. Ill.)

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[Underlying Final Order](#)

(1992) Funeral Rule violations

[Contemptuous Conduct](#)

(criminal) failed to provide employees with copy of court order and failed to provide price lists to consumers

[Result](#)

(2000) sentenced to 1-month home detention for contempt and fined \$125,000

FTC v. Metropolitan Communications Corp., Joan **Orth**, et al., 1:1994cv00142 (S.D. N.Y.)

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[Underlying Final Order](#)

(1997) FCC license investment scheme

[Contemptuous Conduct](#)

(criminal) violated asset freeze

[Result](#)

(1997) sentenced to 6-months home detention

FTC v. Paradise Palms Vacation Club and James R. **Quincy**, C81-1160D (W.D. Wash.)

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[Underlying Final Order](#)

(1988) time share travel scam

[Contemptuous Conduct](#)

(civil) failed to post performance bond and make required disclosures

[Result](#)

(1996) court ordered defendant jailed approximately 60 days until paid \$50,000

U.S. v. Mark **Reiber** dba Credit Repair Counselors, C-1-98-171 (S.D. Ohio)

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[Underlying Final Order](#)

(1999) credit repair scam

[Contemptuous Conduct](#)

(civil) continued to misrepresent credit repair services

[Result](#)

(2000) 1999 order modified to ban him from offering credit repair

FTC v. PAL Financial Services, Inc., Media Management, Inc., and Lonny Remmers, SACV-95-473 (C.D. Cal.)

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[Underlying Final Order](#)

(1996) investment scam involving satellite television programming

[Contemptuous Conduct](#)

(criminal) operated new telemarketing scam and failed to post performance bond

[Result](#)

(1998) sentenced to 46 months in jail for contempt

FTC v. Worldwide Classics and Ronald Schaefer, 92-CV-3363 (C.D. Cal.)

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[Underlying Final Order](#)

(1993) stamps and art investment scam

[Contemptuous Conduct](#)

(criminal) continued to misrepresent investment opportunity

[Result](#)

(2000) sentenced to 37 months for mail and wire fraud

U.S. v. American Vending Corp. and Kenneth Sterling, 99-CR-6105-ALL (S.D. Fla.)

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[Underlying Final Order](#)

(1996) vending machines business opportunity

[Contemptuous Conduct](#)

(criminal) violated Franchise Rule and made misrepresentations in connection with vending machine business opportunity

[Result](#)

(1999) sentenced to 7 months in jail for contempt

FTC v. Think Achievement and William Tankersly, 2:98-CV-12-TS (N.D. Ind.)

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[Underlying Final Order](#)

(2000) postal service job scam

[Contemptuous Conduct](#)

(civil) failed to repatriate assets  
(criminal) asset freeze violation

[Result](#)

(2001 - civil) defendant jailed 6-1/2 months; relief-defendant spouse jailed 6 months

(2001 - criminal) Tankersly sentenced to two concurrent 27-month sentences for contempt

FTC v. J.K. Publications and Kenneth Taves, CV 99-0044 (C.D. Cal.)

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[Underlying Final Order](#)

(2000) illegal billing scam for x-rated internet sites

[Contemptuous Conduct](#)

(criminal) violated asset freeze and failed to disclose all assets

[Result](#)

awaits sentencing

FTC v. Telecommunications of America and Barry Taylor, No. 95-693-CIV-ORL-22 (M.D. Fla.)

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[Underlying Final Order](#)

(1996) pay telephone business opportunity scam

[Contemptuous Conduct](#)

(civil) greeting card rack business opportunity scam

[Result](#)

(2000) \$656,257 judgment and banned from franchise or business opportunities

FTC v. National Art Publishers and Distributors, Inc. and Benjamin **Valenty** (S.D. Cal.)

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[Underlying Final Order](#)

(1994) art investment scam

[Contemptuous Conduct](#)

(civil) continued to make misrepresentations in selling art as investment

[Result](#)

(1997) 1994 order modified to impose stricter ban on telemarketing and payment of \$150,000 for consumer redress

FTC v. Parade of Toys and Dennis **Vaughan**, 97-CV-2367 (D. Kan.)

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[Underlying Final Order](#)

(1999) business opportunities scheme

[Contemptuous Conduct](#)

(criminal) promoted business venture in violation of ban

[Result](#)

(2001) indicted on contempt charges