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## U.S. businessman fined \$10,000 on immigration charges

STEVE BRUCE COURT REPORTER

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An American businessman arrested in the Halifax area last week on immigration charges has been fined \$10,000 and sentenced to time served.

Alusine Jalloh, 26, of Yonkers, N.Y., pleaded guilty Tuesday in Dartmouth provincial court to three charges under the Immigration and Refugee Protection Act.

Jalloh admitted working in Canada illegally, employing unauthorized foreign nationals from the U.S. and counselling misrepresentation by advising them to lie to border officers about why they were entering the country.

The court heard that Jalloh's company, W.U.G. Marketing, was subcontracted by a Canadian company to peddle credit cards to shoppers at four Nova Scotia outlets of a national retailer.

A search warrant filed at the courthouse reveals Jalloh's employees were working for a company called Credico at Canadian Tire stores and renting accommodations at a house on Seawood Avenue in Lower Sackville.

Jalloh paid his two workers in cash, Crown attorney Scott Millar said, harming the economy and taking jobs away from Canadian residents.

"These are not the most grievous cases but they are very serious offences," Millar told the court. "He was doing this for his own personal profit at the expense of the Canadian economy."

Defence lawyer Mark Bailey said his client, who is married with two young children, was remorseful for his actions and accepted full responsibility.

Judge Timothy Gabriel adopted the lawyers' joint sentencing recommendation.

"The circumstances as described by the Crown represent a calculated, deliberate and repeated disregard of the laws of this country," the judge said. "This was not an isolated matter. You conducted a scheme. You were motivated by greed.

"We have enough problems of our own with people in this country disobeying the laws. ... We don't need assistance from people from other countries.

"If you want to abide by the laws of this country and set up legitimate businesses, we always welcome that. But what is not appreciated by the law and by this country is people coming in for greed, for no other reason, to simply cut corners so that they can put more money in their pocket."

Jalloh faces deportation by the Canada Border Services Agency, his lawyer said.

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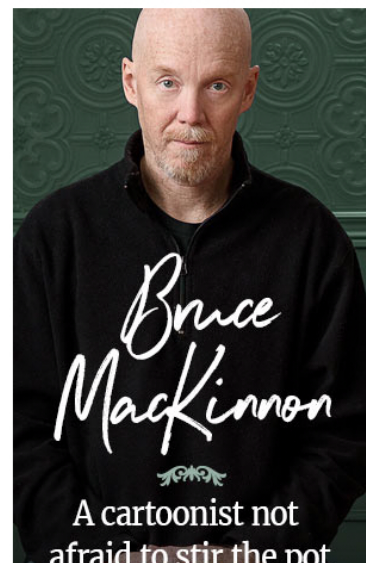
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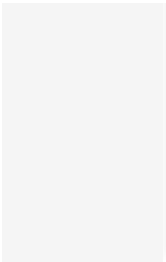
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