Fiscal Year 2020

In FY 2020, 64,565 cases were reported to the U.S. Sentencing Commission.

4,356 of these involved theft, property destruction, and fraud.

1.1% of theft, property destruction, and fraud offenses involved mortgage fraud.¹ ² ³

Mortgage fraud has decreased by 86.1% since FY 2016.

Number of Mortgage Fraud Offenders

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Offenders</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FY 2016</td>
<td>339</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FY 2017</td>
<td>193</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FY 2018</td>
<td>171</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FY 2019</td>
<td>112</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FY 2020</td>
<td>47</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Median Loss for Mortgage Fraud Offenses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Median Loss</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FY 2016</td>
<td>$1,500,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FY 2017</td>
<td>$1,250,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FY 2018</td>
<td>$1,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FY 2019</td>
<td>$750,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FY 2020</td>
<td>$500,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Offender and Offense Characteristics

- 72.3% of mortgage fraud offenders were men.
- 46.8% were White, 29.8% were Black, 17.0% were Hispanic, and 6.4% were Other races.
- Their average age was 49 years.
- 93.6% were United States citizens.
- 91.5% had little or no prior criminal history (Criminal History Category I).
- The median loss for these offenses was $1,092,200; ²
  - 18.0% involved loss amounts of $250,000 or less;
  - 28.2% involved loss amounts greater than $3,500,000.
- Sentences were increased for:
  - the number of victims or the extent of harm to victims (21.3%); ²
  - using sophisticated means to execute or conceal the offense (31.9%);
  - using an unauthorized means of identification (2.1%);
  - deriving more than $1 million in gross receipts from or substantially jeopardizing the safety and soundness of a financial institution (4.3%);
  - a leadership or supervisory role in the offense (17.0%);
  - abusing a public position of trust or using a special skill (17.0%);
  - obstructing or impeding the administration of justice (8.5%).
- Sentences were decreased for:
  - minor or minimal participation in the offense (6.4%).
- The top six districts for mortgage fraud offenders were:
  - Northern District of Illinois (11);
  - Eastern District of California (9);
  - Middle District of Florida (4);
  - Middle District of Georgia (3);
  - Western District of New York (3);
  - Eastern District of Virginia (3).

Punishment

- The average sentence for mortgage fraud offenders was 18 months.
- 87.2% were sentenced to prison.
- 4.3% were convicted of an offense carrying a mandatory minimum penalty; of those offenders, none were relieved of that penalty.
Sentences Relative to the Guideline Range

- Of the 42.6% of mortgage fraud offenders sentenced under the Guidelines Manual:
  - 40.0% were sentenced within the guideline range.
  - 50.0% received a substantial assistance departure. Their average sentence reduction was 75.5%.
  - 10.0% received some other downward departure.
- 57.4% received a variance; of those offenders:
  - 100.0% received a downward variance. Their average sentence reduction was 67.5%.
- The average guideline minimum fluctuated and the average sentence imposed decreased over the past five years.
  - The average guideline minimum increased and decreased throughout the fiscal years. The average guideline minimum was 42 months in fiscal year 2016 and 41 months in fiscal year 2020.
  - The average sentence imposed decreased from 22 months in fiscal year 2016 to 18 months in fiscal year 2020.