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## Ohio car dealer enters guilty plea in money laundering case

Associated Press

**AKRON, Ohio** - A northeast Ohio car dealer pleaded guilty to 37 counts involving money laundering but will not be sentenced until a co-defendant is tried, federal officials said.

Michael D. "Mickey" Miller, 66, of Jackson Township, entered his plea Thursday but terms of his plea agreement are under seal in U.S. District Court.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Robert Bulford declined to comment on the agreement.

Miller was accused of using his car dealerships in Canton, North Canton and Wadsworth to launder money. Prosecutors alleged that he sold vehicles to drug dealers and put the titles in other people's names to hide the asset, bought vehicles at auctions using cash from suspected drug dealers and used suspected drug money to buy the Wadsworth dealership, according to court records.

Miller could be sentenced to 20 years in prison, but that will not be determined until co-defendant Paul Monea's trial, scheduled to begin May 14, Bulford said.

Monea, 60, of Alliance, made millions in the '90s on infomercials that sold Tae Bo exercise videos. He is accused, with Miller, of trying to launder \$19.5 million for a drug dealer by selling a 43-carat diamond and a 62-acre estate in Trumbull County that was once owned by boxer Mike Tyson.

When he was heavyweight champion, Tyson bought the 25,000-square-foot mansion for \$300,000 at a 1989 sheriff's sale. The house was sold to Monea in 1999 for \$1.3 million, according to county records.

Miller and Monea were arrested in December after a three-year investigation and after they tried to negotiate the sale of the diamond and the estate with an undercover FBI agent, prosecutors said.

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