

# Good Morning News

## Decentralized News Organization

# LAW & ORDER



This week, Heather Morgan appeared before a judge, seeking permission to look for gainful employment. Earlier this year, Morgan and her husband Ilya Lichtenstein were charged with conspiracy to commit money laundering and defraud the United States, in relation to the 2017 Bitfinex hack which saw roughly \$4.5B in stolen digital assets. The judge granted permission for Morgan to “engage in legitimate employment and receive income of greater than \$10,000 per month,” while her case proceeds.

Long time readers of Good Morning News will remember when these two were initially charged back in February. The news took the industry by storm as most could not wrap their heads around these two being the perpetrators of the largest financial crime in history. A quick peruse through their social media accounts exposed these criminal masterminds as nothing more than bumbling idiots trying to

become social media celebrities.

The two could face up to 25 years in federal prison if found guilty of the crimes they have allegedly committed. It is interesting to note that nowhere among the money laundering and fraud charges brought against them is a charge for criminal theft. Seemingly, under U.S. law, stealing \$4.5B and committing the largest financial crime in history does not count as theft. This situation demonstrates just how unprepared the judicial system is for the current digital revolution.

With antiquated laws and lawmakers it will be interesting to see how the old system adapts to this changing criminal behavior. As regulators begin to crack down on this industry, new definitions of crimes will be needed in order to impose suitable punishment. GMN wonders if crimes against social media could be covered too.



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