



John Xydias pictured outside court during his rape trial. Picture: David Geraghty
Source: Herald Sun

Rapist John Xydias in secret bid to rob victims of compensation

DEPRAVED rapist John Xydias has secretly boasted of robbing his victims of compensation while trying to get years knocked off his 28-year sentence for drugging and violating unconscious women.

The despised sex fiend outlines his insidious plan in a series of shocking jailhouse letters seen by the Herald Sun.

In them, Xydias claims to be establishing a business to hide assets that would be used to pay his victims.

The revelations come as the 46-year-old awaits news on an appeal

over the severity of his sentence, which could see him back on the streets in as little as 16 years.

The Xydias letters suggest the rapist is having a "prison holiday" behind bars where he enjoys a resort lifestyle.

The fat, balding sex monster pleaded guilty in July last year to 25 counts of rape and 61 counts of indecent assault committed on 11 victims between 1991 and 2006 at his parents' Glen Iris home and a holiday home in Dromana.

Xydias spent time in Melbourne's Metropolitan Remand Centre be-

fore moving to Barwon Prison, where he is serving a maximum 28-year sentence. In six long and poorly scribbled letters to his ex-girlfriend, Josie, an unrepentant Xydias boasts of his plans to short-change his victims, who he calls gold diggers, sluts, slags and moles and refers to with Greek obscenities.

"You know what's funny. My dad gave me just under \$200,000 and I gave this money to the lawyer I've got, he gave it to the pigs (police) so that the so-called victims can be compensated ... Let them scratch their eyes out for it. \$200,000 between how many girls? 8-10? How much is that each hahahaha."

In one letter, penned a month before Chief Justice Marilyn Warren ordered Xydias to pay five women a total of \$1.08 million compensation, Xydias outlines his evil plan to serve 17 more years and live in style.

"I'm currently getting a company together with a few good close mates from jail who all have businesses," he wrote.

"By having a company and having a trust running the company all profits cannot be touched by the pigs or any court in Australia ... So once I get out if I get a house, boat, car it will be in the company's name and no one can take it off me."

Xydias even outlines his plans to further profit from the death of his own parents.

"They have two beach houses at the moment, once they pass away everything will be given to the company ... so no pigs can touch them hahahaha lovely country Australia, if you know how to use the system," he wrote.

Xydias claims to be living a charmed life in prison, gorging on mountains of cheese, lazing by the pool and enjoying protection from a horde of tattooed reprobates who he claims "love" him.

"F--- Victorian prisons are like holiday resorts," Xydias wrote, saying he was sipping a cool can of cola by the swimming pool while on remand in March last year.

"I never would have thought prison would be so f--ken nice. All I do is play sport, laze by the pool and play PlayStation games, table tennis, billiards and wait for our food to be delivered to our unit ... I understand why many crims keep on reoffending in order to come back to jail."

A Corrections Victoria spokeswoman said Xydias did not have access to Barwon Prison's pool.

"Prisoners at Barwon are locked in their cells for 16 hours a day and are also required to work," she said. "They only have access to pools when they are not working."

Alleged \$3m conman skips country

An Auckland businessman who allegedly used the name of Jonah Lomu in a \$3 million fraud has skipped the country after supposedly visiting his sick mother in Australia.

An arrest warrant has been issued for **Loizos Michaels**, who failed to show up in the Auckland District Court four weeks after he was supposed to return to New Zealand.

Michaels, who owns Plato's Greek Taverna in Ponsonby Rd, was arrested and charged by the Serious Fraud Office in February with three counts of fraud totalling \$3 million.

He was forced to surrender his passport as part of his bail conditions. But his defence lawyer, Simon Lance, successfully asked for the passport to be returned so Michaels could visit his sick mother in Australia.

Despite the Crown's protest that Michaels was a flight risk, Judge Josephine Bouchier released the passport to him on July 9.

He was supposed to fly back on July 27 and return the passport to the Auckland District Court.

Serious Fraud Office director Adam Feeley said he intended to make an application for extradition.

One of the SFO charges is that Michaels made false representations to obtain \$353,025 from the owners of Sacred Waters - a five-star accommodation complex at Lake Taupo - in a deal to buy luxury apartments valued at \$12 million.

The SFO says Michaels told co-owners Edward and Janet Jackson the



Loizos Michaels' bid to keep his name secret has been rejected by a judge. Photo / Brett Phibbs

money would be deposited in a Belgian bank, and a purchase agreement was drawn up. He later rang the Jacksons' lawyer to change the name of the purchaser to Jonah Lomu. The purchaser's name was later changed to Nick Karidis. But the sale never went through.

Lomu, who was not part of the SFO investigation, told the Weekend Herald last year that he was duped by a proposal from Michaels to become "the global face of kickboxing" but was never paid. He had not invested any money with Michaels but had done "months and months" of work.

Court documents show the other two complainants in the case are former Christchurch Casino executives Stephen Lyttelton and Peter Arbuckle, who left the casino in 2007 to pursue what the SFO says were fictitious business opportunities with Michaels.

He is charged with obtaining \$1,782,760 from Mr Arbuckle and

\$1,054,000 from Mr Lyttelton after telling the pair he worked for a leading Macau casino empire, Melco.

The SFO says Michaels and George Plakas from Melbourne visited Christchurch Casino in February 2007 claiming to be "high rollers" and demanding VIP treatment.

Mr Lyttelton and Mr Arbuckle began treating them to first-class service, and a friendship developed.

The SFO claims Michaels told the two men he was part of a wealthy Greek-Cypriot family and was a "corporate raider" for Melco casinos.

Disappearing act

* July 9: Passport returned to Loizos Michaels to visit sick mother in Australia.

* July 28: Michaels supposed to return passport.

* August 25: Arrest warrant issued for Michaels for breach of bail.

By Jared Savage

Article from New Zealand Herald