

Forum:[Hack Forums](#)

Thread: [Crypto gang member gets 6.5 years for role in \\$230 million heist](#)

MadScientist - May 9, 2026, 6:03 pm

A 20-year-old California man was sentenced to 78 months in prison for serving as a home invader and money launderer in a criminal ring that stole over \$250 million in cryptocurrency.

Marlon Ferro (also known online as GothFerrari and Marlo) was arrested on May 13, 2025, carrying two firearms and a fake identification document. He pleaded guilty in October and was also ordered to pay \$2.5 million in restitution and serve three years of supervised release.

According to court documents, the criminal ring targeted individuals believed to hold significant cryptocurrency between late 2023 and early 2025.

They used social engineering to trick their victims into giving them access to digital wallets, and when victims stored funds in hardware wallets, the conspiracy shifted to Ferro's expertise in residential burglaries.

"Marlon Ferro served as the criminal enterprise's instrument of last resort. When his co-conspirators couldn't deceive victims into handing over access to their cryptocurrency or hack their way into digital accounts, they turned to Ferro to break into homes and steal hardware wallets outright," said U.S. Attorney Pirro on Wednesday.

"This scheme blended sophisticated online fraud with old-fashioned burglary to drain victims of millions of dollars in digital assets."

In February 2024, Ferro traveled to Winnsboro, Texas, broke into a victim's home, stole a hardware wallet containing approximately 100 Bitcoins (then valued at more than \$5 million), and laundered the funds through cryptocurrency exchanges.

In July, the same year, Ferro flew to New Mexico, monitored a victim's home for several days using a cell phone, and broke in by smashing a window with a brick after accomplices tracking the victim's location through his iCloud account confirmed they had left the residence

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<https://www.bleepingcomputer.com/news/security/crypto-gang-member-gets-65-years-for-role-in-230-million-heist/>

Edmond Dantes - May 10, 2026, 4:29 am

6.5 years in prison is nothing for the amount they stole, imagine stealing that much from a bank.

Deany - May 10, 2026, 4:32 am

Crazy to see the street thugs becoming now cyber thugs lol

INCREDIBLE - May 10, 2026, 4:37 am

(May 10, 2026 04:32 AM)Deany Wrote: [CITE](#) Crazy to see the street thugs becoming now cyber thugs lol

Its venture of Old School with New School thieves. Too bad that the punishment served is not even moderate, let alone harsh.

The judge needs to lose some money, I guess. ?

MadScientist - May 10, 2026, 6:37 am

(May 10, 2026 04:29 AM)Edmond Dantes Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) 6.5 years in prison is nothing for the amount they stole, imagine stealing that much from a bank.

Says someone whos never been in prison?

Edmond Dantes - May 10, 2026, 6:38 am

(May 10, 2026 06:37 AM)MadScientist Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Says someone whos never been in prison? I don't say it's small amount, but imagine if they stole that amount from bank or some other institution. They'd be facing 15 years +

DAL-SHA - May 10, 2026, 7:52 am

Well , I believe its good for them for the short term sentence .. They deserve more Yes , but they found the flaw and worked in exploiting it !

OG-Pablo - May 11, 2026, 2:40 am

This case serves as a cautionary tale for cryptocurrency holders to secure not only their digital assets but also their physical hardware wallets. Awareness of privacy risks like location tracking on devices is also crucial.

444 - May 13, 2026, 10:35 pm

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so malone in 2024 did this and is facing up to 20 years in prison per count for charges including wire fraud and money laundering.

but this guy only facing 6.5 years, crazy how much influence malone had.
people saw potential and took the risks, who knows if they will ever get that crypto back.

reminds me of this story but this is physical gold from the 1857, the ship had been carrying 30,000 pounds of gold:

<https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/cg4g7kn99q3o>

TLDR; the gold was never officially confiscated.

ModernEHustle - May 14, 2026, 8:34 pm

(May 9, 2026 06:03 PM)MadScientist Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) A 20-year-old California man was sentenced to 78 months in prison for serving as a home invader and money launderer in a criminal ring that stole over \$250 million in cryptocurrency.

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Isn't it insane how young these guys are getting money we could never even imagine having

ModernEHustle - May 14, 2026, 8:45 pm

(May 14, 2026 08:42 PM)MadScientist Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) No 14 year olds been getting that for decades
And here I am making 23\$ an hour lol

Pum Pum - May 16, 2026, 10:46 pm

This is crazy

pro10media - May 31, 2026, 10:25 pm

that's it?

Hackers - June 5, 2026, 8:40 am

(May 10, 2026 04:29 AM)Edmond Dantes Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) 6.5 years in prison is nothing for the amount they stole, imagine stealing that much from a bank.

Yeah I think I'd do 6.5 for \$6.5M, and certainly a larger % of \$230M.

But I'm whitehat and won't take that risk.

There's no guarantee you can use the funds and if they hide them & are found to be using the funds later on, they could be seized or sued in civil court.

Exchanges can blacklist addresses and also specific coins that can't be mixed, so it would be very hard to genuinely move \$230M without raising red flags or getting in even more trouble after the fact.

an0bixz - June 7, 2026, 12:13 pm

hackers nailed it about the liquidity problem. stealing 230m is one thing but actually moving it without getting flagged by chainalysis or exchange kyc is basically impossible these days

most of that crypto is prob just sitting in some wallet gathering dust cuz every hop gets tracked. the 6.5 years might seem light but thats proly cuz he flipped on the bigger fish who actually knew how to launder properly

also crazy how icloud location tracking was the weak link here. reminds me that opsec fails are usually way more dangerous than any technical exploit xd

CyberneticsX - June 15, 2026, 2:18 am

\$230 million, damn.

_VOX - June 15, 2026, 3:24 am

To think all this crypto stealing stuff most likely started off in on a Minecraft server.

Pr0m3th3us - June 15, 2026, 3:31 am

Gotta give this guy major credit, he honestly had an ingenious plan mixing current digital methods with old school burglaries. I love it. Props, major props bro.