

U.S. NEWS

Man who used Covid funds on \$57,000 Pokémon card gets 3 years in prison

Vinath Oudomsine of Dublin, Georgia, received \$85,000 from the loan program, prosecutors said, and used it to buy a Pokémon trading card for \$57,789.

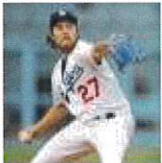


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By The Associated Press

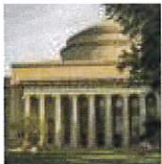
DUBLIN, Ga. – A Georgia man was sentenced to three years in prison after illegally obtaining a coronavirus relief loan and using more than \$57,000 of the money to buy a [collectable Pokémon card](#), authorities said Monday.

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Vinath Oudomsine of Dublin, Georgia, agreed to forfeit the costly trading card, which featured the Pokémon character Charizard, as part of a plea agreement, acting U.S. Attorney David Estes of the Southern District of Georgia said in a news release.

Oudomsine, 31, [pleaded guilty in October](#) to a single count of wire fraud. Prosecutors said in a legal filing that he submitted false information to the U.S. Small Business Administration last year when applying for a Covid-19 relief loan for an “entertainment services” business he claimed to own. They said he lied about how many people he employed as well as his business’ annual revenues.

Oudomsine received \$85,000 from the loan program, prosecutors said, and used it to buy a Pokémon trading card for \$57,789.

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