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Leroy Fick's attorney describes how Auburn-area lottery winner squandered \$850,000

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MOUNT PLEASANT — Midland attorney John Wilson said his lottery-winning client Leroy N. Fick took about a year to blow through \$850,000.

At Fick's [sentencing Thursday on a felony charge](#) of illegal possession of prescription painkiller in Isabella County, Wilson said Fick lives on a fixed income of \$1,100 despite having won nearly \$2 million in the state's Make Me Rich! lottery in June 2010. After taxes, Fick received a lump sum of about \$850,000, Wilson said.

Fick spent \$200,000 on the construction of a new home and about \$200,000 in annuities, Wilson said. The majority of the remainder was lost in ill-advised investments suggested by Fick's friends and relatives and fireworks. Part of his winnings also went to the purchase of a Chevrolet Camaro, as seen on an October episode of the [TLC program "Lottery Changed My Life."](#)

Fick is charged in Bay County with [three misdemeanor counts of possession of illegal fireworks](#). Witnesses reported Fick with Roman candles, mortars and rockets at his Williams Township home on Sept. 5 and 26 and near the intersection of Flajole and West Townline roads on Sept. 27.

Isabella County Trial Judge Mark H. Duthie sentenced Fick to 45 days in jail with credit for three days served. Once he's served his time, Fick is expected to enter into a plea deal regarding the fireworks charges, Wilson said.

Fick, who continued to use a Bridge Card after winning the lottery, declined to comment when Duthie gave him the chance. Though Fick arrived in court wearing a baseball cap proclaiming his status as a Vietnam veteran, the judge ordered him to remove the hat during the proceedings.