



Department of Justice

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SIX CHARGED WITH PRODUCING FALSE IDENTIFICATION DOCUMENTS

Indictment Unsealed Today Charges Former State Employee with Accepting Bribes to Produce Driver's Licenses

Madison, Wisconsin -- John W. Vaudreuil, United States Attorney for the Western District of Wisconsin, announced that six individuals have been charged with conspiring to produce and transfer identification documents produced without lawful authority. The indictment alleges that the conspiracy operated from December 2009 to July 2010. Those charged in the indictment are:

1. Khue Xiong, 36, Stevens Point, Wis., a former employee of the Wisconsin Department of Transportation, who worked at a Stevens Point office of the Division of Motor Vehicles. In addition to the conspiracy charge, Xiong is charged with nine counts of producing Wisconsin driver's licenses without lawful authority. Xiong is also charged with accepting cash payments in exchange for providing Wisconsin driver's licenses to approximately 70 individuals who were not eligible to obtain them by lawful means because they were in the United States illegally. Xiong is in custody in Minnesota on unrelated state charges and no date has been set for his initial appearance in federal court in Madison.

2. Eric Silva, 38, Stevens Point, is charged with the conspiracy, nine counts of producing identification documents without lawful authority, and bribing Xiong. Silva will make an initial appearance in federal court in Madison on Friday, February 11, at 2:00 p.m.

3. Rolando Lima, 36, Appleton, Wis., is charged with conspiracy and two counts of producing an identification document without legal authority. He is a fugitive.

4. Ricardo Gonzales de Arcos, 26, Marshfield, Wis., is charged with conspiracy and two counts of producing an identification document without legal

authority. He will make an initial appearance in federal court in Madison on Friday, February 11, at 2:00 p.m.

5. Sebastian Cortes Vieyra, 29, Appleton, is charged with conspiracy and five counts of producing an identification document without legal authority. He made an initial appearance in federal court in Madison today and was ordered detained pending further proceedings.

6. Benito A. Alvarez Saldana, 28, Jefferson, Wis., is charged with conspiracy and two counts of producing an identification document without legal authority. He was given a summons to appear in federal court in Madison. The date for that appearance has not been set.

The indictment alleges that Silva served as a middleman between Xiong and the buyers. Silva is alleged to have found buyers for the licenses and acted as a point of contact for the buyers during the transactions. The indictment alleges that Rolando Lima, Ricardo Gonzales de Arcos, Sebastian Cortes Vieyra and Benito A. Alvarez Saldana also found buyers for the licenses and collected cash payments from buyers throughout Wisconsin.

If convicted, the defendants face a maximum penalty of 15 years in federal prison on each production count and the conspiracy count. Xiong and Silva also face a maximum penalty of 10 years in federal prison on the bribery count.

The charges against these six men are the result of an investigation by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement's Homeland Security Investigations and the Wisconsin Department of Justice, Division of Criminal Investigation, with the assistance of the Wisconsin Department of Transportation. The prosecution of this matter is assigned to Assistant U.S. Attorney Meredith P. Duchemin.

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