

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS
EL PASO DIVISION**

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Plaintiff,

v.

JOSE MARIO CARRERA-MARRUFO,

**a.k.a. Jose Cabrera,
a.k.a. Mario Cabrera,
a.k.a. Mario Carrera,**

Defendant.

§ **CRIMINAL NO. EP-13-CR-**

§

§ **SEALED**
§ **INDICTMENT**

§

§ **CTS 1-4: 18 U.S.C. §1343-Wire fraud;**

§ **CTS 5-7: 18 U.S.C. § 912-False**

§ **Personation of an Officer or Employee of**
§ **the United States; and**

§ **CT 8: 18 U.S.C. § 1956-Money**

§ **Laundering**

§

§ **Notice of Government's Demand for**

§ **Forfeiture**

THE GRAND JURY CHARGES:

COUNTS ONE THROUGH FOUR
(18 U.S.C. § 1343)

That beginning on or about November 1, 2010 and continuing to and including on or about December 31, 2011, in the Western District of Texas, and elsewhere, the Defendant,

**JOSE MARIO CARRERA-MARRUFO,
a.k.a. Jose Cabrera, a.k.a. Mario Cabrera, a.k.a. Mario Carrera,**

knowingly devised and intended to devise a scheme and artifice to defraud and to obtain money and property by means of material false and fraudulent pretenses, representations, and promises.

A. The Manner and Means of the Scheme and Artifice

It was a part of the scheme and artifice to defraud that:

1. The Defendant represented himself to be an employee, officer, or agent with an agency or department which dealt with immigration matters, or as an immigration attorney, to the victims.

2. The Defendant made contact with the victims, via telephone, text messages, and email and in some instances face to face meetings.

3. The victims learned of the Defendant through others, by word of mouth.

4. As part of the scheme and artifice to defraud, the Defendant targeted individuals who had exhausted, or were in the process of exhausting all legitimate means to secure immigration documentation for their relatives and themselves.

5. To induce the victims, the Defendant, would discuss immigration matters using terms ostensibly to highlight his knowledge of the immigration system and would refer to locations at which legitimate immigration matters are dealt with.

6. The victims were instructed to email various identification documents to the Defendant at his email account in order to start and or facilitate the process of obtaining immigration documents.

7. Once the emails with the identification documents attached were received, the victims were told to deposit funds in accounts associated with the Defendant. The Defendant would give specific bank information on the accounts, to include the account numbers. However, none of these accounts were in his name.

8. Once the documents had been emailed and the deposits had been made, the Defendant would continue communicating with the victims. At times he would indicate that he was working on a "package deal" and would encourage the victim to refer others to him in order to reduce the total cost to the victim, or to facilitate the progress of the victims' paperwork.

9. None of the victims received immigration documentation as a result of their payments to the Defendant.

B. Execution of the Scheme and Artifice

On or about the dates alleged below, in the Western District of Texas, and elsewhere, Defendant,

**JOSE MARIO CARRERA-MARRUFO,
a.k.a. Jose Cabrera, a.k.a. Mario Cabrera, a.k.a. Mario Carrera,**

for the purpose of executing the aforesaid scheme and artifice to defraud and to obtain money by means of material false and fraudulent pretenses, representations, and promises, knowingly transmitted and caused to be transmitted by means of wire communication in interstate and foreign commerce the following writings, signs, signals, pictures, and sounds:

COUNT	NATURE OF TRANSMISSION	APPROXIMATE DATE OF TRANSMISSION
ONE	Email from Victim JJHL to a Hotmail account	November 10, 2010
TWO	Email from Victim RP to a Hotmail account	March 4, 2011
THREE	Email from Victim MA to a Hotmail account	August 18, 2011
FOUR	Email from Victim MMVR to a Hotmail account	December 14, 2011

said scheme and artifice to defraud and to obtain money by material false and fraudulent representations, was all in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 1343.

COUNT FIVE
(18 U.S.C. § 912)

That beginning on or about March 1, 2011 continuing to and including on or about July 31, 2011, in the Western District of Texas and elsewhere, the defendant,

JOSE MARIO CARRERA-MARRUFO,
a.k.a. Jose Cabrera, a.k.a. Mario Cabrera, a.k.a. Mario Carrera,

did falsely assume and pretend to be an officer and employee of the United States acting under the authority thereof, that is an immigration agent, and in such assumed and pretended character with intent to defraud did falsely demand and obtain a thing of value from MC, in that he demanded on behalf of the United States money and obtained for the United States, the sum of seventy eight hundred dollars (\$7,800.00), in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 912.

COUNT SIX
(18 USC § 912)

That beginning on or about December 1, 2011 continuing to and including on or about December 31, 2011, in the Western District of Texas and elsewhere, the defendant,

JOSE MARIO CARRERA-MARRUFO,
a.k.a. Jose Cabrera, a.k.a. Mario Cabrera, a.k.a. Mario Carrera,

did falsely assume and pretend to be an officer and employee of the United States acting under the authority thereof, that is an immigration agent, and in such assumed and pretended character with intent to defraud did falsely demand and obtain a thing of value from CPL, in that he demanded on behalf of the United States money and obtained for the United States, the sum of one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00), in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 912.

COUNT SEVEN
(18 USC § 912)

That beginning on or about December 1, 2011 continuing to and including on or about February 9, 2012, in the Western District of Texas and elsewhere, the defendant,

JOSE MARIO CARRERA-MARRUFO,
a.k.a. Jose Cabrera, a.k.a. Mario Cabrera, a.k.a. Mario Carrera,

did falsely assume and pretend to be an officer and employee of the United States acting under the authority thereof, that is an immigration agent, and in such assumed and pretended character with intent to defraud did falsely demand and obtain a thing of value from MMVR, in that he demanded on behalf of the United States money and obtained for the United States, the sum of ten thousand eight hundred dollars (\$10,800.00), in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 912.

COUNT EIGHT
(18 U.S.C. § 1956 (a)(1)(B)(i))

That beginning on or about November 1, 2010, continuing to and including on or about December 31, 2011, in the Western District of Texas and elsewhere, Defendant,

JOSE MARIO CARRERA-MARRUFO,
a.k.a. Jose Cabrera, a.k.a. Mario Cabrera, a.k.a. Mario Carrera,

did knowingly conduct and attempt to conduct a financial transaction affecting interstate and foreign commerce, which involved the proceeds of a specified unlawful activity, that is wire fraud, knowing that the transaction was designed in whole and in part to conceal and disguise, the nature, location, source, ownership, and control of the proceeds of said specified unlawful activity and that

while conducting and attempting to conduct such financial transaction knew that the property involved in the financial transaction represented the proceeds of some form of unlawful activity.

All in violation of Title 18 United States Code Sections 1956(a)(1)(B)(i).

Notice of Government's Demand for Forfeiture
(18 U.S.C. §§ 981, 982, and 28 U.S.C. § 2461(c))

I. Upon conviction of one or more of the offenses set forth in Counts One through Four of this Indictment, the Defendant, **JOSE MARIO CARRERA-MARRUFO**, shall forfeit to the United States, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 981(a)(1)(C) and 28 U.S.C. § 2461(c), any property, real and personal, which constitutes or is derived from proceeds traceable to the offenses, including but not limited to the following:

MONEY JUDGMENT

A sum of United States currency, representing the amount of property which constitutes or is derived from proceeds traceable to the offenses alleged in Counts One through Four.

II. Upon the conviction of the offense set forth in Count Eight of this Indictment, the Defendant, **JOSE MARIO CARRERA-MARRUFO**, shall forfeit to the United States, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 982(a)(1), any property, real and personal, involved in such offenses, and any property traceable to such property, including but not limited to the following:

MONEY JUDGMENT

A sum of United States Currency, representing the amount of property that was involved in the offense alleged in Count Eight.

III. SUBSTITUTE ASSETS

If any property subject to forfeiture as a result of the offense(s) set forth in Counts One through Four and Count Eight, as a result of any act or omission of the Defendant, **JOSE MARIO CARRERA-MARRUFO**,

- a. cannot be located upon the exercise of due diligence;
- b. has been transferred or sold to, or deposited with, a third person;
- c. has been placed beyond the jurisdiction of the Court;
- d. has been substantially diminished in value; or
- e. has been commingled with other property which cannot be subdivided without difficulty;

it is the intent of the United States of America to seek forfeiture of any other property of said Defendant, pursuant to 21 U.S.C. § 853(p), as incorporated by 28 U.S.C. § 2461(c) and 18 U.S.C. § 982(b), up to the value of the property listed above as being subject to forfeiture.

A TRUE BILL

FOREPERSON OF THE GRAND JURY

ROBERT PITMAN
UNITED STATES ATTORNEY

BY: _____
Assistant U.S. Attorney