



U.S. Department of Justice
United States Attorney
Southern District of Florida
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NEWS RELEASE:

**MIAMI WOMAN CONVICTED OF CONSPIRACY TO COMMIT IMMIGRATION
FRAUD, AND WIRE FRAUD**

Jeffrey H. Sloman, Acting United States Attorney for the Southern District of Florida, Steven Mocsary, Special Agent in Charge, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), Office of Professional Responsibility, and Donald Balberchak, Special Agent in Charge, Department of Homeland Security (DHS), Office of Inspector General, announced that on July 2, 2009, defendant **Ada Calveiro** was found guilty by a Miami jury on all counts of the Indictment against her, charging one count of conspiracy to commit wire fraud and making false statements in immigration papers, and seven counts of wire fraud. Sentencing is scheduled before U.S. District Judge Paul C. Huck for September 8, 2009.

According to evidence presented at trial, the defendants were part of a scheme to defraud aliens by soliciting payments from them and falsely promising to assist them with immigration matters. More specifically, from approximately February 2003 through November 2004, defendant Calveiro, 60, and previously convicted co-defendants, **Nestor Romero**, 56, and **Raphael Diaz De La Rocha**, 52, completed and submitted fraudulent applications for work authorizations on behalf of illegal aliens, collecting as much as \$7,500 from each defrauded alien. The scheme transpired in Florida and also in New York; however the three defendants were residing in Miami-Dade County. As part of the scheme, Nestor Romero represented himself to be an immigration attorney and/or an employee with the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) who could provide services to illegal aliens. As a result, hundreds of victims were defrauded.

However, none of the submitted applications were approved by U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services.

After receiving payments for his alleged services, defendant Romero prepared false immigration documents using personal information belonging to numerous identity theft victims, including alien registration numbers belonging to individuals who had not requested such applications. In selling immigration services to aliens, defendant Nestor Romero represented himself to be employed by DHS. Through this scheme, the defendants collected more than \$426,700 from aliens in connection with their immigration business. The five year investigation within the Department of Homeland Security was initiated after receiving reports from multiple victims.

Mr. Sloman commended the investigative efforts of ICE's Office of Professional Responsibility and the Department of Homeland Security, Office of Inspector General. This case was prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorneys Kelly S. Karase and Susan R. Osborne.

A copy of this press release may be found on the website of the United States Attorney's Office for the Southern District of Florida at www.usdoj.gov/usao/fls. Related court documents and information may be found on the website of the District Court for the Southern District of Florida at www.flsd.uscourts.gov or on <http://pacer.flsd.uscourts.gov>.