

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
DISTRICT OF NEW JERSEY

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA : Hon.
v. : Criminal No. 14-
ABIODUN ADEJOHN, :
a/k/a "James Williams," :
a/k/a "Olawale Adeyemi," : 18 U.S.C. § 1349
a/k/a "Abiodun Ade John," :
a/k/a "Abiodun Ade-John" :

INFORMATION

The defendant having waived in open court prosecution by
Indictment, the United States Attorney for the District of New Jersey charges:

BACKGROUND

1. At various times relevant to this Information, defendant
ABIODUN ADEJOHN, a/k/a "James Williams," a/k/a "Olawale Adeyemi," a/k/a
"Abiodun Ade John," a/k/a "Abiodun Ade-John," resided in or near Lagos,
Nigeria.

2. From at least as early as in or about 2012 through in or about
December 2013, defendant ADEJOHN and his co-conspirators operated a
computer hacking and identity theft scheme that targeted a number of United
States government agencies, their employees, and vendors of office products that
were approved to do business with the government agencies (the "Victim
Vendors").

3. In “phishing” attacks, online criminals create fraudulent websites and e-mails that mimic the legitimate websites and e-mails of entities (such as government agencies) in an attempt to trick unwitting computer users—who believe that they are dealing with legitimate websites—into divulging their e-mail usernames and passwords (“Log-In Credentials). The Log-In Credentials, once stolen, can be used in furtherance of computer crimes that involve unauthorized access to online accounts.

4. Defendant ADEJOHN and his co-conspirators used “phishing” attacks to trick unwitting employees of a number of government agencies (the “Victim Employees”) into giving up their Log-In Credentials.

5. Defendant ADEJOHN and his co-conspirators used the stolen Log-In Credentials to access the Victim Employees’ e-mail accounts, which they then used to place fraudulent orders for office products from the Victim Vendors.

THE CONSPIRACY

6. From at least as early as in or about 2012 through in or about September 2013, in Passaic County in the District of New Jersey, and elsewhere, defendant

ABIODUN ADEJOHN,
a/k/a “James Williams,”
a/k/a “Olawale Adeyemi,”
a/k/a “Abiodun Ade John,”
a/k/a Abiodun Ade-John,”

did knowingly and intentionally conspire and agree with Taiwo Hassan Adeyemi and others, to devise a scheme and artifice to defraud and to obtain money and

property by means of materially false and fraudulent pretenses, representations, and promises, and for the purpose of executing such scheme and artifice to defraud, transmitted and caused to be transmitted by means of wire communications in interstate and foreign commerce, certain writings, signs, signals, pictures and sounds, contrary to Title 18, United States Code, Section 1343.

OBJECT OF THE CONSPIRACY

7. It was the object of the conspiracy for defendant ADEJOHN and his co-conspirators to enrich themselves by obtaining fraudulently ordered office products from Victim Vendors using stolen Log-In Credentials obtained through phishing attacks.

MANNER AND MEANS OF THE CONSPIRACY

8. It was part of the conspiracy that defendant ADEJOHN and his co-conspirators created fraudulent web pages (“Phishing Pages”) that mirrored the legitimate webmail pages of several government agencies, including those of the United States Environmental Protection Agency and the United States Department of Commerce—Census Bureau.

9. It was further part of the conspiracy that defendant ADEJOHN and his co-conspirators caused phishing e-mails to be sent to the Victim Employees in an attempt to trick the Victim Employees into visiting the Phishing Pages. These phishing e-mails appeared to be legitimate e-mails from the government agencies, but were, in fact, fraudulent e-mails that contained

electronic links to the Phishing Pages. Victim Employees who clicked on the electronic links were directed to the Phishing Pages, where they saw what appeared to be the legitimate webmail log-in pages of the government agencies and were prompted for their Log-In Credentials. In some cases, Victim Employees entered their Log-In Credentials when prompted to do so.

10. It was further part of the conspiracy that defendant ADEJOHN and his co-conspirators captured any Log-In Credentials that Victim Employees typed into the Phishing Pages, which were then transmitted to e-mail accounts that they controlled.

11. It was further part of the conspiracy that defendant ADEJOHN and his co-conspirators used stolen Log-In Credentials to access Victim Employees' e-mail accounts in order to place fraudulent orders for office products with the Victim Vendors in the names of Victim Employees.

12. It was further part of the conspiracy that defendant ADEJOHN and his co-conspirators directed that the fraudulently ordered office products be shipped to the addresses of unwitting individuals located in Passaic County, New Jersey, and elsewhere (the "Repackagers").

13. It was further part of the conspiracy that defendant ADEJOHN directed Repackagers to receive, repackage, and ship the fraudulently ordered office products to other locations overseas which were controlled by defendant ADEJOHN and his co-conspirators.

14. It was further part of the conspiracy that defendant ADEJOHN and his co-conspirators paid Repackagers by money transfers, including Western Union.

15. It was further part of the conspiracy that once the shipments were received overseas, defendant ADEJOHN and his co-conspirators would arrange to sell the fraudulently obtained goods for a profit.

In violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 1349.

FORFEITURE ALLEGATION


1. The allegations contained in this Information are hereby incorporated and realleged by reference for the purpose of noticing forfeiture pursuant to Title 18, United States Code, Section 981(a)(1)(C) and Title 28, United States Code, Section 2461(c).

2. The United States hereby gives notice to defendant that, upon conviction of this Information, the United States will seek forfeiture, in accordance with Title 18, United States Code, Section 981(a)(1)(C) and Title 28, United States Code, Section 2461(c), of any and all property, real or personal, that constitutes or is derived from proceeds traceable to the commission of such offense.

3. If by any act or omission of defendant any of the property subject to forfeiture described above:

- a. cannot be located upon the exercise of due diligence;
- b. has been transferred or sold to, or deposited with, a third party;
- 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 divided without difficulty;

it is the intent of the United States, pursuant to Title 21, United States Code, Section 853(p), as incorporated by Title 28, United States Code, Section 2461(c), to seek forfeiture of any other property of the defendant up to the value of the above-described forfeitable property.


PAUL J. FISHMAN
UNITED STATES ATTORNEY

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**INFORMATION
CHARGING VIOLATION OF**

18 U.S.C. § 1349

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