

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
DISTRICT OF NEW JERSEY

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA : Criminal No. 09-
 :
 v. : 18 U.S.C. § 1951(a) and § 2
 :
 GUY CATRILLO : I N F O R M A T I O N

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

Attempted Extortion Under Color of Official Right

1. At all times relevant to this Information:

a. Defendant GUY CATRILLO (hereinafter "defendant CATRILLO") served as a Planning Aide for the Jersey City Division of City Planning ("JCDCP"). In this capacity, defendant CATRILLO's duties included, but were not limited to, processing, reviewing and making recommendations concerning real estate development applications for, among other entities, the Jersey City Planning Board and the Jersey City Zoning Board of Adjustment. Additionally, defendant CATRILLO was a candidate for election to the Municipal Council of Jersey City (Ward E) ("JC City Council"), held on or about May 12, 2009, in which he did not prevail.

b. There was a cooperating witness (the "CW") who, at the direction of the Federal Bureau of Investigation ("FBI"), held himself out to be a real estate developer interested in

development in the greater Jersey City area. The CW represented that the CW did business in numerous states, including New York and New Jersey, and that the CW paid for goods and services in interstate commerce.

2. From in or about February 2009 to in or about May 2009, defendant CATRILLO accepted corrupt payments of approximately \$15,000 from the CW in exchange for defendant CATRILLO's official assistance as a member of the JCDCP, and for defendant CATRILLO's future official assistance as an anticipated member of the JC City Council, in attempting to obtain certain development approvals on behalf of the CW. Specific instances of this corrupt conduct included:

a. On or about February 9, 2009, in Weehawken, New Jersey, defendant CATRILLO accepted a corrupt cash payment of approximately \$5,000 from the CW in exchange for defendant CATRILLO's official assistance, in his capacity as a member of the JCDCP, in attempting to obtain expedited development approvals on a property located on Garfield Avenue in Jersey City, New Jersey (the "Garfield Development").

b. On or about March 16, 2009, in Weehawken, New Jersey, defendant CATRILLO accepted a corrupt cash payment of approximately \$5,000 from the CW in exchange for defendant CATRILLO's future official assistance, in his anticipated capacity as a member of the JC City Council, in attempting to

obtain expedited development approvals on the Garfield Development.

c. On or about April 23, 2009, in Jersey City, New Jersey, defendant CATRILLO accepted a corrupt cash payment of approximately \$5,000 from the CW in exchange for CATRILLO's future official assistance, in his anticipated capacity as a member of the JC City Council, in attempting to obtain expedited development approvals on the Garfield Development. In addition, defendant CATRILLO agreed to accept another \$5,000 cash payment from the CW after the election in exchange for exercising his official influence in favor of the CW in Jersey City Government matters.

d. On or about May 26, 2009, defendant CATRILLO arranged for the JCDCP Planning Director to speak with an individual, acting on behalf of the CW, about the CW's purchase and development of a property tract in Jersey City, New Jersey.

3. From in or about February 2009 to in or about May 2009, in Hudson County, in the District of New Jersey and elsewhere, defendant

GUY CATRILLO

did knowingly and willfully attempt to obstruct, delay and affect interstate commerce by extortion under color of official right, by corruptly accepting and agreeing to accept corrupt payments that were paid and to be paid by another, with that person's

consent, in exchange for exercising and agreeing to exercise defendant CATRILLO's official influence and assistance as a member of the JCDCP, and future official influence as an anticipated member of the JC City Council.

In violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 1951(a) and Section 2.

Forfeiture Allegation

As the result of committing the aforementioned offense in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 1951(a), as alleged in this Information, defendant GUY CATRILLO shall forfeit to the United States pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 981(a)(1)(C) and 28 U.S.C. § 2461, all property, real and personal, that constitutes or is derived from proceeds traceable to the commission of the offense, including but not limited to, approximately \$15,000 in United States currency, in that such sum constitutes or is derived, directly or indirectly, from proceeds traceable to the commission of the attempt to commit extortion under color of official right.

If any of the above-described forfeitable property, as a result of any act or omission of defendant CATRILLO:

- (1) cannot be located upon the exercise of due diligence;
- (2) has been transferred or sold to, or deposited with, a third person;
- (3) has been placed beyond the jurisdiction of the Court;
- (4) has been substantially diminished in value; or
- (5) has been commingled with other property which cannot be subdivided without difficulty;

it is the intent of the United States, pursuant to 21 U.S.C. § 853(p), to seek forfeiture of any other property of defendant CATRILLO up to the value of the above forfeitable property.

All in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section
981 and Title 28, United States Code, Section 2461.

RALPH J. MARRA, JR.
Acting United States Attorney