

PRESS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release

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FORMER GOODWILL INDUSTRIES EMPLOYEE ARRAIGNED ON FEDERAL THEFT CHARGES

ALBUQUERQUE – Yesterday afternoon[n in federal court, Francis Louis Carrillo, 48, of Albuquerque, was arraigned on a six-count indictment charging him with theft of government property and theft concerning programs receiving federal funds. Carrillo, who was arrested on May 25, 2012, entered a not guilty plea to the indictment, and was released on conditions and under pretrial supervision pending trial.

U.S. Attorney Kenneth J. Gonzales said that Carrillo is charged with embezzling thousands of dollars in federal funds provided through grant programs administered by the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and the Department of Labor (DOL). At the time of the offenses alleged in the indictment, Carrillo was employed as the Deputy Director of Community Programs at Goodwill Industries of New Mexico (Goodwill).

According to the indictment, HUD funds the Supportive Housing Program (SHP) which provides affordable housing for low-income Americans and DOL funds the Senior Community Service Employment Program (SCSEP) which provides vocational training for older Americans. Although funded by HUD and DOL, the SHP and SCSEP are administered at the local level by community organizations and not-for-profit corporations. Goodwill, a not-for-profit corporation that provides skill development and vocational training opportunities to community members facing barriers to employment, received more than \$80,000 per year in 2008, 2009 and 2010 through the SHP and SCSEP programs. Goodwill was permitted to use these federal funds to provide short-term emergency rental assistance to local residents facing eviction and homelessness as the result of sudden job loss or other economic setback.

The indictment alleges that, between Jan. 2008 and May 2010, Carrillo engaged in a scheme to steal funds from Goodwill, including funds received through the SHP and SCSEP programs, by issuing false and fraudulent checks for short-term rental assistance. Carrillo allegedly carried out the scheme by causing false check requests to be issued based on the supposed need for short-term rental assistance for Goodwill clients and falsified the names of the landlords. Upon issuance of the checks, Carrillo allegedly would have the payees either cash the checks and provide him with the funds, or endorse the checks so that Carillo could cash them himself.

Counts 1, 2 and 3 of the indictment allege that Carrillo embezzled DOL funds exceeding an aggregate of \$1000 in May 2008, June 2008 and Jan. 2010. Counts 4, 5 and 6 allege that Carrillo embezzled more than \$15,000 in HUD funds between Jan. 2008 and Jan. 2010. Each of the six charges carries a maximum penalty of ten years of imprisonment and a \$250,000 fine on conviction.

The case was investigated by the HUD Office of Inspector General and DOL Office of Inspector General, and is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney John C. Anderson.

An indictment is only an accusation. All criminal defendants are presumed innocent until proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt.

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