

Southern District of Florida

Press Release

MIAMI BUSINESS WOMAN CHARGED WITH TAX EVASION

February 14, 2008

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

R. Alexander Acosta, United States Attorney for the Southern District of Florida, and Michael E. Yasofsky, Jr., Special Agent in Charge, Internal Revenue Service, Criminal Investigation Division, announced yesterday's arrest of defendant **Sorga Suarez, a/k/a Sorgalim Barzaga, a/k/a Sorgalim Sin Barzaga, a/k/a Sorgalim Valladares, a/k/a Lizette Valladares, a/k/a/ Lizette Solis**, of Miami, Florida, on a charge of tax evasion, in violation of Title 26, United States Code, Section 7201. Suarez faces a maximum term of imprisonment of five (5) years for the tax evasion charge.

According to the Indictment, Suarez owned and operated Business Etcetera, Inc. (BEI), a private, for-profit company that was primarily funded by federal student loans and grants issued by the United States Department of Education. BEI was located at 720 N.W. 27th Avenue, Miami, Florida. During calendar year 2001, Suarez allegedly received taxable income in excess of \$1,000,000 and owed a substantial amount of income tax to the Internal Revenue Service (IRS). Suarez willfully attempted to evade said income taxes by failing to file an income tax return for calendar year 2001. In addition, she allegedly concealed from the IRS the nature and extent of her assets and her true and correct income by having her company, BEI, pay her personal expenses and then falsely classifying the expenditures in corporate accounting records as deductible expenses of the corporation.

Mr. Acosta commended the investigative efforts of the Internal Revenue Service, Criminal Investigation Division. This case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Lois Foster-Steers.

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 <http://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 <http://www.flsd.uscourts.gov> or on <http://pacer.flsd.uscourts.gov>.

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