IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA

:

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA : CRIMINAL NO. 11-

:

: DATE FILED:

:

JASON MILBRANDT : VIOLATION:

18 U.S.C. § 641 (conversion of government

funds – 1 count)

: 18 U.S.C. § 981 (forfeiture)

INFORMATION

COUNT ONE

THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY CHARGES THAT:

At all times material to this information:

- 1. The Department of Veterans Affairs ("VA"), an agency of the United States, administered certain service-related benefit programs, including the Dependency and Indemnity Compensation ("DIC") program, pursuant to Title 38, United States Code, Sections 1310-18.
- 2. If a veteran dies after December 31, 1956, from a service-connected or compensable disability, the DIC program provides monthly cash benefits to a veteran's surviving spouse, children, and/or parents who meet specified criteria defined by 38 U.S.C. §§ 1310-18. In the case of a surviving spouse, benefits generally discontinue if the surviving spouse remarries.
- 3. On or about March 6, 1990, defendant JASON MILBRANDT married April Francine-Sullivan, a member of the United States Air Force. On or about July 31, 1993, Francine-Sullivan died from a service-connected disability.

- 4. Subsequent to the death of Francine-Sullivan, defendant JASON MILBRANDT applied for DIC. He was approved for DIC benefits by the Department of Veterans Affairs, effective August 1, 1993.
- On or about August 12, 1995, defendant JASON MILBRANDT remarried.
 Defendant JASON MILBRANDT did not report his marriage to the Department of Veterans
 Affairs.
- 6. On or about October 24, 2002, the Department of Veterans Affairs sent defendant JASON MILBRANDT a letter requesting he report his marital status. The letter advised that if he had remarried, his benefits would be stopped retroactively. On or about November 12, 2002, the Department of Veterans Affairs received a letter from defendant JASON MILBRANDT in which he falsely stated that he had not remarried.
- 7. On or about May 12, 2010, the Department of Veterans Affairs sent defendant JASON MILBRANDT a letter requesting he report his marital status. After receiving no reply, on or about August 12, 2010, the Department of Veterans Affairs sent defendant JASON MILBRANDT a second letter requesting he report his marital status. On or about August 16, 2010, defendant JASON MILBRANDT completed a Department of Veterans Affairs form in which he falsely stated that he had not remarried. Defendant JASON MILBRANDT has resided in Reading, Pennsylvania since at least 2004.
- 8. In 2011, the VA learned that defendant JASON MILBRANDT received DIC benefits from 1993 to 2011, even though he remarried on August 12, 1995. Thus, the VA terminated his DIC payments.

- 9. In total, defendant JASON MILBRANDT unlawfully received approximately \$185,458.00 in DIC payments despite his ineligibility beginning in August 1995 due to his remarriage.
- 10. Beginning in or about August 1995 through in or about August 2011, in the Eastern District of Pennsylvania and elsewhere, defendant

JASON MILBRANDT

knowingly converted to his own use money of the United States in excess of \$1,000, that is, approximately \$185,458.00 in DIC benefits payments, which he was ineligible to receive.

In violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 641.

NOTICE OF FORFEITURE

THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY CHARGES THAT:

As a result of the violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section
 set forth in this information, defendant

JASON MILBRANDT

shall forfeit to the United States of America:

- (a) any property constituting, or derived from, any proceeds obtained directly or indirectly from the commission of such offense.
- 2. If any of the property subject to forfeiture, as a result of any act or omission of the defendant:
 - (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 28, United States Code, Section 2461(c), incorporating Title 21, United States Code, Section 853(p), to seek forfeiture of any other property of the defendant(s) up to the value of the property subject to forfeiture.

All pursuant to Title 28, United States Code, Section 2461(c), and Title 18, United States Code, Section 981(a)(1)(C).

/s/ Zane David Memeger
ZANE DAVID MEMEGER
United States Attorney