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PHILADELPHIA LA COSA NOSTRA CAPO SENTENCED TO 57 MONTHS IN PRISON

PHILADELPHIA - Martin Angelina, 50, of Philadelphia, was sentenced today to 57 months in prison for his participation in a racketeering conspiracy involving loan sharking and illegal gambling, announced Assistant Attorney General Lanny A. Breuer of the Justice Department's Criminal Division, U.S. Attorney Zane David Memeger, and FBI Special Agent-in-Charge George C. Venizelos.

In addition to the prison term, U.S. District Court Judge Eduardo C. Robreno ordered 3 years of supervised release and a 7,500 fine. On Aug. 8, 2012, Angelina pleaded guilty to conspiring to conduct and participate in the affairs of the Philadelphia La Cosa Nostra (LCN) Family through a pattern of racketeering activity. At the time of the plea, Angelina admitted he attempted to collect payments related to usurious loans by using extortionate means and operated an illegal video poker machine business in furtherance of the racketeering conspiracy.

Angelina was among 14 members and associates of the Philadelphia LCN Family charged with crimes involving racketeering conspiracy, extortion, loan sharking, illegal gambling, witness tampering, and theft from an employee benefit plan. The other defendants charged included Philadelphia LCN Family boss Joseph Ligambi, underboss Joseph Massimino, George Borgesi, Gaeton Lucibello, Anthony Staino Jr., Damion Canalichio, Louis Barretta, Gary Battaglini, Robert Verrecchia, Eric Esposito, Robert Ranieri, Joseph Licata and Louis Fazzini.

Lucibello pleaded guilty to racketeering conspiracy charges on Aug. 2, 2012, and was sentenced to 51 months imprisonment, 3 years supervised release, and a \$7,500 fine. Barretta also pleaded guilty to racketeering conspiracy charges on Sep. 5, 2012, and is awaiting sentencing on Nov. 26, 2012.

The trial for Ligambi, Massimino, Borgesi, Staino Jr., Canalichio, Battaglini, Licata and Fazzini is scheduled for Oct. 9, 2012. The trial for Verrecchia, Esposito and Ranieri has not yet been scheduled. Ligambi, Massimino, Borgesi, Canalichio, Licata and Fazzini are detained while awaiting trial. Staino Jr., Battaglini, Verrecchia, Esposito and Ranieri are free on bond while awaiting trial.

The case is being prosecuted by Trial Attorney John S. Han of the Criminal Division's Organized Crime and Gang Section and Assistant U.S. Attorneys Frank A. Labor III and Suzanne B. Ercole. Valuable prosecutorial assistance was provided by the Pennsylvania Office of the Attorney General.

The case is being investigated by the FBI, the Internal Revenue Service Criminal Investigation, the Pennsylvania State Police, the New Jersey State Police, the Philadelphia Police Department, the U.S. Department of Labor's Office of Inspector General Office of Labor Racketeering and Fraud Investigations, and the U.S. Department of Labor's Employee Benefits Security Administration. Additional assistance was provided by the New Jersey Department of Corrections.

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