	Case 2:19-cr-00448-DLR Document 3	Filed 04/23/19 Page 1 of 29 FILED LODGED RECEIVED COPY
1		APR 2 3 2019
2		CLERK U S DISTRICT COURT DISTRICT OF ARIZONA
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5		J Breach das Statements
6	IN THE UNITED STAT	
7	FOR THE DISTRI	CT OF ARIZONA
8	United States of America,	No. CR-19-00448-PHX-DLR (MHB)
9	Plaintiff,	ΙΝΟΙΟΤΜΕΝΤ
10	VS.	VIO: 18 U.S.C. § 1349
11		(Conspiracy to Commit Securities Fraud and Wire Fraud) Count 1
12 13	Francisco Villena Abellan, a/k/a "Frank Abellan," "Frank Abel,"	
13	"Oracle," "Mark," and "Frank Villena"	18 U.S.C. § 1348 18 U.S.C. § 2 (Securities Fraud)
14	James B. Panther, Jr.,	Count 2
16	a/k/a "James Suqui" and "James Suquilanda,"	18 U.S.C. § 1956(h) (Conspiracy to Commit Money
17		Laundering) Count 3
18	and Faiyaz Dean,	
19	Defendants.	18 U.S.C. § 1957 18 U.S.C. § 2 (Money Laundering) Counts 4-8
20		
21		18 U.S.C. § 981(a)(1)(C) & 982 28 U.S.C. § 2461(c) (Forfeiture Allegation)
22		(Forfeiture Allegation)
23	THE GRAND JURY CHARGES:	
24	At all times material to this Indictment, w	vithin the District of Arizona and elsewhere:
25		
26	<u>GENERAL AI</u>	<u>LEGATIONS</u>
27	The Defendants, Rele	vant Individuals, & Entities
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Defendants

Defendant FRANCISCO ABELLAN, also known as, "Frank Abellan," "Frank 1. 2 3 Abel," "Oracle," "Mark," and "Frank Villena" ("ABELLAN"), was a citizen and resident of 4 Spain and a self-described venture capitalist. ABELLAN operated a fraudulent pump and dump 5 scheme involving the company Biozoom, Inc. ("Biozoom"), a Nevada corporation with its 6 principal place of business in Kassel, Germany. 7 Defendant JAMES B. PANTHER, JR., also known as, "James Suqui" and 2. 8 9 "James Suguilanda" ("PANTHER"), was a dual citizen of the United States and Ecuador and a 10 resident of California. PANTHER exercised influence and/or control over corporate entities used 11 in furtherance of the scheme described herein, to include Biozoom. 12 Defendant FAIYAZ DEAN ("DEAN") was a citizen and resident of Canada. 3. 13 DEAN was a licensed attorney in the United States who operated a law practice in Washington 14 15 State. 16 **Other Relevant Individuals and Entities** 17 Biozoom purported to be in the business of researching, developing, and licensing 4. 18 technologies related to the mobile remote collection of biomedical data as well as bilateral 19 diagnostic communication. In or around April 2013, Biozoom was formed as a result of a reverse 20 21 merger of a publiclytraded company, Entertainment Art, Inc. ("Entertainment Art"), a New York-22 based handbag company that used the trading symbol "EERT," and Opsolution Spectroscopic 23 Systems, Opsolution NanoPhotonics, and Opsolution GmbH (collectively, "Opsolution"), 24 German-based entities specializing in medical technologies. Following the merger, Biozoom's 25 common stock was publicly traded. 26 27 28

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Coconspirator 1 ("CC1") was a dual citizen of Argentina and Italy and a resident
 of Argentina. ABELLAN and CC1 jointly exercised influence and control over Royal Capital
 Ventures ("Royal"), a Seychelles-based shell corporation used in furtherance of the scheme. Funds
 for trading in Biozoom and to establish other corporate entities and bank accounts used in
 furtherance of the scheme were transferred to and from Royal. CC1 was a former beneficial owner
 of Royal.

Coconspirator 2 ("CC2") was a citizen and resident of Switzerland. CC2 operated 6. 8 9 or otherwise controlled multiple Swiss entities, to include Orbita GmbH ("Orbita"), and was the 10 beneficial owner of Allegemeine Finanz & Investment ("AFI"), a Swiss-based company 11 established and funded by ABELLAN and CC1. ABELLAN, CC1, and CC2 set up bank accounts 12 in Switzerland for AFI and brokerage accounts in the United States for the sale and purchase of 13 Biozoom shares. In addition, Orbita served as a financial intermediary to transfer funds between 14 15 corporate entities used in furtherance of the scheme.

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7. Coconspirator 3 ("CC3") was a citizen of the United States and a resident of the
State of Washington. CC3 worked as a day trader of stocks. At ABELLAN's direction, CC3
engaged in manipulative trading of Biozoom stock.

8. Nominee Director 1 was a citizen and resident of Switzerland. ABELLAN and
 CC2 installed Nominee Director 1 at AFI and executed correspondence in the name of Nominee
 Director 1 in furtherance of the scheme.

9. Foresight Media ("Foresight") was a UK-based company where ABELLAN
exercised influence and control and provided funding. Global Investors Research was also a UKbased company where ABELLAN and PANTHER exercised influence and control and which
operated Global Financial Insight. As described herein, Foresight, Global Investors Research, and

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Global Financial Insight were promotional companies that promoted Biozoom stock in major national and international media outlets to inflate the price of Biozoom stock as part of the pump and dump scheme.

10. David Lubin, a conspirator not named as a defendant herein, was a citizen of the United States and a resident of New York. Lubin was an attorney, was licensed to practice law in the State of New York, and acted as a promoter and attorney for public companies.

8 11. Steven Sanders, a conspirator not named as a defendant herein, was a citizen of the
9 United States and resident of Florida, and acted as a promoter for public companies.

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 12. Daniel McKelvey, a conspirator not named as a defendant herein, was a citizen of
 the United States and a resident of California, and acted as a promoter for public companies.

13 13. LeMond Capital ("LeMond) was a British Virgin Islands shell corporation that
 purchased Entertainment Art. ABELLAN, PANTHER, DEAN, and CC1 exercised influence and
 control over LeMond. ABELLAN, CC1, and CC2 used LeMond to establish brokerage accounts.
 LeMond was represented by DEAN in the purchase of Entertainment Art.

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14. Entity A was a retail and institutional broker-dealer principally engaged in the
deposit and liquidation of microcap stocks. Entity A had its principal office in Scottsdale, Arizona
and a secondary office in Carlsbad, California. Shares of Biozoom were traded at Entity A.

15. Shares of Biozoom were traded through BS, a market-making firm based in El
Segundo, California; LS, a securities brokerage and market making firm based in New York, New
York; SS, a full-service securities brokerage and market making firm based in Clearwater, Florida;
and ST/SU, an online stock broker specializing in online trading services based in Carmel, New
York.

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16. Victim A, an investor in Biozoom, was a resident of Surprise, Arizona.

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Victim B, an investor in Biozoom, was a resident of Phoenix, Arizona. 17.

Victim C, an investor in Biozoom, was a resident of Sahuarita, Arizona. 18.

19. Victim D, an investor in Biozoom, was a resident of Nogales, Arizona.

Definitions and Regulations

The Over-the-Counter ("OTC") securities market was the equity market for 20. securities not listed on a U.S. stock exchange, such as the New York Stock Exchange or the NASDAQ Stock Market. In general, securities were traded in the OTC market because the company was unable to meet the requirements to be listed on one of the U.S. stock exchanges. OTC securities were traded by broker-dealers who negotiated directly with one another over computer networks and by phone. Biozoom was traded on the OTC market.

"Microcap" or "penny" stocks referred to stocks of publicly traded U.S. companies 21. which have a low market capitalization. Biozoom was a microcap stock. Microcap stocks could 14 15 be subject to price manipulation because they were thinly traded and subject to less regulatory 16 scrutiny than stocks traded on exchanges like the New York Stock Exchange. Additionally, large 17 blocks of microcap stock were often controlled by a small group of individuals, which enabled 18 those in the group to control or orchestrate manipulative trading in those stocks. 19

22. Generally, a "pump and dump" scheme involved the artificial manipulation of the 20 21 price and/or trading volume of a particular stock in order to sell that stock at an artificially inflated 22 price. As part of a pump and dump scheme, an individual or group of individuals obtained control 23 over a substantial portion of the free trading shares of a company. Free trading shares were shares 24 of stock that could be traded without restriction. One of the first steps in executing a pump and 25 dump scheme involved the coconspirators gaining control over all or the vast majority of the free 26 27 trading shares in a company to control the market for the stock free from outside market influences.

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23. A "nominee" was someone who owned an asset merely on paper, in order to disguise the true owner of the property. Nominees were used in connection with the formation of shell companies. Bank and brokerage accounts opened in the name of a shell company with a nominee were often referred to as "nominee accounts." Such accounts were then used in a pump and dump scheme by allowing the coconspirators to give the appearance of an active market for a stock, when in fact the trades were being conducted among nominees controlled by co-conspirators. Nominee bank accounts were also often used to conceal the dissipation of the proceeds of the fraud.

24. A pump and dump scheme also involved parking shares by depositing or transferring them into different accounts, including accounts in the names of nominees, to conceal the ownership, control, and/or manipulative trading of the stock.

14 25. A "shell company" was a company which served as a vehicle for business
15 transactions, such as opening bank and brokerage accounts, without itself having any significant
16 assets or operations.

26. The "pump" involved artificially inflating a company's stock price and/or volume through various means that might include engaging in coordinated trading of the stock—usually by co-conspirators controlling both the buying and selling activity of the stock—to create the appearance of a more active market for that stock. The pump also involved disseminating false and misleading promotional materials-press releases purportedly from the company or advertisements touting the prospects of a company's stock—to encourage innocent investors to purchase the stock, and therefore increasing sales volume.

After pumping up the stock in the manner described above, the stock was 27. "dumped," meaning large quantities of the shares owned and controlled by the co-conspirators were liquidated by selling to unsuspecting investors.

Relevant Securities Regulations

5 The U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC") was an agency of the 28. 6 United States responsible for enforcing the securities laws, including the Securities Act of 1933, 7 15 U.S.C. § 77a et seq. ("Securities Act"), and the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, 15 U.S.C. 8 9 § 78a et seq. ("Exchange Act"). Regulations promulgated by the SEC defined and implemented 10 the requirements of the statutes. To register an offer or sale of securities, companies were required to file a Form S-1 registration statement with the SEC. Once a company's registration was deemed 12 effective, it was required to file periodic and annual reports with the SEC. These filings were 13 available to the public over the internet via the SEC's electronic filing system known as the 14 15 Electronic Data, Gathering, Analysis, and Retrieval System ("EDGAR").

16 29. Shares of public companies (known as "issuers") not registered via Form S-1 17 generally could not be sold to the public. Such shares were generally considered "restricted." 18 However, Rule 144 permitted the sale of restricted securities in certain circumstances. One of the 19 requirements for relying on Rule 144 was that the seller of the securities was not an "affiliate." 20 21 An "affiliate" was a person that directly, or indirectly through one or more intermediaries, 22 controlled, or was controlled by, or was under common control with, the issuer. 17 C.F.R. 23 § 230.144(a)(1). Control meant the power to direct the management and policies of the company 24 in question, whether through the ownership of voting securities, by contract, or otherwise. 17 25 C.F.R . § 230.405. 26

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30. In a "reverse merger," a private company acquired a majority of the shares of a public company, which was then merged with the purchasing entity. The public company was required to report the terms of a reverse merger in a filing with the SEC.

Entertainment Art and Biozoom were issuers that were required to file Form S-1s

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vehicles" or "shells."

Overview of the Fraudulent Scheme

and periodic reports with the SEC. These issuers were sometimes referred to as "public," "public

32. Lubin, Sanders, McKelvey, and others known and unknown to the Grand Jury, established shell companies, or issuers, and recruited individuals to serve as straw CEOs for these issuers. The conspirators caused shares to be issued in the names of the straw CEOs which would be labeled as control or restricted securities. Sanders, McKelvey, Lubin, and others known and unknown to the Grand Jury, also recruited persons to serve as straw shareholders of these issuers and caused shares to be listed in the names of the straw shareholders or separate shell companies they controlled.

17 33. Sanders, McKelvey, Lubin, and others known and unknown to the Grand Jury, filed 18 and caused to be filed periodic and annual reports with the SEC that falsely and fraudulently 19 described the business purpose and share structure of the issuers and gave the false appearance 20 21 that the straw CEO owned and controlled the restricted shares of the company; had reviewed and 22 agreed with the contents of the reports; and had signed and authorized the filings. In reality, 23 Sanders, McKelvey, Lubin, and others known and unknown to the Grand Jury, controlled the 24 companies and the shares listed in the names of the straw CEOs and straw shareholders. 25

34. Sanders, McKelvey, Lubin, and others known and unknown to the Grand Jury,
sought to locate buyers for the issuers, specifically for the purchase and sale of all of the restricted
and purportedly unrestricted shares. Sanders, McKelvey, Lubin and others known and unknown

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to the Grand Jury, knew that the buyers would seek to use the shares of the issuers for pump and dump stock swindles or other manipulation schemes and, with the knowledge and consent of the buyer, structured the resale of the restricted shares to make it appear that the shares were free trading. One such issuer was Entertainment Art.

35. ABELLAN, PANTHER, DEAN, CC1, and others known and unknown to the Grand Jury, operated a pump and dump scheme whereby they arranged to take control of Entertainment Art, a publicly traded company, by structuring the purchase of the unregistered, restricted, and purportedly unrestricted shares to make it appear that the shares were all unrestricted, registered, and thus, free to trade in the market. ABELLAN, PANTHER, DEAN, and CC1 orchestrated a reverse merger with Entertainment Art to create Biozoom. In this way, ABELLAN, PANTHER, DEAN, CC1, and others known and unknown to the Grand Jury, obtained control over a substantial portion of the purportedly free trading shares of Biozoom and could manipulate the market for the stock.

36. To retain full control over all available Biozoom shares and conceal their involvement, **ABELLAN**, **PANTHER**, **DEAN**, CC1, and others known and unknown to the Grand Jury, established various nominee companies and entities and caused the creation of fraudulent trust agreements and loans documents to make it appear that the entities and companies controlled Biozoom. They then caused ten Argentine nationals to serve as nominee shareholders of Biozoom stock (hereinafter, the "nominee shareholders").

37. **ABELLAN, PANTHER, DEAN,** CC1, and others known and unknown to the Grand Jury funded foreign bank accounts and established trading accounts in the name of the nominee shareholders at United States brokerage houses to trade Biozoom shares. The brokerage accounts allowed **ABELLAN, PANTHER, DEAN**, CC1, and others known and unknown to the

Grand Jury to control the nominee shareholders' accounts and, when trading commenced, create the appearance of an active market for the stock, when in fact the trades were being conducted by **ABELLAN, PANTHER, DEAN**, CC1, and others known and unknown to the Grand Jury, in the name of the nominee shareholders.

38. To cause the "pump" of shares of Biozoom stock—that is, to artificially inflate Biozoom's stock price and trading volume—in or around May 2013, **ABELLAN**, **PANTHER**, **DEAN**, CC1, and others known and unknown to the Grand Jury, i) engaged in manipulative trading of the shares, and ii) conducted a promotional campaign, coordinated with the manipulative trading, touting Biozoom as offering a market-ready device, in order to increase demand and inflate the price of Biozoom stock. The manipulative trading, conducted in tandem with the aggressive marketing campaign, caused Biozoom's stock price to increase from \$1.10 to \$4 per share.

39. After pumping up the stock in the manner described above, the stock was 14 15 "dumped," meaning large quantities of the shares owned and controlled by ABELLAN, 16 **PANTHER**, **DEAN**, CC1, and others known and unknown to the Grand Jury, were liquidated 17 through sales to unsuspecting investors. Once Biozoom's stock price jumped to \$4 per share, the 18 nominee shareholders sold their shares at a profit of approximately \$34 million. ABELLAN, 19 PANTHER, DEAN, CC1, and others known and unknown to the Grand Jury then caused the 20 21 proceeds of the sale to be transferred to various foreign offshore bank accounts to their benefit.

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Identifying and Creating Entities to Execute the Pump and Dump Scheme

40. In mid-2012, ABELLAN directed CC1, PANTHER, and DEAN to acquire a
public shell with a large number of free trading shares to use in a reverse merger. Accordingly,
DEAN identified Entertainment Art and arranged for the purchase of Entertainment Art at the
direction of ABELLAN and CC1.

Sanders and McKelvey brokered a sale of the restricted and free trading shares of 41. Entertainment Art with **DEAN**, who agreed to purchase Entertainment Art on behalf of LeMond. DEAN enlisted attorneys to act as escrow agents for the sale of Entertainment Art to LeMond and caused the transfers of funds for purchase.

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DEAN, along with McKelvey and Sanders, created separate agreements to make it 42. appear that the shares were to be sold as part of separate transactions, when in fact the shares were 7 sold as one transaction and therefore deemed restricted. Such agreements fraudulently conveyed 8 9 that the shares were not restricted and could be immediately sold thereafter to the investing public. 10 On or about July 23, 2012, DEAN sent an email to McKelvey and Sanders 43. 11 submitting a Letter of Intent ("LOI") to purchase Entertainment Art and stating, "[p]lease review 12 the attached draft LOI. I am still waiting to get the information about the purchasing company. 13 Please review and provide comments and I'll make the revisions. Thanks." DEAN's draft LOI 14 related to both the free trading and restricted shares. McKelvey replied on the same date, copying 15 16 Sanders and informing DEAN that the LOI, as drafted, would cause the free trading shares to 17 become restricted: "Faiyez: We can't have both free and restricted in 1 agreement, this will be 18 viewed as a combined purchase and the free will become restricted. We will assemble two separate 19 agreements and send back. This is the best way to consummate the deal. Daniel." 20

21 From on or about July 31, 2012 through August 23, 2012, ABELLAN, CC1, and 44. 22 CC2 created and executed a secure loan agreement for the amount of \$437,000 between Royal and 23 LeMond for the purpose of funding LeMond's purchase of Entertainment Art. On or about 24 September 6, 2012, ABELLAN, CC1, PANTHER and DEAN caused the transfer of 25 approximately \$437,000 from a bank account held by Royal at Hellenic Bank in Cyprus to the 26 27 attorney trust account of a Seattle, Washington-area attorney. Of this \$437,000, DEAN caused 28

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the wire transfer of \$324,060 to the escrow account of a Florida-based attorney for the purchase of Entertainment Art, keeping the remaining funds for himself.

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45. In or around 2011 and 2012, in connection with the sale of Entertainment Art to LeMond, **ABELLAN**, CC1, and CC2 established and funded nominee companies, to include Royal, LeMond, and AFI, as vehicles for the purchase and subsequent sale of corporate entities and shares to facilitate the pump and dump scheme.

46. In establishing AFI, **ABELLAN**, CC1, and CC2 took steps to make AFI appear as though it had legitimate operations unrelated to the scheme described herein. For example, from on or about October 3, 2012 through on or about October 4, 2012, **ABELLAN** and CC2 discussed via email the need to install a nominee director for the "Biozoom job." In or around November 12, 2012, **ABELLAN**, CC1, and CC2 installed Nominee Director 1 to serve as nominee director of AFI. Later, on or about February 15, 2013, **ABELLAN** and CC2 caused the creation of a website for AFI.

47. On or about February 28, 2013, PANTHER caused the execution of Asset
Purchase Agreements for the sale of assets of Opsolution to LeMond and the filing of SEC
documents confirming the sale. On or about March 20, 2013, PANTHER caused the cancellation
of the LeMond shares in Entertainment Art and the new issuance of preferred shares in Biozoom,
as well as the filing of SEC documents confirming the Entertainment Art transaction.

48. On or about March 12, 2013, Entertainment Art made a public filing with the SEC
announcing a change in business operations from a handbag company to a company involved in
the biomedical industry and formed a subsidiary, Biozoom. On or about April 1, 2013,
Entertainment Art officially changed its stock trading symbol to Biozoom, or "BIZM."

Establishing the Nominee Shareholders to Facilitate the Pump and Dump Scheme

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49. **ABELLAN**, CC1, **PANTHER**, and **DEAN** facilitated the reverse merger of Entertainment Art with Opsolution, a privately held company, for the purpose of obtaining control of the shares in the newly created entity, Biozoom. The shares were then distributed to nominees and sold as part of the pump and dump scheme.

50. **ABELLAN**, CC1, and **PANTHER** caused the ten Argentine nationals to serve as the nominee shareholders of Biozoom shares. From on or about September 27, 2012 through on or about January 29, 2013, **ABELLAN**, CC1, and CC2 created loan agreements between Royal and the nominee shareholders and trust agreements between Royal, Orbita, and the nominee shareholders. On or about February 25, 2013, CC1 sent nine executed loan agreements between the nominee shareholders and AFI to CC2 via email. These loan and trust agreements and resulting wire transfers served to provide funds to the nominee shareholders for the purchase of Biozoom shares and concealed the true source of the funds used by the nominee shareholders to purchase these shares.

51. As a result, beginning in or around October 2012, bank accounts were established and funded for the nominee shareholders as follows:

Nominee Shareholders	Bank	Location
CDL	FMBE Bank	Belize
DPG	BC Bank	Belize
FL	Hellenic Bank Public Company	Cyprus
LMH	Hellenic Bank Public Company	Cyprus
MPF	Choice Bank	Belize
AHF	Alpha Bank	Cyprus
MT	Loyal Bank	St. Vincent/Grenadines
MAG	Loyal Bank	St. Vincent/Grenadines
ARB	FMBE Bank	Cyprus
GGB	First Caribbean Bank	British Virgin Islands

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1 52. In addition to structuring the Entertainment Art transaction to conceal that the 2 Entertainment Art shares were restricted and therefore could not be immediately sold to the 3 investing public, **DEAN** took steps to structure the nominee shareholders' acquisition of Biozoom 4 shares such that they fraudulently appeared to have purchased their shares from the original 5 shareholders of Entertainment Art. This information was false, as the original shareholders sold 6 their shares back to Entertainment Art in 2009.

8 53. PANTHER and DEAN established different escrow agents for the nominee
 9 shareholders' Entertainment Art share purchases to facilitate the transfer of money from the
 10 nominee shareholders to the original shareholders of Entertainment Art, and established an escrow
 11 agent for the control block of shares. For example,

a. from on or about March 5, 2013 through on or about March 19, 2013, DEAN caused a Hawaii-based attorney to act as an escrow agent for the funds used for the purchase of Biozoom shares purportedly from original shareholders by LMH, MPF, MT and MAG, four of the nominee shareholders;

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b. from on or about February 18, 2013 through on or about March 12, 2013, DEAN caused a second Seattle, Washington-based attorney ("Seattle Attorney") to act as an escrow agent for funds used for the purchase of Biozoom shares purportedly from original shareholders by DPG and FL, two of the nominee shareholders;

c. from on or about March 24, 2013 through on or about April 13, 2013, **DEAN** caused Seattle Attorney to act as an escrow agent for funds used for the purchase of Biozoom shares purportedly from original shareholders by GGB, one of the nominee shareholders; and

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d. on or about May 16, 2013, **DEAN** caused Seattle Attorney to act as an escrow agent 1 for funds used for the purchase of Biozoom shares purportedly from original S-1 2 3 shareholders by FL, one of the nominee shareholders. 4 **Opening Accounts for the Argentine Nominees and AFI at Trading and Brokerage Firms** 5 54. On or about May 2, 2013, **PANTHER** caused two nominee shareholders to open 6 individual foreign brokerage accounts for Biozoom trading at Entity A. 7 55. In early May 2013, PANTHER met with the owner of a California-based market 8 9 maker BS to discuss Biozoom and presented Biozoom executives to demonstrate the Biozoom 10 device. That same month, **PANTHER** caused six nominee shareholders to open accounts and 11 deposit Biozoom share certificates at BS. Thereafter, between on or about May 3, 2013 through 12 on or about May 8, 2013, BS requested a number of documents from the nominee shareholders to 13 open the accounts and clear the Biozoom shares through BS's clearing firm. 14 15 56. On or about May 14, 2013, BS notified corporate counsel for Biozoom and 16 requested production of the stock subscription documents for four of the nominee shareholders. 17 Biozoom's counsel informed BS that he did not have the original subscriptions and learned that 18 the stock could not be cleared. Biozoom's counsel informed **PANTHER**, who told him, in 19 substance, not to worry, because he had ties to the principal at Entity A. 20 21 57. On or about May 15, 2013, **PANTHER** met with an owner and an employee of 22 Entity A to discuss Biozoom and other matters. **PANTHER** informed the Entity A representatives 23 that he would refer the "foreign clients" to Entity A and discussed discounted commission rates, 24 the use of certain market makers, trade routes, specific deposit requirements, and the use of instant 25 messaging for trading. Thereafter, on or about May 16, 2013, the four nominee shareholders 26 27 transferred their accounts from BS to Entity A. In exchange for referring the clients to Entity A, 28 **PANTHER** requested and received certain policy exceptions, to include allowing the clients to be

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permitted to conduct trades via instant messaging. At that time, Entity A did not permit instant messaging trades but made an exception to permit the clients referred by **PANTHER** to do so, and had a platform set up to facilitate the instant messaging trades.

58. In total, **PANTHER** caused brokerage accounts for a total of six of the nominee shareholders to be opened at Entity A.

59. Once the nominee shareholders transferred their accounts from BS to Entity A, the 7 Biozoom shares had to be cleared before they could be traded. To clear the stocks through Entity 8 9 A, an opinion letter containing false information was obtained. The letter indicated that the shares 10 were purchased directly from the original shareholders of Entertainment Art in 2013, when in fact 11 the original shareholders sold their stock in 2009. Nonetheless, Entity A's clearing firm accepted 12 the opinion letters and cleared the shares. As a result, the four nominee shareholders were clear to 13 commence trading Biozoom shares beginning on or about May 23, 2013. 14

15 60. PANTHER, CC1, and CC2 also established brokerage accounts for the nominee
16 shareholders at LS.

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61. In or around May 2013, ABELLAN, CC1, and CC2 also established brokerage
accounts for AFI at BS, Entity A, and ST/SU. In addition, CC1 submitted a signed application to
20 CC2 for an AFI brokerage account at ST/SU in the name of Nominee Director 1.

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62. From in or around November 2012 through in or around March 2013, the ten nominee shareholders received shares of Entertainment Art (later shares of Biozoom) as follows:

Shareholder	Number of Shares
AHF	1,402,500
GGB	1,485,000
LMH	1,815,000
CDL	2,062,500
MT	1,815,000
ARB	2,310,000

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MPF	2,310,000
DPG	2,485,000
MG	2,145,000
FL	2,300,000

The Pump of Biozoom Stock

63. On or about April 11, 2013, **PANTHER** directed executives at Biozoom to set up a news service to send out press releases on a specific schedule.

64. From in or around May 2013 through June 2013, ABELLAN, CC1, and PANTHER caused the issuance and dissemination of articles and stock reports on Biozoom that promoted the stock through means of interstate commerce and otherwise. These articles and reports, however, falsely presented as independent stock analysis.

65. These articles and stock reports were paid for using entities controlled and funded
by ABELLAN and others known and unknown to the Grand Jury, through Foresight, Global
Financial Insight, and Global Investors Research, yet failed to disclose that Biozoom was being
promoted by persons with a controlling interest in the company. The articles and subsequent press
releases and stock reports also contained misleading information about Biozoom.

66. On or about May 9, 2013, ABELLAN sent an invoice via email to CC2 in the
amount of approximately \$374,748 for services provided by International Law Group, a law firm
owned by PANTHER's father, to Royal. However, International Law Group had not performed
any work for Biozoom or any related entities.

67. In or around late January through February 2013, ABELLAN engaged a printer
broker located in Scottsdale, Arizona ("Scottsdale Printer") for direct mail and marketing services
for Biozoom. ABELLAN caused the Scottsdale Printer to issue Biozoom mailers under the guise
of Global Financial Insight and Global Investors Research. ABELLAN directed the Scottsdale
Printer to submit the invoices for the mailers to Foresight.

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1	68. In or around June 2013, Global Investors Research purchased radio advertising
2	spots on Biozoom for The Stock Report to be aired on various IHeartMedia radio programs, to
3	include the Rush Limbaugh Show and the Rush Network from on or about June 10, 2013 through
4	on or about June 14, 2013.
5	69. In or around June 2013, ABELLAN, PANTHER, and CC1 caused Global
6	Financial Insight to purchase space in the <i>Chicago Tribune</i> and <i>Los Angeles Times</i> for a Biozoom
7	advertisement. The <i>Chicago Tribune</i> advertisement was published on or about June 13, 2013, and
8 9	
	the Los Angeles Times advertisement was published on or about June 23, 2013.
10	70. In or around May 2013, ABELLAN, PANTHER, and CC1 caused Foresight to
11 12	purchase editorial space in Forbes and Business Week magazine for Biozoom. The Business Week
12	advertisement was scheduled for publishing in the June 17th-23rd edition, and the Forbes article
14	was scheduled for the July 2013 edition.
15	71. In or around June 2013, ABELLAN, PANTHER, and CC1 caused Global
16	Financial Insight to purchase space in the New York Times for an article advertising Biozoom's
17	"real Star Trek" medical scanner. The full-page advertisement was published on the back cover
18	
19	of the Sunday New York Times business section on or about June 23, 2013.
20	72. As part of the pump of the stock, and coordinated with the issuance of press releases
21	and other promotional material, ABELLAN, CC3, and a person known to the Grand Jury,
22	manipulated the trading volume and share price of Biozoom shares.
23	73. ABELLAN directed CC3 to trade early in Biozoom to ensure that the value of
24	75. ABELLAN directed CC5 to trade early in Biozoom to ensure that the value of
25	Biozoom shares did not fall below a particular value. Prior to the commencement of any Biozoom
26	trading, on or before May 15, 2013, CC3 entered a purchase order for more than 2,000 shares of
27	Biozoom. This order was never executed. Thereafter, prior to the release of any promotional
28	

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materials about Biozoom, CC3 began trading shares of Biozoom. CC3 conducted these early trades in order to create a floor price for Biozoom, as requested by ABELLAN.

74. CC3 placed sell orders for hundreds of shares of Biozoom stock which CC3 arranged to be matched with buy orders placed by a person known to the Grand Jury, in order to create the appearance of legitimate buying interest by legitimate investors, when in fact these were coordinated sales made at the request of Biozoom affiliates to generate interest in the shares.

75. Soon after the initiation of the trading of Biozoom stock, in or around May and June of 2013, CC3 created trading volume of Biozoom shares by directing others known and unknown to the Grand Jury, to trade Biozoom shares, and trading shares of Biozoom using his own brokerage account and the accounts of others.

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The "Dump" of Biozoom Stock for Millions of Dollars in Proceeds

76. ABELLAN traded Biozoom shares in accounts in the names of the nominee
 shareholders and AFI at Entity A, BS, ST/SU, LS, and other entities, using an instant messaging
 platform and an IP proxy server to make it appear that the nominees were trading from Argentina,
 when in fact, ABELLAN was conducting the trades in the names of the nominees from a residence
 in Spain.

From on or about June 14, 2013 through on or about June 21, 2013, ABELLAN,
 CC1, and CC2 caused the AFI account at ST/SU to trade Biozoom shares, making more than 800
 transactions per day and increasing the demand for the shares in order to make the investing public
 believe that general market forces were at work.

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78. The distribution of print and media advertisements regarding Biozoom, together
with the coordinated manipulative trading by ABELLAN, CC3, and a person known to the Grand

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Jury, caused the price of Biozoom shares to increase artificially. In addition, the manipulative trading created the appearance of legitimate buying interest by legitimate investors.

79. From on or about the dates set forth in the chart below, **ABELLAN**, **PANTHER**, and CC1 caused the trading of Biozoom shares in accounts held in the names of the nominee shareholders via email and instant message at LS or Entity A and caused the sale of Biozoom shares as follows:

Nominee Shareholder	Brokerage	Approximate Shares Sold	On or About Dates Sold	Approximate Proceeds
GGB	LS	1,312,053	5/16/2013-	\$3,070,251
OOD	Lo	1,512,055	6/13/2013	\$5,070,251
CDL	LS	1,328,000	6/17/2013-	\$5,020,550
CDL	Lo	1,528,000	6/18/2013	\$5,020,550
LMH	LS	1 815 000	6/6/2013-	\$5,260,020
	LO	1,815,000	6/17/2013	\$5,269,030
AHF	LS/Entity	1,402,500	5/20/2013-	\$2,068,666
Am	A	1,402,300	6/5/2013	\$2,008,000
MT	Entity A	1,592,444	6/7/2013-	\$3,116,894
			6/11/2013	
ARB	Entity A	2,176,726	6/10/2013-	\$6,223,310
AND	Entity A	2,170,720	6/18/2013	\$0,223,310
MPF	LS	1,994,038	6/7/2013-	Φ <i>5 456 5</i> 00
		1,774,030	6/19/2013	\$5,456,590
DPG	Entity A	2,457,645	5/28/2013-	\$3,771,761
DEO	Entity A	2,437,043	6/6/2013	

80. In or around June 2013, **ABELLAN**, **PANTHER**, and CC1 caused the wire transfers of millions of dollars, proceeds from the sale of Biozoom shares, from United States brokerage accounts in the name of the nominee shareholders to accounts held at foreign bank accounts in the names of the nominee shareholders. Specifically, on or about June 24, 2013, **ABELLAN**, **PANTHER**, and CC1 caused wire transfers of more than \$6 million from an account at Entity A, in the District of Arizona, in the name of nominee shareholder ARB to an account in

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the name of nominee ARB at FBME Bank in Cyprus, and a wire transfer of approximately \$4,900,000 from an account in the name of nominee shareholder MPF at Entity A, in the District of Arizona, to an account in the name of nominee shareholder MPF at Choice Bank in Belize.

81. In or around June 2013, **ABELLAN**, CC1, and CC2 caused wire transfers of more than \$6,500,000 in proceeds from the sale and trading of Biozoom shares from accounts in the name of AFI and the nominee shareholders at ST/SU, BS, and FBME Bank in Cyprus, to foreign offshore bank accounts in the names of the nominee shareholders in Cyprus and Switzerland.

82. From on or about May 16, 2013 through on or about June 25, 2013, a total of approximately 87,936,300 shares of Biozoom traded and its stock price increased from approximately \$1.10 per share to more than \$4 per share.

13 83. In or around June 2013, after reading information about Biozoom on the internet,
14 Victim A traded shares of Biozoom through a brokerage account at TD Ameritrade and invested
15 approximately \$19,000.

16 84. In or around June 2013, after hearing a radio advertisement about Biozoom on *The*17 *Rush Limbaugh Show*, Victim B purchased shares of Biozoom at a branch of investment firm
18 Charles Schwab in Scottsdale, Arizona. Victim B was unable to sell his shares in late June 2013
20 due to the SEC halting trading of the shares. Victim B lost approximately \$13,000.

85. In or around June 2013, after receiving a Biozoom flyer in the mail at his residence
in Arizona, Victim C traded shares of Biozoom through a brokerage account at Charles Schwab
and invested approximately \$3,639.

86. In or around June 2013, after seeing the Biozoom ticker on CNBC during afterhours trading, Victim D traded shares of Biozoom through a brokerage account at TD Ameritrade
and lost approximately \$83,000.

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1 2	<u>COUNT 1</u> Conspiracy to Commit Securities Fraud and Wire Fraud (18 U.S.C. § 1349)
2	87. Paragraphs 1 through 86 of this Indictment are realleged and incorporated herein
4	
5	by reference.
6	88. From in or around 2012, through in or around October 2013, the exact dates being
7	unknown, in the District of Arizona, and elsewhere, the defendants,
8	FRANCISCO VILLENA ABELLAN,
9	a/k/a "Frank Abellan," "Frank Abel," "Oracle," "Mark," and "Frank Villena," JAMES B. PANTHER, JR, and
10	a/k/a "James Suqui" and "James Suquilanda," and FAIYAZ DEAN
11	together with others known and unknown to the Grand Jury, did knowingly combine, conspire,
12	
13	confederate, and agree to commit certain offenses against the United States, to wit:
14	(i) securities fraud, that is, to knowingly and intentionally execute a scheme and artifice (a)
15	to defraud any person in connection with any security of Biozoom, an issuer with a class of
16	securities registered under § 12 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (15 U.S.C. § 78 <i>l</i>), and (b)
17	to obtain, by means of materially false and fraudulent pretenses, representations, and promises,
18	and by statements containing material omissions, any money and property in connection with the
19	purchase and sale of any security of Biozoom, an issuer with a class of securities registered under
20	
21	§ 12 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (15 U.S.C. § 781), in violation of Title 18, United
22	States Code, Section 1348; and
23 24	(ii) wire fraud, that is to knowingly, and with intent to defraud, devise and intend to devise
24 25	a scheme and artifice to defraud, and to obtain money and property by means of materially false
26	and fraudulent pretenses, representations, and promises, knowing that they were false and
20	fraudulent when made, and transmitting and causing to be transmitted by means of wire
28	Inducations when made, and substituting and edusing to be substituted by means of whe

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communications in interstate and foreign commerce, certain writings, signs, signals, pictures, and sounds for the purpose of executing the scheme and artifice, in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 1343.

PURPOSE OF THE CONSPIRACY

5 89. It was a purpose of the conspiracy for the defendants and their coconspirators to 6 unlawfully enrich themselves by (a) making and using false and misleading statements in 7 documents filed with the SEC in 2013 and provided to others to conceal the fact that certain 8 9 undisclosed principals controlled the issuers and the shares that were listed in the names of 10 nominee shareholders, and that the shares were restricted and could not be freely traded on U.S. 11 markets; (b) engaging in the fraudulent manipulation of stock by artificially inflating the market 12 price and demand; (c) diverting the proceeds of the fraud for the personal use and benefit of the 13 defendants and others; and (d) concealing the defendants' involvement in the fraudulent 14 15 manipulation of the stock.

MANNER AND MEANS OF THE CONSPIRACY

90. Paragraphs 40 through 86 of this Indictment are realleged and incorporated by
reference as though fully set forth herein.
All in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 1349.
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·	COUNT 2
1	Securities Fraud (18 U.S.C § 1348)
2	(10 0.5.0 § 1540)
3 4	91. Paragraphs 1 through 86 of this Indictment are realleged and incorporated by
5	reference as though fully set forth herein.
6	92. From in or around 2012, through in or around October 2013, the exact dates being
7	unknown, within the District of Arizona and elsewhere, the defendants,
8	FRANCISCO VILLENA ABELLAN,
9	a/k/a "Frank Abellan," "Frank Abel," "Oracle," "Mark," and "Frank Villena," JAMES B. PANTHER, JR,
10	a/k/a "James Suqui" and "James Suquilanda," and
11	FAIYAZ DEAN,
12	aided and abetted by each other and others did knowingly and willfully execute a scheme and
13	artifice (a) to defraud any person in connection with any security of Biozoom, an issuer with a
14	class of securities registered under Section 12 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (15 U.S.C.
15	§ 781), and (b) to obtain, by means of materially false and fraudulent pretenses, representations,
16 17	and promises, and by statements containing material omissions, any money and property in
18	connection with the purchase and sale of any security of Biozoom, an issuer with a class of
19	securities registered under Section 12 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (15 U.S.C. § 781).
20	All in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 1348 and 2.
21	
22	<u>COUNT 3</u> Conspiracy to Commit Money Laundering
23	(18 U.S.C. §1956(h))
24	93. From in or around 2012, through in or around October 2013, the exact dates being
25	unknown, in the District of Arizona, and elsewhere, the defendants,
26	
27	FRANCISCO VILLENA ABELLAN, a/k/a "Frank Abellan," "Frank Abel," "Oracle," "Mark," and "Frank Villena,"
28	JAMES B. PANTHER, JR,

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a/k/a "James Suqui" and "James Suquilanda," and FAIYAZ DEAN,

2	together with others known and unknown to the Grand Jury, did knowingly combine, conspire,
3	confederate and agree with others known and unknown to the Grand Jury, to knowingly engage in
4	confederate and agree with others known and unknown to the Grand Jury, to knowingry engage in
5	monetary transactions affecting interstate and foreign commerce, by, through, and to a financial
6	institution, in criminally derived property of a value greater than \$10,000, such property having
7	been derived from a specified unlawful activity, and knowing that the property involved in the
-8 9	financial transactions represented the proceeds of some form of unlawful activity, in violation of
10	Title 18, United States Code, Section 1957.
11	It is further alleged that the specified unlawful activity is fraud in the sale of securities
12	pursuant to Title 18, United States Code, Section 1961(1)(D).
13	All in violation Title 18, United States Code, Section 1956(h).
14	COUNTS 4-8
15	Money Laundering
16	(18 U.S.C. § 1957)
17	94. From in or around 2012, through in or around October 2013, the exact dates being
18	unknown, in the District of Arizona, and elsewhere, the defendants,
19	FRANCISCO VILLENA ABELLAN,
20	a/k/a "Frank Abellan," "Frank Abel," "Oracle," "Mark," and "Frank Villena,"
21	JAMES B. PANTHER, JR, and a/k/a "James Suqui" and "James Suquilanda,"
22	FAIYAZ DEAN
23	aided and abetted by each other and others and together with others known and unknown to the
24	Grand Jury, did knowingly engage in and attempt to engage in monetary transactions affecting
25	
26	interstate and foreign commerce, by, through, and to a financial institution, in criminally derived
27	property of a value greater than \$10,000, such property having been derived from a specified
28	unlawful activity, and knowing that the property involved in the financial transactions represented

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the proceeds of some form of unlawful activity, as more particularly described in each count below:

2	COUNT	APPROX.DATE	FINANCIAL TRANSACTION
	4	6/11/2013	International wire transfer of approximately \$3,770,216 from
3	4	0/11/2015	an account held in the name of nominee shareholder DPG at
4			Entity A, within the District of Arizona, to an account held in
5			the name of nominee shareholder DPG at CBH Compagnie
6			Bancaire Helvetique, SA in Geneva, Switzerland. Interstate wire transfer of approximately \$495,000 from an
	5	6/11/2013	account held in the name of AFI at Entity A, within the District
7			of Arizona, to an account held in the name of AFI at Bank of
8			New York in New York, New York.
9	6	6/24/2013	International wire transfer of approximately \$4,331,255 from
10			an account held in the name of nominee shareholder ARB at
11			Entity A, within the District of Arizona, to an account held in the name of nominee shareholder ARB at FBME Bank in
			Cyprus.
12	7	6/24/2013	International wire transfer of approximately \$1,887,919 from
13			an account held in the name of nominee shareholder ARB at
14			Entity A, within the District of Arizona, to an account held in
15			the name of nominee shareholder ARB at FBME Bank in Cyprus.
16	8	6/24/2013	International wire transfer of approximately \$4,900,000 from
			an account held in the name of nominee shareholder MPF at
17			Entity A, within the District of Arizona, to an account held in
18			the name of nominee shareholder MPF at Choice Bank in Belize.
19	T	C (1 11 11 1 (1)	
20	It is i	further alleged that	the specified unlawful activity is fraud in the sale of securities
21	pursuant to T	itle 18, United State	es Code, Section 1961(1)(D).
22	All in	violation of Title 1	8, United States Code, Sections 1957 and 2.
23	2 111 113		
24		(18 11 8 6	<u>FORFEITURE</u> C. § 981(a)(1)(C); 18 U.S.C. § 982(a)(1))
25			, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,
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1	95. For the purpose of alleging forfeiture to the United States pursuant to Title
1	18, United States Code, Section 981(a)(1)(C) and Title 28, United States Code, Section 2461, the
2	
3	United States hereby realleges and incorporates the factual allegations contained in paragraphs
4	1 through 86.
5	96. Upon conviction of the offenses alleged in Counts One and Two, the defendants,
6 7	FRANCISCO VILLENA ABELLAN,
7 8	a/k/a "Frank Abellan," "Frank Abel," "Oracle," "Mark," and "Frank Villena," JAMES B. PANTHER, JR,
0 9	a/k/a "James Suqui" and "James Suquilanda," and
9 10	FAIYAZ DEAN
10	shall forfeit to the United States any and all property, real or personal, which constitutes or is
12	derived from proceeds traceable to the aforementioned offenses, pursuant to Title 18, United States
12	Code, Section 981(a)(1)(C) and Title 28, United States Code, Section 2461(c). The property to be
14	forfeited shall include, but is not limited to, the following:
15	a. Money Judgment
16	i. Judgment in favor of the United States of America equal to the value of
17 18	any property, real or personal, which constitutes or is derived from
10 19	proceeds traceable to the violations alleged in Counts One and Two of
20	this Indictment.
21	97. If any of the property described above, as a result of any act or omission of the
22	defendants:
23	a. cannot be located upon the exercise of due diligence;
24	
25	b. has been transferred or sold to, or deposited with, a third party;
26	c. has been placed beyond the jurisdiction of the Court;
27	d. has been substantially diminished in value; or
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e. has been commingled with other property that cannot be divided without difficulty; 1 2 the United States of America shall be entitled to forfeiture of substitute property pursuant to 3 Title 21, United States Code, Section 853(p), as incorporated by Title 28, United States Code, 4 5 Section 2461(c). 6 FORFEITURE ALLEGATIONS (Money Laundering) 7 8 For the purpose of alleging forfeiture to the United States pursuant to Title 18, 98. 9 United States Code, Section 982(a)(1) and Title 28, United States Code, Section 2461, the United 10 States hereby realleges and incorporates the factual allegations contained in paragraphs 11 1 through 86. 12 99. Upon conviction of the offenses alleged in Counts Three through Eight, the 13 14 defendants, 15 FRANCISCO VILLENA ABELLAN, a/k/a "Frank Abellan," "Frank Abel," "Oracle," "Mark," and "Frank Villena," 16 JAMES B. PANTHER, JR 17 a/k/a "James Suqui" and "James Suquilanda," and FAIYAZ DEAN 18 19 shall forfeit to the United States any and all property, real or personal, involved in such offenses, 20 and any property traceable to such property, pursuant to Title 18, United States Code, Section 21 982(a)(1). 22 If any of the property described above, as a result of any act or omission of the 100. 23 24 defendants: 25 cannot be located upon the exercise of due diligence; a. 26 b. has been transferred or sold to, or deposited with, a third party; 27 c. has been placed beyond the jurisdiction of the Court; 28

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1	d. has been substantially diminished in value; or
2	e. has been commingled with other property that cannot be divided without difficulty;
3	e. has been commingled with other property that cannot be divided without difficulty;
4	the United States of America shall be entitled to forfeiture of substitute property pursuant to Title
5	21, United States Code Section 853(p), as incorporated by Title 28, United States Code, Section
6	2461(c).
7	
8	
9	A TRUE BILL
10	<i>S/</i>
11	FOREPERSON OF THE GRAND JURY
12	Date: April 23, 2019
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14	
15	ROBERT ZINK Acting Chief, Fraud Section Criminal Division, U.S. Department of Justice
16	Criminal Division, U.S. Department of Justice
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18	<i>S</i> /
19	Tracee Plowell, Assistant Chief Michelle Pascucci, Trial Attorney
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