

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF FLORIDA
23-20269-CR-MOORE/LOUIS

Case No. _____

18 U.S.C. § 1349

18 U.S.C. § 982(a)(7)

FILED BY JBs D.C.

Jun 26, 2023

ANGELA E. NOBLE
CLERK U.S. DIST. CT.
S. D. OF FLA. - MIAMI

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

vs.

SILVANA PEREZ,
a/k/a "Silvana Perez-Beato,"

Defendant.

INFORMATION

The United States Attorney charges that:

GENERAL ALLEGATIONS

At all times relevant to this Information:

Commercial Insurance

1. Company 1 and other companies offered Administrative Services Only ("ASO") insurance plans to their employees. These employers contracted with the insurance company Blue Cross Blue Shield ("BCBS") to handle the billing, claims handling, and claims payment with respect to claims submitted on behalf of their employees. These ASO insurance plans reimbursed BCBS for the money BCBS paid out for health benefits for their respective employees.
2. BCBS and the ASO insurance plans managed by BCBS were "health care benefit program[s]," as defined in Title 18, United States Code, Section 24(b).
3. BCBS often made payments directly to physicians, medical clinics, or other health care providers, rather than to the beneficiary who received the health care benefits, items, and services. This occurred when the provider accepted assignment of the right to payment from the

beneficiary.

4. To obtain payment for treatment or services provided to a beneficiary, physicians, medical clinics, and other health care providers had to submit itemized claim forms to BCBS. The claim forms were typically submitted electronically via the internet. The claim form required certain important information, including: (a) the beneficiary's name and Health Insurance Claim Number or other identification number; (b) a description of the health care benefit, item, or service that was provided or supplied to the beneficiary; (c) the billing codes for the benefit, item, or service; (d) the date upon which the benefit, item, or service was provided or supplied to the beneficiary; and (e) the name of the referring physician or other health care provider, as well as a unique identifying number, known either as the Unique Physician Identification Number ("UPIN") or National Provider Identifier ("NPI").

5. When a provider submitted a claim form to a private insurance plan, the provider certified that the contents of the form were true, correct, and complete, and that the form was prepared in compliance with the applicable laws and regulations concerning the submission of health care claims. The provider also certified that the services being billed were medically necessary and were in fact provided as billed.

The Defendant and a Related Entity

6. United Medical of South Florida, d/b/a Sleep Study of South Florida, Inc. ("Sleep Study"), was a Florida corporation, located at 14750 SW 26th Street, Suite 213, Miami, Florida 33185. Sleep Study was a medical clinic that purportedly provided commercial private insurance beneficiaries with various medical treatments and services, including sleep studies, durable medical equipment, and physical therapy, among others.

7. Edeini Lemus Borges was a resident of Miami-Dade County and an owner and

manager of Sleep Study.

8. Defendant **SILVANA PEREZ** was a resident of Miami-Dade County.

**Conspiracy to Commit Health Care Fraud
(18 U.S.C. § 1349)**

9. In or around November 2017 through in or around December 2018, in Miami-Dade County, in the Southern District of Florida, and elsewhere, the defendant,

**SILVANA PEREZ,
a/k/a “Silvana Perez-Beato,”**

did willfully, that is, with the intent to further the object of the conspiracy, and knowingly combine, conspire, confederate and agree with Edeini Lemus Borges and others known and unknown to the United States Attorney, to commit offenses against the United States, that is, to knowingly and willfully execute a scheme and artifice to defraud a health care benefit program affecting commerce, as defined in Title 18, United States Code, Section 24(b), that is, BCBS and ASO insurance plans managed by BCBS, and to obtain, by means of materially false and fraudulent pretenses, representations, and promises, money and property owned by, and under the custody and control of, said health care benefit programs, in connection with the delivery of and payment for health care benefits, items, and services, in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 1347.

PURPOSE OF THE CONSPIRACY

10. It was the purpose of the conspiracy for the defendant and her co-conspirators to unlawfully enrich themselves by, among other things: (a) paying kickbacks and bribes to induce the referral of beneficiaries and to induce the beneficiaries to provide their health insurance information to Sleep Study; (b) submitting and causing the submission of false and fraudulent claims to health care benefit programs; (c) concealing the submission of false and fraudulent claims to health care benefit programs; (d) concealing the receipt of the fraud proceeds; and

(e) diverting the fraud proceeds for their personal use and benefit, and the use and benefit of others, and to further the fraud.

MANNER AND MEANS OF THE CONSPIRACY

The manner and means by which the defendant and her co-conspirators sought to accomplish the object and purpose of the conspiracy included, among others, the following:

11. **SILVANA PEREZ** recruited employees of Company 1 and others who had ASO insurance plans to visit Sleep Study.

12. **SILVANA PEREZ** paid and caused to be paid kickbacks to beneficiaries with BCBS and ASO insurance plans managed by BCBS in exchange for allowing Sleep Study to bill for medical benefits, items, and services that were not medically necessary, not eligible for reimbursement, and not received by the beneficiaries.

13. **SILVANA PEREZ**, Edeini Lemus Borges, and their co-conspirators submitted and caused Sleep Study to submit, via interstate wire communication, claims for reimbursement to BCBS and ASO insurance plans managed by BCBS. These claims falsely and fraudulently represented that various health care benefits, items, and services were medically necessary, legitimately prescribed by a doctor, and had been provided by Sleep Study to insurance beneficiaries of BCBS and ASO insurance plans managed by BCBS.

14. **SILVANA PEREZ**, Edeini Lemus Borges, and her co-conspirators used the proceeds of the health care fraud for their personal use and benefit, the use and benefit of others, and to further the fraud.

All in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 1349.

FORFEITURE ALLEGATIONS

1. The allegations of this Information are hereby re-alleged and by this reference fully incorporated herein for the purpose of alleging forfeiture to the United States of certain property in which the defendant, **SILVANA PEREZ**, has an interest.

2. Upon conviction of a violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 1349, as alleged in this Information, the defendant shall forfeit to the United States any property, real or personal, that constitutes or is derived, directly or indirectly, from gross proceeds traceable to the commission of the offense, pursuant to Title 18, United States Code, Section 982(a)(7).


3. 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 subdivided without difficulty;

the United States shall be entitled to forfeiture of substitute property under the provisions of Title 21, United States Code, Section 853(p).

All pursuant to Title 18, United States Code, Section 982(a)(7), and the procedures set forth in Title 21, United States Code, Section 853, as incorporated by Title 18, United States Code, Section 982(b)(1).



MARKENZY LAPOINTE
for UNITED STATES ATTORNEY

JOSEPH EGOZI
ASSISTANT UNITED STATES ATTORNEY

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF FLORIDA

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

CASE NO.: _____

v.

SILVANA PEREZ,
a/k/a "Silvana Perez-Beato,"

Defendant.

Court Division (select one)

- ☒ Miami ☐ Key West ☐ FTP
☐ FTL ☐ WPB

CERTIFICATE OF TRIAL ATTORNEY

Superseding Case Information:

New Defendant(s) (Yes or No) _____

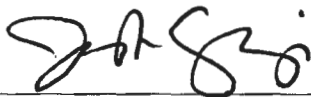
Number of New Defendants _____

Total number of counts _____

I do hereby certify that:

1. I have carefully considered the allegations of the indictment, the number of defendants, the number of probable witnesses and the legal complexities of the Indictment/Information attached hereto.
2. I am aware that the information supplied on this statement will be relied upon by the Judges of this Court in setting their calendars and scheduling criminal trials under the mandate of the Speedy Trial Act, Title 28 U.S.C. §3161.
3. Interpreter: (Yes or No) Yes
List language and/or dialect: Spanish
4. This case will take 0 days for the parties to try.
5. Please check appropriate category and type of offense listed below:
(Check only one) (Check only one)
I ☒ 0 to 5 days ☐ Petty
II ☐ 6 to 10 days ☐ Minor
III ☐ 11 to 20 days ☐ Misdemeanor
IV ☐ 21 to 60 days ☒ Felony
V ☐ 61 days and over
6. Has this case been previously filed in this District Court? (Yes or No) No
If yes, Judge _____ Case No. _____
7. Has a complaint been filed in this matter? (Yes or No) No
If yes, Magistrate Case No. _____
8. Does this case relate to a previously filed matter in this District Court? (Yes or No) Yes
If yes, Judge Scola Case No. 21-CR-20110
9. Defendant(s) in federal custody as of _____
10. Defendant(s) in state custody as of _____
11. Rule 20 from the _____ District of _____
12. Is this a potential death penalty case? (Yes or No) No
13. Does this case originate from a matter pending in the Northern Region of the U.S. Attorney's Office prior to August 8, 2014 (Mag. Judge Shaniek Maynard? (Yes or No) No
14. Does this case originate from a matter pending in the Central Region of the U.S. Attorney's Office prior to October 3, 2019 (Mag. Judge Jared Strauss? (Yes or No) No
15. Did this matter involve the participation of or consultation with now Magistrate Judge Eduardo I. Sanchez during his tenure at the U.S. Attorney's Office, which concluded on January 22, 2023? No

By: _____



Joseph Egozi

Assistant United States Attorney

Court ID No. A5502707

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF FLORIDA**

PENALTY SHEET

Defendant's Name: Silvana Perez, a/k/a "Silvana Perez-Beato"

Case No: _____

Count #1:

Conspiracy to Commit Health Care Fraud

Title 18, United States Code, Section 1349

*** Max. Term of Imprisonment: Ten (10) Years**

*** Mandatory Min. Term of Imprisonment (if applicable): N/A**

*** Max. Supervised Release: 3 Years**

*** Max. Fine: \$250,000 or Twice the Gross Fain or Loss Resulting from the Offense**

***Refers only to possible term of incarceration, supervised release and fines. It does not include restitution, special assessments, parole terms, or forfeitures that may be applicable.**

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

for the
Southern District of Florida

United States of America
v.
Silvana Perez,
a/k/a "Silvana Perez-Beato,"

Defendant

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Case No. _____

WAIVER OF AN INDICTMENT

I understand that I have been accused of one or more offenses punishable by imprisonment for more than one year. I was advised in open court of my rights and the nature of the proposed charges against me.

After receiving this advice, I waive my right to prosecution by indictment and consent to prosecution by information.

Date: _____

Defendant's signature

Signature of defendant's attorney

Printed name of defendant's attorney

Judge's signature

Judge's printed name and title