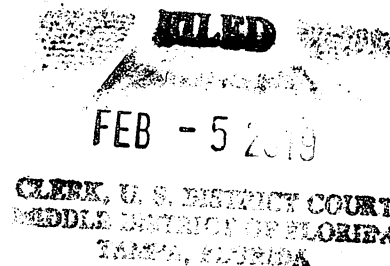


UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
MIDDLE DISTRICT OF FLORIDA
TAMPA DIVISION



UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

v.

CASE NO. 8:19 cr 46 T 02 JSS
18 U.S.C. § 1956(h)

TROY CATER

INFORMATION

The United States Attorney charges:

COUNT ONE
(Money Laundering Conspiracy)

Introduction

At times relevant to this Information:

1. Defendant TROY CATER was a resident of the Middle District of Florida.

The Conspiracy

2. Beginning on an unknown date, but no later than in or around May 2017, and continuing through in or around April 2018, in the Middle District of Florida and elsewhere, the defendant,

TROY CATER,

did knowingly combine, conspire, confederate, and agree with others, both known and unknown to the United States Attorney, to commit the following offenses:

a. knowing that the property involved in a financial transaction represented the proceeds of some form of unlawful activity, did conduct, and attempt to conduct, a financial transaction, which in fact involved the proceeds of specified unlawful activity, that is, wire fraud, in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1343, with the intent to promote the carrying on of specified unlawful activity, in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1956(a)(1)(A)(i); and

b. knowing that the property involved in a financial transaction represented the proceeds of some form of unlawful activity, did conduct, and attempt to conduct, a financial transaction which, in fact involved the proceeds of specified unlawful activity, that is, wire fraud, in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1343, knowing that the transaction was designed in whole or in part to conceal and disguise the nature, location, source, ownership, and control of the proceeds of specified unlawful activity, in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1956(a)(1)(B)(i).

Manner and Means of the Conspiracy

3. The manner and means by which the conspirators sought to accomplish the objects of the conspiracy included, among others, the following:

a. It was a part of the conspiracy that conspirators would and did contact victims by telephone, and obtain money from said victims by

falsely and fraudulently representing that the conspirators had located a buyer for the victims' respective timeshares and that the sale of the timeshares could and would commence upon the payment of a bogus fee or fees;

b. It was further a part of the conspiracy that, knowing there was no buyer for the victims' timeshares and knowing no sale would commence, conspirators would and did direct and instruct victims to transmit money to the defendant and/or other conspirators using one or more wire transmitter services in order to complete the payment of these bogus fees;

c. It was further a part of the conspiracy that conspirators would and did direct and instruct victims to transmit money to the defendant and/or other conspirators using one or more wire transmitter services often to conceal from law enforcement officers the identities of the victims as well as the nature and sources of the financial transactions;

d. It was further a part of the conspiracy that the conspirators would and did pick up from the money transmitter services the fraudulently-obtained funds wired by the victims;

e. It was further a part of the conspiracy that the defendant would and did provide the fraud proceeds to other conspirators in cash, so the proceeds could be transferred to other conspirators;

f. It was further a part of the conspiracy that conspirators would and did share in the proceeds of the fraud scheme, usually receiving percentages commensurate with their respective roles, to promote and perpetuate the scheme;

g. It was further a part of the conspiracy that conspirators would and did transfer, or cause to be transferred, funds utilizing interstate and foreign wire communications; and

h. It was further a part of the conspiracy that conspirators would and did engage in multiple meetings, perform acts, and make statements to promote and achieve the objects of the conspiracy and to misrepresent, hide, and conceal, and cause to be misrepresented, hidden, and concealed, the purpose of the conspiracy and the acts committed in furtherance thereof.

In violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1956(h).

FORFEITURE

1. The allegations contained in Count One of this Information are incorporated by reference for the purpose of alleging forfeitures pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 982(a)(1).

2. Upon conviction of a violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1956(h), the defendant,

TROY CATER,

shall forfeit to the United States of America, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 982(a)(1), any property, real or personal, involved in such offense and any property traceable to such property.

3. The property subject to forfeiture includes, but is not limited to \$15,000, which represents the amount involved in the offense that the defendant kept as profit.

4. If any of the property described above, 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;

the United States of America shall be entitled to forfeiture of substitute property pursuant to 21 U.S.C. § 853(p), as incorporated by 18 U.S.C. § 982(b)(1).

MARIA CHAPA LOPEZ
United States Attorney

By: 

Rachel K. Jones
Assistant United States Attorney

By: 

Jay G. Trezvant
Assistant United States Attorney
Chief, Economic Crimes Section