

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

v.

ADONYS CASTILLO,  
a/k/a "Candela,"  
GERARD VALENTINE FRIAS,  
a/k/a "Monkey,"  
JADEL ARAUJO,  
a/k/a "Negro,"  
a/k/a "Negromoneymaker,"  
HENRY MARCANO,  
a/k/a "KC,"  
JOSHUA TORRES,  
EDWIN RAMIREZ,  
RANDY BAUTISTA,  
JARYLIZ ORTEGA,  
ELVIO TORIBIO, and  
CLAUDY BRATINI,  
a/k/a "Cilantro,"

Defendants.

**SEALED INDICTMENT**

23 Cr.

23 CRIM 279

**COUNT ONE**

**(Conspiracy to Commit Kidnapping)**

The Grand Jury charges:

1. On or about April 26, 2022, in the Southern District of New York and elsewhere, ADONYS CASTILLO, a/k/a "Candela," GERARD VALENTINE FRIAS, a/k/a "Monkey," JADEL ARAUJO, a/k/a "Negro," a/k/a "Negromoneymaker," HENRY MARCANO, a/k/a "KC," JOSHUA TORRES, EDWIN RAMIREZ, RANDY BAUTISTA, JARYLIZ ORTEGA, ELVIO TORIBIO, and CLAUDY BRATINI, a/k/a "Cilantro," the defendants, and others known and unknown, knowingly and intentionally combined, conspired, confederated, and agreed together

and with each other to kidnap another individual (the "Victim"), in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 1201(a)(1).

2. It was a part and an object of the conspiracy that ADONYS CASTILLO, a/k/a "Candela," GERARD VALENTINE FRIAS, a/k/a "Monkey," JADEL ARAUJO, a/k/a "Negro," a/k/a "Negromoneymaker," HENRY MARCANO, a/k/a "KC," JOSHUA TORRES, EDWIN RAMIREZ, RANDY BAUTISTA, JARYLIZ ORTEGA, ELVIO TORIBIO, and CLAUDY BRATINI, a/k/a "Cilantro," the defendants, and others known and unknown, would and did knowingly and unlawfully seize, confine, inveigle, decoy, kidnap, abduct, and carry away, and hold for ransom and reward and otherwise the Victim, and would and did use a means, facility, and instrumentality of interstate and foreign commerce in committing and in furtherance of the commission of the offense, in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 1201(a)(1).

3. At the time of the offense, the Victim had not attained the age of eighteen years, and ADONYS CASTILLO, a/k/a "Candela," GERARD VALENTINE FRIAS, a/k/a "Monkey," JADEL ARAUJO, a/k/a "Negro," a/k/a "Negromoneymaker," HENRY MARCANO, a/k/a "KC," JOSHUA TORRES, EDWIN RAMIREZ, RANDY BAUTISTA, JARYLIZ ORTEGA, ELVIO TORIBIO, and CLAUDY BRATINI, a/k/a "Cilantro," the defendants, had attained such age, and were not parents, grandparents, brothers, sisters, aunts, uncles, or individuals having legal custody of the Victim, in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 1201(g)(1).

#### Overt Acts

4. In furtherance of the conspiracy and to effect the illegal object thereof, the following overt acts, among others, were committed in the Southern District of New York and elsewhere:

a. On or about April 26, 2022, ADONYS CASTILLO, a/k/a “Candela,” GERARD VALENTINE FRIAS, a/k/a “Monkey,” JADEL ARAUJO, a/k/a “Negro,” a/k/a “Negromoneymaker,” HENRY MARCANO, a/k/a “KC,” JOSHUA TORRES, EDWIN RAMIREZ, RANDY BAUTISTA, JARYLIZ ORTEGA, ELVIO TORIBIO, and CLAUDY BRATINI, a/k/a “Cilantro,” the defendants, unlawfully seized the Victim in the Bronx, New York, and confined, kidnapped, abducted, and held the Victim at a building (“Building-1”) in the Bronx, New York for approximately one hour.

b. On or about April 26, 2022, ADONYS CASTILLO, a/k/a “Candela,” GERARD VALENTINE FRIAS, a/k/a “Monkey,” and JADEL ARAUJO, a/k/a “Negro,” a/k/a “Negromoneymaker,” the defendants, moved and carried away the Victim from Building-1 to a second building (“Building-2”) in the Bronx, New York, where the Victim was unlawfully confined and held for approximately seventeen hours.

(Title 18, United States Code, Section 1201(c).)

**COUNT TWO**  
**(Firearms Use, Carrying, and Possession)**


The Grand Jury further charges:

5. On or about April 26, 2022 in the Southern District of New York and elsewhere, EDWIN RAMIREZ and JOSHUA TORRES, the defendants, during and in relation to a drug trafficking crime for which they may be prosecuted in a court of the United States, namely, a conspiracy to distribute and possess with intent to distribute for remuneration marijuana in violation of Title 21, United States Code, Sections 846 and 841(b)(1)(D), knowingly used and

carried a firearm, and in furtherance of such crime, possessed a firearm, and aided and abetted the use, carrying, and possession of a firearm, which was brandished and discharged.

(Title 18, United States Code, Sections 924(c)(1)(A)(i), (ii), and (iii), and 2.)



  
DAMIAN WILLIAMS  
United States Attorney