

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
EASTERN DISTRICT OF LOUISIANA**

**UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**

\* **CRIMINAL DOCKET NO. 14-229**

v.

\* **SECTION: "S"**

**RONY RIVERA-GONZALES,  
a/k/a LUIS TORRES RIVERA**

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**FACTUAL BASIS**

Were this matter brought to trial, the United States would prove, through competent testimony and documentary evidence, the following beyond a reasonable doubt.

In August 2014, agents with Homeland Security Investigations ("HSI") received complaints from the Office of Motor Vehicles that several Hispanic males had obtained driver's licenses and identification cards from their Houma office by using social security numbers that did not belong to them. Based on this complaint and other information that was obtained from investigative leads, HSI agents determined that **RONY RIVERA-GONZALES (RIVERA-GONZALES)**, along with other illegal immigrants, was residing at an apartment complex on Rufus Bankston Road in Houma.

On September 25, 2014, the HSI agents and troopers with the Louisiana State Police (LSP) went to the complex to conduct a "knock and talk" investigation. Upon arriving at the complex, the agents and troopers encountered several individuals standing outside the apartment unit that they were going to visit. The agents then identified the residents of the apartment and asked for consent to search the residence and look for the individuals that were believed to have obtained official driver's licenses and identification cards from the state under false pretenses. The residents agreed and gave the agents written consent to enter and search

their apartment.

Once in the apartment, the agents made contact with **RIVERA-GONZALES** and asked him if he would answer some questions about a Louisiana identification card that he had recently obtained from the Office of Motor vehicles. **RIVERA-GONZALES** agreed and waived his rights per Miranda. During the interview, **RIVERA-GONZALES** admitted that he was a citizen of Honduras, and that he used someone else's name and social security number to obtain a valid Louisiana identification card from the Office of Motor Vehicles.

Following his admission, the agents arrested **RIVERA-GONZALES** and transported him to the LSP office for processing. After he was processed, **RIVERA-GONZALES** provided a written confession to the agents. In his confession, **RIVERA-GONZALES** stated he has been in the United States since 2009, and that he purchased a Puerto Rican birth certificate and a social security card (belonging to and hereinafter referred to as Mr. P) for \$800 from a man in Hammond, Louisiana. He also stated that he used the purchased documents and the Louisiana identification card to obtain employment with Mississippi Power Company.

In addition to his voluntary confession, the government would introduce at trial a copy of the birth certificate and social security card that **RIVERA-GONZALES** purchased. Additionally, the government would also introduce into evidence copies of the application for the identification card that **RIVERA-GONZALES** submitted and the identification card that was issued to him by the Office of Motor Vehicles. The application shows that **RIVERA-GONZALES** used the name and social security number of Mr. P. when he applied for the identification card on August 20, 2014. The identification card that was issued to **RIVERA-**

