

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
DISTRICT OF NEW JERSEY

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA : Hon.
 :
 v. : Crim. No. 13-
 :
 : 18 U.S.C. § 371
 AREF ABUHADBA :

I N F O R M A T I O N

The defendant having waived in open court prosecution by Indictment, the United States Attorney for the District of New Jersey charges:

1. At all times relevant to this Information:

a. Defendant AREF ABUHADBA resided in Wyckoff and Totowa, New Jersey, and operated or controlled a number of businesses throughout New Jersey, including Discount Linen Wholesale, located in Paterson, New Jersey.

b. Co-conspirator # 1 ("CC1"), who is not named as a defendant herein, was a resident of the People's Republic of China ("PRC"), who acted as a broker of counterfeit goods, such as counterfeit Walt Disney linens and Nike sneakers, between the Chinese manufacturers and United States distributors.

c. Co-conspirator # 2 ("CC2"), who is not named as a defendant herein, resided in Rancho's Palos Verdes, California, and operated Uni-Star Logistics, also located in Rancho's Palos Verdes, California. Once the containers of counterfeit goods that CC1 sent from the PRC arrived in the United States and cleared United States Customs, CC2 arranged for them to be delivered to ABUHADBA and others.

d. Defendant ABUHADBA, CC1 and CC2 were not authorized to import or sell legitimate Walt Disney or Nike products.

e. The Los Angeles/Long Beach Seaport in Long Beach, California ("Port Los Angeles") was a port of entry into the United States for shipping containers traveling in foreign commerce.

f. United States Customs and Border Protection ("CBP") officials at Port Los Angeles enforced import laws concerning the entry of shipping containers and their contents into the United States. CBP officials had the authority to examine the contents of shipping containers for contraband, including, among other things, counterfeit goods, and to seize counterfeit goods.

2. Between in or about 2003 through in or about 2010, in Essex and Passaic Counties, in the District of New Jersey and elsewhere, defendant

AREF ABUHADBA

did knowingly and intentionally conspire and agree with CC1, CC2, and others to intentionally traffic or attempt to traffic in goods and services, to wit: counterfeit Walt Disney Company linens and counterfeit Nike sneakers, and knowingly used a counterfeit mark on or in connection with such goods, the use of which was likely to cause confusion, to cause mistake, and to deceive, contrary to Title 18, United States Code, Section 2320(a).

OBJECT OF THE CONSPIRACY

3. The object of the conspiracy was for defendant ABUHADBA, CC1, CC2, and others to import counterfeit goods from the PRC into the United States, where they could be sold at a profit.

MANNER AND MEANS OF THE CONSPIRACY

4. It was part of the conspiracy that defendant ABUHADBA, CC1, CC2, and others would import shipping containers from the PRC containing counterfeit goods.

5. It was further part of the conspiracy that, in order to avoid detection of the shipping containers with counterfeit goods by CBP officials, defendant ABUHADBA, CC1, CC2 and others would submit documents to CBP that falsely stated that the CG Shipping Containers held legitimate import goods, such as blankets and other household articles.

6. It was further part of the conspiracy that defendant ABUHADBA, CC1, CC2 and others would cause the shipping containers with counterfeit goods to be transported from Port Los Angeles to storage locations that defendant ABUHADBA, CC2 and others controlled.

7. It was further part of the conspiracy that defendant ABUHADBA, CC1, CC2 and others would cause the contents of the CG Shipping Containers to be delivered to retailers in the United States, including retailers located in New Jersey, who would then sell the counterfeit goods.

OVERT ACTS

8. In order to further the objects of the conspiracy, defendant AREF ABUHADBA committed, or caused to be committed, the following acts in the District of New Jersey and elsewhere:

a. On or before September 10, 2008, defendant ABUHADBA, CC1, CC2 and others caused a CG Shipping Container, bearing container number HJCU7828999 and containing counterfeit Nike Shoes, to be shipped to Port Los Angeles.

b. On or before September 17, 2008, defendant ABUHADBA, CC1, CC2 and others caused a CG Shipping Container, bearing container number HDMU6752645 and containing counterfeit Nike Shoes, to be shipped to Port Los Angeles.

c. On or about December 3, 2008, defendant ABUHADBA caused "O.A." to send two separate letters from New Jersey to the CBP at Port Los Angeles, concerning container numbers HJCU1944482 and HDMU6752645, both of which had been seized by CBP. In both letters, "O.A." falsely claimed "the container in question was supposed to contain blankets. However, the warehouse in China mistakenly loaded this container with

different merchandise, which was not requested. Since this is not the merchandise that I ordered, you can take it into your custody."

In violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 371.



PAUL J. FISHMAN
United States Attorney

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INFORMATION FOR

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