

Department of Justice

United States Attorney William J. Hochul, Jr.
Western District of New York

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
JANUARY 05, 2012
www.usdoj.gov/usao/nyw

CONTACT: BARBARA BURNS
PHONE: (716) 843-5817
FAX: (716) 551-3051

COLUMBIAN NATIONAL PLEADS GUILTY **TO USING A FALSE PASSPORT**

BUFFALO, N.Y. - U.S. Attorney William J. Hochul, Jr. announced today that Gustavo Salazar-Salazar, 33, a citizen and national of Columbia, pleaded guilty before U.S. Judge Richard J. Arcara, to using a false passport. The charge carries a maximum sentence of 10 years in prison, a fine of \$250,000 or both.

According to Assistant U.S. Attorney Russell T. Ippolito, who is handling the case, the defendant attempted to enter the United States at the Rainbow Bridge Port of Entry in November 2011. Salazar presented a false passport from Spain which contained the defendant's photograph but also included a false name and false date of birth. Further investigation determined that the defendant's true identity was Gustavo Salazar-Salazar and that he had previously been removed from the United States in November 2005.

The plea is the result of an investigation by United States Customs and Border Protection, under the direction of James T. Engleman, Director of Field Operations.

Sentencing is scheduled for April 26, 2012, at 1:00 p.m., in Buffalo, N.Y. before Judge Arcara.