

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA**

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA	:	CRIMINAL NO. <u>15-</u>
v.	:	DATE FILED: <u>5-19-15</u>
LISA STRATTON	:	VIOLATION:
		18 U.S.C. § 1343 (wire fraud – 1 count)
		18 U.S.C. § 2 (aiding and abetting)
		Notice of forfeiture

INFORMATION

COUNT ONE

THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY CHARGES THAT:

At all times material to this information:

1. Meyer Jabara Hotels, LLC (“Meyer Jabara”) was a management company responsible for providing management services to the Sheraton University City Hotel located at 3549 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. The Sheraton University City Hotel is owned by the University of Pennsylvania. The Sheraton University City Hotel has its business bank account with Sovereign Bank, which is insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (“FDIC”).

2. Co-conspirator 1, a person known to the United States Attorney, was employed by Meyer Jabara and was the “General Manager” at the Sheraton University City Hotel. In his capacity as general manager, co-conspirator 1 oversaw all aspects of the day-to-day financial and personnel management of the Sheraton University City Hotel. Co-conspirator 1 had the authority to hire vendors and enter into contracts with vendors on behalf of the Sheraton University City Hotel and authorize payment to vendors on behalf of the Sheraton University City Hotel.

3. Co-conspirator 1 maintained a personal bank account at PNC Bank, a financial institution which operated in interstate commerce and was insured by the FDIC.

4. Defendant LISA STRATTON is the owner of LA Stratton Associates, an interior design company that provided services to hotels. LA Stratton Associates provided interior design services to the Sheraton University City Hotel.

THE SCHEME

5. From in or around February 2013 to in or around December 2013, in the Eastern District of Pennsylvania, and elsewhere, defendant

LISA STRATTON

and others known and unknown to the United States Attorney, knowingly devised a scheme and artifice to defraud and to obtain money and property by means of false and fraudulent pretenses, representations, and promises.

MANNER AND MEANS

It was part of the scheme that:

6. Co-conspirator 1 instructed vendors of The Sheraton University City Hotel, including defendant LISA STRATTON, to fraudulently inflate service invoices submitted by them by as high as approximately 20 percent for services rendered.

7. Defendant LISA STRATTON inflated the invoices of LA Stratton Associates submitted to the Sheraton University City Hotel and then provided the additional and ill-gotten inflated funds to co-conspirator 1 as a kickback.

8. From in or about February 2013 to in or about December 2013, defendant LISA STRATTON prepared approximately 58 fraudulent invoices on behalf of LA Stratton

Associates, by falsely inflating costs for services rendered to the Sheraton University City Hotel, as instructed by co-conspirator 1.

9. From in or about February 2013 to in or about December 2013, defendant LISA STRATTON paid co-conspirator 1 kickbacks in approximately 58 payments totaling approximately \$499,915.31 from the payments she received from the Sheraton University City Hotel pursuant to her inflated invoices.

10. From in or about March 2013 to in or about August 2013, co-conspirator 1 deposited 48 of the 58 payments received from defendant LISA STRATTON, totaling approximately \$425,059.94, into his personal PNC bank account.

11. On or about the date set forth below, in the Eastern District of Pennsylvania, and elsewhere, defendant

LISA STRATTON

and other persons known and unknown to the United States Attorney, for the purpose of executing the scheme described above, and attempting to do so, and aiding and abetting its execution, caused to be transmitted by means of wire communication in interstate commerce the signals and sounds described below:

COUNT	DATE	DESCRIPTION
1	August 15, 2013	LA Stratton Associate's Check # 2616 in the amount of \$9,700, provided by defendant LISA STRATTON to co-conspirator 1 was deposited into co-conspirator 1's PNC Bank Account in Pennsylvania and processed electronically by PNC Bank in New York.

All in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Sections 1343 and 2.

NOTICE OF FORFEITURE

THE GRAND JURY FURTHER CHARGES THAT:

1. As a result of the violations of Title 18, United States Code, Section 1343, as set forth in this information, defendant

LISA STRATTON

shall forfeit to the United States of America any property that constitutes, or is derived from, proceeds obtained directly or indirectly from the commission of such offenses, including, but not limited to, the sum of \$499,915.31 and:

2. If any of the property subject to forfeiture, as a result of any act or omission of the defendants:

- (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;

it is the intent of the United States, pursuant to Title 28, United States Code, Section 2461(c), incorporating Title 21, United States Code, Section 853(p), to seek forfeiture of any other property of the defendant(s) up to the value of the property subject to forfeiture.

All pursuant to Title 28, United States Code, Section 2461(c) and Title 18,
United States Code, Section 981(a)(1)(C).

ZANE DAVID MEMEGER
United States Attorney