

FILED

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
MIDDLE DISTRICT OF FLORIDA
JACKSONVILLE DIVISION

2023 MAR -8 PM 12: 00

CLERK, US DISTRICT COURT
MIDDLE DISTRICT OF FL
JACKSONVILLE FLORIDA

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

v.

LUIS ALBERTO VILLAZON
a/k/a John Franklin Urso

Case No. 3:23-cr- 41-TJC-LLL
18 U.S.C. § 1343
18 U.S.C. § 1001
18 U.S.C. § 641
42 U.S.C. § 408(a)(7)(B)
18 U.S.C. § 1028A(a)(1)

INDICTMENT

The Grand Jury charges:

COUNTS ONE THROUGH FIVE
(Wire Fraud)

A. Introduction

At all times material to this Indictment:

1. The defendant, LUIS ALBERTO VILLAZON, a/k/a John Franklin Urso, was a resident of Columbia County, in the Middle District of Florida. The defendant was born on a date in August 1959. The last four digits of the defendant's Social Security Number are 6134
2. On or about November 5, 1998, the defendant applied for and fraudulently obtained a Florida driver license in the name of John F. Urso with a date of birth in July 1959.
3. Subsequently, the defendant fraudulently renewed and replaced the Florida driver license in the name of John F. Urso and John Franklin Urso on

several occasions, the last time on or about March 22, 2020, at which time the driver license was renewed with an expiration date of July 6, 2028.

4. On or about July 6, 2011, the defendant renewed the driver license in the name of John Franklin Urso in Lake City, Columbia County, Florida, and when he did so he fraudulently presented identification documents in the name of John Franklin Urso, that is, a State of New York birth certificate in the name of John Franklin Urso reflecting a date of birth in July 1959 and a Social Security document stating that a Social Security Number ending in 9640 was assigned to “John Franklyn Urso.”

5. John Franklin Urso was a real person with a date of birth in July 1959 who died in the State of New York in 1976, at the age of 17.

6. During the same period in which he obtained, renewed, and replaced a Florida driver license in the name of John Franklin Urso, the defendant obtained, renewed, and replaced a Florida driver license in his true name, LUIS ALBERTO VILLAZON, providing his true date of birth in August 1959 and his true Social Security Number ending in 6134.

7. The earliest available records reflect that the defendant applied for renewal of a Florida driver license in his own name on or about September 3, 1999, and he subsequently renewed and replaced the Florida driver license in his own name on several occasions, the last time on or about July 2, 2019, at which time the driver license was renewed with an expiration date of August 9, 2027.

8. The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (“SNAP”) is a program of the United States Department of Agriculture that was authorized by Congress to help low-income individuals and families by providing monthly benefits with which to buy food. These benefits were formerly called “food stamps.”

9. An Electronic Benefits Transfer (“EBT”) card is a plastic card with a magnetic stripe (similar to a debit card or credit card) issued to a SNAP beneficiary that allows the beneficiary to pay for food using SNAP benefits. When the beneficiary uses the EBT card at a merchant, an electronic transmission is sent to a computer server in either Wisconsin or Arizona to, among other things, confirm that the card is valid and that the beneficiary’s account has sufficient funds to pay for the purchase.

B. Scheme and Artifice

From in or about March 2011 through in or about December 2022, in the Middle District of Florida, and elsewhere, the defendant,

LUIS ALBERTO VILLAZON,
a/k/a John Franklin Urso,

did knowingly devise and intend to devise a scheme and artifice to defraud and to obtain money and property by means of materially false and fraudulent pretenses, representations, and promises, for the purpose of obtaining money and property of the United States and the U.S. Department of Agriculture, that is, benefits under the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (“SNAP”) using both his true identity and the identity of John Franklin Urso.

C. Manner and Means

The manner and means by which the defendant carried out the scheme and artifice to defraud included, but were not limited to, the following:

1. From in or about July 2011 through in or about May 2022, the defendant submitted and caused to be submitted numerous fraudulent applications for SNAP benefits through a State of Florida Department of Children and Families on-line portal using the name John F. Urso, a date of birth in July 1959, and a Social Security Number ending in 9640.

2. From in or about July 2011 through in or about December 2022, the defendant fraudulently obtained and received SNAP benefits under the name John F. Urso totaling approximately \$25,388.

3. From in or about May 2011 through in or about October 2021, the defendant submitted and caused to be submitted numerous applications for SNAP benefits through a State of Florida Department of Children and Families on-line portal using his true name of LUIS ALBERTO VILLAZON, his true date of birth in August 1959, and his true Social Security Number ending in 6134.

4. From in or about March 2011 through in or about November 2021, the defendant obtained and received SNAP benefits under his true name totaling approximately \$22,902.

D. Execution of the Scheme

On or about the dates set forth below, in the Middle District of Florida, and elsewhere, the defendant,

LUIS ALBERTO VILLAZON,
a/k/a John Franklin Urso,

for the purpose of executing and attempting to execute the scheme and artifice to defraud and to obtain money and property by means of materially false and fraudulent pretenses, representations, and promises, did knowingly and with intent to defraud transmit and cause to be transmitted in interstate commerce, by means of a wire communication, certain signs, signals, and sounds, that is, the below-listed transmissions:

COUNT	DATE	TRANSMISSION
ONE	November 4, 2022	Payment of \$281.00 for a purchase at a Sam's Club store with a SNAP EBT card in the name of John F. Urso
TWO	December 5, 2022	Payment of \$19.69 for a purchase at a Publix store with a SNAP EBT card in the name of John F. Urso
THREE	December 12, 2022	Payment of \$189.03 for a purchase at a Sam's Club store with a SNAP EBT card in the name of John F. Urso
FOUR	January 29, 2023	Payment of \$43.14 for a purchase at a Publix store with a SNAP EBT card in the name of John F. Urso
FIVE	February 3, 2023	Payment of \$65.06 for a purchase at a CVS store with a SNAP EBT card in the name of John F. Urso

All in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1343.

COUNTS SIX THROUGH THIRTEEN
(False Statement to Government Agency)

On or about the dates set forth below, in the Middle District of Florida, and elsewhere, the defendant,

LUIS ALBERTO VILLAZON,
a/k/a John Franklin Urso,

did knowingly and willfully make a materially false, fictitious, and fraudulent statement and representation in a matter within the jurisdiction of the United States Department of Agriculture, a department and agency of the United States within the executive branch of the Government of the United States, when he submitted and caused to be submitted an application for Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program ("SNAP") benefits using the name John F. Urso, a date of birth in July 1959, and a Social Security Number ending in 9640:

COUNT	DATE OF APPLICATION
SIX	May 3, 2018
SEVEN	November 1, 2018
EIGHT	May 3, 2019
NINE	October 28, 2019
TEN	November 5, 2020
ELEVEN	May 3, 2021
TWELVE	October 27, 2021
THIRTEEN	May 11, 2022

All in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1001.

COUNT FOURTEEN
(Theft of Government Property)

From on or about March 9, 2018, through on or about December 12, 2022, in the Middle District of Florida, and elsewhere, the defendant

LUIS ALBERTO VILLAZON,
a/k/a John Franklin Urso,

did knowingly and willfully embezzle, steal, purloin, and convert to his own use, and to the use of another, money and property of the United States and the Department of Agriculture, a department and agency of the United States, that is, Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (“SNAP”) benefits, the total value of the money and property exceeding \$1,000, with the intent to deprive the United States and the Department of Agriculture of the use and benefit of the money and property.

In violation of 18 U.S.C. § 641.

COUNTS FIFTEEN THROUGH TWENTY-TWO
(Fraudulent Use of Social Security Number – SNAP Benefits)

On or about the dates set forth below, in the Middle District of Florida, and elsewhere, the defendant,

LUIS ALBERTO VILLAZON,
a/k/a John Franklin Urso,

for the purpose of fraudulently obtaining Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (“SNAP”) benefits, and for other purposes, and with intent to deceive, falsely and fraudulently represented that a Social Security Number ending in 9640 was the social security account number assigned to him by the Commissioner of

Social Security when he submitted and caused to be submitted an application for SNAP benefits when in fact such number was not a social security account number assigned to him but instead was assigned to John Franklin Urso:

COUNT	DATE OF APPLICATION
FIFTEEN	May 3, 2018
SIXTEEN	November 1, 2018
SEVENTEEN	May 3, 2019
EIGHTEEN	October 28, 2019
NINETEEN	November 5, 2020
TWENTY	May 3, 2021
TWENTY-ONE	October 27, 2021
TWENTY-TWO	May 11, 2022

All in violation of 42 U.S.C. § 408(a)(7)(B).

COUNTS TWENTY-THREE THROUGH THIRTY
(Unlawful Use of Means of Identification of Another Person – SNAP Benefits)

On or about the dates set forth below, in the Middle District of Florida, and elsewhere, the defendant,

LUIS ALBERTO VILLAZON,
a/k/a John Franklin Urso,

did knowingly possess and use, without lawful authority, a means of identification of another person, knowing and having reason to know that the means of identification belonged to another person, when he submitted and caused to be submitted an application for Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (“SNAP”) benefits using the name John F. Urso, a date of birth in July 1959, and a Social Security Number

ending in 9640, during and in relation to a felony enumerated in 18 U.S.C. § 1028A(c), that is, theft of government property in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 641, as charged in Count Fourteen of this Indictment, and fraudulent use of a Social Security Number, as charged in Counts Fifteen through Twenty-Two of this Indictment:

COUNT	DATE OF APPLICATION
TWENTY-THREE	May 3, 2018
TWENTY-FOUR	November 1, 2018
TWENTY-FIVE	May 3, 2019
TWENTY-SIX	October 28, 2019
TWENTY-SEVEN	November 5, 2020
TWENTY-EIGHT	May 3, 2021
TWENTY-NINE	October 27, 2021
THIRTY	May 11, 2022

All in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1028A(a)(1).

COUNT THIRTY-ONE
(Fraudulent Use of Social Security Number – Driver License)

On or about March 22, 2020, in the Middle District of Florida, and elsewhere, the defendant,

LUIS ALBERTO VILLAZON,
a/k/a John Franklin Urso,

for the purpose of fraudulently obtaining a driver license in the name of John Franklin Urso, and for other purposes, and with intent to deceive, falsely and fraudulently represented that a Social Security Number ending in 9640 was the social

security account number assigned to him by the Commissioner of Social Security when in fact such number was not a social security account number assigned to him but instead was assigned to John Franklin Urso.

In violation of 42 U.S.C. § 408(a)(7)(B).

COUNT THIRTY-TWO
(Unlawful Use of Means of Identification of Another Person – Driver License)

On or about March 22, 2020, in the Middle District of Florida, the defendant,

LUIS ALBERTO VILLAZON,
a/k/a John Franklin Urso,

did knowingly possess and use, without lawful authority, a means of identification of another person, that is, the name, date of birth, and Social Security Number of John Franklin Urso, knowing and having reason to know that the means of identification belonged to another person, during and in relation to a felony enumerated in 18 U.S.C. § 1028A(c), that is, fraudulent use of a Social Security Number in violation of 42 U.S.C. § 408(a)(7)(B), as charged in Count Thirty-One of this Indictment

In violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1028A(a)(1).

FORFEITURE

1. The allegations contained in Counts One through Five and Fourteen of this Indictment are incorporated by reference for the purpose of alleging forfeitures pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 981(a)(1)(C) and 28 U.S.C. § 2461(c).

2. Upon conviction of wire fraud, in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1343, or of theft of government property, in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 641, the defendant, LUIS ALBERTO VILLAZON, a/k/a John Franklin Urso, shall forfeit to the United States of America, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 981(a)(1)(C) and 28 U.S.C. § 2461(c), any property, real or personal, which constitutes or is derived from proceeds traceable to the violation.


3. The property to be forfeited includes, but is not limited to, an order of forfeiture of \$50,000, which represents the approximate amount of proceeds obtained from the offenses.

4. If any of the property described above, as a result of any act or omission of the defendant:

- 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,

the United States of America shall be entitled to forfeiture of substitute property pursuant to 21 U.S.C. § 853(p), as incorporated by 28 U.S.C. § 2461(c).

A TRUE BILL,


Foreperson

ROGER B. HANDBERG
United States Attorney

By:


ARNOLD B. CORSMEIER
Assistant United States Attorney

By:


FRANK TALBOT
Assistant United States Attorney
Chief, Jacksonville Division

No.

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
Middle District of Florida
Jacksonville Division

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

vs.

LUIS ALBERTO VILLAZON
a/k/a John Franklin Urso

INDICTMENT

Violations: 18 U.S.C. §§ 642, 1001, 1028A(a)(1), and 1343
42 U.S.C. § 408(a)(7)(B)

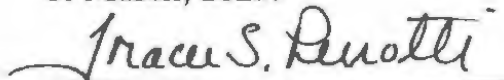
A true bill,



Foreperson

Filed in open court this 8th day

of March, 2023.



Clerk

Bail \$ _____
