

SEP 29 2025

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS  
EASTERN DIVISION

**FILED**

SEP 29 2025

MAGISTRATE JUDGE HEATHER K. MCSHAIN  
UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

) No.

v.

)

) Violation: Title 18, United States Code,  
) Section 1956(h)

FIRAS ISA, and

)

VIRTUAL ASSETS LLC (d/b/a CRYPTO

)

DISPENSERS)

)

**INDICTMENT**

)

**UNDER SEAL**

1:25-cr-00612

Judge Bucklo

Magistrate Judge McLaughlin

The SPECIAL APRIL 2025 GRAND JURY charges:

1. At times material to this indictment:

a. FIRAS ISA was a resident of Frankfort, Illinois.

b. VIRTUAL ASSETS LLC, doing business as CRYPTO DISPENSERS, purported to be a virtual assets service provider, including as a cash-to-cryptocurrency exchange that offered its customers the means to deposit U.S. currency into a VIRTUAL ASSETS LLC account, via either deposit into a cryptocurrency ATM or via wire transfer to VIRTUAL ASSETS LLC. Customers could then convert U.S. currency into cryptocurrency and transfer the cryptocurrency to other persons or accounts (including non-VIRTUAL ASSETS LLC accounts).

c. VIRTUAL ASSETS LLC's registered business address was 205 North Michigan Avenue, Suite 810, Chicago, Illinois, with a former business office located at 7021 West 153rd Street, Suite 3, Orland Park, Illinois.

d. FIRAS ISA and Co-Conspirator 1 controlled CRYPTO DISPENSERS as its founders and high-ranking officers. ISA identified himself

publicly as founder and chief executive officer of CRYPTO DISPENSERS. Co-Conspirator 1 identified publicly as co-founder and chief compliance officer of CRYPTO DISPENSERS. ISA and Co-Conspirator 1 also participated in CRYPTO DISPENSERS' business, including in communications with financial institutions, as founders and/or owners of CRYPTO DISPENSERS.

2. Beginning no later than in or around August 2018 and continuing through May 2025, at Chicago, in the Northern District of Illinois, Eastern Division, and elsewhere,

FIRAS ISA, and  
VIRTUAL ASSETS LLC (d/b/a CRYPTO DISPENSERS),

defendants herein, conspired with each other, Co-Conspirator 1, and with others known and unknown to the Grand Jury, to knowingly conduct a financial transaction affecting interstate and foreign commerce, which transaction involved the proceeds of a specified unlawful activity, that is, felony violations of Title 21, United States Code, Section 841(a)(1) involving distributing and possessing with intent to distribute a controlled substance and Title 18, United States Code, Section 1343 involving wire

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fraud, and knowing that the transaction was designed in whole or in part to conceal and disguise the nature, location, source, ownership, and control of the proceeds of said specified unlawful activity, and that while conducting such financial transaction knew that the property involved in the financial transaction represented the proceeds of some form of unlawful activity, in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 1956(a)(1)(B)(i);

In violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 1956(h).

3. It was part of the conspiracy that ISA and Co-Conspirator 1 operated VIRTUAL ASSETS LLC, in part, for the purpose of collecting and receiving large amounts of United States currency derived from wire fraud and narcotics offenses.

4. It was further part of the conspiracy that ISA and Co-Conspirator 1, through VIRTUAL ASSETS LLC, operated cryptocurrency ATMs at various locations throughout the United States. ISA and Co-Conspirator 1 knew that co-conspirators, or in some cases, fraud victims, would deposit funds derived from wire fraud into these cryptocurrency ATMs, convert the funds to cryptocurrency, and then transfer the cryptocurrency to a cryptocurrency wallet addresses in a manner to conceal and disguise the nature, location, source, ownership, and control of the proceeds.

5. It was further part of the conspiracy that ISA and Co-Conspirator 1, through VIRTUAL ASSETS LLC, received funds via cash, check, wires or other monetary instruments from co-conspirators, or in some cases, fraud victims, which ISA and Co-Conspirator 1 knew were funds derived from wire fraud. ISA and Co-Conspirator 1, through VIRTUAL ASSETS LLC, converted the wire fraud proceeds to cryptocurrency, and then transferred the cryptocurrency to wallet addresses in a manner designed to conceal and disguise the nature, location, source, ownership, and control of the proceeds.

6. It was further part of the conspiracy that ISA and Co-Conspirator 1 opened, caused to be opened, and attempted to open bank accounts to facilitate the deposit of wire fraud proceeds into those accounts.

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7. It was further part of the conspiracy that the value of the property, funds, or monetary instruments involved in the offense was no less than \$10,000,000.

All in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 1956(h).

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## FORFEITURE NOTICE

The SPECIAL APRIL 2025 GRAND JURY further alleges:

1. Upon conviction of one or more offenses in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 1956, defendants ISA and VIRTUAL ASSETS LLC shall forfeit to the United States of America any property, real and personal, involved in such offenses, or any property traceable to such property, as provided in Title 18, United States Code, Section 982(a)(1).

2. The property to be forfeited includes, but is not limited to, a personal money judgment.

3. If any of the property described above, as a result of any act or omission by a defendant: cannot be located upon the exercise of due diligence; has been transferred or sold to, or deposited with, a third party; has been placed beyond the jurisdiction of the Court; has been substantially diminished in value; or 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, as provided in Title 21, United States Code, Section 853(p).

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A TRUE BILL:

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FOREPERSON