

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
DISTRICT OF NEW JERSEY

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA : Hon.  
v. : Criminal Number: 18-  
SERGEY KAPUSTIN : 18 U.S.C. §§ 1957(a) and 2

**INFORMATION**  
**(Engaging in a Monetary Transaction Derived Through Wire Fraud)**

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

**Introduction**

1. At various times relevant to this Information:

**The Defendant**

a. Sergey Kapustin (“Kapustin”) was a naturalized U.S. citizen, who also maintained his Russian citizenship. He sold cars for a living and conducted his business in Elizabeth, New Jersey and Delran, New Jersey, under the name of Global Auto. Kapustin also utilized alternate businesses called “Global Cars, Inc.”, “G” Auto Sales and “Effect Auto Sales” (collectively herein “Global”) which he often/occasionally substituted for Global.

**The Scheme**

b. Defendant Kapustin’s scheme to defraud centered around enticing Russian citizens to purchase luxury cars, via the internet, and then failing to produce those cars after payment had been fully secured. He maintained websites, written in Russian, with claims of access to a wide variety of luxury cars, at reasonable prices. The

vehicles were advertised at near perfect running order, and were graded in “good”, even “grade A”, condition. He represented that he could produce these cars, once purchased, at a warehouse in Kotka, Finland. Once contacted about purchasing the vehicle, Kapustin and others issued invoices from Global requesting victims to wire money to their bank accounts at Citizens Bank and Wells Fargo bank here in the United States. Defendant Kapustin controlled and maintained bank accounts in the New Jersey and elsewhere in the name of Global entities, including payroll accounts and operating accounts, among others (hereinafter collectively the “Accounts”). He caused proceeds of the aforementioned scheme to be deposited into the Accounts.

c. Once paid in full, Kapustin used various ploys, such as additional storage fees or shipping costs, to avoid delivering the advertised vehicles. On the rare occasion that a purchased vehicle actually was delivered, those cars were usually of inferior make and model, and were routinely “salvage” vehicles that had been totally written off by the original insurers, due to floods, hurricanes or some other natural disaster.

d. Defendant Kapustin then conducted financial transactions with the proceeds of the wire fraud scheme in amounts greater than \$10,000 to (a) purchase salvaged vehicles, and (b) maintain and pay for personal expenses for his own use and benefit, and the use and benefit of his family.

### **The Charge**

2. Between 2008 and December 2016, in Union County, in the District of New Jersey and elsewhere, defendant

**SERGEY KAPUSTIN**

knowingly engaged in or caused to be engaged in monetary transactions by and through a financial institution, affecting interstate commerce, namely: the transfer and exchange

of wired funds and monetary instruments, in criminally derived property of a value greater than \$10,000, that is the transfer of approximately \$550,000 from various bank accounts in Russia to various bank accounts in New Jersey, such property having been derived from a specified unlawful activity, namely, a felony violation of the wire fraud, Title 18, United States Code, Section 1343.

In violation of Title 18, United States Code, Sections 1957(a) and 2.

### **FORFEITURE ALLEGATION**

3. As the result of committing the money laundering offense in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1957 alleged in this Information, defendant Sergey Kapustin shall forfeit to the United States, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 982(a)(1), all property, real and personal, involved in the money laundering offense, and all property traceable to such property, including but not limited to a money judgment in the amount of \$550,000, a sum that represents the property involved in the money laundering offense charged in this Information and all property traceable to such property.

### **Substitute Assets Provision**

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 shall be entitled, pursuant to 21 U.S.C. § 853(p), as incorporated by 18 U.S.C. § 982(b), to forfeiture of any other property of the defendant(s) up to the value of the above-described forfeitable property.

  
CRAIG CARPENITO  
United States Attorney

CASE NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_

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**INFORMATION**

18 U.S.C. §§ 1957(a) and 2

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**CRAIG CARPENITO**

**UNITED STATES ATTORNEY, NEWARK, NEW JERSEY**

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**V. GRADY O'MALLEY**

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