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# SEALED

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10	UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT			
11	DISTRICT OF NEVADA			
12	UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,	SEALED SUPERSEDING INDICTMENT		
13	Plaintiff,			
14	vs.	Case No. 2:23-cr-0167-CDS-DJA		
	AURORA PHELPS,	VIOLATIONS:		
15 16	aka "Aurora Flores," aka "Aurora Flores-Velasco,"	Counts One through Seven 18 U.S.C. § 1343 – Wire Fraud		
17	aka "Aurora Alvarez,"	Counts: Eight through Ten		
18	Defendant.	18 U.S.C. § 1341 – Mail Fraud		
19		Counts: Eleven through Sixteen 18 U.S.C. § 1344(a) – Bank Fraud		
20		Counts: Seventeen through Nineteen 18 U.S.C. § 1028A(a)(1) – Identity Theft		
21				
22		Counts: Twenty and Twenty-One 18 U.S.C. § 1201(a)(1) – Kidnapping		
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#### THE GRAND JURY CHARGES THAT:

#### COUNTS ONE THROUGH SEVEN Wire Fraud 18 U.S.C. § 1343

1. From on or about July 1, 2021, to on or about December 9, 2022, in the State and Federal District of Nevada, and elsewhere,

#### AURORA PHELPS, aka "Aurora Flores," aka "Aurora Flores-Velasco," aka "Aurora Alvarez,"

defendant herein, knowingly and intentionally devised and intended to devise and participated in a scheme and artifice to defraud and for obtaining money and property by means of false and fraudulent pretenses, representations, and promises.

- 2. The objective of the scheme was for Phelps to gain unauthorized access to the financial and other accounts of others, usually older men (the "Victims"), then to use the accounts to personally benefit herself and her family members.
- 3. Phelps carried out her scheme by meeting Victims on online dating services and in person, sometimes drugging them, then accessing their financial and other accounts without their knowledge and consent and without the knowledge and consent of the financial institutions and other entities that held their accounts.
- 4. It was part of the scheme and artifice that Phelps made materially false and fraudulent pretenses, representations, and promises to the Victims and to the financial institutions and entities that held their accounts.
- 5. It was further part of the scheme and artifice that Phelps performed and caused to be performed the following acts, among others:

## Defendant Perpetrates the Scheme Against Victim-1 and His Financial Institutions

- 6. On or about July 1, 2021, defendant met Victim-1, an elderly man, on an online dating service, and over the next two months, she met him for lunch dates and attempted to persuade him to travel with her to Mexico.
- 7. On or about November 1, 2021, defendant met Victim-1 at his house, caused lunch to be delivered to his house, then caused him to consume a prescription drug without his knowledge and consent, leaving him mostly unconscious for the next five or so days.
- 8. During the five days, defendant stole Victim-1's iPhone, iPads, driver's license, and bank cards; gained access to his financial accounts and conducted financial transactions using his financial accounts without his knowledge and consent, including transferring money from his accounts, and using his accounts to make online purchases from retailers.
- 9. During the five days, defendant also gained access to Victim-1's E-Trade account, sold his Apple stock worth approximately \$3.3 million, and unsuccessfully attempted to remove the \$3.3 million from Victim-1's E-Trade account.

## Defendant Perpetrates the Scheme Against Victim-2 and His Financial Institutions

- 10. On or about November 3, 2022, defendant met Victim-2, an elderly man, on an online dating service.
- 11. On or about November 4, 2022, defendant met Victim-2 at a restaurant in Las Vegas, and shortly thereafter she caused him to consume a medication and other substances that caused him to become lethargic and confused.

- 12. Beginning on or about November 4, 2022, defendant gained unauthorized access to Victim-2's financial and other accounts.
- 13. On or about November 4, 2022, defendant used Victim-2's American Express credit card without Victim-2's knowledge and consent, and caused Victim-2 to use his American Express credit card in a drugged state, to make several purchases that were declined by American Express, and to cause-Victim-2 to speak with American Express to authorize the purchases.
- 14. On or about November 4, 2022, while Victim-2 was apparently under the influence of a drug and other substances, defendant caused him to travel with her and her daughter to Mexico City, Mexico.
- 15. In Mexico City, defendant used and caused to be used Victim-2's Wells Fargo credit card to rent a hotel room.
- 16. Several days later, defendant returned to Nevada without Victim-2, who had died in the hotel room in Mexico City.
- 17. In or about November and December 2022, defendant conducted numerous transactions using Victim-2's financial accounts, including transferring money from Victim-2's account to her account and her husband's account, making ATM withdrawals, and making online purchases of items including retail goods, airline tickets, hotel rooms, and a motorcycle.
- 18. On or about November 25, 2022, defendant changed the password to Victim-2's Social Security account by requesting from the Social Security Administration a temporary password as part of a password reset.

## Defendant Perpetrates the Scheme Against Victim-3 and His Financial Institutions

- 19. On or about December 11, 2021, defendant met Victim-3 at the Hard Rock hotel in Guadalajara, Mexico, left the hotel with him, and caused him to disappear.
- 20. From on or about December 11, 2021, to on or about December 9, 2022, defendant conducted financial transactions using Victim-3's financial accounts, including transferring money from Victim-3's account and making purchases and ATM withdrawals, without Victim-3's knowledge and consent.
- 21. Among other unauthorized financial activities, defendant opened an account at Wells Fargo Bank on or about December 13, 2021, in Victim-3's name without authorization, caused money to be transferred into the account from an account belonging to Victim-3, including Victim-3's monthly social security payments, and over the next several months steadily took money from the account by making purchases and ATM withdrawals.
- 22. Additionally, in or about November 2021, defendant attempted to change Victim-3's beneficiary designation on his union retirement account and took Victim-3's BMW automobile, all without his knowledge and consent.

## Defendant Perpetrates the Scheme Against Victim-4 and His Financial Institutions

23. On or about May 30, 2022, defendant went on a date with Victim-4 in the Guadalajara region of Mexico, and when Victim-4's daughter called him without response the following day, the Mexican police were contacted and went to Victim-4's house where they found him dead on his bathroom floor.

24. Over the next several days, defendant conducted or attempted to conduct transactions using Victim-4's financial accounts, including using Victim-4's financial account to purchase a gold coin that defendant caused to be mailed to her house.

#### The Misrepresentations

- 25. In furtherance of the scheme and artifice, the defendant knowingly made materially false and fraudulent pretenses, representations, and promises, including material omissions, among others, as follows:
- defendant knowingly represented to the Victims that she wanted to a. date them but knowingly omitted to disclose that she intended to conduct financial transactions with their accounts without their knowledge and consent and that she may drug them to do so; and
- b. defendant knowingly misrepresented to the financial institutions and entities holding the Victims' accounts and to retailers when she conducted financial and other transactions that she was authorized by the Victims to conduct the transactions and that she was the Victims.

#### The Wire Communications

On or about the dates set forth below, for purpose of executing the scheme 26. and artifice, defendant transmitted and caused to be transmitted by means of wire communication in interstate and foreign commerce, the wire communications identified below, with each wire communication constituting a separate violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 1343.

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Count	Date	Transaction
		Victim-1
1	11/2/2021	Defendant placed and caused to be placed a food delivery order through DoorDash (a food delivery service), causing a wire communication to be sent from the state of Nevada to another state as part of the transaction.
2	11/2/2021	Defendant caused a wire communication to be sent from Nevada to a location outside the state of Nevada initiating a wire transfer of approximately \$64,000 from a USAA bank account opened in Victim-1's name to an account belonging to her husband.
	,	Victim-2
3	11/11/2022	Defendant caused a wire transfer communication to be sent from Mexico to Nevada, causing \$7,000 to be transferred from Victim-2's Capital One account to Carter Powersports' account for the
		purchase of a motorcycle
4	11/14/2022	Defendant caused a wire transfer communication to be sent from Nevada to Mexico initiating a wire transfer of approximately \$1,530 from a Wells Fargo Bank account opened in Victim-2's name to a Scotiabank account belonging to defendant.
5	12/13/2022	Defendant caused a wire communication to be sent from Nevada to a location outside the state of Nevada initiating a wire transfer of approximately \$2319 from a Wells Fargo Bank account opened in Victim-2's name to a Scotiabank account belonging to defendant.
Victim-3		
6	11/4/2022	Defendant caused a wire communication to be sent from Nevada to a location outside the state of Nevada by initiating an ATM withdrawal from a Wells Fargo Bank account opened in Victim-3's
		name.

1	7	12/2/2022
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Defendant caused a wire communication to be sent from Nevada to a location outside the state of Nevada by purchasing an item at a McDonald's restaurant in Las Vegas, Nevada using a bank card issued by Wells Fargo Bank in Victim-3's name.

#### COUNTS EIGHT THROUGH TEN Mail Fraud 18 U.S.C. § 1341

1. Paragraphs 1 through 26 are incorporated herein as if set forth in full.

On or about the dates set forth below, in the for purpose of executing the scheme and artifice,

#### AURORA PHELPS, aka "Aurora Flores," aka "Aurora Flores-Velasco," aka "Aurora Alvarez,"

defendant herein, knowingly caused to be delivered by commercial interstate carrier a matter and thing according to the direction thereon, that is, defendant caused a commercial interstate carrier to deliver the items described below to defendant's residence in Las Vegas, Nevada, with each delivery constituting a separate violation of Title18, United States Code, Section 1341.

Count Date		Description of Matter or Thing	
Victim-2			
8	11/11/2022	A purchase from DIOR, a retailer	
9	11/21/2022	A purchase from DIOR, a retailer	
Victim-4			
10	6/2/2022	A purchase from APMEX, a retailer	

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## COUNTS ELEVEN THROUGH SIXTEEN Bank Fraud 18 U.S.C. § 1344

1. Paragraphs 1 through 26 are incorporated herein as if set forth in full.

2. On or about the dates set forth below, in the State and Federal District of Nevada.

#### AURORA PHELPS, aka "Aurora Flores," aka "Aurora Flores-Velasco," aka "Aurora Alvarez,"

defendant herein, knowingly executed and attempted to execute a scheme and artifice to obtain money, funds, assets, and property owned by and under the custody and control of a financial institution, by means of false and fraudulent pretenses, representations, and promises, that is, as specified below, defendant used and caused to be used in Las Vegas, Nevada, without authorization bank cards issued by Wells Fargo Bank to make an ATM withdrawal or purchases, thereby materially misrepresenting that she was authorized to use Victim's PIN and to conduct the transaction, with each transaction constituting a separate violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 1344(2).

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Count	Date	<b>Description of Transaction</b>		
	Victim-2			
11	11/4/2022	An ATM withdrawal		
	Victim-3			
12	11/4/2022	An ATM withdrawal		
13	12/2/2022	An ATM withdrawal		
14	12/3/2022	An ATM withdrawal		
15	12/7/2022	An ATM withdrawal		
16	12/9/2022	A purchase		

## COUNTS SEVENTEEN THROGH NINETEEN Aggravated Identity Theft 18 U.S.C. § 1028A(a)(1)

On or about the dates set forth below, in the State and Federal District of Nevada,

#### AURORA PHELPS, aka "Aurora Flores," aka "Aurora Flores-Velasco," aka "Aurora Alvarez,"

defendant herein, knowingly possessed and used, without lawful authority, a means of identification of another person during and in relation to a felony violation enumerated in 18 U.S.C. § 1028A(c), to wit, as specified below, defendant used the Victim's name and bank account number in relation to the commission an offense under 18 U.S.C. § 1343, with each count constituting a separate violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 1028A(a)(1).

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Count	Date	Victim
17	11/2/2021	Victim-1's name and bank account number in connection with a violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1343
18	11/11/2022	Victim-2's name and bank account number in connection with a violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1343
19	11/4/2022	Victim-3's name, bank account number, and PIN in connection with a violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1343

#### COUNT TWENTY Kidnapping (Victim-1) 18 U.S.C. § 1201(a)(1)

From on or about November 1, 2021, to on or about November 6, 2021, in the State and Federal District of Nevada,

#### AURORA PHELPS, aka "Aurora Flores," aka "Aurora Flores-Velasco," aka "Aurora Alvarez,"

defendant herein, knowingly and willfully seized, confined, inveigled, kidnapped, abducted, and carried away Victim-1 and held him for ransom, reward, and otherwise and did use a means, facility, and instrumentality of interstate and foreign commerce, namely a cellular telephone, the internet, and a motor vehicle in committing and in furtherance of such offense. All in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 1201(a)(1).

## COUNT TWENTY-ONE Kidnapping (Victim-2) 18 U.S.C. § 1201(a)(1)

From on or about November 4, 2022, to on or about November 6, 2022, in the State and Federal District of Nevada,

#### AURORA PHELPS, aka "Aurora Flores," aka "Aurora Flores-Velasco," aka "Aurora Alvarez,"

defendant herein, knowingly and willfully seized, confined, inveigled, kidnapped, abducted, and carried away Victim-2 and held him for ransom, reward, and otherwise, and willfully transported him in interstate and foreign commerce from the State of Nevada to the country of Mexico, resulting in Victim-2's death. All in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1201(a)(1).

DATED: this 4th day of October, 2023.

A TRUE BILL:

/S/ FOREPERSON OF THE GRAND JURY

JASON M. FRIERSON United States Attorney

STEVEN J. ROSE

DANIEL R. SCHIESS

Assistant United States Attorneys