THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF NEW JERSEY

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA : CRIM. NO. 20-

:

v. : 18 U.S.C. § 1349

18 U.S.C. § 2

BLANCA A. MEDINA

:

INFORMATION

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

COUNT 1 (Conspiracy to Commit Bank Fraud)

1. At times relevant to this Information:

Relevant Background

- a. Defendant BLANCA A. MEDINA ("MEDINA") resided in or around Monmouth County, New Jersey and was employed by Mortgage Lender A.
- b. Mortgage Lender A was a financial institution engaged in the mortgage lending business as defined by Title 18, United States Code, Section 20 in Union County, New Jersey and elsewhere.
- c. The Federal National Mortgage Association ("Fannie Mae") and the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation ("Freddie Mac") were government-sponsored enterprises (collectively, "GSEs") chartered by Congress

with a mission to provide liquidity, stability, and affordability to the United States housing and mortgage markets. As part of their mission, Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac purchased residential mortgages that met certain guidelines ("Conventional Mortgages") in the secondary market, enabling lenders to replenish their funds to finance additional loans.

- d. Financial Institution A was a financial institution engaged in the business of purchasing Conventional Mortgages from Mortgage Lender A.
- e. Co-Conspirator 1 resided in or near Bergen County, New Jersey, prepared tax returns, and created false and fraudulent documents that were submitted to Mortgage Lender A.
- f. Mortgage loans were loans funded by mortgage lenders and other financial institutions to enable borrowers to finance the purchase of real property.
- g. Mortgage lenders considered multiple factors when deciding whether to issue mortgage loans to a given buyer. Those factors included, but were not limited to, the buyer's debt-to-income ratio, annual income, and assets. Those factors also included a buyer's ability to personally provide the cash necessary to complete the transaction, including the down payment, and a buyer's ability to make monthly mortgage payments.
- h. Applicants for mortgage loans were required to list their assets and income on their mortgage loan applications, and mortgage lenders relied on those applications when deciding whether to issue mortgage loans.

The Conspiracy

2. From in or about 2015 through in or about 2018, in the District of New Jersey and elsewhere, the defendant,

BLANCA A. MEDINA,

did knowingly and intentionally conspire and agree with Co-Conspirator 1 and others to execute and attempt to execute a scheme and artifice to defraud financial institutions, including Mortgage Lender A, and to obtain moneys, funds, credits, assets, securities, and other property owned by, and under the custody and control of, these financial institutions, by means of materially false and fraudulent pretenses, representations, and promises, contrary to Title 18, United States Code, Section 1344.

Goal of the Conspiracy

3. It was the goal of the conspiracy for MEDINA, Co-Conspirator 1, and others (the "Conspirators") to enrich themselves by fraudulently obtaining mortgage loans from Mortgage Lender A to finance the purchase of properties by unqualified buyers.

Manner and Means of the Conspiracy

- 4. It was part of the conspiracy that:
- a. Co-Conspirator 1 directed individuals (the "Buyers") to MEDINA, a loan officer at Mortgage Lender A, to obtain financing to purchase residential properties.
- b. The Buyers whom Co-Conspirator 1 directed to MEDINA lacked the financial assets and/or monthly income to qualify for the loans for

which they applied.

- c. MEDINA assisted the Buyers in completing loan applications and identified deficiencies in the Buyers' loan applications, including insufficient assets, income, and other information.
- d. MEDINA communicated these deficiencies to Co-Conspirator

 1, and Co-Conspirator 1 provided MEDINA with false and fraudulent
 documents to hide from Mortgage Lender A the Buyers' true income and
 assets, including:
- i. For a property on Algonquin Drive in Cranford, New
 Jersey, a fraudulent gift check and gift letter;
- ii. For a property on Grand Avenue in Ridgefield Park,New Jersey fraudulent lease agreements and bank statements; and
- iii. For a property on Van Buren Street in Passaic, New Jersey, fraudulent bank statements.
- e. MEDINA and others then caused completed mortgage loan applications to be submitted to Mortgage Lender A that contained multiple misrepresentations of material facts regarding, among other things, the Buyers' assets and income (the "Fraudulent Applications").
- f. The Conspirators caused Mortgage Lender A to issue fraudulent Conventional Mortgages and other mortgages to the Buyers.
- g. Mortgage Lender A sold Conventional Mortgages that were approved based on fraudulent documents and information to Financial Institution A. Some of the fraudulent Conventional Mortgages Financial

Institution A acquired from Mortgage Lender A were subsequently sold to Freddie Mac. The Conspirators' conduct resulted in hundreds of thousands of dollars in losses to Mortgage Lender A.

All in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Sections 1349 and 2.

FORFEITURE ALLEGATION

- 1. The allegations contained in Count 1 of this Information are hereby realleged and incorporated by reference for the purposes of noticing forfeiture pursuant to Title 18, United States Code, Section 982(a)(2).
 - 2. The United States hereby gives notice to the defendant,

BLANCA A. MEDINA,

that, upon conviction of the offense charged in Count 1 of this Information, the government will seek forfeiture, in accordance with Title 18, United States Code, Section 982(a)(2), of any and all property, real or personal, that constitutes or is derived from proceeds obtained directly or indirectly as a result of the violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 1349 alleged in Count 1 of this Information.

SUBSTITUTE ASSETS PROVISION

- 3. If by any act or omission of the defendant, any of the property subject to forfeiture described herein:
 - 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 subdivided without difficulty,

the United States of America will be entitled to forfeiture of substitute property

up to the value of the property described above, pursuant to Title 21, United States Code, Section 853(p), as incorporated by Title 28, United States Code Section 2461(c).

CRAIG CARPENITO

United States Attorney

CASE	NUMBER:	
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United States District Court District of New Jersey

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

v.

BLANCA A. MEDINA

INFORMATION

18 U.S.C. § 1349 18 U.S.C. § 2

CRAIG CARPENITO

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