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**YONKERS BROTHERS SENTENCED IN FEDERAL CREDIT CARD FRAUD
SCHEME; VICTIMS INCLUDED WESTPORT RESTAURANT CUSTOMERS**

MICHAEL J. GARCIA, the United States Attorney for the Southern District of New York, announced that ROBERT KALABA, a/k/a "Bobby," and VICTOR KALABA were sentenced today in White Plains federal court on charges of conspiracy to commit access device fraud and access device fraud. The scheme involved more than 70 victims - including those of a Westport, Connecticut, restaurant - and more than \$200,000 in losses.

ROBERT KALABA, 39, of Yonkers, New York, the leader of the conspiracy, was sentenced by United States District Judge CHARLES L. BRIEANT to 70 months in prison and 3 years of supervised release. In addition, he was ordered to pay more than \$222,000 in restitution.

VICTOR KALABA, 41, of Yonkers was sentenced by Judge BRIEANT to 46 months in prison and 3 years of supervised release. In addition, he was ordered to pay more than \$200,000 in restitution.

Three other individuals have also pled guilty to participation in the conspiracy to commit access device fraud.

PATRICK CARTER, 34, of the Bronx, New York, pleaded guilty on February 1, 2006, before United States Magistrate Judge GEORGE A. YANTHIS. CARTER was sentenced by Judge BRIEANT on May 8, 2006, to 18 months in prison and 3 years of supervised release, and ordered to pay more than \$38,000 in restitution.

ABDULRAHMAN M. TAYYEB, a/k/a "Abdel R. Tayeb," 45, of the Bronx pleaded guilty on February 10, 2006, before United States Magistrate Judge LISA MARGARET SMITH and is scheduled to be sentenced by Judge BRIEANT on July 19, 2006.

KAHER ABDULNABI, 25, of the Bronx, pleaded guilty on May 17, 2006, before United States Magistrate Judge MARK D. FOX and is scheduled to be sentenced by Judge BRIEANT on September 12, 2006.

All five defendants were indicted on June 29, 2005. According to the Indictment, defendants' plea allocutions, and statements and submissions of the Government in court, the defendants conspired from October 2004 through June 2005 to steal credit card numbers, create counterfeit credit cards and make unauthorized credit card charges.

During his plea on February 9, 2006, VICTOR KALABA admitted that while working as a manager at the Siena River Café in Westport, Connecticut, he stole the credit card numbers of customers of the restaurant knowing that the numbers would be used illegally to make purchases and obtain cash from the accounts. At sentencing, VICTOR KALABA admitted that he was responsible for stealing most of the credit card numbers used in the scheme from customers of the restaurant.

During his plea, defendant PATRICK CARTER admitted that he stole additional credit card numbers of customers of the Hartsdale Pet Cemetery and crematorium in Hartsdale, New York, where he worked, knowing that these credit card numbers would be used to make fraudulent charges.

According to the defendants' admissions and statements and submissions of the Government, these credit card numbers were then used to make counterfeit credit cards. According to the Indictment, defendants ROBERT KALABA, VICTOR KALABA and ABDELRAHMAN TAYYEB each possessed credit cards embossed with their names on the front, but with the account numbers of other persons, who did not authorize use of such numbers, on the magnetic strip of the credit cards.

Defendants ROBERT KALABA, TAYYEB and ABDULNABI admitted to making unauthorized purchases using such credit cards at places such as the Costco store in Yonkers. According to the Indictment, defendants' admissions and statements of the Government, defendants ROBERT KALABA, TAYYEB, ABDULNABI and CARTER also ran up charges on the stolen credit card numbers at a delicatessen in Yonkers, New York.

Mr. GARCIA praised the investigative efforts of the United States Postal Inspection Service, the United States Secret Service and the Yonkers Police Department.

Assistant United States Attorney KAREN B. KONIGSBERG is
in charge of the prosecution.

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