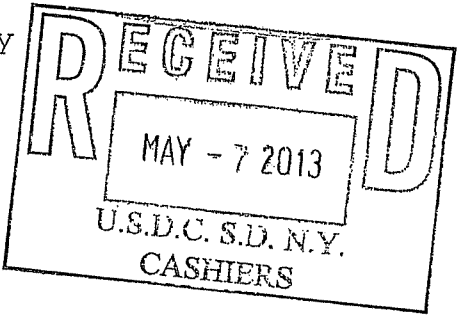


FORREST

PREET BHARARA
United States Attorney for
the Southern District of New York

13 CIV 3069

By: CAROLINA A. FORNOS
Assistant United States Attorney
One St. Andrew's Plaza
New York, New York 10007



UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK
----- -x

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA :

- v. - :

VERIFIED COMPLAINT

ALL RIGHT, TITLE, AND INTEREST
IN THE BUSINESS KNOWN AS THE
RASPUTIN RESTAURANT/NIGHTCLUB AS
SET FORTH IN SCHEDULE A, :

13 Civ.

ALL RIGHT, TITLE, AND INTEREST
IN BANK ACCOUNTS HELD IN THE
NAME OF MISSION SETTLEMENT
AGENCY, a/k/a "Mission Abstract
LLC," a/k/a "Alpha Debt
Settlement," AND OTHERS AS SET
FORTH IN SCHEDULE B; :

ALL RIGHT TITLE AND INTEREST IN
THE REAL PROPERTY AND
APPURTENANCES LISTED IN SCHEDULE
C, TOGETHER WITH ALL
IMPROVEMENTS AND APPURTENANCES
THERE TO, :

Defendants-in-rem. :
----- -x

Plaintiff United States of America, by its attorney,
Preet Bharara, United States Attorney for the Southern District
of New York, for its complaint alleges as follows:

I. NATURE OF THE ACTION

1. This is an action by the United States of America
seeking forfeiture of:

a. All right, title, and interest in the business known as the Rasputin Restaurant and Nightclub ("Rasputin Nightclub") as set forth in Schedule A;

b. All right title and interest in bank accounts held in the name of MISSION SETTLEMENT AGENCY, a/k/a "Mission Abstract LLC," a/k/a "Alpha Debt Settlement," and others as set forth in Schedule B (the accounts in Schedule B, collectively, the "Target Accounts");

c. All right title and interest in the real property and appurtenances listed in Schedule C, together with all improvements and appurtenances thereto (collectively, the "Target Properties");

(collectively, the "Defendant Property").

The Defendant Property is subject to forfeiture pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 981(a)(1)(C) as property constituting or derived from proceeds traceable to a conspiracy to commit wire fraud and mail fraud, in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1349; mail fraud, in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1341; and wire fraud, in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1343. The Defendant Property is also subject to forfeiture pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 981(a)(1)(A) as property involved in money laundering.

II. JURISDICTION AND VENUE

2. This Court has jurisdiction pursuant to Title 28, United States Code, Sections 1345 and 1355.

3. Venue is proper under Title 28, United States Code, Section 1355(b)(1)(A) because actions giving rise to forfeiture took place in the Southern District of New York.

III. PROBABLE CAUSE FOR FORFEITURE

4. Since approximately September 2012, based upon a referral from the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau ("CFPB")¹, the United States Attorney's Office for the Southern District of New York has been investigating Mission Settlement Agency, a/k/a "Mission Abstract LLC," a/k/a "Alpha Debt Settlement," ("MISSION"), which held itself out as a company that could successfully negotiate to lower its financially disadvantaged customers' overall credit card debt, for mail and wire fraud offenses. In connection with that investigation, the United States Attorney's Office, working with the United States Postal Inspection Service, executed a search warrant at MISSION's offices in Manhattan and Brooklyn in February 2013; recorded covert calls with MISSION employees, including calls made by an undercover law enforcement agent and by a cooperating witness who posed as a MISSION customer for several months²; reviewed numerous other records including of dozens of bank accounts; and

¹ The Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB) was created in July 2010 after Congress passed and President Obama signed the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act. The CFPB focuses on protecting American consumers in the market for consumer financial products and services.

² The cooperating witness previously pleaded guilty in the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York to certain fraud crimes in an unrelated case, and has provided information to the Government regarding those and other crimes in the hopes of receiving a lesser sentence in that case. The information provided by the cooperating witness has proven accurate, reliable and corroborated by other evidence.

conducted numerous interviews of victims and former MISSION employees.

5. On May 1, 2013, a grand jury sitting in this District returned an indictment (the "Indictment") charging MISSION, Michael Levitis ("LEVITIS"), Denis Kurlyand ("KURLYAND"), Boris Shulman ("SHULMAN"), and Manuel Cruz, a/k/a "James Leon," ("CRUZ") (collectively, the "Defendants") with conspiring to commit mail fraud and wire fraud in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1349 (Count 1), mail fraud in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1341 (Count 2), and wire fraud in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1343 (Count 3). The Indictment, attached hereto as Exhibit A, is fully incorporated by reference herein.

OVERVIEW OF THE SCHEME

6. As set forth in the Indictment, MISSION tricked financially suffering individuals into becoming customers by making material misrepresentations and omissions regarding its fees, results, and purported affiliations. In connection with its misrepresentations about its affiliations, for example, MISSION sent a solicitation letter to individuals around the country that falsely suggested that MISSION was affiliated with the federal Government. Indictment ¶ 14. A copy of that letter is attached hereto as Exhibit B. As set forth in that letter, MISSION sent letters to prospective customers signed by a purported "Reduction Plan Administrator," sent from the so-called "Office of

Disbursement," with the envelope depicting an image of the Great Seal of the United States. Exhibit B.

7. Regarding the company's fees, and as set forth in the Indictment, MISSION sales representatives were instructed to make various misrepresentations about MISSION's fees. A copy of a script recovered from LEVITIS's personal office during the search of MISSION offices is attached hereto as Exhibit C. Upon information and belief, the handwriting on that script appears to be LEVITIS' handwriting, as corroborated by several former MISSION employees interviewed during the Government's investigation.

8. Also in connection with the scheme, MISSION falsely assured its prospective customers that it could eliminate their debts and stop all debt collection calls to them. At the same time, MISSION failed to advise them that a majority of its existing customers did not have any debts settled by MISSION, including because a large number of those customers terminated their relationships with MISSION after discovering that MISSION had lied about the fees it was charging them. Also in furtherance of the scheme, at times, MISSION falsely assured customers that it would simply use the money paid by customers to pay the customers' creditors, less a small monthly fee. See Exhibit C.³

³ The script also reflects additional misrepresentations as to MISSION's affiliations, namely false suggestions of affiliation with one of the leading Credit Bureaus. Indictment ¶ 15; Exhibit C.

9. In addition, in the course of the scheme, MISSION advised customers to stop communicating with their creditors and stop paying their bills, but did not advise customers of the serious and likely consequences of doing so. As a result, among other things, many MISSION customers suffered damage to their credit and were sued by their creditors, and some fell into bankruptcy as a result of the Defendants' scheme.

THE DEFENDANTS

10. As set forth in the Indictment, between 2009 and May 2013, MISSION offered debt settlement services, through various offices located in Manhattan and Brooklyn, to financially disadvantaged individuals who were struggling or unable to pay their credit card debts. Indictment ¶ 1. MISSION held itself out as a company that could successfully negotiate to lower the overall debt that its customers owed to credit card companies and banks. Indictment ¶ 1. As set forth above, however, the Defendants perpetuated a scheme to defraud over a thousand financially desperate people across the United States by making false assurances about MISSION's ability to reduce prospective customers's debt and making false statements about the fees MISSION would charge. Indictment ¶¶ 6-7.

11. At all times relevant to the Indictment, MISSION was operated and controlled by LEVITIS, despite having LEVITIS's mother listed as owner on certain corporate documents. Indictment ¶ 2.

LEVITIS was responsible for the day-to-day operations of MISSION, including MISSION's finances, hiring and terminating employees, and advertising and solicitation of customers. Id.

12. KURLYAND was employed by MISSION as Vice President of Sales, and in that capacity, supervised certain MISSION sales representatives and coordinated MISSION's sales strategy, including arranging for solicitation letters to be mailed to prospective customers. KURLYAND reported directly to LEVITIS. Indictment ¶ 3.

13. SHULMAN was employed by MISSION as a sales representative, and in that capacity was responsible for the recruiting of prospective customers. SHULMAN reported to KURLYAND. Indictment ¶ 4.

14. Finally, CRUZ was a MISSION employee whose responsibilities included, among other things, assisting MISSION in customer solicitation. Indictment ¶ 5.

**THE DEFENDANTS' USE OF MONIES
OBTAINED THROUGH THEIR FRAUDULENT SCHEME**

15. As set forth in the Indictment, MISSION represented to customers that they would be asked to make an affordable monthly payment for a set period of time, and that these payments would be held in an account by a third party payment processor while MISSION negotiated down the customer's debt obligations, and thereafter, the money held in accounts would be used to pay the customer's creditors. Indictment ¶ 11. Instead, MISSION regularly took for itself - and for the personal benefit of the Defendants - money

that customers believed would be used to pay their creditors. Indictment ¶ 12. Thus, MISSION received up-front fees before any of the customer's debt was paid down. Id. As further set forth below, MISSION used the funds it obtained from unsuspecting customers to, among other things, pay for lavish personal items, operate the Rasputin Nightclub, and pay for the mortgages on real property.

FRAUD PROCEEDS WERE TRANSFERRED TO THE RASPUTIN NIGHTCLUB

THE RASPUTIN RESTAURANT AND NIGHTCLUB
2670 Coney Island Avenue
Brooklyn, New York

16. As set forth in the Indictment, MISSION customers paid monies into accounts held by a third party payment processor, which were to be held in an account while MISSION negotiated down the customer's debt obligations. Indictment ¶ 11. In total, based on information obtained from witness interviews and payment processors, MISSION used two different payment processors (the "PAYMENT PROCESSORS").

17. Between mid-2009 and March 2013, approximately 2200 customers paid a total of over \$14 million in connection with MISSION's purported debt settlement services. Of these funds, MISSION took for itself over \$6.6 million in fees and paid only approximately \$4.4 million to customers' creditors. Further, for over 1200 of its customers, MISSION took fees totaling over \$2.2 million but paid nothing to those customers' creditors as payment

for any negotiated debt. Indictment ¶ 8.

18. Based on information provided by the PAYMENT PROCESSORS, the monies deposited by these customers - for whom no payments to creditors were ever made - were sent by the PAYMENT PROCESSORS to the following bank accounts:

a. a bank account held at J.P. Morgan Chase Bank ending in 5351 under the name MISSION ABSTRACT LLC d/b/a MISSION SETTLEMENT AGENCY, with a business address of 4078 Nostrand Avenue, Brooklyn, New York (the "MISSION CHASE 5351 ACCOUNT"). In total, the PAYMENT PROCESSORS transferred more than \$4 million into the MISSION CHASE 5351 ACCOUNT.

b. A bank account held at Citibank ending in 2537 under the name MISSION ABSTRACT LLC, d/b/a MISSION SETTLEMENT AGENCY, with a business address of 292 Madison Avenue, 22nd Floor, New York, New York 10017 (the "MISSION CITI 2537 ACCOUNT"). In total, the PAYMENT PROCESSORS transferred more than \$978,000 into the MISSION CITI 2537 ACCOUNT.

19. A review of bank records for the MISSION CHASE 5351 ACCOUNT reveals that the Defendants made regular payments from the MISSION CHASE 5351 ACCOUNT to, among other things, the RASPUTIN NIGHTCLUB, a restaurant and nightclub located at 2670 Coney Island Avenue, Brooklyn, New York, owned by EVA LEVITIS, but believed to be operated by her son, LEVITIS and his wife, MARINA LEVITIS (the "RASPUTIN NIGHTCLUB").

20. The payments to the RASPUTIN NIGHTCLUB were made through either (i) VERMAR MANAGEMENT LLC, the entity under which the RASPUTIN NIGHTCLUB does business and which holds the service mark and the liquor license for the RASPUTIN RESTAURANT, and which is owned in part by LEVITIS' mother, EVA LEVITIS, and his wife, MARINA LEVITIS; or (ii) AAMI, a prior business entity under which the RASPUTIN RESTAURANT did business. Specifically:

a. More than \$100,000 in checks, wire transfers and book transfers were made payable to VERMAR MANAGEMENT and/or VERMAR MANAGEMENT LLC from the MISSION CHASE 5351 ACCOUNT and deposited into an account ending in 9102 held at J.P. Morgan Chase Bank in the name of VERMAR MANAGEMENT LLC (the "VERMAR CHASE 9102 ACCOUNT").

b. More than \$8,000 in checks were written from the MISSION CHASE 5351 ACCOUNT made payable to AAMI RESTAURANT and deposited into an account ending in 1369 held at Capital One Bank.

Vermar Management LLC d/b/a Rasputin

21. Based upon publicly available information filed with the United States Patent and Trademark Office, www.uspto.gov, the service mark "RASPUTIN" for bar and restaurant services, is owned by "VERMAR MANAGEMENT, LLC DBA RASPUTIN LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY NEW YORK 2670 Coney Island Avenue Brooklyn NEW YORK 11235."

22. Further, based on documents maintained by J.P. Morgan Chase for the VERMAR CHASE ACCOUNT, Eva Levitis is listed as

a Manager of VERMAR MANAGEMENT, with a business address of 2670 Coney Island Avenue, as of December 2007.

23. Records maintained by the New York State Liquor Authority reveal that as of 2007, VERMAR MANAGEMENT applied for a Liquor License for the RASPUTIN NIGHTCLUB, and EVA LEVITIS and MARINA LEVITIS, along with Faye Sherman and Vera Shapiro, were listed as the members of the VERMAR MANAGEMENT LLC, with MARINA LEVITIS as Manager. Liquor License renewal documents filed for 2012 continue to reflect MARINA LEVITIS as Manager and EVA LEVITIS as member of the VERMAR MANAGEMENT LLC.

24. Upon information and belief, however, Michael LEVITIS and his wife, MARINA LEVITIS, are believed to be the actual owners of the RASPUTIN NIGHTCLUB based on, among other things, their public representations on televised shows and/or public interviews, including an October 2011 interview of MICHAEL LEVITIS and MARINA LEVITIS held at the RASPUTIN NIGHTCLUB by a television show host, as well as MARINA LEVITIS's representations on the reality television show, "Russian Dolls," both of which are publicly available on the Internet.⁴

AAMI Restaurant LLC

25. Additional bank account documents maintained by J.P. Morgan Chase for business account ending in 4665, held in the name

⁴ See, e.g., <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=By9QF6UgiXc>; http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9AhW_5Dql0c, last visited on May 7, 2013.

of AAMI Restaurant LLC d/b/a RASPUTIN, lists "Eva Levitis" as the VICE PRESIDENT in May 2007.

FRAUD PROCEEDS WERE TRANSFERRED TO THE TARGET ACCOUNTS

26. Monies deposited by the PAYMENT PROCESSORS into the MISSION CHASE 5351 ACCOUNT and the MISSION CITI 2537 ACCOUNT were also transferred to other accounts held by individuals and/or shell entities established by the Defendants and/or LEVITIS' law firm accounts. Specifically:

a. More than \$400,000 in checks were made payable to the Law Office of Michael Levitis, deposited into an account at J.P Morgan Chase Bank ending in 5565 (the "LEVITIS LAW CHASE 5565 ACCOUNT"). Thereafter, approximately \$10,000 in checks were made payable from the LEVITIS LAW CHASE 5565 ACCOUNT to VERMAR MANAGEMENT LLC between July 2009 and January 2010.

b. More than \$150,000 in checks were made payable to Eva Levitis and deposited into a J.P. Morgan Account ending in 6565 (the "EVA LEVITIS CHASE 6565 ACCOUNT"). Thereafter, at least one payment was made from the EVA LEVITIS CHASE 6565 ACCOUNT to VERMAR MANAGEMENT in the amount of \$3,000 on or about March 30, 2012.

c. More than \$500,000 was transferred to Influential Division Corporation into various accounts at J.P. Morgan Chase Bank ending in 8195, 1519, 3130, and 6706. Bank records for those accounts, in turn, reveal that KURLYAND is the

President of this entity. A review of these bank accounts do not appear to reflect any typical operating expenses but, rather, reflect debit transactions that appear to be for personal purposes, including purchases of retail goods including liquor and clothing, and charges at Atlantic City casinos.

d. More than \$70,000 was transferred to Madison Capital Agency, Inc., with a business address of 292 Madison Avenue, 22nd Floor, New York, New York 10017, and deposited into an account at J.P. Morgan Chase Bank ending in 4589. Bank records show that MICHAEL LEVITIS is the Secretary of Madison Capital Agency and that Eva Levitis is a manager. A review of these bank accounts do not appear to reflect any typical operating expenses but, rather, reflect numerous checks made payable to Influential Enterprises, and the Law Office of Michael Levitis, among others.

e. More than \$600,000 in checks were made payable to Influential Enterprises. At least some of these funds were deposited into an account ending in 1923 at J.P. Morgan Chase Bank, held in the name of Influential Enterprises. Bank records for this account show that KURLYAND is the President of Influential Enterprises. A review of these bank accounts do not appear to reflect any typical operating expenses but, rather - and similar to Influential Division records - reflect debit transactions that appear to be for personal purposes, including purchases of retail goods including liquor and clothing, and charges at casinos.

f. More than \$80,000 was transferred to Prime Marketing Group Corporation with an address at 1001 Oriental Boulevard, Brooklyn, New York 11235 (Michael Levitis' residence), and deposited into an account at J.P. Morgan Chase ending in 8525. A review of bank records for this account reveals that Michael Levitis is the President, and Eva Levitis is named as the Secretary.

g. More than \$50,000 was transferred to Mission Marketing Center 102, Inc., an affiliate of MISSION, and deposited into an account at J.P. Morgan Chase Bank ending in 6403.

h. More than \$38,000 was transferred to Mission Settlement Agency 180 Inc., another affiliate of MISSION, and deposited into an account at J.P. Morgan Chase Bank ending in 4557.

i. More than \$44,000 in checks were made payable to YGIK Inc., another affiliate of MISSION. At least some of these funds were deposited into an account ending in 9178 at TD Bank.

j. More than \$69,000 in checks were made payable to Susan V. Consulting, another affiliate of MISSION. At least some of these funds were deposited into an account ending in 0539 at J.P. Morgan Chase Bank, in the name of Susan V. Consulting.

k. Additional fraud proceeds were also deposited into accounts at Citibank ending in 2065 and 7376, in the name of Mission Abstract LLC, d/b/a Mission Settlement Agency and Alpha Funding Group, respectively, and at an account at Bethpage Federal

Credit Union ending in 8193 in the name of Santa Fe Consulting Corporation, all of which are known affiliates of MISSION.

27. In addition to the bank accounts set forth above, bank records maintained by J.P. Morgan Chase for the MISSION CHASE 5351 ACCOUNT reveal that additional monies were directly or indirectly transferred to other bank accounts held and/or controlled by the Defendants and/or co-conspirators. These accounts include:

a. A bank account ending in 3465, held at J.P. Morgan Chase in the name of Michael Levitis and Marina Levitis.

b. A bank account ending in 7765, held at J.P. Morgan Chase in the name of the Law Office of Michael Levitis.

c. A bank account ending in 0130, held at Citibank in the name of Eva Levitis.

d. A bank account ending in 7002, held at Citibank in the name of Michael and Marina Levitis (the "MICHAEL AND MARINA CITIBANK ACCOUNT"), discussed further below.

e. A bank account ending in 1582, held at CitiBank in the name of Faye Levitis.

f. Bank accounts ending in 0514 and 5009, held at J.P. Morgan Chase in the name of Denis Kurlyand.

28. In addition, based on information provided by the PAYMENT PROCESSORS, fraud proceeds were also sent directly by the PAYMENT PROCESSORS to the following MISSION affiliates and bank

accounts:

a. Alpha Debt Settlement, at a bank account ending in 5161 held at J.P. Morgan Chase.

b. Mission Marketing Group Corporation, at a bank account ending in 9383, held at T.D. Bank.

c. YGIK, Inc., at a bank account ending in 1205, held at PNC Bank.

d. DIAS GROUP Inc., at a bank account ending in 6356, held at J.P. Morgan Chase bank.

e. Stafecp, at Bethpage FCU, at a bank account ending in 8201, held at J.P. Morgan Chase bank.

f. Mission Settlement Agency 180, at a bank account ending in 3301, held at Sun American.

g. Alpine Processing, at a bank account ending in 6232, held at HSBC.

h. Premier Debt Settlement, at a bank account ending in 7418, held at J. P. Morgan Chase.

i. Debt Less USA, at a bank account ending in 3143, held at J.P. Morgan Chase.

j. Debt Settlement Branch 101, at a bank account ending in 6284, held at J.P. Morgan Chase.

k. GLOAD, at a bank account ending in 9265, held at J.P. Morgan Chase.

l. Mission Settlement Agency, at a bank account

ending in 8399, held at Commerce Bank.

FRAUD PROCEEDS WERE USED TO
PAY FOR MORTGAGES ON REAL PROPERTY

29. According to the records referenced below, the Defendants utilized proceeds they obtained by virtue of the scheme set forth in the Indictment to make mortgage payments for real property in Brooklyn, New York.

The Oriental Boulevard Property

30. Bank records maintained by J.P. Morgan Chase (previously Washington Mutual Bank) reveal that the holder of the mortgage of a property located at 1001 Oriental Boulevard, Brooklyn, New York 11235 (the "Oriental Boulevard Property") is J.P. Morgan Chase, and that the mortgage loan is held in the names of MICHAEL LEVITIS and MARINA LEVITIS.

31. A review of the bank records for the MISSION CHASE 5351 ACCOUNT reveals that between August 2009 and January 2012, approximately \$425,700 was transferred from the MISSION CHASE 5351 ACCOUNT to the LEVITIS LAW CHASE ACCOUNT. Thereafter, between January 2010 and March 2011, approximately \$213,709.50 was transferred from the LEVITIS LAW CHASE ACCOUNT to the MICHAEL AND MARINA CITIBANK ACCOUNT.

32. Additionally, between May 2010 and June 2012, approximately \$41,660 was directly transferred from the MISSION CHASE 5351 ACCOUNT to the MICHAEL AND MARINA CITIBANK ACCOUNT. Thereafter, approximately 21 payments, totaling approximately

\$186,794.76, were paid from the MICHAEL AND MARINA CITIBANK ACCOUNT to J.P. Morgan Chase loan account for the Oriental Boulevard Property.

33. Based on these records, at least \$186,794.76 in proceeds from the scheme were laundered through the Oriental Boulevard Property.

The Norfolk Street Property

34. Mortgage loan records filed by both HSBC and J.P. Morgan Chase (formerly Washington Mutual) reveal that the property located at 132 Norfolk Street, Brooklyn, New York 11235 (the "Norfolk Street Property") has mortgage loans held in the names of EVA LEVITIS, MICHAEL LEVITIS AND MARINA LEVITIS.

35. From January 2009 through May 2012, EVA LEVITIS received approximately \$258,088 from various bank accounts identified as being involved in the conspiracy or receiving victim funds, namely, the MISSION CHASE 5351 ACCOUNT and the LEVITIS LAW CHASE 5565 ACCOUNT.

36. From January 2009 through January 2012, 10 payments totaling approximately \$29,886.82 were made from the EVA LEVITIS CHASE ACCOUNT to the two mortgage holders on the Norfolk Street Property.

37. Based on these records, at least \$29,886.82 in proceeds from the scheme were laundered through the Norfolk Street Property by EVA LEVITIS.

FRAUD PROCEEDS WERE ALSO SPENT ON LUXURY ITEMS

38. Proceeds from the fraud were also used by the Defendants to pay for a luxurious lifestyle which included payments for luxury vehicles such as Mercedes Benz and a Bentley, travel to Florida, jewelry, retail stores, and fine dining.

IV. CLAIMS FOR FORFEITURE

FIRST CLAIM FOR RELIEF

Forfeiture Under 18 U.S.C. § 981(a)(1)(C) -
Mail Fraud, Wire Fraud, and Conspiracy
to Commit Mail and Wire Fraud

39. Paragraphs 1 through 38 of this Complaint are repeated and realleged as if fully set forth herein.

40. Title 18, United States Code, Section 981(a)(1)(C) subjects to forfeiture:

Any property, real or personal, which constitutes or is derived from proceeds traceable to a violation of section . . . 1344 of this title or any offense constituting 'specified unlawful activity' (as defined in section 1956(c)(7) of this title), or a conspiracy to commit such offense.

41. Title 18, United States Code, Section 1956(c)(7) defines the term "specified unlawful activity" to mean, in relevant part, "any act or activity constituting an offense listed in section 1961(1) of this title. . . ." Among the specified unlawful activity set forth in 18 U.S.C. § 1961(1) are 18 U.S.C. § 1341 (relating to mail fraud) and 18 U.S.C. § 1343 (relating to wire fraud).

42. Title 18, United States Code, Section 1341, provides

that:

Whoever, having devised or intending to devise any scheme or artifice to defraud, or for obtaining money or property by means of false or fraudulent pretenses, representations, or promises, . . . for the purpose of executing such scheme or artifice or attempting so to do, places in any post office or authorized depository for mail matter, any matter or thing whatever to be sent or delivered by the Postal Service . . . or by private or commercial interstate carrier . . .

shall be guilty of a crime.

43. Title 18, United States Code, Section 1343, provides

that:

Whoever, having devised or intending to devise any scheme or artifice to defraud, or for obtaining money or property by means of false or fraudulent pretenses, representations, or promises, transmits or causes to be transmitted by means of wire . . . in interstate or foreign commerce, any writings, signs, signals, pictures, or sounds for the purpose of executing such scheme or artifice

shall be guilty of a crime.

44. Title 18, United States Code, Section 1349,

provides that:

Any person who attempts or conspires to commit any offense under this chapter [including Sections 1341 and 1343] shall be subject to the same penalties as those prescribed for the offense, the commission of which was the object of the attempt or conspiracy.

45. By reason of the above, the Defendant Properties constitute, or are traceable to, the proceeds of wire fraud, mail

fraud, and a conspiracy to commit wire fraud and mail fraud, in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Sections 1341, 1343, and 1349, as well as property involved in money laundering. Accordingly, the Defendant Properties are subject to forfeiture to the United States of America pursuant to Title 18, United States Code, Sections 981(a)(1)(A) and 981(a)(1)(C).

SECOND CLAIM FOR RELIEF

Forfeiture Under 18 U.S.C. § 981(a)(1)(A) -
Money Laundering and Conspiracy

46. Paragraphs 1 through 45 of this Complaint are repeated and realleged as if fully set forth herein.

47. Pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 981(a)(1)(A), "[a]ny property, real or personal, involved in a transaction in violation of section 1956 [or] 1957 . . . of [Title 18, relating to money laundering offenses], or any property traceable to such property," is subject to forfeiture.

48. Pursuant to Title 18, United States Code, Section 1956, commonly known as the "money laundering" statute, a crime is committed by a person who:

(a)(1) . . . knowing that the property involved in a financial transaction represents the proceeds of some form of unlawful activity, conducts or attempts to conduct such a financial transaction which in fact involves the proceeds of specified unlawful activity -

(A)(i) with the intent to promote the carrying on of specified unlawful activity . . .

shall be guilty of a crime.

49. Title 18, United States Code, Section 1956(h) further provides that "[a]ny person who conspires to commit any offense defined in this section or section 1957 shall be subject to the same penalties as those prescribed for the offense the commission of which was the object of the conspiracy."

50. Title 18, United States Code, Section 1957 further provides that "[w]hoever, . . . knowingly engages or attempts to engage in a monetary transaction in criminally derived property of a value greater than \$10,000 and is derived from specified unlawful activity, shall be punished as provided in subsection (b) [fine or imprisonment for not more than ten years]."

51. The Defendant Properties are subject to forfeiture pursuant to Title 18, United States Code, Section 981(a)(1)(A) as they constitute property involved in, or property traceable to such property, financial transactions involving the proceeds of specified unlawful activity, namely the illegal conduct set forth in Claim One above, with such transactions intended to promote such specified unlawful activity and carried out with knowledge that the property represented the proceeds of illegal activity, and a conspiracy to undertake such transactions. These transactions included, but are not limited to (1) engaging in a scheme to defraud customers and making representations as to fees, results, and affiliations, and using the mailing of solicitation letters;


and (2) using interstate wires, including telephone calls, to be made as part of making misrepresentations.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff United States of America prays that process issue to enforce the forfeiture of the Defendant Property and that all persons having an interest in the Defendant Property be required to appear and show cause why the forfeiture of the Defendant Property should not be decreed, that this Court decree forfeiture of the Defendant Property to the United States of America for disposition according to law, and that this Court grant plaintiff such further relief as it may deem just and proper, together with the costs and disbursements of this action.

Dated: New York, New York
May 7, 2013

PREET BHARARA
United States Attorney for
the Southern District of New York
Attorney for the Plaintiff
United States of America

By: _____

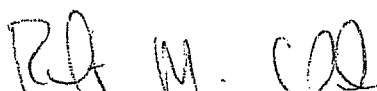

Carolina A. Fornos
Assistant United States Attorney
One St. Andrew's Plaza
New York, New York 10007
(212) 637-2740

VERIFICATION

STATE OF NEW YORK)
COUNTY OF NEW YORK)
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK)

ROBERT M. CLARK, being duly sworn, deposes and says that he is a Special Agent of the United States Postal Inspection service and as such has responsibility for the within action; that he has read the foregoing Verified Complaint and knows the contents thereof; and that the same is true to the best of his own knowledge, information and belief.

The sources of deponent's information and the ground of his belief are official records and files of the United States and information obtained directly and indirectly by deponent during an investigation of alleged violations of federal criminal laws.



ROBERT M. CLARK
Postal Inspector
United States Postal Service

Sworn to before me this
7th day of May, 2013



NOTARY PUBLIC

MARCO DASILVA
Notary Public, State of New York
No. 01DA6145603
Qualified in Nassau County
My Commission Expires May 8, 2014

SCHEDULE A

All Assets of the Following Entities

1. RASPUTIN, a restaurant and bar/nightclub located at 2670 Coney Island Avenue, Brooklyn, New York.

SCHEDULE B

All right title and interest in the following bank accounts

No.	Account Holder	Bank	Account No.
1.	Mission Abstract LLC d/b/a Mission Settlement Agency (the "MISSION CHASE 5351 ACCOUNT")	J.P. Morgan Chase	809315351
2.	Mission Abstract LLC, d/b/a Mission Settlement Agency (the "MISSION CITI 2537 ACCOUNT")	Citibank	4970602537
3.	Eva Levitis (the "EVA LEVITIS CHASE ACCOUNT")	J.P. Morgan Chase	791005536565
4.	Eva Levitis	Citibank	4970270130
5.	Influential Division Corporation	J.P. Morgan Chase	803568195
6.	Influential Division Corporation	J.P. Morgan Chase	910271519
7.	Influential Division Corporation	J.P. Morgan Chase	839043130
8.	Influential Division Corporation	J.P. Morgan Chase	809316706
9.	Influential Enterprises	J.P. Morgan Chase	910271923
10.	Law Office of Michael Levitis (the "LEVITIS LAW CHASE 5565 ACCOUNT")	J.P. Morgan Chase	791501275565
11.	Law Office of Michael Levitis	J.P. Morgan Chase	052074897765

No.	Account Holder	Bank	Account No.
12.	Madison Capital Agency Inc.	J.P. Morgan Chase	892694589
13.	Prime Marketing Group Corp.	J.P. Morgan Chase	429728525
14.	Michael Levitis and Marina Levitis	J.P. Morgan Chase	791004723465
15.	Mission Marketing Center 102, Inc.	J.P. Morgan Chase	808126403
16.	Mission Settlement Agency 180, Inc.	J.P. Morgan Chase	824374557
17.	Susan V. Consulting	J.P. Morgan Chase	839230539
18.	Vermar Management LLC (the "VERMAR CHASE 9102 ACCOUNT")	J.P. Morgan Chase	751419102
19.	Denis Kurlyand	J.P. Morgan Chase	828330514
20.	Denis Kurlyand	J.P. Morgan Chase	2958735009
21.	Faye Levitis	Citibank	4970301582
22.	Michael Levitis and Marina Levitis (the "Michael and Marina Levitis Citi Account")	Citibank	42777002
23.	AAMI Restaurant LLC	Capital One Bank	7164001369
24.	AAMI Restaurant LLC d/b/a Rasputin	J.P. Morgan Chase	91070134665
25.	YGIK, Inc.	TD Bank	373979178
26.	Mission Abstract LLC, d/b/a Mission Settlement Agency	Citibank	4972722065
27.	Alpha Funding Group	Citibank	4970617376

No.	Account Holder	Bank	Account No.
28.	Santa Fe Consulting	Bethpage Federal Credit Union	9977838193
29.	Alpha Debt Settlement	J.P. Morgan Chase	809315161
30.	Mission Marketing Group Corporation	T.D. Bank	7930819383
31.	YGIK, Inc.	PNC Bank	8622231205
32.	Dias Group Inc.	J.P. Morgan Chase	857436356
33.	Stafecp	Bethpage FCU	9977838201
34.	Mission Settlement Agency 180	Sun American	6702743301
35.	Alpine Processing	HSBC	25046232
36.	Premier Debt Settlement	J. P. Morgan Chase	826947418
37.	Debt Less USA	J.P. Morgan Chase	801453143
38.	Debt Settlement Branch 101	J.P. Morgan Chase	796366284
39.	GLOAD	J.P. Morgan Chase	151083769265
40.	Mission Settlement Agency	Commerce Bank	4270188399

SCHEDULE C

All Right, Title, and Interest in the Following Real Property

1. All that lot or parcel of land, together with its buildings, appurtenances, improvements, fixtures, attachments and easements, located at 132 Norfolk Street, Brooklyn, New York 11235;
2. All that lot or parcel of land, together with its buildings, appurtenances, improvements, fixtures, attachments and easements, located at 1001 Oriental Boulevard, Brooklyn, New York 11235;