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U.S. DISTRICT COURT  
EASTERN DISTRICT OF LA. gK

2018 MAR 16 P 3:38

WILLIAM W. BLEVINS  
CLERK

**FELONY**

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
EASTERN DISTRICT OF LOUISIANA

**INDICTMENT FOR THEFT OF GOVERNMENT FUNDS  
AND NOTICE OF FORFEITURE**

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

\*

CRIMINAL NO.

18-59

v.

\*

SECTION:

SECT. 6 MAG. 2

ELIJAH CHARLES SORINA

\*

VIOLATION: 18 U.S.C. § 641

\*

\* \* \*

The Grand Jury charges that:

**COUNT 1**

**THEFT OF GOVERNMENT FUNDS**

**A. AT ALL TIMES MATERIAL HEREIN:**

1. The Social Security Administration ("SSA") was a government agency responsible for the management of the Social Security program as defined in the Social Security Act.

2. Social Security was a social insurance program that provided eligible applicants with retirement, disability, and survivor benefits.

X Fee USA  
\_\_\_\_ Process \_\_\_\_\_  
X Dktd \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_ CIRmDep \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_ Doc. No. \_\_\_\_\_

3. The SSA operated the Retirement, Survivors, and Disability Insurance (“RSDI”) program.

4. Beginning in or about January 1998, the defendant, **ELIJAH CHARLES SORINA** (“**SORINA**”), filed for and later became eligible for SSA RSDI benefits.

5. In or about May 2013, **SORINA** applied for and was issued a Commercial Driver’s License (“CDL”) by the Louisiana Department of Public Safety and Corrections, Office of Motor Vehicles.

6. Beginning in or about May 2014, **SORINA** began working as a school bus driver for a local transportation company.

7. **SORINA** failed to notify the SSA of his employment and earnings from the local transportation company thereby continuing to obtain RSDI benefits unlawfully.

**B. THE OFFENSE:**

Beginning in or about May 2014, and continuing until in or about August 2016, in the Eastern District of Louisiana and elsewhere, the defendant, **ELIJAH CHARLES SORINA**, did knowingly embezzle, steal, purloin, and convert to his use, money belonging to the United States and a department and agency thereof, namely, money of the Social Security Administration, to which he knew he was not entitled, when he utilized approximately \$19,897.00 in Social Security Administration funds.

All in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 641.

**NOTICE OF FORFEITURE**

1. The allegations of Count 1 of this Indictment are realleged and incorporated by reference as though set forth fully herein for the purpose of alleging forfeiture to the United

States of America pursuant to the provisions of Title 18, United States Code, Sections 641 and 981(a)(1)(C), made applicable through Title 28, United States Code, Section 2461(c).

2. As a result of the offense alleged in Count 1, defendant, **ELIJAH CHARLES SORINA**, shall forfeit to the United States pursuant to Title 18, United States Code, Section 981(a)(1)(C), made applicable through Title 28, United States Code, Section 2461(c), any and all property, real or personal, which constitutes or is derived from proceeds traceable to violations of Title 18, United States Code, Section 641.

3. If any of the property subject to forfeiture, 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 person;
- 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;

it is the intent of the United States, pursuant to Title 21, United States Code, Section 853(p), to seek forfeiture of any other property of said defendant up to the value of the above forfeitable property.

All in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Sections 641 and 981(a)(1)(C), made applicable through Title 28, United States Code, Section 2461(c).

A TRUE BILL:



DUANE A. EVANS  
UNITED STATES ATTORNEY

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "B M K", written over a horizontal line.

BRIAN M. KLEBBA  
Assistant United States Attorney

New Orleans, Louisiana  
March 16, 2018