

Press Release

WEST PALM BEACH MAN CHARGED WITH MAKING FALSE STATEMENTS IN CONNECTION WITH PURPORTED IMMIGRATION SERVICES

May 27, 2011

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Wifredo A. Ferrer, United States Attorney for the Southern District of Florida, and Michael Shea, Acting Special Agent in Charge, Immigration and Customs Enforcement, Homeland Security Investigations, announced that defendant Levy **Garcia Crespo**, of West Palm Beach, Florida made his initial appearance in court today before U.S. Magistrate Judge James M. Hopkins. Crespo is charged with making false statements in connection with purported immigration services, in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 1001. If convicted, Crespo faces a maximum of five years in prison.

As set forth in the criminal complaint and in statements made during today's court hearing, during the course of this scheme, Crespo submitted to United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) fraudulent paperwork indicating that he (Crespo) was an attorney representing clients in immigration matters. In support of his paperwork, Crespo submitted a fraudulent Florida Bar Association identification card and a fraudulent Florida drivers license. Crespo also appeared in Immigration Court and represented himself to be an attorney. While posing as an attorney, Crespo processed more than 3000 false and fraudulent immigration applications on behalf of illegal aliens.

Mr. Ferrer commended the investigative efforts of the Immigration and Customs Enforcement, Homeland Security Investigations for their work on this case. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Rinku Tribuiani.

A complaint is merely an accusation and a defendant is presumed innocent until proven guilty.

A copy of this press release may be found on the website of the United States Attorney's Office for the Southern District of Florida at <http://www.usdoj.gov/usao/fls>. Related court documents and information may be found on the website of the District Court for the Southern District of Florida at <http://www.flsd.uscourts.gov> or on <http://pacer.flsd.uscourts.gov>.

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