

U.S. Department of Justice

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Eastern District of Michigan

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For Immediate Release:

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EVENT: Sentenced

Defendant: Mohammad Mansour

Illegal Alien From Lebanon Found Guilty in Marriage Attempt To Procure Permanent Residency

Mohammad Mansour, 45, an illegal alien from Lebanon residing in Dearborn, Michigan, pleaded guilty, and was sentenced, today before United States District Judge Avern Cohn to visa fraud, United States Attorney Stephen J. Murphy announced today. Mr. Murphy was joined in the announcement by Special Agent in Charge Brian Moskowitz, Immigration and Customs Enforcement in Detroit.

The evidence presented to the court at the time of the guilty plea established that Mansour paid a United States citizen to fraudulently marry him in 1994 in an attempt to illegally procure his permanent residency status in the United States. Although this United States citizen "spouse" filed a visa petition on Mansour's behalf, the former Immigration and Naturalization Service denied the petition because the couple divorced. Mansour subsequently married two other United States citizen spouses who also filed visa petitions on his behalf. Mansour lied about his earlier marriage fraud on his application to obtain legal permanent resident status based on his third United States citizen wife. The United States Citizenship and Immigration Services denied this application and a United States Immigration Judge ordered Mansour deported to Lebanon on February 21, 2008. Because Mansour has

already been ordered deported to Lebanon, Judge Cohn waived the pre-sentence report and sentenced Mansour to time served. Mansour was immediately taken into immigration custody and will be deported to Lebanon.

In announcing the guilty plea and sentence, United States Attorney Stephen J. Murphy commended the work of the Special Agents of the Immigration and Customs Enforcement, who conducted the investigation. "My office in coordination with ICE will continue to vigorously and systematically pursue those who have obtained immigration benefits unlawfully," said United States Attorney Stephen J. Murphy.

"Becoming a citizen of this great country is a privilege," said Brian M. Moskowitz, special agent in charge of the ICE Office of Investigations in Detroit. "ICE will not tolerate anyone who obtains that benefit through lies, fraud or deceit. This guilty plea should send a clear message that ICE and its partners will vigilantly guard the citizenship process."

The case was investigated by special agents of the United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement. The case was prosecuted by Special Assistant United States Attorney Mark Jebson.