

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
EASTERN DISTRICT OF LOUISIANA**

**UNITED STATES OF AMERICA** \* **CRIMINAL DOCKET NO. 08-162**  
  
                  **V.** \* **SECTION: “B” (3)**  
  
**BENY CORTEZ-PEREZ** \*  
                  **A/K/A JORGE** \*  
  \* \* \*

**FACTUAL BASIS**

\_\_\_\_\_Should this matter have gone to trial, the government would have proven, through the introduction of competent testimony and admissible, tangible exhibits, the following facts, beyond a reasonable doubt, to support the allegations in the indictment now pending against the defendant:

The Defendant, **BENY CORTEZ-PEREZ, A/K/A JORGE (LNU)**, (hereinafter “**CORTEZ-PEREZ**”) has agreed to plead guilty as charged to the counts 5 and 6 of the indictment charging him with fraud and related activity in connection with identification documents, authentication features and information in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Sections 1028(a)(2) and 1546(a).

An Immigration and Customs Enforcement (hereinafter “ICE”) agent would testify that on about January 18, 2008, he received information from a confidential informant

(hereinafter "CI") that a person known as "Jorge" (later identified as **BENY CORTEZ-PEREZ**) was selling fraudulent green cards and fraudulent Social security cards to undocumented workers in the New Orleans, Louisiana area. According to the CI, Jorge was charging \$150.00 per "set" (one green card and one Social Security card). To obtain a set, one could bring Jorge pictures and biographical information (name, date of birth, country of origin) of individuals who need the documents and Jorge would take the information and deliver the cards within days.

On April 2, 2008, in the presence of ICE agents, the CI called Jorge who agreed to sell five (5) green cards and five (5) Social Security cards to the CI. That same day, the CI and Jorge met in the parking lot of Best Buy at 6205 Veterans Memorial Blvd., Metairie, Louisiana. The CI gave Jorge five (5) pictures of Hispanic males with fictional biographical information associated with each picture, all provided to the CI by ICE agents. The CI also gave Jorge \$300.00 as a deposit to make the documents. ICE agents conducted surveillance of the entire meeting.

On April 3, 2008, the CI and Jorge met again at the Best Buy parking lot in Metairie. Jorge gave the CI five sets of documents (five (5) green cards and five (5) Social Security cards). The pictures and biographical information on the cards were the same as that provided by the ICE agents to the CI who provided it to Jorge on April 2, 2008. The CI gave Jorge the remaining \$450.00 owed, totaling \$750.00. ICE agents conducted surveillance of

the entire meeting and subsequently retrieved the cards from the CI. The Social Security cards and green cards appeared to have been issued by and under the authority of the Social Security Administration.

A forensic specialist would testify that he conducted physical, microscopic, instrumental and comparative examinations of the documents and that they are counterfeit. He would further testify that the documents do not contain genuine security features and were produced using incorrect methods.

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Assistant United States Attorney  
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Date

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BENY CORTEZ-PEREZ

Date

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Date