



U.S. Department of Justice

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PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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DEFENDANT PLEADS GUILTY TO POSSESSING FALSE IDENTIFICATION DOCUMENTS AFTER PLEADING GUILTY TO TRANSPORTING STOLEN LEAR JET

Marcos Daniel Jiménez, United States Attorney for the Southern District of Florida; Barbara Barnet, Special Agent in Charge, Department of Transportation, Office of Inspector General; Jesus Torres, Special Agent in Charge, Immigration and Customs Enforcement; and Robert Harris, Special Agent in Charge, Defense Criminal Investigative Services, announced today that defendant, **Jose Francisco Guasch**, pleaded guilty to an Information charging him with one (1) count of knowingly possessing five (5) or more authentication devices and false identification documents, in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 1028. Guasch faces a maximum statutory sentence of fifteen (15) years' imprisonment and a maximum fine of \$250,000. Guasch is scheduled to be sentenced on December 29, 2004, by United States District Court Judge Federico Moreno, in Miami, Florida.

This plea follows Guasch's plea before United States District Court Judge William J. Zloch on October 14, 2004, to one (1) count of transporting a stolen aircraft in foreign commerce, in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Sections 2312 and 2. Guasch is scheduled to be

sentenced in that case on December 17, 2004, in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida.

According to statements made in court, on June 27, 2003, law enforcement agents executed a search warrant at Guasch's residence shortly after he was arrested in Miami, Florida, pursuant to an arrest warrant issued in connection with a criminal prosecution out of the Middle District of Florida. The defendant had been using the alias of Jesus Manuel Rios at the time of his arrest. During the execution of the search warrant, law enforcement agents discovered numerous fraudulent identification documents belonging to the defendant, but bearing the names of Jesus Rios or John Andrew Shearer. These documents included, but were not limited to, three (3) Federal Aviation Administration Instructor Certificates, three (3) Federal Aviation Administration Airline Transport Certificates, two (2) Social Security cards, three (3) Florida driver's licenses, one (1) California driver's license, three (3) Puerto Rico Birth Certificates, two (2) International Driving permits, one (1) honorable discharge certificate, one (1) United States Passport, two (2) medical certificates, one (1) pilot crew identification card, and numerous credit cards and checking account cards.

The agents also discovered packages of unopened blank ID cards, a laminator, an embossing sealer for the "Puerto Rico, Departamento de Salud," an embossing sealer for the "State of Florida," a Stamp for the Guayanabo, Departamento de Salud Registro Demografico Distrito MUN0128, a Stamp for the Republic of Paraguay, one (1) package of holograms, and an identification card printer.

Mr. Jiménez commended the investigative efforts of the Department of Transportation, Office of Inspector General, Immigration and Customs Enforcement, and Defense Criminal Investigative Services. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Lynn Kirkpatrick.

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 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 www.flsd.uscourts.gov or on <http://pacer.flsd.uscourts.gov>.

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