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December 17, 2008

For Immediate Release
December 17, 2008

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Naturalized citizen indicted for transporting illegal aliens

Portland, Maine: United States Attorney Paula D. Silsby, announced today that Carlos DaSilva, of Portland, Maine was indicted yesterday by a federal grand jury for his role in a conspiracy to transport illegal aliens in Maine during 2007 and 2008. Da Silva, who is a native of Brazil and a naturalized United States Citizen, was arrested by agents of the United States Bureau of Immigration and Customs Enforcement in August of this year.

According to the grand jury indictment, Da Silva conspired with others to transport illegal aliens for commercial advantage and financial gain. The indictment also alleges that on eight separate occasions in 2007 and 2008, DaSilva transported or assisted in the transportation of illegal aliens for profit.

If convicted, Da Silva faces a maximum prison sentence of ten years on each of the nine counts contained in the indictment.

United States Attorney Silsby stressed that Da Silva is presumed innocent and that the indictment is not evidence of guilt. Silsby also said that the investigation leading to the indictment was conducted by the United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement Investigations Division.

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