



# Department of Justice

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## **“OPERATION DIRTY LAUNDRY” NETS SIX FOR TRAFFICKING IN COUNTERFEIT MERCHANDISE**

Jacksonville, Florida - United States Attorney Robert E. O'Neill announced today that a federal grand jury in Jacksonville has returned Indictments against Fred Yassen, age 59, Anna Cai, age 21, Bassirou Willane, age 48, Young Jong Kim, age 26, Ying Jie Zhou, age 24, and Chun Hua Zheng, age 35, all from Jacksonville, with trafficking in counterfeit merchandise. The maximum penalty each defendant faces is up to 10 years' imprisonment and a fine of \$2 million fine.

According to the Indictments, the defendants were selling counterfeit Chanel, Gucci, Nike, Giani Versace, Burberry, Louis Vuitton, and other trademarked goods and apparel at various venues in Florida.

“Operation Dirty Laundry” is a joint task force of the United States Department of Homeland Security, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement and the Jacksonville Sheriff's Office that was established to identify individuals selling counterfeit products and to seize the illegal goods. According to an Immigration and Customs Enforcement spokesperson, to date, the task force has seized over \$5 million in counterfeit products. The cases are being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Russell C. Stoddard.

An Indictment is merely a formal charge that a defendant has committed a violation of the federal criminal laws, and every defendant is presumed innocent until, and unless, proven guilty.