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Apr. 11, 2011

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CLERK, U.S. DISTRICT COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

July 2010 Grand Jury

11 CR 1345 AB

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Case No. _____

Plaintiff,

I N D I C T M E N T

v.

Title 18, U.S.C., Sec. 371 -
Conspiracy to Commit Sports
Bribery, Conduct an Illegal
Gambling Business, and
Distribute Marijuana

STEVE WARDA GORIA (1),
aka Shazy,

PAUL JOSEPH THWENI (2),
aka Weenie,

RICHARD FRANCIS GARMO (3),
aka Dick,
aka Bird,

THADDEUS JAMES BROWN (4),
aka TJ,

BRANDON JOHNSON (5),
aka BJ,

RICHARD THWENI (6),
aka Reggie,
aka Slick Rick,

DAVID GATES (7),
aka Guyline,
aka Big Dave,

LILIAN GORIA (8),
BRANDON LAMAR DOWDY (9),
JAKE SALTER (10),

Defendants.

The grand jury charges:

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HWC:lml:San Diego
4/7/11

1 1. OBJECT OF THE CONSPIRACY

2 Beginning on a date unknown and continuing up to and including
3 the filing date of this Indictment, within the Southern District of
4 California, and elsewhere, defendants STEVE WARDA GORIA, aka Shazy,
5 PAUL JOSEPH THWENI, aka Weenie, RICHARD FRANCIS GARMO, aka Dick,
6 aka Bird, THADDEUS JAMES BROWN, aka TJ, aka D, aka T, aka DJ, BRANDON
7 JOHNSON, aka BJ, RICHARD THWENI, aka Reggie, aka Slick Rick, DAVID
8 GATES, aka Guyline, aka Big Dave, LILIAN GORIA, BRANDON LAMAR DOWDY,
9 and JAKE SALTER, did knowingly, intentionally, and willfully agree and
10 conspire with other persons known and unknown to the grand jury to:

11 a. carry into effect and attempt to carry into effect a
12 scheme in commerce to influence by bribery sporting
13 contests, with knowledge that the purpose of such
14 scheme was to influence by bribery those contests, in
15 violation of Title 18, United States Code,
16 Section 224(a);

17 b. conduct, finance, manage, supervise, direct, and own
18 all and part of an illegal gambling business that
19 violates Ca. Penal Code, Section 337a, all in
20 violation of Title 18, United States Code,
21 Section 1955(a); and

22 c. distribute marijuana, a Schedule I Controlled
23 Substance, in violation of Title 21, United States
24 Code, Section 841(a)(1).

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1 2. MANNER AND MEANS

2 The objects of the conspiracy were to be accomplished, in
3 substance, as follows:

4 a. Defendants STEVE WARDA GORIA, PAUL JOSEPH THEWNI, and
5 RICHARD FRANCIS GARMO would enrich themselves, and seek to enrich
6 themselves, through a variety of illegal schemes, including but not
7 limited to, betting on college basketball games in which players were
8 offered and paid money to affect the outcomes, operating as
9 bookmakers, and obtaining and distributing marijuana.

10 b. Defendants STEVE WARDA GORIA, PAUL JOSEPH THWENI,
11 RICHARD FRANCIS GARMO, THADDEAU JAMES BROWN, BRANDON JOHNSON, RICHARD
12 THWENI, LILIAN GORIA, and BRANDON LAMAR DOWDY would participate in and
13 aid the scheme to bet on "fixed" basketball games, including but not
14 limited to, by betting and supplying funds to be wagered on such
15 games, soliciting and recruiting players for the scheme, and
16 influencing the outcome of games for payment.

17 c. Defendants STEVE WARDA GORIA, PAUL JOSEPH THWENI,
18 RICHARD FRANCIS GARMO, RICHARD THWENI, LILIAN GORIA, and DAVID GATES
19 would participate in and aid the bookmaking scheme, including but not
20 limited to, by operating multiple "books" to accept bets by others on
21 sporting contests, tracking bets utilizing an offshore Internet
22 service, and collecting outstanding debts.

23 d. Defendants STEVE WARDA GORIA, PAUL JOSEPH THWENI,
24 RICHARD FRANCIS GARMO, and JAKE SALTER would distribute, within San
25 Diego County and elsewhere, marijuana supplied in part by JAKE SALTER.

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1 e. Defendants STEVE WARDA GORIA, PAUL JOSEPH THWENI, and
2 RICHARD FRANCIS GARMO, among others, would commingle the proceeds from
3 the illegal schemes and, at times, reinvest those proceeds to cover
4 various operating expenses from the schemes, including but not limited
5 to, purchasing marijuana for distribution, fees charged by the
6 offshore Internet service, and payments to players.

7 3. OVERT ACTS

8 In furtherance of the conspiracy and to accomplish its objects,
9 the following overt acts, among others, were committed within the
10 Southern District of California and elsewhere on or about the dates
11 below:

- 12 a. On January 28, 2008, STEVE WARDA GORIA transported
13 \$100,000 to purchase marijuana.
- 14 b. In February 2010, an individual (at the direction of
15 GARMO), PAUL JOSEPH THWENI, and another individual
16 placed bets at casinos in Las Vegas, Nevada, on a
17 college basketball game involving the University of
18 San Diego (USD).
- 19 c. In February 2010, BRANDON JOHNSON, a member of the USD
20 basketball team, attempted to influence and influenced
21 the outcome of a USD basketball game for a monetary
22 bribe.
- 23 d. On April 30, 2010, RICHARD FRANCIS GARMO and PAUL
24 JOSEPH THWENI met to discuss sending marijuana to
25 STEVE WARDA GORIA in Detroit, Michigan.
- 26 e. In October 2010, STEVE WARDA GORIA and THADDEUS BROWN
27 met in Las Vegas, Nevada, to discuss fixing a college
28 basketball game.

- 1 f. On November 9, 2010, STEVE WARDA GORIA, PAUL JOSEPH
2 THWENI, and SALTER met to discuss the purchase of
3 marijuana.
- 4 g. On November 9, 2010, JAKE SALTER transported
5 approximately \$20,000 in proceeds from the sale of
6 marijuana.
- 7 h. On December 22, 2010, STEVE WARDA GORIA instructed
8 DAVID GATES to collect an outstanding debt from an
9 individual.
- 10 i. On January 3, 2011, STEVE WARDA GORIA and LILIAN GORIA
11 discussed the collection of an outstanding gambling
12 debt.
- 13 j. On January 17, 2011, RICHARD THWENI attempted to
14 collect an outstanding gambling debt from an
15 individual.
- 16 k. In January 2011, BRANDON JOHNSON solicited an
17 individual to affect the outcome of USD basketball
18 games for monetary bribes.
- 19 l. On February 8, 2011, STEVE WARDA GORIA and THADDEUS
20 JAMES BROWN discussed efforts to solicit an individual
21 to affect the outcome of a college basketball game for
22 a monetary bribe.
- 23 m. On February 9, 2011, STEVE WARDA GORIA and PAUL JOSEPH
24 THWENI purchased marijuana from JAKE SALTER.
- 25 n. On February 23, 2011, STEVE WARDA GORIA, RICHARD
26 FRANCIS GARMO, RICHARD THWENI, and THADDEUS JAMES
27 BROWN met an individual solicited by BRANDON JOHNSON
28 to affect the outcome of USD basketball games for


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- o. On February 23, 2011, STEVE WARDA GORIA, RICHARD FRANCIS GARMO, and LILIAN GORIA provided money to PAUL JOSEPH THWENI to wager, in part, on a USD basketball game they believed to be "fixed."
- p. In February 2011, THADDEUS JAMES BROWN and BRANDON LAMAR DOWDY discussed soliciting an individual to affect the outcome of a college basketball game for a monetary bribe.
- q. On March 3, 2011, BRANDON LAMAR DOWDY solicited an individual to affect the outcome of a college basketball game for a monetary bribe.
- r. On March 4, 2011, STEVE WARDA GORIA sold marijuana to an individual.

All in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 371.


DATED: April 8, 2011.

A TRUE BILL:



Foreperson

LAURA E. DUFFY
United States Attorney

By: 

HAROLD W. CHUN
Assistant U.S. Attorney