# IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA : CRIMINAL NO.: 1:16-CR-00096 (RBW)

:

: VIOLATION:

: 18 U.S.C. § 371

: (Conspiracy to Encourage and Induce Aliens

SHARAFAT ALI KHAN, : to Come to the United States for Commercial

Advantage and Private Financial Gain)

:

Defendant.

v.

#### STATEMENT OF OFFENSE

Pursuant to Fed. R. Crim. P. 11, the United States of America, by and through its attorneys. the United States Attorney for the District of Columbia and the Acting Assistant Attorney General for the Criminal Division of the Department of Justice, and defendant Sharafat Ali Khan (the "defendant"), with the concurrence of his attorney. Loui Itoh, agree and stipulate that had this case gone to trial, the government would have proven beyond a reasonable doubt the following:

#### Introduction

- 1. Defendant Sharafat Ali Khan is a Pakistani national who, at all relevant times was living in Brasilia, Brazil as a permanent legal resident.
- 2. From on or about March 2014 through on or about May 2016, defendant Khan knowingly conspired with others (a) to defraud the United States, and (b) to knowingly encourage and induce aliens to enter and reside in the United States for defendant Khan's private financial gain. Defendant Khan knew that the entry of aliens into the United States was in violation of law. The aliens were nationals of countries other than the United States, including mostly from Pakistan, who had not received prior official authorization to come to, enter, and reside in the United States.
  - 3. Defendant Khan facilitated the travel of between 25 and 99 different aliens for

illegal entry into the United States for his private financial gain, including but not limited to individuals identified in the Indictment in this case.

- 4. Defendant Khan and coconspirators facilitated travel of Pakistani and other foreign nationals from Pakistan and other countries to Brazil by way of airline flights through various countries. From Brazil, defendant Khan would arrange for the aliens to travel by land, air or sea through Venezuela, Peru, Ecuador, Colombia, Panama, Costa Rica, Nicaragua, Honduras, El Salvador, Guatemala, Mexico, and eventually into the United States through various border points in Mexico.
- 5. Defendant Khan's smuggling activities included communicating with, meeting, arranging for transport and/or safe houses for the aliens during their transit toward the United States, or arranging for various smuggling associates to serve as escorts for the same purposes during different legs of the smuggling route.
- 6. Aliens paid defendant Khan and coconspirators various amounts from around \$3,000 USD to up to \$15,000 USD to travel from Pakistan to Brazil, through South and Central America, and eventually into the United States. Defendant Khan and his coconspirators would each keep a variable percentage of the total smuggling fee paid as profit.
- 7. The average traveler took approximately nine months to get from Brazil all the way to the United States. During the voyage from Brazil through South and Central America, aliens were subjected to harsh conditions that caused a substantial risk of serious bodily injury or death. For example, many aliens traveled to Turbo, Colombia, and from there into Panama's eastern border where travelers then had to hike through the Darien Gap. The Darien Gap is a dangerous, wild tropical forest area that stretches approximately 100 miles from the north to the south coast of Panama, from the Atlantic to the Pacific oceans which is not traversable by vehicle. Aliens

received little food and/or water for a trip on foot into Panama City that lasted anywhere from three to ten days.

As a member of the conspiracy to illegally move aliens into the United States, Khan 8. was responsible for managing the movement of these aliens through various countries via a network of individuals and transportation facilities who worked with Khan in getting aliens from Pakistan (and other countries) to Brazil, through South and Central America, into Mexico, and through the Mexican border into the United States.

Respectfully submitted,

## CHANNING PHILLIPS **UNITED STATES ATTORNEY**

By:

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By:

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### **DEFENDANT'S ACCEPTANCE**

I have read every word of this Statement of Offense. Pursuant to Fed. R. Crim. P. 11, after consulting with my attorney. Loui Itoh, Esquire, I agree and stipulate to this Statement of Offense. The Statement of Offense is a summary made for the purpose of providing the Court with a factual basis for my guilty plea to the charges against me. It does not include all of the facts known to me regarding these offenses. I, Sharafat Ali Khan, make this statement knowingly and voluntarily and because I am in fact guilty of the crimes charged.

Date: 04/01/2017

Sharafat Ali Khan Defendant

I have discussed this Statement of Offense with my client, Sharafat Ali Khan. I concur with his decision to stipulate to this Statement of Offense.

Date: 4/0/2017

Loui Itoh

Counsel for Defendant Sharafat Ali Khan

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