



JULY 2, 2002
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INDICTMENT ON VISA FRAUD CHARGES

BALTIMORE, Maryland - Thomas M. DiBiagio, United States Attorney for the District of Maryland, announced today that a federal grand jury has indicted Rasmi Subhi Saleh Al Shannaq, age 27, of Baltimore City, for obtaining, on October 3, 2000, a nonimmigrant visa from the United States Embassy in Doha, Qatar knowing that it was falsely made and otherwise unlawfully obtained in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Sections 1546(a) and 3238.

The defendant is currently in the administrative custody of the Immigration and Naturalization Service since his arrest by the INS on June 24, 2002.

The maximum penalty upon conviction for the charged offense is ten (10) years imprisonment, a period of supervised release upon release from custody of three years and a fine of \$250,000.00

An indictment is not a finding of guilt. An individual charged by indictment is presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty at some later criminal proceedings.

The criminal charges in this indictment are the result of a joint investigation coordinated by the Maryland Anti-Terrorism Task Force which included investigators of the United States State Department's Diplomatic Security Service, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Immigration and Naturalization Service and numerous other federal, state and local law enforcement agencies, and the United States Attorney's Office.

The defendant is scheduled for an initial appearance before a United States Magistrate Judge on July 8, 2002 at 11:00 a.m. at the United States Courthouse in Baltimore, Maryland.

The case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Harvey E. Eisenberg.

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