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Press Release

Sint Maarten Developer in Tax Case Stole Jones Identity

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In US District Court in Roanoke today, Alejandro Gioia from Venezuela and Sint Maarten was unable to produce any documents related to supposedly selling Jones an apartment, much less six between 2000-2013. Gioia was intercepted passing through Miami in February 2019 by IRS agents working on behalf of Jones's wife and her lawyer.

Chief of the Criminal Division in Roanoke, Walter C. Jones, was hired by Jones's wife's lawyer to aid in an embezzlement case in 2005. After this was discovered by J. Jones and his lawyer in 2007, W. Jones was fired from the ensuing divorce ruse used to take everyone off the embezzlement hunt. IRS Criminal Agent Karen Deer, under W. Jones, was the person who first contacted Gioia, refusing to speak with her when she telephoned him in 2013.

Deer was conveniently missing from the trial after James Jones tried to give her all the embezzlement evidence he had on Walter C. Jones, Jones's wife, and her lawyer in late 2012. Deer said it was "attorney-client privilege," and of course, what better place to hide an embezzlement than with a lawyer. To draw attention away from Deer, they targeted Gioia in Miami.

Gioia admitted he spoke to them for more than four hours without a lawyer and then went to his sister's house. The next day, he met again with a lawyer and got an immunity agreement. Then they met again, according to Gioia, who had a criminal record in the US. He was on extremely shaky ground once he landed, obviously "pinched" by the IRS.

He later came to a grand jury in Roanoke and Miami to a deposition with his lawyer partners from Sint Maarten and Washington, DC. Gioia is known to have paid up to \$1M in graft to government officials in St. Maarten, so he comes across to the US as a "choice morsel" to authorities, reports J. Jones.

Jones's defense team focused on fictitious loans and a bank loan for \$600,000 organized by Gioia's private banker, who refused to come to the US from Canada. The banker admitted making the fake loan documents in a deposition at Canadian border. Jones's defense hammered Gioia for no funds ever changing hands except Gioia to Gioia via bank loans he benefited from.

US prosecutors then hammered him, reminding him they track wiring and fund movements and knew he was scamming them. They reminded him he had no immunity agreement if he lied, and he had four by then, but in his first four-hour meeting in Miami Airport, he had no immunity agreement. Jones has never done a wire transfer, and this is a problem for the US.

Jones was interviewed by the FBI in August 2019 about one of Gioia's corruption practices, in which Jones described it as "old-style New York City graft." Gioia had an FBI agent on the dole too, from Miami, which Jones was aware of. Gioia also had an inside IRS officer in Miami, which Jones was aware of too.

Gioia used his extensive network of local partners to try to bury Jones but unraveled when he was unable to produce any receipts for Jones other than a fictitious unsigned sales agreement pieced together from three other ones, all in different fonts he brought to his Miami deposition. He had two government long leases to himself he brought too, trying to pass them off.

Gioia involved two more of his associates from Sint Maarten, known money-laundering types. Jones reported them to the Sint Maarten Prosecutor's office before leaving the island for the last time in 2021. One of those launderers was handing off the chore to yet another new player after 12 years, who also came to bury Jones, trying to tell the government how to run their case since the day Jones returned. At least \$3M back to 2012 was unaccounted for in those dealings, which Jones learned of during 2019-2020.

Jones is a witness against five of the Sint Maarten witnesses before this tax case took off, none of which has been disclosed in US District Court yet, for the US headed off that line of questioning with his immunity agreements and off the table if he lied to them.

The defense did not need to get into Gioia's other activities involving US officials Jones was aware of. Jones offered to go through pictures of all 13,000 DOJ lawyers to identify the ones he knew that visited Sint Maarten, but the US refused.

