

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS
EL PASO DIVISION

Filed 7-6-07
Clerk, U. S. District Court
Western District of Texas
By *AC*
Deputy

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Plaintiff,

ELIZABETH "BETTI" FLORES,

Defendant.

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INFORMATION

Cause No. EP-06-CR-1369FM-2

THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY CHARGES:

COUNT ONE
(18 U.S.C. §§ 1349, 1341 and 1346)
CONSPIRACIES TO COMMIT MAIL FRAUD
AND THE DEPRIVATION OF HONEST SERVICES

Beginning on or about January 1, 2003 and continuing through and including December 31, 2006, in the Western District of Texas and elsewhere, defendant,

ELIZABETH "BETTI" FLORES,

conspired and agreed together with others known, but not charged herein, and others unknown, to commit offenses against the United States, that is to knowingly devise a scheme and artifice to defraud the County of El Paso and its citizens of the right to Defendant **ELIZABETH "BETTI" FLORES'** honest services in the affairs of the County of El Paso; and to obtain money and property by means of material false and fraudulent pretenses, representations and promises; and in furtherance of the scheme to deprive the County of El Paso and its citizens of **ELIZABETH "BETTI"**

FLORES' honest services and to obtain money and property by material false and fraudulent pretenses, representations and promises did use the United States Postal Service to send and deliver mail, the defendant **ELIZABETH "BETTI" FLORES** and uncharged co-conspirators conspired to deprive the County of El Paso and its citizens of the right to honest services from **ELIZABETH "BETTI" FLORES** and to obtain money and property by material false and fraudulent pretenses, representations and promises in that, on or about the dates charged, the defendant and others known and unknown devised a scheme to make payments to the defendant disguised as campaign contributions from others in exchange for the defendant's vote to extend the healthcare benefits administration contract with El Paso County, and in furtherance of the fraudulent scheme to deprive the County and citizens of El Paso of the honest services of **ELIZABETH "BETTI" FLORES** and to obtain money by material false representations, pretenses and promises, the defendant and her uncharged co-defendants conspired to cause to be sent and delivered and caused to be sent and delivered, by United States Postal Service, mail containing requests for reimbursement from healthcare services providers; checks written by AA using County of El Paso funds to reimburse health care services providers and other correspondence required as a result of the contract to provide third party administration services to the County of El Paso, all in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Sections 1349, 1341 and 1346.

COUNT TWO
(18 U.S.C. §§ 1349, 1346 and 1343)
CONSPIRACIES TO COMMIT WIRE FRAUD
AND THE DEPRIVATION OF HONEST SERVICES

Beginning on or about January 1, 2003 and continuing through and including December 31,

2006, in the Western District of Texas and elsewhere, defendant,

ELIZABETH "BETTI" FLORES,

conspired and agreed together with others known, but not charged herein, and others unknown to commit offenses against the United States, that is to knowingly devise a scheme and artifice to defraud the County of El Paso and its citizens of the right to the defendant **ELIZABETH "BETTI" FLORES'** honest services in the affairs of the County of El Paso, and to obtain money and property by means of material false and fraudulent pretenses, representations and promises, and in furtherance of the scheme to deprive The County of El Paso and its citizens of **ELIZABETH "BETTI" FLORES'** honest services and to obtain money and property by material false and fraudulent pretenses, representations and promises did knowingly transmit and cause to be transmitted by means of wire communication in interstate and foreign commerce money and other communications to-wit: over the period of the conspiracy, paid cash bribes to the defendant **ELIZABETH "BETTI" FLORES** in exchange for her vote as County Commissioner for El Paso County, Texas to part of the underwriting contract for a bond initiative for Thomason General Hospital, an underwriting contract for bond issues at the County of El Paso, and to award financial advisory contracts at the County of El Paso and for the Thomason bond initiative; and for the purpose of executing the aforesaid scheme and artifice to defraud and for obtaining money and property by means of material false and fraudulent pretenses, representations, and promises, would knowingly transmit and cause to be transmitted by means of wire communication in interstate and foreign commerce writings, signs, signals, pictures, and sounds including wire transfers of funds, from the State of New York to El Paso, Texas in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Sections 1349, 1343 and 1346.

COUNT THREE
(18 U.S.C. §§ 1349, 1341 and 1346)
CONSPIRACIES TO COMMIT MAIL FRAUD
AND THE DEPRIVATION OF HONEST SERVICES

Beginning on or about January 1, 2003 and continuing through and including December 31, 2006, in the Western District of Texas and elsewhere, defendant,

ELIZABETH "BETTI" FLORES,

conspired and agreed together with others known, but not charged herein, and others unknown, to commit offenses against the United States, that is to knowingly devise a scheme and artifice to defraud the County of El Paso and its citizens of the right to Defendant **ELIZABETH "BETTI" FLORES'** honest services in the affairs of the County of El Paso, and to obtain money and property by means of material false and fraudulent pretenses, representations and promises, and in furtherance of the scheme to deprive the County of El Paso and its citizens of **ELIZABETH "BETTI" FLORES'** honest services and to obtain money and property by material false and fraudulent pretenses, representations and promises did use the United States Postal Service to deliver mail , to-wit: co-conspirators collectively paid the defendant more than \$10,000 in cash in exchange for the defendant **ELIZABETH "BETTI" FLORES'** vote to secure a contract for the El Paso County Parking Garage Annex and to advocate change orders to the parking garage contract, and in furtherance of the fraudulent scheme to deprive the County and citizens of El Paso of the honest services of **ELIZABETH "BETTI" FLORES** and to obtain money and property by material false pretenses, representations and promises, the defendant and her uncharged co-defendants conspired

to cause to be delivered and caused to be sent and delivered, by United States Postal Service, mail containing checks for payment from El Paso County, all in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Sections 1349, 1341 and 1346.

COUNT FOUR
(18 U.S.C. §§ 1349, 1341 and 1346)
CONSPIRACIES TO COMMIT MAIL FRAUD
AND THE DEPRIVATION OF HONEST SERVICES

Beginning on or about January 1, 2003 and continuing through and including December 31, 2006, in the Western District of Texas and elsewhere, defendant,

ELIZABETH "BETTI" FLORES,

conspired and agreed together with others known, but not charged herein, and others unknown, to commit offenses against the United States, that is to knowingly devise a scheme and artifice to defraud the County of El Paso and its citizens of the right to **ELIZABETH "BETTI" FLORES'** honest services in the affairs of the County of El Paso, and to obtain money and property by means of material false and fraudulent pretenses, representations and promises, and in furtherance of the scheme to deprive the County of El Paso and its citizens of defendant **ELIZABETH "BETTI" FLORES'** honest services and to obtain money and property by material false and fraudulent pretenses, representations and promises did use the United States mails to benefit **ELIZABETH "BETTI" FLORES** in her misdemeanor case in exchange for her vote to settle a lawsuit in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Sections 1349, 1341 and 1346.

COUNT FIVE
(18 U.S.C. §§ 1349, 1343 and 1346)
CONSPIRACIES TO COMMIT WIRE FRAUD
AND THE DEPRIVATION OF HONEST SERVICES

Beginning on or about January 1, 2003 and continuing through and including December 31, 2006, in the Western District of Texas and elsewhere, defendant,

ELIZABETH "BETTI" FLORES,

conspired and agreed together with others known, but not charged herein, and others unknown, to commit offenses against the United States, that is to knowingly devise a scheme and artifice to defraud the County of El Paso and its citizens of the right to **ELIZABETH "BETTI" FLORES'** honest services in the affairs of the County of El Paso, and to obtain money and property by means of material false and fraudulent pretenses, representations and promises, and in furtherance of the scheme to deprive the County of El Paso and its citizens of defendant **ELIZABETH "BETTI" FLORES'** honest services and to obtain money and property by material false and fraudulent pretenses, representations and promises did knowingly transmit and cause to be transmitted by means of wire communication in interstate and foreign commerce e-mail communications, to wit: others known and unknown offered to pay and paid the defendant money and other benefits in exchange for her vote, in her official capacity as an El Paso County Commissioner, to settle a lawsuit against the County of El Paso over a tract of land owned by the County of El Paso and to sell the land to clients of another known but not named herein, and for the purpose of executing the fraudulent scheme to deprive the County and citizens of El Paso the honest services of **ELIZABETH "BETTI" FLORES** and to obtain money and property by material false pretenses, representations and promises, the defendant and the uncharged co-conspirators knowingly conspired to cause to be

transmitted and caused to be transmitted by means of wire communication in interstate and foreign commerce writings, signs, signals, pictures, and sounds including e-mail communications from a co-conspirator to the assistant of the defendant, all in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Sections 1349, 1343 and 1346.

COUNT SIX
(18 U.S.C. §§ 1349, 1341 and 1346)
CONSPIRACIES TO COMMIT MAIL FRAUD
AND THE DEPRIVATION OF HONEST SERVICES

Beginning on or about January 1, 2003 and continuing through and including December 31, 2006, in the Western District of Texas and elsewhere, defendant,

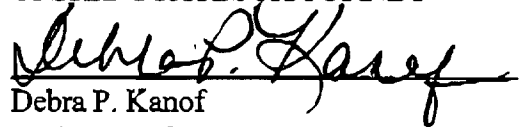
ELIZABETH "BETTI" FLORES,

conspired and agreed together with others known, but not charged herein, and others unknown, to commit offenses against the United States, that is to knowingly devise a scheme and artifice to defraud the County of El Paso and its citizens of the right to Defendant **ELIZABETH "BETTI" FLORES'** honest services in the affairs of the County of El Paso; and to obtain money and property by means of material false and fraudulent pretenses, representations and promises; and in furtherance of the scheme to deprive the County of El Paso and its citizens of **ELIZABETH "BETTI" FLORES'** honest services and to obtain money and property by material false and fraudulent pretenses, representations and promises did use the United States Postal Service to send and deliver mail, the defendant **ELIZABETH "BETTI" FLORES** and uncharged co-conspirators conspired to deprive the County of El Paso and its citizens of the right to honest services from **ELIZABETH "BETTI" FLORES** and to obtain money and property by material false and fraudulent pretenses,

representations and promises in that, on or about the dates charged, the defendant and others known and unknown devised a scheme to make payments to the defendant disguised as campaign contributions and otherwise in exchange for the defendant's vote to secure a contract for digitization of court records for the District Clerk's Office with El Paso County, and in furtherance of the fraudulent scheme to deprive the County and citizens of El Paso of the honest services of **ELIZABETH "BETTI" FLORES** and to obtain money by material false representations, pretenses and promises, the defendant and her uncharged co-defendants conspired to cause to be sent and delivered and caused to be sent and delivered, by United States Postal Service, mail containing requests for the digitization RFP; bid proposals; cashiers' checks serving as bid bonds; verification of receipt of cashiers' checks submitted as bid bonds; requests for clarification of RFP details; and clarifications of RFP details, all in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Sections 1349, 1341 and 1346.

JOHNNY SUTTON
UNITED STATES ATTORNEY

By:


Debra P. Kanof
Assistant U.S. Attorney