The J Group's

EDLA SENTENCING NEWSLETTER

WEEK OF
NOV 2 TO NOV 8

NOVEMBER 12, 2025 ISSUE

PPP Fraud, False Claims, and Firearms...

.... see what happened this past week in the Eastern District of Louisiana

CASE SPOTLIGHT

United States v. Brandon (aka Brandi) Jarrow
24-cr-231

What's the Basis?: Jarrow submitted multiple Economic Injury Disaster Loan ("EIDL") and Paycheck Protection Program ("PPP") applications to the SBA. At the time, these programs were providing low-interest financing to small businesses and others affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. In support of the applications, Jarrow submitted false IRS forms to the SBA and other lending institutions, falsely claiming ownership interests in multiple entities at the onset of pandemic. These false claims resulted in Jarrow receiving over $150,000 in SBA proceeds - none of which she was legally entitled to receive.

What's the Violation?: Ms. Jarrow pled guilty to ***Theft of Government Funds and False Statements*** in violation of ***18 U.S.C. §§ 641 and 1001.***

What's the Punishment?: The Honorable Judge Jane Triche Milazzo sentenced Ms. Jarrow to a term of **4 years of probation** for each violation, with the sentences to run concurrently.

This Week's Other Matters

U.S. v. Allen, 24-cr-175

Charge: Felon in Possession of a Firearm
(18 U.S.C. § 922(g); 924(a)(8))
Sentence: **15 months imprisonment** and 3 years of supervised release.
Judge: Honorable Jane Triche Milazzo

U.S. v. Bailey, 22-cr-178

Violation of Standard, Special, and Mandatory Conditions of Supervised Release: *Testing Positive for Controlled Substances; Traveling without Approval; Associating with Convicted Felons; and Failing to Enroll in Required Educational and Treatment Courses.*
Sentence: **9 months of imprisonment** total for the violations. 24 months of supervised release.
Judge: Honorable Carl J. Barbier

WHAT'S THAT STATUTE?

CLICK ON THE LINKS BELOW FOR MORE DETAILS ON THE VIOLATIONS INCLUDED IN THIS WEEKS' EDITION

- 8 U.S.C. § 1326
- 18 U.S.C. § 287
- 18 U.S.C. § 641
- 18 U.S.C. § 922
- 18 U.S.C. § 924
- 18 U.S.C. § 1001
- 21 U.S.C. § 841

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U.S. v. Bascle, 24-CR-039

Charge: Possession with Intent to Distribute Fentanyl *(21 U.S.C. § 841(a)(1), (b)(1)(B))*
Sentence: **60 months of imprisonment** and 4 years of supervised release.
Judge: Honorable Greg G. Guidry

U.S. v. Jackson, 03-CR-337

Violation of Mandatory Conditions of Supervised Release: *Committing an Offense (Rape and Sexual Battery) while on Supervised Release*
Sentence: **55 months of imprisonment**.
Judge: Honorable Mary Ann Vial Lemmon

U.S. v. Keys, 24-CR-137

Charge: Possession with Intent to Distribute Cocaine and/or Fentanyl; Felon in Possession of a Firearm *(21 U.S.C. § 841(a)(1), (b)(1)(C); 18 U.S.C. § 922(g)(1) and 924(a)(8))*
Sentence: **300 months of imprisonment** (120 months as to the controlled substance charges and 180 months as to the firearm charges - to be served consecutively). 5 years of supervised release.
Judge: Honorable Greg G. Guidry

U.S. v. Lee, 25-CR-145

Charge: False Claims Against the United States *(18 U.S.C. § 287)*
Sentence: **1 year of probation**.
Judge: Honorable Jay C. Zainey

U.S. v. Wheeler, 16-CR-132

Violation of Mandatory Conditions of Supervised Release: *Failed to Make Mandatory Restitution Payments*
Sentence: **TIME SERVED**
Judge: Honorable Sarah S. Vance

U.S. v. Morales-Vazquez, 25-CR-191

Charge: Reentry of a Removed Alien *(8 U.S.C. § 1326(a))*
Sentence: **TIME SERVED**
Judge: Honorable Brandon S. Long

Did You Know?

As of March of 2025, **the Internal Revenue Service, Criminal Investigation initiated more than 2,000 tax and money laundering cases related to COVID-19 fraud**. The total amount of **attempted fraud** in these cases **exceeded $10 billion**.

While these cases include fraud related to the Paycheck Protection Program and the Economic Injury Disaster Loan program, the vast majority of the fraudulent amounts stem from false claims related to the Employee Retention Credit ("ERC"). The ERC was a refundable tax credit available to businesses and tax-exempt organizations with employees affected by the pandemic.

The IRS estimates that **fraud related to the ERC totaled** nearly **$6 billion dollars** for the tax years 2020, 2021, 2022, and 2023.

Hebrews 13:3 - ***Remember the prisoners as if chained with them - those who are mistreated - since you yourselves are in the body also.***

Heed His word and pray for the detained, incarcerated, and less fortunate among us.

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