



Wire Fraud and more...

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

CASE SPOTLIGHT

United States v. Teutoc
25-cr-065

What's the Basis?: According to the factual basis, **Teutoc** and others **conspired to place skimming devices on Walmart checkout terminals designed to secretly capture customers' credit, debit, and EBT card information. Teutoc and his co-defendant traveled to these stores to retrieve the stolen card information from the skimmers before electronically transmitting the data to another conspirator for fraudulent use.** Law enforcement ultimately arrested the defendants at the Tchoupitoulas Walmart location in New Orleans. At the time of arrest, **officers recovered a rare-earth magnet** (used to activate and transmit the stolen data) **and multiple cellular phones** used to communicate with the skimming devices.

At least 36 skimming devices placed throughout seven Walmart stores were identified. Records showed that **approximately 55,595 cards were compromised, approximately \$23,324.80 in fraudulent charges were confirmed, and the intended loss associated with the overall conspiracy exceeded \$11.2 million.**

What's the Violation?: Teutoc pled guilty to **Conspiracy to Commit Wire Fraud**, in violation of **18 U.S.C. § 1349.**

What's the Punishment?: The Honorable Judge Nannette J. Brown sentenced **Teutoc to 60 months of imprisonment and 2 years of supervised release and ordered him to pay \$11,275,777.90 in restitution.**

This Week's Other Matters

U.S. v. CARCAMO-ANTNEZ, 26-CR-118

Charge: Illegal Entry and Avoidance of Examination and Inspection
(8 U.S.C. § 1325)
Sentence: **6 months of imprisonment.**
Judge: Honorable Nanette J. Brown

U.S. v. SLAUGHTER, 25-CR-176

Charge: Conspiracy to Distribute and Possess with Intent to Distribute Fentanyl; Possession with Intent to Distribute Fentanyl
(21 U.S.C. § 841(a)(1), (b)(1)(B), 846)
Sentence: **30 months of imprisonment and 4 years of supervised release.**
Judge: Honorable Wendy B. Vitter

WHAT'S THAT STATUTE? CLICK ON THE LINKS BELOW FOR MORE DETAILS ON THE VIOLATIONS INCLUDED IN THIS WEEKS' EDITION

- [8 U.S.C. § 1325](#)
- [18 U.S.C. § 2](#)
- [21 U.S.C. § 841](#)
- [21 U.S.C. § 846](#)



U.S. V. GARCIA, 23-CR-268

Charge: Conspiracy to Distribute and Possess with the Intent to Distribute Cocaine, a Schedule II Controlled Substance; Possession with Intent to Distribute Cocaine, a Schedule II Controlled Substance and Aiding and Abetting (18 § 2; 21 U.S.C. §§ 841(a)(1), (b)(1)(A), 846)

Sentence: 72 months of imprisonment and 5 years of supervised release.

Judge: Honorable Darrel J. Papillion

U.S. V. RAMOS, 23-CR-268

Charge: Conspiracy to Distribute and Possess with the Intent to Distribute Cocaine, a Schedule II Controlled Substance; Possession with Intent to Distribute Cocaine, a Schedule II Controlled Substance and Aiding and Abetting (18 § 2; 21 U.S.C. §§ 841(a)(1), (b)(1)(A), 846)

Sentence: 36 months of imprisonment and 5 years of supervised release.

Judge: Honorable Darrel J. Papillion

U.S. V. JOHNSON, 16-CR-023

Violation of Mandatory, Standard, and Special Conditions of Supervised Release: *Testing Positive for Illicit Drugs; Law Enforcement Contact without Notifying Probation; Failing to Report to USPO Appointment; Failing to Attend a Substance Abuse Assessment.*

Sentence: 11 months of imprisonment.

Judge: Honorable Susie Morgan

U.S. V. KYLES, 23-CR-054

Violation of Mandatory, Standard, and Special Conditions of Supervised Release: *Testing Positive for Illicit Drugs; Failing to Provide a New Address for Approval and Discontinuing Contact with USPO; Failing to Report to USPO Appointment; Failing to Attend a Substance Abuse Assessment.*

Sentence: 4 months of imprisonment.

Judge: Honorable Barry W. Ashe

U.S. V. PATTERSON, 19-CR-027

Violation of Standard Conditions of Supervised Release: *Applied for 19 loans without permission; Not Paying Restitution Timely.*

Sentence: TIME SERVED.

Judge: Honorable Carl J. Barbier

Did You Know?

Card **skimming** and electronic benefit transfer (“EBT”) **fraud schemes have become a rapidly growing problem across the United States**, with organized groups increasingly targeting large retailers, gas stations, and self-checkout terminals. Federal **investigators have reported a sharp rise in sophisticated skimming devices capable of wirelessly transmitting stolen credit, debit, and EBT card information in real time**. According to the **FBI, skimming costs financial institutions and consumers “more than \$1 billion each year.”**

These investigations often expand well beyond simple theft cases. Because the schemes typically involve interstate communications, coordinated activity, identity theft, and large intended loss calculations, defendants frequently face federal wire fraud and conspiracy charges carrying significant sentencing exposure under the United States Sentencing Guidelines. As is the case in today’s Case Spotlight, **many times the intended loss amount** (not just the confirmed fraudulent charges) **dramatically increase the advisory guideline range**.

