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Department of Justice

U.S. Attorney's Office

Western District of New York

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Wednesday, August 2, 2017

Husband And Wife Plead Guilty To Sex Trafficking

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ROCHESTER, N.Y. – Acting U.S. Attorney James P. Kennedy, Jr. announced today that Frederick Evans, 40, and his wife Lashara Evans, 37, both of Rochester, NY, pleaded guilty to sex trafficking offenses before U.S. District Judge Charles J. Siragusa. Frederick Evans pleaded guilty to transporting a minor across state lines for the purpose of engaging in prostitution and faces a mandatory minimum penalty of 10 years in prison and a maximum of life. Lashara Evans pleaded guilty to conspiring with Frederick Evans to have minors engage in sex trafficking and faces a maximum sentenced of five years in prison.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Melissa Marangola, who is prosecuting the case, stated that between 2006 and 2007, Frederick Evans transported a minor victim from Rochester to New Orleans, Louisiana. The minor victim engaged in prostitution activities and gave the proceeds to the defendant.

In 2010, a 15 year-old minor victim was looking for a place to live when she met Frederick Evans who convinced the minor to engage in prostitution activities. Frederick Evans, who advertised the minor victim on Backpage.com., would have the minor victim engage in these activities along with his then-girlfriend Lashara. The minor and Lashara Evans would prostitute at a residence in Rochester, as well as at hotels in Syracuse, Watertown and Buffalo. Lashara Evans paid for the hotel rooms on occasion and the minor victim would give a portion of the money she earned from prostituting to Lashara Evans who would, in turn, give it to Frederick. Frederick used the money to pay rent and the bills for the residence where the prostitution activities took place in Rochester.

On December 17, 2011, Lashara Evans and Frederick Evans transported both the minor victim and another minor victim to a hotel in the Elmira area in order to engage in prostitution.

Frederick Evans will be sentenced on November 2, 2017, at 9:15 a.m. Lashara Evans will be sentenced on November 6, 2017, at 9:15 a.m. Both sentencings will be before Judge Siragusa.

The pleas are the culmination of an investigation on the part of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, under the direction of Special Agent-in-Charge Adam S. Cohen.

Component(s):

[USAO - New York, Western](#)

Updated August 3, 2017