



UNITED STATES ATTORNEY'S OFFICE EASTERN DISTRICT OF VIRGINIA

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Former Norfolk Sheriff's Deputy Sentenced to 25 Months for Immigration Fraud

(Norfolk, VA) – Sofia Krait Winkler, a former Norfolk Sheriff's Deputy and Moroccan Citizen, was sentenced yesterday to 25 months in prison upon her conviction for immigration fraud. Chuck Rosenberg, United States Attorney for the Eastern District of Virginia, made the announcement after Winkler was sentenced by United States District Judge Raymond A. Jackson. A jury found Winkler guilty of conspiracy to commit marriage fraud and six counts of making false statements to immigration officials following a three day trial November 2006.

According to court documents, in determining this sentence the Court found Winkler was a leader organizer of a conspiracy containing more than five participants. Judge Jackson also found that Winkler had obstructed justice in three different ways during her trial, including tampering with her boyfriend's testimony, tampering with a photo album she attempted to use in her defense, and committing perjury during her own testimony. Winkler faces deportation after the completion of her sentence.

This case was investigated by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement and the Bureau of Citizenship and Immigration Services. Assistant United States Attorney Joseph DePadilla prosecuted the case on behalf of the United States.

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