

Travel Agent Sentenced for Fake Weddings

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Body

A former **travel agent** who admitted arranging more than 100 **fake** marriages to help Latin American immigrants acquire United States residency papers was **sentenced** today to the maximum 46 months in prison.

The **agent**, Jesus Pascual Cigollen, was also fined \$25,000 by United States District Court Judge William H. Walls. Four of Mr. Cigollen's subordinates in the marriage scheme were given terms of one to two years, and two others await **sentencing**. Mr. Cigollen's wife was also implicated but remains a fugitive.

Mr. Cigollen, 49, pleaded guilty to conspiracy charges in November. He admitted staging the marriages from his company, Cigollen **Travel** Agency in Union City, from 1996 to 1998. Documentation was submitted to the Immigration and Naturalization Service on behalf of the prospective immigrants. Mr. Cigollen charged up to \$4,500 for each client. The conspirators recruited United States citizens to serve as spouses, and they even scripted **fake wedding** receptions, prosecutors said.

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