FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: July 3, 2018

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# U.S. Capitol Police Investigation Leads to Guilty Plea by Virginia Man for Making False Statement on Application for Home Equity Loan

WASHINGTON, DC - Today, Chief Matthew R. Verderosa joined the U.S. Attorney and FBI Washington Field Office's Criminal Division in announcing that Imran Awan, 38, of Springfield, Virginia, pled guilty to a federal charge stemming from a false statement made on a home equity loan. Awan pled guilty in the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia to a charge of making false statements on a loan or credit application. For a copy of the plea documents, please visit <a href="https://go.usa.gov/xU2fn">https://go.usa.gov/xU2fn</a>.

According to plea documents filed today, on December 12, 2016, while in the District of Columbia, Awan submitted an online application in the name of his wife, Hina Alvi, to a credit union for a home equity line of credit on a property that she owned in Alexandria, Virginia. Awan made a material misrepresentation in the application by stating that the property was his wife's primary residence and not a rental property. In fact, she was renting the property to tenants at the time. Awan made the misrepresentation because the credit union had a policy of not extending home equity lines of credit on rental properties. On January 5, 2017, the credit union offered a home equity line of credit of \$165,000. Then, between January 12 and January 18, 2017, the credit union transferred \$165,000 into the account. Awan paid off the balance on January 18, 2017.

Awan and his wife were indicted on federal charges related to the loan in August 2017. Both had pled not guilty to the charges. Under the plea agreement with Awan, the government agreed to ask the Court to dismiss all charges against Alvi at the time that Awan is sentenced.

In fall 2016, based on findings of a U.S. House of Representatives internal audit and at the request of Members of Congress, the United States Capitol Police began investigating the actions of House IT support staff.

In reference to allegations regarding U.S. House of Representatives information technology issues, more specifically, that Awan stole U.S. House of Representatives ("House") equipment and engaged in unauthorized or illegal conduct involving House computer systems, those allegations did not form the basis of any conduct relevant to the determination of the sentence in this case.

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The Government conducted a thorough investigation of those allegations, including interviewing approximately 40 witnesses; taking custody of the House Democratic Caucus server, along with other computers, hard drives, and electronic devices; examining those devices, including inspecting their physical condition and analyzing log-in and usage data; reviewing electronic communications between pertinent House employees; consulting with the House Office of General Counsel and House information technology personnel to access and/or collect evidence; and questioning Awan during numerous voluntary interviews.

The Government has uncovered no evidence that Awan violated federal law with respect to the House computer systems. Particularly, the Government has found no evidence that Awan illegally removed House data from the House network or from House Members' offices, stole the House Democratic Caucus Server, stole or destroyed House information technology equipment, or improperly accessed or transferred government information, including classified or sensitive information.

After finding numerous violations of House IT internal controls during the course of its investigation, the United States Capitol Police referred these findings back to House officials for administrative action.

Chief Verderosa would like to commend the United States Capitol Police Special Agents and Federal Bureau of Investigation Washington Field Office agents for their work in thoroughly investigating the significant amount of evidence collected throughout the investigation and bringing this case to closure. He also would like to thank United States Attorney Jessie Liu and the Assistant United States Attorneys who prosecuted the case, and other federal partners for the assistance they provided throughout the investigation.

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### United States Department of Justice

THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

DISTRICT of COLUMBIA

U.S. Attorneys » District of Columbia » News

#### Department of Justice

U.S. Attorney's Office

District of Columbia

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Tuesday, July 3, 2018

### Virginia Man Pleads Guilty to Making False Statement on Application for Home Equity Loan

#### **Falsely Claimed Property Was Not Being Rented**

WASHINGTON – Imran Awan, 38, of Alexandria, Va., pled guilty today to a federal charge stemming from a false statement made on a home equity loan, announced U.S. Attorney Jessie K. Liu, Matthew R. Verderosa, Chief of the United States Capitol Police, and Matthew J. DeSarno, Special Agent in Charge, of the FBI Washington Field Office's Criminal Division

Awan pled guilty in the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia to making false statements on a loan or credit application. The charge carries a statutory maximum of 30 years in prison. Under federal sentencing guidelines, he faces a likely range of zero to six months of incarceration. The Honorable Tanya S. Chutkan scheduled sentencing for Aug. 21, 2018.

According to plea documents filed today, on Dec. 12, 2016, while in the District of Columbia, Awan submitted an online application in the name of his wife, Hina Alvi, to a credit union for a home equity line of credit on a property that she owned in Alexandria, Va. Awan made a material misrepresentation in the application by stating that the property was his wife's primary residence and not a rental property. In fact, she was renting the property to tenants at the time. Awan made the misrepresentation because the credit union had a policy of not extending home equity lines of credit on rental properties. On Jan. 5, 2017, the credit union offered a home equity line of credit of \$165,000. Then, between Jan. 12 and Jan. 18, 2017, the credit union transferred \$165,000 into the account. Awan paid off the balance on Jan. 18, 2017.

Awan and his wife were indicted on federal charges related to the loan in August 2017. Both had pled not guilty to the charges. Under the plea agreement with Awan, the government agreed to ask the Court to dismiss all charges against Alvi at the time that Awan is sentenced.

This case was investigated by the U.S. Capitol Police and the FBI's Washington Field Office. It is being prosecuted by the U.S. Attorney's Office for the District of Columbia.

Attachment(s):

Download awan imran - plea agreement - july 3 2018.pdf

Download awan imran - statement of offense - july 3 2018.pdf

#### Topic(s):

Financial Fraud

#### Component(s):

USAO - District of Columbia

#### Press Release Number:

18-167

Updated July 3, 2018

## Joint Statement by House Chief Administrative Officer and House Sergeant at Arms regarding Plea Agreement by Former Shared Employee

We thank the United States Capitol Police, the U.S. Attorney's office, and other supporting agencies for their work on the criminal case involving House shared employees.

Our offices referred this matter to the United States Capitol Police after discovering substantial and wide-ranging House policy violations that suggested possible criminal activity. These violations include:

- 1) Impermissible pooling of resources, including Member equipment and technology resources;
- 2) Violations of procurement policies including the evasion of inventory controls;
- 3) Inappropriate elevation of privileged accounts and impermissible use of those accounts;
- 4) Comingling of Member data; and,
- 5) Violations of the Shared Employee Manual.

These violations placed the House network, House property and Member data at risk. The USCP investigation validated the seriousness of these violations. Wide ranging policy violations and IT mismanagement warranted the revocation of access by House institutional offices.

As we both testified before the Committee on House Administration, this specific incident spurred the development of improved controls over shared employee activities.

Philip G. Kiko House Chief Administrative Officer

Paul D. Irving House Sergeant at Arms