

5 Men Sentenced for Unlawfully Harboring and Employing Illegal Aliens

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Five Arkansas residents were sentenced by a federal judge for conspiring to harbor, transport and employ illegal aliens, following an investigation by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE). The men owned or controlled businesses, which employed illegal aliens on chicken catching crews, and were paid the individuals in cash. The men were sentenced to between 12 months and 30 months plus three years of supervised release/probation.

In conjunction with the guilty pleas, the individuals agreed to the forfeiture of property totaling more than \$1.2 million in U.S. currency, and real and personal property valued at \$631,000, for a total forfeiture of more than \$1.87 million. The properties, used in the commission of concealing or harboring illegal aliens, were proceeds of the criminal activity or were acquired with profits made from such activity.

"ICE aggressively targets employers who egregiously violate immigration laws by knowingly employing an illegal alien workforce," said Raymond R. Parmer, Jr., ICE special agent from New Orleans. "Businesses that use illegal alien workers to gain an economic advantage over their competition must understand that they will be held accountable for those unlawful practices."