



DISTRICT ATTORNEY
KINGS COUNTY
350 JAY STREET
BROOKLYN, NY 11201-2908
(718) 250-2000
WWW.BROOKLYNDA.ORG

Kenneth P. Thompson
District Attorney

April 7, 2016

COMMUNITY PARTNER IN JUSTICE NOTIFICATION

Midwood Travel Agent Indicted for Defrauding Over 25 Pakistani Customers

Brooklyn District Attorney Ken Thompson announced today that a Midwood travel agent, Junaid Mirza, has been arraigned on a 31-count indictment in which he is charged with scheme to defraud, grand larceny and other charges for allegedly taking more than \$350,000 from Pakistani immigrants for whom he was supposed to make travel arrangements.

Between July 2011 and September 2015, the defendant, at various times, owned and operated travel agencies, doing business as Travel Treat and Pearl Travel, that specialized in the sale of travel packages to Mecca, Saudi Arabia, and airline tickets to Pakistani immigrants. The defendant is charged with stealing thousands of dollars from some of his victims, many of whom he spoke to in Urdu, gaining their trust.

District Attorney Thompson said, "Many of the victims were hardworking Pakistani immigrants who trusted the defendant and were cheated out of a lifelong dream of taking a pilgrimage to Mecca. We will now vindicate their rights and make sure that the defendant goes to prison for stealing their money and destroying their dreams."

#

* An indictment is an accusatory instrument and not proof of a defendant's guilt.