COURT FILING · PLAIN-LANGUAGE BRIEF

Government files partially redacted indictment against Alex Saab on money laundering charge

United States v. Alex Nain Saab Morán · S.D. Fla. No. 1:26-cr-20020

Judge Kathleen M. Williams · Docket entry #16 · Filed 2026-05-18 · Filed by: Government

What happened

On May 18, 2026, a partially redacted copy of the grand jury indictment against Alex Nain Saab Morán was entered on the docket, filed as to him only. The indictment alleges a scheme beginning around October 2015 to launder proceeds from bribery and embezzlement tied to Venezuela's CLAP food program and illicit sales of PDVSA oil, moving funds through U.S. bank accounts. It charges one count of conspiracy to launder monetary instruments under 18 U.S.C. § 1956(h) and gives notice that the government will seek forfeiture of related property.

What it means

This is not a new charge; it is the public, redacted version of the indictment that already underlies the case, with names and details concerning other possible defendants blacked out. The government alleges Saab used shell companies, false invoices and bribes to divert CLAP program funds and profit from PDVSA oil sales. Saab has not been found guilty of these underlying allegations as of this filing; he later pleaded guilty in September 2026 as noted in the case record.

What happens next

The case remains before Judge Kathleen M. Williams; Saab's sentencing, following his September 2026 guilty plea, is scheduled for January 20, 2027.

Key passages from the filing (verbatim)

> *"planned and executed an elaborate scheme to enrich themselves and their associates, including individuals in the Miami area, by corrupting a Venezuelan public welfare program known as Comité Local de Abastecimiento y Producción (CLAP)"*
>
> Page 1 — States the core allegation underlying the money laundering charge.

> *"the conspirators used their direct access and corrupt influence with Venezuelan government officials to access and sell billions of dollars of oil owned by Venezuelan state-owned Petróleos de Venezuela, S.A. (PDVSA) under false pretenses"*
>
> Page 2 — Shows the PDVSA oil sales allegation tied to the laundering scheme.

> *"the specified unlawful activity is: (i) wire fraud... and (ii) an offense against a foreign nation, specifically Venezuela, involving bribery of a public official, and the misappropriation, theft, and embezzlement of public funds"*
>
> Page 3 — Specifies the predicate offenses supporting the money laundering conspiracy count.

Docket text (official, in English)

`PARTIALLY REDACTED INDICTMENT by USA as to Defendant - Alex Nain Saab Moran ONLY. (kan) (Entered: 05/19/2026)`

Online version: https://mailmaduro.com/caso.php?d=saab-sdfl-e16

Full original filing: https://mailmaduro.com/caso.php?d=saab-sdfl-e16&f=original