



## U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services

# USCIS Helps Get Conviction in Asylum Fraud

Release Date: June 7, 2018

**PHOENIX**— U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) played an integral part in yesterday’s sentencing of Ali Vahdani Pour.

Pour, a 28 –year- old national of Iran, was sentenced by U.S. District Judge Douglas Rayes to 137 days in prison. He had pled guilty to lying under oath in an immigration matter.

In the plea agreement, Pour admitted having lied on his asylum application. Specifically, Pour admitted he falsely denied having served in the Iranian military and falsely denied having received refugee status in Italy, before seeking asylum in the United States.

“Making false statements to support your claim for asylum in the U.S. will not be tolerated,” said USCIS Los Angeles Asylum Director David Radel.

The investigation in this case was conducted by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, USCIS, and the Federal Bureau of Investigation. The prosecution was handled by Assistant U.S. Attorney Joseph E. Koehler, Special Assistant U.S. Attorney, District of Arizona. Ryan Goldstein

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Last Reviewed/Updated: 06/08/2018