

## OFAC Sanctions Mexican Citizen tied to Los Zetas

The U.S. Department of the Treasury's Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) today announced the designation of Mexican national Francisco Antonio Colorado Cessa as a specially designated narcotics trafficker. Francisco Antonio Colorado Cessa materially assists the international narcotics trafficking activities of Los Zetas, and its leaders Miguel Angel Trevino Morales and Omar Trevino Morales. Today's action, taken pursuant to the Foreign Narcotics Kingpin Designation Act (Kingpin Act), prohibits U.S. persons from conducting financial or commercial transactions with this individual and freezes any assets the designee may have under U.S. jurisdiction.

Los Zetas is a violent Mexican drug trafficking organization. The President identified Los Zetas as a significant foreign narcotics trafficker under the Kingpin Act in April 2009. OFAC subsequently designated Miguel Angel Trevino and Omar Trevino Morales as specially designated narcotics traffickers pursuant to the Kingpin Act in July 2009 and March 2010, respectively.

Today's action is part of ongoing efforts pursuant to the Kingpin Act to apply financial measures against significant foreign narcotics traffickers and their organizations worldwide. The Treasury Department has designated over 1,000 individuals and entities pursuant to the Kingpin Act since June 2000.

Penalties for violations of the Kingpin Act range from civil penalties of up to \$1.075 million per violation to more severe criminal penalties. Criminal penalties for corporate officers may include up to 30 years in prison and fines up to \$5 million. Criminal fines for corporations may reach \$10 million. Other individuals face up to 10 years in prison and fines pursuant to Title 18 of the United States Code for criminal violations of the Kingpin Act.