



# **KATHERINE FERNANDEZ RUNDLE**

## **STATE ATTORNEY**



**ELEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
IN AND FOR MIAMI-DADE COUNTY**

### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

#### **Non-Citizen Allegedly Voting in Election Leads to Charges**

**Miami (April 24, 2024) Miami-Dade State Attorney Katherine Fernandez Rundle announces the charging of Lazaro Valle-Villar with four voting-related felonies directly connected to his having become a registered voter in Miami-Dade County despite his present non-citizen status. The arrest was the result of a cooperative investigation by Florida Department of Law Enforcement’s Election Crime Unit working with the Miami-Dade State Attorney’s Office Public Corruption prosecutors and the Florida Department of State Office of Election Crimes and Security with assistance from the Miami-Dade County Supervisor of Elections Office. Records indicated that Valle-Villar voted in the November 2, 2021, Miami General Municipal and Special General election. On his Florida Voter Application forms, Valle-Villar indicated (in both English and Spanish) that he was a citizen of the United States of America and therefore qualified to vote.**

**Lazaro Valle-Villar is being charged with the following 3rd Degree Felonies:**

- **1 Count Voting as an Unqualified Elector**
- **1 Count False Affirmation regarding Voting or Elections**
- **1 count Submission of False Voter Registration Information**
- **1 count Submitting False Statement to the Secretary of State**

**“Voting is a right extended to every American citizen,” said State Attorney Katherine Fernandez Rundle. “Lazaro Valle-Villar could have become a citizen and voted legally if he had just made the effort. However, he did not. I am proud to be working together with the Florida Department of Law Enforcement, the Florida Department of State Office of Election Crimes and Security and the Miami-Dade County Supervisor of Elections Office to help ensure the integrity of our voting process.”**

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