



Robert Manzanares is the founder of Gatekeeper Consulting & Investigations and a Retired Special Agent with Homeland Security Investigations.

Mr. Manzanares is a decorated law enforcement professional experienced in planning, conducting, and leading a variety of financial corruption investigations, both foreign and domestic. He is recently retired from HSI's Miami office which is one of the busiest and most productive in the nation. In his official capacity, he was the lead agent in several high-profile cases not only in Miami, but also in several multi-jurisdictional investigations around the world. He was awarded the U.S. Department of Justice's Assistant Attorney General's Award for Distinguished Service for his role in the case, *United States vs. One White Crystal-Covered Bad Tour Glove*.

Robert has conducted numerous complex financial investigations in cooperation with various foreign governments and law enforcement entities. These investigations frequently concerned sensitive matters, since the principal suspect is an official in a foreign government and/or private business enterprises who opened and maintained several U.S. bank accounts in violation of banking and regulatory requirements.

Mr. Manzanares has a successful record of high-profile convictions and a proven ability to work collaboratively with local, state, federal, and international law enforcement. During his career, he has received numerous awards for successfully conducting investigations in the United States and abroad.

Gatekeeper is a security consulting and investigations firm specializing in the financial sector. Services include Tenant Screening, criminal defense consulting and investigations, asset searches, banking searches missing persons, asset recovery and much more. The company is headed up by Robert Manzanares, a law enforcement professional with over 25 years' experience who served as a special agent at Homeland Security Investigations in the Southern District of Florida.



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- **Plaintiff and Defense Investigations**

KLEPTOCRACY INVESTIGATIONS DEFENSE

In 2010, the U.S. Department of Justice launched an initiative aimed at combating large scale foreign corruption to recover public funds for their intended and proper use. A select team of prosecutors were assembled to focus exclusively on deterring corruption and holding offenders accountable in the interest of protecting public resources.

Robert Manzanares was the lead case agent for the U.S. Department of Homeland Security against the second vice president of Equatorial Guinea. This case drew international attention in 2011 when Robert's investigation led to a civil forfeiture complaint that recovered more than \$70 million in proceeds of corruption. The investigation further revealed that Teodoro Nguema Obiang Mangue used money from his crimes to amass assets including a Malibu, California mansion, a Gulfstream jet, a Ferrari and a \$3 million-dollar crystal-encrusted white glove that once belonged to Michael Jackson.

A settlement was reached in 2014 in which \$30 million worth of assets purchased with corrupt proceeds were recovered.

In another high-profile case Robert was the lead investigator that investigated a network of cigarette smugglers who conspired with others in Miami, as well as others located in Spain, Great Britain, Ireland and Germany to smuggle cigarettes out of the Port of Miami into Aachen, Germany, Dublin, Ireland, and Felixstowe, Great Britain. The Miami resident who ran the operation, arranged for the purchase of hundreds of cases of cigarettes from Panama and the transportation of those cigarettes into the Port of Miami. He then arranged for the purchase of other cargo, such as yarn, wood flooring and building insulation material, to be used as cover loads to conceal the cigarettes.

Custom duties and taxes were based only on the falsely declared cargo and thus, no duties or taxes in the amount of \$5.6 million were paid on the cigarettes. The defendant was sentenced to prison and was ordered to pay \$1.5 million in restitution.

EXECUTIVE BACKGROUND INVESTIGATIONS

Due diligence background investigations

Robert conducts due diligence investigations for private equity fund clients involved in private lending. As part of the firm's standard operating procedures, every potential customer is vetted prior to a loan being funded.

The clients are of the belief that past behavior is indicative of future behavior which allows them to minimize/reduce their risk of a loan being litigated. Additionally, it provides clients a level of due diligence from government clawback.

Skip Tracing

Skip tracing involves finding people who don't want to be found. This isn't the same as bail bond recovery or bounty hunting. A skip trace can also be done to recover money from a bad debt. The debt can be to a business or an individual. Skip tracing is often combined with asset searches to find the money that is owed.

Gatekeeper Consulting and Investigations can track down individuals through several different means. This allows us to get you your information within a reasonable amount of time while keeping your costs down.

Our state-of-the-art information database allows us to locate individuals all over the country at the press of a button. Our database resources also allow us to track individuals in the same manner within our offices.

If you are trying to locate a long-lost family member, friend or even a "dead-beat dad", we have the resources and know-how to find them quickly and efficiently. We are quite proud of our successful track record.

