

# Former Marine Sentenced for Cyberstalking Young Women in Sextortion Campaign

[justice.gov/opa/pr/former-marine-sentenced-cyberstalking-young-women-sex-tortion-campaign](https://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/former-marine-sentenced-cyberstalking-young-women-sex-tortion-campaign)



Press Release

Friday, September 16, 2022

## For Immediate Release

Office of Public Affairs

A California man was sentenced yesterday to five years in prison for cyberstalking multiple young women in California in a “sex-tortion” campaign he waged while he was an active-duty member of the U.S. Marine Corps.

According to court documents, from May 2019 to February 2021, Johao Miguel Chavarri, aka Michael Frito, 26, of Torrance, stalked and sent anonymous threatening communications to numerous victims.

Chavarri, often using the name “Frito,” contacted victims on social media platforms, including Instagram, Snapchat, and Twitter, complimented their appearance and/or their publicly posted photos, and suggested a relationship in which he would pay the victim to send him photos or videos. Some of the victims initially agreed to Chavarri’s requests and sent him nude, sexually explicit, or compromising photos. When victims refused Chavarri’s initial request for photos, refused to send him additional photos or videos, or otherwise refused to continue to communicate with him online, Chavarri began to harass, threaten, and extort the victims using numerous online accounts. In most cases, he threatened to publish sexual photos and videos of the victims online or on well-known pornography websites and/or to distribute the sexual photos or videos to the victims’ boyfriends, friends, families, or employers, who he would often specifically identify by name.

Chavarri was ordered to pay a \$15,000 fine and serve three years of supervised release.

Assistant Attorney General Kenneth A. Polite, Jr. of the Justice Department's Criminal Division; Acting U.S. Attorney Stephanie S. Christensen for the Central District of California; Assistant Director Luis Quesada of the FBI's Criminal Investigative Division; and Supervisory Special Agent Adam Smith of the FBI Los Angeles Field Office made the announcement.

The FBI Los Angeles Field Office, Long Beach Resident Agency, investigated the case, with assistance from the Naval Criminal Investigative Service.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Lauren Restrepo for the Central District of California and Senior Trial Attorney Mona Sedky of the Criminal Division's Computer Crime and Intellectual Property Section prosecuted the case.

Updated September 16, 2022

---

## **Topics**

Intellectual Property

Cybercrime

Press Release Number: 22-983