

FILED

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
ALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO

for the

Judicial District of New Mexico

JUL - 6 2010

United States of America)

v.)

Efren CORRALES-Meza)

Defendant

Case No.

MATTHEW J. DYKMAN
CLERK

10ms 1919

CRIMINAL COMPLAINT

I, the complainant in this case, state that the following is true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

On or about the date of 07-04-2010 in the county of Bernalillo in the Judicial District of New Mexico, the defendant violated title 21 U. S. C. § 841 (a) (1) (b) (1) (A), an offense described as follows:

Possession with Intent to Distribute 5 Kilograms or more of cocaine.

This criminal complaint is based on these facts:

Please see attached Affidavit.

This Criminal Complaint has been reviewed and approved by AUSA James Braun.

Continued on the attached sheet.

David M. Howell
Complainant's signature

David Howell, Special Agent
Printed name and title

Sworn to before me and signed in my presence.

Date: JUL 6 - 2010

Lorenzo F. Garcia

Judge's signature

City and state: Albuquerque, New Mexico

Lorenzo F. Garcia, U.S. Magistrate Judge
Printed name and title

AFFIDAVIT OF DEA SPECIAL AGENT DAVID HOWELL

The Affiant, Special Agent David Howell, United States Department of Justice, Drug Enforcement Administration, being first duly sworn, hereby states as follows:

Affiant's Background

1. The Affiant has been employed by the United States Department of Justice, Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) since August 2006. During this time the Affiant has accumulated the following training and experience:

(a) The Affiant graduated from the DEA Academy in Quantico, Virginia. The Affiant received approximately 500 hours of specialized narcotics related training. The training included controlled substances identification, narcotics related investigative techniques, interview and interrogation training, preparation of search warrants, tactical application of narcotics enforcement, surveillance and electronic monitoring techniques and money laundering investigations.

(b) As a DEA agent, the Affiant has participated in numerous search warrants of the residences of narcotic traffickers, safe houses, and has participated in numerous arrests for drug related offenses.

Relevant Facts

2. On July 04, 2010, at approximately 8:55 a.m., New Mexico State Police (NMSP) Sergeant Nick Ramos stopped a red Dodge Ram 2500 pickup truck with Sonora, Mexico plate UW-67-318. Sergeant Ramos stopped this vehicle because it was traveling approximately 80 miles per hour in a 75 miles per hour zone. Sergeant Ramos observed this vehicle speeding while he was traveling west bound on Interstate-40. When Sergeant Ramos made the stop the vehicle was traveling eastbound on Interstate 40 at approximately mile marker 137.

3. After making the stop, Sergeant Ramos walked up to the vehicle and observed the letters/numerics UW-67-318 on the license plate. However, Sergeant Ramos could not see the State or Country from which this license plate was from because the plate could not be completely seen because it was partially hidden by a black and silver in color "Superman" license plate. Sergeant Ramos pulled back the "Superman" plate and observed that the license plate was from Sonora, Mexico. Sergeant Ramos subsequently walked to the passenger side of this vehicle where he identified the driver (and sole occupant of the vehicle) as Mr. Efren CORRALES-Meza. Mr CORRALES-Meza was issued a State of New Mexico Uniform Traffic Citation for speeding. During conversation between Mr. CORRALES-Meza and Sergeant Ramos, Mr. CORRALES-Meza told Sergeant Ramos that he was traveling to Albuquerque, New Mexico. However, Sergeant Ramos noticed that Mr. CORRALES-Meza was traveling with no visible luggage. Sergeant Ramos also noticed Mr. CORRALES-Meza's hand was shaking as he signed the NMSP traffic citation. Sergeant Ramos later asked and received

DAVID HOWELL

written consent to search Mr. CORRALES-Meza's vehicle (in the Spanish language). After receiving consent, Sergeant Ramos deployed his trained and certified narcotic canine on Mr. CORRALES-Meza's vehicle. Sergeant Ramos' canine subsequently alerted to the exterior of Mr. CORRALES-Meza's vehicle. A subsequent search of Mr. CORRALES-Meza's vehicle revealed a hidden compartment which contained 9.25 brick shaped objects further containing a white powdery substance. According to Sergeant Ramos' training and experience these objects were consistent with kilogram sized packages of cocaine. Mr. CORRALES-Meza was subsequently placed under arrest. Both Mr. CORRALES-Meza and Mr. CORRALES-Meza's vehicle were transported to the NMSP District 5 office. SA David Howell (with the Drug Enforcement Administration) was contacted and briefed concerning Sergeant Ramos' traffic stop. SA Howell and SA Tom Bartusiak subsequently met Sergeant Ramos at the NMSP District 5 office. SAs Howell and Bartusiak took custody of Mr. CORRALES-Meza for Federal prosecution. Mr. CORRALES-Meza was then transported to the DEA Albuquerque D.O.

4. After processing Mr. CORRALES-Meza, SA Bartusiak and NMSP Sergeant Joe Terrazas read Mr. CORRALES-Meza his rights per Miranda (in the Spanish language). Mr. CORRALES-Meza agreed to answer some questions. Mr. CORRALES-Meza stated he was hired by Roberto LNU (last name unknown) to drive the pickup truck from Nogales, Sonora, Mexico to Albuquerque, New Mexico. Mr. CORRALES-Meza stated he was to receive \$2,000.00 for transporting the vehicle. Mr. CORRALES-Meza stated he knew something illegal was in the vehicle but he did not specifically know that he was transporting cocaine or what quantity. Mr. CORRALES-Meza also stated that he tried to notify Roberto LNU (via Nextel) that he was being pulled over by the police and it was Roberto who told Mr. CORRALES-Meza to put the "Superman" license plate over his Mexican license plate in order to conceal the Sonora, Mexico portion of the license plate. Mr. CORRALES-Meza stated he put the "Superman" license plate over his Mexican license plate in Winslow, Arizona.

5. SA David Howell conducted a field test on one of the packages of cocaine. SA Howell received a positive response for the presence of cocaine (as witnessed by SA Tom Bartusiak). The 9.25 packages of cocaine were weighed as approximately 10.3 gross kilograms.

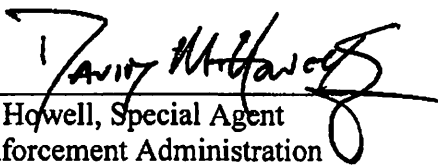
Conclusion

6. Based upon the aforementioned facts, the Affiant believes there is probable cause for the arrest of Mr. Efren CORRALES-Meza for Possession with Intent to Distribute cocaine a violation of Title 21 USC 841 (a) (1) (b) (1) (A).

7. The aforementioned facts do not include every fact known to the Affiant, only that which is sufficient to establish probable cause.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the facts contained herein are true and correct to the best of my information and knowledge.

2 *D Howell*
8/18


David Howell, Special Agent
Drug Enforcement Administration

SWORN and SUBSCRIBED to before me
this 6th day of July, 2010


Lorenzo F. Garcia
United States Magistrate Judge