

*United States District Court
District of New Jersey*

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA : HON. MARK FALK
v. : **CRIMINAL COMPLAINT**
JEREL EVANS, : Magistrate No. 12-3751
a/k/a "Gigante" : Filed Under Seal

I, Jordan Benson, the undersigned complainant being duly sworn, state the following is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief. From at least as early as in and around July 2012 through on or about November 30, 2012, in Union County, in the District of New Jersey and elsewhere, defendant JEREL EVANS did:

knowingly and intentionally conspire and agree with others to distribute and possess with intent to distribute 500 grams or more of a mixture or substance containing a detectable amount of cocaine, a Schedule II controlled substance, contrary to Title 21, United States Code, Sections 841(a)(1) and (b)(1)(B), and

In violation of Title 21, United States Code, Section 846.

I further state that I am a Special Agent with the Federal Bureau of Investigation and that this complaint is based on the following facts:

SEE ATTACHMENT A


Jordan Benson
Special Agent
Federal Bureau of Investigation

Sworn to before me and subscribed in my presence,

December 7, 2012 at Newark, New Jersey
Date City and State

Honorable Mark Falk
United States Magistrate Judge


Signature of Judicial Officer

ATTACHMENT A

I, Jordan Benson, am a Special Agent with the Federal Bureau of Investigation ("FBI"). I am familiar with the facts set forth herein through my personal participation in the investigation and through oral and/or written reports from other federal agents and law enforcement officers. Where statements of others are related herein, they are related in substance and part. Since this complaint is being submitted for a limited purpose, I have not set forth each and every fact that I know concerning this investigation. Where I assert that an event took place on a particular date and time, I am asserting that it took place on or about the date and time alleged.

I. Overview

1. Between on or about January 2012 and on or about November 30, 2012, law enforcement was involved in an investigation into a drug trafficking organization (DTO) operating in and around Elizabeth and Newark, New Jersey.

2. The DTO functioned, in part, by utilizing individuals operating in Puerto Rico and other locations to coordinate shipments of parcels containing kilogram quantities of cocaine and heroin through the U.S. mails to locations in Northern New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania and Connecticut. Co-conspirators packaging the narcotics would conceal the narcotics in benign items such as candles and children's toys, and then ship the narcotics to those areas. Individuals in New Jersey would coordinate these shipments, process or "cut" the narcotics upon receipt of the parcels, and distribute the narcotics to locations in New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Connecticut, Maryland and other locations.

3. As the investigation progressed through, among other things, the use of confidential sources, physical surveillance and judicially-authorized electronic surveillance, law enforcement in New Jersey identified Defendant JEREL EVANS a/k/a "Gigante," as one of the distributors of cocaine on behalf of the DTO.

4. Subsequent physical surveillance and judicially-authorized electronic surveillance in New Jersey led law enforcement to identify JEREL EVANS operating in and around the Newark, New Jersey area.

5. In and around July and August 2012, a confidential source with a history of reliability and credibility (the "CS"), working at the direction of the FBI, discussed the purchase of approximately 550 grams of cocaine from JEREL EVANS. During several of these discussions, JEREL EVANS advised the CS that he could provide the CS with that quantity and that he wanted to sell cocaine to the CS in order to make some extra money.

II. Intercepted Communications

6. On September 14, 2012, U.S. District Judge Claire C. Cecchi authorized the interception of wire communication to and from a cellular telephone facility utilized by Roberto Rentas Negron, a/k/a "El Duro" (hereinafter "El Duro") ("the 1st Duro Facility").¹ On October 16, 2012, Judge Cecchi authorized the interception of wire and electronic communication to and from the 1st Duro Facility as well as a second cellular telephone facility utilized by El Duro (the "2nd Duro Facility"). On November 14, 2012, U.S. District Judge Kevin McNulty authorized the interception of wire and electronic communication to and from a cellular telephone facility utilized by Antonio Vazquez a/k/a "Panta" (hereinafter "Panta")(the "2nd Panta Facility").²

7. Conversations intercepted over the 1st Duro Facility, the 2nd Duro Facility and the 2nd Panta Facility, demonstrate that JEREL EVANS is involved in the conspiracy to traffic cocaine in and around the Elizabeth, New Jersey area. In the following paragraphs, I have set forth excerpts of the recorded conversations and then provided an explanation of the conversation in parenthesis. Explanations in parentheses are based on my training and experience, and that of other agents and law enforcement officers with whom I have conferred regarding the facts and circumstances of this investigation. In addition, transcripts of the conversations, are in draft form. As such, quoted passages of phone conversations referenced below are in sum and substance.

8. On September 21, 2012, in a call intercepted over the 1st El Duro Facility, JEREL EVANS told El Duro that he "tried calling [El Duro] on the phone," but the phone was "cut off" so JEREL EVANS had to take "50 from Panta" (JEREL EVANS was stating that he received 50 grams of cocaine from Panta, instead of a different batch of cocaine from El Duro Later during the conversation, JEREL EVANS told El Duro that he "need[ed] work" and Duro stated that he could "get 50 later" (JEREL EVANS was asking El Duro for additional cocaine, and El Duro was saying that he would provide him with an additional 50 grams later).

9. On September 27, 2012, in a call intercepted over the 1st Duro Facility, El Duro told JEREL EVANS that he was followed by the "Narcos" a little while ago (El Duro was informing JEREL EVANS that he believed law enforcement was surveilling their activities).

10. On October 25, 2012, in calls intercepted over the 1st Duro Facility, El Duro told JEREL EVANS that El Duro and others would "meet up with [JEREL EVANS]" at the house in Allentown and go on from there together in the truck" (El Duro was telling JEREL EVANS that he and several other members of the narcotics trafficking conspiracy would meet JEREL EVANS at a stash location in Allentown, Pennsylvania, and depart to Florida where they would procure a large supply of narcotics). JEREL EVANS asked "who's going?" and El Duro provided the names of several other co-conspirators. El Duro later provided directions to the meeting location, in Allentown, Pennsylvania, which matched the address listed on a parcel

¹ El Duro is an associate of JEREL EVANS, involved in distributing narcotics in Elizabeth, New Jersey and elsewhere.

² Panta is an associate of JEREL EVANS, involved in distributing narcotics in Elizabeth, New Jersey and elsewhere.

containing approximately 1 kilogram of cocaine seized by law enforcement on November 8, 2012.

11. On November 19, 2012, in calls intercepted over the 2nd Duro Facility, JEREL EVANS told El Duro “they are ready” (JEREL EVANS was telling El Duro that he had processed and packaged narcotics for distribution). El Duro asked JEREL EVANS if “the people of 42 have[?]” and JEREL EVANS replied in the affirmative (El Duro was asking if people selling a kilogram of cocaine for \$42,000 had the narcotics and JEREL EVANS confirmed). El Duro then stated that he wanted “it complete” and added that he and JEREL EVANS would split the kilogram of cocaine “500” (grams of cocaine “for [himself]” and “500” (grams of cocaine) “ for [JEREL EVANS]”).

12. On November 20, 2012 in calls intercepted over the 2nd Duro Facility, El Duro told JEREL EVANS to “make 100” (El Duro was telling JEREL EVANS to mix and package 100 grams of cocaine) and the two discuss a location to mix the narcotics. Thereafter, El Duro sent a text message to JEREL EVANS instructing him to increase that amount to “300” (grams of cocaine), and JEREL EVANS replied “OK.” Later that day JEREL EVANS sent a text message to El Duro saying “I need 350” (grams of cocaine).