

AFFIDAVIT

I, Todd Berry, being duly sworn, deposes and states:

1. I am employed as a Special Agent with the Federal Bureau of Investigation (“FBI”), and have been so employed since October 2006. I am currently assigned to the FBI Violent Crimes Fugitive Task Force of the Philadelphia Division, which investigates violations of federal crimes, including robberies of banks and armored cars, Hobbs Act robberies, kidnapping, apprehension of fugitives, and other violations of the law. Prior to my employment with the FBI, I was a member of the West Virginia State Police for approximately eight years, in which time I conducted numerous criminal investigations regarding violent crimes.
2. I make this affidavit in support of an application for a complaint and warrant for the arrest of HERBERT ALEX SIMPSON for mailing threatening communications, in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 876(d).
3. I base the facts set forth in this affidavit upon my personal knowledge, information obtained during my participation in this investigation, review of documents, knowledge obtained from other individuals including law enforcement personnel, and communications with others who have personal knowledge of the events and circumstances described herein. This affidavit does not set forth each and every fact learned by me or other agents during the course of this investigation.
4. On or about July 30, 2008, Thomas Coughlin, head coach of the New York Giants, a National Football League team, received a letter via U.S. mail that had been mailed from Philadelphia, purportedly from two females identified as “ND” and “AB” who were claiming to have had sexual relations with Mr. Coughlin while he was in Philadelphia with the team during December 2007. The letter threatened that “ND” and “AB” would share this information with Mr. Coughlin’s wife and family unless he paid them \$10,000-\$15,000 each. The letter gave Mr. Coughlin until August 6, 2008 to make the payment or they would make his life “a living hell by doing something to [his] family.” The letter provided contact information for “ND” and “AB.”
5. On or about July 31, 2008, Mr. Coughlin received a second letter via U.S. mail, also containing a Philadelphia postmark, purporting to be from “ND” and “AB” which repeated the threat described above, included identifying information regarding Mr. Coughlin’s family, and which moved up the deadline for payment to August 5, 2008.

6. I conducted interviews with “ND” and “AB,” who both denied having anything to do with the letters and confirmed they had never met Mr. Coughlin. Both “ND” and “AB” identified the handwriting in the letters as that of defendant HERBERT ALEX SIMPSON, a former co-worker who had previously written threatening letters.
7. I conducted an interview with defendant HERBERT ALEX SIMPSON in which he confessed to sending the letters to Mr. Coughlin and explained that he had researched personal information about Mr. Coughlin’s family to include in the letters. SIMPSON acknowledged that he had made up the information in the letters because he was seeking revenge against “ND” and “AB” because of work-related issues. SIMPSON claimed that he never thought Mr. Coughlin would receive the letters and never intended to do harm to his family.
8. Based on the above facts, I believe that probable cause exists for the issuance of a complaint and warrant charging HERBERT ALEX SIMPSON with mailing threatening communications, in violation of 18 U.S.C. §876(d).

Todd A. Berry
Special Agent
Federal Bureau of Investigation

SWORN AND SUBSCRIBED
BEFORE ME THIS:
13th Day of August 2008.

HONORABLE HENRY S. PERKIN
United States Magistrate Judge