

Affidavit of Special Agent Buckmiller

I, Elizabeth Buckmiller, do swear under penalty of perjury:

I am a Special Agent with the Federal Bureau of Investigation and have been so employed since February 2013. I am currently assigned to the Sacramento Joint Terrorism Task Force. I set forth the following answers to questions posed by Omar Abdulsattar Ameen defense counsel on November 13, 2019, based on my own knowledge and knowledge gained from other FBI personnel.

1. Is Person 4, identified in the SA Buckmiller Search Warrant Affidavit, the same person as TMF-1, identified in the three affidavits prepared by SAs Butsch, Coonfield, and [Lopez-Fuentes]?

No. TMF-1 and Person 4 are not the same person.

Person 4, an individual identified in the sealed search warrant affidavit, has nothing to do with the Government of Iraq's investigation into the murder of Ihsan Abdulhafiz Jasim and its subsequent request for the extradition of Omar Ameen. Person 4 provided information regarding Ameen's extensive personal and familial involvement in al-Qa'ida in Iraq (AQI) and terrorist activities as detailed in the sealed search warrant affidavit.

TMF-1, an individual identified in the affidavits recently filed in the extradition matter, is not identified in the sealed search warrant affidavit and formed no part of the probable cause established in that affidavit. TMF-1 has no personal knowledge of the murder and is not part of the extradition request or supplemental extradition request. As relayed in the October 2019 affidavits provided by Special Agents in this matter, the US government has worked with TMF-1 on counterterrorism matters for years. When the FBI works with such an individual, the FBI's practice is to thoroughly and impartially evaluate all information gathered as part of its investigations in order to separate mere allegation from fact. Based on this practice, the FBI has assessed information provided by TMF-1 to be reliable.

The FBI is not aware of a connection between Person 4 and TMF-1.

2. Who are the witnesses [who] were provided by or arranged by TMF-1 as discussed in the three affidavits prepared by SAs Butsch, Coonfield, and [Lopez-Fuentes]?

The other witnesses who were interviewed by Special Agents Coonfield and Lopez-Fuentes were previously identified in the search warrant affidavit as Person 6 and Person 7. Persons 6 and 7 were among several individuals who had resided in Rawah, Iraq, who

provided the FBI with information about Ameen's personal and familial involvement in jihadist/terrorist activities. Person 6 and Person 7 have no personal knowledge of the murder and are not part of the extradition request or supplemental extradition request.

3. Are any of the three prior arrest warrants linked to any of the witnesses in this case, notably Person 4/TMF-1 or Person 5?

The FBI is aware of at least three other warrants (dated 2010, 2011, and 2017), for the arrest of Omar Ameen in Iraq, charging Ameen with murder and violating the counterterrorism statute in Iraq. The FBI is not aware of any connection between Person 4, Person 5, TMF-1, or Witnesses A or B, and these other warrants whose existence has been communicated officially by the Government of Iraq.

4. What benefits have been given to Iraqi witnesses in this case, most notably Person 4?

The search warrant affidavit discloses any benefits given to witnesses identified in that affidavit, including Person 4. No benefits were provided by the FBI to the witnesses in the extradition proceeding, namely, Person 5, Witness A, nor Witness B. To the extent the defense is questioning whether TMF-1 received benefits with regard to the extradition request: TMF-1 has received no benefits.

5. At what point were those benefits requested?

Please see the response to question 4.

6. At what point [were] benefits provided?

Please see the response to question 4.

7. Did Person 4 ever provide the FBI with what he claimed were photographs and videos of Omar Ameen with identified terrorists or committing terrorist acts?

I understand this question to be in fact referring to TMF-1. TMF-1 has provided materials to the FBI as part of the ongoing criminal investigation. The FBI declines to elaborate on the content or significance of the materials at this time.

8. Did Person 4 claim to be able to provide these to the FBI and fail?

Please see the response to question 7.

9. How did Person 4 obtain Mr. Ameen's California DMV photograph?

I understand this question to be in fact referring to TMF-1. I do not know how TMF-1 obtained Ameen's DMV photograph. I do know that the FBI shared images of Ameen with domestic law enforcement partners, foreign law enforcement partners, and witnesses, as part of the obligation of the FBI to investigate the threat posed to the United States when an individual with Ameen's background is discovered in country. Sharing images of photographs is a primary investigative tool, including to ensure that the individual being discussed is the same individual in the photograph and to help identify other witnesses who might have knowledge of the individual. I also note that Ameen's

other witnesses who might have knowledge of the individual. I also note that Ameen's driver's license photo has been widely disseminated by media reporting; Ameen's DMV photo is easily obtained by querying Ameen's name in an online image search.

10. How did the Iraqi court obtain Mr. Ameen's refugee application photograph?

In the course of its routine interactions with the Government of Iraq, the FBI transmitted multiple photos of Ameen to Iraqi authorities. It is my understanding that at the time of transmission, the FBI did not disclose the provenance of the photograph.

11. Did the FBI provide Mr. Ameen's California DMV photograph or refugee photograph to any other Iraqis? If so, who?

Yes, as to the DMV photograph. Please see the response to question 9.

12. Were any documents or information from Mr. Ameen's refugee application provided to Iraq, including to the INSS?

No documents were provided. During the course of the criminal investigation, the FBI discussed factual assertions made by Ameen on his refugee application and US immigration documents which the FBI believes to be false, such as Ameen's indication that he had no affiliation with terrorist organizations.

13. Did the FBI attempt fingerprint testing of any documents in connection with this case, and what were the results?

Pages with print markings were sent to an FBI latent print examiner who indicated that the quality of the images of the prints on the documents rendered the prints unsuitable for comparison.

14. Why were the three individual handwritten statements TMF-1 showed to SA Coonfield on September 21, 2017 not retained by the FBI as evidence?

As described in the October 2019 affidavit of Special Agent Coonfield, the three handwritten statements were not offered to the FBI as evidence; rather, the indication was that they were original documents that were going to be filed in a court in Iraq.

15. Were the three individual handwritten statements shown to SA Coonfield on September 21, 2017 ever taken to court for certification as TMF-1 said they would be? *See Coonfield Affidavit at (Doc. 208-31, Exh 110, p. 2).*

The FBI does not know the answer to this question.

16. If the answer to Question 9 is no, why not?

I understand this question to be referring to question 15. The FBI does not know the answer to this question. What the FBI knows about these handwritten statements is set forth in the October 2019 affidavit of SA Coonfield.

17. Did the three individual handwritten statements shown to SA Coonfield on September 21, 2017 ever become part of any proceeding in Iraq as indicated in the Coonfield Affidavit?

The FBI does not know the answer to this question. What the FBI knows about these handwritten statements is set forth in the October 2019 affidavit of SA Coonfield.

18. If the answer to Question 11 is no, why not?

I understand this question to be referring to Question 17. The FBI does not know the answer to this question. What the FBI knows about these handwritten statements is set forth in the October 2019 affidavit of SA Coonfield.

21. What is the status of the six alleged accomplices named at pages 21, 31, and 33 of the Extradition Packet?

The FBI is not aware of the current Iraqi investigation and/or prosecution status of the accomplices named in the extradition request.

51. At page 9, lines 11-13, SA Buckmiller states, "Person 4 indicates he/she has previously worked as source providing information to the U.S. military, though FBI has been unable to definitively confirm that history." What is the inability to verify Person 4/TMF-1's claims of prior aid to the U.S. military?

Person 4 and TMF-1 are two different people. This information in the search warrant affidavit relates only to Person 4 and is unrelated to the extradition request.

52. What are the "identified inconsistencies in statements Person 4 has made regarding his/her own personal history, specifically discrepancies between exact dates of certain events" (fn 3, p. 9)?

Person 4 and TMF-1 are two different people. This information relates to the personal background of Person 4 and is unrelated to the extradition request.

I certify that the foregoing is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief.



Elizabeth Buckmiller

Nov 26, 2019

Date

Roseville, California

Location