

CLARE E. CONNORS #7936
United States Attorney
District of Hawaii

SEALED
BY ORDER OF THE COURT

FILED IN THE
UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
DISTRICT OF HAWAII
May 05, 2023
Lucy H. Carrillo, Clerk of Court

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UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF HAWAII

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,)	MAG. NO. 23-00698 RT
)	
Plaintiff,)	CRIMINAL COMPLAINT
)	
vs.)	
)	
DREW ALLEN WARD,)	
)	
Defendant.)	
_____)	

CRIMINAL COMPLAINT

I, the undersigned complainant, being duly sworn, state the following is true
and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief:

Distribution of 400 grams or More of Fentanyl
(21 U.S.C. §§ 841(a)(1) and 841(b)(1)(A))

In or about December 2022, within the District of Hawaii and elsewhere, DREW ALLEN WARD, the defendant, did knowingly distribute 400 grams or more of a mixture and substance containing a detectable amount of N-phenyl-N-[1-(2-phenylethyl)-4-piperidinyl] propanamide, also known as fentanyl, a Schedule II controlled substance.

All in violation of Title 21, United States Code, Sections 841(a)(1) and 841(b)(1)(A).

I further state that I am a Special Agent with the Federal Bureau of Investigation. This Complaint is based on the following Affidavit, which is attached hereto and incorporated herein.

DATED: Honolulu, Hawaii, May 5, 2023.



Kyle Carpenter
Special Agent, FBI

Sworn to under oath before me telephonically, and attestation acknowledged pursuant to Fed. R. Crim. P. 4.1(b)(2), this 5th day of May, 2023, in Honolulu, Hawaii.





Rom A. Trader
United States Magistrate Judge

AFFIDAVIT IN SUPPORT OF CRIMINAL COMPLAINT

I, Kyle Carpenter, being first duly sworn, hereby depose and state as follows:

1. I have been a Special Agent with the Federal Bureau of Investigation (“FBI”) since April of 2021. During my tenure with the FBI, I have investigated an array of federal violations including drug trafficking and financial crimes. In connection with the investigation of those cases, I have executed and participated in numerous search and arrest warrants and seized evidence of violations of federal law. Prior to becoming an agent in the FBI, I was a law enforcement officer with the United States Coast Guard, where I conducted a multitude of investigations into violations of federal laws, including drug trafficking and smuggling activities.

2. As a result of my training, experience, and discussions with other law enforcement officers, I know that it is common practice for drug traffickers to mail both controlled substances and proceeds from the sale of controlled substances via the U.S. Postal Service (“USPS”) and other private shipping companies such as FedEx. These shipments often require coordination between two or more parties, typically one party to send the package and a second party to receive the package. Sometimes, third parties - acting as couriers or facilitators - are used to complete these transactions.

3. The information contained in this affidavit is based on my personal knowledge and my training and experience, information obtained from other law enforcement personnel, and witnesses. This affidavit is intended merely to show that there is probable cause for the requested arrest warrant and does not set forth all of my knowledge about this matter.

4. As set forth below, there is probable cause to believe that in December 2022, defendant DREW ALLEN WARD (hereinafter referred to as “WARD”) distributed a mixture or substance containing more than 400 grams of N-phenyl-N-[1-(2-phenylethyl)-4-piperidiny]propanamide (commonly known as fentanyl), in violation of 21 U.S.C. §§ 841(a)(1) and 841(b)(1)(A).

PROBABLE CAUSE AND INVESTIGATION BACKGROUND

5. WARD is a 41-year-old resident of Edgewood, WA who previously resided in Maui, HI. WARD has 11 prior convictions, including five felony drug convictions in Hawaii. Law enforcement investigations suggest that WARD is the mainland distributor of large quantities of controlled substances in Maui, HI.

6. A Confidential Human Source, hereinafter referred to as CHS¹, reported that he/she had received controlled substances from WARD in the past

¹ CHS’s criminal history includes felony convictions for promotion of dangerous drugs and theft along with misdemeanor convictions for promotion of harmful drugs and other offenses. CHS has received a total of \$3,000.00 from the FBI for information and services. Despite CHS’s criminal record, the information provided has been verified and found to be accurate.

and he/she had sold controlled substances on WARD's behalf. CHS reported that WARD typically sent controlled substances to Maui through the mail, primarily via the United State Postal Service ("USPS"). CHS reported that WARD typically sends controlled substances after coordinating the transaction over Signal. CHS reported that WARD had previously "fronted" controlled substances, including heroin and fentanyl, and then notified CHS of the price to sell each specific drug at. After making sales, CHS would wire money to WARD via his bank account with the account number ending 6466.

7. On December 14, 2022, CHS notified investigators that he/she had been contacted by WARD, who related that a package containing "two white" was being sent to Maui. CHS explained that "white" is slang for fentanyl, that the quantity "two" typically meant two "packs" and that each pack contains 10 ounces of powdered fentanyl. At the request of law enforcement, CHS contacted WARD and asked him to check the delivery estimate for the package. WARD related that the package would be delivered on Thursday, December 15, 2022.

8. On December 15, 2022, MPD's Vice Narcotics Division, FBI Task Force Officers, and FBI Special Agents conducted physical surveillance at 34XX Old Haleakala Hwy on the island of Maui. Later that day, a FedEx driver placed a package on the ground near the front porch area of 34XX Old Haleakala Hwy. The

package was addressed to Adult Female 1,² who resides at 34XX Old Haleakala Hwy, and had a return address to a “SHEILA THOMAS.”

9. An individual resembling Adult Female 1 exited 34XX Old Haleakala Hwy and retrieved the package. Shortly thereafter, CHS arrived at 34XX Old Haleakala Hwy accompanied by law enforcement and obtained the package from Adult Female 1. CHS immediately and consensually gave the package to law enforcement officers.

10. Law enforcement officers visually examined the exterior of the package and determined that it had not been opened or tampered with. The package appeared to be sealed with its original flap and tape intact. Law enforcement then secured the package pending a search warrant.

11. Law enforcement observed that FedEx tracking number 391975743740 was printed on the label of the package. Entering the tracking number into FedEx.com revealed that the package was shipped from Las Vegas, Nevada on December 10, 2022, and delivered to 34XX Old Haleakala Hwy, Makawao, HI 96768 on December 15, 2022 at 12:18 PM.

12. CHS was then instructed to contact WARD to confirm specific information about the package that only the shipper or someone who directed the

² In my experience, drug traffickers generally do not use the name of the actual intended recipient when mailing parcels, and sometimes use addresses of third parties when delivering narcotics to avoid detection.

shipment would know. WARD stated that the package should be coming from Nevada and confirmed that the return address was to “SHEILA THOMAS” from Las Vegas, Nevada. This information matched the return address information on the label of the package.

13. CHS reported that WARD requested that each pack of fentanyl be sold for \$10,000.00, for a total of \$20,000.00. CHS explained that each ounce is sold for \$1,000.00.

14. On December 19, 2022, the FBI executed search warrant Mag. No. 22-02082 WRP on the package and discovered suspected fentanyl. DEA Southwest laboratory analysis of the seized substance indicated a net weight of approximately 480 grams that contained fentanyl.

15. On January 11, 2023, investigators served an administrative subpoena to the FedEx Ship Center located at 400 Hana Hwy, Kahului, HI. The subpoena requested information regarding the package with the tracking number 391975743740. FedEx provided a list of nine Internet Protocol (IP) addresses which had checked on the status of the shipment. Of the nine addresses, four can be attributed to members of the investigative team. Three of the IP addresses resolved to Washington. Two of these IP addresses used Verizon as the internet service provider. The return detailed that a device using IP address 2600:100f:b087:57e1:3598:47db:2577:163b had been used to check on the

packages tracking information on December 14, 2022 which was the same day that CHS had requested that WARD check the delivery estimate.

16. On January 12, 2023, investigators served an administrative subpoena to Verizon requesting subscriber information for the IP addresses that had checked on the FedEx parcel on December 14, 2022. On January 25, 2023, Verizon provided returns which indicated that IP address 2600:100f:b087:57e1:3598:47db:2577:163b belonged to WARD, with the address of 26XX Meridian Ave E, Apt G202, Edgewood, WA, and the device of a Samsung Galaxy S22 Ultra with the IMEI 358132922933980.

17. Following the delivery of the FedEx parcel, WARD contacted CHS and requested that proceeds from the sale of the fentanyl be sent to him directly. WARD provided bank routing number 121301578 and bank account number ending 6466 for the proceeds to be deposited. The routing number matches the routing number for Central Pacific Bank. Subpoena returns from Central Pacific Bank list WARD as the owner of account ending 6466. Account activity describes a variety of transactions made in the vicinity of Edgewood, WA and several transaction descriptions reference WARD's name.

18. On December 28, 2022, investigators directed a deposit of cash in the amount of \$4,200.00 to account number ending 6466. Subpoena returns from Central Pacific Bank indicate that the funds were received. Between December 28,

2022 and January 3, 2023, four ATM withdrawals totaling \$4,000.00 were made from account number ending 6466 at Bank of America ATMs in the Milton-Edgewood branch. The address for the Milton-Edgewood branch is 628 Meridian Ave E, Milton, WA, which is approximately 1.3 miles away from WARD's home address of 26XX Meridian Ave E, Edgewood, WA.

19. After receiving the \$4,200.00 payment, WARD contacted CHS and advised, using coded language, that he had heroin ready to be sent to Maui. At the direction of law enforcement, CHS provided WARD with the address of a PO box in Wailuku, HI, which is leased by the DEA. On January 31, 2023, investigators checked the PO box and discovered a USPS package inside, which was labeled with the tracking number 9505-5130-1199-3024-8831-14 and addressed to CHS. A search of the package resulted in the seizure of 81.8 gross grams of suspected heroin.

20. Following the seizure of the heroin, WARD contacted CHS requesting proceeds from the sale of controlled substances. WARD directed proceeds be mailed to his home address. Investigators packaged \$1,300.00 in cash into a USPS flat rate box with the tracking number 9505-5114-6717-3065-6135-00. The package was delivered to WARD's home address, 26XX MERIDIAN AVE E, APT G202, EDGEWOOD, WA on March 9, 2023. The package was placed in

WARD's private mailbox by a USPS inspector. After delivery, WARD told CHS that he had received notification that a package had been delivered to his mailbox.

The Target Telephone

21. In addition to source reporting indicating that WARD's phone number is (808) 500-4854, investigators determined that WARD is the primary user of the number in a variety of ways:

22. The FBI issued a subpoena to Verizon Wireless requesting subscriber information and toll records for (808) 500-4854, hereinafter referred to as the Target Telephone ("TT1"). Verizon provided returns which listed "DREW WARD" as the customer name and "26XX 26XX [sic] MERIDIAN AV E AV, APT G202, EDGEWOOD, WA" as the customer address. The Verizon Wireless returns provided a service start date of September 13, 2022. Verizon wireless returns also indicate that TT1 is registered to a Black Samsung Galaxy S22 Ultra. Photographs from WARD's social media show WARD using a device that appears to be a Samsung Galaxy S22, based on the device's unique design features and camera lens pattern.

23. ACCURINT, public records and open source research from reverse phone number look-up sites list TT1 as belonging to WARD.

24. On March 9, 2023, investigators placed a call to TT1 using an obfuscated number. During the call, WARD identified himself as "Drew."

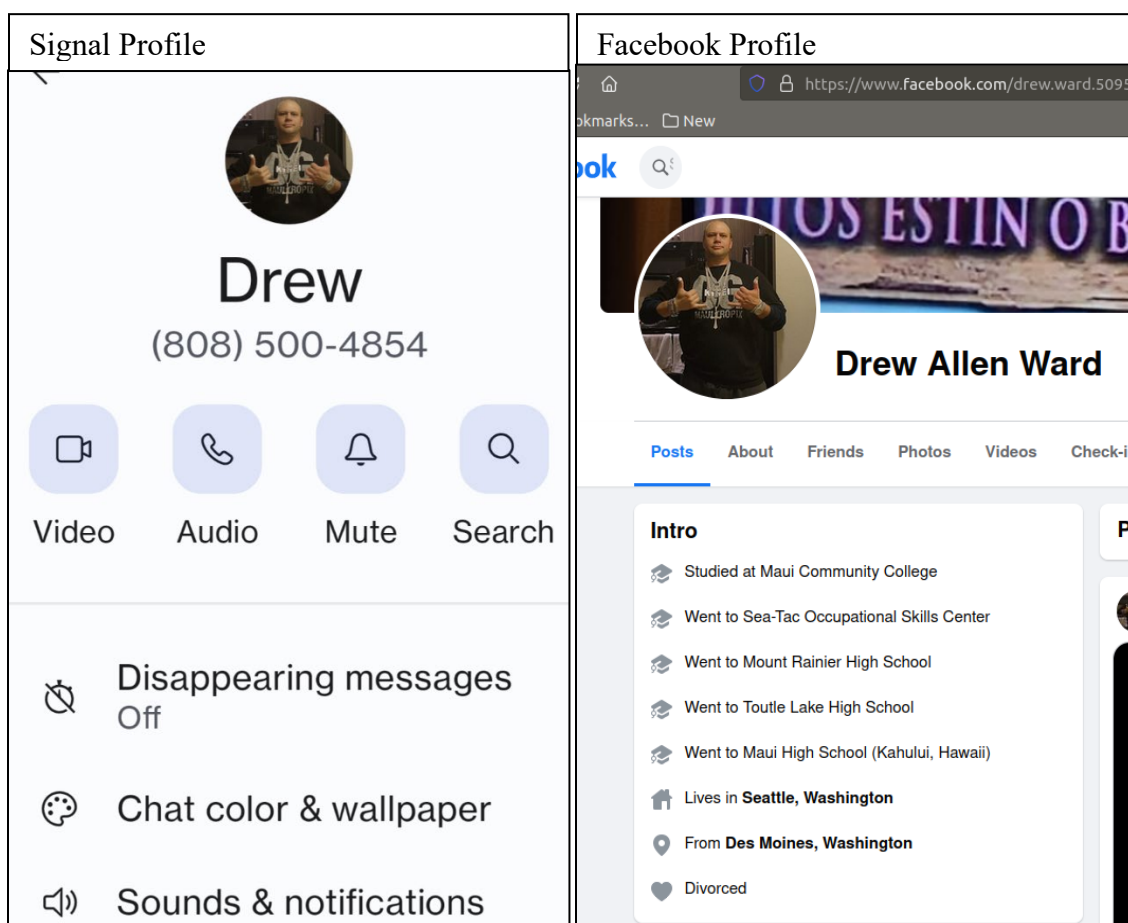
TT1 and Signal Application

25. The encrypted messaging application Signal uses a process called “end to end encryption” to encode outgoing messages that can only be decoded by the intended recipient. Like other encrypted messaging applications, Signal is sometimes used by criminal entities who are attempting to hide incriminating communications. Signal accounts are based on telephone numbers, meaning that in order to create an account, one must provide a phone number. When sending a message in Signal, a user’s phone number is used as the address for the message. For example, User 1 wishes to send a message to User 2 on Signal. Both User 1 and User 2 must first have a Signal accounts. User 1 makes an account using Phone 1 and User 2 makes an account with Phone 2. User 1 must enter Phone 2’s number, which acts as an address for the message, type a message, then sends it. User 2 receives the message from User 1. User 1’s message will appear to be sent by Phone 1’s number, unless User 2 has allowed Signal to access their phone’s contacts and Phone 1’s number is affiliated with a contact. In this case, the message will appear to be sent by the contact’s name instead of their number. Lastly, Signal allows users to select a profile picture for their accounts. A user’s photo, along with their contact number, both appear in their Signal profile.

26. CHS primarily communicates with WARD using Signal. CHS has allowed Signal to access his/her phone’s contacts. Accordingly, WARD’s

messages appear to be sent by “Drew”, which is the contact name that CHS has saved for TT1. In the Signal application, selecting the contact “Drew” displays the contact number “(808) 500-4854” and a photograph of WARD wearing a metallic necklace with a cross.

27. The same photo appears on WARD’s current Facebook profile picture as seen below:



28. I believe that the above facts establish probable cause for the alleged drug trafficking offenses. From my training and experience, and from conferring with other experienced investigators, I believe that the recovered amounts of

fentanyl and heroin were sent to Maui by WARD, or someone acting at WARD's direction, for the express purpose of being sold or otherwise distributed to a large number of customers.

CONCLUSION

29. Based on the foregoing facts, I respectfully submit that probable cause exists to believe that DREW ALLEN WARD, the defendant, committed the aforementioned offenses.

Respectfully submitted,



Kyle Carpenter
Special Agent, FBI

This Criminal Complaint and Affidavit in support thereof were presented to, approved by, and probable to believe that the defendant above-named committed the charged crime found to exist by the undersigned Judicial Officer at 8:23 a.m. on May 5, 2023.

Sworn to under oath before me telephonically, and attestation acknowledged pursuant to Fed. R. Crim. P. 4.1(b)(2), this 5th day of May, 2023, at Honolulu, Hawaii.



Rom A. Trader
United States Magistrate Judge