# IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS

EL PASO DIVISION

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF )
THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA FOR AN )
ORDER AUTHORIZING THE INTERCEPTION )
OF WIRE COMMUNICATIONS OCCURRING )
TO:

CLEAR OF TEXAS

SEALED

DEPUTY

FILED

Cause No.: EP-02-CR-1153-PRM

A CELLULAR TELEPHONE UTILIZING)
TELEPHONE NUMBER (915) 726-3575)
BEARING INTERNATIONAL MOBILE)
SUBSCRIBER IDENTITY (IMSI) NUMBER)
316010014825020, SUBSCRIBED TO JORGE)
ABRAHAM, 11216 LEO COLLINS, EL PASO, )
TEXAS, AND

A CELLULAR TELEPHONE UTILIZING)
TELEPHONE NUMBER (915) 253-6015)
BEARING INTERNATIONAL MOBILE)
SUBSCRIBER IDENTITY (IMSI) NUMBER)
310200101195057, SUBSCRIBED TO A PRE-)
PAID ACCOUNT.

## APPLICATION FOR INTERCEPTION OF WIRE COMMUNICATIONS

José Luis González, Assistant United States Attorney for the Western District of Texas, being duly sworn, states:

An Application is submitted requesting an Order authorizing the interception of wire communications over:

(1) a NEXTEL cellular telephone utilizing number (915) 726-3575, bearing International Mobile Subscriber Identity (IMSI) Number 316010014825020 (hereinafter referred to as TARGET TELEPHONE-1), and over any telephone numbers subsequently assigned to the instrument bearing the IMSI number indicated above, to any IMSI number subsequently assigned to the instrument bearing the same telephone number as TARGET TELEPHONE-1 and its dual function capability of functioning as a two way radio, commonly referred to as the "push to talk" feature.

TARGET TELEPHONE-1 is subscribed to Jorge Abraham, 11216 Leo Collins, El Paso, Texas; and

(2) a VoiceStream cellular telephone utilizing telephone number (915) 253-6015, bearing the International Mobile Subscriber Identity (IMSI) Number 310200101195057 (hereinafter referred to as TARGET TELEPHONE-2), and over any telephone numbers subsequently assigned to the instrument bearing the IMSI number indicated above, to any IMSI number subsequently assigned to the instrument bearing the same telephone number as TARGET TELEPHONE-2, and to any other telephone or telephone number activated through the use of the "Sim Card". TARGET TELEPHONE-2 is accessed through the use of a "Sim Card" bearing the number 901200199078534939. TARGET TELEPHONE-2 is a pre-paid account and no subscriber or address is listed (referred to collectively as TARGET TELEPHONES).

A. Applicant is an "investigative or law enforcement officer" of the United States within the meaning of Section 2510(7) of Title 18, United States Code, that is, an attorney authorized by law to prosecute or participate in the prosecution of "offenses enumerated in Section 2516 of Title 18, United States Code."

B. Pursuant to Section 2516 of Title 18, United States Code, the Assistant Attorney General or a Deputy Assistant Attorney General of the Criminal Division, United States Department of Justice, having been specifically designated by the Attorney General pursuant to Order Number 2407-2001 of March 8, 2001, pursuant to the authority vested in the Attorney General by Section 2516 of Title 18, United States Code, has approved this application for an order authorizing the interception of wire communications. Attached to this application as Exhibit A is a copy of Order Number 2407-2001 of March 8, 2001, specially designating the above official of the Criminal Division to approve applications for court orders authorizing interception of wire communications. Also attached as Exhibit B is a copy of that official's Memorandum of Authorization approving this Application.

C. There is probable cause to believe that Jorge Abraham; Ignacio Abraham; Sergio Najera-Diaz; Felipe Castaneda; Oscar Cesar Garcia-Jaquez; Mario LNU; Mauricio LNU; Lidia Moraga; Omar LNU; Michael Lin; Geoffrev Liu; Yenny LNU; Ernesto Martinez; Raul C. Martinez; Hector P. Padilla; Sergio Rosenblat, aka Serge; Pedro Anibal Bello; Robert Bowen; Richard Daitch, aka Dick; Peter Pembleton, aka Pete; Anthony LNU; Scott Snyder; First Name Unknown (FNU) LNU; Harry B. Wallace; Rodney Morrison; Gurdin Singh Malik; David LNU, aka Dave; Alberto Portillo; Alberto Chico; Enrique Mirazo; Madai Favila; William Osama Khoury; Gerardo Alejandro Araujo-Diaz; FNU Diaz; Dong Jie Li; Algis Bagdonas; Richard Jamieson; Jeffery Jamieson; Faith L. Thomas; Meara LNU; Timothy LNU; Jackie LNU; Isidro Baquera; Jose LNU; Carlos LNU; Avtar S. Singh; Ernesto Barrio; and others yet unknown, (hereinafter referred to as subjects of the investigation) have committed, are committing, and will continue to commit the specified federal offenses enumerated below, to wit:

- (1) 18 USC § 1343 Fraud by Wire;
- (2) 18 USC § 1952 Interstate and foreign travel to promote, manage, establish, carryon, or facilitate the promotion, management, establishment, or carrying on of an unlawful activity;
- (3) 18 USC § 1956 Laundering of Monetary Instruments involving the proceeds of specified unlawful activity, to wit, violations of:
  - (i) 18 USC § 542 Entry of Goods by Means of False Statements;
  - (ii) 18 USC § 545 Smuggling Goods into the United States;
  - (iii) 18 USC §§ 2314 & 2315 Relating to interstate transportation of stolen property, fraudulent state tax stamps, as a predicate offense of RICO, therefore as an SUA of 18 USC § 1956, and
  - (iv) 18 USC §§ 2341-2346 Relating to Trafficking in Contraband Cigarettes, as a RICO predicate offense, therefore, as an SUA of 18 USC § 1956;

- (4) 18 USC § 1957 Engaging in monetary transactions in property derived from specified unlawful activity, to wit, violations of:
  - (i) 18 USC § 542 Entry of Goods by Means of False Statements;
  - (ii) 18 USC § 545 Smuggling Goods into the United States;
  - (iii) 18 USC §§ 2314 & 2315 Relating to interstate transportation of stolen property, fraudulent state tax stamps, as a predicate offense of RICO, therefore as an SUA of 18 USC § 1957, and
  - (iv) 18 USC §§ 2341-2346 Relating to Trafficking in Contraband Cigarettes, as a RICO predicate offense, therefore, as an SUA of 18 USC § 1957;
- (5) 18 USC §§ 2314 & 2315 Relating to interstate transportation of stolen property, fraudulent state tax stamps;
- (6) Any conspiracy to commit any offense described above; and
- (7) 18 USC §§ 1963 Violations with respect to racketeer influenced and corrupt organizations, (RICO); 1962 (c) and (d), involving violation of:
  - (i) 18 USC 1956 § as a RICO predicate offense;
  - (ii) 18 USC 1957§ as a RICO predicate offense;
  - (iii) 18 USC §§ 2314 & 2315 Relating to interstate transportation of stolen property, fraudulent state tax stamps, as RICO predicate offenses;
  - (iv) 18 USC §§ 2341-2346 Relating to Trafficking in Contraband Cigarettes, as RICO predicate offenses.
- (8) 21 USC § 841(a)(1) Possessing with intent to distribute, distributing and transporting a controlled substances, to wit: marijuana, a Schedule I controlled substance;
- (9) 21 USC §§ 952 and 960 Importation of a Controlled Substance, to wit: marijuana, a Schedule I Controlled Substance and cocaine, a Schedule II Controlled Substance;
- (10) 21 USC § 843(b) The use of a communication facility, to commit, facilitate or further the commission of a Controlled Substance Offense; and

- (11) 21 USC, §§ 846 and 963 Conspiracy to possess with intent to distribute Controlled Substances and conspiracy to import Controlled Substances.
- D. There is probable cause to believe that particular wire communications of Jorge ABRAHAM; Ignacio ABRAHAM; Sergio NAJERA-Diaz; Felipe CASTANEDA; Oscar Cesar GARCIA-Jaquez; Mario Last Name Unknown (LNU); Mauricio LNU; Omar LNU; Lidia MORAGA; Michael LIN; Geoffery LIU; Jenny LNU; Ernesto MARTINEZ; Raul C. MARTINEZ; Richard DAITCH, aka Dick; Robert BOWEN; Jeffery JAMIESON; Sergio ROSENBLAT, aka Serge; Peter PEMBLETON, aka Pete; Anthony LNU; William Osama KHOURY; Scott SNYDER; Meara LNU; Timothy LNU; Jackie LNU; Gerardo Alejandro ARAUJO-Delgado, aka El Negro; Isidro BAQUERA; Alberto PORTILLO; Alberto CHICO; Madai FAVILA; and others yet unknown, (herein referred to as Target Interceptees), evidencing the offenses described above, will be obtained through the interception of wire communications occurring to and from the Target Telephones. There is probable cause to believe that wire communications evidencing the specified federal offenses set forth above have occurred, are occurring and will continue to occur on the Target Telephones. Specifically, there is probable cause to believe that wire communications continuing to take place over the Target Telephones will include evidence of: the roles of the Target Interceptees and other participants in their illegal activities; the manner in which those illegal activities are conducted; the distribution/transportation cell(s) being utilized by the organization; other locations utilized in furtherance of those illegal activities; the full identity and specific location of the Target Interceptees; and the distribution channels of the contraband and monies utilized in and obtained by the Target Interceptees. Evidence

of the above crimes will be obtained through the interception of the wire communications, authorization for which herein is applied.

E. Applicant has discussed all the circumstances of the above offenses with Special Agent (SA) Raul Bencomo, of the United States Customs Service (USCS), El Paso, Texas, who, along with other Special Agents of the USCS, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms (BATF), the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), and the El Paso Sheriff's Office (EPSO), have conducted the investigation set out herein, and have examined the Affidavit of SA Bencomo (attached to this Application as Exhibit C and incorporated by reference herein). Wherefore, your Applicant states upon information and belief that:

- (1) There is probable cause to believe that the Target Interceptees and others yet unknown, have committed, are committing, and will continue to commit, the offenses described above.
- (2) There is probable cause to believe that particular wire communications of the Target Interceptees concerning the above offenses will be obtained through the interception for which authorization is herein applied. In particular, these wire communications are expected to concern, among other things, the illegal smuggling of counterfeit and contraband goods, entry of counterfeit and contraband cigarettes by false statements, interstate transportation of fraudulent state tax stamps, wire fraud, the procurement, importation, possession, concealment, distribution, sale and transportation of controlled substances; the unlawful use of a communication facility in the commission of the above-described offenses; violations with respect to racketeer influenced and corrupt organizations; interstate and foreign travel in aid of racketeering; money laundering; conspiracy to commit and aiding and abetting all of the above offenses.

In addition, the communications are expected to constitute admissible evidence of the commission of the above-described offenses.

- (3) The attached affidavit contains a full and complete statement explaining why normal investigative procedures have been tried and have failed, reasonably appear unlikely to succeed if continued, reasonably appear unlikely to succeed if tried, or are too dangerous to employ.
- (4) There is probable cause to believe that the Target Telephones will be used by the Target Interceptees in connection with the commission of the above-described offenses.
- F. Other than those set out in the attached Affidavit, Applicant knows of no other applications or orders authorizing the interception of wire, oral or electronic communications of any of the listed proposed interceptees or facility herein.
- G. WHEREFORE, your applicant believes that there is probable cause to believe that the Target Interceptees, are engaged in the commission of offenses involving, Title 18, United States Code, Sections 1343, 1952, 1956, 1957, 1963, 2314, 2315; and Title 21, United States Code, Sections 841(a)(1), 843(b), 846, 963, 952 and 960; that the Target Interceptees, are using the Target ones in connection with the commission of the above described offenses; and that the wire communications of the Target Interceptees will be intercepted over the Target Telephones.
- H. On the basis of the allegations contained in this Application, and on the basis of the Affidavit of SA Bencomo, Applicant requests this Court to issue an Order pursuant to the power conferred to it by Title 18 U.S.C. Section 2518, authorizing Special Agents of the USCS and other Government personnel and contract language specialists acting under the supervision of such investigative or law enforcement officers, to intercept wire communications occurring not only to and from the Target Telephones, but to any and all communications occurring through the radio

frequencies programmed into Target Telephone-1, to any other telephone numbers or telephones accessed through the above mentioned international mobile subscriber identification number, and to any other international mobile subscriber identification number accessed through the Target Telephones' numbers mentioned above, and to any other telephone or telephone number activated through the use of the "Sim Card" on Target Telephone-2, within the thirty day period, concerning the above described offenses, including background conversations intercepted in the vicinity of the Target Telephones while the telephones are off the hook or otherwise in use.

I. Applicant further requests that such interception not automatically terminate after the first interception that reveals the manner in which the alleged co-conspirators conduct their illegal activities, but that it may continue until all communications are intercepted which fully reveal the manner and means in which the Target Interceptees, and others yet unknown, participate in the offenses described in paragraph C above; and fully reveal the identities of their confederates, places of operation, and the scope of the conspiracies involved therein; or for a period of thirty days from the earlier of (1) the day on which an investigative or law enforcement officer first begins to conduct

retion under this Court order, or (2) ten days from the date this order is entered, whichever

is earlier.

J. Applicant requests that, pursuant to Title 18, section 2518 (3), that in the event the Target Telephones used by the Target Interceptees are transported out of the territorial jurisdiction of the court, interception take place in any other jurisdiction within the United States.

K. It is further requested that the Court direct its authorization for the interception of wire communications be executed as soon as practicable after the signing of the Court's Order and that all monitoring of wire communications be conducted in such a way to minimize the interception and

disclosure of the communications intercepted to those communications relevant to the pending investigation, in accordance with the minimization requirement of Chapter 119 of Title 18, United States Code.

L. Monitoring of wire communications must immediately terminate when it is determined that the conversation is unrelated to communications subject to interception under Chapter 119 of Title 18, United States Code. Interception must be suspended immediately when it is determined through voice identification, physical surveillance, or otherwise, that none of the named interceptees or any of their confederates, when identified, are participants in the conversation unless it is determined during the portion of the conversation already overheard that the conversation is criminal in nature. If the conversation is minimized, monitoring agents shall spot check to insure that the conversation has not turned to criminal matters.

M. In the case of any interceptee who is under indictment or otherwise charged with a criminal offense, particular care will be taken to avoid the interception of any privileged communication. Furthermore, conversations regarding any indicted or criminally charged person, and concerning legitimate defense strategy, will be minimized.

N. The investigation by SA Bencomo has revealed that the Target Interceptees will often communicate in the Spanish language. It is anticipated that only persons who are fluent in both Spanish and English will be assigned to monitor communications during this investigation. However, in the event that such persons are not reasonably available, authority is requested for the authorized monitors to minimize intercepted communications pursuant to Title 18 U.S.C. Section 2518(5). In such instances, minimization will be conducted as soon as practicable after the interception.

- O. It is further requested that the Court order that either Assistant United States Attorney José Luis González or any other Assistant United States Attorney familiar with the facts of this case, provide to the Court a report on or about the tenth, twentieth, and thirtieth day, following the date interception begins, to show what progress has been made towards achievement of the authorized objectives and the need for interception. If any of the aforementioned reports should become due on a weekend or holiday, it is further requested that such report become due on the next business day thereafter.
- P. It is further requested that, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. §§ 3122 and 3123, the Court authorize the installation of a pen register, Caller ID and/or trap and trace device to trace and identify each telephone number called by the Target Telephones or each telephone number calling the Target Telephones, with no record of said service going to the Target Telephone subscriber or customer. Southwestern Bell Telephone Company, Valor Telecommunication Enterprises, L.L.C., Qwest Communications International, Inc., AT&T, Sprint Communications Company, L.P., Worldcom, Alltel Communications, Cingular Wireless, AT&T Wireless, Verizon Wireless, Western Wireless, VoiceStream Wireless, Southwestern Bell Wireless, Sprint Spectrum, L.P., and NEXTEL Communications, are requested to take all necessary steps to provide access to such feature to the USCS and to take all steps necessary to ensure that the addition of this feature, and of activity relating to such feature not be reflected on the customer's bill or otherwise disclosed to the customer. Applicant certifies that the USCS is conducting a criminal investigation of the Target Interceptees.
- Q. It is further requested that this Court issue an Order pursuant to Sections 2518(4) and 2703(c)&(d), Title 18, United States Code, finding that the information sought is relevant and material to an on-going criminal investigation and directing Southwestern Bell Telephone Company,

Valor Telecommunication Enterprises, L.L.C., Qwest Communications International, Inc., AT&T, Sprint Communications Company, L.P., Worldcom, Alltel Communications, Cingular Wireless, AT&T Wireless, Verizon Wireless, Western Wireless, VoiceStream Wireless, Southwestern Bell Wireless, Sprint Spectrum, L.P., and NEXTEL Communications, providers of electronic communication service, to furnish the Applicant forthwith all information, facilities and technical assistance as requested by the investigative agencies, necessary to accomplish the interception and installation of a pen register, Caller ID, and/or device to trap and trace incoming telephone numbers, unobtrusively and with a minimum of interference with the services that such provider is according the persons whose communications are to be intercepted and to ensure an effective and secure installation of electronic devices capable of interception of wire communications over the Target Telephones, with the service provider to be compensated by the USCS for reasonable expenses incurred in providing such facilities or assistance.

R. It is further requested that the Court direct, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. 2703(c)&(d), that Nextel Communications and VoiceStream Wireless provide to agents of the USCS, toll record information, subscriber information, including information related to the source and method of payment, all transactional data, to include cell cite locator, direct-connect information via the CDR database and a complete listing of all special calling features to the Target Telephones. Special calling features include, but are not limited to: Call Forwarding, Call Waiting, Caller ID, Three-Way Calling, Speed Calling (with assigned numbers), Identa-Ring (with alternative numbers), Voice Mail, Return Call, Call Block, Call Trace, Priority Call (with assigned numbers) and Home Intercom.

- S. It is further requested that, in the event the Target Telephones are presently equipped with the special calling feature known as Caller ID, Nextel Communications and VoiceStream Wireless take all necessary steps to provide access to such feature to the USCS and take all steps necessary to ensure that the granting of such access not be reflected on the customer's bill or otherwise disclosed to the customer.
- T. It is further requested, to avoid prejudice to this criminal investigation, that the Court order the providers of electronic communications service, and its agents and employees, not to sclose or cause a disclosure of this Court's Order or the request for information, facilities, and assistance by the USCS, or the existence of the investigation, to any other person, other than those of its agents and employees who require this information to accomplish the services requested. In particular, said provider and its agents and employees should be ordered not to make such disclosures to a lessee, telephone subscriber, or any other interceptee or participant in the intercepted communications.
- U. It is further requested that the Court order that its Orders, this Application and the accompanying Affidavit, and proposed Order(s), and all interim reports filed with regard to this matter be SEALED until further notice of this Court, except that copies of the Order in full or redacted form may be served on Special Agents and other investigative and law enforcement officers the USCS and other government and contract personnel acting under the supervision of such

investigative or law enforcement officers, and the service providers as necessary to effectuate the Court's Order as set forth in the proposed Order accompanying this Application.

Respectfully submitted,

JOHNNY SUTTON UNITED STATES ATTORNEY

By

José Luis González

Assistant U.S. Attorney

Texas Bar No. 08129200

UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE

700 E. San Antonio, Suite 200

El Paso, Texas 79901

SWORN to before me and subscribed to in my presence on this \_\_\_\_\_ day of July, 2002.

13



### Office of the Attorney General Mashington, D. C. 20530

#### ORDER NO. 2407-2001

SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS OF THE ASSISTANT, ACTING ASSISTANT, ANY DEPUTY ASSISTANT, AND ANY ACTING DEPUTY ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL OF THE CRIMINAL DIVISION TO AUTHORIZE APPLICATIONS FOR COURT ORDERS FOR INTERCEPTION OF WIRE OR ORAL COMMUNICATIONS UNDER CHAPTER 119, TITLE 18, UNITED STATES CODE

By virtue of the authority vested in me by 28 U.S.C. §§ 509 and 510, 5 U.S.C. § 301, and 18 U.S.C. § 2516(1), and in full recognition that 18 U.S.C. § 2516(1) empowers the Attorney General, Deputy Attorney General, and Associate Attorney General to authorize applications to a Federal judge of competent jurisdiction for orders authorizing the interception of wire and oral communications, and in order to preclude any contention that the designations by the prior Attorney General have lapsed, I hereby specially designate the Assistant Attorney General in charge of the Criminal Division, any Acting Assistant Attorney General in charge of the Criminal Division, any Deputy Assistant Attorney General of the Criminal Division, and any Acting Deputy Assistant Attorney General of the Criminal Division to exercise the power conferred by section 2516(1) of title 18, United States Code, to authorize applications to a Federal judge of competent jurisdiction for orders authorizing or approving the interception of wire or oral communications by the Federal Bureau of Investigation or a Federal

agency having responsibility for the investigation of the offense(s) as to which such application is made, when such interception may provide evidence of any of the offenses specified in section 2516 of title 18, United States Code.

Order No. 1950-95 of February 13, 1995, is revoked effective at midnight of the day following the date of this order.

Date: March 8, 2001

JOHN ASHCROFT Attorney General

Exhibit A (page 2 of 2)



### U.S. Department of Justice

Criminal Division Office of Enforcement Operations P.O. Box 7600 Ben Franklin Station

Washington, DC 20044-7600

JUL 5 15 2002

#### MEMORANDUM

TO:

Maureen H. Killion, Director

Office of Enforcement Operations

Criminal Division

FROM:

Michael Chertoff

Assistant Attorney General

Criminal Division

SUBJECT: Authorization for Interception Order Application

This is with regard to your recommendation that I, an appropriately designated official of the Criminal Division, authorize an application to a federal judge of competent jurisdiction for an order under Title 18, United States Code, Section 2518, authorizing for a thirty (30) day period the interception of wire communications to and from the cellular telephones bearing the numbers (915) 726-3575, subscribed to by Jorge Abraham, 11216 Leo Collins, El Paso, Texas, and (915) 253-6015, with no subscriber information listed, in connection with an investigation into possible violations of Title 18, United States Code, Sections 542, 545, 1343, 1952, 1956, 1957, 1963, 2314, 2315, and 2341-2346, and Title 21, United States Code, Sections 841, 843(b), 846, 952, 960, and 963, by Jorge Abraham, Ignacio Abraham, Sergio Najera-Diaz, Felipe Castaneda, Oscar Cesar Garcia-Jaquez, Mario LNU, Mauricio LNU, Lidia Moraga, Omar LNU, Michael Lin, Geoffrey Liu, Ernesto Martinez, Raul C. Martinez, Hector P. Padilla, Sergio Rosenblat, Pedro Anibal Bello, Robert Bowen, Richard Daitch, Peter Pembleton, Anthony LNU, Scott Snyder, Harry B. Wallace, Rodney Morrison, Gurdip Singh Malik, David LNU, Alberto Portillo, Alberto Chico, Enrique Mirazo, Madai Favila, William Osama Khoury, Gerardo Alejandro Araujo-Diaz, FNU Diaz, Dong Jie Li, Algis Bagdonas, Richard Jamieson, Jeffery Jamieson, Faith L. Thomas, Meara LNU, Timothy LNU, Jackie LNU, Isidro Baquera, Jose LNU, Carlos LNU, Avtar S. Singh, Ernesto Barrio, and others as yet unknown.

By virtue of the authority vested in the Attorney General of the United States by Section 2516 of Title 18, United States Code, the Attorney General has by Order Number 2407-2001, dated March 8, 2001, designated specific officials in the Criminal Division to authorize applications for court orders authorizing the interception of wire or oral communications. As a duly designated official in the Criminal Division, this power is exercisable by me. WHEREFORE, acting under this delegated power, I hereby authorize the above-described application to be made by any investigative or law enforcement officer of the United States as defined in Section 2510(7) of Title 18, United States Code.

The authorization given is intended to apply not only to the target telephone numbers listed above, but to any telephone numbers subsequently assigned to or used by the instruments bearing the same International Mobile Subscriber Identity numbers as the target cellular telephones within the thirty-day period. The authorization is also intended to apply to background conversations intercepted in the vicinity of the target telephones while the telephones are off the hook or otherwise in use.

Michael Chertoff Assistant Attorney General Criminal Division

JUL 5 2002

Date

Mary Lee Warren
Deputy Assistant Attorney General
Criminal Division

Exhibit B (page 2 of 2)

#### IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS EL PASO DIVISION

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF )
THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA FOR AN )
ORDER AUTHORIZING THE INTERCEPTION )
OF WIRE COMMUNICATIONS OCCURRING )
TO:

SEALED

Cause No.: EP-02-CR-1153-PRM

A CELLULAR TELEPHONE UTILIZING )
TELEPHONE NUMBER (915) 726-3575 )
BEARING INTERNATIONAL MOBILE )
SUBSCRIBER IDENTITY (IMSI) NUMBER )
316010014825020, SUBSCRIBED TO JORGE )
ABRAHAM, 11216 LEO COLLINS, EL PASO, )
TEXAS, AND

A CELLULAR TELEPHONE UTILIZING)
TELEPHONE NUMBER (915) 253-6015)
BEARING INTERNATIONAL MOBILE)
SUBSCRIBER IDENTITY (IMSI) NUMBER)
310200101195057, SUBSCRIBED TO A PRE-)
PAID ACCOUNT.

#### **AFFIDAVIT**

## I. BACKGROUND A. AFFIANT KNOWLEDGE AND EXPERIENCE

- I, Raul Bencomo, Special Agent (SA), United States (US) Treasury Department, US Customs Service (USCS), El Paso, Texas, being duly sworn, state:
- 1. I am an investigative and law enforcement officer of the United States within the meaning of Section 2510(7) of Title 18, United States Code (USC); namely, I am an officer of the United States who is empowered by law to conduct investigations of and to make arrests for offenses enumerated in Section 2516 of Title 18, USC.
- 2. I have been employed as an SA for approximately three years. Prior to my employment as an SA, I worked as a USCS Inspector for approximately nine years. As an Inspector

and as an SA for the USCS, I have worked at various ports of entry in the United States. By virtue of my employment with the USCS, I am authorized to conduct investigations into violations pertaining to the smuggling of merchandise and general goods into the commerce of the United States, and of Title 21 USC § 841 et. seq. (hereinafter referred to as the Controlled Substances Act). In doing so, I have conducted a variety of investigations which involved the use of wire and electronic interceptions for violations ranging from simple possession of a controlled substance to complex international drug and money laundering conspiracies and, on occasion, allegations of official corruption. In conducting my official duties, I have written in excess of 200 affidavits in support of criminal complaints, three affidavits in support of search warrants, and four affidavits in support of court authorized interception of digital pagers.

transportation of general merchandise and other goods, including tobacco products (hereinafter also referred to as cigarette smuggling), and violations of the Controlled Substances Act, I know that cigarette smuggling and drug trafficking organizations have developed a number of similar methods to insulate their illegal activities from law enforcement detection. These methods are common to cigarette smuggling and major drug trafficking organizations to varying degrees of sophistication. Based on the instant investigation, as further detailed below, there is probable cause to believe that the cellular telephones, including the one with the "push to talk" radio frequency feature (as more fully described below), that are the subjects of the instant application for judicial authorization, are being utilized to facilitate the activities of an El Paso, Texas, and Ciudad Juarez, Chihuahua, Mexico (hereinafter referred to as "El Paso/Juarez") based organization involved in cigarette smuggling and drug trafficking. Further, there is probable cause to believe that the associates of the organization

are in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1962 (RICO), conducting, and conspiring to conduct, the affairs of an enterprise, that is a group of individuals associated in fact, namely the Jorge Abraham smuggling organization, including the named targets and subjects, as more fully identified below, and others, which enterprise is engaged in, and the activities of which affect, interstate and foreign commerce, through a pattern of racketeering activity consisting of: 18 USC §§ 1956 & 1957, Relating to money laundering; 2314 & 2315, Relating to interstate transportation of stolen property, i.e., fraudulent state tax stamps; 2341-2346, Relating to Trafficking in Contraband Cigarettes, as RICO predicate offenses. The named interceptees use the TARGET TELEPHONES, as more fully described below, to arrange and coordinate the affairs of the enterprise. Additionally, there is probable cause to believe that this organization is laundering the proceeds generated by cigarette and drug smuggling.

- 4. I know, based upon my training and experience, as well as information relayed to me during the course of my official duties, the following facts:
- a. Members of smuggling and narcotic trafficking organizations routinely utilize wire and electronic communication facilities, including residential (hard-line) telephones, cellular telephones, public telephones, digital paging devices, and facsimile machines to communicate operational directives and information concerning the organization's illegal activities to other organization members.
- b. During the course of these wire and electronic communications, organization members routinely utilize coded references to their illegal activities in an effort to avoid detection by law enforcement.

- c. The communication of time-sensitive information is critical to the successful operation of these organizations' illegal activities. The critical nature of this information stems from the necessity of the organization's management to provide direction for the smuggling and illegal distribution of cigarettes, and importation and distribution of controlled substances, as well as the subsequent laundering of the proceeds generated by these illegal activities.
- d. Finally, I also know that cigarette smugglers and drug traffickers routinely utilize fictitious names or the names of other individuals in which to register pagers, telephones, vehicles, real property, businesses, bank accounts, safe deposit boxes and utility services to evade detection of their illegal activities by law enforcement.

#### B. TARGET TELEPHONE -1

- 5. There is probable cause to believe that particular wire communications involving the TARGETED INTERCEPTEES, as identified further below, evidencing the above mentioned offenses, and other offenses as more fully described below, will be obtained through the interception of wire communications occurring to and from the cellular telephone issued the telephone number (915) 726-3575, and bearing the International Mobile Subscriber Identity (IMSI) Number: 316010014825020 (hereinafter referred to as "TARGET TELEPHONE-1"). The subscriber information for TARGET TELEPHONE-1 has been verified by contacting the service provider, Nextel Communications, 2003 Edmund Halley Drive, Reston, Virginia.
- 6. TARGET TELEPHONE-1 also possesses a dual function capability of functioning as a two way radio. The two way radio feature is commonly referred to as "push to talk". Authorization is also being requested for the interception of any and all communications occurring through the radio frequencies programmed into TARGET TELEPHONE-1. Investigation has

revealed that the range of the "push to talk" feature extends from El Paso, Texas, along the corridor of U.S. Interstate Highway 25, which includes Las Cruces, Albuquerque, and Santa Fe, New Mexico. Additionally, coverage would include the cities of Farmington, Gallup and Grant, New Mexico, and Tucson, Phoenix and Nogales, Arizona.

7. TARGET TELEPHONE-1 is subscribed to by Jorge ABRAHAM (hereinafter also referred to as ABRAHAM), 11216 Leo Collins, El Paso, Texas. However, the investigation reflects that ABRAHAM actually resides at 5 Appaloosa Court, in Sunland Park, New Mexico. The Leo Collins address is the known address of his father, Ignacio ABRAHAM. The service for TARGET TELEPHONE-1 was initiated on May 8, 2001.

#### C. TARGET TELEPHONE -2

8. There is probable cause to believe that particular wire communications involving the TARGETED INTERCEPTEES, as identified further below, evidencing the above mentioned offenses, and other offenses as more fully described below, will be obtained through the interception of wire communications occurring to and from the cellular telephone issued the telephone number (915) 253-6015, and bearing the International Mobile Subscriber Identity (IMSI) Number: 310200101195057 (hereinafter referred to the "TARGET TELEPHONE-2"). The subscriber information for the TARGET TELEPHONE-2 has been verified by contacting the service provider VoiceStream Wireless, 2920 SE 38th, Bellvue, Washington. TARGET TELEPHONE-2 is accessed

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The service provider for this telephone is considered a personal communication service provider (PCS). Under that system, PCS telephones are inoperable until the subscriber inserts a card encoded with the IMSI number into a slot in the telephone unit. IMSI numbers are unique to each subscriber. Authorization is also being sought for any other telephone number activated through the use of the IMSI number described above.

through the use of a "Sim Card" bearing the number 901200199078534939 <sup>2</sup>. The service for TARGET TELEPHONE-2 was initiated on June 5, 2001.

9. TARGET TELEPHONE-2 is a pre-paid account and no subscriber or address is listed. This cellular telephone was obtained by a USCS Confidential Source (CS) (herein referred to as CS-1<sup>3</sup>) with the approval of the USCS. ABRAHAM requested CS-1 obtain a new cellular telephone for him to use to plan, direct, and coordinate the smuggling, transportation, and delivery of illegal tobacco products. The service for TARGET TELEPHONE-2 was initiated on June 5, 2002.

#### D. TARGET INTERCEPTEES and THEIR COMPANIES

10. **Jorge ABRAHAM**, DOB: 12-26-69, Address: 5 Appaloosa Court, Sunland Park, New Mexico. ABRAHAM is negative for a previous criminal history through queries in the National Crime Information Computer (NCIC) System. Queries in the Treasury Enforcement Communication System (TECS) indicate ABRAHAM is currently under investigation by the USCS Special Agent in Charge (SAIC) El Paso Office of Investigation for the illegal importation and diversion<sup>4</sup> of tobacco

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>The service provider for these telephones is considered a personal communication service provider (PCS). PCS telephones are inoperable until the user inserts an encoded card into a slot in the telephone unit. Each "Sim Card" used by Target Telephone-2 contains a unique number that permits the "Sim Card" to activate other similarly operated telephones. Authorization is sought to permit interception over any telephone numbers subsequently assigned to the instrument bearing the IMSI number indicated above, to any IMSI number subsequently assigned to the instrument bearing the same telephone number as Target Telephone-2, and to any other telephone or telephone number activated through the use of the "Sim Card" number indicated above.

has provided information, which resulted in the seizure of approximately 8,400 pounds of marijuana and the arrest of multiple defendants, including a corrupt U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) Inspector. CS-1 is considered to be truthful, credible, and reliable.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup>The cigarettes in this case are being entered via the USCS in-bond process. The in-bond process involves cargo entering the United States without the appraisement and payment of duties. An in-bond entry is required when cargo transits to another U.S. location for formal entry, transits the U.S. destined to another country, or is immediately exported, 19 CFR § 10.31 and CFR Part 18. For example, cargo originating from China enters via Los Angeles and transits in-bond to El Paso and then is exported to Mexico. The cigarettes in the instant application instead of being exported are being illegally removed from USCS in-bond status and diverted and sold in various cities of the United States without payment of the applicable State and Federal cigarette taxes and USCS duties.

products, specifically counterfeit<sup>5</sup> and contraband cigarettes<sup>6</sup>. TECS queries also indicate ABRAHAM was under investigation by the USCS for money laundering, and by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms (BATF) for the diversion and transportation of counterfeit and contraband cigarettes to Los Angeles, California. ABRAHAM is also positive in the Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs Information System (NADDIS)<sup>7</sup>. ABRAHAM has a record for smuggling and distributing large quantities of controlled substances.

ABRAHAM has, for numerous years, operated a contract smuggling organization based in the Juarez/El Paso area. ABRAHAM and his associates are not only involved with the smuggling, transportation, and distribution of controlled substances, but are also engaged in the smuggling and illegal transportation of general merchandise and goods, and in particular, tobacco products. ABRAHAM coordinates the smuggling of large quantities of controlled substances into the United States through the El Paso District ports of entry. Abraham is also receiving large quantities of tobacco products, specifically counterfeit and contraband cigarettes, imported into the United States from Asia and Europe. ABRAHAM, with the assistance of family members and trusted associates, also directs and coordinates the collection, transportation, and repatriation of the proceeds derived

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> A counterfeit trademark is a spurious (false, non-genuine) trademark which is identical to, or substantially indistinguishable from, a federally registered, trademark, 15 USC § 1127.

Contraband cigarettes means a quantity in excess of 60,000 cigarettes, which bear no evidence of the payment of applicable State cigarette taxes in the State where such cigarettes are found, if such State requires a stamp, impression, or other indication to be placed on packages or other containers of cigarettes to evidence payment of cigarette taxes, 18 USC § 2341(2). According to the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, as of April 2002, only the states of Alaska, North Carolina, North Dakota, and South Carolina do not require a state cigarette tax stamp on cigarette packages. Every state in the United States has a state excise tax on cigarettes.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> If there is no information listed in the NCIC, or the TECS or the NADDIS for any given person, or if there were insufficient identifiers to make a search in NCIC, TECS and NADDIS, then no information will be reflected, otherwise the information found will be referenced with the name of the person.

from the smuggling and illegal transportation of large quantities of controlled substances, tobacco, and tobacco products.

Sun City Exporting Company, and Sun City International Trading, 416 Coles, El Paso, Texas, are owned and operated by ABRAHAM, though listed on public records as being owned by Felipe CASTANEDA, as further discussed below. It is believed these companies are being used by ABRAHAM and his father, Ignacio ABRAHAM, as cover or "front" companies. It is believed ABRAHAM is utilizing these companies to launder or legitimize the proceeds derived from the smuggling, illegal transportation, and distribution of merchandise and goods, specifically counterfeit and contraband cigarettes, and controlled substances.

Sun City Trucking, 300 N. Zaragosa, El Paso, Texas, was owned by ABRAHAM. It is believed this company was also set up as a cover or "front" operation. This company existed for approximately twelve months, and was closed in April/May 2002. This company was never properly incorporated, nor did it ever pay State taxes. It is believed ABRAHAM used the company to launder and legitimize the proceeds derived from the smuggling, transportation, and distribution of merchandise and goods, specifically, counterfeit and contraband cigarettes, and controlled substances.

It is believed that **Globo Transport**, 104 Delta, El Paso, Texas, is also owned by ABRAHAM, though public records indicate it is owned by Felipe CASTANEDA. It is also believed this company is a cover or "front" operation used by ABRAHAM and CASTANEDA to conceal the organization's illegal activities. It is possible the company is also utilized to legitimize the proceeds derived from the smuggling, illegal transportation, and distribution of controlled substances, and tobacco products. The business is allegedly a transfer warehouse and shipping business.

ABRAHAM is paralyzed from the waist down and is confined to a wheelchair, and consequently requires the assistance of other members of the organization to move around.

- Ignacio ABRAHAM, DOB: 02-14-34, Address: 11216 Leo Collins, El Paso, Texas. Ignacio ABRAHAM is ABRAHAM's father. Queries in the NCIC system were positive for a single arrest in 1979 for Driving While Intoxicated (DWI) by the El Paso (Texas) Police Department (EPPD). Investigation reveals that Ignacio ABRAHAM works under the direction of Jorge ABRAHAM. It is believed Ignacio assists his son in the smuggling organization by transporting large quantities of U.S. Currency derived from the smuggling and transportation of large quantities of controlled substances, and from the distribution of counterfeit and contraband cigarettes. It is also believed that Ignacio ABRAHAM is involved in the laundering of the proceeds of the organization's illegal activities. Between August and October 2001, Ignacio ABRAHAM sent a total of three wire transfers totaling \$175,000 and a single check totaling \$17,000 to International Traders of El Paso (ITEP), 1001 S. Mesa, El Paso, Texas.
- Juarez, Chihuahua, Mexico (Juarez). Sergio NAJERA-Diaz works for ABRAHAM. NAJERA-Diaz has frequently been observed with ABRAHAM. It appears NAJERZ-Diaz assists ABRAHAM due to ABRAHAM's physical handicap. NAJERA-Diaz has been seen driving ABRAHAM's specialized Ford van and assisting ABRAHAM with his daily activities. NAJERA-Diaz may also be acting as a lieutenant in the organization, working under the direction of ABRAHAM. NAJERA-Diaz has been present for a number of meetings conducted between CS-1 and ABRAHAM. Additionally, it is believed NAJERA-Diaz may be acting as a bodyguard for ABRAHAM. On March 19, 2002, NAJERA-Diaz claimed to be an employee of Sun City Exporters, 416 Coles, El Paso, Texas. On May

- 17, 2002, NAJERA-Diaz identified ABRAHAM as his supervisor to an El Paso (Texas) County Sheriff's Department Deputy and a USCS Inspector.
- Texas, and 7124 Feather Hawk, El Paso, Texas. CASTANEDA is positive in the NCIC for a single arrest in January 1990, by the San Antonio (Texas) PD, for Possession of Marijuana over two ounces. It appears CASTANEDA is a mid-level manager working for the ABRAHAM organization coordinating the smuggling, transportation, and distribution of diverted cigarettes, both counterfeit and contraband, and controlled substances. CASTANEDA has frequently been observed with ABRAHAM. It appears CASTANEDA also physically assists ABRAHAM. CASTANEDA has been observed traveling with ABRAHAM, and also following ABRAHAM's vehicle. Like NAJERA-Diaz, CASTANEDA has been observed assisting ABRAHAM with his daily operations. CASTANEDA has been present for the majority of the meetings conducted between ABRAHAM and CS-1 concerning illegal activities. CASTANEDA is the purported owner of two import/export companies identified as Sun City Exporters and Sun City International Trading, 416 Coles, El Paso, Texas, and of Globo Transport, 104 Delta, El Paso, Texas, allegedly a transfer warehouse and shipping business.
- 14. Oscar Cesar GARCIA-Jaquez, DOB: 05-28-1963, Address: Unknown. GARCIA-Jaquez is positive in the NCIC system. GARCIA-Jaquez was arrested by the EPPD in March 2000, for Criminal Trespass. Queries in the TECS indicate GARCIA-Jaquez is a subject of the instant investigation. GARCIA-Jaquez also works for ABRAHAM. GARCIA-Jaquez has frequently been observed with ABRAHAM. GARCIA-Jaquez also physically assists ABRAHAM. GARCIA-Jaquez has been seen traveling with NAJERA-Diaz in ABRAHAM's specialized Ford van and assisting

ABRAHAM with his daily routines. GARCIA-Jaquez may also act as a lieutenant in the organization working under the direction of ABRAHAM. GARCIA-Jaquez has been present for a number of meetings conducted between CS-1 and ABRAHAM concerning illegal activities. Further, GARCIA-Jaquez may also act as a bodyguard for ABRAHAM. On May 17, 2002, GARCIA-Jaquez stated to USCS Inspectors he was employed by ABRAHAM.

- 15. Mario Last Name Unknown (LNU), DOB: Unknown, Address: Unknown. Mario LNU is also physically assisting ABRAHAM. Mario LNU, along with NAJERA-Diaz, has been seen driving ABRAHAM's specialized van and assisting ABRAHAM with his daily operations. Mario LNU may also act as a mid-level manager in the organization working under the direction of ABRAHAM. Mario LNU has been present for a number of meetings conducted between CS-1 and ABRAHAM concerning illegal activities. Mario LNU may also act as a bodyguard for ABRAHAM.
- 16. Mauricio LNU, DOB: Unknown, Address: Unknown. Mauricio LNU also physically assists ABRAHAM. Mauricio LNU has been seen driving ABRAHAM's specialized van and assisting ABRAHAM with his daily activities. Mauricio LNU may also act as a mid-level manager in the organization working under the direction of ABRAHAM. Mauricio LNU has been present for a number of meetings conducted between CS-1 and ABRAHAM concerning illegal activities. Mauricio LNU may also act as a bodyguard for ABRAHAM.
- 17. Omar LNU, DOB: Unknown, Address: Unknown. Omar LNU is another person who assists ABRAHAM. Omar LNU has been seen driving ABRAHAM's specialized van. Omar LNU may also act as a mid-level manager in the organization working at ABRAHAM's direction. Omar LNU has been present for a number of meetings conducted between CS-1 and ABRAHAM concerning illegal activities. Omar LNU may also act as a bodyguard for ABRAHAM.

- 18. Lidia MORAGA, DOB: 02-27-80, Address: 141 Roman Gabriel, El Paso, Texas. MORAGA has been seen meeting with ABRAHAM at his residence, 5 Appaloosa Court, Sunland Park, New Mexico. MORAGA was seen by surveillance, meeting with LIN, and renting large self storage units in California. It is believed that MORAGA works for ABRAHAM and is responsible for obtaining storage facilities in Los Angeles, California, and El Paso, Texas. It is believed these storage facilities have been used to store illegal tobacco products and controlled substances.
- 19. **Michael LIN** (Also Known As (AKA): Gia-Shian LIN and Mike Giashian LIN), DOB: 03-21-53, Address: 683 Cecil Street, Monterrey Park, California. NCIC reflects LIN was arrested by the Bakersfield County (California) Sheriff's Department for Grand Theft-Property in June 1987. TECS indicates LIN is a subject of the instant investigation by the USCS for the smuggling of counterfeit cigarettes from the Republic of China. It is believed that LIN has previously supplied large quantities of counterfeit cigarettes to ABRAHAM, smuggled into the United States from China. On April 23, 2002, LIN was arrested by USCS Resident Agent in Charge (RAIC) Long Beach SAs after the controlled delivery of approximately \$1,700,000.00 worth of counterfeit California tobacco (cigarette) tax stamps. Papers and documents in LIN's possession at the time of arrest resulted in the identification and subsequent seizure of 1,284 master case<sup>8</sup> (38,520 cartons) of counterfeit cigarettes. LIN was arrested and is currently on bond pending trial. LIN coowns and operates **So-Cal Alterations**, 9651 Valley Blvd, Rosemead, California. The other owner of this business was identified as Bob WU. WU was arrested by USCS SAIC Los Angeles SAs on September 4, 2001, for attempting to smuggle a forty foot container containing counterfeit Marlboro

A master case, contains two cases of cigarettes, a case contains 50 cartons of cigarettes. A carton of cigarettes contains 10 packages of cigarettes. A package contains 20 cigarettes. Therefore, one case of cigarettes contains 10,000 individual cigarettes.

cigarettes from China. It is believed So-Cal Alterations is being used as a cover or "front" operation by LIN to smuggle counterfeit cigarettes into the United States from China. Investigation has revealed that LIN was possibly ABRAHAM's primary source of supply for counterfeit cigarettes, prior to his arrest. LIN is not cooperating with law enforcement officials.

- 20. Geoffery LIU, DOB: 12-30-44, Address: 20548 Divonne Drive, Walnut, California. LIU was identified as the previous owner of two import/export businesses identified as China-American International Trading, 9700 N.W. 14th Street, Coral Springs, Florida, and China-Florida International Development, One Financial Plaza Suite 1615, Fort Lauderdale, Florida. It is believed that LIU is now the owner or manager of Evergreen Tobacco Company, 1850 S. Batson Avenue, P.O. Box 140, Rowland Heights, Nevada. LIU is also listed as the owner of Euroasian Commodities International, 1564 N.W. 97th Terrace, Coral Springs, Florida. LIU is currently living in the Los Angeles, California area. The USCS Los Angeles and FBI Special Agent in Charge (SAC) Los Angeles developed information through an FBI Confidential Source that LIU has worked with LIN smuggling counterfeit cigarettes from China into the United States for distribution. It is believed that LIU is also a source of supply of counterfeit and contraband cigarettes for ABRAHAM.
- 21. **Jenny LNU** (AKA: La China), DOB: Unknown, Address: Unknown. From a telephone conversation witnessed by CS-1, it appears Jenny LNU is working for Mike LIN by coordinating the pick-up, transportation and delivery of large quantities of counterfeit and contraband cigarettes.
- 22. Ernesto MARTINEZ, DOB: 11-07-30, Address: 1029 Sun Ridge, El Paso, Texas.

  MARTINEZ is a suspect in the importation of 16 tons of counterfeit Marlboro brand (Marlboro)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> "Marlboro" is a trademark registered with the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office. The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office trademark registration number for Marlboro is 0068502.

cigarettes, as discussed further below. TECS reflects MARTINEZ is listed as the owner and president of International Traders of El Paso (ITEP), 719 S. Stanton, El Paso, Texas and 1001 S. Mesa, El Paso, Texas. ITEP is a licensed USCS broker company. ITEP has sold cigarettes designated for Immediate Export (IE) and held in USCS in-bond status to ABRAHAM. These cigarettes were then transported to International Transloader and Warehouse Services (ITWS), 4564 Doniphan, El Paso, Texas, which is a licensed and approved bonded warehouse, and were subsequently removed from in-bond status and diverted into the U.S. commerce for sale and distribution on the black market. Investigation has revealed that ITEP appears to be ABRAHAM's primary source of supply for contraband cigarettes.

The pen register installed on TARGET TELEPHONE-1 has recorded telephone numbers reflecting numerous incoming and outgoing telephone calls between TARGET TELEPHONE-1 and telephones subscribed to by ITEP. It is believed that MARINTEZ, through ITEP, is assisting ABRAHAM with the diversion of cigarettes in USCS in-bond status.

- 23. Raul C. MARTINEZ, DOB: 08-08-52, Address: 4816 Olmos, El Paso, Texas. Raul C. MARTINEZ is Ernesto MARTINEZ' nephew. Raul C. MARTINEZ manages and operates ITEP. It is believed Raul is assisting ABRAHAM with the diversion of cigarettes from USCS in-bond status. Specifically, it is believed Raul C. Martinez was the person who subcontracted the warehouse, i.e., ITWS, where USCS in-bond cigarettes were diverted as mentioned above and as further discussed below.
- 24. Richard DAITCH (AKA: Dick), DOB: 01-24-34: TECS reflects DAITCH is the subject of a current investigation for the distribution of counterfeit cigarettes smuggled into the United States from China. DAITCH is also under investigation by the FBI RAC New Haven

(Connecticut) for the illegal sale and distribution of counterfeit tobacco and tobacco products. DAITCH allegedly has ties to Chinese organized crime in the Quincy and Boston, Massachusetts areas. DAITCH was arrested by the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) for Interstate Transportation of Stolen Property. TECS reflects DAITCH was under investigation by the US Secret Service for Possessing Fraudulent US Treasury checks. DAITCH is the owner of four Pelco companies located at: 37 Billings, Quincy, Massachusetts, 123 Pecunit, Canton, Massachusetts, 842 Washington Street, Canton, Massachusetts, and 8601 NW 81st Road, Medley, Florida. DAITCH is believed to be distributing large quantities of contraband and counterfeit cigarettes throughout the northeastern United States. DAITCH is using the Pelco companies as a cover operation for the distribution of illegal tobacco products. Pen registers have recorded numerous communications between the Pelco companies and telephone numbers subscribed to by ABRAHAM.

Robert BOWEN, DOB: 03-07-36, Address: 1404 Sara Circle, Port Jefferson Station, New York. Queries in the NCIC system revealed an extensive criminal history dating back to 1973. BOWEN was arrested in August 1973 for Issuing a Bad Check by the Suffolk County (New-York) PD. In July 1983, BOWEN was arrested again by the Suffolk County PD for Criminal Possession of a Weapon. In November 1983, BOWEN was arrested by the Suffolk County PD for Possession of Stolen Property, and Attempted Bribery of a Public Servant. BOWEN was arrested again in May 1989 for Grand Larceny by the Port Jefferson (New York) PD. TECS reflects BOWEN is under investigation for distributing contraband and counterfeit cigarettes. BOWEN is the owner of B and B International Trading, 1404 Sara Circle, Port Jefferson Station, New York. B and B International Trading is a tobacco wholesale company. B and B International Trading distributes and sells cigarettes, cigars, and tobacco products. BOWEN has been identified as a distributor of contraband

and counterfeit cigarettes supplied by ABRAHAM. It is believed B and B International Trading is being used as a front or cover operation distributing illegal tobacco and tobacco products.

- 26. **Jeffery JAMIESON**, DOB: 01-10-61 Address: 5 Westerly Drive, Fredonia, Perrysburg, New York, and PO Box 41, Versailles, New York. JAMIESON and his brother, Richard JAMIESON, are the owners or company officers of **Wolf Pack Tobacco**, 1156 Route 438 Suite A, Irving, New York. It is believed that the JAMIESONs are receiving large quantities of counterfeit and contraband cigarettes supplied by ABRAHAM for distribution.
- 27. Sergio ROSENBLAT (AKA Serge), DOB: 11-04-30, Address: 10717 Wilshire Blvd PH4, Los Angeles, California. TECS reflects ROSENBLAT was a suspect in a closed forgery case by the US Secret Service. ROSENBLAT received large quantities of counterfeit and contraband cigarettes from Hector PADILLA when PADILLA was working for ABRAHAM. It is believed ROSENBLAT is still receiving large quantities of counterfeit cigarettes from ABRAHAM.
- 28. Peter PEMBLETON (AKA: Pete), DOB: 01-09-59, Address: 56 Main Street, Salamanca, New York: In September 1979, PEMBLETON was arrested by the Niagara Falls (New York) PD for Reckless Endangerment, and Criminal Possession of a Weapon. PEMBLETON was arrested again in August 1980 by the Niagara Falls PD for Assault. In May 1990, PEMBLETON was arrested by the Niagara Falls PD for DWI. PEMBLETON owns and operates All Nations Tobacco, 56 Main Street, Salamanca, New York. All Nations Tobacco has been identified as a distributor of large quantities of contraband and/or counterfeit cigarettes supplied by ABRAHAM. Investigation reflects PEMBLETON is coordinating the receipt of large quantities of counterfeit and contraband cigarettes in the Salamanca, New York area. PEMBLETON's source of supply for counterfeit and contraband cigarettes was identified as ABRAHAM on May 2, 2002.

- 29. Anthony LNU, DOB: Unknown, Address: Unknown. Anthony LNU assists PEMBLETON with the receipt and subsequent distribution of counterfeit and contraband cigarettes in the Salamanca and Buffalo, New York areas. Anthony LNU is working under the direction of PEMBLETON, and is responsible for receiving and warehousing large quantities of counterfeit and contraband cigarettes.
- 30. William Osama KHOURY, DOB: 09-20-70, Address: 214 Canyon Terrace, El Paso, Texas. The NCIC system reflects KHOURY was arrested by the EPPD in August 1993 for Theft of Service, in November 1993 for Assault, and in December 1993 for Criminal Mischief. In July 1994, KHOURY was arrested by the Doña Ana (New Mexico) County Sheriff's Department for Battery Domestic Violence. KHOURY was arrested again by the EPPD in January 1996 for Failure to Identify a Fugitive From Justice and in April 1996 for Criminal Mischief.

KHOURY is the listed owner or company officer of three companies in El Paso: Khoury International Trading, 5806 Diamond Point, El Paso, Texas; Osama Jeans Wear, 4140 Darwood, El Paso, Texas; and Davila Slacks, 2200 Lee Trevino Suite A-1, El Paso, Texas. KHOURY was initially identified through surveillance on March 13, 2002. KHOURY was seen meeting with ABRAHAM at KHOURY's residence, 214 Canyon Terrace, El Paso, Texas. It is believed ABRAHAM is supplying KHOURY with large quantities of contraband and/or counterfeit cigarettes and/or KHOURY is possibly assisting ABRAHAM by laundering the proceeds derived from the organization's illegal activities.

31. Scott SNYDER, DOB: 09-20-62, Address: 1011 Route 438, Irving, New York: SNYDER has an extensive criminal history in the NCIC system. SNYDER was arrested in July 1980 for Petty Larceny and Unauthorized Use of a Motor Vehicle by the New York State Police (NYSP).

SNYDER was arrested again in July 1984 by the NYSP for Operating a Motor Vehicle While Intoxicated. In August 1987, SNYDER was arrested for Resisting Arrest and Operating a Motor Vehicle While Intoxicated by the NYSP. SNYDER was arrested again for DWI by the Angola (New York) PD in April 1995. In April 1997, SNYDER was arrested for Criminal Mischief With the Intent to Damage by the NYSP. SNYDER was arrested by the Scottsdale (Arizona) PD for Disorderly Conduct Fighting in April 2000. Queries in the TECS list SNYDER as a subject of the instant investigation for smuggling and distributing counterfeit cigarettes. SNYDER owns and operates Snyder Enterprises and Iroquois Tobacco 1011 Route 438, Irving, New York. Snyder Enterprises was listed as the consignee to receive 325 cases of duty free cigarettes on May 18, 2002, as further discussed below. It is believed Iroquois Tobacco is being utilized as a cover or "front" company to conceal the sale and distribution of contraband and/or counterfeit cigarettes. ABRAHAM has admitted to CS-1 that he is supplying contraband and/or counterfeit cigarettes to both companies.

- 32. Meara LNU, DOB: Unknown, Address: Unknown. Meara LNU was also identified by ABRAHAM to CS-1 as a point of contact in the Irving, New York area. On June 13, 2002, CS-1 witnessed ABRAHAM attempt to telephonically contact Meara LNU to advise her that a shipment of 170 cases of contraband cigarettes was being shipped from Laredo, Texas, to Irving, New York. It is believed that Meara LNU works under the direction of Scott SNYDER.
- 33. **Timothy LNU**; DOB: Unknown, Address: Unknown. Timothy LNU was identified by ABRAHAM to CS-1 as a point of contact in the Irving, New York area. On June 13, 2002, CS-1 witnessed ABRAHAM attempt to telephonically contact Timothy LNU to advise him that a shipment of 170 cases of contraband cigarettes was being shipped from Laredo, Texas to Irving, New York. It is believed that Timothy LNU works under the direction of Scott SNYDER.

- 34. Jackie LNU, DOB: Unknown, Address: Unknown. Jackie LNU is an employee or manager of AA Customs Brokers, 13117 Spivey, Laredo, Texas. Jackie LNU was identified as the point of contact for the pick up of 269 cases of contraband cigarettes diverted from USCS in-bond status on June 18, 2002. Jackie LNU admitted to CS-1 that she is working with ABRAHAM and other unidentified organizations diverting quantities of contraband cigarettes and liquor.
- 35. **Gerardo Alejandro ARAUJO-Delgado** (AKA: El Negro), DOB: 08-22-52, Address: Unknown. ARAUJO-Delgado is a previously identified drug smuggler. Based on information obtained by CS-1, ABRAHAM is contracting with ARAUJO-Delgado for the smuggling and transportation of large quantities of marijuana from Juarez to various U.S. cities. All of this marijuana is being smuggled into the United States through the El Paso District ports of entry. CS-1 has overheard telephone conversations between ARAUJO-Delgado and ABRAHAM regarding the transportation and delivery of approximately 500 pounds of marijuana.
- 36. Isidro BAQUERA, DOB: 09-27-68, Address: 9365 San Lorenzo, El Paso, Texas. TECS queries indicated that BAQUERA was the subject of two separate investigations by the USCS for smuggling and distributing quantities of marijuana and money laundering. Information obtained from a pen register installed on one of the cellular telephones subscribed to ABRAHAM has confirmed telephone communications between that cellular telephone and a cellular telephone utilized by BAQUERA. It is believed that BAQUERA is assisting ABRAHAM launder the illegal proceeds derived from the smuggling, transportation, and distribution of controlled substances and illegal tobacco.
- 37. Alberto PORTILLO, DOB: 05-26-57, Address: 501 E. River Avenue, El Paso, Texas. TECS queries revealed PORTILLO was linked to a drug smuggling organization based in

El Paso/Juarez area. Queries in the NADDIS linked PORTILLO to a previous marijuana smuggling and distribution organization headed by Rafael MUNOZ-Talavera. MUNOZ-Talavera was a previously identified major drug trafficker, who was incarcerated in Mexico prior to his death. It is believed that PORTILLO is a mid-level manger in an unidentified marijuana smuggling organization. PORTILLO is coordinating and directing the smuggling and delivery of vehicles containing marijuana into the United States from Mexico through the El Paso District ports of entry. It is unknown if PORTILLO is working under the direction of ABRAHAM or is associated with ABRAHAM through his participation in another organization being contracted by ABRAHAM. TECS queries revealed PORTILLO was linked to a drug smuggling organization based in the El Paso/Juarez area.

- 38. Alberto CHICO, DOB: 03-09-78, Address: 1801 Arizona, El Paso, Texas. It is believed that CHICO is obtaining and supplying vehicles used to smuggle large quantities of marijuana into the United States from Mexico. CHICO is possibly recruiting and hiring drivers used by an unidentified smuggling organization to smuggle drugs. It is unknown if CHICO is working under the direction of ABRAHAM or is associated with ABRAHAM through his participation in another organization being contracted by ABRAHAM for smuggling operations.
- 39. Madai FAVILA, DOB: 11-13-79, Address: 11140 Terrell, El Paso, Texas. TECS queries linked FAVILA to the seizure of approximately 3,000 pounds of marijuana on March 10, 1998, in El Paso, Texas. The marijuana was in a truck parked at a residence occupied by FAVILA. FAVILA's boyfriend, Rene Francisco MENDOZA-Jimenez, was arrested and claimed FAVILA had no knowledge of the marijuana being stored at the residence. It is believed FAVILA is obtaining and operating warehousing locations in the El Paso, Texas, area for ABRAHAM. It is believed these

locations are being utilized to store both controlled substances and contraband and/or counterfeit cigarettes.

#### E. SUBJECTS OF INVESTIGATION

40. Dong Jie LI, DOB: 03-12-74, Address: 909 Anderson Way, San Gabriel, California; Hector P. PADILLA, DOB: 04-02-67, Address: 734 W. Colden Avenue Apt. 5, Los Angeles, California; Pedro Anibal BELLO, DOB: 06-27-70, Address: 6507 Manassas Drive, Pewee Valley, Kentucky; Algis BAGDONAS, DOB: 07-30-64, Address: 692 Greystone, Plymouth, Connecticut; Richard JAMIESON, DOB: 08-08-62, Addresses 11849 Burning Springs, Perrysburg, New York, and P.O.Box 41, Versailles, New York, Faith L. THOMAS, DOB: 11-06-70, Address: Route 37, Hogansburg, New York; Harry B. WALLACE, DOB: 12-11-53, Address: 130 Pospatuck, Mastic, New York.; Rodney MORRISON, DOB: 11-09-66, Address: 9 Squaw Lane, Mastic, New York; Avtar S. SINGH, DOB: 01-16-50, Address: 258 N. Highway GS, Lindsay, California; Gurdip Singh MALIK, DOB: 11-16-45, Addresses: 1922 E. 7th Place, Montrose, California, and 915 Green Lane, La Canada Flintridge, California; David LNU (AKA: Dave), DOB: Unknown, Address: Unknown; FNU DIAZ, DOB: Unknown, Address: Unknown; First Name Unknown (FNU) LNU, DOB: Unknown; Jose LNU, DOB: Unknown, Address: Unknown; Carlos LNU, DOB: Unknown, Address: Unknown; Ernesto BARRIO, DOB: 07-24-71, Address: 3222 Lorne, El Paso, Texas; and Enrique MIRAZO, DOB: 11-09-73, Address: 945 S. Mesa Hills Apt. 2011, El Paso, Texas.

#### F. SUBJECT COMPANIES

41. The following companies have also been linked to ABRAHAM. These companies have been linked to ABRAHAM through information captured on pen registers installed on TARGET TELEPHONE-1 and TARGET TELEPHONE-2 and other telephones being utilized by

ABRAHAM and/or members of the organization. Most of these companies were identified through pen registers and trap and trace equipment installed on TARGET TELEPHONE-1 and ABRAHAM's residential telephone, (505) 589-9879. The companies which were not identified through the pen registers were linked directly to ABRAHAM through surveillance and/or through undercover operations conducted by the USCS, BATF, FBI and El Paso County Sheriff's Department (EPSO):

- 42. Papillon Eastern Imports Incorporated, 1922 E. 7th Place, Los Angeles, California, and 110 E. 9th Suites A1201 and A365, Los Angeles, California. The owner of this company is listed as Gurdip Singh MALIK. MALIK was listed as the leaseholder of the warehouse space located at 820 S. Santa Fe, Los Angeles, California. This warehouse being used to receive and store large quantities of counterfeit and contraband cigarettes received from ABRAHAM.
- 43. AA Customs Brokers, 6930 Market, El Paso, Texas, is another licensed USCS broker. ABRAHAM has retrieved cigarettes designated for Immediate Export ("IE") and held in USCS in-bond status at AA Customs Brokers. These cigarettes were then transported to transfer warehouses, and were subsequently removed from in-bond status and diverted into the U.S. commerce for sale and distribution on the black-market.
- 44. All American Cigarette, 1926 Production Court, Louisville, Kentucky, and 226 Production Court, Louisville, Kentucky, is a large wholesale tobacco distributor supplying retail distributors of tobacco and tobacco products. A shipment of 150 cases of contraband cigarettes intended for delivery to All American Cigarette was seized by USCS SAs and subsequently linked to ABRAHAM. Pedro Anibal BELLO, DOB: 06-27-70, Address: 6507 Manassas Drive, Pewee Valley, Kentucky is believed to be the owner of All American Cigarette.

- 45. **APA International**, 692 Greystone, Plymouth, Connecticut. The owner of this company is Algis BAGDONAS. APA International has been identified as a distributor of large quantities of contraband and/or counterfeit cigarettes supplied by ABRAHAM.
- 46. **J.S. Distribution**, 258 N. Highway GS, Lindsay, California. The current owner of the company has not been identified. Research is still being conducted on the company and the owners or corporate officers. J.S. Distribution has been identified as a distributor of large quantities of contraband and/or counterfeit cigarettes supplied by ABRAHAM.
- 47. **Pospatuck Outpost**, 130 Pospatuck, Mastic, New York. The owner has been identified as Harry B. WALLACE. WALLACE has been identified as a distributor of large quantities of contraband and/or counterfeit cigarettes supplied by ABRAHAM. ABRAHAM has admitted to CS-1 that he is supplying contraband and/or counterfeit cigarettes to this company.
- 48. **Peace Pipe Smoke Shop**, 9 Squaw Lane, Mastic, New York, is owned by Rodney MORRISON. MORRISON has been identified as a distributor of large quantities of contraband and/or counterfeit cigarettes supplied by ABRAHAM. ABRAHAM has admitted to CS-1 that he is supplying contraband and/or counterfeit cigarettes to this company.
- 49. **Oionkwaonwe Enterprises**, Route 3, Hogansburg, New York, is a company possibly located on or near the Akwesasne Indian reservation. The owner of the company has been identified as Faith L. THOMAS. ABRAHAM is supplying large quantities of counterfeit and/or contraband cigarettes to THOMAS for distribution and resale, primarily on the Akwesasne reservation. ABRAHAM has admitted to CS-1 that he is supplying contraband and/or counterfeit cigarettes to this business.

- 50. **J.S. Distributions**, 258 N. highway GS, Lindsay California. It is believed that the owner of the company, Avtar S. Singh, is using this company to receive large quantities of counterfeit and contraband cigarettes from ABRAHAM for distribution and resale.
- 51. Euroasian Commodities International, 1564 N.W. 97th Terrace, Corral Springs, Florida, is a company owned by LIU. It is believed that LIU was also a supplier of large quantities of Chinese manufactured counterfeit cigarettes to ABRAHAM for distribution and resale through this company. This company is possibly being used as a cover operation by LIU to hide or conceal the smuggling activities of LIU.
- 52. China-America International Trading, 9700 N.W. 97th Street, Corral Springs, Florida, is also a company owned by LIU. It is believed that LIU was also a supplier of large quantities of Chinese manufactured counterfeit cigarettes to ABRAHAM for distribution and resale through China-America. This company is possibly being used as a cover operation by LIU to hide or conceal the smuggling activities of LIU.
- 53. China/Florida International Development, One Financial Plaza, Fort Lauderdale, Florida, is a third company owned by LIU. It is believed that LIU was also a supplier of large quantities of Chinese manufactured counterfeit cigarettes to ABRAHAM for distribution and resale through China/Florida. This company is possibly being used as a cover operation by LIU to hide or conceal the smuggling activities of LIU.

#### G. OBJECTIVES

54. There is probable cause to believe that wire communications evidencing the specified Federal offenses set forth below have occurred, are occurring, and will occur via TARGET TELEPHONE-1 and TARGET TELEPHONE-2 that are the subjects of the instant application for

judicial authorization to intercept wire communications. Specifically, there is probable cause to believe that interception of wire communications, including communications through the "push to talk feature", taking place over TARGET TELEPHONE-1 and wire communications taking place over TARGET TELEPHONE-2, will include evidence: of the roles and identities of the participants in the illegal activities described herein; the manner in which those activities are conducted; the locations and vehicles utilized in furtherance of these activities; the diversion and distribution of tobacco products, specifically counterfeit and contraband cigarettes; the importation and distribution of controlled substances; of how and when the proceeds of the illegal activities are used and obtained by these activities, authorization for which herein is applied.

### H. LIST OF TARGET INTERCEPTEES FOR VIOLATIONS OF UNITED STATES CODE

55. This affidavit is submitted in support of an application seeking judicial authorization to intercept wire communications until the investigative objectives set forth above are obtained, or for a period of thirty days, whichever occurs sooner. As set forth below, there is probable cause to believe that Jorge ABRAHAM, Ignacio ABRAHAM, Sergio NAJERA-Diaz, Felipe CASTANEDA, Oscar Cesar GARCIA-Jaquez, Mario LNU, Mauricio LNU, Omar LNU, Lidia MORAGA, Michael LIN (AKA: Gia-Shian LIN and Mike Giashian LIN), Geoffery LIU, Jenny LNU (AKA: La China), Ernesto MARTINEZ, Raul C. MARTINEZ, Richard DAITCH (AKA: Dick), Robert BOWEN, Jeffery JAMIESON, Sergio ROSENBLAT, Peter PEMBLETON (AKA: Pete), Anthony LNU, William Osama KHOURY, Scott SNYDER, Meara LNU, Timothy LNU, Jackie LNU, Gerardo Alejandro ARAUJO-Delgado (AKA: El Negro), Isidro BAQUERA, Alberto PORTILLO, Alberto

CHICO, Madai FAVILA, and other individuals yet unknown, (herein referred to as the TARGET INTERCEPTEES), will utilize the cellular telephone issued the telephone number (915) 726-3575, bearing the International Mobile Subscriber Identity Number (IMSI): 316010014825020 (TARGET TELEPHONE-1) issued by Nextel Communications, 2003 Edmund Halley Drive, Reston, Virginia, and will utilize the cellular telephone issued the telephone number (915) 253-6015, bearing the International Mobile Subscriber Identity Number (IMSI): 310200101195057, (TARGET TELEPHONE-2) issued by VoiceStream Wireless, 2920 SE 38th, Bellvue, Washington, to commit violations of Title 18 and Title 21 of the United States Code (USC), as specified below:

#### I. TITLE 18 VIOLATIONS

- 56. 18 USC § 1343, Fraud by Wire;
- 57. 18 USC § 1952, Interstate and foreign travel to promote, manage, establish, carry-on, or facilitate the promotion, management, establishment, or carrying on of an unlawful activity.
- 58. 18 USC § 1956, Laundering of Monetary Instruments;
  - (i) 18 USC § 542, Entry of Goods by Means of False Statements, as a Specified Unlawful Activity (SUA) of 18 USC § 1956;
  - (ii) 18 USC § 545, Smuggling Goods into the United States, as an SUA of 18 USC § 1956;
  - (iii) 18 USC §§ 2314 & 2315, Relating to interstate transportation of stolen property, fraudulent state tax stamps, as a predicate offense of RICO, therefore as an SUA of 18 USC § 1956, and
  - (iv) 18 USC §§ 2341-2346, Relating to Trafficking in Contraband Cigarettes, as a RICO predicate offense, therefore as an SUA of 18 USC § 1956;
- 59. 18 USC § 1957 Engaging in monetary transactions in property derived from specified unlawful activity;
  - (i) 18 USC § 542, Entry of Goods by Means of False Statements, as an Specified Unlawful Activity (SUA) of 18 USC § 1957;
  - (ii) 18 USC § 545, Smuggling Goods into the United States, as an SUA of 18 USC § 1957;

- (iii) 18 USC §§ 2314 & 2315, Relating to interstate transportation of stolen property, fraudulent state tax stamps, as a predicate offense of RICO, therefore as an SUA of 18 USC § 1957, and
- (iv) 18 USC §§ 2341-2346, Relating to Trafficking in Contraband Cigarettes, as a RICO predicate offense, therefore as an SUA of 18 USC § 1957;
- 60. 18 USC §§ 2314 & 2315, Relating to interstate transportation of stolen property, fraudulent state tax stamps;
- 61. And any conspiracy to commit any offense described above; and
- 62. 18 USC §§ 1963, Violations with respect to racketeer influenced and corrupt organizations, (RICO); 1962 (c) and (d)
  - (i) 18 USC 1956 § as a RICO predicate offense;
  - (ii) 18 USC 1957§ as a RICO predicate offense;
  - (iii) 18 USC §§ 2314 & 2315, Relating to interstate transportation of stolen property, fraudulent state tax stamps, as RICO predicate offenses;
  - (iv) 18 USC §§ 2341-2346, Relating to Trafficking in Contraband Cigarettes, as RICO predicate offenses; and

#### J. TITLE 21 VIOLATIONS

- 63. 21 USC § 841(a)(1), Possessing with intent to distribute, distributing and transporting a controlled substances, to wit: marijuana, a Schedule I controlled substance and cocaine, a Schedule II controlled substance;
- 64. 21 USC §§ 952 and 960, Importation of a controlled substance, to wit: marijuana, a Schedule I controlled substance;
- 65. 21 USC § 843(b), The use of communication facility, to commit, facilitate or further the commission of a Controlled Substance Offense; and
- 66. 21 USC, §§ 846 and 963, Conspiracy.

#### K. PRIOR APPLICATIONS

67. On May 22, 1989, U.S. District Judge John F. Grady authorized the wire interception of an unidentified telephone number in the Northern District of Illinois for a period of thirty days. This wire intercept was conducted by the DEA, and the telephone number intercepted was not