

AFFIDAVIT OF SEIZING OFFICER

**THE STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF HIDALGO**

BEFORE ME, the undersigned authority, a Notary Public in and for Hidalgo County, Texas, on this day personally appeared Detective Jaime Urias, who after being duly sworn, upon his oath, deposes and says:

My name is Jaime Urias, and I am a certified and licensed Texas Peace Officer with over ten (10) years of experience in law enforcement. I am employed by the Edinburg Police Department and I am currently assigned to the Special Investigation Unit. I do hereby swear that the facts and the statements herein contained are true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

On March 17, 2020, the Edinburg Police Department seized the below mentioned property.

A. \$4,391.00 in US Currency

- 29- \$100 bills
- 2- \$50 bills
- 60-\$20 bills
- 1- \$10 bills
- 181-\$1 bills

**B. A White 2012 Chrysler 300 displaying Texas Temporary
License Plates: 63922U2 VIN:2C3CCACG3CH200586**

The investigation in regards to the above listed suspected place was initiated during the month of March, 2020, when I was advised by Edinburg Police Confidential Informant #005, heron referred to as CI, advised that a Hispanic male by the name Juan Carlos Carranza, is currently involved in the trafficking of cocaine from his house located in the area of Sioux Rd in Pharr, Hidalgo County, Texas. I was advised by the CI that Juan was known to make sales from his bar identified as "The Blinde Pig" located in Edinburg, Hidalgo County, Texas.

Between the dates of March 18 and March 21, 2020, a plan for a controlled cocaine purchase was made and executed with the assistance of CI #005. Prior to the narcotics buy, I met with the CI, who was briefed on the plan. The CI was searched, to ensure he/she was not in possession of any contraband or money, (other than the money provided for the buy) and was kept under constant visual surveillance by me from the meet location to the suspected location (1601 W. Trenton Rd Edinburg, Hidalgo County, Texas). I witnessed the CI drive to the suspected location and park his vehicle. Edinburg Sergeant Gabriel Vela observed Juan walk out of the bar to the CI vehicle. Constant visual was maintained of the CI leaving location until I recovered the cocaine purchased by the CI at the meet location.

On March 24, 2020, I drove the CI to the area of Sioux Rd. in Pharr Texas where the CI pointed out a mobile home located at 415 E. Any Way Avenue Pharr, Hidalgo County, Texas which he/she said Juan Carlos Carranza lived. While driving by the mobile home I observed Juan walking from toward the above stated address into the mobile home.

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Between the dates of March 23 and March 27, 2020 a recorded phone call was placed by CI005 in the presence of myself and DEA Task Force Officer (TFO) Joseph Lucio. Where CI005 spoke to Juan about a predetermined amount of narcotics which they both agreed on.

CI #005 is a new informant, but the information provided by him/her was deemed reliable, given that it was corroborated through an independent investigation which included surveillance and four controlled cocaine purchase.

Between the dates of March 30 and April 2, 2020, a plan for a controlled cocaine purchase was made and executed with the assistance of CI #005. Prior to the narcotics buy, I met with the CI, who was briefed on the plan. The CI was searched, to ensure he/she was not in possession of any contraband or money (other than the money provided for the buy), and was kept under constant visual surveillance by me from the meet location to the suspected location (415 E. Any Way Avenue Pharr, Hidalgo County, Texas). Investigator Carlos Romero witnessed the CI drive into the driveway of Juan's house. DEA TFO Joseph Lucio observed Juan standing next to the CI vehicle. Constant visual was maintained of the CI leaving location until I recovered the cocaine purchased by the CI at the meet location.

Between the dates of April 6 and April 9, 2020, a plan for a controlled cocaine purchase was made and executed with the assistance of CI #005. Prior to the narcotics buy, I met with the CI, who was briefed on the plan. The CI was searched, to ensure he/she was not in possession of any contraband or money (other than the money provided for the buy), and was kept under constant visual surveillance by me from the meet location to the suspected location (415 E. Any Way Avenue Pharr, Hidalgo County, Texas). Investigator Carlos Romero witnessed the CI drive into the driveway of Juan's house and minutes later he witnessed the CI leave the location. Constant visual was maintained of the CI leaving location until I recovered the cocaine purchased by the CI at the suspected location.

Between the dates of April 8 and April 11, 2020 a recorded phone call was placed by CI005 in the presence of myself and Sergeant Gabriel Vela. Where CI005 spoke to Juan again about purchasing a predetermined amount of narcotics which they both agreed on.

Between the dates of April 12 and April 15, 2020, a plan for a controlled cocaine purchase was made and executed with the assistance of CI #005. Prior to the narcotics buy, I met with the CI, who was briefed on the plan. The CI was searched, to ensure he/she was not in possession of any contraband or money (other than the money provided for the buy) and was kept under constant visual surveillance by me from the meet location to the suspected location (1601 W. Trenton Rd Edinburg, Hidalgo County, Texas). DEA TFO Joseph Lucio witnessed the CI park his vehicle and observed Juan walk out of the bar to the CI vehicle. Constant visual was maintained of the CI leaving location until I recovered the cocaine purchased by the CI at the meet location.

Prior to the cocaine purchase TFO Lucio and Special Agent (SA) Benjamin Weightman observed Juan arrive at The Blinde Pig located in Edinburg, Texas and opened the business with what appeared to be a key.

Between the dates of April 13 and April 16, 2020 a recorded phone call was placed by CI005 in the presence of myself and Sergeant Gabriel Vela. Where CI005 spoke to Juan again about purchasing a predetermined amount of narcotics which they both agreed on.

Through a history check at The Blinde Pig I came to find out that the business is registered under CWIA Investments LLC, Juan Carlos Carranza being a member.

On April 16, 2020, I prepared an affidavit with the facts to my investigation before Judge Renee R. Betancourt of the 449th District Court, Hidalgo County, Texas, requesting a Narcotics Search Warrant for 415 East Any Way Pharr, Hidalgo County, Texas and 1601 W. Trenton Rd Suite F. Edinburg, Hidalgo County, Texas. Judge Macias reviewed the affidavit and granted the Search Warrant.

On this day around 5:30 P.M. the Search Warrant was executed at the 415 East Any Way Pharr, Hidalgo County, Texas, with the assistance of the Edinburg Special Investigations Unit, members of the Edinburg Police Department SWAT team and DEA TFO Joseph Lucio.

The search of the residence revealed the following items, which were photographed and seized:

- A clear plastic bag containing cocaine (93 grams total).
- A 9mm Beretta PX4 Storm pistol.
- A Glock 26 pistol
- A Colt 22 cal. pistol
- A total of \$4,160.00 in US Currency.
- A Samsung cell phone.
- An iPhone cell phone.

Around 6:55 P.M. the Search Warrant was executed at the 1601 W. Trenton Rd Suite F. Edinburg, Hidalgo County, Texas, with the assistance of the Edinburg Special Investigations Unit and DEA TFO Joseph Lucio.

The search of the business revealed the following items, which were photographed and seized:

- A black DVR
- A total of \$231.00 in US Currency

The cocaine recovered during the search tested positive in the narcotics reagent test kit and were tagged as evidence, along with the money, weapons and other items recovered.

Around 7:33 P.M. DEA TFO Joseph Lucio, Special Agent (SA) Benjamin Weightman and myself conducted a custodial interview with Juan Carlos Carranza at the Edinburg Police Departments interview room, where he was read his Miranda Rights, which he waived. Juan advised us that he had been selling cocaine from his house and the Blide Pig since 2018. Juan said that he would use his vehicles, which included a white 2012 Chrysler 300(VIN: 2C3CCACG3CH200586 and displayed Texas License Plates 63922U2), to transport cocaine from his house to the Blinde Pig. Juan stated that he had been selling two ounces a month until October when he started buying two ounces and seven grams a month. Juan stated he would pay about \$1,700.00 for the cocaine and would make a profit of about \$1,400.00. Juan also stated that some of the money that we recovered were from drug proceeds.

While I was tagging the money that was recovered from Juan's house I found seven one hundred dollar bills (Serial number: LB24308269S, LF69580283C, LB37978542T, LF71096683H, ML87384367E, MB29671934R, LK26745928F) and three twenty dollar bills (Serial Number: MD11773720C, MB87554824A, MF19973934F) which had been used by CI005 to make a controlled buy of cocaine from Juan.

The case was turned over to DEA TFO Joseph Lucio.

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Given the circumstances surrounding this case and my experience and training as a Narcotics Detective investigating a myriad of similar cases, it is my belief that the money found in the suspected vehicle, is the proceeds of his illicit drug activities and therefore should be subject to forfeiture.

Your AFFIANT further believes and alleges that the property further described below is contraband to wit: facilitation/proceeds gained from the commission of a felony in violation of the Texas Health and Safety Code Section 481.113 Manufacture/Delivery of Substance in Penalty Group 1 (First Degree Felony), to wit: cocaine and therefore are subject to forfeiture under Chapter 59, Texas Code of Criminal Procedure.

Your Affiant further believes that the following individual(s) have an interest in the below mentioned seized property and should be served with the State Notice of Seizure and Intention to Forfeit, pursuant to Chapter 59 of the Texas Code of Criminal Procedure.

- A. Juan Carlos Carranza, date of birth 11/24/1982, 415 East Any Way Pharr, Hidalgo County, Texas.
- B. Javier Montemayor Quintanilla, date of birth 10/04/1964, 8403 N. Val Verde Rd. Donna, Hidalgo County, Texas.

And any other person(s) unknown to Affiant.


Forfeiture proceedings are being filed against the following property:

C. \$4,391.00 in US Currency

- 29- \$100 bills
- 2- \$50 bills
- 60-\$20 bills
- 1- \$10 bills
- 181-\$1 bills

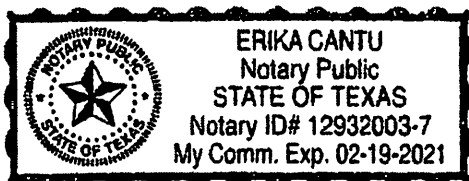
D. White 2012 Chrysler 300 displaying Texas Temporary License Plates: 63922U2 VIN:2C3CCACG3CH200586

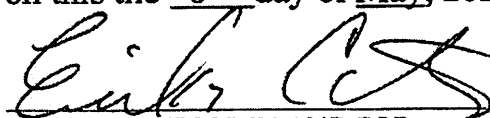
The above statement is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.



Affiant

SWORN AND SUBSCRIBED BEFORE ME on this the 6th day of May, 2020.





NOTARY PUBLIC IN AND FOR
HIDALGO COUNTY, TEXAS