

AO 91 (Rev. 11/11) Criminal Complaint

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

for the Southern District of Texas

United States Courts Southern District of Texas FILED

MAY 06 2021

Nathan Ochsner, Clerk of Court

United States of America v. Jose Francisco ARREDONDO

Case No. C-21-531M

Defendant(s)

CRIMINAL COMPLAINT

I, the complainant in this case, state that the following is true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

On or about the date(s) of April 9, 2021 in the county of Jim Wells in the Southern District of Texas, the defendant(s) violated:

Table with 2 columns: Code Section, Offense Description. Row 1: Title 21 USC 841 (1) (a), Knowingly, intentionally, and unlawfully possess with intent to distribute a controlled substance in Schedule II of the Controlled Substance Act of 1970, to wit 112 Grams of Methamphetamine.

This criminal complaint is based on these facts:

See "Attachment A"

Continued on the attached sheet.

Submitted by reliable electronic means, sworn to, signature attested telephonically per Fed. R. Crim. P. 4.1. And probable Cause found:

Date: May 6, 2021

City and state: Corpus Christi, Texas

Orlando Alvarez Jr. Complainant's signature

Orlando Alvarez Jr., DEA Task Force Officer Printed name and title

Julie K. Hampton Judge's signature

Julie K. Hampton, United States Magistrate Judge Printed name and title

Attachment A

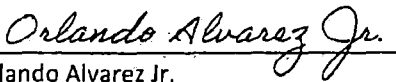
On April 9, 2021, Alice Police Department (APD) Officer Zachary Jaramillo, while acting in his capacity as a Uniformed Alice Police Officer, responded to a Call for Service pertaining to an active disturbance that was taking place at the Kings Inn Hotel. Upon arrival at the Kings Inn, Officer Jaramillo attempted to locate the aforementioned Disturbance in Progress. However, Officer Jaramillo was unable to locate the reported disturbance. While continuing to patrol the area, Officer Jaramillo observed a silver in color Jeep with the headlights on. Officer Jaramillo made contact with occupant of the Jeep in an attempt to gain information regarding the disturbance. Upon contact with the driver, Officer Jaramillo knew through previous contacts, the driver to be Jose Francisco ARREDONDO, a documented felon and criminal gang member. While making contact with ARREDONDO, APD Officer Manuel Garcia arrived to assist. During contact, Officer Jaramillo could smell the strong odor of marijuana emitting from the vehicle, Officer Garcia also confirmed the smell of marijuana emitting from the vehicle. While making contact with ARREDONDO, Officer Jaramillo was notified by Officer Garcia that he observed a firearm within arms-reach of ARREDONDO. At this time both ARREDONDO was given multiple commands to make his hands visible and step out of the vehicle. ARREDONDO was then removed from the vehicle and placed in hand restraints for both Officer Jaramillo and Garcia's safety. The firearm was removed from between the center console and the front driver seat of the vehicle. The firearm was removed and Officer Jaramillo observed the serial number to be scratched off. ARREDONDO was then advised he was going to be placed under arrest for Felon in Possession of a Firearm. At this time, Officer Jaramillo and Officer Garcia began a systematic search of the vehicle. During their systematic search of the vehicle, Officer Garcia located a black in color back pack in the back seat of the Jeep. Officer Garcia then opened the backpack to observe the contents of the backpack. Officer Garcia observed a large bundle of United States Currency. The bundle of United States Currency was removed from the back pack and Officer Garcia observed a large ZipLock bag that contained a clear crystalline substance, that Officer Garcia knew, through his training and experience, to be Crystal Methamphetamine. Officer Garcia continued to remove the contents of the backpack. The contents included two (2) individual baggies containing a white powdery substance of suspected cocaine, one (1) ZipLock bag containing a green leafy substance of suspected marijuana, and a small digital scale. ARREDONDO was then transported to the APD for processing before being transported to the Jim Wells County Jail for temporary detention. Officer Jaramillo then made contact with Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) Task Force Officer (TFO) Orlando Alvarez regarding the subject arrested and the narcotics seized.

On the same date, DEA TFO Orlando Alvarez and Special Agent (SA) Connie Kuriata arrived at the Jim Wells County Sheriff's Office to take possession of the narcotics seized as well as conduct a post-arrest interview of ARREDONDO. ARREDONDO was escorted to an interview room within the Jim Wells County Sheriff's Office. At this time ARREDONDO was read his Miranda Warning in his preferred language of English. ARREDONDO advised he understood his rights as was willing to answer questions without the presence of an attorney. ARREDONDO advised the vehicle that he was operating at the time of his arrest belonged to him and his wife. ARREDONDO advised he was at the Kings Inn Hotel because he was giving a couple a ride for an unknown reason. ARREDONDO advised the narcotics that were located in the vehicle he was operating did not belong to him. ARREDONDO advised the firearm that was located in the vehicle also did not belong to him. ARREDONDO advised the firearm and narcotics that were located in the vehicle belonged to one of the individuals that he was giving a ride to. When asked specifics

regarding the individuals he had given a ride to, he refused to identify them. ARREDONDO advised he could not tell Agents that information.

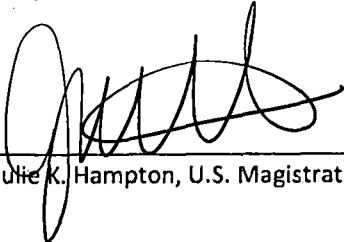
The narcotics seized from the backpack that was located in the vehicle are described as one (1) large ZipLock of suspected Crystal Methamphetamine weighing approximately 112 grams, two (2) individual baggies of suspected Powder Cocaine weighing approximately 56 grams, one ZipLock bag containing a green leafy substance of suspected marijuana weighing approximately 13 grams, two (2) unknown white pills, one (1) digital scale, and approximately \$10,000.00 in United States Currency, were seized from within the backpack that was in the vehicle being operated by Jose ARREDONDO at the time of his arrest.

The amount of Crystal Methamphetamine seized implies the intent to distribute.


Orlando Alvarez Jr.
Drug Enforcement Administration, Task Force Officer

Submitted by reliable electronic means, sworn to, signature attested telephonically per Fed.R.Crim.P 4.1., and probable cause found:

Date: May 6, 2021
City and State: Corpus Christi, Texas


Julie K. Hampton, U.S. Magistrate Judge