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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

July 2007 Grand Jury

'08 CR 3371

BEN

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
Plaintiff,

Criminal Case No. _____

I N D I C T M E N T

v.

JOSE GUADALUPE
BELTRAN-ASTORGA (1),
aka Lupillo,
OSCAR ABELINO MEZA-GAMBOA (2),
aka Flash,
CARLOS DE JESUS
RODRIGUEZ-SALCIDO (3),
aka Chompis,
ALEJANDRO VALENTIN MA-ARCE (4),
aka Chino,
SERGIO FIGUEROA (5),
aka Calitron,
aka Cubano,
FERNANDO REYNOSO, JR. (6),
aka Junior,
LUIS ALFONSO JANES (7),
JOSEPH MILFORD FLORES (8),
aka Porkchop,
RICARDO PIMENTEL-QUINTERO (9),
RICARDO DOMINGUES-MARTINEZ (10),
JOSE DE JESUS RUIZ-RAMOS (11),
Defendants.

Title 21, U.S.C., Secs. 952, 960,
and 963 - Conspiracy to Import
Controlled Substances; Title 21,
U.S.C., Secs. 846 and 841(a)(1) -
Conspiracy to Distribute Controlled
Substances; Title 21, U.S.C.,
Secs. 952 and 960 - Importation of
a Controlled Substance; Title 21,
U.S.C., Sec. 848(a) - Continuing
Criminal Enterprise; Title 21,
U.S.C., Sec. 841(a)(1) -
Distribution of a Controlled
Substance; Title 21, U.S.C.,
Sec. 841(a)(1) - Possession with
Intent to Distribute a Controlled
Substance; Title 18, U.S.C.,
Sec. 2 - Aiding and Abetting;
Title 21, U.S.C., Sec. 853 -
Criminal Forfeiture

The grand jury charges:

Count 1

1. At all times relevant to this indictment:

a. Defendant CARLOS DE JESUS RODRIGUEZ-SALCIDO,
aka Chompis, was a leader in a narcotics transportation cell
(the Ma/Rodriguez Cell) that operated from the Mexicali, Baja

MFK:em:San Diego
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1 California, Mexico and Calexico, California areas. RODRIGUEZ imported
2 primarily methamphetamine from Mexico into the United States.

3 b. Defendant ALEJANDRO VALENTIN MA-ARCE, aka Chino, was
4 a leader in the Ma/Rodriguez Cell who coordinated the importation of
5 methamphetamine into the United States from Mexico.

6 2. At various times material to this indictment:

7 a. JOSE GUADALUPE BELTRAN-ASTORGA, aka Lupillo, was a
8 methamphetamine source of supply for ALEJANDRO VALENTIN MA-ARCE, and
9 others.

10 b. OSCAR ABELINO MEZA-GAMBOA, aka Flash, was a
11 methamphetamine source of supply for CARLOS DE JESUS RODRIGUEZ-
12 SALCIDO, and others.

13 c. Defendant SERGIO FIGUEROA, aka Calitron, aka Cubano,
14 was a methamphetamine distributor who obtained drugs from RODRIGUEZ
15 and others, and assisted the Ma/Rodriguez Cell by locating load-car
16 drivers to transport controlled substances.

17 d. Defendant FERNANDO REYNOSO, JR., aka Junior, was a
18 narcotics trafficker who obtained methamphetamine from FIGUEROA and
19 others, and sold methamphetamine to LUIS ALFONSO JANES, JOSEPH MILFORD
20 FLORES, aka Porkchop, and others.

21 e. Defendant LUIS ALFONSO JANES purchased methamphetamine
22 from FIGUEROA and distributed methamphetamine to various street-level
23 dealers throughout Imperial County, including JOSEPH MILFORD FLORES,
24 aka Porkchop.

25 f. Defendant JOSEPH MILFORD FLORES, aka Porkchop, was
26 a distributor who obtained methamphetamine from FIGUEROA, via JANES.

27 g. Defendant RICARDO PIMENTEL-QUINTERO was a driver of
28 narcotic-laden vehicles.

1 h. Defendant RICARDO DOMINGUES-MARTINEZ was a load-car
2 driver who assisted FIGUEROA and JANES in importing methamphetamine.

3 i. Defendant JOSE DE JESUS RUIZ-RAMOS was a
4 methamphetamine load-car driver who worked for REYNOSO.

5 3. Beginning at a date unknown to the grand jury and continuing
6 up to and including October 3, 2008, within the Southern District of
7 California, and elsewhere, defendants JOSE GUADALUPE BELTRAN ASTORGA,
8 aka Lupillo, OSCAR ABELINO MEZA-GAMBOA, aka Flash, CARLOS DE JESUS
9 RODRIGUEZ-SALCIDO, aka Chompis, ALEJANDRO VALENTIN MA-ARCE, aka Chino,
10 SERGIO FIGUEROA, aka Calitron, aka Cubano, FERNANDO REYNOSO, JR., aka
11 Junior, LUIS ALFONSO JANES, RICARDO PIMENTEL-QUINTERO, RICARDO
12 DOMINGUES-MARTINEZ, and JOSE DE JESUS RUIZ-RAMOS, did knowingly and
13 intentionally conspire and agree with each other, and with other
14 persons known and unknown to the grand jury, to import 50 grams and
15 more of methamphetamine (actual), a Schedule II Controlled Substance;
16 in violation of Title 21, United States Code, Sections 952, 960(a)(1),
17 960(b)(1)(H), and 963.

18 METHOD AND MEANS

19 As part of and to facilitate the charged conspiracy, the
20 conspirators, both named and unnamed, did utilize the following method
21 and means, among others:

22 .4. Defendant CARLOS DE JESUS RODRIGUEZ-SALCIDO, aka Chompis,
23 and ALEJANDRO VALENTIN MA-ARCE, aka Chino, coordinated the importation
24 of multi-kilogram quantities of methamphetamine into the United States
25 from Mexico for various sources of supply, including OSCAR ABELINO
26 MEZA-GAMBOA, aka Flash, and JOSE GUADALUPE BELTRAN-ASTORGA, aka
27 Lupillo;

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1 5. In order to facilitate the transportation of methamphetamine
2 and to avoid law enforcement scrutiny, the Ma/Rodriguez Cell had the
3 methamphetamine loaded into hidden compartments within load-vehicles
4 in Mexicali;

5 6. After the vehicles were loaded with methamphetamine in
6 Mexico, the drivers of the load vehicles, including PIMENTEL,
7 DOMINGUES, AND RUIZ, drove the methamphetamine-laden vehicles across
8 the Mexicali, Baja California, Mexico/Calexico, California ports of
9 entry into the United States; and

10 7. Defendants, along with other co-conspirators both named and
11 unnamed, discussed narcotics-related activity in person and over
12 communications equipment, using various codes to disguise their
13 identities and the meaning of their conversation.

14 Count 2

15 1. Paragraphs 1-2 and 4-7 of Count 1 of this Indictment
16 are realleged and incorporated by reference as though fully set out
17 herein.

18 2. Beginning at a date unknown to the grand jury and continuing
19 up to and including October 3, 2008, within the Southern District of
20 California, and elsewhere, defendants JOSE GUADALUPE BELTRAN-ASTORGA,
21 aka Lupillo, OSCAR ABELINO MEZA-GAMBOA, aka Flash, CARLOS DE JESUS
22 RODRIGUEZ-SALCIDO, aka Chompis, ALEJANDRO VALENTIN MA-ARCE, aka Chino,
23 SERGIO FIGUEROA, aka Calitron, aka Cubano, FERNANDO REYNOSO, JR., aka
24 Junior, JOSEPH MILFORD FLORES, aka Porkchop, LUIS ALFONSO JANES,
25 RICARDO PIMENTEL-QUINTERO, RICARDO DOMINGUES-MARTINEZ, and JOSE DE
26 JESUS RUIZ-RAMOS did knowingly and intentionally conspire and agree
27 with each other, and with other persons known and unknown to the grand

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1 jury, to distribute 50 grams and more of methamphetamine (actual),
2 a Schedule II Controlled Substance; in violation of Title 21,
3 United States Code, Sections 841(a)(1), 841(b)(1)(A)(viii), and 846.

4 Count 3

5 1. Paragraphs 1-2 and 4-7 of Count 1 of this Indictment
6 are realleged and incorporated by reference as though fully set out
7 herein.

8 2. Beginning on a date unknown to the grand jury and continuing
9 up to and including October 3, 2008, within the Southern District of
10 California, and elsewhere, defendant SERGIO FIGUEROA, aka Calitron,
11 aka Cubano, did knowingly and intentionally engage in a continuing
12 criminal enterprise by violating various felony provisions of the
13 Controlled Substances Act (Title 21, United States Code, Sections 801,
14 et seq.), including, but not limited to, Title 21, United States Code,
15 Sections 841(a)(1), 846, 952, 960, and 963, as alleged in Counts 1,
16 2, and 6-12 of this Indictment (said Counts being incorporated herein
17 by reference), which violations were a part of a continuing series of
18 violations of said Act, were undertaken by defendant SERGIO FIGUEROA,
19 aka Calitron, aka Cubano, in concert with five or more other persons
20 with respect to whom defendant SERGIO FIGUEROA, aka Calitron, aka
21 Cubano, occupied a position of organizer, supervisor, and other
22 position of management, and from which continuing series of violations
23 defendant SERGIO FIGUEROA, aka Calitron, aka Cubano, obtained
24 substantial income and resources; in violation of Title 21,
25 United States Code, Sections 848(a).

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Count 4

On or about August 1, 2007, within the Southern District of California, defendant OSCAR ABELINO MEZA-GAMBOA, aka Flash, and Edna Karina Martinez-Mendoza, charged elsewhere, did knowingly and intentionally import 50 grams and more, to wit: approximately 19.84 kilograms (43.6 pounds) of methamphetamine (actual), a Schedule II Controlled Substance; in violation of Title 21, United States Code, Sections 952, 960(a)(1), 960(b)(1)(H), and Title 18, United States Code, Section 2.

Count 5

On or about August 1, 2007, within the Southern District of California, defendant OSCAR ABELINO MEZA-GAMBOA, aka Flash, and Edna Karina Martinez-Mendoza, charged elsewhere, did knowingly and intentionally possess with intent to distribute 50 grams and more, to wit: approximately 19.84 kilograms (43.6 pounds) of methamphetamine (actual), a Schedule II Controlled Substance; in violation of Title 21, United States Code, Sections 841(a)(1), 841(b)(1)(A)(viii), and Title 18, United States Code, Section 2.

Count 6

On or about April 18, 2008, within the Southern District of California, defendants CARLOS DE JESUS RODRIGUEZ-SALCIDO, aka Chompis, SERGIO FIGUEROA, aka Calitron, aka Cubano, LUIS ALFONSO JANES, and RICARDO PIMENTEL-QUINTERO, did knowingly and intentionally import 50 grams and more, to wit: approximately 1.36 kilograms (3 pounds) of methamphetamine (actual), a Schedule II Controlled Substance; in violation of Title 21, United States Code, Sections 952, 960(a)(1), 960(b)(1)(H), and Title 18, United States Code, Section 2.

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Count 7

On or about April 21, 2008, within the Southern District of California, defendants SERGIO FIGUEROA, aka Calitron, aka Cubano, LUIS ALFONSO JANES, and JOSEPH MILFORD FLORES, aka Porkchop, did knowingly and intentionally distribute 50 grams and more, to wit: 415.7 grams of methamphetamine (actual), a Schedule II Controlled Substance; in violation of Title 21, United States Code, Sections 841(a)(1), 841(b)(1)(A)(viii), and Title 18, United States Code, Section 2.

Count 8

On or about April 21, 2008, within the Southern District of California, defendants JOSE GUADALUPE BELTRAN-ASTORGA, aka Lupillo, ALEJANDRO VALENTIN MA-ARCE, aka Chino, SERGIO FIGUEROA, aka Calitron, aka Cubano, and RICARDO PIMENTEL-QUINTERO, did knowingly and intentionally import 50 grams and more, to wit: approximately 5.99 kilograms (12.2 pounds) of methamphetamine (actual), a Schedule II Controlled Substance; in violation of Title 21, United States Code, Sections 952, 960(a)(1), 960(b)(1)(H), and Title 18, United States Code, Section 2.

Count 9

On or about April 21, 2008, within the Southern District of California, defendants JOSE GUADALUPE BELTRAN-ASTORGA, aka Lupillo, ALEJANDRO VALENTIN MA-ARCE, aka Chino, SERGIO FIGUEROA, aka Calitron, aka Cubano, and RICARDO PIMENTEL-QUINTERO, did knowingly and intentionally possess with intent to distribute 50 grams and more, to wit: approximately 5.99 kilograms (12.2 pounds) of methamphetamine (actual), a Schedule II Controlled Substance; in violation of Title 21, United States Code, Sections 841(a)(1), 841(b)(1)(A)(viii), and Title 18, United States Code, Section 2.

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Count 10

On or about June 6, 2008, within the Southern District of California, defendants SERGIO FIGUEROA, aka Calitron, aka Cubano, LUIS ALFONSO JANES, and RICARDO DOMINGUES-MARTINEZ, did knowingly and intentionally import 5 grams and more, to wit: approximately 908 grams of a mixture containing methamphetamine, a Schedule II Controlled Substance; in violation of Title 21, United States Code, Sections 952, 960(a)(1), 960(b)(2)(H), and Title 18, United States Code, Section 2.

Count 11

On or about June 6, 2008, within the Southern District of California, defendants SERGIO FIGUEROA, aka Calitron, aka Cubano, LUIS ALFONSO JANES, and RICARDO DOMINGUES-MARTINEZ, did knowingly and intentionally import 5 grams and more, to wit: approximately 908 grams of a mixture of methamphetamine, a Schedule II Controlled Substance; in violation of Title 21, United States Code, Sections 841(a)(1), 841(b)(1)(B)(ii)(II), and Title 18, United States Code, Section 2.

Count 12

On or about August 7, 2008, within the Southern District of California, defendants CARLOS DE JESUS RODRIGUEZ-SALCIDO, aka Chompis, SERGIO FIGUEROA, aka Calitron, aka Cubano, FERNANDO REYNOSO, JR., aka Junior, and JOSE DE JESUS RUIZ-RAMOS, did knowingly and intentionally import 50 grams and more, to wit: approximately 870.5 grams of methamphetamine, a Schedule II Controlled Substance; in violation of Title 21, United States Code, Sections 952, 960(a)(1), 960(b)(1)(H), and Title 18, United States Code, Section 2.

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1 Count 13

2 On or about August 7, 2008, within the Southern District of
3 California, defendants CARLOS DE JESUS RODRIGUEZ-SALCIDO, aka Chompis,
4 SERGIO FIGUEROA, aka Calitron, aka Cubano, FERNANDO REYNOSO, JR., aka
5 Junior, and JOSE DE JESUS RUIZ-RAMOS, did knowingly and intentionally
6 possess, with intent to distribute 50 grams and more, to wit:
7 870.5 grams of methamphetamine, a Schedule II Controlled Substance;
8 in violation of Title 21, United States Code, Sections 841(a)(1),
9 841(b)(1)(A)(viii), and Title 18, United States Code, Section 2.

10 FORFEITURE ALLEGATION

11 The allegations contained in counts 1 through 13 are realleged
12 and by reference are fully incorporated herein to allege forfeiture
13 to the United States of America pursuant to the provisions of
14 Title 21, United States Code, Section 853.

15 1. As a result of the commission of the felony offenses alleged
16 in this indictment, each of which is punishable by imprisonment for
17 more than one year, and pursuant to Title 21, United States Code,
18 Section 853(a)(1), defendants JOSE GUADALUPE BELTRAN-ASTORGA, aka
19 Lupillo, OSCAR ABELINO MEZA-GAMBOA, aka Flash, CARLOS DE JESUS
20 RODRIGUEZ-SALCIDO, aka Chompis, ALEJANDRO VALENTIN MA-ARCE, aka Chino,
21 SERGIO FIGUEROA, aka Calitron, aka Cubano, FERNANDO REYNOSO, JR., aka
22 Junior, JOSEPH MILFORD FLORES, aka Porkchop, LUIS ALFONSO JANES,
23 RICARDO PIMENTEL-QUINTERO, RICARDO DOMINGUES-MARTINEZ, and JOSE DE
24 JESUS RUIZ-RAMOS shall, upon conviction, forfeit to the United States
25 all their rights, title, and interest in all property constituting,
26 and derived from, any proceeds the defendants obtained, directly or
27 indirectly, as the result of the commission of the violations alleged
28 in this indictment.

1 2. As a result of the commission of the felony offense alleged
2 in this indictment, said violation being punishable by imprisonment
3 for more than one year and pursuant to Title 21, United States Code,
4 Section 853(a)(2), defendants JOSE GUADALUPE BELTRAN-ASTORGA, aka
5 Lupillo, OSCAR ABELINO MEZA-GAMBOA, aka Flash, CARLOS DE JESUS
6 RODRIGUEZ-SALCIDO, aka Chompis, ALEJANDRO VALENTIN MA-ARCE, aka Chino,
7 SERGIO FIGUEROA, aka Calitron, aka Cubano, FERNANDO REYNOSO, JR., aka
8 Junior, JOSEPH MILFORD FLORES, aka Porkchop, LUIS ALFONSO JANES,
9 RICARDO PIMENTEL-QUINTERO, RICARDO DOMINGUES-MARTINEZ, and JOSE DE
10 JESUS RUIZ-RAMOS shall, upon conviction, forfeit to the United States
11 all their rights, title and interest in any and all property used, or
12 intended to be used, in any manner or part, to commit or to facilitate
13 the commission of the violation alleged in this indictment, including,
14 but not limited to, the following:

- 15 a. A blue 2000 Chevrolet Impala, bearing
16 California license plate number 5YKB855,
17 VIN 2G1WF55E0Y9147052, registered to
 Luis JANES, P.O. Box 952, Westmorland,
 California.
- 18 b. A black 2001 Ford Ranger, bearing
19 California license plate number 6M74351,
20 VIN 1FTYR14U21PA78378, registered to
 Joseph Milford FLORES, 317 Butterfield Trail,
 Imperial, California.

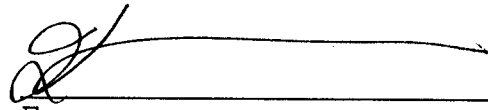
21 3. If any of the forfeitable property referred to above, as a
22 result of any act or omission of the defendant(s),
23 a. cannot be located upon the existence of due diligence;
24 b. has been transferred or sold to or deposited with a
25 third person;
26 c. has been placed beyond the jurisdiction of the Court;

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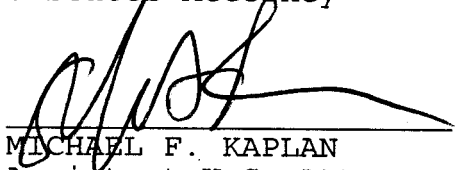
1 d. has been substantially diminished in value; or
2 e. has been commingled with other property which cannot
3 be subdivided without difficulty; it is the intent of the United
4 States, pursuant to Title 21, United States Code, Section 853(p), to
5 seek forfeiture of any other property of the defendant up to the value
6 of the above forfeited property.

7 DATED: October 3, 2008.

8 A TRUE BILL:

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11 _____
12 Foreperson

12 KAREN P. HEWITT
13 United States Attorney

14 By: 
15 _____
16 MICHAEL F. KAPLAN
17 Assistant U.S. Attorney
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