

REQUESTED BY: [REDACTED]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY  
UNITED STATES CUSTOMS SERVICE

## REPORT OF INVESTIGATION

1. TECS ACCESS CODE [REDACTED] (b)(2)

2. PAGE 1 (b)(2)

3. CASE NUMBER [REDACTED]

4. TITLE: SEIZURE OF 176.75 POUNDS MARIJUANA AND 2 ARRESTS

5. CASE STATUS: INIT RPT

6. REPORT DATE  
0106037. DATE ASSIGNED  
122002

8. CLASS [REDACTED] (b)(2)

9. PROGRAM CODE [REDACTED] (b)(2)

10. REPORT NO.  
001

11. RELATED CASE NUMBERS:

12. COLLATERAL REQ:

13. TYPE OF REPORT:  
INVESTIGATIVE FINDINGS

TOPIC: SA [REDACTED] INVOLVMENT IN CASE

## 14. SYNOPSIS:

On December 20, 2002, the Tohono O'odham Police Department (TOPD) was conducting a sobriety checkpoint at Milepost 143 on Highway 86. At about 1750 PM, a Buick Sedan [REDACTED] drove up to the checkpoint. TOPD Officers found an illegal alien behind the driver's seat and nine bales of marijuana weighing 176.75 pounds in the trunk. Special Agents from RAIC Sells responded and arrested the driver, [REDACTED]. The illegal alien passenger, [REDACTED] admitted that [REDACTED] was one of the marijuana backpackers that had smuggled the marijuana into the United States. The case was accepted for Federal Prosecution.

This report serves to document SA [REDACTED] involvement in the case.

Do not pertain to  
requestor.

(b)(6) +  
(b)(7)(C)  
(b)(7)(E)  
all pages

15. DISTRIBUTION:  
RACSS

16. SIGNATURE: [REDACTED]

SPECIAL AGENT

17. APPROVED: [REDACTED]

I GRP SUPERVISOR

18. ORIGIN OFFICE: SS  
SELLS - RAC

19. TELEPHONE: [REDACTED]

20. TYPIST: [REDACTED]

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UNITED STATES CUSTOMS SERVICE

REPORT OF INVESTIGATION  
CONTINUATION

1. PAGE 2

2. CASE NUMBER

(b)(2)

3. REPORT NUMBER: 001

CASE PROGRAM CODES:

~~CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE~~ ~~BORDER ALLIANCE NARC~~

(b)(2)

(b)(2)

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DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY  
UNITED STATES CUSTOMS SERVICEREPORT OF INVESTIGATION  
CONTINUATION

1. PAGE 3

2. CASE NUMBER [REDACTED] (b)(2)

3. REPORT NUMBER: 001

## DETAILS OF INVESTIGATION:

Unless otherwise stated, all times are approximate Mountain Standard Time and all locations are in Southern Arizona.

On December 20, 2002, the Tohono O'Odham Police Department (TOPD) was conducting a sobriety checkpoint at Milepost 143 on Highway 86. At about 1750 M, a Buick Sedan [REDACTED] drove up to the checkpoint. TOPD Officers found an illegal alien behind the driver's seat and nine bales of marijuana weighing 76.75 pounds in the trunk. The driver was identified as [REDACTED] the illegal alien was identified as [REDACTED]

SA [REDACTED] was assisting the TOPD officers with directing traffic at the checkpoint when the subject vehicle approached the eastbound primary inspection point. TOPD Officer [REDACTED] was on primary inspection when the vehicle arrived. TOPD Officer [REDACTED] questioned the driver [REDACTED] and determined that [REDACTED] did not have a valid driver's license. [REDACTED] instructed [REDACTED] to switch with [REDACTED] who was in the front passenger's seat and let [REDACTED] drive. At this time, [REDACTED] was seen trying to hide in the rear floorboard of the vehicle under a jacket. Believing that it was an illegal alien load, [REDACTED] was instructed to drive the car to a secondary inspection point where a U.S. Border Patrol Agent was standing. TOPD Officer [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] accompanied the vehicle to this location.

A few minutes later, TOPD Officer [REDACTED] informed SA [REDACTED] that the original driver of the vehicle, [REDACTED] had told [REDACTED] that there was marijuana hidden in the trunk of the car. In the presence of SA [REDACTED] TOPD Officer [REDACTED] opened the trunk of the car. There were 9 bales of what was believed to be marijuana located in the trunk. SA [REDACTED] notified SSA [REDACTED] that marijuana was found in the vehicle. At this time, everyone in the vehicle was placed under arrest and transported to the U.S. Customs Office in Three Points. SA [REDACTED] transported [REDACTED] while escorting the marijuana-laden vehicle.

The marijuana was loaded in the government vehicle driven by AEO [REDACTED] and taken to the RAIC Sells office. SA [REDACTED] followed the vehicle loaded with the marijuana to the Sells office. Once at the office in Sells, SA [REDACTED] contacted one of the Customs Patrol Officer (CPO) seizure custodians for assistance. CPO [REDACTED] arrived and assisted SA [REDACTED] with the weighing and processing of the marijuana. SA [REDACTED] gave SSA [REDACTED] the processing paperwork for the marijuana and core samples that were taken by CPO [REDACTED]

This concludes the involvement of SA [REDACTED] in this case on the date of [REDACTED] (b)(6) (b)(7)(C)

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UNITED STATES CUSTOMS SERVICE

REPORT OF INVESTIGATION  
CONTINUATION

1. PAGE 4

2. CASE NUMBER (b)(2)

3. REPORT NUMBER: 001

seizure.

Investigation continues.

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REQUESTED BY: [REDACTED]

(b)(6), (b)(7)(C)

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(b)(2)

TECS II - LIST OF RELATED RECORDS

PAGE 1

(b)(2)

2 RECORDS ARE RELATED TO BASE RECORD  
ROI [REDACTED]

(b)(2)

(b)(2)

(b)(2)

(b)(2)

(b)(6), (b)(7)(C)

(b)(2)

SERIOUS VIOLATOR FROM S/A/S (CF-151)

(b)(2)

(b)(2), (b)(6), (b)(7)(C)

CASE [REDACTED]

(b)(2)

(b)(2)

SEIZURE OF 176.75 POUNDS MARIJUANA AND 2 ARRESTS

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REQUESTED BY: [REDACTED]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY  
UNITED STATES CUSTOMS SERVICE

## REPORT OF INVESTIGATION

1. TECS ACCESS CODE 3

2. PAGE 1

3. CASE NUMBER [REDACTED] (b)(2)

4. TITLE: SEIZURE OF 176.75 POUNDS MARIJUANA AND 2 ARRESTS

5. CASE STATUS: INIT RPT

6. REPORT DATE  
0106037. DATE ASSIGNED  
1220028. CLASS  
(b)(2) [REDACTED]9. PROGRAM CODE  
[REDACTED] (b)(2)10. REPORT NO.  
002

11. RELATED CASE NUMBERS:

12. COLLATERAL REQ:

13. TYPE OF REPORT:  
INVESTIGATIVE FINDINGS

TOPIC: INITIAL INVESTIGATION

## 14. SYNOPSIS:

On December 20, 2002, the Tohono O'Odham Police Department (TOPD) was conducting a sobriety checkpoint near Milepost 143 on Highway 86. At about 1750PM a Buick Sedan [REDACTED] drove up to the check point. TOPD Officers found an illegal alien behind the driver's seat and nine bales of marijuana weighing 176.75 pounds in the trunk. Special Agents from RAIC Sells responded and arrested the driver, [REDACTED]. The illegal alien passenger, [REDACTED] admitted that [REDACTED] was one of the marijuana backpackers who had smuggled the marijuana into the United States. The case was accepted for Federal Prosecution.

(b)(6), (b)(7)(C)

15. DISTRIBUTION:  
RACSS

16. SIGNATURE:

[REDACTED] SENIOR SPEC AGENT

17. APPROVED:

[REDACTED] OI GRP SUPERVISOR

18. ORIGIN OFFICE: SS  
SELLS - RAC

19. TELEPHONE [REDACTED]

20. TYPIST [REDACTED]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY  
UNITED STATES CUSTOMS SERVICEREPORT OF INVESTIGATION  
CONTINUATION

1. PAGE 2

2. CASE NUMBER (b)(2)

3. REPORT NUMBER: 002

## CASE PROGRAM CODES:

(b)(2) CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE (b)(2) BORDER ALLIANCE NARC

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY  
UNITED STATES CUSTOMS SERVICER E P O R T O F I N V E S T I G A T I O N  
C O N T I N U A T I O N

1. PAGE 3

2. CASE NUMBER [REDACTED] (b)(2)

3. REPORT NUMBER: 002

## DETAILS OF THE INVESTIGATION:

Unless otherwise stated, all times are approximate Mountain Standard time, and all locations are in southern Arizona.

On the evening of Friday, December 20, 2002, SSA [REDACTED] and SA [REDACTED] were assisting the Tohono O'Odham Police Department (TOPD) at a sobriety checkpoint near Milepost 143 on State Highway 86. SSA [REDACTED] and SA [REDACTED] were there to represent the RAIC Sells Office if a matter of interest to the U.S. Customs Service was encountered at the checkpoint. At 1750PM, a Buick sedan [REDACTED] was traveling eastbound on Highway 86 and drove up to the checkpoint. The Buick Sedan drove up to TOPD Detective [REDACTED] who was wearing a TOPD Patrol uniform. Detective [REDACTED] asked the driver for [REDACTED] driver's license. Quoting from Detective [REDACTED] report:

....The driver stated "I don't have one, it's suspended".

The driver was later identified as [REDACTED] from [REDACTED]. The passenger was later identified as [REDACTED]. A driver's license check was initiated by dispatch with [REDACTED]'s driver's license confirmed suspended. I asked the driver to pull over off the roadway. A driver's license check was initiated for the passenger with dispatch returning [REDACTED] to have a valid license. Before pulling off the roadway, I asked [REDACTED] to exit the vehicle to have the passenger drive.

When [REDACTED] exited the vehicle I observed in the back seat floorboard blue cloth that was covering the whole length of the rear floorboard. I asked [REDACTED] if I could search the rear seat of the vehicle. [REDACTED] stated "Yes." As I opened the rear left door I observed an [REDACTED] removing the blue cover off of [REDACTED] head. [REDACTED] immediately stated "Oh, I have just one". [REDACTED] drove the vehicle off the roadway into the east dirt shoulder.

I asked [REDACTED] for consent to search the trunk of the vehicle. [REDACTED] stated "Hey, to tell you the truth I have some stuff back there". At this time I verbally advised [REDACTED] of [REDACTED] Miranda Rights. [REDACTED] stated [REDACTED] understood [REDACTED] rights and stated [REDACTED] would be willing to answer by [REDACTED] questions. [REDACTED] waived [REDACTED] rights. I asked [REDACTED] what was in the back trunk? [REDACTED] stated "Marijuana".

Detective [REDACTED] then opened the trunk and found nine bales of marijuana. For additional details, see Detective [REDACTED] Report under TOPD Incident Number [REDACTED]. SSA [REDACTED] and SA [REDACTED] were in the area and [REDACTED] (b)(6) (b)(7)(C)

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UNITED STATES CUSTOMS SERVICEREPORT OF INVESTIGATION  
CONTINUATION

1. PAGE 4

2. CASE NUMBER [REDACTED] (b)(2)

3. REPORT NUMBER: 002

[REDACTED] spoke with Detective [REDACTED]. SA [REDACTED] seized the marijuana. TOPD Officers assisted in transporting the three suspects, the vehicle and the marijuana to the RAIC Sells Three Points Office. All three suspects were searched and placed in detention areas. During the search of [REDACTED] a hand-held police radio frequency scanner was found in [REDACTED] jacket pocket. This scanner was seized as evidence by SA [REDACTED].

Upon arrival at the Three Points Office, the nine bales of marijuana were transported to the RAIC Sells Evidence Room by Air Enforcement Officer [REDACTED] accompanied by SA [REDACTED]. They were photographed by SA [REDACTED]. The bales were weighed by SA [REDACTED] and CPO [REDACTED] and found to weigh 76.75 pounds. Core Samples were taken by SA [REDACTED] for SSA [REDACTED]. The marijuana and the portable police-frequency scanner was subsequently transported to the U.S. Customs Seized Property Custodian in Nogales, Arizona. For additional information on the seizure, see SA [REDACTED] Report of Investigation ([REDACTED] ROI 001).

At 1830PM, SSA [REDACTED] assisted by TOPD [REDACTED] acting as a Spanish language translator, interviewed the Mexican [REDACTED] adult found hiding behind the front seat of the Buick Sedan. SSA [REDACTED] and TOPD [REDACTED] identified themselves. Booking information was taken and recorded. [REDACTED] was identified as [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] read [REDACTED] Miranda Rights out loud, stated [REDACTED] understood them, and agreed to waive them. [REDACTED] then stated, upon questioning, that:

[REDACTED] was one of five marijuana backpackers that had crossed illegally into the United States about a week ago. They backpacked the marijuana bales to the Covered Wells area and waited in the mountains for the car to arrive. When the car arrived, [REDACTED] was pushed into the car by the other backpackers. [REDACTED] knew the backpacks contained marijuana and that they had been loaded into the car. The driver picked up the [REDACTED] passenger at work. When the car approached the checkpoint, [REDACTED] covered [REDACTED] with [REDACTED] jacket and attempted to hide.

At 1855PM, SSA [REDACTED] assisted by TOPD [REDACTED] interviewed the driver of the Buick Sedan. SSA [REDACTED] and TOPD [REDACTED] identified themselves. Booking information was taken and recorded. [REDACTED] was identified as [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] read [REDACTED] Miranda Rights out loud, stated [REDACTED] understood them, and agreed to waive them. [REDACTED] then stated, upon questioning, that:

That morning at about 11:00AM, [REDACTED] telephoned [REDACTED] from [REDACTED] work and told [REDACTED] that [REDACTED] was to speak to [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] called [REDACTED] who told [REDACTED] had a load of marijuana to be driven to Tucson. [REDACTED] promised [REDACTED] \$6000 for driving the load. [REDACTED] met with [REDACTED] who gave [REDACTED] the phone number (written on a [REDACTED]).

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DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY  
UNITED STATES CUSTOMS SERVICEREPORT OF INVESTIGATION  
CONTINUATION

1. PAGE 5 (b)(2)

2. CASE NUMBER [REDACTED]

3. REPORT NUMBER: 002

crap of cardboard) [REDACTED] to call upon reaching Tucson. [REDACTED] then took [REDACTED] to a location near the cemetery near Upper Covered Wells. The marijuana, which had been hidden in the desert, was loaded into the trunk. The Mexican in custody and three other Mexican [REDACTED] adults helped load it. [REDACTED] told [REDACTED] that the Mexican was to go with [REDACTED] to accompany the load. [REDACTED] also told [REDACTED] that the Mexican who was to receive the marijuana load in Tucson owed [REDACTED] money and that [REDACTED] was to bring the money back to [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] was supposed to return with the money and the Mexican [REDACTED] to [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] then drove to the Gui Achi District Office and picked up [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] stated [REDACTED] knew that there was marijuana in the trunk and that the police scanner belonged to [REDACTED]. The police scanner was already in the car. [REDACTED] gave [REDACTED] a choice to accompany [REDACTED] or not. [REDACTED] must have put the police scanner in [REDACTED] pocket. There was a blue car at [REDACTED] house that was supposed to be used for a marijuana load. It was to be driven by a [REDACTED] described [REDACTED] as a [REDACTED] tall, skinny, with long hair and about 35 years old.

At 1927PM, SSA [REDACTED] assisted by TOPD [REDACTED] interviewed the right front seat passenger of the Buick Sedan. SSA [REDACTED] and TOPD [REDACTED] identified themselves. Booking information was taken and recorded. [REDACTED] was identified as [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] read Miranda Rights out loud, stated [REDACTED] understood them, and agreed to give them. [REDACTED] then stated upon questioning, that:

That morning [REDACTED] had been at work, when [REDACTED] called and said that [REDACTED] needed to talk with [REDACTED] for an unknown reason. [REDACTED] does not personally know [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] relayed the message to [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] told [REDACTED] was to go to [REDACTED] house. That afternoon, [REDACTED] pulled up in front of the Gui Achi District Office (in Santa Rosa) where [REDACTED] works. [REDACTED] got out of the car and met [REDACTED] in front of the officer. [REDACTED] told [REDACTED] there was a Mexican in the car. [REDACTED] got in the car and asked where the Mexican was going? [REDACTED] told [REDACTED] Tucson. [REDACTED] knew the Mexican was an illegal alien and then it was illegal to transport [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] asked [REDACTED] if [REDACTED] wanted to accompany [REDACTED] to Tucson. [REDACTED] agreed. [REDACTED] said "something" to [REDACTED] about getting paid to bring the Mexican to Tucson and getting paid for it. [REDACTED] told [REDACTED] was to return with money for [REDACTED] from Tucson. [REDACTED] put the police scanner in [REDACTED] pocket when [REDACTED] saw the roadblock. [REDACTED] stated that [REDACTED] has a [REDACTED] named [REDACTED].

[REDACTED] has a valid Arizona Drivers License.

At 2040PM, SSA [REDACTED] spoke with the Duty Assistant United States Attorney, [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] accept [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] for Federal Prosecution, but declined on [REDACTED].

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DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY  
UNITED STATES CUSTOMS SERVICEREPORT OF INVESTIGATION  
CONTINUATION

1. PAGE 6 (b)(2)

2. CASE NUMBER [REDACTED]

3. REPORT NUMBER: 002

because of [REDACTED] lack of admitted specific knowledge of the marijuana. (b)(2)

. TOPD Detective [REDACTED] issued [REDACTED] a Citation (# [REDACTED]) for violating CC 66-286A, Suspended License. (b)(2)

D. The investigation continues. (b)(6), (b)(7)(C)

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REQUESTED BY: [REDACTED]

(b)(4), (b)(7)(C)

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TECS II - LIST OF RELATED RECORDS

PAGE 1

5 RECORDS ARE RELATED TO BASE RECORD

ROI [REDACTED]

SERIOUS VIOLATOR FROM S/A/S (CF-151)

SERIOUS VIOLATOR FROM S/A/S (CF-151)

SERIOUS VIOLATOR FROM S/A/S (CF-151)

AZ US [REDACTED]

SERIOUS VIOLATOR FROM S/A/S (CF-151)

CASE [REDACTED]

SEIZURE OF 176.75 POUNDS MARIJUANA AND 2 ARRESTS

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REQUESTED BY: [REDACTED]

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UNITED STATES CUSTOMS SERVICE

## REPORT OF INVESTIGATION

1. TECS ACCESS CODE [REDACTED] (b)(2)

2. PAGE 1 (b)(2)

3. CASE NUMBER [REDACTED]

4. TITLE: SEIZURE OF 176.75 POUNDS MARIJUANA AND 2 ARRESTS

5. CASE STATUS: INTERIM RPT

6. REPORT DATE  
0108037. DATE ASSIGNED  
1220028. CLASS  
[REDACTED] (b)(2)9. PROGRAM CODE  
[REDACTED] (b)(2)10. REPORT NO.  
003

11. RELATED CASE NUMBERS:

12. COLLATERAL REQ:

13. TYPE OF REPORT:  
INVESTIGATIVE FINDINGS

TOPIC: SEIZURE OF RADIO SCANNER BY SA [REDACTED]

## 14. SYNOPSIS:

On December 20, 2002, the Tohono O'Odham Police Department (TOPD) was conducting a sobriety checkpoint at Milepost 143 on Highway 86. At about 1750 PM, a Buick Sedan [REDACTED] drove up to the checkpoint. TOPD Officers found an illegal alien behind the driver's seat and nine bales of marijuana weighing 176.75 pounds in the trunk. Special Agents from RAIC Sells responded and arrested the driver, [REDACTED]. The illegal alien passenger, [REDACTED] admitted that [REDACTED] was one of the marijuana backpackers that had smuggled the marijuana into the United States. The case was accepted for Federal Prosecution.

This report concerns the seizure of a police radio scanner by SA [REDACTED]

15. DISTRIBUTION:  
RACSS

16. SIGNATURE:

[REDACTED] SPECIAL AGENT

17. APPROVED:

[REDACTED] OI GRP SUPERVISOR

18. ORIGIN OFFICE: SS  
SELLS - RAC

19. TELEPHONE: [REDACTED]

20. TYPIST: [REDACTED]

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UNITED STATES CUSTOMS SERVICE

REPORT OF INVESTIGATION  
CONTINUATION

1. PAGE 2

2. CASE NUMBER

3. REPORT NUMBER: 003

(b)(2)

CASE PROGRAM CODES:

CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE

BORDER ALLIANCE NARC

(b)(2)

(b)(2)

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DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY  
UNITED STATES CUSTOMS SERVICER E P O R T O F I N V E S T I G A T I O N  
C O N T I N U A T I O N

1. PAGE 3

2. CASE NUMBER [REDACTED] (b)(2)

3. REPORT NUMBER: 003

## DETAILS OF INVESTIGATION:

. Unless otherwise stated, all times are approximate Mountain Standard Time and all locations are in Southern Arizona.

. On December 20, 2002, the Tohono O'Odham Police Department (TOPD) was conducting a sobriety checkpoint at Milepost 143 on Highway 86. At about 1750 M, a Buick Sedan [REDACTED] drove up to the checkpoint. TOPD Officers found an illegal alien behind the driver's seat and nine bales of marijuana weighing 76.75 pounds in the trunk. The driver was identified as [REDACTED] the illegal alien was identified as [REDACTED].

. The passenger, [REDACTED] was transported to the U.S. Customs Office at Three Points along with [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] after their arrest at the TOPD Checkpoint. SA [REDACTED] searched [REDACTED]'S jacket and discovered a Radio Shack scanner PRO-92 (SN# [REDACTED]) in an inside pocket. When asked what [REDACTED] was doing with it, [REDACTED] stated that [REDACTED] did not know.

. SA [REDACTED] seized the scanner and took it to the RAIC Sells office. The scanner was later taken to the U.S. Customs Seizure Vault in Nogales.

(b)(6) +  
(b)(7)(c)

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REQUESTED BY: [REDACTED] (b)(6), (b)(7)(C)

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TECS II - LIST OF RELATED RECORDS

PAGE 1

4 RECORDS ARE RELATED TO BASE RECORD  
ROI [REDACTED] (b)(2)

[REDACTED] (b)(2), (b)(6), (b)(7)(C)  
[REDACTED] (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) (b)(2)  
[REDACTED] (b)(2)  
SERIOUS VIOLATOR FROM S/A/S (CF-151)  
[REDACTED] (b)(2)

SERIOUS VIOLATOR FROM S/A/S (CF-151)  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] AZ US [REDACTED] (b)(2)  
SERIOUS VIOLATOR FROM S/A/S (CF-151)  
[REDACTED] (b)(2), (b)(6), (b)(7)(C)

CASE [REDACTED] (b)(2)  
SEIZURE OF 176.75 POUNDS MARIJUANA AND 2 ARRESTS (b)(2)

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