AFFIDAVIT

I, Stephen D. Johnson, having been duly sworn, depose and state: I am a Special Agent of the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) assigned to the Midland, Texas, Resident Office. As a DEA Special Agent, I am empowered by Title 21, Section 878 of the United States Code to effect arrests, searches, and seizures for violations of the federal narcotics laws. I have been a Special Agent of the DEA since December of 2009, during which time I have specialized in investigations involving narcotics trafficking. I have received specialized training on the subject of narcotics trafficking and money laundering from the DEA and have been personally involved in investigations concerning the possession, manufacture, distribution and importation of controlled substances, as well as methods used to finance drug transactions.

I am familiar with the facts and circumstances of this investigation as a result of my participation in the investigation referred to in this affidavit and information summarized in reports I have reviewed. I have compiled information derived from numerous discussions with experienced law enforcement officers, including Special Agents of the DEA and other State and Local law enforcement agencies. Based on my training, experience and on my participation in this investigation, I know the following:

Based upon the following facts, I believe that probable cause exists to show that Rene MENDOZA did knowingly and intentionally possess with intent to distribute more than 100 kilograms of marijuana in violation of 21 U.S.C. 841 (a)(1). Since this affidavit is being submitted for the limited purpose of establishing probable cause, your Affiant has not included each and every known fact regarding the instant investigation. More specifically, your Affiant has set forth only pertinent facts that your Affiant believes are necessary to establish probable cause.

1. On February 28, 2014 approximately 225 pounds of marijuana was seized by the Kermit Police Department in Kermit, Texas out of a Dodge Caliber. Two females from the vehicle named Nancy KARBER and Engui CHAPARRO were arrested.
2. Information was received after they were arrested that they had transported the marijuana from El Paso, Texas to Fort Hancock, Texas where they gave the marijuana to Rene MENDOZA who was a Union Pacific Railroad employee. MENDOZA then transported the

marijuana from Fort Hancock, Texas in his Union Pacific vehicle around the Sierra Blanca, Texas checkpoint to his residence in Van Horn, Texas. MENDOZA then met with KARBER and CHAPARRO at his residence and gave them back the marijuana.

3. KARBER and CHAPARRO then transported the marijuana eastward and were stopped in Kermit, Texas where they were subsequently arrested.
4. In March 2014 I obtained MENDOZA's telephone number from Union Pacific and also obtained historical GPS location data for his telephone. The location data verified that MENDOZA was in Fort Hancock, Texas and in Van Horn, Texas when the information I obtained had indicated.
5. In January 2015 I spoke with a Confidential Source who told me he/she knew MENDOZA was involved with transporting illegal narcotics around the Sierra Blanca, Texas checkpoint and had witnessed MENDOZA load a vehicle with what he/she believed was illegal narcotics from his Union Pacific vehicle at his house on multiple occasions over the last year.

Based on these facts, your Affiant believes that probable cause exists to show that Rene MENDOZA did knowingly and intentionally possess with intent to distribute more than 100 kilograms of marijuana in violation of 21 U.S.C. 841 (a)(1).

Stephen D. Johnson
Special Agent
Drug Enforcement Administration

SWORN AND SUBSCRIBED to before me on this 13th day of January, 2015.

David Counts
United States Magistrate Judge