

**U.S. Border Patrol Nationwide Apprehensions
By Citizenship in FY2012**
Data includes Deportable Aliens Only
Data Source: EID (Unofficial) as of 10/8/12

CITIZENSHIP	Nationwide Total
AFGHANISTAN	12
ALBANIA	53
ALGERIA	1
ANGOLA	4
ANTIGUA-BARBUDA	2
ARGENTINA	42
ARMENIA	1
AUSTRALIA	4
BAHAMAS	30
BANGLADESH	98
BARBADOS	3
BELARUS	2
BELGIUM	1
BELIZE	54
BERMUDA	2
BOLIVIA	28
BOSNIA-HERZEGOVINA	1
BRAZIL	310
BRITISH VIRGIN ISLANDS	1
BULGARIA	16
BURMA	1
BURUNDI	1
CAMBODIA	2
CAMEROON	3
CANADA	434
CAPE VERDE	1
CHILE	15
CHINA, PEOPLES REPUBLIC OF	960
COLOMBIA	272
CONGO	4
COSTA RICA	159
CUBA	606
CZECH REPUBLIC	9
CZECHOSLOVAKIA	1
DEM REP OF THE CONGO	1
DENMARK	2
DOMINICAN REPUBLIC	1,044
ECUADOR	2,289
EGYPT	10
EL SALVADOR	22,158
EQUATORIAL GUINEA	1
ERITREA	1
ETHIOPIA	6
FINLAND	1
FRANCE	8
GAMBIA	3
GEORGIA	9
GERMANY	4

CITIZENSHIP	Nationwide Total
GHANA	4
GREECE	3
GUAM	1
GUATEMALA	35,204
GUYANA	7
HAITI	177
HONDURAS	30,953
HONG KONG	1
HUNGARY	10
INDIA	642
INDONESIA	11
IRAN	8
IRAQ	5
IRELAND	7
ISRAEL	17
ITALY	8
IVORY COAST	2
JAMAICA	124
JAPAN	4
JORDAN	13
KAZAKHSTAN	6
KENYA	8
KOREA	4
KOSOVO	4
KYRGYZSTAN	4
LAOS	9
LATVIA	2
LEBANON	4
LIBERIA	1
LIBYA	4
LITHUANIA	3
MACEDONIA	3
MALAWI	1
MALAYSIA	3
MALI	2
MEXICO	265,755
MOLDOVA	10
MONGOLIA	9
MOROCCO	3
NEPAL	149
NETHERLANDS	4
NEW ZEALAND	4
NICARAGUA	928
NIGERIA	24
NORWAY	4
PAKISTAN	34
PANAMA	11
PARAGUAY	7
PERU	321
PHILIPPINES	44
POLAND	44
PORTUGAL	7
ROMANIA	938
RUSSIA	23

CITIZENSHIP	Nationwide Total
SAMOA	1
SAUDI ARABIA	6
SENEGAL	3
SERBIA	3
SERBIA AND MONTENEGRO	2
SEYCHELLES	1
SIERRA LEONE	1
SLOVAKIA	6
SOMALIA	6
SOUTH AFRICA	7
SOUTH KOREA	25
SPAIN	11
SRI LANKA	185
ST. LUCIA	4
ST. VINCENT-GRENADINES	4
STATELESS	1
SUDAN	3
SURINAME	1
SWEDEN	7
SYRIA	8
TAIWAN	7
TAJIKISTAN	3
TANZANIA	9
THAILAND	16
TOGO	3
TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO	17
TUNISIA	1
TURKEY	16
UKRAINE	23
UNITED KINGDOM	24
UNKNOWN	9
URUGUAY	16
USSR	3
UZBEKISTAN	18
VENEZUELA	44
VIETNAM	14
YEMEN	2
YUGOSLAVIA	5
ZAMBIA	3
ZIMBABWE	3
TOTAL (142 COUNTRIES)	364,768

FBI: Arizona vulnerable to terror, trafficking

PHOENIX (AP) — Arizona offers ample opportunities for commercial espionage, terrorism, trafficking and public corruption because of its technology sector and international border, according to the head of the FBI's Phoenix District.

Special Agent in Charge Douglas Price, who took over the district in April, spoke to *The Arizona Republic* about the vulnerabilities of one of the country's most dynamic districts. But he declined to get into specifics about the threats or efforts to thwart them, citing protocol.

"We've got some things going on," he said. "It's kind of hard to quantify, because some of the stuff we're doing is incremental and making strides

towards disrupting something internationally or nationally, but I will tell you that we certainly are in the forefront."

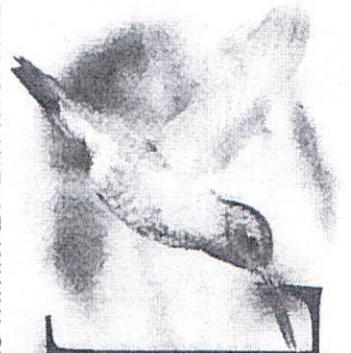
The district office is among the 15 largest of the FBI's 56 field offices nationwide.

It oversees satellite offices in Tucson, Sierra Vista, Yuma, Lake Havasu City, Flagstaff and Lakeside, plus an office in Gallup, N.M.

Price, 48, took the top spot in Phoenix after a 17-year career that featured posts in Las Cruces, N.M.; Los Angeles; Salt Lake City; Baghdad, Iraq; Athens, Greece; and Washington, D.C.

During that tenure, he took assignments that concentrated on gangs, cargo theft, civil rights violations,

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SIERRA VISTA

VULNERABLE: *FBI mission shifted after Sept. 11*

FROM PAGE A1

organized crime and terrorism.

Price said that the FBI's overall mission shifted significantly since the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks to focus on counterterrorism and counterintelligence operations and that the Phoenix District's mission shifted accordingly.

"One of the big switches from 9/11 was trying to be more proactive and trying to get in front of things, rather than reactive and responding to an incident that happened," he said.

In Arizona, those initiatives largely involve interaction with high-tech, aerospace and defense companies.

The state's science and technology sector encompasses thousands of companies, with products ranging

from semiconductors to missiles to medical equipment, according to the Arizona Technology Council.

FBI agents try to identify threats to those firms and to other potential high-value targets, such as military installations, Price said.

The border presents another set of issues for the bureau.

"A lot of people look at the southwest border in terms of immigration. We look at the southwest border a little differently," Price said.

"We look at it in terms of threats to the country, people being able to get through that southwest border. What kind of threat are they going to bring to us? We look at how the Border Patrol or other agencies are working on the border. Are

there issues there? We look at civil rights issues. We look at public corruption."

The FBI's toughest job will be monitoring tactics used by other agencies, which increasingly appear to depend on racial profiling, said Isabel Garcia, co-founder and co-chairwoman of the immigrant rights organization Coalicion de Derechos Humanos.

One of the bureau's top priorities along the border is uncovering public corruption, Price said.

The money involved with moving people, drugs, guns and other contraband across the border presents temptations for federal employees.

The FBI has active programs along the border, but Price declined to specify their purposes or targets.

Weekend smuggling efforts thwarted

BY DEREK JORDAN
derek.jordan@svherald.com

SIERRA VISTA — More than 2,500 pounds of marijuana was seized by U.S. Border Patrol agents in Cochise County last weekend as smugglers attempted to take advantage of the rainy weather.

The first of two incidents in the county occurred just after noon on Saturday, when agents stopped a Ford pickup truck out on a remote dirt road near Whetstone.

After stopping the vehicle, its driver attempted to flee the area on foot, however, he was soon apprehended and charged with smuggling narcotics.

Inside the pickup, agents found 40 bundles of marijuana weighing 812 pounds, according to a Border

Patrol press release. The marijuana and vehicle were seized.

The next day, at about 7:30 p.m., agents responded to a report of possible smuggling activity in the area of St. David, where they saw a Dodge pickup traveling on a dirt road with its lights off.

A short time later, the vehicle was found abandoned in a wash, along with 1,851 pounds of marijuana inside.

Despite a thorough search of the area, agents were unable to locate the driver.

Upon further inspection of the Dodge, agents found it had been equipped with a siren and red and blue emergency-style lights mounted inside the grille.

Also found inside the pickup were a pair

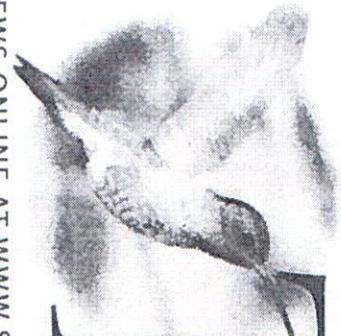
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SIERRA VISTA
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SMUGGLING: *Any tips or reports about illegal activity are welcome*

FROM PAGE A1

of binoculars and night vision goggles.

The truck and all its contents were seized.

A third weekend incident occurred Saturday morning near the community of Why, south of Ajo in Pima County.

A Border Patrol agent was conducting surveillance in a remote area when the agent spotted about 20 people carrying bundles of marijuana on their backs.

Agents, with help

from a canine unit, were able to track down and locate 32 bundles of marijuana weighing 1,556 pounds. All of the smugglers managed to flee the area.

U.S. Customs and Border Protection welcomes tips and reports of illegal activity from the community, the release states.

Anyone who would like to report suspicious activity can do so by calling (877) 872-7435.

All calls will remain confidential.

NPD gets big bucks to fight 'terrorism' in city

Operation Stonegarden may really be about catching illegal border-crossers and seizing dope, but it's billed as something even more serious.

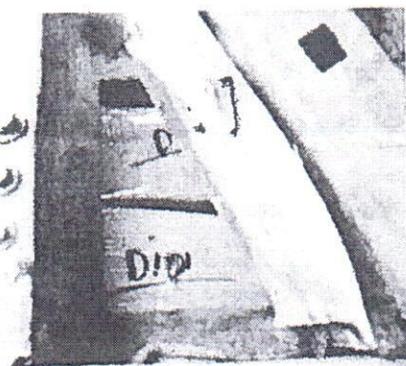
By Curt Prendergast
Nogales International

The current city administration touts Nogales as "a great little place to be." At the same time, its police department accepts hundreds of thousands of dollars to fight terrorism within city limits.

The most recent round of funds was accepted on Nov. 13, when the Nogales City Council approved the receipt of \$847,000 from the Department of Homeland Security to further the goals of "identifying and preventing terrorism."

However, the city's slogan may still ring true: Border Patrol spokesman Andy Adame said he is unaware of the agency ever catching a terrorism suspect in Arizona, and neither the Nogales Police Department nor the Santa Cruz County Sheriff's Office reported ever catching a confirmed terrorist in the county.

See **TERROR** / Page 7A



Photos courtesy of NPD
Seen here are examples of busts made by the Nogales Police Department working with U.S. Border Patrol through a funding program known as Operation Stonegarden. The photos are from an NPD-produced PowerPoint presentation that boasts in one slide of capturing an immigrant from Pakistan during a raid at a local hotel.

TERROR

Continued from Page 1A

The funds are allotted through Operation Stonegarden, and pay officers for overtime, mileage, and to purchase equipment used to help Border Patrol's mission of securing the border, Adame said. None of the Stonegarden money is used to train local law enforcement officers to fight terrorism.

Since 2007, when NPD first started participating in the program, the funds have become so commonplace that they appear on the council's consent agenda reserved for items the council likely will approve unanimously.

Although no terrorists have been caught, city officials maintain that the funds are used to target cross-border criminal activity that could be intimately tied to terrorist activity.

"What does a terrorist look like?" Chief Derek Arnson asked rhetorically. "A terrorist could look like anybody, but we're not out targeting terrorists. We're actually targeting crime."

With Stonegarden funds, NPD officers detect criminal activity, detain alleged criminals, and share the informa-

tion with federal authorities to see if that activity involves terrorist or drug cartel organizations, said Deputy City Manager John Kissinger.

"If, in the discovery of that crime it leads to the uncovering or the discovering of a terrorist, then there you have it," Arnson said.

In addition, the sheer number of law enforcement officers in Santa Cruz County amounts to "more eyes" on possible terrorist threats, which may have deterred terrorists from using the area to enter the United States, Arnson said.

For at least one critic of the program, Stonegarden is a means to further militarize immigration enforcement under the guise of fighting terrorism.

"If you want Stonegarden money, you have to attach it to terrorism," said Raymond Michalowski, professor of criminal justice and criminology at Northern Arizona University and former board member of the Border Action Network. However, the program serves as a "smokescreen" for immigration enforcement, he said.

The flow of unauthorized immigrants often is cast as a way for terrorists to enter the United States

undetected, he said. However, "the idea that this is how terrorists would enter the United States does not make a whole lot of sense," Michalowski said.

"If you have highly organized terrorist groups, they are not going to engage in the highly risky activity of illegal crossings of the border and traipsing through the desert," he said.

Terrorist groups likely would use tourist visas to enter the United States or they would be "home-grown" terrorists who already reside here, he said.

BP's goals

Stonegarden funds are destined to aid the general goals of border security, not just thwarting terrorism, Adame said.

However, the primary focus of Border Patrol is to fight terrorism and prevent the entry of weapons of mass destruction into the United States, while still carrying out the traditional roles of immigration enforcement, he said.

The emphasis on counter-terrorism is reflected in the Border Patrol's 2012-16 Strategic Plan, in which terrorism is listed as the Border Patrol's core mission. Meanwhile, immigration

is only mentioned twice, in reference to possible topics of discussion at Citizens Academies and to the Immigration and Naturalization Service, which was absorbed into DHS after the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001.

As part of Operation Stonegarden, Border Patrol oversees the mission of stopping terrorist activity, and NPD officers are "there to assist them in that mission," Arnson said.

For example, Border Patrol agents may advise NPD that a house or area needs to be monitored more intensely on a given night, he said.

In a "high percentage of the time," the houses turn out to be used by drug or human smugglers, he said. However, he cited a recent stash house bust that resulted in the seizure of AK-47s and other assault rifles.

"The question is: What were those guns used for?" he said, adding that drug trafficking cartels themselves could be considered terrorist organizations.

While some cartels want to "get in and get out," others want to "establish a name and take over someone else's territory," he said, noting the presence of "rip crews" and "bajadores" who

Stonegarden results

They may not have nabbed any terrorism suspects, but according to the Nogales Police Department, since the Operation Stonegarden partnership began between NPD and the Border Patrol's Nogales Station in 2007, the effort has resulted in:

- 400 immigrant apprehensions
- 175 vehicle seizures
- More than 9,000 pounds of marijuana seized
- \$30,000 in currency seizures
- More than \$100,000 worth of asset forfeitures (residences, property, equipment)

rob people in the desert. "That could be perceived as an act of terrorism," he said.

For Adame of Border Patrol, "it's one and the same type of activity."

"Whether you have a terrorist organization trying to smuggle in, let's say some type of weapon of mass destruction or some kind of component to it, they will look no different than your drug smuggler smuggling cocaine,

heroin, or meth through the desert," Adame said.

The attempts by NPD and Border Patrol to catch criminals and see if they can provide information on terrorist activity is a needle-in-the-haystack strategy, Michalowski said, in which officers say: "We'll grab whole haystacks and maybe we'll grab the haystack with the needle."

BP seizes ultra-light marijuana load

Carol Broeder

ARIZONA RANGE NEWS

The Tucson Sector Border Patrol announced Friday that its agents recently seized more than 232 pounds of marijuana, dropped by an ultra-light near Sunsites.

On Sunday, Oct. 27, Customs and Border Protection's Office of Air and Marine alerted Douglas Station Border Patrol agents of a possible ultra-light aircraft in the area, said Spokes-

man Bryan L. Flowers.

Agents used remote video surveillance cameras to detect the ultra-light and monitor its location, watching it make its way across the border into the United States, he said.

They then tracked it north several miles into the Willcox Station's area of responsibility, where it dropped what appeared to be several bundles of suspected narcotics before returning to Mexico, Flowers said.

Willcox Border Patrol

agents searched the area, finding what turned out to be 11 bundles of marijuana with a combined weight of 232.5 pounds, he said.

As CBP security efforts improve along the border, criminal organizations attempt to traffic their illicit cargo using alternative methods, including underground and aerial ventures, said Flowers, explaining that it "continues to be vigilant in interdicting these attempts."

"This is an example of

how coordinated efforts using technology are playing a key role in preventing illegal activity along the border," he said.

Customs and Border Protection welcomes assistance from the community.

Citizens can report suspicious activity to the Border Patrol by calling toll free at 1-877-872-7435.

All calls will be answered and remain anonymous.

PORTS AND BORDER

Chinese migrants caught in car trunk at checkpoint

From CBP reports

Nov. 9

• A 24-year-old Nogales man was arrested after U.S. Customs and Border Protection officers at the Dennis DeConcini Port of Entry found more than 13 pounds of methamphetamine, worth more than \$207,000, hidden throughout a Scion sedan he was driving. The drugs were located in the rear cargo compartments as well as in the intake vents near the front windshield.

The man, whose identity was not released,

was referred to U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement's Homeland Security Investigations. The drugs and vehicle were processed for seizure.

Nov. 8

• Border Patrol agents arrested three Chinese nationals and a U.S. citizen at the Interstate 19 checkpoint after a dog and X-ray technology identified three adults concealed in the trunk of a sedan being driven by the U.S. citizen.

All subjects were processed for prosecution and/or removal proceedings



Photo courtesy of U.S. Border Patrol

These three Chinese nationals were found in the trunk of a Nissan Altima at the I-19 checkpoint.

INSIDE TODAY

Nogales High sports calendar

COMMUNITY: PAGE 8A

RRHS math teacher gets surprise award



Nogales In

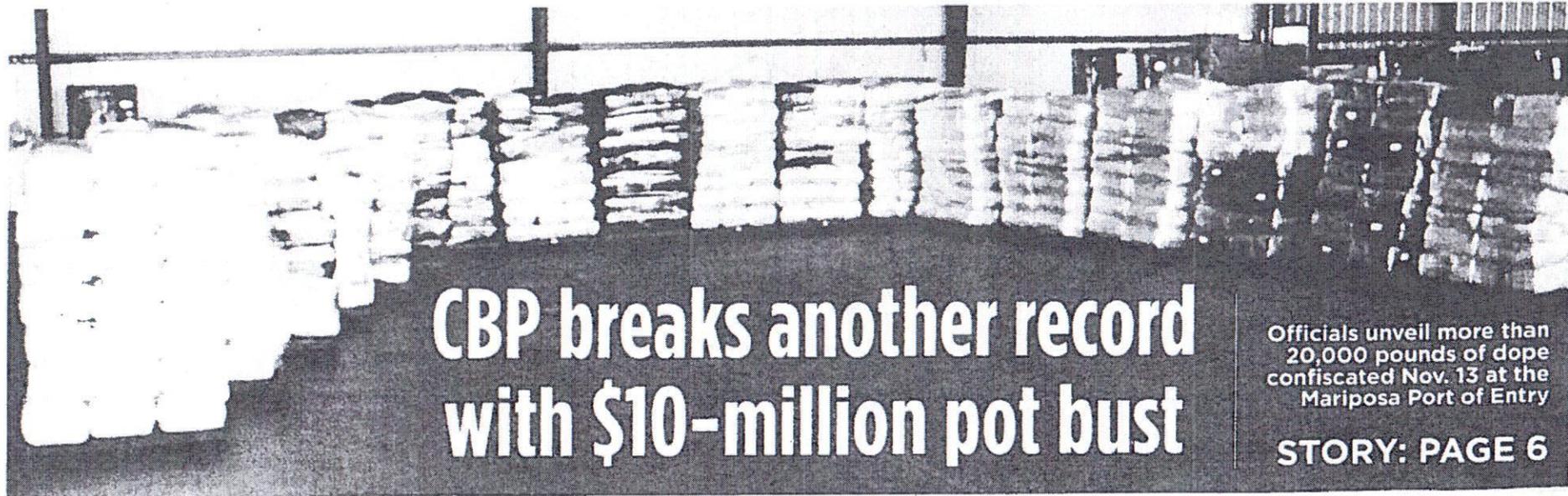
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CBP breaks another record with \$10-million pot bust

Officials unveil more than 20,000 pounds of dope confiscated Nov. 13 at the Mariposa Port of Entry

STORY: PAGE 6

CBP makes another record-breaking bust at Mariposa

By Curt Prendergast
Nogales International

A pungent odor emanated from the 881 bundles of marijuana stacked inside the Mariposa Port of Entry on Tuesday afternoon as customs officials unveiled the largest pot bust in Arizona history.

Speaking in front of stacks of brown, black, and clear plastic-wrapped bundles, officials from U.S. Customs and Border Protection announced the Nov. 13 seizure of 20,375 pounds of marijuana hidden in a load of fresh squash. The bust was the second record-breaker of the year, with a 14,121-pound seizure on Jan. 15 setting the previous mark.

"This is, I think, an indication of the desperation on the part of transnational criminal organizations to move their product across the border," said Christopher Maston, executive director

of operations for CBP's Office of Field Operations.

Pedro Corona-Moreno, 32, of Hermosillo, was arrested after customs officers pulled over the tractor-trailer he was driving for secondary inspection at the Mariposa port. An examination by an X-ray machine showed "anomalies" inside the truck and a dog subsequently alerted to the presence of marijuana, Maston said.

Officials declined to provide more details on Corona-Moreno or his possible ties with a drug cartel, citing the ongoing nature of the investigation.

The smugglers' strategy apparently was to try to sneak the load in among the 1,600 trucks that cross through Mariposa every day, said CBP's Nogales port director Guadalupe Ramirez in a side interview after the press conference.

The massive flow of fruits, vegetables, and parts for the maquiladora industry through the commercial port creates enticing smuggling avenues, Ramirez said. The load busted in January was hidden among machine parts destined for a maquiladora, while the Nov. 13 shipment was found in a purported load of produce.

"We have to be selective, and that's where the targeting comes into play because you don't want to slow down commerce," he said. "You don't want to basically punish legitimate companies, law-abiding companies because within that mix you're looking for shipments like this."

The load of marijuana seized on Nov. 13 will be destroyed, he said.

Incredibly risky?

Maston credited the bust to the diligent efforts of customs officials and

the technological resources at their disposal.

"I think it's incredibly risky for anybody to believe that they could move this amount of narcotics through a port of entry," Maston said, calling the bust a "strong message" about CBP vigilance at ports of entry.

However, Terry Kirkpatrick, a Tubac resident and retired 28-year U.S. Customs agent, doubted that assertion.

"I kind of don't buy that because they would not risk that large of an amount coming in in one single load," Kirkpatrick said, noting that in the last decade most of the large marijuana busts have topped out at about 5,000 pounds.

"They're not going to risk an entire 20,000-pound load unless they thought they had a sure thing at the port of entry to bring it in," he said.

Rather than an act of desperation on the part of a smuggling organization, it is more likely that a customs officer was paid off and then "something went wrong," Kirkpatrick said.

"It would indicate to me that there's a corruption issue at the port of entry," he said.

Due to the ongoing nature of the investigation, CBP cannot comment on whether investigators are looking into whether a corrupt officer was involved in the Nov. 13 load, according to CBP spokesman Victor Brabble.

However, CBP "does not tolerate actions that would tarnish the reputation of our agency" or "jeopardizes our border security," Brabble wrote in an email. "CBP will fully cooperate with any investigations of alleged unlawful conduct on or off duty, by any of its employees.

"An overwhelming majority of CBP employees and officers perform their duties with honor and distinction," he wrote. The agency does not tolerate corruption and works to "ensure employees adhere to a culture of integrity."

During his tenure as a customs agent, Kirkpatrick said, he regularly investigated corruption cases at ports of entry. When a customs officer is paid off, he said, the truck carrying the load will use the officer's lane to get through the port of entry. Sometimes, smugglers will pay off both the officer working the lane and the officer working the X-ray machine in secondary inspection.

"Nowadays, where they change up shifts and automatically move people around at random the truck might have been in progress and the people might've got moved around," he said.

CBP news briefs

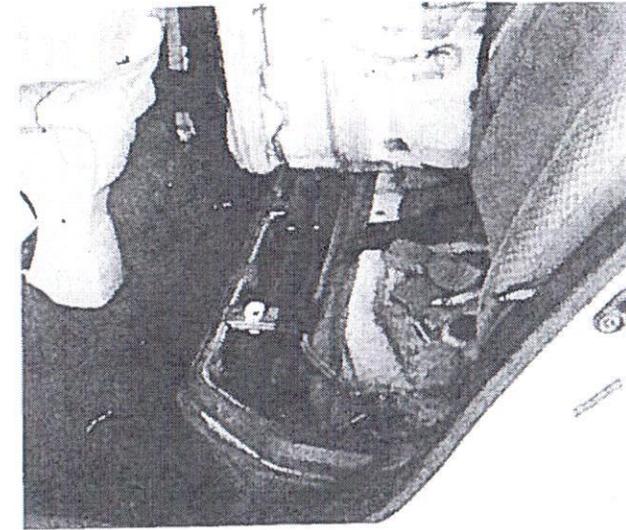
SENTRI member caught with meth

A Mexican man with "trusted-traveler" status in the United States was arrested last Wednesday in Nogales for allegedly attempting to smuggle nearly \$548,000 worth of methamphetamine into the country.

Guadalupe Loaiza-Bastidas, 49, had his membership in the Secure Electronic Network for Traveler's Rapid Inspection (SENTRI) program revoked by U.S. Customs and Border Protection after he and the 31-year-old driver of his Toyota van were caught with more than 35 pounds of meth concealed in the rear inside panels of the van.

The vehicle and drugs are being processed for seizure. Loaiza was referred to U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement's Homeland Security Investigations, while the driver was released.

SENTRI allows members access to a dedicated commuter lane that expedites the inspection process for low-risk travelers. Qualification for the program requires an extensive background check and in-person interview. In Nogales, the Dennis DeConcini Port of Entry has SENTRI lanes for vehicles and pedestrians. The Mexican gate



Photo/U.S. Customs and Border Protection

CBP officers found packages of cocaine hidden under the back seat of a Toyota sedan.

offers SENTRI access for pedestrians.

"SENTRI members are treated with a higher level of trust, but are not exempt from inspection," said Port Director Guadalupe Ramirez. "Violations such as drug smuggling will not be tolerated. Those attempting to exploit the program will be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law, regardless of whether they enter through SENTRI lanes or other crossing lanes."

Man had cocaine hidden in sedan

A Mexican man was arrested last Thursday at the Dennis DeConcini Port of Entry for allegedly attempting to smuggle nearly 32 pounds of

cocaine into the United States.

U.S. Customs and Border Protection says its officers referred the 21-year-old man for an additional inspection of his Toyota sedan. After a drug dog alerted to the presence of drugs under the vehicle's back seat and in the trunk, officers removed 10 packages of cocaine worth almost \$287,000.

The drugs and vehicle were processed for seizure. The suspect, whose name was not released, was turned over to U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement's Homeland Security Investigations.

-Nogales International

Caught with cash, busted for pot

Nogales International

On April 16, an Arizona Department of Public Safety officer seized nearly \$350,000 hidden in the spare tire of a vehicle driven by Ceferino Moroyoqui-Cota in Tucson.

Three months later, when Moroyoqui, a 41-year-old native of Imuris, Sonora tried to drive into the United States through the Mariposa Port of Entry in a 1997 Chevy pickup, a computer

referral raised the alarm for a U.S. Customs and Border Protection officer.

The officer sent Moroyoqui for a secondary inspection, where another CBP officer thought the back seat of the truck felt "overly firm," according to court documents. After a CBP drug dog named Chen alerted to the seat, the officer inserted a probe, which reportedly extracted a green leafy substance.

The officers later

removed 14 packages of marijuana that weighed a total of 93 pounds.

The case was referred to the Santa Cruz County Attorney's Office, and Moroyoqui eventually pleaded guilty to one count of solicitation/unlawful transportation of marijuana for sale, a Class 3 felony.

On Nov. 4, Judge James A. Soto of Santa Cruz County Superior Court sentenced him to two years in state prison.

Man caught at RR stash house gets 2.5 years

Nogales International

A Mexican man who was arrested while guarding nearly 2,500 pounds of marijuana at a stash house in Rio Rico has been sentenced to 2.5 years in state prison.

Jose Luis Dominguez de la Rosa, 46, of Santa Cruz, Sonora, was one of two men arrested following a "knock-and-talk" on June 18 at a residence on Adobe Court that resulted in the seizure of 2,499 pounds of pot and three firearms – including a submachine gun. The case against his co-defendant, Paul Chavez-Portillo, 25, of Los Mochis, Sinaloa, is still pending at Santa Cruz County Superior Court.

Both men were initially

charged with one count each of possession marijuana for sale, and possession/use of a weapon in a drug offense. Dominguez subsequently pleaded guilty to one count of solicitation/unlawful transportation of marijuana for sale, a Class 4 felony. On Nov. 4, Judge James A. Soto sentenced him to the prison term.

According to a pre-sentence memo filed Oct. 31 by defense attorney Maria Davila, Dominguez was approached in June by someone who offered him \$4,000 to guard a stash house in Rio Rico. "In a hugely regrettable lapse in judgment, Mr. Dominguez accepted the offer," Davila wrote.

He went to the house knowing only that here

was marijuana inside, but not knowing how much, she wrote. "His intention was to do only the discrete task he was given, staying at the house and watching over the content until he was instructed that his job was complete and he would be paid."

According to Davila, Dominguez had no prior criminal history and had turned down several previous offers to get involved in the drug-smuggling trade. Financial troubles were what eventually drove him to take the job in Rio Rico.

"It was a marked deviation from an otherwise good and law-abiding life," she wrote.

In a news release issued at the time of the bust, U.S. Immigration and



Jose Dominguez

Customs Enforcement (ICE) said the Santa Cruz County Sheriff's Office had received a telephone tip that the home on Adobe Court was being used as a staging point for drug smuggling. Members of the ICE-led HIDTA Task Force then went to the home at around 11 p.m. on June 18.

"Task force members



Photos/U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement

Authorities found nearly 2,500 pounds of marijuana in the house that Dominguez and another man were guarding.

initiated surveillance on the house and observed Dominguez de la Rosa and Chavez-Portillo walking out the back door. When investigators attempted to question them, the pair took off running, but the men were quickly apprehend-

ed," the ICE release said. After obtaining a search warrant, the agents entered the house and found the marijuana stacked in bales, as well as a 9mm semi-automatic pistol, a 9mm submachine gun, a .22-caliber rifle and 57 rounds of ammunition.

News Release



U.S. Customs and
Border Protection

November 20, 2013
Contact: Tucson Sector
Public Affairs Office
(520) 748-3210
www.cbp.gov

Border Patrol seizes \$3.4 million of marijuana in 5 days

TUCSON, Ariz. – Tucson Sector Border Patrol seized more than 6,937 pounds of marijuana during a five-day span worth more than \$3.4 million.

The first seizure occurred Friday in Paradise Valley, Ariz., when agents assigned to the West Desert Task Force recovered 1,029 pounds of marijuana in close proximity to an abandoned GMC Yukon. No suspects were located. *(photos available)*.

Saturday, at the Highway 80 checkpoint, agents arrested a U.S. citizen attempting to smuggle 17.5 pounds of marijuana concealed inside the rear cab wall/bulkhead of a black Chevrolet truck. *(photos available)*.

Later that evening, Tucson Sector agents found 37 bundles of marijuana, weighing more than 1,800 pounds, on the Tohono O’odham Nation near the village of Menagers. An extensive search of the area was conducted but no subjects were located.

The WDTF remained busy with multiple seizures throughout the weekend. Agents assigned to the WDTF uncovered 16 bundles of marijuana Sunday, weighing 725 pounds, after detecting and following ATV tracks near Cockerburr, Ariz. *(photos available)*. The following day, agents seized more than 1,020 pounds of marijuana near Mile Marker 150 on Interstate 8. During this incident agents discovered the narcotics while following ATV tracks in a wash that led to three abandoned ATVs loaded with large burlap bundles of marijuana. The ATVs and narcotics were seized. No suspects were arrested. *(photos available)*.

Tuesday, Tucson Sector agents confiscated more than 2,300 pounds of marijuana from a GMC Sierra pick-up truck near Sonoita, Ariz. After an agent attempted to stop the vehicle, the driver failed to yield. Instead, he accelerated and subsequently drove through a fence before coming to a stop. The driver then absconded from the scene on foot. Agents searched the truck and discovered 100 bundles of marijuana inside the cab and bed. The seizure was valued at almost \$1.2 million. An extensive search of the area failed to locate the driver. *(photos available)*.

The U.S. citizen apprehended at the Highway 80 checkpoint is being presented for prosecution. All drugs and vehicles were processed for seizure in accordance with Tucson Sector guidelines.

The West Desert Task Force is a joint initiative between U.S. Border Patrol, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement’s Homeland Security Investigations, and the Pinal County Sheriff’s Office to combat narcotics trafficking in Arizona’s west desert region. The task force is sponsored by the High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area and Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Force, and works in association with the Alliance to Combat Transnational Threats.

