

IN THE HAMILTON CIRCUIT/SUPERIOR COURTS
STATE OF INDIANA

STATE OF INDIANA

CASE NUMBER: 2023-14444

V.

TAMARA MASIEL RUIZ SALDIAS

AFFIDAVIT FOR PROBABLE CAUSE

Comes now Detective Adam Devenport, who hereby swears upon an oath, deposes and says:

1. I am a Law Enforcement Officer with the Carmel Police Department.
2. I am filing this affidavit for probable cause in support of the charges of Burglary 35-43-2-1 (F5), Theft 35-43-4-2 (F5), and Corrupt Business Influence 35-45-6-2 (F5), against Tamara Masiel Ruiz Saldias, a Hispanic/female, DOB: 10/13/1987, height 5'2", weight 150, with black hair and brown eyes.
 - a. On February 25, 2023, at 7:53 pm, Carmel Police responded to a glass break/foyer motion alarm at the 1100 block of Laurelwood. Responding officers arrived at the residence and located a broken glass door on the main level on the southwest corner of the home. Officers entered the home to conduct a person's check and located no one. However, officers observed empty maroon jewelry containers in the master bedroom closet and dresser drawers that were open. According to officers, it appeared the unknown suspect(s) forced entry into the home via the southwest glass door, proceeded to the master bedroom suite, and stole numerous items of jewelry (approximate value exceeding \$132,300) and approximately \$500 in US currency (\$50 denominations). Additionally, the jewelry was stored in a brown/light brown Louis Vuitton travel bag. Officers observed a trail of glass heading southbound from the residence, through the backyard, and toward the Cedar Point neighborhood.
 - b. The crime scene was processed by CSI Pirics and he located at least two different shoe imprints on the floor near the entry point and on the second-floor hallway near the master suite. Additionally, it appeared that the suspects attempted to break the alarm monitor from the ceiling, located in the hallway of the second floor because it appeared the suspect(s) was lifted from the ground as a small handprint was observed on the ceiling next to the alarm monitor. Also, finger swipes along the ceiling near the alarm monitor were observed.
 - c. The homeowner, Sheli R. Remick, confirmed that her home and closet were not how she left them and confirmed the list of jewelry stolen from her closet. Ms. Remick provided photographs of her jewelry and an itemized list.
 - d. A search through a license plate reader program (LPR) captured a 2019 Toyota Highlander bearing Tennessee registration BJC8461, owned by Avis Budget Car

Rental, entering the neighborhood of Cedar Point Drive, a no-outlet neighborhood that backs up to the Laurelwood community, at 7:17 pm and leaving the neighborhood at 7:52 pm. From my experience, it is common for this group to use rental vehicles with out-of-state plates to commit these types of offenses.

- e. Prior to the burglary, that vehicle was captured on LPR at 5:33 pm, traveling northbound on I-74 and Pleasantview Road. The vehicle was also captured at the intersection of E. 96th Street and Hazel Dell Parkway at 6:32 pm. In total, the Toyota Highlander was captured on LPR 4 separate times on February 25, 2023.
- f. I contacted Avis Car Rental Company and inquired about the individual who rented the Toyota Highlander. A representative from Avis explained that the vehicle was rented out of Hebron, Kentucky, near the Cincinnati North Kentucky International Airport on February 23, 2023, at 7:41 am to a Germany Somonei (Spain Driver's License Number: 72846599) using the address of 2869 San Marino Street Apartment 106, Los Angeles, California 90006. Additionally, she gave the phone number 626-734-8157.
- g. On February 27, 2023, at 12:35 pm, I noticed the Toyota Highlander was captured on LPR at the intersection of Lee Boulevard and State Road 4 in Shelbyville, IN. I contacted Shelbyville Police Department and spoke with Sgt. Jeremy O'Connor and advised him of the situation. Sgt. O'Connor called me back and informed me that he located the vehicle and initiated a traffic stop. During the course of the stop, Sgt. O'Connor smelled the odor of marijuana coming from inside the vehicle. All 5 occupants were removed from the vehicle and a search of the vehicle was conducted. During the search, officers located tools that would be used in burglaries, such as crowbars/pry tools. Additionally, fresh \$100 bills were located in luggage and on each occupant.
- h. Occupants in the vehicle are listed below:
 - a. Germany Somonei (Spain DLN: 72846599; DOB: 10/14/1987), Hispanic female from Barcelona, Spain. Confirmed as Tamara Masiel Ruiz Saldias (DOB: 10/13/1987) of San Miguel, Chile via Chilean Passport.
 - b. Gerardo Saldias (Spain DLN: 70463199; 10/25/1997), Hispanic male from Spain. Confirmed to be Ignacio Antonio Ruiz Saldias (DOB: 12/24/1995) of Puente Alto, Chile via Chilean Passport.
 - c. Jeremy Jorge Jesus Linai Martinez (DOB: 8/5/2004), Hispanic male from Santiago, Chile. Confirmed via Chilean Passport.
 - d. Marcelo Antonio Munoz (DOB: 7/15/1998), Hispanic male from Chile. Confirmed to be Marcelo Antonio Munoz Badillo (DOB: 7/15/1998) of Puente Alto, Chile via Chilean Passport.
 - e. 13-year-old male juvenile. Confirmed via Chilean Passport.

- i. Jewelry and \$3,611.19 were confiscated from the occupants and seized as evidence. The below items of jewelry seized belonged to Ms. Remick:
 - a. Ladies Platinum (10) Diamond Ring \$12,329
 - i. Jeremy Martinez was in possession of the item.
 - b. Men's 14k Yellow Gold (15) Diamond Pinky Ring \$3,795
 - i. Jeremy Martinez was in possession of the item.
 - c. Ladies 18k Two Tone (63) Diamond Ring \$7,840
 - i. Jeremy Martinez was in possession of the item.
 - d. 18k Yellow Gold Diamond Link Bracelet \$2,901
 - i. Marcelo Badillo was in possession of the item.
 - e. 18k Yellow Gold Cento Diamond Pendant \$6,727
 - i. 13-year-old juvenile was in possession of the item.
 - f. Custom Made Ladies 14k Yellow Gold (9) Diamond with 14k Black Onyx Necklace \$2,856
 - i. Marcello Badillo was in possession of the item.
- j. A search warrant for the Toyota Highlander was executed and numerous pieces of jewelry were located inside the vehicle along with several Louis Vuitton bags. Several of the Louis Vuitton bags belonged to Ms. Remick. Additionally, 2 yellow pry tools were located inside the vehicle.
- k. A black Swiss brand bag, belonging to Tamara, contained a large Louis Vuitton bag, and 3 Chilean Passports belonging to Tamara, Ignacio Saldias, and Fabiano Ruiz. Additionally, rubbing stones to test metal were located in the Swiss brand bag.
- l. A black DKNY bag belonging to Jeremy Martinez contained a Louis Vuitton travel bag containing numerous pieces of gold and diamond jewelry.
- m. Detectives spoke with Tamara and she advised that they took a train to Cincinnati from Los Angeles with her 13-year-old son and stayed in a hotel in downtown Cincinnati. Tamara admitted to renting the Toyota Highlander on February 23, 2023, at the Cincinnati Airport and staying at an undisclosed AirBnB in downtown Cincinnati. Tamara advised that she always had control of the rental vehicle and never allowed someone to drive the vehicle. Tamara claimed to never being to Indianapolis, IN and stated that she did not know Marcelo Badillo or Ignacio Saldias. However, Tamara stated Jeremy Martinez was friends with her son.

- n. Detectives spoke with Ignacio Saldias and he advised that he lives in California but did not know his address. He was visiting his Aunt in Chicago and was only with the other individuals for today. Ignacio explained that he stayed at an unknown hotel and was unable to provide details about the other individuals.
- o. Detectives spoke with Jeremy Martinez, and he initially stated that he took a train to Cincinnati from an unknown location. He explained that he stayed at a hotel last night by himself and joined up with the group today. When detectives confronted him about an airplane ticket receipt attached to his black DKNY bag, Jeremy admitted that he flew from Los Angeles to Cincinnati on February 22, 2023, with Marcelo Badillo.
- p. Detectives spoke with Marcelo Badillo, and he admitted to flying from Los Angeles to Cincinnati with the entire group. Furthermore, Marcelo confessed the group was always together.
- q. Delta Airway boarding passes and passenger receipts belonging to Marcelo Badillo and Jeremy Martinez show at least the two individuals departing LAX at 11:41 pm on February 22, 2023, and arriving at CVG (Cincinnati) at 6:43 am, on February 23, 2023. Additionally, this follows the timeline when Tamara Saldias rented the Toyota Highlander, under the alias of Germany Somonei, from Avis Budget Rental at 7:41 am on the 23rd of February.
- r. From my experience, a criminal organization referred to as the South American Theft Group is known for committing these types of crimes in affluent areas all across the country. Individuals associated with this group are typically from Latin America and more specifically from Chile. Federal Agencies have confirmed the identities of the individuals and have linked them to the transnational organization known as the South American Theft Group.
- s. Upon further investigation, I received video surveillance footage from Nathan Montgomery, a homeowner who resides in the cul-de-sac of Cedar Ridge Drive, showing a vehicle driving past his house with the vehicle lights turned off at 7:20 pm. At 7:50 pm. a vehicle returns to the cul-de-sac, with its lights turned off. The only lights on the vehicle that are activated are the brake lights. It appears the brake lights are similar to the Toyota Highlander.
- t. Ms. Remick arrived at the Carmel Police Department to verify the jewelry that was seized during the search warrant of the vehicle. Ms. Remick identified watches, rings, necklaces, and earrings that belonged to her. Ms. Remick stated that the suspects took more than what she realized and estimated the value of the items at \$250,000. Furthermore, Ms. Remick was able to identify the Louis Vuitton bags as hers.
- u. The remaining pieces of jewelry, handbags, and miscellaneous items did not belong to Ms. Remick. It appears the group burglarized additional homes between February 23, 2023, to February 27, 2023. The additional evidence, along with the US/foreign currency, is still being processed/documentated.

All of the above events occurred in Hamilton County, Indiana, except where specifically noted.

I swear under the penalties of perjury as specified by IC 35-44.1-2-1, that the foregoing representations are true.

Date: Thursday, March 2, 2023

/s/ Adam Devenport

Detective Adam Devenport
Carmel Police Department

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