

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF ALABAMA
SOUTHERN DIVISION

IN THE MATTER OF THE SEARCH OF
CERTAIN ELECTRONIC DEVICES
STORED WITHIN THE EVIDENCE ROOM
OF FBI MOBILE LOCATED AT 200
NORTH ROYAL STREET, MOBILE,
ALABAMA 36602

Case No. MJ 18-109 B

**AFFIDAVIT IN SUPPORT OF AN APPLICATION UNDER RULE 41 FOR
A WARRANT TO SEARCH AND SEIZE**

I, [REDACTED] being first duly sworn, hereby depose and state as follows:

INTRODUCTION AND AGENT BACKGROUND

1. I make this affidavit in support of an application under Rule 41 of the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure for a search warrant authorizing the examination of certain items, which are currently in the possession of FBI-Mobile, and the extraction from that property of electronically stored information described in Attachment A. These items were recovered from [REDACTED] County, Alabama pursuant to a search warrant issued out of the Middle District of Alabama and executed on [REDACTED]

2. I am a Task Force Officer with the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), and have been since April 2016 with responsibility for investigating matters related to counterterrorism and other crimes. Based upon my training and experience, I am familiar with the types of criminal activity perpetrated by criminals and terrorists, to include acts of violence. Given my training and experience investigating various criminal violations and national security violations, I know that subjects utilize electronics and media storage to communicate with co-conspirators and to store information which can further show elements of planning criminal acts.

3. This affidavit is intended to show only that there is sufficient probable cause for the requested warrant and does not set forth all of my knowledge about this matter.

IDENTIFICATION OF THE ITEMS TO BE EXAMINED

4. The items to be searched are located at the FBI Mobile Field Division Evidence Room, and include, electronic devices, storage media, journals, documents, and other records, as described in Attachment A. The applied-for warrant would authorize the seizure of evidence relating to violations of Title 18 U.S.C. § 1201, Kidnapping, as further set out in Attachment B.

PROBABLE CAUSE

5. This investigation concerns violations of Title 18 U.S.C. § 1201, Kidnapping, which makes it an offense to unlawfully seize, confine, inveigle, decoy, kidnap, abduct, or carry away and hold for ransom or reward or otherwise any person, except in the case of a minor by the parent thereof, when the person is willfully transported in interstate or foreign commerce.

6. Probable cause is based on materials and other evidence generated and collected in connection with an FBI investigation into the abduction and disappearance of [REDACTED]. This evidence includes FBI 302 reports, witness statements, court documents, photographs, video and audiotapes, police reports, accident reports, and other records and documents, as well as statements made in interviews of [REDACTED] and others.

7. [REDACTED] is the biological child of [REDACTED] and his wife by lawful marriage, [REDACTED] (date of birth [REDACTED]). According to a statement [REDACTED] provided to the FBI on [REDACTED] were married in [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] was born with [REDACTED].

As a result of this condition, [REDACTED] was developmentally delayed, and he [REDACTED] and had [REDACTED] [REDACTED] required heightened care and also required medication to [REDACTED]

8. [REDACTED] is the son of [REDACTED]. According to open source reporting, [REDACTED] is the [REDACTED] [REDACTED] previously performed [REDACTED] this mosque.

9. According to a statement provided to the FBI on [REDACTED] has [REDACTED] [REDACTED] has one child. [REDACTED] has four children and is married to [REDACTED]

10. [REDACTED] is involved in a relationship with [REDACTED] (date of birth [REDACTED] [REDACTED] national currently residing in the United States without a lawful immigration status. According to [REDACTED] and others, [REDACTED] considers [REDACTED] to be his second, "Islamic" wife. [REDACTED] has six children, including [REDACTED] [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] father is [REDACTED] [REDACTED] resides in [REDACTED]. According to [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] were divorced, but not before [REDACTED] abducted [REDACTED] who went missing.

11. [REDACTED] is married to [REDACTED]. In a statement provided to the FBI on [REDACTED] [REDACTED] stated that [REDACTED] had traveled to [REDACTED] three to four weeks before. A query to Customs and Border Patrol disclosed that in [REDACTED] traveled to [REDACTED]

██████████ According to ██████████ when ██████████ returned from his travels, he accused ██████████ of practicing “black magic.”

12. ██████████ and ██████████ are ██████████

According to open sources, “black magic” is referenced in the Quran and is widely recognized in Islamic cultural traditions but generally is considered blasphemous. Muslims offer prayers against “black magic” and recite suras (verses) from the Quran as part of a *ruqyah*, roughly translated as “exorcism.” *Ruqyah* often includes recitation of the last three suras from the Quran, *Surat al-Ikhlās* (The Fidelity), *Surat al-Falaq* (The Dawn) and *Surat an-Nas* (Mankind).

13. According to a statement by ██████████ to the FBI during an interview conducted on ██████████ became pregnant at the same time that ██████████ became pregnant with ██████████. ██████████ pregnancy soon failed. In or about ██████████ in Georgia, ██████████ formed the belief that ██████████ became pregnant only by engaging in “black magic” that resulted in ██████████ baby being transferred to ██████████ womb. ██████████ understood ██████████ to be barren. ██████████ thus believed ██████████ to be her child.

14. According to a statement by ██████████ to the FBI during an interview conducted on ██████████ formed the belief that ██████████ was born dead, but through “black magic,” ██████████ caused demons to enter ██████████ body. These demons caused ██████████ to move such that he appeared to be alive.

15. According to a statement by ██████████ to the FBI during an interview conducted on ██████████ believed she received messages and directions from God. ██████████ received these messages in ██████████ and after she left ██████████ en route to ██████████. ██████████ explained that he, ██████████ ██████████, and others also received messages from God but that ██████████ alone was able to translate them.

██████████ stated that “He really speaks to her only.” ██████████ explained that the messages came from God via Archangel Gabriel and that Archangel Gabriel communicated them to ██████████ who then communicated the messages to other members of the group. These messages sometimes took the form of orders and directives. According to ██████████ recorded these messages in journals that she kept with her. These journals are believed to be held by the ██████████ Sheriff’s Office ██████████

16. According to an ██████████ statement by ██████████ to the FBI, in or about November and December ██████████ before ██████████ and the others left ██████████ for ██████████ ██████████ directed ██████████ to take ██████████ and bring him to her. During this period, ██████████ also “ordered” ██████████ to “recite the Quran on ██████████” ██████████ stated, “My mom ██████████] didn’t want to take him” ██████████ explained ██████████ called every day to have ██████████ returned and that ██████████ planned to have ██████████ returned, but each day God told her to keep ██████████ one more day. ██████████ asked God whether she could return ██████████ and God said “no.” ██████████ stated, “The Quran told her to keep him for a little bit . . . that’s when she found out it was her son.” ██████████ stated that ██████████ received messages from God that ██████████ was her child. During this period, according to ██████████, ██████████ also asked ██████████ whether she was his mother, and he indicated she was. According to ██████████, it was at or about this time that, “We was (sic) ordered [to leave ██████████ and] to go to ██████████”

17. According to a statement by ██████████ to the FBI during an interview conducted on ██████████ ██████████ together with her children and ██████████ took ██████████ in her vehicle and drove from ██████████ to ██████████. According to ██████████ to ██████████ explained that she wanted to take ██████████ to ██████████ to perform an exorcism on him, to cast the demons from his body, after which he would come to life as Isa (Jesus Christ). ██████████ explained that Isa would then

instruct [REDACTED] and the others on what corrupt institutions they needed to “get rid of.” [REDACTED] explained that those institutions were teachers, military, law enforcement, and financial institutions. In their interviews with the FBI on [REDACTED], [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] stated that “get rid of” meant that those who did not believe as they did would be killed or imprisoned.

18. On [REDACTED] an FBI agent was notified that a police report was made with the [REDACTED] Sheriff’s Department ([REDACTED] listing [REDACTED] as a missing person. The missing person report had been filed on [REDACTED], by [REDACTED] reporting that [REDACTED]’s husband [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] were missing. [REDACTED] had taken their son to a park on [REDACTED] at 9:00 am and had not returned.

19. According to information provided to the FBI by an [REDACTED] on [REDACTED] [REDACTED] while en route to [REDACTED] crashed a [REDACTED] Explorer bearing [REDACTED] license plate [REDACTED] in Alabama, on [REDACTED] line. The vehicle was registered to [REDACTED]. At the time of the accident, [REDACTED] was in possession of five firearms, a bullet-proof vest, and a bag of ammunition. [REDACTED] informed the trooper that he had just moved to [REDACTED] Alabama and did not know his address. However, he stated that his residence was located on [REDACTED] off of [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] then stated his friend was coming from [REDACTED] Alabama to pick them up. [REDACTED] then arrived in a large box truck and helped [REDACTED] remove the firearms from the vehicle. [REDACTED] told the [REDACTED] [REDACTED] that he was traveling from [REDACTED] to [REDACTED] to go camping. There were nine people in the vehicle at the time of the accident; two adults and seven juveniles. [REDACTED] stated in his interview that he, [REDACTED], and [REDACTED] were in the vehicle at the time of the crash. [REDACTED] stated that the vehicle involved in the crash was owned by [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] also told the [REDACTED] that they were traveling from [REDACTED] to [REDACTED] to see land owned

by [REDACTED]'s brother-in-law. As [REDACTED] was abducted from [REDACTED], located in the southern portion of the [REDACTED] metro area, it does not follow that a vehicle traveling from there to [REDACTED] would be located on [REDACTED] just south of [REDACTED], unless it had first traveled down [REDACTED] from [REDACTED] through [REDACTED] Alabama.

20. After the traffic accident, the FBI began looking into [REDACTED] connections to Alabama and learned that he owns two acres of land in [REDACTED]. According to [REDACTED] Property Record Card [REDACTED] was deeded the property on [REDACTED]. The property location is located at [REDACTED] [REDACTED] County, Alabama with a brief legal description of [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] I understand that County Road [REDACTED] Alabama, is sometimes referred to as [REDACTED], or [REDACTED]. The Property Record Card has a listed mailing address for [REDACTED] of [REDACTED]

21. On [REDACTED] a Pick Up Order was entered in the Juvenile Court of [REDACTED] in Case No. [REDACTED] reporting that [REDACTED] had absconded with [REDACTED]

22. According to the results of an online [REDACTED] Superior Court Civil Case Inquiry for [REDACTED] is named as a defendant in a Petition for Divorce and Emergency Motion for Custody in which [REDACTED] filed on [REDACTED]

23. Sometime in [REDACTED] the [REDACTED] Police Department obtained a letter [REDACTED] wrote to his brother [REDACTED]. The letter states, in part:

Allah says also he forgives you for how you plotted with the other . . . [REDACTED] because you didn't know and He and I also forgive you for thinking I was doing magic Allah says He will protect you always, so follow, until He makes you a martyr as you wanted and the only way is by joining the righteous [us]. You will meet Isa also here in about 4 months in sha Alla. So hurry, do NOT drag your feet, leave whatever we told you to leave and follow what brother [REDACTED] is telling you. Take all your money out the bank and bring your guns

24. According to open sources, "Isa ibn Maryam" is the Islamic name for Jesus Christ. Jesus Christ is considered an important prophet in Islam and figures prominently in Sunni Islamic eschatology. In Sunni Islamic eschatology (end-of-days theology), Isa (Jesus Christ) will appear with the Islamic messiah (*al-Mahdi*) and will slay the antichrist before ruling for a period.

25. As reported by [REDACTED] to the FBI, a letter from [REDACTED] sent to [REDACTED] in January [REDACTED] stated that [REDACTED] calls himself the messenger. [REDACTED] believes the Messiah and antichrist are coming in four months. The letter also stated that [REDACTED] was trying to recruit individuals to their group and that [REDACTED] had recently visited an Islamic camp.

26. On January [REDACTED] an Adult Warrant was issued by the Juvenile Court of [REDACTED] in Case No. [REDACTED] stating that [REDACTED] absconded with [REDACTED] on or about [REDACTED] and the whereabouts of the child were unknown. The warrant further stated that [REDACTED] stated that [REDACTED] had medical conditions and required constant attention and that the father made it known before absconding that he wanted to perform an exorcism on [REDACTED] because he believed the child was possessed by the devil. The warrant directed any and all law enforcement to take [REDACTED] into custody and place him in the common jail of [REDACTED]

27. On [REDACTED] another Pick Up Order was entered in the Juvenile Court of [REDACTED] in Case No. [REDACTED] noting that exigent circumstances exist requiring immediate action to protect the welfare of [REDACTED].

28. On [REDACTED] FBI Mobile conducted an aerial surveillance of [REDACTED] property located in [REDACTED] at [REDACTED] and observed a small shed-like structure built out of wooden pallets covered with clear plastic tarps. Surrounding the structure were hundreds of tires built like a barrier to fortify the building. In addition, there was one champagne colored mini-van observed on the property. FBI Mobile then began spot checking the property to determine if there was anyone staying on the property.

29. On [REDACTED] FBI Mobile conducted an aerial surveillance to identify the tag number on the van located on the property. During the surveillance, the tag number was observed to be [REDACTED] License Plate # [REDACTED]. According to NCIC, the vehicle is a [REDACTED] registered to [REDACTED].

30. On [REDACTED] FBI Mobile entered [REDACTED] County, Alabama in an attempt to locate [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] on the basis of the Pick Up Order for [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] out of the Juvenile Court of [REDACTED] in Case No. [REDACTED]. There were no persons located on the property. However, agents did observe the [REDACTED] bearing [REDACTED] License Plate # [REDACTED].

31. From in or about [REDACTED] until [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] and nine other children lived on a property that was situated off [REDACTED] Boulevard, [REDACTED] the "Compound"). The group lived in a camper trailer that was placed in a hole dug into the ground. A wooden frame was built around the hole and plastic tarps were placed on top to provide shelter. The

home was surrounded by a tire wall. Within the Compound was a 100 foot tunnel dug into the ground which was used for storage of various items to include firearms, notebooks, and perishables. To the rear of the Compound was a homemade firing range with targets which were backed by a tire wall filled with sand. A storage shed was built in the main entry to the Compound.

32. According to a statement by ██████████ to the FBI during an interview conducted on ██████████ ██████████ and the other children in the group did not attend school, but were home schooled instead.

33. According to a statement by ██████████ to the FBI during an interview conducted on ██████████ ██████████ was well trained in firearms and military tactics and instructed ██████████ and others in firearms and military tactics, including tactical reloads, disarmament techniques, clearing buildings, rapid reloads, and hand-to-hand combat.

34. According to a statement by ██████████ to the FBI during an interview conducted on ██████████ ██████████ ordered ██████████ to recite the Quran over ██████████ and ██████████ did so on a regular basis. ██████████ explained that the purpose of these prayers was to cast the demons from ██████████'s body. According to ██████████, ██████████ would place his hand on ██████████'s forehead, and recite the *al-Falq* (Dawn) and *al-Nas* (Mankind) surats. During the course of this ritual, ██████████ would sometimes froth at the mouth and choke. ██████████ personally witnessed ██████████ engage in the ritual in which ██████████'s heart stopped.

35. ██████████ stated that ██████████ passed in or about ██████████ ██████████ stated that on this occasion ██████████ choked and "white slime" came out of his mouth and then ██████████'s heart stopped and ██████████ died. Everyone expected ██████████ to come to life as Isa, and they were surprised when he did not. ██████████ explained that ██████████ would come back to life

on Easter. Everyone cried. [REDACTED] cleaned the body and wrapped it in a sheet and placed it on the bed. [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] were responsible for washing the body every other day by hand. [REDACTED] body was kept on his bed for a period of time. [REDACTED] stated that the body did not change in appearance. After about four months, when the weather became warmer, the body began to smell bad, and it was moved to a storage shed and then placed in the tunnel, where the air was cooler.

36. On [REDACTED] the [REDACTED] County Police Department sent an email to the FBI that contained screen shots of cell-phone texts exchanged between [REDACTED] and her sister and in which [REDACTED] claimed she needed assistance to be saved from starvation. The [REDACTED] County Sheriff's Department received these texts from [REDACTED]'s sister.

37. On [REDACTED] law enforcement from the [REDACTED] executed warrants on the Compound. According to a statement by [REDACTED] to the FBI during an interview conducted on [REDACTED] [REDACTED] armed themselves and were ready to defend the Compound. Before any shots were fired, [REDACTED] instructed [REDACTED] and the others to surrender. Per the [REDACTED] interview with [REDACTED] he [REDACTED] never intended to shoot anyone.

38. On [REDACTED] a search was executed by [REDACTED] on the Compound. During the course of a search of the Compound, a journal was found which was opened to a page that described in general terms Phases of a Terrorist Attack. The journal was not further searched.

39. On [REDACTED] FBI Mobile conducted another aerial surveillance to check for any recent activity on the property in light of the events that occurred in [REDACTED] [REDACTED]. There was no signs of recent activity observed on the property in [REDACTED] County, Alabama.

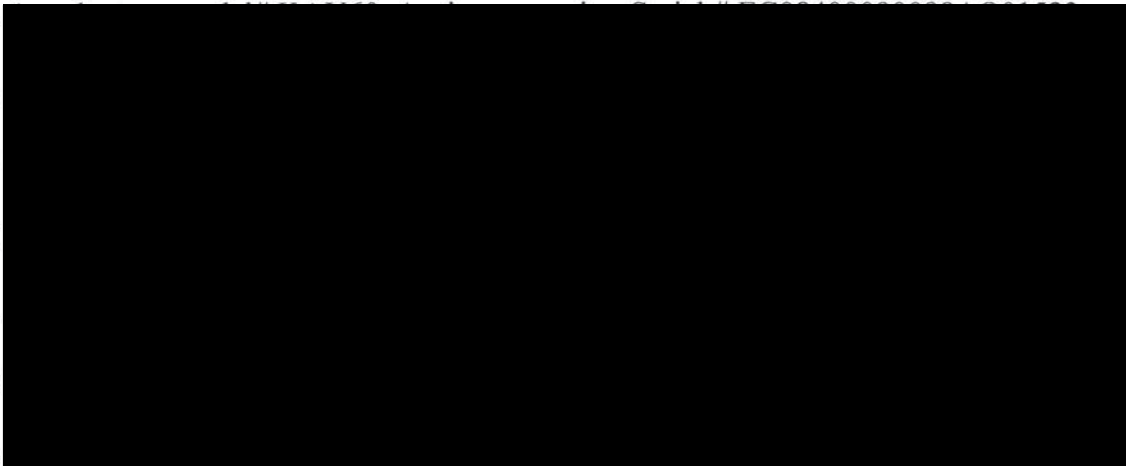
40.

[REDACTED] After viewing the aerial surveillance from [REDACTED] Alabama and comparing it to the compound in [REDACTED] the structures are both designed the same. They are both surrounded with hundreds of vehicle tires, assorted trash, and both structures have wooden pallets with clear plastic tarps draped over them. According to a statement by [REDACTED] to the FBI during an interview on [REDACTED] [REDACTED] stated he and [REDACTED] attended an airship school that ended sometime in [REDACTED] On the way back from the school they stopped in Alabama because [REDACTED] used to have land there and they had to prepare the land for an RV. [REDACTED] then stated the land in Alabama belonged to [REDACTED] [REDACTED] then returned to [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] stated that is when things began to transpire. [REDACTED] stated [REDACTED] took [REDACTED] and went to his auntie's house for approximately two days and then the group traveled to Alabama. Once in Alabama, [REDACTED] stated the group stayed there for approximately three weeks. While in Alabama, the group spent their time cutting trees and working. [REDACTED] stated they were working because they were trying to make an airship around the trailer by building a tire wall. [REDACTED] further stated [REDACTED] was with the group while they were in Alabama. Note: [REDACTED] referred to building "airships" in his statements when he meant "earthships". Earthships are a type of passive solar homes that are made of both natural and upcycled materials that are indigenous to the local area. The homes rely on natural energy sources so they can be independent from the grid.

41. On [REDACTED], FBI Mobile executed a search warrant issued out of the Middle District of Alabama on two acres owned by [REDACTED] at [REDACTED], [REDACTED] Alabama. The property had a makeshift military style obstacle course built behind the shelter

that consisted of five gallon buckets with chain link fencing over the top. The course resembled an obstacle similar to what the military uses to low crawl under.

42. On [REDACTED] FBI Mobile took possession of the below electronic evidence from the [REDACTED]



43. The evidence to be searched as described in Attachment A is currently in the possession of the FBI Mobile Field Division in connection with operations resulting in the arrest of [REDACTED] in [REDACTED] and the subsequent search of [REDACTED] Alabama based on kidnapping charges. The FBI seeks this federal warrant to properly search such items for evidence related to the on-going federal investigation into this matter and to be certain that an examination of the evidence as described in Attachment A will comply with the Fourth Amendment and other applicable laws.

44. The evidence is currently in storage at FBI Mobile Field Division Evidence Room, 200 North Royal Street, Mobile, Alabama, 36602. In my training and experience, I know that the evidence has been stored in a manner in which its contents are, to the extent material to this investigation, in substantially the same state as they were when the evidence first came into the possession of the FBI.

TECHNICAL TERMS

45. Based on my training and experience, I use the following technical terms to convey the following meanings:

- a. Wireless telephone: A wireless telephone (or mobile telephone, or cellular telephone) is a handheld wireless device used for voice and data communication through radio signals. These telephones send signals through networks of transmitter/receivers, enabling communication with other wireless telephones or traditional “land line” telephones. A wireless telephone usually contains a “call log,” which records the telephone number, date, and time of calls made to and from the phone. In addition to enabling voice communications, wireless telephones offer a broad range of capabilities. These capabilities include: storing names and phone numbers in electronic “address books;” sending, receiving, and storing text messages and e-mail; taking, sending, receiving, and storing still photographs and moving video; storing and playing back audio files; storing dates, appointments, and other information on personal calendars; and accessing and downloading information from the Internet. Wireless telephones may also include global positioning system (“GPS”) technology for determining the location of the device.

- b. Tablet: A tablet is a mobile computer, typically larger than a phone yet smaller than a notebook, that is primarily operated by touching the screen. Tablets function as wireless communication devices and can be used to access the Internet through cellular networks, 802.11 “wi-fi” networks, or otherwise. Tablets

typically contain programs called apps, which, like programs on a personal computer, perform different functions and save data associated with those functions. Apps can, for example, permit accessing the Web, sending and receiving e-mail, and participating in Internet social networks.

- c. IP Address: An Internet Protocol address (or simply “IP address”) is a unique numeric address used by computers on the Internet. An IP address is a series of four numbers, each in the range 0-255, separated by periods (e.g., 121.56.97.178). Every computer attached to the Internet computer must be assigned an IP address so that Internet traffic sent from and directed to that computer may be directed properly from its source to its destination. Most Internet service providers control a range of IP addresses. Some computers have static—that is, long-term—IP addresses, while other computers have dynamic—that is, frequently changed—IP addresses.
- d. Internet: The Internet is a global network of computers and other electronic devices that communicate with each other. Due to the structure of the Internet, connections between devices on the Internet often cross state and international borders, even when the devices communicating with each other are in the same state.

46. In my training and experience, examining data stored on devices of this type can uncover, among other things, evidence that reveals or suggests who possessed or used the devices.

ELECTRONIC STORAGE AND FORENSIC ANALYSIS

47. Based on my knowledge, training, and experience, I know that electronic devices can store information for long periods of time. Similarly, things that have been viewed via the Internet are typically stored for some period of time on the device. This information can sometimes be recovered with forensics tools.

48. There is probable cause to believe that things that were once stored on the Device may still be stored there, for at least the following reasons:

- a. Based on my knowledge, training, and experience, I know that computer files or remnants of such files can be recovered months or even years after they have been downloaded onto a storage medium, deleted, or viewed via the Internet. Electronic files downloaded to a storage medium can be stored for years at little or no cost. Even when files have been deleted, they can be recovered months or years later using forensic tools. This is so because when a person “deletes” a file on a computer, the data contained in the file does not actually disappear; rather, that data remains on the storage medium until it is overwritten by new data.
- b. Therefore, deleted files, or remnants of deleted files, may reside in free space or slack space—that is, in space on the storage medium that is not currently being used by an active file—for long periods of time before they are overwritten. In addition, a computer’s operating system may also keep a record of deleted data in a “swap” or “recovery” file.

- c. Wholly apart from user-generated files, computer storage media—in particular, computers’ internal hard drives—contain electronic evidence of how a computer has been used, what it has been used for, and who has used it. To give a few examples, this forensic evidence can take the form of operating system configurations, artifacts from operating system or application operation, file system data structures, and virtual memory “swap” or paging files. Computer users typically do not erase or delete this evidence, because special software is typically required for that task. However, it is technically possible to delete this information.
- d. Similarly, files that have been viewed via the Internet are sometimes automatically downloaded into a temporary Internet directory or “cache.”

49. *Forensic evidence.* As further described in Attachment B, this application seeks permission to locate not only electronically stored information that might serve as direct evidence of the crimes described on the warrant, but also forensic evidence that establishes how the Device was used, the purpose of its use, who used it, and when. There is probable cause to believe that this forensic electronic evidence might be on the Device because:

- a. Data on the storage medium can provide evidence of a file that was once on the storage medium but has since been deleted or edited, or of a deleted portion of a file (such as a paragraph that has been deleted from a word processing file). Virtual memory paging systems can leave traces of information on the storage medium that show what tasks and processes were recently active. Web browsers, e-mail programs, and chat programs store configuration information on the

storage medium that can reveal information such as online nicknames and passwords. Operating systems can record additional information, such as the attachment of peripherals, the attachment of USB flash storage devices or other external storage media, and the times the computer was in use. Computer file systems can record information about the dates files were created and the sequence in which they were created.

- b. Forensic evidence on a device can also indicate who has used or controlled the device. This “user attribution” evidence is analogous to the search for “indicia of occupancy” while executing a search warrant at a residence.
- c. A person with appropriate familiarity with how an electronic device works may, after examining this forensic evidence in its proper context, be able to draw conclusions about how electronic devices were used, the purpose of their use, who used them, and when.
- d. The process of identifying the exact electronically stored information on a storage medium that are necessary to draw an accurate conclusion is a dynamic process. Electronic evidence is not always data that can be merely reviewed by a review team and passed along to investigators. Whether data stored on a computer is evidence may depend on other information stored on the computer and the application of knowledge about how a computer behaves. Therefore, contextual information necessary to understand other evidence also falls within the scope of the warrant.

- e. Further, in finding evidence of how a device was used, the purpose of its use, who used it, and when, sometimes it is necessary to establish that a particular thing is not present on a storage medium.

50. *Nature of examination.* Based on the foregoing, and consistent with Rule 41(e)(2)(B), the warrant I am applying for would permit the examination of the device consistent with the warrant. The examination may require authorities to employ techniques, including but not limited to computer-assisted scans of the entire medium, that might expose many parts of the device to human inspection in order to determine whether it is evidence described by the warrant.

51. *Manner of execution.* Because this warrant seeks only permission to examine devices already in law enforcement's possession, the execution of this warrant does not involve the physical intrusion onto a premises. Consequently, I submit there is reasonable cause for the Court to authorize execution of the warrant at any time in the day or night.

CONCLUSION

52. I submit that this affidavit supports probable cause for a search warrant authorizing the examination of the Devices and other items described in Attachment A to seek the items described in Attachment B.

Respectfully submitted,



Task Force Officer
Federal Bureau of Investigation

THE ABOVE AGENT HAS ATTESTED
TO THIS AFFIDAVIT PURSUANT TO
FED.R.CRIM.P.4.1(b)(2)(B) this 10th
DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 2018

United States Magistrate
Judge Sonja Bivins

Digitally signed by United States Magistrate Judge Sonja Bivins
DN: cn=United States Magistrate Judge Sonja Bivins,
o=Southern District of Alabama, ou=U.S. District Court,
email=efte_bivins@sfdc.uscourts.gov, c=US
Date: 2018.09.10 13:33:54 -0600

THE HONORABLE SONJA F. BIVINS
UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE

ATTACHMENT A

The property to be searched is located at the FBI Mobile Field Division Evidence Room, 200 North Royal Street, Mobile, Alabama, 36602 and includes electronic devices, storage media, journals, documents, clothing, and other records, including:

All electronic evidence taken from the premises situated at [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Alabama, including the following items:

[REDACTED]

ATTACHMENT B

Property to be seized

1. All information that constitutes evidence of violations of Title 18 U.S.C. § 1201 involving [REDACTED]

2. All documents, memoranda, notes, photographs, newspaper or magazine clippings, books, pamphlets and other printed and/or handwritten materials which contain information related to any travel of [REDACTED]

3. All documents, memoranda, notes, photographs, newspaper or magazine clippings, books, pamphlets and other printed and/or handwritten materials which contain information relate to:

- a. religious practices and “black magic”;
- b. eschatology and/or “end of times”;
- c. purported messages from God;
- d. travel from [REDACTED] through [REDACTED]
- e. firearms, ammunition, explosives or precursors;
- f. tactical or military training;
- g. Islamic extremism;
- h. Anti-government extremism;
- i. vehicle registration and real property ownership;
- j. home-school educational materials; and

- k. medical prescriptions and prescription drugs.
4. Firearms, ammunition, explosives or precursors, and or any written documents relating to same, including registration, purchase documents, invoices, receipts, use manuals, training manuals, and tactical training manuals.
5. Computers and portable electronic media which contain information on the following:
 - a. religious practices and “black magic”;
 - b. eschatology and/or “end of times”;
 - c. purported messages from God;
 - d. travel from [REDACTED] through [REDACTED]
 - e. firearms, ammunition, explosives or precursors;
 - f. tactical or military training;
 - g. Islamic extremism;
 - h. anti-government extremism;
 - i. vehicle registration and real property ownership;
 - j. home-school educational materials; and
 - k. medical prescriptions and prescription drugs.
6. Clothing, eyewear, and apparel accessories including gloves, hats, shoes, boots, shirts, pants, coveralls, aprons, socks, underwear, goggles, glasses, masks, jackets or other outerwear which could be worn by any child, sheets, and bedding.
7. Keys, records, to include files, notes, ledgers, journals, logs, applications, memoranda, letters, correspondence, electronic mail or mailings, receipts, regarding ownership

of vehicles and real property by [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

8. All records, to include check registers, check copies, logs, spreadsheets, general ledgers, schedules, payroll records, reconciliations, checks, remittance advices, receipts, purchase orders, invoices, packing lists, mailings, envelopes and other related documentation relating to [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] s travel from [REDACTED] o [REDACTED] the purpose of their travel and establishment of residence in [REDACTED] the establishment of their residence in [REDACTED], all activities at their residence in [REDACTED] specifically, the following:

a. Bank or brokerage account information showing the receipt and disbursement of funds to include cancelled checks, deposit and withdrawal slips, cashier's checks, wire transfers, bank statements, debit cards, credit cards and statements, ATM withdrawal receipts and all other bank documents.

b. Address books, calendars, appointment books and other records showing names, addresses and telephone numbers, passwords, access number, keys and related information.

c. Correspondence, notes, letters, memoranda associated with business transactions and associates, including possible coconspirators.

d. Records, to include files, notes, ledgers, journals, logs, applications, memoranda, letters, correspondence, electronic mail or mailings relating to the above violation;

e. Records, journals, logs or other information which may reveal the state of mind or intent of by [REDACTED]

f. Contextual information necessary to understand the evidence described in this attachment, to include identification of other individuals who may have information relevant to this investigation.

g. Information associated with Islamic theology, anti-government extremism, or similar ideology;

9. Computers or storage media used as a means to commit a kidnapping or plan for terrorist attacks.

10. For any computer or storage medium whose search and seizure is otherwise authorized by this warrant, and any computer or storage medium that contains or in which is stored records or information that is otherwise called for by this warrant (hereinafter, "COMPUTER"):

11. Evidence of who used, owned, or controlled the COMPUTER at the time the things described in this warrant were created, edited, or deleted, such as logs, registry entries, configuration files, saved usernames and passwords, documents, browsing history, user profiles, email, email contacts, "chat," texts, tweets, instant messaging logs, photographs, and correspondence.

12. Evidence of software that would allow others to control the COMPUTER, such as viruses, Trojan horses, and other forms of malicious software, as well as evidence of the presence or absence of security software designed to detect malicious software.

13. Evidence of the lack of such malicious software.

14. Evidence indicating how and when the computer was accessed or used to determine the chronological context of computer access, use, and events relating to crime under investigation and to the computer user.

15. Evidence indicating the computer user's state of mind as it relates to the crime under investigation.

16. Evidence of the attachment to the COMPUTER of other storage devices or similar containers for electronic evidence.

17. Evidence of counter-forensic programs (and associated data) that are designed to eliminate data from the COMPUTER.

18. Evidence of the times the COMPUTER was used.

19. Passwords, encryption keys, and other access devices that may be necessary to access the COMPUTER.

20. Documentation and manuals that may be necessary to access the COMPUTER or to conduct a forensic examination of the COMPUTER.

21. Records of or information about Internet Protocol addresses used by the COMPUTER.

22. Records of or information about the COMPUTER's Internet activity, including firewall logs, caches, browser history and cookies, "bookmarked" or "favorite" web pages, search terms that the user entered into any Internet search engine, and records of user-typed web addresses;

23. Contextual information necessary to understand the evidence described in this attachment.

24. Routers, modems, and network equipment used to connect computers to the Internet.

Definitions

25. As used above, the terms “records” and “information” includes all forms of creation or storage, including any form of computer or electronic storage (such as hard disks or other media that can store data); electronically stored information; any handmade form (such as writing); any mechanical form (such as printing or typing); and any photographic form (such as microfilm, microfiche, prints, slides, negatives, videotapes, motion pictures, or photocopies).

26. The term “computer” includes all types of electronic, magnetic, optical, electrochemical, or other high speed data processing devices performing logical, arithmetic, or storage functions, including desktop computers, notebook computers, cell phones, tablets, server computers, and network hardware.

27. The term “storage medium” includes any physical object upon which computer data can be recorded. Examples include hard disks, RAM, floppy disks, flash memory, CD-ROMs, cellular phones, and other magnetic or optical media.