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FILED
MAR 1 2017
CLERK US DISTRICT COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA
BY

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA**

17MJ0621

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Plaintiff,

v.

Brian Zachary HOUSTON

Defendant.

Case No.: _____

COMPLAINT FOR VIOLATION
OF

Title 21, U.S.C., Secs. 952 and 960 -
Importation of Controlled
Substances (Felony)

The undersigned complainant being duly sworn states:

Count 1

On February 28, 2017, within the Southern District of California, Brian Zachary HOUSTON did knowingly and intentionally import approximately 19.5 kilograms (42.72 pounds) of Heroin, a Schedule I Controlled Substance, into the United States from a place outside thereof; in violation of Title 21, United States Code, Sections 952 and 960.

Count 2

On February 28, 2017, within the Southern District of California, Brian Zachary HOUSTON did knowingly and intentionally import approximately 21.32 kilograms (46.9 pounds) of methamphetamine, a Schedule I Controlled Substance, into the United States from a place outside thereof; in violation of Title 21, United States Code, Sections 952 and 960.

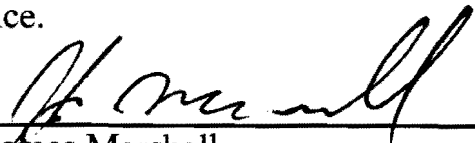
Count 3


On February 28, 2017, within the Southern District of California, Brian Zachary HOUSTON did knowingly and intentionally import approximately 19.42 kilograms (42.9 pounds) of Cocaine, a Schedule I Controlled Substance, into the United States

2/28

1 from a place outside thereof; in violation of Title 21, United States Code, Sections 952
2 and 960.

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4 And the complainant states that this complaint is based on the attached statement of
5 facts, which is incorporated herein by reference.

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7 _____
8 James Marshall
Special Agent
Homeland Security Investigations

9 Sworn to before me and subscribed in my presence, this 28th day of February 2017. 

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11 _____
12 Hon. Karen S. Crawford
United States Magistrate Judge

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PROBABLE CAUSE STATEMENT

On February 28, 2017, at approximately 10:30 a.m., defendant Brian Zachary HOUSTON, a United States citizen, applied for entry into the United States from Mexico through the San Ysidro, California, Port of Entry in vehicle lane #3. HERERRA was the driver and sole occupant of silver 2013 Volkswagen Jetta (“the vehicle”).

A Customs and Border Protection Officer (CBPO) working primary inspection at lane number three inspected HOUSTON and received two negative declarations from HOUSTON. HOUSTON presented a valid SENTRI card and United States Passport card. The CBPO inspected the trunk of the vehicle and immediately noticed a strong chemical smell. The CBPO noticed scrapes and marks that suggested that the inner lining of the trunk had been tampered with. The CBPO pulled the lining of the trunk back and observed several plastic wrapped packages. The CBPO asked HOUSTON to turn the car off and hand him the keys. HOUSTON asked the CBPO “You want the keys too?” The CBPO noticed that HOUSTON hands were shaking as he handed the CBPO his keys. The CBPO escorted HOUSTON to the security office.

1 The vehicle was moved to the secondary inspection area where it was x-
2 rayed by a CBPO. The CBPO observed anomalies in all four doors, rear quarter
3 panels, and spare tire of the vehicle.
4

5 A CBPO conducted a secondary inspection of the vehicle. During the
6 secondary inspection, the CBPO discovered a total of 67 packages inside all four
7 doors, rear quarter panels and spare tire of the vehicle. The CBPO probed 20
8 packages which contained a brown waxy substance that field-tested positive for
9 heroin. The CBPO probed 34 packages which contained a white crystalline
10 substance that field-tested positive for methamphetamine. The CBPO probed 13
11 packages which contained a white powdery substance that field-tested positive for
12 Cocaine.
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16 The combined weight of the 20 packages of heroin was approximately 19.5
17 kilograms (42.9 pounds). The combined weight of the 34 packages of
18 methamphetamine was approximately 21.32 kilograms (46.9 pounds). The
19 combined weight of the 13 packages of cocaine was approximately 19.42
20 kilograms (42.72 pounds).
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23 HOUSTON was arrested and charged with three violations of Title 21,
24 United States Code, 952 and 960, Importation of a Controlled Substance.
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