

San Diego County SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

NEWS RELEASE INFORMATION SHEET

Subject: 20 Kilogram Fentanyl Seizure

Date of Release: 04-11-2019

Time of Release: 1:00 pm

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Provider of Information (if different):

SYNOPSIS:

On Wednesday April 10, 2019, United States Border Patrol agents and San Diego County Sheriff's Border Crime Suppression Team detectives conducted a joint narcotics interdiction operation. At about 2:30 pm, a traffic stop was conducted for a speed violation on westbound I-905 in San Diego. The vehicle, a 2004 Mitsubishi Endeavor, was being driven by Marilu Escamilla (DOB 11-11-1994). She was accompanied by her boyfriend, Fernando Camargo (DOB 03-09-1983). During the stop, a Sheriff's canine indicated to the presence of narcotics. A search of the vehicle was conducted and 20 kilograms of powdered fentanyl was discovered deeply concealed within the vehicle. The narcotics were estimated to have a street value of over \$1,500,000.00. Escamilla and Camargo were arrested and booked into San Diego County Jail for felony transportation of controlled substances and other related charges.

Seizures of large quantities of fentanyl have become increasingly common in San Diego County. Powdered fentanyl is commonly used to produce counterfeit pharmaceuticals. Law Enforcement in San Diego County regularly encounters counterfeit Oxycodone and Xanax pills which contain fentanyl. Due to a lack of quality control by the drug suppliers the fentanyl dosage in the pills can vary and lead to unintentional use and accidental exposure often leading to overdose and death.

**In order to combat transnational criminal activity the Sheriff's Department works collaboratively with federal law enforcement partners in crime suppression along the U.S. / Mexico Border. These operations are in compliance with State law and do not involve immigration enforcement.

Call Crime Stoppers at (888) 580-8477 with information and you will remain anonymous. You can also download the P3 anonymous tip app. You may be eligible for up to a \$1,000 reward for information that leads to an arrest.

Media Relations – (858) 974-2259 Watch Commander – (858) 565-5555 PAD-3 Rev. 11/18



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