

**DRUG ENFORCEMENT ADMINISTRATION
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CARLOS AQUINO**

SEAN FERNS (ph.)

00:00:06:08 SF: ...for driving down. Good morning again. My name is Sean Ferns here on the Museum staff. For those of you who are joining us for the first time, I wanted to explain a little bit about our lecture series. For those of you who are coming back, thank you and welcome back.

00:00:18:02 We are working in the Museum on a brand new exhibit which will open in the galleries here at headquarters the first week of November, all about the diversion issue and a history of the program and highlights of successful cases. It's called "Good Medicine, Bad Behavior".

00:00:33:07 And we're again right in the midst of developing it and Operation Cyberchase is one of the cases that we will highlight in the hundred years of prescription drug abuse that we're going to be looking at. So it was altogether fitting that we invite Carlos Aquino down from the DEA Philadelphia Field Division to talk about the case.

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00:00:52:26 And we will be highlighting it in the exhibit. A little bit of background on Carlos. In January of 1995 he retired from the Philadelphia Police Department with the rank of Police Sergeant after 24 years of service. It was during his 24 year career with the Philadelphia Police Department that Mr. Aquino was assigned for 10 years to the DEA Philadelphia Task Force.

00:01:17:22 His professional law enforcement career continued with DEA after he was rehired as a Legal Technician, assigned in Philadelphia to the Asset Forfeiture Unit. And then in July of 1997 he was promoted to a Diversion Investigator position and assigned to Philadelphia Diversion Group 2.

00:01:35:23 In July of 2005 he was promoted to Group Supervisor of Group 2. He earned a Bachelor of Science in poly sci from Temple University in Philadelphia and he is joining us today to speak about, again, Operation Cyberchase. One quick note, if you wouldn't mind turning cell phones, pages and Blackberry's to vibrate, we would certainly appreciate it.

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00:01:58:02 We're going to hold questions until the end if you don't mind and then just a quick note that in three weeks, June 12th, Terry Woodworth is coming back, retired DEA Diversion, to speak in our June lecture series about international diversion and international drug controls. Carlos Aquino. [APPLAUSE]

CARLOS AQUINO

00:02:25:22 CA: I'm having a tough time this morning. Can you hear me? Okay. Yes, I apologize for being late. Once I got off of 295 I realized I was—I mean 395, I thought—I thought I was on 395, I actually was on 295 and that little bit of traffic really caused me a lot of aggravation trying to get back in this direction. But...

00:03:00:11 [B ROLL]

00:03:30:12 I want to talk about this case we did, Cyberchase in Philly, and the purpose of my presentation here is to give you an over-overview of the case and the issues that we faced and the pitfalls and the hurdles of this case. These are the Philadelphia... Besides Philadelphia DEA, we also had the New York offices and

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also several DEA offices including the DEA country offices there that assisted in us in the seizures and the arrests of certain individuals.

00:04:12:12 Besides the DEA offices, we also had other federal agencies including the Chester Police and Narcotic Unit that initiated this whole case with the Delaware County DA's office. We also had the assistance of the federal-fret-fed-the Australian Federal Police and the Indian Narcotic Control Bureau which is the DEA-is the Indian version of DEA.

00:04:36:12 The investigation initially dealt with the seizure of 119 packages from Air Borne Express in Lester, PA and the packages were sent out by a Leroy Jones with a return address at Lamoken (ph.) Street in Chester. Sergeant Joe Bale (ph.), who's now Captain Joe Bale, executed a search warrant at that location and we interviewed the owner or the operator of that facility, Richard Dabney (ph.) and-who tells us that he owned Advest (ph.) Enterprises and the fact that, you know, he used that address on the return packages.

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00:05:12:26 These were the return packages that we seized out there. I think after 4100 packages, Air Borne Express felt that they should maybe open two of these packages to see if there was any controlled substance in it, at which time they did.

00:05:30:27 And one of those packages was a package returned from a Robin Blocher (ph.), and Robin was a little annoyed because she asked for one milligram Alprozalin (ph.) Mozanex (ph.) and they delivered a half a milligram tablet.

00:05:46:13 She ordered 40 tablets for \$154.00 and the packages were late in being sent to her. And she put the order in February 7th and they arrived on the 19th. We had Robin interviewed by a narcotic unit out there in her township and she decided to cooperate and tell, you know, how she went about obtaining those—the pills.

00:06:17:21 In January Dabney tells us that he met O'Toole (ph.) Petille (ph.) and Akeel (ph.) Bonzo (ph.) and that he was paid \$300.00 to make the deliveries to the Airborne Express using these cell phones. It was funny, Dabney—you know, Dabney had a prior federal

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bank robbery conviction and when I yelled at him, he—he told me that I was being too loud and, you know, I was being rude at him.

00:06:43:17 And I said, "Dude, did you spend in time jail"? You know? I said, "I don't believe, you know, I'm annoying you, you know". But we had three cell phones on there and we established that Akeel Bonzo was residing at 7901 Henry Avenue. That's where Richard Dabney went and picked up the first load.

00:07:06:21 And we also learned that all these guys were all Temple students doing the Masters program. In fact, Akeel was doing a double Masters and he was running a 4.0 while at the same time doing this whole operation. We identified the server for RXsmart.com (ph.). That's where the whole internet case began and that's when I turned around and I said to Joe bale, "You mind if I make a federal case out of this".

00:07:34:17 He goes, "No, absolutely not". And that's—and that's what we did. But you gotta understand too that I just came back from SOG (ph.) training and I know what big cases, big heddicks (ph.), little cases, little

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heddicks, no cases, no heddick, and when I saw this case, I said, "I have a feeling this is gonna be a big case and I know I'm gonna"...

00:07:56:19 Some of this (unint.) here, it's grey today. It was black back in February of '04. But the domain server was leased from C.I. Host (ph.) out in Bedford, Texas, and you talk about the legal counsel out there. Their legal counsel was a former judge. And I said, "Sir", I said, "You know"...

00:08:15:08 I explained him what we had. He said, "Well, you just give me a subpoena". So I said, "You want a (unint.) subpoena or an administrative subpoena"? He goes, "I'll take the administrative subpoena". I said, "All right, fine". You know? And he says, "You give me the subpoena, I'll give you everything you want".

00:08:29:27 And he did. He... We found out that the registered owner, actually the website itself, was operated by Andrew (ph.) Shackleton (ph.) and he had 24 websites on there of which 18 were pharmaceutical internet. What we... [TAPE CUTS OUT]

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00:08:48:15 We executed a search warrant at C.I. Host and we got, you know, a mirror (ph.) copy of the hard drive for that. But what we learned throughout this whole thing is the on-line activity went this way. You as the customer went on-line on your computer and you decided to select what you wanted.

00:09:06:00 The website would receive the order and then the credit card process would—credit—process your—your—your sta—your transaction and they would debit your card. And then the source would get the information from the website operator who would then, in turn, fulfill the order and the website operator would then pay the source.

00:09:29:02 There was no telephone communication throughout this whole process. They had cell phones communicating between O'Toole and Akeel and—and—and—and David Armstrong in New York, but there wasn't that much of a conver—a conversation on the telephone. Very little conversation.

00:09:46:18 Most of it, it was all done on the internet. This is Akeel Bonzo and O'Toole Petille. Forham (ph.) Mancoty

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(ph.) is his girlfriend. We really never had anything on her to charge her. Ashock (ph.) Banashelly (ph.), he was the one that leased the phones.

00:10:04:24 We never really got an interview with him because up to that point we really had nothing tied into him outside of the fact that, you know, he ordered the—or had the phones in his name. Now Forham is an intern doing her internship in Texas and Ashock, he's a doctor now in New York.

00:10:30:28 And funny story is Forham, we wanted her to come in and testify and she was fighting us tooth and nail. You gotta remember there's conversation—prison conversations going between Akeel and Forham and Akeel's, you know, cursing us out on the phone and Forham's saying, "Whatever you want".

00:10:48:16 Well, the unfortunate part for her, she went back to India and what happened, apparently the Indian government had her on some kind of computer system and they wouldn't let her back into the U.S. Now, from what I understand, Akeel, who's suing us for \$500,000,000.00 on a civil action, is claiming that

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myself and AUSA Jim Pavloc (ph.) actually performed that act.

00:11:19:20 (Unint.) Avenue, this is where the apartment complex, they were paying 1500 dollars a month for the apartment itself. We went in there and the handy-dandy administrative subpoena, sometimes they do work, you know. We walked (ph.) and talked to management and said, "Hey, you know, you've got some drug dealers in your-your-your-your complex and we'd like you to cooperate".

00:11:43:25 And they said, "Well, what do you want"? Well, we'd like to see the apartment complex out there and so forth". So she wound up giving us four cards—four access cards so we can go in and out of the complex throughout this whole investigation. They're really..

00:11:59:01 And, you know, one of the things we did promise, that we wouldn't disclose too much information on (unint.) which there wasn't much information outside. The media called it 7900 Henry Avenue. The facts in this case is C.I. Host in-in-in-in Andrew Shackleton's

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website, RXsmart.com, they had a list of over 10,000 customers.

00:12:28:29 There was nothing encoded. They... Again, the 4100 packages, it's (ph.) done through Airborne Express, and that was done in 19 days. We learned (unint.) the controlled substances three and fives and non-controlled substances also. There were no registered doctors, no pharmacy involved.

00:12:50:21 This was just a straight drug deal. The average bill was about 244. And we interview one girl, Laura, up in King of Prussia, and she spent about \$7,000.00 a year in Ambian (ph.), and I said to her, "Why didn't you just go to the doctor? You know, you got a medical card, you know, you're working for a good company, why didn't you just go see a doctor"?

00:13:13:05 She goes, "I was afraid." You know. So it was funny cause I was with Special Agent Jason Huff from the FBI when we went in and interviewed him (ph.). Jason was a rookie. I felt like I was back in the police department. So she comes out with a box and says, "Here. Here's the drugs that I have right now".

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00:13:31:19 So I said, "Well, I've got good news and bad news. The good news is I'm gonna help you out with this—you know, with your addiction. The bad news is we gotta seize this". You know? So we wind up giving her a receipt and we wind up seizing the drugs. Her husband a couple months later sent us an e-mail and was very grateful cause his wife was so addicted to them that she was doing about 10 tablets in Ambians, you know, a night, just to try to go to sleep.

00:14:02:12 Shackleton... We wind up getting a mirror copy of the hard drive and, I'll tell ya, C.I. Host was fantastic with us. What they did is they had their IT section shut the system down, their server, and they had their—their—their—their one department notified that if anybody called in reference to that particular server, the server was down for maintenance.

00:14:30:18 So it took us almost two hours to mirror copy the hard drive. And we tried to do that with another company in Virginia here, Server Beach (ph.). I think they went out of business. Server Beach says to us, "You can give us—you can get me a search warrant and you

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can give me a do not disclose order but if the customer calls, we will tell him that we can't tell them why their server is down".

00:14:57:15 Well, it reminds me of when I was in the police department and you're in someone's house and the guys says, "Listen, I can't talk to you cause the cops are here". You know? So we opted not to do that with them, totally out of—you know, out of the fact that I know as soon as you shut it down, Andrew Shackleton would have known what was going on.

00:15:17:24 The hard drives, (unint.), those guys were fantastic with us. You know, we identified the Shack court (ph.). Nothing was encoded. Everything is just plain open. I mean, we had files that you would believe. You can tell the customers cause each one of the customers had their own folder and their e-mails and so forth.

00:15:39:26 One of the things I—we found in—in—in—in one of the e-mails going from Germaine to—Cameron Germaine over to Andrew Shackleton is that Bridge Bonzo—his—which is the father of Akeel Bonzo, who's a doctor—a doctor in

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India, was identified as Curry. Now we didn't know who Curry was until Bridge Bonzo sends an e-mail to Cameron Germa-Cameron and said, "Hey, you owe me 36,000".

00:16:13:21 "I want you to wire this-that money over to my account in ICICI Bank and here's the account number." Okay? And he cc's the-on the e-mail, cc's back to Akeel Bonzo. So now we know there was-there was-there's-there's a source here and that Shackleton was just one of several other-most likely several other website operators.

00:16:45:21 The website, we went into Hotmail. We sent em a grand jury subpoena. We got that-back that information and the same thing with Akeel. And then what we did is he listed that same e-mail on his EZ (ph.) Pass and then we learned that he was going-now he was going to New York.

00:17:05:03 His Philadelphia operation stopped. And then in one of the e-mails we got from Akeel Bonzo over to a woman named Corrina (ph.) in Costa Rica, he sent her an e-an e-mail with a Power Point presentation, all right,

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showing how his company was growing. He starts out by saying, "In the stone age".

00:17:26:15 And in the same Power Point he tells you that, you know, he was doing this operation in Philadelphia but he stopped and he's going up to New York. And at the end of the presentation you've got Donald Duck with a big dollar sign. You know? And we presented that to the Grand—not only the Grand Jury but the jury that convicted him also.

00:17:51:00 The Hotmail... Microsoft was very, very cooperative with us. We sent em a search warrant and they gave us the information we needed from the—from the—their Hotmail accounts. And—and it's—and—and you see the e-mails. The e-mails basically showed you that they are illegally exporting the drugs out to—you know, from India into the U.S.

00:18:16:14 In fact, the e-mails talk about Indian custom agents being paid. And then it also shows the distribution coming out of Pennsylvania and New York. The drugs are shipped the—from—shipped to the UK and the US

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commercial carriers, UPS, and bulk packages were sent through JFK.

00:18:41:13 We couldn't understand how it was getting in, you know, and later on you'll see some photos. They were just sending it through Customs over there and they were clear, and it would be sent over to—on a plane through JFK, and Akeel Bonzo or one of his friends will go over and pick up the packages.

00:19:03:25 In addition to Shackleton we had 15 website operators. We had... And when we looked at everything that we had at that point, we decided we can't target all 15. Some of them were small, some of them were big. So we took the biggest five of the 15 and that's who we indicted.

00:19:23:17 David... At this point David Armstrong is now shipping out of New York. And this is where DI Joe Mendez... If you know Joe Mendez from Long Island, Joe Mendez was about to hit the stash house that was run by David Armstrong. And the good thing was that he did de-confliction (ph.) through SOD.

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00:19:44:19 And then Terry Riley (ph.)—GS Terry Riley today, who is an SOD, said, "Hey, Joe, I think you ought to talk to Carlos Aquino in Philly cause that's one of their sites". So that's how Joe Mendez in the Long Island office comes into play. The financial information, we get multiple banks here and it was a constant wire transfer.

00:20:10:04 There was only one person out of Florida who would actually deposit any money in a bank with a cashier's check. Everything else is done wire. So as they were wiring transferring all the information, we were getting em on the e-mail. That's Akeel's bank accounts, all right?

00:20:35:07 I loved the Free Temple—Free Temple account. He had a half a million dollar [sic] in the account and the manager from the bank calls him up and wants to talk to him, you know. You'd think a tsar (ph.) would come out after this but it didn't. He told em, "You know, you got a lot of money in there".

00:20:53:17 "I think you should invest it, you know." So... He apparently asked him... We interviewed him. He asked

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him what he did for a living. "I'm a student. I'm a doctor in India and my father's rich and this is my spending money". So the bank manager said, "Okay, would you like to do some CDs"?

00:21:11:10 So just to appease him, he wound up doing two 50,000 dollar CDs. But the Free Temple, you know, account was a real catcher. We did grand jury information on ICIC Bank and all the accounts and everything was wire transfer. I mean, you can see the change in amounts going back and forth.

00:21:35:23 You know, in a click of a mouse, you know, the money can disappear. You can just transfer right in-wire transfer into another account. That was our biggest concern. The investigation in India, DEA New Delhi Office, Alan Santos, I think he's here now, Ron Kahn, he's the country attaché down in DEA, and Maureen O'Keefe, you know, those three people in India, you know, really put this case together and helped us with their end of it.

00:22:06:09 I spend a week in India and what we were told is like the India government don't [sic] move that fast. So I

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had a week to see if they did have wiretap conversations with Akeel and his father, Bridge. We did a Power Point presentation over to the Narcotic Control Bureau and, you know, you can see—you can see everybody standing there looking at me when I'm doing this presentation.

00:22:37:25 And at the end of it, you know, thank God I had the gift of gab, you know. I said, "I really need your assistance. If this case [sic] will not be able-made without your help, you know". And then Shack (ph.) Orule (ph.), who was the Commander there, was looking at his boss.

00:22:53:24 And his boss nods and he gets up, he goes "Oh, thank you", you know, and I sit down and now he starts doing his presentation. And we didn't realize these guys are really up on what—they're already jumped on this case. And in India you're allowed to monitor somebody's conversation to see if they're doing illegal activity but you can't use that as evidence.

00:23:18:07 But we wanted to know—we wanted to hear those tapes and to possibly, you know, get someone to hear them—

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listening to those tapes and see if there was probably cause, we were working on this Title III application. So I was there five days. On the third day they said, "Okay, fine".

00:23:41:11 On the fourth day Ron Kahn and—and—and an interpreter up there from New Delhi went in there, was listening to the conversation and that night I had about two hours time to go out and do some shopping cause if I didn't bring home something to my wife, you know—you know, I don't have to tell ya, right?

00:23:59:10 But the next day we were on a plane (inaud.) we were. So I accomplished my mission. We did MLATs in there, Mutual Legal Assistance Treaty letters. It's basically a—a—an official letter going from one country to the other saying, "We need your assistance".

00:24:18:26 They're prepared by our Assistant US Attorney, which requested wire-tra—or (unint.) information and so forth, and we coordinated with 13 DEA offices. And this is what we would do. We'd send em a draft and say, "This is what we're looking for". You know, now

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if their counterpart went and peeked to see if it was worthwhile doing this letter, then, you know, they would—they would then let us know, yes, it's worthwhile for you to do an MLAT or no, it's not".

00:24:57:19 All the transactions were done and wire transferring, and they were all done in US currency. Okay? And one of the problems that the—you know, the Assistants US Attorneys had was trying to get these records from these foreign banks. I'll give you an example.

00:25:15:14 Rome (ph.) Wallace, he establishes an account at Allied Irish Bank in Ireland, okay. His credit card processor sends the money, wires the money into his account at—in Ireland and it's done at—on US dollars—in US dollars. Okay? In that event, that credit card processor's bank has to have a corresponding bank, and so does the bank in the..

00:25:46:04 Allied Irish Bank also has to have a corresponding bank because all the transaction was done in US currency. And then what we learned is that they—in his case the corresponding bank was the Bank of Miami. So, therefore, instead of sending that MLAT to Ireland

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and waiting almost a month for a response, we sent a Grand Jury subpoena to the bank in the Miami and got those records back in five days.

00:26:18:10 Enforcement. This is... Eric Russ (ph.), agent in Group four, the guy was fantastic. Okay? We did two Hotmail accounts, two T3s, and we went through 20,000 e-mails. All right? My job was to look at those e-mails, extract all those—all those accounts and all those orders that were sent in by—or sent by Bridge and put em into—in some kind of fashionable order.

00:26:54:11 During the same time when we did the two Title IIIs, which we did for—they did em two times for 30 days each, we also did the five search warrants for the Hotmail accounts. In the event that somewhere down the line we lose the T3, we can always bounce back at the five search warrants, the information.

00:27:19:29 During that same time we were doing surveillance of Akeel Bonzo in New York and we were—we were preparing the spreadsheets, and what we did is we used NDIC cause all the formats were different. So what we did is we would take the spreadsheets off the search

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warrants and then send em over to NDIC and they'd put em together in-in-in a-in a spreadsheet that we can read.

00:27:48:01 The other thing we did is this www.archive.org, you know, typically people that we are, you know, why do I need to copy a website? Well, you know, the unfortunate part in this, we had two six-week trials. They did not stipulate to anything. They didn't even stipulate to the fact that the chemists were chemists.

00:28:14:08 They actually had to go up on the stand and prove who they were and how they analyzed the charts. We used to have many sideshows, cause that's what it looked like, before the jury was allowed to come in to-you know, to say, "Yes, this chemist can testify no" *[sic]*.

00:28:32:06 But archives, we needed a snapshot of the website back when we were making orders, purchasing drugs from the website, and what we did is we went to this company and this company's like a library *[sic]* of internet websites. Okay? And they capture-screen capture and it has everything in there.

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00:28:57:19 So we wind up... They didn't like it but we wind up giving em a Grand-a trial subpoena for the company representative to come and testify. And each one of those websites that we-that we-we put into the indictment they testified with regards to what those websites were and what they looked like on any specific date.

00:29:23:03 We came up with three indictments. We indicated the 17, including the Bonzo groups, and then we had to do a separate indictment of the Andrew Shackleton people, the three of them in Australia, and we had David and Elizabeth Armstrong in New York. Now here's what happened in Australia.

00:29:42:29 I went there with Eric Russ and those guys were fantastic. They gave us everything. They were doing a money laundering case, everything on them. We indict em for CC, Continuing Criminal Enterprise, and we indict em for distribution of controlled substances, the 84181.

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00:30:00:05 Well, in Australia, unbeknownst to us until after the indictment occurred, Australia doesn't have a charge, a CCE charge. So we can't extradite them on that charge. And then the—the—the distribution of controlled substance is a—is a misdemeanor there, not a felony.

00:30:22:02 So you can't extradite someone out on—on—on a misdemeanor. It has to be a felony. We—we—we thought about charging em with wire fraud and mail fraud, you know, which would have been an FBI charge, but you would have only gotten three years. So the prosecutor, Frank Costella (ph.), said, "Hey, forget it".

00:30:42:25 "We're just gonna let this stand. We'll let the lawyers... We'll unseal this indictment." We let the lawyers know that these three guys are indicated and then we notified everybody they were declared fugitives and so forth. And they're—still today they're fugitives. If they...

00:31:00:00 Andrew Shackleton used to love to travel. Okay? He was in the US on several visits in Reno, Nevada. So

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we were hoping... He was supposed to come to Reno during the same period of time when we were doing the indictment. We were hoping he would stay here but he cancelled out.

00:31:18:19 So those indictments are still open. The charges, CC conspiracy and so forth. Now this here (ph.) charge, conspiracy and (inaud.) branded drugs into interstate commerce. That was the drug that was cha—that was the charge for the non-controlled drugs. You gotta remember that if—in order for us to do money laundering, we would have had it—we wanted 100% of the money.

00:31:48:24 Okay? Since there were only six percent was non-controlled, that would have meant that we would have only had 94% of the money that we can seize. And then we learned... I learned so much about this money laundering. I never knew there was promotional money laundering, international, transactional.

00:32:07:29 I mean, we through the book at em, you know. And Jim Pavloc, our prosecutor that came in from their headquarters, who is strictly a money laundering guy,

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put this case together on the money laundering side of it. The conspiracy to introduce misbranded (ph.) drugs, you need two things - labeling, contain an adequate direction for use.

00:32:35:17 They only stuck in the blister packs in an envelop and sent it to you. There was no label, no packaging instructions, not even a receipt. Okay? You just opened up your package and there was your drugs. Then the other part that you need is there's the act of dispensing without a prescription of a licensed physician.

00:32:56:25 Those two elements right there was enough to get us that six percent, cause we wanted 100% of the money. And like I said, a non-controlled substance made up six percent of the drugs. I don't know if you can see this. The website operator... This is where I tallied out that during the period of January of '04 to the indictment of April '05, the website operators actually paid for 11 million dosage units through Akeel Bonzo.

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- 00:33:28:29 The date of—the date of the indictment is... When we dated (ph.) the indictment, we seized 1.1 million dosage units in Point (ph.) Lookout (ph.), and at the college point we had a little—a little close to five million dosage units for a total of 17 million. That's a lot of drugs.
- 00:33:51:13 We seized a total of nine million dollars from 31 banks, of which, you know—and nine foreign banks there, 31 US banks. These are what... This is what the packages looked like. Those numbers were put on in India and this is how they kept track of the boxes. So that would be Box 99.
- 00:34:12:12 So if they talked about Box 99, the labeling inside that box has the contents of that box. They've really made it easy. You know what it is to try to count six million dosage unit [sic]? Okay? They made it very easy because as they were taking it, they were deducting em out from what was inside the box.
- 00:34:36:19 This is the Brooklyn warehouse, the New York warehouse. If you look at it from where I'm standing to there, is where I was standing to that wall, and

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then going back in the same direction, the same amount. This is where we seized on a delivery that was made, a pick-up that was made by UPS.

00:34:59:01 I calculated that we had about 1100 packages there that were sent out in one day. Now the funny part was we were out in New York watching David Armstrong come out from the—from the warehouse back to his house and he would bring these back with him. And he had to make two trips that day be—in his car because there were so many boxes.

00:35:19:08 So we're all standing there and it's like almost 7:00 and we're hungry and we said, "We have to wait and see what—you know, see if UPS picks it up". First truck shows up. They load some of that. Next thing you know, you see the guy from UPS picks up the phone. He's making a call.

00:35:35:29 The next thing you know, a couple minutes later you see a second UPS truck coming up. Okay? And then they load the rest of the contents into that UPS and they take off. Discoding (ph.)15 milligram. When I was going through all these spreadsheets, I-I-I

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noticed that in one of the e-mails to (Unint.) Aurora (ph.) says, "I'm looking for Vicadin (ph.)".

00:36:01:21 And Akeel-Bridge Bonzo says, "I don't sell Vicadin but what you're talking about is 15 milligram pure codeine sulfate. So (Unint.) says, "That's right. That's exactly what I'm looking for". Okay? So the day-two weeks before they were supposed to have 200... They had 250,000 dosage units of codeine 15 milligram.

00:36:30:12 That was the pure codeine. Then you had codeine with aparacedible (ph.), which was the Indian version of acetaminophen. And that came in 30, 45s and 60s and some 10s. So I'm discussing with Joe Mendez, I said, "Joe, you know, you put this 1.8 million dosage units of codeine mixed together you're calling combination products, they're not".

00:36:53:11 "You got some—you got some C2s in there." "Carlos, we don't have no C2." "Yes, we do." "Well, how do you know?" "Because I'm reading the e-mails." You know? And he says, "We don't have it." I said, "All right, I'm coming over". So I met Joe Mendez at the

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warehouse and I went through the 1.1 and I found five containers and they had 146,000 dosage units.

00:37:14:28 "So, see, Joe? Come here. Look. See? Codeine sulfate. Okay? You're wrong. So you owe me lunch." I made him pay me... He paid for lunch that day. But I figured that's good, now we've got some Schedule Two for our sentencing guidelines. And then the whole game changed with regards to-to-to what we were being charged with and how much time they can get.

00:37:39:08 And they're all in blister packs. I don't know why they would pack... [TAPE CUTS OUT] ...this and then they would rubber band em, package it and put a label... I guess they figured that if Customs stops, that they--the Customs agent will look at it and say, "Oh, this guy's supposed to receive this product".

00:37:57:24 You know, that's legal. You know, I--it didn't make any sense of how they were shipping out. This is my favorite, but they wouldn't le... The--the--the prosecutors won't--won't--wouldn't use it in the trial of Akeel Bonzo. You know, it says, "To Mr. Akeel.

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"Please call Consignee (ph.) for self pick up from JFK office".

00:38:21:00 "Cell 215-715 [sic]." That's Akeel Bonzo's cell phone, okay, so I don't know... I mean, somebody's supposed to call him when that package came in but either ways, I mean... And then the package came with those numbers attached to them. I was really surprised that nobody ever picked up on that.

00:38:43:06 And I was saying about making it easy, this 65,000 (unint.) one milligram there, which is Alpack's (ph.) One is the Indian version of Alprezoline (ph.) one milligram. It's their brand. Again, that's the Alpack's Two. Everything was in blister packs. And, as you can see, on that side of the wall was everything that we see is that Point Lookout, their summer home.

00:39:12:27 We went up there and talked to the police officers out there and got a better idea after we executed the search warrant. And it's amazing, you know, how much money they were paying for this summer home. And in one of the e-mails, the corrupted Custom agent out

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there in India, his son was here in New York—was in New York doing his medical education and he happened to stay also at that house too.

00:39:44:19 We got 108 kilos of ketamine (ph.) and when they analyzed it, they must have thrown everything in there cause it had—not only did it have ketamine but it had acetaminophen also. So, you know, they—this is what—this is one of the seizures that we did when Miller Lite from Roanoke, William Reed from Roanoke, Virginia, orders two kilos of ketamine powder.

00:40:16:03 So Bridge sends it from New York to Virginia and now William Reed is e-mailing Bridge saying, "Where's the package"? Well, unbeknownst to him the packages were seized by the postal service. So what they did is they did—they tried to do a control delivery at the house and said, "Hey, you gotta come pick up this package at the post office".

00:40:45:17 Well, then he e-mails Bridge Bonzo and said, "Hey, did you send that, you know, with signature required"? He goes... And Bridge probably, you know, got mad at him and said, "Hey, just go pick up the package". When he

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did, Miller Lite—or William Reed got locked up and he gave it up.

00:41:03:06 You know? And that's one of the first—that was the first drug that we seized from the operation. You know? And it shows—it gave validity to all these e-mails that—on the—on the drug sales. And the case status, 10 pled, six testified. We had two trials, Sanji (ph.) Cervistad (ph.) and Akeel Bonzo, each one of em for six weeks each.

00:41:28:10 You know? And we had about three weeks in between that, and going into the summer. We still have four in India that we... You know, there's extraditions on there. If they ever make bail, the Indian government's gonna release em. As they release em, we're—the marshals will be there, you know, take em into custody and extradite em back here.

00:41:53:12 We have one fugitive from Canada. And it was funny talking to him and his lawyer. His lawyer said, "Hey, I told my client, 'Stay in Canada. Don't go to the US cause if you go to US, you're gonna get locked up' ". What's (inaud.)... The other guy from Canada, Gitanda

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(ph.) Aurora, his lawyer, you know, had enough sense to say, "Hey, my guy will be glad to cooperate with you as long as you get him bail".

00:42:18:10 We... And he did. We gave him bail and the guy was fantastic on the stand. The six people that testified just killed Akeel Bonzo. Shackleton indictment is still—you know, still—still future status. The conviction of Akeel was funny because we all went to lunch...

00:42:41:05 The jury just steps out to delivery, we go to lunch and about an hour and 15 minutes later the judge's clerk is saying that we got a verdict. So that means in an hour and a half they sat down and ate lunch, right, and convicted him. I said, "That was fast". I had one before that for two hours, but that one took an hour and a half which was, you know...

00:43:06:05 Things we learned. Let me tell ya... See right here? That's... This is part of what I learned. Be prepared for no stipulations, okay? Don't assume that you can go to court and the judge is going to stipulate or the

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defendant's going to stipulate. This was no stipulations at all. All right?

00:43:25:12 I've never had a trial where I had to bring in almost a million dosage unit [*sic*] to-to-to-to the trial on six separate occasions throughout-without-throughout these trials. And the defendants, they didn't care. They wanted to show that they're not guilty. They didn't think that presenting that drug was gonna be prej-prejudicial to them.

00:43:47:15 You know? And then in delivery-in the closing arguments Akeel Bonzo's lawyer argued about the drugs and then Akeel turns around and says to him, "Well, what about the ketamine? Aren't you gonna say anything about that"? And his lawyer's like, "You know, Akeel, just shut up, will ya"?

00:44:04:28 You know? He'd had enough of em. I mean, we released \$400,000.00. Three hundred thousand was going to his lawyer, a hundred thousand for expert witnesses. That's what we were confronting. So we prevailed. Controls and non-controls in money laundering.

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00:44:21:01 If-if-if you do a case and you have non-controls, don't throw em out because if they figure out how many [sic] percentage of the money was non-controlled, if you don't charge in non-controlled, that's how much money you're not gonna be able to seize. Okay? So you bring in the FDA and do the—you know, and do the FDA charges and you should be fine.

00:44:44:29 EZ passes. You know, (unint.) it's the first thing in that case that we really had, you know, that—that—and a lot of people, first case for them also, including SOD who just... I think the unit was just created to do internet. And Terry Riley took the lead on that and, you know, they were just put into existence about the first time when we started this case.

00:45:11:12 And the EZ passes? Today we have EZ passes, you know. What happened was I tried to get three EZ passes for the police officers because they were all going to New York. And I was given the typical, "Well, you know, you have to have a DEA19" and I'm saying, "You know, do you realize how long it's gonna take a DEA19 to clear"?

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00:45:31:09 You know? And Bonzo's going constantly to New York in the last—three times in the last week, you know. So I pulled em out of our OGVs (ph.) and I said, "Here, use em, but don't use em for your pleasure. Use em when you're working with us". And somebody says, "Well, you know, you're violating policies".

00:45:49:18 "Yeah, but, you know, we gotta get"... You know, could you see cops going to the toll booth while Akeel just zips right through? You know? Who's gonna follow, you know? And we... The first time they did it, they lost him. And I said, "That's... We'll do what we have to do to get this done".

00:46:07:26 The websites and the imaging? I tell the guys, you know, "If you make a buy, copy it. You know, put it on paper and then take that paper and make it as evidence". And the UC (ph.) buys? You gotta do UC buys during the investigation. You can't stop.

00:46:25:22 Again, things I learned? Prepare the spreadsheets. I did those and, you know, they worked out very well. Look at the strength and—the drug strength and form. We had 900 tablets, all right, in the blister packs

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are marked codeine sulfate. I mean, I'm sorry,
morphine sulfate.

00:46:44:24 The lab sent us back an e-mail saying, "Ho! That's not morphine sulfate; that's heroine base". And I think they sent out DEA worldwide to let em know that if you had any blister pack that said morphine sulfate, be careful because they're pro—they may be heroine based.

00:47:04:16 Pull samples from the seized drugs. I could tell you about that on the side. You have to pull samples. You can't... You know, the—the—the—the seizure that was done in New York was really—samples were never pulled out. You know, thank God for Joe Mendez. We managed to get samples pulled and sent to the lab.

00:47:26:23 Early de-confliction with SOD. I'm a true believer in SOD. You know, they—I have a total respect for what they do over there. And warrants for a server company? I tell people that call me up and say, "What should I do?" Well, if you've got a website, find out who the server is.

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00:47:44:17 Find out. Send em a Grand Jury subpoena. Find out who were the—who owns it and follow up—follow it up with a search warrant if you've got the probably cause. These are the special recognition people that I have to give to. Jeff Breed (ph.) who's now country attaché in Africa.

00:48:02:17 Eric Russ, fantastic guy. Jerry Goldman, he's... We created a fit unit. He was the first guy in the fit unit in Philadelphia Field Division. Lou Smith (ph.) was the second. Terry Riley, SOD when he was there. Fantastic. Let me tell ya, you know, Terry kept everybody on the same page.

00:48:23:03 I think, you know, he did a fantastic job over there. John Hadda (ph.) of New York. (Unint.) out in New York. Joe Mendez. Our TFO, Chris Kinezzi (ph.). Now she's a detective in her police department. And Sergeant Joe Bale. Those are the people who are doing most of the surveillance out in New York.

00:48:44:18 And then our US Attorneys, we had six of them. Now I'll never ever see another case where we're gonna have six US Attorneys assigned. And that's the end.

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[APPLAUSE] So I know you're dying to get up and leave but anybody got any questions? Go ahead, please.

Q & A'S

[QUESTIONS ARE MOSTLY INAUDIBLE - OFF MIKE]

00:49:04:01 Q: (Inaud.) all manufactured in India?

00:49:06:20 A: India took care of the manufacturers. They arrested three of them for selling the products just like we would do with manufacturers with no excessive reports or anything like that. The laws in India were really vague. They're getting better from what I understand today because of this case.

00:49:26:03 But, yeah, there was two... Three of them were arrested by India. And the other thing is they seized five million dosage units at Bridge Bonzo's location, his warehouse. And I think there was five million dollars that were seized from his bank accounts out there. And the happiest thing I heard was that...

00:49:44:21 And the Indian law says that the police department gets 20% of the seizure and it goes into their retirement and pension fund. So I felt like I...

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That's fantastic, you know. I said they should do that and Philly should have been doing that, you know? I wouldn't be here with you, you know? [LAUGHTER] Go ahead, Stan (ph.).

00:50:04:23 Q: (Inaud.) that last question. You mentioned about the... [LOUD NOISE] ...(inaud.) but did you get anything with junk in it? since it was manufactured overseas, not FDA-approved drugs, was there much junk that the customers received or no?

00:50:19:25 A: No. You know, we sent samples out to the FDA for them to analyze and they were just about—you know, they were just about in the same scope as our pills here except that they had a lot of impurities that they really couldn't identify.

00:50:38:01 So what would happen there in India is say for instance you've got a company, okay, and you didn't work Saturday or Sunday. Well, I had a business too so I can come to you and say, "Listen, Saturday and Sunday could I use your machines out there to press my pills"? Okay?

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00:50:51:29 And then I would use your machine, pay you for the Saturday and Sunday press my own, and there was really no one there to say—no FDA, no DEA to say, you know, what is good and what is not. And there's no... There... [TAPE CUTS OUT] ...would be no regulatory and—of their production.

00:51:09:24 But (unint.)... The FDA didn't jump up with regards to the pills. They were like, "Okay, if it said, you know, one milligram, there was one milligram". But there was a lot of impurities they couldn't—they couldn't identify. So heaven knows, you know. Anybody else?

00:51:30:21 Q: (Inaud.)?

00:51:33:09 A: What's that?

00:51:34:03 Q: Any other (inaud.)?

00:51:36:18 A: Besides the codeine sulfate? No. Just outside of those 900 tablets which was a heroine base, which actually was a Schedule One. But codeine sulfate was the only, you know... The pills that they primarily

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used was the Aprazaline (ph.), Diazepam (ph.) and the codeine combination products.

00:51:57:16 Some... A lot of antibiotics, you know, Cipro (ph.) and stuff like that, was sold, you know.

00:52:07:15 Q: (Inaud.)?

00:52:11:00 A: No, because they were shipped—they were shipped through—through—you know, through a regular carrier. So the carrier who put it on the plane and it'd get out there, right, and they—it would get released. And no one was there to look at the packages. If someone had looked in there, they would have found...

00:52:29:28 We couldn't find it. We couldn't establish how in God's name they were—they were sending it through. And then we learned later on that the carriers out there... Cause we started seeing e-mails on... You know, of the 20,000 e-mails, the carriers out there were—were—were just passing it through their Customs and putting it on an airplane and bringing it back here to a holding area in New York in the JFK until you come and pick up the package.

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00:52:56:02 And the only time really you're ever gonna see Customs out there is if there's an indication there's a problem with... So they are—they had—you know, they were lucky, you know, but they weren't lucky because we stopped em. You know? Anybody else? Go ahead.

00:53:10:17 Q: (Inaud.).

00:53:12:02 A: How much time what?

00:53:14:29 Q: How much (inaud.)?

00:53:17:03 A: All right, the website operators... Let me put it this way. O'Toole Petille, he got 24 months and he was the cooperator. He—he—he—he put everything together. He actually identified all these packages, okay, and showed me like where the codeine 15 milligram, he said, "That's my handwriting cause that's"...

00:53:38:27 You know. And he helped us out in that case. So far with the website operators, you go as far as 42 months. So somewhere between 24 and 42. Now Akeel

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Bonzo, he's looking at a minimum mandatory of 20. Okay? And if he doesn't get 30, no one will because this judge, you know, is ready to hammer him.

00:53:57:18 In fact, you know, we—I was supposed to do go to a sentencing today, Sanjah (ph.) Shermistadt (ph.), but the judge's father passed away and he was bur—he was being buried today. So we had—you know, that was cancelled a couple days ago.

00:54:10:23 But Shermistadt will probably get... And Shermistadt was primarily the guy that was responsible for the ketamine. And then when David Armstrong started stealing from—from—from Akeel, then he put Shermistadt in there to oversee the whole operation. So he's probably looking at somewhere between 10 and 12 years.

00:54:35:02 Now Shermistadt is an anesthesiologist in India. Okay? And he was here doing his internship. He wanted to be a doctor. And we tried to get him to cooperate and it was just unbelievable. You know, no one wanted—you know, neither—he wouldn't give it up and Akeel wouldn't give it up neither.

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00:54:53:04 But, you know... So he went to trial and we spent six weeks with him, you know, and he got convicted. He's another one of those... I think that his conviction was three hours. And we were supposed to sentence him. Most likely he'll get sentenced next month. And the judge doesn't want to sentence Akeel until everybody else is sentenced.

00:55:15:09 So he's looking at a minimum mandatory of 20, and there's... Probably gonna get 30. Anybody else? Come on. I love talking so if you've got a question, tell me because if I can help you out or maybe you can help someone else put a case together I'd love it.

00:55:30:18 Q: Sir, what was the time frame from beginning to arrest of the—of this case?

00:55:36:26 A: I started the case back in—on February. Actually, it was Janu—no—January was the actual seizure, January 27th of '04. All right? And then we indicted in April of '05. It went quick. And the reason why we went quick is because, as you can see, there was a lot of dr... [TAPE CUTS OUT] ...that was being sold.

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- 00:56:00:27 And the argument is, you know, we need to get the probably (ph.) cause (ph.) together but we gotta stop this because it's just absolutely too much. We had two deaths that were attributed to their drugs, okay, and we just didn't feel like having to answer to someone to say, you know, we allowed it to go longer than it was, you know, for the purposes of probably cause.
- 00:56:22:02 So when... You know, when we established what we needed to indict em, you know, including with the two 30-day periods on the Title III, once we got that, you know, then it was just, all right, let's just say—let's close it up. I was like, "Come on. You know, let's take this down now".
- 00:56:39:29 And the prosecutor's saying, "No, we need time to put this money case together". You know? And you're just like, "Okay, fine", you know, so... But it was a struggle but eventually it was taken down in—on April 19th of '05.
- 00:56:54:12 Q: (Inaud.)... [LOUD NOISE]

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00:56:59:01 FS: Who's next? [LOUD NOISE]

00:57:03:00 A: Okay. I can hear ya if you...

00:57:04:21 Q: (Inaud.). If there were, what would one of the
(inaud.)? (Inaud.)...

00:57:14:05 A: The Title III were on the e-mails. Okay? So
when Akeel or Bridge get on their Hotmail account,
Hotmail will process it through SOD back to our
office. And what we'd be looking at is e-mails. We
didn't see no... You know, we prepared a Title III, a
T-III application for his cell phone.

00:57:35:24 And just when we—when it was finally approved by Main
Justice, right, Akeel said—you know, he got rid of the
phone. So we just didn't wanna do this... You know, we
didn't have enough time to prepare another Title III.
This was, you know... And this was the end of February
so we indicted em in April 19th of '04.

00:57:58:06 I mean, of '05. So we just dropped it. But the only
thing we did on Title III was the Hotmail accounts.

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And the good thing was that the seizure that was done from—in Roanoke, Virginia, proved that these Hotmail accounts were legitimate, you know, and there was drug transactions occurring.

00:58:19:25 Next question. Anybody else? Going once. Go ahead. Go ahead. I'm sorry.

00:58:26:14 Q: (Inaud.).

00:58:36:15 A: The—the—the 24... There was... Eighteen was pharmaceuticals, three was porno, one was lingerie and I think the other two was just junk that they were selling that you can—you know, you can buy on-line, you know. So... But it was funny, you know, when we saw that.

00:58:54:29 Lingerie? How... How's he go from drugs to lingerie, you know?

00:58:57:21 Q: (Inaud.).

00:59:12:05 A: No. No. The website... Because the—the—the—the transactions were going from the website operators

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through an e-mail to Bridge Bonzo, as soon as it hits Bridge we already captured it. And it goes back from Bridge back to the website operator saying, "Okay, I- this is the orders that I processed for you".

00:59:32:21 So this way they kept track of how much money they owed Bridge. So for us, our spreadsheets, we would do them off the e-mails that Bridge Bonzo sent to the website operator, and those had-you know, had the orders that were actually fulfilled. Now the question was, you know...

00:59:50:22 And-and it-and it was brought up as how do we know those orders were fulfilled? Well, you know, Miller Lite ordered two kilos of coke or two kilos of ketamine and they were fulfilled because we seized them, you know. And there some orders that we made.

01:00:08:18 But then what we did is we had the website operators, Gitanda Aurora in Canada, one of the biggest... He was a middle man. He was a website operator. We never found a website with him. He would just order and he would-he was the middle man for other website operators.

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- 01:00:23:16 You know? So Gitanda agrees to testify, Chris Lane (ph.) in Texas agrees to testify, Rome Wallace out of Rochester, he agrees to testify. And talking about Rochester, New York Attorney General links into-to-to him in Rochester and we asked him to hold back until we did the indictment.
- 01:00:50:01 If they wanted to go out and execute a search warrant, it's fine, you know, but they didn't. They did it two weeks ahead of time. All right? So if you ever Google anybody, all right... Bridge Bonzo wasn't getting a response from-from-from Rochester, all right, and from Rome Wallace.
- 01:01:09:20 And something just started going wrong. They started Googling Rome Wallace. Finds out that his website was taken down. So now he tells Akeel, "Look, they were taken down. You gotta be careful there because that might get back to us". Right? And-and-and is father every week would send him an e-mail, you know, "Son, why don't you just come home and let's-you know, let David take care of all that out there".

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01:01:37:08 And Akeel loved the money. He loved money. Okay?
And this really killed him when we seized this money.
So the night before we do the indictment, right, the
FBI has a—the Squad 7, which is the Medicaid Fraud
Unit we're working with. They said, "Hey, we got a
couple new agents we wanna"... [TAPE CUTS OUT]

END OF SIDE A

01:01:59:09 ...A: "...do nighttime surveillance training. So can we
take the night shift?" So we said, "Yeah, if that's
what you want. You want anybody from DEA out there?"
"No, no, no. We'll just handle it ourselves." I
said, "All right. Fine". You know? So they had 11
guys out there all night long.

01:02:15:25 Well, we froze the account the night before. At 5:00
we had all the banks (ph.) in order, sent em out a
seizure order (inaud.) each one of their banks, to a
representative, and say, "Okay, seize it for us". So
in the meantime Bridge Bonzo's telling his son Akeel
to think about, you know, getting tickets ready in the
event he has to fly.

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01:02:44:26 Get out of Philadelphia, you know, because the police were coming. So he goes into... Akeel Bonzo goes into this account at 1:00 in the morning, goes to his bank, right, and he orders tickets using his Visa card. Well, they deny him because they said it was insufficient funds.

01:03:07:11 So now he goes into his checking accounts and seeing— he's seeing zero balances. He goes, "What do you mean I've got zero balances"? So he goes to his other checking account and he's seeing zero balances. But now he's figured it's the cops. They're gonna lock me up.

01:03:22:29 Thank God that the FBI was out there cause we were planning on going out there at 2:00 in the morning starting our surveillance, you know, cause we knew we put him in bed at 11:00 at night. But the FBI was there and Akeel calls a friend of his, all right, and his friend comes and picks him up.

01:03:42:18 Akeel comes running out of his apartment with a briefcase that had his laptop and his personal belongings in his shorts. All right? He jumps in the

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car and the guy's coming out and then, you know, all the cars came in and they took him into custody.

Okay?

01:04:02:15 I mean, I say God was on our side, you know, cause everything we did we did right, you know. And he was arrested. His act was, you know, that he was going to Detroit. His friend's gonna drive him to Detroit where he had a ticket already previously ordered to fly from Detroit to Toronto and from Toronto to India.

01:04:28:27 And that's why his friend came, picked him up, you know. And it was funny when you get him in his underwears [sic], you know. I said, "Ahhh, this is fantastic", you know. We go in there and we're talking to him and he's so arrogant, I mean, you know. "Sure, I'll cooperate, you know".

01:04:43:02 "Tell me"... You know. And then he would say, "Look, if you can just give me bail so I can finish up my Masters Degree, my father really would want me to—want me to accomplish that, you know". And I said, "Akeel, what are you, crazy"? You know, I said, "You're going to jail".

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01:04:58:00 "Oh, but they gotta give me bail." "No, they don't."
"I'm a doctor." I said, "Yeah. You're not the first
doctor that's not getting bail. Not in Philadelphia
anyway, you know what I mean"? But that's what
happened, you know, in that case. So...

01:05:12:09 Q: (Inaud.)?

01:05:20:20 A: Yeah, they Googled.

01:05:21:15 Q: (Inaud.)?

01:05:26:03 A: Yeah. They—they—they were... If you would have
Googled, say, Alprazalam (ph.), okay, you know,
there's a couple websites you can go to that are—they
claim to be reliable, they help you out with, you
know, getting—making sure you get your product and all
that.

01:05:42:22 And—and—and Bridge Bonzo, or actually through Akeel...
Akeel's the one who's thought about this. He was
paying—he was paying to have his site, you know. So
if you went to Alprazalam, you would probably hit one

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of his site [*sic*]. And that'd direct him right to Bridge Bonzo.

01:06:01:19 And that's how they were doing—how they all met. They all went on-line. They didn't know each other. The only one that knew anybody was Gitanda Aurora and he was Indian and he was in—in—in—in Canada. In fact, Gitanda was the one that introduced David Armstrong to Akeel Bonzo in New York.

01:06:17:28 And that's how David started working for him. But everybody else, no one ever met Bridge or Akeel Bonzo. They couldn't tell you, you know.

01:06:27:04 Q: (Inaud.)?

01:06:29:17 A: One was in Colorado and the other one was in Florida.

01:06:33:03 Q: Which one (inaud.)?

01:06:34:07 A: Alprazalam. Yeah, but they had other drugs in their system, you know, and we really—you know, FDA... And the FDA is the ones that did that investigation.

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They really couldn't pinpoint it on the actual drug coming from the website operator. I mean, they can say, "Yeah, she ordered but she also had all the drugs in her system, you know, in both cases".

01:06:56:07 So they really couldn't... You know? And the FDA was really pushing us to get this taken down and we're like, "No, we're not gonna take it down, you know, not until we really got what we need, you know". And then when we—when we got where we were at, then the—then prosecutor says, "Okay, now I got what I needed".

01:07:12:18 You know? But it was very interesting. I mean, like I told you, I mean, I went from being a Diversion Investigator to the Sergeant at Arms. Okay? You got all these federal agencies working together. All right? And, you know, today they still talk to each other.

01:07:28:29 All right? Everybody stayed on the same path to, you know, make this case successful. You know, Eric Russ will call you his... I'm his Press Secretary, okay? I do all the talking. He says, "You can talk better

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than I can", you know. But it was fun and it was headaches too, you know.

01:07:48:02 I mean, you had that jurisdiction problem, you know, like, you know, "I wanna do this", "No, you won't do that", you know. So... And I hung in there cause I knew what I was trying to do was promote diversion, you know, our diversion, you know. And I thought that doing it this way, you know, puts diversion in the lime light, you know, what we can do, you know. So... Any other questions? No questions?

01:08:16:20 Q: (Inaud.).

01:08:17:06 A: Go ahead.

01:08:18:07 Q: In your opinion, what (inaud.)?

01:08:29:00 A: You know what we did? Cyberchase opened the doors to internet cases. And you gotta remember how we started. In the beginning when—when—when I wanted to do undercover buys through the—through the internet, we didn't have credit cards. Okay? We didn't have credit cards.

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01:08:48:28 Then I went to the Asset Forfeiture and they said, "Oh, yeah, we have—we have credit cards but you have to make this an (unint.) case before you can use these credit cards". You know? So what do I do? I went to the FBI and said, "Hey, guys, can you make undercover buys"?

01:09:01:28 The FBI has a credit card that they use for their travel, for their vehicles, and the same card they use for undercover buys. Each agent's allowed to make three buys before he has to submit paperwork requesting more than three buys, you know.

01:09:15:00 Now today, since then, you know, thank God for Dan Meyers, our Coordinator (Unint.), I have two people in my group that have credit cards. Okay? At any time.. Those credit cards are available for—at any time. We have up to a maximum of \$15,000.00, you know, on maximum to—you know, up to a \$50,000.00 [sic] total.

01:09:36:08 I mean, you know, we didn't know what (inaud.). We were chasing doctors and we were chasing pharmacies, okay, and the internet was all new to us. I had

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agents who told me, you know... Eric Russ will tell you today, he said to me, "Carlos, I know heroine, cocaine and marijuana".

01:09:55:16 I [*sic*] said, "I have no clue what Alprazalam is and I don't have no clue what this Diazepam... What is that"? You know? So I said, "Eric, by the time we're done this case you'll know it. You'll know the difference between a Schedule II, a Schedule III and a IV.

01:10:11:00 And that's the three schedules that they—that they were selling. You know? And we taught them, okay? We taught them how to diversion cases, you know, and they—and—and—and—and all the agents really, really love to do this—to do this case. In fact, Vito (ph.) Del Ray (ph.), who's an agent in Group 4, you know, he calls his brother over there in Newark who...

01:10:41:05 There was a guy over there who received a kilo of ketamine. So he calls his brother John. "John, I want you to do this for me out there." And John's like, "Vito, what are you crazy? What are you doing diversion cases? Since when'd you start doing that"? You know?

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01:10:55:12 So you gotta remember this is the attitude. You know, it's like we're introducing guys that do cocaine and (inaud.) and marijuana cases, we're introducing em to pharmaceutical drugs. You know? So it was a learning experience for them, you know, and I felt that, you know, that they should know it because, you know, we in Diversion, we started with Oxicotton (ph.).

01:11:18:21 We started chasing doctors with Oxicotton. You know? And-and-and, you know, there's websites out there that'll tell ya you can make more money selling pharmaceuticals than you can selling cocaine. You know? And-and-and the (unint.) know it, you know, so... So that's why we had to educate.

01:11:39:14 We had to educate, we had to teach agents how to do diversion cases. And that's why I got this grey hair, okay? But today they appreciate it, you know. I mean, they'll call, "You got anything going"? You know? I mean, I have Group 4. I used to be in Group 4 for 10 years as a Sergeant.

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01:11:58:19 You know, that's why I hung with the Group 4. And their group's advisor and I were like this. When I need enforcement people, I can just go to him and say, "I need to do this case" and there's no questions. You know, the case is done. You know?

01:12:12:04 Q: (Inaud.).

01:12:14:17 A: Yeah. Yeah. I know. Any other questions? No other questions. Thank you.

SEAN FERNS

01:12:19:11 SF: Carlos, thank you very much for being here today. [APPLAUSE] (Inaud.) ask Katie to present you with a small token of appreciation on behalf of us. And thank you all very much for hanging in with us...

01:12:29:07 MS: Directions?

01:12:29:17 SF: ...on our delayed...

01:12:30:10 MS: Directions?

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01:12:30:19 SF: ...start. Yeah. Directions through the Pentagon parking lot, as a matter of fact. GPS. Thank you and we'll see you June 12th back here at 10:00 for Terry Woodworth.

01:12:39:02 FS: Thank you so much. [OFF MIKE CONVERSATION/B ROLL]

END OF TAPE