



HUMBOLDT COUNTY DRUG TASK FORCE

Post Office Box 5338
Eureka, California 95502
(707) 267-9976 • Fax (707) 445 - 2611



HUMBOLDT COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
EUREKA POLICE DEPARTMENT
CALIFORNIA HIGHWAY PATROL

HUMBOLDT COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY
ARCATA POLICE DEPARTMENT
FORTUNA POLICE DEPARTMENT

PRESS RELEASE

The Humboldt County Drug Task Force (HCDTF) has been investigating a large drug trafficking organization (DTO) in Humboldt County for approx. one year. Through their investigation agents identified the leader of the DTO to be **Jose Santiago Lomeli Osuna** (69 years old of Arcata). The investigation took several months as a result of Osuna using multiple vehicles, residences, storage units, and other methods to conceal the location of his narcotics.

On Thursday September 15th, 2022 at approx. 1345 hrs. the HCDTF, with the assistance of the Fortuna Police Department POP Team (FOPD), and two FOPD K-9 Officers, made a traffic stop on Osuna at 4th St. & C St. in Eureka. Osuna was detained without incident. Agents served a search warrant on Osuna and located one ounce of fentanyl, two ounces of methamphetamine, and one gram of cocaine in Osuna's jacket pocket. Osuna was placed under arrest.

HCDTF Agents and FOPD Officers then served search warrants on 6 locations associated with the Osuna DTO.

The first warrant was served on Osuna's residence in the 1400 block of Creamery Row Alley in Arcata. Agents located approx. 3 pounds of methamphetamine, ¼ pound of fentanyl, and approx. \$113,000 in US Currency. Agents also found paperwork identifying a storage unit that Osuna had in McKinleyville.

Agents authored a rollover search warrant for the storage unit on Sutter Rd. in McKinleyville. Inside of the storage unit agents located approx. 25 pounds of methamphetamine, 5.5 pounds of cocaine, 3 pounds of heroin, and 1.5 pounds of fentanyl.

Agents served the next search warrant on an auto body shop at Myrtle and P St. in Eureka. Agents located one ounce of cocaine and a digital scale inside of the body shop. Agents will forward charges to the district attorney for the shop owner.

Agents served a search warrant on an apartment in the 700 block of 10th St. in Eureka. At this location agents identified the resident as the person who helps Osuna obtain vehicles and trade out vehicles on a weekly basis to help avoid detection. No drugs were located at this residence.

The final two locations searched were neighboring apartments in the 2600 block of Boone St. in Fortuna. Agents located two firearms (one stolen), approx. 2 pounds of methamphetamine, one ounce of fentanyl, 1.5 grams of cocaine, 150 marijuana plants, 50 pounds of processed marijuana, and approx. \$2500 in US Currency. The suspect at this location was not home however he has been identified as **Miguel Angel**

Rodriguez-Alicea (34 years old). The HCDTF is asking anyone with information as to the location of Rodriguez-Alicea to contact the HCDTF or their local law enforcement agency.

Osuna was transported to the Humboldt County Jail where he was booked for the above charges:

- 11351 H&S Possession of narcotics for sale
- 11352 H&S Transportation of narcotics for sale
- 11378 H&S Possession of methamphetamine for sale
- 11379 H&S Transportation of methamphetamine for sale
- 11366.5 H&S Maintaining or operating a drug house.

Agents contacted a Humboldt County Superior Court Judge and had Osuna's bail raised to \$500,000.

This was the largest one time seizure of narcotics in the history of the HCDTF. In total agents seized:

- *30 pounds of methamphetamine
- * 5.5 pounds of cocaine
- * 3 pounds of heroin
- * 2 pounds of fentanyl
- * 150 marijuana plants
- * 50 pounds of processed marijuana
- * \$115,500 US Currency
- * 2 firearms

The HCDTF would like to thank the Fortuna Police Department for their assistance with this investigation and a special thank you to FOPD K-9 Blitz and FOPD K-9 Cain who assisted in locating the narcotics. Anyone with information related to this investigation or other narcotics related crimes are encouraged to call the Humboldt County Drug Task Force at 707-267-9976.

Sergeant Matt Tomlin





