

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE THIRD
JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR
HAMILTON COUNTY, FLORIDA.

STATE OF FLORIDA

-vs-
Ray Ryan Cone

Defendant,

CASE NO:
CLERK NO:

AGENCY CASE NO: 17-21815

RACE: W/M

DOB: [REDACTED]

SSN: [REDACTED]

AFFIDAVIT FOR ARREST

BEFORE ME, Andrew J Decker III, a Judge of the above captioned court, personally appeared before me Senior Inspector Justin Bates, who being first duly sworn, deposes and says:

On or about November 14, 2017, the above named individual, a Correctional Officer with the Florida Department of Corrections became the subject of an investigation concerning the alleged unlawful introduction of contraband and unlawful compensation. Such information was derived from inmate and civilian sources.

On November 14, 2017, Classification staff at Hamilton Correctional Institution received an inmate request from Inmate [REDACTED]. The request stated in short, Inmate [REDACTED] had a verbal agreement with Correctional Officer Ray Cone at Hamilton Correctional Institution Work Camp in which Inmate [REDACTED] family would send money to multiple different people at Officer Cone's request for Inmate [REDACTED] to receive a transfer closer to home. Inmate [REDACTED] wrote that his family sent all the monies Officer Cone requested with no transfer. Inmate [REDACTED] requested some sort of resolution to the problem from the institution classification team. This request was forwarded to Inspector Arlene Howell for further follow up.

On November 14, 2017, Inspector Howell spoke to Inmate [REDACTED] in person and he provided the same information as in the request. Inmate [REDACTED] also provided several locations he knew where contraband was hidden at different outside inmate worksites. Staff later searched those areas and recovered the contraband as Inmate [REDACTED] indicated. After this, Inspector Howell contacted your affiant and advised of the findings thus far. I traveled to *HCI* and contacted Inspector Howell for further follow up.

On November 14, 2017, Inmate [REDACTED] sister, [REDACTED] called Inspector Howell with the same complaint that was levied by Inmate [REDACTED]. I was present for this phone call. After conversation, [REDACTED] agreed to forward all the money transactions she send to the various people on [REDACTED] behalf via electronic mail. Once that information was received, I checked all the names and found them connected in some fashion to approved visitors of Inmate Eli Cortes, DC# X29665 who was housed at the *HCI* work camp as well.

On November 15, 2017, Inspector Howell and I spoke to Inmate Cortes in her office. Inmate Cortes stated in part that he knew who [REDACTED] was but denied taking any money from him. Inmate Cortes also denied being tied to or connected with Officer Cone but confirmed Officer Cone was "dirty" furthering that Officer Cone was introducing drugs and cell phones into the secure perimeter of the *HCI* work camp. Inmate Cortes also admitted the people [REDACTED] ([REDACTED] Sister) sent the money to was his family and it was to pay them for dropping cigarettes at multiple different external inmate work sites. Inmate Cortes went on to say he would have his family conceal the cigarettes at the inmate work sites and the other inmates on the work crews would bring them into the facility (*this was the contraband [REDACTED] alerted staff to*). Inmate Cortes was adamant, based on the amounts, the payments were for cigarettes but contended he did not know Inmate [REDACTED]. Inmate Cortes denied introducing any other contraband besides cigarettes.

After speaking with Inmate Cortes, we spoke to Inmate [REDACTED] again. Inmate [REDACTED] contended what he provided before was the truth. Inmate [REDACTED] said he received the information on whom to send the wire transfers to directly from Officer Cone himself. Inmate [REDACTED] knew who Inmate Cortes was but denied buying any cigarettes from him or Officer Cone. Inmate [REDACTED] then told us to speak to an inmate he only knew as "Martinez" who was in confinement at the *HCI* annex. Inmate [REDACTED] alleged Inmate Martinez was Cone's "right hand man".

On November 15, 2017, Inspector Howell and I spoke to Inmate Jamie Martinez, DC# 157721. After some discussion Inmate Martinez admitted he was "plugged in" or dealing with Officer Cone for cigarettes. Inmate Martinez went on to say was in confinement because he set up a deal with Officer Cone for another inmate and then Officer Cone was re-assigned to the annex. It then looked like Inmate Martinez ripped the other inmate off so, Martinez "checked in" or requested protection. Inmate Martinez said he sent two Money Gram wire transfers to Officer Cone's girlfriend, [REDACTED] in the town of [REDACTED]. Inmate Martinez stated all the money was for cigarettes.

On November 15, 2017, I conducted research on open public websites and determined [REDACTED] [REDACTED] is in fact [REDACTED] Officer Cone's wife. I determined they had a child together and lived in the city of [REDACTED].

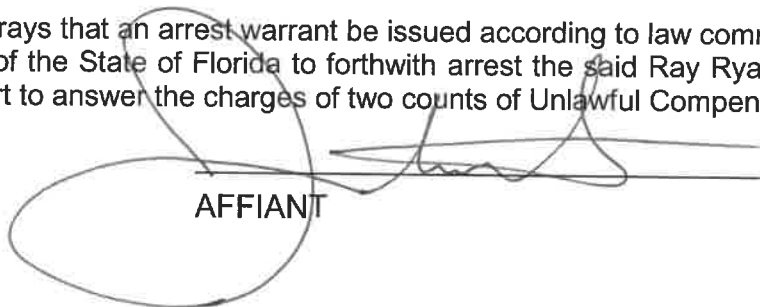
On December 1, 2017, two subpoenas were sent to Money Gram requesting transactions for [REDACTED] and or variations of that name in the State of Florida.

On December 13 and 15, 2017, Money Gram returned the subpoenas with two transactions found sent to [REDACTED] in [REDACTED] consistent with Inmate Martinez's testimony. The first was October 14, 2017 for \$100.00 and the second was October 22, 2017 for another 100.00.

On January 8, 2018, I conducted a post miranda interview with Officer Cone at his residence. Officer Cone [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

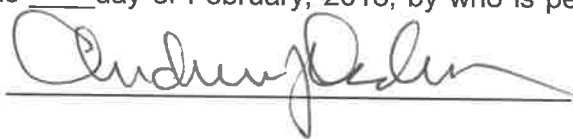
WHEREFORE, your affiant prays that an arrest warrant be issued according to law commanding all and singular the Sheriffs of the State of Florida to forthwith arrest the said Ray Ryan Cone, and bring him before the court to answer the charges of two counts of Unlawful Compensation.



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Ray Ryan Cone", is written over a horizontal line. To the left of the signature, there is a large, hand-drawn circle.

AFFIANT

SWORN AND SUBSCRIBED before me this 2 day of February, 2018, by who is personally known to me/produced proper identification.



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Andrew Pedler", is written over a horizontal line.

JUDGE OF THE ABOVE COURT

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Defendant(s),

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ARREST WARRANT

IN THE NAME OF THE STATE OF FLORIDA, TO ALL AND SINGULAR SHERIFFS OF
THE STATE OF FLORIDA:

Having received and considered the sworn affidavit of Senior Inspector Justin Bates of the Florida Department of Corrections Office of Inspector General dated Feb 2 2018, said affidavit alleging:

Count 1: Correctional Officer Ray Ryan Cone did in fact during the month of October 2017, enter into a verbal agreement with Inmate Jamie Martinez, DC# 157721 at Hamilton Correctional Institution Work Camp to introduce cigarettes into the facility and in return, Inmate Martinez had \$100.00 in US currency sent to Officer Cone via Money Gram wire transfer on October 14, 2017; Contrary to Florida State Statute 838.016 (1) or Unlawful Compensation.

Count 2: Correctional Officer Ray Ryan Cone did in fact during the month of October 2017, enter into a verbal agreement with Inmate Jamie Martinez, DC# 157721 at Hamilton Correctional Institution Work Camp to introduce cigarettes into the facility and in return, Inmate Martinez had \$100.00 in US currency sent to Officer Cone via Money Gram wire transfer on October 22, 2017; Contrary to Florida State Statute 838.016 (1) or Unlawful Compensation

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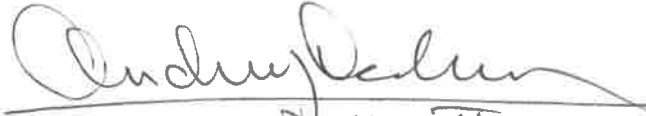
AND HAVING DETERMINED PROBABLE CAUSE TO EXIST FOR SAID CHARGES,
THESE ARE THEREFORE TO COMMAND YOU TO FORTHWITH ARREST AND
BRING THE ABOVE NAMED DEFENDANT BEFORE ME TO BE DEALT WITH
ACCORDING TO LAW.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND SEAL this 22 day of February, 2018, at
Hamilton County, Florida.

BAIL BOND IS FIXED AT:

\$10,000 \ Unlawful Compensation

\$10,000 \ Unlawful Compensation



Andrew J Decker III
Circuit Judge