

# **Dominican national living in Massachusetts indicted on Fentanyl trafficking charges**

A Dominican national residing in Boston was indicted by a federal grand jury today on three drug-trafficking charges involving fentanyl.

Luis Sonier Bautista Moreta, 25, was indicted on two counts of distribution and possession with intent to distribute 400 grams or more of fentanyl and one count of possession with intent to distribute 40 grams or more of fentanyl. Bautista was arrested and charged on Nov. 10, 2021 and has remained in custody since that time.

According to the charging documents, a relative of Bautista negotiated two sales of fentanyl to an undercover officer. It is alleged that Bautista handled the sales transactions, which took place on Oct. 22, 2021, at the Home Depot in Attleboro and on Nov. 1, 2021, at a location in Dorchester. The first transaction allegedly involved one kilogram of fentanyl and 6,000 counterfeit pills containing fentanyl and that the second transaction involved an additional kilogram of fentanyl. Additionally, Bautista is alleged to have possessed additional fentanyl at the time of his arrest in Boston.

The charge of distribution and possession with intent to distribute 400 grams or more of fentanyl provides for a sentence of at least 10 years and up to life in prison, at least five years of supervised release and a fine of \$10 million. The charge of possession with intent to distribute 40 grams or more of fentanyl provides for a sentence of at least five years and up to 40 years in prison, at least four years of supervised release and a fine of \$5 million. Sentences are imposed by a federal district court judge based on the U.S.

Sentencing Guidelines and other statutory factors.

United States Attorney Rachael S. Rollins and Brian D. Boyle, Special Agent in Charge of the Drug Enforcement Administration, New England Field Division made the announcement today. Valuable assistance in the investigation was provided by the Boston Police Department. Assistant U.S. Attorney Samuel R. Feldman of Rollins' Narcotics & Money Laundering Unit is prosecuting the case.

The details contained in the charging documents are allegations. The defendant is presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt in a court of law.