

New Bedford Police announce historic \$1,295,274 cash and narcotics seizure, suspect at large

“Detectives assigned to the “Organized Crime Intelligence Bureau” have seized nearly 1.3 million dollars from two drug traffickers.

On October 21st, detectives concluded an investigation spanning nearly several months into a drug distribution operation being conducted by AMADO DELGADO MENDEZ, 30. and VINICIO MARRERO ARIAS, 38, both of 197 Cottage St.

Search warrants were executed at their Cottage St. address, 50 New Plainville Rd., as well as several storage containers and vehicles, all used to store and transport the illicit drugs throughout the area.

As a result of the investigation, 830 grams of fentanyl and 28 grams of cocaine were discovered, along with digital scales, cutting agents, a hydraulic press, a vacuum sealer, and various other packaging materials.



New Bedford Police Department photo.

Also seized, was \$1,295,274 in U.S. currency, which is the largest seizure of illicit money associated with narcotics in the department's history. ARIAS was taken into custody and charged with trafficking in excess of 200 grams of fentanyl, as well as trafficking in excess of 18 grams of cocaine.

AMADO DELGADO MENDEZ remains at large, and currently has an active warrant for his arrest stemming from this investigation.

The lead investigator in this case, was Det. Lavar Gilbert. "Det. Gilbert has a tireless commitment to his work in the narcotics unit. This historic seizure and takedown of an illicit fentanyl distribution organization is the latest example. We are proud of his work and the positive effect this case will have on the community.", OCIB Commander, Lt. Justin Kagan.

"A seizure of this magnitude can only be achieved through meticulous investigative skills and commitment, which

Detective Gilbert continually demonstrates. New Bedford police officers are relentless in their pursuit of individuals who poison the community for profit. Today, we celebrate the fruits of this labor. Tonight, they will be back out on the streets,

looking for the next target. I'm immensely proud of the work being performed by them."-Chief Paul Oliveira

New Bedford police officers remain steadfast in their efforts against the scourge of the opiate epidemic which has taken so many lives here in the city and abroad. If you have any information on criminal activity in your neighborhood, the New Bedford Police Dept. wants to hear from you. You can leave an anonymous tip on our voicemail at (508) 991-6300 Ext. 1. You can also leave a tip at our website, www.newbedfordpd.com." - New Bedford Police Department.



WANTED



MA #3FVL57

2022, White, Honda, CRV



MA #3FXS57

2012, Gray, Honda, FIT

A WARRANT HAS BEEN ISSUED FOR THE ABOVE MALE

AMADO DELGADO MENDEZ

(Alias – Yohenry Contreras-Lara 11/5/92)

7/15/92, LKA – 197 Cottage St., New Bedford

New Bedford police detectives are seeking the public's assistance in locating this male wanted for trafficking in narcotics. He was the target of a recent investigation in which 830 grams of fentanyl, 28 grams of cocaine, and nearly \$1.3 million in cash were seized. He may be operating the two listed vehicles. If you

have any information on his whereabouts, you can leave information anonymously on our website, at 508-992-7463, or

Speak to detectives at 508-991-6300, ext. #79534

New Bedford Police Department photo.