Affidavit in Support Of Forfeiture Warrant

Attachment A:

On Monday April 23, 2007 at about 7:15 PM I observed a silver Ford Taurus traveling south on Interstate 75 in Bradley County, Tennessee. I paced the vehicle traveling 77 miles per hour in a 70 mile per hour speed zone. I initiated a traffic stop at about the 27 mile post southbound on Interstate 75 for speeding. I approached the vehicle on the passenger side and found the vehicle to be occupied by two male occupants. I asked the driver for his operator's license. He could not provide me with a license. I asked for the vehicle registration and he provided me with a rental agreement. I had the driver to step to the rear of the vehicle so I could write down his personal information to check his license status. The driver identified himself as Frank Bell. He provided me with his date of birth and social security number. I reviewed the rental agreement and found that it was rented by a person by the name of Denton Fraction Jr. I asked the driver if that was the name of the passenger. He stated that it was not. I asked the driver about his trip and he claimed to be traveling from Rochester, New York to Augusta, Georgia. I asked the driver about the purpose of his trip. He claimed to be going to visit his sister because she was sick. He later recanted and stated that her son was sick with a brain tumor. The driver was very vague about details, seemed to be nervous and seemed to be making the story up as it went. I returned to the passenger side of the vehicle and obtained the passenger's identification. The passenger provided me with a New York operator's license. With this document I was able to identify the passenger as Darryl Cooley. I asked Mr. Cooley about his trip and he claimed to be traveling from Rochester, New York to Atlanta, Georgia. I asked about the purpose of his trip. He claimed he was going to visit some friends for a few days. I returned to my vehicle to check to see if Mr. Bell had a valid license and to check Mr. Cooley's identification. The check revealed that both occupants had a valid license, had no wants or warrants and that Mr. Cooley is a know drug violator based on his criminal history. Based on the conflicting stories about their trip, the third party rental car and Mr. Cooley's criminal history I decided to ask for consent to search. I asked both parties for consent to search the vehicle. I asked if there were any guns, drugs or large amounts of U.S. Currency. Both parties responded to the negative to all questions. When asked for consent to search the vehicle both parties granted consent to search the vehicle. Located in the trunk of the vehicle was a black soft suit case. Inside the suit case was a plastic shopping bag containing twenty seven bundles of U.S. Currency totaling \$34,975.00. This type of packaging of currency is common with currency smugglers. I asked both subjects about the currency. Both Mr. Cooley and Mr. Bell denied any knowledge or ownership of the currency. Both Mr. Cooley and Mr. Bell signed disclaimer notices concerning the currency found in the vehicle. Based on the packaging of the money, the fact that both subjects disclaimed any ownership and Mr. Cooley's criminal history it is believed that the currency found are proceeds of illegal narcotics transactions.