

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription 04/25/2005

On 04/19/2005, Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) Special Agent (SA) Jason Huff and Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) SA Eric Russ interviewed AKHIL BANSAL (AKHIL) at the offices of the DEA, 600 Arch Street, Philadelphia, PA 19106. Subsequent to his earlier arrest, AKHIL was read the Advice of Rights by FBI SA David F. Bole, and agreed to speak to Agents without a lawyer present. AKHIL signed the FD-395, waiver of rights at that time. AKHIL provided the information that follows:

AKHIL stated that his father BRIJ BANSAL (BRIJ) started an internet pharmacy business when he lost \$1 million on the bullion market. AKHIL stated that he was in charge of all operations in the US. The BANSALS were in the business of delivering prescription drugs including Codeine, Diazepam, Darvon, Soma, Ambien and others to customers around the world. The BANSAL's primary customers were website operators who sold the drugs over the internet and forwarded the orders to the BANSALS for fulfillment, however they also had several non-internet customers who would purchase bulk orders of Ketamine, Viagra and Steroids.

BRIJ, through his various contacts in India, would obtain prescription drugs from Indian manufacturers. BRIJ would then use an underground courier service to ship the drugs to AKHIL in the United States. AKHIL would then repackage them and deliver them to individuals throughout the United States.

AKHIL's sister, JULIE AGARWAL, and brother-in-law, YATINDRA KUMAR AGARWAL work for BRIJ. The AGARWALS assisted with the shipments to the US, and processed and mailed shipments to individual customers. The AGARWALS operated the website drugaffair.com, a site that provided controlled substances to the general public. AKHIL stated that the AGARWALS also spent large quantities of time searching the internet to identify new customers.

DEEPAK BANSAL, ANIL AGARWAL and PREVENE LNU are all individuals who worked with BRIJ to obtain the drugs from the manufacturers in India and package them for shipment to the US.

An Indian Customs Officer, FNU KAPUR was paid by the BANSALS to get the drugs through Indian Customs. A courier was

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Investigation on 04/19/2005 at Philadelphia

File # 209C-PH-96618

Date dictated 04/25/2005

by SA Jason Huff

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used to deliver the drugs to the United States. In India, two individuals, FNU SAWAND, and FNU SHERAD, worked for this courier. In the US, AKHIL would be contacted via telephone by ALLAUDIN LNU (a male Muslim Indian), and told that a shipment was ready for pickup. AKHIL would be instructed to meet ALLAUDIN on a certain street corner in New York City where he could pick up his package. AKHIL would meet ALLAUDIN two times per week. AKHIL stated that the courier company would declare the drugs as Vics cough medicine or cigarettes in order to get them through customs.

When AKHIL was unable to meet ALLAUDIN, SANJEEV SRIVASTAV would meet in his place. SRIVASTAV also managed the label printing operation at the Yellowstone, New York location, and the shipment of bulk orders of Ketamine, Viagra and Steroids. AKHIL stated that most of the bulk shipments were being mailed out of SRIVASTAV's place in Long Beach, New York, where SRIVASTAV kept an extra supply of Ketamine and other drugs.

AKHIL stated that ATUL PATIL knew about the business and his involvement in the scheme consisted of helping with the money and shipping packages on occasion.

AKHIL stated that his organization has sold prescription drugs to approximately 100,000 individuals, 65% of whom were in the US.

AKHIL admitted that it is illegal to ship these drugs into the US without a license, and stated that he knows "for sure that this is illegal business." He stated that "this is a business in India that is easy money." AKHIL stated that he "Never received prescriptions from customers in the US or Australia," that he never saw any medical questionnaires for the customers to whom he was delivering the drugs and never wrote any prescriptions for the drugs he was selling. Regarding his illegal activity, AKHIL stated that he "knew the consequences every time."

For the first three to four months after AKHIL started working for his father, he packaged and mailed the drugs himself. To do this, he used the address, 3243 North Park Avenue, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, where he shipped approximately 5000 packages himself.

AKHIL decided that this was too risky, and began looking for businesses to ship the packages. AKHIL identified, to the agents, three different shippers in the United States who he hired

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to deliver drugs to customers via major couriers like Airborne Express and United Parcel Service (UPS).

The first shipper was an individual who identified himself as LEROY JONES. This individual was a black Muslim male who delivered packages for AKHIL and received \$3 per package.

JOHN LEYLAND, in the United Kingdom, then put the BANSALS in contact with the DAVID and ELIZABETH ARMSTRONG who started shipping for the BANSALS in March or April of 2004 from the Utopia Parkway address in New York. The ARMSTRONGS received the drugs in bulk from AKHIL, repackaged them and delivered them to customers around the US via UPS.

The third shipper was JNC Worldwide, who performed the same function as the ARMSTRONGS.

At the height of their business, the BANSALS had 23 to 25 customers. Most of these customers were website operators, but a few were individuals who made bulk purchases from the BANSALS.

AKHIL identified two customers who made bulk purchases. AKHIL identified the first as Miller Light. AKHIL stated that most packages shipped to Miller Light were sent to a location in Manhattan. In December 2004, and January 2005, Miller Light purchased five kilograms (kg) of Ketamine each month. Miller Light paid between \$10,000 and \$12,500 per kg. The second was MIKE COOPER of New Jersey. COOPER purchased one kg of Ketamine per month for several months. COOPER wired the payments for this Ketamine to an account in India.

AKHIL identified the following website operators who were his customers:

1. A client AKHIL knew as BIG CITY MEDS
2. Kevin Atkinson who AKHIL met face-to-face in New York during the week of April 11, 2005.
3. Brian LNU in the United Kingdom
4. TOM PETERS who runs the website myemeds.com
5. An individual named Cameron LNU. The BANSALS would log on Cameron's website to download orders for fulfillment.

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6. Three individuals from Costa Rico named Corinna LNU, Klaus LNU, and an Asian male named David LNU, who he met last year. These individuals emailed their orders to the BANSALs in a Zip file that was password protected. The password was MMDD222000Kr where MM represents the month that the email was sent, and DD represents the day that the email was sent.
7. ROHN WALLACE who AKHIL stated he has been working with since October, 2004.
8. JINTENDRA ARORA who AKHIL met in India
9. MATTHEW MELAO and CHRIS LANE. AKHIL received money from LANE.

AKHIL stated that he was responsible for handling collections from customers and paying those involved in the scheme. AKHIL handled this via wire transfers. AKHIL stated that he used his various US bank accounts to collect from customers, and that he set up a separate account for each customer so that he could keep his record keeping straight.

At some point the BANSALs had a falling out with DEEPAK BANSAL and JOHN LEYLAND who combined forces and began to compete with the BANSALs.

AKHIL stated that he rented the Yellowstone location in New York which was used to print UPS labels. AKHIL admitted that he occasionally stayed at this house.

AKHIL stated that he had a fight with his father on 02/15/2005. After that, AKHIL decided to stop doing business with all but four of the customers. These four were Cameron LNU, the three Costa Ricans, Brian LNU, and ARORA. AKHIL believes that the AGARWALS took over the customers that AKHIL dropped.

AKHIL was asked about how he communicated with individuals participating in the scheme. He stated that he only communicated with his father over the phone and in person, not over the internet. He stated that he only met face to face with a few of the website operators, and that he dealt with them mostly via the internet using two email accounts, drakhil@hotmail.com, and drbrijbansal@hotmail.com. The BANSALs also set up two websites

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used to receive orders from customers, millionorders.com and orderspanel.com.

AKHIL was asked about payments that he made to DAV Metals and TITAN Metals. AKHIL stated that the Customs Officials and Courier Service in India instructed AKHIL to make payments to them via these companies.

AKHIL stated that he used the proceeds of these illegal drug sales to pay his rent, purchase furniture, pay for his Toyota 4-Runner, pay for his Toyota Sequoia, and to pay for his Scion.

AKHIL was asked about PRAKASH BHAVNANI who was with AKHIL and detained when AKHIL was arrested. AKHIL stated that PRAKESH knew that AKHIL was in trouble because of his illegal prescription drug business, and was helping AKHIL flee the United States.

AKHIL was asked about SURRENDER PUNJ. AKHIL stated that he was purchasing a legitimate Medical Transcription company from PUNJ.

At this time, the interview concluded.

During the interviewing agents were notified that an attorney had been made available to AKHIL by his family. AKHIL was notified of this, and stated that he desired to continue the interview without an attorney being present.