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1	of the State of California		
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9			
10	SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA		
	COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES		
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12	THE DEODLE OF THE STATE OF CALLEODNIA	Case No.	
13	THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA Plaintiff,	Case No.	
14	,	DECLARATION MADE	
15	v.	PURSUANT TO SECTION 2015.5 C.C.P. IN SUPPORT OF	
	01 ABEL MOSES SOMILLEDA	ARREST WARRANT FOR	
16	Defendants.	ABEL SOMILLEDA	
17	Defendants.		
18	The undersigned hereby declares, upon information and be	liof.	
10	The undersigned hereby decrares, upon information and be	ner.	
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	Declaration is support of Arrest Warrant		
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21	STATEMENT OF PROBABLE CAUSE:
22	Based upon my training and experience, and the facts set forth in this affidavit, I
23	conclude there is probable cause to believe that from on or about September 1, 2003 to the
24	present. Suspect Abel SOMILLEDA engaged in a travel fraud scheme where he arranged and
25	took money from students and their parents for a Cancun trip, canceled the trip and did not
26	refund the money. This evidence of this scheme to defraud was found at the SOMILLEDA
27	residence .
28	DOJ Special Agents have been conducting an ongoing criminal investigation, centered

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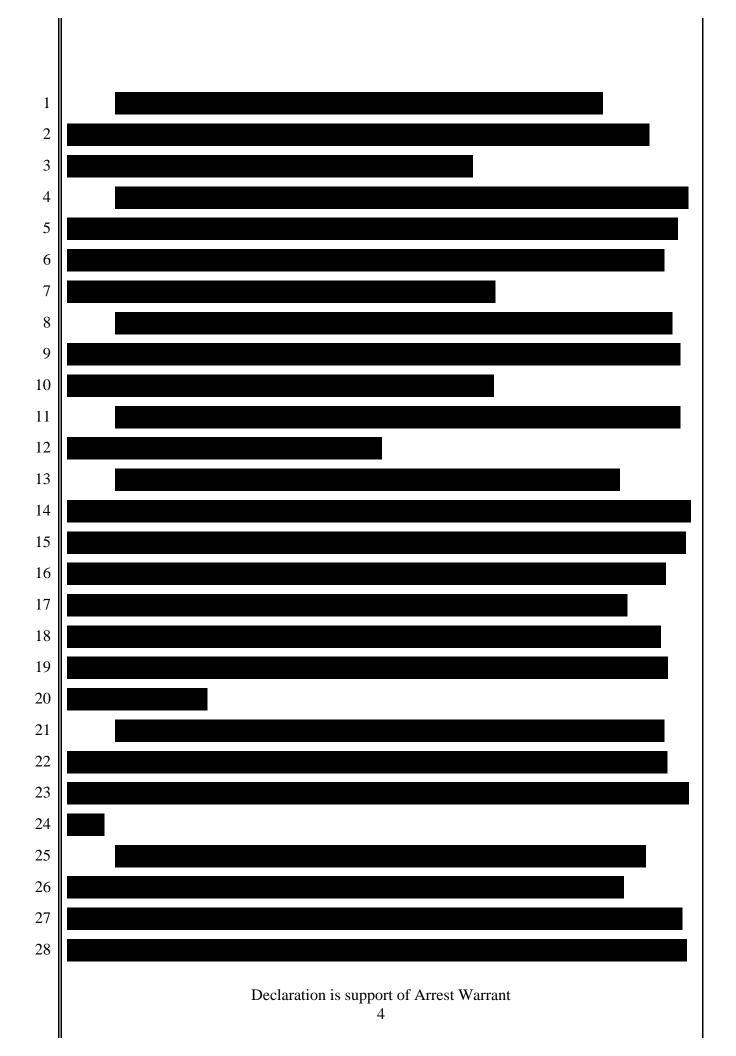
around Abel Somilleda for P.C. section 487(a) (grand theft), B & P Code 17550.14(a) (failure to return moneys) and B&P Code section 17550.17(b) (failure to deliver ticket or voucher).

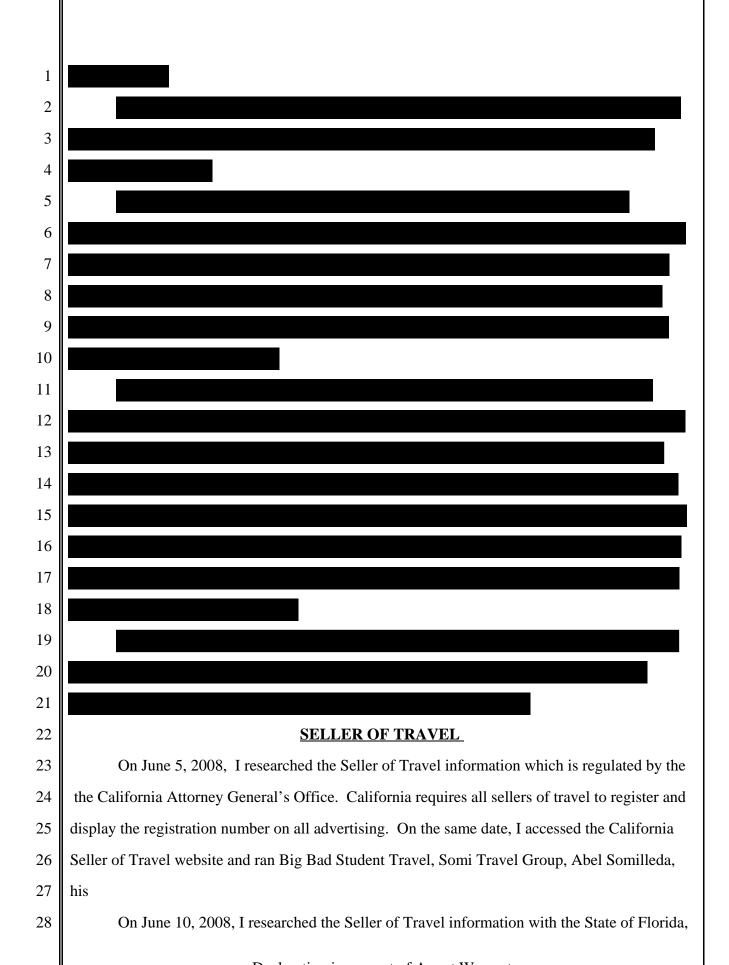
CITIZEN COMPLAINT

This investigation was initiated upon information received from several students and their parents regarding Big Bad Student Travel. They complained to the State of California, Department of Consumer Affairs. They claimed that Big Bad Student Travel and Abel Somilleda (BBST) offered for sale and sold them senior trips to Cancun, Mexico that were supposed to take place in May 2006. BBST took their money for the trip and canceled it a day or two before the students were supposed to leave. The students were sent out cancellation letters with an explanation and were promised a full refund. Neither the students nor their parents received any money. They were unsuccessful in contacting Abel Somilleda via the telephone numbers he listed as they received no response.

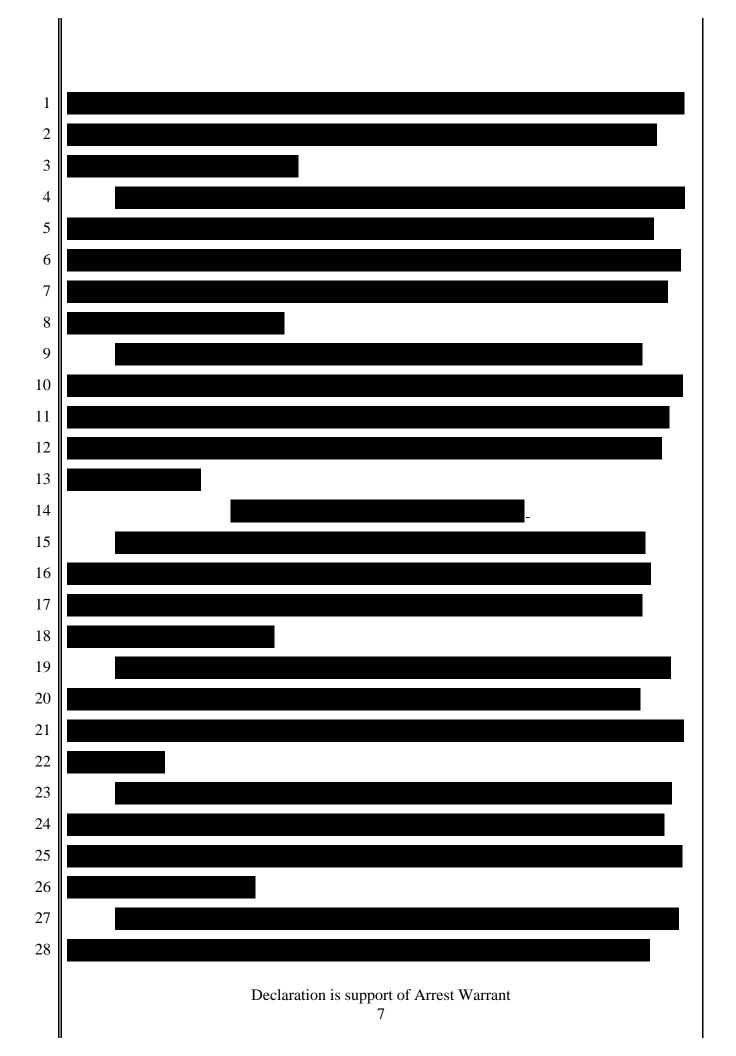
CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION

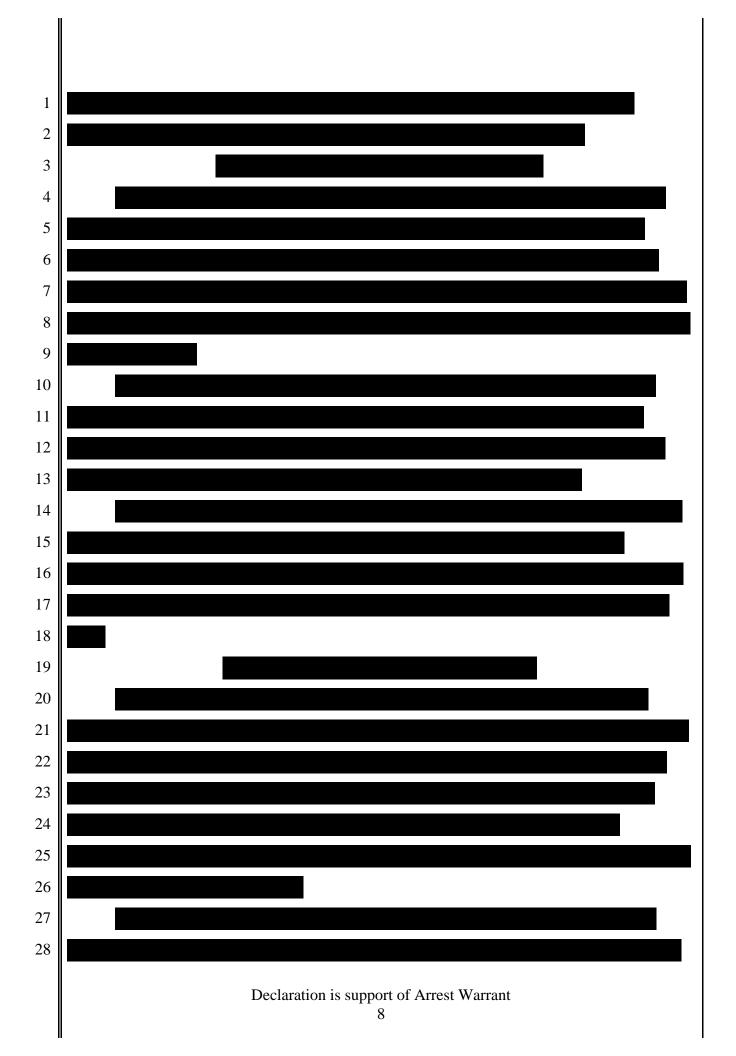
Beginning in February 2007, I was assigned to investigate this case. Along with other Department of Justice agents and personnel, I conducted several interviews, database searches and surveillances on SOMILLEDA in an effort to document the fraud. During the investigation, I discovered that Abel SOMILLEDA was the owner of Big Bad Student Travel, Somi Travel Group and Edumex Tours. A check in Lexis Nexis showed a Fictitious Business Name for Big Bad Student Travel, 480 Rosecrans Ave. #6, Manhattan Beach, CA 90266 was filed on March 12, 2003 in Los Angeles as a Travel Agency with the contact name of Abel Somilleda and Industry Classification Code: 472402. Another search for Big Bad Student Travel in the Autotrack database showed it also having a DBA of Somi Travel Group with the same address under file number 03-0711287 and filed on March 12, 2003. A Comprehensive Business Report check also showed Edumex Tours was located at 480 Rosecrans Ave.#6, Manhattan Beach, CA 90266. Big Bad Student Travel, Edumex Tours and Somi Travel Group had a business contact of Abel M. Somilleda.

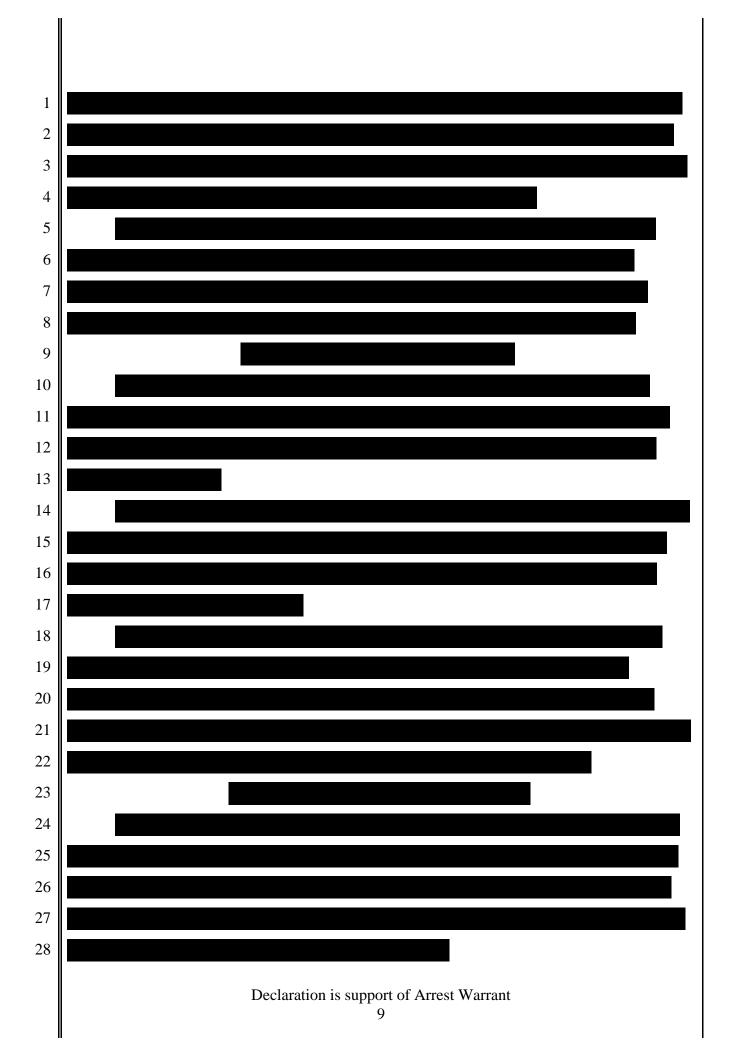


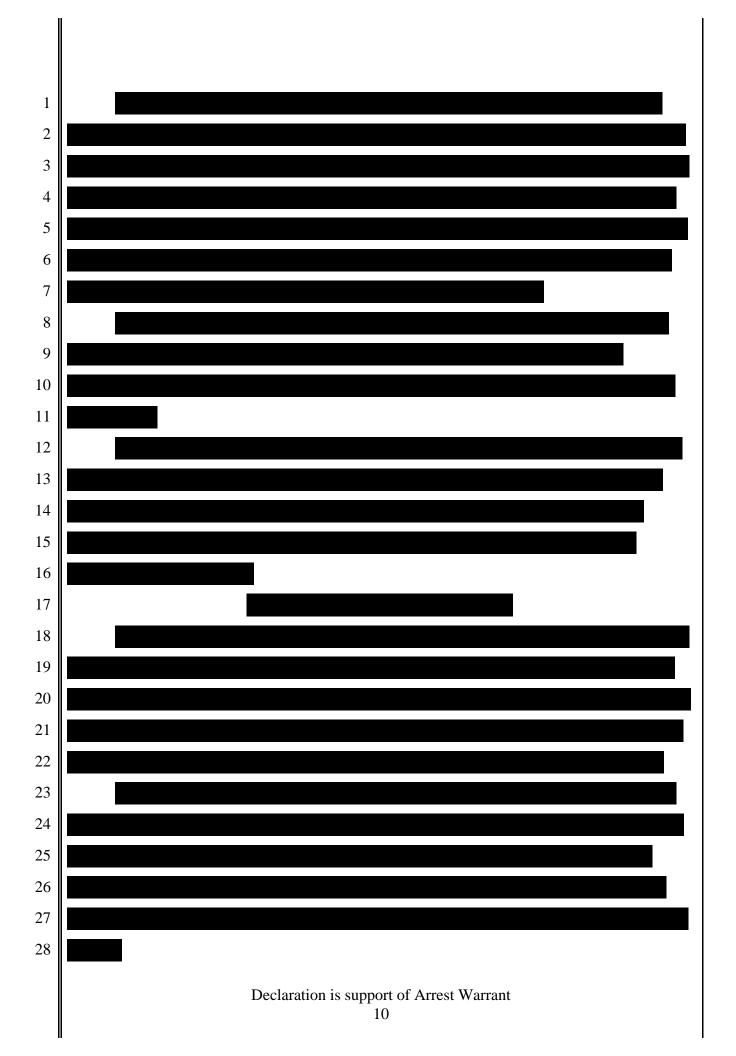


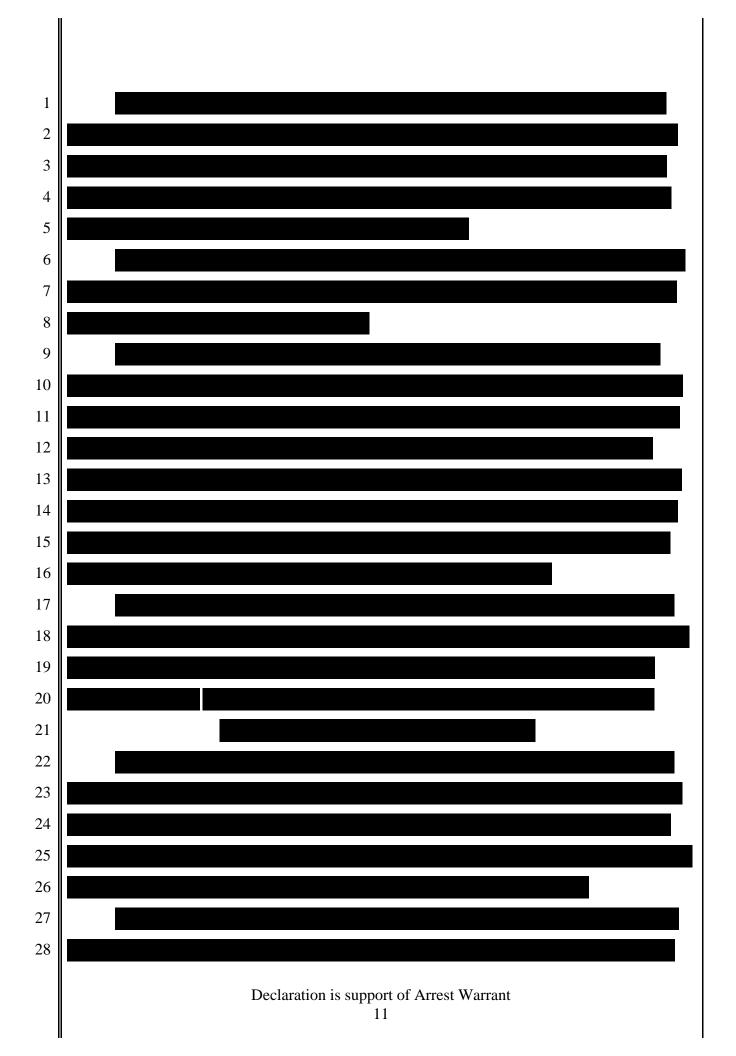
1	Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services. I spoke to Regulatory Specialist Lily and		
2	she ran Big Bad Student Travel and Somi Travel Group through the database and found both		
3	were unregistered.		
4	POSTAL OFFICE BOX INFORMATION		
5	On March 24, 2008, I spoke to Mike Wilson, Postal Inspector in the Los Angeles area.		
6	Wilson told me the Postal Box , Manhattan Beach, CA 90266 also showed C/O Big Bad		
7	Student Travel and was registered to Abel Somilleda,		
8	The box was opened from March 14, 2003 to March 14, 2007.		
9	BANK RECORDS		
10	During the course of my investigation, I reviewed a personal bank check from		
11	written to Big Bad Student Travel. The check was deposited into the Somi Travel Group		
12	bank account at Bank of America, Manhattan Beach, CA 90266		
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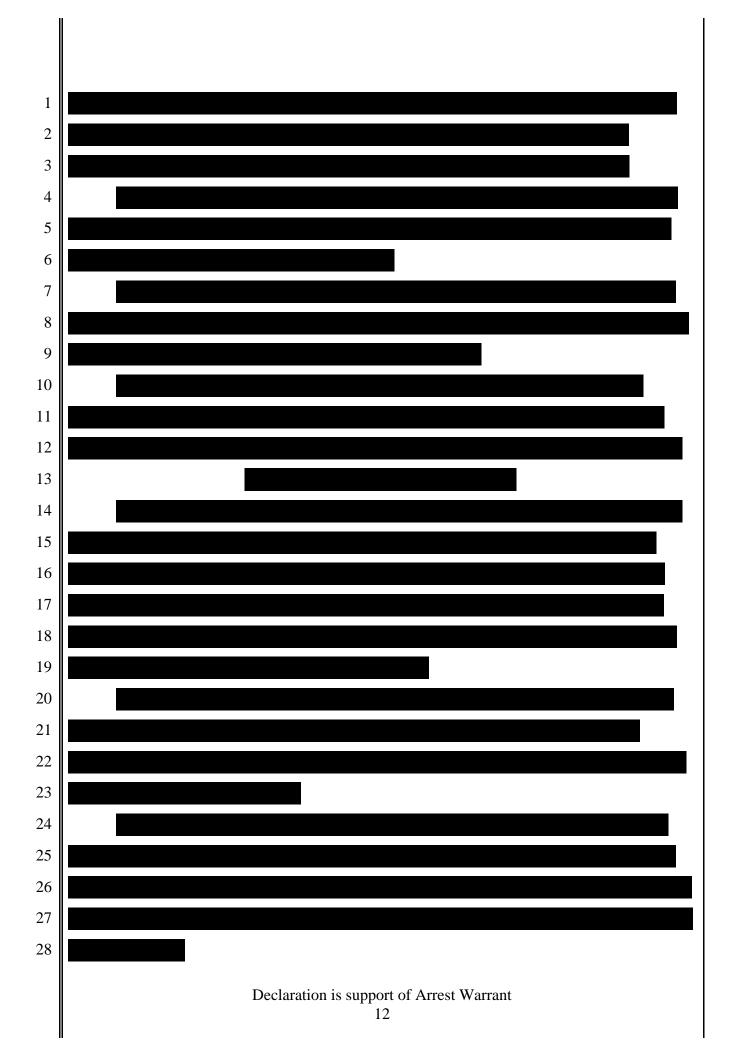












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17	SEARCH WARRANT
18	On June 17, 2008, the Honorable Joseph DeVanon, Los Angeles Superior Court signed a
19	search warrant for two locations. Location 1 was Somilleda's residence
20	Location 2 was a bank search warrant for Bank of America
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22	On June 18, 2008, Department of Justice personnel served the search warrant
23	All the evidence was booked with Property Controller
24	Clement in the Los Angeles Regional Office.
25	On June 18, 2008 at approximately 7:30 a m
2627	On June 18, 2008 at approximately 7:30 a.m., interviewed suspect Abel Somilleda (hereafter Somilleda). Somilleda said he has been in the student travel business
28	since 1996. He said he organized ski trips and he organized his own senior trip. While he
۷۵	since 1770. The said he organized ski urps and he organized his own semor urp. While he
	Declaration is support of Arrest Warrant

attended the University of California, Los Angeles he worked for "Class Travel" in sales and operations. He then worked for a Denver company called "Student Express." He said he organized trips for students for spring break and high school senior class trips. He worked there for about four years and from 1999-2000 he took 1,500 students on trips to Mexico. Somilleda told us that after 9/11, the travel industry had problems and many travel companies went out of business. He also mentioned that the hurricanes affected the travel industry, too.

He said he started Big Bad Student Travel and had a Bank of America account in Manhattan Beach. He also used the business name of Somi Travel Group. He said all the money from the students went to operational costs and that 60 students were supposed to travel from Florida to Cancun. He said he gave himself a \$5,000 a month salary and \$5,000 went out to expenses. He said he did file taxes on the Big Bad Student Travel company and took credit card payments for deposits for the trips.

He had to cancel the 2006 Cancun trip and he said he believed he has refunded about \$700 to students and estimates he still owes the students between \$40,000 to \$50,000. He said he was trying to secure a \$40,000 loan from his mother living in San Diego so that the students can go on the 2006 Cancun trip, but his mother could not afford it. He said the 2005 Cancun trip was successful but he had money problems and that he lost money. He said the hotel is bought through a third party and a broker secured the rooms. He said he just had to send the list of students a couple days before. Somilleda said there was going to be about four students per room.

Somilleda said that three months before the June 2006 Cancun trip, he was still accepting the students' money, but clearly knew the trip was not going to happen. He said he knew he was getting "deeper and deeper in the hole." He knew that these kids were not going to go on this trip. He said all the students' money went to him and not the other companies. He tried to get the students to go to Cancun with other companies, but he could not get the deal done.

He said the profit per student was about \$120, but in reality was about \$50. He explained that he made money off the plane trip. He said the 2005 Cancun trip, he only made about \$20 to \$30 profit per student for himself. He said his former friend, Richard Henrich, took some of his

travel accounts from "under his nose." Henrich was 36 years old and used to live at 2008 Pullman, Los Angeles.

He said that after he sent the cancellation letters, no authorities or representatives from Florida ever contacted him. He explained he felt bad and would have "loved" to figure out how to pay the students back. He said he almost got divorced over this incident. Somilleda even said that it was good he got out of this business because there were young cute girls and he could have gotten "into trouble" with them.

He makes about \$65,000 a year and his wife makes \$50,000 a year. He said he has \$110,000 in debt from the business, has personal loans, owes his dad and a friend a total of \$25,000.00.

He said he should have stopped the travel business in 2005, but thought he could do a 2006 trip again. He said that he knew in March or April 2006 that this trip was in trouble and thought he could borrow money for it. He said she should have cancelled the trip earlier and given the students their money back.

Somilleda mentioned problems like in 2006, there were many rapes occurring in Cancun and he was planning to postpone the trip. Additionally, the staff in Florida were not getting visas issued, and no supervision would be in place.

Somilleda said he did not claim bankruptcy and could have done things "better." He said this has been "difficult to live with" and has lost two friends over this. He said it is "rough existing now!" He said he stopped answering the students' and their parents' phone calls after they received the trip cancellation letter because he had no answers for them. He told us he would like to figure out a payment plan to pay the students back and that he "got in over his head."

Somilleda told us that he had an external hard drive but it was located at his work. He said he would be willing to fix the drive to extract the excel sheet he created that showed how much he owed each student.

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5	EXTERNAL HARD DRIVE EVIDENCE		
6	I contacted the Huntington Beach Police Dept. to do the forensics		
7	review. received the external hard from		
8	on January 12, 2009. was able to extract the information and forward to me in a		
9	zip drive form via my email.		
10	I reviewed the information which was mostly registration information and money sent in		
11	and deposited. Student Intern Franklin ran the excel database for me and found		
12	BANK RECORDS FROM SEARCH WARRANT		
13	On June 19, 2008, served the bank search warrant at Bank of America located		
14	at .		
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16	On July 14, 2008, I received bank statements for Somi Travel Group, DBA: Big Bad		
17	Student Travel from Bank of America dated from August 16, 2003 until October 26, 2006. I		
18	reviewed statements and noticed that there were additional months where more money was going		
19	out than had been deposited. On August 25, 2008, I received a box of banking documents for the		
20	Somi Travel Group, DBA: Big Bad Student Travel from Bank of America. Starting from 2005-		
21	2006, I noticed that most of the money deposited was being used by Somilleda for personal		
22	expenses as opposed to paying Big Bad Student Travel bills. He spent money on his rent,		
23	family, going out to eat, groceries, utilities, etc.		
24	REVIEW OF EVIDENCE		
25	reviewed the evidence from Somilleda's house		
26	regarding the 2006 Cancun Trip. Files were arranged by schools and student registration forms.		
27	From this evidence, created a database and sent out approximately 175		
28	letters to students with a questionnaire. We also found 2007 registrations and deposits. We		

received approximately 50% responses back from these students and most had moved out of town. From the seized records and database, we estimate that Abel Somilleda took approximately \$55,000 from the students for the 2006 Cancun trip and another \$2,000 from the students that registered for the 2007 trip. Declaration is support of Arrest Warrant