Drug Enforcement Administration

REPORT OF INVESTIGATION		Page 1 of 13		
1. Program Code SEO560	2. Cross File	Related Files	3. File No.	4. G-DEP Identifier
5. By: Matthew S Passmore, SA			6. File Title	·
At: TEGUCIGALPA, HONDURAS COUNTRY OFFICE				
7. Closed Requested Action Completed Action Requested By:			8. Date Prepared 07-13-2016	
9. Other Officers: SA Larry Rodriguez and CA Alvaro Agrelo				
10. Report Re: Interview/Arrest of Ludwig Criss ZELAYA-Romero at the U.S. Embassy in				
Tegucigalpa, Honduras on Jul	y 13, 20	16/Acq Ex N-1	, N-2, N-3	

#### SYNOPSIS

On 07-13-2016, Ludwig Criss ZELAYA-Romero, voluntarily traveled to the U.S. Embassy to speak with DEA agents from the Tegucigalpa Country Office (TCO) regarding his (ZELAYA-Romero) recent indictment out of the Southern District of New York. Subsequently, after the interview, TCO agents turned over ZELAYA-Romero to the custody of the TCO Sensitive Investigative Unit (SIU) in order for SIU to execute a Provisional Arrest Warrant which was issued by the Government of Honduras.

#### **DETAILS**

1. On 07-13-2016, at approximately 6:10 A.M., ZELAYA-Romero voluntarily arrived at the U.S. Embassy, located in Tegucigalpa, Honduras, to speak with DEA agents from the TCO. SA Matthew Passmore, SA Larry Rodriguez, and CA Alvaro Agrelo escorted ZELAYA-Romero into the U.S. Embassy. At approximately 6:15 A.M., SA Rodriguez read, in the Spanish language, ZELAYA-Romero's Miranda Warnings. SA Rodriguez then gave the Miranda Warning's Waiver, which was written in the Spanish language, to ZELAYA-Romero for him (ZELAYA-Romero) to review. After reviewing the Miranda Warning's Waiver, ZELAYA-Romero signed the waiver, as witnessed by SA Passmore and SA Rodriguez. [Agent Note: The signed Miranda Warnings Waiver is attached to this DEA Report of Investigation.] The interview was conducted in the Spanish language, via translation by SA Rodriguez. [Agent Note: CA Agrelo left the interview room and did not participate in the interview for ZELAYA-Romero.]

11. Distribution: Division	12. Signature (Agent)	<b>13. Date</b> 07–13–2016
District	Matthew S Passmore, SA	
District	14. Approved (Name and Title)	15. Date
Other	/s/ Alvaro A Agrelo-Perez, CA	07-18-2016

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Drug Enforcement Administration

REPORT OF INVESTIGATION	1. File No.	2. G-DEP Identifier
(Continuation)	3. File Title	
4. Page 2 of 13		
5. Program Code SE0560	6. Date Prepared 07-13-2016	

- 2. ZELAYA-Romero stated that he (ZELAYA-Romero) has been in the Honduran National Police (HNP) for 17 years and had the ranking of sub-comisiario when he (ZELAYA-Romero) was fired from the HNP. ZELAYA-Romero stated that between 2012 through 2014 he (ZELAYA-Romero) was suspended from the HNP, because he (ZELAYA-Romero) was charged with a theft of a vehicle. ZELAYA-Romero advised the charges were later dropped due lack of evidence that he (ZELAYA-Romero) committed the crime. ZELAYA-Romero stated after he (ZELAYA-Romero) was reinstated in the HNP, he (ZELAYA-Romero) became disliked by his (ZELAYA-Romero) superiors. ZELAYA-Romero stated he (ZELAYA-Romero) has never been associated with gangs, weapons trafficking, or any thing violent as he (ZELAYA-Romero) has been accused of in the Honduran press.
- 3. SA Passmore asked ZELAYA-Romero if he (ZELAYA-Romero) knew why he (ZELAYA-Romero) was indicted in the Southern District of New York (SDNY), which ZELAYA-Romero stated "no." SA Passmore inquired if ZELAYA-Romero participated in a drug trafficking plan with Jorge Alfredo CRUZ-Chavez, Victor Oswaldo LOPEZ-Flores, Juan Manuel AVILA-Meza, Mario Guillermo MEJIA-Vargas, Carlos Jose ZAVALA-Valasquez, Fabio LOBO, and two unidentified Mexican nationals, which ZELAYA-Romero stated "yes." SA Passmore then requested that ZELAYA-Romero describe the events surrounding this drug trafficking plan and the meetings that took place in Honduras.
- 4. ZELAYA-Romero stated, in May 2014, AVILA-Meza called him (ZELAYA-Romero) and stated that "the man" wanted a meeting with AVILA-Meza and ZELAYA-Romero. ZELAYA-Romero stated that when AVILA-Meza referred to "the man," he (AVILA-Meza) it was a reference to Devis Leonel RIVERA-Maradiaga, aka "Leo CACHIRO." Additionally, ZELAYA-Romero advised he (ZELAYA-Romero) personally knows RIVERA-Maradiaga. ZELAYA-Romero stated he (ZELAYA-Romero) arrested RIVERA-Maradiaga for rape, but the charges were later dropped against RIVERA-Maradiaga. ZELAYA-Romero stated he (ZELAYA-Romero) had previously met RIVERA-Maradiaga twice. [Agent Note: Later in the interview, ZELAYA-Romero recanted this statement and stated he (ZELAYA-Romero) has met with RIVERA-Maradiaga several times.] ZELAYA-Romero stated he (ZELAYA-Romero) met RIVERA-Maradiaga through a person named FNU LNU, aka "CHIWIN."

**DEA** Form **- 6a** (Jul. 1996)

Drug Enforcement Administration

REPORT OF INVESTIGATION	1. File No.	2. G-DEP Identifier
(Continuation)	3. File Title	
4. Page 3 of 13		
5. Program Code SE0560	6. Date Prepared 07-13-2016	

- 5. ZELAYA-Romero stated he (ZELAYA-Romero) and AVILA-Meza went to a mechanic shop in San Pedro Sula, Honduras, to meet with RIVERA-Maradiaga. ZELAYA-Romero stated when the two co-conspirators entered the office of the mechanic shop, ZELAYA-Romero observed a Mexican national. ZELAYA-Romero stated RIVERA-Maradiaga stayed in the vehicle and did not get out of the vehicle. ZELAYA-Romero advised the Mexican national told ZELAYA-Romero and AVILA-Meza that RIVERA-Maradiaga "was burned in the area" and that he (Mexican national) would be running the day-to-day operations for RIVERA-Maradiaga.
- 6. ZELAYA-Romero advised the Mexican national told ZELAYA-Romero and AVILA-Meza that he (Mexican national) needed ten (10) HNP officers that would work with the Mexican national. SA Passmore asked ZELAYA-Romero what he (Mexican national) meant when he (Mexican national) wanted HNP officers to work with him (Mexican national), which ZELAYA-Romero stated drug trafficking. ZELAYA-Romero stated the Mexican national advised the two co-conspirators (ZELAYA-Romero and AVILA-Diaz) that he (Mexican national) wanted to have another meeting to discuss details of a "working" with the Mexican national. ZELAYA-Romero stated the meeting lasted for about 30 minutes and then ZELAYA-Romero and AVILA-Meza left the office. [Agent Note: While describing this meeting, ZELAYA-Romero drew out a map where this meeting took place and wrote down names officers in the HNP that are involved in this drug trafficking plan. The hand drawn map and notes are attached to this DEA ROI.]
- 7. ZELAYA-Romero advised AVILA-Meza told him (ZELAYA-Romero) that RIVERA-Maradiaga advised he (AVILA-Meza) would be in charge of running the Mexican national's operations, because AVILA-Meza was senior to ZELAYA-Romero in the HNP. According to ZELAYA-Romero, AVILA-Meza then paid him (ZELAYA-Romero) \$100-\$200 for food. ZELAYA-Romero then advised he (ZELAYA-Romero) and AVILA-Meza departed ways and AVILA-Meza went back to a promotional course that he (AVILA-Meza) had been attending. ZELAYA-Romero stated he (ZELAYA-Romero) later learned that AVILA-Meza, ZAVALA-Valasquez, MEJIA-Vargas, and LOPEZ-Flores were all in the same promotional course together.
- 8. ZELAYA-Romero then advised AVILA-Meza stated that he (AVILA-Meza) needed ZELAYA-Romero to take him (AVILA-Meza) to Colon, Honduras, in order

**DEA** Form **- 6a** (Jul. 1996)

Drug Enforcement Administration

	1. File No.	2. G-DEP Identifier
REPORT OF INVESTIGATION		
(Continuation)	3. File Title	
, ,		
4. Page 4 of 13		
5. Program Code SE0560	6. Date Prepared 07-13-2016	

for AVILA-Meza to get familiar with the territory, since he (AVILA-Meza) was going to be in charge of the area for the Mexican national. Subsequently, ZELAYA-Romero advised he (ZELAYA-Romero) took AVILA-Meza to Puerto Limon, Colon, Honduras in order for AVILA-Meza to get familiar with the area.

- 9. ZELAYA-Romero advised a few days later AVILA-Meza contacted him (ZELAYA-Romero), via telephone, and advised ZELAYA-Romero that he (AVILA-Meza) wanted ZELAYA-Romero to come to AVILA-Meza's private office. ZELAYA-Romero advised when he (ZELAYA-Romero) arrived at the office, AVILA-Meza told him (ZELAYA-Romero) that "the man" (RIVERA-Maradiaga) comes to this office. ZELAYA-Romero then advised that AVILA-Meza asked ZELAYA-Romero to show him (AVILA-Meza) on a map where all the HNP sub-stations and checkpoints were located in the north part of ZELAYA-Romero advised he (ZELAYA-Romero) told AVILA-Meza where Honduras. all the HNP sub-stations and checkpoints are located and how many HNP officers were at each post. ZELAYA-Romero stated AVILA-Meza suggested to ZELAYA-Romero that they (ZELAYA-Romero and AVILA-Meza) take a map of Honduras to the next meeting with the Mexican national, in order to show the route in which the drugs needed to travel. ZELAYA-Romero stated the map that was in AVILA-Meza's office, was the map that AVILA-Meza brought to the below meeting (paragraph 9).
- 10. ZELAYA-Romero stated shortly after the meeting in AVILA-Meza's office, AVILA-Meza advised there was another meeting with the Mexican national, AVILA-Meza, LOPEZ-Flores, MEJIA-Vargas, and ZAVALA-Valasquez. ZELAYA-Romero stated he (ZELAYA-Romero) asked CRUZ-Chavez if CRUZ-Chavez could participate in the meeting. SA Passmore asked ZELAYA-Romero why he (ZELAYA-Romero) asked CRUZ-Chavez to come to meeting, which he (ZELAYA-Romero) stated that he (ZELAYA-Romero) was good friends with CRUZ-Chavez and he (ZELAYA-Romero) trusted CRUZ-Chavez. [Agent

Note:	
	ZELAYA-Romero stated he (ZELAYA-
Romero) and CRUZ-Chavez arrived at a	·
International Airport (Tegucigalpa,	Honduras) to meet with AVILA-Meza and

**DEA** Form **- 6a** (Jul. 1996)

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Drug Enforcement Administration

REPORT OF INVESTIGATION	1. File No.	2. G-DEP Identifier
(Continuation) 4.	3. File Title	
Page 5 of 13		
<b>5. Program Code</b> SEO 5 6 0	6. Date Prepared 07-13-2016	

the other HNP officers. ZELAYA-Romero stated while at the gas station, MEJIA-Vargas told AVILA-Meza that the group of co-conspirators could meet at his (MEJIA-Vargas) cousin's house, which was located near the gas station. ZELAYA-Romero then stated all of the HNP traveled in two vehicles and went to MEJIA-Vargas's cousin's house. ZELAYA-Romero stated all HNP officers brought semi-automatic pistols to the meeting.

- ZELAYA-Romero advised when they (ZELAYA-Romero, CRUZ-Chavez, LOPEZ-11. Flores, AVILA-Meza, MEJIA-Vargas, ZAVALA-Valasquez) arrived at the house, all of the HNP officers proceeded to the back yard of the house for a quick impromptu meeting. ZELAYA-Romero stated AVILA-Meza placed the map on the table to discuss the details of the drug route before the meeting with the Mexican nationals. During this meeting outside, ZELAYA-Romero advised a confidant of the RIVERA-Maradiaga family, Carlos VALLADARES, arrived at the meeting. ZELAYA-Romero stated VALLADARES was a former HNP officer who was fired because he (VALLADARES) failed a polygraph. VALLADARES then became a defense attorney for the RIVERA-Maradiaga family and was given the task by RIVERA-Maradiaga to work with other RIVERA-Maradiaga Honduran defense attorneys. ZELAYA-Romero stated VALLADARES was at the meeting because he (VALLADARES) wanted to be part of the drug ring being formed at this meeting.
- After this meeting, ZELAYA-Romero advised the Mexican Nationals and Fabio LOBO arrived at the meeting. ZELAYA-Romero stated CRUZ-Chavez immediately leaned over to ZELAYA-Romero and advised him (ZELAYA-Romero) of the identity of Fabio LOBO. ZELAYA-Romero stated he (ZELAYA-Romero) did not recognize LOBO, because he (LOBO) was wearing sunglasses. ZELAYA-Romero stated once every co-conspirator arrived at the location, AVILA-Meza and the Mexican national began to discuss details of a drug ZELAYA-Romero stated the Mexican national advised the trafficking plan. he (Mexican national) needed 3 tons of cocaine moved through ZELAYA-Romero stated Mexican national advised the drugs would arrive in La Mosquita, Honduras, and be off-loaded by Honduran military officials and then transported to Limon, Honduras. ZELAYA-Romero stated the Mexican national instructed ZELAYA-Romero to be in charge of talking to the Honduran Navy commander that was to assist with the plan and coordinate with the commander. Furthermore, ZELAYA-Romero advised he (ZELAYA-Romero) was supposed to give the Navy commander and other military

**DEA** Form **- 6a** (Jul. 1996)

Drug Enforcement Administration

	1. File No.	2. G-DEP Identifier
REPORT OF INVESTIGATION		
	3. File Title	
(Continuation)		
4.		
Page 6 of 13		
5. Program Code	6. Date Prepared	_
SEO560	07-13-2016	

officials encrypted Canadian cell phones and also he (ZELAYA-Romero) needed to collect the cell phones after the operation. ZELAYA-Romero stated this upset AVILA-Meza and MEJIA-Vargas, because they (AVILA-Meza and MEJIA-Vargas) were superior in rank to ZELAYA-Romero.

- 13. ZELAYA-Romero stated AVILA-Meza then advised the Mexican national that they (HNP co-conspirators) had a map and AVILA-Meza could show the Mexican national the HNP sub-stations and checkpoints for the north part of Honduras. ZELAYA-Romero then stated AVILA-Meza began to talk about the drug route that was to be used. ZELAYA-Romero stated the route was as follows: Trujillo, Honduras; to San Pedro Sula, Honduras; to Santa Barbara, Honduras. ZELAYA-Romero stated once the drug load arrived in Santa Barbara, Honduras, the VALLE-Valle Drug Trafficking Organization (DTO) would be in charge of the drug load and move the load across the Honduras/Guatemala border. ZELAYA-Romero acknowledged that he (ZELAYA-Romero) knew the cocaine load would eventually be transported to the United States.
- 14. SA Passmore asked ZELAYA-Romero what were the other roles of the HNP co-conspirators, which ZELAYA-Romero stated they (HNP officers) were to be positioned throughout the route. ZELAYA-Romero stated all of the HNP officers at the meeting agreed to monitor the load and ensure the Honduran military did not steal the cocaine nor tamper with the cocaine. ZELAYA-Romero stated all of them (ZELAYA-Romero, CRUZ-Chavez, LOPEZ-Flores, AVILA-Meza, MEJIA-Vargas, ZAVALA-Valasquez) were supposed to be armed with glock semi-automatic pistols during the operation, which were to be purchased by the Mexican national. ZELAYA-Romero stated LOPEZ-Flores asked the Mexican national how much each HNP official at the meeting was supposed to be paid, which the Mexican national stated "\$100,000." At the conclusion of the meeting, the Mexican national advised that there needed to be another meeting in regards to this shipment, which all coconspirators agreed to attend.
- 15. SA Passmore asked ZELAYA-Romero if any of the HNP officers were working in an undercover capacity at any of the above mentioned meetings, which ZELAYA-Romero responded "no." ZELAYA-Romero stated all HNP officers that participated in these meetings knew they (HNP officers) were doing an illegal action. SA Passmore asked ZELAYA-Romero if he (ZELAYA-Romero)

**DEA** Form **- 6a** (Jul. 1996)

Drug Enforcement Administration

REPORT OF INVESTIGATION (Continuation)	1. File No.  3. File Title	2. G-DEP Identifier
4. Page 7 of 13  5. Program Code SEO 5 6 0	6. Date Prepared 07-13-2016	

reported any of these meetings to any of his (ZELAYA-Romero) supervisors, which he (ZELAYA-Romero) replied "no." SA Passmore asked ZELAYA-Romero if he (ZELAYA-Romero) wrote any undercover reports documenting any of the above mentioned meetings, which he (ZELAYA-Romero) replied "no."

16. SA Passmore then asked ZELAYA-Romero about his (ZELAYA-Romero) role in an assassination that occurred at the San Pedro Sula, Honduras, airport which involved the criminal gang "LOS GRILLOS." ZELAYA-Romero stated that the LOS GRILLOS is a Honduras based gang that robs drug and money loads traveling throughout Honduras. According to ZELAYA-Romero, a former HNP officer named "CARRASCO" was in charge of the LOS GRILLOS at the time of the assassination. ZELAYA-Romero advised that LOS GRILLOS worked with the HNP elite unit, named "COBRAS," who helped them rob the drug and money loads through "police operations." According to ZELAYA-Romero, the LOS GRILLOS had a contact with FNU LNU from Roatan, Honduras, who was an associate of Miguel Arnulfo VALLE-Valle and who wanted to purchase cocaine from LOS GRILLOS. ZELAYA-Romero stated that FNU LNU was going to buy 100 kilograms of cocaine from LOS GRILLOS, for an unknown price. According to ZELAYA-Romero, LOS GRILLOS brought ten kilograms of real cocaine and 90 kilograms of fake cocaine to a meeting to show to FNU LNU. ZELAYA-Romero stated when FNU LNU inspected the cocaine, he (FNU LNU) did not observe the fake kilograms and stated that he (FNU LNU) would come back with the money to purchase the drugs. ZELAYA-Romero stated when FNU LNU returned with the money, LOS GRILLOS and the COBRAS robbed FNU LNU and stole his (FNU LNU) money. ZELAYA-Romero stated that VALLE-Valle called RIVERA-Maradiaga and stated that "they" (VALLE-Valle and RIVERA-Maradiaga) needed to set an example in order for LOS GRILLOS to stop robbing drug and money loads. ZELAYA-Romero stated RIVERA-Maradiaga ordered the assassination of a LOS GRILLOS member named FNU LNU "EL SAPO." Romero stated RIVERA-Maradiaga discovered that "EL SAPO" was to fly in the airport in San Pedro Sula, Honduras and located the flight information of "EL SAPO." According to ZELAYA-Romero, RIVERA-Maradiaga instructed ZELAYA-Romero to go to the San Pedro Sula, Honduras, airport and locate "EL SAPO" coming out of the airport. ZELAYA-Romero stated once he (ZELAYA-Romero) located "EL SAPO," he (ZELAYA-Romero) was to call RIVERA-Maradiaga's assassins that were staged outside of the airport. ZELAYA-Romero stated "EL SAPO" never exited the airport, but when walking around the parking lot, he (ZELAYA-Romero) observed three cars leaving in

**DEA** Form **- 6a** (Jul. 1996)

Drug Enforcement Administration

REPORT OF INVESTIGATION	1. File No.	2. G-DEP Identifier
(Continuation)	3. File Title	
4. Page 8 of 13		
5. Program Code SE0560	6. Date Prepared 07-13-2016	

tandem. [Agent Note: ZELAYA-Romero drew a map depicting the three cars in tandem leaving the airport. This hand drawn map is attached to this DEA ROI.] ZELAYA-Romero stated when the three cars got to the exit of the airport, he (ZELAYA-Romero) observed two cars block the cars from exiting the airport. ZELAYA-Romero stated he (ZELAYA-Romero) then witnessed the assassins order all of the people from the three cars out of the vehicles and instructed them (occupants of the three cars) to lay face first on the ground. ZELAYA-Romero stated once all occupants were laying on the ground, an assassin named "PETER" walked behind each person and executed them by shooting them multiple times in the back of the head and in the back. ZELAYA-Romero stated "PETER" is a member of Honduran based gang named "LOS CHIRIZOS."

SA Passmore asked how many people ZELAYA-Romero has killed for RIVERA-Maradiaga, which ZELAYA-Romero stated "one." SA Passmore requested ZELAYA-Romero explained the events around this assassination, which he (ZELAYA-Romero) was the assassin. ZELAYA-Romero stated a few years in the ago, a truck with "tanks" was traveling on the north coast of Honduras, which had a large amount of money concealed in the "tanks" of During the trip, two unknown HNP officers stopped vehicle and robbed the money from the truck. According to ZELAYA-Romero, these HNP officers were sent to rob the truck by FNU LNU, a owner of a concrete cinder block factory located in Toca, Colon, Honduras. Romero stated after the HNP officers found the concealed money, the officers called FNU LNU and asked what they (HNP officers) were supposed to do with the driver and passenger of the truck. ZELAYA-Romero stated FNU LNU instructed the HNP officers to murder the driver and passenger of the truck, which the HNP officers did. ZELAYA-Romero stated that one of the passengers in the truck was the brother of FNU LNU, aka "EL GALLO." ZELAYA-Romero advised "EL GALLO" asked RIVERA-Maradiaga if he (RIVERA-Maradiaga) could help avenge his (EL GALLO) brother's death, which RIVERA-Maradiaga stated "yes." ZELAYA-Romero advised RIVERA-Maradiaga instructed MARVIN LNU to find an assassin and kill FNU LNU (cinder block ZELAYA-Romero stated MARVIN LNU advised RIVERA-Maradiaga factory owner). that he (MARVIN LNU) could not find anyone to carry out the ZELAYA-Romero stated MARVIN LNU then found a "kid" in the assassination. area, put him (unknown young male) in the back seat of a car, gave him (unknown young male) a gun, and instructed him (unknown young male) to

**DEA** Form **- 6a** (Jul. 1996)

Drug Enforcement Administration

REPORT OF INVESTIGATION	1. File No.	2. G-DEP Identifier
(Continuation)  4. Page 9 of 13	3. File Title	
5. Program Code SEO 5 6 0	6. Date Prepared 07-13-2016	

kill FNU LNU (cinder block factory owner). ZELAYA-Romero stated that when him (ZELAYA-Romero), MARVIN LNU, and the unknown young male arrived at the cinder block factory, the unknown young male became scared and did not want to commit the assassination. According to ZELAYA-Romero, RIVERA-Maradiaga then told MARVIN LNU to instruct ZELAYA-Romero to kill FNU LNU (cinder block factory owner). ZELAYA-Romero stated RIVERA-Maradiaga threaten to kill him (ZELAYA-Romero) if he (ZELAYA-Romero) did not kill FNU LNU (cinder block factory owner). ZELAYA-Romero stated the unknown young male then gave him (ZELAYA-Romero) a semi-automatic 9 mm pistol and ZELAYA-Romero then shot FNU LNU (cinder block factory owner) from the front right passenger seat several times. ZELAYA-Romero stated the cinder block factory's security quard chased the fleeing assassins, firing multiple times at the occupants of the vehicle, but did not hit the any of the occupants. [Agent Note: ZELAYA-Romero was not sure of the date of the incident described in this paragraph.]

18. SA Passmore asked ZELAYA-Romero if he (ZELAYA-Romero) was involved in the trafficking of machine guns for RIVERA-Maradiaga, which ZELAYA-Romero stated "no." SA Passmore asked if he (ZELAYA-Romero) assembled security teams for drug shipments, who were armed with high-powered machine guns, which ZELAYA-Romero stated "no." ZELAYA-Romero stated the security teams were already organized by RIVERA-Maradiaga's cousin named ORLIN LNU. ZELAYA-Romero described there was a security team based in Zamora, Colon, Honduras, but worked in Tocoa, Colon. [Agent Note: ZELAYA-Romero wrote down names and a drawing of a truck to show where weapons were stored by the security team. This hand drawn picture is attached to this DEA ROI.] ZELAYA-Romero stated the following names (aliases) are a part of this team: ADONAY (later identified as Eliasir Donai MARTINEZ-Turcios), JUAREZ, OVANDO (later identified as Ovando Echeverry MARTINEZ-Turcios), KEKEO, MARVIN. ZELAYA-Romero stated the security team had a truck that was equipped with an aftermarket hidden compartment where the security team stored AR-15s, pistols, and Rocket Propelled Grenade (RPG). SA Passmore asked ZELAYA-Romero if he (ZELAYA-Romero) was a part of this security team, which he (ZELAYA-Romero) replied only "one time." SA Passmore then asked ZELAYA-Romero to explain his role in the time he (ZELAYA-Romero) was a part of the above mentioned security team. ZELAYA-Romero described an incident, approximately in 2014, where RIVERA-Maradiaga expected a drug laden plane to land on a property owned

**DEA** Form **- 6a** (Jul. 1996)

Drug Enforcement Administration

	1. File No.	2. G-DEP Identifier
REPORT OF INVESTIGATION		
(Continuation)	3. File Title	
,		
4. Page 10 of 13		
5. Program Code SEO 560	6. Date Prepared 07-13-2016	
SE0300	07-13-2016	

by the FAUCUSE family. ZELAYA-Romero stated the plane was intercepted by the Honduran Air Force and had to conduct an emergency landing. Romero stated during this operation, ORLIN LNU gave him (ZELAYA-Romero) an ZELAYA-Romero stated other members of the security team were outfitted with AR-15s, semi-automatic pistols, and two RPGs. Romero stated he (ZELAYA-Romero) was also at this event for the purpose of assisting Noe MONTES-Bobadilla, aka "TON" for an unrelated ZELAYA-Romero stated RIVERA-Maradiaga stated he (ZELAYA-Romero) needed assist with the security operation, before he (ZELAYA-Romero) attended MONTES-Bobadilla's request. ZELAYA-Romero stated once the plane crash landed, unidentified persons off-loaded the cocaine, and moved the cocaine bales into the nearby palm fields. ZELAYA-Romero stated after the cocaine was offloaded, the security team, including ZELAYA-Romero, was brought to the edge of a nearby road and told to turn in their (security team) weapons. Furthermore, ZELAYA-Romero stated the security team was told "everyone is on their own now." [Agent Note: ZELAYA-Romero stated this incident occurred in 2014, before the meeting that is described in paragraphs 10-14].

- 19. During ZELAYA-Romero's discussion about machine guns, he (ZELAYA-Romero) began talking about Diputado Fredy NAJERA. ZELAYA-Romero stated NAJERA has paid HNP and Honduran military officials for illicit activities. Furthermore, ZELAYA-Romero talked about NAJERA being involved in a shooting, which ended with the murder of an unknown person.
- 20. SA Passmore then asked ZELAYA-Romero what his (ZELAYA-Romero) involvement was in the murder of Anibal Barrow. ZELAYA-Romero stated that during the Barrow murder, he (ZELAYA-Romero) was attending a training course in order for him (ZELAYA-Romero) be promoted in the HNP, ZELAYA-Romero stated RIVERA-Maradiaga was upset with local Honduran reporter named FNU LNU, aka "Yofo." ZELAYA-Romero stated RIVERA-Maradiaga found another local Honduran reporter to search for an assassin to kill "Yofo." The local Honduran reporter, FNU LNU, was instructed to call ZELAYA-Romero to find a assassin for the assassination of "Yofo." ZELAYA-Romero stated that FNU LNU (local Honduran reporter) began to call ZELAYA-Romero so many times while he (ZELAYA-Romero) was in class that his (ZELAYA-Romero) instructor became upset. ZELAYA-Romero stated he (ZELAYA-Romero) passed a number of an unknown assassin to FNU LNU (local Honduran

**DEA** Form **- 6a** (Jul. 1996)

Drug Enforcement Administration

	1. File No.	2. G-DEP Identifier
REPORT OF INVESTIGATION		
(Continuation)	3. File Title	
,		
4. Page 11 of 13		
	6. Date Prepared 07-13-2016	
Page 11 of 13  5. Program Code SE0560	6. Date Prepared 07-13-2016	

reporter) for the purpose of FNU LNU (local Honduran reporter) setting up the murder of FNU LNU, aka "Yofo." [Agent Note: ZELAYA-Romero stated he (ZELAYA-Romero) got the assassins number from a list of numbers for assassins that he (ZELAYA-Romero) had access.] ZELAYA-Romero stated he (ZELAYA-Romero) was surprised when he (ZELAYA-Romero) heard that Barrow was killed instead of FNU LNU, aka "Yofo." ZELAYA-Romero stated he (ZELAYA-Romero) believes FNU LNU (local Honduran reporter) had an issue with Barrow and that is why Barrow was killed, instead of "YOFO."

- 21. SA Passmore asked ZELAYA-Romero how much money RIVERA-Maradiaga paid him (ZELAYA-Romero) in total for assisting with drug trafficking and other tasks for RIVERA-Maradiaga. ZELAYA-Romero stated the payments varied for different tasks, but he (ZELAYA-Romero) believed RIVERA-Maradiaga paid him (ZELAYA-Romero) approximately \$120,000 over eight years.
- 22. SA Passmore and SA Rodriguez then terminated the interview at approximately 9:20 A.M. Subsequently, TCO escorted ZELAYA-Romero out of the U.S. Embassy and turned him (ZELAYA-Romero) over to the custody of TCO SIU, who arrested ZELAYA-Romero on his (ZELAYA-Romero) outstanding Provisional Arrest Warrant issued by the Honduran Supreme Court. ZELAYA-Romero was transferred to jail and is pending extradition to the United States. SA Passmore took custody of ZELAYA-Romero black cellular telephone, later labeled **Exhibit N-1** and ZELAYA-Romero's pocket trash, later labeled **Exhibit N-2**, as witnessed by SA Rodriguez. Approximately an hour later, ZELAYA-Romero wife, Lilian Reyes-Rosales, surrendered a USB drive, later labeled **Exhibit N-3**, to SA Passmore and SA Rodriguez at the U.S. Embassy located in Tegucigalpa, Honduras.

#### CUSTODY OF EVIDENCE

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REPORT OF INVESTIGATION	1. File No.	2. G-DEP Identifier
(Continuation)	3. File Title	
4.		
Page 12 of 13  5. Program Code	6. Date Prepared	
SEO560	07-13-2016	
INDEXING		
1. ZELAYA-Romero, Ludwig Criss	NADDIS:	
Remarks: Arrested by Tegucigalpa CO SIU f Arrest Warrant on 07-14-2016 in Tegucigal		g Provisional
2. CRUZ-Chavez, Jorge Alfredo	NADDIS:	
Remarks: Mentioned in file.		
3. LOPEZ-Flores, Victor Oswaldo	NADDIS:	
Remarks: Mentioned in file.		
4. AVILA-Meza, Juan Manuel	NADDIS:	
Remarks: Mentioned in file.		
5. MEJIA-Vargas, Mario Guillermo	NADDIS:	
Remarks: Mentioned in file.		
DEA Form - 6a DEA SENSITIV	/E	

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### U.S. Department of Justice

Drug Enforcement Administration

REPORT OF INVESTIGATION (Continuation)	1. File No.	2. G-DEP Identifier
	3. File Title	
4. Page 13 of 13		
5. Program Code SE0560	6. Date Prepared 07-13-2016	
6. ZAVALA-Valasquez, Carlos Jose	NADDIS:	
Remarks: Mentioned in file.		
7. RIVERA-Maradiaga, Devis Leonel	NADDIS:	
Remarks: Mentioned in file.		
8. LOBO, Fabio	NADDIS:	
Remarks: Mentioned in file.		
9. VALLE-Valle, Miguel Arnulfo	NADDIS:	
Remarks: Mentioned in file.		
10. MONTES-Bobadilla, Noe (combine)	NADDIS:	

Remarks: Mentioned in file.

**DEA** Form **- 6a** (Jul. 1996)