



PRESS RELEASE

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U.S. Postal Inspection Service Seizes Hundreds of Pounds of Illicit Drugs from Mailstream in Joint Operation to Protect U.S. Caribbean Border

WASHINGTON—The United States Postal Inspection Service intercepted and seized 577 pounds of cocaine, 14 pounds of fentanyl, and three firearms as part of “Operation Gatekeeper 3.0”—a joint operation with the Puerto Rico Police Department, Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), Department of Homeland Security Investigations (HSI), and Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives (ATF). From March 9-20, 2025, the agencies collaboratively conducted the domestic interdiction of illicit materials mailed from San Juan, Puerto Rico, to cities throughout the continental U.S.

“The U.S. Postal Inspection Service is committed to preventing drug and arms traffickers from using the U.S. Mail in Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands as an access point for all of America,” said Chief Postal Inspector Gary Barksdale. “The Postal Inspection Service will continue our work to secure this border and prevent the mailstream from being used to further criminal activity and enrich transnational criminal organizations.”

“We commend the outstanding efforts and collaboration between the federal and state law enforcement agencies responsible for the successful seizure of contraband in this case,” said W. Stephen Muldrow, United States Attorney for the District of Puerto Rico. “We will continue our efforts to eradicate drug trafficking and violent crime in our communities.”



Puerto Rico Police Department K-9 Officer “Nico”

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