



INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN

“SUBSCRIBER TACTICS”

The New York Field Division/Unified Intelligence Division has identified a possible new tactic by a telephone subscriber to evade law enforcement detection. Under a Strike Force case in Operation Das Boot, many subscribers to telephone numbers associated with one particular case target use Boost Mobile. Since Boost is a prepaid service, it is generally assumed that subscriber information is false. Boost has no requirement for customers to provide a name or address, and they do not verify any of the information on the rare occasion when subscribers do provide it.

In this particular case, the Intelligence Analyst (IA) received Boost subscriber information of a “Mike Johnson, 7835 Grow Lane, Houston, TX.” When the IA queried the name and address in CP Clear and Google maps, it turned out that 7835 Grow Lane is a valid Houston address and that Michael Johnson resided there. A matching name and address, corroborated by open-source information, would at first glance lead one to believe that Mike Johnson is the real name to the Boost subscriber.

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However, in looking at the CP Clear report, it was noted that the information regarding "Mike Johnson" was last reported in 1998, which was also the last time he was associated with the Grow Lane address. The current Boost telephone was activated on 6/15/10.

It is possible that a savvy trafficker might understand that that leaving subscriber information blank when purchasing a prepaid phone could be suspicious. But by using information pulled from an old telephone book (with correct name/address), a trafficker may be attempting to thwart law enforcement and plant a false lead by using valid information for someone with no connection to the DTO.

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