

**CJ350: Criminal Justice Documentation**  
**Search Warrant Lab**  
**Facts**

On August 1, 2007, Marie CASTRO – a maid at the Cityview Motel [876 Water Street, Barnett City (County of Franklin), BA 33651] – discovered what she suspected were two “rocks” of crack cocaine lodged in the inside air conditioner vents of Room Number 8 of the motel. CASTRO was in the process of cleaning the room at the time. CASTRO left the suspected cocaine where it was and called the Barnett City Police Department (BCPD). After being connected to a Spanish speaking officer (CASTRO is a recent immigrant from Costa Rica and speaks very little English) she informed the officer about the suspected crack. The officer then contacted the duty detective (You) by radio and relayed the information. You arrived at the motel at 1105. When you arrived at the motel, there were no cars in the parking lot, and the doors to Room 8 and the adjacent rooms were open as if they were being cleaned. From outside Room 8, ABLEMAN could see no luggage or other personal items. You concluded that Room 8 was vacant.

CASTRO then appeared. You do not speak Spanish but the two of you were able (using simple English phrases and hand signs) to communicate sufficiently for CASTRO to assure herself that you were a police officer and for you to assure yourself that CASTRO was the maid who had phoned in the tip. You then followed CASTRO inside the room, and she showed you what she believed to be the rocks of crack cocaine hidden in the room's air conditioner. You could not see the rocks until after he had entered the room. After seizing the rocks (which were contained in a small plastic bag), you went to the front desk to find out who had last stayed in the room. You then discovered that the room was still registered to a Martin BAKER. (Prior to that moment it was your assumption that the room was unoccupied). You then gave your business card to the desk clerk and asked to be called if the clerk observed that BAKER had returned.

You then returned to the Investigation Division Headquarters and submitted the suspected cocaine to the crime scene unit for a rush field analysis. You also checked the state criminal databases for a Martin Baker. You found a THOMAS MARTINIQUE BAKER (DOB: 2 Feb 1986) who had (according to the database) been convicted of possession of marijuana (Franklin County General District Court), in September 2005.

At 1530 a certificate of analysis was given to you by Sgt. YOUNGBLOOD of the crime scene unit. The rocks had tested positive as crack cocaine.

You now seek a search warrant for Room 8.