



U.S. Customs and
Border Protection



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**Green beans busted: \$21.1 million of fentanyl found in
produce shipment**

April 19, 2023

U.S. Customs & Border Protection officers at the Otay Mesa port of entry intercepted 3.52 million fentanyl pills weighing 776 pounds concealed within a shipment of green beans, worth an estimated street value of \$21.12 million.

On Monday, at approximately 7:21 p.m., CBP officers encountered a 48-year-old male driver of a tractor trailer, with a shipment manifested as green beans. During initial inspection, a CBP officer referred the driver and cargo load for an intensive agriculture inspection.

A non-intrusive inspection was utilized to conduct a full scan of the tractor trailer. After examination, irregularities were observed and CBP officers requested a CBP human/narcotic detector dog, who alerted CBP officers to the presence of narcotics.

“CBP recognizes our officers’ exceptional performance and applaud their continued efforts to protect and serve our communities,” said Rosa Hernandez, port director for the Otay Mesa Cargo Facility. “This seizure provides insight and displays how our officers work together in collaboration to keep this dangerous drug off the streets.”

The driver was detained for the alleged narcotic smuggling attempt and was turned over to the custody of U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement. CBP officers seized the tractor, trailer, and narcotics.

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