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Carlos Andrés Rivera Varela

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Carlos Andrés Rivera Varela, known as La Firma, is the subject of a US manhunt linked to the CJNG. His case links a drug charge in the District of Columbia with a separate New York case concerning the alleged financing of the cartel through fraud.



Carlos Andrés Rivera Varela. Photo from the DEA’s individual wanted person file.

Date of birth: 1986 — по карточке DEA

Status: Listed on the DEA’s wanted list; facing criminal charges in the US

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Other names: Carlos Andrés Rivera Varela; La Firma; El Colombiano; More; Morro; Colocho; Moro

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Brief background

Field	Details
Name as cited in sources	Carlos Andrés Rivera Varela
Date of birth	1986 — according to the DEA file
Jurisdiction and international links	Mexico; USA
Legal status	Listed on the DEA's wanted list; facing criminal charges in the US
Other names and aliases	La Firma; El Colombiano; More; Morro; Colocho; Moro

Drug conspiracy in the District of Columbia

The indictment in case 1:24-cr-00022 describes alleged activities dating back to around 2009. It involves at least five kilograms of cocaine and 500 grams of methamphetamine intended for import into the US, as well as a weapons cache. [1][2][3]

The sums and thresholds set out in the charges should not be taken to refer to a single specific intercepted consignment. They characterise the alleged conspiracy and must be proven in due course. [1][2][3]

The financial trail in New York

In another published indictment, Rivera Varela is named alongside Julio César Montero Pinson and Griselda Margarita Arredondo Pinson. The case concerns an alleged scheme targeting timeshare owners and the financing of the CJNG. The DEA has offered a reward of up to $10 million and has published his photograph. [1][2][3]

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Timeline of the case

Date	Event
11.01.2024	The drug charge in the District of Columbia.
27.10.2025	Date of the amended indictment in the New York financial case.

Verified on 4 November 2026. The status of the case is based on the sources cited; charges and allegations do not constitute a conviction.

Sources

1. DEA – Individual Wanted Notice for Carlos Andrés Rivera Varela
2. US Department of Justice – Indictment of Carlos Andrés Rivera Varela, 1:24-cr-00022
3. US Department of Justice – New York indictment of Montero Pinzón et al., 1:25-cr-00169

Sources

1. DEA – Individual Wanted Notice for Carlos Andrés Rivera Varela
   https://www.dea.gov/es/node/239536
2. US Department of Justice – Indictment of Carlos Andrés Rivera Varela, 1:24-cr-00022
   https://www.justice.gov/opa/media/1456321/dl?inline=
3. US Department of Justice – New York indictment of Montero Pinzón et al., 1:25-cr-00169
   https://www.justice.gov/d9/2026-08/8._2025.10.27_25-cr-169_u.s._v._julio_cesar_montero_pinzon_et_al_superseding_indictment.pdf

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Original publication

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