

SECRET

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
DISTRICT OF MAINE

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FEB 12 2015

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA)
)
v.)
)
JEFFREY BENTON, a/k/a "JT,")
"Tallman," "Fresh";)
CHRISTIAN TURNER, a/k/a "P";)
JERMAINE MITCHELL,)
a/k/a "Melo," "MB";)
WILLIE GARVIN, a/k/a "Tank,")
"Black";)
TORRENCE BENTON,)
a/k/a "T-Black," "Scotty";)
JEREMY INGERSOLL-MESERVE;)
JACQUELINE MADORE,)
a/k/a "Jackie";)
DAVID CHAISSON, a/k/a "Davey";)
AKEEN OCEAN, a/k/a "A," "Alex";)
BURKE LAMAR; and)
WENDELL WHITE)

Criminal No. 15-cr-00040-JAW

21 U.S.C. §§ 841(a)(1), 846, & 856;
18 U.S.C. §§ 2 and 371

15-cr-00040-JAW

INDICTMENT

The Grand Jury charges:

COUNT ONE
(Drug Conspiracy)

Beginning on a date unknown, but not later than January 1, 2010, and continuing until a date unknown, but no earlier than August 30, 2013, in the District of Maine and elsewhere, defendants

JEFFREY BENTON, a/k/a "JT,"
"Tallman," "Fresh";
CHRISTIAN TURNER, a/k/a "P";
JERMAINE MITCHELL,
a/k/a "Melo," "MB";
WILLIE GARVIN, a/k/a "Tank,"
"Black";

**TORRENCE BENTON,
a/k/a “T-Black,” “Scotty”;
JEREMY INGERSOLL-MESERVE;
JACQUELINE MADORE,
a/k/a “Jackie”;
DAVID CHAISSON, a/k/a “Davey”;
AKEEN OCEAN, a/k/a “A,” “Alex”;
BURKE LAMAR; and
WENDELL WHITE**

knowingly and intentionally conspired with each other and others known and unknown to commit offenses against the United States, namely, the distribution and possession with the intent to distribute 280 grams or more of cocaine base, a Schedule II controlled substance, in violation of Title 21, United States Code, Sections 846 and 841(a)(1).

It is further alleged that the penalty provisions of Title 21, United States Code, Section 841(b)(1)(A) apply.

**QUANTITY ALLEGATIONS AS TO PARTICULAR DEFENDANTS
NAMED IN COUNT ONE**

With respect to the defendant **JEFFREY BENTON, a/k/a “JT,” “Tallman,” “Fresh,”** the amount involved in the conspiracy charged in Count One attributable to him as a result of his own conduct, and the conduct of other conspirators reasonably foreseeable to him, is 280 grams or more of cocaine base, a Schedule II controlled substance and, therefore, the mandatory minimum penalty provisions of Title 21, United States Code, Section 841(b)(1)(A) apply as to him.

With respect to the defendant **CHRISTIAN TURNER a/k/a “P,”** the amount involved in the conspiracy charged in Count One attributable to him as a result of his own conduct, and the conduct of other conspirators reasonably foreseeable to him, is 280 grams or more of cocaine base, a Schedule II controlled substance and, therefore, the mandatory minimum penalty provisions of Title 21, United States Code, Section 841(b)(1)(A) apply as to him.

With respect to the defendant **JERMAINE MITCHELL, a/k/a “Melo,” “MB,”** the amount involved in the conspiracy charged in Count One attributable to him as a result of his own conduct, and the conduct of other conspirators reasonably foreseeable to him, is 280 grams or more of cocaine base, a Schedule II controlled substance and, therefore, the mandatory minimum penalty provisions of Title 21, United States Code, Section 841(b)(1)(A) apply as to him.

As to the remaining defendants charged in Count One, no mandatory minimum terms of imprisonment apply.

COUNT TWO

(Using/Maintaining a Drug Involved Premises)

Beginning on a date unknown, but not later than January 1, 2010, and continuing until August 30, 2013, in the District of Maine, defendant

WENDELL WHITE

knowingly leased, rented, used and maintained, permanently or temporarily, an apartment located at 33 Sanford Street in Bangor, Maine, for the purpose of unlawfully distributing and using controlled substances, including cocaine base, and did aid and abet such conduct, in violation of Title 21, United States Code, Section 856(a)(1) and Title 18, United States Code, Section 2.

COUNT THREE

(Conspiracy to Violate Federal Firearms Laws)

THE CONSPIRACY AND ITS OBJECTS

1. Beginning on a date unknown, but not later than January 1, 2010, and continuing until a date unknown, but no earlier than August 30, 2013, in the District of Maine and elsewhere, defendants

**JEFFREY BENTON, a/k/a “JT,”
“Tallman,” “Fresh”;**

**CHRISTIAN TURNER, a/k/a "P";
WILLIE GARVIN, a/k/a "Tank,"
"Black"; and
JEREMY INGERSOLL-MESERVE**

knowingly and intentionally conspired with one another and with others to commit offenses against the United States, specifically, (1) knowingly making false statements or representations with respect to information required to be kept by a federal firearms licensee in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 924(a)(1)(A); (2) knowingly transporting into or receiving firearms in a State other than the State where the firearms were purchased or obtained in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 922(a)(3); and (3) knowingly transferring, selling, trading, giving, transporting or delivering firearms to a person who the transferor knows does not reside in the State in which the transferor resides in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 922(a)(5).

MANNER AND MEANS OF THE CONSPIRACY

2. It was part of the conspiracy that certain of the defendants caused other conspirators (hereinafter collectively referred to as "the straw purchasers") to obtain firearms at pawnshops in Brewer and Bangor operating with federal firearms licenses.

3. It was part of the conspiracy that the straw purchasers made false statements and representations in the forms that the pawnshops were required to keep in connection with the sale of each firearm.

4. It was part of the conspiracy that the straw purchasers turned the firearms so obtained over to defendant Turner and others knowing these persons were not residents of the State of Maine, whereupon the straw purchasers were compensated with currency and controlled substances for engaging in the transaction.

5. It was part of the conspiracy that defendant Turner and other coconspirators transported or made arrangements for others to transport the firearms so obtained from the State of Maine to the State of Connecticut where they were provided to defendant Jeffrey Benton and others.

6. It was part of the conspiracy that defendants Turner and Garvin and other coconspirators who were not residents of the State of Maine obtained firearms in private transactions with individual Maine residents in exchange for controlled substances.

7. It was part of the conspiracy that defendants Turner and Garvin and other coconspirators transported the firearms so obtained from the State of Maine to the State of Connecticut where they would be provided to defendant Jeffrey Benton and others.

OVERT ACTS

8. During the course of the conspiracy the following overt acts were committed in furtherance of the conspiracy.

9. The following firearms were obtained in the manner described in paragraphs 2 and 3, above.

| Date | # of Guns | Make | Model | Caliber | Serial Number | Actual Buyer |
|-------------|------------------|------------------|--------------------|----------------|----------------------|---------------------|
| 02/07/12 | 2 | Taurus Taurus | PT100AR PT 24/7 | .40 9mm | SNE76139 TXD61539 | Turner Turner |
| 03/04/12 | 1 | Desert Eagle | IMI | .40 | 95310125 | CC1 |
| 03/08/12 | 1 | Keltec | PT-9 | 9mm | RTF09 | Turner |
| 03/19/12 | 1 | Taurus | PT 24/7 | .40 | SB097598 | Turner |
| 03/29/12 | 1 | Springfield | XD40 | .40 | US199590 | Turner |

| | | | | | | |
|----------|---|--------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------------|------------------|
| 06/03/12 | 2 | Springfield Sig Sauer | XD357 P220 | 357 mag .45 | US332567 G286271 | Turner Turner |
| 06/06/12 | 2 | Glock Ruger | 33 P90 | 357 Sig .45 | GFD190 663-66612 | Turner Turner |
| 10/02/12 | 1 | Glock | 21 | .45 | MRS312 | Turner |
| 10/09/12 | 2 | Ruger S&W | LC9 SW9VC | 9mm 9mm | 320-78962 DYJ6002 | Turner Turner |
| 05/16/13 | 2 | Taurus Rossi IA | PT 24/7 711 | 9mm 357 mag | TXD61537 F036155 | Turner Turner |

10. On about each of the dates referenced in paragraph 9, defendant Turner and CCI met with the straw purchasers to tell them which firearms they were to purchase and provide them with cash to pay for the firearms.

11. On about each of the dates referenced in paragraph 9, the straw purchasers entered the aforementioned pawnshops and completed forms that were required to be maintained by the pawnshops in connection with each firearms transaction. In completing these forms, the straw purchasers made false statements and representations concerning the identity of the actual buyer of the firearm and their own drug addiction or unlawful use of controlled substances.

12. On about each of the dates referenced in paragraph 9, defendant Turner or CCI met with the straw purchasers to take custody of the firearms and pay the straw purchasers in currency or controlled substances for making the purchase.

13. Within days of each transaction described in paragraph 9, defendant Turner transported, or caused others to transport, the firearms to the State of Connecticut where they would be provided to defendant Jeffrey Benton and others who were at the time residents of the State of Connecticut.

14. On June 3, 2012, defendant Ingersoll-Meserve caused a straw purchaser to purchase the two firearms for defendant Turner. Defendant Ingersoll-Meserve and the straw purchaser met with defendant Turner who told them which firearms he wanted the straw purchaser to purchase and provided them with cash to pay for the firearms.

15. On June 3, 2012, defendant Ingersoll-Meserve and the straw purchaser drove to a pawnshop in the City of Brewer, where the straw purchaser purchased the firearms defendant Turner had requested. After purchasing the firearms, defendant Ingersoll-Meserve and the straw purchaser met with defendant Turner, provided him with the firearms and defendant Turner provided them with a quantity of cocaine base.

16. On June 5, 2012, defendant Turner sent a straw purchaser a series of text messages in an attempt to coordinate the purchase of firearms that day from a pawnshop in the City of Brewer.

17. On October 2, 2012 and October 9, 2012 defendant Turner arranged for transportation to the pawnshop in the City of Brewer for the straw purchaser who actually engaged in the firearms transactions on those two days.

18. On various dates in 2011 and 2012, defendants Turner and Garvin, both residents of the State of Connecticut, obtained firearms in Maine in private transactions with individual Maine residents in exchange for controlled substances.

19. On various dates in 2011 and 2012, defendant Garvin transported a total of seven firearms obtained in this manner from the State of Maine to the State of Connecticut, to include three (3) Taurus 9mm handguns, three (3) .40 caliber handguns, and one (1) Glock handgun, with the assistance of another conspirator, whereupon they would provide the firearms to defendant

Benton and others who were at the time residents of the State of Connecticut.

A TRUE BILL
Original on file with the Clerk's Office

FEBRUARY 12, 2015
Date:



Grand Jury Foreperson - 81

(Assistant) United States Attorney