

Sealed
Public and unofficial staff access
to this instrument are
prohibited by court order

United States Courts
Southern District of Texas
FILED

June 10, 2025

Nathan Ochsner, Clerk of Court

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS
HOUSTON DIVISION**

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

v.

ALVIN ELLIOTT,

Defendant.

§
§
§
§
§
§
§

**Criminal No. 4:25-cr-304
UNDER SEAL**

INDICTMENT

The Grand Jury charges:

GENERAL ALLEGATIONS

At all times material to this Indictment, unless otherwise specified:

1. The Controlled Substances Act (“CSA”) governed the manufacture, distribution, and dispensing of controlled substances in the United States. With limited exceptions for medical professionals, the CSA made it unlawful for any person to knowingly or intentionally manufacture, distribute, or dispense a controlled substance or conspire to do so.

2. The CSA and its implementing regulations set forth which drugs and other substances were defined by law as “controlled substances,” and assigned those controlled substances to one of five schedules (Schedule I, II, III, IV, or V) depending on their potential for abuse, likelihood of physical or psychological dependency, accepted medical use, and accepted safety for use under medical supervision.

3. A controlled substance assigned to “Schedule II” meant that the drug had a high potential for abuse and a currently accepted medical use in treatment in the United States, or the drug had a currently accepted medical use with severe restrictions.

4. Pursuant to the CSA and its implementing regulations:

a. Oxycodone was classified as a Schedule II controlled substance. Oxycodone was used to treat severe pain and, as with other opioids, was highly addictive. Oxycodone hydrochloride 30 mg (“Oxycodone 30mg”) tablets were sometimes marketed under the brand name Roxicodone, yielding the street name “Roxy,” or “Roxies.” The Oxycodone 30mg pill was the highest, short-acting pill form of the drug commercially available, and it had substantial street value and was in high demand on Houston’s black market.

b. Hydrocodone was classified as a Schedule II controlled substance. Hydrocodone was used to treat severe pain and, as with other opioids, was highly addictive. Tablets combining 10 mg of hydrocodone bitartrate and 325 mg of acetaminophen (“Hydrocodone 10-325 mg”) were sometimes marketed under the brand name Norco. The Hydrocodone 10-325 mg pill was the highest, short-acting combination-pill form of the drug commercially available, and it had substantial street value and was in high demand on Houston’s black market.

c. Carisoprodol was classified as a Schedule IV controlled substance. Carisoprodol, sometimes prescribed under the brand name Soma, was a purported muscle relaxant and was highly addictive. The Food and Drug Administration (“FDA”) recommends carisoprodol only for acute treatment for two to three weeks at a time.

d. “Potentiators,” so-called because they enhanced the high from opioids like hydrocodone and oxycodone, included carisoprodol, a Schedule IV controlled substance classified as a muscle relaxant; alprazolam, a Schedule IV controlled substance used to treat anxiety; and promethazine with codeine, a Schedule V controlled substance classified as a cough suppressant. All had substantial street value and were in high demand on Houston’s black market.

5. With exceptions not applicable here, only appropriately licensed and registered pharmacies could dispense controlled substances, and only pursuant to legitimate prescriptions written by an appropriately licensed and registered medical practitioner acting in the usual course of their professional practice. *See* 21 C.F.R. § 1306.04; *see also id.* § 1306.06.

DEFENDANT, RELEVANT INDIVIDUALS, AND ENTITIES

6. Defendant **ALVIN ELLIOTT** worked as a firefighter at the City of Houston’s Fire Department between on or about August 6, 2001, and on or about November 12, 2024. **ALVIN ELLIOTT** owned and operated Better Life Pharmacy LLC, located at 653 Pin Oak Road, Suite B4, Katy, Texas 77494. **ALVIN ELLIOTT** owned and/or operated other pharmacies,

including Community Pharmacy LLC, located at 701 Pin Oak Road, Suite 102, Katy, Texas 77494, and Brookshire Discount Pharmacy LLC, located at 5001 Front Street, Suite 9, Brookshire, Texas 77423.

7. Individual 1 purchased controlled substances and non-controlled substances with substantial street value from **ALVIN ELLIOTT**; and arranged for them to be picked up by black market buyers, couriers, and others.

COUNTS ONE THROUGH FOUR
Unlawfully Distributing Controlled Substances and Aiding and Abetting
(21 U.S.C. § 841 & 18 U.S.C. § 2)

8. Paragraphs 1 through 7 of this Indictment are re-alleged and incorporated by reference as if fully set forth herein.

9. Beginning in or around October 2023, and continuing through at least in or around January 2024, the exact dates being unknown to the Grand Jury, in the Houston Division of the Southern District of Texas, and elsewhere, Defendant

ALVIN ELLIOTT,

aiding and abetting and aided and abetted by others, did knowingly and intentionally distribute to Individual 1 the controlled substances alleged below, knowing that such distribution was not authorized by law:

Count	Medications Involved	Drug Schedule	Approx. Amount	Approx. Cash Exchanged	Approx. Date
1	Carisoprodol 350 mg	IV	1,000 tablets	\$2,500	October 18, 2023
2	Carisoprodol 350 mg	IV	1,043 tablets	\$11,500	January 4, 2024
3	Oxycodone 30 mg	II	211 tablets		January 4, 2024
4	Hydrocodone 10-325 mg	II	812 tablets		January 4, 2024

Each in violation of Title 21, United States Code, Section 841(a)(1), (b)(2) (as to Counts One and Two), and (b)(1)(C) (as to Counts Three and Four), and Title 18, United States Code, Section 2.

CRIMINAL FORFEITURE
(21 U.S.C. § 853)

36. The allegations contained in Counts One through Four of this Indictment are realleged and incorporated by reference as though fully set forth herein for the purpose of alleging forfeiture to the United States of America of certain property in which the defendant has an interest.

37. Upon conviction of any violation of Title 21, United States Code, Section 841, the Defendant shall forfeit to the United States all property, real or personal, that constitutes or is derived, directly or indirectly, from gross proceeds traceable to the commission of the offense of conviction, pursuant to Title 21, United States Code, Section 853.

38. Pursuant to Title 21, United States Code, Section 853(p), if any of the forfeitable property, or any portion thereof, as a result of any act or omission of the Defendant:

- a. cannot be located upon the exercise of due diligence;
- b. has been transferred, or sold to, or deposited with a third party;
- c. has been placed beyond the jurisdiction of the Court;
- d. has been substantially diminished in value; or
- e. has been commingled with other property which cannot be subdivided without difficulty,

the United States shall be entitled to forfeiture of substitute property.

A TRUE BILL

Original Signature on File

FOREPERSON

NICHOLAS J. GANJEI
UNITED STATES ATTORNEY

LORINDA I. LARYEA, ACTING CHIEF
FRAUD SECTION, CRIMINAL DIVISION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE



GARY A. CROSBY II
TRIAL ATTORNEY
FRAUD SECTION, CRIMINAL DIVISION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE