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

United States Courts  
Southern District of Texas  
FILED

*June 17, 2025*

Nathan Ochsner, Clerk of Court

**UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**

**v.**

**TREVOR L. CHERRY,  
DOUGLAS M. PARKS III, and  
EVELYN NGOZI-EMEKA  
ONUKWUBE,**

**Defendants.**

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**Criminal No. 4:25-cr-00323**

**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 HCL 30 mg (“oxycodone 30 mg”) tablets were sometimes marketed under the brand name Roxicodone, yielding the street name “Roxy,” or “Roxies.” The 30 mg 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”) was sometimes marketed under the brand name Norco. The 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. “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 issued by an appropriately licensed and registered practitioner acting in the usual course of his professional practice. *See* 21 C.F.R. §§ 1306.04 and 1306.06. The issuing physician and the pharmacist who filled the prescription for a controlled substance shared a corresponding responsibility for its proper prescribing and dispensing. *See* 21 C.F.R. § 1306.04. In addition, Section 1306.04 instructs that

[a]n order purporting to be a prescription issued not in the usual course of professional treatment or in legitimate and authorized research is not a prescription within the meaning and intent of Section 309 of the Act (21 U.S.C. § 829) and the person knowingly filling such a purported prescription, as well as the person issuing

it, shall be subject to the penalties provided for violations of the provisions of law relating to controlled substances.

6. Rule § 291.29 of the Texas Administrative Code required that a “pharmacist shall make every reasonable effort to prevent inappropriate dispensing due to fraudulent, forged, invalid, or medically inappropriate prescriptions in violation of a pharmacist’s corresponding responsibility.”

#### **DEFENDANTS, RELEVANT INDIVIDUALS, AND ENTITIES**

7. Defendant **DOUGLAS M. PARKS, III** owned and operated Royalty Pharmacy Plus, LLC, dba Royalty Pharmacy, located at 9100 Southwest Freeway, Ste 107, Houston, TX 77074 (“Royalty”).

8. Defendant **TREVOR L. CHERRY** was an operator and manager of Royalty, overseeing day-to-day operations like picking up controlled substances from Royalty and delivering them to black market buyers, arranging for controlled substances to be picked up by black market buyers, and collecting cash for deposit into nominee bank accounts. **CHERRY** carried out similar functions at another Houston area pharmacy called Fairmont Pharmacy, located at 10407 W Fairmont Pkwy, Ste C, La Porte, TX 77571 (“Fairmont”).

9. Defendant **EVELYN NGOZI-EMEKA ONUKWUBE** was a pharmacist licensed with the Texas State Board of Pharmacy (“TSBP”). **ONUKWUBE** was the Pharmacist-in-Charge (“PIC”) at Royalty. Among other things, **ONUKWUBE** was responsible for ordering controlled substances at Royalty, filling prescriptions for controlled substances at Royalty, and dispensing controlled substances at Royalty. **ONUKWUBE** carried out similar functions at Fairmont.

Approximately 50 individuals filled controlled substance prescriptions at both Fairmont and Royalty.

10. Collectively, **TREVOR L. CHERRY, DOUGLAS M. PARKS III,** and **EVELYN NGOZI-EMEKA ONUKWUBE**, as well as other co-conspirators involved with their drug trafficking organization (“DTO”), both known and unknown to the Grand Jury, are the “Cherry DTO.” Royalty and Fairmont, collectively, are the “Cherry DTO Pharmacies.”

11. Wholesalers sold the Cherry DTO Pharmacies large quantities of oxycodone 30 mg and hydrocodone 10-325 mg pills, which were then illegally dispensed and sold onto the black market.

**COUNT ONE**  
**Conspiracy to Unlawfully Distribute and Dispense Controlled Substances**  
**(21 U.S.C. § 846)**

12. Paragraphs 1 through 11 of this Indictment are re-alleged and incorporated by reference as if fully set forth herein.

13. From in or around September 2019, and continuing through on or about January 21, 2023, the exact dates being unknown to the Grand Jury, in the Houston Division of the Southern District of Texas, and elsewhere, Defendants,

**TREVOR L. CHERRY,**  
**DOUGLAS M. PARKS III, and**  
**EVELYN NGOZI-EMEKA ONUKWUBE,**

knowingly and intentionally combined, conspired, confederated, and agreed together and with each other, and with others known and unknown to the Grand Jury, to violate Title 21, United States Code, Sections 841(a)(1), (b)(1)(C), (b)(2), and (b)(3), that is, to knowingly and

intentionally distribute and dispense, mixtures and substances containing a detectable amount of controlled substances, including hydrocodone and oxycodone, each a Schedule II controlled substance, and Potentiators that were Schedule IV and Schedule V controlled substances, knowing and intending that such distributing and dispensing was unauthorized.

#### **Purpose of the Conspiracy**

14. It was the purpose of the conspiracy for **TREVOR L. CHERRY, DOUGLAS M. PARKS III**, and **EVELYN NGOZI-EMEKA ONUKWUBE**, as well as other members of the Cherry DTO, to unlawfully enrich themselves by, among other things: (a) trafficking in controlled substances, including hydrocodone, oxycodone, and Potentiators (collectively, the “Commonly Abused Prescription Drugs”), that **CHERRY, PARKS**, and **ONUKWUBE**, and other members of the Cherry DTO distributed and dispensed, and caused to be distributed and dispensed, unlawfully; (b) generating large profits from trafficking in controlled substances; and (c) diverting the proceeds from those controlled substance sales for the personal use and benefit of **CHERRY, PARKS**, and **ONUKWUBE**, as well as other members of the CHERRY DTO.

#### **Manner and Means of the Conspiracy**

The manner and means by which **TREVOR L. CHERRY, DOUGLAS M. PARKS III**, and **EVELYN NGOZI-EMEKA ONUKWUBE**, as well as other members of the Cherry DTO, sought to accomplish the purpose and object of the conspiracy included, among other things:

15. As part of their conspiratorial agreement, **TREVOR L. CHERRY, DOUGLAS M. PARKS III**, and **EVELYN NGOZI-EMEKA ONUKWUBE** established the following roles for themselves within the Cherry DTO:

- a. **PARKS** created and established the entity that ultimately became Royalty, registered Royalty with the Texas Secretary of State, obtained a license for Royalty to operate from the TSBP, and hired licensed pharmacists to work as the PIC for Royalty to give the pharmacy a veneer of legitimacy;
- b. **ONUKWUBE** maintained a Texas Pharmacy License from the TSBP and registration with the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration and worked as the PIC for the Cherry DTO Pharmacies to give the pharmacies a veneer of legitimacy; and
- c. **CHERRY** performed certain day-to-day operations for Royalty, including:
  - i. Receiving for Royalty, and causing to be received by Royalty, illegitimate prescriptions for controlled substances that he knew were issued outside the usual course of professional practice, and without any legitimate medical purpose;
  - ii. Liaising with drug traffickers to arrange for them to pick up the pills that Royalty sometimes dispensed pursuant to illegitimate prescriptions, and other times distributed, in bulk, without prescriptions, directly to drug traffickers; and
  - iii. Depositing cash proceeds from the illegal sales of these controlled substances into accounts controlled by **CHERRY** and/or **PARKS**.
- d. **CHERRY** and **ONUKWUBE** performed similar roles for the Cherry DTO at Fairmont.

16. **TREVOR L. CHERRY, DOUGLAS M. PARKS III, and EVELYN NGOZI-EMEKA ONUKWUBE** distributed and dispensed, and caused to be distributed and dispensed, the Commonly Abused Prescription Drugs from the Cherry DTO Pharmacies. **CHERRY,**

**PARKS**, and **ONU KWUBE** did so by filling, and by causing to be filled, prescriptions that they knew and understood were issued outside the usual course of professional practice, and without any legitimate medical purpose, often in bulk provided directly to drug traffickers. **CHERRY**, **PARKS**, and **ONU KWUBE** knew and understood that the individuals who were purchasing and receiving the controlled substances dispensed out of Royalty were drug traffickers, or were individuals posing as patients in order to provide the pills to drug traffickers.

17. **TREVOR L. CHERRY, DOUGLAS M. PARKS III, EVELYN NGOZI-EMEKA ONU KWUBE**, and other members of the Cherry DTO maintained the physical premises at Royalty, not for the purpose of conducting legitimate pharmacy business, but as a front to illegally distribute and dispense controlled substances to drug traffickers, while avoiding detection by law enforcement.

18. Through Royalty, **TREVOR L. CHERRY, DOUGLAS M. PARKS III, EVELYN NGOZI-EMEKA ONU KWUBE**, and other members of the Cherry DTO purchased and caused to be purchased at least approximately 500,000 pills, combined, of hydrocodone 10-325 mg, oxycodone 30 mg, and Potentiators, such controlled substances having a street value of at least approximately \$8,000,000.

19. **DOUGLAS M. PARKS III** and **TREVOR L. CHERRY** used the proceeds from the illegal cash sales of the Commonly Abused Prescription Drugs acquired through Royalty to pay themselves, and to pay **EVELYN NGOZI-EMEKA ONU KWUBE** and other members of the Cherry DTO.

20. **DOUGLAS M. PARKS III, TREVOR L. CHERRY**, and other members of the Cherry DTO disposed of the cash they obtained from Royalty in a manner designed to conceal their involvement in the Cherry DTO, and to conceal the source of the proceeds.

All in violation of Title 21, United States Code, Section 846.

**COUNT TWO**  
**Conspiracy to Launder Monetary Instruments**  
**(18 U.S.C. § 1956(h) – Money Laundering Concealment)**

21. Paragraphs 1 through 11, and Paragraphs 14 through 20, of this Indictment are re-alleged and incorporated by reference as if fully set forth herein.

22. From in or around September 2019, and continuing through on or about January 21, 2023, the exact dates being unknown to the Grand Jury, in the Houston Division of the Southern District of Texas, and elsewhere, Defendants,

**DOUGLAS M. PARKS III and**  
**TREVOR L. CHERRY,**

did knowingly combine, conspire, and agree with each other and other persons known and unknown to the Grand Jury to knowingly conduct and attempt to conduct financial transactions affecting interstate and foreign commerce, which transactions involved the proceeds of specified unlawful activity, that is, Conspiracy to Unlawfully Distribute and Dispense Controlled Substances, in violation of Title 21, United States Code, Section 846; and Unlawfully Distributing and Dispensing, and Possessing with the Intent to Distribute and Dispense, a Controlled Substance, in violation of Title 21, United States Code, Sections 841(a)(1), (b)(1)(C), (b)(2), and (b)(3), knowing that the transactions were designed in whole and in part to conceal and disguise the nature, location, source, ownership, and control of the proceeds of said specified unlawful activity, and that the property involved in the financial transactions represented the proceeds of some form of unlawful activity, in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 1956(a)(1)(B)(i).



### **Manner and Means of the Conspiracy**

The manner and means by which **TREVOR L. CHERRY, DOUGLAS M. PARKS III**, and others known and unknown to the Grand Jury, sought to accomplish the purpose and object of the conspiracy included, among other things:

23. **DOUGLAS M. PARKS III** and **TREVOR L. CHERRY** controlled bank accounts at different financial institutions in order to conceal and disguise the source of the proceeds—i.e., the co-conspirators’ illegal distribution and dispensing of the Commonly Abused Prescription Drugs—and **PARKS** and **CHERRY**’s beneficial ownership of said proceeds.

24. **DOUGLAS M. PARKS III, TREVOR L. CHERRY**, and their co-conspirators used cash derived from their illegal sale of the Commonly Abused Prescription Drugs to purchase money orders which they would deposit, in lieu of cash, to disguise the illegal source of the proceeds.

25. **DOUGLAS M. PARKS III, TREVOR L. CHERRY**, and their co-conspirators made numerous cash deposits, into accounts they and their co-conspirators controlled, of proceeds from the specified unlawful activity in increments of less than \$10,000, “structuring” these deposits at different banks and branches, sometimes on the same day, to avoid the requirement that banks report currency transactions over \$10,000.

26. **DOUGLAS M. PARKS III, TREVOR L. CHERRY**, and their co-conspirators used cash couriers, or acted themselves as couriers, to deliver cash to co-conspirators and others and to deposit proceeds of criminal activity into nominee bank accounts, which were used for the benefit of **PARKS, CHERRY**, and their co-conspirators.

27. **DOUGLAS M. PARKS III, TREVOR L. CHERRY**, and their co-conspirators made purchases of legal items and conducted facially legitimate financial transactions to “wash” cash made from the illegal distribution and dispensing of Commonly Abused Prescription Drugs.

All in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 1956(h).

**COUNT THREE**

**Unlawfully Distributing and Dispensing Controlled Substances and Aiding and Abetting  
(21 U.S.C. § 841 and 18 U.S.C. § 2)**

28. Paragraphs 1 through 11, 14 through 20, and 23 through 27, of this Indictment are re-alleged and incorporated by reference as though fully set forth herein.

29. On or about the dates specified below, in the Houston Division of the Southern District of Texas, and elsewhere, Defendants,

**TREVOR L. CHERRY,  
DOUGLAS M. PARKS III, and  
EVELYN NGOZI-EMEKA ONUKWUBE,**

aiding and abetting and aided and abetted by each other, and others, did knowingly, intentionally, and unlawfully distribute and dispense, in a manner they knew and intended was unlawful, the controlled substances alleged below:

<b>Count</b>	<b>Medications Involved</b>	<b>Drug Schedule</b>	<b>Approx. Amount</b>	<b>Approx. Date</b>
<b>2</b>	Hydrocodone 10-325 mg	II	110 pills	December 1, 2020

In violation of Title 21, United States Code, Section 841(a)(1), (b)(1)(C), and Title 18, United States Code, Section 2.

**NOTICE OF CRIMINAL FORFEITURE**  
**(21 U.S.C. § 853)**

30. The allegations contained in Counts 1 and 3 of this Indictment are hereby realleged and incorporated by reference for the purpose of alleging forfeitures pursuant to Title 21, United States Code, Section 853.

31. Pursuant to Title 21, United States Code, Section 853, upon conviction of an offense in violation of Title 21, United States Code, Sections 841 and 846, Defendants,

**TREVOR L. CHERRY,  
DOUGLAS M. PARKS III, and  
EVELYN NGOZI-EMEKA ONUKWUBE,**

shall forfeit to the United States of America any property constituting, or derived from, any proceeds obtained, directly or indirectly, as the result of such offenses and any property used, or intended to be used, in any manner or part, to commit, or to facilitate the commission of, the offenses.

32. If any of the property described above, as a result of any act or omission of Defendants:

- 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 divided without difficulty,

the United States of America shall be entitled to forfeiture of substitute property pursuant to Title 21, United States Code, Section 853(p).

**NOTICE OF CRIMINAL FORFEITURE**  
**(18 U.S.C. § 982(a)(1))**

33. The allegations contained in Count 2 of this Indictment are hereby realleged and incorporated by reference for the purpose of alleging forfeitures pursuant to Title 18, United States Code, Section 982(a)(1).

34. Pursuant to Title 18, United States Code, Section 982(a)(1), upon conviction of an offense in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 1956, Defendants,

**TREVOR L. CHERRY and**  
**DOUGLAS M. PARKS III,**

shall forfeit to the United States of America any property, real or personal, involved in such offense, and any property traceable to such property.

35. If any of the property described above, as a result of any act or omission of Defendants:

- 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 divided without difficulty,

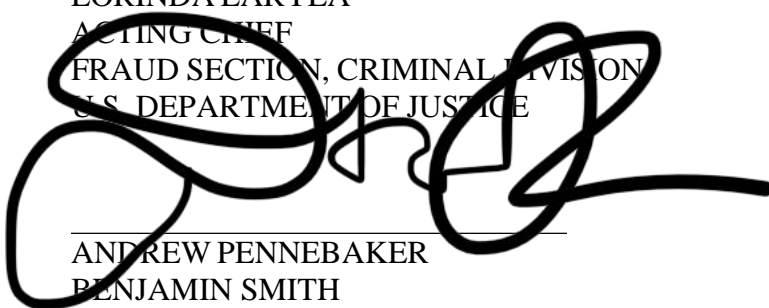
the United States of America shall be entitled to forfeiture of substitute property pursuant to Title 21, United States Code, Section 853(p), as incorporated by Title 18, United States Code, Section 982(b)(1) and Title 28, United States Code, Section 2461(c).

A TRUE BILL

**Original Signature on File**  
FOREPERSON

NICHOLAS J. GANJEI  
UNITED STATES ATTORNEY

LORINDA LARYEA  
ACTING CHIEF  
FRAUD SECTION, CRIMINAL DIVISION  
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE



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ANDREW PENNEBAKER  
BENJAMIN SMITH  
TRIAL ATTORNEYS  
FRAUD SECTION, CRIMINAL DIVISION  
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE