### UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT DISTRICT OF NEW JERSEY

| UNITED STATES OF AMERICA                                 | : | Hon.                                                                                         |
|----------------------------------------------------------|---|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| v.                                                       | : | Crim. No. 24-                                                                                |
| MICHAEL C. WOZNEY,<br>a/k/a "CDNVEN,"<br>a/k/a "CDN-VEN" | : | 21 U.S.C. §§ 841(a)(1), (b)(1)(C)<br>21 U.S.C. §§ 952(a), 960(a)(1), (b)(3)<br>18 U.S.C. § 2 |

# INDICTMENT

The Grand Jury in and for the District of New Jersey, sitting at Newark, charges as follows:

#### <u>Counts One Through Seven</u> (Distribution of and Possession With Intent To Distribute a Controlled Substance)

## Introduction

1. From at least as early as in or around June 2019 through at least as late as in or around September 2020, the defendant MICHAEL CHRISTOPHER WOZNEY was a prolific vendor of fentanyl on the Dark Net. WOZNEY shipped fentanyl to numerous individuals in the United States, including individuals in New Jersey.

# **Relevant Entities, Individuals, and Terms**

2. At all times relevant to this Indictment:

a. The "Dark Net" was a part of the Internet that was not accessible by most Internet browsers and was designed to allow users to conduct transactions anonymously. On the Dark Net, individuals established online marketplaces for the sale of illegal narcotics. Vendors and buyers on such marketplaces often used pseudonyms.

b. The defendant MICHAEL CHRISTOPHER WOZNEY ("WOZNEY") was a citizen and resident of Canada. WOZNEY sold fentanyl on multiple Dark Net marketplaces. WOZNEY operated under pseudonyms, including "CDNVEN" and "CDN-VEN."

c. "CDNVEN Shop" was a Dark Net marketplace that WOZNEY administered and through which he sold fentanyl. "Empire Market" was another Dark Net narcotics marketplace on which WOZNEY sold fentanyl.

d. "Bitcoin" was a virtual currency. It was not issued by any government, bank, or company, and instead was controlled through computer software operating via a decentralized peer-to-peer network. Individuals can store Bitcoin and other virtual currencies in virtual "wallets" that are often hosted on Internet websites or servers.

#### The Distribution and Importation Scheme

3. On CDNVEN Shop, WOZNEY advertised the sale of numerous fentanyl products, including substances that he described as "close to pure" and "DANGEROUS LEVEL."

4. WOZNEY directed his CDNVEN Shop customers to pay for their fentanyl orders by transferring him Bitcoin. He subsequently transferred the virtual currency payments to intermediary currency wallets, and eventually to a virtual currency wallet that was registered in his name.

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5. WOZNEY shipped his customers' fentanyl orders in a manner that was designed to evade detection and seizure by border officials and other law enforcement authorities.

6. WOZNEY used CDNVEN Shop to correspond with his customers regarding the status of their orders. In instances where law enforcement officials seized shipments, WOZNEY reshipped those orders and alerted customers that he was modifying his mailing practices to evade detection.

7. WOZNEY also was a prolific vendor on Empire Market. WOZNEY completed hundreds of transactions on the marketplace and described himself on the marketplace as "SUPER BUSY." WOZNEY regularly received positive feedback from Empire Market customers.

8. Using both CDNVEN Shop and Empire Market, WOZNEY shipped fentanyl to individuals in the United States, including individuals in the State of New Jersey. WOZNEY knew that he was shipping and importing a controlled narcotic into the United States.

9. Lab testing conducted on the substances that WOZNEY imported confirmed that he was importing fentanyl and, on occasion, a fentanyl analogue.

10. On or about the dates set forth below, in the District of New Jersey, and elsewhere, the defendant,

MICHAEL C. WOZNEY, a/k/a "CDNVEN," a/k/a "CDN-VEN,"

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did knowingly and intentionally distribute and possess with intent to distribute a mixture and substance containing a detectable amount of fentanyl, a Schedule II controlled substance, and did aid and abet in the same, each constituting a separate count of this Indictment:

| Count | Approximate Dates        | Description                                |
|-------|--------------------------|--------------------------------------------|
| One   | June 15, 2019 through    | 7 grams or more of a mixture and substance |
|       | June 27, 2019            | containing a detectable amount of fentanyl |
| Two   | August 5, 2019 through   | 3 grams or more of a mixture and substance |
|       | September 10, 2019       | containing a detectable amount of fentanyl |
| Three | August 12, 2019 through  | 3 grams or more of a mixture and substance |
|       | August 19, 2019          | containing a detectable amount of fentanyl |
| Four  | August 21, 2019 through  | 3 grams of a mixture and substance         |
|       | September 17, 2019       | containing a detectable amount of fentanyl |
| Five  | February 4, 2020 through | 1 gram or more of a mixture and substance  |
|       | February 18, 2020        | containing a detectable amount of fentanyl |
| Six   | February 25, 2020        | 3 grams or more of a mixture and substance |
|       | through March 6, 2020    | containing a detectable amount of fentanyl |
| Seven | August 31, 2020 through  | 6 grams or more of a mixture and substance |
|       | September 14, 2020       | containing a detectable amount of fentanyl |

In violation of Title 21, United States Code, Sections 841(a)(1) and (b)(1)(C),

and Title 18, United States Code, Section 2.

### <u>Counts Eight Through Fourteen</u> (Importation of a Controlled Substance Into the United States)

11. The allegations contained in paragraphs 1 through 10 of this Indictment are realleged here.

12. On or about the dates set forth below, in the District of New Jersey, and elsewhere, the defendant,

## MICHAEL C. WOZNEY, a/k/a "CDNVEN," a/k/a "CDN-VEN,"

did knowingly and intentionally import into the United States a mixture and substance containing a detectable amount of fentanyl, a Schedule II controlled substance, and did aid and abet in the same, each constituting a separate count of this Indictment:

| Count    | Approximate Dates        | Description                                |
|----------|--------------------------|--------------------------------------------|
| Eight    | June 15, 2019 through    | 7 grams or more of a mixture and substance |
|          | June 27, 2019            | containing a detectable amount of fentanyl |
| Nine     | August 5, 2019 through   | 3 grams or more of a mixture and substance |
|          | September 10, 2019       | containing a detectable amount of fentanyl |
| Ten      | August 12, 2019 through  | 3 grams or more of a mixture and substance |
|          | August 19, 2019          | containing a detectable amount of fentanyl |
| Eleven   | August 21, 2019 through  | 3 grams of a mixture and substance         |
|          | September 17, 2019       | containing a detectable amount of fentanyl |
| Twelve   | February 4, 2020 through | 1 gram or more of a mixture and substance  |
|          | February 18, 2020        | containing a detectable amount of fentanyl |
| Thirteen | February 25, 2020        | 3 grams or more of a mixture and substance |
|          | through March 6, 2020    | containing a detectable amount of fentanyl |
| Fourteen | August 31, 2020 through  | 6 grams or more of a mixture and substance |
|          | September 14, 2020       | containing a detectable amount of fentanyl |

In violation of Title 21, United States Code, Sections 952 and 960, and Title 18, United States Code, Section 2.

#### **FORFEITURE ALLEGATION**

13. The allegations set forth in this Indictment are hereby realleged and incorporated by reference for the purpose of alleging forfeiture pursuant to Title 21, United States Code, Section 853.

14. As a result of committing the controlled substance offenses in violation of Title 21, United States Code, Sections 841, 952, and 960, as charged in this Indictment, the defendant,

#### MICHAEL C. WOZNEY a/k/a "CDNVEN," a/k/a "CDN-VEN,"

shall forfeit to the United States of America, pursuant to Title 21, United States Code, Section 853, all of his right, title, and interest in any and all property constituting or derived from any proceeds the defendant obtained directly or indirectly as a result of the said offenses, and any and all property used or intended to be used in any manner or part to commit and to facilitate the commission of the offenses alleged in this Indictment.

#### Substitute Assets Provision

15. If by any act or omission of the defendant any of the property subject to forfeiture described above:

- 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

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e. has been commingled with other property which cannot be divided without difficulty,

the United States shall be entitled, pursuant to Title 21,United States Code, Section 853(p), to forfeiture of any other property of the defendant up to the value of the above-described forfeitable property.

A TRUE BILL

FOREPERSON

Philip R. PHILIP R. SELLIN United States Attorney