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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
DISTRICT OF NEW JERSEY

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UNITED STATES OF AMERICA : Hon. Steven C. Mannion  
 :  
v. : Mag. No. 18-6068  
 :  
TIONE DAVIS and :  
MESHACH WHAGAR : **CRIMINAL COMPLAINT**

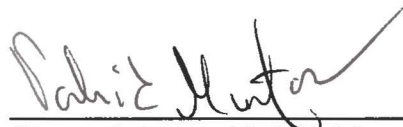
I, Vahid Mustafic, being duly sworn, state the following is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief:

SEE ATTACHMENT A

I further state that I am a Special Agent with the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and that this complaint is based on the following facts:

SEE ATTACHMENT B

continued on the attached page and made a part hereof.



Special Agent Vahid Mustafic  
Federal Bureau of Investigation

Sworn to before me and subscribed in my presence,  
April 19, 2018 at Newark, New Jersey

HONORABLE STEVEN C. MANNION  
UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE

  
Signature of Judicial Officer

**ATTACHMENT A**

**Count One**

(Conspiracy to Commit Hobbs Act Robbery)

From in or around November 2017 through in or around December 2017, in Union, Hudson, Morris, Middlesex, Passaic, Bergen, and Essex Counties, in the District of New Jersey and elsewhere, defendants

**TIONE DAVIS and  
MESHACH WHAGAR**

did knowingly and willfully conspire to obstruct, delay, and affect, and attempt to obstruct, delay, and affect, commerce, and the movement of articles and commodities in such commerce by robbery, and did commit and threaten physical violence to the person and property of another, namely, employees of convenience stores located in the District of New Jersey, in furtherance thereof.

In violation of Title 18, United States Code, Sections 1951(a) and 2.

**Count Two**

(Hobbs Act Robbery)

On or about November 23, 2017, in Middlesex County, in the District of New Jersey and elsewhere, the defendants,

**TIONE DAVIS and  
MESHACH WHAGAR**

did knowingly and willfully obstruct, delay, and affect, and attempt to obstruct, delay, and affect, commerce, and the movement of articles and commodities in such commerce by robbery, and did commit and threaten physical violence to the person and property of another, namely, Victim-1, an employee of Convenience Store-1, in furtherance thereof.

In violation of Title 18, United States Code, Sections 1951(a) and 2.

**Count Three**

(Hobbs Act Robbery)

On or about December 2, 2017, in Morris County, in the District of New Jersey and elsewhere, the defendants,

**TIONE DAVIS and  
MESHACH WHAGAR**

did knowingly and willfully obstruct, delay, and affect, and attempt to obstruct, delay, and affect, commerce, and the movement of articles and commodities in such commerce by robbery, and did commit and threaten physical violence to the person and property of another, namely, Victim-2, an employee of Convenience Store-2, in furtherance thereof.

In violation of Title 18, United States Code, Sections 1951(a) and 2.

**Count Four**

(Hobbs Act Robbery)

On or about December 7, 2017, in Bergen County, in the District of New Jersey and elsewhere, the defendants,

**TIONE DAVIS and  
MESHACH WHAGAR**

did knowingly and willfully obstruct, delay, and affect, and attempt to obstruct, delay, and affect, commerce, and the movement of articles and commodities in such commerce by robbery, and did commit and threaten physical violence to the person and property of another, namely, Victim-3, an employee of Convenience Store-3, in furtherance thereof.

In violation of Title 18, United States Code, Sections 1951(a) and 2.

**Count Five**

(Hobbs Act Robbery)

On or about December 10, 2017, in Union County, in the District of New Jersey and elsewhere, the defendants,

**TIONE DAVIS and  
MESHACH WHAGAR**

did knowingly and willfully obstruct, delay, and affect, and attempt to obstruct, delay, and affect, commerce, and the movement of articles and commodities in such commerce by robbery, and did commit and threaten physical violence to the person and property of another, namely, Victim-4, an employee of Convenience Store-4, in furtherance thereof.

In violation of Title 18, United States Code, Sections 1951(a) and 2.

**Count Six**

(Hobbs Act Robbery)

On or about December 11, 2017, in Hudson County, in the District of New Jersey and elsewhere, the defendants,

**TIONE DAVIS and  
MESHACH WHAGAR**

did knowingly and willfully obstruct, delay, and affect, and attempt to obstruct, delay, and affect, commerce, and the movement of articles and commodities in such commerce by robbery, and did commit and threaten physical violence to the person and property of another, namely, Victim-5, an employee of Convenience Store-5, in furtherance thereof.

In violation of Title 18, United States Code, Sections 1951(a) and 2.

**Count Seven**

(Hobbs Act Robbery)

On or about December 11, 2017, in Passaic County, in the District of New Jersey and elsewhere, the defendants,

**TIONE DAVIS and  
MESHACH WHAGAR**

did knowingly and willfully obstruct, delay, and affect, and attempt to obstruct, delay, and affect, commerce, and the movement of articles and commodities in such commerce by robbery, and did commit and threaten physical violence to the person and property of another, namely, Victim-6, an employee of Convenience Store-6, in furtherance thereof.

In violation of Title 18, United States Code, Sections 1951(a) and 2.

**Count Eight**

(Using and Carrying a Firearm During and in Relation to a Crime of Violence)

On or about December 10, 2017, in Union County, in the District of New Jersey and elsewhere, defendants,

**TIONE DAVIS and  
MESHACH WHAGAR**

during and in relation to a crime of violence for which the defendants may be prosecuted in a court of the United States, namely, the Hobbs Act robbery charged in Count Five of this complaint, did knowingly use and carry a firearm, which firearm was brandished, and did aid and abet the same.

In violation of Title 18, United States Code, Sections 924(c)(1)(A)(ii) and 2.



**ATTACHMENT B**

I, Vahid Mustafic, am a Special Agent with the Federal Bureau of Investigation ("FBI"). I am fully familiar with the facts set forth herein based on my own investigation, my conversations with law enforcement officers and others, and my review of reports, documents, and items of evidence. Because this complaint is being submitted for a limited purpose, I have not set forth each and every fact that I know concerning this investigation. Where I assert that an event took place at a particular date and time, I am asserting that it took place on or about the date and time alleged. Where statements of others are related herein, they are related in substance and in part.

1. The FBI is investigating a string of approximately twenty (20) armed robberies that took place between in or around November 2017 and in or around December 2017 in Union, Hudson, Morris, Middlesex, Passaic, Bergen, and Essex Counties in the District of New Jersey. Some of the robberies are described below.

2. The robberies share a number of characteristics. For example, the robberies occurred early in the morning, between approximately 2 a.m. and approximately 6 a.m., and involved convenience stores and/or gas stations. In addition, based on surveillance footage, law enforcement has determined the following: (1) the robber wore a dark-colored jacket and/or a dark hooded-sweatshirt, dark-colored masks and/or scarves across his face, and gloves; (2) the robber used either a small, silver semiautomatic handgun, or a larger silver-and-black semiautomatic handgun; and (3) the robber had the same general physical characteristics of defendant TIONE DAVIS who, as set forth below, was later identified by law enforcement.

3. Based on law enforcement's investigation, three cell phones were associated with defendants TIONE DAVIS and MESHACH WHAGAR at the time of the robberies. Two cell phones were associated with defendant TIONE DAVIS, Cell Phone-1 and Cell Phone-2, and one cell phone was associated with defendant MESHACH WHAGAR, Cell Phone-3. A review of cell phone records revealed that either Cell Phone-1 or Cell Phone-2 (associated with defendant TIONE DAVIS), as well as Cell Phone-3 (associated with defendant MESHACH WHAGAR), were located in the general vicinity of at least 13 of the robberies at the time that they occurred.

4. On or about November 23, 2017, at approximately 4:59 a.m., defendant TIONE DAVIS entered Convenience Store-1, located in Middlesex County, in the District of New Jersey. Surveillance footage showed that defendant TIONE DAVIS wore a dark hooded-sweatshirt and/or jacket, dark-colored scarf or mask across his face, and gloves. Upon entering Convenience Store-1, defendant TIONE DAVIS approached Victim-1, a store clerk, brandished a silver handgun, and demanded money. Victim-1 complied, and

defendant TIONE DAVIS took cash from the cash register drawer. Defendant TIONE DAVIS then fled the store with approximately \$500 in robbery proceeds. Cell phone records revealed that Cell Phone-1 and Cell Phone-3 were located in in the general vicinity of Convenience Store-1 at the time of the robbery.

5. On or about December 2, 2017, at approximately 4:40 a.m., defendant TIONE DAVIS entered Convenience Store-2 located in Morris County, in the District of New Jersey. Surveillance footage showed that defendant TIONE DAVIS wore a dark hooded-sweatshirt and/or jacket, dark-colored scarf or mask across his face, and gloves. Upon entering Convenience Store-2, defendant TIONE DAVIS approached Victim-2, a store clerk, brandished a silver-and-black handgun, and demanded money. Victim-2 complied, and defendant TIONE DAVIS took cash from the cash register drawer. Defendant TIONE DAVIS then fled the store with an unknown amount of robbery proceeds. Surveillance footage showed a white vehicle near Convenience Store-2 at the time of the robbery, which appears to be the Honda Accord coupe registered to defendant MESHACH WHAGAR's paramour, discussed below. Cell phone records revealed that Cell Phone-2 and Cell Phone-3 were located in in the general vicinity of Convenience Store-2 at the time of the robbery.

6. On or about December 7, 2017, at approximately 4:15 a.m., defendant TIONE DAVIS entered Convenience Store-3 located in Bergen County, in the District of New Jersey. Defendant TIONE DAVIS wore a dark hooded-sweatshirt and/or jacket, a dark-colored scarf or mask across his face, and gloves. Upon entering the store, defendant TIONE DAVIS approached Victim-3, a store clerk, brandished a silver-and-black handgun, and demanded money. Victim-3 complied, and defendant TIONE DAVIS took cash from the cash register drawer. Defendant TIONE DAVIS then fled the store with approximately \$350 in robbery proceeds. Before retrieving cash from the register, defendant TIONE DAVIS removed one of the gloves he was wearing. Following the robbery of Convenience Store-3, law enforcement recovered a latent fingerprint left on the cash register drawer matching defendant TIONE DAVIS. Surveillance footage shows defendant TIONE DAVIS briefly speaking on a cell phone during the course of the robbery. Cell phone records revealed that Cell Phone-2 and Cell Phone-3 were located in in the general vicinity of Convenience Store-3 at the time of the robbery.

7. On or about December 10, 2017, at approximately 3:00 a.m., defendant TIONE DAVIS entered Convenience Store-4 located in Union County, in the District of New Jersey. Defendant TIONE DAVIS wore a dark hooded-sweatshirt and/or jacket, dark-colored scarf or mask across his face, and gloves. Upon entering the store, defendant TIONE DAVIS approached Victim-4, a store clerk, brandished a silver-and-black handgun, and demanded money. Victim-4 complied, and defendant TIONE DAVIS took cash from the cash register drawer. Defendant TIONE DAVIS then fled the store with



approximately \$197 in robbery proceeds. Surveillance footage shows defendant TIONE DAVIS briefly speaking on a cell phone during the course of the robbery. Cell phone records revealed that Cell Phone-2 and Cell Phone-3 were located in the general vicinity of Convenience Store-4 at the time of the robbery.

8. Shortly after the robbery of Convenience Store-4, law enforcement attempted to pull over a white, two-door Honda Accord coupe that was seen near the robbery (the "Honda Accord"). The Honda Accord took off at a high rate of speed toward a highway. Police pursued the Honda Accord but were unable to stop it.

9. On or about December 11, 2017, at approximately 3:10 a.m., defendant TIONE DAVIS entered Convenience Store-5 located in Hudson County, in the District of New Jersey. Defendant TIONE DAVIS wore a dark hooded-sweatshirt and/or jacket, dark-colored scarf or mask across his face, and gloves. Upon entering the store, defendant TIONE DAVIS approached Victim-5, a store clerk, brandished a silver-and-black handgun, and demanded money. Victim-5 complied, and defendant TIONE DAVIS took cash from the store's cash registers. Defendant TIONE DAVIS then fled the store with approximately \$450 in robbery proceeds. Surveillance footage showed a dark-colored sedan at the scene of the robbery, which appears to be the maroon Chrysler Sebring that was later used in two high-speed pursuits by law enforcement, as discussed below.

10. On or about December 11, 2017, at approximately 4:07 a.m., defendant TIONE DAVIS entered Convenience Store-6 located in Passaic County, in the District of New Jersey. Defendant TIONE DAVIS wore a dark hooded-sweatshirt and/or jacket, dark-colored scarf or mask across his face, and gloves. Upon entering the store, defendant TIONE DAVIS approached Victim-6, a store clerk, brandished a silver-and-black handgun, and demanded money. Victim-6 complied, and defendant TIONE DAVIS took cash from the cash register drawer. Defendant TIONE DAVIS then fled the store with approximately \$400 in robbery proceeds.

11. On or about December 13, 2017, at approximately 3:34 a.m., law enforcement observed a maroon Chrysler Sebring sedan (the "Chrysler Sebring") idling in the vicinity of Convenience Store-7 located in Essex County, in the District of New Jersey. Police attempted to conduct a stop of the vehicle, but the Chrysler Sebring took off at high rate of speed. The police engaged in a pursuit but were unable to stop the vehicle.

12. On or about December 19, 2017, at approximately 1:15 a.m., law enforcement attempted to conduct a traffic stop of the Chrysler Sebring in Morris County, in the District of New Jersey. Multiple convenience stores and/or gas stations were located nearby. The occupants of the Chrysler



Sebring did not comply, and instead led the officers on a high-speed chase. The chase ended when the driver lost control and crashed the Chrysler Sebring. Both occupants fled the vehicle on foot, but officers subsequently placed the driver – later identified as defendant MESHACH WHAGAR – under arrest. However, the front-seat passenger of the vehicle – later identified as defendant TIONE DAVIS – escaped.

13. During a subsequent search of the Chrysler Sebring, law enforcement recovered from the passenger compartment of the car, among other things: (i) a loaded silver .25 caliber semiautomatic handgun located in the glove compartment; (ii) a loaded silver-and-black 9 mm semiautomatic handgun located in the front-seat passenger side door compartment; (iii) a black ski mask; (iv) a debit card and employee identification card belonging to defendant TIONE DAVIS. The handguns recovered from the Chrysler Sebring appear to be the same firearms used by defendant TIONE DAVIS in the robberies.

14. Law enforcement also recovered a discarded Honda car key near the location where they apprehended defendant MESHACH WHAGAR, following his flight from the Chrysler Sebring. Through investigation, law enforcement determined that the recovered Honda car key is associated with a white two-door Honda Accord registered to defendant MESHACH WHAGAR's paramour. The white Honda Accord appears to be the Honda Accord that appears in surveillance footage outside several of the armed robberies, and in the vehicle chase described above in Paragraph Eight.

15. Each of the targeted businesses described above purchase, sell, and/or repurpose goods manufactured outside the state of New Jersey, and therefore engage in interstate commerce.