

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT OF LOUISIANA

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA * CRIMINAL NO: 17-193
v. * SECTION: "E"
JEFFREY CLINES *
* * *

FACTUAL BASIS

The above-named defendant, **JEFFREY CLINES** ("CLINES"), has agreed to plead guilty to Count 1 of the Indictment. Should this matter proceed to trial, the United States would prove beyond a reasonable doubt the facts set forth in this Factual Basis. Unless stated otherwise, these acts occurred in the Eastern District of Louisiana:

During the time frame of the charged drug conspiracy, Stefen DAIGLE, Peter GIANDALONE, Jacob HIGGINBOTHAM, Glenn MELANCON, Jeffrey **CLINES**, James HATCH, Angel Renee VIDAURE, Eulalio TORRES-CADENAS, Delio Alfredo LOPEZ-LOPEZ, Lindsey LOPEZ, Julien POLK, a/k/a "Simone" and others, conspired to distribute methamphetamine throughout the New Orleans area. Agents developed evidence against this group of eleven defendants using controlled purchases of methamphetamine, traffic stops and seizures, consensually-recorded text messages and phone calls, search warrants, cooperator information, and self-incriminating statements.

CLINES acknowledges that, during the time frame of this conspiracy, he purchased methamphetamine from HATCH, VIDAURE, TORRES-CADENAS, LOPEZ-LOPEZ, and LOPEZ. **CLINES** acknowledges that he knew the scope of the conspiracy involved 500 grams or more of a mixture containing methamphetamine.

On May 23, 2017, a confidential source (CI-3), working at the direction of law enforcement, conducted a controlled purchase of methamphetamine from **CLINES**. CI-3 was provided \$550 in controlled purchase money for purposes of purchasing methamphetamine from **CLINES**. At approximately 9:25 PM, an undercover law enforcement officer, posing as an Uber driver, drove CI-3 to 4726 Danneel Street, New Orleans, **CLINES**'s residence. CI-3 entered 4726 Danneel Street and exited less than 15 minutes later. CI-3 was in possession of approximately 28.7 grams of a mixture containing methamphetamine that CI-3 had just purchased from **CLINES**. This mixture of 28.7 grams contained approximately 93% actual methamphetamine.

Later that evening, a search warrant was obtained and executed on 4726 Danneel Street. Upon execution of the warrant, agents located bags of methamphetamine and a digital scale in a top drawer in **CLINES**'s bedroom. **CLINES**, who was present at the time, provided agents with the code to the safe in his closet. From the safe, agents recovered additional methamphetamine, pipes, syringes, plastic bags, \$921 in US currency, and a ledger containing dollar amounts and balances. The total amount of a mixture of methamphetamine recovered from the safe was 332.9 grams. This mixture of 332.9 grams contained approximately 98% actual methamphetamine. **CLINES** possessed this methamphetamine with intent to distribute it.

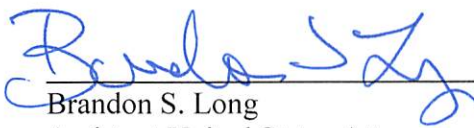
CLINES acknowledges that he had purchased the 28.7 grams and 332.9 grams of methamphetamine earlier that day (May 23) during a trip to Houston. During the trip, **CLINES** met with HATCH, VIDAURE, and TORRES-CADENAS, during which he acquired a pound of methamphetamine (approximately 454 grams). **CLINES** paid \$5000 for the pound.

CLINES and the government stipulate for the purposes of sentencing that **CLINES** was responsible for between 150 grams and 500 grams of actual methamphetamine, through **CLINES**'s own conduct and the reasonably foreseeable conduct of his co-conspirators.

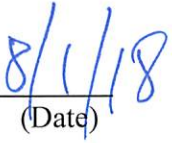


Limited Nature of Factual Basis

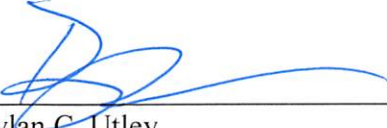
This proffer of evidence is not intended to constitute a complete statement of all facts, but rather is a minimum statement of facts intended to prove the necessary factual predicate for the guilty plea. The limited purpose of this proffer is to demonstrate that there exists a sufficient legal basis for **CLINES**'s plea of guilty to the charged offense.




Brandon S. Long
Assistant United States Attorney




(Date)




Dylan C. Utley
Counsel for Defendant Jeffrey Clines



(Date)



Jeffrey Clines
Defendant



(Date)