UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT DISTRICT OF NEW JERSEY

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA : Hon. Jessica S. Allen, U.S.M.J.

V.

:

SHIQUWAN JOHNSON, : Magistrate. No. 23-8028

a/k/a "Big Shy,"

DOUGLAS SHERMAN,

a/k/a "Dougie," and : **CRIMINAL COMPLAINT**

PERRY CAPERS,

a/k/a "Diddy"

I, Special Agent Joseph Shapiro 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 U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Homeland Security Investigations, and that this complaint is based on the following facts:

SEE ATTACHMENT B

Continued on the attached pages and made a part hereof.

s/ Joseph Shapiro

Joseph Shapiro, Special Agent Homeland Security Investigations U.S. Department of Homeland Security

Special Agent Shapiro attested to this Affidavit by telephone pursuant to F.R.C.P. 4.1(B)(2)(A), on February 16, 2023.

s/ Hon. Jessica S. Allen Honorable Jessica S. Allen

United States Magistrate Judge

ATTACHMENT A

COUNT ONE

(Unlawful Possession of Firearms and Ammunition by a Convicted Felon)

On or about February 15, 2023, in Hudson County, in the District of New Jersey, and elsewhere, the defendant,

SHIQUWAN JOHNSON, a/k/a "Big Shy,"

knowing that he had previously been convicted of a crime punishable by a term of imprisonment exceeding one year, did knowingly possess two firearms and ammunition—namely, a .40 caliber Glock 22 handgun, bearing serial number UXB931, loaded with eight rounds of ammunition and a .357 caliber Dan Wesson Magnum revolver, bearing serial number 75831, loaded with three rounds of ammunition, and the firearms and ammunition were in and affecting commerce.

In violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 922(g)(1).

COUNT TWO

(Possession with Intent to Distribute Heroin and Cocaine)

On or about February 15, 2023, in Hudson County, in the District of New Jersey, and elsewhere, the defendant,

SHIQUWAN JOHNSON, a/k/a "Big Shy,"

did knowingly and intentionally possess with intent to distribute a quantity of a mixture and substance containing a detectable amount of heroin, a Schedule I controlled substance, and a quantity of a mixture and substance containing a detectable amount of cocaine, a Schedule II controlled substance.

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

COUNT THREE

(Possession of Firearms in Furtherance of a Drug Trafficking Crime)

On or about February 15, 2023, in Hudson County, in the District of New Jersey, and elsewhere, the defendant,

SHIQUWAN JOHNSON, a/k/a "Big Shy,"

in furtherance of a drug trafficking crime for which the defendant may be prosecuted in a court of the United States, namely, possession with intent to distribute heroin and cocaine, as charged in Count Two of this Complaint, did knowingly possess firearms—namely, a .40 caliber Glock 22 handgun, bearing serial number UXB931, loaded with eight rounds of ammunition and a .357 caliber Dan Wesson Magnum revolver, bearing serial number 75831, loaded with three rounds of ammunition.

In violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 924(c)(1)(A)(i).

COUNT FOUR

(Maintaining a Drug-Involved Premises)

From at least in or around January 2023 through on or about February 15, 2023, in Hudson County, in the District of New Jersey and elsewhere, the defendant,

DOUGLAS SHERMAN, a/k/a "Dougie,"

did manage or control a place, whether permanently or temporarily, either as an owner, lessee, agent, employee, occupant, or mortgagee, and did knowingly and intentionally rent, lease, profit from, and make available for use, with or without compensation, the place for the purpose of unlawfully manufacturing, storing, distributing, or using a controlled substance.

In violation of Title 21, United States Code, Section 856, and Title 18, United States Code, Section 2.

COUNT FIVE

(Possession with Intent to Distribute Heroin and Cocaine)

On or about February 15, 2023, in Hudson County, in the District of New Jersey, and elsewhere, the defendant,

PERRY CAPERS, a/k/a "Diddy,"

did knowingly and intentionally possess with intent to distribute a quantity of a mixture and substance containing a detectable amount of heroin, a Schedule I controlled substance, and a quantity of a mixture and substance containing a detectable amount of cocaine, a Schedule II controlled substance.

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

ATTACHMENT B

- I, Joseph Shapiro, am a Special Agent with the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Homeland Security Investigations since 2019. I have knowledge of the facts set forth below as a result of my participation in this investigation as well as from my review of reports from, and discussions with, other law enforcement personnel. Where statements of others are related herein, they are related in substance and in part. 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 on a particular date, I am asserting that it took place on or about the date alleged.
- In or around January 2023, law enforcement began investigating narcotics activity at a residential building on Lexington Avenue in Jersey City, New Jersey (the "Building") in response to information from confidential sources and citizen complaints. Based on the investigation to date, law enforcement identified Defendant Shiguwan Johnson, a/k/a "Big Shy" ("JOHNSON") as a drug trafficker who engages in hand-to-hand drug transactions in the Building on a near-daily basis. JOHNSON is associated with a neighborhood street gang that operates in and around the Bergen Avenue/Lexington Avenue area in Jersey City, New Jersey. Specifically, JOHNSON sells narcotics to individuals primarily by serving them from a mailbox on the ground floor of the Building (the "Mailbox") or at times by retrieving narcotics from an apartment unit on the second floor of the Building (the "Apartment"), which was associated with the mailbox JOHNSON used. Based on the investigation to date, law enforcement knows that the apartment unit on the second floor is rented by Defendant Douglas Sherman, a/k/a "Dougie" ("SHERMAN"). SHERMAN and JOHNSON have been observed by law enforcement walking towards the entrance of the apartment unit together on multiple occasions. During the investigation, law enforcement has also observed other drug traffickers conducting hand-to-hand transactions in the Building, including Defendant Perry Capers, a/k/a "Diddy" ("CAPERS"), who is also associated with a neighborhood street gang that operates in and around the Bergen Avenue/Lexington Avenue area in Jersey City, New Jersey. Based on information obtained during the course of the investigation, law enforcement obtained search warrants for the Apartment and the Mailbox.
- 2. On or about February 15, 2023, in anticipation of the execution of the search warrants for the Apartment and the Mailbox, law enforcement conducted surveillance in and around the Building. Law enforcement observed the following:
 - a. JOHNSON conducting hand-to-hand transactions in the Building;
 - b. JOHNSON accessing the Mailbox;

- c. JOHNSON retrieving suspected narcotics near the stairs on the ground floor of the Building from behind a broom (the "Broom Stash Location") in order to conduct narcotics transactions; and
- d. CAPERS performing hand-to-hand transactions on the ground floor of the Building. Law enforcement also observed CAPERS open a pipe on the second floor of the Building ("the Pipe") and place a plastic bag in the Pipe.
- 3. On or about February 15, 2023, law enforcement executed the search warrants, which revealed the following:
 - a. From inside the Mailbox: approximately 11 grams of suspected cocaine; approximately \$1,000 in cash; a quantity of marijuana, and two firearms—namely, a .40 caliber Glock 22 handgun, bearing serial number UXB931, loaded with eight rounds of ammunition and a .357 caliber Dan Wesson Magnum revolver, bearing serial number 75831, loaded with three rounds of ammunition.
 - b. From inside the Apartment: approximately 18 grams of suspected heroin; approximately 27 grams of suspected cocaine; a .40 caliber Smith & Wesson M&P 40 SHIELD handgun, bearing serial number HPP7459, loaded with 7 rounds of ammunition; a magazine loaded with 12 rounds of ammunition; and 14 loose rounds of ammunition. CAPERS was inside the Apartment at the time of the search.
- 4. While lawfully present inside the Building, law enforcement recovered approximately 13 grams of suspected heroin and 254 grams of suspected cocaine from the Broom Stash Location.
- 5. While lawfully present inside the Building, law enforcement retrieved a plastic bag from the Pipe where CAPERS had previously been observed placing his narcotics stash. The Pipe contained approximately 10 grams of suspected heroin and 78 grams of suspected cocaine.
- 6. Law enforcement recovered a set of keys from JOHNSON incident to his arrest, one of which accesses the Mailbox.
- 7. While lawfully present inside the Building, law enforcement recovered additional quantities of suspected heroin and cocaine from the area near the stairs on the ground floor and the third floor hallway.
- 8. JOHNSON was previously convicted in the United States District Court for the District of New Jersey of a crime punishable by imprisonment for a term exceeding one year—namely, unlawful possession of a firearm by a

convicted felon, in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 922(g)(1), for which he was sentenced to 105 months' imprisonment. JOHNSON is currently on federal supervised release.