

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
EASTERN DISTRICT OF LOUISIANA

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

\*

CRIMINAL DOCKET NO. 15-176

v.

\*

SECTION: "J" (2)

DERRICK FIELDS

\*

\* \* \*

FACTUAL BASIS

*ml*  
*mf*  
*OF*

The above-named defendant, **DERRICK FIELDS**, has agreed to plead guilty as charged to Count <sup>*and two*</sup> One of the Superseding <sup>*Bill of Information*</sup> Indictment now pending against him. Should this matter have proceeded to trial, the United States of America would have proven beyond a reasonable doubt, through the introduction of relevant, competent, and admissible testimonial, physical and demonstrative evidence, the following facts to support the allegation against the defendant, **DERRICK FIELDS ("FIELDS")**:

Unless stated otherwise, all of the facts set forth herein occurred within the Eastern District of Louisiana.

In 2013, a cooperating defendant ("CD") advised law Drug Enforcement Administration Special Agents of the drug trafficking activities of Fredrick Brown. Through the CD and subsequent investigation, agents learned that Brown was a multi-kilogram distributor of cocaine that he obtained from a number of sources, including Edwin Martinez, a high level drug trafficker based in Houston, Texas. Martinez routinely received multiple kilograms of cocaine and heroin from sources of supply in Mexico and Houston, Texas who delivered the drugs to Martinez sometimes by way of vehicles equipped with hidden compartments. Among Martinez's suppliers were Gabriel Rodriguez, Sr., Hermelinda Rodriguez, Nicanor Gonzalez,

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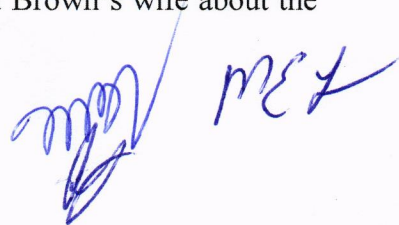
Jorge Perralta, and individuals identified as "F.L.," "G.G.," "H.H.," and "J.M." Martinez, with the assistance of drug trafficking associates, unloaded the drugs from those vehicles and distributed multi-kilogram quantities of cocaine and heroin to numerous suppliers, including Brown, who in turn distributed the drugs to customers both inside and outside the Eastern District of Louisiana, all with Martinez's knowledge.

On May 26, 2015, at approximately 11:00 p.m., a Tangipahoa Parish Sheriff's Deputy conducted a traffic stop of a white Ford F-150 traveling 82 miles per hour in a 70 miles per hour zone on Interstate 12 East just past Airport Road in Hammond, Louisiana. The driver of the vehicle was identified as Brown. The Deputy asked Brown about his travels and Brown said that he was in Mississippi working. When asked if anyone else was in the vehicle with him, Brown said that his wife was in the vehicle.

The Deputy then approached the passenger side of the vehicle and spoke to Brown's wife. When the Deputy asked her about their travels, she also responded that she and her husband went to Mississippi. When the Deputy asked her what they did in Mississippi, she said they were visiting family and relaxing.

After receiving contradicting stories from Brown and his wife as to why they were in Mississippi, the Deputy asked Brown if there were any illegal items in the vehicle. Brown said there were none; however, he refused to give consent to search the vehicle. The Deputy then used a canine to conduct a free air sweep of the vehicle. The canine alerted to the rear passenger door of the vehicle. The Deputy began searching the vehicle and noticed a black suitcase on the backseat. He looked inside the suitcase and found what amounted to be more than \$800,000.00 in United States currency. The Deputy asked Brown about the money and Brown initially denied knowledge of both the money and the suitcase. The Deputy then asked Brown's wife about the

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money and she asked, "What money?" The Deputy then arrested both Brown and his wife and advised them of their *Miranda* rights.

After the Deputy arrested Brown, DEA Special Agent ("S/A") Chad Scott arrived at the scene. Brown told S/A Scott that he was in trouble and had approximately \$800,000.00 of drug proceeds in his possession. Brown admitted that he was returning from Atlanta where he supplied thirty (30) kilograms of cocaine to individuals at a residence located at 5505 Mason Road in Atlanta. According to Brown, he traveled with the cocaine from Houston to St. Tammany Parish where he met with another individual and employed that individual to drive with the drugs from St. Tammany Parish to 5505 Mason Road with Brown following him. Brown told S/A Scott that when he arrived at the Mason Road residence, he met with Shawn Heflin, Daton Yancey, and an individual identified by Brown as "Head" and delivered the suitcase containing the cocaine to them. According to Brown, Heflin, Yancey and Head began making phone calls arranging for individuals to purchase the cocaine. After the phone calls, one individual purchased twenty kilograms and several individuals purchased the rest. Brown told the Agents that Heflin and Yancey paid for only twenty-seven of the thirty kilograms. Brown also stated that he had made several trips to Atlanta to deliver cocaine to these individuals including as recently as three weeks prior when he delivered cocaine to them.

Brown then showed S/A Scott his cell phone and its contacts list, in which Brown listed the source of supply as "YG," then showed S/A Scott text messages from "YG" inquiring when Brown was returning to Houston. Brown eventually identified the source, identified in his phone contacts list as "Y.G.," as Cruz Rocha.

After Brown's arrest, Rocha continued to send text messages to Brown's phone, asking about the money and Brown's estimated time of arrival to Houston. In some of the messages,

DP  
MEY

Rocha stated that his source of supply was waiting for Brown to return with the money for the purchase of the cocaine.

On May 27, 2015, S/A Scott, acting as Brown and utilizing Brown's phone (with Brown's consent), began exchanging text messages with Rocha and made arrangements to meet Rocha in Houston on May 28, 2015. Rocha, thinking S/A Scott was Brown, instructed S/A Scott to meet him at "the spot." Because S/A Scott and the assisting agents were unaware of the meeting location, they instructed Rocha to meet them at a Shell gas station located at Fairmont Parkway and Beltway 8 in Houston.

Houston DEA S/A's and Houston Police Department officers set up surveillance at the gas station. Agents sent text messages to Rocha describing their vehicle, which was being driven by a Houston police officer.

At approximately 10:33 p.m., a Black male arrived in the parking lot driving a black Honda. He exited his vehicle and approached the police officer's vehicle. Suspecting it was a set-up, he quickly returned to his vehicle and sped away. Officers stopped the individual and identified him as FIELDS. FIELDS immediately cooperated and said that Rocha sent him to pick up the money from Brown. According to FIELDS, he worked for Rocha and picked up kilogram quantities of cocaine and money for Rocha on many occasions. FIELDS also stated that he previously collected as much as \$1,500,000.00 from Brown at the direction of Rocha.

On May 27, 2015, Agents conducted surveillance of the residence at 5505 Mason Road in Atlanta, Georgia. During the surveillance, Agents observed Heflin leave the residence in a silver Range Rover and meet with two Black males at a nearby gas station. After Heflin departed from the gas station, Agents conducted a traffic stop of Heflin and released him. Heflin did not return to the residence at that time.

DF [signature] MEZ



The following day, May 28, 2015, Agents again conducted surveillance of the residence. At approximately 1:30 p.m., Agents observed Heflin arrive at the residence in the Range Rover. About an hour later, Heflin departed from the residence in the Range Rover. Later that evening, Agents obtained a search warrant for the residence. At approximately 6:20 p.m., Agents executed the warrant. In the left rear bedroom, Agents found and seized two gray wrapped bundles of suspected cocaine hydrochloride. In the kitchen, Agents found another wrapped bundle of suspected cocaine hydrochloride. Agents field tested all three of the bundles, all of which tested positive for the presence of cocaine hydrochloride. The estimated total weight of the cocaine hydrochloride was 3412 grams. Also, Agents found and seized \$51,995.00 in U.S. Currency in the oven and found an AK-47 with a magazine in the residence as well.

*mf*  
FIELDS was a drug distributor for Cruz Rocha and another individual herein identified as "E.A." Rocha, E.A., and another individual herein identified as "H" maintained a drug stash house located in an apartment in ~~League City~~ <sup>Houston</sup>, Texas where they stored kilogram quantities of cocaine hydrochloride. Two females, herein identified as "B.B." and "A.C.," resided at the stash house where they stored drugs and wrapped drug proceeds, under the direction of FIELDS. At one point, Cruz, E.A. and H stored as much as thirty (30) kilograms of cocaine and \$1,200,000.00 in cash at the apartment/stash house.

In 2015, FIELDS began to steal kilogram quantities of cocaine from the apartment and sell them to an individual named Antonio Martins, a cocaine distributor in the League City area who in turn sold the cocaine for profit. While re-selling the cocaine, Martins unknowingly sold some of the cocaine to an individual associated with Rocha. The individual recognized the drugs as Rocha's because the packages were specifically marked for identification.

*OF mf* *mf*

After learning that Martins sold the drugs to an associate of Rocha's organization, FIELDS feared that if approached by Rocha, Martins would divulge that he obtained the drugs from FIELDS. On or about July 30, 2015, FIELDS requested that Martins meet FIELDS at FIELDS'S residence on Savannah Court in League City, Texas under the ruse of conducting a drug transaction. When Martins arrived at FIELDS'S residence, FIELDS shot Martins in the back of the head, killing him. After FIELDS shot and killed Martins, he burned Martins' body, wrapped Martins' body in a blue tarp, then drove the body to a water shore where he dumped it. The following day, relatives of Martins filed a missing persons report for Martins. On August 2, 2015, law enforcement officers and Martins' relatives located Martins' abandoned vehicle on Sandalwood Court in Texas City, Texas. Subsequent interviews with relatives and associates of Martins revealed that Martins met with FIELDS on the day that Martins went missing.

On August 9, 2015, Martins' body was located near the 4400 block of Levee Road in Texas City, Texas. The body was heavily decayed and charred with body parts unattached. Dental records confirmed Martins' identification.

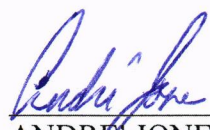
On September 4, 2015, law enforcement arrested FIELDS. During a post-Miranda interview, FIELDS admitted to law enforcement that he shot Martins, killing him. FIELDS further admitted that he was selling the cocaine from the stash house to Martins and that Martins sold the drugs to one of Rocha's associates. FIELDS further admitted that after killing Martins, he burned and wrapped the body, placed it in his Jeep, and drove it to a water shore where he dumped it.

For purposes of sentencing, the Government and FIELDS agree and stipulate that FIELDS'S conduct, which includes the reasonable foreseeable conduct of his co-conspirators,

involves at least 50 kilograms but less than 150 kilograms of cocaine hydrochloride that he conspired to distribute and possess with intent to distribute during the course of the conspiracy.

Also for purposes of sentencing, the Government and FIELDS agree and stipulate that he committed the murder of Antonio Martins in furtherance of the overall drug conspiracy.

This proffer of evidence is not intended to constitute a complete statement of all facts known by FIELDS and described by FIELDS to the Government, 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 and factual basis for FIELDS' plea of guilty to these crimes.



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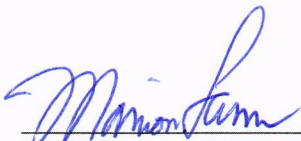
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(Date)



MAURICE E. LANDRIEU, JR.  
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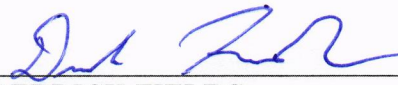
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MARION B. FARMER  
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LA Bar Roll No. 11131

11/3/15

(Date)



DERRICK FIELDS  
Defendant

11-3-15  
(Date)