

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT OF LOUISIANA**

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

CRIMINAL NO. 17-230

v.

SECTION “H”

MICHAEL LEVERIDGE

*** * ***

FACTUAL BASIS

The above-named defendant, **MICHAEL LEVERIDGE (“LEVERIDGE”)**, 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, through credible testimony and reliable evidence, the following facts. Unless stated otherwise, these acts occurred in the Eastern District of Louisiana:

On or around August 30, 2014, a confidential source provided information that **LEVERIDGE** had traveled to New Orleans with a significant quantity of methamphetamine, which **LEVERIDGE** intended to sell during the New Orleans Decadence Festival. Louisiana State Police subsequently secured a state search warrant for **LEVERIDGE’s** hotel room at the Bourbon Orleans in the French Quarter. On August 30, 2014, agents executed the warrant and recovered from the hotel room approximately 21 ounces (over one-half kilogram) of a mixture or substance containing methamphetamine; three digital scales; approximately \$10,675 U.S. currency; and other suspected narcotics. **LEVERIDGE** was present in the room at the time of the search, and was arrested on the scene, along with two other individuals. One of the other individuals had agreed to sell methamphetamine in downtown New Orleans on behalf of **LEVERIDGE** during the Decadence Festival. The drugs, drug paraphernalia, and currency seized in the hotel room belonged to **LEVERIDGE** and were in his possession. **LEVERIDGE**

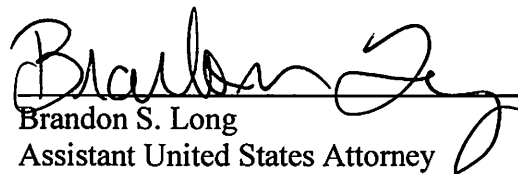
had traveled with the drugs and drug paraphernalia in order to sell methamphetamine in the New Orleans area.

While **LEVERIDGE** was released on bond after his August 30, 2014, arrest, **LEVERIDGE** continued to sell methamphetamine. Specifically, in January 2015, **LEVERIDGE** sold at least 11 ounces of a mixture or substance containing methamphetamine to numerous individuals in the New Orleans area. On numerous occasions, **LEVERIDGE** had sent Federal Express packages of methamphetamine from his home in Texas to these individuals in New Orleans, and then personally traveled to New Orleans to assist in the distribution.

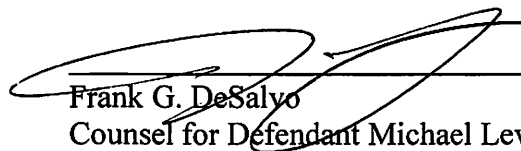
LEVERIDGE and the government stipulate for the purposes of sentencing that **LEVERIDGE** was responsible for between 500 grams and 1.5 kilograms of a mixture or substance containing methamphetamine, through **LEVERIDGE's** own conduct and the reasonably foreseeable conduct of his co-conspirators.

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 **LEVERIDGE's** plea of guilty to the charged offenses.

 6/27/18

Brandon S. Long
Assistant United States Attorney (Date)

 5/23/18

Frank G. DeSalvo
Counsel for Defendant Michael Leveridge (Date)

 5/23/18

Michael Leveridge
Defendant (Date)