

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
EASTERN DISTRICT OF LOUISIANA

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

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CRIMINAL NO.: 19-175

v.

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SECTION: "E"

DEMARCO FORD

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\* \* \*

FACTUAL BASIS

Defendant **DEMARCO FORD** ("FORD") has decided to enter a plea of guilty to the Superseding Bill of Information in the above-captioned matter. Should this matter have proceeded to trial, the United States would have proven the following facts beyond a reasonable doubt through credible testimony and reliable evidence. The facts outlined herein occurred within the jurisdiction of the Eastern District of Louisiana.

Agents with the Drug Enforcement Administration ("DEA") investigated the drug distribution activities of a group of individuals located in and around the parishes of Jefferson, Orleans, and St. Bernard. Agents identified the following individuals, among others, who were members of a drug distribution conspiracy: **FORD**, Taurus Russell, a/k/a "Scrappy," Thomas Landry, Corey Dunn, Bobby Franklin, a/k/a "B-Trey," a/k/a "Trey," Corey Enclarde, a/k/a "Murda," Christopher Harris, a/k/a "Grove," Romalis Harris, Michael Lewis, a/k/a "Michael Louis," and others.

During the course of this investigation, agents obtained court-authorized Title III wiretap orders on four telephones: a telephone used by Franklin, a/k/a “B-Trey,” a/k/a “Trey,” telephone number [REDACTED] (“the 327 Wiretap”), a telephone used by Corey Dunn, telephone number [REDACTED] (“the 439 Wiretap”), a telephone used by Corey Dunn, telephone number [REDACTED] (“the 351 Wiretap”), and a telephone used by Corey Dunn, telephone number [REDACTED] (“the 228 Wiretap”).

Agents learned that Franklin and Dunn were a cocaine base (crack cocaine) and cocaine hydrochloride distribution organization. Upon information and belief, the Franklin and Dunn drug trafficking organization (“DTO”) began operating on or about October 2018 and continued to do so until on or about August 2, 2019. DEA agents were able to develop information about the charged conspiracy based on controlled purchases and intercepted communications between Franklin and Dunn and their co-conspirators.

Should this matter have proceeded to trial, TFO [REDACTED] would testify that intercepted hundreds of telephone calls during his investigation of the Dunn/Franklin drug trafficking organization. During that time, TFO [REDACTED] heard members of the drug trafficking organization use code words to thwart law enforcement from intercepting communications related to drug trafficking/dealing. Additionally, TFO [REDACTED] would testify that based on his training and experience as a narcotics detective and his tenure as a task force officer with DEA, he has become familiar with the code language that drug dealers will often use to disguise conversations about narcotics activity. TFO [REDACTED] has become familiar with the code words used to refer to different types of controlled substances distributed and possessed with the intent to distribute by the organization, as well as quantities used distributed/possessed by the organization.

*June 6, 2019 purchase between Ford and Dunn*

On June 5, 2019, **FORD** and Dunn negotiated the purchase of four ounces of cocaine base/hydrochloride. During the communication, **FORD** contacted Dunn and told Dunn that he wanted "the four." The reference to "four" is code for four ounces of either cocaine base or cocaine hydrochloride. **FORD** and Dunn agreed to meet the following day.

On June 6, 2019, agents conducted surveillance at **FORD**'s residence. Agents intercepted numerous communications between Dunn and **FORD** prior to observing them meet at **FORD**'s residence. During the meeting, Dunn sold four ounces (112) grams of either cocaine base or cocaine hydrochloride to **FORD** in exchange for an unknown amount of U.S. currency.

*July 27, 2019 purchase between Ford and Dunn*

Agents continued to intercept telephone communications between **FORD** and Dunn during the month of July 2019. On July 27, 2019, **FORD** contacted Dunn. During the communication, **FORD** asked Dunn if he was ready to "make that drop." Dunn responded: "When you make the drop you want me to bring you another one like them two I brought you or you wanna just make the drop?" **FORD** replied that he had "one left," and asked Dunn, "If anything you could bring me one each?" Dunn and **FORD** agreed that Dunn would bring **FORD** one of each, referring to one ounce (28 grams) of cocaine base and one ounce (28 grams) of cocaine hydrochloride.

At approximately 7:44 p.m., agents conducting surveillance observed **FORD** and Dunn meet at Winn-Dixie in Algiers. Dunn sold one ounce of cocaine hydrochloride (28 grams) and one ounce of cocaine base (28 grams) in exchange for U.S. currency.

*August 2, 2019 negotiation between Ford and Dunn*

On August 2, 2019, agents intercepted communications between Dunn and **FORD** wherein **FORD** and Dunn negotiated the purchase of two ounces (56 grams) of cocaine base. During the

communication, **FORD** referred to cocaine base by using the terms "two hard." The term "hard" is slang for cocaine base. Agents conducted surveillance to confirm a meeting between **FORD** and Dunn. Agents observed Dunn and **FORD** meet at an Algiers location where **FORD** purchased two ounces (56 grams) of cocaine base from Dunn in exchange for U.S. currency.

***Sentencing Stipulation***

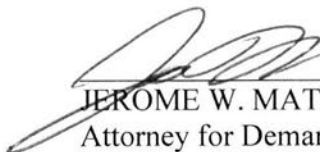
For the purposes of sentencing only, the parties stipulate and agree that the defendant, **FORD**, is responsible for the following drug quantities through his own actions and the reasonably foreseeable actions of his co-conspirators. The parties agree that **FORD** is responsible for conspiring to distribute and/or possess with the intent to distribute at least 11.2 grams, but less than 16.8 grams of cocaine base, and less than 50 grams of cocaine hydrochloride.

*Limited Nature of Factual Basis*

This proffer of evidence is not intended to constitute a complete statement of all facts known by **FORD**. Rather, it is a minimum statement of facts intended to prove the necessary factual predicate for his guilty plea. The limited purpose of this proffer is to demonstrate that there exists a sufficient legal basis for **FORD**'s plea of guilty to the charged offenses.

**READ AND APPROVED:**

 6/14/21  
BRITTANY L. REED Date  
Assistant United States Attorney

 6-14/21  
JEROME W. MATTEWS, JR. Date  
Attorney for Demarco Ford

 6/14/21  
DEMARCO FORD Date  
Defendant