

Approved: 
SAGAR K. RAVI
Assistant United States Attorney

Before: THE HONORABLE ONA T. WANG
United States Magistrate Judge
Southern District of New York

18 MAG 5811

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: SEALED COMPLAINT
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA :
:
- v. - : Violations of
: 18 U.S.C. §§ 1343
SHANNADE CLERMONT, : 1029, and 1028A
:
: COUNTY OF OFFENSE:
Defendant. : New York
:
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SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK, ss.:

ANTOINETTE GUZMAN, being duly sworn, deposes and says that she is a Special Agent with the United States Attorney's Office for the Southern District of New York, and charges as follows:

COUNT ONE
(Wire Fraud)

1. From on or about January 31, 2017 up to and including at least in or about May 2017, in the Southern District of New York and elsewhere, SHANNADE CLERMONT, the defendant, willfully and knowingly, having devised and intending to devise a scheme and artifice to defraud, and for obtaining money and property by means of false and fraudulent pretenses, representations, and promises, did transmit and cause to be transmitted by means of wire, radio, and television communication in interstate and foreign commerce, writings, signs, signals, pictures, and sounds, for the purpose of executing such scheme and artifice, to wit, CLERMONT made or attempted to make fraudulent purchases through online transactions using stolen debit card information.

(Title 18, United States Code, Sections 1343 and 2.)

COUNT TWO

(Access Device Fraud – Access Devices Issued to Another Person)

2. From on or about January 31, 2017 up to and including at least in or about May 2017, SHANNADE CLERMONT, the defendant, knowingly and with intent to defraud, in an offense affecting interstate and foreign commerce, did effect transactions with one and more access devices issued to another person and persons, to receive payment and other things of value during a one-year period the aggregate value of which was equal to and greater than \$1,000, to wit, CLERMONT made or attempted to make thousands of dollars in fraudulent purchases through online transactions using stolen debit card information issued to another person.

(Title 18, United States Code, Sections 1029(a) (5) and 2.)

COUNT THREE

(Aggravated Identity Theft)

3. From on or about January 31, 2017 up to and including at least in or about May 2017, SHANNADE CLERMONT, the defendant, knowingly did transfer, possess, and use, without lawful authority, a means of identification of another person, during and in relation to a felony violation enumerated in Title 18, United States Code, Section 1028A(c), to wit, CLERMONT used the name and debit card numbers of another person to make fraudulent purchases during and in relation to the wire fraud and access device fraud offenses charged in Counts One and Two of this Complaint.

(Title 18, United States Code, Sections 1028A(a) (1) and (b),
and 2.)

The bases for my knowledge and for the foregoing charges are, in part, as follows:

4. I am a Special Agent with the United States Attorney's Office for the Southern District of New York and I have been personally involved in the investigation of this matter. This affidavit is based upon my personal participation in the investigation of this matter, my conversations with law enforcement agents, witnesses, and others, as well as my examination of report and records. Because this affidavit is being submitted for the limited purpose of establishing probable cause, it does not include all the facts that I have learned during the course of my investigation. Where the contents of

documents and the actions, statements, and conversations of others are reported herein, they are reported in substance and in part, except where otherwise indicated. Where figures, calculations, and dates are set forth herein, they are approximate, unless stated otherwise.

5. Since on or about February 1, 2017, the New York City Police Department ("NYPD") and the United States Attorney's Office for the Southern District of New York have been investigating the overdose death of a male individual (the "Victim"), who was found dead at approximately 9:26 a.m. on or about February 1, 2017 in his apartment at 250 East 53rd Street in Manhattan, New York (the "Victim Apartment"). During the course of that investigation, law enforcement learned that SHANNADE CLERMONT, the defendant, visited the Victim for a prostitution date at the Victim Apartment the evening prior to when he was found dead and used the Victim's debit card information to make or attempt to make more than \$20,000 in fraudulent purchases during the months following the Victim's death.

6. Based on my review of the certificate of death for the Victim, I have learned, in substance and in part, that the immediate cause of death for the Victim was acute intoxication by the combined effects of cocaine, para-fluorobutyryl fentanyl, and levamisole.

7. Based on my review of NYPD reports relating to the investigation of the overdose death of the Victim as well as my conversations with other law enforcement officers involved in that investigation, I have learned the following, in substance and in part:

a. Law enforcement officers who arrived at the scene of the Victim's death recovered the following items from the Victim Apartment:

i. The Victim's iPhone from the Victim's bedroom (the "Victim Phone");

ii. The Victim's wallet inside of a cabinet in the kitchen, which contained a debit card ending in 3481 issued to the Victim ("Victim Card-1") and a debit card ending in 5307 issued to the Victim ("Victim Card-2").

iii. A loose condom from the Victim's bed that appeared to have been broken;

iv. A clear baggie containing a white substance that tested positive for cocaine and a rolled dollar bill from a small table in the living room;

v. Two additional clear baggies from inside a cabinet, one of which also tested positive for cocaine; and

vi. A tablet that was tested and indicated that it contained analogs of fentanyl that could not be confirmed without further testing.

b. A doorman for the building of the Victim Apartment (the "Doorman") last spoke to the Victim at approximately 6:00 p.m. on or about January 31, 2017, the evening prior to the Victim's death, when the Doorman alerted the Victim that he had a female visitor who identified herself as "Audrey." The Doorman described the female visitor as black, 25 to 30 years old, five feet and eleven inches tall, with long brown hair.

c. Surveillance video obtained from the building of the Victim Apartment shows that a woman arrived at the Victim Apartment on or about January 31, 2017 at approximately 5:30 p.m. and departed approximately three hours later at approximately 8:50 p.m.

d. Based on the description provided by the Doorman, my review of surveillance video of the female visitor to the Victim Apartment on or about January 31, 2017, my review of publically available photographs from social media of SHANNADE CLERMONT,¹ the defendant, and the other information herein, I believe that CLERMONT was the female individual who visited the Victim on or about the evening of January 31, 2017 prior to his death.

8. Based on my review of text messages stored on the Victim Phone between the Victim Phone and a phone number ending in 9259 (the "Clermont Phone"), I have learned the following, in substance and in part, regarding text messages exchanged between approximately 4:00 p.m. and 5:15 p.m. prior to when CLERMONT visited the Victim on or about January 31, 2017:

¹ Since appearing with her twin sister in the Oxygen network's reality television series *Bad Girls Club* in or about 2015, SHANNADE CLERMONT, the defendant, amassed a large social media following and has regularly posted publically available photos of herself on Instagram and Twitter.

Victim Phone: What do you want to do?

Clermont Phone: I want to see you for the amount we agreed on. So you tell me

[...]

Clermont Phone: Let's do \$400

Victim Phone: Oh yeah?

Victim Phone: How far are you from 53rd and 2nd

Clermont Phone: I'm on 54th and 10th. Does 7:30 work?

[...]

Victim Phone: Maybe just come over now. Don't have to get all dressed up

Clermont Phone: Mmm okay :) I'll be there around 5:15 xo

Victim Phone: Ok. I'm a cool dude. You'll have fun. What type of booze do you like? Wine!

Clermont Phone: Wine works. What's your address?

Victim Phone: I'm 250 east 53rd

Clermont Phone: Apt ?

Victim Phone: [sends apartment number]

Clermont Phone: Okay babe. Will let you know when I'm on my way xo

Victim Phone: Can you send another faceplate pic

Victim Phone: Fave pic. You deleted me on the site.

Clermont Phone: [sends photos that appear to depict SHANNADE CLERMONT, the defendant, posing]

[...]

Clermont Phone: Just got in an Uber. See you in
10 xo

9. Based on my review of subscriber records for the Clermont Phone, I have learned, in substance and in part, that since in or about 2012, the Clermont Phone was subscribed to an individual with the last name "Clermont" that appears to be a relative (the "Relative") of SHANNADE CLERMONT, the defendant, as discussed below.

10. Based on my review of records obtained from the Mercedes House located at 550 West 54th Street in Manhattan between Tenth and Eleventh Avenues (the "Mercedes House"), which is an apartment building, I have learned that the Relative signed a lease for an apartment in the Mercedes House (the "Clermont Apartment") beginning on or about April 29, 2016 and ending on or about April 28, 2017. SHANNADE CLERMONT, the defendant, is listed in the lease as the only occupant of the Clermont Apartment other than the Relative.

11. Based on my review of statements for Victim Card-1, I have learned of the following fraudulent charges, among others, that occurred after the death of the Victim on or about February 1, 2017:

a. On or about March 15, 2017, Victim Card-1 was used to make two payments of \$324.36 to an airline ("Airline-1").

b. On or about March 25, 2017, Victim Card-1 was used to make a payment of \$552.10 to an online retailer ("Retailer-1").

c. On or about March 29, 2017, Victim Card-1 was used to make a payment of \$447.83 to Retailer-1.

d. On or about March 31, 2017, Victim Card-1 was used to make a payment of "1,441.30" to a management company (the "Management Company").

e. Between on or about March 31 and April 3, 2017, Victim Card-1 was used to make multiple payments totaling more than \$500 to an online retailer ("Retailer-2").

f. On or about April 3, 2017, Victim Card-1 was used to make attempted payments to a luxury clothing brand with an online store (the "Luxury Store").

g. On or about April 3, 2017, Victim Card-1 was used to make a payment of \$969.47 to Retailer-1.

h. On or about April 4 and 5, 2017, Victim Card-1 was used to make multiple attempted payments to Retailer-1 of \$2,005.80, \$4,255.80, \$4,159.85, and \$4,172.12.

12. Based on my review of statements for Victim Card-2, I have learned of the following fraudulent charges, among others, that occurred after the death of the Victim on or about February 1, 2017:

a. On or about March 29, 2017, Victim Card-2 was used to make a payment of \$125.27 to a phone company (the "Phone Company").

b. On or about April 4, 2017, Victim Card-2 was used to make a payment of \$146.61 to Retailer-2.

c. On or about April 4, 2017, Victim Card-2 was used to make an attempted payment of \$2,005.80 to Retailer-1.

d. On or about April 5, 2017, Victim Card-2 was used to make an attempted payment of \$315.92 to an airline ("Airline-2").

13. Based on my review of records obtained from a travel purchase website, Victim Card-1 was used on or about March 13, 2017 to purchase two airline tickets on Airline-1 for \$324.36 each for travel from Toronto, Canada to Newark, New Jersey for SHANNADE CLERMONT, the defendant. An email address with the username "shannadeclermont" ("Clermont Email Account-1") was provided in connection with these transactions.

14. Based on my review of records obtained from Retailer-2, I have learned the following, in substance and in part:

a. Victim Card-1 was used on or about April 1, 2017 to make multiple purchases of merchandise totaling over \$500 from Retailer-2 that were to be shipped to SHANNADE CLERMONT, the defendant, at the Clermont Apartment.

b. The Victim's name was provided to Retailer-2 as the "Billing Name" for these transactions and an email address with the username "aubree.cl" ("Clermont Email Account-2") was provided as the "Customer Email."

c. Each of the Retailer-2 transactions on April 1, 2017 were associated with an Internet protocol address ending in 55.51 (the "Clermont IP Address.")²

15. Based on my review of subscriber records obtained from the Internet service provider for the Clermont IP Address, the Clermont IP Address was registered to SHANNADE CLERMONT, the defendant, at the Clermont Apartment from on or about May 1, 2016 through at least on or about May 10, 2017.

16. Based on my review of records obtained from an online payment service provider, Victim Card-1 was used on or about March 31, 2017 to pay \$1,441.30 toward a rent payment to the Management Company for the Clermont Apartment.

17. Based on my review of records obtained from Retailer-1, the Victim Card-1 was used on or about March 25 and 29 and April 3, 2017 to purchase clothing totaling approximately \$2,000 that was to be shipped to SHANNADE CLERMONT, the defendant, at the Clermont Apartment. The Clermont Phone and an email address with the username "clers947" ("Clermont Email Account-3," which, together with Clermont Email Account-1 and Clermont Email Account-2, are hereinafter referred to as the "Clermont Email Accounts") hosted by a university located in Manhattan (the "University") were provided in connection with these transactions.

18. Based on my review of records obtained from the Phone Company, Victim Card-2 was used on or about March 29, 2017 to pay a phone bill associated with a phone number registered to SHANNADE CLERMONT, the defendant.

19. Based on my review of records and email content for the Clermont Email Accounts obtained through a search warrant, I have learned the following, in substance and in part, which indicate that the Clermont Email Accounts were all used by SHANNADE CLERMONT, the defendant:

² Based on my training and experience, each electronic device connected to the Internet must be assigned a unique IP address so that communications from or directed to that electronic device are routed properly.

a. Clermont Email Account-1 was created on or about July 12, 2011 and registered with the subscriber name "shannadeclermont." The recovery email³ for Clermont Email Account-1 was another email address with the username "shannadeclermont."

b. Clermont Email Account-2 was created on or about November 19, 2012 and registered with the subscriber name "aubree c," which is similar to the alias provided by CLERMONT to the Doorman for the Victim Apartment when she visited the Victim on or about January 31, 2017. The recovery email for Clermont Email Account-2 was Clermont Email Account-1.

c. Clermont Email Account-3 was registered to CLERMONT, who was registered for classes with the University in or about spring 2017.

d. The Clermont Phone was listed as the short message service ("SMS") number, or text messaging number, for both Clermont Email Account-1 and Clermont Email Account-2.

e. On or about April 3, 2017, Clermont Email Account-1 received an email from the Luxury Store with the subject line "Welcome [Victim]!," which provided instructions on how to log into the online store using Clermont Email Account-1. Then, on or about April 4, 2017, Clermont Email Account-1 received another email from the Luxury Store that stated the following, in substance and in part: "Dear [Victim]! Hereby we would like to inform you that you still have the following items in your shopping bag. As you have already made this fabulous choice you should take the chance and purchase the desired goods."

f. Clermont Email Account-2 was used to solicit dates for prostitution and other sexual encounters. For example, on or about May 10, 2017, Clermont Email Account-2 sent the following message in connection with an online advertisement titled "Handsome white for a sexy black": "Interested? \$500 for 1-2 hours. Text me."

³ Based on my training and experience, I know that email providers allow subscribers to register "recovery" accounts to assist with password recovery. Providers maintain these verified recovery accounts to be able to communicate with the subscriber in cases in which the user forgets his or her password, to assist with password resets.

g. The Clermont Email Accounts were linked by web cookies⁴ to each other and to the following four additional email accounts, indicating that each of these accounts were accessed during the same Internet browsing session:

- i. An email address with the username "shanclermo."
- ii. An email address with the username "clermonttwins."
- iii. An email address with a username containing the last name of the Victim followed by the first name of the Victim and the number "96" (the "Fake Victim Email Account").
- iv. An email address with the username "xxxexoticdollxxx" (the "Exotic Doll Email Account").

20. Based on my review of records and email content for the Fake Victim Email Account obtained through a search warrant, I have learned the following, in substance and in part, which indicate that SHANNADE CLERMONT, the defendant, created the Fake Victim Email Account to falsely represent to third parties that she was the Victim in order to commit wire fraud using the Victim's identity:

a. The Fake Victim Email Account was created on or about April 3, 2017, approximately two months after the Victim's death and in or around the same time CLERMONT was using Victim Card-1 and Victim Card-2 to make fraudulent charges.

b. On or about April 3, 2017, the same day the Fake Victim Email Account was created, the Fake Victim Email Account was used to register an account with Western Union in the name of the Victim.

c. That same day, on or about April 3, 2017, the Fake Victim Email Account received an email from Western Union addressed to the Victim containing a tracking number and transaction details regarding a money transfer of \$1,000 purportedly sent from the Victim using Victim Card-2 to SHANNADE CLERMONT, the defendant, with the Clermont Phone listed as

⁴ A "web cookie" or "cookie" allows the service provider for an online account to determine whether multiple online accounts are accessed during the same browser session and thus are controlled by the same user.

CLERMONT's mobile number. Approximately ten minutes later, that email containing the transaction details was forwarded from the Fake Victim Email Account to Clermont Email Account-1.

d. The Fake Victim Email Account was also used to register accounts with gaybeast.com using the username "Aubreecl94" and sugardaddyforme.com using the username "Exoticdoll2017."

21. Based on my review of records and email content for the Exotic Doll Email Account obtained through a search warrant, I have learned the following, in substance and in part:

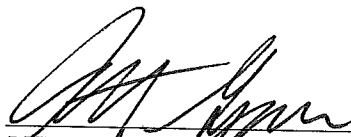
a. The Exotic Doll Email Account was created on or about July 9, 2013 and registered with the subscriber name "megan johnson."

b. The recovery email for the Exotic Doll Email Account was Clermont Email Account-2.

c. The Exotic Doll Email Account was used to solicit dates for prostitution and other sexual encounters through various websites.

22. Based on information obtained from U.S. Customs and Border Protection, I have learned, in substance and in part, that when SHANNADE CLERMONT, the defendant, entered the United States from Canada on or about July 2, 2018, CLERMONT provided the Clermont Phone as her contact number.

WHEREFORE, I respectfully request that a warrant be issued for the arrest of SHANNADE CLERMONT, the defendant, and that she be arrested and imprisoned or bailed, as the case may be.



ANTOINETTE GUZMAN

Special Agent

U.S. Attorney's Office for the
Southern District of New York

Sworn to before me this
6th day of July, 2018



THE HONORABLE QINA T. WANG
UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK