


Approved:


MICHAEL D. MAIMIN / KEVIN T. SULLIVAN
Assistant United States Attorneys

Before: THE HONORABLE JUDITH C. McCARTHY
United States Magistrate Judge
Southern District of New York

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

- v. -

ALLEN PELOQUIN
a/k/a "Ace,"

Defendant.

22 mj 2949

~~SEALED~~ COMPLAINT

Violations of 21 U.S.C.
§§ 812, 841(a)(1),
841(b)(1)(C), & 846, and 18
U.S.C. § 2.

COUNTY OF OFFENSE:
DUTCHESS

SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK, ss.:

LOUIS M. SCHMIDT, being duly sworn, deposes and says that he is a Special Agent with the Drug Enforcement Administration, and charges as follows:

COUNT ONE
(Narcotics Distribution)

1. On or about February 10, 2020, in the Southern District of New York and elsewhere, ALLEN PELOQUIN, a/k/a "Ace," the defendant, intentionally and knowingly did distribute and possess with intent to distribute a controlled substance, in violation of 21 U.S.C. § 841(a)(1).

2. The controlled substance involved in the offense was a quantity of mixtures and substances containing a detectable amount of (i) N-phenyl-N-[1-(2-phenylethyl)-4-piperidinyl] propanamide, commonly known as fentanyl, and (ii) heroin, in violation of 21 U.S.C. § 841(b)(1)(C).

3. The use of such controlled substance, which had been distributed by ALLEN PELOQUIN, a/k/a "Ace," the defendant, resulted in the death of Victim-2 on or about February 12, 2020, in Carmel, New York.

(Title 21, United States Code, Sections 812, 841(a)(1), and 841(b)(1)(C);
Title 18, United States Code, Section 2.)

COUNT TWO
(Narcotics Distribution)

4. On or about May 7, 2020, in the Southern District of New York and elsewhere, ALLEN PELOQUIN, a/k/a “Ace,” the defendant, intentionally and knowingly did distribute and possess with intent to distribute a controlled substance, in violation of 21 U.S.C. § 841(a)(1).

5. The controlled substance involved in the offense was a quantity of mixtures and substances containing a detectable amount of (i) N-phenyl-N-[1-(2-phenylethyl)-4-piperidinyl] propanamide, commonly known as fentanyl, and (ii) heroin, in violation of 21 U.S.C. § 841(b)(1)(C).

6. The use of such controlled substance, which had been distributed by ALLEN PELOQUIN, a/k/a “Ace,” the defendant, resulted in the death of Victim-4 on or about May 10, 2020, in Poughkeepsie, New York.

(Title 21, United States Code, Sections 812, 841(a)(1), and (841(b)(1)(C);
Title 18, United States Code, Section 2.)

COUNT THREE
(Narcotics Conspiracy)

7. From at least in or about January 2020, up to and including at least in or about May 2020, in the Southern District of New York and elsewhere, ALLEN PELOQUIN, a/k/a “Ace,” the defendant, and others known and unknown, intentionally and knowingly did combine, conspire, confederate, and agree together and with each other to violate the narcotics laws of the United States.

8. It was a part and an object of the conspiracy that ALLEN PELOQUIN, a/k/a “Ace,” the defendant, would and did distribute and possess with the intent to distribute controlled substances, in violation of 21 U.S.C. § 841(a)(1).

9. The controlled substances that ALLEN PELOQUIN, a/k/a “Ace,” the defendant, conspired to distribute and possess with intent to distribute were (i) mixtures and substances containing a detectable amount of N-phenyl-N-[1-(2-phenylethyl)-4-piperidinyl] propanamide, commonly known as fentanyl, and (ii) heroin, in violation of 21 U.S.C. § 841(b)(1)(C).

10. The use of such controlled substance resulted in the serious bodily injuries and deaths of (i) Victim-1 on or about January 2, 2020; (ii) Victim-2 on or about February 12, 2020; (iii) Victim-3 on or about May 4, 2020; and (iv) Victim-4 on or about May 10, 2020, in violation of 21 U.S.C. § 841(b)(1)(C).

(Title 21, United States Code, Section 846.)

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

11. I am a Special Agent with the Drug Enforcement Administration (“DEA”) 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 and others, as well as my examination of reports 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.

I. Introduction

12. Overdose deaths related to fentanyl have soared in recent years. This problem—part of what is commonly referred to as the “opioid epidemic”—has reached Dutchess County, New York. For example, according to the New York State Department of Health, in 2020 alone, there were approximately 103 opioid overdose deaths in Dutchess County—99 of which involved opioid pain relievers, including illicitly produced opioids such as fentanyl—as well as another 197 opioid overdoses resulting in outpatient emergency department visits, 54 opioid overdoses resulting in hospitalizations, and 378 reported administrations of naloxone.¹ See New York State Department of Health, *New York State – County Opioid Quarterly Report* (Jan. 2022) at 32–33.² The impact of the opioid epidemic is particularly stark when one considers that, according to the United States Census Bureau, as of April 1, 2020, Dutchess County had a population of only 295,911 people.³ In my work, I have learned that many of these overdoses were centered in or otherwise connected to the City of Poughkeepsie and the Town of Poughkeepsie—often referred to jointly simply as “Poughkeepsie”—which constitute about a quarter of the population of Dutchess County.

13. Since at least in or about February 2020, the DEA and the Dutchess County Drug Task Force (the “DCDTF”) have been investigating the distribution and sale of fentanyl-laced heroin in and around Poughkeepsie, New York, by ALLEN PELOQUIN, a/k/a “Ace,” the defendant, and various co-conspirators, known and unknown and not charged herein, that has resulted in multiple fatal and non-fatal overdoses of multiple victims in and around Dutchess County and Putnam County, New York. Indeed, there is probable cause to believe that, with respect to at least two such victims, PELOQUIN personally distributed fentanyl-laced heroin to (1) Victim-2 on

¹ Naloxone—commonly known by the brand names Narcan and Evzio—is a drug used to reverse opioid overdoses.

² Available at https://www.health.ny.gov/statistics/opioid/data/pdf/nys_jan22.pdf.

³ <https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/fact/table/dutchesscountynyork/PST045221>.

or about February 10, 2020, resulting in Victim-2's overdose and death on or about February 12, 2020, in her home in Carmel, New York; and (2) Victim-4 on or about May 7, 2020, resulting in Victim-4's overdose and transport to MidHudson Regional Hospital that same day and his death at the hospital three days later on or about May 10, 2020.

II. ALLEN PELOQUIN's Crew Sells Heroin and Fentanyl With the Stamps "MAMBO KING" and "DOPE DICK," Among Others

14. There is probable cause to believe that ALLEN PELOQUIN, a/k/a "Ace," the defendant, has conspired with others to sell opioids—including heroin laced with fentanyl—in glassine baggies bearing stamps with names like "MAMBO KING," "DOPE DICK," and others in the Poughkeepsie area.⁴ Based on my participation in this investigation, including my review of law enforcement reports and my communications with other law enforcement officers in this investigation, I have learned the following, among other things:

a. In or about June 2020, law enforcement officers arrested an individual upon execution of a search warrant and the recovery of various quantities of narcotics at his residence ("Individual-1"). Individual-1 agreed to speak with law enforcement officers and told them that: (i) Individual-1 sold heroin; (ii) Individual-1's principal suppliers of heroin were PELOQUIN and two other individuals ("CC-1" and "CC-2");⁵ and (3) PELOQUIN had introduced Individual-1 to CC-1 and CC-2 as members of PELOQUIN's "crew."

b. On or about January 2, 2020, Victim-1 was found dead of a fentanyl overdose in a motel in Poughquag, New York (the "Motel") where, as discussed in greater detail below, PELOQUIN lived.⁶ According to phone records, there are multiple calls between Victim-1 and a phone number ending in 6767 associated with

⁴ In my training and experience, I have learned that heroin dealers—including dealers whose heroin is laced with other drugs, like fentanyl—often stamp the bags or glassine envelopes in which they sell their drugs as a form of marketing. These stamps indicate quality or strength to customers and let customers know that the drugs are coming from a specific heroin dealer or his/her organization.

⁵ Individual-1 did not provide full names for PELOQUIN, CC-1, or CC-2. However, law enforcement agents were able to identify them through, among other things, nicknames that Individual-1 provided by which they are commonly known and phone numbers that Individual-1 provided for each of them that were otherwise known to be used by PELOQUIN, CC-1, and CC-2.

⁶ I have reviewed records from the Motel and I have spoken with an employee of the Motel. The records and the information provided confirm that PELOQUIN lived there at all relevant times discussed herein.

CC-1⁷ in the days leading up to Victim-1’s death—from on or about December 25, 2019 to on or about January 2, 2020.⁸ Among the items recovered from Victim-1’s room was a pouch later found to contain a glassine envelope with a red stamp with the words “MAMBO KING” and a trumpet. Law enforcement officers field tested residue from the “MAMBO KING” glassine, and it tested positive for fentanyl. A medical examiner with the Dutchess County Medical Examiner’s Office conducted an autopsy of Victim-1, and determined Victim-1’s cause of death to be acute intoxication by the combined effects of fentanyl and heroin.

c. As discussed in greater detail below, there is evidence that PEL-OQUIN personally provided heroin laced with fentanyl to Victim-2 on or about February 10, 2020—in glassine envelopes with the same red stamp with the words “MAMBO KING” and a trumpet—resulting in Victim-2’s death.

d. During February 2020, law enforcement officers purchased glassine envelopes—each stamped in red with “MAMBO KING” and the same trumpet logo—containing purported heroin from CC-1 in Poughkeepsie on three separate occasions: (i) 10 glassine envelopes on or about February 13, 2020; (ii) 17 glassine envelopes on or about February 18, 2020; and (iii) 20 glassine envelopes on or about February 19, 2020. Lab analysis of the substance in the glassine envelopes from each of the foregoing purchases revealed the presence of heroin and fentanyl and, with respect to the February 18 purchase, also 4-anilino-N-phenethyl-4-piperidine.⁹

e. As discussed in greater detail below, on each of February 14, 2020 and February 19, 2020, PELOQUIN personally sold ten glassine envelopes—all but one of which were stamped in red with “MAMBO KING” and the same trumpet logo—to a confidential informant acting at the direction of law enforcement (the “CI”),¹⁰

⁷ Based on my review of subscriber records, CC-1 is the subscriber of the phone.

⁸ From law enforcement interviews with employees of the Motel, there is reason to believe that Victim-1 died on or before January 1, 2020. The two times that the 6767 number called Victim-1 on January 1 and 2, 2020, the phone records indicate that the call was sent to a voice-message box.

⁹ 4-anilino-N-phenethyl-4-piperidine is a chemical precursor used in the manufacture of, among other things, fentanyl. It is a Schedule II controlled substance, under the proper name of 4-anilino-N-phenethylpiperidine. 21 C.F.R. § 1308.12(g)(3)(i); *see also* Federal Register, Volume 84, Number 26, pages 2448–49 (explaining the nomenclature).

¹⁰ The CI has been working for the DCDTF in exchange for compensation. The information that the CI has provided in connection with this investigation has proven reliable and has been independently corroborated by other evidence.

who knows PELOQUIN as an acquaintance from whom the CI has previously purchased narcotics.

f. On or about February 18, 2020, the CI called PELOQUIN at a phone number ending 5933, which was known to the CI from prior interactions with PELOQUIN, to purchase heroin, and PELOQUIN directed the CI to come to a location in Poughkeepsie. When the CI arrived, the CI called the 5933 number. This time, a woman (“CC-3”) picked up the phone; shortly thereafter CC-3 and another co-conspirator (“CC-4”) met the CI and sold the CI a bundle of glassine envelopes with the stamp “MAMBO KING” and a trumpet logo. A New York State laboratory technician tested the contents of the “MAMBO KING” glassines purchased that day, and determined that they contained heroin, fentanyl, and 4-anilino-N-phenethyl-4-piperidine.

g. On or about May 4, 2020, Victim-3 died of a fentanyl overdose in a room at a hotel in Poughkeepsie (the “Hotel”); law enforcement officers found a glassine envelope with the words “DOPE DICK” stamped on it in red ink in her hotel room.¹¹ A medical examiner with the Dutchess County Medical Examiner’s Office conducted an autopsy of Victim-3 and determined Victim-3’s cause of death to be acute intoxication by the combined effects of fentanyl and cocaine. I spoke with a friend of Victim-3 who told me that: (i) the friend knew that Victim-3 struggled with drug addiction and was in recovery; (ii) on or about May 3, 2020, the friend dropped Victim-3 off at a convenience store in Poughkeepsie, where Victim-3 met a man who she claimed was her boyfriend; and (iii) Victim-3 said that she and her boyfriend were going to stay in a hotel that weekend. Victim-3’s friend provided a description of the man who Victim-3 met, and it is consistent with the appearance of CC-4. After Victim-3’s death, law enforcement officers reviewed her cellphone and found messages sent via Facebook on it between Victim-3 and CC-4, indicating that, on or about May 4, 2020, in the morning, CC-4 had left the Hotel but was planning to return to Victim-3’s room, and that Victim-3 had previously wanted to meet up with CC-2, who was staying in another room at the Hotel. Law enforcement officers also recovered security camera footage from the Hotel which showed Victim-3 and CC-4 arriving together at the hotel on or about May 3, 2020 and later that weekend, CC-2 at the Hotel as well. CC-2 was later interviewed by law enforcement officers, including myself, and he said that he knew Victim-3 and was staying at the Hotel the day she died and that he was in Victim-3’s room on May 3, 2020, the day before she died. While he further claimed that Victim-3 provided him with a couple of bags of heroin while in her room, he also said that PELOQUIN and CC-3 were staying in the Hotel that weekend, too.

¹¹ In my training and experience, I have learned that heroin dealers who are concerned about law enforcement attention—for example, those who learn that a customer using one of their stamped products overdoses or dies and there is a strong possibility that law enforcement recovered the stamped bag or glassine envelope—will often change their stamps in order to deflect law enforcement attention.

h. As described in greater detail below, there is evidence that, on or about May 7, 2020, PELOQUIN personally sold glassine envelopes with the “DOPE DICK” stamp on them and containing heroin laced with fentanyl to Victim-4, resulting in Victim-4’s overdose death.

15. I have reviewed call detail records for phone numbers ending in: (i) 6980, described in greater detail below as the number ALLEN PELOQUIN, a/k/a “Ace,” the defendant, provided to Victim-2 as his phone number on or about February 9, 2020, three days before she died; (ii) 6767 for which the subscriber was listed as CC-1, and which was in contact with Victim-1 in the days leading up to his death; and (iii) 6260, which Individual-1 provided to law enforcement officers as a number associated with CC-2. Based on my review of these records, I know the following:

a. Between on or about January 1, 2020, and on or about February 18, 2020, PELOQUIN’s 6980 number and CC-1’s 6767 number were in contact over 200 times.

b. Between on or about January 1, 2020, and on or about February 12, 2020, CC-1’s 6767 number and CC-2’s 6260 number were in contact over 400 times.

c. Between on or about February 9, 2020, and on or about February 14, 2020—*i.e.*, immediately around the time of Victim-2’s death—PELOQUIN’s 6980 number and CC-2’s 6260 number were in contact approximately 39 times.

III. ALLEN PELOQUIN’s Personal Distribution of Heroin and Fentanyl

A. February 10, 2020: ALLEN PELOQUIN Sells “MAMBO KING” Fentanyl-Laced Heroin Directly to Victim-2, Resulting in Victim-2’s Death

16. Based on my review of reports and records in this investigation, my communications with other law enforcement officers, and my own participation in this investigation, I know the following:

a. On or about February 12, 2020, Victim-2’s mother found Victim-2, dead from a heroin/fentanyl overdose, in Victim-2’s bedroom in the house she shared with her mother. Victim-2 had “MAMBO KING” glassine envelopes in her room. Victim-2’s mother told both me and other law enforcement that Victim-2 had a history of heroin use and addiction.

b. In the months leading up to Victim-2’s overdose death, Victim-2 communicated via messages sent through Facebook with an individual listed in Victim-2’s cell phone as “Allen Peloquin” and later confirmed to be ALLEN PELOQUIN, a/k/a “Ace,” the defendant, as set forth herein. For example:

i. On or about October 6, 2019, Victim-2 asked PELOQUIN if she could come see him, and PELOQUIN responded, “Yeah” and provided her with the address and name of the Motel where PELOQUIN lived and where Victim-1 overdosed and was found dead on or about January 2, 2020. PELOQUIN explained that “[i]t’s a hotel,” and “DSS pays for it.”¹²

ii. On or about February 3, 2020, after remaining in communication via numerous messages on Facebook over the prior months, Victim-2 and PELOQUIN exchanged messages through Facebook, in which they discussed Victim-2 coming to see PELOQUIN again, which, based on the messages exchanged, including PELOQUIN reminding Victim-2 of “where the room is” and Victim-2 telling PELOQUIN that she “[j]ust pulled in.”

iii. On or about February 9, 2020, Victim-2 and PELOQUIN exchanged the following messages through Facebook, starting at approximately 9:20 p.m.:

Victim-2: Hey anyway u can put an 80 to the side for me if u have?^[13]

PELOQUIN: For ???? Lol

¹² Based on my research and experience working in and around Dutchess County, I understand “DSS” to be a reference to the Dutchess County Department of Social Services, also known as the Department of Community and Family Services (the “Dutchess County DCFS”). Based on my review of records and information obtained from the Motel, I know that ALLEN PELOQUIN, a/k/a “Ace,” the defendant, resided in housing provided by Dutchess County DCFS at the Motel from in or about July 2019 to on or about June 2020 and that no other individual also by the same name resided at the Motel during that time. I further know from the Motel records that PELOQUIN specifically resided in Room 115 in or about January and February 2020. As described in great detail below, PELOQUIN sold fentanyl-laced heroin to an individual acting at the direction of law enforcement out of Room 115 at the Motel on or about February 19, 2020. Based on the foregoing, I believe the “Allen Peloquin” with whom Victim-2 is exchanging Facebook messages to be PELOQUIN.

¹³ Based on my training and experience, including my own participation in this investigation and resulting knowledge of pricing of heroin bundles for sale by PELOQUIN, as further set forth herein, coupled with Victim-2’s history of heroin addiction, I believe Victim-2’s reference to “putting an 80 to the side” means putting a bundle of heroin—that is, approximately 10 bags or glassine envelopes of heroin bundled together for distribution—to the side for Victim-2. My belief is further corroborated by evidence—described in greater detail below—that PELOQUIN sold fentanyl-laced heroin to an individual acting at the direction of law enforcement for \$80 per bundle.

Victim-2: R u joking?

PELOQUIN: Idk I'm so confused

Victim-2 then attempted to call PELOQUIN through the Facebook messaging application at approximately 9:27 p.m., at which point PELOQUIN messaged Victim-2 and directed her to call his phone, providing a number ending in 6980.

c. Location data obtained from Victim-2's phone shows that, after the above exchange on or about February 9, 2020, Victim-2 left the Mobil gas station where she worked at approximately 10:19 p.m. that evening and drove to the Motel. Location data further shows that, at approximately 12:26 a.m. on or about February 10, 2020, Victim-2 left the Motel and returned to her home in Carmel, New York, making a half-hour stop along the way in the vicinity of a different gas station on Route 52 in Carmel, New York. At approximately 1:21 a.m., Victim-2 sent PELOQUIN a message via Facebook, telling him "I'm home."

d. After a series of Facebook messages exchanged between Victim-2 and PELOQUIN on or about February 10 and 11, 2020, Victim-2 sent a message to PELOQUIN on or about February 11, 2020, at approximate 11:37 p.m. and asked, "Did u still wanna hang out tonight?" That was the last Facebook message Victim-2 sent PELOQUIN.

e. On or about February 12, 2020, at approximately 1:40 p.m., Victim-2 was found by her mother, unresponsive and not breathing, lying on the bed in Victim-2's bedroom in her mother's home in Carmel, New York. Victim-2's mother called 911, and law enforcement and emergency medical personnel responded to the scene within minutes but were unable to resuscitate Victim-2. At approximately 1:59 p.m., emergency medical personnel tending to Victim-2 pronounced her dead.

f. In Victim-2's bedroom, law enforcement officers found, among other items: (1) an empty glassine envelope, with "MAMBO KING" and an image of trumpet stamped on it in red ink, with powder residue inside it on the floor; and (2) a second glassine envelope, also with powder residue and the same "MAMBO KING" stamp on it, in a sock on the bed next to Victim-2; and (3) two plastic straws—one cut and one uncut—on the floor.¹⁴ Law enforcement officers did not find any other glassines in Victim-2's bedroom. A photograph of one of the "MAMBO KING" glassine envelopes recovered from Victim-2's bedroom is shown below:

¹⁴ Based on my training and experience, I know that straws like those found on the floor are commonly used to snort powder narcotics, such as heroin and fentanyl.



g. A medical examiner with the Putnam County Coroner's Office, as well as personnel at the Putnam Hospital Center later examined Victim-2, conducting an autopsy and toxicology screen, and determined Victim-2's cause of death to be acute mixed drug intoxication by heroin and fentanyl.

h. DEA Northeast Laboratory analysts tested the residue from one of the "MAMBO KING" glassine envelopes, and it tested positive for the presence of heroin and fentanyl.

B. February 14, 2020: ALLEN PELOQUIN Sells "MAMBO KING" Fentanyl-Laced Heroin Directly to a Confidential Informant

17. Based on my review of law enforcement reports and records, my communications with other law enforcement officers, and my own participation in this investigation, I know the following about a controlled purchase of fentanyl-laced heroin from ALLEN PELOQUIN, a/k/a "Ace," the defendant on or about February 14, 2020:

a. On or about February 14, 2020, at approximately 2:52 p.m., the CI met with law enforcement agents and, at their direction, contacted PELOQUIN at the 5933 number, which the CI reported that the CI had previously used to buy narcotics from PELOQUIN, to arrange to purchase a quantity of narcotics. PELOQUIN told the CI to meet him at a location on Main Street in Poughkeepsie.

b. Before the purchase, law enforcement agents searched the CI for any contraband or large sums of money, confirming he had none, and then outfitted the CI with a recording device and provided the CI with \$100 in cash.

c. A law enforcement agent then drove the CI to near the area where the CI had arranged to meet with PELOQUIN, and dropped the CI off. The CI walked to meet with PELOQUIN, as agreed, at approximately 3:03 p.m. while law enforcement agents performed surveillance. The CI and PELOQUIN walked around the area for a few minutes, during which law enforcement agents overheard from the recording device transmitting audio in real-time a discussion between the two individuals that was consistent with a narcotics transaction.

d. The CI and PELOQUIN then parted ways. The CI met with law enforcement agents shortly thereafter and told them that: (i) the CI told PELOQUIN that the CI needed “a bun”¹⁵; (ii) the CI paid PELOQUIN \$80; and (iii) PELOQUIN handed the CI ten glassine envelopes (i.e., a bundle). The CI gave those ten glassine envelopes to the law enforcement agents; each contained a tan, powdery substance. Nine of the glassine envelopes were stamped “MAMBO KING” with a trumpet in red—identical to the stamps on the glassine envelopes found in Victim-2’s room—and one had no stamp.¹⁶ A photograph of one of those “MAMBO KING” glassine envelopes is shown below:



e. A New York State laboratory technician tested the contents of the “MAMBO KING” glassines purchased that day, and determined that they contained heroin, fentanyl, and 4-anilino-N-phenethyl-4-piperidine.

C. February 19, 2020: ALLEN PELOQUIN Sells “MAMBO KING” Fentanyl-Laced Heroin Directly to a Confidential Informant

18. Based on my review of law enforcement reports and records, my communications with other law enforcement officers, and my own participation in this investigation, I know the following about a controlled purchase of fentanyl-laced heroin from ALLEN PELOQUIN, a/k/a “Ace,” the defendant, on or about February 19, 2020:

a. On or about February 19, 2020, at approximately 4:30 p.m., the CI met with law enforcement agents and, at their direction, contacted PELOQUIN at

¹⁵ I know, from my training and experience, that a “bun” is a common street term for a bundle of heroin.

¹⁶ PELOQUIN appears not to have known yet that his “MAMBO KING” fentanyl-laced heroin had already killed Victim-2; on or about February 19, 2020, at approximately 12:11 a.m., PELOQUIN sent Victim-2 a Facebook message stating, in part, “Hey I’m sorry I got sooo sick a few days after you left the second time”

the 5933 number to arrange to buy drugs. PELOQUIN directed the CI to meet him in Room 115 at the Motel.

b. Before the purchase, law enforcement agents searched the CI for any contraband or large sums of money, confirming he had none, and then outfitted the CI with a recording device and provided the CI with \$80 in cash.

c. The law enforcement agents then drove the CI to the Motel and dropped the CI off at approximately 4:58 p.m. The CI walked to Room 115.

d. A few minutes later, the CI came out of Room 115 and met with the law enforcement agents and told them that: (1) the CI met PELOQUIN in Room 115; (ii) the CI paid PELOQUIN \$80; (iii) PELOQUIN got ten glassine envelopes from a bag that was behind the bed's headboard; and (iv) PELOQUIN handed the ten glassine envelopes to the CI. The CI gave the ten glassine envelopes to the law enforcement agents; each was stamped "MAMBO KING" with a trumpet in red—identical to the stamps on the glassine envelopes found in Victim-2's room—and each contained a tan, powdery substance. A photograph of one of those "MAMBO KING" glassine envelopes is shown below:



e. A New York State laboratory technician tested the contents of the "MAMBO KING" glassines purchased that day, and determined that they contained heroin, fentanyl, and 4-anilino-N-phenethyl-4-piperidine.

D. May 7, 2020: ALLEN PELOQUIN Sells "DOPE DICK" Fentanyl-Laced Heroin Directly to Victim-4, Resulting in Victim-4's Death

19. Based on my review of reports and records in this investigation, my communications with other law enforcement officers, my and other law enforcement officers' conversations with Victim-4's mother, and my own participation in this investigation, I know the following:

a. On or about May 7, 2020, Victim-4's mother found her son, who had overdosed on heroin and fentanyl, unresponsive in her apartment. Victim-4 had two "DOPE DICK" glassine envelopes in his room. Despite attempts to save him, Victim-4 died three days later.

b. Victim-4's mother told law enforcement the following:

i. Victim-4 was a drug addict. Several times before May 7, 2020, Victim-4's mother watched as a man her son referred to as "Ace" sold drugs to her son. Victim-4 and his mother shared a phone; using the phone, Victim-4's mother looked up the phone number that she knew to be Ace's. That number was the same 5933 number that the CI had used to buy heroin from ALLEN PELOQUIN, a/k/a "Ace," the defendant, as discussed above.

ii. Earlier on or about May 7, 2020, Victim-4 asked his mother to give him a ride to a motel outside of Poughkeepsie to pick up drugs. (Victim-4's mother's description of the location of the motel is consistent with the location of the Motel, where PELOQUIN lived). She agreed to do so. That evening, Victim-4's mother hired a car and Victim-4 and his mother went to the motel. After they arrived, Ace came to the car in the parking lot, and sold Victim-4 several bags.

iii. Victim-4 and his mother then returned to her apartment, where Victim-4's mother watched her son inject the drugs immediately. Victim-4 mentioned that the drugs were strong and began to nod off; when his mother saw that her son was non-responsive and had vomit coming from his mouth, she administered naloxone and called 911.

c. Law enforcement and emergency medical personnel responded within minutes. They found Victim-4 without a pulse and worked to resuscitate him, eventually getting a pulse back 20 minutes later and managing to intubate him. Victim-4 was then transported to a local hospital, where he was admitted for further treatment. However, three days later, on May 10, 2020, while still at the hospital, Victim-4 went into cardiac arrest and, despite efforts at resuscitation, died.

d. At the apartment where Victim-4 overdosed, law enforcement officers found: (1) two empty glassine envelopes with residue and the words "DOPE DICK" stamped on them;¹⁷ (2) a hypodermic needle; and (3) the cellphone that Victim-4 shared with his mother.

e. A medical examiner with the Dutchess County Medical Examiner's Office later examined Victim-4, conducting an autopsy and toxicology screen of blood taken from Victim-4 on May 7, 2020, and determined Victim-4's cause of death

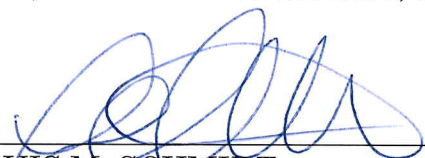
¹⁷ The "DOPE DICK" stamp on the glassine envelopes found by where Victim-4 overdosed appears to be the same as the "DOPE DICK" stamp on the glassine envelope found by where Victim-3 overdosed.

to be acute intoxication by the combined effects of fentanyl, heroin, and 5-fluoro-MDMB-PICA.¹⁸

IV. Conclusion

20. Based on the foregoing, I believe there is probable cause to believe that ALLEN PELOQUIN, a/k/a "Ace," the defendant, (i) sold fentanyl-laced heroin to Victim-2, resulting in Victim-2's overdose death; (ii) sold fentanyl-laced heroin to Victim-4, Victim-4's overdose death; and (iii) participated in a conspiracy to distribute and possess with intent to distribute heroin and fentanyl, resulting in the overdose deaths of—at least—Victim-2, Victim-4, Victim-1, and Victim-3.

WHEREFORE, I respectfully request that a warrant be issued for the arrest of ALLEN PELOQUIN, a/k/a "Ace," the defendant, and that he be arrested, and imprisoned or bailed, as the case may be.



LOUIS M. SCHMIDT
Special Agent
Drug Enforcement Administration



THE HONORABLE JUDITH C. McCARTHY
UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

3-29-2022

¹⁸ 5-fluoro-MDMB-PICA is a synthetic cannabinoid and a Schedule I controlled substance.