

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

**UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**

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**CRIMINAL DOCKET NO. 11-287**

**v.**

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**SECTION: "I"**

**STEVE WHITE**

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**FACTUAL BASIS**

The above-named defendant **STEVE WHITE** and has agreed to plead guilty as charged to Count One of the Superseding Indictment returned by the grand jury on January 19, 2012, now pending against him, and to affirm that he has been previously convicted of felony drug offenses as alleged in a Bill of Information filed pursuant to Title 21, United States Code, Section 851(a). 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, **STEVE WHITE** ("**WHITE**"):

Unless stated otherwise, all events set forth herein occurred in the Eastern District of Louisiana. These facts do not necessarily constitute each and every detail of the investigation.

Beginning in January 2011, the Federal Bureau of Investigation (“FBI”) New Orleans Gang Task Force (“NOGTF”), together with the New Orleans Police Department (“NOPD”) and Jefferson Parish Sheriff’s Office (“JPSO”) were investigating heroin trafficking in different areas of the Eastern District of Louisiana. Defendant **WHITE** and co-defendant JEROME TUMBLIN were identified as conspirators and traffickers of heroin during the investigation. **WHITE** would supply TUMBLIN with distributable amounts of heroin knowing that TUMBLIN would further distribute it to others. The following are some examples of their involvement in the conspiracy:

***Controlled purchase of heroin from WHITE and TUMBLIN on August 30, 2011***

On or about August 30, 2011, NOGTF utilized a confidential informant to purchase one-half ounce of heroin from TUMBLIN and **WHITE**. TUMBLIN, driving a white Infiniti, picked up the informant, and the two drove to an area on Franklin Avenue in New Orleans, Louisiana, in the vicinity of the Happy Discount store, which is in the 5300 block of Franklin Avenue. TUMBLIN’s girlfriend drove the vehicle. **WHITE**, also known as “Grills,” subsequently drove up in a blue Camaro. TUMBLIN got out of the vehicle and got into the Camaro. TUMBLIN then exited the Camaro and returned to his vehicle having just purchased approximately two ounces of heroin from **WHITE**. TUMBLIN drove to a nearby car wash where he sold the informant one-half ounce of heroin from the two-ounce amount he had just purchased from **WHITE**. The informant subsequently met with NOGTF and handed over the heroin he had purchased, which weighed approximately 13 grams and field tested positive for the presence of heroin.

***Controlled purchase of heroin from WHITE and TUMBLIN on September 9, 2011***

On or about September 9, 2011, NOGTF utilized a confidential informant to purchase

one-half ounce of heroin from TUMBLIN and **WHITE**. After talking on the phone, TUMBLIN picked up the informant in TUMBLIN's Infiniti, and the two drove to **TUMBLIN's** residence in Chalmette. From there, the two traveled throughout New Orleans and Metairie. Eventually, TUMBLIN drove near the R & R Barber Shop, near the intersection of Franklin Avenue and Robert E. Lee Boulevard in New Orleans, Louisiana.

While there, **WHITE** drove up in his blue Camaro. TUMBLIN exited his vehicle and entered **WHITE's** vehicle where **WHITE** distributed a quantity of heroin to TUMBLIN. After about two minutes, TUMBLIN exited **WHITE's** vehicle and re-entered his Infiniti. Both TUMBLIN and **WHITE** departed the area.

TUMBLIN and the informant drove back to the informant's residence, where TUMBLIN distributed a quantity of the heroin he had obtained from **WHITE** to the informant. Afterwards, the informant met with NOGTF and handed over the heroin he had purchased directly from TUMBLIN, which field tested positive for the presence of heroin.

***Controlled Purchase of heroin on September 15, 2011***

On or about September 15, 2011, NOGTF utilized a confidential informant to purchase one-half ounce of heroin from TUMBLIN and **WHITE**. TUMBLIN picked up the informant in TUMBLIN's Infiniti. The two traveled to TUMBLIN's residence in Chalmette and then to the R & R Barber Shop in New Orleans. While there, **WHITE** drove up in his blue Camaro. TUMBLIN entered the Camaro, and then exited and returned to his vehicle, having purchased heroin from **WHITE**. TUMBLIN then sold one-half ounce of heroin to the informant from the amount he had purchased from **WHITE**. TUMBLIN then dropped off the informant, who subsequently gave the one-half ounce of heron he had purchased directly from TUMBLIN to law

enforcement. Meanwhile, following the transaction between TUMBLIN and **WHITE**, law enforcement observed **WHITE**'s Camaro to a residence at 4926 Arts Street, New Orleans, Louisiana.

*Seizure of heroin from WHITE*

On or about September 27, 2011, agents learned that TUMBLIN had spoken with **WHITE** and that **WHITE** was going to front, or provide on consignment, TUMBLIN with four ounces of heroin. This transaction was to take place near the Happy Discount. With this knowledge, the NOGTF initiated surveillance on previous meeting locations wherein **WHITE** and TUMBLIN had been observed, including the Happy Discount. NOGTF also initiated surveillance of **WHITE**'s residence located at 4926 Arts Street, New Orleans, Louisiana. NOGTF observed TUMBLIN's 2005 Infiniti G35 at the Happy Discount store, which was located just a few blocks from 4926 Arts Street.

At approximately 3:57 p.m., **WHITE** arrived at 4926 Arts Street, New Orleans in his Camaro. **WHITE** exited his Camaro and entered 4926 Arts Street. After a short period inside of the residence, **WHITE** exited the residence, re-entered his Camaro, drove north on Arts Street from the residence, and turned eastbound on Selma.

At approximately 4:00 p.m., the NOGTF stopped **WHITE** at the intersection of Selma and Painters Streets, New Orleans, Louisiana, which is approximately one to two blocks from 4926 Arts Street, and only a few blocks from the Happy Discount store. **WHITE** was removed from the vehicle. After being advised of his rights, **WHITE** indicated that what the officers were looking for was in his front pocket. During a subsequent pat down of **WHITE**, a baggie of off-white powder was discovered. When asked where he lived, **WHITE** responded that he lived on

South Scott Street in New Orleans. He denied living at 4926 Arts Street and denied just coming from 4926 Arts Street.

During this time, agents were conducting surveillance of TUMBLIN, who continued to drive between R&R Barbershop and Happy Discount. Eventually, TUMBLIN left the area.

On October 4, 2011, the New Orleans Police Department Crime Lab tested and weighed the off-white powder that had been seized from **WHITE** on September 27, 2011. The powder tested positive for heroin hydrochloride and had a net weight of 111.2 grams.

***WHITE's jail phone call to his father***

On September 27, 2011, while incarcerated at Orleans Parish Prison, **WHITE** placed a recorded outgoing call to his father. The pertinent parts of the conversation included the following: **WHITE** told his father, "Them people had ran up on me today." **WHITE's** father asked, "What they got off you?" **WHITE** replied, "They got four ounces and, uh, I don't know if they got them guns yet, I don't know yet." **WHITE's** father responded, "Well, don't say nothing about what they are, you know, about that. I just want to know what they got off you." **WHITE** said, "That's all they got off me." **WHITE's** father asked, "What it was?" **WHITE** replied, "Uh, four ounces." **WHITE's** father said, "Four ounces." **WHITE** said, "Yeah. That's all." **WHITE's** father asked, "What that was? Heroin, cocaine, or weed, or what?" **WHITE** stated, "Yeah. That's what it was. Heroin." **WHITE's** father repeated, "Heroin." **WHITE** then said, "Umm hmm." **WHITE's** father then said, "Ok. That's what I was told." **WHITE** went on to say that he was stopped in his car. **WHITE's** father asked where **WHITE** was when it happened. **WHITE** said, "Around the corner from my house."

***WHITE's prior felony convictions for drug offenses***

**WHITE** had previously been convicted of the following felony drug offenses: a conviction on or about December 23, 1992, in case number 359-576 "C" in the Criminal District Court for the Parish of Orleans, State of Louisiana, for possession of crack, in violation of La. R.S. 40:967(C)(2); a conviction on or about November 22, 1996, in case number 96-2849 in the 24th Judicial District Court for the Parish of Jefferson, State of Louisiana, for two counts of distribution of cocaine, in violation of La. R.S. 40:967(A)(1); and a conviction on or about May 7, 2004, in case number 431-925 "C" in the Criminal District Court for the Parish of Orleans, State of Louisiana, for possession with intent to distribute crack cocaine, in violation of La. R.S. 40:967(A)(1).

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KEVIN G. BOITMANN  
Assistant United States Attorney

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STEVE WHITE  
Defendant

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IKE SPEARS  
Attorney for Steve White