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6 Attorneys for Plaintiff  
United States of America  
7

8 IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
9 EASTERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

10 UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,  
11 Plaintiff,  
12 v.  
13 JAMAR JONES,  
14 STEPHANIE FERREIRA, and  
JERMEN RUDD III  
15 Defendants.  
16

CASE NO. 1:24-CR-00209-KES-BAM

21 U.S.C. § 846, 841(a)(1) – Conspiracy to Distribute and Possess with Intent to Distribute AB-CHMINACA and MDMB-4en-PINACA, commonly referred to as “Spice”; 18 U.S.C § 1791(a)(2), (b)(2) – Inmate Obtaining or Attempting to Obtain a Controlled Substance; 18 U.S.C § 1791(a)(1), (b)(2) – Providing or Attempting to Provide an Inmate with Controlled Substance; 21 U.S.C. § 853(a) – Criminal Forfeiture

17  
18 INDICTMENT

19 INTRODUCTORY ALLEGATIONS

20 1. At all times relevant to this Indictment, United States Penitentiary Atwater (“USP  
21 Atwater”) was a federal penitentiary of the United States Bureau of Prisons located in Merced County in  
22 the State and Eastern District of California.

23 2. USP Atwater was a “prison” as defined in 18 U.S.C. § 1791(d)(4).

24 3. In July and August 2024, Defendant JAMAR JONES was an inmate at USP Atwater.

25 4. USP Atwater established a screening protocol for incoming mail to detect and remove  
26 contraband—that is, items that were illegal or not allowed in federal penitentiaries.

27 5. “Legal mail” is a special class of mail in federal penitentiaries including USP Atwater.  
28 Legal mail involves correspondence from or to an inmate’s legal counsel. Because this mail may

1 contain important legal documents, it is subject to different screening procedures than ordinary mail.

2 6. USP Atwater policy requires that staff members may only open a parcel of legal mail in  
3 the presence of the inmate to whom the mail is addressed.

4 7. AB-CHMINACA and MDMB-4en-PINACA were Schedule I controlled substances.  
5 These substances are sythnetic cannabinoids, made to mimic the chemical affects of the active chemical  
6 ingredient in marijuana. Synthetic cannabinoids are sold illegally under a variety of street names. One  
7 of the most common street names for synthetic cannabinoids is "Spice."

8 8. On July 13, 2024, and again on July 15, 2024, defendant JONES directed defendant  
9 FERREIRA via an inmate telephone call to contact defendant RUDD and request that RUDD send  
10 JONES narcotics.

11 9. FERREIRA later contacted RUDD and explained to RUDD how to send mail to the  
12 prison as certified legal mail so that it would not be intercepted by prison authorities.

13 10. Thereafter, RUDD prepared narcotics-laced papers by soaking sheets of paper in a liquid  
14 narcotics solution.

15 11. On July 19, 2024, RUDD drove to a post office in Wentzville, Missouri with narcotics-  
16 laced papers in a parcel labeled as legal mail addressed to JAMAR JONES at USP Atwater and mailed  
17 the parcel to JONES.

18 12. On July 25, 2024, JAMAR JONES received the narcotics-laced parcel RUDD mailed on  
19 July 19, 2024.

20 13. On July 26, 2024, JAMAR JONES called STEPHANIE FERREIRA and directed her to  
21 have JERMEN RUDD send another parcel of narcotics-laced mail.

22 14. Thereafter, FERREIRA contacted RUDD and requested he send an additional parcel of  
23 narcotics.

24 15. Thereafter, RUDD prepared narcotics-laced papers by soaking sheets of paper in a liquid  
25 narcotics solution containing a detectable amount of AB-CHMINACA and MDMB-4en-PINACA.

26 16. On August 6, 2024, RUDD drove to a post office in Wentzville, Missouri with narcotics-  
27 laced papers containing a detectable amount of AB-CHMINACA and MDMB-4en-PINACA. RUDD  
28 placed the narcotics-laced papers in a parcel labeled as legal mail addressed to JAMAR JONES at USP

1 Atwater. RUDD mailed the parcel to JONES.

2 17. On August 9, 2024, the parcel with the narcotics-laced papers arrived at USP Atwater. It  
3 was routed to the mailroom.

4 18. At 11:36 A.M., Victim 1, a correctional officer and the mailroom supervisor, opened the  
5 parcel containing narcotics-laced papers and removed the papers from the envelope. The papers were  
6 obviously impregnated with a foreign substance. Victim 1 made a photocopy of the narcotics-laced  
7 papers and then handed the papers to Victim 2, another correctional officer assigned to the mailroom.

8 19. Victim 1 and Victim 2 immediately began to feel ill. At approximately 11:50 A.M.,  
9 correctional officers called for a medical evaluation of Victim 1.

10 20. Medical staff saw Victim 1 at approximately 12:00 P.M. At approximately 12:06 P.M.,  
11 medical staff requested an ambulance for Victim 1.

12 21. At approximately 12:23 P.M., ambulance staff contacted Victim 1 at USP Atwater. The  
13 ambulance left USP Atwater with Victim 1 at approximately 12:39 P.M. to transport Victim 1 to a local  
14 hospital.

15 22. At 12:56 P.M., ambulance staff observed Victim 1's muscles tense, at which point he fell  
16 unconscious. Monitoring equipment registered that Victim 1 had no pulse. Ambulance staff, and later  
17 hospital staff, attempted to resuscitate Victim 1. Those efforts were unsuccessful, and Victim 1 died.

18 **[Remainder of page intentionally left blank.]**

1 COUNT ONE: [21 U.S.C. §§ 846, 841(a)(1) – Conspiracy to Distribute and Possess with Intent to  
2 Distribute AB-CHMINACA and MDMB-4en-PINACA, Commonly Referred to as  
3 Spice]

4 The Grand Jury charges:

5 JAMAR JONES,  
6 STEPHANIE FERREIRA, and  
7 JERMEN RUDD III,

8 as follows:

9 23. The allegations contained in paragraphs 1 through 22 of this Indictment are re-alleged  
10 and incorporated herein by reference.

11 24. Beginning on a date unknown to the Grand Jury, but no later than on or about July 13,  
12 2024, and continuing through on or about August 9, 2024, in the County of Merced, State and Eastern  
13 District of California, and elsewhere, the defendants, JAMAR JONES, STEPHANIE FERREIRA, and  
14 JERMEN RUDD III, and others known and unknown to the Grand Jury, did conspire and agree with  
15 each other to knowingly and intentionally distribute and possess with intent to distribute AB-  
16 CHMINACA and MDMB-4en-PINACA, commonly referred to as “Spice,” all in violation of Title 21,  
17 United States Code, Sections 846 and 841(a)(1).

18 25. It is further alleged that JAMAR JONES had been previously convicted of a serious drug  
19 felony, to wit Conspiracy to Distribute Methamphetamine in violation of 21 U.S.C. § 846, on or about  
20 November 10, 2020, in the Southern District of Indiana.

21 26. It is further alleged that JERMEN RUDD III had been previously convicted of a serious  
22 drug felony, to wit Possession with Intent to Distribute Heroin in violation of 21 U.S.C. § 841(a)(1), on  
23 or about October 29, 2013, in the Eastern District of Missouri.

24 COUNT TWO: [18 U.S.C. § 1791(a)(2), (b)(2) – Inmate Obtaining or Attempting to Obtain a  
25 Controlled Substance]

26 The Grand Jury further charges:

27 JAMAR JONES,

28 as follows:

29 27. The allegations contained in paragraphs 1 through 22 of this Indictment are re-alleged

1 and incorporated herein by reference.

2 28. On or about August 9, 2024, in the County of Merced, in the State and Eastern District of  
3 California, and elsewhere, the defendant, JAMAR JONES, being an inmate of a prison, the United  
4 States Penitentiary at Atwater, did knowingly obtain or attempt to obtain a prohibited object.

5 29. It is further alleged that the prohibited object contained a detectable amount of AB-  
6 CHMINACA and MDMB-4en-PINACA, Schedule I controlled substances, commonly referred to as  
7 “Spice.”

8 All in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Sections 1791(a)(2) and (b)(2).  
9

10 COUNT THREE: [18 U.S.C. § 1791(a)(1), (b)(2) – Providing or Attempting to Provide Inmate with a  
11 Controlled Substance]

12 The Grand Jury further charges:

13 STEPHANIE FERREIRA, and  
14 JERMEN RUDD III,

15 as follows:

16 30. The allegations contained in paragraphs 1 through 22 of this Indictment are re-alleged  
17 and incorporated herein by reference.

18 31. On or about August 9, 2024, in the County of Merced, in the State and Eastern District of  
19 California, and elsewhere, the defendants, STEPHANIE FERREIRA and JERMEN RUDD III,  
20 knowingly provided or attempted to provide in violation of a statute or rule or order issued under a  
21 statute, a prohibited object, specifically a Schedule I Controlled Substance, to an inmate of a prison, the  
22 United States Penitentiary at Atwater.

23 32. It is further alleged that the prohibited object contained a detectable amount of AB-  
24 CHMINACA and MDMB-4en-PINACA, Schedule I controlled substances, commonly referred to as  
25 “Spice.”

26 All in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Sections 1791(a)(1) and (b)(2).  
27  
28

1 FORFEITURE ALLEGATION: [18 U.S.C. § 21 U.S.C. § 853(a) – Criminal Forfeiture]

2 33. Upon conviction of the offenses alleged in Count One, defendants JAMAR JONES,  
3 STEPHANIE FERREIRA, and JERMEN RUDD III shall forfeit to the United States pursuant to Title  
4 21, United States Code, Section 853(a), the following property:

5 a. All right, title, and interest in any and all property involved in violation of Title  
6 21, United States Code, Section 841(a)(1), or conspiracy to commit such offense, for which  
7 defendants are convicted, and all property traceable to such property, including the following: all  
8 real or personal property, which constitutes or is derived from proceeds obtained, directly or  
9 indirectly, as a result of such offense; and all property used, or intended to be used, in any  
10 manner or part to commit or to facilitate the commission of the offense.

11 b. A sum of money equal to the total amount of proceeds obtained as a result of the  
12 offense, or conspiracy to commit such offense, for which defendants are convicted.

13 34. If any property subject to forfeiture, as a result of the offenses alleged in this Indictment,  
14 for which defendant is convicted:

- 15 a. cannot be located upon the exercise of due diligence;
- 16 b. has been transferred or sold to, or deposited with, a third party;
- 17 c. has been placed beyond the jurisdiction of the Court;
- 18 d. has been substantially diminished in value; or
- 19 e. has been commingled with other property which cannot be divided without  
20 difficulty;

21 **[Remainder of page intentionally left blank.]**

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1 it is the intent of the United States, pursuant to Title 28, United States Code, Section 2461(c),  
2 incorporating Title 21, United States Code, Section 853(p), to seek forfeiture of any other property of  
3 the defendants, up to the value of the property subject to forfeiture.

4  
5 A TRUE BILL.

6 /s/ Signature on file w/AUSA

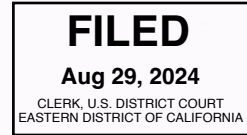
7  
8 FOREPERSON

9  
10 PHILLIP A. TALBERT  
11 United States Attorney

12 **HENRY Z. CARBAJAL for**

13  
14 KIMBERLY A. SANCHEZ  
15 Assistant United States Attorney  
16 Chief, Fresno Office

No. \_\_\_\_\_



**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT**

*Eastern District of California*

*Criminal Division*

1:24-CR-00209-KES-BAM

**THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**

vs.

**JAMAR JONES,  
STEPHANIE FERREIRA, and  
JERMEN RUDD III**

INDICTMENT

**VIOLATION(S): 21 U.S.C. § 846, 841(a)(1) – Conspiracy to Distribute and Possess with Intent to Distribute AB-CHMINACA and MDMB-4en-PINACA, commonly referred to as “Spice”; 18 U.S.C § 1791(a)(2), (b)(2) – Inmate Obtaining or Attempting to Obtain a Controlled Substance; 18 U.S.C § 1791(a)(1), (b)(2) – Providing or Attempting to Provide an Inmate with Controlled Substance; 21 U.S.C. § 853(a) – Criminal Forfeiture**

*A true bill,*

*/s/*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Foreman.*

*Filed in open court this \_\_\_\_\_ day*

*of \_\_\_\_\_, A.D. 20 \_\_\_\_\_*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Clerk.*

*Bail, \$ \_\_\_\_\_ AS PREVIOUSLY SET \_\_\_\_\_ And to be placed on calendar for arraignment upon transport arrival 8/29/24*

*B. McAuliffe*



AO 257

Matter in USAO prior to Feb. 7, 2024 (KES conflict)  YES  NO

PER 18 U.S.C. 3170

(CAED rev. 4/2024)

**DEFENDANT INFORMATION RELATIVE TO A CRIMINAL ACTION -- IN U.S. DISTRICT COURT**

BY  COMPLAINT  INFORMATION  INDICTMENT  
 SUPERSEDING: CASE No.

Name of District Court, and/or Judge/Magistrate Judge Location (City)  
**EASTERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA, FRESNO**

**OFFENSE CHARGED**

- Petty
- Minor
- Misdemeanor
- Felony

Place of offense  
Merced County

U.S.C. Citation  
Please see charging document

**DEFENDANT -- U.S. vs.**

**JAMAR JONES**

Address

Birth Date

- Male  Alien
- Female (if applicable)

(Optional unless a juvenile)

**PROCEEDING**

Name of Complainant Agency, or Person (& Title, if any)

SA Ben White, FBI

person is awaiting trial in another Federal or State Court, give name of court

this person/proceeding is transferred from another district per FRCrP  20  21  40. Show District

this is a re prosecution of charges previously dismissed which were dismissed on motion of:

U.S. Att'y  Defense

SHOW DOCKET NO.

this prosecution relates to a pending case involving this same defendant

prior proceedings or appearance(s) before U.S. Magistrate Judge regarding this defendant were recorded under

MAGISTRATE JUDGE CASE NO. 24-mj-95

**DEFENDANT**

**IS NOT IN CUSTODY**

- 1)  Has not been arrested, pending outcome of this proceeding  
If not detained, give date any prior summons was served on above charges
- 2)  Is a Fugitive
- 3)  Is on Bail or Release from (show District)

**IS IN CUSTODY**

- 4)  On this charge
- 5)  On another conviction
- 6)  Awaiting trial on other charges  Fed'l  State  
If answer to (6) is "Yes," show name of institution

Has detainer been filed?

- Yes
- No

If "Yes," give date filed

Mo. Day Year

DATE OF ARREST

Or . . . if Arresting Agency & Warrant were not Federal

Mo. Day Year

DATE TRANSFERRED TO U.S. CUSTODY

This report amends AO 257 previously submitted

Name and Office of Person Furnishing Information on THIS FORM

MELINA ORTIZ

U.S. Att'y  Other U.S. Agency

Name of Asst. U.S. Att'y (if assigned)

ROBERT VENEMAN-HUGHES

FORFEITURE ALLEGATION

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION OR COMMENTS**

DEFENDANT IS IN PROCESS OF BEING TRANSFERRED TO EDCA

AO 257

Matter in USAO prior to Feb. 7, 2024 (KES conflict)  YES  NO

PER 18 U.S.C. 3170

(CAED rev. 4/2024)

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**OFFENSE CHARGED**

- Petty
- Minor
- Misdemeanor
- Felony

Place of offense  
Merced County

U.S.C. Citation \_\_\_\_\_  
Please see charging document

**DEFENDANT -- U.S. vs.**  
**STEPHANIE FERREIRA**

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Birth Date \_\_\_\_\_

- Male  Alien
- Female (if applicable)

(Optional unless a juvenile)

**PROCEEDING**

Name of Complainant Agency, or Person (& Title, if any)

SA Ben White, FBI

person is awaiting trial in another Federal or State Court, give name of court \_\_\_\_\_

this person/proceeding is transferred from another district per FRCrP  20  21  40. Show District \_\_\_\_\_

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MELINA ORTIZ

U.S. Att'y  Other U.S. Agency

Name of Asst. U.S. Att'y (if assigned) | ROBERT VENEMAN-HUGHES

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Mo. Day Year

DATE OF ARREST \_\_\_\_\_

Or ... if Arresting Agency & Warrant were not Federal  
Mo. Day Year

DATE TRANSFERRED TO U.S. CUSTODY \_\_\_\_\_

This report amends AO 257 previously submitted

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION OR COMMENTS**

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AO 257  
(CAED rev. 4/2024)

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PER 18 U.S.C. 3170

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**OFFENSE CHARGED**

- Petty
- Minor
- Misdemeanor
- Felony

**DEFENDANT -- U.S. vs.**  
JERMEN RUDD III

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Birth Date \_\_\_\_\_  Male  Alien  
 Female (if applicable)

(Optional unless a juvenile)

Place of offense  
Merced County

U.S.C. Citation \_\_\_\_\_  
Please see charging document

**PROCEEDING**

Name of Complainant Agency, or Person (& Title, if any)

SA Ben White, FBI

person is awaiting trial in another Federal or State Court, give name of court \_\_\_\_\_

this person/proceeding is transferred from another district per FRCrP  20  21  40. Show District \_\_\_\_\_

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 U.S. Att'y  Defense SHOW DOCKET NO. \_\_\_\_\_

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Mo. Day Year

**DATE OF ARREST** \_\_\_\_\_

Or . . . if Arresting Agency & Warrant were not Federal  
Mo. Day Year

**DATE TRANSFERRED TO U.S. CUSTODY** \_\_\_\_\_

This report amends AO 257 previously submitted

Name and Office of Person Furnishing Information on THIS FORM  
MELINA ORTIZ

U.S. Att'y  Other U.S. Agency

Name of Asst. U.S. Att'y (if assigned) | ROBERT VENEMAN-HUGHES

FORFEITURE ALLEGATION

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION OR COMMENTS**

DEFENDANT IS IN PROCESS OF BEING TRANSFERRED TO EDCA

**United States v. JAMAR JONES, et al.**  
**Penalties for Indictment**

**JAMAR JONES**

**COUNT 1:**

**VIOLATION:** 21 USC § 841(a)(1), 846  
Conspiracy to Distribute and Distribution of a Controlled Substance,  
to wit AB-CHMINACA and MDMB-4en-PINACA, commonly known as "Spice"  
with prior serious felony drug conviction

**PENALTIES:** Maximum of 30 years in prison,  
Fine of up to \$250,000; or both fine and imprisonment  
6 years to life on supervised release

**SPECIAL ASSESSMENT:** \$100 (mandatory)

**COUNT 2:**

**VIOLATION:** 18 USC § 1791(a)(2), (b)(2)  
Inmate Obtaining or Attempting to Obtain Controlled Substance

**PENALTIES:** Maximum of 10 years in prison,  
Fine of up to \$250,000; or both fine and imprisonment  
3 years supervised release

**SPECIAL ASSESSMENT:** \$100 (mandatory)

**STEPHANIE FERREIRA**

**COUNT 1:**

**VIOLATION:** 21 USC § 841(a)(1), 846  
Conspiracy to Distribute and Distribution of a Controlled Substance,  
to wit AB-CHMINACA and MDMB-4en-PINACA, commonly known as "Spice"

**PENALTIES:** Maximum of 20 years in prison,  
Fine of up to \$250,000; or both fine and imprisonment  
3 years to life on supervised release

**SPECIAL ASSESSMENT:** \$100 (mandatory)

**COUNT 3:**

**VIOLATION:** 18 USC § 1791(a)(2), (b)(2)  
Providing or Attempting to Provide Inmate with Controlled Substance

**PENALTIES:** Maximum of 10 years in prison,  
Fine of up to \$250,000; or both fine and imprisonment  
3 years supervised release

**SPECIAL ASSESSMENT:** \$100 (mandatory)

**JERMAN RUDD III**

**COUNT 1:**

**VIOLATION:** 21 USC § 841(a)(1), 846  
Conspiracy to Distribute and Distribution of a Controlled Substance,  
to wit AB-CHMINACA and MDMB-4en-PINACA, commonly known as “Spice”  
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3 years supervised release

**SPECIAL ASSESSMENT:** \$100 (mandatory)