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IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS
DALLAS DIVISION

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

v.

JAMARIUS MICAH WALKER (1)
a/k/a Walkdown
a/k/a Walkdown5
a/k/a WD5
TYRONE GATES III (2)
a/k/a Rich Smoke
a/k/a Rixh Smoke
a/k/a Smoke
AKEEM WEEKS (3)
a/k/a Vvs Splash

CRIMINAL NO.

FILED UNDER SEAL

3-26CR0804-K

INDICTMENT

The Grand Jury charges that:

General Allegations

At times material to this indictment:

The Defendants

1. Defendant **Jamarius Micha Walker**, also known as "Walkdown," "Walkdown5," and "WD5," was an inmate in the custody of the Georgia Department of Corrections, housed at Valdosta State Prison, in Valdosta, Georgia.

2. Defendant **Tyrone Gates III**, also known as "Rich Smoke," "Rixh Smoke," and "Smoke," was an inmate in the custody of the Georgia Department of Corrections, housed at Valdosta State Prison.

3. Defendant **Akeem Weeks**, also known as "Vvs Splash," was an inmate in the custody of the Georgia Department of Corrections, housed at Wheeler Correctional

Facility in Alamo, Georgia, until on or about October 7, 2025, when he was released to parole supervision.

The Victims

4. A.E. was a resident of Fort Worth, Texas.

5. R.Tu. was a resident of Keller, Texas.

6. L.L. was a resident of Dallas, Texas.

7. P.P. was a resident of Greenville, Texas.

8. R.T. was a resident of Fort Worth.

Background

Relevant Services and Financial Platforms

9. A cryptocurrency kiosk, also referred to as a Bitcoin ATM, was an automated machine, typically located in a convenience store, gas station, or similar retail establishment, that accepted cash from a customer and transmitted a corresponding value of cryptocurrency to a digital address designated by the customer. The address was commonly supplied to the machine by scanning a Quick Response ("QR") code. A deposit at such a kiosk caused the transmission of electronic signals in interstate commerce, because the kiosk communicated with the operator's servers and with the cryptocurrency network to execute and record the transaction. Commercial operators maintained networks of such kiosks throughout the United States, including within the Northern District of Texas.

10. A cryptocurrency exchange was an online business that permitted customers to buy, sell, store, and transfer cryptocurrency, and to convert cryptocurrency

into United States currency. Transactions conducted through such exchanges likewise caused the transmission of electronic signals in interstate commerce. Exchanges and kiosk operators maintained records identifying their customers, including names, dates of birth, Social Security numbers, telephone numbers, email addresses, bank accounts, photographs, and identification documents.

11. A peer-to-peer payment application was a service that permitted users to transfer United States currency electronically between accounts, and transfers conducted through such applications caused the transmission of electronic signals in interstate commerce.

12. A caller-identification spoofing service was a commercial service that permitted a caller to cause a telephone number of the caller's choosing to appear on the recipient's caller-identification display, irrespective of the number from which the call originated.

13. A second-number or "burner" application was a service that assigned a user a telephone number not tied to the user's identity or physical telephone, and that permitted the user to place calls and send text messages from that number.

14. A people-search service was a commercial data broker that compiled and sold personal information about individuals, including names, ages, home addresses, telephone numbers, email addresses, and the names of relatives.

Jury Duty Scams Generally

15. A "jury duty scam" was a form of government-impersonation fraud. Typically, in such a scheme, a perpetrator telephoned a victim, falsely identified himself

as a law enforcement officer or court official, falsely informed the victim that the victim had failed to appear for jury duty, falsely informed the victim that a warrant had issued for the victim's arrest, and demanded that the victim pay a purported fine, bond, or penalty in order to avoid immediate arrest and imprisonment.

16. Perpetrators of jury duty scams often used caller-identification spoofing services so that the telephone call appeared to the victim to originate from a local sheriff's office, a federal court, the United States Marshals Service, or another law enforcement agency. At other times, perpetrators placed calls from second-number or burner telephone numbers not subscribed in their true names. Perpetrators often identified themselves using the titles of real offices, such as deputy, lieutenant, captain, sergeant, and federal agent, and supplied purported badge numbers.

17. Perpetrators of jury duty scams generally transmitted to victims, by electronic mail and text message, documents fabricated to resemble official records of the United States District Courts and of federal and state law enforcement agencies. These documents typically bore the seals and insignia of the United States District Courts, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the United States Department of Justice, the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, the Internal Revenue Service, and the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network, and bore forged signatures in the names of fictitious judges, clerks, and officers.

18. Perpetrators of jury duty scams instructed victims to remain continuously on the telephone, not to disclose the call to family members, bank employees, or law enforcement, and to characterize any cash withdrawal to a bank as being for an unrelated

purpose. Perpetrators generally told victims that the matter was confidential, and that disclosure would result in arrest.

19. Perpetrators of jury duty scams typically directed victims to withdraw United States currency and to transport it to a cryptocurrency kiosk, where the victim was instructed to scan a QR code supplied by the perpetrator and to insert the currency into the machine. The currency was thereby converted to cryptocurrency and transmitted to a digital address controlled by the perpetrator or an associate. Perpetrators often falsely described these machines to victims as "federal bonding kiosks," "government funds deposit locations," and the like, and falsely represented that the funds would be held by the United States Department of the Treasury and refunded upon the victim's appearance in court.

20. Victims of jury duty scams were disproportionately elderly. The sums demanded were at times drawn from retirement accounts, savings, and the proceeds of pawned personal property.

The Scheme to Defraud

Overview of the Scheme

21. From at least in or around April 2024, and continuing through at least in or around July 2026, in the Dallas Division of the Northern District of Texas and elsewhere, defendants **Walker**, **Gates**, and **Weeks**, together with others known and unknown to the Grand Jury, devised a scheme and artifice to defraud, and executed that scheme through hundreds of individual jury duty scam interactions directed at victims across the United States.

22. **Walker** and **Gates** executed the scheme from inside Valdosta State Prison, in the Middle District of Georgia, using contraband cellular telephones. **Weeks** executed the scheme, at first, from inside a Georgia correctional facility until his release on or about October 7, 2025, and thereafter from locations in Georgia and North Carolina while under parole supervision.

23. **Walker**, **Gates**, and **Weeks** and other participants created and used electronic mail accounts whose usernames were chosen to impersonate federal courts and federal law enforcement agencies, including usdcfederalgov@gmail.com, usdcgovfederal@gmail.com, usfederalcourtservices@gmail.com, unitedstatesdistrictcourtsgov@gmail.com, federalctsfcd@gmail.com, and usdcsherriffdepartment@gmail.com. From these accounts, **Walker**, **Gates**, and **Weeks** and other participants transmitted counterfeit court documents and cryptocurrency payment instructions to victims.

Object of the Scheme

24. It was the object of the scheme and artifice to defraud for **Walker**, **Gates**, and **Weeks** and other participants to unlawfully enrich themselves by obtaining money from victims through materially false and fraudulent pretenses, representations, and promises—namely, that the victim had failed to appear for jury duty, that a warrant had issued for the victim's arrest, that **Walker**, **Gates**, and **Weeks** and other participants were officers of the United States District Courts and of law enforcement agencies, and that immediate payment was required to avoid arrest and imprisonment—and to conceal and

disguise the nature, location, source, ownership, and control of the money so obtained, and to conceal the scheme itself.

Manner and Means of the Scheme

25. **Walker**, **Gates**, and **Weeks** and other participants used commercial people-search services to obtain the names, ages, home addresses, and telephone numbers of prospective victims. **Walker**, **Gates**, and **Weeks** and other participants conducted internet searches for the names and locations of sheriffs' offices and United States courthouses in the communities where prospective victims resided, and for photographs of those offices, in order to lend authenticity to the telephone calls described below.

26. **Walker**, **Gates**, and other participants possessed and used contraband cellular telephones within Valdosta State Prison. **Walker**, **Gates**, and **Weeks** and other participants used commercial caller-identification spoofing services so that calls placed to victims would display the telephone number of a local sheriff's office or other law enforcement agency. **Walker**, **Gates**, and **Weeks** and other participants obtained second-number and burner telephone numbers, which were oftentimes not subscribed in their true names, from commercial providers of such numbers. Among the telephone numbers obtained was 404-795-6736, which was obtained through an account held by **Weeks** and which appeared on counterfeit arrest warrants transmitted to victims in multiple states, including Texas.

27. **Walker**, **Gates**, and **Weeks** and other participants created, maintained, and shared among themselves a library of documents fabricated to resemble official records of the United States District Courts and federal law enforcement agencies. These

documents included: a "WARRANT FOR THE ARREST OF A WITNESS IN A CIVIL ACTION," bearing a supposed signature over the name of "Chief Judge Laura T. Beyer," listing fictitious officers "LT. Simon Jackson #59300" and "Sgt. Jason Green #3758" and a fictitious "(FBI) Agent .LeonHightower. #5937," and bearing a purported "Federal Stamp"; a document captioned "MOBILE ESCORT ORDERS (MAINTAIN CONTACT ORDER)," which directed the victim to remain on the telephone and warned that disconnecting would result in transfer of the victim's case to a "Criminal Investigation Division"; a document captioned "INSTRUCTIONS FOR REFUND OF CASH BOND"; and a document captioned "Understanding Your Kiosk Deposit," bearing the seals of the United States Civil Service Commission, the Department of the Treasury, and cryptocurrency kiosk operators. **Walker**, **Gates**, and **Weeks** and other participants altered these documents for individual victims by inserting a victim's name, city, and a purported court date.

28. **Walker**, **Gates**, and **Weeks** and other participants created, maintained, and distributed among themselves written scripts for the fraudulent telephone call, which they referred to as the "Skit." These Skits directed the caller to identify himself as working with "The Civil Division Here At The Sheriffs Office," to state that the call was being recorded, to state that the sheriff's office had "received documentation from the united states district Courts stating that you are sited for failure to appear and a Contempt Of Court," to confirm the victim's full name and date of birth, to elicit from the victim a recorded statement denying receipt of a summons, and to present the victim with a choice

between a "Criminal Route" involving arrest, booking, and up to seventy-two hours in custody, and a "Civil Alleviation Process" requiring immediate payment.

29. Having placed the call and transmitted the counterfeit documents, **Walker**, **Gates**, and **Weeks** and other participants directed each victim to withdraw United States currency from a bank, automated teller machine, or other source, and to travel to a specified cryptocurrency kiosk. **Walker**, **Gates**, and **Weeks** and other participants transmitted to the victim, by electronic mail or text message, a QR code encoding a digital address. The victim scanned the QR code at the kiosk and inserted the currency, thereby surrendering it to the operator of the kiosk.

30. **Walker**, **Gates**, and **Weeks** and other participants maintained accounts held in their own names. **Walker** maintained cryptocurrency exchange accounts held in his own name, associated with the digital addresses ending in CQ7HHC and QMXrZw. **Gates** maintained a cryptocurrency address and peer-to-peer payment accounts. **Weeks** maintained a cryptocurrency address and a bank account held in his own true name.

31. **Walker**, **Gates**, and **Weeks** and other participants transmitted the proceeds through a series of further digital addresses, cryptocurrency exchange accounts, peer-to-peer payment accounts, and bank accounts held in the names of relatives, associates, and other persons rather than in the names of the defendants so that the funds would not be traceable to the defendants directly. **Walker** transferred proceeds from a cryptocurrency exchange account to a credit union account in his own name and outward through a peer-to-peer payment application to numerous third parties. **Gates** directed proceeds to a peer-to-peer payment account held by a relative. **Weeks** transmitted proceeds using

cryptocurrency addresses held in the names of his associates and purchased cryptocurrency with victim funds.

32. **Walker**, **Gates**, and **Weeks** and other participants opened cryptocurrency kiosk and exchange accounts in their own names, in false names, and in the names of real persons other than themselves, while using their own Social Security numbers, dates of birth, and identification documents to satisfy the operators' identity-verification requirements. **Walker**, **Gates**, and **Weeks** and other participants used electronic mail accounts whose usernames impersonated federal agencies to register accounts on cryptocurrency platforms and exchanges.

33. Through the scheme, **Walker**, **Gates**, and **Weeks** and other participants obtained approximately $1,000,000 from victims.

Counts One Through Five
Wire Fraud
(Violations of 18 U.S.C. § 1343)

34. The Grand Jury realleges paragraphs 1 through 33 of this Indictment by reference as if fully set forth herein.

35. Beginning no later than in or around April 2024, and continuing through at least in or around July 2026, in the Dallas Division of the Northern District of Texas and elsewhere, defendants **Jamarius Micah Walker**, **Tyrone Gates III**, and **Akeem Weeks**, knowingly and with intent to defraud, devised and intended to devise a scheme and artifice to defraud, and to obtain money and property by means of materially false and fraudulent pretenses, representations, and promises, and for the purpose of executing such scheme, transmitted and caused to be transmitted by means of wire communications in interstate commerce the following writings, signs, signals, pictures, and sounds:

Count	Defendant	Date	Description of Wire Transmission
1	**Walker**	08/25/2025	Electronic mail from usfederalcourtservices@gmail.com transmitting a counterfeit arrest warrant, sent from the Middle District of Georgia to victim A.E. in the Northern District of Texas.
2	**Walker**	05/27/2026	Electronic mail from usfederalcourtservices@gmail.com transmitting counterfeit court documents, sent from the Middle District of Georgia to victim R.Tu. in the Northern District of Texas.
3	**Gates**	12/26/2025	Electronic mail from usdcsherriffdepartment@gmail.com transmitting

Count	Defendant	Date	Description of Wire Transmission
			counterfeit court documents, sent from the Middle District of Georgia to victim L.L. in the Northern District of Texas.
4	**Weeks**	03/03/2026	Transfer of approximately 124,600 Dogecoin from victim P.P., at a cryptocurrency kiosk in the Northern District of Texas, to a cryptocurrency account held in the name of **Weeks**.
5	**Weeks**	06/06/2026	Transfer of approximately .114 Bitcoin from victim R.T., at a cryptocurrency kiosk in the Northern District of Texas, to a cryptocurrency account held in the name of **Weeks**.

Each in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1343.

Counts Six Through Eight
Money Laundering—Concealment
(Violations of 18 U.S.C. §§ 1956(a)(1)(B)(i) and 2)

36. The Grand Jury realleges paragraphs 1 through 33 of this Indictment by reference as if fully set forth herein.

37. On or about the dates set forth below, in the Dallas Division of the Northern District of Texas and elsewhere, defendants **Jamarius Micah Walker**, **Tyrone Gates III**, and **Akeem Weeks**, knowing that the property involved in the financial transactions represented the proceeds of some form of unlawful activity, and which property was, in fact, the proceeds of specified unlawful activity, that is, wire fraud, in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1343, knowingly conducted, and willfully caused others to conduct, the following financial transactions knowing that the transactions were designed in whole and in part to conceal and disguise the nature, location, source, ownership, and control of the proceeds of said specified unlawful activity:

Count	Defendant	Date	Description of Monetary Transaction
6	**Gates**	10/01/2024	Transfer of approximately .03 Bitcoin from a cryptocurrency kiosk in the Northern District of Texas to a cryptocurrency address associated with **Gates**.
7	**Walker**	01/21/2025	Transfer of approximately .00176 Bitcoin from a cryptocurrency kiosk in the Northern District of Texas to a cryptocurrency address associated with **Walker**.

Count	Defendant	Date	Description of Monetary Transaction
8	**Weeks**	06/06/2026	Transfer of approximately .114 Bitcoin from a cryptocurrency kiosk in the Northern District of Texas to a cryptocurrency address associated with **Weeks**.

Each in violation of 18 U.S.C. §§ 1956(a)(1)(B)(i) and 2.

Count Nine
Engaging in Monetary Transactions in Property
Derived from Specified Unlawful Activity
(Violation of 18 U.S.C. §§ 1957 and 2)

38. The Grand Jury realleges paragraphs 1 through 33 of this Indictment by reference as if fully set forth herein.

39. On or about April 3, 2026, in the Dallas Division of the Northern District of Texas and elsewhere, defendant **Akeem Weeks**, knowing that the funds involved represented the proceeds of some form of unlawful activity, and which property was, in fact, derived from specified unlawful activity, namely, wire fraud, in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1343, engaged in and willfully caused others to engage in a monetary transaction in criminally derived property of a value greater than $10,000, namely, the transfer of approximately 124,600 Dogecoin, having a value greater than $10,000 at the time of the transfer, from a cryptocurrency kiosk in the Northern District of Texas to a cryptocurrency address associated with **Weeks**.

In violation of 18 U.S.C. §§ 1957 and 2.

Notice of Forfeiture
(18 U.S.C. § 981(a)(1)(C); 28 U.S.C. § 2461(c); 18 U.S.C. § 982(a)(1))

40. The Grand Jury realleges paragraphs 1 through 33 of this Indictment by reference as if fully set forth herein.

41. Upon conviction for any offense charged in Counts One through Five of this indictment, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 981(a)(1)(C) and 28 U.S.C. § 2461(c), the defendants, **Walker**, **Gates**, and **Weeks**, shall forfeit to the United States any property, real or personal, which constitutes or is derived from proceeds traceable to the respective offense.

42. Upon conviction for any offense charged in Counts Six through Nine of this indictment, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 982(a)(1), the defendants, **Walker**, **Gates**, and **Weeks**, shall forfeit to the United States any property, real or personal, involved in, or traceable to property involved in, the respective offense.

43. The property subject to forfeiture includes, but is not limited to: all funds and cryptocurrency held in or traceable to the Coinbase account ending in 2d39e and the digital address ending in CQ7HHC; all funds and cryptocurrency held in or traceable to the Kraken account associated with the digital address ending in QMXrZw; all funds held in or traceable to the CoinHub, Navy Federal Credit Union, and Venmo accounts of **Walker**; all funds held in or traceable to the Cash App and CoinMe accounts of **Gates**; all funds held in or traceable to the Bitstop, Chime, Coinbase, and Wells Fargo accounts of **Weeks**; and a sum of money equal to the total value of the property derived from or

involved in the offenses of conviction, for which the defendants are jointly and severally liable.

44. Pursuant to 21 U.S.C. § 853(p), as incorporated by 18 U.S.C. § 982(b) and 28 U.S.C. § 2461(c), if any of the above property subject to forfeiture, as a result of any act or omission of the defendants, cannot be located upon the exercise of due diligence; has been transferred or sold to, or deposited with, a third person; has been placed beyond the jurisdiction of the Court; has been substantially diminished in value; or has been commingled with other property which cannot be subdivided without difficulty, it is the

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intent of the United States of America to seek forfeiture of any other property of the defendants up to the value of the above-described property subject to forfeiture.

A TRUE BILL:

FOREPERSON

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IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS
DALLAS DIVISION

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
v.
JAMARIUS MICAH WALKER (1)
TYRONE GATES III (2)
AKEEM WEEKS (3)

SEALED INDICTMENT

18 U.S.C. § 1343
Wire Fraud
(Counts 1-5)

18 U.S.C. §§ 1956(a)(1)(B)(i) and 2
Money Laundering—Concealment
(Counts 6-8)

18 U.S.C. §§ 1957 and 2
Engaging in Monetary Transactions in Property
Derived from Specified Unlawful Activity
(Count 9)

18 U.S.C. § 981(a)(1)(C); 28 U.S.C. § 2461(c); 18 U.S.C. § 982(a)(1)
Forfeiture Notice

9 Counts

A true bill rendered

DALLAS FOREPERSON

Filed in open court this 10th day of November, 2026.

Warrant to be Issued - In State Custody

UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE
Magistrate Court Number: