Case 3:15-cr-00517-CRB Document 1 Filed 11/05/15 Page 1 of 6

United States District Court

FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

VENUE: SAN FRANCISCO

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

CRB

V.

CR 15 517

JAMES ALAN CRAIG,

FILED

NOV 05 2015

SUSAN Y, SOONG CLERK, U.S. DISTRICT COURT NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

DEFENDANT(S).

INDICTMENT

18 U.S.C. § 641 - Theft of Government Property; 18 U.S.C. § 981(a) (1)(C), 28 U.S.C. § 2461(c) - Criminal Forfeiture

A true bill.	
	Foreman
Filed in open court this day of	
November, 2015	
L. Slott	
	Clerk
Bail, \$ No	, bull arrest work
1 AV	

AO 257 (Rev. 6/78)

: COMPLAINT INFORMATION INDICTME	NT Name of District Court, and/or Judge/Magistrate Location
SUPERSE	
OFFENSE CHARGED	SAN FRANCISCO DIVISION
B U.S.C. § 1348 - Securities Fraud	etty SAN FRANCISCO DIVISION
M	inor DEFENDANT - U.S
	lisde-
	JAMES ALAN CRAIG
	DISTRICT COURT NUMBER
ENALTY: 25 years imprisonment \$250,000 fine	15 517
5 years supervised release \$100 special assessment	19 916
Potential deportation	DEFENDANT
PROCEEDING	IS NOT IN CUSTODY
	Has not been arrested, pending outcome this proceeding.
Name of Complaintant Agency, or Person (& Title, if any)	1) X If not detained give date any prior summons was served on above charges
FBI	
person is awaiting trial in another Federal or State Court give name of court	
give halife of court	3) Is on Bail or Release from (show District)
this person/proceeding is transferred from another district	NOV 05 2015
per (circle one) FRCrp 20, 21, or 40. Show District	IS IN CUSTODY SUSAN Y. SOONG
this is a reprosecution of	4) On this charge
charges previously dismissed which were dismissed on motion SHOW	5) On another conviction
of: DOCKET	NO.
U.S. ATTORNEY DEFENSE	6) Awaiting trial on other charges If answer to (6) is "Yes", show name of institution
	If answer to (o) is Tes, show harne of institution
this prosecution relates to a	Has detainer Yes If "Yes"
pending case involving this same defendant MAGISTR	give date
CASE N	
prior proceedings or appearance(s) before U.S. Magistrate regarding this	ARREST
defendant were recorded under	Or if Arresting Agency & Warrant were not
ame and Office of Person	DATE TRANSFERRED Month/Day/Year
urnishing Information on this form BRIAN STRETCH	TO U.S. CUSTODY
□ U.S. Attorney □ Other U.S. Age	
ame of Assistant U.S. ttorney (if assigned) Robert Rees	This report amends AO 257 previously submitted
(INFORMATION OR COMMENTS
PROCESS:	IN ORMATION ON COMMENTS
SUMMONS NO PROCESS* WARRANT	Bail Amount: no bail
If Summons, complete following:	* Where defendent provincely appropriated an appropriate no new summons or
☐ Arraignment ☐ Initial Appearance	* Where defendant previously apprehended on complaint, no new summons or warrant needed, since Magistrate has scheduled arraignment
Defendant Address:	
	Date/Time: Before Judge:



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BRIAN J. STRETCH (CABN 163973) Acting United States Attorney

FILED

NOV 05 2015

SUSAN Y. SOONG CLERK, U.S. DISTRICT COURT NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CAUSORNIA

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA



SAN FRANCISCO DIVISION

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Plaintiff,

v.

JAMES ALAN CRAIG,

Defendant.

Defendant.

INDICTMENT

The Grand Jury charges:

Introductory Allegations

At all times relevant to this Indictment:

- 1. The defendant, JAMES ALAN CRAIG, was an individual who resided in and around Dunragit, Scotland, United Kingdom. CRAIG traded in the United States securities market using securities trading accounts like one at TradeMonster belonging to his girlfriend, L.K.
- 2. Audience, Inc. ("Audience") was a voice and sound technology company headquartered in Mountain View, California, whose securities were publicly traded on the NASDAQ stock exchange and registered under Section 12 of the Securities and Exchange Act of 1934 (15 U.S.C. § 781).
- 3. Sarepta Therapeutics, Inc. ("Sarepta") was a biopharmaceutical company headquartered in Bothell, Washington, whose securities were publicly traded on the NASDAQ stock exchange and

registered under Section 12 of the Securities and Exchange Act of 1934 (15 U.S.C. § 781).

4. Twitter, Inc. ("Twitter") was a self-publication site headquartered in San Francisco,
California, that allowed users to issue "Tweets" containing information that could be viewed by all other
Twitter users, of which there were millions.

COUNT ONE: (18 U.S.C. § 1348 – Securities Fraud)

The Scheme to Defraud

- 5. From in or about December 2012 to in or about July 2013, CRAIG devised and executed a material scheme to defraud others in connection with the purchase and sale of securities of publicly-traded companies in order to obtain money and property by means of materially false and fraudulent pretenses, representations, and promises, and by omissions and concealment of material facts. As a result of this scheme to defraud, CRAIG caused losses to shareholders of publicly-traded companies in an amount that exceeded approximately \$1,600,000.00.
- 6. Specifically, CRAIG set up accounts at Twitter using names similar to market research firms and issued so-called "Tweets" with false and fraudulent information about publicly-traded securities. These false and fraudulent Tweets issued by CRAIG caused the price of the securities to rapidly decline. CRAIG then bought those securities through his girlfriend's brokerage account and later sold them at a higher price per security.

Manner and Means of the Scheme to Defraud

- 7. On or about January 25, 2013 CRAIG set up a Twitter account with the handle @Mudd1Waters using the alias "Shun Ho" and a Gmail address he previously created. As the Twitter account's profile picture, CRAIG used the logo of Muddy Waters Research, a market research firm, in an effort to make the account appear to be associated with that firm. As part of that same effort, he used a name associated with C.B., the founder of Muddy Waters Research, as the account's handle.
- 8. On or about January 29, 2013, CRAIG used the @Mudd1Waters Twitter account to publish multiple false and fraudulent Tweets about Audience's business activities, such as that Audience was being investigated by the "DOJ" on rumored fraud charges.
- 9. On or about January 29, 2013, Audience's security price fell significantly in the wake of CRAIG's Tweets until trading was halted. That same day, CRAIG used L.K.'s TradeMonster account

to purchase 300 shares of Audience's securities.

- 10. On or about January 30, 2013, after he bought 100 more shares of Audience's securities, CRAIG sold all 400 securities at a per-share price higher than the 300 he had bought the day before.
- 11. On or about January 29, 2013, CRAIG set up a Twitter account with the handle @citreonresearc using a false email address purporting to belong to Citron Research. As the Twitter account's profile picture, CRAIG used the logo of Citron Research, a market research firm, in an effort to make the account appear to be associated with that firm.
- 12. On or about January 30, 2013, CRAIG used the @citreonresearc Twitter account to publish multiple false and fraudulent Tweets about Sarepta's business activities, such as that Sarepta's trial papers were seized by the "FDA."
- 13. On or about January 30, 2013, Sarepta's security price fell significantly in the wake of CRAIG's Tweets. That same day, CRAIG used L.K.'s TradeMonster account to purchase 700 total shares of Sarepta's securities.
- 14. On or about February 1, 2013, CRAIG sold all 700 securities at an average per-share price higher than the average per-share price he had bought them on January 30, 2013.
- 15. In furtherance of his scheme, CRAIG made material misrepresentations, and omitted and concealed material facts, including the following:
- a. CRAIG made his @Mudd1Waters Twitter account appear to look like the account of a legitimate market research firm when it was not;
- b. CRAIG falsely claimed in multiple Tweets that Audience was being investigated by the "DOJ" when it was not;
- c. CRAIG falsely claimed in multiple Tweets that Audience was being investigated on rumored fraud charges when it was not;
- d. CRAIG made his @citreonresearc Twitter account appear to look like the account of a legitimate market research firm when it was not;
- e. CRAIG falsely claimed in multiple Tweets that Sarepta's biopharmaceutical results were tainted and doctored when they were not; and
 - f. CRAIG falsely claimed in multiple Tweets that Sarepta's trial papers were seized

1 by the "FDA" when they were not. 2 16. Between on or about December 2012 and July 2013, in the Northern District of 3 California and elsewhere, the defendant, JAMES ALAN CRAIG, 4 5 did knowingly execute and attempt to execute a material scheme and artifice to defraud others in connection with securities, including those of Audience and Sarepta, and to obtain, by means of material 6 7 false and fraudulent pretenses, representations, and promises, money and property in connection with the purchase and sale of securities, including those of Audience and Sarepta, each of which were registered 8 under Section 12 of the Securities and Exchange Act of 1934 (15 U.S.C. § 781) and were required to file 9 reports under Section 15(d) of the Securities and Exchange Act of 1934 (15 U.S.C. § 78o(d)), in 10 violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 1348. 11 12 A TRUE BILL. DATED: November 5, 2015 13 14 15 FOREPERSON 16 BRIAN J. STRETCH 17 Acting United States Attorney 18 19 VID R. CALLAWA 20 Chief, Criminal Division 21 (Approved as to form: 22 23 24 25 26 27 28