

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
MIDDLE DISTRICT OF FLORIDA  
TAMPA DIVISION

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

v.

GUANGZHOU TENG YUE CHEMICAL  
CO., LTD., and  
XIAOJUN HUANG

CASE NO. 8:24 CR 12 SDM - AAS

21 U.S.C. § 963  
(Attempt to Import  
Controlled Substance)

SEALED

INDICTMENT

The Grand Jury charges:

INTRODUCTION

JAN 4 2024 PM 5:03  
FILED - USDC - FLMD - TPA

**A. The Opioid Epidemic in America**

1. The opioid epidemic is the worst addiction epidemic in the history of the United States. Opioid overdose is the leading cause of death for Americans ages 18 to 49. Between 2021 and 2022, over 160,767 Americans died from opioid-involved overdoses. At the current rate, by 2025 more Americans will have died in the 21st century from drug overdoses than died in all of America's wars over its entire history combined.

2. In 2022, the reported number of drug overdose deaths involving synthetic opioids continued to increase compared to the previous years. Synthetic opioids are the deadliest drug threats facing the United States in its 247-year history. Since 2021, more than 70% of all reported drug overdose deaths involved synthetic opioids.

SEALED

**B. The Role of Protonitazene**

3. The primary synthetic opioid fueling the opioid epidemic is fentanyl. However, traffickers continue to develop new synthetic opioids for distribution in the United States. The introduction of these new synthetic opioids into the illicit drug market threatens to exacerbate the overdose epidemic.

4. Protonitazene is one such synthetic opioid that has a chemical profile similar to those of other scheduled opioids and is subject to abuse in the same manner.

5. On or about April 12, 2022, the Drug Enforcement Administration (“DEA”) issued an emergency scheduling order classifying protonitazene as a Schedule I controlled substance. There are no approved medical uses for protonitazene in the United States or anywhere in the world. Drug traffickers generally mix protonitazene with other opioids, such as fentanyl, to create new and more lethal cocktails of dangerous opioids.

6. The International Narcotics Control Board (“INCB”) is an independent, quasi-judicial expert body established by the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961. INCB has 13 members, each elected for a period of five years. Ten of the members are elected from a list of persons nominated by participating Governments. The remaining three members are elected from a list of persons that the World Health Organization (WHO) nominated for their medical, pharmacological, or pharmaceutical experience. On or about March 15, 2023, INCB released with 2022 Annual Report which updated its established list of synthetic,

non-fentanyl opioids with no known legitimate uses. This list included the “nitazene group substances,” of which protonitazene is a member.

7. Chemicals used in interstate and foreign commerce are often identified through a Chemical Abstracts Service (CAS) Registry Number. The CAS is a division of the American Chemical Society and it maintains the CAS Registry, a list of all CAS numbered chemicals and their chemical associations. A CAS Registry Number is a unique and unambiguous identifier for a specific substance.

8. CAS: 119276-01-6 is the CAS Registry Number for *N,N*-diethyl-2-(5-nitro-2-(4-propoxybenzyl)-1 *H*-benzimidazol-1-yl)ethan-1-amine – more commonly referred to as protonitazene.

9. Protonitazene is a Schedule I controlled substance.

### **C. The Defendants**

10. GUANGZHOU TENG YUE CHEMICAL CO., LTD.

(“GUANGZHOU TENG YUE”) is a chemical manufacturing company based in the city of Guangzhou, the capital of Guangdong Province, China.

11. GUANGZHOU TENG YUE ships synthetic opioids to the United States, including CAS: 119276-01-6, and represents it can deliver parcels United States customs authorities will not seize.

12. XIAOJUN HUANG is a national of China and listed as the account holder for the Bitcoin account that GUANGZHOU TENG YUE utilized.

**D. The Attempt**

13. In or around August 2023, an individual acting on behalf of GUANGZHOU TENGYUE began negotiating the sale of synthetic opioids to an individual posing as a drug trafficker in the United States. The trafficker was a DEA undercover agent (UC) acting at the direction of law enforcement.

14. In a series of messages using an encrypted messaging application, GUANGZHOU TENGYUE represented that it sold and shipped synthetic opioids to the United States. GUANGZHOU TENGYUE engaged in the following excerpted conversations with the UC during the below dates:

**August 18, 2023**

UC: Hello does your company ship to the USA?

GUANGZHOU TENGYUE: Hello, friend.  
Yes

We cleared the customs safely to America.  
What products do you need? I'll give you an offer.

UC: Great! I'm looking for a good price for 119276-01-6  
and 14188-81-9  
You're shipping is secure  
?

GUANGZHOU TENGYUE: We have 119276-01-6

UC: Do you ship through us postal?

Ok. Can you provide your best price?

GUANGZHOU TENGYUE: Yes, ensure the safe customs clearance to your  
hands.

GUANGZHOU TENGYUE: [Sends video of chemicals]



(Still shot from the video)

GUANGZHOU TENG YUE: The sample price of 1 kg is \$7900, including freight and customs clearance.

When you buy more, I will give you the bulk price. is price ok for you?

UC: It's ok. I want to find a supplier I can trust. I have lost money in the past and have received bad product from China. I just want to make sure the quality is good

And the shipping is discreet

Can you provide shipping with no markings on outside of box?

GUANGZHOU TENG YUE: This product is our best-selling product, and our customers began to order it before the production was almost completed.

The purity is above 99%, which meets the standards of the United States Pharmacopoeia and the European Pharmacopoeia, and it is safely cleared.

GUANGZHOU TENG YUE then sent the UC the following photos:





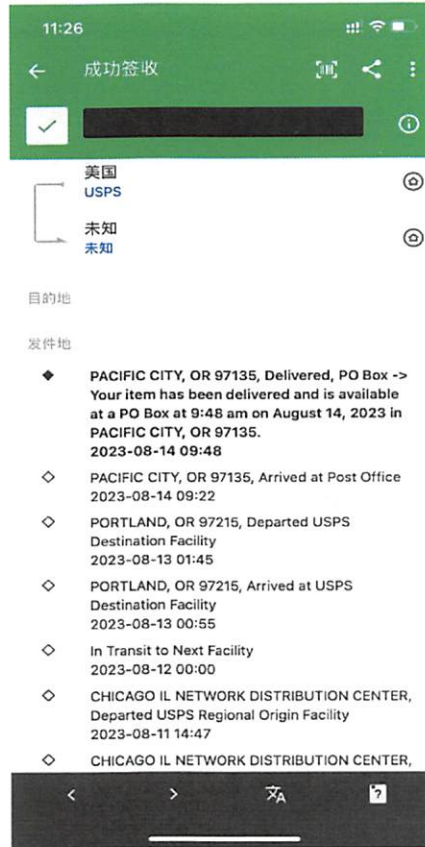
UC:

Can I pay with WesternUnion or PayPal

GUANGZHOU TENG YUE:

Here are some screenshots of parcels we send to other customers. Every month, we send more than

20 kilograms to the United States, Africa, Canada and other countries.



UC: I don't want problems with customs officials here

GUANGZHOU TENG YUE: This is a screenshot of the parcel logistics we sent to the United States.

Of course, America is our main market. In the United States, we guarantee that there are 100% customs problems.

...

UC: What is the safest way to purchase

GUANGZHOU TENG YUE: Fedex, usps, ups is safe way

Our payment methods include bitcoin, bank transfer and USDT.



UC: Ok

GUANGZHOU TENGYUE: We will send the package within 42 hours after you pay.

UC: Ok I just want to ensure it is expected quality and that I do not get into trouble when the package is delivered

GUANGZHOU TENGYUE: Yes, I understand.

UC: I can do Bitcoin or bank transfer

GUANGZHOU TENGYUE: We have been in this industry for many years, and we have been making these products for a long time. We ensure that the purity of the products is above 99% and that customers receive the packages safely. This is the regulation of our company, and it is also the reason why we are still in this industry for so many years.

GUANGZHOU TENGYUE: OK 😊

GUANGZHOU TENGYUE: Bitcoin address  
[BTC Wallet 1]

GUANGZHOU TENGYUE: Please let me know when you pay.

GUANGZHOU TENGYUE: full name:  
street:  
city:  
postcode:  
country:  
telephone number:  
state:

UC: Ok thank you  
💛

GUANGZHOU TENGYUE: Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions. 😊💛

August 22, 2023

UC: Ok thank you friend I am deciding to place order

GUANGZHOU TENG YUE: Ok, friend.

I'd like to confirm your order

Your order :

1kg protonitazene is 7900 USD

Right ?

UC: Yes can you offer samples of other products if I start with the 14188-81-9

GUANGZHOU TENG YUE: This product is not in our sales range.

UC: Ok you only offer the protonitazene 119276-01-6

GUANGZHOU TENG YUE: and metonitazene bromazolam

UC: 

August 23, 2023

GUANGZHOU TENG YUE: is it's ok?

Friend, will your order be 119276-01-6 per kilogram?

UC: Yes

GUANGZHOU TENG YUE: ok



GUANGZHOU TENGYUE: This is the 1kg we sent to other American customers Today

GUANGZHOU TENGYUE: We currently have inventory, and once you pay, we can arrange for the package to be shipped immediately

GUANGZHOU TENGYUE: And, if you need samples of bromazolam and metanizene, I can give you some for testing and send them together in your order 😊

UC: Ok friend that sounds good. I am discussing with a customer to see if this is what they want. I will let you know and send payment

GUANGZHOU TENGYUE: ok

When you're ready, feel free to contact me 🍷 🍷 😎

UC: Ok thank you friend 🍷

Where do I send the Bitcoin? Im also able to WesternUnion to you but only in smaller amounts so it will be a number of smaller deposits. I think either way is safe??

GUANGZHOU TENG YUE: Bitcoin address  
[BTC Wallet 1]

This is our bitcoin address.

Yes, both Western Union and Bitcoin are safe, but Western Union has a limit on the amount, so it is more convenient to use Bitcoin for large amounts of money.

15. GUANGZHOU TENG YUE agreed to sell 1 kilogram of CAS: 119276-01-6 to the UC for \$7,900 USD and assured the UC that it guaranteed safe delivery to the United States. GUANGZHOU TENG YUE also sent the UC a Bitcoin wallet address (BTC Wallet 1). The Bitcoin wallet address is registered to XIAOJUN HUANG. The agreed-upon substance was intended to be sent to the United States.

**COUNT ONE**  
**(Attempt to Import Protonitazene Into the United States)**

Paragraphs 1 to 14 are realleged and incorporated by reference as though fully set forth herein.

In and around August 2023, in the Middle District of Florida, China, and elsewhere, the defendants,

GUANGZHOU TENG YUE CHEMICAL CO., LTD., and  
XIAOJUN HUANG,

did knowingly and willfully attempt to distribute protonitazene, a Schedule I controlled substance, knowing, intending, and having reasonable cause to believe that such substance would be unlawfully imported into the United States, contrary to the provisions of 21 U.S.C. § 959.

All in violation of 21 U.S.C. §§ 963 and 960(b)(3).

**FORFEITURE**

1. The allegations contained in Count One of this Indictment are hereby realleged and incorporated by reference for the purpose of alleging forfeitures, pursuant to the provisions of 21 U.S.C. §§ 853 and 970, and 18 U.S.C. § 982(a)(1).

2. Upon conviction of a violation of Count One of this Indictment, in violation of 21 U.S.C. §§ 959 and 963, punishable by imprisonment for more than one year, the defendants,

GUANGZHOU TENG YUE CHEMICAL CO., LTD., and  
XIAOJUN HUANG,

shall forfeit to the United States, pursuant to 21 U.S.C. §§ 853 and 970, any property constituting, or derived from, any proceeds obtained, directly or indirectly, as the result of such offense and any property used, or intended to be used, in any manner or part, to commit, or to facilitate the commission of, the offense.

3. The assets to be forfeited include, but are not limited to, an order of forfeiture in the amount of proceeds obtained from the offense.

4. If any of the property described above as being subject to forfeiture as a result of any act or omission of the defendant:

- a. cannot be located upon the exercise of due diligence;
- b. has been transferred, sold to, or deposited with a third party;
- c. has been placed beyond the jurisdiction of the Court;
- d. has been substantially diminished in value; or,

e. has been commingled with other property which cannot be subdivided  
without difficulty,

the United States shall be entitled to forfeiture of substitute property under the  
provisions of 21 U.S.C. § 853(p), directly and as incorporated by 18 U.S.C.  
§ 982(b)(1).

A TRUE BILL.



Foreperson

ROGER B. HANDBERG  
United States Attorney

By:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Lauren Stoia  
Assistant United States Attorney

By:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Daniel Baeza  
Assistant United States Attorney  
Chief, Transnational Organized Crime Section

No.

---

---

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
Middle District of Florida  
Tampa Division

---

---

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

vs.

GUANGZHOU TENG YUE CO. LTD, ET AL.

---

---

INDICTMENT

Violations: 21 U.S.C. § 963

---

---

A true bill,



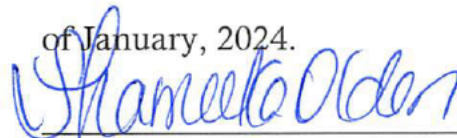
Foreperson

---

---

Filed in open court this 4th day

of January, 2024.



Clerk

---

---

Bail \$ \_\_\_\_\_

---

---