United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit

United States Court of Appeals
Fifth Circuit
FILED
November 3, 2026
Thomas B. Plunkett, III
Clerk

No. 26-30433

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Plaintiff—Appellee,

versus

LUCIEN AUGUSTINE,

Defendant—Appellant.

Appeal from the United States District Court
for the Eastern District of Louisiana
USDC No. 2:24-CR-254-1

Before JONES, GRAVES, and HIGGINSON, *Circuit Judges*.

PER CURIAM:[*]

Lucien Augustine appeals the district court's order of detention pending his trial for conspiracy to distribute 500 grams or more of a mixture or substance containing a detectable amount of methamphetamine.

Augustine contends that the district court erred by not permitting him to call a witness at the detention hearing and, further, that the evidence as a whole fails to support the court's detention order.

[*] This opinion is not designated for publication. *See* 5TH CIR. R. 47.5.

In light of the record before the district court, which contains evidence of Augustine's considerable involvement in methamphetamine trafficking, his frequent cross-country travels, and his nearly 18-month absence from Louisiana following the indictment, we conclude that the district court's factual findings are not clearly erroneous and that its detention order is adequately supported by the proceedings before it. See *United States v. Rueben*, 974 F.2d 580, 586 (5th Cir. 1992); *United States v. Aron*, 904 F.2d 221, 223 (5th Cir. 1990); see generally 18 U.S.C. § 3142(e). Moreover, any error by the district court in accepting the statement of a pretrial services officer without permitting her to testify was harmless. See *United States v. Akpan*, 407 F.3d 360, 377 (5th Cir. 2005).

The judgment is AFFIRMED.