

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF FLORIDA

CASE NO. 06-20797-CR-SEITZ(s)

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

vs.

CHRISTIAN SAPSIZIAN,

Defendant.

**GOVERNMENT’S MOTION FOR DOWNWARD DEPARTURE
PURSUANT TO SECTION 5K1.1 OF THE U.S. SENTENCING GUIDELINES**

The United States of America, through the undersigned Senior Trial Attorney, files this motion for a downward departure from the advisory sentencing guidelines range applicable to defendant Christian Sapsizian in order to reflect his substantial assistance in the investigation and prosecution of corporate and individual targets. The amended Presentence Investigation report (“PSI”) recommends an advisory sentencing range of 87 to 108 months’ imprisonment. PSI ¶ 70.

As the Court is aware, the defendant has been cooperating with domestic and foreign law enforcement authorities since pleading guilty before this Court on or about June 11, 2007. The Court has been generous in continuing the defendant’s sentencing date on prior occasions to accommodate those law enforcement authorities and the ongoing nature of this significant international investigation. The investigation, however, has not yet concluded. This is primarily because of the breadth and depth of illegal conduct around the world by the defendant’s former employer, its subsidiaries, its executives, and its “consultants,” which was uncovered in large part with the defendant’s assistance. Based on information from the defendant, documents secured by the government, and statements by other former employees, the government has concluded that the

defendant's former employer paid bribes to various public officials and committed commercial bribery in numerous countries around the world -- from Asia to South America, Central America to Africa, and places in between -- and sought to conceal this illegal activity through the use of "consultants" who funneled the bribe payments on their behalf.

Although the defendant's cooperation is ongoing, given the unique circumstances of this particular case, the government believes it is appropriate to recognize the defendant's substantial assistance, in part, at this time. Accordingly, based on the defendant's past substantial assistance and its ongoing nature, the United States respectfully moves this Court at this time for a thirty percent (30%) downward departure, pursuant to Section 5K1.1 of the U.S. Sentencing Guidelines. The defendant has stipulated to this request and does not seek more than a thirty percent (30%) downward departure at this time. If granted by this Court, the resulting sentence range for the defendant would be 61 to 75 months' imprisonment. The factual basis supporting this motion will be provided by the government at the defendant's sentencing, which is scheduled for September 23, 2008.

CONCLUSION

WHEREFORE the United States respectfully requests that this Court grant this motion and reduce the sentence imposed upon the defendant by thirty percent (30%).

Respectfully submitted,

STEVEN A. TYRRELL
CHIEF, FRAUD SECTION

By: s/ Charles E. Duross
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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that on Thursday, September 18, 2008, I electronically filed the foregoing document with the Clerk of the Court using CM/ECF.

s/ Charles E. Duross
CHARLES E. DUROSS
SENIOR TRIAL ATTORNEY