MINUTE ENTRY MILAZZO, J. JANUARY 4, 2013

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT EASTERN DISTRICT OF LOUISIANA

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA CRIMINAL ACTION

VERSUS NO. 13-1

TRANSOCEAN DEEPWATER, INC. SECTION "H"(1)

MINUTE ENTRY

On January 3, 2013, the United States filed a bill of information charging defendant Transocean Deepwater, Inc. ("Transocean") with one count of violating of the Clean Water Act, 33 U.S.C. §§ 1319(c)(1)(A), 1321(b)(3). Transocean and the government have reached an agreement to plead guilty to Count One and receive a stipulated sentence requiring Transocean to pay criminal fines, be placed on probation for five years, and to make certain payments as a special condition of probation. Under Federal Rule of Criminal Procedure 11(c), the Court may accept or reject the plea agreement. If the Court accepts the plea agreement, it must impose the sentence to which the parties agreed. If the Court rejects the agreement, Transocean must be allowed to withdraw its guilty plea. The Court may not become involved in plea negotiations. *See* Fed. R. Crim. P. 11(c).

The Court held a status conference in this matter on January 4, 2013, to establish a schedule for consideration of the plea agreement. After conferring with the parties, the Court issues the following order.

- 1. To assist the Court in deciding whether to accept the plea agreement, the Court orders a presentence investigation to be made by the United States Probation Office for the Eastern District of Louisiana and a presentence investigation report to be submitted to the Court by February 1, 2013. Transocean has consented to the preparation of the presentence investigation report and its disclosure to the Court before Transocean enters its guilty plea in court.
- 2. The Court further orders the parties to file a joint memorandum by February 8, 2013, explaining why they contend that the plea agreement adequately reflects the seriousness of the offenses and accepting the agreement satisfies the statutory purposes of sentencing.
- 3. The Court will hold a hearing on February 14, 2013, at 10:00 a.m. at which it will either accept the plea agreement and impose the agreed sentence or reject the agreement and allow Transocean to withdraw its agreement to plead guilty. The government must notify victims of this hearing.
- 4. If any victim wishes to be heard about the plea or the agreed sentence, the Court will receive written submissions from them by February 1, 2013. Transocean and the government may respond to any victim statements by February 8, 2013. If any victim wishes to be reasonably heard in person at the February 14 hearing, he or she shall notify the U.S. Attorney's Victim Witness Coordinator, Donna Duplantier at the United States Attorney's Office, Eastern District of Louisiana, 650 Poydras Street, Suite 1600, New Orleans, LA 70130, or by phone at (866)-896-2579, by February 7, 2013. The U.S. Attorney's office shall notify the Court by February 8, 2013, of any victims who would like to be heard in person at the February 14 hearing.
- 5. This order, the bill of information, and the proposed plea agreement shall be entered on the Court's website.

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