

Executive Office for United States Attorneys

United States Attorneys' Bulletin



STATES

ATTORNEYS

Published by:

Executive Office for United States Attorneys, Washington, D.C. For the use of all U.S. Department of Justice Attorneys

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VOLUME 37, NO. 7

THIRTY-SIXTH YEAR

JULY 15, 1989

Table Of Contents	<u>Page</u>
COMMENDATIONS	. 210
PERSONNEL	. 213
Attorney General's Advisory Committee	. 213
ASSET FORFEITURE ISSUES	
Processing Of Pending Forfeiture Cases	. 214
Money Laundering Indictments	. 214
Forfeiture Of Real Property That Is Contaminated	
With Hazardous Waste	. 215
Asset Forfeiture Reports	. 215
SENTENCING GUIDELINES	
United States v. Bolding, 4th Cir., June 2, 1989	. 216
Guideline Sentencing Update	. 216
POINTS TO REMEMBER	
Allegations Of Misconduct Against Assistant	
United States Attorneys	. 217
Attendees Traveling To Conferences and Meetings	. 217
Coordination Of Arrests With United States Marshals	. 218
Criminal Division Brief/Memo Bank	. 219
Orders Of Expungement	. 219
Savings And Loan Industry	220

Table Of Contents

]	<u>Page</u>
LEGISLATION															
Americans With Disabilities President's Crime Package .	Act	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	220
President's Crime Package .		•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	221
Federal Facility Compliance	Wit	h													
Hazardous Waste Law		•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		221
Narcotics Abuse And Control		•	•	•	•	•	•				•		•		221
Organized Crime Strike Forc	es .	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	222
Savings And Loan Reform		•		•	•	•		•	•			•			222
FY 1989 Supplemental Approp	riat	ior	ıs	•	•	•						•	•	•	223
Vertical Price Restraints .			•	•	•		•			•				•	223
CASE NOTES															
Civil Division		•	•	•	•		•	•	•		•	•	•	•	224
Tax Division		•	•	•	•		•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	232
ADMINISTRATIVE ISSUES															
Career Opportunities															
Criminal Division										•	•	•	•	•	235
Asset Forfeiture Office;							it	y							
Enforcement Unit; and F															
Criminal Division		•	•		•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	235
Community Relations Servi	ce .	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		236
Office Of Information And	Pri	vac	:y	•	•	•	•	•	•	•			•	•	237
Office Of Intelligence Po	licy	Ar	nd	Re	vi	ew	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	237
Designation Of Beneficiary	Form	5.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	238
APPENDIX			_												
Cumulative List Of Changing	Fede	era	1												
Civil Postjudgment Intere	st Ra	ate	2S	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	240
List Of United States Attor												•	•	•	241
Exhibit A: Processing Of P										es	;				
Exhibit B: Sample Money La	under	rin	ıg	In	di	ct	me	nt	S						
Exhibit C: Departmental Po	licy	Re	ga	rd	in	g	Th	e							
Seizure And For															
That Is Contami:					Ha	za	rd	ou	S	₩a	st	e			
Exhibit D: Asset Forfeitur															
Exhibit E: Guideline Sente	ncin	y U	þqi	at	es										

Please send any name or address changes to: The Editor, <u>United States Attorneys' Bulletin</u> Room 6419, Patrick Henry Building 601 D Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20530 FTS/202-272-5898

COMMENDATIONS

The following Assistant United States Attorneys have been commended:

Daniel Bach (Wisconsin, Western District), by William Galyean, Regional Inspector General for Investigations, Department of Agriculture, Chicago, for his outstanding success in obtaining a conviction in a Section 502 Rural Housing Loan case. Also, by Elliott Lieb, Chief, Criminal Investigation Division, IRS, Milwaukee, for successfully prosecuting a tax fraud case.

Vicky Behenna, Robert Bradford, and Steven Kent Mullins (Oklahoma, Western District), received Certificates of Appreciation from Col. Paul L. Black, Staff Judge Advocate, Department of the Air Force, Tinker Air Force Base, for their legal skills and expertise in a number of recent case settlements on behalf of the U.S. Air Force.

Patricia W. Bennett (Mississippi, Southern District), by Wayne R. Taylor, Special Agent in Charge, FBI, Jackson, for her professionalism and skill in prosecuting several complex FBI criminal investigations.

Larry A. Burns (California, Southern District), by Daniel Hartnett, Associate Director, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, Department of the Treasury, Washington, D.C., for his successful prosecution of a case involving the bombing of an abortion facility, and another involving arson and explosive violations.

Daniel J. Cassidy (District of Colorado), by Thomas A. McDermott, Special Agent in Charge, U.S. Customs Service, Arizona District, for his excellent presentation on money laundering at a seminar for Special Agents of the Customs Service, IRS, and state and local law enforcement officers.

Barbara D. Cottrell (New York, Northern District), by Robert Brock, Resident Agent in Charge, U.S. Customs Service, Albany, for her successful prosecution of a Colombian cocaine distribution ring operating out of a Catskill Mountains resort.

Michael Clark (Texas, Southern District), by Cal R. Black, Vice President, INB National Bank, Indianapolis, for his obtaining a conviction in a criminal fraud case involving losses to financial institutions and other businesses in excess of \$400,000.

Albert S. Dabrowski, Carmen Espinosa Van Kirk, John A. Danaher III and Leonard C. Boyle (District of Connecticut), by William S. Sessions, Director, FBI, Washington, D.C., for their successful prosecution of seven defendants in the first of two criminal trials involving the Wells Fargo robbery in West Hartford which occurred in September, 1983.

Kenneth C. Etheridge (Georgia, Southern District), by Col. William A. Aileo, Chief, Litigation Division, Office of the Judge Advocate General, Department of the Army, Washington, D.C., for his excellent representation in a number of cases on behalf of the Army over the years.

Richard J. French (Ohio, Northern District), by Rear Admiral R. A. Appelbaum, U.S. Coast Guard and Chairman, Local Federal Coordinating Committee, Cleveland Federal Executive Board, for his participation on the Eligibility Screening Panel for the Greater Cleveland Combined Federal Campaign.

William Johnston (Texas, Western District), and Julia Lewis, Legal Secretary, received Certificates of Appreciation from the Inspector General, Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C., for their outstanding service in the trial of 38 individuals for federal drug violations and food stamp trafficking.

Jeanine Nemisi Laville (Michigan, Western District), by Paul A. Adams, Inspector General, Department of Housing and Urban Development, Washington, D.C., for her success in obtaining the conviction of five individuals for defrauding HUD on federally-insured loans totaling more than a million dollars.

Arthur Leach (Georgia, Southern District), by Judge B. Avant Edenfield, U.S. District Court, Savannah, for his successful prosecution of the "Captain Sam" case, a fuel oil distribution scheme to defraud the government.

Terry Lehmann (Ohio, Southern District), by Leonard C. Odom, Acting Chief, Criminal Investigation Division, IRS, Cincinnati, for his excellent presentation on sentencing guidelines at a group meeting of IRS special agents.

Kris McLean (District of Montana), by Joel Scrafford, Senior Resident Agent, Fish and Wildlife Service, Billings, for his outstanding success in the prosecution of a felon in violation of the Lacey Act.

Joseph Mackey (District of Colorado), by Stephen Marica, Assistant Inspector General Small Investigations, Business Administration, San Francisco, for obtaining four convictions in a complex fraud case, and an order for restitution of over \$12,000. Also, by Robert J. Hillman, Regional Inspector General for Investigations, Department of Agriculture, Kansas City, for his successful prosecution of several significant food stamp trafficking cases in the Denver area.

Ivan K. Mathew (District of Arizona), by Harold W. Ezell, Regional Commissioner, Immigration and Naturalization Service, Laguna Niguel, California, for successfully prosecuting a SAW document fraud and conspiracy case in the Yuma area.

Charles Niven and Patricia Conover (Alabama, Middle District), by J. W. Holland, Jr., Postal Inspector in Charge, Birmingham, for their legal skill and expertise in the investigation and prosecution of a pornography case.

Richard W. Roberts, Harry Benner, and John Finnegan (District of Columbia), by Keith Alan Kuhn, Chief, Investigations Branch, IRS, Washington, D.C., for their outstanding success in obtaining a conviction in an embezzlement case.

Yesmin E. Saide (California, Southern District), by William S. Sessions, Director, FBI, Washington, D.C., for her legal skill in the prosecution of a conspiracy case involving misapplication of savings and loan funds, causing the bank to be declared insolvent.

William D. Welch (District of Colorado), by Captain Gary L. Graham, Denver Police Department, for his outstanding support and assistance to the Denver drug enforcement community in developing a national drug strategy.

Henry Whisenhunt, Jr. (Georgia, Southern District), by Col. William A. Aileo, Chief, Litigation Division, Office of the Judge Advocate General, Department of the Army, Washington, D.C., for his excellent representation in several Title VII cases brought by employees at Fort Gordon.

Special Commendation for SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF INDIANA

scott C. Newman and Larry A. Mackey were commended by Deborah J. Daniels, United States Attorney, Southern District of Indiana, for their successful prosecution of Michael T. Dugan, II, a Judge of Marion County Superior Court for 14 years. On May 26, 1989, Judge Dugan was convicted by a jury of 25 counts of mail fraud, extortion, tax fraud, and racketeering. Judge Dugan placed a financially-troubled insurance company into rehabilitation to protect policyholders and shareholders, then proceeded over a period of years to extort hundreds of thousands of dollars in bribes and insurance commission kickbacks from company executives. He also arranged a secret expense account paid for by a party to litigation in his court and orchestrated other schemes designed to benefit him and his associates following his planned retirement from the bench. Judge Dugan was sentenced on July 5, 1989 to 18 years imprisonment.

PERSONNEL

On June 26, 1989, **James F. Rill** was sworn in as Assistant Attorney General for the Antitrust Division. Mr. Rill is from the Washington, D.C. law firm of Collier, Shannon, Rill, and Scott.

On July 5, 1989, E. Bart Daniel was Presidentially appointed United States Attorney for the District of South Carolina.

On July 5, 1989, **Dee Benson** was Presidentially appointed United States Attorney for the District of Utah.

Frederick O. "Rick" Griffin
Assistant United States Attorney
Western District of Missouri
(December 25, 1940-July 5, 1989)

The United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri sadly announces the death of Assistant United States Attorney Frederick O. "Rick" Griffin, Jr. on July 5, 1989. Rick Griffin was appointed Assistant United States Attorney on May 15, 1968, and served in that position until his death. During his 21 years of service in the Western District, he was respected by his colleagues for his ability to handle all types of civil and criminal cases, and was recently assigned to the prosecution of drug cases in the Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Force. He was a native of St. Joseph, graduated from Washington University Law School in St. Louis, and was admitted to the Missouri Bar in September, 1967.

Attorney General's Advisory Committee

Attorney General Dick Thornburgh recently announced the appointment of two new members of the Attorney General's Advisory Committee of United States Attorneys: George L. Phillips, Southern District of Mississippi, and George J. Terwilliger, III, District of Vermont.

The following is a current list of the members:

James G. Richmond, Northern District of Indiana, Chairman Stephen M. McNamee, District of Arizona, Vice Chairman J.B. Sessions, III, Southern District of Alabama,

Vice Chairman

William C. Carpenter, District of Delaware
Deborah J. Daniels, Southern District of Indiana
Henry E. Hudson, Eastern District of Virginia
Charles W. Larson, Northern District of Iowa
David F. Levi, Eastern District of California
Andrew J. Maloney, Eastern District of New York
K. Michael Moore, Northern District of Florida
George L. Phillips, Southern District of Mississippi
George J. Terwilliger, III, District of Vermont
Anton R. Valukas, Northern District of Illinois
John Volz, Eastern District of Louisiana
Joseph M. Whittle, Western District of Kentucky
Jay B. Stephens, District of Columbia, ex officio

ASSET FORFEITURE ISSUES

Processing Of Pending Forfeiture Cases

On June 21, 1989, Edward S.G. Dennis, Jr., Acting Deputy Attorney General, advised that, in relying upon the representations of the Department that additional forfeiture personnel in United States Attorneys' Offices would yield a net gain for the Treasury, Congress approved the additional resources requested. It is imperative that we fulfill the commitment that was made to increase forfeiture production. To enhance production during the remaining weeks of FY 1989, the Attorney General has authorized the issuance of a memorandum outlining the Department's forfeiture performance goals, equitable sharing guidelines, and deposit of seized cash. A copy of the memorandum is attached at the Appendix of this <u>Bulletin</u> as <u>Exhibit A</u>.

(Executive Office for United States Attorneys)

Money Laundering Indictments

Harry Harbin, Associate Director, Asset Forfeiture Office, Criminal Division, (FTS/202-786-4950) has prepared sample indictment forms for money laundering violations under Title 31, copies of which are attached as Exhibit B at the Appendix of this Bulle-tin.

(Asset Forfeiture Office, Criminal Division)

Departmental Policy Regarding The Seizure And Forfeiture Of Real Property That Is Contaminated With Hazardous Waste

On June 23, 1989, Joe D. Whitley, Acting Associate Attorney General, advised that a recent amendment to the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA) has the potential effect of imposing interminable liability on the United States Marshals Service for the cleanup of forfeitured real properties on which hazardous wastes either have been stored for more than one year or are known to have been released or disposed of at any time. Such liability would extend to virtually every property on which a clandestine laboratory for the manufacture of controlled substances has operated or where certain precursor chemicals have been stored, as well as all contaminated properties which may have facilitated the commission of a drug offense, which may have been purchased with drug proceeds, or which may be subject to RICO forfeiture under 18 U.S.C. § 1963. The enormous potential liabilities posed by this statutory amendment vastly exceed the budgetary capabilities of the Department of Justice and would threaten the fiscal integrity of the Asset Forfeiture Fund.

As a consequence, the Department has formulated a policy to govern the handling of real properties which may be contaminated with hazardous waste, a copy of which is attached at the Appendix of this <u>Bulletin</u> as <u>Exhibit C</u>.

(Executive Office for United States Attorneys)

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Asset Forfeiture Reports

On June 15, 1989, Laurence S. McWhorter, Director, Executive Office for United States Attorneys, issued a report to all United States Attorneys providing information on the asset forfeiture program based on activity through May, 1989. (See Exhibit D at the Appendix of this Bulletin.) The information is displayed by District and includes net income deposited into the Asset Forfeiture Fund for all of fiscal year 1988; net income deposited into the Fund in fiscal year 1989 through May 31, 1989; and dollar amounts in the seized assets Deposit Fund as of May 31, 1989. (These amounts have not been deposited in the Asset Forfeiture Fund and you receive no credit until the forfeiture is complete, the U.S. Marshal has been advised that the time for appeal has expired, and the money has been transferred.)

We have accomplished only \$185.8 million through the first eight months of fiscal year 1989, or an average of approximately \$20.6 million per month. At that rate, we would exceed the 1989 level but be below the level we told Congress we could achieve with increased staffing—some \$250 million above the 1988 level. You should make every effort to accelerate the asset forfeiture program in your District and make sure that we are punishing the criminal element to the maximum extent possible, including taking away the fruits of his ill-gotten gains (assets).

(Executive Office for United States Attorneys)

SENTENCING GUIDELINES

United States v. Bolding, No. 88-5820 (4th Cir. June 2, 1989). DJ # 145-12-7869

Although the Supreme Court in Mistretta v. United States rejected various separation of powers challenges to the United States Sentencing Commission and the new criminal sentencing guidelines which it had promulgated, criminal defendants have continued to mount attacks upon the guidelines as a violation of due process. These defendants have contended that the sentencing guidelines deprive them of a purported due process right to an individualized sentence made by a judge with unconstrained dis-The Fourth Circuit has now joined the six other circuits that have addressed this matter in laying to rest this final challenge to the sentencing guidelines. The Fourth Circuit, in a published opinion, reversed the ruling of the District Court of Maryland, sitting en banc, which had invalidated the guidelines on due process grounds. The court of appeals held that since Congress plainly may remove the sentencing discretion of the district courts through mandatory sentencing laws, it certainly may guide that discretion through sentencing guidelines.

If you have any questions, please contact Douglas Letter, (FTS/202-633-3602) or Gregory Sisk, (FTS/202-633-4825) of the Civil Division Appellate Staff.

Guideline Sentencing Update

A copy of "Guideline Sentencing Update," Volume 2, Number 8, dated June 27, 1989, is attached at the Appendix of this Bulletin as Exhibit E.

POINTS TO REMEMBER

Allegations Of Misconduct Against Assistant United States Attorneys

United States Attorneys should be mindful of the requirement to report all allegations of misconduct concerning Assistant United States Attorneys and other Department employees in their offices to the Office of Professional Responsibility (OPR) pursuant to the provisions of 28 C.F.R. § 0.39a and <u>USAM</u> 1-4.100 and 3-2.735B. This requirement extends to all complaints of misconduct, regardless of whether they appear to be without merit, are the subject of a state bar proceeding, or are part of an opinion or order issued by a judicial forum. In addition, reports should be made regarding allegations of misconduct against federal employees who are not employed in your offices where such allegations are brought to your attention. The requirement would encompass allegations regarding, for example, special agent investigators, Border Patrol agents, etc.

To report allegations of misconduct, please send a written report to Michael E. Shaheen, Jr., Counsel, OPR, which sets out the source of the allegation, name and position of the federal employee involved and a summary of the circumstances surrounding the incident. A copy of the report should be forwarded at the same time to the Executive Office, with an appropriate notation that the allegation has been reported to OPR. These offices should have timely notification of all allegations so that there is time for appropriate action to be taken. Questions should be directed to the Office of Professional Responsibility at FTS/202-633-3365.

(Executive Office for United States Attorneys)

* * * * *

Attendees Traveling To Conferences And Meetings

On June 7, 1989, Harry H. Flickinger, Assistant Attorney General for Administration, Justice Management Division, advised that the Attorney General has observed significant numbers of Department of Justice attendees who have traveled at the Department's expense to various administrative and professional association conferences and meetings -- both domestic and international. Plainly speaking, he has observed, in his judgment, more Department of Justice attendees than are warranted to represent Department of Justice interests.

Each of you is directed to curtail the number of attendees traveling to such conferences and meetings by limiting attendance by Department components to two or three persons. If you believe there is justification for more than two or three members of your organization at such administrative and professional association conferences and meetings, you must submit such justification to Mr. Flickinger for approval prior to obligating any Department of Justice funds for travel and per diem.

This directive is not targeted at travelers who attend field operational meetings related directly to accomplishing specific program missions of the Department.

(Executive Office for United States Attorneys)

* * * * *

Coordination Of Arrests With United States Marshals

On June 28, 1989, Joe D. Whitley, Acting Associate Attorney General, advised that the criminal law enforcement initiatives of the Department over the past several years have met with unprecedented success in terms of identifying, arresting, prosecuting and convicting serious criminals. This success has created a record demand for the United States Marshals Service (USMS) to obtain sufficient pre-trial detention space, near federal courts, that is appropriate to house these serious offenders. Even with advance notice of arrests, in many judicial districts, it is extremely difficult to obtain detention space due to severe overcrowding in state and local facilities. The challenge becomes virtually unmanageable when significant arrests are made without advance notice to the local U.S. Marshal.

There are two areas in which you can help the USMS deal with these demands. First, when major investigations involving large numbers of targets approach the arrest phase, the local U.S. Marshal should be provided advance notice of the numbers of potential arrestees and the dates the arrests will be made. This will enable the U.S. Marshal to conduct a discrete survey of available detention space. Such notice should be given in all cases involving 10 or more arrestees in a single location in which advance notice will not compromise delicate investigations.

The second way to assist the USMS is to review in your office all requests for pre-trial detention in advance of their being made to assure they are fully warranted. Each individual

held during the pendency of his/her trial restricts the space available for normal pre-trial detention use. While such considerations must not deter us from seeking pre-trial detention when we arrest major traffickers and violent offenders, alternatives to pre-trial detention should be explored where appropriate.

(Executive Office for United States Attorneys)

Criminal Division Brief/Memo Bank

The Criminal Division is abolishing its Brief/Memo Bank which is located in the Information Services Unit of the Office of Enforcement Operations. Past practice has revealed that the time and effort expended to compile this information retrieval system greatly exceeds the usage made of it by the Division and the various Offices of the United States Attorneys. The Division is encouraging its Offices and Sections to remove documents from this centralized system for incorporation into their own files. A discussion of the Brief/Memo Bank, appearing in Section 9-5.100 of the United States Attorneys' Manual, will be deleted.

(Criminal Division)

Orders Of Expungement

When you receive an order of expungement of official records, you must ascertain whether the order meets statutory requirements. For offenses committed prior to November 1, 1987, the petitioner must be under twenty-two (22) years of age. <a href="See 21 U.S.C. § 844(b)(2). (While this provision has been repealed, a savings clause applies to offenses committed before November 1, 1987.)

For offenses committed on or after November 1, 1986, the petitioner must be <u>under twenty-one</u> (21) years of age. <u>See</u> 18 U.S.C. § 3607(c). The overlap between dates of offense is intentional. It seeks fairness to those petitioners who are caught between the differing age requirements.

If orders of expunction do not conform to these requirements, consider appealing the order to protect federal records. If you have any questions, please contact Vickie Sloan, Office of General Counsel, Justice Management Division, at FTS/(202) 633-3452.

(Executive Office for United States Attorneys)

President's Crime Package And The Savings And Loan Industry

On July 7, 1989, Laurence S. McWhorter, Director, Executive Office for United States Attorneys, forwarded to all United States Attorneys a number of questions and answers concerning the President's Crime Package recently introduced in Congress. Included in this transmittal was a copy of a transcript of a Press Conference on July 5, 1989, with Attorney General Dick Thornburgh on the subject of fraud in the savings and loan industry.

If you would like additional copies, please contact Judy Beeman, Editor, or Audrey Williams, Editorial Assistant, <u>United States Attorneys' Bulletin</u> at FTS/202-272-5898.

(Executive Office for United States Attorneys)

LEGISLATION

Americans With Disabilities Act

On June 22, 1989, the Attorney General testified before the Senate Committee on Labor and Human Resources on the Americans With Disabilities Act of 1989, a bill to extend civil rights protection to individuals with disabilities in areas of employment, public accommodations, transportation and telecommunications.

The Attorney General, on behalf of the President and the Administration, pledged to work with the Committee in a bipartisan effort to enact comprehensive legislation to end discrimination based upon disability. He articulated the Administration's view that the new legislation should be coordinated with existing civil rights law in order to avoid confusion, the inefficient use of resources, and unnecessary litigation. He also expressed the Administration's concern about the costs that would be imposed by the ambiguous language of the bill, particularly on small businesses.

In response to a question from Senator Coats, the Attorney General stated that the bill should make clear that substance abusers and drug traffickers should not be included within its protections. He also suggested the possibility of distinguishing the use of illicit drugs from addiction to prescription drugs and

alcohol with regard to the protections conferred by Section 504. Other questions focused on clarifying the Administration's positions regarding appropriate remedies, equipping public buses with lifts, and the scope of public accommodations coverage, including the need to define "reasonable accommodation."

President's Crime Package

On June 22, 1989, the President's Comprehensive Violent Crime Control Act, S. 1225, was introduced in the Congress. Senators Dole, Thurmond, Specter, McClure and DeConcini have signed on as cosponsors, and the list will continue to grow. On the House side, Republican Leader Bob Michel introduced the measure on June 21, 1989, as H.R. 2709.

Federal Facility Compliance With Hazardous Waste Laws

On June 20, 1989, the House Energy Committee approved by a wide margin H.R. 1056, which would amend the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act to waive the government's sovereign immunity with respect to federal, state, and local hazardous waste disposal requirements. Under the bill, federal facilities could be subject to penalties, including local administrative penalties, for failure to comply. The bill was improved during markup in Subcommittee, but still does not address a major Department of Justice concern that the waiver from sovereign immunity does not differentiate between penalties imposed for failure to take corrective action—even where Congress has failed to authorize funding for such action—and those imposed for ongoing compliance violations. The Department will try to have corrective amendments made in the Senate.

Narcotics Abuse And Control

On June 21, 1989, Attorney General Dick Thornburgh met with the House Select Committee on Narcotics Abuse and Control to discuss the Department's role in the drug war. The Attorney General outlined the Department's overall drug strategy and discussed its interaction with state and local entities. It was a generally positive meeting and one in which the Attorney General made a number of excellent points to the Committee members with respect to the Administration's role in reducing drug supply and demand.

Organized Crime Strike Forces

On June 20, 1989, Assistant Attorney General Edward S.G. Dennis, Jr., Criminal Division, testified before the House Judiciary Subcommittee on Criminal Justice concerning the possible consolidation of the Strike Force Offices and the United States Attorneys' Offices. Mr. Dennis took the opportunity to allay concerns that the Department was contemplating any diminution of the fight against organized crime. Rather, he explained that the changes contemplated were designed to ensure the effective use of our resources in that fight. Although Subcommittee Chairman Schumer and other Members have expressed "grave concerns" about the plan, Mr. Dennis' testimony was well received considering the level of controversy that has built up concerning the proposal. Some former Chiefs of Strike Force Offices testified in opposition to the proposal.

Savings And Loan Reform

During the June 15, 1989, House consideration of H.R. 1278, an amendment by Rep. Barnard was adopted which would restore a Banking Committee provision requiring the establishment of field offices of the Criminal Division's Fraud Section. The Department was able to get such a provision taken out of the bill during the House Judiciary Committee markup on the grounds that such legislative micro-management of the Department's efforts against financial institutions fraud would only hinder the highly effective working relationship between the United States Attorneys' Offices and the Fraud Section. However, the Banking Committee position prevailed on the floor despite the bipartisan opposition of key Judiciary Committee members. Since the Senate-passed version of H.R. 1278 contains no such provision, the Department will press for its removal in Conference.

The House approved an amendment by Rep. Annunzio restoring the Administration's proposal to add a new civil penalty for banking law violations of up to \$1,000,000. The House Banking Committee had adopted the Administration's proposal, but the Judiciary Committee substituted a version which would peg civil penalties to the amount of the loss occasioned by the offense and the costs of the government's investigation. This change was the Committee's reaction to the recent Supreme Court decision in United States v. Halper. However, the Department has contended that the Halper case would still allow the government to seek more substantial penalties depending on the facts of individual cases, as opposed to using a fixed formula.

Staff of the House and Senate conferees will meet on legislation to reform, recapitalize and consolidate the Federal Deposit Insurance System for the savings and loan industry. Preliminary meetings of the conferees' staff members suggest that the absence of Senate Judiciary Committee members among the conferees may result in the Senate receding to the House on a majority of the enforcement-related provisions. There appears to be agreement among the conferees that the legislation should be silent with respect to regulatory agency litigation authority, and the related provisions in both the House and Senate bills are expected to be deleted. Among the enforcement-related issues, the House provision establishing two regional fraud section offices is expected to engender the most significant and partisan debate. A letter summarizing the Department's priority concerns, including opposition to the House provision mandating that the Attorney General establish regional fraud strike forces, will be transmitted shortly.

FY 1989 Supplemental Appropriations

On June 30, 1989, the President signed the FY 1989 Dire Emergency Supplemental Appropriations Act, H.R. 2402. The measure included \$71 million for the Department for federal domestic drug law enforcement and \$1,800,000 for the Office of Redress Administration.

Vertical Price Restraints

On June 20, 1989, the House Judiciary Committee approved H.R. 1236, which would significantly alter the degree of proof required to establish the existence of an illegal price fixing agreement between a manufacturer and its distributors. The Department of Justice has consistently opposed such legislation on the ground that it replaces the longstanding "rule of reason" approach with a standard of per se illegality.

CIVIL DIVISION

Supreme Court Holds That The Equal Access To Justice
Act (EAJA) Authorizes Attorneys' Fees For Work Performed
In Post-Remand, Social Security Administrative Proceedings

The Supreme Court, in a 5-4 decision, has held that the Equal Access to Justice Act authorizes the award of attorneys' fees for work performed in Social Security administrative proceedings conducted pursuant to a court-ordered remand. majority reasoned that Section 205(g) of the Social Security Act requires a close and unusual interaction between the courts and the administrative process and that, when cases are remanded, the civil action is not terminated until the subsequent administrative proceedings are concluded. It thus noted that in light of EAJA's broad remedial purposes, fees that are incurred in the "civil action" within the meaning of EAJA may also include fees incurred in any post-remand administrative proceedings that are necessary to vindicate fully the plaintiff's rights. The dissent, characterizing the majority's argument as "no more than fancy footwork" reasoned that EAJA plainly distinguishes between the administrative and judicial phases of the case. It also noted that the legislative history expressly rejects precisely the result reached by the majority.

<u>Sullivan</u> v. <u>Hudson</u>, No. 88-616 (June 12, 1989). DJ # 137-1-1151.

Attorneys: William Kanter, FTS/202-633-1597 Jeffrey Clair, FTS/202-633-4027

* * * *

Supreme Court Holds That Conrail's Imposition Of Routine Urinalysis Drug Screening Creates A "Minor" Dispute Under Railway Labor Act And That Conrail Is Free to Impose Change Subject To Exclusive Arbitral Jurisdiction Of National Railroad Adjustment Board

In 1989, Conrail announced that it would add urinalysis drug screening to the urinalysis testing which it had previously required of its employees. The Supreme Court has now held, in accordance with the amicus brief filed by the United States, that this change creates a "minor" dispute under the Railway Labor Act since Conrail's action is "arguably justified" by the collective bargaining agreement. Therefore, the Court ruled, Conrail may impose the change subject to the exclusive arbitral jurisdiction of the National Railroad Adjustment Board.

Consolidated Rail Corporation v. Railway Labor
Executives' Association, No. 88-1 (June 19, 1989).
DJ # 145-18-1445

Attorneys: Leonard Schaitman, FTS/202-633-3441 Jeffrey Clair, FTS/202-633-4027

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Supreme Court Unanimously Affirms Ruling That The Federal Advisory Committee Act Does Not Govern The Executive's Consultation With the ABA Concerning Nomination Of Candidates For Federal Judgeships

For over 35 years, the President has, in confidence, provided the names to the American Bar Association (ABA) of persons he is considering nominating for federal judgeships. The ABA then conducts investigations of those persons, and gives the Department of Justice a rating of each candidate (sometimes accompanied by an explanation of its rating). In this case, the Washington Legal Foundation and Public Citizen brought suit arguing that the ABA is subject to the various requirements of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA), which includes some information access provisions. We contended that, despite the broad wording of the statute, it was not meant to apply to the ABA, and that, if it was, it is unconstitutional.

The District Court rejected our first argument, but accepted our second one. Plaintiffs filed a direct appeal to the Supreme Court, and that court has now unanimously affirmed (although Justice Scalia had recused himself because he had written memoranda on this subject when he was an Assistant Attorney General). Writing for five justices, Justice Brennan held that the language of the FACA should not be read as its wording implies because that would lead to a result Congress did not apparently intend. He thus narrowed the scope of the statute so that it does not cover a privately founded and funded committee providing advice regarding a matter assigned exclusively to the President. Writing for three Justices, Justice Kennedy would have affirmed on the ground that the FACA does cover this case, as its language apparently provides, but that Congress cannot in this manner interfere with the President's exclusive constitutional nomination power.

Public Citizen v. DOJ, No. 88-429 (June 21, 1989).
DJ # 145-12-7483

Attorney: Doug Letter, FTS/202-633-3602

Supreme Court Upholds Congressional Ban On Obscene Dial-A-Porn, But Invalidates Ban On Indecent Dial-A-Porn

The Supreme Court upheld 47 U.S.C. §223(b)'s ban on obscene "dial-a-porn" messages in this decision, but invalidated as unconstitutional the statute's ban on indecent messages. three dissents, the Court (per White, J.) reaffirmed the validity of federal obscenity laws, noting that obscene, as opposed to indecent, speech lies outside the protection of the First Amend-On the other hand, the Court unanimously found that dement. spite the government's compelling interest in protecting the well-being of children, the statute's total ban on indecent speech was impermissibly overbroad. In so doing, rejected our attempt to rely on FCC v. Pacifica Foundation, 438 (which upheld FCC regulation of indecent (1978) U.S. §726 emphasizing Pacifica's "emphatically narrow broadcasting), holding," and noting that the FCC's previous attempts to regulate the access of children to indecent dial-a-porn messages short of a ban appeared to have been feasible and effective.

> <u>Sable Communications of Calif., Inc.</u> v. <u>FCC</u>, No. 88-515, 88-525 (June 23, 1989). DJ # 145-112-117

Attorneys: Barbara Herwig, FTS/202-633-5425 Jacob Lewis, FTS/202-633-4259

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Supreme Court Rejects Least Restrictive Alternative Analysis For Time, Place And Manner Regulations And Rebuffs First Amendment Challenge To Guideline Requiring Sponsors To Use City-Provided Sound System And Technician For Concerts In Central Park

After previous efforts had failed, New York City sought to limit excessive noise at Central Park concerts by purchasing high quality sound equipment and requiring all musicians performing in the Park's Bandshell amphitheater to use that equipment and The Supreme Court upheld the City-provided sound technician. this requirement against First Amendment challenge. reaffirmed its view adopted in <u>Clark</u> v. <u>Community For Creative</u> Non-Violence, 368 U.S. 288, 293 (1984) that the First Amendment does not bar time, place and manner regulations where the restrictions are "justified without reference to the content of the regulated speech, * * * are narrowly tailored to serve a significant governmental interest, * * * and * * * leave open ample alternative channels for communication of the information." The Court also repudiated the analysis adopted by the Second Circuit, which had invalidated the City's regulations because there were "less intrusive means" of controlling noise.

Writing for the Court, Justice Kennedy made clear that the Court would not go beyond application of the Clark standard to second-guess local regulators concerning the best approach for volume control. Here the Court readily found that New York's regulation was content-neutral since it applied to all Central Park concerts, and that there were alternative avenues of communication since only a minimal amount of sound amplification was limited. The Court also held that New York's approach was narrowly tailored to serve the legitimate interest of noise control since the technique is direct and effective, other noise control efforts had failed, and, as found by the district court, the city technician and equipment had, pursuant to City policy, accurately reproduced the sound quality desired by concert performers. Justice Marshall's dissent, joined by Justices Brennan and Stevens, argued unsuccessfully that the City's requirement was not "narrowly tailored" to eliminate excessive noise precisely because there were less intrusive means to accomplish this objective. The majority also explicitly rejected Marshall's view that a stricter standard should have been applied because New York's rule operated as a prior restraint.

Ward v. Rock Against Racism, No. 88-226 (June 22, 1989). DJ # 145-0-2815

Attorneys: John F. Cordes, FTS/202-633-3380 Jeremy R. Paul, FTS/202-633-4821

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Fourth Circuit Upholds Constitutionality Of Virginia Malpractice Damage Cap, Certifies State Law Questions To Virginia Supreme Court

The Virginia legislature has imposed a \$1 million cap on damage awards in medical malpractice cases. In this case, a malpractice suit between private parties, a district court struck down the cap on the ground that it violated the Seventh Amendment amicus brief in the Fourth Circuit supporting the constitutionality of the cap. The Fourth Circuit has now issued an opinion rejecting all challenges to the constitutionality of the cap. The Fourth Circuit has certified several state law questions to the Virginia Supreme Court, at least one of which—whether the cap applies separately to each plaintiff in a multi-plaintiff malpractice suit—has potential significance for the United States in our Virginia FTCA cases.

Boyd v. Bulala, No. 88-2055L and 88-2056 4th Cir. June 12, 1989). DJ # 157-80-267

Attorneys: Robert S. Greenspan, FTS/202-633-5428

Scott R. Mcintosh, FTS/202-633-4052

Fifth Circuit Protects Identities And Information In Business Records Under Exemption 7 Of The Freedom Of Information Act

This case concerns a request for names and information contained in records of an unfruitful criminal fraud investigation of a government contractor. The Fifth Circuit has upheld the government's right, under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), to protect identities of suspects and third parties, and information about them, in business records collected during a criminal investigation. The court emphasized that not solely the subject matter of the documents, here business records, but also the manner in which information was obtained and any reasonable interest a person may have in preventing public disclosure, are the relevant standards to determine exemption under the FOIA. The Fifth Circuit applies a very lenient standard to test invasion of privacy under FOIA Exemption 7(C), acknowledging that mere association with a criminal investigation may invade privacy and that first names standing alone are protected in criminal files. This decision is also one of the first to apply Department of Justice v. Reporters Committee for the Freedom of the Press, 109 S.Ct. 1468 (1989), and gives it a broad reading.

Bernard Halloran v. Veterans Administration,
Nos. 88-6180 & 2055 (5th Cir. June 6, 1989).
DJ # 157-126-2845

Attorneys: Leonard Schaitman, FTS/202-633-3441
Susan Sleater, FTS/202-633-3305

Fifth Circuit Affirms Dismissal Of Challenge To Department Of Health And Human Services (HHS) Attorneys' Fees Regulation

This case involves an Administrative Procedure Act and constitutional challenge to an HHS regulation governing the awarding of attorneys' fees in administrative proceedings under the Social Security Act. The challenged regulation sets forth various factors that Administrative Law Judges must apply when setting a "reasonable" fee that attorneys may charge their own clients in

Social Security administrative proceedings. Plaintiff, an attorney who represents such claimants, argued that the regulation is arbitrary, capricious, and inconsistent with the requirement that a "reasonable" fee be set, because the regulation does not take into account prevailing rates in the community delay in payment, and the contingency of receiving fees. Plaintiff also claimed that his equal protection rights are denied because the regulation applies when a claimant's fees are paid by third-party insurance companies, but does not apply when an attorney is funded by a nonprofit or government agency.

The district court granted the government's motion for judgment on the pleadings, and the court of appeals has affirmed. The Fifth Circuit accepted our argument that the regulation is not arbitrary and capricious, as it takes into account numerous factors, such as the time an attorney spends on a case, the degree of difficulty involved, and the actual fee requested. The Court was not troubled by the fact that courts often take into account prevailing rates, contingency and delay when applying other attorneys' fees statutes, since those other cases generaly involve fee-shifting statutes for judicial proceedings rather than a fee provision, like the one at issue here, concerning the amount owed to the attorney by his own client for services rendered in administrative proceedings. The Fifth Circuit, like the district court, did not discuss our argument that the plaintiff lacked standing, or that the case became moot, when Congress enacted a temporary moratorium (which will expire on July 1, 1989) on amendment of the challenged regulation. addition, the Court summarily rejected appellant's equal protection claim.

<u>Weisbrod</u> v. <u>Sullivan</u>, No. 88-1696 (June 20, 1989). DJ # 137-73-807

Attorneys: Michael Jay Singer, FTS/202-633-5431 Jerry Epstein, FTS/202-633-3338

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Eighth Circuit Holds That The Civil Service Reform Act Precludes Assertion Of Constitutional Claims By One Federal Employee Against His Superiors And That The Federal Employees Liability And Tort Reform Act Requires Substitution Of The United States As Defendant For The Individual Employee Defendants

In this action, a former District Director of the Minneapolis Small Business Administration (SBA) office sought damages against various SBA officials, including a former SBA Administrator and Regional Administrator. Plaintiff claimed that the individual defendants violated his constitutional rights and committed various common law torts as a result of his transfer to the position of Director, Office of Private Sector Initiatives for SBA Region V and the subsequent elimination of the PSI position by a Reduction-In-Force. The individual defendants moved to dismiss on the basis, inter alia, that plaintiff's constitutional claims were precluded under the comprehensive remedial scheme of the Civil Service Reform Act (CSRA) and that they were qualifiedly immune. The district court denied the motion and the individual defendants appealed.

On appeal, we argued CSRA preclusion of and immunity from both the constitutional and common law claims. While the appeal was pending, Congress passed the Federal Employees Liability Reform and Tort Compensation Act of 1988, which statute requires substitution of the United States as the defendant in cases involving common law claims brought against federal employees acting within the scope of their employment. In light of the new statute (and our certification that all the defendants were acting within the scope of their employment), we suggested that any issue concerning the individual defendants immunity from plaintiff's common law claims was now moot and that the district court's ruling should be vacated and the matter remanded for further proceedings against the United States under the new statute.

A unanimous panel of the Eighth Circuit (Wollman and Magill, C.J., and Larson, D.J.) has now agreed. The court held first that it had jurisdiction over all claims on appeal because rejection of the immunity claims is immediately appealable and because "[r]esolution of the constitutional and common law claims" presented "closely related issues of law" to the immunity issues. The court next held that plaintiff "has no constitutional tort cause of action" because of the comprehensive remedial scheme of the CSRA and that any "question of qualified immunity regarding such an action is moot." Finally, the court held that enactment of the new statute (and our certification) required substitution of the United States "as the party defendant in the place of the individual defendants" and a remand for further proceedings. Hence, any claim of "absolute immunity" is also "moot."

<u>Celso Carlos Moreno</u> v. <u>Small Business Administration, et al</u>, No. 88-5274 (8th Cir. June 16, 1989). DJ # 35-39-88

Attorneys: John F. Cordes, FTS/202-633-3380 John P. Schnitker, FTS/202-633-2786

Eleventh Circuit Rules That Coast Guard Officer

Effecting Drug Arrest On The High Seas Is Entitled
To Qualified Immunity For Both Constitutional And
Non-Constitutional Torts

Plaintiffs, a man and two women sailing an American flag sailboat off the Bahamas, were stopped and questioned by a Coast Guard task force led by defendant Lt. Atkin on routine patrol aboard a naval warship. Plaintiffs informed the task force that they had some packages on their deck which they had fished out of the water a few hours before. They were boarded, and the task force inspected the dry, unwatermarked packages, which turned out to be ten bales totalling 200 pounds of marijuana. A further search of the vessel turned up a rifle and a pistol. Plaintiffs were arrested, read their rights, subjected to a pat-down search, and removed to custody aboard the naval warship. Aboard the navy ship they were separately subjected to strip searches pursuant to a Coast Guard district directive for keeping felony prisoners on a vessel overnight, and then were handcuffed to a chain connected to bunk beds for the night. The next day they were turned over to a Coast Guard cutter whose captain subsequently released them because he believed it unlikely that the United States Attorney in Miami would choose to prosecute. Plaintiffs sued the United States and Lt. Atkin personally for damages. The district court refused to dismiss the claims against Lt. Atkin on grounds of qualified immunity, because it found his actions insufficiently discretionary.

Accepting all our immunity arguments, the Eleventh Circuit has now ruled (1) that the level of discretion necessary for the application of a particular immunity doctrine is a question of law which is immediately appealable, and (2) that Lt. Atkin's actions were sufficiently discretionary and violated no clearly established law, thus entitling him to immunity for both the constitutional and the non-constitutional claims asserted against him. Because of this, the court did not accept our invitation to remand the case for the district court to consider whether the non-constitutional claims against Lt. Atkin would be precluded by statutes (the Suits in Admiralty Act and/or the recent amendments to the Federal Tort Claims Act) which provide that the United States is the exclusive defendant for such claims.

Harrell v. United States and LTJG Atkin,
Nos. 88-3494 and 88-3606 (11th Cir. June 14,
1989). DJ # 61-17M-260

Attorneys: Barbara L. Herwig, FTS/202-633-5425 Wendy M. Keats, FTS/202-633-3518

TAX DIVISION

Supreme Court Holds Ceding Commissions Must Be Amortized

Colonial American Life Insurance Co. v. Commissioner. June 15, 1989, the Supreme Court, by a 6-to-3 vote, affirmed the Fifth Circuit's decision in the Government's favor involving the income taxation of life insurance companies. At issue was whether "ceding commissions" payable by a reinsurer to the initial insurer as consideration for the right to share in the future income stream from a block of life insurance policies reinsured under contracts of indemnity reinsurance are fully deductible in the year paid, or whether such payments must be capitalized and amortized over the established life of the reinsurance agree-The Supreme Court, in an opinion by Justice Kennedy, rejected the taxpayer's contention that such ceding commissions (which were netted against the reinsurance premiums due from the reinsured company) were deductible as an adjustment to gross premiums (in the nature of return premiums) under Section 809(c) of the Internal Revenue Code. It held that the ceding commissions instead represent an investment in the future income stream from the reinsured policies, and that as such, they should be treated in the same manner as capital expenditures of any sort, which must be capitalized and amortized. Justices Stevens, O'Connor and Blackman dissented.

Supreme Court Holds Payments To Church Of Scientology For Auditing And Training Sessions Not Deductible As Charitable Contributions

Hernandez v. Commissioner and Graham v. Commissioner. June 5, 1989, the Supreme Court, by a 5-to-2 vote, ruled in favor of the Commissioner in these consolidated cases, holding that payments made to the Church of Scientology for auditing and training sessions are not deductible charitable contributions under Section 170 of the Internal Revenue Code. The Church established mandatory, fixed price schedules for auditing and training sessions, which vary according to the session's length and level of sophistication. The taxpayers each made payments to the Church for auditing or training sessions, and sought to deduct these payments on their federal income tax returns as The Court, in an opinion by Justice charitable contributions. Marshall, ruled that the payments did not qualify as "contribution[s] or gift[s]," because they were part of a quintessential quid pro quo exchange: "in return for their money, petitioners received an identifiable benefit, namely auditing and training sessions." The Court rejected the taxpayers' argument that a quid pro quo analysis is inappropriate when the benefit a taxpayer receives is purely religious in nature, ruling that "[t]he Code makes no special preference for payments made in the expectation of gaining religious benefits or access to a religious service." The Court also rejected taxpayers' constitutional contentions, holding that disallowance of taxpayers' claimed contribution deductions does not violate the Establishment Clause or the Free Exercise Clause. Justices O'Connor and Scalia dissented.

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<u>Sixth Circuit Holds Conrail Benefits Are "Termination Allowances," Fully Includable In Income</u>

Martin v. Commissioner. On June 5, 1989, the Sixth Circuit, affirming the Tax Court, held that the employee benefits received by two former Conrail workers were termination allowances, which were fully includable in income, rather than payments "in the nature of unemployment compensation," which would have been partially excludable from income under the pre-1976 version of Code This case is significant because it was designated Section 85. as a test case on the issue, and, according to the Commissioner, more than 5,400 other cases will be affected by the outcome here. The benefits in question were provided by the Northeast Rail Service Act of 1981 (Pub. L. No. 97-35, 95 Stat. 643; codified in pertinent part at 45 U.S.C., Secs. 797 to 797m), which was enacted to reduce Conrail's labor costs so as to make it easier for the Government to sell Conrail. The Act provided for two types of benefits for laid-off Conrail employees: a \$20,000 lump sum payment for employees who were willing to relinquish their seniority, and a daily subsistence allowance, not to exceed a total of \$20,000, for employees who chose to remain on "furlough" status. The court of appeals held, as to both types of benefits, that because they were payable to the employees of only one corporation in only one industry, and because they were separate and apart from the benefits payable under the Railroad Unemployment Insurance Act ("regular" unemployment compensation), they constituted termination allowances rather than payments "in the nature of unemployment compensation."

In two other cases, courts of appeals had resolved in the Government's favor the related question whether the Conrail benefits in question were fully excludable from income under 42 U.S.C. Sec. 797b, which provides that they are to be considered "compensation" solely for certain specified nontax purposes. See Sutherland v. United States, 865 F.2d 56 (3d Cir. 1989); Herbert v. United States, 850 F.2d 32 (2d Cir. 1988). The decision here presumably resolves the last open question in the Conrail employee-benefit litigation.

Tenth Circuit Rules In Bivens Case

John S. Pleasant, et al v. Larry Lovell, Larry Hyatt, Vernon Pixley, Kenneth Baston and Tim Fortune. This Bivens action was brought by 145 members of the National Commodity and Barter Association (NCBA), who sought money damages from agents of the Criminal Investigation Division of the Internal Revenue Service in connection with a criminal tax investigation of the NCBA. May 16, 1989, the Tenth Circuit reversed the district court's grant of summary judgment in favor of the defendants Lovell, Pixley and Hyatt, and remanded the case for further proceedings with respect to those defendants; it affirmed the grant of summary judgment in favor of Baston and Fortune. The plaintiffs had challenged the district court's holding that the actions of Pauline Adams, an NCBA secretarial employee, in removing items from the NCBA offices and furnishing them to Lovell, Pixley and Hyatt, could not be imputed to those defendants since Adams was not a Government agent, and the court's alternative holding that, even assuming Adams were a Government agent, the defendants were entitled to qualified immunity. Plaintiffs also challenged the district court's determination that the conduct of defendants Baston and Fortune with respect to grand jury activities and consensual electronic monitoring of the NCBA office was proper.

The court of appeals held that "because the documentary and testimonial evidence and the inferences therefrom sharply conflicted on whether Adams was acting as an instrument or agent of the government, summary judgment in favor of the defendants (Lovell, Pixley and Hyatt) based on the lack of an agency relationship was inappropriate." The court held that if, on remand, the district court determined that Adams was a Government agent, the defendants would be entitled to qualified immunity only insofar as the activities of Adams and the information obtained by her were within the inherent scope and course of her secretarial duties for the NCBA. In sustaining the grant of summary judgment in favor of Fortune and Baston, the court held that special agents serving grand jury subpoenas are entitled to absolute immunity for such service. The court also held that the defendants were entitled to qualified immunity since (1) consensual electronic monitoring pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Sec. 2511 violated no clearly established First or Fourth Amendment right; (2) a bank customer has no clearly established right to notification of a grand jury subpoena even if First Amendment concerns were implicated; and (3) qualified immunity attached to the defendants' investigative activities on behalf of the grand jury in the absence of evidence that they violated clearly established law while assisting the grand jury.

ADMINISTRATIVE ISSUES

Career Opportunities

Criminal Division

The Criminal Division is seeking an experienced criminal law attorney to fill the position of Chief of the Fraud Section in Washington, D.C. The applicant will supervise 81 attorney and support positions and directly participate in national policy development. This position will be at the ES-1 to ES-4 level (salary range - \$68,70 - \$76,400). Senior attorneys experienced in management issues who wish to apply for this position should submit a current SF 171 (Application for Federal Employment) and a current supervisory appraisal to: U.S. Department of Justice, Executive Personnel Unit, Room 1117, 10th and Constitution Avenue, N.W., Washington, D. C. 20530, Attn: Paul Mathwin.

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Asset Forfeiture Office; National Obscenity Enforcement Unit; and Fraud Section, Criminal Division

The Office of Attorney Personnel Management is seeking experienced attorneys for the Department's Criminal Division in the Asset Forfeiture Office, the National Obscenity Enforcement Unit, and the Fraud Section, in Washington, D.C.

- (1) The Asset Forfeiture Office is looking for experienced attorneys to handle criminal and civil investigations and litigation nationwide. Experience as an Assistant United States Attorney or in a state or local prosecutor's office, as well as a background in civil litigation, is desirable. Salary is commensurate with experience. Please submit an SF-171 (Application for Federal Employment) to: U.S. Department of Justice, Criminal Division, Asset Forfeiture Office, P.O. Box 27322, Central Station, Washington, D.C. 20038, Attn: Michael Zeldin, Director.
- (2) The National Obscenity Enforcement Unit is seeking trial attorneys with experience in child pornography law or child sexual exploitation law or obscenity and organized crime prosecution experience; and excellent investigative, litigative, analytical, and writing skills are preferred. Positions are available immediately. These positions are likely to be at the GS 13-15 levels (salary range from \$41,121 \$57,158), depending on experience. Please submit an SF-171 (Application for Federal Employment) to: U.S. Department of Justice, Criminal Division, National Obscenity Enforcement Unit, Room 2216, 10th Street and Constitution Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20530.

(3) The Fraud Section is seeking trial attorneys to handle criminal cases throughout the United States involving thrift institutions that have failed. The duty station will be in Washington, D.C., but the cases are nationwide and there will be extensive travel; on average, 50 percent of an attorney's time will be in travel status. Positions will be available October 1, 1989. These positions are likely to be at the GS 12-15 levels (salary range from \$34,580-\$57,158), depending on experience. Please submit an SF-171 (Application for Federal Employment) to: U.S. Department of Justice, Criminal Division, Fraud Section, P.O. Box 28188, Central Station, Washington, D.C. 20038, Attn: William C. Hendricks.

For all positions, in order to meet minimum eligibility requirements, applicants must have had their J.D. degree for at least one year and be an active member of the bar in good standing. These advertisements are being conducted in anticipation of possible future vacancies. No telephone calls, please.

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Community Relations Service

The Office of Attorney Personnel Management is seeking an experienced attorney to act as General Counsel for the Department's Community Relations Service (CRS) in Washington, D.C. The General Counsel's position is an attorney-advisor position involved in rendering legal advice and services to the Director and top management staff. The attorney prepares interpretative and administrative orders, rules or regulations governing the CRS; drafts, negotiates or examines contracts or other legal documents required by the CRS; and drafts and reviews documents and management actions for consideration by agency officials. The attorney is a member of the Director's Executive Staff and confidential advisor on all legal matters. Applicants must have at least six years of relevant experience and be an active member of the bar in good standing. This position will be at the GS-15 level (starting salary is \$57,158.00).

Please submit a resume and SF-171 to: U.S. Department of Justice, Community Relations Service, 5550 Friendship Blvd., Chevy Chase, Maryland 20530, Attn: Faustino Pino, Jr., Associate Director for Administration. No telephone calls, please.

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Office of Information And Privacy

The Office of Attorney Personnel Management is seeking two experienced attorneys for the Office of Information and Privacy in Washington, D.C. Responsibilities include handling matters arising under the FOI Act, including administrative appeals, District Court and Court of Appeals litigation and government-wide policy guidance. In order to meet minimum eligibility requirements, applicants must have had their J.D. degree for at least one year and be an active member of the bar in good standing. These positions will be at the GS 11 level (starting salary - \$28,852) or GS 12 (starting salary - \$34,580), depending on experience. The closing date is August 30, 1989, but applicants are encouraged to apply as soon as possible.

Please submit a resume or SF-171 (Application for Federal Employment) to: U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Information and Privacy, Room 7238, 10th and Constitution Avenue, N.W., Washington, D. C. 20530, Attn: Daniel Metcalfe. No telephone calls, please.

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Office Of Intelligence Policy And Review

The Office of Attorney Personnel Management is seeking experienced attorneys for the Office of Intelligence Policy and Review in Washington, D.C. Attorneys will advise the Attorney General on the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act and other sensitive operational intelligence matters. Attorneys will also represent U.S. intelligence agencies before the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Court. Applicants must have had their J.D. degree for at least one year and be an active member of the bar in good standing. Experience in the U.S. intelligence community or in discovery litigation is desirable. Applications will have to undergo a full-field background investigation by the FBI for security clearance. This position will be at the GS 12-14 level (salary range from \$34,580 - \$48,592), depending on experience.

Please submit a resume to: U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Intelligence Policy, Suite 6325, Washington, D. C. 20530, Attn: Mr. Kornblum. No telephone calls, please.

Designation Of Beneficiary Forms

Designation of Beneficiary forms may be completed by an individual if he/she wishes payment of death benefits to be made in a way other than the normal order of precedence that the law provides. If there is no designated benficiary living, any unpaid compensation which becomes payable after the death of an employee will be payable to the first person or persons listed below who are alive on the date title to the payment arises. The following order of precedence is the same for all of the forms:

- 1. To the widow or widower;
- 2. If neither of the above, to the child or children, with the share of any deceased child distributed among the descendants of that child.
- 3. If none of the above, to the parents in equal shares or the entire amount to the surviving parent.
- 4. If none of the above, to the executor or administrator of the estate.
- 5. If none of the above, to the other next of kin who are entitled under the laws of the domicile of the insured at the time of death.

If the employee is not satisifed with the normal order of precedence, he/she may then complete the following beneficiary forms at any time, without the knowledge or consent of a previous beneficiary, and this right cannot be waived or restricted.

<u>sf-1152 - Claim for Unpaid Compensation Of Deceased Civilian Employee.</u> Used to designate payment of death benefits other than FEGLI or retirement funds. It applies to any money due the employee at time of death, such as for unused annual or unpaid salary. If the employee changes agencies, designations filed with the last agency are no longer valid, and the employee should be given the option to file a new SF-1152. The completed form is filed in the official personnel folder with the employing agency and the duplicate will be noted and returned for the employee's personal records.

<u>SF-2808 - Civil Service Retirement System.</u> Used to designate a beneficiary by employees covered under this system for lump sum benefits only. The right of any person who qualifies for survivor annuity benefits will not be affected. The designation remains in effect until the employee changes or cancels it. The form should be reviewed if marital status changes. The Administrative Officer or Servicing Personnel Office will mail both copies of the completed form to the Office of Personnel Management, Civil Service Retirement System, Washington, D.C. 20415. The duplicate will be returned to the employee as evidence that the original was received and filed.

SF-2823 - Federal Employees' Group Life Insurance Program. Used to change the order in which death benefits are paid. As of October 23, 1986, a new SF-2823 does not have to be filed if you change agencies. The form should be reviewed if marital status changes. The form is filed with the employing agency, except if the individual is a retiree or is receiving Federal employees' compensation. The duplicate will be noted and returned to the employee. If either of these two situations apply, file the form with the Office of Personnel Management, Employee Service and Records Center, Validation Section, Boyers, Pennsylvania 16017. If there are pending applications for retirement or compensation, file the form with the agency in which employed, if still an insured employee, or with the Office of Personnel Management, if no longer employed.

SF-3102 - Federal Employee Retirement System. Used to designate a beneficiary by employees covered under this system for lump sum benefits only. The right of any person who qualifies for survivor annuity benefits will not be affected. The designation remains in effect until the employee changes or cancels it. The form should be reviewed if marital status changes. The duplicate will be noted and returned to the employee. The completed form will be retained by the employing agency until the employee leaves Federal service. Once he/she retires, or separates and is eligible for a future FERS retirement or death benefits, the agency will send the form to the Office of Personnel Management, Federal Employee Retirement System, P.O. Box 200, Boyers, Pennsylvania 16020.

TSP-3 - Thrift Savings Plan. This form is to be completed for contributions to the Thrift Savings Plan (TSP) and must be received by the participant's Servicing Personnel Office (or the National Finance Center, if separated) before the death of the participant. It is used only for the disposition of amounts that are due and payable from the TSP account upon an employee's death. If family status changes, the employee should consider whether to change the designation. The completed form should be submitted to the employing agency, and will remain in effect until cancelled by the employee. A certified copy of the form will be sent to the individual for his/her records. If the employee separates from Federal service, then the form is to be forwarded to the National Finance Center, Thrift Savings Program Office, P.O. Box 61500, New Orleans, Louisiana 70161-1500.

If an employee decides to complete any of the aforementioned designation forms, he/she should review them periodically to ensure that the correct information is on file. Duplicates should be filed in a safe place with other important papers.

Additional questions may be referred to your Administrative Officer, Personnel Officer, or Servicing Personnel Specialist.

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APPENDIX

CUMULATIVE LIST OF CHANGING FEDERAL CIVIL POSTJUDGMENT INTEREST RATES

(As provided for in the amendment to the Federal postjudgment interest statute, 28 U.S.C. §1961, effective October 1, 1982.)

Effective 	Annual <u>Rate</u>
10-21-88	8.15%
11-18-88	8.55%
12-16-88	9.20%
01-13-89	9.16%
02-15-89	9.32%
03-10-89	9.43%
04-07-89	9.51%
05-05-89	9.15%
06-01-89	8.85%
06-29-89	8.16%

Note: For a cumulative list of Federal civil postjudgment interest rates effective October 1, 1982 through December 19, 1985, see Vol. 34, No. 1, p. 25, of the United States Attorney's Bulletin, dated January 16, 1986. For a cumulative list of Federal civil postjudgment interest rates from January 17, 1986 to September 23, 1988, see Vol. 37, No. 2, p. 65, of the United States Attorneys Bulletin, dated February 15, 1989.

UNITED STATES ATTORNEYS

DISTRICT	U.S. ATTORNEY
Alabama, N	Frank W. Donaldson
Alabama, M	James Eldon Wilson
Alabama, S	J. B. Sessions, III
Alaska	Michael R. Spaan
Arizona	Stephen M. McNamee
Arkansas, E	Charles A. Banks
Arkansas, W	J. Michael Fitzhugh
California, N	Joseph P. Russoniello
California, E	David F. Levi
<u>California, C</u>	Gary A. Feess
California, S	William Braniff
Colorado	Michael J. Norton
Connecticut	Stanley A. Twardy, Jr.
Delaware	William C. Carpenter, Jr.
District of Columbia	Jay B. Stephens
Florida, N	K. Michael Moore
Florida, M	Robert W. Genzman
Florida, S	Dexter W. Lehtinen
Georgia, N	Robert L. Barr, Jr.
Georgia, M	Edgar Wm. Ennis, Jr.
Georgia, S	Hinton R. Pierce
Guam	K. William O'Connor
Hawaii	Daniel A. Bent
Idaho ·	Maurice O. Ellsworth
Illinois, N	Anton R. Valukas
Illinois, S	Frederick J. Hess
Illinois, C	J. William Roberts
Indiana, N	James G. Richmond
Indiana, S	Deborah J. Daniels
Iowa, N	Charles W. Larson
Iowa, S	Christopher D. Hagen
Kansas	Benjamin L. Burgess, Jr.
Kentucky, E	Louis G. DeFalaise
Kentucky, W	Joseph M. Whittle
Louisiana, E	John Volz
Louisiana, M	P. Raymond Lamonica
Louisiana, W	Joseph S. Cage, Jr.
Maine	Richard S. Cohen
Maryland	Breckinridge L. Willcox
<u>Massachusetts</u>	Wayne A. Budd
Michigan, E	Stephen J. Markman
Michigan, W	John A. Smietanka
Minnesota	Jerome G. Arnold
Mississippi, N	Robert Q. Whitwell
Mississippi, S	George L. Phillips
Missouri, E	Thomas E. Dittmeier
Missouri, W	Thomas M. Larson

DISTRICT	U.S. ATTORNEY
Montana	Byron H. Dunbar
Nebraska	Ronald D. Lahners
Nevada	William A. Maddox
New Hampshire	Peter E. Papps
New Jersey	Samuel A. Alito, Jr.
New Mexico	William L. Lutz
New York, N	Frederick J. Scullin, Jr.
New York, S	Benito Romano
New York, E	Andrew J. Maloney
New York, W	Dennis C. Vacco
North Carolina, E	Margaret P. Currin
North Carolina, M	Robert H. Edmunds, Jr.
North Carolina, W	Thomas J. Ashcraft
North Dakota	H. Gary Annear
Ohio, N	William Edwards
Ohio, S	D. Michael Crites
	Tony Michael Graham
Oklahoma, N	Roger Hilfiger
Oklahoma, E	Robert E. Mydans
Oklahoma, W	Charles H. Turner
Oregon	Michael Baylson
Pennsylvania, E	James J. West
Pennsylvania, M	Charles D. Sheehy
Pennsylvania, W	Daniel F. Lopez-Romo
Puerto Rico	Lincoln C. Almond
Rhode Island	E. Bart Daniel
South Carolina	Philip N. Hogen
South Dakota	
Tennessee, E	John W. Gill, Jr.
Tennessee, M	Joe B. Brown
Tennessee, W	W. Hickman Ewing, Jr.
Texas, N	Marvin Collins
Texas, S	Henry K. Oncken
Texas, E	Robert J. Wortham
Texas, W	Helen M. Eversberg
<u>Utah</u>	Dee Benson
Vermont	George J. Terwilliger III
Virgin Islands	Terry M. Halpern
Virginia, E	Henry E. Hudson
Virginia, W	John P. Alderman
Washington, E	John E. Lamp
Washington, W	Gene S. Anderson
West Virginia, N	William A. Kolibash
West Virginia, S	Michael W. Carey
Wisconsin, E	John E. Fryatt
Wisconsin, W	Patrick J. Fiedler
Wyoming	Richard A. Stacy
North Mariana Island	s K. William O'Connor



U.S. Department of Justice

Office of the Deputy Attorney General

EXHIBIT A

The Deputy Attorney General

Washington, D.C. 20530

June 21, 1989

MEMORANDUM

TO:

All United States Attorneys

Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

Administrator, Drug Enforcement Administration

Commissioner, Immigration and Naturalization Service

Director, United States Marshals Service

FROM:

Edward S.G. Dennis, Jr.

Acting Deputy Attorney General

SUBJECT: Processing of Pending Forfeiture Cases

In reliance upon the representations of the Department that additional forfeiture personnel in United States Attorneys' offices would yield a net gain for the Treasury, Congress approved the additional resources we requested. It is imperative that we fulfill the commitment that was made to increase forfeiture production.

To enhance production during the remaining weeks of FY 1989, the Attorney General has authorized me to issue the following guidance and performance goals:

(A) FORFEITURE PERFORMANCE GOALS

(1) To All Addressees.

- (a) Commencing immediately and continuing through September 15, 1989, processing and completion of pending forfeiture cases are to be accorded the HIGHEST PRIORITY.
- (b) Forfeiture documents must promptly be forwarded to the Marshals Service so that cases can be completed and deposits made and credited to the Assets Forfeiture Fund.

(2) To All United States Attorneys.

- (a) By August 1, 1989, all cash forfeiture cases pending as of May 1, 1989, must be brought fully current. A written report detailing compliance with this goal is due in the Executive Office for United States Attorneys (EOUSA) on August 4, 1989.
- (b) By September 1, 1989, all other forfeiture cases pending as of May 1, 1989, must be brought fully current. A written report detailing compliance with this is due in EOUSA on September 5, 1989.
- (c) Requests from other U.S. Attorneys' offices for assistance in clearing clouds on title and other forfeiture-related actions that cannot be undertaken in the District of forfeiture should be brought fully current within 30 days of receipt.
- (d) A matter will be considered to be "fully current" when all pertinent pleadings have been filed and the matter is in a posture where nothing further can be done to advance the cause pending court action. Even as to such fully current matters, however, courts should routinely be urged to act on the pleadings filed.
- (e) If inadequate forfeiture resources are available to achieve the above goals, you will be expected to divert personnel from other activities or to seek assistance from other U.S. Attorneys' offices, the Criminal Division, and the Executive Office for United States Attorneys.
- (f) The new asset forfeiture positions approved in the Anti-Drug Abuse Act of 1988 are "dedicated" resources intended to <u>supplement</u> and <u>not to supplant</u> prior asset forfeiture personnel. Please ensure that the new positions allocated to your Office are being used consistent with this clear intent of Congress and of the Department of Justice.

(3) To the FBI, DEA, and INS.

- (a) By August 31, 1989, all cash seizures valued at \$10,000 or more pending as of May 1, 1989, should be administratively forfeited. A report detailing compliance with this goal is due in the Office of the Deputy Attorney General on September 6, 1989.
- (b) All requests for investigative support in connection with the processing of the judicial or administrative forfeiture of a seized property should be

acted upon expeditiously, within five business days of receipt whenever possible.

(4) To USMS. Steps should be taken to ensure that deposits are made and credited to the Assets Forfeiture Fund by September 30, 1989, in all cash forfeiture matters where service of forfeiture documents upon the Marshals Service is effected by close of business on September 15, 1989.

(B) EQUITABLE SHARING GUIDELINES

While we want to ensure that the Department is fair in its equitable sharing decisions, please be certain that you comply with the established sharing guidelines as set out below:

In determining the equitable share for participating agencies, the governing factors to be considered are whether the seizure was adopted or was the result of a joint investigation, and the degree of direct law enforcement participation of the requesting agency taking into account the total value of property forfeited and the total law enforcement effort. Additional factors to be taken into account are:

- (a) Whether the agency originated the information that led to the ultimate seizure, and whether the agency obtained such information by use of its investigative assets, rather than fortuitously;
- (b) Whether the agency provided unique or indispensable assistance;
- (c) Whether the agency initially identified the asset for seizure;
- (d) Whether the state or local agency seized other assets during the course of the same investigation and whether such seizures were made pursuant to state or local law; and.
- (e) Whether the state or local agency could have achieved forfeiture under state law, with favorable consideration given to an agency which could have forfeited the asset(s) on its own but joined forces with the United States to make a more effective investigation.

(C) DEPOSIT OF SEIZED CASH

You are reminded of the guidelines governing retention of cash which were issued by former Associate Attorney General

Trott. Those guidelines continue in effect. A copy of the Trott memorandum is attached for ready reference.

In conclusion, my sense is that substantial progress has been made toward our production targets even though this increased activity is not yet reflected in the reports of deposits to the Assets Forfeiture Fund. The purpose of the above guidance and performance goals is to assist you in enhancing your production. The Department expects a maximum effort from all of you.

Attachment

Memorandum



Subject

Seized Cash

Date

March 13, 1987

All United States Attorneys and Criminal Division Section Chiefs Administrator, DEA Director, FBI Commissioner, INS Director, USMS Stephen S. Trott
Associate Attorney General

The security, budgetary, and accounting problems caused by retention of large amounts of cash is causing great concern within the Department and the Congress. A just released GAO report has estimated that there is \$220 million in cash being retained by various federal law enforcement agencies. Consequently, effective May 1st, all currency seized which is subject to criminal forfeiture or to civil forfeiture, is to be delivered to the United States Marshals Service (USMS) for deposit in the USMS Seized Asset Deposit Fund either within sixty days after seizure or ten days after indictment, whichever occurs first.1/ Where appropriate, photographs or videotapes of the seized cash should be taken for later use in court as evidence.

Limited exceptions to this directive, including extensions of applicable time limits, will be granted, on an interim basis, only with the express written permission of the Assistant Attorney General, Criminal Division, and are to be sought through

^{1/} This policy does not apply to the recovery of buy money advanced from appropriated funds. To the extent practical, negotiable instruments and foreign currency should be converted and deposited.

the Asset Forfeiture Office, Criminal Division.2/ [Retention of currency will be permitted when retention of that currency, or a portion thereof, serves a significant independent, tangible, evidentiary purpose due to, for example, the presence of fingerprints, packaging in an incriminating fashion, or the existence of a traceable amount of narcotic residue on the bills. If the amount of a seizure is less than \$5000, permission need not be sought from the Criminal Division for an exception, but any exception granted is to be granted at a supervisory level within a United States Attorney's Office using the above criteria.3/

The co-mingling of cash seized by the government under 21 U.S.C. §881(a)(6), will not deprive the court of jurisdiction over the res. Unlike other assets seized by the government (e.g. real property, conveyances), cash is a fungible item. character is not changed merely by depositing it with other cash. While it is true that the jurisdiction of the court is derived entirely from its control over the defendant res, court jurisdiction does not depend upon control over specific cash. stated in <u>United States v. \$57.480.05</u> United States Currency and Other Coins and \$10,575.00 United States Currency, 722 F.2d 1459 (9th Circuit 1984), " ... jurisdiction did not depend upon control over specific bits of currency. The bank credit of fungible dollars constituted an appropriate substitute for the original res." This has been a time-honored practice in the area of civil forfeiture law. See, American Bank of Wage Claims v. Registry of the District Court of Guam, 431 F.2d 1215 (9th Circuit 1970).

Please review your existing cases and property storage sites and make all required transfers or requests for exemption by May 1, 1987.

^{2/} Requests for an exemption will be filed by the United States Attorney's Office or Criminal Division Section responsible for prosecuting, or reviewing for prosecution, a particular case. Investigative agencies holding cash should immediately inventory any cash on hand being retained for evidentiary purposes and consult the appropriate prosecutor's office. While implementation of this policy has been delayed until May 1st in order to give agencies time to complete this inventory, prompt compliance wherever possible would be appreciated.

^{3/} We will be consulting with the Customs Service regarding this new policy. The criteria and procedure for obtaining exemptions remains the same for cash retained by Customs.

Thank you for understanding the immediate necessity for this directive. It will be reviewed at the next United States Attorneys Advisory Committee meeting to determine whether it requires modification. Additional actions or controls are possible after we have had an opportunity to review the GAO report.

For further information or questions regarding implementation of this policy, contact Brad Cates, Director, Asset Forfeiture Office, Criminal Division, at (FTS) 272-6420.

GOVERNMENT'S REQUESTED INSTRUCTION NO.

31 U.S.C. Section 5324(3)

Three essential elements are required to be proven beyond a reasonable doubt in order to establish the offense charged in Counts Twenty-One through Thirty-Three; which are violations of Section 5324(3):

FIRST: That a defendant knowingly and willingly structured or assisted in structuring [or attempted to structure or assist in structuring] a currency transaction.

SECOND: That the purpose of the structured transaction was to evade the reporting requirements of Section 5313(a) of Title 31.

THIRD: That the transaction involved one or more domestic financial institutions.

While counts Two through Twenty, require a showing that the defendants actually caused a financial institution either <u>not to file</u> a Currency Transaction Report or to file a <u>false</u> Currency Transaction Report, such is not the case for counts Twenty-One through Thirty-Three. You may find a defendant guilty of violating Section 5324(3) whether or not the domestic financial institutions filed, or failed to file, a true and accurate Currency Transaction Report. In other words, if you find beyond a reasonable doubt that the defendant structured a currency transaction with one or more domestic financial institutions and that he did so for the purpose of evading the reporting

requirements of Section 5313(a), then you should find the defendant(s) guilty as charged. If you do not so believe, then you should find the defendant(s) not guilty.

31 U.S.C. Section 5324(3)

Four essential elements are required to be proven beyond a reasonable doubt in order to establish the offense charged in Counts Twenty=One through Thirty-Three; which are violations of Section 5324(3):

FIRST: That a defendant knowingly and willingly structured or assisted in structuring [or attempted to structure or assist in structuring] a currency transaction.

SECOND: That the purpose of the structured transaction was to evade the reporting requirements of Section 5313(a) of Title 31.

THIRD: That the transaction involved one or more domestic financial institutions.

FOURTH: That the currency transaction with the domestic financial institution involved a pattern of any illegal activity involving more than \$100,000 in a twelve month period or was in furtherance of another violation of federal law.

While counts Two through Twenty, require a showing that the defendants actually caused a financial institution either <u>not to file</u> a Currency Transaction Report or to file a <u>false Currency</u> Transaction Report, such is not the case for counts Twenty-One through Thirty-Three. You may find a defendant guilty of violating Section 5324(3) whether or not the domestic financial institutions filed, or failed to file, a true and accurate Currency Transaction Report. In other words, if you find beyond

a reasonable doubt that the defendant structured a currency transaction with one or more domestic financial institutions and that he did so for the purpose of evading the reporting requirements of Section 5313(a), then you should find the defendant(s) guilty as charged. If you do not so believe, then you should find the defendant(s) not guilty.

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Title 31, United States Code, Section 5324(3).

GOVERNMENT'S REQUESTED INSTRUCTION NO.

31 U.S.C. Section 5313(a)

Four essential elements are required to be proven beyond a reasonable doubt in order to establish the offense charged in Count Two through Twenty which are violations of 5313(a) and 5322:

FIRST: That a defendant cause a currency transaction involving more than \$10,000 to occur at a domestic financial institution.

SECOND: That the domestic financial institution was required by law to file a Currency Transaction Report with the Commissioner of the Internal Revenue Service for this currency transaction.

THIRD: That the defendants knowingly and willfully caused the domestic financial institution not to file a Currency Transaction Report for this currency transaction.

FOURTH: That the currency transaction with the domestic financial institution involved a pattern of activity involving more than \$100,000 in a twelve month period or was in furtherance of another violation of federal law.

Title 31, United States Code, Sections 5313, 5322;

Title 18, United States Code, Section 2: United States v. Puerto;

730 F.2d 627 (11th Cir.), cert denied, 105 S.Ct. 162 (1984).

GOVERNMENT'S REQUESTED INSTRUCTION NO.

31 U.S.C. Section 5313(a)

Three essential elements are required to be proven beyond a reasonable doubt in order to establish the offense charged in Count Two through Twenty which are violations of 5313(a) and 5322:

FIRST: That a defendant cause a currency transaction involving more than \$10,000 to occur at a domestic financial institution.

SECOND: That the domestic financial institution was required by law to file a Currency Transaction Report with the Commissioner of the Internal Revenue Service for this currency transaction.

THIRD: That the defendant knowingly and willfully caused the domestic financial institution not to file a Currency Transaction Report for this currency transaction.

Title 31, United States Code, Sections 5313, 5322;

Title 18, United States Code, Section 2: United States v.

Puerto,

730 F.2d 627 (11th Cir.), cert denied, 105 S.Ct. 162 (1984).

GOVERNMENT INSTRUCTION NO.

VERDICT (MULTIPLE VERDICT FORMS)

Upon retiring to the jury room, you should first select one of your number to act as your foreman or forewoman who will preside over your deliberations and will be your spokesman here in court.

A form of general verdict, and a form of special verdict, have been prepared for your convenience. You will take these forms to the jury room. I direct your attention first to the form of general verdict. A form of general verdict has been prepared for each of the thirty-three counts submitted to you.

The jury will remember at all times that the accused cannot be found guilty of any offense charged in the indictment and submitted for your consideration, unless you unanimously decide beyond a reasonable doubt from the evidence in the case the existence of all essential elements of the charge with respect to that alleged offense.

So if you find as to any particular count or charge submitted to you that each and every essential element of the offense has been proven beyond a reasonable doubt, then your general verdict must be "GUILTY" as to that offense and you will have your foreman so indicate on the form of general verdict. However, if you find as to any particular count or charge submitted to you that the Government has failed to prove any of the essential elements of the offense beyond a reasonable doubt, then your general verdict must be "NOT GUILTY" as to that particular count or charge and you will have your foreman so indicate on the form of general verdict.

When you have reached unanimous agreement as to your general verdict on each of the thirty-three counts charged, you will have your foreman date and sign the form of general verdict indicating as to each count whether your unanimous verdict as to that count is "GUILTY" or "NOT GUILTY".

Once you have completed your form of general verdict you must then complete the form of special verdict. However, you need only complete the form of special verdict if you have found the defendants "GUILTY" of one of more of the offenses charged in Counts Two through Thirty-Three of the indictment. If that is the case, then for each count from Two through Thirty-Three as to which you have unanimously found the defendants guilty, you must answer the following question "YES" or "NO":

Was the currency transaction charged in that Count part of a pattern of any illegal activity involving more than \$100,000 in a 12-month period or in furtherance of a violation of another federal law?

I repeat that you should only answer this question for only those Counts between Two and Thirty-Three as to which you have unanimously found the defendant "GUILTY" on the general verdict form.

After you have answered this question as to each of the Counts between Two and Thirty-Three as to which your unanimous verdict is "GUILTY" you will have your foreman date and sign the special verdict form.

You will then return to the courtroom with your completed form of general verdict and your completed form of special verdict.

31 U.S.C. § 5322(b)		
United States v. Kattan-Kassin,	696 F.2d 893	(11th Cir. 1983)
GRANTED	••••	
DENIED		

GENERAL VERDICT FORM

The jury unanimously agrees as to the following verdicts for each Count of the indictment:

COUNT	GUILTY		NOT GUILTY	
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Date:

SPECIAL VERDICT FORM

COUNTS TWO AND THIRTY-THREE

As to each Count (if any) as to which the jury has unanimously found the defendant "GUILTY", the jury hereby indicates its unanimous answer to the following question:

Was the currency transaction charged in that Count part of a pattern of any illegal activity involving more than \$100,000 in an twelve-month period or in furtherance of a violation of another federal law?

COUNT*	4.1.2	<u>YES</u>	<u>NO</u>

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*Enter only the number(s) of the Count(s) as to which the unanimous verdict of the jury is "GUILTY".



U.S. Department of Justice

Office of the Associate Attorney General

Washington, D.C. 20530

JUN 23 1989

MEMORANDUM

TO:

United States Attorneys;

All AFPAC Components

FROM:

Joe D. Whitley

Acting Associate Attorney General

SUBJECT:

Departmental Policy Regarding the Seizure and

Forfeiture of Real Property that is Contaminated with

Hazardous Waste

A recent amendment to the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA) has the potential effect of imposing interminable liability on the United States Marshals Service (USMS) for the cleanup of forfeited real properties on which hazardous wastes either have been stored for more than one year or are known to have been released or disposed of at any time. Such liability would extend to virtually every property on which a clandestine laboratory for the manufacture of controlled substances has operated or where certain precursor chemicals have been stored as well as all contaminated properties which may have facilitated the commission of a drug offense, which may have been purchased with drug proceeds, or which may be subject to RICO forfeiture under 18 U.S.C. 1963. The enormous potential liabilities posed by this statutory amendment vastly exceed the budgetary capabilities of the Department of Justice and would threaten the fiscal integrity of the Asset Forfeiture As a consequence, the Department of Justice has formulated a policy to govern the handling of real properties which may be contaminated with hazardous waste. This memorandum first discusses the nature of the problem giving rise to the policy and then sets forth the specific details of the policy.

I. Background

Congress enacted the Superfund Amendment and Reauthorization Act of 1986, Pub. L. No. 99-499, 100 Stat. 1966, on October 17, 1986. Section 120(h) of the Act, 42 U.S.C. 9620(h), sets forth notice and liability requirements which apply whenever any agency, department of instrumentality of the United States enters into a contract for the sale or other transfer of real property which is owned by the United States and on which any hazardous substance either (1) has been stored for more than one

year; (2) is known to have been released1; or (3) is known to have been disposed of. The statute requires that any contract for the conveyance of such property include (to the extent such information is available on the basis of a complete search of agency files): (1) notice of the type and quantity of hazardous wastes stored, released or disposed of on the property and (2) notice of the time at which such storage, release or disposal took place. The statute also requires that every deed of transfer for such property contain covenants warranting that all necessary remedial action has been taken prior to the date of transfer and that any additional remedial action found to be necessary after transfer of the property will be conducted by the United States. The statute is not self-executing and will become effective six months after the effective date of the implementing regulations to be promulgated thereunder. 42 U.S.C. 9620(h)(1)-(2).3

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) published proposed implementing regulations on January 13, 1988. See 53 Fed. Reg. 850; EPA Docket No. 120FP-TR. The proposed regulations extend the notice and liability requirements of Section 120(h) to all federal departments and agencies without exception and exempt only certain residential properties acquired by the United States through foreclosure proceedings. A "final rule" implementing the proposed regulations will become effective within the next few months. However, the notice and liability requirements of Section 120(h) will only apply to properties sold or transferred beginning six months thereafter. See 42 U.S.C. 9620(h)(1).

leaching, or dumping of hazardous waste into the environment. See 42 U.S.C. 9601(22). The term encompasses both the intentional and unintentional (e.g., accidental) release of hazardous substances. See State of New York v. Shore Realty Co., 759 F.2d 1032, 1043-45 (2d Cir. 1985) (no "causation" requirement for liability under CERCLA).

²The term "disposal" is broadly defined to include, <u>interalia</u>, any "spilling, leaking, or placing" of any hazardous waste into or on any land or water. <u>See</u> 42 U.S.C. 9601(29) (incorporating the definition of "disposal" under 42 U.S.C. 6903(3)).

³The statute specifies that the implementing regulations were to be promulgated within one year after the statute's enactment (i.e., by October 17, 1987) and were to become effective six months later (i.e., by April 17, 1988). However, the Environmental Protection Agency was unable to meet these statutory deadlines.

The enormous potential impact of the notice and liability requirements on the government's forfeiture program becomes obvious when one considers the burgeoning number of seizures of clandestine laboratories for the manufacture of methamphetamine and other illicit substances. Experts on drug abuse predict that methamphetamine will rival cocaine as the preferred drug of abuse in the 1990s. DEA has already experienced a fivefold increase in the number of "meth labs" seized between 1983 (122) and 1987 (653) and currently projects that it will seize more than a thousand such labs in 1989. These laboratories invariably involve the "disposal" or "release" of hazardous wastes through spilling, leaking, emitting or dumping. 4 But the impact of the notice and liability requirements will not be limited only to cases involving clandestine drug laboratories. They will apply to any potentially forfeitable property on which hazardous wastes have been stored for more than one year, released, or disposed of. 5 In all such cases, the notice and liability requirements of Section 120(h) would become applicable immediately upon forfeiture to the United States and perhaps upon seizure for forfeiture.6

The notice and liability requirements of Section 120(h) will have several highly negative effects on the government's forfeiture enforcement program if contaminated real properties are seized for forfeiture. First, the USMS will be liable for all costs necessary to decontaminate the property and will remain liable for any additional costs which might be incurred in the future because of the contamination. Such liability could easily bankrupt the USMS budget and/or the Asset Forfeiture Fund. Second, these provisions

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⁴See notes 2 and 3, supra.

⁵For example, a gasoline station, junkyard, or chemical storage or waste disposal facility may be seized because it facilitated a drug violation, was purchased with drug proceeds, or was subject to forfeiture under RICO or some other federal law.

⁶It is unclear at this point whether the notice and liability requirements would apply to "transfers" in which real property is seized for forfeiture but is then temporarily released back to the residents under a standard custodianship agreement. It is also unclear whether Section 120(h) of CERCLA would apply to interlocutory sales of contaminated real property pending forfeiture inasmuch as the government does not have title to such property and therefore does not "own" it at the time of transfer.

⁷The Attorney General, under 28 U.S.C. 524(c)(1)(A), has discretionary authority to use moneys in the Asset Forfeiture Fund to pay "any expenses necessary to seize, detain, inventory, safeguard, maintain, advertise, or sell" property under seizure,

of CERCLA would, as a practical matter, render even decontaminated properties either unmarketable or marketable only at a greatly reduced value⁸ -- which would, of course, substantially diminish the ability of the USMS to recoup its costs of custody and environmental cleanup and could result in the USMS "permanently" holding particularly undesirable parcels of property. Third, even where the USMS was able to sell or transfer the decontaminated properties, it would be forced to either earmark moneys in the Asset Forfeiture Fund to guard against any unforeseen future liability or to purchase liability insurance -- with the result that such moneys would not be available for law enforcement purposes as Congress intended. The USMS simply cannot afford to suffer these consequences and continue to administer a truly effective forfeiture enforcement program.

Representatives of the Criminal Division, the Attorney General's Advisory Committee of United States Attorneys, the Drug Enforcement Administration, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and the United States Marshals Service have met with representatives from the Land and Natural Resources Division to discuss these problems. These efforts will continue. In the meantime, however, the Department feels that it is necessary to formulate the following policy to govern the handling of potentially contaminated real property.

II. <u>Departmental Policy</u>

In view of the potential problems posed by Section 120(h), it is the policy of the Department of Justice that federal law enforcement agencies should refrain from seizing properties that they reasonably believe may be contaminated. Similarly, the United

detention, or forfeiture. It seems self-evident, however, that Congress did not anticipate that Fund moneys would be used to pay the enormous costs of testing and decontaminating thousands of parcels of real property each year and that an extremely large percentage of such moneys would have to be set aside to offset any future liability which might arise as a result of waste contamination.

⁸No reasonable person would pay fair market value for property -- particularly residential property -- knowing that the property has been contaminated with hazardous waste and that notice of this fact will exist in perpetuity at the local Recorder of Deeds. Moreover, there is no reason to believe that the covenant guaranteeing that the United States will pay for any future remedial work will do anything to overcome this reluctance. Indeed, this covenant may further deter prospective purchasers by implying that future remedial work may be necessary.

States Attorneys' offices should decline to accept cases involving the forfeiture of contaminated real property. However, in any case (not just illegal laboratory cases) in which a government agent is aware of property which may be contaminated with hazardous waste, the EPA and appropriate state and local health and environmental enforcement agencies should be notified of this fact in writing. This "notification requirement" applies even in cases in which the federal agency intends to take no action with respect to the property. The enormous costs of decontamination and the prospect of interminable liability under CERCLA require that the Department implement this policy of forbearance with respect to forfeiture actions.

Exceptions to this policy of forbearance will be considered where, after consultation with EPA, it is determined that there is little contamination and the value of the property vastly exceeds the costs of cleanup and any projected future liability, particularly in any case involving the intentional contamination of real property for the purpose of avoiding forfeiture. Exceptions will also be considered in cases in which the property owner has sufficient non-forfeitable assets to conduct the necessary cleanup and either agrees or is compelled to do so through enforcement of federal or state environmental laws; however, the exception will be considered only after the property has been cleaned up and EPA or the appropriate state authority has inspected the property and certified that it is completely decontaminated and there is no realistic possibility of any future liability under CERCLA. Requests for any of the foregoing exceptions should be addressed to the Asset Forfeiture Office, Criminal Division, and will be granted only upon the unanimous concurrence of the relevant seizing agency, AFO and the USMS in consultation with the Land and Natural Resources Division.

The foregoing policy applies only with respect to the seizure of contaminated real property for forfeiture. The remainder of this policy concerns the handling of illegal drug laboratories. Such laboratories should be dismantled and all chemicals and equipment should be seized and removed in accordance with the DEA Agents Manual, Section 6674.0 et seq. (9th ed.). Once the laboratory equipment and chemicals have been removed, the enforcement agency should notify concerned parties of the fact that the property is (or may be) contaminated with hazardous waste which may constitute a health hazard. These "concerned parties" include the legal owner of the property, any persons known to have a possessory interest in the property (e.g., lessees), and the state and local health and environmental enforcement agencies. The legal owner of the

⁹As noted earlier, the EPA and state and local health and environmental enforcement agencies should be notified in writing in any case -- not just "lab cases" -- in which a federal agent is aware that certain property may be contaminated. This notification

property should be notified of the contamination (or possible contamination) by certified mail (return receipt requested) with copies sent to state and local health and environmental enforcement agencies. Copies of all correspondence should be retained in the federal enforcement agency's case investigation file. In addition, the contaminated property should be prominently posted with DEA's "Hazardous Material Warning" sign (Form 483). These steps, which do not involve the actual seizure of the real property for forfeiture, will not expose the government to potential liability under CERCLA.

DEA's current policy is that all non-evidentiary items that are discovered at a lab site are presumed to be contaminated with hazardous waste. These items are turned over to a certified hazardous waste disposal firm for safe and legal destruction. practice provides a cost-effective means of minimizing the Department's potential liability where the items are, in fact, contaminated with hazardous waste. Federal prosecutors should refrain from instructing agents to seize and maintain custody of such items except in the extremely rare case in which an item is absolutely essential to proving some element of the criminal offense and there is absolutely no alternative means (e.g., videotapes) of proving that element. The enormous potential liabilities involved in storing, handling and exposing potentially contaminated materials to the public grossly outweigh any salutary benefit to be gained by physically presenting such non-essential materials in a court of law.

Concern has been raised as to whether federal law enforcement agents involved in the removal of hazardous wastes from real property may face potential personal liability under the Resource Recovery and Conservation Act (RCRA) as "generators" of the wastes. DEA's practice in dealing with clandestine laboratories is to contact an EPA-certified waste disposal firm to remove all hazardous substances. The agent who contacts the firm technically becomes a "generator" of the wastes under the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act and implementing regulations as one "whose act first causes a hazardous waste to become subject to regulation." See 42 U.S.C. 6922; 40 CFR 260.10. The agent is then required to sign a manifest as the "generator" of the waste upon delivering the waste to the disposal firm. See 40 CFR Part 262.

requirement applies even in cases where the federal agency intends to take no action with respect to the property. Thus, if during the course of any investigation an agent receives information that certain property is contaminated, this notification requirement should be followed.

DEA's current practice is to have the agent sign the manifest "on behalf of DEA." This practice should suffice to insulate agents and other agency employees from any personal liability under RCRA. It has also been suggested that additional protection may be provided by including in the search warrant for the property a provision directing the agents to dispose of any hazardous wastes found on the property in accordance with law. The Department of Justice supports this suggestion although it does not believe that the inclusion of such a provision is necessary to insure against the personal liability of the agents involved in the search and/or the disposal of the wastes. 11

Questions or comments concerning this policy should be addressed to the Criminal Division's Asset Forfeiture Office (Comm: 202-786-4950; FTS: 786-4950).

¹⁰According to DEA, this practice has been formally embodied as a requirement in all of DEA's Fiscal Year 1990 contracts with private hazardous waste disposal companies.

¹¹Should a DEA employee be named in a civil action as a result of acts taken during a clandestine laboratory investigation while in the performance of his/her official duties, he/she will be afforded legal representation by the Department of Justice. Should any environmental enforcement action be filed against the employee in such circumstances, the Department would strongly recommend that the employee be dismissed from the action.



U.S. Department of Justice

Executive Office for United States Attorneys

Office of the Director

Washington, D.C. 20530

JUN 15 1989

MEMORANDUM

TO:

All United States Attorneys

FROM:

Laurence S. McWhorter

_Director

SUBJECT:

Asset Forfeiture Reports

Attached for your information is a report providing information on the asset forfeiture program based on activity through May 1989. The information is displayed by district and includes: (1) net income deposited into the Asset Forfeiture Fund (AFF) for all of fiscal year 1988; (2) net income deposited into the AFF in fiscal year 1989 through May 31, 1989; and (3) dollar amounts in the seized assets Deposit Fund as of May 31, 1989 (remember, these amounts have not been deposited in the AFF and you receive no credit until the forfeiture is complete, the U.S. Marshals have been advised that the time for appeal has expired, and the money has been transferred).

You will note that we have accomplished only \$185.8 million through the first eight months of fiscal year 1989 or an average of approximately \$20.6 million per month. At that rate we would exceed the 1989 level but be far below the level we told Congress we could achieve with increased staffing -- some \$250 million above the 1988 level. You should make every effort to accelerate the asset forfeiture program in your district and make sure that we are punishing the criminal element to the maximum extent possible, including taking away the fruits of his ill gotten gains (assets).

Your attention to this important program is appreciated.

ASSETS FORFEITURE DATA BY DISTRICT FOR FY 1989 (THROUGH MAY)

	DSTRT	NET INCOME - FY88 (JMD)	NET INCOME - FY89 AS OF MAY 31	SEIZED ASSTS DEPOSIT FUND AS OF MAY 31
	DSIRI	(GHD)	AS OF MAI SI	FOND AS OF MAI 31
1	AL-N	\$662,509	\$1,313,804	\$487,468
2	AL-M	\$298,533	\$222,562	\$331,403
3	AL-S	\$931,081	\$1,233,188	\$933,551
4	FL-S	\$18,555,235	\$11,717,034	\$34,105,514
5	NMI	\$0	\$0	\$0
	AK	\$451,742	\$756,715	\$537,232
	AZ	\$3,251,228	\$2,086,287	\$5,571,079
	AR-E	\$165,601	\$337,607	\$291,896
	AR-W	\$45,415	\$26,034	\$63,610
	CA-N	\$5,742,755	\$6,784,067	\$12,781,859
	CA-C	\$32,073,969	\$22,199,237	\$44,112,108
	CO	\$1,459,034	\$2,358,983	\$1,722,536
	CT	\$6,801,389	\$4,116,044	\$1,671,231
	DE	\$507,841	\$375,663	\$1,536,861
	DC	\$386,690	\$454,220	\$1,685,619
	FL-N	\$632,694	\$997,532	\$755,800
	FL-M	\$5,313,634	\$2,577,696	\$4,432,694
	GA-N	\$3,451,819	\$2,587,441	\$7,781,528
	GA-M	\$485,593	\$959,390	\$1,938,477
	GA-S	\$1,062,760	\$555,527	\$1,622,515
	HI	\$2,071,605	\$4,217,123	\$1,414,614
	ID	\$105,524	\$194,153	\$197,442
	IL-N IL-S	\$5,796,089	\$3,153,039	\$9,225,411
	IL-C	\$311,970 \$392,063	\$1,562,556	\$236,864 \$424,148
	IN-N	\$392,003	\$263,237 \$510,576	\$553,436
	IN-S	\$741,732	\$375,843	\$557,414
	IA-N	\$108,196	\$151,985	\$177,769
	IA-S	\$141,515	\$65,623	\$169,721
	KS	\$268,303	\$158,337	\$509,165
	KY-E	\$324,536	\$244,729	\$1,013,451
	KY-W	\$332,436	\$275,525	\$284,796
	LA-E	\$1,261,839	\$506,169	\$2,107,630
	LA-W	\$259,904	\$455,282	\$994,416
36	ME	\$1,172,751	\$747,321	\$133,818
37	MD	\$1,467,179	\$2,715,605	\$2,767,078
38	MA	\$3,950,522	\$3,447,941	\$3,730,781
39	MI-E	\$10,579,011	\$8,411,273	\$3,850,936
40	MI-W	\$571,611	\$418,314	\$1,116,660
41	MN	\$975,962	\$1,247,720	\$2,327,735
42	MS-N	\$0	\$46,265	\$485,768
	MS-S	\$1,689,280	\$1,054,417	\$330,727
	MO-E	\$2,107,146	\$1,169,912	\$3,787,782
	MO-W	\$846,481	\$733,464	\$688,791
	MT	\$28,933	\$435,564	\$121,653
	NE	\$102,975	\$97,769	\$551,508
	NV	\$1,612,384	\$694,412	\$8,873,818
	NH	\$156,374	\$78,911	\$283,359
	NJ	\$1,059,707	\$987,571	\$3,813,536
51	NM	\$1,422,957	\$1,474,259	\$1,388,241

ASSETS FORFEITURE DATA BY DISTRICT FOR FY 1989 (THROUGH MAY)

		NET	INCOME - FY88	NET INCOME - FY89	SEIZED ASSTS DEPOSIT
	DSTRT		(JMD)	AS OF MAY 31	FUND AS OF MAY 31
52	NY-N		\$958,343	\$472,508	\$1,364,241
53	NY-E	•	\$9,826,863	\$37,314,286	\$24,925,048
	NY-S		\$12,475,819	\$5,218,113	\$14,255,790
	M-AW		\$748,475	\$1,214,884	\$3,845,904
56	NC-E		\$1,071,920	\$810,628	\$3,628,366
57	NC-M		\$958,638	\$603,980	\$919,673
58	NC-W		\$1,102,568	\$508,744	\$1,055,167
	ND		\$3,503	\$816	\$42,930
	OH-N		\$900,703	\$881,439	\$573,056
	OH-S		\$1,719,637	\$1,358,118	\$1,331,379
	OK-N		\$314,491	\$301,239	\$509,556
	OK-E		\$ 0	\$19,836	\$237,793
	OK-W		\$1,880,816	\$197,518	\$784,821
	OR		\$1,405,650	\$1,277,113	\$5,036,699
	PA-E		\$5,206,398	\$2,542,257	\$4,903,807
	PA-M		\$690,424	\$634,917	\$147,886
	PA-W		\$198,772	\$264,297	\$1,095,002
	PR		\$1,068,258	\$502,713	\$260,873
	RI		\$678,390	\$901,622	\$1,296,462
	SC		\$26,824	\$500,707	\$1,117,046
	SD		\$771	\$40,682	\$23,413
	TN-E		\$220,115	\$207,192	\$420,919
	TN-M		\$366,379	\$43,434	\$1,187,931
	TN-W		\$1,359,203	\$779,483	\$1,935,893
	TX-N		\$3,484,336	\$2,640,391	\$7,227,184
	TX-E		\$4,380,898	\$361,171	\$299,936
	TX-S		\$5,250,242	\$8,055,466	\$12,492,480
	TX-W		\$2,096,317	\$1,307,542	\$5,370,179
	UT		\$862,141	\$426,276	\$350,635
	VT		\$75,166	\$485,729	\$101,811
	VA-E		\$2,165,718	\$1,953,120	\$1,637,981
	VA-W		\$506,112	\$419,975	\$255,129
	WA-E		\$445,153	\$53,779	\$364,893
	WA-W		\$2,180,581 \$136,786	\$921,923 \$57,889	\$1,839,502 \$183,151
	WV-N		\$492,300	\$142,492	\$176,605
	WV-S			\$1,268,610	\$2,416,045
	WI-E WI-W		\$749,802 \$188,088	\$1,200,010	\$109,302
	MX MI-M		\$52,080	\$557,135	\$82,865
				\$7,715	\$14,506
	GU VT		\$11,610 \$192,000	\$20,000	\$14,500
	VI LA-M			\$226,981	\$669,571
			\$374,946 \$4,195,310	\$451,443	\$009,371
	HDQTR		\$4,195,310 \$3,289,635	\$2,539,236	\$3,656,215
	CA-E		\$3,289,635	\$2,539,236	\$13,383,925
70	CA-S		41512521234	43,031,131	Q13,303,723
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Guideline Sentencing Update



Guideline Structuring Update will be distributed periodically by the Center to inform judges and other judicial personnel of selected federal court decisions on the sentencing reform legislation of 1984 and 1987 and the Sentencing Guidelines. Although the publication may refer to the Sentencing Guidelines and policy statements of the U.S. Sentencing Commission in the context of reporting case holdings, it is not intended to report Sentencing Commission policies or activities. Readers should refer to the Guidelines, policy statements, commentary, and other materials issued by the Sentencing Commission for such information.

Publication of Guideline Sentencing Update signifies that the Center regards it as a responsible and valuable work. It should not be considered a recommendation or official policy of the Center. On matters of policy the Center speaks only through its Board.

Volume 2 • Number 8 • June 27, 1989

Guidelines Application

DEPARTURES

Second Circuit outlines procedure for departure based on criminal history, holds defendant must be given notice of possible departure. Defendant pleaded guilty to importation of cocaine; his guideline range was 33-41 months. The court departed and imposed a 60-month sentence, finding that defendant's criminal history score, which placed him in Category I, did not adequately represent his past criminal conduct.

The appellate court vacated the sentence, partly because the district court may have based the departure on factors already considered by the Sentencing Commission, but also because the court failed either to adequately set forth the reasons for departing or to use other criminal history categories as a guide: "We believe that the district court should explicitly articulate its reasons for departing pursuant to § 4A1.3. Failure to do so renders the sentence unlawful under 18 U.S.C. § 3742(d)(1).... It is necessary... that the court clearly identify any aggravating factors and specify its reasons for utilizing a particular criminal history category." The court found that "[a] precise procedure regulates the exercise of discretion in making this type of departure. . . . [T]he Guidelines require a judge to 1) determine which category best encompasses the defendant's prior history, and 2) use the corresponding sentencing range for that category 'to guide its departure.'" (Citing policy statement § 4A1.3.) Accord U.S. v. Lopez, 871 F.2d 513 (5th Cir. 1989) (departure for inadequate history score should be tied to specific criminal history category).

In this case, "[t]he departure to a 60-month term of imprisonment—from an initial range of 33—41 months—can only be supported by placing [defendant] in Criminal History Category IV. The district court's cryptic statement regarding this departure does not satisfy the congressional requirement that specific reason or reasons be cited. . . . Nor was an explanation offered for selecting a sentence appropriate for a defendant in Category IV rather than Category II or III."

The court also held that a defendant must be given notice of and an opportunity to present arguments on possible departures. The court based this ruling, in part, on the language of Fed. R. Crim. P. 32(a)(1), which gives defense counsel the right to "an opportunity to comment upon . . . other matters relating to the appropriate sentence." Accord U.S. v. Otero, 868 F. 2d 1412 (5th Cir. 1989) (defense must have notice and opportunity to be heard if court intends upward departure).

U.S. v. Cervantes, No. 89-1002 (2d Cir. June 20, 1989) (Kaufman, Sr. J.).

Ninth Circuit holds district court must clearly identify factors warranting departure. Defendant pleaded guilty to bank robbery. His criminal history score placed him in Category VI, and the guideline range was 63–78 months. The court departed from the range to impose a sentence of 96 months, explaining that departure "is justified under §§ 4A1.3 and 5K2.0 of the Sentencing Guidelines because the guideline sentence does not adequately reflect defendant's criminal history. Since defendant is in the highest category by reason of several convictions, additional convictions which would otherwise be included in the calculation add nothing further. Defendant is very close to career criminal status. Other similar criminal conduct is not reflected. All of this reflects strong, recidivist tendencies."

The appellate court vacated and remanded, holding that the sentencing court's "conclusory statement of reasons... fails to clearly identify the specific aggravating circumstances present in this case. The statement also fails to indicate whether the court found that the Sentencing Commission inadequately considered those circumstances in formulating the guidelines. Absent such a finding, departure is not permitted." (Citing 18 U.S.C. §§ 3553(b) and 3742(d)(3).)

U.S. v. Michel, No. 88-1280 (9th Cir. June 8, 1989) (Wiggins, J.).

Fifth Circuit reverses departures for failure to articulate valid rationale, failure to consider adjustment to criminal history. In one case, defendant pleaded guilty to possession of an unregistered firearm with an altered serial number. The evidence showed that defendant, a convicted felon, was stopped at a border checkpoint where 18 different weapons, all with altered serial numbers, were found in his car. The guideline range was 27–33 months. The court departed to impose an eight-year sentence, stating that the guidelines were "weak and ineffectual with respect to [defendant's] crime" and that defendant was addicted to heroin.

The appellate court vacated the sentence, holding that "[t]he sentencing court's articulated rationale for departing from the guidelines in this case, and the resulting sentence," were "unreasonable." The court stated that "[a] sentencing court's personal disagreement with the guidelines does not provide a reasonable basis for sentencing," and found that the "record does not disclose that [defendant's] drug addiction provided a reasonable basis for [departure]. The guidelines admonish that drug dependence is not ordinarily relevant in determining whether a departure is warranted," and the district court's "single statement" that defendant was a heroin

addict "does not sufficiently explain why [defendant's] addiction is so extraordinary that a departure was justified. Without a more particularized rationale, we cannot gauge the reasonableness of this departure nor can we gauge the extent to which addiction justifies the sentence imposed."

U.S. v. Lopez, No. 88-2765 (5th Cir. June 12, 1989) (Clark, C.J.).

In another case, defendant pleaded guilty to falsely representing himself as a U.S. citizen. The sentencing judge departed from the guideline range to impose the statutory maximum of three years' imprisonment, citing defendant's "prior history" and status as an illegal alien. The appellate court reversed, first finding that the sentencing judge should have considered an upward adjustment to defendant's criminal history category if it did not adequately represent his criminal past. The sentence here exceeded the highest possible guideline sentence, using Category VI, by 50%, and "[n]othing in the record indicates that [the district] court considered the possible sentences which would result from an adjustment to criminal history category V or VI. Nor did the court provide any explanation why such adjustments, if they were considered, are inadequate in this case."

The appellate court also found that "[t]he judge's comments suggest that [defendant's] status as an illegal alien and his cavalier attitude toward United States citizenship requirements influenced the judge in departing from the recommended sentence. Since the offense for which [defendant] was convicted already takes into account his illegal immigration status, this was not a valid reason for departure."

U.S. v. Rios, No. 88-6126 (5th Cir. June 12, 1989) (per curiam).

Eighth Circuit voices concern about § 5K1.1 provision that departure for substantial assistance requires motion by government. Defendant pleaded guilty to a drug offense. He argued that he was entitled to a departure under § 5K1.1 for substantial assistance to the government. The government did not dispute that defendant provided substantial assistance, but refused to make a § 5K1.1 motion, and the district court did not depart from the guideline sentence.

Although the appellate court upheld the refusal to depart, it had "several problems with § 5K1.1's requirement that a motion by the government is necessary before a district judge can depart from the guidelines." Such an arrangement "places discretion that has historically been in the hands of a federal judge into the hands of the prosecutor." Whether the prosecutor abuses this discretion "is a question that appears to be unreviewable," and "the issue of whether a defendant has provided substantial assistance to authorities may be a disputed factual issue" that the prosecutor, not the court, now resolves.

"[W]e are not positive that this provision, in the absence of a motion by the government, would divest a sentencing court of the authority to depart below the guidelines in recognition of a defendant's clearly established and recognized substantial assistance to authorities. We believe that in an appropriate case the district court may be empowered to grant a departure notwithstanding the government's refusal to motion the sentencing court if the defendant can establish the fact of his substantial assistance to authorities." The court decided it did not have to reach this issue, however, finding that defendant's assistance may in fact have been recognized by a lenient plea agreement.

U.S. v. Justice, No. 88-2539 (8th Cir. June 8, 1989) (Gibson, Sr. J.).

District court to determine in camera whether prosecutor refused in good faith to follow agreement to move for "substantial assistance" departure. Defendant provided information to an assistant U.S. attorney pursuant to his plea and a "cooperation agreement" he signed with the government. The AUSA did not believe some of the information, concluded that defendant had breached the cooperation agreement, and informed defendant's attorney that the government no longer intended to move for a downward reduction of sentence under 18 U.S.C. § 3553(e) and policy statement § 5K1.1 of the Guidelines. Defendant moved to compel the government to file such a motion.

The court found that, while the statute and policy statement "place sole responsibility and discretion for determining what constitutes 'substantial assistance' on the prosecutor, and not on the trial court," when there is a cooperation agreement and the government refuses to move for departure, the court may scrutinize whether the prosecutor's decision was made "in good faith." The court wanted "to know in detail what actual assistance [defendant] has rendered to the government, and what use the government has made or intends to make out of any information furnished . . . in order to determine whether there is any basis to conclude that, in the totality of the circumstances, the government acted in bad faith in refusing to make a motion on [defendant's] behalf under the guidelines or the statute."

As to procedure, the court determined there was "no need ... to conduct the equivalent of a trial on the issue, because the issue is not the ultimate objective reality, but rather the subjective state of the prosecutor's mind." The disclosures could be made ex parte and in camera, and the materials provided would "be placed under seal pending this Court's further order or for the purpose of appellate review."

This appears to be the first reported case in which a district court has ordered a prosecutor to defend a decision to refuse to move for a reduction of sentence. Another district court has held that, under the specific circumstance of the case, letters from the prosecutor satisfied the requirements of 18 U.S.C. § 3553(e) and § 5K1.1 when the prosecutor refused to file a motion. See U.S. v. Coleman, 707 F. Supp. 1101 (W.D. Mo. 1989) (because of prosecutor's representations to defendants and mistaken belief that a motion was not required, court treated letters from prosecutor detailing defendants' assistance as "functional equivalent" of § 3553(e) motion).

U.S. v. Galan, No. 89 Cr. 198 (S.D.N.Y. June 8, 1989) (Haight, J.).