

NOTE: CHANGES MADE BY COURT

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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,  
Plaintiff,  
v.

Case No. 2:25-cr-00931-FWS  
ORDER AUTHORIZING ALTERNATIVE  
VICTIM NOTIFICATION UNDER  
18 U.S.C. § 3771(d) (2) [128]

LORENA PADILLA,  
SELINA MEDINA PRECIADO,  
MELANIE MEDINA,  
JANINE J. GARCIA,  
aka "Janette Ortega,"  
SUSANA CARDENAS,  
CARLOS PADILLA,  
PABLO ARAQUE,  
Defendants.

Pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 3771, the United States of America seeks an order pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 3771(d) (2) authorizing it to provide notice by publication to the large number of crime victims in this case.<sup>1</sup> Under Section 3771(a) (2), crime victims have a right to "reasonable, accurate, and timely notice" of public court proceedings, including sentencings.

<sup>1</sup> The court has reviewed and considered the Government's Unopposed Application for an Order for Alternative Victim Notification under 18 U.S.C. § 3771(d) (2) [128] ("Application"). The Application is incorporated into this Order by this reference.

1 In this case, the number of potential victims of the conduct  
2 alleged in the Indictment includes, among others, clients of the  
3 Staffing Companies who used the Staffing Companies' services over a  
4 period of approximately 12 years. The United States estimates that  
5 there are at least 150 such clients. It will thus be impracticable  
6 for the Government to identify and locate all clients and  
7 individually provide them with reasonable, accurate, and timely  
8 notice of this case and any future proceedings.

9 Under such circumstances, 18 U.S.C. § 3771(d)(2) gives the  
10 Court the authority to "fashion a reasonable procedure to give  
11 effect to this chapter that does not unduly complicate or prolong  
12 the proceedings." The Government seeks authorization to provide  
13 notice to the potential victims by publication on the United States  
14 Department of Justice's website.

15 The Court finds (1) that the "multiple victim" provisions of  
16 18 U.S.C. § 3771(d)(2) apply to the above-captioned case; (2) that  
17 it is impractical for the Government to identify and notify all the  
18 direct and proximate victims of the charged offenses on an  
19 individual basis at this time without unduly complicating or  
20 delaying this matter; and (3) notice by publication is a "reasonable  
21 procedure" to give effect to the provisions of 18 U.S.C. § 3771.  
22 Accordingly, it is ordered that the United State is authorized to  
23 comply with 18 U.S.C. § 3771(a)(2) by providing notice to potential  
24 victims by publication.

25 IT IS SO ORDERED.

26 May 11, 2026

27 DATE



28 HON. FRED W. SLAUGHTER  
UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE