NOT FOR PUBLICATION

UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS

FOR THE NINTH CIRCUIT

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Plaintiff-Appellee,

v.

PHUONG H. NGUYEN, AKA LJ,

Defendant-Appellant.

No. 16-30128

D.C. No. 2:15-cr-00120-JCC-15

MEMORANDUM*

Appeal from the United States District Court for the Western District of Washington John C. Coughenour, District Judge, Presiding

> Submitted December 8, 2017** Seattle, Washington

Before: HAWKINS, McKEOWN, and CHRISTEN, Circuit Judges.

Phuong Nguyen appeals his guilty-plea conviction and 144-month sentence

imposed for conspiracy to distribute controlled substances in violation of 21 U.S.C.

§§ 841(a)(1), 841 (b)(1)(C) and felon in possession of a firearm in violation of 18

* This disposition is not appropriate for publication and is not precedent except as provided by Ninth Circuit Rule 36-3.

** The panel unanimously concludes this case is suitable for decision without oral argument. See Fed. R. App. P. 34(a)(2).

FILED

DEC 14 2017

MOLLY C. DWYER, CLERK U.S. COURT OF APPEALS U.S.C. § 922(g)(1). Pursuant to *Anders v. California*, 386 U.S. 738 (1967), counsel for Nguyen has filed a brief stating there are no grounds for relief, and a motion to withdraw as counsel of record. No pro se or government brief has been filed.

Our independent review of the record pursuant to *Penson v. Ohio*, 488 U.S. 75, 83-84 (1988), discloses no grounds for relief on direct appeal. Accordingly, we affirm the district court's judgment.

Counsel's motion to withdraw is **GRANTED**.

AFFIRMED.