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 UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

12 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
 13 FOR THE CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA  
 14 WESTERN DIVISION  
 15

16	UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,	)	Case No. CV 14-02320-FMO(AJWx)
17	Plaintiff,	)	
18	v.	)	<b>CONSENT JUDGMENT BETWEEN PLAINTIFF</b>
19	\$2,757,564.00 IN U.S.	)	<b>UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND</b>
20	CURRENCY AND TWO ITEMS OF	)	<b>CLAIMANTS ABEL MARQUEZ AND CYNTHIA</b>
21	JEWELRY,	)	<b>VENCEBI WITH RESPECT TO THE PORTION</b>
22	Defendants.	)	<b>OF THE DEFENDANT \$2,757,564.00 IN</b>
23		)	<b>U.S. CURRENCY CLAIMED BY CLAIMANTS</b>
24		)	<b>ABEL MARQUEZ AND CYNTHIA VENCEBI IN</b>
25		)	<b>THIS CIVIL FORFEITURE PROCEEDING</b>
26		)	
27	JAVIER MARQUEZ, ROMELIA	)	
28	MARQUEZ, ABEL MARQUEZ and	)	
	CYNTHIA VENCEBI,	)	
	Claimants.	)	

27 On or about March 26, 2014, Plaintiff United States of  
 28 America ("the government," "the United States of America" or

1 "plaintiff") filed a Complaint for Forfeiture alleging that the  
2 defendants \$2,757,564.00 in U.S. Currency and Two Items of  
3 Jewelry (collectively, the "defendant assets") are subject to  
4 forfeiture pursuant to 21 U.S.C. § 881(a)(6) and 18 U.S.C.  
5 § 981(a)(1)(A) & (C).

6 On or about July 18, 2014, claimants Abel Marquez and  
7 Cynthia Vencebi filed a claim to \$76,450.00 of the defendant  
8 \$2,757,564.00 in U.S. Currency (the "Abel Marquez/Cynthia  
9 Vencebi-claimed defendant currency"), and on or about July 22,  
10 2016, filed an answer to the Complaint.

11 No other parties have appeared in this case with respect to  
12 the Abel Marquez/Cynthia Vencebi-claimed defendant currency<sup>1</sup> and  
13 the time for filing claims and answers has expired.

14 The government, on the one hand, and claimants Abel Marquez  
15 and Cynthia Vencebi, on the other hand, have now agreed to  
16 settle this action, without any admission of any wrongdoing,  
17 relative to the disputes between them with respect to the Abel  
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19 <sup>1</sup> On or about July 18, 2014, claimants Javier Marquez and  
20 Romelia Marquez filed a claim to \$2,681,114.00 of the defendant  
21 \$2,757,564.00 in U.S. Currency and the defendant Two Items of  
22 Jewelry (collectively, the "Javier/Romelia Marquez-claimed  
23 defendant assets"), and on or about July 22, 2016, filed an  
24 answer to the Complaint. The defendant \$2,757,564.00 in U.S.  
25 Currency consists of the \$2,681,114.00 (claimed by Javier  
26 Marquez and Romelia Marquez) plus the \$76,450.00 (claimed by  
27 Abel Marquez and Cynthia Vencebi). By a consent judgment filed  
28 March 31, 2017 as docket no. 113, claimants Javier Marquez and  
Romelia Marquez, on the one hand, and the government, on the  
other hand, resolved their differences with respect to the  
Javier/Romelia Marquez-claimed defendant assets. Accordingly,  
the only remaining claims and defendant assets in this case are  
claimants Abel Marquez and Cynthia Vencebi's claim to the Abel  
Marquez/Cynthia Vencebi-claimed defendant currency. When the  
instant consent judgment between Abel Marquez and Cynthia  
Vencebi, on the one hand, and the government, on the other hand,  
is filed, this litigation will be resolved in its entirety.

1 Marquez/Cynthia Vencebi-claimed defendant currency and to avoid  
2 further litigation by entering into this Consent Judgment.

3 The Court, having been duly advised of and having  
4 considered the matter, and based upon the mutual consent of the  
5 parties hereto,

6 IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, ADJUDGED, AND DECREED:

7 1. As between the United States of America, on the one  
8 hand, and claimants Abel Marquez and Cynthia Vencebi, on the  
9 other hand, this Court has jurisdiction over the subject matter  
10 of this action and the parties to this Consent Judgment with  
11 respect to the Abel Marquez/Cynthia Vencebi-claimed defendant  
12 currency.

13 2. As between the United States of America, on the one  
14 hand, and claimants Abel Marquez and Cynthia Vencebi, on the  
15 other hand, the Complaint for Forfeiture states a claim for  
16 relief pursuant to 21 U.S.C. § 881(a)(6) and 18 U.S.C.  
17 § 981(a)(1)(A) & (C) with respect to the Abel Marquez/Cynthia  
18 Vencebi-claimed defendant currency.

19 3. Notice of this action has been given as required by  
20 law. No appearances have been made in the litigation by any  
21 person other than claimants Abel Marquez and Cynthia Vencebi  
22 with respect to the Abel Marquez/Cynthia Vencebi-claimed  
23 defendant currency. Except for the claimants who filed claims  
24 in this action, the Court deems that all other potential  
25 claimants admit the allegations of the Complaint for Forfeiture  
26 to be true with respect to the Abel Marquez/Cynthia Vencebi-  
27 claimed defendant currency.

1           4.     \$76,450.00 in U.S. currency claimed by claimants Abel  
2 Marquez and Cynthia Vencebi, together with the interest earned  
3 thereon by the government since seizure, shall be returned to  
4 claimant Abel Marquez.

5           5.     The funds to be returned to claimant Abel Marquez  
6 pursuant to paragraph 4 above shall be paid to claimant Abel  
7 Marquez by electronic transfer directly into the client trust  
8 account of his attorneys of record in this case (Astourian &  
9 Associates, Inc.). Claimant Abel Marquez (through his attorney  
10 of record Paro Astourian, Esq.) shall provide to the United  
11 States of America the information necessary for the United  
12 States of America to complete the transfer.

13           6.     Claimants Abel Marquez and Cynthia Vencebi, and each  
14 of them, hereby release the United States of America, its  
15 agencies, agents, officers, employees and representatives,  
16 including, without limitation, all agents, officers, employees  
17 and representatives of the Drug Enforcement Administration or  
18 the Department of Justice and their respective agencies, as well  
19 as all agents, officers, employees and representatives of any  
20 state or local governmental or law enforcement agency involved  
21 in the investigation or prosecution of this matter, from any and  
22 all claims (including, without limitation, any petitions for  
23 remission, which Abel Marquez and Cynthia Vencebi, and each of  
24 them, hereby withdraw), actions or liabilities arising out of or  
25 related to this action, including, without limitation, any claim  
26 for attorney fees, costs and interest, which may be asserted by  
27 or on behalf of claimants Abel Marquez and Cynthia Vencebi, or  
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1 either of them, whether pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 2465 or  
2 otherwise.

3       7. This judgment shall be construed as a certificate of  
4 reasonable cause pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 2465 as between the  
5 United States of America, on the one hand, and claimants Abel  
6 Marquez and Cynthia Vencebi, on the other hand, with respect to  
7 the Abel Marquez/Cynthia Vencebi-claimed defendant currency.

8 Dated: April 6, 2017

9   /s/  
10   \_\_\_\_\_  
11   THE HONORABLE FERNANDO M. OLGUIN  
12   UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE

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CONSENT

The parties hereto consent to the above judgment and waive any right to appeal this Consent Judgment.

Dated: April 4, 2017

SANDRA R. BROWN  
Acting United States Attorney  
LAWRENCE S. MIDDLETON  
Assistant United States Attorney  
Chief, Criminal Division  
STEVEN R. WELK  
Assistant United States Attorney  
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/s/ Victor A. Rodgers  
VICTOR A. RODGERS  
Assistant United States Attorney  
  
Attorneys for Plaintiff  
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

DATED: April 4, 2017

LAW OFFICE OF ERIC HONIG  
ASTOURIAN AND ASSOCIATES, INC.

/s/ Paro Astourian  
PARO ASTOURIAN, ESQ.  
  
Attorneys for Claimants  
JAVIER MARQUEZ, ROMELIA MARQUEZ,  
ABEL MARQUEZ and CYNTHIA VENCEBI