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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA
WESTERN DIVISION

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
Plaintiff,
v.
\$146,780.00 IN U.S. CURRENCY,
Defendant.

Case No. CV 17-000399-TJH(JCx)
**CONSENT JUDGMENT OF FORFEITURE
[JS-6]**

MANUELA GOMEZ,
Claimant.

Pursuant to the stipulation and request of Plaintiff United States of America and Claimant Manuela Gomez ("Claimant"), the Court hereby enters this Consent Judgment of Forfeiture containing the terms set forth below:

On January 18, 2017, Plaintiff United States of America ("the United States of America") filed a Complaint for Forfeiture alleging that the defendant \$146,780.00 in U.S. Currency (the "defendant currency") is subject to forfeiture pursuant to 21 U.S.C. § 881(a)(6).

1 Claimant filed a claim to the defendant currency and an answer
2 to the Complaint for Forfeiture on March 27, 2017. Former claimant
3 Pedro Prieto filed a claim to the defendant currency on February 22,
4 2017 and an answer to the Complaint for Forfeiture on February 27,
5 2017. However, former claimant Pedro Prieto is no longer a party in
6 this case because he withdrew his claim by filing a notice of
7 withdrawal of claim on April 17, 2017 and thereby relinquished and
8 waived any and all right, title and interest he may otherwise have
9 had to the defendant currency.

10 No other parties have appeared in this case and the time for
11 filing claims and answers has expired.

12 The government and Claimant have now agreed to settle this
13 action and to avoid further litigation by entering into this Consent
14 Judgment of Forfeiture.

15 The Court, having been duly advised of and having considered the
16 matter, and based upon the mutual consent of the parties hereto,

17 IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, ADJUDGED, AND DECREED:

18 1. This Court has jurisdiction over the subject matter of this
19 action and the parties to this Consent Judgment of Forfeiture.

20 2. The Complaint for Forfeiture states a claim for relief
21 pursuant to 21 U.S.C. § 881(a)(6).

22 3. Notice of this action has been given as required by law.
23 No appearances have been made in the litigation by any person other
24 than Claimant and former claimant Pedro Prieto whose interest was
25 resolved as a result of the notice of withdrawal of claim he filed in
26 this case. The Court deems that all other potential claimants admit
27 the allegations of the Complaint for Forfeiture to be true.

28 / / /

1 4. The United States of America shall have judgment as to the
2 interests of Claimant and all other potential claimants as to
3 \$126,780.00 of the defendant currency, together with any interest
4 earned on the defendant currency by the United States of America
5 since seizure, which funds are hereby condemned and forfeited to the
6 United States of America. The United States of America shall dispose
7 of those funds in accordance with law.

8 5. The remaining \$20,000.00 of the defendant currency, without
9 interest, shall be returned to Claimant. The funds to be returned to
10 Claimant shall be paid to Claimant by electronic transfer directly
11 into the client trust account of the attorney of record for Claimant
12 in this case. Claimant (through Claimant's attorney of record) shall
13 provide all information and complete all documents requested by the
14 United States of America in order for the United States of America to
15 complete the transfer including, without limitation, providing
16 Claimant's social security and taxpayer identification numbers (if
17 any), and the identity of the bank, the bank's address and the
18 account name, account number, account type and wire transfer routing
19 number for the client trust account to which the transfer of funds is
20 to be made.

21 6. Claimant hereby releases the United States of America, its
22 agencies, agents, officers, employees and representatives, including,
23 without limitation, all agents, officers, employees and
24 representatives of the Drug Enforcement Administration and their
25 respective agencies, as well as all agents, officers, employees and
26 representatives of any state or local governmental or law enforcement
27 agency involved in the investigation or prosecution of this matter,
28 from any and all claims (including, without limitation any petitions

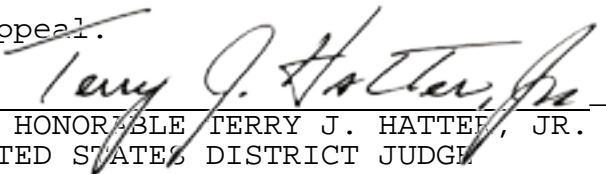
1 for remission, which Claimant hereby withdraws), actions or
2 liabilities arising out of or related to this action, including,
3 without limitation, any claim for attorney fees, costs and interest,
4 which may be asserted by or on behalf of Claimant, whether pursuant
5 to 28 U.S.C. § 2465 or otherwise.

6 7. The Court finds that there was reasonable cause for the
7 seizure of the defendant currency and institution of these
8 proceedings. This judgment shall be construed as a certificate of
9 reasonable cause pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 2465.

10 8. The Court further finds that Claimant did not substantially
11 prevail in this action, and each of the parties hereto shall bear
12 their own attorney fees and costs.

13 9. The United States of America and Claimant consent to this
14 judgment and waive any right of appeal.

15 Dated: NOVEMBER 4, 2020



THE HONORABLE TERRY J. HATTEF, JR.
UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE

17 CC: FISCAL

18 Presented By:

19 NICOLA T. HANNA
United States Attorney
20 BRANDON D. FOX
Assistant United states Attorney
21 Chief, Criminal Division
STEVEN R. WELK
22 Assistant United States Attorney
Chief, Asset Forfeiture Section
23

24 /s/ Victor A. Rodgers
VICTOR A. RODGERS
25 Assistant United States Attorney

26 Attorneys for Plaintiff
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
27
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