BENJAMIN B. WAGNER 1 United States Attorney YOSHINORI H. T. HIMEL #66194 2 Assistant United States Attorney 3 Eastern District of California 501 I Street, Suite 10-100 Sacramento, CA 95814-2322 Telephone: (916) 554-2760 Facsimile: (916) 554-2900 5 Email: yoshinori.himel@usdoj.gov 6 Attorney for Petitioner United States of America 7 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT 8 EASTERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA 9 10 11 UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, Case No. 1:11-cv-01621-LJO-BAM Petitioner, 12 **MAGISTRATE JUDGE'S FINDINGS** AND RECOMMENDATIONS RE: I.R.S. SUMMONS ENFORCEMENT 13 v. FELIPE CARRANCO, General Partner, TAXPAYER: F&J CARRANCO FARM 14 LABOR 15 Respondent. 16 17 This matter came before this Court on November 18, 2011, under the Order to 18 Show Cause filed September 27, 2011, which, with the verified petition and 19 memorandum, was properly served upon respondent under Fed. R. Civ. P. 4(e) on October 4, 2011. Yoshinori H. T. Himel appeared for petitioners, and investigating 20 21 Revenue Officer Lisa Cumiford was present. Respondent did not file an opposition and 22 did not appear. The Verified Petition to Enforce I.R.S. Summons initiating this proceeding seeks 23 to enforce an administrative summons (Exhibit A to the petition) in aid of Revenue 2.4 Officer Cumiford's investigation of Felipe Carranco, as General Partner for F&J Carranco 25 26 Farm Labor, to determine financial information relevant to the IRS's efforts to collect 27 Employer's Annual Federal Unemployment Tax (Form 940) for the tax years ending December 31, 2001, and December 31, 2003; as well as Employer's Annual Federal Tax 28

Return for Agricultural Employees (Form 943) for the tax years ending December 31, 2001, December 31, 2002, and December 31, 2003; plus a civil penalty for the tax year ending December 31, 2001.

Subject matter jurisdiction is invoked under 28 U.S.C. §§ 1340 and 1345, and is found to be proper. Authorization for the action is under I.R.C. §§ 7402(b) and 7604(a) (26 U.S.C.). The Order to Show Cause shifted to respondent the burden of rebutting any of the four requirements of <u>United States v. Powell</u>, 379 U.S. 48, 57-58 (1964).

The Court has reviewed the petition and documents in support. Based on the uncontroverted verification of Revenue Officer Cumiford and the entire record, the Court makes the following findings:

- (1) The summons issued by Revenue Officer Lisa Cumiford to respondent, Felipe Carranco, on March 18, 2011, seeking testimony and production of documents and records in respondent's possession, was issued in good faith and for a legitimate purpose under I.R.C. § 7602, that is, to determine financial information relevant to the IRS's efforts to collect Employer's Annual Federal Unemployment Tax (Form 940) for the tax years ending December 31, 2001, and December 31, 2003; as well as Employer's Annual Federal Tax Return for Agricultural Employees (Form 943) for the tax years ending December 31, 2001, December 31, 2002, and December 31, 2003; plus a civil penalty for the tax year ending December 31, 2001.
  - (2) The information sought is relevant to that purpose.
- (3) The information sought is not already in the possession of the Internal Revenue Service.
- (4) The administrative steps required by the Internal Revenue Code have been followed.
- (5) There is no evidence of referral of this case by the Internal Revenue Service to the Department of Justice for criminal prosecution.
- (6) The verified petition and its exhibits made a prima facie showing of satisfaction of the requirements of United States v. Powell, 379 U.S. 48, 57-58 (1964).

- (7) The burden shifted to respondent, Felipe Carranco, to rebut that prima facie showing.
- (8) Respondent presented no argument or evidence to rebut the prima facie showing.

The Court therefore recommends that the IRS summons issued to respondent, Felipe Carranco, as General Partner for F&J Carranco Farm Labor, be enforced, and that respondent be ordered to appear at the I.R.S. offices at 2525 Capitol Street, Suite 206, Fresno, California 93721, before Revenue Officer Lisa Cumiford, or her designated representative, twenty-one (21) days after the filing of the summons enforcement order, or at a later date to be set in writing by Revenue Officer Cumiford, then and there to be sworn, to give testimony, and to produce for examining and copying the books, checks, records, papers and other data demanded by the summons, the examination to continue from day to day until completed. The Court further recommends that if it enforces the summons, the Court retain jurisdiction to enforce its order by its contempt power.

These findings and recommendations are submitted to the United States District Judge assigned to the case, pursuant to the provisions of 28 U.S.C. § 636(b)(1)(B) and (C) and Rule 72-304 of the Local Rules of the United States District Court for the Eastern District of California. Within ten (10) days after being served with these findings and recommendations, any party may file written objections with the court and serve a copy on all parties. Such a document should be titled "Objections to Magistrate Judge's Findings and Recommendations." Any reply to the objections shall be served and filed within ten (10) days after service of the objections. The District Judge will then review these findings and recommendations pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 636(b)(1). The parties are advised that failure to file objections within the specified time may waive the right to appeal the District Court's order. Martinez v. Ylst, 951 F.2d 1153 (9th Cir. 1991).

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1	The Clerk shall serve this and future orders by mail to Mr. Felipe Carranco, 2023		
2	Olive Street, Selma, California 93662.		
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4	IT IS SO ORDERED.		
5		<b>November 29, 2011</b>	/s/ Barbara A. McAuliffe
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