United States Of America v. Approximately \$144.001 in United States Currency

Doc. 100

This is a civil judicial forfeiture action. The Court has jurisdiction over defendant \$144,001 under 21 U.S.C. § 881(a)(6). The claimant in this action is James Anthony Pompey who was also a defendant in two criminal actions. Following the filing of this action, it was stayed pending resolution of a federal criminal drug trafficking case in the Middle District of Georgia against Pompey ¹ and a separate state criminal drug trafficking case in Superior Court for Santa Clara County against Pompey.² After those cases were resolved, this Court lifted the stay in this civil action. Due to unforseen circumstances, the parties previously requested the rescheduling of the CMC, and are requesting another rescheduling for a minimum of 45 days from May 10, 2013.

An issue has arisen as to defendant Pompey's sentence in the state criminal case. The state court judge sentenced Pompey to 16 years to run concurrently with his federal sentence. Pompey's attorney in this case, David Cohen, is also counsel for defendant Pompey in the criminal cases. Mr. Cohen reports that claimant is being required to complete his state sentence in state prison before starting to serve his federal sentence. As a result, on March 22, 2013, claimant's counsel filed a writ of habeas corpus to withdraw Pompey's plea so that Pompey could be returned to San Jose where the Deputy District Attorney (DDA) Patrick Vanier, Mr. Cohen and Pompey can work out, if possible, the custody and credit issues which have arisen. If the state court were to allow Pompey

In 2009, a grand jury in the Middle District of Georgia indicted James Anthony Pompey with conspiracy to distribute cocaine and cocaine base in violation of 21 U.S.C. § 846, 21 U.S.C. § 841(a)(1), 21 U.S.C. § 841(b)(1)(A)(ii) and 18 U.S.C. § 2. *United States v. Pompey*, No. 7:09-CR-15(HL) (M.D. Ga.), Indictment, filed September 16, 2009. On October 6, 2011, Pompey plead guilty to a conspiracy to distribute cocaine between 50 and 150 kilograms of cocaine between early in 2005 to on or about November 2006. *See* Opposition of the United States to Claimant Pompey's Motion to Release Funds for Legal Fees, filed October 28, 2011, and Exhibit A. In the federal case, Pompey admitted that law enforcement seized \$828,970 in November 2006 intended as payment to him for cocaine he had sold. *Id.*

On August 3, 2012, claimant Pompey plead guilty to Count 9 of an Indictment in Superior Court for Santa Clara County charging him with conspiracy to violate California Health and Safety Code 11352, and admitted a number of overt acts in furtherance of that conspiracy. *United States v. Pompey*, No. 211412 (Sup. Ct., Santa Clara County), Indictment, filed June 25, 2009; August 3, 2012 Transcript; Certified Docket Sheet. One of the six overt acts which defendant Pompey admitted was that he "on or about March 18, 2009, possessed \$144,001 in illegal drug proceeds at 36676 Port Fogwood, Newark, California." Defendant \$144,001 in this civil forfeiture action is the same \$144,001 which defendant Pompey admitted were drug proceeds. *See* Complaint for Forfeiture, at 3, paragraph 17.

1	to withdraw his plea, then Mr. Cohen contends that Pompey's admission during the change of plea	
2	in state court that the \$144,001 is drug trafficking proceeds could not be used in this forfeiture	
3	action. Pompey is scheduled to appear in Superior Court before the judge in his criminal case on	
4	May 17, 2013. As a result, Mr. Cohen asks the Court to reschedule the case management conference	
5	for at least 45 days from the current CMC scheduled for May 10, 2013 to allow the DDA, Mr. Cohen	
6	and Pompey an opportunity to resolve the issues in connection with the state criminal matter.	
7		
8	IT IS SO STIPULATED: MELINDA HAAG	
9	United States Attorney	
10	Dated: May 1, 2013	
11	Assistant United States Attorney	
12	Attorneys for the United States	
13	Bay Area Criminal Lawyers, PC	
14	Description 2 2012	
15	Dated: May 2, 2013 DAVID COHEN DAVID COHEN	
16	Attorney for Claimant James Anthony Pompey	
17		
18	PURSUANT TO THE FOREGOING STIPULATION IT IS SO ORDERED ON THIS 6th	
19	DAY OF MAY, 2013, AND THE CASE MANAGEMENT CONFERENCE IS RESCHEDULED	
20	FOR June 28 , 2013 AT 9:00 A.M. AND THE PARTIES ARE TO FILE	
21	A JOINT CASE MANAGEMENT STATEMENT SEVEN DAYS BEFORE THE CMC.	
22	This shall be the final continuance of the case management conference. If these matters are not reso	lyed, th
23	parties shall appear so that the Court may set a schedule in this case	
24	HONOICABLE/JEFFREY S. WHITE Up ted States District Judge	
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