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10  
 11 **UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT**  
**DISTRICT OF NEVADA**  
 12

13 UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

14 Plaintiff,

15 v.

16 REAL PROPERTY LOCATED AT 260  
 EAST FLAMINGO ROAD, UNIT NO.  
 17 205 [ALSO KNOWN AS UNIT NO. 233],  
 LAS VEGAS, NEVADA 89169 MORE  
 18 PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS:

19 PARCEL I:

20 UNIT TWO HUNDRED THIRTY-THREE  
 21 (233) ("UNIT") IN BUILDING FOUR (4)  
 ("BUILDING") AS SHOWN ON THE  
 FINAL PLAT OF THE MERIDIAN AT  
 22 HUGHES CENTER, FILED IN BOOK 49  
 OF PLATS, PAGE 40, IN THE OFFICIAL  
 23 RECORDS OF THE COUNTY  
 RECORDER, CLARK COUNTY,  
 24 NEVADA ("PLAT"), AND AS DEFINED  
 AND SET FORTH IN AND SUBJECT TO  
 25 THAT CERTAIN DECLARATION OF  
 COVENANTS, CONDITIONS AND  
 26 RESTRICTIONS FOR THE MERIDIAN  
 AT HUGHES CENTER, RECORDED  
 27 JUNE 1, 2005 AS INSTRUMENT NO.  
 0001551 IN BOOK 20050601 OFFICIAL  
 28 RECORDS, CLARK COUNTY NEVADA

Case No: 2:15-CV-350-APG-BNW

**Fourteenth Status Report Jointly Filed**

1 (“THE MERIDIAN AT HUGHES  
2 CENTER DECLARATION”)

3 PARCEL II:

4 TOGETHER WITH AN UNDIVIDED  
5 ALLOCATED FRACTIONAL INTEREST  
6 IN AND TO THE GENERAL COMMON  
7 ELEMENTS, AS SET FORTH IN, AND  
8 SUBJECT TO, THE PLAT AND THE  
9 MERIDIAN AT HUGHES CENTER  
10 DECLARATION.

11 PARCEL III:

12 TOGETHER WITH AN EXCLUSIVE  
13 INTEREST IN AND TO THOSE  
14 LIMITED COMMON ELEMENTS, IF  
15 ANY, APPURTENANT TO THE UNIT,  
16 AS SET FORTH IN, AND SUBJECT TO,  
17 THE PLAT AND THE MERIDIAN AT  
18 HUGHES CENTER DECLARATION.

19 PARCEL IV:

20 TOGETHER WITH A NON-  
21 EXCLUSIVE EASEMENT OF  
22 REASONABLE INGRESS TO AND  
23 EGRESS FROM THE UNIT, AND OF  
24 ENJOYMENT OF THE GENERAL  
25 COMMON ELEMENTS, AS SET  
26 FORTH IN, AND SUBJECT TO, THE  
27 PLAT AND THE MERIDIAN AT  
28 HUGHES CENTER DECLARATION,  
TOGETHER WITH ALL  
IMPROVEMENTS AND  
APPURTENANCES THEREON, APN:  
162-16-810-479,

Defendant.

22 In compliance with this Court’s Order dated July 6, 2021 (ECF No. 59), the counsel  
23 for Charles Burton Ritchie (Ritchie) and the government jointly submit the following status  
24 report.

25 **BACKGROUND**

26 On February 27, 2015, the United States filed a civil action seeking the forfeiture of  
27 the named real-property defendant.

28 / / /

1 Previously, on January 18, 2013 (docketed as 2:13-CV-00100-JCM-EJY), and May  
2 29, 2013 (docketed as 2:13-CV-00947-JCM-EJY), the United States had filed two forfeiture  
3 civil actions seeking the forfeiture of numerous monetary and personal property assets,  
4 including currency seized from the accounts of various financial institutions and several  
5 automobiles because those assets were deemed to be proceeds of illicit drug trafficking and  
6 money laundering activities orchestrated by Ritchie and his conspirators. Since those civil  
7 filings, Ritchie and his conspirators were federally indicted, in this district, for multiple  
8 violations of criminal laws, primarily 21 U.S.C. § 841 (docketed as *United States v. Ritchie, et.*  
9 *al.*, 2:15-CR-00285-APG-EJY).

10 Ritchie is the principal claimant in the above-captioned civil forfeiture action and is  
11 also the principal criminal defendant named in the indictment. In addition to identical  
12 litigants, the criminal and civil cases involve the same principal issue (to wit: alleged  
13 unlawful drug trafficking). Specifically, both the forfeiture complaint and the criminal  
14 indictment allege that Ritchie and his confederates trafficked in wholesale quantities of  
15 “spice,” an analogue controlled substance. Both the complaint and the indictment further  
16 allege that Ritchie and his allies earned millions, if not tens of millions, of dollars in illegal  
17 revenues derived from ‘spice’ sales.

#### 18 **UPDATE**

19 The criminal trial for the District of Nevada concluded July 8, 2019, where Ritchie  
20 and Galecki were found guilty of multiple counts, ECF Nos. 439, 449. The Court entered a  
21 forfeiture order, ECF No. 455, that included forfeiture of the above property. The case from  
22 the Eastern District of Virginia was transferred to the District of Nevada where Ritchie and  
23 Galecki plead guilty to a count in the Virginia Information, ECF Nos. 544, 545. The case  
24 from the Southern District of Alabama was transferred to the District of Nevada where  
25 Ritchie and Galecki plead guilty to a count in the Alabama Indictment, ECF Nos. 527, 536.  
26 The two defendants’ changes of plea to both indictments were held September 9, 2020, and  
27 the defendants were sentenced for all three cases, ECF No. 588. The Government seeks a

28 / / /

1 continuation of the above-captioned civil forfeiture action until the conclusion of Ritchie's  
2 criminal case.

3 Galecki filed an appeal on September 16, 2020, ECF No. 594, and Ritchie filed an  
4 appeal on September 20, 2020, ECF No. 605. The appeals were consolidated under case  
5 number 20-10288. Ritchie and Galecki each submitted an Opening Brief on April 14, 2021.  
6 The consolidated Answering Brief was filed August 11, 2021. The Reply Brief was filed  
7 October 4, 2021. The appeal is pending.

8 In addition, all of the defendant assets in the two consolidated civil cases and the  
9 named real-property defendant have been included in the forfeiture allegations of the  
10 indictment and Amended Bill of Particulars in *United States v. Ritchie, et. al.*, 2:15-CR-00285-  
11 APG-EJY. If forfeiture is completed on the asset specified in this civil forfeiture action as a  
12 consequence of the criminal prosecution, continuation of this civil forfeiture will be  
13 unnecessary, likely resulting in a voluntary dismissal of this case by the Government. In any  
14 event, it will be most efficient and expedient for this Court and the parties to continue to  
15 stay the above-captioned civil forfeiture action pending the outcome of the criminal case.  
16 The government agreed to this Fourteenth Status Report Jointly Filed.

17 DATED: December 16, 2021.

18 Respectfully submitted,  
19 SNELL & WILMER L.L.P,

20 **Order**

21 IT IS ORDERED that an  
22 additional status report is due  
23 on June 17, 2022.

24 IT IS SO ORDERED

25 DATED: 9:27 am, December 17, 2021

26 

27 BRENDA WEKSLER  
28 UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE

/s/ Aleem A. Dhalla  
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**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that on this date I electronically filed the foregoing with the Clerk of Court for the U.S. District Court, District of Nevada by using the Court's CM/ECF system. Participants in the case who are registered CM/ECF users will be served by the CM/ECF system.

DATED: December 16, 2021

/s/ D'Andrea Dunn  
An Employee of Snell & Wilmer L.L.P.

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