

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA  
WESTERN DIVISION

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HONORABLE CHRISTINA A. SNYDER  
UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE PRESIDING  
- - -

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, )  
 )  
 PLAINTIFF, )  
 )  
 VS. ) CASE NO.:  
 ) CR 14-648-CAS  
 HARINDER SINGH, )  
 )  
 DEFENDANT. )  
 )  
 \_\_\_\_\_ )

REPORTER'S TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2017

LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

1  
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STATUS CONFERENCE

4

1 LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA; MONDAY, FEB. 13, 2017; 1:37 P.M.

2 - - -

3 THE CLERK: Calling Calendar No. 19.

4 Case No. 14-648.

5 United States of America versus Harinder Singh.

6 Counsel, please state your appearances.

7 MS. LANSDEN: Good afternoon, Your Honor. Ellen  
8 Lansden on behalf of the United States.

9 MR. JOHNSON: Peter Johnson on behalf of  
10 Mr. Harinder Singh. He is assisted by the court-appointed  
11 Punjabi interpreter. What I suggested is that because he  
12 speaks English and I believe he understands what's going to  
13 happen at this proceedings, that we proceed in English with  
14 his consent and allow the interpreter to act as a standby  
15 interpreter with the Court's permission.

16 THE COURT: Any objection by the government?

17 MS. LANSDEN: No objection, Your Honor.

18 THE COURT: All right. Then that's what we will  
19 do.

20 MR. JOHNSON: Thank you, Your Honor.

21 THE COURT: So we have today a status conference.  
22 Where do we stand?

23 MR. JOHNSON: Your Honor, I have been speaking with  
24 the government. I was appointed to the case I believe last  
25 April. I believe that we should set a continuance and I

1 would move for a continuance to September 5th. That would be  
2 a realistic trial date. What I have talked to the government  
3 about is attempting to resolve this case without a trial  
4 before I would say April, but over the next month really  
5 focused on resolving the case. If we can't, I would need the  
6 additional time to prepare for trial to September 5th.

7 THE COURT: Okay. First of all, what do you have  
8 to say about all this, Ms. Lansden?

9 I look at the calendar and throw my hands in the  
10 air.

11 MS. LANSDEN: We have been trying to resolve this  
12 case. I think that the government is prepared to go on the  
13 April date, but I understand counsel feels like he needs  
14 additional time so we won't object on those grounds.

15 THE COURT: Well, let's see what September 5th  
16 looks like. I am going -- I'm effectively out for the  
17 entirety of October so I may be here and there, but you have  
18 to assume I'm gone the entire month.

19 For that reason if this case is tried, we're gonna  
20 have to do it on a more expedited basis than has been set  
21 forth. I'm assuming if we're down to essentially one  
22 defendant, there is some likelihood it will be tried in  
23 substantially less than the four-week estimate.

24 MS. LANSDEN: Absolutely. I believe this case  
25 could be tried in a week or less.

1 THE COURT: Do you disagree, Mr. Johnson?

2 MR. JOHNSON: No, Your Honor. I think that is a  
3 fair estimate.

4 THE COURT: What do we have on September 5th?  
5 Well, here's the story in a nutshell. We can put the 5th in  
6 as a placeholder with the understanding that we may have to  
7 move it because I have a multi-defendant complex case that's  
8 older than this that is set in that period of time, but why  
9 don't we set it for September 5th and hope for the best.

10 Let me ask you, Mr. Singh, do you agree to a  
11 continuance of the trial date to September 5th?

12 THE DEFENDANT: Yes.

13 THE COURT: And you understand that you have a  
14 right to go to trial on April 4th which is the current trial  
15 date?

16 THE DEFENDANT: Yes.

17 THE COURT: You're prepared to waive your speedy  
18 trial rights to September 5th?

19 THE DEFENDANT: Yes.

20 THE COURT: Okay. Then how about setting a status  
21 conference August 25th at 1:30 p.m.

22 And is there anything else for now?

23 MR. JOHNSON: Your Honor, if I may, I am scheduled  
24 to be on vacation on from the 18th. Is there any way to have  
25 the status conference the week before?

1 THE COURT: Sure. August 14th.

2 MR. JOHNSON: That's fine. Thank you.

3 THE COURT: 1:30 p.m., and then we'll see where we  
4 end up.

5 MR. JOHNSON: Thank you, Your Honor.

6 THE COURT: Thank you, everyone.

7 MS. LANSDEN: Just one final thing for the status  
8 conference. I'll put on the record that defendant Breidi  
9 Alberto Espinoza after talking to his attorney as well as  
10 Pretrial Services, it's our understanding he has fled.

11 THE COURT: Okay. Well, so am I correct that  
12 Mr. Singh is the one remaining defendant?

13 MS. LANSDEN: Yes, Your Honor.

14 THE COURT: Okay. Then let's see what happens  
15 next.

16 Thank you, everyone.

17 MR. JOHNSON: Thank you.

18 MS. LANSDEN: Thank you.

19 (Proceedings were concluded at 1:43 p.m.)  
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