

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
MIDDLE DISTRICT OF FLORIDA
TAMPA DIVISION

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4	UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,)	
)	
5	Plaintiff,)	
)	
6)	Case No.
	vs.)	8:21-CR-00348-SCB-SPF
7)	
)	
8	JEREMY BROWN,)	
)	
9	Defendant.)	
10			
11			

MOTION HEARING
(taken via Zoom videoconference)
BEFORE THE HONORABLE SEAN P. FLYNN
UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE

JANUARY 5, 2022
12:10 P.M.
TAMPA, FLORIDA

Proceedings transcribed via courtroom digital audio recording by transcriptionist using computer-aided transcription.

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APPEARANCES :

FOR THE GOVERNMENT :

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P R O C E E D I N G S

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THE COURT: All right. Let's go on the record.

Ms. Vito, would you please call the case.

COURTROOM DEPUTY: Certainly. It's United States versus Jeremy Brown. It's Case Number 8:21-CR-348-SCB-SPF.

THE COURT: Counsel, please make appearances.

MS. JEWELL: Jillian Jewell for the United States.

MS. ASOKAN: Risha Asokan for the United States.

THE COURT: Good afternoon.

MR. SANSONE: Good afternoon, Your Honor.

Bill Sansone on behalf of Mr. Jeremy Brown.

THE COURT: Good afternoon, Mr. Sansone.

Good afternoon to you, Mr. Brown.

THE DEFENDANT: Yes, Your Honor.

THE COURT: Mr. Brown, we are conducting this hearing by videoconference. Pinellas County Jail, where you are currently housed, has informed the Court that they are in quarantine procedures due to the outbreak of COVID-19.

Are you able to see and hear me, sir?

THE DEFENDANT: I can see you and I can hear you.

THE COURT: All right. Sir, if at any time during this hearing you can no longer see who is speaking or hear who is speaking, please let me know immediately. Do you promise to do so?

1 THE DEFENDANT: Yes, sir.

2 THE COURT: All right. Thank you, Mr. Brown.

3 All right. We are here today on the Government's
4 emergency motion to prevent dissipation of assets reserved for
5 CJA reimbursement, which will be found at Docket Entry 80.

6 Who will be speaking for the Government?

7 MS. JEWELL: Jillian Jewell. I will, Your Honor.

8 THE COURT: All right. And, Mr. Sansone, you
9 indicated just prior to the hearing that you'll be seeking a
10 continuance of this hearing; is that correct?

11 MR. SANSONE: Correct, Your Honor.

12 THE COURT: All right. Let me hear from you then,
13 sir.

14 MR. SANSONE: Your Honor, as you know, I think it was
15 filed two days ago and the hearing was set yesterday. I spoke
16 to Mr. Brown very briefly this morning through the jail video,
17 we didn't have much time to talk about it, and then just now.
18 He does not have -- does not have a copy of the motion and
19 there are things that he would like to discuss with me in
20 detail, you know, about kind of the full purposes, that I'm
21 essentially not prepared to go forward with this hearing
22 without speaking in more detail with Mr. Brown and maybe other
23 people, and therefore we would be requesting a two week
24 continuance. I've asked Mr. Brown that this Court might
25 inquire that during that interim if we would agree that no

1 money from this fund be spent at all on anything, and Mr. Brown
2 agreed that that would happen in the interim, so that would
3 give us time to meet.

4 We do intend to oppose this, but I just really
5 haven't had time to talk to Mr. Brown in-depth about this page,
6 the money, and reasons, and just a whole -- a slew of things
7 that I would need to be better prepared on before going
8 forward. Personal visits have been restricted. I'm not sure
9 even at this time how I get Mr. Brown a copy of the document,
10 but I'm going to be working that out with the jail immediately,
11 but -- so we'd be asking for two weeks, and we will
12 essentially -- even though Mr. Brown believes that this is a
13 violation of the First Amendment, it's his money, his free
14 speech, and the Fourth Amendment as to a seizure, we would
15 agree to abide by the condition of not spending any money
16 associated with this account at all, for any type of purposes,
17 during the interim until a hearing is held and the Court has
18 made a ruling on the Government's motion.

19 THE COURT: All right. Ms. Jewell, what's the
20 Government's position?

21 MS. JEWELL: The United States opposes his request
22 for a continuance, primarily because the purpose of the motion
23 is to preserve the status quo, and what he is agreeing to do
24 and not spend those funds is exactly what we're seeking, so I
25 don't believe that a continuance is necessary.

1 THE COURT: Well, what he's agreeing to do is
2 maintain the status quo and not spend the money during the
3 period of the continuance.

4 MR. SANSONE: Right.

5 THE COURT: So why would the Government be prejudiced
6 if Mr. Brown is agreeing not to disburse any of those funds
7 during the period of a continuance?

8 MS. JEWELL: The purpose of the motion was simply
9 that. The United States hasn't moved for the reimbursement
10 order yet. This Court has the authority to enter a
11 reimbursement order. The purpose of the motion is simply to
12 preserve the status quo, so, I mean, I don't oppose if he
13 doesn't plan on spending the money. That's fine. I suppose we
14 have no objection. If he's not going to spend the money,
15 that's all we're seeking to preserve right now anyway.

16 THE COURT: Right.

17 MS. JEWELL: So --

18 THE COURT: All right. Well, I'm going to reserve
19 ruling on that for a second because I want to talk about the
20 substance of the motion, and with the understanding,
21 Mr. Sansone, that you need additional time, you're not prepared
22 to answer the Court's questions, I understand that, but in
23 looking at the motion -- first off, Ms. Jewell, it's listed as
24 an emergency motion, doesn't comply with Local Rule 3.01(E),
25 you don't indicate in the beginning of the motion why it's an

1 emergency motion and what date you need a ruling by. Reviewing
2 the motion, I don't see why it's an emergency. I don't know
3 why it was labeled as that. It might be a time sensitive
4 motion, but it's certainly not an emergency, and if you
5 disagree, I'll hear you out on that.

6 But, more importantly, the issue here, as framed by
7 the Government, is whether Mr. Brown now has funds available to
8 him that could be used to reimburse the United States for the
9 costs of his court-appointed attorney. Now, according to the
10 Government, Mr. Brown does have access to funds that were
11 raised for his legal defense. The Government though is not
12 asking the Court at this time, as Ms. Jewell just stated, to
13 enter an order asking that certain funds be disbursed to the
14 Government or be placed in the Court's registry to be used to
15 reimburse the Government for any expenses from his
16 court-appointed attorney. Instead what you're asking the Court
17 to do is basically to freeze all assets in his legal defense
18 fund that he is raising.

19 So explain to me, Ms. Jewell, why the Government
20 should entertain such a motion. I mean, excuse me, why the
21 Court should entertain such a motion.

22 MS. JEWELL: It should have been more of a time
23 sensitive motion, I do agree to that. Initially this
24 fundraising account didn't have much money, and now there is a
25 critical mass of funds. We're up to \$52,000 now. In the jail

1 call the defendant had stated that he will be reevaluating
2 these funds on the 1st and 15th of the month. That means in
3 ten days he's going to be considering whether he's going to
4 make disbursements from this account, and so the United States
5 was seeking to preserve the status quo, prevent the dissipation
6 of any assets, so that this Court can enter an order to
7 reimburse the CJA fund at the appropriate time.

8 These people have been donating for the soul purpose
9 of his legal defense, so if he is disbursing funds to anyone
10 else, he will be defrauding these people of the true purpose of
11 these funds, so the United States simply wanted to make sure
12 that no money was being moved, and it was important to do so in
13 a time sensitive manner to prevent that from happening.

14 THE COURT: If Mr. Brown is defrauding people who
15 contributed to his legal defense fund, wouldn't that be a
16 separate civil action that they would file?

17 MS. JEWELL: Perhaps, Your Honor, yes.

18 THE COURT: All right. So let me just cut to the
19 chase here then, Ms. Jewell.

20 The maximum amount that CJA counsel can be
21 compensated without seeking a waiver from the Chief Judge of
22 the Eleventh Circuit is \$12,300 for services that were provided
23 after January 1st of this year. Why should the Court entertain
24 doing anything with the amount above the maximum compensation
25 that would be paid to Mr. Sansone unless he received a waiver

1 from the Chief Judge?

2 MS. JEWELL: Any additional funds raised for his
3 legal defense the United States would seek for a fine because
4 he has an ability to pay. He shouldn't be benefiting from this
5 when people are donating for the purpose of his defense. He
6 shouldn't continue to keep funds from this crime.

7 THE COURT: So now you're asking to freeze those
8 funds because you believe it should be used to pay a potential
9 fine in this case?

10 MS. JEWELL: Not at this time, Your Honor. Again,
11 we're seeking just to preserve the status quo, prevent any
12 funds from being moved, until we have a greater understanding
13 of what's happening in this case.

14 THE COURT: All right. Mr. Sansone, if you need time
15 to discuss with your client, Mr. Brown, whether he's agreeable
16 to this, I will put you in a breakout room and you can have
17 this discussion, but at this point would your client agree to
18 deposit the \$12,300 in maximum compensation that you could
19 receive for services as the court-appointed CJA attorney in
20 this case into the Court's registry at this time, consistent
21 with the Eleventh Circuit opinion that the United States cited
22 in their motion, which is *United States versus Pacheco-Romero*,
23 which can be found at 995 F.3d 948, in which the Eleventh
24 Circuit affirmed the magistrate judge's order requiring the
25 defendant to deposit certain amounts of money, in that case it

1 was \$15,000, into the Court's registry for purposes of
2 reimbursing any CJA voucher that was submitted by his
3 court-appointed attorney?

4 MR. SANSONE: I'll break out and talk to Mr. Brown,
5 but just at the outset, Judge, I read the page and there is
6 absolutely -- just the Fund Me page. The Government adds the
7 word "legal" to "defense" and then says on the page that it's
8 restricted solely to legal services. There's no restriction at
9 all. It doesn't mention anything. If the title was
10 "Mr. Brown's Please Help Me Out Fund," I don't know if the
11 Government would have -- or "Please Help Me Pay My Bills While
12 I'm In Jail Fund" -- the Government adds "legal" and then says
13 the sole purpose of these funds is for legal defense, and it
14 just says his story, it doesn't say help me pay for my lawyer,
15 it doesn't say anything. I don't see there's any restriction
16 on this at all. If private citizens want to give him money,
17 they can give him money. But I can ask Mr. Brown about the
18 12,000.

19 I think, Judge, what we would be asking for, even as
20 to that, because I think questions will come up with Mr. Brown,
21 I think it's reasonable for us to ask for a two week
22 continuance, we will abide essentially by a temporary order
23 restricting any money being spent for anything, even legal
24 funds, during that time period until we can -- we have another
25 hearing with this Court and Your Honor can make a ruling.

1 THE COURT: All right. Well, again, why don't you
2 consult with your client in a private videoconference and see
3 how he would like to proceed. If that's your client's
4 position, that you would like a two week continuance and that
5 he would stipulate to freezing all funds in that account until
6 the Court has resolved the pending motion, then I will take
7 that motion up when we return to the hearing.

8 In the alternative, if your client wants to
9 voluntarily deposit the max compensation amount of \$12,300 to
10 the Court's registry, the Court is willing to resolve the
11 motion here today.

12 MR. SANSONE: Okay.

13 THE COURT: So with that, I will put you in a
14 breakout room and we'll be in recess. And let me know when
15 you're ready to proceed.

16 MR. SANSONE: Thank you, Your Honor.

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18 (Recess at 12:30 p.m. until 12:34 p.m.)

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20 THE COURT: We're back on the record.

21 Mr. Sansone, after consulting with your client, how
22 would you like to proceed?

23 MR. SANSONE: Your Honor, we would not like to
24 address any legal arguments today or make any stipulations --
25 I'm sorry, that was the wrong choice of words. We will make

1 one stipulation.

2 We would just be asking for a two week continuance
3 for Mr. Brown and I to just sit down and kind of go through all
4 of our options, legal arguments. It's going to take longer
5 than a breakout room. And during the interim Mr. Brown does
6 stipulate and will agree to that no money for any purpose, even
7 if it was going to be spent for something legal, no purpose at
8 all, any of the money will be used in the interim until we
9 reconvene and your Court -- Your Honor has a chance to fully
10 address this issue.

11 THE COURT: All right. And by agreeing to this
12 stipulation, Mr. Sansone, your client is conceding that he does
13 have the authority to enter into this stipulation and to freeze
14 the assets that are in the account referenced in the
15 Government's brief, which is the crowd funding web page?

16 MR. SANSONE: Yes, he does have the authority, and
17 I will also be talking to Ms. Aldridge about the potential
18 stipulation that we've -- that we've entered to, which is
19 essentially a court order.

20 THE COURT: It will be a court order.

21 Mr. Brown, I saw you raised your hand. Would you
22 like to address the Court or your attorney?

23 THE DEFENDANT: I would like to address the Court,
24 Your Honor.

25 As of this morning all my exterior communications

1 have been shut off, so there may be a delay in the getting of
2 that information to the people that have the ability to cease
3 and desist all financial activity out of our operation, and so
4 that was something I was going to address as well, but I just
5 wanted to make sure that you understand that I can't physically
6 actually contact them right now because of the Federal
7 Government's restriction of my ability to communicate.

8 THE COURT: All right. And you're saying the Federal
9 Government's restriction of your ability to communicate. Are
10 you referring to the quarantine that's in place in Pinellas
11 County Jail right now?

12 THE DEFENDANT: No, Your Honor. This morning, after
13 I met with my attorney, Mr. Sansone, I attempted to make a
14 phone call to my girlfriend. The phone system has been
15 blocked, but only for me, not for other inmates, and I have
16 sent kiosk messages, which do have an extreme long turnaround
17 time, so I don't know whether they're blocking my digital text
18 messages that I have through the system here in the jail to
19 outside people as well. I'm also prepared to write letters to
20 see if they are restricting my mail access as well. But as of
21 right now I have no ability to communicate with anybody, to
22 include my attorney, outside my jail cell.

23 THE COURT: Mr. Sansone, what do you know about that?

24 MR. SANSONE: I was -- I was just made aware of that
25 in the breakout. I did speak with him this morning on a

1 videoconference. I was going to schedule one tomorrow just to
2 see if it would work, essentially.

3 Just to let Mr. Brown know, I am in contact with
4 Ms. Aldridge, and she actually has texted me while we were even
5 in this hearing, I don't know if she knows what's going on or
6 not, but I can communicate to her anything that -- and
7 everything that happened in court today, and I'm not sure who
8 has complete access, but I can talk to Ms. Aldridge
9 immediately.

10 THE DEFENDANT: Yeah. I mean, getting her the
11 message is -- I just want to make sure that -- Your Honor
12 stated that Mr. Brown has the authority. I just wanted to make
13 sure the Court understands I have the authority, I do not have
14 the means, other than, you know, your ability to send her a
15 text message, but, again, she doesn't know what's going on
16 because she was expecting a phone call from me this morning,
17 and so I just wanted to make sure that that was clear and that
18 there's no misunderstanding. I would hate to catch another
19 charge from the Federal Government for something ridiculous.

20 THE COURT: All right.

21 MR. SANSONE: I will let Ms. Aldridge know
22 immediately upon hanging up that -- what the stipulation is
23 that we agreed to and no money is to be spent for any reason by
24 anybody for anything.

25 THE COURT: All right. So, Mr. Brown, your attorney,

1 Mr. Sansone, represents you, and Mr. Sansone is going to advise
2 the people that you tell him need to be advised in order to put
3 this stipulated injunction in place, and then the continued
4 hearing which will occur two weeks from now. Do you
5 understand? Do you understand, Mr. Brown?

6 THE DEFENDANT: Yes, Your Honor.

7 THE COURT: All right. Mr. Sansone, are you agreeing
8 to do so?

9 MR. SANSONE: Yes, Your Honor.

10 THE COURT: All right. So the Court is going to
11 grant Mr. Brown's oral motion for continuance. We will reset
12 this hearing for January 19th.

13 Mr. Sansone, is there a time that works best for you?

14 MR. SANSONE: Afternoon anytime works best, but I can
15 work with Your Honor.

16 THE COURT: Ms. Jewell?

17 MS. JEWELL: Any time will work as well, Your Honor.

18 THE COURT: All right. So we do have an issue
19 with -- you know, again, because of the COVID outbreak in
20 Pinellas County Jail, there is currently a quarantine. We
21 don't know when that quarantine is going to be lifted, so it's
22 best to assume that Mr. Brown will still be in quarantine when
23 we have this continued hearing, so I am going to set it by
24 Zoom, and because of that we only have a limited period of time
25 that we can conduct the Zoom hearing, because duty matters are

1 handled at Pinellas County beginning at two o'clock. So if
2 the -- if the parties don't think it will take more than an
3 hour, I'm happy to set it at one o'clock, or if you think it's
4 going to take longer than that we can set it at noon.

5 Mr. Sansone?

6 MR. SANSONE: Caution, I would set it at noon,
7 Your Honor.

8 THE COURT: All right. We'll set it for 12:00 noon
9 on January the 19th via Zoom, and the Court will order, as the
10 parties have stipulated, that no funds will be disbursed from
11 the crowd funding account, GiveSendGo account that is
12 referenced in the Government's motion at docket entry 80.
13 No funds will be disbursed from that account until the Court
14 has resolved the pending motion, which will not occur before
15 the hearing on January 19th.

16 Is there any questions about the Court's order?

17 MR. SANSONE: No, Your Honor.

18 THE COURT: Ms. Jewell?

19 MS. JEWELL: No, Your Honor.

20 THE COURT: Mr. Brown?

21 THE DEFENDANT: No, no questions, Your Honor.

22 I would like to -- whenever you see fit to provide me
23 time, I would like to address some concerns and make them known
24 to the Court in this case, but I have no issue with the order
25 at this time, Your Honor.

1 THE COURT: Okay. So the Court has ruled and has
2 granted your motion for continuance.

3 Mr. Brown, I will let you address the Court. Let me
4 just remind you again though that you do have the right to
5 remain silent, and any statement that you make may be used
6 against you. Do you understand your right to remain silent,
7 Mr. Brown?

8 THE DEFENDANT: Yes, I do, Your Honor.

9 THE COURT: All right. Mr. Brown, I'll hear from
10 you.

11 THE DEFENDANT: Your Honor, I just want to bring to
12 your attention some incidences that have happened since
13 December 24th and how they relate to my -- what we believe is
14 under appeal, our unconstitutional detention in violation of
15 Article 8 of the Bill of Rights. But since December 24th I've
16 had five attorney visits denied under the guise of COVID
17 restrictions; however, the jail has -- as you see, we're
18 currently under COVID restrictions, but yet we're able to hold
19 a hearing, and my attorney visits can easily be held under
20 monitored video systems in the jail. So it's not a matter of
21 capability, it is certainly apparent that it is a matter of
22 willingness. Two additionally visits have been disrupted by
23 technical difficulties that only seem to happen with my
24 attorneys, never during any private visits.

25 I have been moved, yet without any explanation, from

1 my original cell in which I spent almost two and a half months,
2 in which there was only one violent incident, I was moved
3 unexpectedly, which cost me over \$500 in materials because
4 I was moved to what was called a transfer cell and what we were
5 told was that we would not be allowed to take anything with us,
6 therefore items were left or disposed of or not able to be
7 delivered in a timely manner in accordance with the way I had
8 set up my logistics supply.

9 From that transfer pod I was then falsely accused of
10 inciting a riot and removed, then investigated and exonerated
11 during that adjudication by the jail staff after reviewing all
12 the video, but then placed back into general population, thus
13 not being transferred, apparently, and placed into a much more
14 violent, overcrowded pod with limited communication aspects.
15 Just to give you an example, we've had five fights in the pod
16 in the last 36 hours as opposed to one fight in the previous
17 pod in two and a half months.

18 I have addressed that with the jail, requesting a
19 reclassification of my housing based on no criminal history, no
20 violence, history of violence, a honorable 20 year military
21 career where I held a top secret clearance, the fact that I was
22 awarded Citizen Of The Year by the Fraternal Order of Police of
23 Clearwater and have run for U.S. Congressional Office in the
24 last election cycle, as well as the charges I'm facing are
25 nonviolent, two misdemeanor trespassing, in essence, and then

1 four possessions and an improper storage charge. And of course
2 the response from the jail is that I'm properly housed with
3 murderers, drug dealers, gang leaders who engage in violence
4 and contraband on a regular basis.

5 My mail has been disrupted by these so-called
6 transfers. My phone was cut off this morning and I have yet --
7 even though I have requested through two different avenues an
8 explanation, I was cut off without warning and without
9 explanation.

10 Let's see. I was only advised of this hearing at
11 9:00 a.m., which was the first opportunity my attorney had to
12 contact me. Of course that meeting was also abruptly ended and
13 then I was brought in here today.

14 I would also like to make the point that in my case
15 against the United States Government, they have presented three
16 attorneys on their behalf in this case and one attorney that
17 I'm aware of in the D.C. case, yet they are claiming that it's
18 a \$52,000 emergency against the Government because I have
19 American citizens that are supporting my future legal cases
20 that will be brought against the United States Government for a
21 myriad of Constitutional violations of which were entered into
22 the record at our last motion to reconsider hearing.

23 So I would like the Court to be aware that the
24 Government is engaging in prosecutorial misconduct, they are
25 deceiving not only Your Honor but other judges in this case,

1 and I just want that on the record, because thankfully today
2 there is a member of the media that can get this out to the
3 general public. However, the D.C. judge has ordered -- has
4 granted a protective order without our opportunity to respond,
5 because the only way I had to respond was through snail mail,
6 and because we did not respond in a timely enough manner to the
7 Federal Government they moved to have that granted and the
8 Judge granted it.

9 So I just want to thank you for this opportunity to
10 speak on my behalf, because those opportunities are becoming
11 fewer and farther between, Your Honor.

12 THE COURT: All right. Thank you, Mr. Brown.

13 Mr. Brown, I just want to address that there is no
14 order from this Court restricting your communication from the
15 jail. I am aware generally that because of the quarantine
16 provisions that are in place in Pinellas County Jail right now
17 there is no personal visits by any attorneys at this time;
18 however, it's my understanding that the jail is providing
19 attorney visits with the videoconference and by phone, and as
20 you indicated, you did have a videoconference with your
21 attorney just this morning, so that will continue.

22 I understand there might be a strain on those
23 resources because there are other individuals housed at that
24 jail and other attorneys that are trying to meet with their
25 clients as well, but there's certainly nothing that this Court

1 has ordered that is restricting your ability to communicate
2 with either your attorney or with anyone else.

3 THE DEFENDANT: Right, Your Honor, and it's not my --
4 it's not my -- my point isn't that the Court is doing this, but
5 as Mr. Sansone can advise you from personal experience, these
6 are the distance meetings that are being canceled, not the
7 face -- now, there was a face-to-face that was canceled, okay,
8 and we can -- we don't agree with that, because, again, we will
9 ultimately be filing motions and disputing these COVID
10 restrictions as well, because I've perused my Constitution and
11 have found no COVID clause in there; however, the -- four of
12 the five visits were the monitored, screened visits that were
13 canceled, and I think Mr. Sansone can speak to that directly
14 because he's the one -- I didn't even know that the visits were
15 scheduled. I'm in a concrete box with no access other than
16 what the guards come and tell me, so I was only advised that
17 those visits were canceled through communication with my
18 attorneys, through my girlfriend, through me, whenever I had
19 the opportunity.

20 So I'm not -- I'm not claiming that it's the Court or
21 this Court in this matter, but I want to bring it to the
22 Court's attention because it is Your Honor's responsibility to
23 oversee the judicial process in this manner, and whether it's
24 the jail that's doing it, whether it's the Federal Government
25 exercising their authority over Federal inmates under the

1 Federal contract that this county jail holds, I don't know.
2 I just want to bring up these violations to the Court so that
3 they are aware of them, and if there's something that can be
4 done, I would certainly appreciate it.

5 THE COURT: Ms. Asokan, are you aware of anyone from
6 the U.S. Attorney's Office or Federal law enforcement that has
7 requested any additional restrictions on Mr. Brown's
8 communications at the jail?

9 MS. ASOKAN: No, Your Honor.

10 THE COURT: Mr. Brown, again, I'm not aware of that.
11 If there -- if that is going on, then your attorney will
12 certainly bring it to my attention, and I encourage you to give
13 all information that you have about that to your attorney.

14 THE DEFENDANT: Yeah, I have.

15 THE COURT: But I am not -- I have not ordered that.
16 Ms. Asokan has represented that she's not aware of anyone that
17 has sought to restrict your communications at the jail. Again,
18 the only thing that I'm aware of right now is the outbreak of
19 COVID at the jail, and because of that all inmates, my
20 understanding is that's not limited to Federal inmates, but
21 Federal and State at Pinellas County Jail are under quarantine
22 right now in order to prevent the further spread of the
23 COVID-19 virus that's going through the jail right now, and
24 because of that it's my understanding that, again, all inmates,
25 regardless of whether they're in Federal custody or State

1 custody, are currently not allowed any in-person visits, again,
2 for purposes of preventing further spread. But that does not
3 in any way limit your ability to communicate with your attorney
4 either by phone or by videoconference when it's available;
5 again, realizing the practical reality of the situation is that
6 there's other attorneys and other inmates who would like to use
7 those -- that technology that's available as well and it has to
8 be shared amongst all inmates. But if there's anything other,
9 Mr. Brown, anything else that happens, please provide that
10 information to your attorney and I'm sure Mr. Sansone will
11 raise it with the Court in the appropriate manner.

12 THE DEFENDANT: And I -- I've brought it to the
13 attention of the Pinellas County Jail that I have currently no
14 ability to communicate with my attorney, and so hopefully that
15 will be resolved today. I was in the process of making these
16 inquiries and communications with the staff when this hearing
17 was called. So currently at this time the only access I have
18 to Mr. Sansone is on this Zoom call at this present moment.

19 THE COURT: Mr. Brown, you just met with him by
20 videoconference just this morning.

21 THE DEFENDANT: Right. The restriction on the phone
22 was not identified until after that conference this morning.

23 THE COURT: All right. Mr. Sansone, would you please
24 contact the jail and confirm whether there's any restriction on
25 your ability to have a phone conversation with your client.

1 MR. SANSONE: Yes, I will, and I'm going to set
2 something up tomorrow, and if it doesn't happen I will make all
3 inquiries and if necessary bring it to the Court's attention,
4 but I will definitely look into that, Your Honor.

5 THE DEFENDANT: Thank you, Your Honor.

6 THE COURT: Thank you, Mr. Sansone.

7 Anything further, Mr. Brown?

8 THE DEFENDANT: No, that's it, Your Honor.

9 THE COURT: All right. Thank you, sir. I will see
10 you in two weeks. We are adjourned.

11 MR. SANSONE: Thank you, Your Honor.

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13 (Proceedings concluded at 12:42 p.m.)

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C E R T I F I C A T E

This is to certify that the foregoing transcript of proceedings taken in a motion hearing in the United States District Court is a true and accurate transcript of the proceedings taken by me in machine shorthand from a digital audio recording and transcribed by computer under my supervision, this the 10th day of February, 2022.

/S/ DAVID J. COLLIER

DAVID J. COLLIER
OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER