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IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF PUERTO RICO

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,)	
)	Case No:
Plaintiff,)	11-CR-512 (DRD)
)	
vs.)	SENTENCING
)	HEARING
FRANK PEAKE,)	
Defendant.)	

TRANSCRIPT OF SENTENCING HEARING
HELD BEFORE
THE HONORABLE JUDGE DANIEL R. DOMINGUEZ
Friday, December 6, 2013

A P P E A R A N C E S

For the Plaintiff:

Mr. Brent Snyder, Esq.
Mr. Craig Y. Lee, Esq.
Ms. Heather Tewksbury, Esq.

For the Defendant:

Mr. David O. Markus, Esq.
Ms. A. Margot Moss, Esq.

1 (WHEREUPON, commencing at 10:27 a.m., the
2 following proceedings were had in open court, to wit:)

3 THE COURT: Good morning to all.

4 For the ladies and gentlemen relating to the case
5 of Mr. Peake, the case of Mr. Peake is a sentencing after a
6 trial.

7 These two first sentences are plea agreements. So
8 the sentence of Mr. Peake will normally take a longer time
9 and more effort of the Court, so I don't expect to start
10 that case until 11:30. So if you want to take a brief
11 coffee, Cuatro Sombras on the corner over there is a good
12 place to go. There are other nice Puerto Rican coffee
13 places that you can all go.

14 MR. SNYDER: Thank you, Your Honor.

15 MR. MARKUS: Thank you.

16 THE COURT: And, anyway, I had to read 140 or more
17 pages yesterday. We normally restrict them to 30, but I
18 didn't have the opportunity to advise you that we consider
19 after 30 pages extra baggage, but the Court read all 140
20 pages. Thank you.

21 MR. MARKUS: Thank you, Your Honor.

22 THE COURT: So the Court is well briefed on that,
23 but it is going to take the Court some time to discuss that
24 matter with both of you. Thank you.

25 So I suggest that you take a break while I handle

1 these other cases that constitute plea agreements.

2 (WHEREUPON, a recess was had from 10:29 a.m. to
3 12:33 p.m.)

4 THE COURTROOM DEPUTY: Criminal case 11-512,
5 United States of America vs. Frank Peake.

6 THE COURT: Okay. First, the Court has amended
7 the opinion and order on the Rule 29 to add certain facts
8 that I think were pertinent and are to be examined under the
9 standard of in the light most favorable to the government,
10 which is not my standard for sentencing, but is my standard
11 for Rule 29. So please provide three copies to the defense
12 and two copies to the United States.

13 Second, I think that the duration of this matter
14 is not going to be five minutes. In fact, I don't think it
15 is going to be one hour, so I think we ought to go take
16 lunch and come back.

17 If that alters anybody's plane -- does that alter
18 your plane?

19 MR. MARKUS: Your Honor, we have a flight that
20 leaves at 6:00.

21 THE COURT: Oh, no. We will be out of here way
22 before 4:00.

23 MR. MARKUS: I don't know how long sentencing is
24 going to take. I have spoken to the prosecutor, and I think
25 we have a PowerPoint presentation and they have --

1 THE COURT: I know. I will accept the PowerPoint,
2 I looked at it, and I am not going to go back on my
3 representation to you that he would be allowed bail on
4 appeal.

5 MR. MARKUS: And we have spoken about that as
6 well, and I think we have an agreement in light of the
7 Court's comments on that to allow bail pending appeal.
8 Maybe we can --

9 THE COURT: I want you to understand that I think
10 it is a courtesy, because I understand that I have an
11 otherwise extremely decent person before me, all right,
12 other than this conduct. And I know he's not a danger to
13 the community because he's not going to be in the field any
14 more.

15 But whether or not this has issues on appeal that
16 I warrant that are close, I don't necessarily feel that way
17 now that I have examined the evidence coolly and having the
18 benefit of the record and my notes and the two briefs.

19 But, anyway, I am not going to change my mind as
20 to the right that he could develop an argument that may
21 persuade the Court, that's another matter. Whether I think
22 it is going to fly -- the standard is that I think it is
23 going to fly. That's the standard.

24 But, anyway, the Court is not going to change its
25 mind. That was the representation made, and that's it. But

1 should he not prevail on appeal, that will be another
2 matter.

3 MR. MARKUS: Of course, Your Honor. Can I have a
4 moment to speak with Mr. Snyder about --

5 THE COURT: Yes.

6 (Short pause while counsels conferred.)

7 MR. MARKUS: Your Honor, I think there are two
8 components to the sentencing; one is the objections to the
9 pre-sentence investigation report, and then 3553 factors.

10 THE COURT: Yes.

11 MR. MARKUS: Perhaps we could just deal with the
12 objections to the pre-sentence investigation report and see
13 where we are, and if that goes quickly, maybe we could get
14 the sentencing done before lunch, and, if not, maybe we
15 could take a break?

16 THE COURT: The problem is that these ladies and
17 gentlemen have been here since 9:00. That's the problem,
18 all right. And I have no problem. I am going to have lunch
19 here with a sandwich. I am not leaving. It is my personnel
20 that is here, that I think they ought to take lunch.

21 Now, you are not going to miss your plane, all
22 right?

23 MR. MARKUS: All right. Thank you.

24 THE COURT: And I think we can move quickly
25 through some matters. But I have no control over this.

1 This is your control.

2 MR. MARKUS: I know. And I don't think that's
3 going to take you long, Your Honor.

4 THE COURT: No, no. Fine. No problem. I am
5 going to allow it because I saw some of this already in your
6 brief.

7 MR. MARKUS: There's no hotel rooms in Puerto Rico
8 tonight, so if I miss the flight, Ms. Moss and I have to
9 stay with you tonight, Judge.

10 THE COURT: Fine. I will take you. It will be
11 after the sentence. I don't know if you may want to be
12 there. You may not want to be there. I don't know. Where
13 are we going to put the lady?

14 MR. MARKUS: I don't know, Judge. I don't know.

15 THE COURT: All right. Let's go. 1:30 on the
16 dot.

17 (WHEREUPON, a recess was had from 12:38 p.m. to
18 1:49 p.m.)

19 THE COURTROOM DEPUTY: Criminal 11-512, United
20 States of America vs. Frank Peake. Case called for
21 sentencing hearing.

22 Appearing on behalf of the government, attorneys
23 Brent Snyder, Craig Lee, Heather Tewksbury.

24 Appearing on behalf of defendant, attorney Margot
25 Moss and attorney David Markus.

1 THE COURT: I realize we haven't made the best of
2 interpretations relating to your names. Please excuse us.
3 All right.

4 MR. SNYDER: I think at times, Your Honor, I have
5 been far more guilty of that in interpreting names than
6 anybody here has.

7 THE COURT: That's fine. But the vernacular here
8 is not English, so please excuse us in the pronunciation. I
9 think we can handle English from the books, but not
10 otherwise.

11 Who is going to speak first?

12 MR. SNYDER: I assume since it's the United
13 States' sentencing, I would be happy to speak first,
14 Your Honor.

15 THE COURT: Go right ahead. Now, please presume
16 that I have read all the briefs, both of you. Please do.
17 If you don't, I will give them to you underlined at the end,
18 all right. So please do.

19 Go ahead.

20 MR. SNYDER: Well, Your Honor, first, I will say
21 that I can probably speak for both of us in apologizing if
22 we overwhelmed Your Honor with paper. We recognize that
23 some of the intricacies of antitrust sentencings aren't
24 always something that judges have confronted on a day-to-day
25 basis like some other types of sentencings.

1 Really, I just have a few basic points I want to
2 make that I think really probably cover both issues related
3 to the PSR and then also sentencing.

4 THE COURT: You know what he is going to object to
5 in the PSR.

6 MR. SNYDER: Yes, Your Honor.

7 THE COURT: Why don't you address those points.

8 MR. SNYDER: Okay. Undeniably, this was an
9 egregious and harmful conspiracy, and I don't think it is
10 anything that I really need to belabor here today. The
11 Court, having handled the entire MDL related to this
12 conspiracy, I think is very well aware of kind of the
13 breadth and scope of the conspiracy and all the types of
14 companies that were affected by the conspiracy.

15 The really salient issue that I think goes to both
16 the PSR and to the sentencing is that this was a massive
17 volume of commerce that was affected by the conduct that's
18 at issue here in this case. And that volume of commerce is
19 the key sentencing criteria when you apply the guidelines
20 under 2R1.1. And there's --

21 THE COURT: I have to clarify that I have verified
22 that the guideline in 2007 is equal to the guideline in
23 2013. And since there was conduct in 2007, there is a
24 guideline that says that I must use the guideline that was
25 applicable during the last part of the conspiracy.

1 In other words, should there be an overlapping
2 between two guidelines, the guideline says that the Court
3 may use and should use the guideline that covers the last
4 part of the conspiracy. Go ahead.

5 MR. SNYDER: And the United States agrees with
6 that interpretation, Your Honor, and would only note with
7 respect to that guideline, that was a guideline that was
8 enhanced, actually, in about 2004 to extend --

9 THE COURT: So if it was handled in 2004, then
10 since you have requested that we use the year 2005 and not
11 2003, so that's the appropriate guideline.

12 MR. SNYDER: That is correct, Your Honor.

13 THE COURT: All right.

14 MR. SNYDER: And the key sentencing criteria under
15 that guideline is the volume of affected commerce. And in
16 this case, as in all antitrust cases, there is a presumption
17 that all sales of the price fixed product or service that
18 occurred during the defendant's participation were affected
19 by the conspiracy. And that is a presumption that Mr. Peake
20 has been unable to rebut.

21 And I think I can focus on just a single example
22 that hopefully makes the point clear, and that is the bunker
23 fuel surcharge. The bunker fuel surcharge was undeniably
24 fixed. There was a lot of testimony and documentary
25 evidence about the bunker fuel surcharge during the course

1 of the trial.

2 And the bunker fuel surcharge would go up and down
3 numerous times during the course of each year that was
4 affected by the conspiracy. And as a result -- and that
5 bunker fuel surcharge applied to every single container of
6 freight that was shipped between the United States and
7 Puerto Rico.

8 So looking at just that one single component of
9 the rate that was charged to customers, it shows the
10 conspiracy affected all freight that was shipped back and
11 forth. And that was applied to contracts not yet in
12 existence when Mr. Peake joined the conspiracy, contracts
13 that were already in existence when he joined the
14 conspiracy. Because even if the contract had run halfway
15 through its term, the bunker fuel surcharge was still being
16 fixed on a more periodic basis during the life of those
17 contracts.

18 So there's been testimony, and I think the Court
19 added it to its order this morning about all the components
20 of the rates were affected by the conspiracy, and Mr. Baci
21 testified at trial that the price increases in those
22 components during the course of the conspiracy was 90 plus
23 percent attributable to the conspiracy.

24 Now, as a result of the fact that this case
25 involves such large volumes of affected commerce, the

1 investigation has produced several of the longest sentences
2 ever imposed for antitrust defenses. And that includes
3 Peter Baci, who was Mr. Peake's subordinate, who received
4 what at that time was the longest sentence for an antitrust
5 defense. There has been since somebody else sentenced to
6 the same amount of time.

7 And Mr. Baci received that sentence even though he
8 almost immediately accepted responsibility and began to
9 substantially cooperate with the Government's investigation.

10 So based on that --

11 THE COURT: I think I made this expression before,
12 and I did it in the last letter that I received from the
13 juror, from the foreperson, and that is that we cannot take
14 Baci naked. We have to take Baci with the extra baggage
15 that he earned. In other words, he earned 3 points, which
16 the defendant is not entitled to, and he earned the 5K1.1
17 substantial assistance.

18 Now, there's no guideline for a 5K. That's a
19 discretionary matter. But a 5K, to use an example, is more
20 than a safety valve. Because a safety valve is merely
21 stating the truth. It is not cooperating. And a safety
22 valve is 2 additional points.

23 So I think we should add 3 and 3 points, if we are
24 only going to use the guidelines. But we're not. We're
25 not. Because I want to hear the whole spectrum, not just

1 the guidelines, all right. But we cannot take Baci and say
2 Baci got 48, therefore, he shouldn't get more than 48. The
3 problem is that Baci cooperated, and Baci also timely
4 accepted responsibility and did not expose the Government to
5 having to prove its case.

6 MR. SNYDER: That's correct, Your Honor. And the
7 same basic facts apply to each of the other people that had
8 been prosecuted in this investigation.

9 THE COURT: For that I cite the case of Brother
10 Perez-Gimenez that was confirmed, and that is, I have faced
11 that matter here in federal court many times, when we have
12 conspirators that because a person pled guilty, they want to
13 have the same sentence as the person that accepted
14 responsibility, the conspirator that went to trial versus
15 the person that accepts responsibility or cooperates. And
16 that's the case of US vs. Rodriguez Lozada, which was from
17 Judge Perez-Gimenez, which has been cited many times, which
18 is at 558 F.3d 29 at page 45:

19 "In addition, as the district court noted, Richard
20 and the other coconspirators pled guilty, pursuant to plea
21 agreements that addressed their roles under United States
22 Guideline 3B1.1. Given the material difference between the
23 defendants who pled guilty pursuant to plea agreements and
24 Rivera, who did not, no disparity in sentencing occurred in
25 this case that would amount to an abuse of discretion."

1 And here there is the added baggage that these
2 gentlemen cooperated. So now I wanted to make a comment.
3 Because this Court -- you just said that I participated in
4 the civil case. And I want to make the comment of Isaac
5 Camacho vs. Autoridad De Telefonos, which is at 868 F.2d.
6 This is a case where I was a lawyer. And Judge
7 Perez-Gimenez had acted in a criminal capacity, and then he
8 had a civil case, and they alleged that because the judge
9 participated in a civil or a criminal case, he cannot take
10 the case after.

11 And Isaac Camacho, which is at 868 F.2d, at page
12 482, going to page 490, it is an opinion authored by Judge
13 Selya. If you look closely, you will find that I was one of
14 the lawyers representing the authority persons. And the
15 issue here was that Judge Perez had handled the criminal
16 case in its entirety as far as providing and authorizing all
17 the Title IIIs. All of them. So he saw all that evidence
18 ex parte. Not in court. Ex parte.

19 And in comes the civil case where the *Macheteros*,
20 who were the gentlemen who were found guilty of putting the
21 bombs on the National Guard airplanes, and also who attacked
22 in Connecticut the stagecoach, the electronic stagecoach,
23 let's put it that way, and these gentlemen then attacked the
24 Title IIIs in the civil case, alleging that because in
25 Puerto Rico, we cannot make another constitution, of

1 wiretapping, that, therefore, since we were in Puerto Rico,
2 that we could not wiretap under Title III.

3 And they filed a case against the company that
4 authorized the wiretap, and, of course, as you can imagine,
5 that was not a very difficult case for the First Circuit on
6 the merits, because that's preempted. And the state cannot
7 preempt a federal law.

8 But the main point of the case is on the recusal
9 of Judge Perez because he had seen the criminal, and then he
10 had seen the criminal ex parte. All of them. Even assuming
11 all of them. The First Circuit Court stated that the
12 participation in both civil and criminal was not a reason to
13 recuse.

14 I also want to clarify the following. The case of
15 the civil case that was assigned to the Court was not
16 because I asked for it. This was a case that was assigned
17 to the Court by the multidistrict litigation. I did not
18 request this case, the civil case. Neither did I request
19 the criminal case. The criminal case was assigned by the
20 chief to me because of procedural efficiency in handling
21 this case. That's all. And because of that, that case was
22 assigned by the chief. I didn't ask for it either.

23 So I want to clarify that, because I want the
24 record to be clear on those two aspects because you
25 mentioned that this Court saw the civil case. Yes, I saw

1 the civil case, but it was an assigned case from the
2 multidistrict litigation. It wasn't assigned to the
3 district, it was assigned to me from the MDL litigation.

4 All right. Go ahead.

5 MR. SNYDER: Yes, Your Honor. Thank you.

6 Based on the volume of commerce and the sentences
7 that Mr. Peake's coconspirators received, he's potentially
8 facing a very significant sentence, and in the
9 Government's -- and, obviously, the Government's
10 recommendation shows that the Government believes that he
11 deserves it. But the Government also recognizes that this
12 Court has considerable discretion in deciding what
13 Mr. Peake's sentence should be. And it is that that I
14 really want to address myself to for my remaining remarks
15 today. As the probation officer concluded, in looking at
16 both the guidelines and equitable issues, there are no
17 factors, there are no guidelines or equitable factors that
18 warrant the Court's exercise of discretion to significantly
19 depart from the guidelines.

20 And I just quickly want to address a number of
21 potential things that the Court could be considering. You
22 know, the first is that a departure isn't warranted because
23 of the fact that Mr. Peake's subordinate Peter Baci handled
24 the day-to-day operations and details of the conspiracy.
25 That's what bosses do. They delegate, and they oversee

1 other people who did the real work of either legitimate work
2 or illegitimate work in the case of conspiracy. That is
3 really the main point that I think needs to be considered in
4 connection with the leader/organizer enhancement under the
5 guidelines.

6 It is not a defense that Mr. Peake let Mr. Baci do
7 more of the dirty work. That doesn't make him less
8 culpable, and it doesn't make him less worthy of punishment.
9 In fact, he benefited by a lot of that work that was done by
10 Mr. Baci because he was the person who was getting the
11 largest bonuses when Sea Star line made profits when their
12 profits went up.

13 THE COURT: Brother counsel disagrees with you, so
14 let me hear the figures.

15 MR. SNYDER: I'm sorry?

16 THE COURT: Brother counsel on the other side
17 disagrees with you. He says that, in fact, he received less
18 salary every year. He says a 5 percent cut in his salary
19 every year. That's what he says.

20 MR. SNYDER: I think if you look at his total
21 compensation, in some years the bonuses -- there were some
22 years where bonuses were a little higher and some years they
23 were a little lower. But Sea Star would only pay bonuses if
24 the company was making a profit. And Sea Star in its entire
25 history only ever made a profit during the conspiracy. In

1 addition to that, even if Mr. Peake's bonuses were a little
2 higher or a little lower in certain years, I believe the
3 evidentiary record shows that his were the highest being
4 paid in the company.

5 And so he was always benefiting -- when Sea Star
6 was profitable as a result of the conspiracy, and bonuses
7 were paid, he was always benefiting more than anybody else
8 at the company was, including Mr. Baci.

9 Mr. Peake knew, participated, oversaw and, most
10 importantly, could have stopped the conspiracy, but he
11 didn't. And that's precisely why he should receive the
12 leader/organizer bump under the guidelines.

13 It would be unfair for Mr. Peake to obtain the
14 benefit and then let Mr. Baci take the fall. You know, he
15 went to trial, which it was his right, but it would be
16 unfair for him now to say, "Well, Peter Baci did more of the
17 dirty work, and even though he cooperated, I should get a
18 more attractive sentence than he did." That would
19 essentially be letting Mr. Baci take the fall for something
20 Mr. Peake at all times as Mr. Baci's boss could have put a
21 stop to.

22 This case is really no different than a drug
23 cartel case. The cartel leader is not less culpable just
24 because it was somebody else that actually physically
25 smuggled the drugs.

1 THE COURT: Or killed the persons.

2 MR. SNYDER: Or killed the persons.

3 He's more responsible because he was the leader,
4 and he could have stopped the conduct. And that's the same
5 thing that applies to Mr. Peake here.

6 Another more general argument that you have
7 already touched on is that a departure isn't warranted
8 merely because Mr. Peake's coconspirators got lower
9 sentences.

10 The case law is very clear on this, and the Court
11 already touched on this issue in the order that you issued
12 yesterday with respect to the juror letter. As you noted,
13 the other individuals that have already pled guilty in this
14 case got lower sentences because they accepted
15 responsibility and they cooperated and Mr. Peake didn't.
16 Mr. Peake had all the same opportunities to plead and
17 cooperate at the outset, but he chose not to. He doesn't
18 now get to take advantage of their decision to cooperate in
19 order to get a lower sentence. He can't free ride on their
20 acceptance and cooperation. That wouldn't be fair to them.
21 Had he made the same decision as they did at the outset, he
22 would have been treated similarly to them. But he chose not
23 to.

24 The other argument I think that's clear from
25 Mr. Peake's briefing as well as his PowerPoint is that he

1 intends to point to sentences given to other antitrust
2 offenders in different investigations.

3 Well, the treatment of offenders in completely
4 different antitrust cases doesn't warrant a departure in
5 this case. The cases hold that only similarly situated
6 defendants should be compared, and it needs to be an apples
7 to apples comparison --

8 THE COURT: Let me ask you this: When did the
9 guideline change?

10 MR. SNYDER: I believe it was in 2004, Your Honor.

11 THE COURT: 2004. So, therefore, examples prior
12 to 2004 do not help us.

13 MR. SNYDER: That is correct, although I will note
14 for the record --

15 THE COURT: That he has recent ones, yes, I know.

16 MR. SNYDER: He has the more than recent ones.

17 But you are correct, Your Honor, the earlier examples are
18 not applicable because, one, many of them wouldn't have
19 involved convicted defendants, and, two, wouldn't involve,
20 you know, convictions post the new enhanced guidelines.

21 So the comparison really needs to be an apples to
22 apples comparison, not apples to oranges comparison. By
23 that I mean, in a drug cartel case, a kilo in San Juan is a
24 kilo of cocaine in San Francisco.

25 But an LCD conspiracy -- and that would make that

1 an apples to apple comparison. But an LCD conspiracy in
2 Taiwan is not the same as an auto parts conspiracy in Japan,
3 which isn't the same as a vitamins conspiracy in Europe,
4 which isn't the same as a coastal freight conspiracy in the
5 United States and here in Puerto Rico. They are not apples
6 to apples comparisons. And there's reasons for that.

7 They are different industries, different numbers
8 of participants, very important, different extradition
9 issues that require us to offer sentences that will cause
10 people to voluntarily submit to the jurisdiction of the
11 United States if they are in a country that we can't
12 extradite from, which was the case with the LCD defendants.

13 Different needs for cooperation, which can vary
14 throughout different investigations. In this investigation,
15 we had those Gmails in our possession before any of these
16 defendants ever knew that they were under investigation.

17 That created a very different need or much less of
18 a need for cooperation than in a foreign investigation where
19 we don't have access to documents, people, or any sort of
20 covert surveillance opportunities. And that distinguishes a
21 lot of the cases that Mr. Markus will shortly stand up here
22 and rely on.

23 Those differences lead to different sentences in
24 those investigations and make them inapt comparisons to this
25 investigation. They also don't warrant departure here,

1 especially because they would result in Mr. Peake getting
2 lesser sentences than his own coconspirators, who accepted
3 responsibility immediately and cooperated beginning in 2008.

4 For instance, in the AUO case, the most senior
5 level executives who were convicted received 36-month
6 sentences. And a more -- less culpable, a more mid-level
7 executive who was convicted at trial received 24 months.
8 But what Mr. Markus' entire point doesn't address is how
9 those sentences compared to all of the pleading and
10 cooperating coconspirators. Those coconspirators all
11 received sentences that were substantially less than the
12 people who were convicted at trial.

13 So the mid-level executive who received 24 months
14 still received a sentence that was almost double the CEO of
15 one of the major participating corporations who pled guilty,
16 went to prison, and accepted responsibility. Undeniably,
17 the CEO of one of the participating companies, who paid a
18 multi-hundred million dollar fine, was more culpable than a
19 mid-level executive at AUO. But yet that mid-level
20 executive at AUO didn't accept responsibility, didn't
21 cooperate, and received a sentence that was almost double
22 that of the pleading and cooperating CEO.

23 Finally, Mr. Peake's personal characteristics
24 don't warrant a departure in this case. Mr. Peake claims to
25 be a man of integrity, a good family man, and respected in

1 this community. But almost all white collar offenders can
2 say the same thing. That doesn't warrant leniency. If
3 anything, that makes them even less worthy of sympathy or
4 leniency. They have all the advantages: Power, wealth,
5 respect, and public trust, yet they choose to abuse those
6 things. They act out of greed, not need. They misuse their
7 power and influence for personal benefit. That doesn't
8 merit leniency. A man of integrity would not have done to
9 Puerto Rico for years that Mr. Peake did and allowed to be
10 done.

11 So as the probation officer concluded, there's
12 simply no grounds that warrant a departure in this case.
13 Having said that, the Government recognizes that an 87-month
14 sentence, which is the guideline sentence, is severe. But
15 so is the crime. However, the Government does understand
16 that the Court may conclude that an 87-month sentence is too
17 severe for this case.

18 But even if so, the Government believes that a
19 sentence is necessary in this case that is longer than
20 Mr. Peake's coconspirators received, because any other
21 result gives him the benefit of the acceptance of
22 responsibility and cooperation that they earned and he
23 didn't. And that would create a disservice, and it would be
24 a disincentive to cooperation for other people if they know
25 they can hold out, go to trial, and then free ride on the

1 cooperation of people who plead before them.

2 THE COURT: That is a big problem.

3 MR. SNYDER: This case is not about imposing the
4 longest sentence of all time. It isn't. That's not why the
5 Government is standing here and requesting this sentence.
6 It is about treating Frank Peake consistent with how his
7 coconspirators were treated. Who, by virtue of the volume
8 of commerce, the severity of the conduct in this case,
9 received some of the longest sentences that have ever been
10 imposed, even though they cooperated quickly, and they pled
11 guilty quickly, and substantially cooperated. True
12 unfairness and disservice would be to treat Frank Peake
13 better than his coconspirators by giving him the benefit of
14 their acceptance of responsibility and substantial
15 cooperation that they earned and he didn't.

16 THE COURT: Before you leave, I would like to go
17 through the numbers on the points that are attributed under
18 leadership. First, I have no doubt that he led or organized
19 at least one participant. He doesn't have to lead all of
20 them, one participant is enough, and he lead at least two,
21 which is Chisholm and Baci. But that doesn't do the trick
22 by itself. We need others.

23 And I wanted to know of these factors that I am
24 going to read to you, under US vs. Appolon, 695 F.3d 44,
25 2012, at page 70, factors that are relevant in determining

1 the supervisory nature of a defendant's role. The
2 supervisory nature.

3 One, the exercise of decision making authority. I
4 imagine that that is relating to the conspiracy. I think
5 that criteria has been met; that is, that Baci definitely
6 followed, when he had to intervene, Baci could not turn it
7 back.

8 MR. SNYDER: That's correct.

9 THE COURT: Baci could not turn it back. And,
10 further, there were times when he was acting on himself
11 precisely because there was no agreement.

12 The second one is the nature of the participation
13 in the commission of the offense. I think that's also met.
14 What's your opinion as to that?

15 MR. SNYDER: We would agree, Your Honor. He
16 played a leadership role. His role was not to be the
17 hands-on, day-to-day person, but when issues would arise
18 that needed to be solved or guidance needed to be given, or
19 the conspiracy needed to be put back on track with Horizon,
20 that's when Mr. Peake would get involved and work to get
21 things on track.

22 THE COURT: Third is the recruitment of
23 accomplices. I don't think he recruited anybody.

24 MR. SNYDER: We agree with that, Your Honor.

25 THE COURT: And the fourth -- these are not

1 numerous clausus factors, these are numerous apertus
2 factors. In other words, this is not the end of the
3 potential factors.

4 But the next one is the claim right to a larger
5 share of the fruits of the crime. What is your position
6 relating to that?

7 MR. SNYDER: That with respect to the bonuses that
8 he received from Sea Star, he received -- those bonuses were
9 the result of profits, the ill-gotten gains of the
10 conspiracy, and that as the president of the company, he did
11 receive larger bonuses than other people in his company did.

12 THE COURT: A fifth element provided -- the fifth
13 criteria, not the element. The fifth criteria was the
14 degree of participation in planning or organizing the
15 offense.

16 MR. SNYDER: His role was that of a leader.
17 Undoubtedly, he played less of a role on a day-to-day basis
18 than Mr. Baci or Mr. Glova did. The same thing would also
19 be true, however, of Mr. Serra, who did receive a four
20 leader organizer bump in connection with his plea.

21 THE COURT: The sixth -- I am going to ask the
22 defendant, also, what his position is. The sixth --

23 MR. MARKUS: I will have an answer for you.

24 THE COURT: The nature and scope of the illegal
25 activity.

1 MR. SNYDER: It was extensive, Your Honor.

2 THE COURT: I think I categorized it as extensive
3 and persuasive in the sense that it covered, pursuant to
4 some testimony, it covered up to 85 percent.

5 MR. SNYDER: Correct. This was not a one overt
6 act conspiracy that Mr. Peake just had awareness of as the
7 boss of the company. This was obviously a conspiracy that
8 went on for a lengthy period of time, and although Mr. Peake
9 was not there in those first months that it was organized,
10 he came in shortly thereafter, and the evidence at trial
11 established that he very quickly thereafter become involved
12 and continued to be involved throughout the remaining number
13 of years that the conspiracy remained in effect.

14 THE COURT: And the seventh criteria is the degree
15 of control and authority exercised of others.

16 MR. SNYDER: He was the president of the company.

17 THE COURT: He at least had control over two
18 persons, and I recall that he was able to persuade at least
19 another as to applying the same bunker fuel to the longer
20 routes.

21 So that you may know where the Court got this,
22 this is commentary note number 4 to United States Guideline
23 3B1.1.

24 The other matter that I wanted to discuss with you
25 a little bit more thoroughly than you covered was how did

1 you get to the \$500 million figure, which runs all the way
2 up to \$1 billion. There's no change. It receives the same
3 points whether it is 500 or whether it is \$999,000 million.

4 MR. SNYDER: That's correct.

5 THE COURT: It receives the same 12 points. And
6 we examined the guidelines, and it is constant since on or
7 about 2005 or 2004. So -- because he doesn't agree with
8 you, and this may be critical, because there are 12 points
9 attributed to this.

10 MR. SNYDER: Right. Although --

11 THE COURT: By "he," I mean Mr. Markus.

12 MR. SNYDER: Correct. Even as to that, this
13 particular issue -- and first let me address your question.

14 The way we got to \$500 million was, first, to
15 start out by asking Sea Star and getting evidence from Sea
16 Star line as to what their Puerto Rico sales revenues were
17 from July of 2003, where there is evidence that Mr. Peake's
18 actual participation began, and we run those numbers, we ask
19 them to run those numbers through mid April 2008, when the
20 conspiracy was ended.

21 THE COURT: The conspiracy was ended the day of
22 the raid.

23 MR. SNYDER: The day of the raids.

24 THE COURT: Although he was arrested in 2011.

25 MR. SNYDER: Correct. But that is the broader

1 period of time, the open \$900 million numbers.

2 Then we also asked them to provide us with the
3 revenue that was from the time period from essentially the
4 actual charge in the case, which was, you know, mid-2005,
5 until the end of the conspiracy, and we asked them to run it
6 from essentially the date when we have, you know, the first
7 incriminating e-mail that Mr. Peake's name was on that was
8 introduced into evidence.

9 THE COURT: And that came out around 900 --

10 MR. SNYDER: The shorter period came out at 565.

11 THE COURT: 565, and the last 900 something.

12 MR. SNYDER: Right. So under either approach it
13 results in the same guideline enhancement. So in that sense
14 it is really more of a technical matter of application of
15 the guidelines. I think under the guidelines, 1B1.3, he is
16 responsible for all relevant conduct, whether he was charged
17 with it or not, and that includes the broader period. It
18 doesn't result in any difference in his sentence. I will
19 say, it was probably more of an academic point.

20 With respect to, then, the issue of why within
21 either time period we argued for all of the revenues, that
22 they should all be attributed to him, it is because of
23 testimony at trial that all of the components of the rates
24 were affected, that the price increases in those rates were
25 90 plus percent contributable to the conspiracy, and then

1 even if there are arguments about contracts, when certain
2 contracts started or ended as to whether those should be
3 included, there was other types of collusion that began
4 immediately when Mr. Peake came on board that would have
5 affected those contracts, the bunker fuel surcharge and
6 things like that, that fluctuate numerous times during the
7 course of the year that was all being fixed.

8 And then every time shipments were made during the
9 course of a month, those fixed bunker fuel surcharges were
10 being applied to the containers. There were other similar
11 examples. But when all of those rates are the subject of
12 collusion, and some of the collusion is on an annual basis,
13 some of it is, you know, can be on a monthly or even a
14 weekly basis depending on how often these bunker fuel
15 surcharges are fluctuating. There was constant collusion
16 during the course of the year about rate issues. The
17 presumption is they are all affected, and we, the United
18 States, you know, strongly asserts that that presumption
19 can't be rebutted in this case.

20 And so it is for that reason, the presumption that
21 all the rates were affected, there's no -- the guidelines
22 make it very clear, we have no obligation to show that the
23 conspiracy was successful or that it had an effect, or
24 anything like that. But in this case, we have testimony
25 from the coconspirators that it was effective, and that it

1 was effective throughout the time period that Mr. Peake
2 participated in the conspiracy, and that it would have
3 affected all of that revenue.

4 With respect to then where I understand Mr. Peake
5 is, he, as I understand from his last objection to the PSR,
6 he contends that the volume of affected commerce is about
7 \$383 million. So he would argue he shouldn't receive the
8 enhancement applicable to the \$500 million to \$1 billion, he
9 should receive the enhancement applicable to the \$250
10 million to \$500 million. Essentially, that amounts to a 2
11 level difference.

12 So I would assert the Government strongly believes
13 that its position is correct and consistent with how the
14 volume of commerce guidelines are applied in antitrust
15 cases. But even if Mr. Peake's arguments are accepted, it
16 amounts to a 2 level difference in the guidelines, which
17 still puts his sentence probably somewhere in the 70-month
18 range. So we're not talking about a meaningful difference
19 in the overall guideline sentence applicable to Mr. Peake
20 here.

21 THE COURT: Well, I wouldn't want to do one day.
22 And 70 months is not the same as 87, if we are using
23 strictly guidelines, here.

24 MR. SNYDER: I do understand that, Your Honor.
25 But in terms of what the Government's sentencing position

1 is, which is that Mr. Peake should receive a sentence
2 substantially above the level of his coconspirators, it
3 doesn't change that analysis, is what I mean.

4 THE COURT: There's one other factor which I
5 considered that you should also address, which is that his
6 participation lasted less time than the time of the other
7 coconspirators.

8 MR. SNYDER: First, that that is actually
9 inaccurate. Mr. Glova was the last person to join the
10 conspiracy. He didn't start in the conspiracy until January
11 2006, and the undisputed evidence from trial is Mr. Peake
12 being in the conspiracy in July of 2003. So there's a
13 considerable difference between when Mr. Glova began
14 participating and when --

15 THE COURT: But I meant also that as far as the
16 gentleman that received the 48 months, who is Baci, right?
17 Baci was there much more than he was.

18 MR. SNYDER: He was there about a year earlier, a
19 year and a couple months earlier. The conspiracy began in
20 late April of 2003, Mr. Peake joined in July of 2007.

21 MS. MOSS: 2002, Your Honor.

22 MR. SNYDER: I'm sorry. 2002. And Mr. Peake
23 joined in July of 2003. And the difference is accounted for
24 in the volume of affected commerce.

25 Mr. Baci was there, he was there longer. As a

1 result, more volume of commerce was affected by his
2 participation in the conspiracy, and that was included in
3 his guideline. And his guideline was actually above the
4 billion dollar mark, which actually gave him additional
5 levels in his guideline sentence. The same applies to
6 Mr. Serra, and the same applies to Mr. Gill. They were all
7 there longer, they affected more commerce. As a result,
8 their guidelines were higher, and the fact that their
9 sentences ended up being lower is entirely attributable to
10 their acceptance of responsibility and their cooperation.

11 Had Mr. Peake made the decision to do the same
12 thing that they did at the same time, he likely would have
13 ended up with a lower sentence than they did because he
14 would have received all the same benefits that they did.
15 But he chose not to do that. And so for him to now turn
16 around and argue --

17 THE COURT: That he wants the same.

18 MR. SNYDER: That he wants the same, or less, that
19 would disincentivize their decision to cooperate and not put
20 the Government to its burden of proof.

21 THE COURT: All right. Thank you.

22 MR. MARKUS: I promise, Judge, the sky will not
23 fall if you give a reasonable sentence in this case. I
24 promise the Government and I promise the Court, nothing bad
25 is going to happen. There won't be a slew of antitrust

1 trials if Your Honor gives Mr. Peake a sentence below the
2 guidelines. I promise you, Your Honor. I promise you.

3 THE COURT: I know that.

4 MR. MARKUS: This case --

5 THE COURT: I know that.

6 MR. MARKUS: There's a lot I would like to say,
7 and I really had a tough time sitting there for the past
8 half hour not jumping up because Mr. Peake does not deserve
9 a sentence higher than Peter Baci, and there's a lot of
10 reasons.

11 Let me start with the two objections that we have.
12 And let me be clear that our position is not that the volume
13 of the commerce is 380-something million. Our position is
14 that until the Government proves what the volume of commerce
15 is, as required under the First Circuit, the volume of
16 commerce is zero. They have the requirement to prove three
17 things under First Circuit law, Your Honor: Which
18 particular deals were involved in this conspiracy; of those
19 deals, which were the deals Frank Peake was involved in;
20 and, third, and importantly, which of those deals affected
21 prices unreasonably. In other words, were the prices above
22 what the market would have beared. And what the testimony
23 at trial was is that both from Peter Baci, Gabriel Serra, is
24 that the prices in that way were not unreasonable. The
25 customers were not treated unfairly. And we cite a lot of

1 that testimony in our papers.

2 They haven't called an economist, like they would
3 have to in a civil case. They haven't done any of the proof
4 that they would have to show that there are unreasonable
5 prices, and that Puerto Ricans suffered something above the
6 market here.

7 In fact, Your Honor, if you remember, they filed a
8 motion before trial saying we could not use as a defense
9 that the prices were reasonable in this case. And
10 Your Honor granted that motion. We could not argue to the
11 jury, "Hey, there may have been an agreement, but it didn't
12 affect anybody." Your Honor granted that motion. All that
13 they had to prove at trial was that this was an agreement.
14 But sentencing is very different. Sentencing, as Mr. Snyder
15 pointed out, is what were the unreasonable market conditions
16 after the conspiracy. How much was commerce affected by the
17 conspiracy. So they do have the burden to prove to the
18 Court, unlike they had at trial, to show how the prices were
19 unreasonable.

20 If, in fact, the prices were reasonable, if they
21 are not above the market, then the volume of commerce is
22 zero, and they have utterly failed in their burden here,
23 Your Honor, both because we have given you testimony from
24 Baci and Serra saying that the prices were reasonable.
25 Also, there's testimony that when Navieras went out of

1 business, the prices before then were under market, that was
2 what Gabriel Serra and Peter Baci testified to, that when
3 Navieras was in business, there was overtonnage, there was
4 overcapacity, and, therefore, prices were unreasonably low.
5 And so there's a cause and effect here that the prosecutors
6 won't be able to show. And I think Mr. Snyder said it best
7 when he said bunker fuel surcharge is a good example.

8 Absolutely it is a good example to show why prices
9 were not unreasonable. The evidence at trial was that
10 bunker fuel surcharge was a cost recovery item only, and
11 that it was a reasonable cost recovery item. They were not
12 making a profit on that bunker fuel surcharge. Both Baci
13 and Serra testified before the grand jury about that, they
14 testified at trial about that, the FBI 302s reflect it.
15 Even if the Government proved that there was an agreement as
16 to the timing of bunker fuel surcharge, what they did not
17 prove was that it was an unreasonable surcharge. The
18 testimony was uncontradicted that it was a cost recovery
19 item.

20 So our position is that until they prove
21 unreasonable prices with some sort of economist or other
22 evidence, the volume of commerce is zero. If the Court is
23 going to accept their position that all sales count and that
24 the burden is on the defense to somehow come forward with
25 evidence, we have come forward with a number of items that

1 should be discounted and those are in our papers and
2 Ms. Moss will address those particular items, and that does
3 get the amount to under 500 million.

4 I will turn it over to Ms. Moss in a second. The
5 only other objection that we have, Your Honor, is to the
6 role --

7 THE COURT: Yes. Why don't we go by the numbers
8 with you, pursuant to -- I want to see what your reaction
9 is.

10 MR. MARKUS: Sure. So factor number -- you want
11 to go through the numbers on role?

12 THE COURT: On role, because I think that you --
13 do you accept that he, in fact, did supervise Baci and/or
14 Chisholm?

15 MR. MARKUS: No, Your Honor.

16 THE COURT: You don't?

17 MR. MARKUS: He supervised them at work, but he
18 was not their leader in the conspiracy. In fact, not only
19 Baci there before him, Baci was the architect with Serra as
20 to the conspiracy. They signed a contract.

21 THE COURT: I agree with you on that. I agree
22 that they were the architects. But we have to lead with his
23 participation.

24 MR. MARKUS: Right. So Baci received a 3 level
25 enhancement as to role. Certainly, Peake should get less

1 than that. And I know Your Honor doesn't want to give a lot
2 of weight to the juror comment --

3 THE COURT: I can't because you know there is an
4 instruction there that I provided that was instruction
5 number 28, jury should not consider punishment. You want to
6 know why that is? Because it is absolutely prohibited.

7 MR. MARKUS: And it sounds like the jury did
8 consider punishment. It sounds to me, and I would move for
9 a new trial on this, Your Honor, it sounds to me like the
10 jury thought Mr. Peake was going to get a low sentence and
11 that's why they convicted him. That's what the letter
12 says --

13 THE COURT: If you read those two letters, they
14 thought he shouldn't receive the higher sentence.

15 MR. MARKUS: That he should get a low sentence.
16 The reason they convicted was that they thought he was going
17 to get a low sentence.

18 THE COURT: That means that they are concerned
19 that he would receive a higher sentence.

20 MR. MARKUS: That's exactly right. So I think
21 they disregarded your instruction there.

22 THE COURT: Punishment provided by law for the
23 offense charged in the indictment is a matter of exclusivity
24 within the province of the Judge.

25 MR. MARKUS: Right.

1 THE COURT: And should never be considered by you
2 in any way in arriving at an impartial verdict.

3 MR. MARKUS: Right.

4 THE COURT: As to guilt or innocence.

5 MR. MARKUS: It sounds to me like they considered
6 it. But my point is something different, Your Honor.

7 My point is that the jurors, forget about what
8 they think about punishment, which I think the Court can and
9 should consider, and we will talk about that in a minute.
10 They also had an opinion on role in the offense. They
11 listened to the case for three weeks, and they had opinions
12 as to who was more culpable. Not -- I am putting aside the
13 punishment comment. They said Frank Peake had a less role
14 than Peter Baci, Gabriel Serra, and the others.

15 They came out and didn't write just one letter,
16 they wrote two letters. I haven't been doing this as long
17 as the Court, but in 17 years I have never seen a juror
18 write two letters to the Court about role in the offense.
19 And what the juror said was that Frank Peake was an
20 occasional problem solver and had less role and less
21 involvement than Peter Baci.

22 In fact, what the testimony was, was that Baci
23 conferred with Mr. Peake maybe a maximum of every three
24 months. Peake wasn't around at the creation of the
25 conspiracy, Your Honor, he had no involvement in the

1 planning or day-to-day operations of the conspiracy. He
2 didn't recruit other participants. His role at the company,
3 he was dealing with many, many, many other things. Even if
4 you accept everything the Government says, the conspiracy
5 related to less than 5 percent of his activities. Serra
6 said it. When we asked Serra about this at trial, he said
7 less than 5 percent of his activities related to the
8 conspiracy.

9 We have a lot in our papers concerning role on
10 this point, Your Honor, both in our objections at pages 18
11 and 19 in our sentencing memo.

12 THE COURT: But I tend to agree with your brother
13 counsel in that he says that Peake and Serra participated
14 many times in resolving the disputes between the general
15 managers of sales. He cites volume 2, page 57 to 59, volume
16 5, page 17 to 21, and 24 to 26, volume 7, 56 to 59, and 85
17 through 86. And the dispute with Sea Star about the 50/50,
18 the dispute that he had to solve between the 50/50 sharing
19 cargo relating to the movement of fast ships between Florida
20 and Puerto Rico, Exhibits 73 and 182.

21 So he has him participating, and he created some
22 others. I think he created at least five events. At least
23 five, which are addressed, I think, quite correctly, at
24 pages 6 and 7 of Docket 215. And those are with specific
25 references to the record, and that is unrebutted evidence.

1 MR. MARKUS: I think it is rebutted, Your Honor.
2 If you look at pages 7, 8, 9, 10, and 11 of our pleading, we
3 go through Baci's testimony where he explains he ran the
4 conspiracy.

5 THE COURT: I have no doubt that he was the
6 soldier down there.

7 MR. MARKUS: No, no. Not the soldier, Your Honor,
8 he started it. He was --

9 THE COURT: I know. But of course he started it.
10 Mr. Peake did not arrive until over a year after the
11 conspiracy began. Obviously, he is not the architect.
12 Obviously.

13 MR. MARKUS: Right. And so if Baci was the
14 architect and was running the thing, certainly -- and the
15 jury felt this way, too. He is more culpable. Yes. If you
16 believe the Government, Frank Peake was an occasional
17 problem solver. That doesn't make you a 4 level leader.

18 So he may have been the boss at the company, but
19 he wasn't the big boss of the conspiracy, Your Honor. Even
20 Serra was in a much different position than Frank. Serra
21 also was at that initial meeting creating the conspiracy,
22 forming the outline of the conspiracy, telling -- figuring
23 out with Baci how they are going to communicate with
24 throwaway phones and e-mail addresses and those sorts of
25 things. Serra, Baci, and Gill were in much different

1 positions than Frank Peake, who came in much later, didn't
2 recruit anybody, didn't run the day to day, and as the jury
3 said, was an occasional problem solver. I am not talking
4 about relying on the jury for punishment here. I am talking
5 about relying on the jury for fact finding. That's what we
6 do.

7 And so they found and asked the Court to find that
8 Mr. Peake was not as culpable as Mr. Baci was. And so
9 that's our argument on role, Your Honor.

10 THE COURT: What is the difference between what
11 Baci -- under the guidelines, what is the difference if Baci
12 goes to the highest, and the defendant goes to the 12 range,
13 what is the difference? Two points? He goes to the -- he
14 goes to the next one. Baci went to the next category.

15 THE PROBATION OFFICER: 14?

16 THE COURT: 14.

17 MR. SNYDER: I am not understanding.

18 MR. MARKUS: I don't understand Your Honor's
19 question.

20 THE COURT: Well, you just mentioned that because
21 Baci was longer, his responsibility under the amount was
22 higher.

23 MR. MARKUS: He received 14 levels under --

24 THE COURT: So there's a difference of 2 points.

25 MR. MARKUS: Correct. That's not role. That goes

1 to the volume of commerce.

2 THE COURT: It goes to the volume. Yes. Yes.
3 That's what I was talking about. To the volume.

4 I don't think I am going to be persuaded about the
5 role because I think he does match most of the criteria, and
6 there can be more than one leader. Who is the most honcho,
7 that's later to be decided when we hear all the evidence,
8 when I hear all the arguments, but I want to separate and to
9 make the distinctions that I ought to make.

10 Just like I added three points for acceptance of
11 responsibility and technically 3 points for substantial
12 assistance, I think I have to deduct from him in order to
13 put him equal to Baci, I have to deduct 2 points on the
14 volume of business.

15 Go ahead.

16 MR. MARKUS: Well, then if I understand Your
17 Honor's ruled on role, then we will move on to volume of
18 commerce. I mean --

19 THE COURT: I have ruled on role, and I think I
20 have to put him at a different level than Baci. But that
21 doesn't mean that 12 is not correct. That means that Baci
22 was at 14. All right. That's all there is. Go ahead.
23 Keep on going.

24 MR. MARKUS: I'm not sure how you want me to
25 proceed on --

1 THE COURT: You proceed to your picture.

2 MR. MARKUS: On the volume --

3 THE COURT: I may ask questions, but you proceed
4 to your picture.

5 MR. MARKUS: On the volume of commerce issue,
6 again, our position is that it should be zero, unless the
7 Government proves up volume of commerce at a sentencing
8 hearing.

9 THE COURT: But I think that they cited two cases
10 in their brief that are strong cases to the contrary.

11 MR. MARKUS: Well, they are not First Circuit,
12 Your Honor, and they are not binding on this Court. And
13 there's no First Circuit case that --

14 THE COURT: There is no First Circuit case on the
15 matter. Of course there is no First Circuit case on the
16 matter. But they cited two cases relating to that matter,
17 which the Court thought were quite convincing. It is the
18 Giordano and Andreas case.

19 MR. MARKUS: But, Judge --

20 THE COURT: Those two cases.

21 MR. MARKUS: Those two cases factually are very
22 different. Those cases didn't have the testimony that we
23 have here that was the prices were reasonable. I mean, we
24 have Serra and Baci both saying that the prices were not
25 unreasonable. We also have the Navieras issue going out of

1 business where the prices were unreasonably low before that.
2 So I think --

3 THE COURT: But I don't think it is a defense in
4 antitrust that you can agree on the prices and then you can
5 say fine. The point is they are not competitive. Not if
6 they're reasonable. Because who knows what's reasonable.

7 MR. MARKUS: That's why the Government has to
8 prove it, Your Honor. They want to sentence this man to 12
9 additional points saying that Puerto Ricans were harmed by
10 over \$500 million. That's not true.

11 THE COURT: They want that because the market of
12 Puerto Rico in several types of businesses was affected.

13 MR. MARKUS: It wasn't.

14 THE COURT: Well --

15 MR. MARKUS: They have to show that, Your Honor,
16 somehow. In a civil --

17 THE COURT: I think it is you who has to show it.

18 MR. MARKUS: I think we did have with Baci's and
19 Serra's testimony saying the prices were not unreasonable
20 and Navieras going out of business.

21 Just take a step back and look at the big picture
22 for a second, Your Honor. In your civil cases, before you
23 can get damages, you have to show damage with an economist,
24 with some evidence.

25 What the Government is telling you here is don't

1 worry about all that civil stuff. Don't worry about having
2 to show anything. We just presume it, and we want to give
3 the guy 87 months in prison on that presumption. That's
4 insane. I mean, this is a man's liberty, and as you said,
5 you wouldn't want to do one day. They need to come forward
6 with some proof.

7 THE COURT: The Sixth Circuit and the Seventh
8 Circuit -- by the way, the Seventh Circuit is a circuit that
9 we normally follow, together with the Fifth, not necessarily
10 the Sixth. But here's what it says: The presumption must
11 be that all sales during the period of the conspiracy have
12 been affected by the illegal agreement. That's the issue.
13 The illegal agreement.

14 MS. MOSS: Are affected.

15 THE COURT: I think we have a change of characters
16 here now.

17 MS. MOSS: All sales affected, Judge. Not just
18 all sales. All sales affected by the conspiracy.

19 I want to start out -- I am going to talk about
20 volume of commerce, and I'm going to be talking about
21 numbers, which I realize is not a juicy or sexy topic, but
22 it is crucial here, Judge. And when the Government stands
23 up and says that there's no meaningful difference if you
24 choose 10 points or 12 points or 8 points, it is incredibly
25 offensive to me, Your Honor. It angers me. It shows a

1 complete lack of understanding of the sentencing process and
2 what effect this has on this individual before you,
3 Your Honor.

4 It has no meaningful difference? It makes all the
5 difference here, Judge. And what Your Honor just read about
6 sales affected, again, Your Honor pointed to the cases
7 Andreas and Giordano. And what those cases say is that it
8 is not all sales, but it is all sales that were affected by
9 the conspiracy. And, again, our position is that they have
10 to prove that they were affected by the conspiracy.

11 Now, if Your Honor disagrees or you are placing
12 the burden on us, we still believe that we can show you --
13 and we know that their numbers are wrong. Now, I want to
14 start out --

15 THE COURT: We are not now talking about beyond a
16 reasonable doubt. We are now talking a preponderance of the
17 evidence.

18 MS. MOSS: Correct.

19 THE COURT: Which is a civil criteria. All right.
20 Go ahead.

21 MS. MOSS: A lower criteria.

22 THE COURT: A lower criteria, but still civil. It
23 is civil.

24 MS. MOSS: The Government stood up here and talked
25 about Peter Baci's numbers, and the volume of commerce

1 applicable to Peter Baci. I need to begin by stating,
2 Judge, we have submitted an affidavit from Peter Baci, and I
3 provided it to the Court ahead of time. Do you have that,
4 Your Honor?

5 THE COURT: Yes.

6 MS. MOSS: And in this affidavit, Peter Baci even
7 disagrees with the volume of commerce numbers. However,
8 because Peter Baci wanted to believe --

9 THE COURT: He accepted his.

10 MS. MOSS: Because he was precluded. Because he
11 wanted to plead, he was precluded from arguing the volume of
12 commerce numbers. He was forced to accept them, Judge, and
13 I see that you are laughing --

14 THE COURT: I am smiling.

15 MS. MOSS: I see that you are smiling.

16 THE COURT: I am smiling because you have to look
17 at the fact that he accepted.

18 MS. MOSS: He accepted them.

19 THE COURT: You can say whatever you would like,
20 but he did under oath accept the plea agreement.

21 MS. MOSS: And he is saying under oath that he
22 disagrees with them, Judge.

23 THE COURT: So what do you do once a person takes
24 a deposition and then later he wants to take it off with a
25 sworn statement?

1 MS. MOSS: Judge, I think you -- the Government's
2 relying on Peter Baci. I think you have to rely on Peter
3 Baci for us as well, Judge. He gave an affidavit where he
4 said the numbers are wrong. And he goes step by step as to
5 why the numbers are wrong, and I am going to go through that
6 with you now.

7 THE COURT: Go ahead.

8 MS. MOSS: Are you going to listen?

9 THE COURT: I am.

10 MS. MOSS: Judge, I am going to start off with
11 saying, again, this makes a huge difference. Whether
12 Your Honor finds over 500 million, which is 12 points, or
13 under 500 million, which is 10 points or even less than
14 that, makes a huge difference. That's a year and a half to
15 three years in this man's life.

16 Now, I think that the starting point for the Court
17 is that we have to look at the indictment. And the
18 indictment charged Mr. Peake with participating in this
19 conspiracy from late 2005 to April 2008. So that's the
20 starting point.

21 Now, the Government can get up here all they want
22 and talk about responsibility for relevant conduct. But
23 that doesn't matter unless they prove it. They have to show
24 some proof towards that, which they did not do here.

25 And, Your Honor, during the course of this trial,

1 Your Honor gave instructions to the jury, and I am going to
2 read directly from my objections.

3 THE COURT: Yes.

4 MS. MOSS: Where you say: "I want you to keep
5 clear" -- I am on page 11, Your Honor.

6 THE COURT: Yes. Thank you.

7 MS. MOSS: "That even though it is alleged that
8 the conspiracy began in 2002 by these other people, there is
9 no evidence that he joined this conspiracy. The Court
10 cannot allow evidence before 2005 because it is charged as
11 to him as 2005."

12 And Your Honor goes on to say, that: "So he is
13 only responsible, subject to your credibility and your
14 weight, and keeping in mind that he is presumed innocent,
15 that it is up to the United States to prove beyond a
16 reasonable doubt his participation between 2005 and 2008."

17 And Your Honor saw from the evidence in this case,
18 every piece of evidence admitted against Frank Peake,
19 whether by e-mail, or report, or meeting, or itinerary, or
20 plane ticket, was 2005 or later. So that's the starting
21 point.

22 And even the reliance of the Government on this
23 sheet of paper provided by Sea Star as to this \$565 million
24 figure, even that, Your Honor, I say is flawed. Because,
25 again, what he is charged with is late 2005, and that's what

1 the evidence showed. I am just going to use the ELMO for a
2 second.

3 When you look at late 2005, already the numbers
4 are below 500 million. And I am going to tell you, these
5 are not exact numbers, these are approximate numbers. But
6 whether they are approximate or exact, it is clearly under
7 500 million. So from that starting point, from considering
8 what he was charged with, the time period he was charged
9 with, we are already below 500 million.

10 The next step, Your Honor, and this is just going
11 step by step through my objections. The PSR, again, we have
12 to focus on sales that were affected by the conspiracy. Not
13 all sales.

14 And there are a myriad of sales that were not
15 affected. And included in that were sales from the
16 transportation of freight that was never ever even discussed
17 as part of this conspiracy, discussed as part of the
18 conspiracy. And what do I mean by that? There was an
19 abundance of testimony by Peter Baci and by others that
20 Horizon and Sea Star had different kinds of ships. Are you
21 following?

22 THE COURT: I am following.

23 MR. MARKUS: Okay.

24 MS. MOSS: Okay. Horizon ships could only carry
25 containers. So what you put in a container, the boxes that

1 you put in a container, that's all that they could ship.

2 Sea Star ships were completely different. They
3 could carry containers, they had huge tanks that they could
4 fill with liquid, they could carry livestock, they could
5 carry cars, they could carry huge pieces of construction
6 equipment. They were able to carry a lot of different types
7 of freight that Horizon couldn't. So there was no collusion
8 about those types of freight. And, again, I referenced in
9 my objections, our objections, these different types of
10 freight, which include bulk fructose. Amounts to, again,
11 during the time of the conspiracy, \$10.8 million. Cars,
12 \$6.6 million. NIC, which means "not in container," those
13 livestock or cattle or chickens or whatever they may have,
14 \$11.7 million. And other special equipment, such as the big
15 construction equipment, 3.1 million.

16 And, Judge, I am not --

17 THE COURT: That's what I thought the conspiracy
18 was covering, all of that.

19 MS. MOSS: No, it wasn't.

20 And, in fact, if you look at the testimony by
21 Peter Baci, he specifically says those things were excluded
22 from the 50/50 agreement. Because they couldn't collude
23 about cars, about fructose, liquid, about things not in
24 containers like cows. They couldn't collude about those
25 things. So they were not part of the conspiracy. And that

1 was the proof at trial. That was the testimony at trial.

2 So when you add those numbers up, and, again, we
3 start off with the period of late 2005 through 2008, 462
4 million, subtract now the revenue for this freight that they
5 did not collude on, and the testimony which they did not
6 collude on it, 32.5 million. We are down to 429.5 million.

7 The next step. And, again, Judge, I am following
8 straight with my objections.

9 There were some contracts in this case that were
10 negotiated well before Mr. Peake ever came on, and well
11 before a conspiracy ever started. Starting in 2002, early
12 2002, there was a contract with the United States Postal
13 Service for I believe it was \$4.3 million. This was
14 negotiated before this conspiracy began. So, obviously,
15 that contract was not affected by the violation, and,
16 therefore, the sales and the revenue from that contract
17 cannot be included in the volume of commerce.

18 And, again, that number -- and if you refer to
19 Peter Baci's affidavit, he also speaks about this. If you
20 subtracted that number, now we get down to even less, 425
21 million.

22 And, Judge, I just want to say that I am putting
23 out a lot of numbers.

24 THE COURT: I am understanding. Keep going.

25 MS. MOSS: But the numbers are not numbers that I

1 am making up. These are numbers that are provided by Sea
2 Star or provided and researched by Peter Baci who was one of
3 the key witnesses in this case.

4 The next step. Peter Baci has stated under oath,
5 he provided an affidavit, that he never discussed with his
6 competitors, with Horizon, a number of customers, and he
7 went through the painstaking effort of writing it down,
8 handwriting each one of these customers down. And if
9 Your Honor takes a look at it, this is in Exhibit 1-A that I
10 provided to the Court, this is probably 30 pages of
11 customers. And I believe we totaled them up to 2,634
12 customers that were never part of the conspiracy. Never
13 discussed. What Your Honor heard in the trial is a lot
14 about what were called the Hall of Fame reports.

15 THE COURT: The Hall of Famers. The large-volumed
16 clients.

17 MS. MOSS: Right. The top 100 clients, who
18 actually only made up 20 percent of the clientele of Sea
19 Star and Horizon. So there's 80 percent of these customers
20 that were never discussed as part of this conspiracy. And,
21 again, referring to the numbers that Peter Baci researched
22 that were provided by Sea Star, these customers for this
23 time period of 2005 to 2008 equals to \$39 million.

24 THE COURT: But there were also the reefers, and
25 the agreement as to reefers was complete. And those were

1 not only as to Hall of Famers, because a Hall of Famer may
2 not necessarily come in with -- there may be Hall of Famers
3 that were not in the big leagues in the Hall of Fame, but
4 they were substantial clients under the reefer agreements.

5 MS. MOSS: Not according to Peter Baci, not
6 according to the testimony, not according to the e-mails.
7 What the e-mails showed is that Peter Baci and Greg Glova
8 were going back and forth bid rigging on very specific
9 customers. And those customers were part of the conspiracy.
10 These customers that I am talking about now were not. And
11 so again, I say Your Honor, you have to subtract another \$39
12 million. And so we are getting here even further and
13 further and further below the \$500 million mark. And these
14 are estimated numbers, the numbers are probably much, much
15 higher.

16 So that's the next step. So we have now given you
17 four separate reasons, four separate examples of sales that
18 have to be excluded because they were not affected by the
19 conspiracy.

20 Now, the Government got up here and talked about
21 bunker fuel surcharge. As Mr. Markus said, this was a cost
22 recovery tool. And the argument they made I think is
23 incredibly flawed. Because what the testimony was as to
24 bunker fuel surcharge, and I have it here if Your Honor
25 wants to see it, is that Peter Baci testified that, of

1 course, yes, the bunker fuel surcharge went up and down
2 because the cost of fuel went up and down. But the bunker
3 fuel surcharge had no effect on the contract whatsoever.
4 And if you assume that there was --

5 THE COURT: I remember seeing an e-mail where the
6 fact that somebody undercut in bunker fuel created an
7 agreement in another place.

8 MS. MOSS: Well, Your Honor, what I think you are
9 referring to, honestly, is somebody who undercut on
10 intermodal fuel, intermodal transportation costs, but not
11 bunker fuel. But in any case, I will say that there were
12 exceptions to bunker fuel surcharge, but very few
13 exceptions. And throughout the time period, they tried to
14 eliminate as many exceptions as possible.

15 But I go back to, Judge, again, even if there was
16 no conspiracy at all, that bunker fuel surcharge still would
17 have been in place, it would have been in place at exactly
18 the same amount of price as it was instituted in this case,
19 and it would apply to the same exact customers because Peter
20 Baci testified -- I will go ahead and I will put it up on
21 the screen, Judge.

22 Because this comes directly from the trial. He
23 said that Sea Star had a specific formula for determining
24 what's the bunker fuel surcharge. And it was very
25 technical, it went back to 1998 when Sea Star started, and

1 what the price of fuel was at that time, and how they
2 measured the change and utilization in the fuel, but it was
3 a very specific formula, and they followed that formula each
4 and every time. That is how they set the price.

5 Now, there may have been collusion about timing,
6 but not about the price. The price would have been the same
7 regardless of any conspiracy. And because of that, Judge,
8 it doesn't apply to every piece of freight. In fact, it
9 applies to no piece of freight.

10 And I don't have the numbers because we don't have
11 access to those numbers, we don't have access to the same
12 materials and documents that the Government does. But that
13 number has to be in the millions of dollars. So now, Judge,
14 I think I have offered you four things, and I am going to
15 get to the last thing now.

16 And this was the subject of our last amended
17 objections that we filed. And this is the TSA revenue. And
18 I am sure Your Honor remembers the TSA, the transportation
19 service agreements, that Horizon and Sea Star had with each
20 other.

21 So Sea Star carried freight of their own
22 customers, but they also carried freight for Horizon, for
23 Horizon customers on their own ships. And the Government
24 went to great length to show to the jury that these TSAs
25 between Horizon and Sea Star were completely legitimate,

1 completely lawful and legal, and had absolutely nothing to
2 do with the conspiracy. And they asked each witness that
3 question, and they all agreed. Nothing to do with the
4 conspiracy. And I will just put that up very briefly.

5 Glova: When you communicated with Sea Star about
6 the TSA, were those appropriate and legitimate? They were
7 appropriate and legitimate.

8 Baci: It should be excluded from the volume
9 commerce.

10 Serra: Nothing illegal about the discussions of
11 the TSA.

12 Your Honor, I have submitted again as part of the
13 sentencing today, Exhibit 2, which is a chart provided by
14 Sea Star that gives you the numbers for the TSA for the time
15 period, again, that Mr. Peake was charged. And that number
16 is 2.7 million.

17 So, Your Honor, I end with calculating the volume
18 of commerce. And this is a very, very conservative
19 estimate. We start off with the time period that he's
20 charged with, 462 million. We subtract all the revenue for
21 the cows and the liquid and all of that, 32.5 million. The
22 contracts that were entered before conspiracy was even
23 started, a minimum of 4.3 million. Revenue from the
24 customers that were never discussed, at least 39 million.
25 Revenue from the bunker fuel surcharge, a number that I

1 don't have access to, but, again, was probably millions of
2 dollars. And revenues from the Horizon, Sea Star,
3 transportation service agreement, \$2.7 million.

4 We are down to \$383.5 million, well below \$500
5 million. Even if you were to take out one of these steps,
6 we are still well below \$500 million. Your Honor, I would
7 assert that we are even below \$250 million. Unfortunately,
8 we don't have access to those numbers, and the Government
9 has failed to prove them up. I think it is quite clear,
10 Judge.

11 THE COURT: What is the month that we can agree on
12 that he began in -- it said late 2005. What is late 2005?

13 MS. MOSS: We were not provided that, Judge.

14 THE COURT: What is the evidence that the United
15 States has?

16 MR. SNYDER: July, Your Honor. That's why we
17 provided the numbers we did.

18 THE COURT: You say it is July.

19 MR. SNYDER: That's what we said, yes. It is
20 based on the evidence in the record, Your Honor, which said
21 July.

22 THE COURT: Okay.

23 MS. MOSS: It is not based on the indictment,
24 Judge. It is also not based on your instructions to the
25 jury.

1 MR. SNYDER: To be clear, we, because of
2 sentencing guideline 1B1.3, you include all relevant
3 conduct. So, again, that pushes our date back to July of
4 2003, which is where all the evidence at trial said that
5 Mr. Peake began participating in the conspiracy.

6 MS. MOSS: It is not what the evidence showed,
7 Judge. In fact, if you go back and look at the transcripts,
8 the evidence does not show that. They do not state that.
9 And, again, even though in some instances the Government may
10 include all relevant conduct, again, the case law is quite
11 clear, from the First Circuit and every other circuit, it is
12 relevant conduct that they actually prove. And they have
13 not done that.

14 MR. SNYDER: Your Honor, in terms of the
15 evidentiary record on the late 2005 --

16 THE COURT: Do we have anything on the record that
17 I can refer to?

18 MR. SNYDER: Exhibit 37 is an incriminating e-mail
19 exchange that Mr. Peake was involved in, and it dates to
20 June 2005, June 7, 2005. So we ran numbers from the
21 beginning of the next month.

22 MS. MOSS: Judge, I just want to point out that
23 the e-mail they are referring to, the infamous BS e-mail,
24 Judge, where they are again referring to past action by Sea
25 Star and by Horizon, those "who shot John" reports, not

1 conspiracy related.

2 MR. SNYDER: The purpose of exchanging those
3 e-mails was conspiracy related because they were complaining
4 to each other about things they had done contrary to the
5 conspiracy.

6 MS. MOSS: We disagree with that, Your Honor.

7 THE COURT: All right. But still, even that, even
8 if I take that, wouldn't we be really closer to less than
9 500,000?

10 MS. MOSS: Absolutely. 500 million. Yes.
11 Without a doubt.

12 THE COURT: What's your position relating to that?

13 MR. SNYDER: Do you want the short answer or long
14 answer? Because --

15 THE COURT: I want an appropriate answer pursuant
16 to the record.

17 MR. SNYDER: Your Honor, the Government's position
18 is that that \$565 million from July 2005 to the end of the
19 conspiracy is a conservative number. And that's even
20 without going back further in time. And in our objections
21 to the -- in responding to their objections to the
22 pre-sentence report, on all of these points she just made,
23 we provide a written response. For instance, not in
24 container goods are still subject to the bunker fuel
25 surcharge. And they also were subject to the conspiracy

1 with Crowley, who did carry noncontainerized goods.

2 I can take you through it. The bunker fuel
3 surcharge. I can show you a document that shows they were,
4 in fact, profiting on the bunker fuel surcharge that Peter
5 Baci drafted, and it was sent by Mr. Peake to Gabe Serra.
6 So there are responses to all of these things. And during
7 the time period charged in this case, \$565 million, the
8 Government believes is the accurate number.

9 The case law is not just strong, it is
10 indisputable. There are no cases that hold any of the
11 propositions that she had just stood up here to argue to
12 you. The case law is very clear. You cited some of the
13 cases. There was always Hayter Oil, SKW. All of these
14 cases say that once you are convicted of participation in
15 the conspiracy, all sales are presumed to be affected. All
16 sales.

17 THE COURT: But she just proved that those sales
18 were out.

19 MR. SNYDER: And I can sit here, if you would
20 like, I can go back through every one of the categories and
21 tell you why she is wrong. I just -- let's take
22 noncontainerized goods as just one example.

23 THE COURT: Okay.

24 MR. SNYDER: She says they weren't part of the
25 50/50 because Horizon didn't carry them. That's her

1 argument. Well, they still were subject to a bunker fuel
2 surcharge, which was fixed. So the rate charged for those
3 noncontainerized goods was still affected by the conspiracy.

4 Additionally, Crowley was part of the conspiracy.
5 Crowley carried used cars. Mr. Baci in interviews, we
6 didn't get into this at trial, but there are interviews and
7 I believe grand jury testimony by Mr. Baci where he says:
8 "We were fixing the prices of used car shipments, which are
9 not in containerized goods with Crowley." So those were
10 affected by the conspiracy.

11 And I can take you through every one of these
12 items --

13 THE COURT: For example, were the automobiles
14 subject to the surcharge?

15 MR. SNYDER: I believe there was a bunker fuel
16 surcharge related to the automobiles, yes. If it was moving
17 this cargo, it was subject to a bunker fuel surcharge.

18 But, the rate, the actual used car shipment rate
19 was also being fixed, and that was being fixed between Sea
20 Star and Crowley. So it doesn't matter whether Horizon was
21 involved in that piece because they didn't carry that type
22 of cargo. The rate of that cargo was still being fixed with
23 Crowley, and there's evidence of that, as well as the bunker
24 fuel surcharge that applied to it was being fixed with
25 Horizon.

1 And to address the bunker fuel surcharge, if Sea
2 Star was so confident that they had this formula and they
3 were going to follow it, there was no need for them to fix
4 the rate with Horizon. There was no need to talk about it.
5 The reason they were talking about it is because it was an
6 element of competition. If Sea Star went up \$30, \$40 per
7 container on its bunker fuel surcharge and Horizon didn't,
8 they stood to lose, and both Glova and Baci testified to
9 that at trial.

10 Additionally, Trial Exhibit 125, which I can put
11 on the ELMO, right here, Mr. Baci is basically saying that
12 in 2002 and 2003 at the very beginning of the conspiracy,
13 they had their bunker fuel surcharge revenue, which was
14 lower than the actual cost of bunker. The first year of the
15 conspiracy, by 2003, most of that deficit was wiped out. By
16 2004 and 2005, they are earning millions of dollars per year
17 as profit off of bunker fuel. This is Exhibit 125. This
18 was an e-mail that was sent or a document that was sent by
19 Mr. Peake to Mr. Serra. This was not cost recovery, this
20 was collusion, and it affected every single item of cargo
21 that was shipped on one of these ships during the whole time
22 of the conspiracy.

23 That's the end of the story on the bunker fuel
24 surcharge, and, really, about volume of commerce generally.
25 The case law is very clear, that all sales are presumed

1 affected by the conspiracy, and the word is "affect." The
2 word "reasonableness" --

3 THE COURT: That was the word they used.

4 MR. SNYDER: But they are equating that to
5 unreasonable. They have to be unreasonable prices.

6 MS. MOSS: That's a different argument, Judge.

7 MR. SNYDER: The word "unreasonable" is no where
8 in the sentencing guideline. No where. The word is
9 "affect."

10 THE COURT: It's no where in those two cases
11 either?

12 MR. SNYDER: Correct. It is "affected." And
13 "affect" is defined very, very broadly.

14 The Government doesn't have to show it is
15 unreasonable. The case law is clear, to get a conviction,
16 the agreement is the crime. And the cases have recognized
17 that it would be inconsistent or it would be ironic if after
18 saying the person is convicted, even without proof of
19 effect, because all prices are deemed to be unreasonable, if
20 the Government then had to turn around in sentencing and
21 prove that the prices were unreasonable.

22 And I guess the last point with respect to the
23 sentencing guidelines is that the reason the Government
24 doesn't have to prove effect is because the guideline
25 presumes a 20 percent effect. When you calculate a

1 corporate fine, you take the volume of the entire affected
2 commerce, and there's a 20 percent multiplier in there, and
3 under the guidelines, that is presumed to be the effect of
4 the conspiracy. And the reason they have that is they
5 recognize that effects can be direct and indirect, and they
6 are not always easy to prove. And so there is an element of
7 effect that's built into the guideline itself.

8 So if you have any other questions, I am happy to
9 respond.

10 THE COURT: Fine.

11 Anything further? I am waiting for the --

12 MS. MOSS: I do have something further, Your
13 Honor.

14 THE COURT: Go ahead.

15 MS. MOSS: I am actually glad the Government put
16 this up here because this does give us some numbers, Judge.
17 When I was saying before I didn't have the numbers as to the
18 bunker fuel surcharge, now we have some numbers. This \$400
19 million. And it doesn't matter whether it was a cost
20 recovery tool or they actually made revenue from it,
21 Your Honor, because -- and I think that the Government is
22 completely misunderstanding the whole bunker fuel surcharge
23 purpose, and I want to make sure that Your Honor doesn't.
24 Because, again, there was no collusion about the amount of
25 the bunker fuel surcharge. So it doesn't matter that is

1 applied to every piece of freight, which it didn't. We know
2 it didn't.

3 What I have said, and what we have said in our
4 pleadings, again, and I just -- you know, I know I am being
5 repetitive, Judge, but this is really important, and I
6 really think you need to understand this. That, again,
7 whether there was a conspiracy or not, that bunker fuel
8 surcharge was going to apply to every piece of freight that
9 was transported, and it was going to apply at the price that
10 they instituted it, because Peter Baci used a formula that
11 was based on the cost of fuel that had nothing to do with
12 the conspiracy. So it was going to apply regardless of this
13 conspiracy. And that's why it has to be excluded, because
14 it wasn't affected by the violation, affected by the
15 conspiracy.

16 And I don't want the Government to confuse you
17 about this use of the words "reasonable," "unreasonable."
18 What the case law says, and we have cited all the same cases
19 that the Government has cited, and they do say that the
20 Government has to not only show all sales that were affected
21 by the violation, but that were above market price.

22 Judge, and with that, I will sit down.

23 THE COURT: So the word that I am looking for in
24 Andreas and Giordano that is not here, is what?

25 MR. SNYDER: "Reasonableness," "unreasonableness."

1 MS. MOSS: Judge, what Andreas says, I will put it
2 up on the ELMO. The plain language --

3 THE COURT: It says affected by the violation, but
4 you also said another word. I'll look at the transcript.

5 Anything from the defense? I thought you were
6 going to make a presentation.

7 MR. MARKUS: Yes, Your Honor. This goes to the
8 3553 factors, Your Honor.

9 THE COURT: I know. Character of the person.

10 MR. MARKUS: Yes.

11 THE COURT: Fine.

12 MR. MARKUS: So, Your Honor, after we figure out
13 what the guidelines are, which is one of the 3553 factors --

14 THE COURT: It is one of them.

15 MR. MARKUS: Right. Not one that's entitled to
16 any specific weight or anything like this.

17 THE COURT: It's a reasonable place to begin.
18 That's all it is.

19 MR. MARKUS: Sometimes, Your Honor, in this case
20 it is not, and we will go through the reasons why it is not.

21 One of the main reasons it is not, Your Honor, is
22 because it would lead to the highest sentence ever in the
23 history of the United States for an antitrust case. Not
24 just in this case, but in any case ever, Your Honor. And
25 Frank Peake doesn't deserve that sentence for the reasons we

1 will go through now.

2 Just briefly, though, to overview, the highest
3 sentence in the history of the United States ever for an
4 antitrust case is 48 months. As we will discuss in a
5 moment, these same prosecutors recently told the judge
6 sitting in the same position as you, that she should
7 sentence the worst antitrust defendants ever to 10 years.
8 And that Judge rejected these prosecutors' arguments and
9 give a three-year sentence, and the sky did not fall,
10 Your Honor. They are still prosecuting antitrust cases and
11 people are still pleading guilty.

12 In this case, he is less culpable than Baci and
13 Serra. And we will discuss why that is, but you have noted
14 some of the reasons, Your Honor. And so it is not enough to
15 say the extra baggage of Baci on acceptance and cooperation
16 mean that that's the starting point. You also have to look
17 at the extra baggage that Baci has with obstructing justice,
18 meaning he got 2 extra points and should get a higher
19 sentence than Frank Peake. Meaning the extra baggage of the
20 higher volume of commerce, meaning he gets a higher sentence
21 than Peake. Meaning the extra baggage that the jury
22 listened to three weeks of evidence and said he is less
23 culpable than the others.

24 So we know the 3553 factors, Your Honor, the
25 nature and circumstances of the offense and the history and

1 characteristics of the defendant, the need to avoid
2 unwarranted sentencing disparities, the need for the
3 sentence imposed to reflect the seriousness of the offense,
4 promote respect for the law, and to provide just punishment,
5 and the need to afford adequate deterrence. Each one of
6 these factors point in our favor.

7 And so we will start with his background, and I
8 know Ms. Moss is going to talk about his background, and
9 then I will get into some of the other factors. So I will
10 leave it to her on this factor.

11 MS. MOSS: Judge, I don't think I need to say very
12 much about Mr. Peake's background because Your Honor already
13 stated this morning that you know that he is, I think in
14 your words, you said he was an extremely decent person.
15 And, of course, 3553(a) requires the Court --

16 THE COURT: I said except for this conduct. That
17 is right. I did say that.

18 MS. MOSS: And that's important because,
19 Your Honor, the 3553(a) factors require the Court to look at
20 the history and characteristics of the defendant. Because
21 it is not just important to look at a small isolated piece
22 of time in this man's life, but to look at the man as a
23 whole, to look at the totality of this individual before
24 you, and the whole of his life.

25 And what the whole of his life will show is that

1 he is a good, decent, honorable man who has devoted himself
2 to other people, Judge, and that is the predominant theme.
3 That is what I stood up before the Court, and before the
4 jury during my opening statement, and I said to them, and I
5 said, "Frank Peake has been described by person after person
6 after person as being the best man I have ever met. Being
7 one of the finest men you will ever meet." And that wasn't
8 just posturing for the jury, Judge. That is what people
9 have sincerely and honestly said about him.

10 And, you know, he's done very well in his career,
11 Judge, and I think it is important for you to know that he's
12 not somebody that comes from wealth, he is not somebody that
13 comes from advantages, he is not somebody that was born with
14 a silver spoon in his mouth. This is someone who came from
15 a blue collar background, with blue collar values, whose
16 father was a police officer for 30 years, whose mother was
17 mostly a stay-at-home mom. He had parents who didn't
18 graduate from high school.

19 But Mr. Peake worked very hard and educated
20 himself and did very well in his career to become the
21 president of Sea Star at a very young age, at 40 years old,
22 42 years old. But even though he was so accomplished,
23 Judge, I think at his core, what he remains is a good
24 person.

25 And what Mr. Markus had on the screen before,

1 pictures of Mr. Peake with his family, because what
2 Mr. Peake is is, you know, in addition to being the
3 president of Sea Star for the short period of time, he's
4 also a brother. And I hope Your Honor had the opportunity
5 and the honor to read the letters written by his brother,
6 Chris, who's shown here, his sister Debra, his in-laws, and
7 his children who are pictured here, who Mr. Peake is their
8 rock. He is the one that they turn to, and the one that
9 they rely on.

10 And dozens upon dozens of people have written
11 letters for him, to talk about what a good man this is. And
12 I know Your Honor talked about the 140 pages of pleadings,
13 but this was even more pages written about the goodness of
14 Frank Peake.

15 Your Honor talked about -- or the Government
16 talked about how these coconspirators have earned credits or
17 earned reductions because of things like cooperation.
18 Mr. Peake has earned credits and deductions because of his
19 decency and because of his contributions.

20 And, Judge, I am referring to the letters, and we
21 have them up on the slide here.

22 THE COURT: Yes. I saw those letters, and I've
23 jumped over that already because I am ready.

24 MS. MOSS: But, Judge, it is really important,
25 because this is one of the main factors of 3553(a). That's

1 why I am spending time on this. And, Judge, it is important
2 to know who some of these letters were provided by.

3 THE COURT: Okay. The problem is is that you had
4 already flashed that, and you went to another subject.

5 MS. MOSS: Okay, Judge. Well, I hope you take the
6 time to read these because I think these quotes are
7 significant. For someone to write that you are the finest
8 man that they have ever met, I mean, I wish people could
9 write these things about me, Judge. But these are things
10 that people have written about Frank Peake. "Frank Peake is
11 the guy you would like your sister or your daughter to
12 marry." I mean, how many men are you going to say that
13 about, Judge.

14 And these are letters that were written by
15 military officers, owners of companies, heads of companies.
16 And I see Your Honor is moving on.

17 THE COURT: I am moving on to the next one. The
18 next page.

19 MR. MARKUS: Why don't we move onto the next one.

20 THE COURT: I am on the next page.

21 MS. MOSS: Frank Peake's background.

22 THE COURT: No. No. The one before that. That's
23 the one I am at now.

24 MS. MOSS: And what this addresses, Your Honor, is
25 Frank Peake as the head of Sea Star, Frank Peake as an

1 employee of Sea Star. And this is going to become
2 especially important later when Mr. Markus is talking about
3 the findings of other judges around the country.
4 Particularly in the First Circuit in the Prosperi case,
5 about people who were acting for the good of their
6 companies. And people who were trying to make better for
7 their companies and the loyalty of the companies, not for
8 themselves.

9 And what those quotes show is that Frank Peake was
10 more than devoted to this company and to his employees. And
11 they all say that they worked very hard during this time
12 because they wanted to do better for Frank Peake. Because
13 Frank Peake was committed to improving the company, to
14 working hard to providing the best service in the Puerto
15 Rico trade. That's who Frank Peake is.

16 And, Judge, again, I hope you had the opportunity
17 to read all the letters and to read what we have written in
18 our sentencing memorandum, and I will rely on those
19 pleadings, and I hope that you will see when you are
20 deciding his fate, who this man is in his entirety. He is a
21 good man. He's a die hard Yankee fan, Judge.

22 MR. SNYDER: Objection, Your Honor. That's
23 pandering. He's a Philly fan. We all know that.

24 THE COURT: He really is a Red Sox fan.

25 MS. MOSS: No. Absolutely not.

1 THE COURT: Or a Mariner fan.

2 MS. MOSS: Judge, I think a lot, especially with
3 the passing of Nelson Mandela, who talked about contributing
4 to your community, about people with good hearts and good
5 heads. Your Honor may find for a period of time maybe his
6 head was not in the right place, but his heart has always
7 been in the right place.

8 And he is a good person. We have written in the
9 memorandum about the number of community organizations that
10 he has contributed to, and there's probably a list of 20 in
11 there, including YMCA, Boys and Girls Club of America,
12 Covenant House, things like that, that this man has devoted
13 himself to other people.

14 And I think Your Honor must take that into
15 consideration and understand that -- and I see you are
16 moving on, Judge.

17 THE COURT: I am already at the next page, which
18 is the comparison.

19 MR. MARKUS: Here we go, because I don't want you
20 to have to get the guest room ready, Your Honor.

21 So here we go. The comparison to the conspirators
22 in this case. These were the conspirators that the
23 Government has discussed in this case. Baci, Serra, Gill,
24 Glova. One person they haven't discussed was Shapiro, who,
25 of course, was one of the other architects of the conspiracy

1 who wasn't charged and got zero months.

2 If they want to compare apples to apples, let's
3 discuss apples to apples because the conspiracy period for
4 Frank Peake is less, that's one reason he should get less
5 than Baci and Serra. The volume of commerce was less than
6 Frank Peake, that's a reason he should get less than Baci
7 and Serra. Frank Peake didn't obstruct justice like Peter
8 Baci did. Frank Peake didn't start this conspiracy like
9 Baci, Serra, Gill, and Shapiro did. And the jurors, Your
10 Honor, the jurors thought he was less culpable.

11 Those are all reasons why if you want to -- you
12 can't just say Baci pled guilty and got cooperation,
13 therefore, Frank Peake should get more. No. There's a lot
14 of other factors that go into it, and we will discuss some
15 of those.

16 Here are some that we can talk about with Baci
17 that don't apply to Frank Peake, and we have discussed some
18 of these. He was present at the start. Yes, for Baci; no,
19 for Peake. And we go down the list here. Responsible for
20 pricing and bunker fuel surcharge. Used the throwaway
21 phones. Used secret e-mail. Managed the conspiracy on a
22 daily basis. Communicated daily with his competitors.
23 Coordinated bids and contracts. Created the conspiracy
24 documents. And attempted to destroy evidence.

25 Your Honor, remember that when the raids happened,

1 what was Baci doing? On the phone telling people to get rid
2 of the e-mails. So, yes, there are a lot of aggravating
3 factors for Baci that don't apply to Mr. Peake.

4 Same with Serra. A lot of aggravating factors
5 regarding Serra. He was present at the start of the
6 conspiracy. He signed the conspiracy contract. He was the
7 one who did the 50/50 contract with Shapiro. He was the one
8 who attended meetings in Dallas and Charlotte. No Frank
9 Peake. He was responsible for pricing. He instructed
10 employees to keep the conspiracy secret. He recruited
11 others into the conspiracy and he lied to the FBI. None of
12 these true for Frank.

13 Your Honor, here's the jury's opinion. I know the
14 Court issued that order yesterday, but I have to tell you, I
15 wish I would have had the chance to address the Court before
16 that order came out because I disagree just about as
17 strongly with that order as I disagreed in this case.

18 THE COURT: So we agree to disagree.

19 MR. MARKUS: We agree to disagree, Your Honor, but
20 I would like to be heard on it. Because I think this is an
21 important --

22 THE COURT: Go ahead.

23 MR. MARKUS: I said this before, a juror taking
24 the time to write two letters to the Court obviously feels
25 strongly about the case. You know, one of the factors that

1 the 3553 in the cases talk about is sort of a voice to the
2 community, giving a voice to the community. Well, here's a
3 person in Puerto Rico who actually listened to the evidence,
4 and who has strong feelings about the punishment, but not
5 just the punishment, Your Honor, not just the punishment,
6 but the relative role in the offense. And the juror has
7 written two letters and given comments. I assume it was the
8 same juror. It may have been a different juror.

9 THE COURT: No, no. I think this is the -- I
10 don't know. It was a foreperson and one was not.

11 MR. MARKUS: Another juror --

12 THE COURT: It is the same man. Same man. It is
13 the same person, foreperson.

14 MR. MARKUS: Well, what they say is: "While Peake
15 was a participant, he seemed to be more of an occasional
16 problem solver than a vital part of the conspiracy on a
17 day-to-day basis. He didn't stop it because all the
18 companies involved in the trade were doing it. I don't
19 believe he deserves the same punishment."

20 And I think, Your Honor, those comments can be
21 taken into account by the Court, not just on punishment
22 issues but on role in the offense and 3553 as a voice of the
23 community.

24 What about the sentences issued by Judge Corrigan,
25 because we heard a lot --

1 THE COURT: Judge who?

2 MR. MARKUS: Judge Corrigan in the middle
3 district. He is the judge on Baci and Serra, Your Honor.
4 And, you know, the Government in this case did not allow him
5 to consider the other 3553 factors in the case. And so what
6 he said at the sentencing was: "The Court usually can
7 consider such things as history and characteristics of the
8 person, whether or not the person is likely to repeat the
9 crime or not, specific deterrence as to the person. But I
10 won't be considering any of that today. The only thing I
11 will be considering today is the nature and value of the
12 cooperation that each person provided to the Government."

13 So Your Honor isn't bound by those things that
14 Judge Corrigan was bound by, and Judge Corrigan was upset by
15 it, Your Honor. He told the Department of Justice that he
16 felt snookered in giving the highest sentence ever. He was
17 unhappy about giving that 48-month sentence because the
18 Department of Justice, it wasn't these prosecutors, it was
19 another prosecutor that has since left the office, told
20 Judge Corrigan that these sentences -- it turned off on me.

21 THE COURT: We are trying to put it back on for
22 you. There it is.

23 MR. MARKUS: So what he said was that he asked a
24 direct question about whether or not these sentences were in
25 line with other antitrust cases, and he was told that they

1 were.

2 You know, Your Honor, and now what we're hearing
3 is, well, since this judge issued that sentence, this is
4 sort of the new normal. But this judge wasn't told the
5 truth about what the average antitrust sentence was. And he
6 felt that the Department of Justice should have done that.
7 He says that he was told by the Department of Justice that
8 he was giving Mr. Baci the longest jail term ever imposed
9 for a single antitrust violation. He wasn't told about
10 this.

11 And so what does the First Circuit say? The First
12 Circuit says that there has -- the aim in sentencing is a
13 national uniformity focusing upon the common standard and
14 looking at how most cases of the same kind were treated.
15 That's what the First Circuit has consistently said about
16 sentencing.

17 So what do we see about average sentences in
18 antitrust cases? They are nowhere near the monster sentence
19 that they are asking for here. They are asking for a
20 sentence -- in 2004, the average sentence was 15 months for
21 someone in criminal history Category 1 like Mr. Peake. The
22 median sentence was 12 months. They are asking -- that's
23 one year. They are asking for over seven years, Your Honor.
24 Seven times higher than the average sentence. It is not
25 right. You don't get seven times the sentence because you

1 go to trial, and even, by the way, for people who do go to
2 trial, Your Honor.

3 The AUO case, on the next slide. This was a
4 recent case in San Francisco where the volume of commerce
5 was \$2.3 billion with a "B." These prosecutors told the
6 judge it was the worst antitrust case in the history of
7 antitrust sentences. They didn't just ask for seven years
8 in that case, they asked for ten years, the maximum
9 sentence. They told the judge in San Francisco, "Give the
10 guy ten years."

11 So they said they want to compare apples to
12 apples. They asked for more than they are asking for Frank
13 Peake. And you know what the judge said? "No way. That's
14 unreasonable. You guys are trying to make a new normal here
15 where the antitrust sentences are off the charts, and it is
16 not going to fly."

17 So what happened? They asked for ten years. The
18 most serious price fixing cartel ever prosecuted by the
19 United States. That's what they told the judge. And what
20 did Judge Illston say? She said no. She gave 36 months to
21 the top executives. And she said: "The defendants thought
22 they were doing the right thing vis-a-vis their industries
23 and their companies. They weren't, but that's what they
24 thought at the time. I don't mean to suggest they didn't
25 know it was illegal. I think they did know it was illegal,

1 but there were a lot of business pressures that they were
2 responding to, and that's what they did. These were poor
3 choices, it was bad judgment. There was relatively little
4 personal motivation."

5 And then she compares and contrasts to mail fraud
6 and other fraud cases where they are smaller dollar amounts,
7 but --

8 THE COURT: Can we really say that there was
9 relatively little personal motivation when the bonuses were
10 going up?

11 MR. MARKUS: Same in this case, Your Honor.

12 THE COURT: Am I being snookered? No, right?

13 MR. MARKUS: No, Your Honor.

14 THE COURT: Fine.

15 MR. MARKUS: No. In fact, that's the whole point
16 here, is that Mr. Peake's salary wasn't changed by this
17 case. In fact, Your Honor pointed out at trial, the bonuses
18 were relatively modest compared to what the company was
19 making. These weren't big bonuses. And, in fact, the
20 bonuses were less because he took part of the profits and
21 reinvested them.

22 Your Honor, in 2007, his bonus was less than
23 \$90,000. Every year his bonus went down, 2006 to 2007 to
24 2008, his bonuses went down, from 145 to 90 to 45,000. His
25 salary remained constant at about 230,000.

1 THE COURT: Yes. But during the years that there
2 was no conspiracy, or very little conspiracy, he didn't have
3 those types of bonus.

4 MR. SNYDER: He wasn't there, Your Honor. He
5 wasn't at the company before the conspiracy. He didn't
6 start the conspiracy. He wasn't there before the
7 conspiracy. They offered him --

8 THE COURT: He was there in 2003, right?

9 MR. MARKUS: Yes. The conspiracy started in 2002,
10 and he was offered --

11 THE COURT: Do we have the bonuses?

12 MR. MARKUS: We have them from 2005, 2006, 2007 --

13 MR. SNYDER: We may have them from an earlier
14 time, but I think we were limited in the years we could put
15 in. I can't remember the answer to that. He certainly
16 would have gotten them in 2004, 2005. I don't remember
17 2003, if the company was profitable.

18 MR. MARKUS: Your Honor, just one point about it
19 is the bonuses were much less than it could have been
20 because Frank Peake reinvested the profits into the port of
21 Puerto Rico. So those took away from the profitability of
22 the company, and his bonuses were less than they otherwise
23 could have been. By the way, no difference than the AUO
24 case where the executives there were making money. The
25 point is that they weren't stealing money and putting it in

1 their pockets.

2 So how do Judge Illston's comments compare here?
3 They compare with exact accuracy. He was trying to do the
4 right thing versus his industry and his company, that's what
5 we have heard about in the letters that Ms. Moss talked
6 about. A lot of business pressures, we heard that the
7 companies were all losing money and going to go under before
8 this happened. He invested 72 million in capital
9 improvements for Sea Star and the port. And he didn't
10 receive kickbacks, launder money, embezzle, any of those
11 things that we see typically as hallmarks of the fraud case.

12 By the way, Peter Baci says the same thing.
13 Here's Peter Baci, Your Honor.

14 (WHEREUPON, a video was played, with audio as
15 follows:)

16 VOICE 1: The competitive nature and the
17 profitability of not only Sea Star, but all the other
18 companies involved in the shipping from Puerto Rico to
19 Jacksonville.

20 VOICE 2: Well, in 1998 when Sea Star came into
21 the marketplace, the market can best be described as being
22 overtonnaged, where rather supply of container capacity far
23 exceeded the requirements to ship goods back and forth to
24 Puerto Rico. So it drove a pricing decline. Ships were
25 running around at about maybe 60 percent of their capacity,

1 it was too much capacity, and the prices were dropping every
2 day.

3 We estimated that the year 2000 or 2001, that the
4 five carriers in that trade lost a collective hundred
5 million dollars on revenues that might have been 800 million
6 dollars. So it was a bloodbath. Everybody was losing
7 money, nobody was making enough money to reinvest in the
8 business. It was just -- it was a disaster.

9 (Video ended.)

10 MR. MARKUS: We hear from Peter Baci as well about
11 the state of the industry and why those volume of commerce
12 numbers that the prosecutor is pounding on really overstate
13 the culpability in the case.

14 There are other cases, of course. I know
15 Your Honor pointed out earlier in this proceeding that New
16 York in the Second Circuit are cases that Your Honor looks
17 to sometimes as persuasive. Here's another bid rigging case
18 where the guidelines, because there was mail fraud involved,
19 had guidelines close to 20 years, because they were the
20 product of greed and arrogance, according to the
21 prosecution. In fact, the defendants even received
22 kickbacks, and the defendant's businesses were affected by
23 these crimes.

24 And so what happened in this case? Judge Wood
25 issued sentences way below the guidelines, and people still

1 plead guilty, people aren't rushing to go to trial because
2 of it, trials have decreased every year. And you see the
3 sentences there. 18 months, 27 months, 16 months, way under
4 the guidelines.

5 It is okay to sentence under the guidelines,
6 Your Honor. There's no presumption that a guideline
7 sentence is appropriate.

8 Other antitrust cases. Here's the automotive
9 case. This case, Eric Holder said in late September that it
10 is the largest investigation the antitrust division has ever
11 pursued, over \$5 billion in commerce.

12 You can see some of the other factors there on
13 that case. And some of the sentences, 12 months, 14 months,
14 for some of the top executives.

15 Now, those cases are a little different because
16 those two individuals didn't go to trial. So we have to
17 look at similarly situated defendants in other cartels. Why
18 should we look in other cartels even though Mr. Snyder says
19 we shouldn't? The person formally in his position said we
20 should. Scott Hammond said that we should look to similarly
21 situated defendants in other cartels to be proportionate.

22 Why should we be proportionate? Because that's
23 what the guidelines say we should strive to be. Give
24 proportionate sentences. It is one of the main goals of
25 3553. And, by the way, Your Honor, one of the reasons you

1 should consider the juror's note, the juror in his letter is
2 talking about proportionality. The juror heard the evidence
3 about Baci and Serra. The juror absolutely -- and I take
4 exception to Your Honor's order. The juror did know about
5 acceptance of responsibility. The juror did know about
6 cooperation. There was extensive testimony that they got
7 credit for those things.

8 THE COURT: They may have forgotten it when they
9 wrote the letter.

10 MR. MARKUS: Judge, the jury listened to the
11 evidence, and they came to a conclusion about who was the
12 most culpable and who deserved the most punishment and
13 didn't --

14 THE COURT: But that's not the role. The role is
15 over here.

16 MR. MARKUS: Absolutely. It is something the
17 Court is to consider under the proportionality under 3553,
18 Your Honor.

19 And so if we want to be proportionate, and we want
20 to look at the most egregious cases after trial, here's
21 examples of the AUO case with the same prosecutors where
22 they asked for ten years, getting three years and two years
23 of the New York case. There have been 72 defendants
24 sentenced between 2006 and 2011, Your Honor. 72 antitrust
25 defendants. 60 of those defendants have gotten under the

1 guidelines. That is what judges around the country have
2 been doing in these antitrust cases. They have not listened
3 to these requests for ten years, for seven years. These
4 requests that the prosecutors are trying to do, by the way,
5 to discourage trials. There aren't going to be many left.
6 That's what our country was founded on, Your Honor.

7 What about the First Circuit? What does the First
8 Circuit say about big variances, Your Honor? The First
9 Circuit says you absolutely have the discretion to do it.
10 And in a similar case just last year in United States vs.
11 Prosperi, the district Judge Stearns went down from 87
12 months to probation. 18 months of probation, and talked
13 about how the loss amount overstated the culpability, talked
14 about the motivation was for seeing the company succeed just
15 like Peter Baci talked about.

16 Your Honor, even if the guidelines, and we
17 disagree with the prosecutors about this, but even if the
18 guidelines don't take into account the reasonableness of the
19 sentence, the Court can still take that into account. And
20 you know what I haven't heard from the prosecutors today?
21 Anything to rebut what Baci and Serra said about the prices
22 being unreasonably low before the conspiracy started and
23 that customers weren't cheated from the conspiracy. And
24 that is something the Court can consider under 3553. The
25 guidelines overstate culpability here.

1 And the First Circuit, Your Honor, affirms
2 variances like the one we are asking for. Because Frank
3 Peake is just like the defendants in Prosperi. Just like
4 the defendants in Prosperi, Your Honor.

5 I am going to skip over the next slide here
6 because I know I am sort of using up too much of my time. I
7 am getting close to the end, Your Honor.

8 This is Eric Holder, our Attorney General, who
9 says that too many Americans go to too many prisons for far
10 too long and for no good law enforcement reason. I can read
11 it to you, but here he is himself saying it.

12 (WHEREUPON, the video was played, with audio, to
13 wit:)

14 VOICE: It's clear as we come together today that
15 too many Americans go to too many prisons for far too long,
16 and for no truly good law enforcement reason. It is clear
17 that at a very basic level, the 20th century criminal
18 justice solutions are not adequate to overcome our 21st
19 century challenges. And, again, it is well past time to
20 implement commonsense changes that will foster safer
21 communities from coast to coast. Today, and together, we
22 must declare that we will no longer settle for such an
23 unjust and unsustainable status quo. To do so would be to
24 betray our history, our shared commitment to justice, and
25 the founding principles of our nation. And this is our

1 solemn obligation as stewards of the law and servants of
2 those whom it protects and empowers, to open a frank and
3 constructive dialogue about the need to reform a broken
4 system, to fight for the sweeping systemic changes that we
5 need, and to uphold dearest values, as the ABA always has,
6 by calling on our peers and colleagues, not merely to serve
7 their clients, nor to win their cases, but to ensure that in
8 every case, in every circumstance, and in every community,
9 justice is done.

10 (Video ended.)

11 MR. MARKUS: Your Honor, so even though --

12 THE COURT: You know, you are one step ahead of
13 the Puerto Rican lawyers because they only give me the
14 transcript of that.

15 MR. MARKUS: I am trying, Judge. I am trying. I
16 think it is powerful to hear the man say --

17 THE COURT: I have heard that many times. You are
18 way ahead of them.

19 MR. MARKUS: He just said it this summer, and it
20 has been a constant theme.

21 THE COURT: I know. I have seen the transcript of
22 exactly that.

23 MR. MARKUS: And I think we even heard Mr. Snyder,
24 sort of snuck out of him when he said that the guideline was
25 severe in this case. And, you know, he said, you know, even

1 if you go under the guideline, it should be more than Baci.

2 I mean, I think we heard even from that, that a
3 guideline sentence in this case is just not appropriate. So
4 the question is how much lower should we go. And we have a
5 big disagreement with the Government about how much lower it
6 should go. They say it shouldn't go that much lower because
7 the conspiracy could not have succeeded without Frank Peake.
8 And I am just going to address a couple of the arguments
9 that they say.

10 It did exist without Mr. Peake, Your Honor. It
11 existed when Baci and Serra started it in 2002 without Frank
12 Peake. It operated without him, it had the parameters
13 without him. It was going. It was humming right along
14 without Frank Peake. Baci ran the conspiracy, even under
15 the Government's theory, without Frank Peake around. And
16 even according to Baci, he only spoke to Peake every three
17 months, at most.

18 They also say that the sentence should be higher
19 than Baci's because Frank Peake could have stopped the
20 conspiracy anytime. But that's true of any defendant that
21 appears before you, right? Any defendant can call up the
22 authorities and stop it or do whatever. That's not the
23 point. The point is what is the relative culpability. All
24 these other 3553 factors. And, again, I point to the jury
25 and the other things we have said about here. But forget

1 about that. The facts are that the conspiracy was humming
2 along without Frank Peake.

3 In both their opening statement and their closing
4 statement, they never said that Frank Peake was the
5 mastermind of this conspiracy. They didn't use that word.
6 I know Your Honor put that in the order. The Government
7 doesn't even say that, Judge. The Government said he was an
8 occasional problem solver. That's what the Government said,
9 that's what the jury said. And if you believe the
10 Government that he was an occasional problem solver, that's
11 why he should get less than Peter Baci.

12 THE COURT: He is not the mastermind when he's not
13 there. But he was the problem solver.

14 MR. MARKUS: That's different than being the
15 mastermind, though, Your Honor. Peter Baci decided what
16 customers to use, what rates to increase, set out the plan,
17 did all these things. Peter Baci had a higher volume of
18 commerce. Peter Baci obstructed justice. Peter Baci
19 deserves a higher sentence than Frank Peake. Yes, Mr. Peake
20 went to trial. So that factor doesn't apply to Baci, but
21 Baci has all these other bad factors.

22 And so some of these we go through in this slide,
23 and we have talked about them. The obstruction issues, the
24 higher volume of commerce issues, the architects of the
25 conspiracy. Those things apply to Baci and Serra. They do

1 not apply to Mr. Peake.

2 I know the prosecutors want you to disregard the
3 jury sentencing recommendation. I know the Court has issued
4 the order. I point out that there is case law saying that
5 you have the discretion to consider it. I remind the Court
6 the jurors are randomly selected from the Puerto Rican
7 community. We've made a big issue about how they were the
8 victims in --

9 THE COURT: You know, I really don't understand
10 then. The Court has the discretion to consider. Oh, yes,
11 the discretion. But not to follow it. It is not their job.

12 MR. MARKUS: No one is saying it is their job,
13 Judge. No one's saying that they have the binding authority
14 on the Court. But the reason that --

15 THE COURT: This is not a death penalty case.
16 There the jurors decide.

17 MR. MARKUS: Sometimes. Sometimes.

18 THE COURT: No, I think they always decide.

19 MR. MARKUS: In federal court.

20 THE COURT: But in state law, maybe, but here, in
21 federal court, it is the jury that decides death issues, not
22 the judge.

23 MR. MARKUS: But, Your Honor, one point that we
24 raised before trial was that the case shouldn't be in Puerto
25 Rico because there was an issue with the jury being victims

1 of the crime. And you said, "You know what? I have faith,"
2 the Court said, "that the jury can put that aside and listen
3 objectively."

4 And here's the jury giving their opinions after
5 hearing this. And the prosecutors just want to sweep that
6 aside. I think the Court can, doesn't have to say, "Okay,
7 well, just because the juror does it, I am going to do it."
8 No, but you can consider it and give it some weight in
9 coming to your determination. These are jurors who listened
10 to the evidence, were victims according to the Government.
11 The Court said, no, they can listen and be fair. Here's
12 prosecutors telling them that their school lunch price
13 increased, and here they come back, and a juror
14 conscientiously tells the Court, strongly, two times,
15 Mr. Peake should get less than the real bad guys in the
16 case.

17 THE COURT: So they didn't do a bad job in
18 weighing the evidence.

19 MR. MARKUS: We disagree with the conclusion that
20 they came out on guilt.

21 THE COURT: But you like the --

22 MR. MARKUS: Well, listen. If you are going to
23 take -- the Government can't have it both ways. And the
24 Court --

25 THE COURT: You can't have it both ways either.

1 MR. MARKUS: Well, we are stuck with the verdict.
2 We are going to appeal it because we disagree. We are stuck
3 with the verdict, but we are saying, if the Court is going
4 to accept the verdict, let's listen to what the jurors have
5 to say about it. Let's listen to what the jurors have to
6 say about it, because it goes to the 3553 factors.

7 So what is a reasonable sentence for Mr. Peake?
8 We contend that his involvement for the reasons that we have
9 stated is much less than the other players. I know I have
10 beaten this horse dead, but the juror recognized his lesser
11 involvement. Ms. Moss talked about how he is respected, a
12 good man, and I don't think that's at all been undercut by
13 any witness from the Government. The Government hasn't even
14 called one victim to testify here at sentencing, Your Honor.
15 None of them have submitted letters to the Court or anything
16 like this.

17 THE COURT: The United States is totally satisfied
18 that the victims have had their day and are still having
19 their day in the civil case, where they have been
20 remunerated.

21 MR. MARKUS: Okay.

22 THE COURT: That's what the argument is. That's
23 what the other side of the coin is.

24 MR. MARKUS: Right. This is Mr. Peake's day,
25 Your Honor, and so, you know, our position is that you have

1 to look at his background, his characteristics, and, you
2 know, he should not be sentenced to the highest sentence
3 ever in antitrust history by almost double. I don't think
4 Your Honor wants that on his record, I don't think Mr. Peake
5 deserves that on his.

6 What's a sufficient but not greater than sentence
7 that's necessary in this case, Your Honor? I am asking for
8 a nonjail time sentence. Just like the Prosperi judge did,
9 that was affirmed by the First Circuit. I believe that
10 community service with house arrest and the \$20,000 fine
11 would serve the community, would serve all of the 3553
12 factors in this case. He should get a lower sentence than
13 Baci and Serra. Putting him in jail for a couple of years
14 isn't going to do anybody any good. It is not going to
15 decrease trials like the prosecutor is saying. It is not
16 going to do any of these sorts of things. In fact, studies
17 have shown that sentencing has almost no effect on
18 deterrence, especially a federal sentence like this.

19 THE COURT: You know, these cases are kind of
20 difficult to prosecute if you don't have cooperators. So a
21 sentence below the cooperators' is a difficult sentence. It
22 is a very difficult sentence because you know very well that
23 without these witnesses, it is very difficult to try these
24 types of cases.

25 MR. MARKUS: The Government told you themselves --

1 THE COURT: Because there is no agreement,
2 although in this case there was one, but not as to him.

3 MR. MARKUS: Prosecutors told you they didn't need
4 the cooperators. They had the e-mails long before the
5 cooperators were around. So I disagree with the Court.
6 They told you a couple minutes ago that the cooperators
7 didn't help them all that much and they didn't need them in
8 this particular case.

9 So I disagree with the Court. And I disagree that
10 if Your Honor gives Mr. Peake a lower sentence, that people
11 are going to say, "Let's go to trial." There are factors
12 here. He didn't get obstruction of justice. He didn't get
13 the same volume of commerce numbers. He wasn't the
14 architect of the conspiracy. They can't just compare half
15 of the apple. If they want to compare apples to apples,
16 they have to look at all of those factors, Your Honor. The
17 jury, the voice of the Puerto Rican community told us what
18 was appropriate in this case.

19 They are not binding, but that is something that
20 is very powerful. I don't know if the Court has ever had a
21 juror, a foreperson of a jury send two letters to the Court.

22 THE COURT: No, I haven't.

23 MR. MARKUS: So I think that's a unique
24 circumstance about proportionality that can be considered.
25 Is it an easy thing to do, Your Honor? No. What I am

1 asking you to do is not an easy thing to do, but it is the
2 right thing to do.

3 I am asking the Court to do the right thing for
4 Mr. Peake. You are in that chair because it is not always
5 easy to do what you have to do, Your Honor. It is not easy
6 to sentence. It is not easy, especially in a case like
7 this. But the right thing to do in this case is to give
8 Mr. Peake under Baci and Serra. The jury knew it, the
9 factors all point to it under 3553, and I am asking the
10 Court to do the right thing here.

11 Thank you.

12 THE COURT: United States?

13 MR. SNYDER: Your Honor, there's a lot I could say
14 in response, but I will try to limit myself to three quick
15 points.

16 First, Frank Peake does deserve a sentence that's
17 higher than his subordinate who accepted responsibility five
18 years ago. And it just so happens that it will happen to be
19 the longest sentence. But that's not why we are here.

20 Let me first address the LCD sentences, the AUO
21 sentences. In LCD -- well, let me do a timeline for you.
22 April 2008, FBI searches Sea Star, Horizon, Crowley. That
23 fall, five individuals plead guilty and receive the
24 sentences that Your Honor is familiar with, including Peter
25 Baci of 48 months, Gabe Serra, 34 months.

1 Fast forward now to 2012. AUO executives are
2 convicted, the United States asks for longer sentences.
3 They asked for statutory max sentences to the two
4 senior-most executives. Having been one of the prosecutors
5 on that case, they were asked for at the direction of first
6 the deputy assistant Attorney General, who is referenced in
7 Mr. Peake's PowerPoint. And the Government sought those
8 sentences because they believed they were justified in that
9 case, and they were actually below guideline sentences
10 because ten years -- the guidelines were about ten years,
11 and ten years is the statutory max. That case, the judge
12 didn't agree that that was an appropriate sentence and
13 sentenced them to 36 months.

14 Fast forward several more months. Mr. Peake is
15 convicted and now is facing sentencing. How perverse would
16 the result be if Mr. Baci, Mr. Serra, Mr. Gill, all got the
17 sentences they got, but Mr. Peake by waiting, by not
18 cooperating, not accepting responsibility, letting years of
19 the investigation go by as the Government's investigating
20 Puerto Rico and investigating other jurisdictions that were
21 under investigation, other trade lines that were under
22 investigation, goes through trial and now can say, "Hey,
23 because another judge in another case sentenced people who
24 were arguably worse than me, to less, therefore, I can get
25 to rely on those sentences." What does that say? How does

1 that incentivize cooperation? How does that incentivize
2 somebody to take responsibility. How is that fair to
3 Mr. Baci, Mr. Serra, Mr. Gill, who all recognize what they
4 did, and pled guilty.

5 It wouldn't be. It would be the absolute
6 opposite. It would disincentivize cooperation, and that is
7 something that the cases uniformly say you should take into
8 account in considering whether a higher sentence for
9 somebody who doesn't plead guilty is a sentencing disparity.
10 Those cases hold that it isn't. And that's why AUO is an
11 outlier on a number of different grounds.

12 It just was a different investigation. Those
13 executives received two and a half times -- those 36-month
14 sentences represented two and a half times the sentence
15 received by the highest level cooperator at 14 months.

16 As we noted in our papers, if Mr. Peake were to
17 receive a sentence two and a half times larger than
18 Mr. Baci, he would be right at 120 months, the statutory
19 max. Of course, we are not asking for that.

20 But to say that Mr. Peake should get the benefit
21 of now being able to point to sentences handed down after
22 his coconspirators pled guilty and accepted responsibility,
23 it would be an absolute incentive not to cooperate or accept
24 responsibility.

25 Mr. Markus said we haven't said the rates were

1 unreasonable. One, the case law doesn't require it. And,
2 two, I think we can let the MDL speak for itself. The MDL
3 was full of people suing because they believed the rates
4 that they had been charged were unreasonable.

5 So I think it seems that the Government -- it
6 seems a little too obvious to even have to state. The
7 Government believes the rates were unreasonable. The proof
8 is in the MDL pudding, and litigation that continues to go
9 on and on and on of victims who were victimized by this
10 conspiracy and are seeking recovery.

11 Finally, with respect to the juror letter. I will
12 leave it with this: Where are the other 11 letters? Where
13 are all these other jurors that we keep hearing about who,
14 by God, they wouldn't have convicted but for if they had
15 known? You haven't seen any of those letters. You have
16 letters from one juror who clearly hesitated to even cast a
17 guilty verdict to begin with, and is very clear on the face
18 of his letter, and under rule 608(b), this is precisely the
19 reason we are not permitted to consider the internal
20 workings of the jury deliberation room in deciding whether a
21 new trial is appropriate or certainly in considering the
22 propriety of the sentence where, of course, the jurors
23 have no understanding of the guidelines and the different
24 factors that Your Honor is supposed to consider in deciding
25 a reasonable sentence.

1 That's all I have, Your Honor. Thank you.

2 THE COURT: The Court recesses.

3 (WHEREUPON, a recess was had from 4:16 p.m. to
4 4:59 p.m.)

5 THE COURT: Okay. Is there any reason why the
6 Court should not at this time pronounce sentence?

7 MR. MARKUS: No.

8 THE COURT: The defendant will move with both
9 counsel to the front, please.

10 On January 29, 2013, defendant Frank Peake was
11 found guilty of Count 1 of the indictment in criminal case
12 number 11-512, which charges a violation of Title 15, USC,
13 Section 1, a Class C felony, conspiracy to suppress and
14 eliminate competition by agreeing to fix rates and
15 surcharges for Puerto Rico freight services.

16 The November 1, 2013 edition of the United States
17 sentencing guidelines, which is the same as the guideline of
18 November of 2007, has been used to apply the guideline
19 adjustments pursuant to the provisions of guideline
20 1B1.11(a). Based on the provisions of guideline 2R1.1(a), a
21 base offense level of 12 has been determined, as Mr. Peake
22 was found guilty of price fixing. Because Mr. Peake agreed
23 to submit noncompetitive bids, an additional level is
24 warranted pursuant to guideline section 2R1.1(b)(1). Since
25 the volume of commerce attributed to Mr. Peake was more than

1 500 million, a 12 level increase is authorized pursuant to
2 guideline section 2R1.1(b)(2)(F).

3 It is the Court's opinion that notwithstanding the
4 exempt status of certain cargo pointed out by the defense,
5 the Court is of the opinion that all this cargo was
6 contaminated by the bunker fuel incorporation antitrust
7 agreement into the rate.

8 Because Mr. Peake was a chief executive officer of
9 Sea Star, who had the authority over other employees
10 participating in the conspiracy, he acted as a leader,
11 negotiator, and ultimate decision maker in the criminal
12 activity that involved five or more participants, 4 levels
13 are added pursuant to guideline 3B1.1(a).

14 The slides produced in the defense presentation,
15 which is going to move the Court to provide a variance, also
16 showed that there was more than four persons in the
17 conspiracy. I refer to page 7, where at least five persons
18 are alleged to have participated in the conspiracy, and with
19 Mr. Peake it would be six.

20 Based on a total offense level of 29 and a
21 criminal history category of 1, the guideline imprisonment
22 range for this offense is from 87 to 108 months, a fine of
23 \$20,000 to \$1 million, plus a supervised release term of at
24 least one year, and not more than three years.

25 The Court has reviewed the advisory guideline

1 calculations, and finds that the pre-sentence investigation
2 report has adequately applied the guideline computations,
3 and that it satisfactorily reflects the component of this
4 offense by considering its nature and circumstances. The
5 Court has also considered the other sentencing factors set
6 forth in Title 21 USC.

7 Mr. Frank Peake is a 51-year-old man with a
8 bachelors degree in accounting and a masters degree in
9 business administration. He has a history of formal
10 employment in the shipping industry, specifically, Mr. Peake
11 worked as a manager, a vice president, and president of Sea
12 Land Corporation, Sea CSX Line, Sea Star, and American
13 Shipping Group.

14 During all that time there's absolutely no
15 evidence that there was any violation of -- other than his
16 time in this conspiracy, to any maritime law or any other
17 business related law or any personal criminal violation.

18 Mr. Peake has no history of substance abuse, but
19 admits to consumption of alcohol in excess, which the Court
20 will provide him the 500 hours of intensive alcohol
21 treatment, which may warrant that his sentence be reduced
22 one year should he comply. But that determination is not
23 under the control of the Court.

24 In regards to the offense, however, Mr. Peake
25 played a critical role in the success of the conspiracy. He

1 approved his subordinates' illegal conduct and directly
2 participated in many key price-fixing meetings and
3 communications, and they are all well expressed at pages 6
4 and 7 of the United States sentencing memorandum. I have
5 counted at least 5 critical events, which I have placed
6 under the Rule 29 opinion, and now incorporate under my
7 sentencing conclusions in this case.

8 The Court also amends its opinion by stating that
9 he is the mastermind, that the word "mastermind" is wrongly
10 placed. He is not "the mastermind," but he is a critical
11 person in the successful operation of the scheme since July
12 2005 to the date the conspiracy ended in April.

13 He did receive training in antitrust relations and
14 could have put a stop to the conspiracy at any time.
15 Instead, he allowed it to continue and took the lead in
16 several aspects because he was benefiting indirectly by the
17 bonus compensation which he was receiving.

18 The Court has also considered the negative impact
19 the conspiracy had on business in Puerto Rico. The
20 conspiracy succeeded in raising all components of the prices
21 because the vast majority of the transportation industry was
22 affected. 85 percent, pursuant to testimony of Mr. Baci.
23 The customers, therefore, found that shipping rates
24 increased significantly every year, but they had no other
25 alternative.

1 The Court recognizes that when Mr. Peake entered
2 into the conspiracy, there was a severe pressure on him to
3 have the company and the industry succeed as the industry
4 and the companies were having serious economic difficulties.
5 However, the saving of the maritime industry affected all
6 the transportation costs of the industry, up to, as I stated
7 before, 85 percent.

8 Although there were no kickbacks nor
9 under-the-table payments, Mr. Peake did receive considerable
10 bonuses, which increased his salary significantly during his
11 participation in the conspiracy.

12 Before finishing this part of the opinion,
13 however, the Court must analyze a potential disparity in
14 sentence between the defendant and Mr. Baci. The Court
15 knows that Mr. Baci was sentenced to 48 months, which would
16 mean a sentence at level 22. But his volume of commerce is
17 2 points higher than the volume of Mr. Peake, as Mr. Baci
18 received apparently a 14 point assessment under the volume
19 of business as he was in the conspiracy for a longer period.
20 Further, Mr. Baci had 2 points placed on him due to
21 obstruction of justice.

22 However, the Court, upon reading the pre-sentence
23 report, finds that Mr. Peake was not entirely truthful, as
24 in his first interviews with the FBI he denied any
25 participation whatsoever in his initial interviews. He

1 eventually provided a veiled acceptance of having some
2 participation. Therefore, the Court understands that there
3 is only a difference of 1 point in this last mentioned
4 respect between Mr. Baci and Mr. Peake.

5 Now, however, if the Court places now Mr. Peake at
6 level 19 to equate him with Mr. Baci, the Court must also
7 then proceed to add to Mr. Peake, in order to put him at the
8 same level of Baci, we have to add to him 6 points; 3 points
9 for acceptance of responsibility, and at least 3 points for
10 the assistance in prosecution which was granted to Mr. Baci.

11 However, Mr. Peake warrants, in the opinion of the
12 Court, consideration for his personal characteristics
13 outside the business pressure, which contributed to his
14 participation in the conspiracy.

15 Therefore, the Court ends at a level 24, and,
16 therefore, grants a 1 level mitigation. This means that his
17 potential sentence is between 51 and 63. But the Court must
18 also make a differential between Baci and Peake because of
19 the fact that, obviously, Peake was over Baci, and Peake
20 particularly had the ability to solve problems when Baci and
21 his equal codefendant in other companies did not have an
22 agreement.

23 Therefore, it is the finding of this Court that
24 Mr. Peake is to be sentenced to 60 months. It is also the
25 judgment of the Court that Mr. Frank Peake is to be fined

1 \$25,000 to be paid forthwith. Upon release from confinement
2 Mr. Peake shall be placed on supervised release for a term
3 of three years, to be served under the following terms and
4 conditions:

5 He shall observe the standard conditions of
6 supervised release recommended by the United States
7 Sentencing Commission and adopted by this Court.

8 He shall not commit another federal, state, or
9 local crime.

10 He shall not possess firearms, destructive
11 devices, or other dangerous weapons.

12 He shall not possess controlled substances
13 unlawfully.

14 He shall not use liquor excessively, and shall
15 submit to alcohol tests within 15 days of release from
16 imprisonment. After his release, Mr. Peake shall submit to
17 random alcohol testing, not less than three samples during
18 the supervised period, but not to exceed 104 samples per
19 year, in accordance with the drug aftercare program policy
20 of the United States Probation Office, which includes
21 alcohol, and has been approved by this Court.

22 If substance abuse or drugs is detected in any
23 sample, Mr. Peake shall participate in an inpatient or
24 outpatient substance abuse treatment program for evaluation
25 or treatment as arranged by the United States Probation

1 Office based on his ability to pay or ability of payment by
2 third parties as approved by the Court.

3 He shall participate in vocational training or job
4 placement program as recommended by the United States
5 probation officer. He shall provide the probation officer
6 access to any financial information.

7 Upon request, he shall cooperate in the collection
8 of a DNA sample as directed by the probation officer,
9 pursuant to the revised DNA collection requirements and
10 Title 18, US Code, Section 3563(a) (9).

11 The defendant shall perform 250 hours of community
12 service as monitored by the United States probation officer
13 in a nonprofit organization.

14 A special monetary assessment in the amount of
15 \$100 is imposed as required by law.

16 Has that been paid, Mr. Markus?

17 MR. MARKUS: The \$100, not yet, Your Honor.

18 THE COURT: Okay. The Court grants him ten days
19 to pay that.

20 MR. MARKUS: Thank you.

21 THE COURT: I think he has ability to pay.

22 The defendant is ordered under 3553, 18 USC
23 3553(a) (2) (D), he is ordered to receive from the Bureau of
24 Prisons while under custody the 500 hours for alcohol abuse.
25 Under this program, sir, you are entitled to up to one year

1 reduction in sentence if you pass the alcohol test, which is
2 given separately than the drug testing. This is separate
3 within the same program. The Court understands that the
4 Court is warranted to issue this order under paragraph 75
5 and 77 of the pre-sentence report.

6 After sentencing reminder: You have a right to
7 appeal this sentence since you have been found guilty after
8 a plea of not guilty under federal rule of criminal
9 procedure 32(a)(2).

10 Notice of appeal shall be filed in the district of
11 Puerto Rico within 14 days from today when the judgment of
12 the Court will be entered.

13 Under rule 4(b), you have a right to apply for
14 leave to appeal in forma pauperis if you are unable to pay
15 the cost of an appeal under federal rule 32(a)(2).

16 If you are represented by court-appointed counsel,
17 he or she will continue. But you are not. You are
18 represented by counsel of your choice.

19 You will be given credit toward your sentence for
20 any day spent in federal custody.

21 Did he spend any time under federal custody?

22 MR. MARKUS: One day, Judge.

23 THE COURT: That's not too much of a credit, but a
24 credit of one day is ordered.

25 In connection with the offense for which the

1 sentence has been imposed, the Court allows you to remain
2 under the same bail conditions. However, the Court orders
3 that the drug testing -- the alcohol testing is to be made
4 in the district that you are residing in.

5 The Court does not want further DUIs on your part,
6 and if you do and the matter is repeated, you could have
7 your bail revoked.

8 THE DEFENDANT: Yes, Your Honor.

9 THE COURT: All right. That ends the matter,
10 gentlemen.

11 MR. MARKUS: Your Honor, if --

12 THE COURT: What the Court has done is equate him
13 to Baci, in a way equate him to Baci, because the Court
14 understands that, yes, Baci was the day-to-day officer, but
15 on the other hand, this gentleman was the gentleman that
16 could resolve all the problems that were occurring between
17 Baci and his codefendants of the same level of Baci. And,
18 hence, the Court understands that he participated in at
19 least five events, which are correctly and very well
20 narrated by the United States at pages 6 and 7 of their
21 sentencing memorandum.

22 Yes, Mr. Markus?

23 MR. MARKUS: Yes, Your Honor. Obviously, I
24 preserve and re-raise all our previous objections and
25 arguments.

1 I would like to ask for a recommendation that if
2 after the appeal the conviction and sentence is affirmed,
3 that Mr. Peake be able to do his sentence at Fort Dix, which
4 is close to his home.

5 THE COURT: Well, you are coming back here. I
6 think you are coming back. But fine.

7 MR. MARKUS: There's been a judgment.

8 THE COURT: You have to come back for the
9 judgment. And then I will recommend the place where he
10 goes. All right. That's what I will do.

11 MR. MARKUS: I think if Your Honor issues a JNC
12 today, so that we can appeal from it, we would just ask
13 that --

14 THE COURT: Fine. Fine. Yes. I will do it.
15 Yes. I don't want to delay the appeal. You are right.

16 The Court authorizes that he serve his sentence at
17 Fort Dix, New Jersey.

18 MR. MARKUS: Yes, Your Honor.

19 THE COURT: Okay. That's where it is. Fort Dix,
20 New Jersey. Although I want to advise you that the best
21 custodial place to serve white collar crime where there's no
22 violence, where you may have been induced to crime due to
23 some circumstances is not in Fort Dix, but it is in Florida.

24 MR. MARKUS: There's --

25 THE COURT: But the time has not arrived yet. I

1 have issued the order to the preference you have requested.

2 MR. MARKUS: Yes, Your Honor.

3 THE COURT: Study it, because there is a place in
4 Florida where persons serving white collar crimes in Puerto
5 Rico have been sent. There are no bars. There's a door
6 that shuts down for everybody, but there are no bars,
7 there's a yellow line where they can't pass, and they have
8 total liberty during the entire day.

9 MR. MARKUS: Thank you, Your Honor.

10 The only other request I would make is if in the
11 event the conviction and sentence are affirmed, Mr. Peake
12 have 45 days or something like this to surrender or come
13 back to the Court so that he doesn't have to -- there's no
14 issue about him having to report that very day or not.

15 THE COURT: No. No.

16 What the Court will do is we will allow him 45
17 days to surrender.

18 MR. MARKUS: Thank you, Your Honor.

19 THE COURT: That's also part of the sentence.

20 Good luck, Mr. Peake.

21 THE DEFENDANT: Thank you, Your Honor.

22 THE COURTROOM DEPUTY: Surrender where?

23 THE COURT: He will surrender, if he surrenders,
24 he surrenders to Fort Dix, New Jersey, when the Bureau
25 states the date. And the Court will state the date, if it

1 is ahead of 45 days.

2 Mr. Snyder, anything from you?

3 MR. SNYDER: No, Your Honor.

4 THE COURT: Perhaps you think I have been too
5 lenient.

6 MR. SNYDER: Your Honor, I believe the sentence is
7 entirely appropriate for the case.

8 THE COURT: All right. Well, somehow I get the
9 impression that you both don't like the sentence.

10 The Court enters into the record the presentation
11 by counsel in slides, which was presented to the Court and
12 which the Court used only to establish that there were more
13 than four persons in the conspiracy.

14 Any objection thereto? Mr. Markus?

15 MR. MARKUS: To making that part of the record?
16 No.

17 THE COURT: Very well. Mr. Markus, I don't know
18 how much time you have to catch your plane, but get out of
19 here.

20 MR. MARKUS: I think we are going to try to catch
21 the later flight, Judge.

22 THE COURT: Okay.

23 THE COURTROOM DEPUTY: Judge, the allocution?

24 THE COURT: Oh, hold it. I don't want to make
25 this sentence illegal.

1 Sir, you are entitled to make an allocution. He
2 did not make an allocution.

3 MR. MARKUS: Judge, may I have a moment?

4 THE COURT: Yes.

5 (Short pause while the defendant and his counsel
6 conferred.)

7 THE DEFENDANT: No, thank you, Your Honor.

8 THE COURT: Sir, you are entitled to make an
9 allocution. The allocution may sway the Court to sentence
10 you lower or higher. It doesn't provide any guarantees, but
11 you are entitled by law, and the sentence will be illegal if
12 you are not entitled to make an allocution. But you are
13 entitled to waive it. And you are waiving it; is that
14 right?

15 MR. MARKUS: Well, Judge, to be fair, I think the
16 Court has determined what his sentence is. I mean, if
17 Your Honor is telling me that you truly have an open mind
18 about going lower --

19 THE COURT: Yes, I could have an open mind. But
20 there's no guarantee. There's no guarantee.

21 MR. MARKUS: I know there's no guarantee, but --

22 THE COURT: There is no guarantee either way.
23 Either way.

24 MR. MARKUS: Well --

25 THE COURT: I am granting you that opportunity.

1 MR. MARKUS: Let me have a moment, Your Honor.

2 (Short pause while the defendant and his counsel
3 conferred.)

4 MR. MARKUS: Mr. Peake was planning on addressing
5 the Court before the announcement of sentence, and he would
6 still like to address the Court.

7 THE COURT: Very well. Okay.

8 MR. MARKUS: And I would ask the Court to keep an
9 open mind about going a little lower, based on his
10 statement.

11 THE DEFENDANT: Your Honor, first of all, thank
12 you for giving me this opportunity. Can I use the ELMO?

13 THE COURT: You may.

14 THE DEFENDANT: What I wanted to do, Your Honor, I
15 wanted to take this opportunity to introduce you to my
16 children.

17 THE COURT: Let me say this, that your children, I
18 saw them. They were illustrated precisely in the slide
19 presentation.

20 THE DEFENDANT: That's why I put it back up there.

21 THE COURT: Okay.

22 THE DEFENDANT: I just wanted to talk to you a
23 little bit about them.

24 THE COURT: Go ahead.

25 THE DEFENDANT: Because they really wanted to be

1 here today. I was the one that told them no, and that, you
2 know, they are in school, and they are working and doing a
3 lot of things. But my oldest, Nicole, she said, can you at
4 least tell the Judge about us. And so I said, yes, I will
5 tell the Judge about you.

6 All three of my kids, that's Frankie, Megan, and
7 Nicole, they are all teenagers. Nicole is 19, Frankie is
8 17, and Megan is 14. And I am sure Your Honor remembers
9 back to when your girls were teenagers.

10 THE COURT: I have three girls. They were all
11 teenagers.

12 THE DEFENDANT: What a challenging time that was.
13 And in spite of those challenges, there is nothing on this
14 earth that I love more than these three children, and I am
15 sure Your Honor felt the same way about his girls.

16 The last two years have been difficult for me, but
17 I think even more so for these three kids. I have since the
18 day they were born, I have been their rock. I have read to
19 them every night when they were young. I have become
20 teacher and soccer coach and, you know, been to all their
21 games, and been to all their recitals, and have been with
22 them and become the one that they turned to the most when
23 there are issues in their lives, and particularly now in the
24 teenage years, there are lots of them. And they are all
25 approaching the college age and things of that nature.

1 The only reason I bring this up, Your Honor, is
2 because while I understand that I perhaps need to be
3 punished for my activities, I think the unfortunate
4 consequence, and trust me, I don't short the blame on this,
5 Your Honor, but the unfortunate consequence is these three
6 kids that you see, and the challenges that they will face
7 potentially without me for an extended period of time,
8 particularly given the fact that their mother has been
9 hospitalized now twice for nervous breakdowns in the past
10 year. So, clearly, my biggest concern is not for myself.
11 My biggest concern is for these three beautiful kids.

12 THE COURT: Well, as to that, I think your case is
13 going to take two and a half years in federal court in
14 Boston. This case, the record is enormous, and appeals are
15 lasting in Boston between 18 to 24 months. So you will
16 still have them for the next 24 months, from 18 to 24
17 months, all right.

18 Remember, the statement of the Court lasts until,
19 as of now, lasts until the First Circuit decides. That was
20 what I said. And I remind you that it did not include the
21 Supreme Court. But that's not written in stone or in iron.
22 Continue.

23 THE DEFENDANT: Your Honor, again, because they
24 couldn't be here to be with me today, I did want to at least
25 give them their moment in the spotlight because they deserve

1 it, and they are challenging, they are teenagers, but all
2 three of them are just great kids.

3 THE COURT: Is that the allocution?

4 THE DEFENDANT: That's it, Your Honor.

5 THE COURT: Okay. The Court is sincere with you
6 and advises you that the Court has taken that into
7 consideration already under two grounds. First, under the
8 ground that -- under the reasoning that I saw the
9 presentation being made, and, second, that I knew you were
10 not going to jail, and you will still have around 24 months,
11 which may be increased depending on what you state to the
12 Court about those three children. And it is important what
13 the mother is doing. This is like a downward departure for
14 family reasons.

15 THE DEFENDANT: She's getting some psychological
16 assistance.

17 THE COURT: Fine. All right. So this is
18 something that the Court may revisit. I know you are not an
19 ardent criminal. You are not running around with machine
20 guns, but I do feel that the case of the United States was
21 strong. After evaluating it carefully, I think it was
22 strong.

23 By the way, Mr. Markus, I examined those two
24 cases, and none of those two cases have the words
25 "reasonable price." None of them. None of them. Those two

1 cases that I mentioned to you, that is the two cases the
2 Court mentioned to you -- there were really three. I found
3 that there were really three cases. They were the cases of
4 Giordano, and Andreas, and Hayter Oil Company, and none of
5 the three had the words "reasonable pricing."

6 MR. MARKUS: But they do say "above market price."

7 THE COURT: They talk about market price, but not
8 "reasonable."

9 MR. MARKUS: Well, Your Honor --

10 THE COURT: Gentlemen, have a good flight home.
11 Mr. Markus, you are a big fighter and so is Mr. Snyder.

12 MR. MARKUS: Your Honor, I just want to say one
13 thing based on the allocution, which is, Your Honor
14 calculated the guidelines, I know, obviously, we disagree
15 with them, but the guidelines that you calculated with
16 taking into account everything came out to 51 to 63 months.
17 I think listening to the man and seeing him, we would just
18 ask Your Honor to give the low end of 51 months. At that
19 point, it is still more than Baci, but it would make a
20 difference to Mr. Peake, Your Honor.

21 THE COURT: I know it would be, we discussed it,
22 we discussed it thoroughly, but we thought that there had to
23 be a distinction with Mr. Baci because Mr. Baci went through
24 the procedure of timely accepting responsibility and going
25 through the pressure, that's like a pressure cooker of

1 sitting here and providing testimony against his good
2 friend.

3 THE DEFENDANT: He is not --

4 MR. MARKUS: Okay.

5 THE COURT: Well, fine. Maybe he is no longer
6 your good friend. But you worked together, and I saw his
7 face. It wasn't easy for him to testify, for none of those
8 cooperators that came to testify, none of them were having
9 fun testifying here. There was one that even approached you
10 to give you his hand, and I don't blame you for not giving
11 your hand to him. But, you know, he went through a lot of
12 pressure to testify. Maybe he exaggerated, I don't know.
13 He certainly went through -- he certainly suffered an
14 eloquent and diligent and hard cross-examination, all of
15 them, by two very competent lawyers.

16 So it is not easy to come in and testify against
17 persons that you have worked with and that they may have
18 admired you, yet they were as guilty as you as far as the
19 conviction is concerned.

20 Well, I don't think I will be seeing you again,
21 sir, because everything from here on can be performed in
22 writing, and I wish you good luck. You are still a young
23 man and you are going to come out a young man, and I wish
24 you good luck, sir.

25 THE DEFENDANT: Thank you, Your Honor.

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(WHEREUPON, at 5:35 p.m., the proceedings were
concluded.)

1 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT)
2 OF PUERTO RICO) ss.
3)
4)

5 **REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE**

6
7
8 I, ANNETTE M. MONTALVO, do hereby certify that the
9 above and foregoing, consisting of the preceding 121 pages,
10 constitutes a true and accurate transcript of my
11 stenographic notes and is a full, true and complete
12 transcript of the proceedings to the best of my ability.

13 Dated this 10th day of January, 2014.

14
15 S/Annette M. Montalvo
16 _____
17 Annette M. Montalvo, CSR, RDR
18 Official Court Reporter
19 José V. Toledo U.S. Courthouse
20 300 Recinto Sur Street
21 San Juan, PR 00901
22 847-370-7335
23
24
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