

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
MIDDLE DISTRICT OF FLORIDA
FORT MYERS DIVISION

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,	)	Fort Myers, Florida
	)	
	)	Case 2:21-CR-74-JLB-MRM
Plaintiff	)	
	)	Wednesday, October 12, 2021
vs.	)	
	)	1:55 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.
ANTHONY JAMES BRUEY, and	)	
AMBER REWIS BRUEY,	)	
	)	
Defendants.	)	
_____	)	

TRANSCRIPT OF STATUS CONFERENCE
HELD BEFORE THE HONORABLE THOMAS P. BARBER,
United States District Court Judge

Official Court Reporter:
Jeffrey G. Thomas, RPR, CRR
2110 First Street, Suite 2-194
Fort Myers, FL 33901
Telephone: (239) 461-2033

*(Proceedings reported by Stenotype; Transcript produced by
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A P P E A R A N C E S

COUNSEL FOR GOVERNMENT:

United States Attorney's Office
Middle District of Florida
United States Courthouse
2110 First Street
Room 3-137
Fort Myers, FL 33901
(239) 461-2200
BY: TRENT REICHLING, ESQ.

COUNSEL FOR DEFENDANT JAMES BRUEY:

Mangone & Miller Law Offices
Suite 502
2335 Stanford Court
Naples, Florida 34112
(239) 774-4100
BY: GEORGE ELLIS SUMMERS, ESQ.

COUNSEL FOR DEFENDANT AMBER REWIS BRUEY:

Federal Public Defender's Office
2075 West First Street, Suite 300
Fort Myers, FL 33901
(239) 334-0397
BY: JAMES LAPPAN, ESQ.

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* * * P R O C E E D I N G S * * *

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THE COURT: Now, this next one, I have to look at this. Looks like there's co-defendants in this thing.

21-CR-74, U.S. versus Amber Bruey and Anthony Bruey. Looks like it's a money laundering, mail fraud, money fraud type thing. I didn't look at it in any greater detail.

Who is prosecuting this thing?

MR. REICHLING: Trent Reichling on behalf of the United States, Judge.

THE COURT: Tell me a little bit about -- oh, who is here for defense?

MR. SUMMERS: Your Honor, Ellis Summers standing in for Jim Lappan for Amber Rewis Bruey.

MR. MILLER: Landon Miller on behalf of Anthony Bruey, Your Honor.

THE COURT: Mr. Miller, I saw your motion, you didn't want to do this, but the status conferences, we'll just do them on Zoom, like this. I don't want to put it off, because I need to talk to people and find out the cases, you know?

MR. MILLER: Understood.

THE COURT: What's this all about?

MR. REICHLING: It's a COVID relief fraud case. Basically, the defendants are alleged to have filed a number of false and fraudulent PPP and EIDL loan, Economic Injury

1 Disaster Loan, applications to the SBA and qualified PPP
2 lenders, and received just under a million dollars in these
3 loans. So that's basically the gist of the case.

4 THE COURT: Okay. You know what? I know there was
5 another one of those cases that you all had there, and I
6 haven't seen any of these in Tampa, so maybe you're like the
7 nationwide leader. You went -- Mr. Reichling went from the
8 nationwide leader in illegal reentry cases to now prosecuting
9 PPP stuff.

10 So how much time do you need on this thing? I'm not
11 sure what would be involved in something like this. Mr. Miller
12 wanted until December. I think I'm fine with that.

13 MR. SUMMERS: Your Honor, my understanding is
14 Mr. Lappan was going to be asking for a three-month continuance
15 with a three-month extension of the motion deadline. And the
16 reason for that is it is my understanding the discovery is
17 especially voluminous.

18 THE COURT: Well, I'm willing to do the 12/16
19 at 10:30, and you can just tell Mr. Lappan that that's because
20 that's the only dates I had on my sheet, and frankly I haven't
21 figured out what I'm doing, exactly how to do this. I want to
22 make a clean start for the first of the year, so I'm just not
23 sure yet how our dates will work next year.

24 So he can have a motion deadline for -- you know,
25 extending the existing motion deadline for 90 days, that's

1 fine; but our next status conference is 12/16 at 10:30.

2 Everybody okay with that?

3 MR. MILLER: Yes, Your Honor.

4 THE COURT: Under 18 USC Section 3161(a)(7), I find
5 the ends of justice are served by the continuance and outweighs
6 the best interests of the public and the defendant in a speedy
7 trial based on the issues just discussed.

8 Thank you.

9 MR. MILLER: Thank you, Your Honor.

10 -- -- -- -- --

11 (Thereupon, at 2:00 p.m., the above-entitled matter was
12 concluded.)

13 -- -- -- -- --

14 CERTIFICATE

15 I CERTIFY THAT THE FOREGOING TRANSCRIPT IS A TRUE AND
16 ACCURATE TRANSCRIPT FROM THE ORIGINAL STENOGRAPHIC RECORD IN
17 THE ABOVE-ENTITLED MATTER.

18
19 Dated this 15th day of August, 2022.

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22 
23 JEFFREY G. THOMAS, RPR, CRR
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