

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF NEW JERSEY
CAMDEN VICINAGE

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

v.

ERIC RIVERA, ADRIENNE PONZO, and
JAMES WESSELS

Hon. Karen M. Williams

Crim. No. 24-267 (KMW)

ORDER DENYING MOTIONS AS RELATED

TO ADRIENNE PONZO and JAMES WESSELS

This matter having come before the Court by way of FIRST MOTION FOR RELEASE OF BRADY MATERIALS filed by defendant Adrienne Ponzo (ECF No. 50); FIRST OMNIBUS MOTIONS under Fed. R. Crim. P. 8 and Fed. R. Crim. P. 14 filed by defendant Adrienne Ponzo (ECF No. 51) and defendant James Wessels (ECF. No. 53); the Government's opposition thereto (ECF No. 54); the Letter filed on behalf of the Government (ECF. No. 72) and the Letter filed on behalf of defendant Wessels (ECF. No. 73); and the Court having read the submissions and heard the arguments of counsel during the hearing held on the Motions on March 12, 2025; and the Court noting the appearances of counsel: Assistant U.S. Attorney Daniel A. Friedman, appearing on behalf of the Government; Troy A. Archie, Esquire, appearing on behalf of defendant Adrienne Ponzo; and Mark W. Catanzaro, Esquire, appearing on behalf of defendant James Wessels; and for the reasons set forth on the record;

IT IS on this **20th** day of **May 2025**, ORDERED that the FIRST MOTION FOR RELEASE OF BRADY MATERIALS filed by defendant Adrienne Ponzo (ECF No. 50) is **DENIED** as moot pending further production of materials; and

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that in light of defendant Adrienne Ponzo's entry of a Plea of Guilty on April 9, 2025, the Motion to Sever (ECF No. 51) filed on behalf of Defendant Ponzo is **DENIED** as moot; and

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that in light of the Letter filed on behalf of the Government (ECF. No. 72) and the response thereto filed on behalf of Defendant Wessels (ECF. No. 73), wherein Defendant Wessels withdraws his application to sever pursuant to Rule 8; and withdraws his application to sever pursuant to Rule 14 subject to the Government's representation that it will only seek to prove money laundering as to defendant Wessels as it pertains to the PPP loans, the Motion to Sever (ECF No. 53) is **DENIED** as withdrawn; and

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the trial as to defendant Wessels shall proceed solely based on bank fraud (PPP) allegations in accordance with the dates and transactions related to same.


KAREN M. WILLIAMS
U.S. DISTRICT COURT JUDGE