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**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT**

**DISTRICT OF ARIZONA**

**United States of America,**

**Plaintiff,**

**v.**

**Joseph M. Arpaio,**

**Defendant.**

**Case No.: 2:16-cr-01012-SRB-1**

**DEFENDANT'S MOTION FOR A  
JUDGMENT OF ACQUITTAL**

**(Oral Argument Requested)**

Defendant Joseph M. Arpaio ("Defendant") hereby moves for a Judgment of Acquittal under Rule 29, Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure.

1 **I. The Court’s conclusion that the Preliminary Injunction was “clear and**  
 2 **definite” to the MCSO in 2011 is unsupported by the evidence; and the Court’s own cold**  
 3 **reading of the Order last month—nearly six years later—is not evidence, much less of any**  
 4 **probative value, concerning whether the order was clear to its audience in 2011.**

5 There was no evidence to support that the Preliminary Injunction was clear and definite,  
 6 *to its audience* (the Maricopa County Sheriff’s Office) *at the time it was issued* (2011), that  
 7 holding illegal aliens for immediate turnover to federal authorities was enjoined; much less that  
 8 holding them at the express direction and encouragement of federal authorities was enjoined.  
 9 This evidence was needed<sup>1</sup> to meet the substantive elements of the crime of criminal contempt,  
 10 including that there was a “clear and definite order.”<sup>2</sup> The only evidence that the Court cited in  
 11 support of this element was testimony by Defendant’s lawyer, Timothy Casey, that Mr. Casey  
 12 “told Defendant that his [the Defendant’s] backup plan of transporting people to Border Patrol  
 13 was ‘likely’ a violation of the Order.” (Trial Tr. Day 1-PM 148:10-19.) But as the Court knows,  
 14 the actual quote by Mr. Casey was:

15 THE WITNESS: I told the sheriff that in my judgment it was likely,  
 16 **not definitively**, but likely a violation.

17 (Trial Tr. Day 1-PM 148:18-19.)(Emphasis added.)

18 The Court’s deliberate omission of *the next two words* (and/or the preceding two

19 <sup>1</sup> “A court reviewing for sufficiency of the evidence must first view the evidence in the light most  
 20 favorable to the prosecution and then determine whether this evidence, so viewed, is adequate to allow  
 21 any rational trier of fact to find **the essential elements** of the crime beyond a reasonable doubt.” *United*  
 22 *States v. Jenkins*, 633 F.3d 788, 801 (9th Cir. 2011)(emphasis added). “Reversal is warranted when the  
 evidence so construed may still be so supportive of innocence that no rational juror could conclude that  
 the government proved its case beyond a reasonable doubt or is insufficient to establish **every element**  
**of the crime.**” *Id.* (quotation marks omitted)(emphasis added).

23 <sup>2</sup> “Criminal contempt is established when there is [1] **a clear and definite order of the court**, [2] the  
 24 contemnor knows of the order, and [3] the contemnor willfully disobeys the order.” *United States v.*  
 25 *Powers*, 629 F.2d 619, 627 (9th Cir. 1980). Also, “[w]here there is ambiguity in the court’s direction, it  
 26 precludes the essential finding in a criminal contempt proceeding of willful and contumacious resistance  
 to the court’s authority.” *United States v. Joyce*, 498 F.2d 592, 596 (7th Cir. 1974), *citing Traub v. United*  
*States*, 232 F.2d 43, 47 (D.C. Cir. 1955).

words)—“not definitively”—concisely demonstrates that Defendant did not receive a fair trial from an impartial factfinder, which in turn casts doubt on the legitimacy of its verdict and of its motivations in refusing to grant the Defendant a trial by jury. A reasonable and unbiased trier of fact could not accord this one word of Mr. Casey’s testimony credibility, but ignore the rest of the sentence, and in fact the entirety of the rest of Mr. Casey’s uncontroverted testimony on this critical element of the case:

- Mr. Casey testified that “we weren’t sure what it [the Order] meant” (Day 1, pps. 153-154).
- Mr. Casey testified that the Order did not discuss the issue of turnovers to ICE “anywhere” (Day 1, p. 118).
- Mr. Casey testified that the language in the Order was “unclear” on the issue (*id.*).
- Mr. Casey testified that there was “ambiguity” in the Preliminary Injunction Order (Day 1, p. 158).
- Mr. Casey testified that he “shared with the [Defendant] sheriff that we could make a good faith argument that under Judge Snow’s order, there was some language about there needed to be something more, the magic words something more, that perhaps this [cooperating with federal authorities] was the something more, that we can make a good faith argument” (Day 1, pps. 49-50).

As Mr. Casey himself testified, context matters. The Court’s verdict cited none of this testimony and apparently ignored it. The Court appears to have accorded *one word* of one sentence by Mr. Casey credibility, but to have entirely disregarded everything else that he said on exactly the same subject, including the rest of even the same sentence. This demonstrates a bias and improper motive on behalf of the Court—namely, to disregard the evidence in order to vindicate the authority of a fellow judge, and to effectuate what the Court perceived to be his intent in making this criminal referral. These are not proper reasons to convict an innocent man;

1 and in doing so, the Court does even greater damage to the authority, the credibility, the esteem  
2 and the legacy of this Court. It also makes a mockery of the concept of being proven guilty  
3 beyond “a reasonable doubt,” where the Court has to strain to even find even a reasonable basis  
4 to support its verdict.

5       The Court cites only its own cold interpretation of the Order last month, nearly six years  
6 after it was issued, for statements such as, “[t]hese detentions, in violation of the Fourth  
7 Amendment, were exactly what the preliminary injunction intended to stop” (verdict, page 13,  
8 lines 23-24); and the Court relies only on its own “full reading” of the Order in July 2017 to  
9 conclude that the Order was “clear and definite.” The Court’s own reading and interpretation is  
10 not evidence in this case; but even if it were, it would be of no probative value as to whether the  
11 Order was clear and definite to its audience—the MCSO, its counsel, and Defendant—in 2011.  
12 Nor may the Court decide whether the Order was clear and definite as a matter of law: “[t]he  
13 reasonableness of the specificity of an order is a *question of fact* and must be evaluated in the  
14 *context in which it is entered and the audience to which it is addressed*. For example, it may well  
15 be necessary that the specificity of orders directed to laypersons be greater than that of orders to  
16 lawyers.” *United States v. Turner*, 812 F.2d 1552, 1565 (11th Cir. 1987)(emphasis added). And  
17 to “serve as a valid basis for contempt, the court’s direction must be clear and unequivocal *at the*  
18 *time it is issued*.” *Traub v. United States*, 232 F.2d 43, 47 (D.C. Cir. 1955). The Order was not  
19 addressed to the Hon. Susan Bolton sitting in her chambers in July 2017. It was addressed to the  
20 Maricopa County Sheriff’s Office—and by extension its counsel, the Defendant, and over three  
21 thousand other hard-working men and women—in December 2011. Every member of the  
22 MCSO and its counsel who testified on this subject said, without *any* controverting evidence,  
23 that the Order was not clear and definite to them at the time that illegal aliens could not still be  
24 detained for the sole purpose of immediate turnover to federal authorities (and at the express  
25 request and encouragement of federal authorities, no less), which was and is a common practice  
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1 by law enforcement agencies; and this was not clarified until Judge Snow's permanent  
2 injunction was issued in 2013.<sup>3</sup> Every witness who testified on the subject said—again without  
3 controverting testimony or evidence—that the 2013 permanent injunction *was* a clear order,  
4 which provided explicit directions to the MCSO; and that this caused the Sheriff's Office to  
5 issue an equally clear directive to stop turnovers to federal authorities. The Court fails to  
6 articulate any theory to explain away this inconvenient and uncontroverted fact, i.e. why the  
7 Sheriff's Office stopped turnovers immediately after the permanent injunction was issued, and at  
8 no time before. The obvious and only inference is that the permanent injunction was clear on  
9 this issue, but the preliminary injunction was not. There was absolutely no evidence from which  
10 a reasonable trier of fact could conclude, much less beyond a reasonable doubt, that the Order  
11 *actually was* clear and definite to the MCSO in 2011 that such turnovers were enjoined. In  
12 reality, the Order contained confusing conditions and qualifications that you could drive a Mack  
13 truck through—"detaining any person based only on...without more"—and it did not address  
14 whether and how the MCSO could or should continue to interact or cooperate with federal  
15 authorities *at all*, much less specify any "clear and definite" changes that the MCSO would need  
16 to make to its operations in this respect. It is clear that Judge Snow left such ambiguity in the  
17 Preliminary Injunction because he did not want his Order to be so restrictive that it would be  
18 reversed on appeal, and because he could not and did not foresee at that time how it would  
19 actually affect the MCSO's operations. But in doing so, he merely enabled it to be interpreted  
20 and enforced arbitrarily, which violates the Due Process Clause in a criminal context, as  
21 discussed below. Finally, for the Court to now say—with the benefit of six years' hindsight—  
22 that Judge Snow was clearly ordering specific changes to the MCSO's operations to occur, and  
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25 <sup>3</sup> See e.g. testimony of Michael Trowbridge, Day 3 PM, pps. 739:22-740:14; 745:13-21; Brian  
26 Jakowinicz on Day 3 AM, pps. 601:17-602:1, 615:18-616:17; testimony of Timothy Casey, Day 2 AM,  
page 309:15-23.

1 that Defendant willfully defied such a “clear and definite” directive, lacks any rational basis in  
2 fact.

3 Further, there *was* evidence admitted in this case of how three Judges of the Ninth Circuit  
4 interpreted the Order in 2013: Judges Clifford Wallace, Susan Graber, and Marsha Berzon  
5 (Exhibit 45). Even their interpretation, which was made *at the time* and with more knowledge of  
6 the context in which the Order was entered than this Court has, disagreed with this Court’s  
7 interpretation that the Order was “exactly” intended to stop holding illegal aliens for turnover to  
8 federal authorities.<sup>4</sup> In contrast to this Court’s conclusion that the Order was intended to stop the  
9 MCSO from “delivering [its] detainees to the nearest Border Patrol station,” Judge Susan Graber  
10 said in 2013: “all [Judge Snow’s] enjoined is stopping someone for human trafficking on the  
11 sole ground that the person themselves, that people themselves are here unlawfully. So I don’t  
12 understand what’s wrong with that.” (Exhibit 45.) Judge Clifford Wallace interpreted the PIO  
13 much more narrowly than this Court, to mean that the MCSO was enjoined from only “one  
14 process,” which was from “stop[ping]” persons for being illegal aliens. (Exhibit 45.) His full  
15 statement, which was admitted into evidence in this case (Exhibit 45), was:

16 The only thing we really have before us is an Order. We don’t have an Opinion, we  
17 have an Order. And the Order says that the Sheriff cannot enforce federal civil cases.  
18 **That’s all it says.** And it says the officers are hereby enjoined from detaining any  
19 person based upon knowledge or reasonable belief, without more –**he’s put the**  
20 **“without more” in**– that the person is unlawfully present within the United States.  
21 And he explains that’s a civil not a criminal case **so you can’t stop them.** And he  
22 said specifically in here he’s not enjoining the police officers from going ahead and  
23 processing their own cases, their own crimes. You’re **only stopped for one process.**  
24 Now, assuming that that’s right, that there’s enough in here that he could enforce  
25 this temporary injunction, in two weeks or three weeks **we’re going to find out**  
26 **what he really means.**

(Exhibit 45)(emphasis added).

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<sup>4</sup> Of course, the opinions of Judges Clifford, Graber, and Berzon in 2013 are of limited evidentiary value because the Ninth Circuit was not the audience to whom the Order was directed either; but their opinion still holds greater evidentiary value than the opinion of this Court in 2017, which has none.

1 Finally, there was copious evidence and testimony introduced that the persons to whom  
2 the Order was actually addressed—the MCSO—had various and conflicting interpretations of  
3 the Order at the time, even after reading it for themselves. Lieutenant Jakowinicz testified that  
4 when he read the order, he interpreted it to mean that “we cannot stop people based on race”  
5 (Day 3, page 65); and Sergeant Trowbridge testified that when he read the order, he believed that  
6 it was “essentially an injunction against stopping people on the basis of race and detaining them  
7 on that basis” “[o]r that they’re here illegally.” (Day 3, page 130.) Lieutenant Sousa testified that  
8 when he read the Order, his interpretation was that “[i]f ICE or Border Patrol says, yeah, we  
9 wanted them, then we considered it their detainment....So when I read this, my first thought is  
10 hey, we’re not in violation of this.” (Day 4: p. 874.) Lieutenant Sousa testified that he shared his  
11 view of the Order with the Defendant and other executive MCSO staff, as well as with Timothy  
12 Casey, and that none of them disagreed or expressed that they understood the Order to clearly  
13 and definitely say otherwise. (Day 4, 877:3 - 879:21.) Sergeant Michael Trowbridge also  
14 testified that the Order did not appear at the time to require any change in the MCSO’s  
15 operations. (722:16-18; 723:4-6; **727:4-7**; 755:20 – 25, 756:5-7.)

16 The Court cites various public statements by Defendant that he would continue to enforce  
17 immigration laws, but it is unclear what probative value the Court believes that these statements  
18 have, since the Defendant *was* entitled, if not obligated, to enforce immigration laws, including  
19 state immigration laws—i.e., the employer sanctions law and the human smuggling law, which  
20 even Judge Snow’s Order acknowledged were valid and enforceable state immigration laws, *at*  
21 *the time*. While the Court gives weight to Defendant’s statements that he would not change  
22 anything after the Order, it also fails to identify a single thing that the Order clearly required to  
23 be changed. Lieutenant Sousa testified that he believed that no changes were needed because the  
24 MCSO was not arresting people just for being in the country illegally,<sup>5</sup> it was stopping them for

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25 <sup>5</sup> Testimony by Joseph Sousa, Day 4, p. 874:6-17; 877:3-6.  
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1 violations of state law (or other criminal laws), then holding them as directed by and in  
2 cooperation with federal authorities, which the Order did not clearly (or even logically) enjoin.  
3 Sergeant Michael Trowbridge also testified that based on his own independent reading of the  
4 Order at the time, it did not clearly require any changes to the MCSO's practices.<sup>6</sup> In other  
5 words, and to quote Judge Graber, because the Order only appeared to enjoin the MCSO from  
6 stopping someone for human trafficking (or some other crime) on the sole ground that the  
7 person was an illegal alien—something that the MCSO did not have a practice of doing—then  
8 the MCSO did not believe that anything needed to change. Nor did the Order give any clear or  
9 specific directions to the MCSO to change anything, such as the final permanent injunction did,  
10 which is fatal to this case.

11 Further, the Court's finding that Defendant did not do anything to implement the Order is  
12 completely unsupported by the evidence; but it would support only a civil contempt finding (on  
13 a negligence standard) at best, not the willfulness that is required for a criminal conviction. The  
14 finding is also irrelevant, because the Order did not clearly and definitely specify any changes  
15 that needed to be made, much less order that the Defendant himself make them. The evidence in  
16 fact showed that the Defendant directed Tim Casey to work with Joe Sousa and the Human  
17 Smuggling Unit on training the MCSO on whatever they needed to be trained on under the  
18 Order; but that this process effectively broke down at the lower levels, mainly because the Order  
19 did not clearly spell out any particular change to the MCSO's practices and did not appear to  
20 require any, and because it was a turbid and legalistic order that was open to various  
21 interpretations to begin with. Further, the Order did not direct the Defendant to personally  
22 implement the Order; in fact, it was addressed to the entire MCSO. For the Court to conclude  
23 that the Order created a specific and definite obligation for the Defendant to personally involve  
24 himself in following up on its implementation is not supported by any evidence in this case.

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25 <sup>6</sup> 727:4-7 *et seq.*  
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1 Again, the Court is taking advantage of the vagueness in this Order to enforce it arbitrarily, now  
2 by claiming that it created some clear obligation for the Defendant to personally oversee the  
3 implementation of changes that it did not even clearly define.

4 The bottom line is that the Court's conclusion that Judge Snow's order was clear to the  
5 MCSO at the time (2011-2013) that the MCSO could not hold illegal aliens for immediate  
6 turnover to federal authorities is not supported by any actual evidence in this case. It is  
7 supported only by the Court's own gloss of the order in 2017, which is inadmissible, and which  
8 was in turn clearly influenced only by its desire to vindicate the authority of Judge Snow. (See  
9 e.g. the Court's statements, "[t]he Court concludes that *Judge Snow's* order was clear and  
10 definite," and "the Court finds that *Judge Snow* issued a clear and definite order," rather than  
11 merely referring to "the court order" being clear.) But the Court in fact does more harm to the  
12 authority and dignity of the Court by issuing a verdict that is completely contrary to the evidence  
13 at trial, and to the truth. And the Court plays to the worst weaknesses of judicial temperament,  
14 and "summons forth the prospect of the most tyrannical licentiousness," by finding an innocent  
15 man guilty of contempt. *Int'l Union, United Mine Workers of Am. v. Bagwell*, 512 U.S. 821,  
16 833-34 (1994)(Scalia, J.). For all of the foregoing reasons, the verdict must be vacated, and a  
17 judgment of acquittal must be entered.

18 **II. The uncontroverted evidence sustains a defense of reliance on the "good**  
19 **faith" advice of counsel**

20 Reliance on the "good faith" advice of counsel is a defense to criminal contempt. *In re*  
21 *Eskay*, 122 F.2d 819, 822 (3d Cir. 1941). "It is a good defense to an attachment for criminal, but  
22 not civil contempt that the contemnor acted in good faith upon advice of counsel." *Id.* The Ninth  
23 Circuit distinguishes between "good faith reliance upon counsel's advice that what the defendant  
24 did was not a violation of the court's order," which is a valid defense to criminal contempt; and  
25 advice by counsel to disobey an "unambiguous" order of which the defendant was aware, which  
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1 is not a defense, and “in such a case the attorney is also in contempt.” *United States v. Snyder*,  
2 428 F.2d 520, 523 (9th Cir. 1970); *United States v. Armstrong*, 781 F.2d 700, 706 (9th Cir. 1986).  
3 The uncontroverted evidence showed that even Mr. Casey – whose understanding of the  
4 “context in which [the Order was] entered” clearly surpasses this Court’s own inadmissible gloss  
5 six years later – did not believe that the Order was clear or definite at the time, and that he  
6 advised the Defendant of this and that he could make a good faith argument in support of  
7 cooperating with federal authorities. By finding that the Defendant committed criminal contempt  
8 in spite of such advice being given, the Court must also be finding that Mr. Casey was in  
9 criminal contempt of an “unambiguous” order—in which case, this Court’s failure to refer him  
10 for prosecution, and the prosecution’s failure to charge him, could be viewed as evidence of  
11 wrongful selective prosecution, as addressed below. But the reality is that the Order was  
12 ambiguous to Mr. Casey, and even more so to the laypeople at the MCSO, including Defendant,  
13 when it was issued. Further, the uncontroverted evidence at trial demonstrated that that the  
14 MCSO’s practice of turning over illegal aliens without state charges was and is a “common  
15 practice” by law enforcement agencies across the state, and that it was encouraged and directed  
16 by federal authorities.<sup>7</sup> The MCSO would not reasonably believe that Judge Snow was ordering  
17 them to undermine the mission of federal law enforcement, or to refuse to cooperate with federal  
18 authorities in their mission to enforce federal immigration laws. A reasonable and unbiased trier  
19 of fact could not conclude, based on this evidence, that the Order was clear and definite that  
20 cooperation with federal authorities was enjoined, where the Order does not even mention the  
21 subject, or the subject of holding people for the sole purpose of turning them over to federal law  
22 enforcement, at all.

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25 <sup>7</sup> See e.g. testimony of Christopher Clem, Day 3 PM, p. 775:20-777:10, 784:11-20; testimony of  
26 Salvador Hernandez, Day 4 AM, 859:3-15, 862:9-13.

1           **III.    The Court’s finding that the Order was “clear and definite” does not pass**  
2           **constitutional muster under the Due Process Clause of the Fifth Amendment.**

3           The Fifth Amendment requires at a minimum that in order to convict a defendant for  
4 criminal contempt of a court order, the order must give notice to a person of “ordinary  
5 intelligence” that his conduct was “plainly and unmistakably” criminal, and the order must have  
6 been definite enough that men of “common intelligence” need not guess at the order’s meaning  
7 and could not differ as to its application. *United States v. Lanier*, 520 U.S. 259, 266 (1997);  
8 *Johnson v. United States*, 135 S. Ct. 2551, 2556 (2015); *United States v. Bass*, 404 U.S. 336,  
9 348 (1971). In other words, the Order cannot be unconstitutionally vague as applied to the  
10 Defendant’s conduct. *See United States v. Trudell*, 563 F.2d 889, 892 (8th Cir.  
11 1977)(analogizing criminal contempt element of “clear and definite” to the constitutional  
12 vagueness doctrine). The Court violated the Defendant’s Fifth Amendment due process rights by  
13 finding him guilty of violating an ambiguous Order that was “hedged about by conditions and  
14 qualifications which cannot be performed, or which may be confusing to one of ordinary  
15 intelligence.” *N.L.R.B. v. Bell Oil & Gas Co.*, 98 F.2d 405, 406 (5th Cir. 1938). The Preliminary  
16 Injunction was so inherently vague – providing only that the MCSO could not detain “based  
17 solely on” illegal alienage, “without more,” and failing to address the obvious question of  
18 whether the MCSO could still hold illegal aliens for immediate turnover to federal authorities –  
19 that it cannot support any action for criminal contempt at all on this issue. The injunction was  
20 clear that the MCSO was enjoined from *stopping* illegal immigrants solely for being illegal  
21 immigrants; but it simply did not clearly address whether the MCSO could still detain them in  
22 strict cooperation with the federal government. The only testimony at trial on this subject, even  
23 when viewed in a light most favorable to the Government, showed that the Defendant believed  
24 and was advised by his attorney that there was a “good faith argument” that cooperation with  
25 federal authorities was the “something more” required by the Order, especially given that the  
26 actual context of the Order was that the MCSO had simply lost its *own* unilateral immigration

1 enforcement authority, not that the immigration laws themselves were no longer unenforceable,  
2 or that it could not otherwise cooperate with federal authorities. If Judge Snow intended to order  
3 that the MCSO could not cooperate even with federal authorities in holding or turning over  
4 illegal aliens, then he needed to have said that. To hold the Defendant culpable in the absence of  
5 such a “plain and unmistakable” direction from the Court is to allow the Court to arbitrarily  
6 enforce its own orders criminally. This is violative of the Constitution, which provides that a  
7 criminal defendant must be put on fair notice that his conduct is plainly and unmistakably  
8 criminal. In the context of this case, it also raises certain *ex post facto* issues, to the extent that  
9 the Court issued an ambiguous order which said one thing; it allowed the Defendant to do  
10 another; and then after the Court issued its final order (the permanent injunction) that clearly  
11 prohibited the defendant’s conduct, it prosecuted him for his prior conduct anyway, even though  
12 it was not clearly illegal when it occurred.

13 Further, as a matter of law, federal and state law expressly authorized, and even *required*,  
14 the MCSO to cooperate with federal authorities to hold or turn illegal aliens over, which the  
15 Preliminary Injunction did not clearly define or address. *See* Appendix of Law, Exhibit “A”  
16 hereto and incorporated herein. The Court’s interpretation of the Order appears to be that the  
17 MCSO simply had to release illegal aliens without cooperating with federal authorities, which  
18 would clearly undermine federal immigration enforcement. A person of ordinary intelligence  
19 would not conclude that is “exactly what the preliminary injunction intended.” Even a person of  
20 extraordinary intelligence, like Justice Antonin Scalia, remarked just months after the  
21 Preliminary Injunction was entered that it would be an “assault on logic”<sup>8</sup> to say that a known or  
22 suspected illegal alien could not be detained at least for the time that it takes to contact  
23 immigration authorities for direction; and *this very Court* has ruled, both before and after the  
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25 <sup>8</sup> *Arizona v. United States*, 567 U.S. 387, 410, 427 (June 25, 2012)(Scalia, J.)  
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Preliminary Injunction, that detaining persons pursuant to direction from Border Patrol and holding or transporting them for federal detainment is not illegal. *Friendly House v. Whiting*, No. CV 10-1061-PHX-SRB (October 8, 2010); *Sol v. Whiting*, CV-10-01061-PHX-SRB (September 4, 2015).

Finally, where the order that is the subject of a criminal contempt proceeding contains any ambiguity, such ambiguity must be resolved in favor of the Defendant, following the Rule of Lenity, which is likewise applied to the interpretation of vague criminal statutes. *See e.g. Bass*, 404 U.S. at 348.<sup>9</sup> What the Court did here was the opposite. It chose to resolve all doubts against the Defendant, and to conclude—based on no actual evidence in the case, but only its “own reading” last month—that the Order was clear and definite, beyond a reasonable doubt.

#### **IV. The Uncontroverted Evidence Sustained Defendant’s Public Authority Defense**

Defendant’s raised an affirmative defense, the “public authority” defense, which was sustained by the undisputed evidence but entirely overlooked by the Court. “The public authority defense is properly used when the defendant reasonably believed that a government agent authorized her to engage in illegal acts.” *United States v. Bear*, 439 F.3d 565, 568 (9th Cir. 2006). The Ninth Circuit Criminal Jury Instruction on the Public Authority defense states that:

The defendant contends that if he committed the acts charged in the indictment, he did so at the request of a government agent. Government authorization of the defendant’s acts legally excuses the crime charged. The defendant must prove by a preponderance of the evidence that he had a reasonable belief that he was acting as an authorized government agent to assist in law enforcement activity at the time of the offense charged in the indictment... If you find that the defendant has proved that he reasonably believed that he was acting as an authorized government agent as provided in this instruction, you must find the defendant not guilty.

Ninth Circuit Manual of Model Criminal Jury Instructions, Instruction 6.11 (2010 Edition, last updated 6/2017)(alternative bracketing omitted, as inapplicable).

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<sup>9</sup> See also Defendant’s Memorandum of Law, section 1 on pages 3-5, incorporated herein by reference.

1       The Government has of course never claimed that the Defendant himself detained  
2 persons in violation of the Order. Rather, its theory—although it has never clearly acknowledged  
3 it as such—has been that the Defendant was an “accomplice” to this act, because he allegedly  
4 “commanded” or otherwise directed persons to violate the Order, per 18 U.S.C. § 2 (“[w]hoever  
5 commits an offense against the United States or aids, abets, counsels, commands, induces or  
6 procures its commission, is punishable as a principal”). And so the public authority defense  
7 should be modified slightly, to reflect that the defendant contends that if his “principals”—i.e.,  
8 the MCSO—committed the acts charged, then they did so at the request of a government agent,  
9 i.e. Border Patrol (or ICE); and that authorization by Border Patrol (or ICE) legally excuses the  
10 crime charged. The uncontroverted evidence, and particularly the testimony of the Border Patrol  
11 agents who testified at trial, demonstrated by more than preponderance of the evidence that the  
12 Defendant and MCSO had a “reasonable belief that [they] were acting as authorized government  
13 agent[s] to assist in law enforcement activity at the time of the offense charged.” At trial, Agent  
14 Hernandez of the Border Patrol testified that CBP would “request” that the MCSO transport (i.e.  
15 turn over) illegal aliens to CBP, and that “[i]f we [CBP] are short on manpower and they  
16 [MCSO] had bodies and we couldn’t respond to that area, I have instructed them to bring them  
17 to our checkpoint, yes.” (Day 4 AM, 859:3-15; 862:9-13.) The agent in charge of the entire Casa  
18 Grande station at all relevant times, Chris Clem, further testified that “it was an expectation of  
19 cooperation” that “[i]f you suspected you had an illegal alien, and you were willing to hold  
20 them, and we were able to respond,” to temporarily detain them in order for CBP to take  
21 custody. (Day 3 PM, 784:11-20.) “[I]f they [agencies such as MCSO] catch somebody they  
22 think is illegal, if we are available, give us a call. If we could respond, we would. I mean, that’s  
23 pretty much a common practice that we still do to this day.” (Day 3 PM, 775:20-23.) Timothy  
24 Casey’s letter to the Plaintiffs in *Melendres* (attached to Exhibit 26) also stated this. Because the  
25 uncontroverted evidence—even when viewed in a light most favorable to the Government—  
26

demonstrates that the Defendant and MCSO had a “reasonable belief that [they] were acting as authorized government agent[s] to assist in law enforcement activity at the time of the offense charged,” the public authority defense also provides a complete defense, as a matter of law.

**V. The prosecution of Defendant constitutes impermissible selective prosecution for exercise of political speech**

The Government’s decision to proceed with charges against only Defendant—even though his case is clearly subject to the same one-year statute of limitations in 18 U.S.C.A. § 3285, on which basis the Government voluntarily dismissed the other defendants in this case—as well as the Government’s decision to “announce” that it would charge him just two weeks before his election, and its heavy use of his political speech against him at trial—all reek of unconstitutional selective prosecution in violation of the Defendant’s First Amendment rights, warranting the entry of a judgment of acquittal.

Further, there was uncontroverted testimony at trial that the Defendant’s lawyer, Timothy Casey, advised him that holding illegal aliens for turnover to federal authorities was “likely, *but not definitively*” a violation of the Order, and that he advised the Defendant could make a “good faith” argument that it was allowed. For the Court to have found the Defendant in contempt despite such advice from his lawyer, the Court must be saying at the minimum that Mr. Casey was also guilty of “willfully” defying an “unambiguous” order. In which case, the Government’s decision to charge only Mr. Arpaio constitutes evidence of selective prosecution.<sup>10</sup>

**VI. This case is barred by the statute of limitations, 18 U.S.C. § 3285**

Defendant incorporates herein and re-urges the entirety of his prior Motion for a Judgment of Acquittal regarding the Statute of Limitations (Doc. 188), and his original Motion to Dismiss based on the Statute of Limitations (Doc. 130).

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<sup>10</sup> In reality, however—and to Mr. Casey’s credit—the Order was ambiguous; and the Court’s verdict to the contrary is utterly unsupported by the actual evidence in this case.



## VII. The Trial Violated the Double Jeopardy Clause of the Fifth Amendment

The trial constituted a violation of the Defendant’s right not to be tried twice for the same crime, because Judge Snow’s alleged “civil” contempt trial and findings—which in fact focused on elements and defenses that are exclusive to a criminal contempt proceeding, such as the defendant’s willfulness and alleged reliance on advice of counsel, and which concerned an alleged disobedience which even Judge Snow admitted had ended years before the proceeding began—was a *de facto* criminal contempt trial.

“A court’s characterization of its proceedings is but one factor to consider in determining the true character of contempt proceedings....Problems arise when it is unclear what form of contempt proceedings was contemplated by the court or *when the court mislabels the proceedings.*” *United States v. Powers*, 629 F.2d 619, 626 (9th Cir. 1980). “Actions and proceedings need not be wholly civil or wholly criminal and the choice of one label does not prevent application of both forms of contempt punishment.” *Id.* at 627. The purpose of civil contempt is remedial, and it is designed to enforce compliance with a court order. *Id.* For that reason, the punishment in a civil contempt matter is conditional and must be lifted if the contemnor obeys the order of the court; in other words, the term of punishment for civil contempt cannot extend beyond compliance with the court’s order. *Id.* On the other hand, the penalty for criminal contempt is punitive in nature. It serves to vindicate the authority of the court and does not terminate upon compliance with the court’s order. *Id.*

Judge Snow first raised the possibility of a criminal contempt proceeding at a status conference on November 20, 2014,<sup>11</sup> at which he stated, in response to a question from counsel about whether he was contemplating civil or criminal contempt proceedings: “Well, I mean, that is one of the interesting things I’m looking at....There is civil contempt and there is criminal contempt....and it may be that matters are appropriate subjects both of criminal and civil

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<sup>11</sup> See Doc. 803, transcript.

1 contempt.”<sup>12</sup> At the following hearing<sup>13</sup> on December 4, 2014, Judge Snow then laid out his  
 2 charges against the Defendant, or in his words, why he felt that criminal contempt was “at  
 3 issue.”<sup>14</sup> At that hearing, Judge Snow displayed a copy of 18 U.S.C.A. § 401 on the courtroom  
 4 monitors, which concerns criminal contempt proceedings; and he proceeded to identify exactly  
 5 the same issues that appear in the Order to Show Cause in this matter: whether Defendant  
 6 violated the December 23, 2011 preliminary injunction’s prohibition on detaining persons  
 7 “based only on knowledge or reasonable belief, without more, that the person is unlawfully  
 8 present within the United States,” because “Sheriff Arpaio’s position was that he could continue  
 9 to detain immigrants who he didn’t have a cause to hold on any state charges and turn them over  
 10 to ICE.”<sup>15</sup> (Compare with the O.S.C. in this case: “[t]he MCSO continued to stop and detain  
 11 persons based on factors including their race, and frequently arrested and delivered such persons  
 12 to ICE when there were no state charges to bring against them...”<sup>16</sup>) And even at that hearing,  
 13 Judge Snow acknowledged that this alleged violation of his Preliminary Injunction had already  
 14 occurred: “that is a serious violation in direct contradiction to this Court’s authority that  
 15 apparently *lasted* for months and months, more than a year at the minimum, it appears.” (Doc.  
 16 817 in *Melendres*, page 17 at lines 13-16.) At the hearing, Judge Snow resolved to begin what he  
 17 labeled as a “civil” contempt proceeding; and around two months later, or on February 12, 2015,  
 18 Judge Snow entered his Order to Show Cause. In the proceedings leading up the hearing, Judge  
 19 Snow emphasized to the Defendant that he needed to have “skin in the game”<sup>17</sup>; and even  
 20 though “[i]ntent is not an issue in civil contempt proceedings,”<sup>18</sup> Judge Snow put the

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22 <sup>12</sup> Doc. 803, page 39, lines 12-23.

23 <sup>13</sup> See Doc. 817, transcript of hearing.

24 <sup>14</sup> Doc. 817, page 5, lines 5-6.

25 <sup>15</sup> Doc. 817, page 17, lines 5-9.

26 <sup>16</sup> Doc. 36 at page 3, lines 7 – 10.

<sup>17</sup> See transcript of May 31, 2016 hearing in *Melendres*.

<sup>18</sup> *Donovan v. Mazzola*, 716 F.2d 1226, 1240 (9th Cir.1983).

Defendant’s “state of mind” at the forefront of his “civil” contempt trial, and of his resulting findings in the civil contempt matter. Judge Snow claimed that “[t]he state of mind of Sheriff Arpaio ... impacts the Court’s ability to craft remedies that are tailored to the particular problems that gave rise to the contemptuous act in the first place.” (Doc. 1094 in *Melendres*, at 7:8 – 9.) However, Judge Snow admitted, both before and after<sup>19</sup> the purported civil contempt proceedings began, that the MCSO had already been in compliance with the preliminary injunction for years, since 2013. All of this indicates that Judge Snow conducted the civil contempt hearings for the true purpose of determining whether the Defendant willfully disobeyed his order, and punishing him for it, making his “civil” trial into a *de facto* criminal contempt proceeding. Further, and as described in Defendant’s Motion for New Trial, Judge Snow found a waiver of the attorney-client privilege because he claimed that the Defendant had asserted a defense of “reliance on counsel”; but “[i]t is a good defense to an attachment for criminal, [and] not civil contempt that the contemnor acted in good faith upon advice of counsel.” *In re Eskay*, 122 F.2d 819, 822 (3d Cir. 1941); *see also Crystal Palace Gambling Hall, Inc. v. Mark Twain Indus., Inc.*, 817 F.2d 1361, 1365 (9th Cir.1987)(in a civil contempt proceeding, a “good faith exception to the requirement of obedience to a court order has no basis in law”). In other words, Judge Snow was applying the elements and defenses of a criminal contempt proceeding. Because Judge Snow’s civil trial was in fact a criminal proceeding, then the conduct of a second trial in this case, which was substantially the same as the original trial, constituted Double Jeopardy.

### **CONCLUSION**

For the foregoing reasons, Defendant moves for a directed verdict of acquittal in his favor.

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<sup>19</sup> See May 13, 2016 Finding of Fact, Doc. No. 1677, Case 2:07-cv-02513-GMS at ¶ 10: “The MCSO continued these unconstitutional practices until this Court entered its Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law in May 2013.”

1 **RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED** August 14, 2017.

2 **WILENCHIK & BARTNESS, P.C.**

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13  
14 **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

15 I hereby certify that on August 14, 2017, I electronically transmitted the foregoing  
16 Notice to the Clerk of the Court through the CM/ECF system, which will send a Notice of  
17 Electronic Filing to all CM/ECF registrants for this matter.

18 /s/ Christine M. Ferreira

**Exhibit A****Arizona Law**

Beginning in September 2012, Arizona law actually *required* that state law enforcement contact ICE or CBP when they encountered an illegal alien during a lawful stop (A.R.S. § 11-1051(B)).<sup>1</sup> A.R.S. § 11-1051(D)<sup>2</sup> explicitly provided at all relevant times (and even today) that a state law enforcement agency may, “notwithstanding any other law,” “securely transport an alien who the agency has received verification is unlawfully present in the United States and who is in the agency’s custody to a federal facility in this state or to any other point of transfer into federal custody that is outside the jurisdiction of the law enforcement agency.” The validity of this subsection has apparently only been challenged twice; and incidentally both times were in this Court, and it was upheld. See *Friendly House v. Whiting*, No. CV 10-1061-PHX-SRB (October 8, 2010); *Sol v. Whiting*, CV-10-01061-PHX-SRB (September 4, 2015). Both cases were facial challenges; and in the former case, this Court stated: “[s]ection 2(D) requires that verification of the person’s unlawful presence be obtained and that the person already be in the agency’s custody before the transportation occurs. Plaintiffs have not stated a claim that this provision plausibly violates the Fourth Amendment. See *United States v. Means*, 252 Fed.Appx. 830, 834 (9th Cir. 2007) (unpublished) (“[Plaintiff] cites no authority holding the transportation of a lawfully detained individual violates the Fourth Amendment, and we have found none.”) In the latter case (*Sol v. Whiting*), and even more germane to the issues herein, the Court stated (in response to the argument that Section 2(D) is preempted): “federal law authorizes

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<sup>1</sup> Also referred to as Section 2(B) of SB 1070, injunction lifted by this Court on September 18, 2012.

<sup>2</sup> Also referred to as Section 2(D) of SB 1070, enacted on April 23, 2010.

state and local officials to perform immigration enforcement duties under cooperation agreements and in other circumstances, see, e.g., 8 U.S.C. § 1357(g)(1) [citations omitted]. These duties can include transporting detainees....The verification and transport process the law recognizes is consistent with state officials’ enforcement actions taken under cooperation agreements and as authorized under the federal statutes listed above.” In a footnote to this paragraph (footnote 16), the Court further stated: “This analysis also applies to Plaintiffs’ argument that Section 2(D) authorizes state officials to unilaterally act without federal direction. Because Section 2(D) can be interpreted to cover **situations in which federal officials request state officials’ assistance—a situation that does not implicate the constitutional concerns Plaintiffs identify**—the law is not facially preempted” (referring to “the constitutional concerns mentioned in the *Arizona* opinion, including potential violations of Fourth Amendment”)(emphasis added).

#### Federal Law

Federal law expressly provided at all relevant times (and provides today) that no person or entity may restrict state law enforcement from contacting and communicating with ICE or CBP with respect to a person’s immigration status. 8 U.S. Code § 1373 (a). Federal law also allows for “cooperation” between state law enforcement and ICE or CBP in the “identification, apprehension, detention, or removal of aliens not lawfully present in the United States.” 8 U.S.C. § 1357(g)(10)(B). This expressly includes “communicat[ion] with [ICE or CBP] regarding the immigration status of any individual, including reporting knowledge that a particular alien is not lawfully present in the United States.” 8 U.S.C. § 1357(g)(10)(A). The United States Supreme Court decision in *Arizona v. United States*—which came down six month *after* the Preliminary Injunction was issued, and essentially halfway through the PIO injunction “period”—underscores just how ambiguous

these issues were at the time and remain, even outside of Judge Snow’s permanent injunction. Justice Kennedy, writing for the majority, stated that “[t]here may be some ambiguity as to what constitutes cooperation under the federal law...” *Arizona*, 567 U.S. at 410 (emphasis added). He wrote that “no coherent understanding of the term [cooperation] would incorporate the unilateral decision of state officers to arrest an alien for being removable absent any request, approval, or other instruction from the Federal Government.” *Id.* In support of this, he cited to a 2011 Memorandum by the Department of Homeland Security, which contained “examples of what would constitute cooperation under federal law,” and which specifically listed as an example of cooperation, “where state government officials learn in the normal course of state business of possible violations of federal immigration law, referring those possible violations to DHS [BP and ICE] immigration officials on a case-by-case basis.”<sup>3</sup> “Paragraph (10) of subsection 1357(g) allows state and local officers to participate in certain aspects of the enforcement of immigration laws outside of a formal written agreement, through formal or informal cooperation with the Secretary...[S]tate and local law enforcement officers render assistance to DHS on a case-by-case basis as immigration matters come to their attention in the performance of their regular duties under state or local law.” (Memorandum, page 7.) “Where state and local officers and DHS officers work closely together, often along the U.S. border, state and local officers are responsive to the requests, needs, and guidance of the federal agency”; and “[t]he Federal Government may, at times, take a secondary, supporting role to a state enforcement effort that is primarily aimed at enforcing state law.”

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<sup>3</sup> The Memorandum is available at <https://www.dhs.gov/sites/default/files/publications/guidance-state-local-assistance-immigration-enforcement.pdf>. The Court may regard the Memorandum as a legal authority, like the Supreme Court did, or otherwise take judicial notice of it. The quoted section is on page 13.



(Memorandum, page 5.) A state law enforcement officer may communicate information about a person's immigration status to the Department of Homeland Security "when the officer learns of information incidentally in the performance of regular police functions." (Memorandum, page 13.) All of this, even according to Justice Kennedy (writing for a majority of United States Supreme Court), constituted "cooperation" with federal authorities within the meaning of the law as of even 2011. In the same decision, Justice Antonin Scalia wrote that it would even be an "assault on logic" to believe that local law enforcement could not, after encountering an illegal alien, "contact federal immigration authorities, and follow their lead on what to do next." *Arizona v. United States*, 567 U.S. 387, 410, 427 (June 25, 2012). "[I]t is an assault on logic to say that identifying a removable alien and holding him for federal determination whether he should be removed" is illegal, because "federal law expressly provides that state officers may cooperate with the Attorney General in the identification, apprehension, detention, or removal of aliens not lawfully present in the United States, 8 U.S.C. § 1357(g)(10)(B); and cooperation requires neither identical efforts nor prior federal approval. It is consistent...with the cooperative system that Congress has created, for state officials to arrest a removable alien, **contact federal immigration authorities, and follow their lead on what to do next.**" *Id.* (internal citations, quotation marks, bracketing omitted; emphasis added). The majority did not disagree on this point, except to say that "unilaterally" holding an illegal alien without contacting ICE or CBP or taking direction from them would raise constitutional concerns. *See Arizona*, 567 U.S. at 410, 413 (Kennedy, J., *supra*). And of course, "contact[ing] federal immigration authorities and follow[ing] their lead on what to do next" is exactly what the MCSO did and is alleged to be criminal here – something that Justice Scalia remarked it would be "an assault on logic" to think was illegal, and that the Preliminary

Injunction did not clearly and definitely enjoin. Even when the evidence is viewed in a light most favorable to the Government, it demonstrates that the Order was ambiguous; and because any such ambiguity (and the mere fact of the ambiguity) must be read in favor of the Defendant, the Government's evidence was insufficient to convict.