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		1		
10	UNITED STATES OF	Case	e No. 10-CR-7	57-ROS-PHX
11	AMERICA,			
12	Plaintiff,		FENDANTS'] R BILL OF PA	OINT MOTION
13	v.	FUR	A BILL OF PA	KIICULAK5
14				
15	JAMES R. PARKER, and JACQUELINE PARKER			
16	Defendants.			
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18				
19	COMES NOW the Defend	ants JAMES	S PARKER an	d JACQUELINE
20	PARKER, by and through couns	sel Joy M. B	ertrand, and h	nereby moves the
21	Court pursuant to Federal Rules	s of Crimina	al Procedure R	Rule 7(f) for an
22	order directing the United States	s to furnish	Defendants w	vith a bill of
23				
24	particulars with respect to the m	natters set fo	orth as follows	5.

PROCEDURAL HISTORY AND UNDERLYING FACTS

The Indictment's Allegations

James Parker stands charged in Counts One through Eight of an eight-count indictment. (ECF Doc. 1) His wife, Jacqueline Parker, stands charged in counts seven and eight of that Indictment. (*Id*.) These counts allege that Ms. Parker did willfully and knowingly made materially false statements to the IRS in the Parkers' 2005 Offer in Compromise and request for installment agreement.

Counts One through Four allege that Mr. Parker violated 26 U.S.C. § 7201, evasion of payment of tax. Counts One and Two address tax years 1997 and 1998. Counts Three and Four address Mr. Parker's tax liability for 2001 and 2002.

Counts Five through Eight allege that the defendants submitted false statements to the IRS in violation of 26 U.S.C. 7206(1). Count Five alleges that Mr. Parker did willfully and knowingly submit or caused to be submitted a materially false Offer in Compromise (Form 656), along with materially false statements contained on IRS Forms 433-A, Collection Information Statement for Wage Earners and Self-Employed Individuals,

I.

and IRS Form 433-B to the IRS on or about July 30, 2004. Count Six alleges that Mr. Parker did willfully and knowingly submitted or caused to be submitted a materially false Form 656, along with materially false statements contained on IRS Forms 433-A and 433-B to the IRS on or about November 16, 2004.

Count Seven alleges that both Mr. and Ms. Parker submitted a materially false Form 656, along with materially false statements contained on IRS Forms 433-A and 433-B to the IRS on or about April 13, 2005. Count Eight alleges that both Mr. and Ms. Parker did willfully and knowingly submit or caused to be submitted to the IRS a materially false Request for Installment Agreement, along with materially false statements on IRS Forms 433-A and 433-B on or about August 5, 2005.

II. The Status of Discovery

On September 7, 2010, the parties submitted to the Court their joint, revised proposed scheduling order in this case. (ECF Doc. 38) That order addressed, *inter alia*, when the parties would exchange discovery. (*Id.* at 1) Specifically, the order provided that the Government would turn over its Jencks materials by October 8, 2010. (*Id.*) The Court accepted and signed this scheduling order on September 13, 2010.

On November 1, 2010, the Government stated to defense counsel that it will only turn over the grand jury testimony, pursuant to the Jencks Act, "when we [the Government] have determined a witness who appeared before the grand jury is to be used in the Government's case at trial." The Government's position that, in essence, its Jencks materials are to be dolled-out on an as-needed basis. According to the Government, that need is to be determined by the Government.

The Government's position directly contradicts the order that it initially proposed. The Government agreed to turn over these materials by October 8, 2010. Therefore, according to its own proposed order, the Government should have determined what witnesses will be called at trial well before October 8, 2010, so that it could timely produce these materials. As discussed further below, the Government's resistance to releasing these materials provides direct support for the Defendants' Motion for a Bill of Particulars.

ARGUMENT

Defendants seek an order that requires the United States to furnish Defendants with a bill of particulars with respect to the matters set forth

below. These responses will minimize danger of surprise at trial, aid in preparation of their defenses, and to protect against double jeopardy.

A. Burden of Proof and Standard of Review

Although Rule 7 of the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure states that the defendant may move for a bill of particulars before or within fourteen days after arraignment, a defendant may also do so at a later time if the court permits. Fed. R. Crim. Proc., Rule 7(f). This Motion for a Bill of Particulars falls well within the pretrial motions deadline the court has set for this case. (ECF Doc. 39)

The Sixth Amendment provides, "In all criminal prosecutions, the accused shall enjoy the right ... to be informed of the nature and cause of the accusation...." The Sixth Amendment guarantees a criminal defendant a fundamental right to be clearly informed of the nature and cause of the charges in order to permit adequate preparation of a defense. *See e.g. Sheppard v. Rees,* 909 F.2d 1234 (9th Cir. 1990); Cole *v. Arkansas,* 333 U.S. 196,(1948); *Gray v. Raines,* 662 F.2d 569, 571 (9th Cir. 1981).

A bill of particulars is appropriate where a defendant requires clarification to prepare a defense. *United States v. Long*, 706 F.2d 1044, 1054 (9th Cir.1983) (citing *Will v. United States*, 389 U.S. 90, 99 (1967); *United* States v. Clay, 476 F.2d 1211, 1215 (9th Cir.1973).). A bill of particulars apprises a defendant of the charges in sufficient detail to minimize surprise at trial, assist the defendant in preparation of his or her defense, and protect against double jeopardy. *United States v. Burt*, 765 F.2d 1364, 1367 (9th Cir.1985); *United States v. Long*, 706 F.2d 1044, 1054 (9th Cir.1983). "[It] is intended to supplement the indictment by providing more detail of the facts upon which the charges are based. *United States v. Inryco*, Inc., 642 F.2d 290 (C.A. Cal., 1981). Furthermore, the defendant is entitled to know the theory of the government's case. *See e.g. United States v. Giese*, 597 F.2d 1170, 1180 (9th Cir.), *cert. denied*, 444 U.S. 979 (1979); *Yeargain v. United States*, 314 F. 2d 881, 882 (1963); *Remmer v. United States*, 205 F.2d 277, 281 (9th Cir. 1953); *United States v. Caserta*, 199 F.2d 905 (3rd Cir. 1952)

In determining if a bill of particulars should be ordered in a specific case, a court should consider whether tor not he defendant has been advised adequately of the charges through the indictment and all other disclosures made by the government. *Giese*, 597 F.2d at 1180 (1979). The scope and specificity of a bill of particulars rests within the sound discretion of the trial court. *United States v. Long*, 706 F.2d 1044, 1054 (9th Cir. 1983)

The Ninth Circuit noted in *Long* that full discovery will obviate the need for a bill of particulars where the defendant has been advised adequately of the charges through the indictment and other disclosures made by the government. Id. (citing United States v. Clay, 476 F.2d 1211, 1215 (9th Cir. 1973); United States v. Giese, 597 F.2d 1170, 1180 (9th Cir.), cert. denied, 444 U.S. 979 (1979)). As Giese further explains, "To the extent that the indictment or information itself provides details of the alleged offense, a bill of particulars is, of course, unnecessary." 597 F.2d 1170, 1180 (9th Cir.), cert. denied, 444 U.S. 979 (1979) (citing 8 Moore's Federal Practice P 7.06(1) at 7-31 n.1 (2d.ed. 1978)). In *Giese*, the defendant was provided with "a large volume of information, including physical evidence offered at trial, grand jury testimony, and memoranda, which revealed the government's theory of the case." Id.

Due to the difficulty of preparing a defense in a tax fraud prosecution, motions for bills of particulars in tax cases are treated with liberality. *United States v. O'Connor*, 237 F. 2d 466 (2nd Cir. 1956); *United States v. Geller*, 163 F.Supp. 502 (DC NY 1958); *United States v Anderson*, 254 F Supp 177 (D.C. Ark 1966); *United States v. Rosenfeld*, 264 F.Supp. 760 (D.C. Ill 1967); United States v. Jaskiewicz, 278 F Supp 525 (D.C. Pa 1968); United

States v. Eissner, 206 F.Supp. 103 (DCNY, 1962).

This case can be distinguished from those discussed above, where

disclosure obviated the need for a bill of particulars, for four reasons:

- First, that the indictment fails to state with particularity the information requested;
- Second, the Indictment's allegations are vague, ambiguous, and uninformative and the information is within the particular knowledge of the United States Attorney.
- Third, all the information is essential and necessary to enable the Parkers to adequately prepare for and to avoid prejudicial surprise at trial; and
- Fourth, the information is also necessary to protect Defendant James and Jacqueline Parker against a second prosecution for the same offense.

B. Because the Government is not Following an "Open File" Policy in this Case, and, Indeed, is Actively Resisting the Release of Discovery it Previously Agreed to Disclose, the a Bill of Particulars is Necessary.

Generally, the need for a bill of particulars may be cured through disclosure. Here, however, the Government now actively resists the same discovery obligations to which it originally committed itself. The Government also resists the release of its lead agent's notes, which might also clarify the ambiguity regarding the alleged conduct in the Indictment regarding that the Government believes constitutes fraud.

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C. The Bill of Particulars is Necessary in this Case to Distill the Government's Proof and the Government's Theory of Criminal Liability – Issues that are not Readily Apparent from the Indictment and the Discovery.

Counts One through Four of the Indictment charge Mr. Parker with

tax evasion in violation of 26 U.S.C. § 7201. The Supreme Court has stated

|| that there are three elements to the offense described by 7201:

1) willfulness;

2) the existence of a tax deficiency; and

3) an affirmative act constituting an evasion or attempted evasion of the tax.

Sansone v. United States, 380 U.S. 343, 351 (1965); see also United States v. Carlson, 235 F.3d 466, 468 (9th Cir.2000).

As to the element of willfulness, the Supreme Court has defined "willfulness" as the "voluntary, intentional violation of a known legal duty." *United States v. Bishop*, 412 U.S. 346, 360 (1973). The Court explained that the term "willfully," as used in the Tax Code, creates a statutory exception to the traditional rule that all people are presumed to know the law. *Cheek v. United States*, 498 U.S. 192, 199-200 (1991). The Court explained that, although every person is generally presumed to know the law, the complexity and intricacy of the tax laws led Congress to create an exception to that rule. *Id.* at 200. Part of the government's burden in a tax evasion case is to prove beyond a reasonable doubt that defendant knew of his legal duty under the tax laws. *See id.* at 199-200.

This burden never shifts to the Defendant and can only be shown by direct evidence of his knowledge of the statute(s). *United States v. Alt,* 996 F.2d 827 (6th Cir. 1993). The Supreme Court has held, "In certain cases involving willful violations of the tax laws, we have concluded that the jury must find that the Defendant was aware of the *specific provision of the tax code* that he is charged with violating." *Bryan v. United States,* 524 U.S. 184, 200 (1998), citing *Cheek,* 498 U.S. at 201.

The "affirmative act" element distinguishes felony tax evasion from the misdemeanor offenses proscribed by 26 U.S.C. § 7203. *United States v. Carlson*, 235 F.3d 466, 468 (9th Cir. 2000). Furthermore, the affirmative act must generally serve the purpose of evasion. *Spies v. United States*, 317 U.S. 492, 499 (1943). The defendant is entitled to a charge that expands the government's theory explaining the necessity of charging the defendant with a violation of § 7201, a felony, as opposed to a violation of § 7203, a misdemeanor. *Id.* Thus, the Government must also indicate its theory regarding the tax-evasive motive behind the affirmative act alleged.

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Both Mr. and Ms. Parker are charged with making false statements in violation of 26 U.S.C. § 7206(1) in Counts Five through Eight of the Indictment. The elements of a violation of 26 U.S.C. § 7206(1) are: (1) the defendant made and subscribed a return, statement, or other document that was incorrect as to a material matter; (2) the return, statement, or other document subscribed by the defendant contained a written declaration that it was made under the penalties of perjury; (3) the defendant did not believe the return, statement, or other document to be true and correct as to every material matter; and (4) the defendant falsely subscribed to the return, statement, or other document willfully, with the specific intent to violate the law. United States v. Scholl, 166 F.3d 964 (9th Cir. 1999). In the present case, the Indictment's allegations are unclear about what, exactly constitutes fraudulent conduct. Additionally, the Indictment fails to explain how the Parker's conduct demonstrates their voluntary and willful of federal tax law. Rather, the indictment makes sweeping generalizations about "straw buyers" and "nominee entities," with no indication about how the use of such actors constitutes fraudulent conduct.

Specific Demands for Particulars

A. Statements Material to Indictment Incorporated into Counts 1-8 (paragraphs 1-20 B.
C. 1. What analysis was performed in regards to the IRS audit performed on the Defendants for tax years 1997 and 1998? a. Who did the analysis?
b. What documentation was used?
2. What analysis was performed in regards to the IRS audit
performed on the Defendants for tax years 1999 and 2000?
a. Who did the analysis?
b. What documentation was used?
3. Was an audit performed on the Defendants for the years of 2001
and 2002?
a. If so, what analysis was performed in regards to the
IRS audit performed on the defendants in 1999 and
2000?
b. Who did the analysis?
c. What documentation was used?
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4. What document(s) or witness(es) will demonstrate that Mr.Parker "hid" the Defendants' assets and income sources in order to evade the payment of taxes to the IRS as early as 2002?

- Regarding "as early as 2002," when, precisely, does the Government assert that the Mr. Parker "hid" their assets and income sources.
- Identify what statute or regulation prevented Mr. Parker from transferring the ownership of the Carefree residence from a trust to Sunlight Financial, LLP.
- 7. What document(s) or witness(es) demonstrate that the Carefree residence was worth approximately \$1.5 million?
- 8. What document(s) or witness(es) demonstrate that this Carefree residence was transferred "without consideration?"

9. Define a "nominee entity," as referenced in the Indictment.

10. Identify what statute makes it illegal to use a nominee entity.

a. What document(s) or witness(es) demonstrate that Sunlight Financial, LLP was a "nominee entity"?b. What document(s) or witness(es) demonstrate that Cimarron, LLC was a "nominee entity"?

c. What document(s) or witness(es) demonstrate that	•
RSJ Investments, LLC was a "nominee entity"?	
d. Describe how use of a "nominee entity" is illegal in	l
these specific instances.	
11. What document(s) or witness(es) demonstrate that Mr. and M	S.
Parker maintained sole use and control over the Carefree	
residence before and after the transfer to Sunlight Financial, Ll	LP?
a. Describe how maintaining sole use or control over	[
the Carefree residence before and after the transfer	to
Sunlight Financial, LLP is illegal or indicative of	
illegal activity.	
12. Define what constitutes a "luxury home," as referenced in the	
indictment? (ECF Doc. 1 at 3)	
a. What document(s) or witness(es) demonstrate that	the
Carefree residence was a "luxury home"?	
b. Please describe how use of a "luxury home" is ille	gal
or is indicative of illegal activity.	

13. What document(s) or witness(es) demonstrate that Mr. Parker		
invested more than \$1.2 million in a startup cattle operation		
between 2004 and 2007?		
a. Specify the date(s) of the transaction(s) to which the		
Indictment refers.		
b. Specify the source(s) of the investment(s) to which the		
Indictment refers.		
c. Specify the manner of payment of the investment(s) to		
which the Indictment refers.		
14. Please describe how this investment into a startup cattle operation		
is illegal or indicative of illegal activity.		
15. What document(s) or witness(es) demonstrate that Mr. Parker		
was the true owner of Cimarron, LLC?		
16. Define "straw buyer," as discussed in the indictment.		
a. Describe how use of "straw buyer" is illegal or		
indicative of illegal activity.		
17. Describe how purchasing a Rolls Royce is illegal or indicative of		
illegal activity.		

18. What document(s) or witness(es) demonstrate that the Rolls Royce was purchased for personal use? 19. What document(s) or witness(es) demonstrate that Mr. Parker attempted to hide his true ownership of Cimarron, LLC. 20. What document(s) or witness(es) demonstrate that Mr. Parker encumbered the Carefree residence with a \$1.5 million mortgage on or about August 2005. a. Specify the date(s) of the transaction(s). b. What document(s) or witness(es) demonstrate that this action was done in order to place his assets beyond the reach of the Government? 21. Please describe how Mackinnon Belize Land and Development Limited's sale of 597 acres of land in Belize is illegal or indicative of illegal activity. a. Specify the buyer(s) of this land. b. Specify the date(s) of the transaction(s). 22. Please describe how the deposit of sale proceeds from the sale of

land from Belize in an account at Belize Bank is illegal or indicative of illegal activity.

- 23. What document(s) or witness(es) demonstrate that the sales proceeds were deposited into an account at Belize Bank at the direction of Mr. Parker?
- 24. What document(s) or witness(es) demonstrate that the wire transfers specified on page 4, lines 5-16 of the indictment were for Mr. Parker's benefit.
 - a. Please describe how each of these wire transfers is illegal or indicative of illegal activity.

25. Please indicate how the establishment of Resorts Consulting Quorum, LLP bank account is illegal or indicative of illegal activity.

a. Who established the bank account?b. What was the date that the bank account was established?

c. What document(s) or witness(es) demonstrate that the only authorized signore on the account was an individual associated with a Phoenix, Arizona law firm

d. What is the name of this individual?

e. Please indicate why the existence of only one
authorized signor for the bank account was illegal or
indicative of illegal activity.
26. What document(s) or witness(es) demonstrate that payments
were made from the Resorts Consulting Quorum, LLP account to
Omega Construction Company.
a. Specify the date(s) of the transaction(s).
b. Specify the source(s) of the payment(s).
c. Specify the manner of payment(s).
d. Please indicate how the payments Resorts Consulting
Quorum, LLP made to Omega Construction Company
are illegal or indicative of illegal activity.
27. What document(s) or witness(es) demonstrate that payments
totaling \$152,000.00 were made from the Resorts Consulting
Quorum, LLP account to the mortgage on the Carefree property?
a. Specify the date(s) of the transaction(s).
b. Specify the source(s) of the payment(s).
c. Specify the manner of payment(s).

d. Please indicate how these payments are illegal or indicative of illegal activity.

28. What document(s) or witness(es) demonstrate that Mr. Parker submitted and signed an Offer in Compromise and accompanying forms and documents *falsely* on or about July 30, 2004?

a. What document(s) and witness(es) demonstrate that	
these documents <i>falsely</i> claimed the defendants had	
neither the income nor the assets to the pay the IRS?	
b. What document(s) and witness(es) demonstrate that	
these documents <i>falsely</i> claimed that they were	
borrowing \$130,000 from friends and a bank?	
29. What document(s) or witness(es) demonstrate that Mr. Parker	
again submitted and signed an Offer in Compromise and	
accompanying forms and documents <i>falsely</i> on or about	
November 16, 2004?	

a. What document(s) and witness(es) demonstrate that these documents *falsely* claimed the defendants had neither the income nor the assets to the pay the IRS?

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b. What document(s) and witness(es) demonstrate that these documents *falsely* claimed that they were borrowing \$130,000 from friends and a bank? 30. What document(s) or witness(es) demonstrate that Mr. Parker again submitted and signed an Offer in Compromise and accompanying forms and documents *falsely* on or about April 13, 2005? a. What document(s) and witness(es) demonstrate that these documents *falsely* claimed the defendants had neither the income nor the assets to the pay the IRS? b. What document(s) and witness(es) demonstrate that these documents *falsely* claimed that they were borrowing \$130,000 from friends and a bank? 31. What document(s) or witness(es) demonstrate that Mr. Parker again submitted a set of financial statements *falsely* on or about August 5, 2005? 32. What document(s) or witness(es) support the increase in tax liability from \$1.7 M to \$2.7M from April 13, 2005 to August 5, 2005?

33. What document(s) or witness(es) demonstrate that the net worth which the Parkers claim from July 2004 through August 2005 are misrepresentations.

B. COUNTS 1-4

- 1. As to Counts 1-4, what statements of the Defendants, whether written or oral, does the government intend to introduce?
- 2. As to Counts 1-4, what tangible items are within the possession, custody, or control of the government that are material to the preparation of the defense or are intended to be used by the government as evidence at the trial?
- 3. As to Counts 1-4, what are the results of any examinations or tests made in connection with the prosecution?
- 4. Does the Government intend to rely upon the net worth increaseexpenditure theory?
 - a. If such theory will be applied, set forth the approximate opening and closing net worth for the years covered in the indictment.
- 5. Does the Government intend to rely upon specific entries or identified omissions on income tax returns involved?

ĉ	a. Set forth any claimed fraudulent basic entries on returns and,
	with respect to any omissions claims, which have been made,
	the general nature of source of income which government will
	claim has not been reported.

- b. What specific document(s) or witness(es) show that the Parker's had actual knowledge of their legal duties under the tax laws.
- c. What specific provision of the tax code does the Government believe the Parker's knew.
- d. Identify the document(s) or witness(es) that will demonstrate that the Parkers voluntarily and intentionally violated that duty?
- 6. As to Counts 1-4, what document(s) or witness(es) will demonstrate that Mr. Parker had actual knowledge of 26 U.S.C. § 7201?
- 7. As to Counts 1- 4, under the element of "willfulness," what evidence demonstrates Mr. Parker was aware of section 7201, as well as the judicially-created elements under section 7201?
- 8. What evidence showed that Mr. Parker was aware of 26 U.S.C. § 7201 before August 2002?

9. It is well-settled that a tax evasion charge can be either evasion of the assessment or evasion of the payment. Which is the charge in this case?

a. If the charge is evasion of the payment, when was an assessment done?

i. Who did the assessment?

ii. What documentation was used to make the assessment?b. If the charge is evasion of the assessment, what steps did the IRS take to make an assessment?

C. COUNTS 5-8

1. As to Counts 5-8, what are the specific amounts of omitted income?

a. What are the sources of this omitted income?

b. What are the dates of receipt of the omitted income?

c. What is the manner of payment of the omitted income?

 As to Counts 5-8, please provide a general itemization of the fraudulent entries or fraudulent omissions on all documents for the years in question for which the government intends to pursue prosecution.

a. Specifically identify the fraudulent entries alleged.

b. Provide a general itemization of the omissions alleged.

- c. What document(s) or witness(es) will demonstrate that the Mr. and Ms. Parker willfully and knowingly submitted or caused to be submitted these fraudulent entries or fraudulent omissions?
- 3. What document(s) or witness(es) demonstrate that Mr. and Ms. Parker had actual knowledge of 26 U.S.C. § 7206 (1)?
- 4. What document(s) or witness(es) demonstrate that Mr. and Ms. Parker falsely claimed that they were unable to fully pay their tax liability in the documents referred to in Counts 5-8?
- 5. What document(s) or witness(es) demonstrate that Mr. and Ms. Parker understated assets and income in the documents referred to in Counts 5-8?

a. Specify what assets and income were understated.

- 6. What document(s) or witness(es) demonstrate that Mr. and Ms. Parker misstated the source of funds to be used to make the compromise payments referred to in Counts 5-8?
- 7. Define when, exactly, the Government alleges that Mr. and/or Ms. Parker submitted the documents set forth in Counts Five through Eight.

8. Declare whether or not Attorney Gregory Robinson was a co-

conspirator with the Parkers.

CONCLUSION

For the foregoing reasons, the Defendants ask this Court to grant the

above Motion for Bill of Particulars.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED this 23nd day of December, 2010.

By: <u>s/Joy Bertrand</u> Joy Bertrand Attorney for Defendant Jacqueline Parker

> <u>s/Rain Minns</u> Attorney for Defendant James Parker

> <u>s/John McBee</u> Attorney for Defendant James Parker

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

On December 23, 2010, I, Joy Bertrand, attorney for the Defendant, Jacqueline Parker, filed the Defendants' Joint Motion for Bill of Particulars with the Arizona District Court's electronic filing system. Based on my training and experience with electronic filing in the federal courts, it is my understanding that a copy of this request will be electronically served upon opposing counsel, Peter Sexton, upon its submission to the Court.

Respectfully submitted this 22nd day of December, 2010.

<u>s/Joy Bertrand</u> Joy Bertrand Attorney for Defendant