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## UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

## DISTRICT OF ARIZONA

United States of America

Plaintiff,

v.

Jacqueline L. Parker,

Defendant.

CR-10-757-PHX-ROS

UNITED STATES' RESPONSE TO
DEFENDANT JACQUELINE
PARKER'S MOTION TO
PRECLUDE THE ADMISSION OF
PRIVILEGED ATTORNEY-CLIENT
COMMUNICATIONS

Defendant Jacqueline Parker has moved to preclude the admission of unspecified communications with one or more lawyers. The pleading in many respects is too nebulous to address. The Motion also is remarkably inconsistent with the advice of counsel/good faith defense jury instructions defendant proposed and lodged in this matter. (CR 73.) Equally important is that there does not appear to be anything for this Court to consider and rule upon, and without more, there certainly is no reason to hold a hearing. <sup>1</sup>/

The sum and substance of the motion is that "the defendant makes this objection out of concern that their prior counsel may have disclosed confidential communications to investigators..." (Motion at page 2, lines 19-23.) The Motion then goes on to state that

<sup>1/</sup> Because defense counsel has raised an advice of counsel/accountant defense in the jury instructions that were lodged with the Court, the government intends to move for disclosure and discovery to learn what legal and accounting advice they purportedly relied upon. The government is permitted to learn whether the defendants turned over all relevant information to the accountant or lawyer they claim provided them with professional advice to which they purportedly relied upon in good faith. *United States v. Bishop*, 291 F.3d 1100, 1107-08 (9<sup>th</sup> Cir. 2002) ("We hold that *Cheek* does not change the rule that a defendant claiming good faith reliance of a tax professional must have made full disclosure of all relevant information to that professional.")

defendant Jacqueline Parker is unaware of any actual disclosures of privileged communications, but is simply concerned that something might have been disclosed by prior counsel. Again, the non-specific nature of this "concern" does not warrant the relief defendant seeks.

In addition, it should be noted that defendant Jacqueline Parker's argument is inconsistent in at least one respect. She claims that one attorney represented both she and her husband (Motion at page 2), but then appears to switch on page 3 to the argument that the attorney represented only her husband. For example, on page 2, she refers to "their prior counsel," and "their counsel." (Motion at page 2, lines 19-23.) Thereafter, the Motion states "this concern is implicated by Mrs. Parker, who is charged with signing documents that Mr. Robinson appears to have prepared in the course of representing her husband." ((Motion at page 3, lines 1-2.) Therefore, if she is claiming the attorney represented her husband only, she appears to lack standing to raise her "concerns" in this Motion.

Defendant's Motion does not raise a cognizable issue for this Court to decide. Until there is something more substantive to consider, the Motion should be denied without prejudice.

Respectfully submitted this 9<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2011.

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Certificate of Service: I hereby certify that on this day, I electronically transmitted the attached document to the Clerk's Office using the CM/ECF System for filing and transmittal of a Notice of Electronic Filing to the following CM/ECF registrants: Joy Bertrand, John McBee, and Michael Minns.

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