

**U.S. District Court  
DISTRICT OF ARIZONA (Phoenix Division)  
CRIMINAL DOCKET FOR CASE #: 2:23-cr-01321-SMB-2**

Case title: USA v. Ortega et al

Date Filed: 09/19/2023

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Assigned to: Judge Susan M  
Brnovich

**Defendant (2)**

**Jeremie Sowerby**  
79245-510

represented by **Alan Scott Baskin**  
Weiss Brown  
6263 N Scottsdale Rd., Ste. 340  
Scottsdale, AZ 85250  
480-327-6650  
Email: [alan@weissbrown.com](mailto:alan@weissbrown.com)  
*TERMINATED: 12/11/2023*  
*LEAD ATTORNEY*  
*ATTORNEY TO BE NOTICED*  
*Designation: Retained*

**Caroline Saunders**  
Weiss Brown  
6263 N Scottsdale Rd., Ste. 340  
Scottsdale, AZ 85250  
480-327-6650  
Email: [caroline@weissbrown.com](mailto:caroline@weissbrown.com)  
*TERMINATED: 12/11/2023*  
*LEAD ATTORNEY*  
*ATTORNEY TO BE NOTICED*  
*Designation: Retained*

**Myles Albert Schneider**  
Myles A Schneider & Associates Limited  
14001 N 7th St., Ste. B104  
Phoenix, AZ 85022  
602-926-7373  
Fax: 877-294-4254  
Email: [myles@maschneider.com](mailto:myles@maschneider.com)  
*LEAD ATTORNEY*  
*ATTORNEY TO BE NOTICED*  
*Designation: CJA Appointment*

**Raynee Clemente**  
Weiss Brown PLLC  
6263 N Scottsdale Rd., Ste. 340  
Scottsdale, AZ 85250  
480-327-6650  
Email: [raynee@weissbrown.com](mailto:raynee@weissbrown.com)  
*TERMINATED: 12/11/2023*  
*LEAD ATTORNEY*  
*ATTORNEY TO BE NOTICED*  
*Designation: Retained*

**Pending Counts**

18:1343 – Wire Fraud  
(43-44)

**Disposition**

**Highest Offense Level**

**(Opening)**

Felony

**Terminated Counts**

None

**Disposition**

**Highest Offense Level  
(Terminated)**

None

**Complaints**

None

**Disposition**

**Plaintiff**

USA

represented by **Lindsay Lee Short**  
US Attorneys Office – Phoenix, AZ  
2 Renaissance Square  
40 N Central Ave., Ste. 1800  
Phoenix, AZ 85004–4408  
602–514–7500  
Email: [lindsay.short@usdoj.gov](mailto:lindsay.short@usdoj.gov)  
**LEAD ATTORNEY**  
**ATTORNEY TO BE NOTICED**  
*Designation: Assistant US Attorney*

**Peter S Sexton**  
US Attorneys Office – Phoenix, AZ  
2 Renaissance Square  
40 N Central Ave., Ste. 1800  
Phoenix, AZ 85004–4408  
602–514–7500  
Fax: 602–514–7450  
Email: [Peter.Sexton@usdoj.gov](mailto:Peter.Sexton@usdoj.gov)  
**LEAD ATTORNEY**  
**ATTORNEY TO BE NOTICED**  
*Designation: Assistant US Attorney*

Date Filed	#	Docket Text
09/19/2023	<u>1</u>	MOTION to Seal Indictment/Case by USA as to Luis Ortega, Jeremie Sowerby. (MAP) (Entered: 09/19/2023)
09/19/2023	<u>2</u>	ORDER granting <u>1</u> Motion to Seal Indictment / Case as to Luis Ortega (1), Jeremie Sowerby (2). Signed by Magistrate Judge Eileen S Willett on 9/19/23. (cc: None) (MAP) (Entered: 09/19/2023)
09/19/2023	<u>3</u>	INDICTMENT (Redacted for Public Disclosure) as to Luis Ortega (1) count(s) 1–42, 45–55, Jeremie Sowerby (2) count(s) 43–44. (Forfeiture Allegations) (MAP) (Entered: 09/19/2023)
09/19/2023	<u>4</u>	DOJ CONFLICT MEMO. No probable conflict re Magistrate Judge Camille D Bibles.No probable conflict re Judge Dominic W Lanza.No probable conflict re Magistrate Judge Michael T Morrissey. Filed by USA as to Luis Ortega, Jeremie Sowerby. (MAP) (Entered: 09/19/2023)
09/19/2023	<u>5</u>	SEALED UNREDACTED INDICTMENT as to Luis Ortega, Jeremie Sowerby. (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Case Summaries) (MAP) (Entered: 09/19/2023)
09/22/2023	<u>9</u>	Arrest Warrant Returned Executed on 9/22/2023 as to Jeremie Sowerby. (MAP) (Entered: 09/26/2023)

09/22/2023		Arrest of Jeremie Sowerby on 9/22/2023. (MAP) (Entered: 09/27/2023)
09/26/2023	<u>11</u>	MINUTE ENTRY for proceedings held before Magistrate Judge John Z Boyle: Initial Appearance and Arraignment as to Jeremie Sowerby held on 9/26/2023. Government moves to unseal the case. So Ordered. The Court Conditionally Appoints Caroline Saunders (Retained). The Court advises counsel to file a Notice of Appearance if it is determined they will be representing the Defendant, or to contact chambers if alternate counsel needs to be appointed by 5:00 PM on Thursday, September 28, 2023. Plea of NOT guilty entered to all pending counts and a denial of the forfeiture allegations. Pretrial Motions deadline: 21 days. Jury Trial set for 11/14/2023 at 09:00 AM in Courtroom 506, 401 West Washington Street, Phoenix, AZ 85003 before Judge Susan M Brnovich. FURTHER Detention Hearing set for 10/19/2023 at 10:00 AM in Courtroom 303, 401 West Washington Street, Phoenix, AZ 85003 before Magistrate Judge Deborah M Fine. (Recorded by COURTSMART.) Hearing held 3:59 PM to 4:09 PM. (MAP) (Entered: 09/27/2023)
09/26/2023	16	ORDER: Pursuant to Rule 5(f) of the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure, the United States is ordered to disclose in a timely manner all exculpatory evidence to the defendant(s), that is, all evidence that is favorable to the defendant(s) or tends to cast doubt on the United States' case, as required by <i>Brady v. Maryland</i> , 373 U.S. 83 (1963) and its progeny. Failure to comply with this order may result in consequences, including, but not limited to, the reversal of any conviction, the exclusion of evidence, adverse jury instructions, dismissal of charges, contempt proceedings, disciplinary action, and/or sanctions by the Court.  Ordered by Magistrate Judge John Z Boyle. (AO) (This is a TEXT ENTRY ONLY. There is no pdf document associated with this entry.) Modified on 10/5/2023 (AO). (Entered: 10/05/2023)
09/27/2023	<u>12</u>	MOTION for Extension of Time to File <i>Notice of Appearance Unopposed</i> by Jeremie Sowerby. (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Proposed Order)(Saunders, Caroline) (Entered: 09/27/2023)
09/27/2023	<u>13</u>	ORDER granting <u>12</u> Motion for Extension of Time to File as to Jeremie Sowerby (2). IT IS ORDERED that counsel for Defendant may have until 10/4/2023, to file their notice of appearance or advise the Court that Defendant must seek alternative counsel. Signed by Magistrate Judge John Z Boyle on 9/27/2023. (NSH) (Entered: 09/27/2023)
10/04/2023	<u>15</u>	NOTICE OF ATTORNEY APPEARANCE: Alan Scott Baskin appearing for Jeremie Sowerby . (Baskin, Alan) (Entered: 10/04/2023)
10/11/2023	<u>19</u>	NOTICE of Appearance by Luis Ortega as to Luis Ortega, Jeremie Sowerby. (Brizgys, Molly) (Entered: 10/11/2023)
10/16/2023	26	MINUTE ORDER: Upon request of the parties, the detention hearing currently set for Defendant Sowerby for October 19, 2023, is reset to November 2, 2023, at 9:30 a.m. before Judge Fine in courtroom 303, 401 West Washington Street, Phoenix, AZ 85003 before Magistrate Judge Deborah M. Fine. Ordered by Magistrate Judge Deborah M. Fine.(DMF/ah)(This is a TEXT ENTRY ONLY. There is no pdf document associated with this entry.) (Entered: 10/16/2023)
10/18/2023	<u>30</u>	MOTION to Continue Trial and Extend Time to File Pretrial Motions <i>and Set a Status Conference Unopposed</i> by Jeremie Sowerby. (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Proposed Order)(Baskin, Alan) (Entered: 10/18/2023)
10/23/2023	31	On motion of the defendant and there being no objection by the Government, IT IS ORDERED setting a Status Conference as to the <u>30</u> Motion to Continue Trial filed by Jeremie Sowerby (2). Status Conference set for <b>11/14/2023 at 08:45 AM (15 minutes allowed)</b> in Courtroom 506, 401 West Washington Street, Phoenix, AZ 85003 as to Luis Ortega (1), Jeremie Sowerby (2), before Judge Susan M. Brnovich. Ordered by Judge Susan M. Brnovich. (ESG) (This is a TEXT ENTRY ONLY. There is no pdf document associated with this entry) (Entered: 10/23/2023)
10/31/2023	<u>32</u>	MOTION Detention Pending Trial by USA as to Jeremie Sowerby. (Short, Lindsay) (Entered: 10/31/2023)
10/31/2023	<u>33</u>	MEMORANDUM by Jeremie Sowerby <i>re Detention Hearing</i> . (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Exhibit A-C)(Baskin, Alan) (Entered: 10/31/2023)

11/02/2023	42	<p>MINUTE ENTRY for proceedings held before Magistrate Judge Deborah M Fine: Detention Hearing as to Jeremie Sowerby held on 11/2/2023. For all the reasons discussed, the hearing will remain open for additional information at a continued hearing. Defense counsel's request for home arrest or electronic monitoring in the interim is DENIED without prejudice. The Court will set aside additional time at the continued hearing in the event a Nebbia Hearing is needed on that date. Counsel are directed to timely submit any new information or requests to Pretrial Services to allow for sufficient time for any investigation, assessment and/or preparation of an addendum. Defendant will remain temporarily detained pending further proceedings.</p> <p><b>Appearances:</b> AUSA Peter Sexton and Lindsay Short for the Government, Retained Attorney Alan S. Baskin and Caroline Saunders for Defendant. Defendant is present and in custody. US Pretrial Services Officer Claudia Rodriguez is present. Continued Detention Hearing set for 11/28/2023 at 9:30 AM (<b>time set aside from 9:30 AM to noon</b>) in Courtroom 303, 401 West Washington Street, Phoenix, AZ 85003 before Magistrate Judge Deborah M Fine. (Recorded by COURTSMART.) Hearing held 9:34 AM to 10:40 AM. This is a TEXT ENTRY ONLY. There is no PDF document associated with this entry. (KMB) (Entered: 11/02/2023)</p>
11/13/2023	<u>43</u>	<p>MOTION to Designate Case as Complex <i>Unopposed</i> by Jeremie Sowerby. (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Proposed Order)(Baskin, Alan) (Entered: 11/13/2023)</p>
11/13/2023	<u>44</u>	<p>MOTION for Protective Order by USA as to Luis Ortega, Jeremie Sowerby. (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Proposed Order)(Short, Lindsay) (Entered: 11/13/2023)</p>
11/14/2023	45	<p>*(AMENDED by Doc. 46)*MINUTE ENTRY for proceedings held before Judge Susan M Brnovich: Status Conference as to Luis Ortega (1) and Jeremie Sowerby (2) held on 11/14/2023. Discussion held. IT IS ORDERED granting Defendant's Motion to Continue Trial (Doc. <u>30</u> ). IT IS FURTHER ORDERED continuing the trial from 12/12/2023 (for Defendant Ortega) and 11/14/2023 (for Defendant Sowerby) to 6/19/2024 at 9:00 AM in Courtroom 506, 401 West Washington Street, Phoenix, AZ 85003 before Judge Susan M. Brnovich. IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that excludable delay under Title 18 U.S.C. §3161(h)(7)(A) and (B) will commence from 12/13/23 and 11/15/2023 to 6/19/2024. Final Trial Management Conference set for 6/10/2024 at 10:00 AM in Courtroom 506, 401 West Washington Street, Phoenix, AZ 85003 before Judge Susan M Brnovich. (Order to follow).</p> <p><b>Appearances:</b> AUSA Peter Sexton and Lindsay Short for the Government, retained attorney Lee Stein and Alan Baskin for defendant. Defendant is present and in custody. (Court Reporter Christine Coaly.) Hearing held 8:51 AM to 8:58 AM. This is a TEXT ENTRY ONLY. There is no PDF document associated with this entry. (JAMA) Modified on 11/14/2023 (JAMA). (Entered: 11/14/2023)</p>
11/14/2023	46	<p>AMENDED MINUTE ENTRY for proceedings held before Judge Susan M Brnovich: Amending Doc. 45 MINUTE ENTRY for proceedings held before Judge Susan M Brnovich: Status Conference as to Luis Ortega (1) and Jeremie Sowerby (2) held on 11/14/2023. Discussion held. IT IS ORDERED granting Defendant's Motion to Continue Trial (Doc. <u>30</u> ). IT IS FURTHER ORDERED continuing the trial from 12/12/2023 (for Defendant Ortega) and 11/14/2023 (for Defendant Sowerby) to 6/19/2024 at 9:00 AM in Courtroom 506, 401 West Washington Street, Phoenix, AZ 85003 before Judge Susan M. Brnovich. IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that excludable delay under Title 18 U.S.C. §3161(h)(7)(A) and (B) will commence from 12/13/23 and 11/15/2023 to 6/19/2024. Final Trial Management Conference set for 6/10/2024 at 10:00 AM in Courtroom 506, 401 West Washington Street, Phoenix, AZ 85003 before Judge Susan M Brnovich. Parties to meet and confer and submit a proposed Scheduling Order to the Court. (Order to follow).</p> <p><b>Appearances:</b> AUSA Peter Sexton and Lindsay Short for the Government, retained attorney Lee Stein and Alan Baskin for defendant. Defendant is present and in custody. (Court Reporter Christine Coaly.) Hearing held 8:51 AM to 8:58 AM. This is a TEXT ENTRY ONLY. There is no PDF document associated with this entry. (JAMA)</p> <p>Reason for Amendment: To Add Information re: Scheduling Order. (Entered: 11/14/2023)</p>

11/14/2023	<u>47</u>	ORDER granting Defendant's Unopposed <u>43</u> Motion to Designate Case as Complex filed by Jeremie Sowerby (2). Signed by Judge Susan M. Brnovich on 11/14/2023.(ESG) (Entered: 11/14/2023)
11/14/2023	<u>48</u>	PROTECTIVE ORDER that the United States' Unopposed <u>44</u> Motion for Protective Order as to Luis Ortega (1), Jeremie Sowerby (2) is GRANTED. <u>See attached Order for complete details.</u> Signed by Judge Susan M. Brnovich on 11/14/2023.(ESG) (Entered: 11/14/2023)
11/16/2023	<u>49</u>	Second MOTION to Continue Detention Hearing <i>Unopposed</i> by Jeremie Sowerby. (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Proposed Order)(Baskin, Alan) (Entered: 11/16/2023)
11/16/2023	<u>50</u>	ORDER granting Defendant's <u>49</u> Unopposed Motion to Continue Detention Hearing as to Jeremie Sowerby (2). IT IS FURTHER ORDERED continuing the detention hearing currently set November 28, 2023, to <b>December 19, 2023, at 9:30 a.m.</b> before Judge Fine in courtroom 303. The Court has set aside 9:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. for this hearing. IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that any additional pre-hearing memoranda pertaining to detention be filed no later than December 12, 2023. Signed by Magistrate Judge Deborah M. Fine on 11/16/2023. (MRH) (Entered: 11/16/2023)
12/08/2023	<u>51</u>	MOTION to Withdraw as Attorney <i>and Request for Appointment of Counsel (Unopposed)</i> as to attorney Alan Baskin, Caroline Saunders and Raynee Clemente by Jeremie Sowerby. (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Proposed Order)(Baskin, Alan). (Entered: 12/08/2023)
12/08/2023	<u>52</u>	Third MOTION to Continue Detention Hearing <i>Unopposed</i> by Jeremie Sowerby. (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Proposed Order)(Baskin, Alan) (Entered: 12/08/2023)
12/11/2023	<u>53</u>	ORDER as to Jeremie Sowerby (2): IT IS ORDERED granting Defendant's Unopposed Motion to Withdraw as Counsel and Request for Appointment of Counsel (Doc. <u>51</u> ) as stated herein. IT IS FURTHER ORDERED withdrawing retained counsel Alan Baskin, Caroline Saunders, and Raynee Clemente, as counsel of record in the above-entitled action. IT IS FURTHER ORDERED appointing and substituting CJA counsel Myles Albert Schneider, 14001 N. 7th St., Suite B104, Phoenix, AZ 85022, 602-926-7373, as counsel of record for Defendant Sowerby in this matter, effective immediately. (See Order for full details.) Signed by Magistrate Judge Deborah M Fine on 12/11/2023. (SST) (Entered: 12/11/2023)
12/11/2023	<u>54</u>	ORDER as to Jeremie Sowerby (2): IT IS ORDERED granting in part and denying in part the parties' Unopposed Motion to Continue Defendant's Detention Hearing (Doc. <u>52</u> ) as set forth herein. IT IS HEREBY ORDERED vacating the December 12, 2023, deadline for pre-hearing memoranda. IT IS FURTHER ORDERED affirming the detention hearing currently set December 19, 2023, at 9:30 a.m. before Judge Fine in courtroom 303. (See Order for full details.) Signed by Magistrate Judge Deborah M Fine on 12/11/2023.(SST) (Entered: 12/11/2023)
12/19/2023	58	MINUTE ENTRY for proceedings held on 12/19/2023 before Magistrate Judge Deborah M Fine: This is the time set for a Continued Detention Hearing as to Jeremie Sowerby. Due to extraordinary circumstances and the complexity of the issues involved, the Court finds good cause to continue this hearing. The Defendant shall remain temporarily detained. Time is waived.  <b>Appearances:</b> AUSA Peter Sexton and AUSA Lindsay Short for the Government, CJA Attorney Myles Schneider for Defendant. Defendant is present and in custody. Continued Detention Hearing set for 2/6/2024 at 10:00 AM for 1 hour in Courtroom 303, 401 West Washington Street, Phoenix, AZ 85003 before Magistrate Judge Deborah M Fine. (Recorded by COURTSMART.) Hearing held 9:45 AM to 10:08 AM. This is a TEXT ENTRY ONLY. There is no PDF document associated with this entry. (SST) (Entered: 12/21/2023)