

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF IDAHO

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Plaintiff,

v.

LEONARDO ESPINOZA-ROMERO

Defendant.

Case No. 1:24-cr-00155-AKB-3

**REPORT AND
RECOMMENDATION**

On January 30, 2025, Defendant LEONARDO ESPINOZA-ROMERO appeared before the undersigned United States Magistrate Judge to enter a change of plea pursuant to a written plea agreement. (Dkt. 128). The Defendant executed a waiver of the right to have the presiding United States District Judge take his change of plea. Thereafter, the Court explained to the Defendant the nature of the charges contained in the Superseding Indictment (Dkt. 72), the maximum penalties applicable, his Constitutional rights, the impact that the Sentencing Guidelines will have, and that the District Judge will not be bound by the agreement of the parties as to the penalty to be imposed.

Having conducted the change of plea hearing and having inquired of the Defendant, defense counsel, and counsel for the government, the Court finds there is a factual basis for the Defendant's guilty plea, that it was entered voluntarily and with full knowledge of the consequences, and that the plea should be accepted. The undersigned also ordered a pre-sentence investigation to be conducted, and a report prepared by the United States Probation Office.


RECOMMENDATION

NOW THEREFORE IT IS HEREBY RECOMMENDED:

- 1) The District Court accept Defendant LEONARDO ESPINOZA-ROMERO's plea of guilty to Count ONE of the Superseding Indictment (Dkt. 72).
- 2) The District Court order forfeiture consistent with Defendant LEONARDO ESPINOZA-ROMERO's admission to the Criminal Forfeiture allegation in the Superseding Indictment (Dkt. 72) and the Plea Agreement (Dkt. 128).
- 3) The District Court **GRANT**, at the appropriate time, the United States' motion to dismiss Count EIGHT of the Superseding Indictment (Dkt. 72) as to Defendant LEONARDO ESPINOZA-ROMERO.
- 4) The District Court detain Defendant pending sentencing.

Written objections to this Report and Recommendation must be filed within fourteen (14) days pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 636(b)(1) and Local Rule 72.1(b), or as a result of failing to do so, that party may waive the right to raise factual and/or legal objections to the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit.

DATED: January 30, 2025


DEBORA K. GRASHAM
U.S. MAGISTRATE JUDGE