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9 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
10 DISTRICT OF ARIZONA

11 United States of America,  
12 Plaintiff,  
13 v.  
14 Jared Lee Loughner,  
15 Defendant.

CR 11-0187-TUC-LAB  
**GOVERNMENT’S REPLY TO  
DEFENDANT’S RESPONSE TO  
GOVERNMENT’S MOTION  
REGARDING RULE 17(C)  
SUBPOENAS**

16 Now comes the United States of America, by and through its attorneys undersigned, and  
17 replies to the defendant’s Response To the Government’s Motion Regarding Rule 17(c)  
18 Subpoenas as follows:

19 1. The defense faults the government for not seeking to ascertain that the defense’s  
20 subpoenas *duces tecum*, which the government received from third parties, had been  
21 authorized by the Court prior to filing its Motion For Order To Compel Defense Counsel’s  
22 Compliance With Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure Rule 17(c). The defense’s argument  
23 is flawed. The defense had the opportunity to tell the government and did not do so.  
24 Undersigned counsel contacted Reuben Cahn and asked him about the subpoena *duces tecum*  
25 issued to the Tierra Rica Apartments in Tucson. Mr. Cahn confirmed the issuance of the  
26 subpoena. Counsel told Mr. Cahn that the defense had violated Rule 17(c) in the absence of  
27 a Court order. Mr. Cahn did not then tell counsel that it had been approved by the Court  
28 based on their *ex parte* application.

1           2. Following the discovery of the Tierra Rica Apartment subpoena, undersigned counsel  
2 proposed to Mr. Cahn a joint agreement for the issuance of Rule 17(c) subpoenas in the  
3 future. During these discussions, legal counsel from the State of Illinois provided  
4 undersigned counsel with copies of the 22 subpoenas *duces tecum* that had been issued to the  
5 State of Illinois by the defense. In a subsequent telephone conversation, counsel told Mr.  
6 Cahn that he had learned about the existence of the 22 additional subpoenas. Mr. Cahn did  
7 not tell counsel that those subpoenas had been approved by the Court. In fact, he had no  
8 comment. He did not ask counsel to keep those subpoenas confidential to avoid the  
9 “unwanted media attention to be cast on distant family members.” The defense can only  
10 blame itself for causing those subpoenas to be made public.

11           3. The defense states it “[has] not violated Rule 17(c). . . [it] received court approval for  
12 all subpoenas that compel the production of documents.” (Pg. 2, line 2, Def’s. Response.)  
13 Yet the defense then admits that it obtained “a subpoena from the clerk’s office without an  
14 *accompanying court order*” for records from the Tierra Rica Apartments. (Page 2, lines 7-10,  
15 Def’s Response.) The defense further admits there are “some *instances*” where it served  
16 Rule 17(c) subpoenas without a court order, in addition to the Tierra Rica Apartment  
17 subpoena. (Pg. 2, line 2, Def’s. Response.) If the government’s interpretation of these  
18 statements is correct, then the defense has violated Rule 17(c) by issuing subpoenas without  
19 Court approval; possibly explaining why Mr. Cahn did not tell the government that the  
20 defense had sought and obtained *ex parte* approval for the 23 subpoenas undersigned  
21 counsel discussed with him. We do not know how many other unauthorized subpoenas were  
22 issued by the defense.

23           4. The government objects to the lack of notice of the defense’s applications for Rule  
24 17(c) subpoenas *duces tecum* allegedly submitted to the Court. We also object to the  
25 defense’s violation of Rule 17(c) by issuing subpoenas without notice to the government and  
26 approval by the Court. Without notice, the government cannot challenge the legality of the  
27 proposed subpoenas *duces tecum*. As noted in the government’s motion, Rule 17(c)

1 subpoenas can not be used as a discovery tool by either party for “fishing expeditions.” Rule  
2 17(c) is not to be used as an additional discovery tool by the parties. “[I]t was not intended  
3 by Rule 16 [of the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure] to give a limited right of discovery,  
4 and then by Rule 17 to give a right of discovery in the broadest terms.” *Bowman Dairy Co.*  
5 *v. United States*, 341 U.S. 214 (1951). The Supreme Court held in the seminal case of  
6 *United States v. Nixon*, 418 U.S. 683, 699 (1974), that the party seeking Rule 17(c)  
7 subpoenas *duces tecum*, must demonstrate: 1) that the documents are evidentiary and  
8 relevant, 2) they are not otherwise procurable reasonably in advance of trial by due diligence,  
9 3) the party can’t properly prepare for trial without production in advance, and 4) the  
10 application is made in good faith and is not intended as a general fishing expedition.

11 5. Rule 17(c) does not explicitly authorize a party to file an application for a subpoena  
12 *ex parte* with the Court without giving the other party the opportunity to object. The Ninth  
13 Circuit has not addressed this issue. Apparently, no other Circuit has addressed it either. A  
14 number of district courts have considered it and they have split over the issue. See, e.g.  
15 *United States v. Hart*, 826 F. Supp. 380 (D.Colo. 1993)(“the plain language of Rule 17(c)  
16 could not be clearer,” it does not allow for *ex parte* applications); *United States v. Urlacher*,  
17 136 F.R.D. 550 (W.D.NY 1991)(*same*); *United States v. Jenkins*, 895 F. Supp 1389 (D. Haw.  
18 1995)( finding that Rule 17(c) permits the issuance of *ex parte* applications); *United States*  
19 *v. Reyes*,162 F.R.D. 468 (S.D.NY 1995)(*same*). Local Rule 17.1 of the Local Rules for the  
20 District Court for the Southern District of California does not explicitly authorize *ex parte*  
21 applications; although it does excuse the applicant from having to serve its motion for a  
22 subpoena *duces tecum* on the opposing party when “good cause” has been shown. What  
23 “good cause” includes has apparently not been defined by the District Court.

24 6. The District Court in *United States v. Beckford*, 964 F.Supp. 1010 (E.D.Va. 1997),  
25 has fashioned a rule, which is reasonable, as to when a party can file an *ex parte* motion for  
26 a Rule 17(c) subpoena *duces tecum*. The Court in *Beckford* found that Rule 17(c) authorizes  
27 *ex parte* motions only in “exceptional circumstances.” *Beckford*, 964 F.Supp at 1030. The  
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1 Court gave several examples of when those circumstances exist; included is where the  
2 application for the subpoena divulges attorney work product or trial strategy. That of course,  
3 is what the defense claims that their motion for subpoenas would divulge to the government  
4 if filed publicly. But, the Court found that the moving party has “to meet a heavy burden to  
5 proceed” by *ex parte* application, because in most instances the mere application itself will  
6 not disclose trial strategy or work product if precisely crafted. *Id.* The moving party would  
7 be required to serve the motion for the *ex parte* subpoena on the opposing party giving the  
8 reasons why the motion is justified. The opposing party would thus be given the  
9 “opportunity to be heard on the need for the *ex parte* procedure.” *Id.* The government  
10 believes that this a reasonable and fair way to protect the interests of both parties.

11 7. The defense claims that the subpoenas *duces tecum* it issued are covered by both the  
12 work product privilege and trial strategy. But the defense does not articulate how subpoenas  
13 seeking records from an apartment complex where the defendant was once a tenant, or vital  
14 records of numerous individuals, fall within those categories. The attorney work product  
15 doctrine is “limited in scope and does not protect every written document generated by an  
16 attorney.” *Families For Freedom v. U.S. Customs and Border Protection*, 2011 WL  
17 2436707 (S.D.NY 2011). Written materials protected from disclosure are those which  
18 contain “mental impressions, conclusions, opinions, or legal theories of the attorney.”  
19 *Securities and Exchange Commission v. Vitesse Semiconductor Corporation*, 771 F.Supp.2d  
20 310, 314 (S.D.NY 2011).

21 8. A subpoena identifies documents, records, tangible items, or the identity of a person  
22 whose testimony is sought by the issuing party. To the extent that it might be possible for  
23 the opposing party to divine from the subpoena, and/or from the documents obtained thereby,  
24 the intentions of the other party does not necessarily make it work product. If that were so,  
25 the parties could claim that every subpoena discloses work product because it would be  
26 assumed by the other party that there had to be some relevance to the documents sought. It  
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28

1 seems clear that is the path the defense is pursuing in this case. That path would turn Rule  
2 17(c) on its head.

3 9. In conclusion, the government renews its Motion to Enforce Rule 17(c) and asks the  
4 Court to grant the relief requested. In addition, the government asks the Court to enter an  
5 order that requires the parties to follow the procedure set forth in *Beckford* when either party  
6 believes it has a sound legal basis to obtain a subpoena *duces tecum* through an *ex parte*  
7 motion.

8 Respectfully submitted on this 24<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2011.

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10 DENNIS K. BURKE  
United States Attorney  
District of Arizona

11 *s/Wallace H. Kleindienst*

12 WALLACE H. KLEINDIENST  
13 Assistant U.S. Attorney

14  
15 Copy of the foregoing served electronically  
16 or by other means this 24<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2011, to:

17 Judy C. Clarke, Esq.  
18 Mark F. Fleming, Esq.  
19 Reuben Camper Cahn, Esq.  
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