

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS**

**GENERAL ORDER AUTHORIZING DISCLOSURE OF MATTERS OCCURRING
BEFORE THE GRAND JURY TO CERTAIN CONTRACT EMPLOYEES IN THE
UNITED STATES ATTORNEY'S OFFICE**

Federal Rule of Criminal Procedure 6(e)(3)(A)(ii) authorizes disclosure of matters occurring before the grand jury, other than its deliberations and the vote of any grand juror, to “any government personnel . . . that an attorney for the government considers necessary to assist in performing that attorney’s duty to enforce federal criminal law.” Federal Rule of Criminal Procedure 6(e)(3)(E)(i) provides that the court “may authorize disclosure—at a time, in a manner, and subject to any other conditions that it directs—of a grand jury matter . . . preliminarily to or in connection with a judicial proceeding.”

The United States Department of Justice has entered into an agreement with Forfeiture Support Associates (FSA), a contractor, to provide administrative and investigative support for its asset forfeiture program. There are currently eight employees working within the offices of the United States Attorney’s Office for the Eastern District.

The Court is advised by the United States Attorney for this district that these contract employees provide necessary administrative and investigative support on federal forfeiture cases. The United States Attorney has also advised that access by these contract employees to matters relating to federal forfeiture occurring before the grand juries in this district is necessary for these contract employees to assist attorneys for the government in the performance of the attorneys’ duty to enforce federal forfeiture laws, and in connection with, and preliminarily to, criminal and civil forfeiture judicial proceedings.

Accordingly, it is hereby ORDERED pursuant to Rule 6, Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure, subsections 6(e)(3)(E)(i) and 6(e)(3)(A)(ii), that matters relating to federal forfeiture occurring before the grand jury may be disclosed to the FSA contract employees working in the United States Attorney's Office for the Eastern District of Texas for use during the performance of their duties assisting attorneys for the government in the performance of such attorneys' duty to enforce federal criminal forfeiture laws and in connection with and preliminarily to criminal and civil forfeiture judicial proceedings.

It is further ORDERED that the United States Attorney's Office, Eastern District of Texas, shall notify by letter to the Chief Judge the names of those FSA employees to whom disclosures of grand jury material is made. It is further ORDERED that for so long as the agreement with Forfeiture Support Associates (FSA), the contractor, remains in place, any additions to or deletions of individual employees may be made by letter from the U.S. Attorney's Office to the Chief Judge, referencing this general order.

This order supersedes its predecessor, General Order 94-9.

Signed this 16 day of September, 2014.

FOR THE COURT:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Leonard Davis', written over a horizontal line.

LEONARD DAVIS
Chief Judge