

No. 23-20097

**IN THE UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS
FOR THE FIFTH CIRCUIT**

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Plaintiff – Appellee,

v.

SAMAN AHSANI, CYRUS ALLEN AHSANI

Defendants – Appellees,

v.

THE FINANCIAL TIMES LIMITED, GLOBAL INVESTIGATIONS REVIEW,
THE GUARDIAN,

Intervenors – Appellants.

On Appeal from the United States District Court for the Southern District of Texas
Case No. 4:19-CR-147 (Hon. Andrew S. Hanen)

RECORD EXCERPTS

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¹ Saman and Cyrus Allen Ahsani executed waivers of indictment on March 25, 2019. These documents are sealed so are not included in the record excerpts, but are listed in this Table of Contents to comply with 5th Cir. R. 30.1.4(c) (requiring record excerpts to include indictments in criminal cases).

² The transcript of the non-public portion of Saman Ahsani’s sentencing hearing is likewise sealed and not accessible to Intervenor-Appellants; it is one of the judicial records subject to Intervenor-Appellants’ motion to unseal.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, Katie Townsend, hereby certify that I have filed the foregoing Record Excerpts electronically with the Clerk of the Court for the United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit using the appellate CM/ECF system. I certify that all participants in this case are registered as CM/ECF Filers and that they will be served by the CM/ECF system.

Dated: April 7, 2023

/s/ Katie Townsend
Katie Townsend
Counsel for Intervenors-Appellants

TAB 1

APPEAL

**U.S. District Court
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS (Houston)
CRIMINAL DOCKET FOR CASE #: 4:19-cr-00147-1
Internal Use Only**

Case title: USA v. Ahsani et al

Magistrate judge case number: 4:18-mj-00625 *SEALED*

Date Filed: 03/04/2019

Date Terminated: 02/03/2023

Assigned to: Judge Andrew S
Hanan

Defendant (1)

Saman Ahsani

TERMINATED: 02/03/2023

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23-20097.2784

TERMINATED: 01/11/2023

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Pending Counts

CONSPIRACY
(1)

Disposition

Sentenced to the custody of the BOP for a term of 12 months and 1 day; 1 year SRT; no fine; \$100 SA.

Highest Offense Level (Opening)

Felony

Terminated Counts

None

Disposition

**Highest Offense Level
(Terminated)**

None

Complaints

18:371 Conspiracy to commit violations of Foreign Corrupt Practices Act (FCPA); Conspiracy to commit money laundering; Destruction of evidence

Disposition

Intervenor

The Financial Times Ltd
TERMINATED: 02/03/2023

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Intervenor

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TERMINATED: 02/03/2023

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Intervenor

The Guardian
TERMINATED: 02/03/2023

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Date Filed	#	Docket Text
04/13/2018	<u>1</u>	*SEALED* COMPLAINT as to Saman Ahsani (1), filed. (kmurphy, 4)[4:18-mj-00625 *SEALED*] (Additional attachment(s) added on 7/30/2020: # <u>1</u> Redacted) (bthomas, 4). (Entered: 04/13/2018)
04/13/2018	<u>2</u>	*SEALED* MOTION to Seal by USA as to Saman Ahsani, filed. (kmurphy, 4)[4:18-mj-00625 *SEALED*] (Additional attachment(s) added on 7/30/2020: # <u>1</u> Redacted) (bthomas, 4). (Entered: 04/13/2018)
04/13/2018	<u>3</u>	*SEALED* ORDER granting <u>2</u> Motion to Seal as to Saman Ahsani (1).(Signed by Magistrate Judge Frances H Stacy.) Parties notified.(kmurphy, 4) [4:18-mj-00625 *SEALED*] (Entered: 04/13/2018)
04/13/2018		*SEALED* (Court only) Arrest Warrant Issued in case as to Saman Ahsani (Issued by Magistrate Judge Frances H Stacy), filed. (kmurphy, 4) [4:18-mj-00625 *SEALED*] (Entered: 04/13/2018)
04/26/2018		*SEALED* (Court only) ***(PRIVATE ENTRY) Affidavit in support of Request of Extradition signed by Magistrate Frances H Stacy. (kmurphy, 4) [4:18-mj-00625 *SEALED*] (Entered: 04/30/2018)
04/30/2018	<u>4</u>	*SEALED* MOTION to Unseal by USA as to Saman Ahsani, filed. (kmurphy, 4) [4:18-mj-00625 *SEALED*] (Entered: 04/30/2018)
04/30/2018	<u>5</u>	*SEALED* ORDER granting <u>4</u> Motion to Unseal Document as to Saman Ahsani (1).(Signed by Magistrate Judge Frances H Stacy.) Parties notified.(kmurphy, 4) [4:18-mj-00625 *SEALED*] (Entered: 04/30/2018)
04/30/2018	<u>6</u>	*SEALED* MOTION to Disclose and Seal by USA as to Saman Ahsani, filed. (kmurphy, 4) [4:18-mj-00625 *SEALED*] (Entered: 04/30/2018)
04/30/2018	<u>7</u>	*SEALED* ORDER granting <u>6</u> Motion to Disclose and Seal as to Saman Ahsani (1).(Signed by Magistrate Judge Frances H Stacy.) Parties notified.(kmurphy, 4) [4:18-mj-00625 *SEALED*] (Entered: 04/30/2018)
05/03/2018	<u>8</u>	*SEALED* SECOND MOTION for Disclosure by USA as to Saman Ahsani, filed. (kmurphy, 4) [4:18-mj-00625 *SEALED*] (Entered: 05/04/2018)
05/03/2018	<u>9</u>	*SEALED* ORDER granting <u>8</u> Motion for Disclosure as to Saman Ahsani (1).(Signed by Magistrate Judge Frances H Stacy.) Parties notified.(kmurphy, 4) [4:18-mj-00625 *SEALED*] (Entered: 05/04/2018)
08/10/2018		*SEALED* Arrest of Saman Ahsani in Eastern District of Virginia.(kmurphy, 4) [4:18-mj-00625 *SEALED*] (Entered: 08/13/2018)
08/13/2018	<u>10</u>	*SEALED* Rule 5(c)(3) Documents Received from Eastern District of Virginia - Alexandria as to Saman Ahsani, filed.(kmurphy, 4) [4:18-mj-00625 *SEALED*] (Entered: 08/13/2018)
08/22/2018	<u>11</u>	*SEALED* Joint MOTION to Continue Information or Indictment deadline by USA as to Saman Ahsani, filed. (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Proposed Order, # <u>2</u> Agreement to Waive Speedy Trial)(olindor, 4) [4:18-mj-00625 *SEALED*] (Entered: 08/22/2018)
08/22/2018	<u>12</u>	

		SEALED Minute Entry for proceedings held before Magistrate Judge Frances H Stacy: INITIAL APPEARANCE as to Saman Ahsani, (Deft informed of rights) held on 8/24/2018. Probable cause waived, Case sealed. Case 4:18-mj-974 DISMISSED. Appearances: Suzanne Elmilady, Rachel Gagnebin Talay.(ERO:S. Gueverra) (Interpreter:no) Deft continued on bond, filed.(gkelner, 4) [4:18-mj-00625 *SEALED*] (Entered: 08/24/2018)
08/22/2018	<u>13</u>	*SEALED* WAIVER of Preliminary Hearing by Saman Ahsani, filed.(gkelner, 4) [4:18-mj-00625 *SEALED*] (Entered: 08/24/2018)
08/22/2018	<u>14</u>	*SEALED* ORDER for Admission Pro Hac Vice as to Saman Ahsani (Signed by Magistrate Judge Frances H Stacy) Parties notified. (gkelner, 4) [4:18-mj-00625 *SEALED*] (Entered: 08/24/2018)
08/22/2018	<u>15</u>	*SEALED* ORDER granting <u>11</u> Motion to Continue as to Saman Ahsani (1).(Signed by Judge Keith P Ellison.) Parties notified.(kmurphy, 4) [4:18-mj-00625 *SEALED*] (Entered: 08/30/2018)
03/04/2019	<u>16</u>	INFORMATION as to Saman Ahsani (1) count(s) 1, Cyrus Allen Ahsani (2) count(s) 1, filed.Saman Ahsani Arraignment set for 3/13/2019 at 10:00 AM in Courtroom 700 before Magistrate Judge Nancy K Johnson and Cyrus Allen Ahsani Initial Appearance set for 3/13/2019 at 10:00 AM in Courtroom 700 before Magistrate Judge Nancy K Johnson (hlerma, 4) (Entered: 03/05/2019)
03/04/2019	<u>17</u>	*SEALED* US Attys Criminal Docket Sheet as to Cyrus Allen Ahsani, Saman Ahsani, filed.(hlerma, 4) (Entered: 03/05/2019)
03/04/2019	<u>18</u>	*SEALED* Notice of Related Case(s): 18cv414, filed. (hlerma, 4) (Additional attachment(s) added on 7/30/2020: # <u>1</u> Redacted) (bthomas, 4). (Entered: 03/05/2019)
03/04/2019	<u>19</u>	*SEALED* MOTION to Seal Case by USA as to Cyrus Allen Ahsani, Saman Ahsani, filed. (hlerma, 4) (Main Document 19 replaced on 3/5/2019) (hlerma, 4). (Entered: 03/05/2019)
03/04/2019	<u>20</u>	*SEALED* ORDER granting <u>19</u> Motion to Seal Case as to Saman Ahsani (1), Cyrus Allen Ahsani (2).(Signed by Magistrate Judge Nancy K Johnson.) Parties notified.(hlerma, 4) (Entered: 03/05/2019)
03/04/2019	<u>21</u>	*SEALED* ORDER for Issuance of NOTICE as to Saman Ahsani (Signed by Magistrate Judge Nancy K Johnson) Parties notified. (hlerma, 4) (Entered: 03/05/2019)
03/06/2019	<u>23</u>	*SEALED* NOTICE OF SETTING as to Saman Ahsani - regarding <u>21</u> Order for Issuance. Arraignment set for 3/13/2019 at 10:00 AM in Courtroom 700 before Magistrate Judge Nancy K Johnson, filed. (hlerma, 4) (Entered: 03/06/2019)
03/07/2019	<u>26</u>	*SEALED* MOTION to Seal by USA as to Cyrus Allen Ahsani, Saman Ahsani, filed. (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Proposed Order)(bthomas, 4) (Entered: 03/11/2019)
03/08/2019	<u>24</u>	*SEALED* Joint MOTION for Hearing to Inquire into Potential Attorney Conflict of Interest by USA as to Cyrus Allen Ahsani, Saman Ahsani, filed. (gclair, 4) (Additional attachment(s) added on 7/30/2020: # <u>1</u> Redacted) (bthomas, 4). (Entered: 03/11/2019)
03/08/2019	<u>27</u>	*SEALED* ORDER granting <u>26</u> Motion to Seal as to Saman Ahsani (1), Cyrus Allen Ahsani (2).(Signed by Judge Vanessa D Gilmore.) Parties notified.(bthomas,

		4) (Additional attachment(s) added on 7/30/2020: # <u>1</u> Redacted) (bthomas, 4). (Entered: 03/11/2019)
03/11/2019	<u>25</u>	*SEALED* NOTICE OF RESETTING as to Cyrus Allen Ahsani, Saman Ahsani. Arraignment set for 3/18/2019 at 02:00 PM in Courtroom 700 before Magistrate Judge Frances H Stacy Initial Appearance set for 3/18/2019 at 02:00 PM in Courtroom 704 before Magistrate Judge Frances H Stacy, filed. (sjones, 4) (Entered: 03/11/2019)
03/18/2019	<u>28</u>	*SEALED* Sealed Minute Entry, filed. (Entered: 03/18/2019)
03/18/2019	<u>30</u>	*SEALED* Sealed Waiver of Conflict of Interest as to Saman Ahsani, filed. Modified on 3/18/2019 (bthomas, 4). (Entered: 03/18/2019)
03/18/2019	<u>31</u>	*SEALED* Sealed Arraignment Minute Entry, filed. Modified on 3/18/2019 (bthomas, 4). (Entered: 03/18/2019)
03/18/2019	<u>32</u>	*SEALED* Sealed Waiver of Speedy Trial Limits at to Saman Ahsani, filed. Modified on 3/18/2019 (bthomas, 4). (Entered: 03/18/2019)
03/18/2019	<u>34</u>	*SEALED* Sealed Order Deadline for Motions for Continuance: 4/8/2018. Proposed Voir Dire due by 5/10/2019. Reply to Response to Motion due by 4/18/2019 Final Pretrial Conference set for 5/13/2019 at 09:30 AM before Judge Vanessa D Gilmore Jury Trial set for 5/20/2019 at 01:30 PM before Judge Vanessa D Gilmore, filed. (Entered: 03/18/2019)
03/18/2019	<u>35</u>	*SEALED* Sealed Order granting Motion for Dennis Kihm to appear Pro Hac Vice for USA, filed. Modified on 3/18/2019 (bthomas, 4). (Entered: 03/18/2019)
03/18/2019	<u>36</u>	*SEALED* Sealed Order granting Motion for Rachel Talay to appear Pro Hac Vice for Defendants, filed. Modified on 3/18/2019 (bthomas, 4). (Entered: 03/18/2019)
03/19/2019	<u>37</u>	*SEALED* SENTENCING DATA SHEET by USA as to Saman Ahsani, filed.(bthomas, 4) (Additional attachment(s) added on 7/30/2020: # <u>1</u> Redacted) (bthomas, 4). (Entered: 03/19/2019)
03/20/2019	<u>39</u>	*SEALED* NOTICE OF SETTING as to Saman Ahsani. Re-Arraignment set for 3/25/2019 at 08:00 AM in Courtroom 9A before Judge Vanessa D Gilmore, filed. (bthomas, 4) (Entered: 03/20/2019)
03/20/2019		*SEALED* Minute Entry for proceedings held before Magistrate Judge Frances H Stacy: BOND HEARING as to Cyrus Allen Ahsani, Saman Ahsani held on 3/20/2019 Bond conditions amended. Each deft has \$1,000,000.00 bond with \$250,000.00 deposit. Appearances: Rachel Gagnebin Talay, Dennis R Kihm, Suzanne Elmilady.(Court Reporter: ERO)(Digital # 2:11 - 2:18 / 3:16 - 3:25)(ERO:J Gujardo) Deft continued on Bond, filed.(bwhite, 4) Modified on 3/21/2019 (bwhite, 4). (Entered: 03/20/2019)
03/20/2019	<u>41</u>	*SEALED* Sealed Motion and Order, filed. (Entered: 03/21/2019)
03/20/2019	<u>43</u>	*SEALED* Appearance Bond Entered as to Saman Ahsani in amount of \$ 250,000, Receipt # HOU087309. Bond Depositor: Rachel Talay, filed. (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Unredacted attachment)(ckrus, 4) (Entered: 03/22/2019)
03/20/2019	<u>45</u>	*SEALED* ORDER Setting Conditions of Release (Signed by Magistrate Judge Frances H Stacy) (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Unredacted attachment, # <u>2</u> Unredacted attachment Affidavit) Parties notified. (ckrus, 4) (Additional attachment(s) added on

		7/30/2020: # <u>3</u> Redacted, # <u>4</u> Affidavit Redacted) (bthomas, 4). (Entered: 03/22/2019)
03/25/2019		Minute Entry for proceedings held before Judge Vanessa D Gilmore: RE-ARRAIGNMENT held on 3/25/2019 as to Saman Ahsani (1) pleads Guilty to Count 1. Cyrus Allen Ahsani (2) pleads Guilty to Count 1. Waiver of Indictments executed. Plea agreements executed on the record. Affidavit and Waiver of Extradition executed. Sentencing is set for 10/21/2019 at 9:30 am. Appearances: Dennis Kihm, Suzanne Elmilady, Rachel Talay. (Court Reporter: Bruce Slavin) Defendants continued on Bond, filed. (bthomas, 4) (Entered: 03/25/2019)
03/25/2019	<u>46</u>	*SEALED* WAIVER OF AN INDICTMENT as to Saman Ahsani. (Signed by Judge Vanessa D Gilmore) Parties notified. (bthomas, 4) (Entered: 03/25/2019)
03/25/2019	<u>47</u>	*SEALED* PLEA AGREEMENT as to Saman Ahsani, filed. (bthomas, 4) (Additional attachment(s) added on 7/30/2020: # <u>1</u> Redacted) (bthomas, 4). (Entered: 03/25/2019)
03/25/2019	<u>48</u>	*SEALED* ORDER for Presentence Investigation and Disclosure & Sentencing Dates as to Saman Ahsani. PSI Completion due by 9/3/2019. Objection to PSI due by 9/17/2019. Final PSI due by 10/15/2019. Sentencing set for 10/21/2019 at 09:30 AM in Courtroom 9A before Judge Vanessa D Gilmore. (Signed by Judge Vanessa D Gilmore) Parties notified. (bthomas, 4) (Entered: 03/25/2019)
03/25/2019	<u>49</u>	*SEALED* AFFIDAVIT AND WAIVER OF EXTRADITION as to Saman Ahsani. (Signed by Judge Vanessa D Gilmore) Parties notified. (bthomas, 4) (Additional attachment(s) added on 7/30/2020: # <u>1</u> Redacted) (bthomas, 4). (Entered: 03/25/2019)
04/19/2019	<u>54</u>	*SEALED* MOTION for Order Permitting Limited Disclosure of Information, Plea Agreements and Sealing Orders by USA as to Cyrus Allen Ahsani, Saman Ahsani, filed. (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Proposed Order)(ckrus, 4) (Additional attachment(s) added on 7/30/2020: # <u>2</u> Redacted) (bthomas, 4). (Entered: 04/23/2019)
04/23/2019	<u>55</u>	*SEALED* Amended MOTION for Order Permitting Limited Disclosure of Information, Plea Agreements and Sealing Orders by USA as to Cyrus Allen Ahsani, Saman Ahsani, filed. (ckrus, 4) (Additional attachment(s) added on 7/30/2020: # <u>1</u> Redacted) (bthomas, 4). (Entered: 04/23/2019)
04/24/2019	<u>56</u>	*SEALED* ORDER as to Saman Ahsani (1), Cyrus Allen Ahsani (2) granting <u>54</u> Motion for Disclosure, <u>55</u> Motion for Disclosure. (Signed by Judge Vanessa D Gilmore.) Parties notified.(bthomas, 4) (Entered: 04/24/2019)
09/06/2019	<u>57</u>	*SEALED* MOTION to Continue Presentence Disclosure and Sentencing Dates by Cyrus Allen Ahsani, Saman Ahsani, filed. (bthomas, 4) (Additional attachment(s) added on 7/30/2020: # <u>1</u> Redacted) (bthomas, 4). (Entered: 09/09/2019)
09/09/2019	<u>58</u>	*SEALED* ORDER for Presentence Investigation and Disclosure & Sentencing Dates as to Cyrus Allen Ahsani, Saman Ahsani. PSI Completion due by 3/2/2020. Objection to PSI due by 3/16/2020. Final PSI due by 4/14/2020. Sentencing set for 4/20/2020 at 09:30 AM in Courtroom 9A before Judge Vanessa D Gilmore. (Signed by Judge Vanessa D Gilmore) Parties notified. (bthomas, 4) (Additional attachment(s) added on 7/30/2020: # <u>1</u> Redacted) (bthomas, 4). (Entered: 09/09/2019)
10/25/2019	<u>59</u>	

		SEALED MOTION to Unseal Criminal Information and Docket Plea Hearing by USA as to Cyrus Allen Ahsani, Saman Ahsani, filed. (ShoshanaArnow, 4) (Additional attachment(s) added on 7/30/2020: # <u>1</u> Redacted) (bthomas, 4). (Entered: 10/28/2019)
10/28/2019	<u>60</u>	*SEALED* ORDER granting <u>59</u> Motion to Unseal Document as to Saman Ahsani (1), Cyrus Allen Ahsani (2). (Signed by Judge Vanessa D Gilmore.) Parties notified.(bthomas, 4) (Entered: 10/30/2019)
12/31/2019	<u>61</u>	AO 435 TRANSCRIPT ORDER FORM by Kadhim Shubber as to Cyrus Allen Ahsani, Saman Ahsani for Transcript of 3/13/2019 and 3/25/2019. 3-Day turnaround requested. Court Reporter/Transcriber: Bruce Slavin, filed. (ShoshanaArnow, 4) Unable to process request. Per case manager - Transcripts are sealed and unavailable. Party notified. Modified on 1/10/2020 (ClaudiaGutierrez, 4). (Entered: 01/03/2020)
01/07/2020	<u>62</u>	AO 435 TRANSCRIPT ORDER FORM by Adam Dobrik as to Cyrus Allen Ahsani, Saman Ahsani for Transcript of Rearraignment on 3/25/19 before Judge Gilmore. Expedited (7 days) turnaround requested. Court Reporter/Transcriber: Bruce Slavin, filed. (emathis, 4) (Entered: 01/07/2020)
01/07/2020	<u>63</u>	AO 435 TRANSCRIPT ORDER FORM by Adam Dobrik as to Cyrus Allen Ahsani, Saman Ahsani for Transcript of Initial Appearance on 3/18/19 before Judge Stacy. Expedited (7 days) turnaround requested. Court Reporter/Transcriber: Exceptional Reporting Services, filed. (emathis, 4) (Entered: 01/07/2020)
03/06/2020	<u>64</u>	Sealed Motion to Continue Sentencing, filed. (With attachments) Modified on 3/6/2020 (bthomas, 4). (Additional attachment(s) added on 7/30/2020: # <u>2</u> Redacted) (bthomas, 4). (Entered: 03/06/2020)
03/06/2020	<u>65</u>	Sealed Order granting <u>64</u> Sealed Motion to Continue Sentencing. (PSI Completion due by 9/1/2020, Objection to PSI due by 9/14/2020, Final PSI due by 10/5/2020, Sentencing set for 10/13/2020 at 09:30 AM in Courtroom 9A before Judge Vanessa D Gilmore), filed. (Entered: 03/06/2020)
06/19/2020	<u>66</u>	MOTION to Unseal Document by The Guardian, Glogal Investigations Review, The Financial Times Ltd as to Cyrus Allen Ahsani, Saman Ahsani, filed. (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Supporting memorandum, # <u>2</u> Proposed Order, # <u>3</u> Exhibit, # <u>4</u> Exhibit, # <u>5</u> Exhibit, # <u>6</u> Exhibit, # <u>7</u> Exhibit, # <u>8</u> Exhibit)(Townsend, KatieLynn) (Entered: 06/19/2020)
06/19/2020	<u>67</u>	MOTION for Madeline Lamo to Appear Pro Hac Vice by The Guardian, Global Investigations Review, The Financial Times Ltd as to Cyrus Allen Ahsani, Saman Ahsani, filed. (Townsend, KatieLynn) (Entered: 06/19/2020)
06/19/2020	<u>68</u>	ORDER granting <u>67</u> Motion for Madeline Lamo to Appear Pro Hac Vice.(Signed by Judge Vanessa D Gilmore.) Parties notified.(bthomas, 4) (Entered: 06/19/2020)
07/01/2020	<u>69</u>	Sealed Unopposed Motion to Unseal Document for a Limited Purpose, filed. (With attachments) Modified on 7/2/2020 (bthomas, 4). (Entered: 07/01/2020)
07/06/2020	<u>70</u>	Sealed Order granting <u>69</u> Sealed Motion to Unseal for a Limited purpose. (Signed by Judge Vanessa D. Gilmore). (Entered: 07/07/2020)
07/09/2020	<u>71</u>	AO 435 TRANSCRIPT ORDER FORM by Suzanne Elmilady as to Cyrus Allen Ahsani, Saman Ahsani for Transcript of Initial Apperance held on 08/22/2018 before

		Judge Stacy. 3-Day turnaround requested. Court Reporter/Transcriber: Exceptional Reporting Services, filed. (Elmilady, Suzanne)Electronically forwarded to Exceptional Reporting Services on 7-10-2020. Estimated completion date: 7-13-2020. Modified on 7/10/2020 (MelissaMorgan, 4). (Entered: 07/09/2020)
07/09/2020	<u>72</u>	AO 435 TRANSCRIPT ORDER FORM by Suzanne Elmilady as to Cyrus Allen Ahsani, Saman Ahsani for Transcript of Bond Hearing held on 03/20/2019 before Judge Stacy. 3-Day turnaround requested. Court Reporter/Transcriber: Exceptional Reporting Services, filed. (Elmilady, Suzanne) Electronically forwarded to Exceptional Reporting Services on 7-10-2020. Estimated completion date: 7-13-2020. Modified on 7/10/2020 (MelissaMorgan, 4). (Entered: 07/09/2020)
07/09/2020	<u>73</u>	AO 435 TRANSCRIPT ORDER FORM by Suzanne Elmilady as to Cyrus Allen Ahsani, Saman Ahsani for Transcript of Sealed Minute Entry on 03/18/2019. 3-Day turnaround requested. Court Reporter/Transcriber: Exceptional Reporting Services, filed. (Elmilady, Suzanne)Electronically forwarded to Exceptional Reporting Services on 7-10-2020. Estimated completion date: 7-13-2020. Modified on 7/10/2020 (MelissaMorgan, 4). (Entered: 07/09/2020)
07/09/2020	<u>74</u>	AO 435 TRANSCRIPT ORDER FORM by Suzanne Elmilady as to Cyrus Allen Ahsani, Saman Ahsani for Transcript of Rearrangement on 03/25/2019 before Judge Gilmore. 3-Day turnaround requested. Court Reporter/Transcriber: Bruce Slavin, filed. (Elmilady, Suzanne) (Entered: 07/09/2020)
07/12/2020	<u>75</u>	Transcript (Sealed) of proceedings held on held on 3-25-19. Court Reporter/Transcriber B. Slavin, filed. (bslavin,) (Additional attachment(s) added on 7/30/2020: # <u>1</u> Redacted) (bthomas, 4). (Entered: 07/12/2020)
07/13/2020	<u>76</u>	Transcript (Sealed) of proceedings held on held on 8/22/18. Court Reporter/Transcriber EXCEPTIONAL REPORTING, filed. (thudson,) (Additional attachment(s) added on 7/30/2020: # <u>1</u> Redacted) (bthomas, 4). (Entered: 07/13/2020)
07/13/2020	<u>77</u>	Transcript (Sealed) of proceedings held on held on 3/20/19. Court Reporter/Transcriber EXCEPTIONAL REPORTING, filed. (thudson,) (Additional attachment(s) added on 7/30/2020: # <u>1</u> Redacted) (bthomas, 4). (Entered: 07/13/2020)
07/13/2020	<u>78</u>	Transcript (Sealed) of proceedings held on held on 3/18/19. Court Reporter/Transcriber EXCEPTIONAL REPORTING, filed. (thudson,) (Additional attachment(s) added on 7/30/2020: # <u>1</u> Redacted) (bthomas, 4). (Entered: 07/13/2020)
07/24/2020	<u>79</u>	Sealed Memorandum of Law in Partial Opposition to <u>66</u> INTERVENORS MOTION to Unseal Document, filed by USA, filed. (With attachments) (Entered: 07/24/2020)
07/24/2020	<u>80</u>	NOTICE OF ATTORNEY APPEARANCE Suzanne Elmilady appearing for USA , filed.(Elmilady, Suzanne) (Entered: 07/24/2020)
07/27/2020	<u>81</u>	NOTICE OF ATTORNEY APPEARANCE Gerald Michael Moody, Jr, Jonathan P. Robell, Gwendolyn Amelia Stamper appearing for USA, filed. (MarcelleLaBee, 4) (Entered: 07/27/2020)
07/27/2020	<u>82</u>	Memorandum of Law in Partial Opposition to <u>66</u> INTERVENORS MOTION to Unseal Document, filed by USA. Modified on 7/27/2020 (bthomas, 4). (Entered: 07/27/2020)

07/28/2020	<u>83</u>	ORDER as to Saman Ahsani (1), Cyrus Allen Ahsani (2) granting <u>66</u> Motion to Unseal. ORDERED that the Media Intervenors may intervene in this case for the limited purpose of seeking to unseal judicial records and proceedings. It is further ORDERED that the judicial records be unsealed except for the limited redactions as shown in the documents attached as exhibits to this Order. It is further ORDERED that the document found at docket number 18 remains under seal until further order of this Court. It is further ORDERED that the Media Intervenors and the public shall receive notice of and access to future proceedings in this case, including the defendants sentencing. This order is not intended to unseal the presentence investigation reports which will remain under seal. (Signed by Judge Vanessa D Gilmore.) (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Redacted pleadings) Parties notified.(bthomas, 4) (Attachment 1 replaced on 7/31/2020) (bthomas, 4). (Entered: 07/29/2020)
07/30/2020		Documents unsealed per <u>83</u> Order as to Cyrus Allen Ahsani, Saman Ahsani. (bthomas, 4) (Entered: 07/30/2020)
08/06/2020	<u>84</u>	AO 435 TRANSCRIPT ORDER FORM by Dylan Tokar as to Cyrus Allen Ahsani, Saman Ahsani for Transcript of Hearing on 3/18/19. Daily (24 hours) turnaround requested. Court Reporter/Transcriber: Exceptional Reporting Services, filed. (emathis, 4) Copy request was electronically forwarded to Exceptional Reporting Services on 8-7-2020. Estimated completion date: 8-8-2020. Modified on 8/7/2020 (MelissaMorgan, 4). (Entered: 08/07/2020)
08/06/2020	<u>85</u>	AO 435 TRANSCRIPT ORDER FORM by Dylan Tokar as to Cyrus Allen Ahsani, Saman Ahsani for Transcript of Rearraignment on 3/25/19 before Judge Gilmore. Daily (24 hours) turnaround requested. Court Reporter/Transcriber: Bruce Slavin, filed. (emathis, 4) (Entered: 08/07/2020)
08/06/2020	<u>86</u>	AO 435 TRANSCRIPT ORDER FORM by Dylan Tokar as to Cyrus Allen Ahsani, Saman Ahsani for Transcript of Initial Appearance on 8/22/18 before Judge Stacy. Daily (24 hours) turnaround requested. Court Reporter/Transcriber: Exceptional Reporting Services, filed. (emathis, 4) Copy request was electronically forwarded to Exceptional Reporting Services on 8-7-2020. Estimated completion date: 8-8-2020. Modified on 8/7/2020 (MelissaMorgan, 4). (Entered: 08/07/2020)
08/06/2020	<u>87</u>	AO 435 TRANSCRIPT ORDER FORM by Dylan Tokar as to Cyrus Allen Ahsani, Saman Ahsani for Transcript of Bond Hearing on 3/20/19 before Judge Stacy. Daily (24 hours) turnaround requested. Court Reporter/Transcriber: Exceptional Reporting Services, filed. (emathis, 4) Copy request was electronically forwarded to Exceptional Reporting Services on 8-7-2020. Estimated completion date: 8-8-2020. Modified on 8/7/2020 (MelissaMorgan, 4). (Entered: 08/07/2020)
08/31/2020	<u>88</u>	Unredacted Sealed Unopposed MOTION to Continue Sentencing by USA as to Cyrus Allen Ahsani, Saman Ahsani, filed. (With attachments) Modified on 9/1/2020 (bthomas, 4). (Entered: 08/31/2020)
08/31/2020	<u>89</u>	Redacted Unopposed MOTION to Continue Sentencing by USA as to Cyrus Allen Ahsani, Saman Ahsani, filed. (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Proposed Order)(Elmilady, Suzanne) Modified on 9/1/2020 (bthomas, 4). (Entered: 08/31/2020)
09/01/2020	<u>90</u>	ORDER granting <u>89</u> Unopposed MOTION to Continue Sentencing as to Cyrus Allen Ahsani, Saman Ahsani. PSI Completion due by 12/1/2020. Objection to PSI due by 12/15/2020. Final PSI due by 1/25/2021. Sentencing set for 2/1/2021 at 09:30 AM in Courtroom 9A before Judge Vanessa D Gilmore. (Signed by Judge Vanessa D Gilmore) Parties notified. (bthomas, 4) (Entered: 09/02/2020)

12/10/2020	<u>91</u>	Sealed Motion to Continue, filed. (With attachments) Modified on 12/10/2020 (bthomas, 4). (Entered: 12/10/2020)
12/10/2020	<u>92</u>	MOTION to Continue Sentencing by USA as to Cyrus Allen Ahsani, Saman Ahsani, filed. (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Proposed Order)(Elmilady, Suzanne) (Entered: 12/10/2020)
12/22/2020	<u>93</u>	ORDER as to Cyrus Allen Ahsani, Saman Ahsani granting <u>92</u> MOTION to Continue Sentencing. (PSI Completion due by 7/1/2021, Objection to PSI due by 7/19/2021, Final PSI due by 9/7/2021, Sentencing set for 9/13/2021 at 09:30 AM in Courtroom 9A before Judge Vanessa D Gilmore). (Signed by Judge Vanessa D Gilmore) Parties notified. (bthomas, 4) (Entered: 12/22/2020)
07/14/2021	<u>94</u>	Sealed Motion to Continue Sentencing, filed. (With attachments) Modified on 7/14/2021 (bthomas, 4). (Entered: 07/14/2021)
07/14/2021	<u>95</u>	MOTION to Continue Sentencing by USA as to Cyrus Allen Ahsani, Saman Ahsani, filed. (Elmilady, Suzanne) (Entered: 07/14/2021)
07/14/2021	<u>96</u>	ORDER as to Cyrus Allen Ahsani, Saman Ahsani granting <u>95</u> MOTION to Continue Sentencing. (PSI Disclosure due by 11/1/2021. Objection to PSI due by 11/15/2021. Final PSI due by 12/6/2021. Sentencing set for 12/13/2021 at 09:30 AM in Courtroom 9A before Judge Vanessa D Gilmore) (Signed by Judge Vanessa D Gilmore) Parties notified. (bthomas, 4) (Entered: 07/15/2021)
10/14/2021	<u>97</u>	Sealed Motion to Continue Sentencing, filed. (With attachments) Text Modified on 10/14/2021 (bthomas, 4). (Entered: 10/14/2021)
10/14/2021	<u>98</u>	MOTION to Continue Sentencing by USA as to Cyrus Allen Ahsani, Saman Ahsani, filed. (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Proposed Order)(Elmilady, Suzanne) (Entered: 10/14/2021)
10/15/2021	<u>99</u>	ORDER as to Cyrus Allen Ahsani, Saman Ahsani granting <u>97</u> MOTION to Continue Sentencing. (PSI Completion due by 5/23/2022, Objection to PSI due by 6/6/2022, Final PSI due by 6/20/2022, Sentencing set for 6/27/2022 at 09:30 AM in Courtroom 9A before Judge Vanessa D Gilmore) (Signed by Judge Vanessa D Gilmore) Parties notified. (bthomas, 4) (Entered: 10/15/2021)
12/09/2021	<u>100</u>	NOTICE of Reassignment to Judge Andrew S Hanen as to Cyrus Allen Ahsani, Saman Ahsani, pursuant to Special Order No. 2021-19. Deadlines in scheduling orders remain in effect, and all court settings are vacated. Judge Vanessa D Gilmore no longer assigned to the case. Parties notified, filed. (DawnaKelly, 4) (Entered: 12/09/2021)
03/29/2022		Set/Reset Deadlines/Hearings as to Cyrus Allen Ahsani, Saman Ahsani: Sentencing set for 6/27/2022 at 08:30 AM in Courtroom 9C before Judge Andrew S Hanen (rhawkins) (Entered: 03/29/2022)
05/20/2022	<u>101</u>	Unopposed MOTION to Continue Sentencing by USA as to Cyrus Allen Ahsani, Saman Ahsani, filed. (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Proposed Order To Continue)(Elmilady, Suzanne) (Entered: 05/20/2022)
05/23/2022	<u>102</u>	ORDER as to Cyrus Allen Ahsani, Saman Ahsani. PSR due 11/4/2022. Objections filed by 11/18/2022. Final PSR with addendum filed by 12/2/2022. Sentencing set for 12/12/2022 at 08:30 AM in Courtroom 9C before Judge Andrew S Hanen. (Signed by Judge Andrew S Hanen) Parties notified. (rhawkins) Modified on 5/24/2022 (rhawkins). (Entered: 05/23/2022)
05/24/2022		

		Set/Reset ORDER for Presentence Investigation and Disclosure & Sentencing Dates as to Cyrus Allen Ahsani, Saman Ahsani. PSI Completion due by 11/4/2022. Objection to PSI due by 11/18/2022. Final PSI due by 12/2/2022. Sentencing set for 12/12/2022 at 08:30 AM in Courtroom 9C before Judge Andrew S Hanen (rhawkins) (Entered: 05/24/2022)
05/24/2022		(Court only) ***(PRIVATE ENTRY) Terminated Deadlines and Hearings as to Cyrus Allen Ahsani, Saman Ahsani. (rhawkins) (Entered: 05/24/2022)
11/03/2022	<u>103</u>	NOTICE OF ATTORNEY APPEARANCE: Jennifer Marie McCoy appearing for Cyrus Allen Ahsani, Saman Ahsani , filed.(McCoy, Jennifer) (Entered: 11/03/2022)
11/03/2022	<u>104</u>	NOTICE OF ATTORNEY APPEARANCE: Paul E Coggins appearing for Cyrus Allen Ahsani, Saman Ahsani , filed.(Coggins, Paul) (Entered: 11/03/2022)
11/29/2022	<u>105</u>	ORDER Resetting Sentencing as to Cyrus Allen Ahsani, Saman Ahsani. PSI Completion due by 12/22/2022. Objection to PSI due by 1/6/2023. Final PSI due by 1/20/2023. Sentencing set for 1/30/2023 at 08:30 AM in Courtroom 9D before Judge Andrew S Hanen (Signed by Judge Andrew S Hanen) Parties notified. (rhawkins) (Entered: 11/29/2022)
12/22/2022	<u>106</u>	Attorney Only Document (Sealed) as to Saman Ahsani. NOTICE: Document available to applicable parties only. Authorized users enter CM/ECF Filer login and password first for authentication. Be sure to SAVE the attached documents locally at the time of viewing. (Main Doc: Initial PSR) (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Sentencing Recommendation) (ticlark, 4) (Entered: 12/22/2022)
01/06/2023	<u>112</u>	Unopposed MOTION to Withdraw as Attorney (<i>Rachel G. Talay</i>) by Jennifer Marie McCoy by Cyrus Allen Ahsani, Saman Ahsani, filed. (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Proposed Order)(McCoy, Jennifer) (Entered: 01/06/2023)
01/06/2023	<u>113</u>	Statement of No Objections to PSR (Sealed) by Saman Ahsani, filed. (Entered: 01/06/2023)
01/11/2023	<u>114</u>	ORDER granting <u>112</u> Motion to Withdraw as Attorney. Rachel Gagnebin Talay withdrawn from case as to Saman Ahsani (1), Cyrus Allen Ahsani (2).(Signed by Judge Andrew S Hanen.) Parties notified.(jdav, 4) (Entered: 01/12/2023)
01/20/2023	<u>115</u>	Sentencing Memorandum (Sealed) by USA as to Saman Ahsani, filed. (With attachments) (Entered: 01/20/2023)
01/23/2023	<u>116</u>	Sentencing Memorandum (Sealed) by Saman Ahsani, filed. (Entered: 01/23/2023)
01/24/2023	<u>117</u>	NOTICE OF RESETTING as to Saman Ahsani. Sentencing set for 1/30/2023 at 01:00 PM in Courtroom 9D before Judge Andrew S Hanen, filed. NOTE: TIME CHANGE ONLY. (rhawkins) (Entered: 01/24/2023)
01/24/2023	<u>118</u>	Sealed Event, filed. (Entered: 01/24/2023)
01/24/2023	<u>119</u>	Final Presentence Investigation Report (Sealed) as to Saman Ahsani, filed. (mmjones, 4) (Entered: 01/24/2023)
01/24/2023	<u>120</u>	Sealed Addendum to <u>119</u> Final Presentence Investigation Report (Sealed) as to Saman Ahsani, filed. (mmjones, 4) (Entered: 01/24/2023)
01/24/2023	<u>121</u>	Confidential Sentencing Recommendation(Sealed) regarding Saman Ahsani, filed. (mmjones, 4) (Entered: 01/24/2023)

01/24/2023	<u>122</u>	Sealed Event, filed. (Entered: 01/24/2023)
01/24/2023	<u>123</u>	MOTION to Unseal Document <u>116</u> Sentencing Memorandum (Sealed), <u>115</u> Sentencing Memorandum (Sealed) by The Guardian, Global Investigations Review, The Financial Times Ltd as to Saman Ahsani, filed. (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Affidavit Townsend Declaration, # <u>2</u> Proposed Order)(Townsend, KatieLynn) (Entered: 01/24/2023)
01/30/2023	<u>125</u>	MOTION to Withdraw as Attorney <i>Madeline Lamo</i> by KatieLynn Boyd Townsend by on behalf of The Guardian, Global Investigations Review, The Financial Times Ltd as to Saman Ahsani, filed. (Townsend, KatieLynn) (Entered: 01/30/2023)
01/30/2023		Minute Entry for proceedings held before Judge Andrew S Hanen: Sentencing held on 1/30/2023 for Saman Ahsani (1) as to Count 1 of the Indictment. The Court ruled on pending motions on the record. There being no objections to the PSR, the Court adopted the PSR and sentenced Defendant to the custody of the BOP for a term of 12 months and 1 day; 1 year SRT; no fine; \$100 SA. The Court recommended that Defendant be permitted to return to his home country to serve his supervised release. The Court further recommended placement in the facility at Beaumont, Texas. The Defendant may self-surrender at a time and place to be determined by the BOP. Appearances: Jennifer Marie McCoy, Paul E Coggins, Zoe Osborne, Gerald Michael Moody, Jr, Jonathan Robell, Suzanne Elmilady.(Court Reporter: D. Smith) Deft continued on bond, filed.(rhawkins) (Entered: 01/30/2023)
01/30/2023	<u>126</u>	ORDER IMPOSING MONEY JUDGMENT as to Saman Ahsani (Signed by Judge Andrew S Hanen) Parties notified. (jdav, 4) (Entered: 01/31/2023)
02/03/2023	<u>128</u>	JUDGMENT as to Saman Ahsani (Signed by Judge Andrew S Hanen) Parties notified. (jdav, 4) (Entered: 02/06/2023)
02/03/2023	<u>129</u>	Statement of Reasons (Sealed) as to Saman Ahsani. NOTICE: Document available to applicable parties only. Authorized users enter CM/ECF Filer login and password first for authentication. Instructions available at http://www.txs.uscourts.gov/attorney-information - Electronic Access to Sealed Documents. Be sure to SAVE the document locally at the time of viewing, filed. (Entered: 02/06/2023)
02/06/2023	<u>127</u>	AO 435 TRANSCRIPT ORDER FORM by Katie Townsend for Media Intervenors as to Saman Ahsani for Transcript of Sentencing on 1/30/23 before Judge Hanen. Expedited (7 days) turnaround requested. Court Reporter/Transcriber: David Smith, filed. (Townsend, KatieLynn) (Entered: 02/06/2023)
02/07/2023	<u>130</u>	Sealed Event, filed. (Entered: 02/07/2023)
02/08/2023	<u>131</u>	RESPONSE in Support by The Guardian, Global Investigations Review, The Financial Times Ltd as to Saman Ahsani re <u>123</u> MOTION to Unseal Document <u>116</u> Sentencing Memorandum (Sealed), <u>115</u> Sentencing Memorandum (Sealed) , filed.(Townsend, KatieLynn) (Entered: 02/08/2023)
02/20/2023	<u>132</u>	TRANSCRIPT as to Saman Ahsani re: Sentencing Proceedings held on 01/30/2023 before Judge Andrew S Hanen.Court Reporter/Transcriber David S. Smith. Ordering Party KatieLynn Townsend Release of Transcript Restriction set for 5/22/2023., filed. (Smith, David) (Entered: 02/20/2023)
02/23/2023	<u>133</u>	ORDER denying <u>123</u> Motion of Media Intervenors to Unseal Sentencing Memoranda as to Saman Ahsani. (Signed by Judge Andrew S Hanen) Parties

		notified. (rhawkins) (Entered: 02/23/2023)
02/24/2023	<u>134</u>	AO 435 TRANSCRIPT ORDER FORM by Suzanne Elmilady as to Cyrus Allen Ahsani, Saman Ahsani for Transcript of Sentencing held on 1/30/23. Ordinary (30 days) turnaround requested. Court Reporter/Transcriber: David Smith, filed. (RachelWillborg, 4) (Entered: 02/24/2023)
03/02/2023	<u>135</u>	ORDER TO SURRENDER on Thursday, March 23, 2023 by 2:00PM to FCI Beaumont Low, Beaumont Texas as to Saman Ahsani (Signed by Judge Andrew S Hanen) Parties notified. (jdav, 4) (Entered: 03/03/2023)
03/09/2023	<u>136</u>	NOTICE OF APPEAL to US Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit by The Guardian, Global Investigations Review, The Financial Times Ltd as to Saman Ahsani re <u>133</u> Order (Filing fee \$ 505, receipt number ATXSDC-29577988.),filed. (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Exhibit Appealed-From Order)(Townsend, KatieLynn) (Entered: 03/09/2023)
03/10/2023	<u>137</u>	Clerks Notice of Filing of an Appeal as to Saman Ahsani. The following Notice of Appeal and related motions are pending in the District Court: <u>136</u> Notice of Appeal - Judgment and Sentence,. Fee status: Paid. Reporter(s): B. Slavin, D. Smith,filed. (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Notice of Appeal) (EfrainGarcia, 1) (Entered: 03/10/2023)
03/10/2023		Appeal Review Notes as to Saman Ahsani re: <u>136</u> Notice of Appeal - Judgment and Sentence,. Fee status: Paid. The appeal filing fee has been paid.Hearings were held in the case. DKT13 transcript order form(s) due within 14 days of the filing of the notice of appeal. Number of DKT-13 Forms expected: 2,filed.(EfrainGarcia, 1) (Entered: 03/10/2023)
03/14/2023	<u>138</u>	DKT13 TRANSCRIPT ORDER REQUEST by Media Intervenors/Katie Townsend as to Saman Ahsani. This is to order a transcript of Sentencing hearing on 1/30/23 before Judge Hanen; pre-sentencing hearing on 1/30/23 before Judge Hanen. Court Reporter/Transcriber: David Smith. This order form relates to the following: <u>136</u> Notice of Appeal - Judgment and Sentence, <u>132</u> Transcript,, filed. (Townsend, KatieLynn) (Entered: 03/14/2023)
03/14/2023	<u>139</u>	DKT13 TRANSCRIPT ORDER REQUEST by Media Intervenors/Katie Townsend as to Saman Ahsani. Transcript is already on file in Clerks office regarding Rearraignment Hearing on 3/25/19 before Judge Gilmore. (A transcript is requested). Court Reporter/Transcriber: Contract Court Reporter. This order form relates to the following: <u>136</u> Notice of Appeal - Judgment and Sentence, Re-Arraignment,, filed. (Townsend, KatieLynn) (Entered: 03/14/2023)
03/15/2023		Notice of Assignment of USCA No. 23-20097 as to Saman Ahsani re: <u>136</u> Notice of Appeal - Judgment and Sentence,,filed.(EfrainGarcia, 1) (Entered: 03/15/2023)
03/15/2023	<u>140</u>	Unopposed MOTION to Extend Surrender Date re <u>135</u> Order to Surrender by Saman Ahsani, filed. (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Proposed Order)(Coggins, Paul) (Entered: 03/15/2023)
03/15/2023	<u>141</u>	ORDER GRANTING DEFENDANT SAMAN AHSANI'S MOTION TO EXTEND SURRENDER DATE granting <u>140</u> Motion as to Saman Ahsani (1). Surrender date is extended to April 24, 2023..(Signed by Judge Andrew S Hanen.) Parties notified.(jdav, 4) (Entered: 03/15/2023)
03/22/2023		(Court only) ***Set/Clear Flags as to Saman Ahsani. Appeal_Nat flag cleared. EXPEDITED EROA REQUESTED by the 5th Circuit, due AS SOON AS

		POSSIBLE, no later than 3/24/2023. [23-20097] (DLJ) (EfrainGarcia, 1) (Entered: 03/22/2023)
03/22/2023		Electronic record on appeal certified to Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals as to Saman Ahsani re: <u>136</u> Notice of Appeal - Judgment and Sentence., USCA No. 23-20097,filed.(EfrainGarcia, 1) (Entered: 03/22/2023)
03/22/2023		Electronic Access to Record on Appeal Provided as to Saman Ahsani re: <u>136</u> Notice of Appeal - Judgment and Sentence, to Jeremy Raymond Sanders, Katie Lynn B. Townsend. Attorneys of record at the Circuit may <u>download the record from the Court of Appeals</u> . (USCA No. 23-20097),filed.(EfrainGarcia, 1) (Entered: 03/22/2023)
03/23/2023		Electronic Access to Record on Appeal Provided as to Saman Ahsani re: <u>136</u> Notice of Appeal - Judgment and Sentence, to Scott A. C. Meisler. Attorneys of record at the Circuit may <u>download the record from the Court of Appeals</u> . (USCA No. 23-20097),filed.(EfrainGarcia, 1) (Entered: 03/23/2023)
03/23/2023	<u>142</u> (p.2800)	Transcript (Sealed) of proceedings held on held on 01/30/2023. Court Reporter/Transcriber David S. Smith, filed. (Smith, David) (Entered: 03/23/2023)

TAB 2

**U.S. District Court
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS (Houston)
CRIMINAL DOCKET FOR CASE #: 4:19-cr-00147-2
Internal Use Only**

Case title: USA v. Ahsani et al

Date Filed: 03/04/2019

Assigned to: Judge Andrew S
Hanan

Defendant (2)

Cyrus Allen Ahsani

represented by **Rachel Gagnebin Talay**
H Street Law PLLC
1616 H Street, N.W.
10th Floor
Washington, DC, DC 20006
202-802-1864
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TERMINATED: 01/11/2023
LEAD ATTORNEY
Designation: Retained

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ATTORNEY TO BE NOTICED

Paul E Coggins
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Fax: 214-756-8104
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ATTORNEY TO BE NOTICED

Pending Counts

CONSPIRACY
(1)

Disposition

Highest Offense Level (Opening)

Felony

Terminated Counts

Disposition

None

**Highest Offense Level
(Terminated)**

None

Complaints

Disposition

None

Intervenor

The Financial Times Ltd
TERMINATED: 02/03/2023

represented by **KatieLynn Boyd Townsend**
Reporters Committee for Freedom of the
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TERMINATED: 02/03/2023

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Date Filed	#	Docket Text
03/04/2019	<u>16</u>	INFORMATION as to Saman Ahsani (1) count(s) 1, Cyrus Allen Ahsani (2) count(s) 1, filed.Saman Ahsani Arraignment set for 3/13/2019 at 10:00 AM in Courtroom 700 before Magistrate Judge Nancy K Johnson and Cyrus Allen Ahsani Initial Appearance set for 3/13/2019 at 10:00 AM in Courtroom 700 before Magistrate Judge Nancy K Johnson (hlerma, 4) (Entered: 03/05/2019)
03/04/2019	<u>17</u>	*SEALED* US Attys Criminal Docket Sheet as to Cyrus Allen Ahsani, Saman Ahsani, filed.(hlerma, 4) (Entered: 03/05/2019)
03/04/2019	<u>18</u>	*SEALED* Notice of Related Case(s): 18cv414, filed. (hlerma, 4) (Additional attachment(s) added on 7/30/2020: # <u>1</u> Redacted) (bthomas, 4). (Entered: 03/05/2019)

		03/05/2019)
03/04/2019	<u>19</u>	*SEALED* MOTION to Seal Case by USA as to Cyrus Allen Ahsani, Saman Ahsani, filed. (hlerma, 4) (Main Document 19 replaced on 3/5/2019) (hlerma, 4). (Entered: 03/05/2019)
03/04/2019	<u>20</u>	*SEALED* ORDER granting <u>19</u> Motion to Seal Case as to Saman Ahsani (1), Cyrus Allen Ahsani (2).(Signed by Magistrate Judge Nancy K Johnson.) Parties notified.(hlerma, 4) (Entered: 03/05/2019)
03/05/2019	<u>22</u> (p.2673)	*SEALED* ORDER for Issuance of Summons as to Cyrus Allen Ahsani (Signed by Magistrate Judge Nancy K Johnson) Parties notified. (hlerma, 4) (Entered: 03/05/2019)
03/07/2019	<u>26</u>	*SEALED* MOTION to Seal by USA as to Cyrus Allen Ahsani, Saman Ahsani, filed. (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Proposed Order)(bthomas, 4) (Entered: 03/11/2019)
03/08/2019	<u>24</u>	*SEALED* Joint MOTION for Hearing to Inquire into Potential Attorney Conflict of Interest by USA as to Cyrus Allen Ahsani, Saman Ahsani, filed. (gclair, 4) (Additional attachment(s) added on 7/30/2020: # <u>1</u> Redacted) (bthomas, 4). (Entered: 03/11/2019)
03/08/2019	<u>27</u>	*SEALED* ORDER granting <u>26</u> Motion to Seal as to Saman Ahsani (1), Cyrus Allen Ahsani (2).(Signed by Judge Vanessa D Gilmore.) Parties notified.(bthomas, 4) (Additional attachment(s) added on 7/30/2020: # <u>1</u> Redacted) (bthomas, 4). (Entered: 03/11/2019)
03/11/2019	<u>25</u>	*SEALED* NOTICE OF RESETTING as to Cyrus Allen Ahsani, Saman Ahsani. Arraignment set for 3/18/2019 at 02:00 PM in Courtroom 700 before Magistrate Judge Frances H Stacy Initial Appearance set for 3/18/2019 at 02:00 PM in Courtroom 704 before Magistrate Judge Frances H Stacy, filed. (sjones, 4) (Entered: 03/11/2019)
03/18/2019	<u>28</u>	*SEALED* Sealed Minute Entry, filed. (Entered: 03/18/2019)
03/18/2019	<u>29</u> (p.2674)	*SEALED* Sealed Waiver of Conflict of Interest as to Cyrus Allen Ahsani, filed. Modified on 3/18/2019 (bthomas, 4). (Entered: 03/18/2019)
03/18/2019	<u>31</u>	*SEALED* Sealed Arraignment Minute Entry, filed. Modified on 3/18/2019 (bthomas, 4). (Entered: 03/18/2019)
03/18/2019	<u>33</u> (p.2676)	*SEALED* Sealed Waiver of Speedy Trial Limits as to Cyrus Allen Ahsani, filed. Modified on 3/18/2019 (bthomas, 4). (Entered: 03/18/2019)
03/18/2019	<u>34</u>	*SEALED* Sealed Order Deadline for Motions for Continuance: 4/8/2018. Proposed Voir Dire due by 5/10/2019. Reply to Response to Motion due by 4/18/2019 Final Pretrial Conference set for 5/13/2019 at 09:30 AM before Judge Vanessa D Gilmore Jury Trial set for 5/20/2019 at 01:30 PM before Judge Vanessa D Gilmore, filed. (Entered: 03/18/2019)
03/18/2019	<u>35</u>	*SEALED* Sealed Order granting Motion for Dennis Kihm to appear Pro Hac Vice for USA, filed. Modified on 3/18/2019 (bthomas, 4). (Entered: 03/18/2019)
03/18/2019	<u>36</u>	*SEALED* Sealed Order granting Motion for Rachel Talay to appear Pro Hac Vice for Defendants, filed. Modified on 3/18/2019 (bthomas, 4). (Entered: 03/18/2019)
03/19/2019	<u>38</u>	*SEALED* SENTENCING DATA SHEET by USA as to Cyrus Allen Ahsani,

	<u>(p.2677)</u>	filed.(bthomas, 4) (Additional attachment(s) added on 7/30/2020: # <u>1</u> Redacted) (bthomas, 4). (Entered: 03/19/2019)
03/20/2019	<u>40</u> <u>(p.2703)</u>	*SEALED* NOTICE OF SETTING as to Cyrus Allen Ahsani. Re-Arraignment set for 3/25/2019 at 08:00 AM in Courtroom 9A before Judge Vanessa D Gilmore, filed. (bthomas, 4) (Entered: 03/20/2019)
03/20/2019		*SEALED* Minute Entry for proceedings held before Magistrate Judge Frances H Stacy: BOND HEARING as to Cyrus Allen Ahsani, Saman Ahsani held on 3/20/2019 Bond conditions amended. Each deft has \$1,000,000.00 bond with \$250,000.00 deposit. Appearances: Rachel Gagnebin Talay, Dennis R Kihm, Suzanne Elmilady.(Court Reporter: ERO)(Digital # 2:11 - 2:18 / 3:16 - 3:25)(ERO:J Gujardo) Deft continued on Bond, filed.(bwhite, 4) Modified on 3/21/2019 (bwhite, 4). (Entered: 03/20/2019)
03/20/2019	<u>41</u>	*SEALED* Sealed Motion and Order, filed. (Entered: 03/21/2019)
03/20/2019	<u>42</u> <u>(p.2704)</u>	*SEALED* Appearance Bond Entered as to Cyrus Allen Ahsani in amount of \$ 250,000, Receipt # Hou087308. Bond Depositor: Rachel Talay, filed. (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Unredacted attachment)(ckrus, 4) (Entered: 03/22/2019)
03/20/2019	<u>44</u> <u>(p.2705)</u>	*SEALED* ORDER Setting Conditions of Release (Signed by Magistrate Judge Frances H Stacy) (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Unredacted attachment, # <u>2</u> Unredacted attachment Affidavit) Parties notified. (ckrus, 4) (Additional attachment(s) added on 7/30/2020: # <u>3</u> Redacted, # <u>4</u> Affidavit Redacted) (bthomas, 4). (Entered: 03/22/2019)
03/25/2019		Minute Entry for proceedings held before Judge Vanessa D Gilmore: RE-ARRAIGNMENT held on 3/25/2019 as to Saman Ahsani (1) pleads Guilty to Count 1. Cyrus Allen Ahsani (2) pleads Guilty to Count 1. Waiver of Indictments executed. Plea agreements executed on the record. Affidavit and Waiver of Extradition executed. Sentencing is set for 10/21/2019 at 9:30 am. Appearances: Dennis Kihm, Suzanne Elmilady, Rachel Talay. (Court Reporter: Bruce Slavin) Defendants continued on Bond, filed. (bthomas, 4) (Entered: 03/25/2019)
03/25/2019	<u>50</u> <u>(p.2712)</u>	*SEALED* WAIVER OF AN INDICTMENT as to Cyrus Allen Ahsani. (Signed by Judge Vanessa D Gilmore) Parties notified. (bthomas, 4) (Entered: 03/25/2019)
03/25/2019	<u>51</u> <u>(p.2713)</u>	*SEALED* PLEA AGREEMENT as to Cyrus Allen Ahsani, filed. (bthomas, 4) (Additional attachment(s) added on 7/30/2020: # <u>1</u> Redacted) (bthomas, 4). (Entered: 03/25/2019)
03/25/2019	<u>52</u> <u>(p.2771)</u>	*SEALED* ORDER for Presentence Investigation and Disclosure & Sentencing Dates as to Cyrus Allen Ahsani. PSI Completion due by 9/3/2019. Objection to PSI due by 9/17/2019. Final PSI due by 10/15/2019. Sentencing set for 10/21/2019 at 09:30 AM in Courtroom 9A before Judge Vanessa D Gilmore. (Signed by Judge Vanessa D Gilmore) Parties notified. (bthomas, 4) (Entered: 03/25/2019)
03/25/2019	<u>53</u> <u>(p.2772)</u>	*SEALED* AFFIDAVIT AND WAIVER OF EXTRADITION as to Cyrus Allen Ahsani. (Signed by Judge Vanessa D Gilmore) Parties notified. (bthomas, 4) (Additional attachment(s) added on 7/30/2020: # <u>1</u> Redacted) (bthomas, 4). (Entered: 03/25/2019)
04/19/2019	<u>54</u>	*SEALED* MOTION for Order Permitting Limited Disclosure of Information, Plea Agreements and Sealing Orders by USA as to Cyrus Allen Ahsani, Saman Ahsani, filed. (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Proposed Order)(ckrus, 4) (Additional attachment(s) added

		on 7/30/2020: # <u>2</u> Redacted) (bthomas, 4). (Entered: 04/23/2019)
04/23/2019	<u>55</u>	*SEALED* Amended MOTION for Order Permitting Limited Disclosure of Information, Plea Agreements and Sealing Orders by USA as to Cyrus Allen Ahsani, Saman Ahsani, filed. (ckrus, 4) (Additional attachment(s) added on 7/30/2020: # <u>1</u> Redacted) (bthomas, 4). (Entered: 04/23/2019)
04/24/2019	<u>56</u>	*SEALED* ORDER as to Saman Ahsani (1), Cyrus Allen Ahsani (2) granting <u>54</u> Motion for Disclosure, <u>55</u> Motion for Disclosure. (Signed by Judge Vanessa D Gilmore.) Parties notified.(bthomas, 4) (Entered: 04/24/2019)
09/06/2019	<u>57</u>	*SEALED* MOTION to Continue Presentence Disclosure and Sentencing Dates by Cyrus Allen Ahsani, Saman Ahsani, filed. (bthomas, 4) (Additional attachment(s) added on 7/30/2020: # <u>1</u> Redacted) (bthomas, 4). (Entered: 09/09/2019)
09/09/2019	<u>58</u>	*SEALED* ORDER for Presentence Investigation and Disclosure & Sentencing Dates as to Cyrus Allen Ahsani, Saman Ahsani. PSI Completion due by 3/2/2020. Objection to PSI due by 3/16/2020. Final PSI due by 4/14/2020. Sentencing set for 4/20/2020 at 09:30 AM in Courtroom 9A before Judge Vanessa D Gilmore. (Signed by Judge Vanessa D Gilmore) Parties notified. (bthomas, 4) (Additional attachment(s) added on 7/30/2020: # <u>1</u> Redacted) (bthomas, 4). (Entered: 09/09/2019)
10/25/2019	<u>59</u>	*SEALED* MOTION to Unseal Criminal Information and Docket Plea Hearing by USA as to Cyrus Allen Ahsani, Saman Ahsani, filed. (ShoshanaArnow, 4) (Additional attachment(s) added on 7/30/2020: # <u>1</u> Redacted) (bthomas, 4). (Entered: 10/28/2019)
10/28/2019	<u>60</u>	*SEALED* ORDER granting <u>59</u> Motion to Unseal Document as to Saman Ahsani (1), Cyrus Allen Ahsani (2). (Signed by Judge Vanessa D Gilmore.) Parties notified.(bthomas, 4) (Entered: 10/30/2019)
12/31/2019	<u>61</u>	AO 435 TRANSCRIPT ORDER FORM by Kadhim Shubber as to Cyrus Allen Ahsani, Saman Ahsani for Transcript of 3/13/2019 and 3/25/2019. 3-Day turnaround requested. Court Reporter/Transcriber: Bruce Slavin, filed. (ShoshanaArnow, 4) Unable to process request. Per case manager - Transcripts are sealed and unavailable. Party notified. Modified on 1/10/2020 (ClaudiaGutierrez, 4). (Entered: 01/03/2020)
01/07/2020	<u>62</u>	AO 435 TRANSCRIPT ORDER FORM by Adam Dobrik as to Cyrus Allen Ahsani, Saman Ahsani for Transcript of Rearraignment on 3/25/19 before Judge Gilmore. Expedited (7 days) turnaround requested. Court Reporter/Transcriber: Bruce Slavin, filed. (emathis, 4) (Entered: 01/07/2020)
01/07/2020	<u>63</u>	AO 435 TRANSCRIPT ORDER FORM by Adam Dobrik as to Cyrus Allen Ahsani, Saman Ahsani for Transcript of Initial Appearance on 3/18/19 before Judge Stacy. Expedited (7 days) turnaround requested. Court Reporter/Transcriber: Exceptional Reporting Services, filed. (emathis, 4) (Entered: 01/07/2020)
03/06/2020	<u>64</u>	Sealed Motion to Continue Sentencing, filed. (With attachments) Modified on 3/6/2020 (bthomas, 4). (Additional attachment(s) added on 7/30/2020: # <u>2</u> Redacted) (bthomas, 4). (Entered: 03/06/2020)
03/06/2020	<u>65</u>	Sealed Order granting <u>64</u> Sealed Motion to Continue Sentencing. (PSI Completion due by 9/1/2020, Objection to PSI due by 9/14/2020, Final PSI due by 10/5/2020, Sentencing set for 10/13/2020 at 09:30 AM in Courtroom 9A before Judge Vanessa

		D Gilmore), filed. (Entered: 03/06/2020)
06/19/2020	<u>66</u>	MOTION to Unseal Document by The Guardian, Glogal Investigations Review, The Financial Times Ltd as to Cyrus Allen Ahsani, Saman Ahsani, filed. (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Supporting memorandum, # <u>2</u> Proposed Order, # <u>3</u> Exhibit, # <u>4</u> Exhibit, # <u>5</u> Exhibit, # <u>6</u> Exhibit, # <u>7</u> Exhibit, # <u>8</u> Exhibit)(Townsend, KatieLynn) (Entered: 06/19/2020)
06/19/2020	<u>67</u>	MOTION for Madeline Lamo to Appear Pro Hac Vice by The Guardian, Global Investigations Review, The Financial Times Ltd as to Cyrus Allen Ahsani, Saman Ahsani, filed. (Townsend, KatieLynn) (Entered: 06/19/2020)
06/19/2020	<u>68</u>	ORDER granting <u>67</u> Motion for Madeline Lamo to Appear Pro Hac Vice.(Signed by Judge Vanessa D Gilmore.) Parties notified.(bthomas, 4) (Entered: 06/19/2020)
07/01/2020	<u>69</u>	Sealed Unopposed Motion to Unseal Document for a Limited Purpose, filed. (With attachments) Modified on 7/2/2020 (bthomas, 4). (Entered: 07/01/2020)
07/06/2020	<u>70</u>	Sealed Order granting <u>69</u> Sealed Motion to Unseal for a Limited purpose. (Signed by Judge Vanessa D. Gilmore). (Entered: 07/07/2020)
07/09/2020	<u>71</u>	AO 435 TRANSCRIPT ORDER FORM by Suzanne Elmilady as to Cyrus Allen Ahsani, Saman Ahsani for Transcript of Initial Apperance held on 08/22/2018 before Judge Stacy. 3-Day turnaround requested. Court Reporter/Transcriber: Exceptional Reporting Services, filed. (Elmilady, Suzanne)Electronically forwarded to Exceptional Reporting Services on 7-10-2020. Estimated completion date: 7-13-2020. Modified on 7/10/2020 (MelissaMorgan, 4). (Entered: 07/09/2020)
07/09/2020	<u>72</u>	AO 435 TRANSCRIPT ORDER FORM by Suzanne Elmilady as to Cyrus Allen Ahsani, Saman Ahsani for Transcript of Bond Hearing held on 03/20/2019 before Judge Stacy. 3-Day turnaround requested. Court Reporter/Transcriber: Exceptional Reporting Services, filed. (Elmilady, Suzanne) Electronically forwarded to Exceptional Reporting Services on 7-10-2020. Estimated completion date: 7-13-2020. Modified on 7/10/2020 (MelissaMorgan, 4). (Entered: 07/09/2020)
07/09/2020	<u>73</u>	AO 435 TRANSCRIPT ORDER FORM by Suzanne Elmilady as to Cyrus Allen Ahsani, Saman Ahsani for Transcript of Sealed Minute Entry on 03/18/2019. 3-Day turnaround requested. Court Reporter/Transcriber: Exceptional Reporting Services, filed. (Elmilady, Suzanne)Electronically forwarded to Exceptional Reporting Services on 7-10-2020. Estimated completion date: 7-13-2020. Modified on 7/10/2020 (MelissaMorgan, 4). (Entered: 07/09/2020)
07/09/2020	<u>74</u>	AO 435 TRANSCRIPT ORDER FORM by Suzanne Elmilady as to Cyrus Allen Ahsani, Saman Ahsani for Transcript of Rearraignment on 03/25/2019 before Judge Gilmore. 3-Day turnaround requested. Court Reporter/Transcriber: Bruce Slavin, filed. (Elmilady, Suzanne) (Entered: 07/09/2020)
07/12/2020	<u>75</u>	Transcript (Sealed) of proceedings held on held on 3-25-19. Court Reporter/Transcriber B. Slavin, filed. (bslavin,) (Additional attachment(s) added on 7/30/2020: # <u>1</u> Redacted) (bthomas, 4). (Entered: 07/12/2020)
07/24/2020	<u>79</u>	Sealed Memorandum of Law in Partial Opposition to <u>66</u> INTERVENORS MOTION to Unseal Document, filed by USA, filed. (With attachments) (Entered: 07/24/2020)
07/24/2020	<u>80</u>	NOTICE OF ATTORNEY APPEARANCE Suzanne Elmilady appearing for USA , filed.(Elmilady, Suzanne) (Entered: 07/24/2020)

07/27/2020	<u>81</u>	NOTICE OF ATTORNEY APPEARANCE Gerald Michael Moody, Jr, Jonathan P. Robell, Gwendolyn Amelia Stamper appearing for USA, filed. (MarcelleLaBee, 4) (Entered: 07/27/2020)
07/27/2020	<u>82</u>	Memorandum of Law in Partial Opposition to <u>66</u> INTERVENORS MOTION to Unseal Document, filed by USA. Modified on 7/27/2020 (bthomas, 4). (Entered: 07/27/2020)
07/28/2020	<u>83</u>	ORDER as to Saman Ahsani (1), Cyrus Allen Ahsani (2) granting <u>66</u> Motion to Unseal. ORDERED that the Media Intervenors may intervene in this case for the limited purpose of seeking to unseal judicial records and proceedings. It is further ORDERED that the judicial records be unsealed except for the limited redactions as shown in the documents attached as exhibits to this Order. It is further ORDERED that the document found at docket number 18 remains under seal until further order of this Court. It is further ORDERED that the Media Intervenors and the public shall receive notice of and access to future proceedings in this case, including the defendants sentencing. This order is not intended to unseal the presentence investigation reports which will remain under seal. (Signed by Judge Vanessa D Gilmore.) (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Redacted pleadings) Parties notified.(bthomas, 4) (Attachment 1 replaced on 7/31/2020) (bthomas, 4). (Entered: 07/29/2020)
07/30/2020		Documents unsealed per <u>83</u> Order as to Cyrus Allen Ahsani, Saman Ahsani. (bthomas, 4) (Entered: 07/30/2020)
08/06/2020	<u>84</u>	AO 435 TRANSCRIPT ORDER FORM by Dylan Tokar as to Cyrus Allen Ahsani, Saman Ahsani for Transcript of Hearing on 3/18/19. Daily (24 hours) turnaround requested. Court Reporter/Transcriber: Exceptional Reporting Services, filed. (emathis, 4) Copy request was electronically forwarded to Exceptional Reporting Services on 8-7-2020. Estimated completion date: 8-8-2020. Modified on 8/7/2020 (MelissaMorgan, 4). (Entered: 08/07/2020)
08/06/2020	<u>85</u>	AO 435 TRANSCRIPT ORDER FORM by Dylan Tokar as to Cyrus Allen Ahsani, Saman Ahsani for Transcript of Rearraignment on 3/25/19 before Judge Gilmore. Daily (24 hours) turnaround requested. Court Reporter/Transcriber: Bruce Slavin, filed. (emathis, 4) (Entered: 08/07/2020)
08/06/2020	<u>86</u>	AO 435 TRANSCRIPT ORDER FORM by Dylan Tokar as to Cyrus Allen Ahsani, Saman Ahsani for Transcript of Initial Appearance on 8/22/18 before Judge Stacy. Daily (24 hours) turnaround requested. Court Reporter/Transcriber: Exceptional Reporting Services, filed. (emathis, 4) Copy request was electronically forwarded to Exceptional Reporting Services on 8-7-2020. Estimated completion date: 8-8-2020. Modified on 8/7/2020 (MelissaMorgan, 4). (Entered: 08/07/2020)
08/06/2020	<u>87</u>	AO 435 TRANSCRIPT ORDER FORM by Dylan Tokar as to Cyrus Allen Ahsani, Saman Ahsani for Transcript of Bond Hearing on 3/20/19 before Judge Stacy. Daily (24 hours) turnaround requested. Court Reporter/Transcriber: Exceptional Reporting Services, filed. (emathis, 4) Copy request was electronically forwarded to Exceptional Reporting Services on 8-7-2020. Estimated completion date: 8-8-2020. Modified on 8/7/2020 (MelissaMorgan, 4). (Entered: 08/07/2020)
08/31/2020	<u>88</u>	Unredacted Sealed Unopposed MOTION to Continue Sentencing by USA as to Cyrus Allen Ahsani, Saman Ahsani, filed. (With attachments) Modified on 9/1/2020 (bthomas, 4). (Entered: 08/31/2020)
08/31/2020	<u>89</u>	Redacted Unopposed MOTION to Continue Sentencing by USA as to Cyrus Allen Ahsani, Saman Ahsani, filed. (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Proposed Order)(Elmilady,

		Suzanne) Modified on 9/1/2020 (bthomas, 4). (Entered: 08/31/2020)
09/01/2020	<u>90</u>	ORDER granting <u>89</u> Unopposed MOTION to Continue Sentencing as to Cyrus Allen Ahsani, Saman Ahsani. PSI Completion due by 12/1/2020. Objection to PSI due by 12/15/2020. Final PSI due by 1/25/2021. Sentencing set for 2/1/2021 at 09:30 AM in Courtroom 9A before Judge Vanessa D Gilmore. (Signed by Judge Vanessa D Gilmore) Parties notified. (bthomas, 4) (Entered: 09/02/2020)
12/10/2020	<u>91</u>	Sealed Motion to Continue, filed. (With attachments) Modified on 12/10/2020 (bthomas, 4). (Entered: 12/10/2020)
12/10/2020	<u>92</u>	MOTION to Continue Sentencing by USA as to Cyrus Allen Ahsani, Saman Ahsani, filed. (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Proposed Order)(Elmilady, Suzanne) (Entered: 12/10/2020)
12/22/2020	<u>93</u>	ORDER as to Cyrus Allen Ahsani, Saman Ahsani granting <u>92</u> MOTION to Continue Sentencing. (PSI Completion due by 7/1/2021, Objection to PSI due by 7/19/2021, Final PSI due by 9/7/2021, Sentencing set for 9/13/2021 at 09:30 AM in Courtroom 9A before Judge Vanessa D Gilmore). (Signed by Judge Vanessa D Gilmore) Parties notified. (bthomas, 4) (Entered: 12/22/2020)
07/14/2021	<u>94</u>	Sealed Motion to Continue Sentencing, filed. (With attachments) Modified on 7/14/2021 (bthomas, 4). (Entered: 07/14/2021)
07/14/2021	<u>95</u>	MOTION to Continue Sentencing by USA as to Cyrus Allen Ahsani, Saman Ahsani, filed. (Elmilady, Suzanne) (Entered: 07/14/2021)
07/14/2021	<u>96</u>	ORDER as to Cyrus Allen Ahsani, Saman Ahsani granting <u>95</u> MOTION to Continue Sentencing. (PSI Disclosure due by 11/1/2021. Objection to PSI due by 11/15/2021. Final PSI due by 12/6/2021. Sentencing set for 12/13/2021 at 09:30 AM in Courtroom 9A before Judge Vanessa D Gilmore) (Signed by Judge Vanessa D Gilmore) Parties notified. (bthomas, 4) (Entered: 07/15/2021)
10/14/2021	<u>97</u>	Sealed Motion to Continue Sentencing, filed. (With attachments) Text Modified on 10/14/2021 (bthomas, 4). (Entered: 10/14/2021)
10/14/2021	<u>98</u>	MOTION to Continue Sentencing by USA as to Cyrus Allen Ahsani, Saman Ahsani, filed. (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Proposed Order)(Elmilady, Suzanne) (Entered: 10/14/2021)
10/15/2021	<u>99</u>	ORDER as to Cyrus Allen Ahsani, Saman Ahsani granting <u>97</u> MOTION to Continue Sentencing. (PSI Completion due by 5/23/2022, Objection to PSI due by 6/6/2022, Final PSI due by 6/20/2022, Sentencing set for 6/27/2022 at 09:30 AM in Courtroom 9A before Judge Vanessa D Gilmore) (Signed by Judge Vanessa D Gilmore) Parties notified. (bthomas, 4) (Entered: 10/15/2021)
12/09/2021	<u>100</u>	NOTICE of Reassignment to Judge Andrew S Hanen as to Cyrus Allen Ahsani, Saman Ahsani, pursuant to Special Order No. 2021-19. Deadlines in scheduling orders remain in effect, and all court settings are vacated. Judge Vanessa D Gilmore no longer assigned to the case. Parties notified, filed. (DawnaKelly, 4) (Entered: 12/09/2021)
03/29/2022		Set/Reset Deadlines/Hearings as to Cyrus Allen Ahsani, Saman Ahsani: Sentencing set for 6/27/2022 at 08:30 AM in Courtroom 9C before Judge Andrew S Hanen (rhawkins) (Entered: 03/29/2022)
05/20/2022	<u>101</u>	Unopposed MOTION to Continue Sentencing by USA as to Cyrus Allen Ahsani, Saman Ahsani, filed. (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Proposed Order To Continue)(Elmilady, Suzanne) (Entered: 05/20/2022)

05/23/2022	<u>102</u>	ORDER as to Cyrus Allen Ahsani, Saman Ahsani. PSR due 11/4/2022. Objections filed by 11/18/2022. Final PSR with addendum filed by 12/2/2022. Sentencing set for 12/12/2022 at 08:30 AM in Courtroom 9C before Judge Andrew S Hanen. (Signed by Judge Andrew S Hanen) Parties notified. (rhawkins) Modified on 5/24/2022 (rhawkins). (Entered: 05/23/2022)
05/24/2022		Set/Reset ORDER for Presentence Investigation and Disclosure & Sentencing Dates as to Cyrus Allen Ahsani, Saman Ahsani. PSI Completion due by 11/4/2022. Objection to PSI due by 11/18/2022. Final PSI due by 12/2/2022. Sentencing set for 12/12/2022 at 08:30 AM in Courtroom 9C before Judge Andrew S Hanen (rhawkins) (Entered: 05/24/2022)
05/24/2022		(Court only) ***(PRIVATE ENTRY) Terminated Deadlines and Hearings as to Cyrus Allen Ahsani, Saman Ahsani. (rhawkins) (Entered: 05/24/2022)
11/03/2022	<u>103</u>	NOTICE OF ATTORNEY APPEARANCE: Jennifer Marie McCoy appearing for Cyrus Allen Ahsani, Saman Ahsani , filed.(McCoy, Jennifer) (Entered: 11/03/2022)
11/03/2022	<u>104</u>	NOTICE OF ATTORNEY APPEARANCE: Paul E Coggins appearing for Cyrus Allen Ahsani, Saman Ahsani , filed.(Coggins, Paul) (Entered: 11/03/2022)
11/29/2022	<u>105</u>	ORDER Resetting Sentencing as to Cyrus Allen Ahsani, Saman Ahsani. PSI Completion due by 12/22/2022. Objection to PSI due by 1/6/2023. Final PSI due by 1/20/2023. Sentencing set for 1/30/2023 at 08:30 AM in Courtroom 9D before Judge Andrew S Hanen (Signed by Judge Andrew S Hanen) Parties notified. (rhawkins) (Entered: 11/29/2022)
12/22/2022	<u>107</u>	Attorney Only Document (Sealed) as to Cyrus Allen Ahsani. NOTICE: Document available to applicable parties only. Authorized users enter CM/ECF Filer login and password first for authentication. Be sure to SAVE the attached documents locally at the time of viewing. (Main Doc: Initial PSR), filed. (BenjaminBoyd, 4) (Entered: 12/22/2022)
12/22/2022	<u>108</u>	Confidential Sentencing Recommendation(Sealed) regarding Cyrus Allen Ahsani, filed. (BenjaminBoyd, 4) (Entered: 12/22/2022)
12/30/2022	<u>109</u> (p.2778)	Sealed Event, filed. (With attachments) (Entered: 12/30/2022)
01/03/2023	<u>110</u> (p.2783)	Sealed Order, filed. (Entered: 01/03/2023)
01/06/2023	<u>111</u>	NOTICE OF RESETTING as to Cyrus Allen Ahsani. Sentencing set for 8/21/2023 at 08:30 AM in Courtroom 9D before Judge Andrew S Hanen, filed. (rhawkins) (Entered: 01/06/2023)
01/06/2023	<u>112</u>	Unopposed MOTION to Withdraw as Attorney (<i>Rachel G. Talay</i>) by Jennifer Marie McCoy by Cyrus Allen Ahsani, Saman Ahsani, filed. (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Proposed Order)(McCoy, Jennifer) (Entered: 01/06/2023)
01/11/2023	<u>114</u>	ORDER granting <u>112</u> Motion to Withdraw as Attorney. Rachel Gagnebin Talay withdrawn from case as to Saman Ahsani (1), Cyrus Allen Ahsani (2).(Signed by Judge Andrew S Hanen.) Parties notified.(jdav, 4) (Entered: 01/12/2023)
01/19/2023	<u>124</u>	ORDER Resetting Sentencing as to Cyrus Allen Ahsani. PSI Completion due by 7/14/2023. Objection to PSI due by 7/28/2023. Final PSI due by 8/11/2023. Sentencing set for 8/21/2023 at 08:30 AM in Courtroom 9D before Judge Andrew S

		Hanen (Signed by Judge Andrew S Hanen) Parties notified. (rhawkins) (Entered: 01/25/2023)
02/07/2023	<u>130</u>	Sealed Event, filed. (Entered: 02/07/2023)
02/24/2023	<u>134</u>	AO 435 TRANSCRIPT ORDER FORM by Suzanne Elmilady as to Cyrus Allen Ahsani, Saman Ahsani for Transcript of Sentencing held on 1/30/23. Ordinary (30 days) turnaround requested. Court Reporter/Transcriber: David Smith, filed. (RachelWillborg, 4) (Entered: 02/24/2023)

TAB 3

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS
HOUSTON DIVISION

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,	:	
	:	
Plaintiff,	:	
	:	
v.	:	
	:	
	:	No. 4:19-CR-147-1
CYRUS ALLEN AHSANI, and	:	(Hon. Andrew S. Hanen)
SAMAN AHSANI,	:	
	:	
Defendants.	:	
	:	

NOTICE OF APPEAL

Notice is hereby given that The Financial Times Ltd., Global Investigations Review, and The Guardian (collectively, “Media Intervenors”), appeal to the United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit from the February 23, 2023 Order (ECF No. 133) denying the January 24, 2023 Motion of Media Intervenors to Unseal Sentencing Memoranda (ECF Nos. 115, 116). A copy of the Order appealed from is attached as Exhibit A.

Dated: March 9, 2023

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Katie Townsend

Katie Townsend
REPORTERS COMMITTEE FOR
FREEDOM OF THE PRESS
1156 15th St. NW, Suite 1020
Washington, D.C. 20005
(202) 795-9300
ktownsend@rcfp.org

Counsel for Media Intervenors

Exhibit A

ENTERED

February 23, 2023

Nathan Ochsner, Clerk

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS
HOUSTON DIVISION**

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
Plaintiff,

v.

SAMAN AHSANI,
Defendant.

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CRIMINAL ACTION NO. 4:19-CR-147-1

ORDER

Pending before the Court is the Motion of Media Intervenors to Unseal Sentencing Memoranda filed by The Financial Times Ltd. (hereinafter, “Media Intervenors”). (Doc. No. 123). The Defendant, Saman Ahsani, and the United States have filed a joint response in opposition. (Doc. No. 130). The Media Intervenors replied in an informal letter to the Court and copied all counsel of record. (Doc. No. 131).

Judge Gilmore addressed the issues regarding the release of information in this case years ago. She ruled in pertinent part that:

Because public disclosure of the defendants’ ongoing cooperation, release conditions, and other sensitive information would jeopardize the defendants’ safety, the safety of their families, and the integrity of the Government’s ongoing investigation, the Court finds there is a compelling government interest in maintaining appropriate and limited redactions while unsealing the remainder of the judicial records.

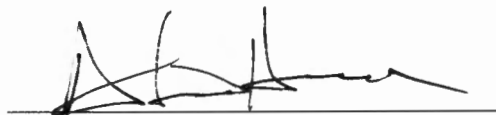
(Doc. No. 83 at 2).

This Court finds no good reason to set aside Judge Gilmore’s order, especially with respect to the sentencing memoranda. (Doc. Nos. 115 and 116). Judge Gilmore clearly anticipated that court filings concerning ongoing cooperation could endanger the safety of the Defendant and his family. It could also undermine ongoing investigations. This Court has reviewed the requested material and finds that each document falls squarely within the above-

quoted portion of Judge Gilmore’s ruling. While she and the undersigned have great respect for the First Amendment rights of the press, with regard to the two requested documents, those rights cannot trump the rights of the Defendant to be safe from harm and the Government to have its investigations free from impairment. Finally, this Court has considered the partial remedy of redaction, but finds that appropriate redactions in this instance would essentially destroy any value the documents have and therefore would undermine the very purpose behind the Media Intervenors’ request.

The Court therefore DENIES the motion to unseal at this time. This ruling is without prejudice and the Media Intervenors may re-urge said motion if and when circumstances change.

SIGNED at Houston, Texas this 23rd day of February, 2023.



Andrew S. Hanen
United States District Judge

TAB 4

ENTERED

February 23, 2023

Nathan Ochsner, Clerk

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS
HOUSTON DIVISION**

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
Plaintiff,

v.

SAMAN AHSANI,
Defendant.

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CRIMINAL ACTION NO. 4:19-CR-147-1

ORDER

Pending before the Court is the Motion of Media Intervenors to Unseal Sentencing Memoranda filed by The Financial Times Ltd. (hereinafter, “Media Intervenors”). (Doc. No. 123). The Defendant, Saman Ahsani, and the United States have filed a joint response in opposition. (Doc. No. 130). The Media Intervenors replied in an informal letter to the Court and copied all counsel of record. (Doc. No. 131).

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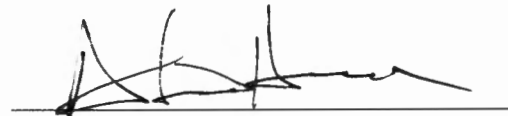
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The Court therefore DENIES the motion to unseal at this time. This ruling is without prejudice and the Media Intervenors may re-urge said motion if and when circumstances change.

SIGNED at Houston, Texas this 23rd day of February, 2023.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Andrew S. Hanen", is written over a horizontal line.

Andrew S. Hanen
United States District Judge

TAB 5

**(SEALED) Waiver of an Indictment as
to Saman Ahsani (Mar. 25, 2019)**

ROA.1162

Saman and Cyrus Allen Ahsani executed waivers of indictment on March 25, 2019. These documents are sealed so are not included in the record excerpts, but are listed here to comply with 5th Cir. R. 30.1.4(c) (requiring record excerpts to include indictments in criminal cases).

TAB 6

(SEALED) Waiver of an Indictment as to Cyrus Allen Ahsani (Mar. 25, 2019)

ROA.2712

Saman and Cyrus Allen Ahsani executed waivers of indictment on March 25, 2019. These documents are sealed so are not included in the record excerpts, but are listed here to comply with 5th Cir. R. 30.1.4(c) (requiring record excerpts to include indictments in criminal cases).

TAB 7

1 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
2 SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS
3 HOUSTON DIVISION

4 UNITED STATES OF AMERICA 4:19-cr-00147-1

5 VS. HOUSTON, TEXAS

6
7 SAMAN AHSANI JANUARY 30, 2023

8
9 *****

10 TRANSCRIPT OF SENTENCING PROCEEDINGS
11 HEARD BEFORE THE HONORABLE ANDREW S. HANEN
12 UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE

13
14 APPEARANCES:

15 FOR THE GOVERNMENT: Ms. Suzanne Elmilady
16 U.S. Attorney's Office
17 1000 Louisiana Street
Suite 2300
Houston, Texas 77002

18
19 Mr. Gerald Michael Moody
Mr. Jonathan Robell
20 United States Department of
Justice
21 Criminal Div., Fraud Section
1400 New York Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20005

22
23 FOR THE DEFENDANT: Mr. Paul E. Coggins
24 Ms. Jennifer Marie McCoy
LOCKE LORD, LLP
25 2200 Ross Avenue, Suite 2800
Dallas, Texas 75201

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Official Court Reporter: David S. Smith, CSR, RPR, CRR
Official Court Reporter
United States District Court
Southern District of Texas
515 Rusk Street, Room 8004
Houston, Texas 77002

Proceedings recorded by mechanical stenography,
transcript produced via computer.

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P R O C E E D I N G S

THE MARSHAL: All rise.

THE COURT: Be seated.

19-cr-147, United States of America versus
Saman Ahsani.

MR. MOODY: Good afternoon, Your Honor. Gerald Moody
for the United States and with me at counsel table...

MS. ELMILADY: Suzanne Elmilady.

MR. ROBELL: Jonathan Robell.

THE COURT: For the defendant?

MR. COGGINS: Paul Coggins. With me is...

MS. MCCOY: Jennifer McCoy, Your Honor.

THE COURT: Mr. Ahsani, will you stand and be sworn,
please.

COURTROOM MANAGER: Would you stand and raise your
right hand, please.

(The oath was administered.)

THE COURT: All right. Mr. Coggins, it's probably
easier for you and Mr. Ahsani to stand up here.

And, counsel, if you will, join him, too.

Mr. Ahsani, let me first ask you: Have you gone
over the presentence investigation report with Mr. Coggins?

THE DEFENDANT: Yes, I have, Your Honor.

THE COURT: Mr. Coggins, do we have any objections?

MR. COGGINS: We do not, Your Honor.

1 THE COURT: What's the government's position regarding
2 sentencing?

3 MR. MOODY: Your Honor, if I may, as we laid out in our
4 memorandum, we think a term of incarceration of 15 months is
5 appropriate.

6 I'll address the seriousness of the offense
7 first.

8 Your Honor, UNAOIL was at the center of a
9 pervasive and wide-ranging international corruption scheme. It
10 paid millions of dollars in bribes to corrupt government
11 officials in the Middle East, Africa and Central Asia. It paid
12 those bribes to win foreign government contracts for itself as
13 well as 27 multinational oil and gas companies including
14 companies headquartered in the United States and companies
15 listed on U.S. stock exchanges. It did this over and over
16 again for years. In country after country, in deal after deal
17 UNAOIL undercut fair business practice, undermined the rule of
18 law and lined the pockets of corrupt government officials as
19 well as their own, all at the expense of the citizens whose
20 countries were destabilized by this corruption and were harmed
21 by the kleptocratic officials who took Union Oil's bribes.
22 Ultimately for UNAOIL, its clients and the corrupt officials,
23 it was about one thing: Greed.

24 Mr. Ahsani was a critical part of this for
25 11 years. He personally negotiated and paid bribes in Libya

1 and he enabled the payment of other bribes negotiated by his
2 father and older brother by setting up a complex web of shell
3 companies and bank accounts all over the world to hide the true
4 nature of the bribes from financial institutions and from law
5 enforcement, none of whom could stop it because Mr. Ahsani made
6 sure UNA0IL was always one step ahead.

7 And when law enforcement was finally catching up
8 to Mr. Ahsani and his father and brother in 2016, they
9 destroyed evidence of their crimes in an effort to obstruct
10 justice. That's why, Your Honor, the government submits that
11 this is profoundly serious conduct.

12 But, Your Honor it's not the whole story. It's
13 just the first part. From the moment the government met
14 Mr. Ahsani in 2019 it appeared he had undergone a
15 transformation. From Day 1 Mr. Ahsani was all in, an open
16 book; and without going into specifics, as described in our
17 memorandum, he's been doing everything he possibly can for the
18 last four years. He appears to be a person who truly regrets
19 the bad decisions he's made, is deeply remorseful and is trying
20 to make amends and for the past four years he has, in fact,
21 done the right thing in an extraordinary and exemplary way and
22 for that reason, Your Honor, balancing those two things, the
23 government thinks a term of incarceration of 15 months is
24 appropriate in this case.

25 THE COURT: All right.

1 Mr. Coggins?

2 MR. COGGINS: Thank you, Your Honor.

3 Ms. McCoy and I have represented Mr. Ahsani only
4 a few short months now, Your Honor, and not anything near the
5 five-plus years that he's been working with United States
6 authorities. I have met and worked with many defendants over
7 the years as a prosecutor and as a defense lawyer. I've never
8 met with one who genuinely felt remorse as deeply as Mr. Ahsani
9 does, nor have I ever worked with one who went to greater
10 lengths to atone for his crimes. Perhaps this is because in
11 some part he's such a different person now from the one who
12 committed the crimes those years ago.

13 I would like to talk a little bit about his
14 situation. Mr. Ahsani is a family man. He's devoted to his
15 three young children, Elysee, Kasra and Keyvan; and although
16 he's divorced from his wife, he continues to take care of her,
17 as she's not able to take care of herself. Mr. Ahsani also is,
18 with his brother, the support for aging parents, both of whom
19 have debilitating health conditions. But despite the fact he's
20 a family man, despite the fact that he is the sole emotional
21 support for the kids and the support for the parents,
22 Mr. Ahsani has spent a considerable amount of time away from
23 his home for reasons the Court is aware of, away from his
24 family, four months, as we've mentioned, in restrictive
25 confinement in a small efficiency in Italy, four months where

1 he was not allowed to have a visitor other than his attorney,
2 four months in which he was not allowed to leave; and that was,
3 Your Honor, really due to an administrative oversight by the
4 U.S. government because he was on his way over here, had been
5 assured that everything was cleared and it didn't work out that
6 way. It was nobody's fault. It was just an oversight, but
7 that was four months that he had no idea what was going to
8 happen to him or where he would go. In addition, he spent ten
9 months here in DC.

10 We would submit that the Government's 15 months
11 is met and answered by the 14 months he spent either in Italy
12 or here in the United States. I would also like to point out
13 that Mr. Ahsani's role in the company is a little different.
14 The company was founded in 1991 by his father. His brother
15 joined shortly after that. But Mr. Ahsani was busy at the time
16 earning a degree at Oxford, with honors. He later earned an
17 MBA from the leading business school in Europe. He worked at
18 Goldman Sachs.

19 So he joined UNAOIL full-time in 2005. When he
20 joined UNAOIL in 2005 he was not aware of the illegal
21 activities; but he does not contest, Your Honor, the
22 government's rendition of what he did while he was there and he
23 knows it was wrong. Nor does he contest the forfeiture figure
24 that the government has agreed upon.

25 Saman Ahsani would also like to point out that

1 UNAOL was an intermediary in these bribe payments; but it was
2 more than that, Your Honor. The father's vision for the
3 company, which unfortunately they didn't follow that vision
4 completely, was to basically bring western technology on
5 infrastructure projects with local workforces; and they were
6 able to do that. They also had a vision to contribute to
7 charity and they set up charities that benefitted and built
8 water filtration systems in west Africa, built schools for
9 girls in Iran and did those kind of things. If only the
10 company had stuck to that, but that was Sammy Ahsani's vision
11 of what it could become. Most of the money they made, they
12 poured back into the company. Once the investigation began,
13 the company imploded, hundreds of workers lost their jobs and
14 all the equity in the company disappeared.

15 So Sammy Ahsani had a much shorter stint in the
16 company than others did. He had a vision of weaning the
17 company away from these illicit payments, and unfortunately it
18 didn't happen. But we would argue, Your Honor, that his
19 situation is vastly different from most defendants who stand
20 before you in the sense of the time he spent, the time he spent
21 away from his family, the six or seven continuances the
22 government has requested that he's acceded to; and we would
23 argue that he also is different from most white-collar
24 defendants that stand before you in the sense that Mr. Ahsani
25 is a UK citizen who lives in Monaco and that makes him a

1 deportable alien and because of the Bureau of Prisons rules for
2 deportable aliens, generally he's not eligible to go to a
3 minimum-security facility or a camp or a halfway house. Even
4 after he finishes his sentence, then he faces a deportation
5 proceeding. So he has worked with the government, Your Honor.
6 He's been trustworthy in terms of working with the government
7 in terms of reporting on a daily basis. He has his passport.
8 He checks in with the government. I think that shows the high
9 degree of trust the government has in him as does the fact that
10 the government said they would not ask for immediate
11 incarceration if a custodial sentence were offered.

12 I would like to say, Your Honor, that it was
13 Sammy Ahsani's plan, it was his goal to wean the company away
14 from these illegal payments. The advisory services where most
15 of this activity took place last earned money in, I think, 2013
16 and was basically divested in 2015. So by 2016 when the
17 investigation began, it was Sammy's vision for the company that
18 it would be an infrastructure company and that it would combine
19 the western technology.

20 I would also like to point out that Sammy has
21 pled guilty to or admitted the obstruction that was described
22 by Mr. Moody, the destruction of documents. But one thing that
23 doesn't address is that Mr. Ahsani kept a copy, unknown to
24 anybody else, Your Honor, of the key documents and the key
25 recordings and that Mr. Ahsani provided those key documents and

1 those key recordings to the government.

2 Our argument would be based upon what was
3 presented earlier to Your Honor, based upon the 14 months he
4 spent away from his family, based upon the remorse that was
5 recognized by the presentence officer in the presentence report
6 and based upon all the factors that have been described to Your
7 Honor here and earlier that a sentence of probation is
8 warranted in this case. As I said, if you take the 15 months
9 the government is seeking and you balance that against the
10 14 months we've talked about, four in Italy, ten in DC, I think
11 that sufficiently addresses an issue -- and there's no issue of
12 specific deterrence here. Nobody on either side of the table
13 here thinks that there's an issue of specific deterrence here.
14 So I know the Court has to balance with how it fits with other
15 defendants; but I would just argue that given the 14 months,
16 given all the other factors the Court is aware of, this case is
17 lifted out of the ordinary cases. It's different from the
18 other cases.

19 THE COURT: Mr. Ahsani, would you like to say anything,
20 sir?

21 THE DEFENDANT: Thank you, Your Honor, for giving me
22 the opportunity to speak with you.

23 Your Honor, bribery has been wrong since the days
24 of the New Testament. It corrupts not just the marketplace, it
25 corrupts the minds and thinking of those who take part in it;

1 and whatever the specifics of my particular circumstances, the
2 fact is that as a 32-year-old adult at the time, I made an
3 active choice to join and partake in a criminal conspiracy to
4 bribe foreign officials in developing countries. This was
5 wrong then, it remains wrong today; and as I've admitted in
6 full, I made a very poor life choice which caused
7 investigations into my conduct that have had devastating
8 effects on my life and, more importantly, on those closest to
9 me.

10 Beyond the loss of my reputation, the loss of all
11 my savings and equity in the business, the loss of most aspects
12 of my life that I knew back then, beyond those material things,
13 the most important consequence was on my children and my
14 relationship with each of my children. The first duty of any
15 responsible father is to protect his children. I'm afraid that
16 aged 4, 7 and 9, as they were at the time, my actions forced an
17 adult weight onto my children's shoulders, a weight that
18 forever fills me with guilt and shame because I was unable to
19 protect them from a revolution in their lives which they had
20 nothing to do with, but which has affected each of them
21 profoundly. I felt this especially keenly during my absence of
22 14 months, thousands of miles away from them whilst I was
23 working with the government; and that is the reason, Your
24 Honor, beyond all the many other good reasons why I can assure
25 you with every sinew and cell in my body that you will never,

1 ever see me standing in front of you in your courtroom again
2 for any crime, let alone that of bribery.

3 When life hits you sideways or, as I like to see
4 it, when God decides to actively intervene in your life, he
5 shakes you and forces you to re-examine your life and the
6 direction it is going in. I believe he does this for a reason
7 and with love because there are indeed many silver linings to
8 his intervention. He put a huge mirror up to my life and shone
9 a glaring light on to my actions; and I mean much more than a
10 superficial media glare, rather a deep and fundamental
11 reckoning which compelled me to think about my place and my
12 role in this world and in the lives of those around me.

13 Left physically alone, separated from the bonds
14 that tie, I was given the opportunity to be released from my
15 past and just as it is a choice to take part in something, I
16 believe it is also an active choice to leave it and for that I
17 am truly grateful to have been given a second chance to show
18 Him, as well as the U.S. government, just how serious and
19 committed I am about leading a better life, a life where for
20 the past five years I have purposely, intently and happily bent
21 over backwards and taken on numerous risks to assist the U.S.
22 In fact, my whole future orientation is set around continuing
23 to help others see the benefits of cooperation and to find
24 alternative resolutions to their issues. This is because I see
25 myself as Exhibit A for the benefits of true cooperation, and

1 for that opportunity I am truly grateful.

2 Thank you.

3 THE COURT: Thank you, Mr. Ahsani.

4 Anything either side wants to add?

5 MS. ELMILADY: Your Honor, we just have a money
6 judgment before Your Honor for 1.5 million.

7 THE COURT: Okay.

8 MS. ELMILADY: And it's agreed upon.

9 THE COURT: Any objection, Mr. Coggins, to me signing
10 that?

11 MR. COGGINS: No, Your Honor.

12 MS. ELMILADY: Thank you, Judge.

13 THE COURT: All right. The Court adopts the factual
14 findings and guideline applications in the presentence
15 investigation report. It grants the government's motion.

16 It's the judgment of the Court that defendant
17 Saman Ahsani in hereby sentenced to custody of the Bureau of
18 Prisons to be imprisoned for a term of 12 months and 1 day.
19 Based on the nature and circumstances of the offense, which
20 were completely nonviolent and his consistent attitude of
21 remorse and contrition, the Court strongly recommends he be
22 placed in a minimum security camp such as the one in
23 Petersburg, Virginia.

24 Counsel, if either of you want to get together
25 and before I sign the judgment want to recommend some other

1 place --

2 MR. COGGINS: Your Honor, we do have a recommendation
3 if it's okay with the government. I've talked to the
4 prosecutors, and we would recommend the camp at Beaumont if
5 that would meet with the Court's --

6 THE COURT: Okay. I'll recommend that.

7 MS. ELMILADY: The Bureau of Prisons did say if Your
8 Honor puts it in the judgment sentence, they can adhere to it.

9 THE COURT: Then I will put in the camp at Beaumont.

10 Upon release from imprisonment, the defendant
11 shall be placed on supervised release for a term of one year as
12 an added measure of deterrence. If not deported, the defendant
13 shall report in person to the probation office in the district
14 to which he's released or to the official designated by the
15 Department of Justice within 72 hours of being released from
16 the custody of the Bureau of Prisons. The defendant is hereby
17 permitted to return to his home and home country to serve this
18 term of supervised release. While on supervised release he
19 shall not commit another state, federal or local crime; he
20 shall comply with the standard conditions adopted by this Court
21 with the exception of the residency, which I have just
22 addressed; abide by any mandatory conditions required by law
23 and shall comply with the following additional conditions.

24 He shall not possess a firearm, destructive
25 device or other dangerous weapon. He shall not illegally

1 possess a controlled substance and shall refrain from unlawful
2 use of a controlled substance. He shall cooperate with the
3 collection of a DNA sample if it's authorized by statute and
4 he's not to enter the United States illegally.

5 The Court finds the defendant does not have the
6 ability -- or is not required to pay a fine given that I've
7 signed the money judgment; but I do impose the special
8 assessment of \$100.

9 Counsel, any objection to Mr. Ahsani remaining
10 free under the same terms and conditions he's been under?

11 MR. MOODY: No objection from the government.

12 THE COURT: All right. Good luck, Mr. Ahsani.

13 MR. COGGINS: Thank you, Your Honor.

14 THE DEFENDANT: Thank you, sir.

15 THE COURT: We stand adjourned.

16 THE MARSHAL: All rise.

17 (The proceedings were adjourned.)

18 * * * * *

19 COURT REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE

20 I, David S. Smith, CSR, RPR, CRR, Official
21 Court Reporter, United States District Court, Southern District
22 of Texas, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and
23 correct transcript, to the best of my ability and
24 understanding, from the record of the proceedings in the
25 above-entitled and numbered matter.

/s/ David S. Smith
Official Court Reporter

TAB 8

**(SEALED) Transcript of Non-Public
Portion of Saman Ahsani Sentencing
Hearing (Jan. 30, 2023)**

ROA.2800

The transcript of the non-public portion of Saman Ahsani's sentencing hearing is likewise sealed and not accessible to Intervenors-Appellants; it is one of the judicial records subject to Intervenors-Appellants' motion to unseal.