## IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF PUERTO RICO

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

| Plaintiff,

v.

Crim No. 16-0009 (GAG)

JOSE E. FERRER-MARTELL, et al,

Defendant.

**ORDER** 

Magistrate Judge Bruce J. McGiverin's Report and Recommendation (Docket No. 60) is hereby ADOPTED in its entirety. The undersigned, in a *de novo* manner, has carefully reviewed the same, as well as the suppression hearing transcript (Docket No. 65), the Government's Objection to the Report and Recommendation (Docket No. 67) and Defendant's Response thereto (Docket No. 71). In doing so, I uphold Judge McGiverin's credibility findings, as well as his ultimate conclusion that "under the preponderance of the evidence that [officer] Burgos knowingly and intentionally stated falsely (or at the very least, stated with reckless disregard for the truth) that he received a report from an anonymous tipster." (Report and Recommendation, Docket No. 60 at 14.) More so, I further uphold Judge McGiverin's conclusion that "after excising the tainted evidence, the [search] warrant does not have an independent basis for probable cause and so the evidence discovered inside [defendant's] residence should be suppressed." (Id. at 17.) Because I am affirming Judge McGiverin's factual determinations and conclusions of law, a new evidentiary hearing is unwarranted.

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A final and necessary word. This ruling should in no way be interpreted to suggest that the U.S. Attorney's Office is doing a poor job in its firearms and narcotics initiatives. To the contrary. However, a successful prosecution depends not only on the excellent work of the Assistant U.S. Attorney, but also on that of the agent. Inasmuch as federal prosecutions increasingly rely on the actions of local law enforcement personnel, there is thus every more reason to require said officials to act in utmost accordance with federal constitutional standards. This requires the police officer at all times to provide truthful testimony, as well as observe the very mandates of the Fourth Amendment. There is simply no other route.

## SO ORDERED.

In San Juan, Puerto Rico this 25th day of October, 2016.

s/ Gustavo A. Gelpí GUSTAVO A. GELPI United States District Judge