

**ENTERED**

June 17, 2021

Nathan Ochsner, Clerk

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS  
HOUSTON DIVISION

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

v.

CRIMINAL NO. H-21-275

JOSHUA THOMAS ARGIRES,  
Defendant.

**AGREED PRELIMINARY ORDER OF FORFEITURE**

On June 17, 2021, Defendant Joshua Thomas Argires (“Defendant”) pleaded guilty to Count One of the Information which charged him with engaging in an unlawful monetary transaction, in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 1957, by knowingly engaging and attempting to engage in a monetary transaction in criminally derived property of a value greater than \$10,000, and which was derived from the specified unlawful activity of wire fraud, namely, the Defendant transferred \$191,250 in criminally derived proceeds from an account at Credit Union 1 to an account at Coinbase. The United States provided notice to the Defendant in the Information that in the event of conviction, the United States would forfeit, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 982(a)(1), all property, real and personal, involved in money laundering offenses, and all property traceable to such property, which property includes, but is not limited to \$997,486.61 seized from the Defendant’s Coinbase Account on or about July 6, 2020.

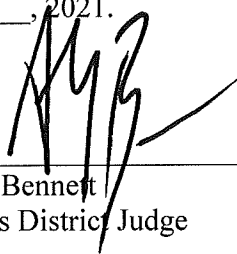
Pursuant to Fed. R. Crim. P. 32.2(b)(1)(A), the Court finds that based on the record in this case, the requisite nexus has been established between the property listed below and the offense of conviction.

Accordingly, the Court ORDERS that:

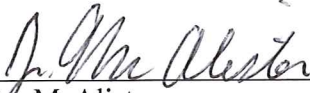
1. \$997,486.61 U.S. currency is forfeited to the United States of America.

2. The United States of America shall publish notice of this forfeiture order and shall send notice to any person who reasonably appears to be a potential claimant with standing to contest the forfeiture in the ancillary proceeding.
3. Any person, other than the Defendant, asserting a legal interest in the forfeited property may, within thirty (30) days of the final publication of notice or receipt of notice, whichever is earlier, petition the Court for a hearing to adjudicate the validity of their alleged interest in the property. The petition shall be signed by the petitioner under penalty of perjury and shall set forth the nature and extent of the petitioner's right, title, or interest in that property, the time and circumstances of the petitioner's acquisition of the right, title, or interest in that property, and any other facts which support the petitioner's claim and the relief sought. The petition shall be filed with the United States District Clerk, located at Bob Casey United States Courthouse, 515 Rusk Avenue, Houston, Texas 77002. A copy of the petition shall be sent to Jon Muschenheim, Deputy Chief of Asset Forfeiture/FLU, South Tower, 800 N. Shoreline Blvd., Suite 500, Corpus Christi, Texas 78401.
4. Pursuant to Fed. R. Crim. P. 32.2(b)(4)(A), this Order shall become final as to the Defendant Joshua Argires immediately, and shall be made part of his sentence and included in his judgment.

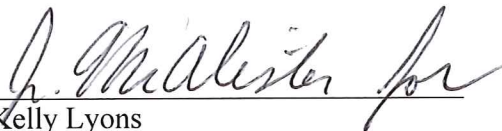
Signed at Houston, Texas, on 6/17/21, 2021.

  
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Hon. Alfred Bennett  
United States District Judge

AGREED TO AND APPROVED AS TO FORM AND SUBSTANCE:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Jim McAlister  
Assistant United States Attorney  
Southern District of Texas  
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Houston, Texas 77002  
Telephone: 713-567- 9573


\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
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\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Joshua Argires  
Defendant

6/17/21  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Ruben Pena  
Counsel for Joshua Argires

6/17/21  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date