

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF VIRGINIA

Richmond Division

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, )  
 )  
 Plaintiff )  
 )  
 v. )  
 )  
 APPROXIMATELY 53 PIT BULLDOGS, )  
 )  
 Defendant. )

Civil Action No.: 3:07CV397

2007 AUG 30 P 1:08  
U.S. DISTRICT COURT  
EASTERN DISTRICT OF VIRGINIA  
RICHMOND, VIRGINIA

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**ORDER**

It appearing to the Court that:

- On July 2, 2007, a verified complaint was filed in this action seeking forfeiture of approximately 53 pit bulldogs;
- On July 3, 2007, the government mailed notice and a copy of the complaint to the four individuals it believed might have had an interest in the defendant property;
- On July 10, 2007, July 17, 2007, and July 24, 2007, notice of this action was published in the Richmond Times-Dispatch, a newspaper of general circulation in this judicial district and in the division in which the defendant property was located;
- Pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 983(a)(4), the time for filing a claim to the defendant property expired on August 23, 2007, which date was 30 days after the last publication;
- The only pleading submitted to the Court in response to the complaint was a document submitted by Bernadette Allen on August 24, 2007, which document does not purport to assert a legal interest in the defendant property and does not constitute a claim under the requirements of

18 U.S.C. § 983(a)(4)(A) and Supplemental Rule G(5)(A)(i), Supplemental Rules for Admiralty or Maritime Claims and Asset Forfeiture Actions;

- No claim or motion for extension of time to file a claim has been filed;
- On August 22, 2007, a warrant of arrest in rem was duly executed on the defendant property by the United States Marshal for the Eastern District of Virginia;
- On August 23, 2007, the United States filed a Request for Entry of Default supported by an appropriate affidavit;
- On August 28, 2007, the Clerk entered the default of all persons; and,
- On August 30, 2007, the United States filed a Motion for Entry of Default Judgment and Brief in Support,

Now deeming it proper so to do, it is hereby ORDERED that:

1. The motion of the United States for a default judgment is GRANTED;
2. The defendant property, consisting of approximately 53 pit bulldogs, is hereby forfeited to the United States pursuant to 7 U.S.C. §2156(f), and all right, title, and interest of the former owners is now vested in the United States of America;
3. Pursuant to F. R. Civ. P. 58(a)(1), the Clerk shall enter judgment in favor of the United States on a separate document;
4. The defendant pit bulldogs shall remain in the custody of the United States Department of Agriculture or its agents, assigns, or contractors pending a final order of disposition which the Court will enter after considering the recommendation of the United States to be filed after an evaluation of the dogs and the available options for disposition.

