

No. 19-

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IN THE  
**Supreme Court of the United States**

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NANCY ARLENE LOPEZ ,

*Petitioner,*

v.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

*Respondent.*

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**On Petition for Writ of Certiorari  
to the United States Court of Appeals  
for the Fifth Circuit**

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**APPENDIX VOLUME**

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## **APPENDIX A**

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

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No. 19-40004  
Summary Calendar

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United States Court of Appeals  
Fifth Circuit

**FILED**

December 5, 2019

Lyle W. Cayce  
Clerk

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Plaintiff-Appellee

v.

NANCY ARLENE LOPEZ,

Defendant-Appellant

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Appeal from the United States District Court  
for the Southern District of Texas  
USDC No. 7:18-CR-73-2

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Before WIENER, HAYNES, and COSTA, Circuit Judges.

PER CURIAM:\*

Defendant-Appellant Nancy Arlene Lopez pleaded guilty, pursuant to a written plea agreement, to conspiring to import 500 grams or more of methamphetamine and was sentenced to the statutory minimum of 120 months of imprisonment and five years of supervised release. Her sole contention on appeal is that the Government plainly erred by failing to move for a downward departure pursuant to § 5K1.1 of the Sentencing Guidelines

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\* Pursuant to 5TH CIR. R. 47.5, the court has determined that this opinion should not be published and is not precedent except under the limited circumstances set forth in 5TH CIR. R. 47.5.4.

No. 19-40004

based on her substantial assistance. Lopez concedes that she did not raise this issue in the district court so our review is limited to plain error. *Puckett v. United States*, 556 U.S. 129, 134-43 (2009); *United States v. Kirkland*, 851 F.3d 499, 502-03 (5th Cir. 2017).

Absent a contrary agreement, the Government's decision whether to file a § 5K1.1 motion is discretionary. *Wade v. United States*, 504 U.S. 181, 185 (1992). The Government retained that discretion, so its refusal to move for a downward departure would warrant relief only if it acted with an unconstitutional motive. *United States v. Aderholt*, 87 F.3d 740, 742-43 (5th Cir. 1996). An "unconstitutional motive" would exist if a prosecutor refused to file a § 5K1.1 motion "because of the defendant's race or religion" or for any other reason "not rationally related to any legitimate Government end." *Wade*, 504 U.S. at 186.

Lopez does not assert that the Government's decision not to file a § 5K1.1 motion was based on her membership in any group or on any of her specific characteristics. She maintains instead that the Government did not file a § 5K1.1 motion for the unconstitutional purpose of taking statements in violation of *Miranda v. Arizona*, 384 U.S. 436 (1966). This contention fails under plain error review: The instant record contains no evidence that shows plainly or clearly that her statement was made in violation of *Miranda*. See *Puckett*, 556 U.S. at 135.

AFFIRMED.

## **APPENDIX B**

**ENTERED**January 15, 2019  
David J. Bradley, ClerkUNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
Southern District of Texas  
Holding Session in McAllenUNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
v.  
NANCY ARLENE LOPEZ**JUDGMENT IN A CRIMINAL CASE**CASE NUMBER: 7:18CR00073-S1-002  
USM NUMBER: 39840-479 See Additional Aliases.Marcus C. Barrera  
Defendant's Attorney**THE DEFENDANT:** pleaded guilty to count(s) 1 on October 1, 2018. pleaded nolo contendere to count(s) \_\_\_\_\_  
which was accepted by the court.  
 was found guilty on count(s) \_\_\_\_\_  
after a plea of not guilty.

The defendant is adjudicated guilty of these offenses:

<u>Title &amp; Section</u>	<u>Nature of Offense</u>	<u>Offense Ended</u>	<u>Count</u>
21 U.S.C. § 963, 952(a), 960(a)(1) & 960(b)(1)	Conspiracy to import 500 grams or more of methamphetamine.		1

 See Additional Counts of Conviction.The defendant is sentenced as provided in pages 2 through 6 of this judgment. The sentence is imposed pursuant to the Sentencing Reform Act of 1984. The defendant has been found not guilty on count(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Count(s) 2, 3 and 4, as to this defendant  is  are dismissed on the motion of the United States.

It is ordered that the defendant must notify the United States attorney for this district within 30 days of any change of name, residence, or mailing address until all fines, restitution, costs, and special assessments imposed by this judgment are fully paid. If ordered to pay restitution, the defendant must notify the court and United States attorney of material changes in economic circumstances.

December 18, 2018  
Date of Imposition of Judgment

Signature of Judge

Ricardo H. Hinojosa  
RICARDO H. HINOJOSA  
UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE

Name and Title of Judge

Date

1/14/19

DEFENDANT: NANCY ARLENE LOPEZ  
CASE NUMBER: 7:18CR00073-S1-002

## IMPRISONMENT

The defendant is hereby committed to the custody of the United States Bureau of Prisons to be imprisoned for a total term of 120 months.

See Additional Imprisonment Terms.

The court makes the following recommendations to the Bureau of Prisons:  
That the defendant be placed in an institution as close as possible to her family and one where she can receive drug abuse treatment and/or counseling.

The defendant is remanded to the custody of the United States Marshal.

The defendant shall surrender to the United States Marshal for this district:  
 at \_\_\_\_\_  a.m.  p.m. on \_\_\_\_\_  
 as notified by the United States Marshal.

The defendant shall surrender for service of sentence at the institution designated by the Bureau of Prisons:  
 before 2 p.m. on \_\_\_\_\_  
 as notified by the United States Marshal.  
 as notified by the Probation or Pretrial Services Office.

## RETURN

I have executed this judgment as follows:

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Defendant delivered on \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_  
at \_\_\_\_\_, with a certified copy of this judgment.

\_\_\_\_\_  
UNITED STATES MARSHAL

By \_\_\_\_\_  
DEPUTY UNITED STATES MARSHAL

DEFENDANT: NANCY ARLENE LOPEZ  
CASE NUMBER: 7:18CR00073-S1-002**SUPERVISED RELEASE**Upon release from imprisonment you will be on supervised release for a term of: 5 years. See Additional Supervised Release Terms.**MANDATORY CONDITIONS**

1. You must not commit another federal, state or local crime.
2. You must not unlawfully possess a controlled substance.
3. You must refrain from any unlawful use of a controlled substance. You must submit to one drug test within 15 days of release from imprisonment and at least two periodic drug tests thereafter, as determined by the court.
  - The above drug testing condition is suspended, based on the court's determination that you pose a low risk of future substance abuse. (check if applicable)
4.  You must make restitution in accordance with 18 U.S.C. §§ 3663 and 3663A or any other statute authorizing a sentence of restitution. (check if applicable)
5.  You must cooperate in the collection of DNA as directed by the probation officer. (check if applicable)
6.  You must comply with the requirements of the Sex Offender Registration and Notification Act (34 U.S.C. § 20901, et seq.) as directed by the probation officer, the Bureau of Prisons, or any state sex offender registration agency in the location where you reside, work, are a student, or were convicted of a qualifying offense. (check if applicable)
7.  You must participate in an approved program for domestic violence. (check if applicable)

You must comply with the standard conditions that have been adopted by this court as well as with any other conditions on the attached page.

**STANDARD CONDITIONS OF SUPERVISION** See Special Conditions of Supervision.

As part of your supervised release, you must comply with the following standard conditions of supervision. These conditions are imposed because they establish the basic expectations for your behavior while on supervision and identify the minimum tools needed by probation officers to keep informed, report to the court about, and bring about improvements in your conduct and condition.

1. You must report to the probation office in the federal judicial district where you are authorized to reside within 72 hours of your release from imprisonment, unless the probation officer instructs you to report to a different probation office or within a different time frame.
2. After initially reporting to the probation office, you will receive instructions from the court or the probation officer about how and when you must report to the probation officer, and you must report to the probation officer as instructed.
3. You must not knowingly leave the federal judicial district where you are authorized to reside without first getting permission from the court or the probation officer.
4. You must answer truthfully the questions asked by your probation officer.
5. You must live at a place approved by the probation officer. If you plan to change where you live or anything about your living arrangements (such as the people you live with), you must notify the probation officer at least 10 days before the change. If notifying the probation officer in advance is not possible due to unanticipated circumstances, you must notify the probation officer within 72 hours of becoming aware of a change or expected change.
6. You must allow the probation officer to visit you at any time at your home or elsewhere, and you must permit the probation officer to take any items prohibited by the conditions of your supervision that he or she observes in plain view.
7. You must work full time (at least 30 hours per week) at a lawful type of employment, unless the probation officer excuses you from doing so. If you do not have full-time employment, you must try to find full-time employment, unless the probation officer excuses you from doing so. If you plan to change where you work or anything about your work (such as your position or your job responsibilities), you must notify the probation officer at least 10 days before the change. If notifying the probation officer at least 10 days in advance is not possible due to unanticipated circumstances, you must notify the probation officer within 72 hours of becoming aware of a change or expected change.
8. You must not communicate or interact with someone you know is engaged in criminal activity. If you know someone has been convicted of a felony, you must not knowingly communicate or interact with that person without first getting the permission of the probation officer.
9. If you are arrested or questioned by a law enforcement officer, you must notify the probation officer within 72 hours.
10. You must not own, possess, or have access to a firearm, ammunition, destructive device, or dangerous weapon (i.e., anything that was designed, or was modified for, the specific purpose of causing bodily injury or death to another person such as nunchakus or tasers).
11. You must not act or make any agreement with a law enforcement agency to act as a confidential human source or informant without first getting the permission of the court.
12. If the probation officer determines that you pose a risk to another person (including an organization), the probation officer may require you to notify the person about the risk and you must comply with that instruction. The probation officer may contact the person and confirm that you have notified the person about the risk.
13. You must follow the instructions of the probation officer related to the conditions of supervision.

DEFENDANT: NANCY ARLENE LOPEZ  
CASE NUMBER: 7:18CR00073-S1-002

### SPECIAL CONDITIONS OF SUPERVISION

The defendant shall participate in a program, inpatient or outpatient, for the treatment of drug addiction, dependency or abuse, which may include, but not be limited to urine, breath, saliva and skin testing to determine whether the defendant has reverted to the use of drugs. Further, the defendant shall participate as instructed and as deemed necessary by the probation officer and shall comply with all rules and regulations of the treatment agency until discharged by the program director, with approval of the probation officer. The defendant shall further submit to such drug-detection techniques, in addition to those performed by the treatment agency, as directed by the probation officer. The defendant will incur costs associated with such drug detection and treatment, based on ability to pay as determined by the probation officer.

DEFENDANT: NANCY ARLENE LOPEZ  
CASE NUMBER: 7:18CR00073-S1-002

## CRIMINAL MONETARY PENALTIES

The defendant must pay the total criminal monetary penalties under the schedule of payments on Sheet 6.

	<u>Assessment</u>	<u>Fine</u>	<u>Restitution</u>
<b>TOTALS</b>	\$100.00		

 See Additional Terms for Criminal Monetary Penalties. The determination of restitution is deferred until \_\_\_\_\_ An *Amended Judgment in a Criminal Case (AO 245C)* will be entered after such determination. The defendant must make restitution (including community restitution) to the following payees in the amount listed below.

If the defendant makes a partial payment, each payee shall receive an approximately proportioned payment, unless specified otherwise in the priority order or percentage payment column below. However, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 3664(i), all nonfederal payees must be paid before the United States is paid.

<u>Name of Payee</u>	<u>Total Loss*</u>	<u>Restitution Ordered</u>	<u>Priority or Percentage</u>
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 See Additional Restitution Payees.

<b>TOTALS</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
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 Restitution amount ordered pursuant to plea agreement \$ \_\_\_\_\_ The defendant must pay interest on restitution and a fine of more than \$2,500, unless the restitution or fine is paid in full before the fifteenth day after the date of the judgment, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 3612(f). All of the payment options on Sheet 6 may be subject to penalties for delinquency and default, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 3612(g). The court determined that the defendant does not have the ability to pay interest and it is ordered that: the interest requirement is waived for the  fine  restitution. the interest requirement for the  fine  restitution is modified as follows: Based on the Government's motion, the Court finds that reasonable efforts to collect the special assessment are not likely to be effective. Therefore, the assessment is hereby remitted.

\* Findings for the total amount of losses are required under Chapters 109A, 110, 110A, and 113A of Title 18 for offenses committed on or after September 13, 1994, but before April 23, 1996.

DEFENDANT: NANCY ARLENE LOPEZ  
CASE NUMBER: 7:18CR00073-S1-002

## SCHEDULE OF PAYMENTS

Having assessed the defendant's ability to pay, payment of the total criminal monetary penalties is due as follows:

A  Lump sum payment of \$100.00 due immediately, balance due  
 not later than \_\_\_\_\_, or  
 in accordance with  C,  D,  E, or  F below; or

B  Payment to begin immediately (may be combined with  C,  D, or  F below); or

C  Payment in equal \_\_\_\_\_ installments of \_\_\_\_\_ over a period of \_\_\_\_\_, to commence \_\_\_\_\_ days after the date of this judgment; or

D  Payment in equal \_\_\_\_\_ installments of \_\_\_\_\_ over a period of \_\_\_\_\_, to commence \_\_\_\_\_ days after release from imprisonment to a term of supervision; or

E  Payment during the term of supervised release will commence within \_\_\_\_\_ days after release from imprisonment. The court will set the payment plan based on an assessment of the defendant's ability to pay at that time; or

F  Special instructions regarding the payment of criminal monetary penalties:

Payable to: Clerk, U.S. District Court  
 Attn: Finance  
 P.O. Box 5059  
 McAllen, TX 78502

Unless the court has expressly ordered otherwise, if this judgment imposes imprisonment, payment of criminal monetary penalties is due during imprisonment. All criminal monetary penalties, except those payments made through the Federal Bureau of Prisons' Inmate Financial Responsibility Program, are made to the clerk of the court.

The defendant shall receive credit for all payments previously made toward any criminal monetary penalties imposed.

Joint and Several

Case Number Defendant and Co-Defendant Names (including defendant number)	<u>Total Amount</u>	<u>Joint and Several Amount</u>	<u>Corresponding Payee, if appropriate</u>
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See Additional Defendants and Co-Defendants Held Joint and Several.  
 The defendant shall pay the cost of prosecution.  
 The defendant shall pay the following court cost(s):  
 The defendant shall forfeit the defendant's interest in the following property to the United States:  
 See Additional Forfeited Property.

Payments shall be applied in the following order: (1) assessment, (2) restitution principal, (3) restitution interest, (4) fine principal, (5) fine interest, (6) community restitution, (7) penalties, and (8) costs, including cost of prosecution and court costs.