

ENTERED

October 29, 2024

Nathan Ochsner, Clerk

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS
MCALLEN DIVISION****UNITED STATES OF AMERICA****VS.****CARLOS CARDENAS RAMIREZ**§
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§**CASE NO. 7:20-CR-0886-2****ORDER**

Defendant CARLOS CARDENAS RAMIREZ, through his court-appointed attorney, Mr. Arturo Cantu, has filed a post-sentencing appeal. (Dkt. No. 160). Pending now is his *Motion for Withdrawal of Counsel and Appointment of Counsel* (the “Motion”) (Dkt. No. 159). Through the Motion, Defendant requests that Mr. Cantu be allowed to withdraw as counsel and that new counsel be appointed for purposes of appeal. Defendant was previously permitted to proceed in forma pauperis upon a determination that he was financially unable to employ counsel (*see* Dkt. Nos. 5, 7, 8), and he may, therefore, proceed on appeal in forma pauperis without further authorization, *see* Fed. R. App. P. 24(a)(3). Moreover, Mr. Cantu has already filed a notice of appeal on Defendant’s behalf. (Dkt. No. 160).

Accordingly, the Motion (Dkt. No. 159) is hereby GRANTED, such that Mr. Cantu may withdraw as counsel, and Ms. Victoria Guerra is APPOINTED to represent Defendant on appeal.

The Clerk of Court is DIRECTED to provide the parties and Attorney Victoria Guerra with a copy of this order.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

DONE at McAllen, Texas this 29th day of October 2024.

J. SCOTT HACKER
United States Magistrate Judge