

20-842-cr(L)

United States v. Hoskins

1
2 UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS
3 FOR THE SECOND CIRCUIT
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5
6 August Term, 2021
7

8 (Argued: August 17, 2021

Decided: August 12, 2022)

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10 Docket Nos. 20-842, 20-1061, 20-1084
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14 UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
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16 *Plaintiff-Appellant-Cross-Appellee,*
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18 v.
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21 LAWRENCE HOSKINS,
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23 *Defendant-Appellee-Cross-Appellant.*¹
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28 Before: NEWMAN, POOLER, and LOHIER, *Circuit Judges.*

¹ The Clerk of the Court is directed to amend the caption as above.

1 The government appeals from the February 26, 2020 judgment of the
2 United States District Court for the District of Connecticut (Arterton, J.) granting
3 Lawrence Hoskins's motion, following a jury trial, for judgment of acquittal
4 following his conviction for violations of the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act
5 ("FCPA") and conspiracy to do the same. Hoskins cross-appeals, challenging (1)
6 the denial of his motion to dismiss the indictment on Speedy Trial Act and Sixth
7 Amendment grounds, (2) certain jury instructions regarding withdrawal from a
8 conspiracy, and (3) the district court's denial of his motion for judgment of
9 acquittal based on the jury instructions given as to venue for four money-
10 laundering counts.

11 We hold that the district court properly granted Hoskins's motion for
12 judgment of acquittal for violations of the FCPA because there was no agency or
13 employee relationship between Hoskins and Alstom Power, Inc. We also affirm
14 the district court's Speedy Trial Act and Sixth Amendment rulings, as well as its
15 instructions to the jury about withdrawal from a conspiracy and venue in the
16 District of Connecticut. Consequently, we **affirm** the orders and judgment of the
17 district court.

Affirmed.

Judge Lohier concurs in part and dissents in part in a separate opinion.

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Richard M. Strassberg (Lindsay A. Lewis, Vice Chair, Amicus Curiae Committee of the National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers, James D. Gatta, Andrew Kim, Emily M. Notini, Daniel M. Gitner, Jeannie Rose Rubin, *on the brief*), New York, NY, *amici curiae in support of Defendant-Appellee-Cross-Appellant*.

1 POOLER, *Circuit Judge*:

2 The American subsidiary of Alstom Power, Inc. (“API”), a global power
3 and transportation services company, hired two consultants to bribe Indonesian
4 officials to help secure a \$118 million power contract. Lawrence Hoskins, who
5 worked in Paris for API’s United Kingdom subsidiary, was allegedly responsible
6 for approving the selection of the consultants and authorizing payments to them.
7 For his role in the alleged bribery scheme, Hoskins was charged in an American
8 court with (among other things) violating the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act
9 (“FCPA”), which makes it unlawful for officers, directors, and agents “of a
10 domestic concern” to use interstate commerce corruptly to bribe or attempt to
11 bribe foreign officials. 15 U.S.C. § 78dd *et seq.*

12 Because Hoskins is not an American citizen, was not employed by the
13 American subsidiary, and did not enter the United States while allegedly
14 working on the scheme, he falls outside the category of persons directly covered
15 by the FCPA. The government nevertheless contended that Hoskins was liable
16 under the FCPA as a co-conspirator or accomplice to the American subsidiary’s
17 FCPA violation. Earlier in this litigation, we rejected that theory and held that a

1 person could not be “guilty as an accomplice or a co-conspirator for an FCPA
2 crime that he or she is incapable of committing as a principal[.]” *United States v.*
3 *Hoskins* (“*Hoskins I*”), 902 F.3d 69, 76 (2d Cir. 2018). The government then revised
4 its prosecutorial theory, arguing Hoskins’s work for API’s American subsidiary
5 rendered him an “an agent” of “a domestic concern” — a category of persons
6 squarely within the FCPA’s terms. *See* 15 U.S.C. § 78dd-2. The jury convicted
7 Hoskins of eleven counts, seven of which were FCPA violations, and four of
8 which were money laundering charges, and acquitted him on one count of
9 money laundering. Hoskins then moved for acquittal, arguing he was not an
10 agent within the meaning of the FCPA. The district court granted that motion, *see*
11 *United States v. Hoskins* (“*Hoskins II*”), 3:12cr238 (JBA), 2020 WL 914302, at *7, *13
12 (D. Conn. Feb. 26, 2020), and the government brought this appeal.

13 Hoskins cross-appeals, arguing that (1) the district court erred in
14 determining there was no violation of the Speedy Trial Act (“STA”), 18 U.S.C. §§
15 3161(c)(1), 3162(a)(2), nor any violation of the Sixth Amendment during the
16 lengthy course of trial; (2) the district court erred in giving jury instructions
17 regarding withdrawal from the conspiracy and liability for setting a conspiracy

1 in motion; and (3) the district court erred in denying his Rule 29 motion for
2 judgment of acquittal based on faulty jury instructions regarding venue in the
3 District of Connecticut.

4 We affirm, and hold that the United States District Court for the District of
5 Connecticut (Arterton, J.) properly acquitted Hoskins under Rule 29 because
6 there was no agency or employee relationship between Hoskins and API. We
7 also affirm on the cross-appeal, finding no error in either the district court's
8 speedy trial analysis or its jury instructions.

9 BACKGROUND

10 I. API, Hoskins, and the Tarahan Project

11 Alstom S.A. is a global corporation headquartered in France that provides
12 power and transportation services. *Hoskins I*, 902 F.3d at 72. Alstom has a United
13 States-based subsidiary, API, located in Connecticut. As detailed in *Hoskins I*, the
14 government alleged that API and other affiliates of Alstom retained two
15 "consultants" who bribed Indonesian officials in order to secure a \$118 million
16 power contract with the Indonesian government for API and certain other
17 partners, referred to as the "Tarahan Project." *Id.* Between November 2001 and

1 August 2004, Hoskins was employed by Alstom's UK subsidiary, but was
2 assigned to work in its French subsidiary, Alstom Resources Management S.A.
3 *Id.* Specifically, Hoskins worked in the subsidiary's International Network ("IN")
4 department, which was an internal-facing "support organization" that provided
5 operational business units with support "on an as-needed basis." App'x at 287.

6 During the relevant time, Hoskins was the Area Senior Vice President for
7 the Asia region in the IN. He performed various functions for and on behalf of
8 Alstom subsidiaries, including API. One project in which Hoskins was involved
9 was the Tarahan Project, which sought to secure a \$118 million contract with the
10 Indonesian government to build a coal-fired power plant. The bidding for the
11 project was being conducted by Indonesia's state-owned and controlled
12 electricity company, Perusahaan Listrik Negara ("PLN"). At the time, API was
13 looking for a way to bribe PLN and other officials to ensure that PLN would give
14 the contract to a consortium led by API. The other members of the consortium
15 were a Japanese trading company, Marubeni Corporation, and Alstom's
16 Indonesian subsidiary, Alstom Power Energy Systems Indonesia ("PTESI").

1 In 2002, Hoskins and his alleged API co-conspirators discussed hiring a
2 consultant named Harsono, who had connections with Emir Moeis, a high-
3 ranking member of the Indonesian Parliament. During these early stages of the
4 project, Fred Pierucci, the head of boiler sales worldwide for Alstom, asked
5 Hoskins to check in with two Alstom Indonesia leaders—Reza Moenaf, the
6 Alstom “country president” for its Indonesia business who reported to Hoskins,
7 and Eko Sulianto, who reported to Moenaf—regarding the “latest position on
8 Tarahan.” App’x at 860. Moenaf sent an email to Frederic Pierucci and David
9 Rothschild, the regional sales manager for API who worked on the Tarahan
10 Project, stating: “According to [Hoskins], [Pierucci] has already given his ‘go-
11 ahead’ to proceed with the proposed consultant[.]” App’x at 862. In response to
12 another of Moenaf’s emails, Pierucci responded, “Please go ahead and finalise
13 the consultancy agreement. Please send me the key data so that I can approve it
14 officially.” App’x at 863.

15 Before finalizing this arrangement, Rothschild expressed concern that
16 Harsono was too close to Moeis, which would make the bribery too obvious, and
17 instead suggested hiring another consultant named Pirooz Sharafi, who was

1 based in Maryland, and his company, Pacific Resources, Inc. Sharafi had a close
2 personal relationship with Moeis. Pierucci agreed with Rothschild's
3 recommendation. Moenaf pushed back because he did not think that Sharafi had
4 the requisite connections with PLN's Tarahan Project team. Nevertheless, API
5 hired Sharafi and Pacific Resources, and Moenaf facilitated the execution of the
6 consultancy agreement, committing 3 percent of the ultimate contract price to
7 Sharafi if API won the bid.

8 By 2003, Moenaf's concerns came to fruition, when the PLN evaluation
9 committee expressed dissatisfaction with Sharafi and questioned his
10 commitment to bribing them. Larry Puckett, another API sales representative,
11 told Pierucci via email that PLN's president was dissatisfied. Puckett explained
12 that API's consortium partner, Marubeni, wanted API, "particularly . . . Pierucci
13 to agree to take . . . immediate action" on finding a new consultant. App'x at 883.

14 Subsequently, Pierucci, Hoskins, William Pomponi, an API employee, and
15 Marubeni representatives, among others, met in Jakarta, where Sharafi was
16 informed that API needed to switch to a different arrangement with a different
17 consultant who was in better standing with PLN: Azmin Aulia and his

1 consulting company, PT Gajendra. They informed Sharafi that his commission
2 would be cut to 1 percent, while Aulia would be retained at a 2 percent
3 commission. On another occasion, Hoskins, Sharafi, and Thiessen met with Aulia
4 to confirm his commitment to a 2 percent commission on his consulting
5 agreement. Communications and testimony about this friction identified Pierucci
6 as the ultimate decision-maker regarding the switch. Pierucci directed Hoskins to
7 issue the revised consulting agreements, and Hoskins directed people in his
8 department to execute them.

9 The plan encountered troubles when Aulia complained to Moenaf (who
10 reported to Hoskins) that Aulia was concerned about paying bribes up front and
11 not receiving any compensation for years. Hoskins proposed offering Aulia a
12 better payment schedule and asked Pierucci for the “all clear” before
13 communicating the new terms to the consultants. App’x at 934-37. Once the
14 agreements were finally in place, Pierucci thanked the team, commending
15 Pomponi for “leading this negotiation” and Hoskins for “the local support.”
16 App’x at 938. API paid its consultants, who, in accordance with the consulting

1 agreements, bribed the Indonesian officials. Hoskins resigned from Alstom
2 effective August 31, 2004.

3 **II. The District Court Proceedings**

4 **A. Overview**

5 In July 2013, Hoskins was indicted on 12 counts: conspiring to violate the
6 FCPA, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 371 (Count One); substantive violations of the
7 FCPA, pursuant to 15 U.S.C. § 78dd-2 and 18 U.S.C. § 2 (Counts Two-Seven);
8 conspiring to launder money, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 1956(h) (Count Eight); and
9 substantive money laundering, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 1953(a)(2)(A) and 18
10 U.S.C. § 2 (Counts Nine-Twelve). Discovery and other issues, including an
11 interlocutory appeal, proceeded over many years, and trial did not begin until
12 October 28, 2019. The jury convicted Hoskins on the FCPA violations, conspiracy
13 to launder money, and substantive money laundering charges, and acquitted
14 him on Count Eleven. The jury was not asked to make any special findings as to
15 whether it found Hoskins to be an agent. On March 6, 2020, the district court
16 sentenced Hoskins to 15 months' imprisonment.

B. Interlocutory Appeal

Hoskins moved to dismiss Count One of the indictment, arguing that the FCPA statute “prescribes liability only for narrowly-circumscribed groups of people—American companies and citizens, and their agents, employees, officers, directors, and shareholders, as well as foreign persons acting on American soil” and that the government could not circumvent that limitation by charging Hoskins on aiding and abetting or conspiracy theories. *Hoskins I*, 902 F.3d at 73. The district court dismissed Count One to the extent it sought to charge Hoskins with conspiring to violate Section 78dd-2 of the FCPA without demonstrating that Hoskins fell into one of the FCPA’s enumerated categories and conspiring to violate Section 78dd-3, which prohibits acts in the territory of the United States, because Hoskins was never in the United States during the relevant period. *Id.* at 74. However, the district court denied Hoskins’s motion to dismiss to the extent Count One alleged that Hoskins conspired to violate or aided and abetted the violation of the FCPA as an “agent of [a] domestic concern,” an enumerated category of persons under the FCPA. 15 U.S.C. § 78dd-2; *see also Hoskins I*, 902 F.3d at 74.

1 The issues raised by the district court’s decision were the subject of an
2 interlocutory appeal. We held “that Congress did not intend for persons outside
3 of the statute’s carefully delimited categories to be subject to conspiracy or
4 complicity liability.” *Hoskins I*, 902 F.3d at 83-84. Therefore, while the statute
5 articulated multiple categories of individuals subject to the FCPA, it did not
6 provide “jurisdiction over a foreign national who acts outside the United States,
7 but not on behalf of an American person or company as an officer, director,
8 employee, agent, or stockholder.” *Id.* at 85.

9 **C. Post-Trial Motions**

10 On the interlocutory appeal, we noted that the government could proceed
11 on its alternate theory — that Hoskins was an “agent of a domestic concern” and
12 therefore could be “liable.... for the substantive FCPA counts charged in the
13 indictment.” *Id.* at 97-98. To prevail on this theory, we noted that the government
14 would need to establish at trial that (1) Hoskins was an agent; and (2) Hoskins
15 “conspir[ed] with foreign nationals who conducted relevant acts while in the
16 United States,” pursuant to Section 78dd-3. *Id.* at 98. After our mandate issued,
17 the government proceeded in the district court on this theory.

1 Following the return of the verdict, Hoskins moved for judgment of
2 acquittal or for a new trial, primarily arguing that the evidence was insufficient
3 for the jury to have found beyond a reasonable doubt that Hoskins was an agent
4 of API. Hoskins argued that API lacked the power to fire him or control his day-
5 to-day work, such that a reasonable juror could not find API was his principal.
6 He pointed out that pursuant to Alstom's organizational chart, API actually
7 needed Hoskins's approval of the consulting agreements for the project to
8 progress. Hoskins also argued that venue in Connecticut was not established as
9 to Counts Nine, Ten, and Twelve (the money laundering charges).

10 As to the question of agency, the district court drew (as it must) all
11 inferences in favor of the government that "API both 1) controlled the hiring of
12 consultants for the Tarahan Project, and 2) gave Mr. Hoskins instructions, which
13 he followed." *Hoskins II*, 2020 WL 914302, at *7. However, the court concluded
14 that the government failed to adduce evidence to "support the conclusion that
15 Mr. Hoskins acted subject to API's control such that Mr. Hoskins was an agent of
16 API." *Id.* The court reasoned that although API might have been the final
17 decision-maker as to which consultant to hire and on which terms, the emails

1 and testimony produced at trial did not demonstrate that API had any authority
2 to control Hoskins's interim actions as those contracts were finalized, which is
3 key to establishing a principal-agent relationship. *Id.* at *8. The court also found it
4 relevant that Pierucci, within Alstom's overall organizational chart, did not have
5 any authority to "fire, reassign, demote, or impact the compensation of Mr.
6 Hoskins." *Id.* The court granted Hoskins's motion for acquittal on the FCPA
7 counts, (one through seven). *Id.* at *9. The court also conditionally granted the
8 motion for a new trial on those counts "if the judgment of acquittal is later
9 vacated or reversed." *Id.* at *13.

10 The district court denied Hoskins's Rule 29 motion for judgment of
11 acquittal based on improper venue. The district court found sufficient evidence
12 for a rational juror to conclude that Hoskins knew the relevant payments would
13 pass through the United States. *Id.* at *11. The court also rejected Hoskins's
14 theory that the payments—which went from API in Connecticut to Sharafi in
15 Maryland, and then from Maryland to Indonesia—did not constitute a single,
16 continuing transaction. *Id.* at *11-12. These appeals followed.

DISCUSSION

I. The FCPA Counts

We review de novo a district court's grant of a Rule 29 motion for judgment of acquittal, and we must uphold a judgment of conviction where "the record evidence could reasonably support a finding of guilt beyond a reasonable doubt." *Jackson v. Virginia*, 443 U.S. 307, 318 (1979). In so doing, "we must view the evidence in the light most favorable to the government, crediting every inference that could have been drawn in the government's favor, and deferring to the jury's assessment of witness credibility and its assessment of the weight of the evidence." *United States v. Pauling*, 924 F.3d 649, 656 (2d Cir. 2019) (internal quotation marks omitted). "We 'must determine whether upon the evidence, giving full play to the right of the jury to determine credibility, weigh the evidence, and draw justifiable inferences of fact, a reasonable mind might fairly conclude guilt beyond a reasonable doubt.'" *United States v. Autuori*, 212 F.3d 105, 114 (2d Cir. 2000) (quoting *United States v. Mariani*, 725 F.2d 862, 865 (2d Cir. 1984)).

1 Although we must “view the evidence with all reasonable inferences
 2 drawn in the Government’s favor,” “we may not permit that rule to displace the
 3 even more important rule that all elements of an offense must be proven beyond
 4 a reasonable doubt.” *Pauling*, 924 F.3d at 662 (quoting *United States v. Martinez*, 54
 5 F.3d 1040, 1049 (2d Cir. 1995) (Newman, C.J., dissenting)). “[W]here a fact to be
 6 proved is also an element of the offense . . . it is not enough that the inferences in
 7 the government’s favor are permissible. We must also be satisfied that the
 8 inferences are sufficiently supported to permit a rational juror to find that
 9 element, like all elements, beyond a reasonable doubt.” *Pauling*, 924 F.3d at 657
 10 (quoting *Martinez*, 54 F.3d at 1043).

11 **A. “Agency” Within the Meaning of the FCPA**

12 The crux of this appeal is whether there was an agency relationship
 13 between Hoskins and API. “At common law, agency is the fiduciary relationship
 14 that arises when one person (a ‘principal’) manifests assent to another person (an
 15 ‘agent’) that the agent shall act on the principal’s behalf and subject to the
 16 principal’s control, and the agent manifests or otherwise consents so to act.” *In re*
 17 *Trib. Co. Fraudulent Conv. Litig.*, 946 F.3d 66, 79 (2d Cir. 2019) (brackets and some

1 internal quotation marks omitted). “The three elements necessary to an agency
2 relationship are (1) a manifestation by the principal that the agent will act for
3 him; (2) acceptance by the agent of the undertaking; and (3) an understanding
4 between the parties that the principal will be in control of the undertaking.”
5 *Johnson v. Priceline.com, Inc.*, 711 F.3d 271, 277 (2d Cir. 2013) (internal quotation
6 marks omitted). The agent has the authority—express or implied—to “act or to
7 conduct a transaction on account of the principal which . . . he is privileged to do
8 because of the principal’s manifestations to him.” *Minskoff v. Am. Express Travel*
9 *Related Servs. Co., Inc.*, 98 F.3d 703, 708 (2d Cir. 1996) (internal quotation marks
10 omitted); *see also Bank of New York v. Yugoimport*, 745 F.3d 599, 610 (2d Cir. 2014)
11 (“A principal-agent relationship is created by express or implied contract or by
12 law, in which one party (the agent) may act on behalf of another party (the
13 principal) and bind that other party by words or actions.” (internal quotation
14 marks omitted)).

15 Some factors a court considers in deciding whether an agency relationship
16 exists include: “the situation of the parties, their relations to one another, and the
17 business in which they are engaged; the general usages of the business in

1 question and the purported principal's business methods; the nature of the
 2 subject matters and the circumstances under which the business is done.”
 3 *Cleveland v. Caplaw Enters.*, 448 F.3d 518, 522 (2d Cir. 2006) (quoting *Columbia*
 4 *Broad. Sys., Inc. v. Stokely–Van Camp, Inc.*, 522 F.2d 369, 375-76 (2d Cir. 1975)).

5 **1. Hoskins Was Not an Agent of API Within the Meaning of the FCPA**

6 The parties agree that the common law meaning of agency we apply here
 7 is the correct one.² There was no explicit or implied agency or employee
 8 relationship between Hoskins and API such that the elements of an agency
 9 relationship were proven beyond a reasonable doubt. Hoskins was employed by
 10 a different subsidiary, within the IN department, which provides global support
 11 to all sales and operational subsidiaries. The record demonstrates that Hoskins’s
 12 actions in furtherance of securing consultants for the Tarahan Project were all
 13 subject to the decision-making of Pierucci and other executives of API.

² Although amici have thoroughly briefed the issue, Hoskins's brief merely sets out a footnote stating that both parties agreed to proceed with a common-law definition of agency. We thus decline the invitation of amici to delve further into the issue. *See United States v. Restrepo*, 986 F.2d 1462, 1463 (2d Cir. 1993) (“We do not consider an argument mentioned only in a footnote to be adequately raised or preserved for appellate review.”).

1 Conspicuously missing from the evidence is anything indicating that
2 Pierucci or other API representatives actually controlled Hoskins's actions as
3 Hoskins and his API counterparts operated under separate, parallel employment
4 structures. Pierucci did not hire Hoskins, lacked the ability to fire Hoskins, and
5 lacked any say in Hoskins's compensation. This lack of control over Hoskins is
6 fundamental to the question of whether Hoskins was an agent because the "chief
7 justifications for the principal's accountability for the agent's acts are the
8 principal's ability to select and control the agent and to terminate the agency
9 relationship, together with the fact that the agent has agreed expressly or
10 implicitly to act on the principal's behalf." Restatement (Third) of Agency § 1.01
11 cmt. c.

12 There is, of course, some evidence of direction from Pierucci and API to
13 Hoskins. Pierucci asked Hoskins to execute certain tasks, such as revising
14 agreements and sending them to API. Hoskins asked for approval from API
15 before moving forward with Aulia, indicating that he looked to API for
16 instruction. App'x at 934-37. And the record shows Hoskins located and hired

1 consultants at the behest of API and that these consultant contracts required
2 Hoskins's approval.

3 Yet the fact that Hoskins collaborated with and supported API and
4 Pierucci does not mean he was under their control within the meaning of the
5 FCPA. Identifying consultants to become agents of API does not make Hoskins
6 himself an agent of API. Nor does reviewing contracts for API to make sure they
7 complied with API standards make Hoskins an agent. The government argues
8 that because Hoskins provided API with support, he is an agent. But the
9 government cites to no authority that supports such a broad definition of "agent"
10 within the meaning of FCPA.

11 At bottom, the government failed to present sufficient evidence to allow
12 the jury to find an agency relationship. Indeed, the record demonstrates Hoskins
13 and API's relationship lacks key elements of agency, such as any indication that
14 Hoskins had any authority to act on API's behalf, and whether API could
15 "revoke" any authority it purportedly gave to Hoskins, or even do anything to
16 control Hoskins's actions. *See* 12 Williston on Contracts § 35:30 (4th Ed. 2021)
17 (explaining that a principal has the authority to revoke an agent's power orally

1 or otherwise); Restatement (Third) of Agency § 1.01 cmt. c. The government
2 argues that API revoked Hoskins's authority when it declined to go with
3 Harsono, whom Hoskins and Moenaf suggested as a consultant, instead going
4 with Sharafi. This can hardly be said to be a revocation of authority, but rather a
5 collaboration between multiple corporate employees and subsidiaries to obtain
6 the desired result: finding an effective but not incriminating consultant.

7 There is no evidence that Hoskins was authorized to enter into any
8 agreements on API's behalf. The government itself notes that "Hoskins could not
9 hire a consultant without API's instruction." Govt's Br. at 55. Yet a hallmark of a
10 principal-agent relationship is that an agent can bind principals to certain legal
11 commitments. *See* Restatement (Third) of Agency § 1.01 cmt. c (explaining that
12 agents have "power to affect the principal's legal relations through the operation
13 of apparent authority"). While Hoskins may have supported API by attending
14 meetings with consultants in Jakarta, it was ultimately API that did the
15 negotiating and contracting. For example, one of the government's key pieces of
16 evidence was a meeting at a hotel in Jakarta where Sharafi agreed to reduce his
17 commission from 3 to 1 percent, with Aulia receiving the 2 percent difference.

1 Yet there is no indication that Hoskins had any authority to negotiate these
2 percentages nor that he served as anything more than a messenger for API at this
3 meeting. *Minskoff*, 98 F.3d at 708 (describing how an agent has the authority to
4 conduct a transaction for the principal because of the principal's manifestations).
5 The fact that Hoskins supported the Tarahan Project, which API had control
6 over, does not support a finding of a principal-agent relationship. Hoskins
7 supported API's endeavors because of his role within the IN department of
8 Alstom, not because API granted him agency authority.

9 Likewise, the facts the dissent points to do nothing more than illustrate
10 why there was no agency relationship. The dissent writes that the government
11 had to prove "only that API could terminate his involvement — and thus revoke
12 his authority — at least in part." Dissent at 6. Yet the dissent, like the government
13 at trial, fails to specify any facts showing that API could terminate its
14 relationship with Hoskins or otherwise exerted control over Hoskins. As
15 discussed above, there is no doubt that Hoskins supported API and identified
16 consultants, but the dissent's argument requires extrapolating facts that do not
17 appear in the record, instead of the appropriate course of drawing permissible

1 inferences in the government's favor. "[I]t is not enough that inferences in the
2 government's favor are permissible. We must also be satisfied that the inferences
3 are sufficiently supported to permit a rational juror to find that element, like all
4 elements, beyond a reasonable doubt." *Pauling*, 924 F.3d at 657 (citation omitted).
5 Here, such inferences are not supported by any facts in the record.

6 Our affirmance of the district court's judgment of acquittal is not done
7 lightly. We have viewed all evidence with reasonable inferences drawn in the
8 government's favor, but "we may not permit that rule to displace the even more
9 important rule that all elements of an offense must be proven beyond a
10 reasonable doubt." *Id.* at 662. While there is some evidence that Hoskins
11 supported API in his working relationship with the corporation, it is not
12 sufficient to establish that API exercised control over the scope and duration of
13 its relationship with Hoskins. Without this control over the relationship, there
14 can be no finding of a principal-agent relationship within the meaning of the
15 FCPA.³

³ Although we have applied the appropriately deferential standard of review to the jury's verdict, challenged for lack of sufficient evidence to permit a reasonable jury to find the elements established guilt beyond a reasonable doubt,

1 II. Hoskins’s Speedy Trial Act and Sixth Amendment Claims

2 Hoskins cross-appeals, arguing that the district court committed reversible
 3 error by denying his motion to dismiss the indictment for violations of the
 4 Speedy Trial Act (“STA”) and the Speedy Trial Clause of the Sixth Amendment.
 5 The STA requires a defendant’s trial to commence within 70 days of his
 6 indictment or first appearance (whichever is later) and entitles a defendant to
 7 dismissal of the charge if that does not happen. 18 U.S.C. §§ 3161(c)(1), 3162(a)(2).
 8 Some periods of time are automatically excluded from the STA clock, including,
 9 as relevant here, time related to an interlocutory appeal, filing of pretrial
 10 motions, and up to 30 days when a “proceeding concerning the defendant is
 11 actually under advisement by the court.” *Id.* § 3161(h)(1)(C), (D), (H).

12 A district court may also grant exclusions based on a “finding[] that the
 13 ends of justice served by taking such action outweigh the best interest of the
 14 public and the defendant in a speedy trial.” *Id.* § 3161(h)(7)(A). “Although the

we note that this is not the typical challenge to the sufficiency of evidence where the dispute is about whether there was evidence to support an implicit finding of one or more critical facts. Here the jury was required to apply the law of agency for purposes of the FCPA to what were essentially undisputed facts.

1 [STA] is clear that the findings must be made, if only in the judge's mind, before
2 granting the continuance . . . , the [STA] is ambiguous on precisely when those
3 findings must be set forth, in the record of the case. However this ambiguity is
4 resolved, at the very least the Act implies that those findings must be put on the
5 record by the time a district court rules on a defendant's motion to dismiss
6 under § 3162(a)(2)." *Zedner v. United States*, 547 U.S. 489, 506-07 (2006) (brackets
7 and internal quotation marks omitted). Therefore, time may be properly
8 excluded pursuant to an ends-of-justice finding even if the court fails to "utter
9 the magic words 'ends-of-justice' at the time of ordering the continuance" where
10 it is clear that the court considered the underlying factors and concerns. *United*
11 *States v. Breen*, 243 F.3d 591, 597 (2d Cir. 2001). When considering STA claims, we
12 review findings of fact for clear error and legal conclusions de novo. *United States*
13 *v. Lynch*, 726 F.3d 346, 351 (2d Cir. 2013).

14 The Sixth Amendment of the Constitution guarantees "the right to a
15 speedy and public trial." U.S. Const. amend. VI. The Sixth Amendment analysis
16 is guided by four factors: "[l]ength of delay, the reason for the delay, the
17 defendant's assertion of his right, and prejudice to the defendant." *Barker v.*

1 *Wingo*, 407 U.S. 514, 530 (1972). Prejudice to the defendant considers the
 2 “interests of defendants” that the Speedy Trial Clause was designed to protect:
 3 (1) “prevent[ing] oppressive pretrial incarceration”, (2) “minimiz[ing] anxiety
 4 and concern of the accused”, and (3) “limit[ing] the possibility that the defense
 5 will be impaired.” *Id.* at 532. The last of these is the most important. *Id.* “We
 6 review the district court’s balancing of [the *Barker*] factors for abuse of
 7 discretion.” *United States v. Cain*, 671 F.3d 271, 296 (2d Cir. 2012).

8 **A. The District Court Findings on the STA and the Speedy Trial** 9 **Clause**

10
 11 The relevant factual background and a more detailed description of the
 12 lengthy delay between Hoskins’s first indictment on July 30, 2013 and his trial,
 13 which started October 28, 2019, are in the district court’s order denying
 14 Hoskins’s motion to dismiss the indictment because of STA and Speedy Trial
 15 Clause concerns. *See Hoskins II*, ECF No. 501.

16 Hoskins moved to dismiss the indictment with prejudice on July 15, 2019,
 17 based on alleged STA and Speedy Trial Clause violations. On August 2, 2019, the
 18 district court issued retroactive orders excluding time under the STA from the
 19 September 12, 2018, status conference to March 11, 2019, and then again from

1 March 11, 2019, through September 9, 2019, the anticipated trial date at the time.
2 On August 15, 2019, relying on its after-the-fact order excluding time under the
3 STA, the district court denied Hoskins's motion to dismiss the indictment,
4 finding that only 15 days had elapsed under the STA clock.

5 The district court also analyzed the *Barker* factors and found: (1) the length
6 of delay was remarkable, a factor favoring Hoskins; (2) the reasons for the delay
7 were due to the various needs of both parties, and this factor was neutral; (3)
8 Hoskins had not previously asserted his rights under the Speedy Trial Clause,
9 and this factor weighed against him; and (4) despite asserting that some
10 witnesses had become unavailable or had forgotten things due to the delay,
11 Hoskins was unable to provide specific instances of evidentiary prejudice to the
12 point of significant impairment to his defense. Overall, the court concluded, the
13 *Barker* factors did not favor Hoskins. Therefore, the district court denied
14 Hoskins's motion to dismiss. Both parties appear to agree that 15 days of the STA
15 clock had expired in the proceedings leading up to the issuance of our mandate
16 in the interlocutory appeal on October 31, 2018.

B. The District Court Did Not Commit Reversible Error in Denying Hoskins's Motion to Dismiss the Indictment

The length of time that passed between Hoskins's first indictment and his trial is extraordinary. Nevertheless, Hoskins cannot show he is entitled to relief under either the STA or the Speedy Trial Clause. The district court's stated concerns about the age of the case during the September 2018 and January 2019 status conferences, along with its August 2, 2019, after-the-fact ends-of-justice finding, satisfied its STA obligations. Prior to filing its order denying Hoskins's motion to dismiss the indictment on STA grounds, the district court issued a short order making retroactive ends-of-justice findings for the period between September 2018 and September 2019. Although we disfavor this practice and prefer "contemporaneous finding[s] on the record," the district court did not need to explicitly utter the words "ends-of-justice." *Breen*, 243 F.3d at 597. The Supreme Court has set the outer bounds of making this finding explicit, "at the very least[,] . . . by the time a district court rules on a defendant's motion to dismiss under § 3162(a)(2)." *Zedner*, 547 U.S. at 507. The district court did so here. Additionally, given the court's repeated references to the age of the case and attempts to press counsel into earlier trial dates during both the September 2018

1 and January 2019 conferences, the court implicitly made an ends-of-justice
2 finding, “if only in [her] mind.” *Id.*

3 As for the Speedy Trial Clause, the district court did not abuse its
4 discretion in weighing the *Barker* factors. There was an extremely lengthy delay
5 in the six years from Hoskins’s indictment and his first day of trial, which favors
6 Hoskins. *Barker*, 407 U.S. at 533 (describing delay of over five years as
7 “extraordinary”). The second factor looks to the reasons for delay, which the
8 district court found neutral. *Id.* at 530. The district court properly reasoned that
9 both sides contributed to the delay and that the government’s interlocutory
10 appeal was not a frivolous ploy to delay the trial. The third factor looks at when
11 the defendant asserted his Speedy Trial Clause rights. *Id.* Hoskins did not assert
12 his STA rights until his motion to dismiss the indictment in July 2019, which
13 weighs against him in the *Barker* analysis. *Id.* The final factor is prejudice to the
14 defendant, which includes prejudice from incarceration, the anxiety caused by
15 the delay, and the possibility that defense will be impaired. *Id.* at 530, 532. Here
16 again, the district court did not abuse its discretion. Hoskins was held in pre-trial
17 detention for a total of 27 days but was otherwise able to travel, see family, and

1 reside outside the United States while trial was pending. The district court found
2 that Hoskins's defense was not impaired by the delay because he did not identify
3 any particular prejudice to his defense. Likewise on appeal, Hoskins identifies
4 certain excerpts of witness testimony where witnesses misremembered or forgot
5 certain details, but none of these instances are central to the criminal conduct at
6 issue here, and he does not explain how he was prejudiced by this testimony.
7 Ultimately, the district court's analysis of the *Barker* factors and dismissal of
8 Hoskins's Sixth Amendment claim falls "within the range of permissible
9 decisions." *United States v. Ghailani*, 733 F.3d 29, 44 (2d Cir. 2013).

10 **III. The District Court's Jury Instructions Did Not Constitute Error**

11 Next, Hoskins argues that the district court's jury instructions on
12 withdrawal from a conspiracy constitute reversible error. "We review a claim of
13 error in jury instructions *de novo*, reversing only where, viewing the charge as a
14 whole, there was a prejudicial error." *United States v. Moseley*, 980 F.3d 9, 20 (2d
15 Cir. 2020) (citation and internal quotation marks omitted).

16 Withdrawal from a conspiracy does not necessarily "negate" participation
17 in the crime. *Smith v. United States*, 568 U.S. 106, 110 (2013). Withdrawal

1 “presupposes that the defendant committed the offense,” so it “achieves more
2 modest ends than exoneration.” *Id.* at 111. “Withdrawal also starts the clock
3 running on the time within which the defendant may be prosecuted.” *Id.* But
4 “[t]o avert a continuing criminality there must be affirmative action to disavow
5 or defeat the purpose of the conspiracy.” *Id.* at 113 (alterations and internal
6 quotation marks omitted). The burden of establishing withdrawal rests on the
7 defendant. *Id.*

8 During pre-trial motion practice, the two parties litigated the language of
9 the withdrawal instructions. There were disputes over: whether resignation,
10 without an affirmative act of disavowal, constitutes withdrawal; whether the
11 government’s proposed instruction—that once a defendant sets a conspiracy in
12 motion, his withdrawal must weaken the conspiracy to be effective—was proper;
13 whether the government’s proposal to provide examples of informing authorities
14 or announcing abandonment to co-conspirators was proper; and whether
15 withdrawal applies to aiding and abetting liability. In a pre-trial order, the
16 district court deferred ruling on the business-resignation and set-in-motion
17 instructions until evidence was presented at trial. However, the court noted that

Hoskins's cited cases did not negate the fact that a defendant must commit some affirmative act to withdraw from a conspiracy. The district court also ruled that withdrawal does not apply to aiding and abetting liability.

Ultimately, the jury instruction on withdrawal read as follows:

Mr. Hoskins has raised the defense that he withdrew from the conspiracy charged in this Count One before September 22, 2005, and that therefore the statute of limitations ran out before the government obtained an indictment charging him with that conspiracy and this prosecution is time-barred. The statute of limitations is a law that puts a limit on how much time the government has to obtain an indictment. . . . The defendant has the burden of proving to you that he in fact withdrew from the conspiracy and that he did so before September 22, 2005.

Once a person joins a conspiracy, that person remains a member until he withdraws from it. Any withdrawal must be complete and it must be done in good faith. A person can withdraw from a conspiracy by taking some affirmative steps to terminate or abandon his participation in and efforts to promote the conspiracy. In other words, the defendant must have demonstrated some type of positive action that disavowed or defeated the purpose of the conspiracy. Proof that the defendant merely ceased conspiratorial activity is not enough.

Where a defendant by his conspiratorial actions sets in motion events that are designed to have effect beyond the period of his active participation, the defendant's affirmative act of withdrawal must be aimed at weakening

1 or undermining the foreseeable consequences of his own
2 participation in the conspiracy.

3 Resignation from employment does not by itself
4 necessarily constitute withdrawal unless you find the
5 defendant acted to disavow or defeat the purpose of the
6 conspiracy.

7 For example, a defendant may withdraw from a
8 conspiracy by giving a timely warning about the
9 conspiracy to proper law enforcement officials or wholly
10 depriving his prior efforts of effectiveness in the
11 commission of the crime or making appropriate efforts to
12 prevent the commission of a crime or by doing acts that are
13 inconsistent with the objects of the conspiracy and making
14 reasonable efforts to communicate those acts to his
15 coconspirators.

16 The defendant has the burden of proving that he withdrew
17 from the conspiracy by a preponderance of the evidence. .
18 . . In determining whether the defendant withdrew from
19 the conspiracy, you may consider the relevant testimony
20 of all of the witnesses regardless of who called them, and
21 all the relevant exhibits received in evidence, regardless of
22 who produced them. . . . However, it is important to
23 remember that the fact that the defendant has raised this
24 defense does not relieve the government of its burden of
25 proving each and every element of the crime of conspiracy.

26 . . . If you find Mr. Hoskins has proven by a preponderance
27 of the evidence that he withdrew from the charged
28 conspiracy before September 22, 2005, then you must
29 acquit him of the charge in Count One. But even if you find
30 that Mr. Hoskins withdrew from the charged conspiracies,

1 that withdrawal is not a defense to Counts Two through
2 Seven or Counts Nine through Twelve.

3 App'x at 560-61.

4 The district court's instructions to the jury on withdrawal from the
5 conspiracy do not constitute reversible error. Our case law, as well as Supreme
6 Court case law, has explained that conspirators must engage in an affirmative act
7 to withdraw from a conspiracy. Indeed, *Smith* even uses the same language the
8 district court did—"disavow or defeat." 568 U.S. at 113. Moreover, Hoskins's
9 proposed instruction—that withdrawal from a business enterprise is sufficient to
10 withdraw from a conspiracy involving the business—is not an accurate
11 statement of the law. In *United States v. Nerlinger*, it was not solely the
12 defendant's resignation that constituted withdrawal, but rather the fact that the
13 defendant also closed an account used to perpetuate fraud. 862 F.2d 967, 974-75
14 (2d Cir. 1988). Therefore, *Nerlinger* does not suggest that, without additional
15 affirmative action, resignation is sufficient to withdraw.

16 Neither was it error to instruct the jury that a defendant who sets a
17 conspiracy in motion must undermine the conspiracy to withdraw from it. In
18 *United States v. Borelli*, we explained that a defendant cannot simply walk away

1 from a conspiracy she or he has already set in motion without liability. 336 F.2d
2 376, 388 n.8 (2d Cir. 1964). Conspiracy to violate the FCPA does not cleanly fit
3 into the *Borelli* rubric because it primarily benefits API, not Hoskins, and after
4 Hoskins left Alstom, he had nothing to gain from the subsequent bribery. This
5 does not mean, however, that his departure from Alstom was the kind of
6 affirmative act required to withdraw from an ongoing and forward-looking
7 conspiracy.

8 It was also not error for the court to include illustrative examples of
9 withdrawal—namely, informing the authorities or preventing the execution of
10 the crime he set in motion. Those examples were taken nearly verbatim from jury
11 instructions in *United States v. LaMorte*, where we affirmed the conviction. 950
12 F.2d 80, 84-85 (2d Cir. 1990).

13 Finally, it was not error to rule that withdrawal does not apply to aiding
14 and abetting liability. Hoskins’s reliance on *Rosemond v. United States*, 572 U.S. 65
15 (2014) is misplaced. In *Rosemond*, the Supreme Court analyzed whether an
16 accomplice can be liable for a Section 924(c) violation if he “knows nothing of a
17 gun until it appears at the scene.” *Id.* at 78. Despite using the word “withdraw”

1 throughout *Rosemond*, the Supreme Court actually analyzed the intent element of
2 aiding and abetting liability and to what extent an accomplice may be liable for a
3 crime of which he is not fully aware; it was not suggesting that withdrawal is a
4 defense to all aiding and abetting crimes. *See id.* at 80-81. Indeed, we have
5 previously explained that “withdrawal is not a defense to the substantive crime
6 of aiding and abetting.” *United States v. Arocena*, 778 F.2d 943, 948 n.3 (2d Cir.
7 1985).

8 **IV. The District Court’s Jury Instructions on Venue Were Proper**

9 Finally, Hoskins argues that the jury instructions on venue constitute
10 reversible error. In deciding Hoskins’s motion on this issue below, the district
11 court found that while both parties presented evidence of their own theory—that
12 the payments were separate transactions or that they were part of a singular
13 scheme—the government presented sufficient evidence for a rational jury to
14 conclude venue existed in Connecticut. *See Hoskins II*, 2020 WL 914302, at *12-13.

15 “A defendant in a criminal case has the right to be tried in the district
16 where the crime was committed.” *United States v. Lange*, 834 F.3d 58, 68 (2d Cir.
17 2016) (internal quotation marks omitted). Venue “must be determined from the

1 nature of the crime alleged and the location of the act or acts constituting it.
2 Venue may lie in more than one place if the acts constituting the crime and the
3 nature of the crime charged implicate more than one location. Venue is proper in
4 any district in which an offense was begun, continued or completed.” *Id.* at 68-69
5 (citations and internal quotation marks omitted). “The Government bears the
6 burden of proving venue by a preponderance of the evidence. Where the
7 Government has prevailed at trial, we review the sufficiency of the evidence as to
8 venue in the light most favorable to the Government, crediting every inference
9 that could have been drawn in its favor.” *Id.* at 69 (citation and internal quotation
10 marks omitted).

11 The money laundering statute at issue here provides that “a transfer of
12 funds from 1 [*sic*] place to another, by wire or any other means, shall constitute a
13 single, continuing transaction. Any person who conducts . . . any portion of the
14 transaction may be charged in any district in which the transaction takes place.”
15 18 U.S.C. § 1956(i)(3). It further defines the term “conducts” as “initiating,
16 concluding, or participating in initiating, or concluding a transaction.” *Id.* §
17 1956(c)(2). We have explained that “a multi-step plan to transfer money from one

1 location to another should be viewed as a single ‘transfer’ under § 1956(a)(2).”

2 *United States v. Dinero Express, Inc.*, 313 F.3d 803, 806 (2d Cir. 2002).

3 Here, the district court provided the following jury instruction
4 regarding venue:

5 [T]he government must prove that the monetary
6 transaction charged in that count was conducted at least in
7 part in the District of Connecticut. The term “conducts”
8 includes initiating, concluding or participating in initiating
9 or concluding a transaction. If you find that a transfer
10 occurred in multiple stages and you find that each stage
11 was an integral part of a single plan to transfer funds, then
12 you should consider any such transfers to be one single
13 transaction for purposes of determining whether the
14 government has proved the venue requirement.

15 App’x at 567-69. Hoskins, instead, wanted the court to instruct the jury that if
16 “the movement of funds was in fact two or more separate transactions, then you
17 may not find that venue is proper in the District of Connecticut.” Hoskins’s Br. at
18 95 n.19.

19 The district court’s instruction was not in error, as our case law explicitly
20 states that a “multi-step plan to transfer money from one location to another
21 should be viewed as a single transfer under § 1956(a)(2).” *Dinero Express*, 313 F.3d
22 at 806 (internal quotation marks omitted). In *United States v. Harris*, we declined

1 to credit the defendant's argument that two transfers—one from New York to
2 Connecticut and one from Connecticut to Switzerland—should be regarded as
3 “two separate events.” 79 F.3d 223, 231 (2d Cir. 1996).

4 Therefore, it was correct for the court to instruct the jury that two transfers
5 that are “each . . . an integral part of a single plan to transfer funds” can be
6 considered part of a single transaction. *Id.* Given the standard of proof—
7 preponderance of the evidence—the government has also demonstrated with
8 evidence shown at trial that, granting every inference in its favor, venue exists in
9 Connecticut. An API employee in the finance department testified that he
10 authorized payments originating in Connecticut that were ultimately to be used
11 for bribes.

12 Hoskins also argues that the government did not present evidence that
13 anyone in Connecticut knew how or when the intermediary would transfer the
14 funds to Indonesia. However, even if Hoskins's co-conspirators did not fully
15 know the details of the intermediary's payments to Moeis, evidence at trial
16 demonstrated that they did know the purpose and expectation of the transfers to
17 Sharafi were that they would be used as bribes to secure the Tarahan Project for

1 API. Although the evidence can be interpreted both ways, a rational juror could
2 have concluded, based on a preponderance of the evidence, that venue existed in
3 Connecticut.

4 **CONCLUSION**

5 For the foregoing reasons, we affirm the district court's order granting
6 Hoskins's motion for judgment of acquittal because he was not an agent of API
7 within the meaning of the FCPA. We further affirm the district court's order
8 denying Hoskins's motion to dismiss the indictment on Speedy Trial Act and
9 Speedy Trial Clause grounds, as well as the district court's denial of Hoskins's
10 motion for a judgment of acquittal based on erroneous jury instructions.