Lance Williams and Mark Fainaru-Wada, the San Francisco Chronicle reporters, and authors of the book, Game of Shadows, have reached a deal with federal prosecuters, allowing them to appeal U.S. District Judge Jeffrey White's Aug. 15 court order allowing them time before they might serve jail time over refusal to release the name or names of those that leaked grand jury testimony to them during the BALCO hearings.

Leaking sealed grand jury testimony is a federal offense.

As David Kravets of the AP reports (Feds, reporters reach deal in Bonds leak case):

The pair have said they would go to jail rather than comply with the grand jury's subpoena and reveal their source or sources. They are asking the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in San Francisco to toss White's order.

The two reporters published a series of articles and a book based partly on transcripts of the testimony **Bonds**, **Jason Giambi** and others gave to a grand jury investigating the Bay Area Laboratory Co-Operative, a Burlingame-based nutritional supplement company exposed as a steroid ring.

Authorities want to charge whoever unlawfully leaked the transcripts, and told Judge White the reporters are the only ones who know who did.

As Judge White has said in the past that his hands are tied in the matter citing a 1972 Supreme Court precedent that states that no one is above the law, including reporters when grand jury testimony is leaked.