UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Plaintiff, . CR No. 23-0069-01 (CKK)

v.

ISAAC THOMAS, DMAS, . Washington, D.C. . Monday, July 3, 2023
Defendant. . 10:00 a.m.

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TRANSCRIPT OF STATUS HEARING BEFORE THE HONORABLE COLLEEN KOLLAR-KOTELLY UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE

APPEARANCES:

For the Government: ADAM M. DREHER, AUSA

U.S. Attorney's Office

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U.S. Courthouse, Room 4704-A 333 Constitution Avenue NW

Washington, DC 20001

Proceedings reported by stenotype shorthand. Transcript produced by computer-aided transcription.

PROCEEDINGS

THE DEPUTY CLERK: Criminal case 23-69, the
United States versus Isaac Thomas. Counsel, please identify
yourself for the record, starting with the government.

MR. DREHER: Good morning, Your Honor. Adam Dreher on behalf of the United States.

MR. PIERCE: Good morning, Your Honor. John Pierce on behalf of Mr. Thomas, who is present.

DC PRETRIAL OFFICER: Good morning, Your Honor. Shania Fennell from D.C. Pretrial Services.

THE COURT: All right. Good morning.

So I take it, Mr. Pierce, the two other individuals are here as paralegals?

MR. PIERCE: Yes, Your Honor.

THE COURT: All right. The first order of business is to pick up on the violation report that was filed with the Court from Pretrial Services. So I have an updated report that was filed on June 30 that has updated it to some degree, so let me go through it. Your counsel has indicated that somehow you don't seem to understand what I ordered, so let me go through, and you tell me why you don't understand it.

So let me start with the first thing, which is you've been using marijuana and testing positive for marijuana. You've indicated that it was for medical use, which is certainly allowed, and if that's the case, then there isn't an issue in

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THE COURT: Did you go to a doctor?

terms of your violating the requirements of your conditions of release. However, as I understand it, what we have is a card that -- a photocopy of some sort of marijuana card, and we also have received something that is Greenlight Wellness Cannabis doctors having looked at -- you can sign up and get it.

I'm sorry. These aren't going to work. What I need is, if you're going to a doctor, okay, I need either something that indicates a prescription or an actual report that says whatever your problem is. And it can be in summary terms —

I'm not asking for details, anxiety or whatever else it is —

that you can use medical marijuana and the quantity.

Do you understand what I'm asking you to do? Because I thought we did the last time.

THE DEFENDANT: Yes, Your Honor. I do have that.

I signed the release for Pretrial Services, and I thought
that they were going to be able to get that report with that.

So that was my fault. I'm really sorry about that.

THE COURT: All right. So let me hear from Pretrial as to what needs to be done to clarify and get this hopefully finalized. One question I have is, I assume you went someplace to have someone tell you you can smoke marijuana for a medical purpose.

THE DEFENDANT: Yes, Your Honor.

THE DEFENDANT: Greenlight Wellness is a licensed medical provider for the state of Michigan, and they did a doctor's visit with me and they determined that I would be eligible for that.

THE COURT: Okay. So as a practical matter, if we can check to make sure that it's actually a licensed medical practice. It would have to have a release so that we could get the record which indicates they saw you, you need it, and how much.

THE DEFENDANT: Yes.

THE COURT: That's all we need.

THE DEFENDANT: Yes, Your Honor. I did sign that release for them on Thursday. We didn't receive it until that morning. But as soon as we received it, we did go ahead and get that signed.

THE COURT: Okay. So do you have that?

DC PRETRIAL OFFICER: Your Honor, I thought the pretrial service officer from Michigan was going to be on the Zoom line.

THE COURT: Right. I thought that they were as well, attending the hearing via Zoom. That's what they sent us an email about.

DC PRETRIAL OFFICER: If you give me a chance, I can step out and see if she can get on the line.

THE COURT: Okay. That would be helpful to get the

information. 1 2 DC PRETRIAL OFFICER: But we did find out about --3 THE DEPUTY CLERK: The person -- I don't know why they're not here. The name appears. 4 5 THE COURT: Her name is there. MI PRETRIAL OFFICER: Yes. Good morning, Your Honor. 6 7 Can you hear me? THE COURT: Yes. We didn't hear you earlier. Can you 8 9 give us your name? 10 MI PRETRIAL OFFICER: Yes. Good morning. Andrea 11 Jarois on behalf of Pretrial Services, Eastern District of 12 Michigan. 13 THE COURT: Okay. We don't have your actual photo, but 14 I can hear you. 15 MI PRETRIAL OFFICER: If you would like me to turn my 16 video on, I can certainly do that. 17 THE COURT: If you could do that, I think it certainly 18 would be helpful so everybody can see who we're talking to. 19 Okay, great. 20 So we're at the marijuana issue in terms of supposedly he 21 has signed a release for you to be able to get whatever the 22 report is from the Greenlight Wellness Cannabis. So where are 23 we with this? 24 MI PRETRIAL OFFICER: So on June 29, which I believe 25 was on Thursday, Mr. Thomas did provide me with a release of

information for Greenlight Wellness. I indicated to both him and counsel, it's not something that I provide; it's something he would need to sign with Greenlight, as I'm not the one disclosing the information. Greenlight is the one disclosing the information. He completed that form on June 29.

I had no indication if he provided that form to Greenlight Wellness specifically or where he obtained that release, whether it was from Greenlight or online. I did place a phone call into Greenlight Wellness on June 30, and I faxed them a copy of the release of information.

The individual I talked to said she was just filling in and she couldn't check records as to whether or not they already had the release of information on file, and she indicated that on today's date the owner would be back in and would be able to return my call and hopefully provide me with the information.

THE COURT: Okay. So the release of information has to go to the group that's releasing the information. They're the ones who have to know that you're saying, yes, I can release this information to Pretrial. So you have to sign it, but you have to give it to the group that has it if you're doing a specific one that's related to them. If you do a general release, Pretrial can take that and use that, but if you're using specific ones for the program, the program actually has to get it to know that they can now answer the questions when Pretrial calls them.

THE DEFENDANT: Yes, Your Honor. Ms. Andrea asked me to email that to them, and I did email that to them right after I texted a copy to Ms. Andrea. And I do have that email as well if the Court needs that.

THE COURT: All right. Well, you can provide it to the D.C. Pretrial Services.

So at this point, this is a work in progress, I guess I would call it. We still don't have it finalized in terms of having it clear that a physician has ordered that he be able to use marijuana, whatever the quantity is, for whatever his issue is. Is that a good summary?

DC PRETRIAL OFFICER: Yes, Your Honor.

THE COURT: All right. At this point we will follow through with the Pretrial Services from Michigan to see whether this can be resolved. This would have been helpful if this had been done a long time ago. That's why we were in court on May 1, to discuss this. We're now on July 3.

THE DEFENDANT: Yes.

THE COURT: All right. The next thing is the mental health evaluation. As I understand it, you want to go to treatment to Insight Behavioral Health, but do not want to give a release for that. But you have done a release, as I understand it, with Genesee Health System. You evidently went there for an evaluation. You still need an intake assessment.

So we're back to, let me just say "evaluation," by somebody

who says, yes, you need some sort of mental health or emotional support or treatment, what it's for in general terms, doesn't have to be really detailed, and what it is that they're proposing the treatment be --

THE DEFENDANT: Yes.

THE COURT: -- so that we can then monitor if you're supposed to go once a week, or whatever it is, you're actually doing that. So which one are you getting treatment from?

THE DEFENDANT: Your Honor, so I'm -- I would love to explain this. I'm sorry about the confusion. So I -- basically, what had originally happened is I went to sign up for the evaluation, but they asked me what type because they weren't sure if it was a competency evaluation or what type of health evaluation it was. So I asked Ms. Andrea, and they were working on getting an answer from the D.C. office to see what type of evaluation.

In the meantime, I went ahead -- just to show that I was trying my best to work this out, I did start signing up for services with Insight Therapy. Now, when I started signing up with them, I signed up for the -- it's called behavioral health assessment, which is a five-hour assessment, and it should have given us all the answers we needed. However, they informed me their next available opening is not until September 16th of 2024.

So I let Ms. Andrea know, and I told her I was going to

try to be getting a quicker evaluation from Genesee Health Systems. I completed that evaluation on Thursday, I believe the 29th, the same day as all of this. I completed the overthe-phone mental health evaluation, which is the first step. They informed me that if I would like to continue with treatment, that is up to me, or that I could continue doing treatment with Insight.

Now, I told Ms. Andrea that I'm not sure exactly what the next step is. I can sign a release for Insight, but I just want it to be on the record that they informed me they will not work with court orders, I guess. So if they can, I would love to do that with them. I have no problem. But I'm just worried that if I do sign up for that with the Insight that they might drop me as a client.

THE COURT: We're not asking for reports. I mean,
I'm sure they're not interested in having the court orders
that make them do evaluations, is usually what they're not
interested in. What we're interested in is do you need
treatment, what is it for, what is it, and what's the
treatment.

Am I correct? Is there anything else that we need?

DC PRETRIAL OFFICER: Yes, Your Honor.

THE COURT: And that you're complying with it.

THE DEFENDANT: Yes. And I did that initial evaluation. And if the Court would like me to set up further

evaluations, that's not an issue. I'm willing to do that as well, Your Honor.

THE COURT: All right. So let me hear from Pretrial as to what you want him to do at this point. It's not a competency issue. I don't think anybody has raised that issue. Am I correct, Mr. Pierce?

MR. PIERCE: That's correct, Your Honor.

THE COURT: At this point, what do you want Mr. Thomas to do? I think it's Michigan. The ball is in your court.

MI PRETRIAL OFFICER: Yes. Thank you, Your Honor.

Just for clarification, when I spoke to Mr. Thomas about the purpose of the mental health evaluation or assessment, I have my notes that I did notify him on May 10 that it was not for competency and that it was for treatment of any sort of mental health diagnoses.

At this point I don't have any record that an assessment was completed anywhere. I'm getting conflicting information, as I did contact Genesee Health Systems after I received the release of information. They indicated that Mr. Thomas only completed the screening portion, which was just to verify his insurance and if he would qualify for treatment, and that no intake assessment was completed.

He indicated to me he was just receiving counseling through
Insight Behavioral Health. I've never heard of a facility
refusing to treat someone if they're being ordered by the

court to obtain treatment. I did contact them and left a voicemail. I have not received a return call.

I will defer to the Court on this one, but again I have no proof or record that he is receiving anything, because I don't have a signed release. And, again, I have no proof or record that he's completed any sort of intake assessment again due to conflicting information received from various parties.

THE COURT: All right. It does seem to me that I don't know what the Insight -- in terms of they don't want to deal with court orders. Usually they don't want to do evaluations. We're not asking for evaluations for the court. We're asking them to simply verify that, one, they've evaluated you, two, they think you need some sort of support -- mental health, emotional, whatever -- what it's for in terms of are you supposed to show up for a group therapy, what is it and how often, and whatever it is that they have. That's it. We're not asking for anything else.

At this point, we don't have any information. So we don't have any information as to what the evaluation was from Insight or whatever or their records. We don't have -- and you have not completed the full screening in terms of the intake, which was the one that would assess what your actual needs are, if there are particular needs.

Some decision needs to be made, and something needs to be provided with it. If you want to do the -- I suppose we could

hear back from Insight as to what they're willing to do and what they're not willing to do, but I thought you told me they would not take you until 2024.

THE DEFENDANT: Yes, Your Honor. That's why I signed up with GHS. But I am still willing to sign a release for Insight. I just don't know if it would be helpful because, like I said, they won't be able to provide any assessments until that date.

THE COURT: Okay. So that's not going to do any good.

THE DEFENDANT: Yes.

THE COURT: So it sounds like Insight is out of the picture if they're not going to have an opening for you until 2024.

THE DEFENDANT: Yes, Your Honor. That's why I went to Genesee Health Systems and got that screening done. Now, I can go ahead and schedule that other intake if you guys can give me that opportunity. It was kind of a last-minute trying to find another place after Insight basically said no. But if you guys would provide me with that, I would have no problem going and getting a more extensive evaluation done from them. And they have the release already, but I can sign another one if that's needed as well.

THE COURT: So let's assume we leave Insight out of the picture since they're not available until 2024, which is too late. Are you familiar at all with Genesee, from the Michigan

Pretrial person?

MI PRETRIAL OFFICER: Your Honor, I haven't specifically worked with them directly at this point in time, but again, I did make contact with an individual and I can certainly attempt to work with them.

THE COURT: All right. My recommendation, the focus should be with Genesee since hopefully they would have an opening, assuming that he needs treatment. The intake assessment has to be scheduled. And we do -- if the release that you have is sufficient, then we should be able to do that. Did they give you some indication of how quickly they can schedule the intake assessment from anybody?

THE DEFENDANT: Your Honor, I haven't gotten that answer, but I could get that by the end of today if that's -- you know, if I'm allowed to have that opportunity.

THE COURT: All right. I think we should focus on Genesee Health System since they seem to be the more viable one at this point in terms of getting the evaluation, but they would need the intake assessment so we can figure out what, if anything, they're proposing, whether you need anything and what they're proposing it be.

As I said, we don't get into a lot of details about it.

It's just assessing do you need treatment of whatever nature it is, what the issue is so we have some sense of what the problem is, and then what are they suggesting is the

treatment.

THE DEFENDANT: Yes.

THE COURT: So it's not that difficult.

THE DEFENDANT: Yes. I'm sorry for the confusion,
Your Honor. I will do my best to get this sorted out for us.

THE COURT: The last one is the home visits. That's a standard procedure in terms of doing unannounced visits. It's to make sure that nothing's going on in homes or other problems. I've had cases where they do unannounced visits and there are firearms all over the bedroom or there's drugs all over or something else. So it's a standard procedure.

They are willing to have -- obviously, it's unannounced, so they're not going to have set up an appointment to have your lawyer there, but you can certainly put your phone on and he can listen to whatever is being said when they come and visit if that's what you want. But you need to do it.

THE DEFENDANT: Yes, Your Honor. My attorney —
they did go ahead and let them know that we agreed to that.
That's not an issue, Your Honor. At first we just had a
little bit of questions on whether I was at work or whatnot,
if they showed up if I would be there. But once we sorted
that out, we did go ahead and let them know we have no issue
with that at all, Your Honor.

THE COURT: All right. The other issue is that, although you did report this time the law enforcement contact,

you do seem to be having some traffic violations. If they accumulate, you're then viewed as a scofflaw. So my suggestion is, if you want to stay in the community and looking at what you're doing in the community, it's important to be in compliance.

THE DEFENDANT: Yes.

THE COURT: At this point, I'll hear from Probation as to what they recommend. My inclination would be to have another hearing, continue the motion for the revocation to make sure that we actually get a doctor with a form that indicates he actually needs the marijuana, what it's for, and how often and what quantity.

Second thing is that we get this intake assessment and we get whatever is going to come with that in terms of getting the information in terms of whether he does need some treatment or support, what it's for, what it consists of, so we are in a position to see whether you're complying with it. And then the home visit, we should move forward with that.

From Probation's perspective, let me ask the -- not
Probation, I'm sorry -- Pretrial Services' perspective from
Michigan, is there anything else? And what time frame would
you see that he should comply in?

MI PRETRIAL OFFICER: Yes. Thank you, Your Honor.

I will defer to the Court in this matter, but I do feel it is acceptable to allow another time frame for these objectives to

be completed. I would say 30 to 45 days should be sufficient. Again, I haven't worked with Genesee Health Systems directly; but I've worked with many agencies, and I haven't had an issue with individuals scheduling something. Three weeks is probably the longest it takes. So I can't imagine it would take them beyond that. If so, we can certainly notify the Court for an extension. I do think that would be acceptable. I would like clarification in regard to the intake assessment from Genesee Health Systems. If they recommend that Mr. Thomas participate in counseling, would we be, (a)

I would like clarification in regard to the intake assessment from Genesee Health Systems. If they recommend that Mr. Thomas participate in counseling, would we be, (a) ordering Mr. Thomas to participate in treatment with Genesee Health Systems, and (b) that I'm authorized to contact that counselor to confirm his attendance and that he is complying with treatment and making progress?

THE COURT: Yes. I mean, the whole point of this is to do -- we're not the clinical people. So the clinical people make a decision as to whether or not he needs some sort of therapy or support, or however they want to label it, and then what the purpose of it is so we have some sense of how serious it is. That's really the purpose of that; if they set out a program for he needs group therapy, single-therapy counseling, whatever, that we have some idea of what it is and that we know that he's in compliance.

The program would let us know if he's not in compliance.

In other words, we would be able to contact them, and if he's

supposed to be showing up every two weeks or something and he's not doing that, Pretrial would be notified, or they could check to make sure that that's what he's doing.

The program will decide whether he's actually participating and not just showing up and not -- you know, participating in it. And they would provide that information to Pretrial. But if he needs the treatment, then we need to know that he's actually complying with what they set out.

So is there any issue, Mr. Pierce?

MR. PIERCE: No issue whatsoever, Your Honor. I will double down and triple down my efforts. I think I have a good line of communication with Ms. Andrea, but I think I can work very well with her and I'll make sure that everything is complied with, Your Honor.

THE COURT: Okay. So do we want -- in terms of this issue, leaving aside the status portion of it, do we want in terms of this issue to set it up -- my inclination would be to give you 45 days to make sure that the intake -- and I expect it to be perfect at that point. We've had a couple of discussions. This is not rocket science, and Mr. Thomas, it seems to me, is smart enough to be able to figure this out in terms of what he needs to do.

So I want to make sure that within the 45 days this is all done. And it's basically three major things that are being done. At this point I won't revoke based on his traffic

things, but I'm just pointing out, accumulating a bunch of traffic things at some point is going to be a problem.

THE DEFENDANT: Yes, Your Honor.

THE COURT: But at least the three main ones are the medical marijuana use, the mental health evaluation treatment, and a home visit. So I'll give six days. Do you want to set this up as another hearing with a report prior to that as to whether he's in compliance?

DC PRETRIAL OFFICER: Yes, Your Honor.

THE COURT: All right. Is there anything else from the Michigan pretrial officer? Anything else that you want to bring up?

MI PRETRIAL OFFICER: Nothing further at this time, Your Honor. Thank you.

THE COURT: All right. In terms of -- I'm going to set another date that will be inclusive of a continuation of the motion to revoke the release, and I will also move to a sort of status report at this point. So let me let you go ahead and sit down.

So where are we with discovery or anything else? What's happening with this case?

MR. DREHER: Your Honor, after the protective order was issued by this court, the government was able to provide all the case-specific discovery as well as links and information for how to access the global discovery with January 6.

1 2 3

During that transfer, I did ask the defense's preference as to how to receive the information contained within the defendant's cell phone, and I have not heard back as to what sort of media that that information should be placed on.

Also, with the codefendant, Ms. Legros, a cell phone was obtained from her as well, and I've been trying to at least work with both parties to see what sort of information should be shared from either cell phone, if any, outside of the specific January 6 information.

THE COURT: Okay.

MR. DREHER: As for the government's position, I believe we're ready to move forward perhaps with a scheduling order with a trial date in the future, but certainly would leave that to the defense.

THE COURT: All right.

Mr. Pierce, in terms of the phone, can you indicate today on the record how you want to get it?

MR. PIERCE: Not being an IT person, I'm not sure I can at this moment, but what I will do for sure, Your Honor, I will get with my expert here, Ms. Lambert, and we'll get with Mr. Dreher and coordinate and get it done.

THE COURT: All right. Any other issues?

MR. PIERCE: No, Your Honor. I think this case is likely headed to a trial, so whenever the Court is inclined to think about trial dates, we certainly would be happy to --

THE COURT: What I do if we're going to go to a trial is I will issue to you a trial scheduling template which has all of the events that would need to be done in order to get to a trial. I would ask that both counsel discuss dates that you want to have these taken care of.

It starts with discovery disputes, goes all the way to voir dire, jury instructions, witness lists, exhibit lists, etc.

And once I get that in, I'm in a better position to set a trial date. I have to say my calendar for trials is very tight at this point, but I would want you to set up whatever motions hearings or whatever else you need to do.

I will send that trial template out to you for you to have a discussion, fill it in, and then I will take a look at it and see if I agree with it; and the next time you come back, we'll have a discussion about it. I won't adopt it until I look at it and can consider what's happening.

In terms of moving towards trial, it would be helpful to have on the record a decision as to whether your client is interested at least in listening to a plea offer or he doesn't want to hear one at all. He doesn't have to accept it.

(Defense conferring.)

MR. PIERCE: So, Your Honor, Mr. Thomas will certainly entertain plea discussions. I think it's likely the case would go to trial, but he would definitely entertain the discussions.

THE COURT: Okay. We can do both of these simultaneously in terms of if there's some discussion of a plea offer, and we can set the schedule. In terms of actual work, probably isn't until later anyway, so there would be enough time to have some discussion if he at least wants to hear it.

MR. DREHER: Yes, Your Honor. Just for the record, there are two separate victim officers that I'll speak with in the intervening 45 days and work with my chain of command to get some sort of offer presented.

THE COURT: Okay. It sounds as if the codefendant appears to be out of pocket, at least at this point from the near future from what I can understand talking to defense counsel for her.

MR. DREHER: That's my understanding.

THE COURT: I'm going to proceed with Mr. Thomas without her at this point in terms of trials, etc., whatever.

MR. DREHER: Will it just be a minute order to separate the trials, Your Honor, or do you want me to present something to the Court?

THE COURT: At this point I'll hear whatever the last bit is -- I think it's Mr. Brennwald that has her -- as to whether there's anything new. If she at some point is in a position to participate, then we'll pick up with her. But I'm not going to wait for her to be in a position to make some

decisions going forward. I'm going to go forward with 1 2 Mr. Thomas. MR. DREHER: Yes, Your Honor. Thank you. 3 Your Honor, if I could make a suggestion, then? 4 5 THE COURT: Sure. 6 MR. DREHER: Would the Court be at least willing to 7 review in camera portions of Ms. Legros' cell phone in terms of discovery for the Thomas trial then? 8 9 THE COURT: Yes. If you talk to Mr. Brennwald about 10 what system to set up, I can do that. 11 MR. DREHER: Yes, Your Honor. Thank you. THE COURT: All right. Anything else, Mr. Pierce? 12 13 MR. PIERCE: Not from the defense, Your Honor. 14 THE COURT: All right. Let me ask my law clerk what my 15 openings are at this point. They're pretty tight. 16 (Court conferring.) 17 Okay. August 18. If you're in compliance with the 18 pretrial, we can do this by Zoom. If you're not, you're 19 showing up in person again. 20 THE DEFENDANT: Yes, Your Honor. 21 THE COURT: All right? So I can do -- I have basically 22 back-to-back trials, so what I'm doing is carving out certain 23 afternoons and days within the trials. So are people 24 available August 18? And that would include Pretrial. 25 MR. PIERCE: Yes, Your Honor.

THE COURT: So August 18 at 3:30. Does that work?

MR. DREHER: That works for the government.

MI PRETRIAL OFFICER: That works for Pretrial Services in Michigan.

MR. PIERCE: Yes, Your Honor.

THE COURT: Okay, terrific. Then I'll set it up for Zoom unless I get another report. When do you want this done so I get another report that indicates he's hopefully in compliance? So I'll kick it to the Michigan Pretrial Services officer.

MI PRETRIAL OFFICER: I'm sorry. Can you repeat that?

THE COURT: What I want to do is, prior to August 18,
is to get a report from you that hopefully says he's in
compliance with the three issues that we have at this point
that are left with the motion to revoke. When do you think
all of that should be done such that you can provide it to me?

MI PRETRIAL OFFICER: I do believe -- I think the one thing that may take the longest would be the scheduling of the intake assessment. But again, in my experience, that normally isn't any further out than three weeks. I'm sure that I could get a memo or at least notify Pretrial Services by the first week of August. Potentially, I could do August 4 or August 11, which would be a week prior to the hearing?

THE COURT: Okay. Why don't we do August 11. If it's done before that, you can -- that's an outside date. No later

than that date. If he's in compliance prior to that time, you can let me know so that I know --

MI PRETRIAL OFFICER: Yes, Your Honor.

-- the motion to revoke has been resolved

MI PRETRIAL OFFICER: Yes, Your Honor.

THE COURT: So we're talking about the report no later than August 11 on the issues that relate to the violation report, and we'll have a status on August 18 at 3:30. send out to you a trial template so that you and counsel can get together and figure out what dates, depending on what kind of motions or lack thereof, you're going to be filing.

I think that's it. Anything else from the government?

MR. DREHER: No, Your Honor. Thank you.

Okay. Mr. Pierce?

MR. PIERCE: No, Your Honor. Thank you very much.

THE COURT: All right. Mr. Thomas, you're smart enough. Let's not have this problem. This should be resolved without a further issue.

THE DEFENDANT: Yes, Your Honor. I just wanted to say thank you very much for taking the time to hear my case today and to allow me to work this out and still be able to celebrate Independence Day this weekend. Thank you.

THE COURT: All right. The other thing we're going to do is the speedy trial, which is between today's date -- let

me just see -- which at this point is 70 days is September 11. So do you remember your speedy trial rights?

THE DEFENDANT: Yes, Your Honor, I do.

THE COURT: Are you willing not to count from today's date, July 3, until when you come back on August 18 to allow you to get the trial template, get yourself in order with the motions for release and making some decisions about moving forward in your case?

THE DEFENDANT: Yes, Your Honor. I'm willing to consent to that.

THE COURT: All right. Then I'll find it's in the interest of the justice, the community, and the defendant to continue speedy trial rights between July 3 and August 18.

All right. I would -- as soon as you can get the plea offer together, please go ahead and do it so that there's enough time for people to discuss it.

What I do -- it's my practice at some point, even if we have a trial date, before the trial to put on the record what the plea offer was, what it means in terms of -- what exactly if you went to trial what you'd be facing, if you accepted the plea in terms of sentencing options, and then he can indicate to me whether he's accepted it or not. This is just to make sure there's no misunderstanding of what the plea offer was.

It's not in any way to force you to accept a plea. I don't get involved with them. My role is, only if you decide to

plea, to make sure it's a knowing and voluntary decision. So it's also a knowing and voluntary decision to go forward to trial. All right? THE DEFENDANT: Yes, Your Honor. THE COURT: All right. Parties are excused. THE DEFENDANT: Thank you. MI PRETRIAL OFFICER: Thank you, Your Honor. THE COURT: Thank you. I appreciate you making yourself available. I know it was inconvenient. MI PRETRIAL OFFICER: Not a problem. Thank you. (Proceedings adjourned at 10:34 a.m.)

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CERTIFICATE

I, BRYAN A. WAYNE, Official Court Reporter, certify that the foregoing pages are a correct transcript from the record of proceedings in the above-entitled matter.

<u>/s/ Bryan A. Wayne</u> Bryan A. Wayne