

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT OF TENNESSEE**

FILED

CLERK'S OFFICE
United States District Court
Eastern District of Tennessee
Date: *June 13, 2025*

IN RE: Zone A and Zone B Immigration
Cases

SO-25-07

STANDING ORDERS

The Court hereby adopts the following procedures in criminal immigration cases charged under Title 8 of the United States Code in which the defendant's sentence range lies within Zone A or Zone B of the Sentencing Table of the United States Sentencing Commission, *Guidelines Manual* (the "Guidelines"), or in which the Government and the defendant present a plea agreement pursuant to Fed. R. Crim. P. 11(c)(1)(C) at the initial appearance or arraignment:

- (1) On the Indictment Cover Sheet, the Assistant United States Attorney ("AUSA") will state whether the defendant's Guidelines range potentially falls into Zone A or Zone B or whether the Defendant and the Government have reached a plea agreement under Fed. R. Crim. P. 11(c)(1)(C).
- (2) Upon arrest or writ, the Clerk's Office ("CO") will contact Federal Defender Services of Eastern Tennessee ("FDS") regarding appointment of counsel. If FDS declines the appointment, the CO will consult with certain CJA panel attorneys for appointment.
- (3) As early as possible, defendant will sign a consent approving the United States Probation Office ("Probation") to initiate a Presentence Investigation and allow disclosure of the Presentence Report ("PSR") prior to a plea of guilty or nolo contendere. Defense counsel shall file the consent with the Court. Once filed, Probation will begin conducting the Investigation.
- (4) As early as possible, but no later than 30 days after the initial appearance,¹ the AUSA will file the Plea Agreement should the

¹ The magistrate judges should set the plea agreement deadline for 30 days from the initial appearance.

parties enter into such agreement or Notice of Intent to Plead Guilty with Agreed Factual Basis.

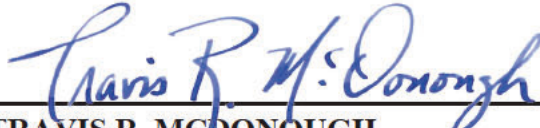
- (5) The Court will set the Change of Plea Hearing and Sentencing Hearing on the same date no later than 75 days from the filing of the waiver or as soon thereafter as practicable. The CO will schedule an interpreter once the hearings are set.
- (6) Upon filing of the Plea Agreement, defense counsel shall file a Notice with the Court that the defendant waives the 35-day minimum required notice set forth in Federal Rule of Criminal Procedure 32(e)(2).
- (7) Probation shall disclose the PSR to the parties as early as possible. In any event, it shall disclose to the parties no later than 10 days prior to sentencing.
- (8) Within 2 days after receiving the PSR, the parties shall file sentencing memoranda and objections, if any.²
- (9) At least 7 days before sentencing, Probation must submit to the Court and the parties the PSR Addendum.³
- (10) The Court will conduct the two hearings on the same day previously scheduled. Any motions for extensions of deadlines or motions to continue will only be granted for good cause.

If the government presents at the initial appearance or arraignment a signed Fed. R. Crim.

P. 11(c)(1)(C) plea agreement, the judge shall defer determination under Fed. R. Crim. P.

11(c)(3)(A) until the hearing scheduled for the change of plea and sentencing.

SO ORDERED.



TRAVIS R. MCDONOUGH
CHIEF UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE

² If disclosed on a Friday, then objections and/or sentencing memoranda may be filed the following Monday. If Monday is a federal holiday, objections and/or sentencing memoranda may be filed on Tuesday. Please note this will leave little time for responding to objections.

³ Probation should also submit internal documents to the Court at this time.