



- ☐ [FEDERAL RULES OF CRIMINAL PROCEDURE](#)
 - ⊕ [I. SCOPE, PURPOSE, AND CONSTRUCTION](#)
 - ⊕ [II. PRELIMINARY PROCEEDINGS](#)
 - ⊕ [III. INDICTMENT AND INFORMATION](#)
 - ⊕ [IV. ARRAIGNMENT, AND PREPARATION FOR TRIAL](#)
 - ⊕ [V. VENUE](#)
 - ⊕ [VI. TRIAL](#)
 - ⊕ [VII. JUDGMENT](#)
 - ⊕ [\(VIII. APPEAL\) \(Abrogated Dec. 4, 1967, eff. July 1, 1968\)](#)
 - ⊕ [IX. SUPPLEMENTARY AND SPECIAL PROCEEDINGS](#)
 - ⊕ [X. GENERAL PROVISIONS](#)
-





- ▣ [FEDERAL RULES OF CRIMINAL PROCEDURE](#)
 - ⊕ [I. SCOPE, PURPOSE, AND CONSTRUCTION](#)
 - ▣ [II. PRELIMINARY PROCEEDINGS](#)
 - ▣ [Rule 3. The Complaint](#)
 - ⊕ [Rule 4. Arrest Warrant or Summons Upon Complaint](#)
 - ⊕ [Rule 5. Initial Appearance Before the Magistrate Judge](#)
 - ⊕ [Rule 5.1. Preliminary Examination](#)
 - ▣ [III. INDICTMENT AND INFORMATION](#)
 - ⊕ [Rule 6. The Grand Jury](#)
 - ⊕ [Rule 7. The Indictment and the Information](#)
 - ⊕ [Rule 8. Joinder of Offenses and of Defendants](#)
 - ⊕ [Rule 9. Warrant or Summons Upon Indictment or Information](#)
 - ▣ [IV. ARRAIGNMENT, AND PREPARATION FOR TRIAL](#)
 - ▣ [Rule 10. Arraignment](#)
 - ⊕ [Rule 11. Pleas](#)
 - ⊕ [Rule 12. Pleadings and Motions Before Trial; Defenses and Objections](#)
 - ⊕ [Rule 12.1. Notice of Alibi](#)
 - ⊕ [Rule 12.2. Notice of Insanity Defense or Expert Testimony of Defendant's Mental Condition](#)
 - ⊕ [Rule 12.3. Notice of Defense Based Upon Public Authority](#)
 - ▣ [Rule 13. Trial Together of Indictments or Informations](#)





LII Home



Document



Next



Previous



Query



How to query



- [Rule 14. Relief From Prejudicial Joinder](#)
- [Rule 15. Depositions](#)
- [Rule 16. Discovery and Inspection](#)
- [Rule 17. Subpoena](#)
- [Rule 17.1. Pretrial Conference](#)

[V. VENUE](#)

[VI. TRIAL](#)

[VII. JUDGMENT](#)

[\(VIII. APPEAL\) \(Abrogated Dec. 4, 1967, eff. July 1, 1968\)](#)

[IX. SUPPLEMENTARY AND SPECIAL PROCEEDINGS](#)

[X. GENERAL PROVISIONS](#)





- [Rule 14. Relief From Prejudicial Joinder](#)
- [Rule 15. Depositions](#)
- [Rule 16. Discovery and Inspection](#)
- [Rule 17. Subpoena](#)
- [Rule 17.1. Pretrial Conference](#)
- [V. VENUE](#)
 - [Rule 18. Place of Prosecution and Trial](#)
 - [\(Rule 19. Transfer Within the District\) \(Rescinded Feb. 28, 1966, eff. July 1, 1966\)](#)
 - [Rule 20. Transfer From the District for Plea and Sentence](#)
 - [Rule 21. Transfer From the District for Trial](#)
 - [Rule 22. Time of Motion To Transfer](#)
- [VI. TRIAL](#)
 - [Rule 23. Trial by Jury or by the Court](#)
 - [Rule 24. Trial Jurors](#)
 - [Rule 25. Judge; Disability](#)
 - [Rule 26. Taking of Testimony](#)
 - [Rule 26.1. Determination of Foreign Law](#)
 - [Rule 26.2. Production of Witness Statements](#)
 - [Rule 26.3. Mistrial](#)
 - [Rule 27. Proof of Official Record](#)





- [Rule 28. Interpreters](#)
- [Rule 29. Motion for Judgment of Acquittal](#)
- [Rule 29.1. Closing Argument](#)
- [Rule 30. Instructions](#)
- [Rule 31. Verdict](#)
- [VII. JUDGMENT](#)
 - [Rule 32. Sentence and Judgment](#)
 - [Rule 32.1. Revocation or Modification of Probation or Supervised Release](#)
 - [Rule 32.2. Criminal Forfeiture](#)
 - [Rule 33. New Trial](#)
 - [Rule 34. Arrest of Judgment](#)
 - [Rule 35. Correction or Reduction of Sentence](#)
 - [Rule 36. Clerical Mistakes](#)
- [\(VIII. APPEAL\) \(Abrogated Dec. 4, 1967, eff. July 1, 1968\)](#)
 - [\(Rule 37. Taking Appeal; and Petition for Writ of Certiorari\) \(Abrogated Dec. 4, 1967, eff. July 1, 1968\)](#)
 - [Rule 38. Stay of Execution](#)
 - [\(Rule 39. Supervision of Appeal\) \(Abrogated Dec. 4, 1967, eff. July 1, 1968\)](#)
- [IX. SUPPLEMENTARY AND SPECIAL PROCEEDINGS](#)
 - [Rule 40. Commitment to Another District](#)
 - [Rule 41. Search and Seizure](#)





[Rule 42. Criminal Contempt](#)

[X. GENERAL PROVISIONS](#)

[Rule 43. Presence of the Defendant](#)

[Rule 44. Right to and Assignment of Counsel](#)

[Rule 45. Time](#)

[Rule 46. Release From Custody](#)

[Rule 47. Motions](#)

[Rule 48. Dismissal](#)

[Rule 49. Service and Filing of Papers](#)

[Rule 50. Calendars; Plans for Prompt Disposition](#)

[Rule 51. Exceptions Unnecessary](#)

[Rule 52. Harmless Error and Plain Error](#)

[Rule 53. Regulation of Conduct in the Court Room](#)

[Rule 54. Application and Exception](#)

[Rule 55. Records](#)

[Rule 56. Courts and Clerks](#)

[Rule 57. Rules by District Courts](#)

[Rule 58. Procedure for Misdemeanors and Other Petty Offenses](#)

[Rule 59. Effective Date](#)

[Rule 60. Title](#)





LII Home



Contents



Next



Previous



Query



Next Hit



Prev. Hit



How to Query



FEDERAL RULES OF CRIMINAL PROCEDURE

Published by the Legal Information Institute, Cornell Law School, Sept. 2001. For decisions interpreting the rules plus state criminal procedure materials, visit the LII Criminal Procedure page: http://www.law.cornell.edu/topics/criminal_procedure.html

[Notes](#)

I. SCOPE, PURPOSE, AND CONSTRUCTION

[Rule 1. Scope](#)

These rules govern the procedure in all criminal proceedings in the courts of the United States, as provided in [Rule 54\(a\)](#) ; and, whenever specifically provided in one of the rules, to preliminary, supplementary, and special proceedings before United States magistrate judges and at proceedings before [state](#) and local judicial officers.

[Notes](#)

[Rule 2. Purpose and Construction](#)

These rules are intended to provide for the just determination of every criminal proceeding. They shall be construed to secure simplicity in procedure, fairness in administration and the elimination of unjustifiable expense and delay.

[Notes](#)

II. PRELIMINARY PROCEEDINGS

[Rule 3. The Complaint](#)

The complaint is a written statement of the essential facts constituting the offense charged. It shall be made upon [oath](#) before a [magistrate judge](#) .

[Notes](#)

[Rule 4. Arrest Warrant or Summons Upon Complaint](#)

(a) Issuance.

If it appears from the complaint, or from an affidavit or affidavits filed with the complaint,

that there is probable cause to believe that an offense has been committed and that the defendant has committed it, a warrant for the arrest of the defendant shall issue to any officer authorized by [law](#) to execute it. Upon the request of the [attorney for the government](#) a summons instead of a warrant shall issue. More than one warrant or summons may issue on the same complaint. If a defendant fails to appear in response to the summons, a warrant shall issue.

(b) Probable Cause.

The finding of probable cause may be based upon hearsay evidence in whole or in part.

(c) Form.





LII Home



Contents



Next



Previous



Query



Next Hit



Prev. Hit



How to Query

**(1) Warrant.**

The warrant shall be signed by the [magistrate judge](#) and shall contain the name of the defendant or, if the defendant's name is unknown, any name or description by which the defendant can be identified with reasonable certainty. It shall describe the offense charged in the complaint. It shall command that the defendant be arrested and brought before the nearest available magistrate judge.

(2) Summons.

The summons shall be in the same form as the warrant except that it shall summon the defendant to appear before a magistrate ([FOOTNOTE 1](#)) at a stated time and place.

(d) Execution or Service; and Return.**(1) By Whom.**

The warrant shall be executed by a marshal or by some other officer authorized by [law](#). The summons may be served by any person authorized to serve a summons in a [civil action](#).

(2) Territorial Limits.

The warrant may be executed or the summons may be served at any place within the jurisdiction of the United States.

(3) Manner.

The warrant shall be executed by the arrest of the defendant. The officer need not have the warrant at the time of the arrest but upon request shall show the warrant to the defendant as soon as possible. If the officer does not have the warrant at the time of the arrest, the officer shall then inform the defendant of the offense charged and of the fact that a warrant has been issued. The summons shall be served upon a defendant by delivering a copy to the defendant personally, or by leaving it at the defendant's dwelling house or usual place of abode with some person of suitable age and discretion then residing therein and by mailing a copy of the summons to the defendant's last known address.

(4) Return.

The officer executing a warrant shall make return thereof to the [magistrate judge](#) or other officer before whom the defendant is brought pursuant to [Rule 5](#). At the request of the [attorney for the government](#) any unexecuted warrant shall be returned to and canceled by the magistrate judge by whom it was issued. On or before the return day the person to whom a summons was delivered for service shall make return thereof to the magistrate judge before whom the summons is returnable. At the request of the attorney for the

government made at any time while the complaint is pending, a warrant returned unexecuted and not canceled or summons ([FOOTNOTE](#)) returned unserved or a duplicate thereof may be delivered by the magistrate judge to the marshal or other authorized person for execution or service.

Notes

Rule 5. Initial Appearance Before the Magistrate Judge

(a) In General.

Except as otherwise provided in this rule, an officer making an arrest under a warrant issued upon a complaint or any person making an arrest without a warrant shall take the arrested person without unnecessary delay before the nearest available [federal magistrate judge](#) or, if a federal magistrate judge is not reasonably available, before a [state](#) or local judicial officer authorized by 18 U.S.C. Sec. 3041. If a person arrested without a warrant is brought before a magistrate judge, a complaint, satisfying the probable cause requirements of [Rule 4\(a\)](#), shall be promptly filed. When a person, arrested with or without a warrant or given a summons, appears initially before the magistrate judge, the magistrate judge shall proceed in accordance with the applicable subdivisions of this rule. An officer making an arrest under a warrant issued upon a complaint charging solely a violation of 18 U.S.C. Sec. 1073 need not comply with this rule if the person arrested is transferred without unnecessary delay to the custody of appropriate state or local authorities in the district of arrest and an [attorney for the government](#) moves promptly, in the district in which the warrant was issued, to dismiss the complaint.

(b) Misdemeanors and Other Petty Offenses.

If the charge against the defendant is a misdemeanor or other [petty offense](#) triable by a [United States magistrate judge](#) under 18 U.S.C. Sec. 3401, the magistrate judge shall proceed in accordance with [Rule 58](#).

(c) Offenses Not Triable by the United States Magistrate Judge.



II. PRELIMINARY PROCEEDINGS

Rule 5. Initial Appearance Before the Magistrate Judge

(c) Offenses Not Triable by the United States Magistrate Judge.



If the charge against the defendant is not triable by the [United States magistrate judge](#) , the defendant shall not be called upon to plead. The magistrate judge shall inform the defendant of the complaint against the defendant and of any affidavit filed therewith, of the defendant's right to retain counsel or to request the assignment of counsel if the defendant is unable to obtain counsel, and of the general circumstances under which the defendant may secure pretrial release. The magistrate judge shall inform the defendant that the defendant is not required to make a statement and that any statement made by the defendant may be used against the defendant. The magistrate judge shall also inform the defendant of the right to a preliminary examination. The magistrate judge shall allow the defendant reasonable time and opportunity to consult counsel and shall detain or conditionally release the defendant as provided by statute or in these rules.

A defendant is entitled to a preliminary examination, unless waived, when charged with any offense, other than a [petty offense](#) , which is to be tried by a judge of the [district court](#) . If the defendant waives preliminary examination, the magistrate judge shall forthwith hold the defendant to answer in the district court. If the defendant does not waive the preliminary examination, the magistrate judge shall schedule a preliminary examination. Such examination shall be held within a reasonable time but in any event not later than 10 days following the initial appearance if the defendant is in custody and no later than 20 days if the defendant is not in custody, provided, however, that the preliminary examination shall not be held if the defendant is indicted or if an information against the defendant is filed in district court before the date set for the preliminary examination. With the consent of the defendant and upon a showing of good cause, taking into account the public interest in the prompt disposition of criminal cases, time limits specified in this subdivision may be extended one or more times by a [federal magistrate judge](#) . In the absence of such consent by the defendant, time limits may be extended by a [judge of the United States](#) only upon a showing that extraordinary circumstances exist and that delay is indispensable to the interests of justice.

[Notes](#)**[Rule 5.1. Preliminary Examination](#)****(a) Probable Cause Finding.**

If from the evidence it appears that there is probable cause to believe that an offense has been committed and that the defendant committed it, the [federal magistrate judge](#) shall forthwith hold the defendant to answer in [district court](#) . The finding of probable cause may be based upon hearsay evidence in whole or in part. The defendant may cross-examine adverse witnesses and may introduce evidence. Objections to evidence on the ground that it was acquired by unlawful means are not properly made at the preliminary examination. Motions to suppress must be made to the trial court as provided

in [Rule 12](#) .

(b) Discharge of Defendant.

If from the evidence it appears that there is no probable cause to believe that an offense has been committed or that the defendant committed it, the [federal magistrate judge](#) shall dismiss the complaint and discharge the defendant. The discharge of the defendant shall not preclude the government from instituting a subsequent prosecution for the same offense.

(c) Records.

After concluding the proceeding the [federal magistrate judge](#) shall transmit forthwith to the clerk of the [district court](#) all papers in the proceeding. The magistrate judge shall promptly make or cause to be made a record or summary of such proceeding.

(1) On timely application to a [federal magistrate judge](#) , the attorney for a defendant in a criminal case may be given the opportunity to have the recording of the hearing on preliminary examination made available to that attorney in connection with any further hearing or preparation for trial. The court may, by local rule, appoint the place for and define the conditions under which such opportunity may be afforded counsel.

[Notes](#)

III. INDICTMENT AND INFORMATION

[Rule 6. The Grand Jury](#)

(a) Summoning Grand Juries.

(1) Generally.

The court shall order one or more grand juries to be summoned at such time as the public interest requires. The grand jury shall consist of not less than 16 nor more than 23 members. The court shall direct that a sufficient number of legally qualified persons be summoned to meet this requirement.

(2) Alternate Jurors.

The court may direct that alternate jurors may be designated at the time a grand jury is selected. Alternate jurors in the order in which they were designated may thereafter be impanelled as provided in [subdivision \(g\)](#) of this rule. Alternate jurors shall be drawn in the same manner and shall have the same qualifications as the regular jurors, and if impanelled shall be subject to the same challenges, shall take the same [oath](#) and shall have the same functions, powers, facilities and privileges as the regular jurors.

(b) Objections to Grand Jury and to Grand Jurors.





LII Home



Contents



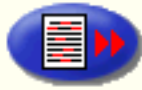
Next



Previous



Query



Next Hit



Prev. Hit



How to Query



(1) Challenges.

The [attorney for the government](#) or a defendant who has been held to answer in the [district court](#) may challenge the array of jurors on the ground that the grand jury was not selected, drawn or summoned in accordance with [law](#) , and may challenge an individual juror on the ground that the juror is not legally qualified. Challenges shall be made before the administration of the [oath](#) to the jurors and shall be tried by the court.

(2) Motion To Dismiss.

A motion to dismiss the indictment may be based on objections to the array or on the lack of legal qualification of an individual juror, if not previously determined upon challenge. It shall be made in the manner prescribed in 28 U.S.C. Sec. 1867(e) and shall be granted under the conditions prescribed in that statute. An indictment shall not be dismissed on the ground that one or more members of the grand jury were not legally qualified if it appears from the record kept pursuant to [subdivision \(c\)](#) of this rule that 12 or more jurors, after deducting the number not legally qualified, concurred in finding the indictment.

(c) Foreperson and Deputy Foreperson.

The court shall appoint one of the jurors to be foreperson and another to be deputy foreperson. The foreperson shall have power to administer oaths and affirmations and shall sign all indictments. The foreperson or another juror designated by the foreperson shall keep a record of the number of jurors concurring in the finding of every indictment and shall file the record with the clerk of the court, but the record shall not be made public except on order of the court. During the absence of the foreperson, the deputy foreperson shall act as foreperson.

(d) Who May Be Present.

Attorneys for the government, the witness under examination, interpreters when needed and, for the purpose of taking the evidence, a stenographer or operator of a recording device may be present while the grand jury is in session, but no person other than the jurors may be present while the grand jury is deliberating or voting.

(e) Recording and Disclosure of Proceedings.

(1) Recording of Proceedings.

All proceedings, except when the grand jury is deliberating or voting, shall be recorded stenographically or by an electronic recording device. An unintentional failure of any recording to reproduce all or any portion of a proceeding shall not affect the validity of the prosecution. The recording or reporter's notes or any transcript prepared therefrom shall remain in the custody or control of the [attorney for the government](#) unless otherwise ordered by the court in a particular case.

(2) General Rule of Secrecy.

A grand juror, an interpreter, a stenographer, an operator of a recording device, a typist who transcribes recorded testimony, an [attorney for the government](#) , or any person to whom disclosure is made under [paragraph \(3\)\(A\)\(ii\)](#) of this subdivision shall not disclose matters occurring before the grand jury, except as otherwise provided for in these rules. No obligation of secrecy may be imposed on any person except in accordance with this rule. A knowing violation of Rule 6 may be punished as a contempt of court.

(3) Exceptions.

(A) Disclosure otherwise prohibited by this rule of matters occurring before the grand jury, other than its deliberations and the vote of any grand juror, may be made to -

(i) an [attorney for the government](#) for use in the performance of such attorney's duty; and

(ii) such government personnel (including personnel of a [state](#) or subdivision of a state) as are deemed necessary by an [attorney for the government](#) to assist an attorney for the government in the performance of such attorney's duty to enforce federal criminal [law](#) .

(B) Any person to whom matters are disclosed under [subparagraph \(A\)\(ii\)](#) of this paragraph shall not utilize that grand jury material for any purpose other than assisting the [attorney for the government](#) in the performance of such attorney's duty to enforce federal criminal [law](#) . An attorney for the government shall promptly provide the [district court](#) , before which was impaneled the grand jury whose material has been so disclosed, with the names of the persons to whom such disclosure has been made, and shall certify that the attorney has advised such persons of their obligation of secrecy under this rule.

(C) Disclosure otherwise prohibited by this rule of matters occurring before the grand jury may also be made -

(i) when so directed by a court preliminarily to or in connection with a judicial proceeding;



III. INDICTMENT AND INFORMATION

Rule 6. The Grand Jury

(e) Recording and Disclosure of Proceedings.

(3) Exceptions.

(ii) when permitted by a court at the request of the defendant, upon a showing that grounds may exist for a motion to dismiss the indictment because of matters occurring before the grand jury;

(iii) when the disclosure is made by an [attorney for the government](#) to another federal grand jury; or

(iv) when permitted by a court at the request of an [attorney for the government](#) , upon a showing that such matters may disclose a violation of [state criminal law](#) , to an appropriate official of a state or subdivision of a state for the purpose of enforcing such [law](#) .

If the court orders disclosure of matters occurring before the grand jury, the disclosure shall be made in such manner, at such time, and under such conditions as the court may direct.

(D) A petition for disclosure pursuant to [subdivision \(e\)\(3\)\(C\)\(i\)](#) shall be filed in the district where the grand jury convened. Unless the hearing is ex parte, which it may be when the petitioner is the government, the petitioner shall serve written notice of the petition upon

(i) the [attorney for the government](#) ,

(ii) the parties to the judicial proceeding if disclosure is sought in connection with such a proceeding, and

(iii) such other persons as the court may direct. The court shall afford those persons a reasonable opportunity to appear and be heard.

(E) If the judicial proceeding giving rise to the petition is in a federal [district court](#) in another district, the court shall determine whether disclosure is proper. The court shall order transmitted to the court to which the matter is transferred the material sought to be disclosed, if feasible, and a written evaluation of the need for continued grand jury secrecy. The court to which the matter is transferred shall afford the aforementioned persons a reasonable opportunity to appear and be heard.

(4) Sealed Indictments.

The [federal magistrate judge](#) to whom an indictment is returned may direct that the indictment be kept secret until the defendant is in custody or has been released pending trial. Thereupon the clerk shall seal the indictment and no person shall disclose the return of the indictment except when necessary for the issuance and execution of a warrant or summons.

(5) Closed Hearing.



LII Home



Contents



Next



Previous



Query



Next Hit



Prev. Hit



How to Query

Subject to any right to an open hearing in contempt proceedings, the court shall order a hearing on matters affecting a grand jury proceeding to be closed to the extent necessary to prevent disclosure of matters occurring before a grand jury.

(6) Sealed Records.

Records, orders and subpoenas relating to grand jury proceedings shall be kept under seal to the extent and for such time as is necessary to prevent disclosure of matters occurring before a grand jury.

(f) Finding and Return of Indictment.

An indictment may be found only upon the concurrence of 12 or more jurors. The indictment shall be returned by the grand jury to a [federal magistrate judge](#) in open court. If a complaint or information is pending against the defendant and 12 jurors do not concur in finding an indictment, the foreperson shall so report to a federal magistrate judge in writing forthwith.

(g) Discharge and Excuse.

A grand jury shall serve until discharged by the court, but no grand jury may serve more than 18 months unless the court extends the service of the grand jury for a period of six months or less upon a determination that such extension is in the public interest. At any time for cause shown the court may excuse a juror either temporarily or permanently, and in the latter event the court may impanel another person in place of the juror excused.

[Notes](#)





LII Home



Contents



Next



Previous



Query



Next Hit



Prev. Hit



How to Query



Rule 7. The Indictment and the Information

(a) Use of Indictment or Information.

An offense which may be punished by death shall be prosecuted by indictment. An offense which may be punished by imprisonment for a term exceeding one year or at hard labor shall be prosecuted by indictment or, if indictment is waived, it may be prosecuted by information. Any other offense may be prosecuted by indictment or by information. An information may be filed without leave of court.

(b) Waiver of Indictment.

An offense which may be punished by imprisonment for a term exceeding one year or at hard labor may be prosecuted by information if the defendant, after having been advised of the nature of the charge and of the rights of the defendant, waives in open court prosecution by indictment.

(c) Nature and Contents.

(1) In General.

The indictment or the information shall be a plain, concise and definite written statement of the essential facts constituting the offense charged. It shall be signed by the [attorney for the government](#). It need not contain a formal commencement, a formal conclusion or any other matter not necessary to such statement. Allegations made in one count may be incorporated by reference in another count. It may be alleged in a single count that the means by which the defendant committed the offense are unknown or that the defendant committed it by one or more specified means. The indictment or information shall [state](#) for each count the official or customary citation of the statute, rule, regulation or other provision of [law](#) which the defendant is alleged therein to have violated.

(2) Criminal Forfeiture.

No judgment of forfeiture may be entered in a criminal proceeding unless the indictment or the information provides notice that the defendant has an interest in property that is subject to forfeiture in accordance with the applicable statute.

(3) Harmless Error.

Error in the citation or its omission shall not be ground for dismissal of the indictment or information or for reversal of a conviction if the error or omission did not mislead the defendant to the defendant's prejudice.

(d) Surplusage.

The court on motion of the defendant may strike surplusage from the indictment or information.

(e) Amendment of Information.

The court may permit an information to be amended at any time before verdict or finding if no additional or different offense is charged and if substantial rights of the defendant are not prejudiced.

(f) Bill of Particulars.

The court may direct the filing of a bill of particulars. A motion for a bill of particulars may be made before arraignment or within ten days after arraignment or at such later time as the court may permit. A bill of particulars may be amended at any time subject to such conditions as justice requires.

[Notes](#)

Rule 8. Joinder of Offenses and of Defendants



**(a) Joinder of Offenses.**

Two or more offenses may be charged in the same indictment or information in a separate count for each offense if the offenses charged, whether felonies or misdemeanors or both, are of the same or similar character or are based on the same act or transaction or on two or more acts or transactions connected together or constituting parts of a common scheme or plan.

(b) Joinder of Defendants.

Two or more defendants may be charged in the same indictment or information if they are alleged to have participated in the same act or transaction or in the same series of acts or transactions constituting an offense or offenses. Such defendants may be charged in one or more counts together or separately and all of the defendants need not be charged in each count.

*Notes***Rule 9. Warrant or Summons Upon Indictment or Information****(a) Issuance.**

Upon the request of the [attorney for the government](#) the court shall issue a warrant for each defendant named in an information supported by a showing of probable cause under [oath](#) as is required by [Rule 4\(a\)](#) , or in an indictment. Upon the request of the attorney for the government a summons instead of a warrant shall issue. If no request is made, the court may issue either a warrant or a summons in its discretion. More than one warrant or summons may issue for the same defendant. The clerk shall deliver the warrant or summons to the marshal or other person authorized by [law](#) to execute or serve it. If a defendant fails to appear in response to the summons, a warrant shall issue. When a defendant arrested with a warrant or given a summons appears initially before a [magistrate judge](#) , the magistrate judge shall proceed in accordance with the applicable subdivisions of [Rule 5](#) .

(b) Form.**(1) Warrant.**

The form of the warrant shall be as provided in [Rule 4\(c\)\(1\)](#) except that it shall be signed by the clerk, it shall describe the offense charged in the indictment or information and it shall command that the defendant be arrested and brought before the nearest available [magistrate judge](#) . The amount of bail may be fixed by the court and endorsed on the warrant.

(2) Summons.

The summons shall be in the same form as the warrant except that it shall summon the defendant to appear before a [magistrate judge](#) at a stated time and place.

(c) Execution or Service; and Return.

(1) Execution or Service.

The warrant shall be executed or the summons served as provided in [Rule 4\(d\)\(1\)](#) , [\(2\)](#) and [\(3\)](#) . A summons to a corporation shall be served by delivering a copy to an officer or to a managing or general agent or to any other agent authorized by appointment or by [law](#) to receive service of process and, if the agent is one authorized by statute to receive service and the statute so requires, by also mailing a copy to the corporation's last known address within the district or at its principal place of business elsewhere in the United States. The officer executing the warrant shall bring the arrested person without unnecessary delay before the nearest available [federal magistrate judge](#) or, in the event that a federal magistrate judge is not reasonably available, before a [state](#) or local judicial officer authorized by 18 U.S.C. Sec. 3041.

(2) Return.

The officer executing a warrant shall make return thereof to the [magistrate judge](#) or other officer before whom the defendant is brought. At the request of the [attorney for the government](#) any unexecuted warrant shall be returned and cancelled. On or before the return day the person to whom a summons was delivered for service shall make return thereof. At the request of the attorney for the government made at any time while the indictment or information is pending, a warrant returned unexecuted and not cancelled or a summons returned unserved or a duplicate thereof may be delivered by the clerk to the marshal or other authorized person for execution or service.

((d) Remand to United States Magistrate for Trial of Minor Offenses.)

(Abrogated Apr. 28, 1982, eff. Aug. 1, 1982)



LII

LII Home



Contents



Next



Previous



Query



Next Hit



Prev. Hit



How to Query

[Notes](#)

IV. ARRAIGNMENT, AND PREPARATION FOR TRIAL

[Rule 10. Arraignment](#)

Arraignment shall be conducted in open court and shall consist of reading the indictment or information to the defendant or stating to the defendant the substance of the charge and calling on the defendant to plead thereto. The defendant shall be given a copy of the indictment or information before being called upon to plead.

[Notes](#)

[Rule 11. Pleas](#)

(a) Alternatives.

(1) In General.

A defendant may plead not guilty, guilty, or nolo contendere. If a defendant refuses to plead or if a defendant corporation fails to appear, the court shall enter a plea of not guilty.

(2) Conditional Pleas.

With the approval of the court and the consent of the government, a defendant may enter a conditional plea of guilty or nolo contendere, reserving in writing the right, on appeal from the judgment, to review of the adverse determination of any specified pretrial motion. A defendant who prevails on appeal shall be allowed to withdraw the plea.

(b) Nolo Contendere.

A defendant may plead nolo contendere only with the consent of the court. Such a plea shall be accepted by the court only after due consideration of the views of the parties and the interest of the public in the effective administration of justice.

(c) Advice to Defendant.

Before accepting a plea of guilty or nolo contendere, the court must address the defendant personally in open court and inform the defendant of, and determine that the defendant understands, the following:

(1) the nature of the charge to which the plea is offered, the mandatory minimum penalty

provided by [law](#) , if any, and the maximum possible penalty provided by law, including the effect of any special parole or supervised release term, the fact that the court is required to consider any applicable sentencing guidelines but may depart from those guidelines under some circumstances, and, when applicable, that the court may also order the defendant to make restitution to any victim of the offense; and

(2) if the defendant is not represented by an attorney, that the defendant has the right to be represented by an attorney at every stage of the proceeding and, if necessary, one will be appointed to represent the defendant; and

(3) that the defendant has the right to plead not guilty or to persist in that plea if it has already been made, the right to be tried by a jury and at that trial the right to the assistance of counsel, the right to confront and cross-examine adverse witnesses, and the right against compelled self-incrimination; and

(4) that if a plea of guilty or nolo contendere is accepted by the court there will not be a further trial of any kind, so that by pleading guilty or nolo contendere the defendant waives the right to a trial; and

(5) if the court intends to question the defendant under [oath](#) , on the record, and in the presence of counsel about the offense to which the defendant has pleaded, that the defendant's answers may later be used against the defendant in a prosecution for perjury or false statement.

(d) Insuring That the Plea Is Voluntary.

The court shall not accept a plea of guilty or nolo contendere without first, by addressing the defendant personally in open court, determining that the plea is voluntary and not the result of force or threats or of promises apart from a plea agreement. The court shall also inquire as to whether the defendant's willingness to plead guilty or nolo contendere results from prior discussions between the [attorney for the government](#) and the defendant or the defendant's attorney.

(e) Plea Agreement Procedure.

(1) In General.

The [attorney for the government](#) and the attorney for the defendant or the defendant when acting pro se may engage in discussions with a view toward reaching an agreement that, upon the entering of a plea of guilty or nolo contendere to a charged offense or to a lesser or related offense, the attorney for the government will do any of the following:

(A) move for dismissal of other charges; or

(B) make a recommendation, or agree not to oppose the defendant's request, for a particular sentence, with the understanding that such recommendation or request shall not be binding upon the court; or

(C) agree that a specific sentence is the appropriate disposition of the case.

The court shall not participate in any such discussions.





LII Home



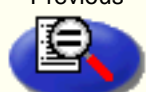
Contents



Next



Previous



Query



Next Hit



Prev. Hit



How to Query



(2) Notice of Such Agreement.

If a plea agreement has been reached by the parties, the court shall, on the record, require the disclosure of the agreement in open court or, on a showing of good cause, in camera, at the time the plea is offered. If the agreement is of the type specified in [subdivision \(e\)\(1\)\(A\)](#) or [\(C\)](#) , the court may accept or reject the agreement, or may defer its decision as to the acceptance or rejection until there has been an opportunity to consider the presentence report. If the agreement is of the type specified in [subdivision \(e\)\(1\)\(B\)](#) , the court shall advise the defendant that if the court does not accept the recommendation or request the defendant nevertheless has no right to withdraw the plea.

(3) Acceptance of a Plea Agreement.

If the court accepts the plea agreement, the court shall inform the defendant that it will embody in the judgment and sentence the disposition provided for in the plea agreement.

(4) Rejection of a Plea Agreement.

If the court rejects the plea agreement, the court shall, on the record, inform the parties of this fact, advise the defendant personally in open court or, on a showing of good cause, in camera, that the court is not bound by the plea agreement, afford the defendant the opportunity to then withdraw the plea, and advise the defendant that if the defendant persists in a guilty plea or plea of nolo contendere the disposition of the case may be less favorable to the defendant than that contemplated by the plea agreement.

(5) Time of Plea Agreement Procedure.

Except for good cause shown, notification to the court of the existence of a plea agreement shall be given at the arraignment or at such other time, prior to trial, as may be fixed by the court.

(6) Inadmissibility of Pleas, Plea Discussions, and Related Statements.

Except as otherwise provided in this paragraph, evidence of the following is not, in any civil or criminal proceeding, admissible against the defendant who made the plea or was a participant in the plea discussions:

- (A) a plea of guilty which was later withdrawn;
- (B) a plea of nolo contendere;
- (C) any statement made in the course of any proceedings under this rule regarding either of the foregoing pleas; or
- (D) any statement made in the course of plea discussions with an [attorney for the government](#) which do not result in a plea of guilty or which result in a plea of guilty later

withdrawn.

However, such a statement is admissible (i) in any proceeding wherein another statement made in the course of the same plea or plea discussions has been introduced and the statement ought in fairness be considered contemporaneously with it, or (ii) in a criminal proceeding for perjury or false statement if the statement was made by the defendant under [oath](#) , on the record, and in the presence of counsel.

(f) Determining Accuracy of Plea.

Notwithstanding the acceptance of a plea of guilty, the court should not enter a judgment upon such plea without making such inquiry as shall satisfy it that there is a factual basis for the plea.

(g) Record of Proceedings.

A verbatim record of the proceedings at which the defendant enters a plea shall be made and, if there is a plea of guilty or nolo contendere, the record shall include, without limitation, the court's advice to the defendant, the inquiry into the voluntariness of the plea including any plea agreement, and the inquiry into the accuracy of a guilty plea.

(h) Harmless Error.

Any variance from the procedures required by this rule which does not affect substantial rights shall be disregarded.

[Notes](#)

Rule 12. Pleadings and Motions Before Trial; Defenses and Objections

(a) Pleadings and Motions.

Pleadings in criminal proceedings shall be the indictment and the information, and the pleas of not guilty, guilty and nolo contendere. All other pleas, and demurrers and motions to quash are abolished, and defenses and objections raised before trial which heretofore could have been raised by one or more of them shall be raised only by motion to dismiss or to grant appropriate relief, as provided in these rules.



**(b) Pretrial Motions.**

Any defense, objection, or request which is capable of determination without the trial of the general issue may be raised before trial by motion. Motions may be written or oral at the discretion of the judge. The following must be raised prior to trial:

- (1) Defenses and objections based on defects in the institution of the prosecution; or
- (2) Defenses and objections based on defects in the indictment or information (other than that it fails to show jurisdiction in the court or to charge an offense which objections shall be noticed by the court at any time during the pendency of the proceedings); or
- (3) Motions to suppress evidence; or
- (4) Requests for discovery under [Rule 16](#) ; or
- (5) Requests for a severance of charges or defendants under [Rule 14](#) .

(c) Motion Date.

Unless otherwise provided by local rule, the court may, at the time of the arraignment or as soon thereafter as practicable, set a time for the making of pretrial motions or requests and, if required, a later date of hearing.

(d) Notice by the Government of the Intention To Use Evidence.**(1) At the Discretion of the Government.**

At the arraignment or as soon thereafter as is practicable, the government may give notice to the defendant of its intention to use specified evidence at trial in order to afford the defendant an opportunity to raise objections to such evidence prior to trial under [subdivision \(b\)\(3\)](#) of this rule.

(2) At the Request of the Defendant.

At the arraignment or as soon thereafter as is practicable the defendant may, in order to afford an opportunity to move to suppress evidence under [subdivision \(b\)\(3\)](#) of this rule, request notice of the government's intention to use (in its evidence in chief at trial) any evidence which the defendant may be entitled to discover under [Rule 16](#) subject to any relevant limitations prescribed in [Rule 16](#) .

(e) Ruling on Motion.

A motion made before trial shall be determined before trial unless the court, for good cause, orders that it be deferred for determination at the trial of the general issue or until after verdict, but no such determination shall be deferred if a party's right to appeal is adversely affected. Where factual issues are involved in determining a motion, the court

shall [state](#) its essential findings on the record.

(f) Effect of Failure To Raise Defenses or Objections.

Failure by a party to raise defenses or objections or to make requests which must be made prior to trial, at the time set by the court pursuant to [subdivision \(c\)](#) , or prior to any extension thereof made by the court, shall constitute waiver thereof, but the court for cause shown may grant relief from the waiver.

(g) Records.

A verbatim record shall be made of all proceedings at the hearing, including such findings of fact and conclusions of [law](#) as are made orally.



**(h) Effect of Determination.**

If the court grants a motion based on a defect in the institution of the prosecution or in the indictment or information, it may also order that the defendant be continued in custody or that bail be continued for a specified time pending the filing of a new indictment or information. Nothing in this rule shall be deemed to affect the provisions of any Act of Congress relating to periods of limitations.

(i) Production of Statements at Suppression Hearing.

[Rule 26.2](#) applies at a hearing on a motion to suppress evidence under [subdivision \(b\)\(3\)](#) of this rule. For purposes of this subdivision, a [law](#) enforcement officer is deemed a government witness.

[Notes](#)**[Rule 12.1. Notice of Alibi](#)****(a) Notice by Defendant.**

Upon written demand of the [attorney for the government](#) stating the time, date, and place at which the alleged offense was committed, the defendant shall serve within ten days, or at such different time as the court may direct, upon the attorney for the government a written notice of the defendant's intention to offer a defense of alibi. Such notice by the defendant shall [state](#) the specific place or places at which the defendant claims to have been at the time of the alleged offense and the names and addresses of the witnesses upon whom the defendant intends to rely to establish such alibi.

(b) Disclosure of Information and Witness.

Within ten days thereafter, but in no event less than ten days before trial, unless the court otherwise directs, the [attorney for the government](#) shall serve upon the defendant or the defendant's attorney a written notice stating the names and addresses of the witnesses upon whom the government intends to rely to establish the defendant's presence at the scene of the alleged offense and any other witnesses to be relied on to rebut testimony of any of the defendant's alibi witnesses.

(c) Continuing Duty To Disclose.

If prior to or during trial, a party learns of an additional witness whose identity, if known, should have been included in the information furnished under [subdivision \(a\)](#) or [\(b\)](#), the party shall promptly notify the other party or the other party's attorney of the existence and identity of such additional witness.

(d) Failure To Comply.

Upon the failure of either party to comply with the requirements of this rule, the court may exclude the testimony of any undisclosed witness offered by such party as to the defendant's absence from or presence at, the scene of the alleged offense. This rule shall not limit the right of the defendant to testify.

(e) Exceptions.

For good cause shown, the court may grant an exception to any of the requirements of [subdivisions \(a\)](#) through [\(d\)](#) of this rule.

(f) Inadmissibility of Withdrawn Alibi.

Evidence of an intention to rely upon an alibi defense, later withdrawn, or of statements made in connection with such intention, is not, in any civil or criminal proceeding, admissible against the person who gave notice of the intention.

[Notes](#)

Rule 12.2. Notice of Insanity Defense or Expert Testimony of Defendant's Mental Condition





LII Home



Contents



Next



Previous



Query



Next Hit



Prev. Hit



How to Query



(a) Defense of Insanity.

If a defendant intends to rely upon the defense of insanity at the time of the alleged offense, the defendant shall, within the time provided for the filing of pretrial motions or at such later time as the court may direct, notify the [attorney for the government](#) in writing of such intention and file a copy of such notice with the clerk. If there is a failure to comply with the requirements of this subdivision, insanity may not be raised as a defense. The court may for cause shown allow late filing of the notice or grant additional time to the parties to prepare for trial or make such other order as may be appropriate.

(b) Expert Testimony of Defendant's Mental Condition.

If a defendant intends to introduce expert testimony relating to a mental disease or defect or any other mental condition of the defendant bearing upon the issue of guilt, the defendant shall, within the time provided for the filing of pretrial motions or at such later time as the court may direct, notify the [attorney for the government](#) in writing of such intention and file a copy of such notice with the clerk. The court may for cause shown allow late filing of the notice or grant additional time to the parties to prepare for trial or make such other order as may be appropriate.

(c) Mental Examination of Defendant.

In an appropriate case the court may, upon motion of the [attorney for the government](#) , order the defendant to submit to an examination pursuant to 18 U.S.C. 4241 or 4242. No statement made by the defendant in the course of any examination provided for by this rule, whether the examination be with or without the consent of the defendant, no testimony by the expert based upon such statement, and no other fruits of the statement shall be admitted in evidence against the defendant in any criminal proceeding except on an issue respecting mental condition on which the defendant has introduced testimony.

(d) Failure To Comply.

If there is a failure to give notice when required by [subdivision \(b\)](#) of this rule or to submit to an examination when ordered under [subdivision \(c\)](#) of this rule, the court may exclude the testimony of any expert witness offered by the defendant on the issue of the defendant's guilt.

(e) Inadmissibility of Withdrawn Intention.

Evidence of an intention as to which notice was given under [subdivision \(a\)](#) or [\(b\)](#) , later withdrawn, is not, in any civil or criminal proceeding, admissible against the person who gave notice of the intention.

[Notes](#)

Rule 12.3. Notice of Defense Based Upon Public Authority

(a) Notice by Defendant; Government Response; Disclosure of Witnesses.

(1) Defendant's Notice and Government's Response.

A defendant intending to claim a defense of actual or believed exercise of public authority on behalf of a [law](#) enforcement or Federal intelligence agency at the time of the alleged offense shall, within the time provided for the filing of pretrial motions or at such later time as the court may direct, serve upon the [attorney for the Government](#) a written notice of such intention and file a copy of such notice with the clerk. Such notice shall identify the law enforcement or Federal intelligence agency and any member of such agency on behalf of which and the period of time in which the defendant claims the actual or believed exercise of public authority occurred. If the notice identifies a Federal intelligence agency, the copy filed with the clerk shall be under seal. Within ten days after receiving the defendant's notice, but in no event less than twenty days before the trial, the attorney for the Government shall serve upon the defendant or the defendant's attorney a written response which shall admit or deny that the defendant exercised the public authority identified in the defendant's notice.

(2) Disclosure of Witnesses.

At the time that the Government serves its response to the notice or thereafter, but in no event less than twenty days before the trial, the [attorney for the Government](#) may serve upon the defendant or the defendant's attorney a written demand for the names and addresses of the witnesses, if any, upon whom the defendant intends to rely in establishing the defense identified in the notice. Within seven days after receiving the Government's demand, the defendant shall serve upon the attorney for the Government a written statement of the names and addresses of any such witnesses. Within seven days after receiving the defendant's written statement, the attorney for the Government shall serve upon the defendant or the defendant's attorney a written statement of the names and addresses of the witnesses, if any, upon whom the Government intends to rely in opposing the defense identified in the notice.

(3) Additional Time.

If good cause is shown, the court may allow a party additional time to comply with any obligation imposed by this rule.

(b) Continuing Duty to Disclose.





LII Home



Contents



Next



Previous



Query



Next Hit



Prev. Hit



How to Query



If, prior to or during trial, a party learns of any additional witness whose identity, if known, should have been included in the written statement furnished under [subdivision \(a\)\(2\)](#) of this rule, that party shall promptly notify in writing the other party or the other party's attorney of the name and address of any such witness.

(c) Failure to Comply.

If a party fails to comply with the requirements of this rule, the court may exclude the testimony of any undisclosed witness offered in support of or in opposition to the defense, or enter such other order as it deems just under the circumstances. This rule shall not limit the right of the defendant to testify.

(d) Protective Procedures Unaffected.

This rule shall be in addition to and shall not supersede the authority of the court to issue appropriate protective orders, or the authority of the court to order that any pleading be filed under seal.

(e) Inadmissibility of Withdrawn Defense Based Upon Public Authority.

Evidence of an intention as to which notice was given under [subdivision \(a\)](#), later withdrawn, is not, in any civil or criminal proceeding, admissible against the person who gave notice of the intention.

[Notes](#)

Rule 13. Trial Together of Indictments or Informations

The court may order two or more indictments or informations or both to be tried together if the offenses, and the defendants if there is more than one, could have been joined in a single indictment or information. The procedure shall be the same as if the prosecution were under such single indictment or information.

[Notes](#)

Rule 14. Relief From Prejudicial Joinder

If it appears that a defendant or the government is prejudiced by a joinder of offenses or of defendants in an indictment or information or by such joinder for trial together, the court may order an election or separate trials of counts, grant a severance of defendants or provide whatever other relief justice requires. In ruling on a motion by a defendant for severance the court may order the [attorney for the government](#) to deliver to the court for inspection in camera any statements or confessions made by the defendants which the government intends to introduce in evidence at the trial.

Rule 15. Depositions

(a) When Taken.

Whenever due to exceptional circumstances of the case it is in the interest of justice that the testimony of a prospective witness of a party be taken and preserved for use at trial, the court may upon motion of such party and notice to the parties order that testimony of such witness be taken by deposition and that any designated book, paper, document, record, recording, or other material not privileged, be produced at the same time and place. If a witness is detained pursuant to section 3144 of title 18, United States Code, the court on written motion of the witness and upon notice to the parties may direct that the witness' deposition be taken. After the deposition has been subscribed the court may discharge the witness.

(b) Notice of Taking.

The party at whose instance a deposition is to be taken shall give to every party reasonable written notice of the time and place for taking the deposition. The notice shall state the name and address of each person to be examined. On motion of a party upon whom the notice is served, the court for cause shown may extend or shorten the time or change the place for taking the deposition. The officer having custody of a defendant shall be notified of the time and place set for the examination and shall, unless the defendant waives in writing the right to be present, produce the defendant at the examination and keep the defendant in the presence of the witness during the examination, unless, after being warned by the court that disruptive conduct will cause the defendant's removal from the place of the taking of the deposition, the defendant persists in conduct which is such as to justify exclusion from that place. A defendant not in custody shall have the right to be present at the examination upon request subject to such terms as may be fixed by the court, but a failure, absent good cause shown, to appear after notice and tender of expenses in accordance with subdivision (c) of this rule shall constitute a waiver of that right and of any objection to the taking and use of the deposition based upon that right.

(c) Payment of Expenses.





LII Home



Contents



Next



Previous



Query



Next Hit



Prev. Hit



How to Query



Whenever a deposition is taken at the instance of the government, or whenever a deposition is taken at the instance of a defendant who is unable to bear the expenses of the taking of the deposition, the court may direct that the expense of travel and subsistence of the defendant and the defendant's attorney for attendance at the examination and the cost of the transcript of the deposition shall be paid by the government.

(d) How Taken.

Subject to such additional conditions as the court shall provide, a deposition shall be taken and filed in the manner provided in civil actions except as otherwise provided in these rules, provided that

(1) in no event shall a deposition be taken of a party defendant without that defendant's consent, and

(2) the scope and manner of examination and cross-examination shall be such as would be allowed in the trial itself. The government shall make available to the defendant or the defendant's counsel for examination and use at the taking of the deposition any statement of the witness being deposed which is in the possession of the government and to which the defendant would be entitled at the trial.

(e) Use.

At the trial or upon any hearing, a part or all of a deposition, so far as otherwise admissible under the rules of evidence, may be used as substantive evidence if the witness is unavailable, as unavailability is defined in Rule 804(a) of the Federal Rules of Evidence, or the witness gives testimony at the trial or hearing inconsistent with that witness' deposition. Any deposition may also be used by any party for the purpose of contradicting or impeaching the testimony of the deponent as a witness. If only a part of a deposition is offered in evidence by a party, an adverse party may require the offering of all of it which is relevant to the part offered and any party may offer other parts.

(f) Objections to Deposition Testimony.

Objections to deposition testimony or evidence or parts thereof and the grounds for the objection shall be stated at the time of the taking of the deposition.

(g) Deposition by Agreement Not Precluded.

Nothing in this rule shall preclude the taking of a deposition, orally or upon written questions, or the use of a deposition, by agreement of the parties with the consent of the court.

[Notes](#)

Rule 16. Discovery and Inspection

(a) Governmental Disclosure of Evidence.

(1) Information Subject to Disclosure.

(A) Statement of Defendant.

Upon request of a defendant the government must disclose to the defendant and make available for inspection, copying, or photographing: any relevant written or recorded statements made by the defendant, or copies thereof, within the possession, custody, or control of the government, the existence of which is known, or by the exercise of due diligence may become known, to the [attorney for the government](#) ; that portion of any written record containing the substance of any relevant oral statement made by the defendant whether before or after arrest in response to interrogation by any person then known to the defendant to be a government agent; and recorded testimony of the defendant before a grand jury which relates to the offense charged. The government must also disclose to the defendant the substance of any other relevant oral statement made by the defendant whether before or after arrest in response to interrogation by any person then known by the defendant to be a government agent if the government intends to use that statement at trial. Upon request of a defendant which is an organization such as a corporation, partnership, association or labor union, the government must disclose to the defendant any of the foregoing statements made by a person who the government contends (1) was, at the time of making the statement, so situated as a director, officer, employee, or agent as to have been able legally to bind the defendant in respect to the subject of the statement, or (2) was, at the time of the offense, personally involved in the alleged conduct constituting the offense and so situated as a director, officer, employee, or agent as to have been able legally to bind the defendant in respect to that alleged conduct in which the person was involved.

(B) Defendant's Prior Record.

Upon request of the defendant, the government shall furnish to the defendant such copy of the defendant's prior criminal record, if any, as is within the possession, custody, or control of the government, the existence of which is known, or by the exercise of due diligence may become known, to the [attorney for the government](#) .

(C) Documents and Tangible Objects.



Rule 16. Discovery and Inspection

(a) Governmental Disclosure of Evidence.

(1) Information Subject to Disclosure.



Upon request of the defendant the government shall permit the defendant to inspect and copy or photograph books, papers, documents, photographs, tangible objects, buildings or places, or copies or portions thereof, which are within the possession, custody or control of the government, and which are material to the preparation of the defendant's defense or are intended for use by the government as evidence in chief at the trial, or were obtained from or belong to the defendant.

(D) Reports of Examinations and Tests.

Upon request of a defendant the government shall permit the defendant to inspect and copy or photograph any results or reports of physical or mental examinations, and of scientific tests or experiments, or copies thereof, which are within the possession, custody, or control of the government, the existence of which is known, or by the exercise of due diligence may become known, to the [attorney for the government](#), and which are material to the preparation of the defense or are intended for use by the government as evidence in chief at the trial.

(E) Expert Witnesses.

At the defendant's request, the government shall disclose to the defendant a written summary of testimony that the government intends to use under Rules 702, 703, or 705 of the Federal Rules of Evidence during its case-in-chief at trial. If the government requests discovery under [subdivision \(b\)\(1\)\(C\)\(ii\)](#) of this rule and the defendant complies, the government shall, at the defendant's request, disclose to the defendant a written summary of testimony the government intends to use under Rules 702, 703, or 705 as evidence at trial on the issue of the defendant's mental condition. The summary provided under this subdivision shall describe the witnesses' opinions, the bases and the reasons for those opinions, and the witnesses' qualifications.

(2) Information Not Subject to Disclosure.

Except as provided in paragraphs [\(A\)](#), [\(B\)](#), [\(D\)](#), and [\(E\)](#) of subdivision (a)(1), this rule does not authorize the discovery or inspection of reports, memoranda, or other internal government documents made by the [attorney for the government](#) or any other government agent investigating or prosecuting the case. Nor does the rule authorize the discovery or inspection of statements made by government witnesses or prospective government witnesses except as provided in 18 U.S.C. Sec. 3500.

(3) Grand Jury Transcripts.

Except as provided in Rules [6](#), [12\(i\)](#) and [26.2](#), and [subdivision \(a\)\(1\)\(A\)](#) of this rule, these rules do not relate to discovery or inspection of recorded proceedings of a grand jury.



LII Home



Contents



Next



Previous



Query



Next Hit



Prev. Hit



How to Query

((4) Failure to Call Witness.)

(Deleted Dec. 12, 1975)

(b) The Defendant's Disclosure of Evidence.

(1) Information Subject to Disclosure.

(A) Documents and Tangible Objects.

If the defendant requests disclosure under [subdivision \(a\)\(1\)\(C\)](#) or [\(D\)](#) of this rule, upon compliance with such request by the government, the defendant, on request of the government, shall permit the government to inspect and copy or photograph books, papers, documents, photographs, tangible objects, or copies or portions thereof, which are within the possession, custody, or control of the defendant and which the defendant intends to introduce as evidence in chief at the trial.

(B) Reports of Examinations and Tests.

If the defendant requests disclosure under [subdivision \(a\)\(1\)\(C\)](#) or [\(D\)](#) of this rule, upon compliance with such request by the government, the defendant, on request of the government, shall permit the government to inspect and copy or photograph any results or reports of physical or mental examinations and of scientific tests or experiments made in connection with the particular case, or copies thereof, within the possession or control of the defendant, which the defendant intends to introduce as evidence in chief at the trial or which were prepared by a witness whom the defendant intends to call at the trial when the results or reports relate to that witness' testimony.

(C) Expert Witnesses.

Under the following circumstances, the defendant shall, at the government's request, disclose to the government a written summary of testimony that the defendant intends to use under Rules 702, 703, or 705 of the Federal Rules of Evidence as evidence at trial:


(i) if the defendant requests disclosure under [subdivision \(a\)\(1\)\(E\)](#) of this rule and the government complies, or



Rule 16. Discovery and Inspection

(b) The Defendant's Disclosure of Evidence.

(1) Information Subject to Disclosure.

 (ii) if the defendant has given notice under [Rule 12.2\(b\)](#) of an intent to present expert testimony on the defendant's mental condition. This summary shall describe the witnesses' opinions, the bases and reasons for those opinions, and the witnesses' qualifications.

(2) Information Not Subject to Disclosure.

Except as to scientific or medical reports, this subdivision does not authorize the discovery or inspection of reports, memoranda, or other internal defense documents made by the defendant, or the defendant's attorneys or agents in connection with the investigation or defense of the case, or of statements made by the defendant, or by government or defense witnesses, or by prospective government or defense witnesses, to the defendant, the defendant's agents or attorneys.

((3) Failure to Call Witness.)

(Deleted Dec. 12, 1975)

(c) Continuing Duty To Disclose.

If, prior to or during trial, a party discovers additional evidence or material previously requested or ordered, which is subject to discovery or inspection under this rule, such party shall promptly notify the other party or that other party's attorney or the court of the existence of the additional evidence or material.

(d) Regulation of Discovery.**(1) Protective and Modifying Orders.**

Upon a sufficient showing the court may at any time order that the discovery or inspection be denied, restricted, or deferred, or make such other order as is appropriate. Upon motion by a party, the court may permit the party to make such showing, in whole or in part, in the form of a written statement to be inspected by the judge alone. If the court enters an order granting relief following such an ex parte showing, the entire text of the party's statement shall be sealed and preserved in the records of the court to be made available to the appellate court in the event of an appeal.

(2) Failure To Comply With a Request.

If at any time during the course of the proceedings it is brought to the attention of the court that a party has failed to comply with this rule, the court may order such party to permit the discovery or inspection, grant a continuance, or prohibit the party from introducing evidence not disclosed, or it may enter such other order as it deems just under the circumstances. The court may specify the time, place and manner of making the discovery and inspection and may prescribe such terms and conditions as are just.



LII Home



Contents



Next



Previous



Query



Next Hit



Prev. Hit



How to Query

(e) Alibi Witnesses.

Discovery of alibi witnesses is governed by [Rule 12.1](#) .

[Notes](#)

Rule 17. Subpoena

(a) For Attendance of Witnesses; Form; Issuance.

A subpoena shall be issued by the clerk under the seal of the court. It shall [state](#) the name of the court and the title, if any, of the proceeding, and shall command each person to whom it is directed to attend and give testimony at the time and place specified therein. The clerk shall issue a subpoena, signed and sealed but otherwise in blank to a party requesting it, who shall fill in the blanks before it is served. A subpoena shall be issued by a [United States magistrate judge](#) in a proceeding before that magistrate judge, but it need not be under the seal of the court.

(b) Defendants Unable to Pay.

The court shall order at any time that a subpoena be issued for service on a named witness upon an ex parte application of a defendant upon a satisfactory showing that the defendant is financially unable to pay the fees of the witness and that the presence of the witness is necessary to an adequate defense. If the court orders the subpoena to be issued the costs incurred by the process and the fees of the witness so subpoenaed shall be paid in the same manner in which similar costs and fees are paid in case of a witness subpoenaed in behalf of the government.



**(c) For Production of Documentary Evidence and of Objects.**

A subpoena may also command the person to whom it is directed to produce the books, papers, documents or other objects designated therein. The court on motion made promptly may quash or modify the subpoena if compliance would be unreasonable or oppressive. The court may direct that books, papers, documents or objects designated in the subpoena be produced before the court at a time prior to the trial or prior to the time when they are to be offered in evidence and may upon their production permit the books, papers, documents or objects or portions thereof to be inspected by the parties and their attorneys.

(d) Service.

A subpoena may be served by the marshal, by a deputy marshal or by any other person who is not a party and who is not less than 18 years of age. Service of a subpoena shall be made by delivering a copy thereof to the person named and by tendering to that person the fee for 1 day's attendance and the mileage allowed by [law](#) . Fees and mileage need not be tendered to the witness upon service of a subpoena issued in behalf of the United States or an officer or agency thereof.

(e) Place of Service.**(1) In United States.**

A subpoena requiring the attendance of a witness at a hearing or trial may be served at any place within the United States.

(2) Abroad.

A subpoena directed to a witness in a foreign country shall issue under the circumstances and in the manner and be served as provided in Title 28, U.S.C., Sec. 1783.

(f) For Taking Deposition; Place of Examination.**(1) Issuance.**

An order to take a deposition authorizes the issuance by the clerk of the court for the district in which the deposition is to be taken of subpoenas for the persons named or described therein.

(2) Place.

The witness whose deposition is to be taken may be required by subpoena to attend at any place designated by the trial court, taking into account the convenience of the witness and the parties.

(g) Contempt.

Failure by any person without adequate excuse to obey a subpoena served upon that person may be deemed a contempt of the court from which the subpoena issued or of the court for the district in which it issued if it was issued by a [United States magistrate judge](#)

.

(h) Information Not Subject to Subpoena.

Statements made by witnesses or prospective witnesses may not be subpoenaed from the government or the defendant under this rule, but shall be subject to production only in accordance with the provisions of [Rule 26.2](#) .

[Notes](#)

Rule 17.1. Pretrial Conference





At any time after the filing of the indictment or information the court upon motion of any party or upon its own motion may order one or more conferences to consider such matters as will promote a fair and expeditious trial. At the conclusion of a conference the court shall prepare and file a memorandum of the matters agreed upon. No admissions made by the defendant or the defendant's attorney at the conference shall be used against the defendant unless the admissions are reduced to writing and signed by the defendant and the defendant's attorney. This rule shall not be invoked in the case of a defendant who is not represented by counsel.

[*Notes*](#)

V. VENUE

[Rule 18. Place of Prosecution and Trial](#)

Except as otherwise permitted by statute or by these rules, the prosecution shall be had in a district in which the offense was committed. The court shall fix the place of trial within the district with due regard to the convenience of the defendant and the witnesses and the prompt administration of justice.

[*Notes*](#)

[\(Rule 19. Transfer Within the District\) \(Rescinded Feb. 28, 1966, eff. July 1, 1966\)](#)

[*Notes*](#)

[Rule 20. Transfer From the District for Plea and Sentence](#)

(a) Indictment or Information Pending.

A defendant arrested, held, or present in a district other than that in which an indictment or information is pending against that defendant may state in writing a wish to plead guilty or nolo contendere, to waive trial in the district in which the indictment or information is pending, and to consent to disposition of the case in the district in which that defendant was arrested, held, or present, subject to the approval of the United States attorney for each district. Upon receipt of the defendant's statement and of the written approval of the United States attorneys, the clerk of the court in which the indictment or information is pending shall transmit the papers in the proceeding or certified copies thereof to the clerk of the court for the district in which the defendant is arrested, held, or present, and the prosecution shall continue in that district.

(b) Indictment or Information Not Pending.

A defendant arrested, held, or present, in a district other than the district in which a complaint is pending against that defendant may state in writing a wish to plead guilty or nolo contendere, to waive venue and trial in the district in which the warrant was issued, and to consent to disposition of the case in the district in which that defendant was arrested, held, or present, subject to the approval of the United States attorney for each district. Upon filing the written waiver of venue in the district in which the defendant is present, the prosecution may proceed as if venue were in such district.

(c) Effect of Not Guilty Plea.

If after the proceeding has been transferred pursuant to [subdivision \(a\)](#) or [\(b\)](#) of this rule the defendant pleads not guilty, the clerk shall return the papers to the court in which the prosecution was commenced, and the proceeding shall be restored to the docket of that court. The defendant's statement that the defendant wishes to plead guilty or nolo contendere shall not be used against that defendant.

(d) Juveniles.

A juvenile (as defined in 18 U.S.C. Sec. 5031) who is arrested, held, or present in a district other than that in which the juvenile is alleged to have committed an act in violation of a [law](#) of the United States not punishable by death or life imprisonment may, after having been advised by counsel and with the approval of the court and the United States attorney for each district, consent to be proceeded against as a juvenile delinquent in the district in which the juvenile is arrested, held, or present. The consent shall be given in writing before the court but only after the court has apprised the juvenile of the juvenile's rights, including the right to be returned to the district in which the juvenile is alleged to have committed the act, and of the consequences of such consent.

[Notes](#)

Rule 21. Transfer From the District for Trial

(a) For Prejudice in the District.





The court upon motion of the defendant shall transfer the proceeding as to that defendant to another district whether or not such district is specified in the defendant's motion if the court is satisfied that there exists in the district where the prosecution is pending so great a prejudice against the defendant that the defendant cannot obtain a fair and impartial trial at any place fixed by [law](#) for holding court in that district.

(b) Transfer in Other Cases.

For the convenience of parties and witnesses, and in the interest of justice, the court upon motion of the defendant may transfer the proceeding as to that defendant or any one or more of the counts thereof to another district.

(c) Proceedings on Transfer.

When a transfer is ordered the clerk shall transmit to the clerk of the court to which the proceeding is transferred all papers in the proceeding or duplicates thereof and any bail taken, and the prosecution shall continue in that district.

[Notes](#)

Rule 22. Time of Motion To Transfer

A motion to transfer under these rules may be made at or before arraignment or at such other time as the court or these rules may prescribe.

[Notes](#)

VI. TRIAL

Rule 23. Trial by Jury or by the Court

(a) Trial by Jury.

Cases required to be tried by jury shall be so tried unless the defendant waives a jury trial in writing with the approval of the court and the consent of the government.

(b) Jury of Less Than Twelve.

Juries shall be of 12 but at any time before verdict the parties may stipulate in writing with the approval of the court that the jury shall consist of any number less than 12 or that a valid verdict may be returned by a jury of less than 12 should the court find it necessary to excuse one or more jurors for any just cause after trial commences. Even absent such stipulation, if the court finds it necessary to excuse a juror for just cause after the jury has retired to consider its verdict, in the discretion of the court a valid verdict may be returned

by the remaining 11 jurors.

(c) Trial Without a Jury.

In a case tried without a jury the court shall make a general finding and shall in addition, on request made before the general finding, find the facts specially. Such findings may be oral. If an opinion or memorandum of decision is filed, it will be sufficient if the findings of fact appear therein.

[Notes](#)

Rule 24. Trial Jurors

(a) Examination.



VI. TRIAL

Rule 24. Trial Jurors

(a) Examination.



The court may permit the defendant or the defendant's attorney and the [attorney for the government](#) to conduct the examination of prospective jurors or may itself conduct the examination. In the latter event the court shall permit the defendant or the defendant's attorney and the attorney for the government to supplement the examination by such further inquiry as it deems proper or shall itself submit to the prospective jurors such additional questions by the parties or their attorneys as it deems proper.

(b) Peremptory Challenges.

If the offense charged is punishable by death, each side is entitled to 20 peremptory challenges. If the offense charged is punishable by imprisonment for more than one year, the government is entitled to 6 peremptory challenges and the defendant or defendants jointly to 10 peremptory challenges. If the offense charged is punishable by imprisonment for not more than one year or by fine or both, each side is entitled to 3 peremptory challenges. If there is more than one defendant, the court may allow the defendants additional peremptory challenges and permit them to be exercised separately or jointly.

(c) Alternate Jurors.

The court may direct that not more than 6 jurors in addition to the regular jury be called and impanelled to sit as alternate jurors. Alternate jurors in the order in which they are called shall replace jurors who, prior to the time the jury retires to consider its verdict, become or are found to be unable or disqualified to perform their duties. Alternate jurors shall be drawn in the same manner, shall have the same qualifications, shall be subject to the same examination and challenges, shall take the same [oath](#) and shall have the same functions, powers, facilities and privileges as the regular jurors. An alternate juror who does not replace a regular juror shall be discharged after the jury retires to consider its verdict. Each side is entitled to 1 peremptory challenge in addition to those otherwise allowed by [law](#) if 1 or 2 alternate jurors are to be impanelled, 2 peremptory challenges if 3 or 4 alternate jurors are to be impanelled, and 3 peremptory challenges if 5 or 6 alternate jurors are to be impanelled. The additional peremptory challenges may be used against an alternate juror only, and the other peremptory challenges allowed by these rules may not be used against an alternate juror.

[Notes](#)**[Rule 25. Judge; Disability](#)****(a) During Trial.**

If by reason of death, sickness or other disability the judge before whom a jury trial has commenced is unable to proceed with the trial, any other judge regularly sitting in or assigned to the court, upon certifying familiarity with the record of the trial, may proceed



LII Home



Contents



Next



Previous



Query



Next Hit



Prev. Hit



How to Query

with and finish the trial.

(b) After Verdict or Finding of Guilt.

If by reason of absence, death, sickness or other disability the judge before whom the defendant has been tried is unable to perform the duties to be performed by the court after a verdict or finding of guilt, any other judge regularly sitting in or assigned to the court may perform those duties; but if that judge is satisfied that a judge who did not preside at the trial cannot perform those duties or that it is appropriate for any other reason, that judge may grant a new trial.

Notes

Rule 26. Taking of Testimony

In all trials the testimony of witnesses shall be taken orally in open court, unless otherwise provided by an Act of Congress or by these rules, the Federal Rules of Evidence, or other rules adopted by the Supreme Court.

Notes

Rule 26.1. Determination of Foreign Law

A party who intends to raise an issue concerning the law of a foreign country shall give reasonable written notice. The court, in determining foreign law, may consider any relevant material or source, including testimony, whether or not submitted by a party or admissible under the Federal Rules of Evidence. The court's determination shall be treated as a ruling on a question of law.

Notes

Rule 26.2. Production of Witness Statements

(a) Motion for Production.



VI. TRIAL

Rule 26.2. Production of Witness Statements

(a) Motion for Production.



After a witness other than the defendant has testified on direct examination, the court, on motion of a party who did not call the witness, shall order the [attorney for the government](#) or the defendant and the defendant's attorney, as the case may be, to produce, for the examination and use of the moving party, any [statement](#) of the witness that is in their possession and that relates to the subject matter concerning which the witness has testified.

(b) Production of Entire Statement.

If the entire contents of the [statement](#) relate to the subject matter concerning which the witness has testified, the court shall order that the statement be delivered to the moving party.

(c) Production of Excised Statement.

If the other party claims that the [statement](#) contains privileged information or matter that does not relate to the subject matter concerning which the witness has testified, the court shall order that it be delivered to the court in camera. Upon inspection, the court shall excise the portions of the statement that are privileged or that do not relate to the subject matter concerning which the witness has testified, and shall order that the statement, with such material excised, be delivered to the moving party. Any portion of the statement that is withheld from the defendant over the defendant's objection must be preserved by the [attorney for the government](#), and, if the defendant appeals a conviction, must be made available to the appellate court for the purpose of determining the correctness of the decision to excise the portion of the statement.

(d) Recess for Examination of Statement.

Upon delivery of the [statement](#) to the moving party, the court, upon application of that party, may recess the proceedings so that counsel may examine the statement and prepare to use it in the proceedings.

(e) Sanction for Failure to Produce Statement.

If the other party elects not to comply with an order to deliver a [statement](#) to the moving party, the court shall order that the testimony of the witness be stricken from the record and that the trial proceed, or, if it is the [attorney for the government](#) who elects not to comply, shall declare a mistrial if required by the interest of justice.

(f) Definition.

As used in this rule, a "statement" of a witness means:

- (1) a written statement made by the witness that is signed or otherwise adopted or approved by the witness;

(2) a substantially verbatim recital of an oral statement made by the witness that is recorded contemporaneously with the making of the oral statement and that is contained in a stenographic, mechanical, electrical, or other recording or a transcription thereof; or

(3) a statement, however taken or recorded, or a transcription thereof, made by the witness to a grand jury.

(g) Scope of Rule.

This rule applies at a suppression hearing conducted under [Rule 12](#) , at trial under this rule, and to the extent specified:

(1) in [Rule 32\(e\)](#) at sentencing;

(2) in [Rule 32.1\(c\)](#) at a hearing to revoke or modify probation or supervised release;

(3) in [Rule 46\(i\)](#) at a detention hearing; and

(4) in Rule 8 of the Rules Governing Proceedings under 28 U.S.C. Sec. 2255.





LII Home



Contents



Next



Previous



Query



Next Hit



Prev. Hit



How to Query

[Notes](#)

Rule 26.3. Mistrial

Before ordering a mistrial, the court shall provide an opportunity for the government and for each defendant to comment on the propriety of the order, including whether each party consents or objects to a mistrial, and to suggest any alternatives.

[Notes](#)

Rule 27. Proof of Official Record

An official record or an entry therein or the lack of such a record or entry may be proved in the same manner as in civil actions.

[Notes](#)

Rule 28. Interpreters

The court may appoint an interpreter of its own selection and may fix the reasonable compensation of such interpreter. Such compensation shall be paid out of funds provided by [law](#) or by the government, as the court may direct.

[Notes](#)

Rule 29. Motion for Judgment of Acquittal

(a) Motion Before Submission to Jury.

Motions for directed verdict are abolished and motions for judgment of acquittal shall be used in their place. The court on motion of a defendant or of its own motion shall order the entry of judgment of acquittal of one or more offenses charged in the indictment or information after the evidence on either side is closed if the evidence is insufficient to sustain a conviction of such offense or offenses. If a defendant's motion for judgment of acquittal at the close of the evidence offered by the government is not granted, the defendant may offer evidence without having reserved the right.

(b) Reservation of Decision on Motion.

The court may reserve decision on a motion for judgment of acquittal, proceed with the trial (where the motion is made before the close of all the evidence), submit the case to the jury and decide the motion either before the jury returns a verdict or after it returns a verdict of guilty or is discharged without having returned a verdict. If the court reserves

decision, it must decide the motion on the basis of the evidence at the time the ruling was reserved.

(c) Motion After Discharge of Jury.

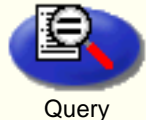
If the jury returns a verdict of guilty or is discharged without having returned a verdict, a motion for judgment of acquittal may be made or renewed within 7 days after the jury is discharged or within such further time as the court may fix during the 7-day period. If a verdict of guilty is returned the court may on such motion set aside the verdict and enter judgment of acquittal. If no verdict is returned the court may enter judgment of acquittal. It shall not be necessary to the making of such a motion that a similar motion has been made prior to the submission of the case to the jury.

(d) Same: Conditional Ruling on Grant of Motion.

If a motion for judgment of acquittal after verdict of guilty under this Rule is granted, the court shall also determine whether any motion for a new trial should be granted if the judgment of acquittal is thereafter vacated or reversed, specifying the grounds for such determination. If the motion for a new trial is granted conditionally, the order thereon does not affect the finality of the judgment. If the motion for a new trial has been granted conditionally and the judgment is reversed on appeal, the new trial shall proceed unless the appellate court has otherwise ordered. If such motion has been denied conditionally, the appellee on appeal may assert error in that denial, and if the judgment is reversed on appeal, subsequent proceedings shall be in accordance with the order of the appellate court.

[Notes](#)





[Rule 29.1. Closing Argument](#)

After the closing of evidence the prosecution shall open the argument. The defense shall be permitted to reply. The prosecution shall then be permitted to reply in rebuttal.

[Notes](#)

[Rule 30. Instructions](#)

At the close of the evidence or at such earlier time during the trial as the court reasonably directs, any party may file written requests that the court instruct the jury on the [law](#) as set forth in the requests. At the same time copies of such requests shall be furnished to all parties. The court shall inform counsel of its proposed action upon the requests prior to their arguments to the jury. The court may instruct the jury before or after the arguments are completed or at both times. No party may assign as error any portion of the charge or omission therefrom unless that party objects thereto before the jury retires to consider its verdict, stating distinctly the matter to which that party objects and the grounds of the objection. Opportunity shall be given to make the objection out of the hearing of the jury and, on request of any party, out of the presence of the jury.

[Notes](#)

[Rule 31. Verdict](#)

(a) Return.

The verdict shall be unanimous. It shall be returned by the jury to the judge in open court.

(b) Several Defendants.

If there are two or more defendants, the jury at any time during its deliberations may return a verdict or verdicts with respect to a defendant or defendants as to whom it has agreed; if the jury cannot agree with respect to all, the defendant or defendants as to whom it does not agree may be tried again.

(c) Conviction of Less Offense.

The defendant may be found guilty of an offense necessarily included in the offense charged or of an attempt to commit either the offense charged or an offense necessarily included therein if the attempt is an offense.

(d) Poll of Jury.

When a verdict is returned and before it is recorded the jury shall be polled at the request of any party or upon the court's own motion. If upon the poll there is not unanimous concurrence, the jury may be directed to retire for further deliberations or may be

discharged.

[(e) CRIMINAL FORFEITURE.]

[Notes](#)

VII. JUDGMENT

Rule 32. Sentence and Judgment

(a) In General; Time for Sentencing.



VII. JUDGMENT

Rule 32. Sentence and Judgment

(a) In General; Time for Sentencing.



When a presentence investigation and report are made under [subdivision \(b\)\(1\)](#), sentence should be imposed without unnecessary delay following completion of the process prescribed by [subdivision \(b\)\(6\)](#). The time limits prescribed in [subdivision \(b\)\(6\)](#) may be either shortened or lengthened for good cause.

(b) Presentence Investigation and Report.**(1) When Made.**

The probation officer must make a presentence investigation and submit a report to the court before the sentence is imposed, unless:

(A) the court finds that the information in the record enables it to exercise its sentencing authority meaningfully under 18 U.S.C. Sec. 3553; and

(B) the court explains this finding on the record.

Notwithstanding the preceding sentence, a presentence investigation and report, or other report containing information sufficient for the court to enter an order of restitution, as the court may direct, shall be required in any case in which restitution is required to be ordered.

(2) Presence of Counsel.

On request, the defendant's counsel is entitled to notice and a reasonable opportunity to attend any interview of the defendant by a probation officer in the course of a presentence investigation.

(3) Nondisclosure.

The report must not be submitted to the court or its contents disclosed to anyone unless the defendant has consented in writing, has pleaded guilty or nolo contendere, or has been found guilty.

(4) Contents of the Presentence Report.

The presentence report must contain -

(A) information about the defendant's history and characteristics, including any prior criminal record, financial condition, and any circumstances that, because they affect the defendant's behavior, may be helpful in imposing sentence or in correctional treatment;

(B) the classification of the offense and of the defendant under the categories established by the Sentencing Commission under 28 U.S.C. Sec. 994(a), as the probation officer believes to be applicable to the defendant's case; the kinds of sentence and the sentencing range suggested for such a category of offense committed by such a category of defendant



LII Home



Contents



Next



Previous



Query



Next Hit



Prev. Hit



How to Query

as set forth in the guidelines issued by the Sentencing Commission under 28 U.S.C. Sec. 994(a)(1); and the probation officer's explanation of any factors that may suggest a different sentence - within or without the applicable guideline - that would be more appropriate, given all the circumstances;

(C) a reference to any pertinent policy statement issued by the Sentencing Commission under 28 U.S.C. Sec. 994(a)(2);

(D) verified information, stated in a nonargumentative style, containing an assessment of the financial, social, psychological, and medical impact on any individual against whom the offense has been committed;

(E) in appropriate cases, information about the nature and extent of nonprison programs and resources available for the defendant;

(F) in appropriate cases, information sufficient for the court to enter an order of restitution;





LII Home



Contents



Next



Previous



Query



Next Hit



Prev. Hit



How to Query

VII. JUDGMENT

Rule 32. Sentence and Judgment

(b) Presentence Investigation and Report.

(4) Contents of the Presentence Report.



(G) any report and recommendation resulting from a study ordered by the court under 18 U.S.C. Sec. 3552(b); and

(H) any other information required by the court.

(5) Exclusions.

The presentence report must exclude:

(A) any diagnostic opinions that, if disclosed, might seriously disrupt a program of rehabilitation;

(B) sources of information obtained upon a promise of confidentiality; or

(C) any other information that, if disclosed, might result in harm, physical or otherwise, to the defendant or other persons.

(6) Disclosure and Objections.

(A) Not less than 35 days before the sentencing hearing - unless the defendant waives this minimum period - the probation officer must furnish the presentence report to the defendant, the defendant's counsel, and the [attorney for the Government](#) . The court may, by local rule or in individual cases, direct that the probation officer not disclose the probation officer's recommendation, if any, on the sentence.

(B) Within 14 days after receiving the presentence report, the parties shall communicate in writing to the probation officer, and to each other, any objections to any material information, sentencing classifications, sentencing guideline ranges, and policy statements contained in or omitted from the presentence report. After receiving objections, the probation officer may meet with the defendant, the defendant's counsel, and the [attorney for the Government](#) to discuss those objections. The probation officer may also conduct a further investigation and revise the presentence report as appropriate.

(C) Not later than 7 days before the sentencing hearing, the probation officer must submit the presentence report to the court, together with an addendum setting forth any unresolved objections, the grounds for those objections, and the probation officer's comments on the objections. At the same time, the probation officer must furnish the revisions of the presentence report and the addendum to the defendant, the defendant's counsel, and the [attorney for the Government](#) .

(D) Except for any unresolved objection under [subdivision \(b\)\(6\)\(B\)](#) , the court may, at the hearing, accept the presentence report as its findings of fact. For good cause shown, the court may allow a new objection to be raised at any time before imposing sentence.

(c) Sentence.

(1) Sentencing Hearing.

At the sentencing hearing, the court must afford counsel for the defendant and for the Government an opportunity to comment on the probation officer's determinations and on other matters relating to the appropriate sentence, and must rule on any unresolved objections to the presentence report. The court may, in its discretion, permit the parties to introduce testimony or other evidence on the objections. For each matter controverted, the court must make either a finding on the allegation or a determination that no finding is necessary because the controverted matter will not be taken into account in, or will not affect, sentencing. A written record of these findings and determinations must be appended to any copy of the presentence report made available to the Bureau of Prisons.

(2) Production of Statements at Sentencing Hearing.

[Rule 26.2\(a\)](#) -[\(d\)](#) and [\(f\)](#) applies at a sentencing hearing under this rule. If a party elects not to comply with an order under [Rule 26.2\(a\)](#) to deliver a statement to the movant, the court may not consider the affidavit or testimony of the witness whose statement is withheld.

(3) Imposition of Sentence.

Before imposing sentence, the court must:

(A) verify that the defendant and defendant's counsel have read and discussed the presentence report made available under [subdivision \(b\)\(6\)\(A\)](#) . If the court has received information excluded from the presentence report under [subdivision \(b\)\(5\)](#) the court - in lieu of making that information available - must summarize it in writing, if the information will be relied on in determining sentence. The court must also give the defendant and the defendant's counsel a reasonable opportunity to comment on that information;





LII Home



Contents



Next



Previous



Query



Next Hit



Prev. Hit



How to Query

VII. JUDGMENT

Rule 32. Sentence and Judgment

(c) Sentence.

(3) Imposition of Sentence.



(B) afford defendant's counsel an opportunity to speak on behalf of the defendant;

(C) address the defendant personally and determine whether the defendant wishes to make a statement and to present any information in mitigation of the sentence;

(D) afford the [attorney for the Government](#) an opportunity equivalent to that of the defendant's counsel to speak to the court; and

(E) if sentence is to be imposed for a [crime of violence or sexual abuse](#) , address the [victim](#) personally if the victim is present at the sentencing hearing and determine if the victim wishes to make a statement or present any information in relation to the sentence.

(4) In Camera Proceedings.

The court's summary of information under [subdivision \(c\)\(3\)\(A\)](#) may be in camera. Upon joint motion by the defendant and by the [attorney for the Government](#) , the court may hear in camera the statements - made under [subdivision \(c\)\(3\)\(B\)](#) , [\(C\)](#) , [\(D\)](#) , and [\(E\)](#) - by the defendant, the defendant's counsel, the [victim](#) , or the attorney for the Government.

(5) Notification of Right to Appeal.

After imposing sentence in a case which has gone to trial on a plea of not guilty, the court must advise the defendant of the right to appeal. After imposing sentence in any case, the court must advise the defendant of any right to appeal the sentence, and of the right of a person who is unable to pay the cost of an appeal to apply for leave to appeal in forma pauperis. If the defendant so requests, the clerk of the court must immediately prepare and file a notice of appeal on behalf of the defendant.

(d) Judgment.

(1) In General.

A judgment of conviction must set forth the plea, the verdict or findings, the adjudication, and the sentence. If the defendant is found not guilty or for any other reason is entitled to be discharged, judgment must be entered accordingly. The judgment must be signed by the judge and entered by the clerk.

(2) Criminal Forfeiture.

Forfeiture procedures are governed by [Rule 32.2](#) .

(e) Plea Withdrawal.

If a motion to withdraw a plea of guilty or nolo contendere is made before sentence is imposed, the court may permit the plea to be withdrawn if the defendant shows any fair

and just reason. At any later time, a plea may be set aside only on direct appeal or by motion under 28 U.S.C. Sec. 2255.

(f) Definitions.

- For purposes of this rule -

(1) "victim" means any individual against whom an offense has been committed for which a sentence is to be imposed, but the right of allocution under [subdivision \(c\)\(3\)\(E\)](#) may be exercised

instead by -

(A) a parent or legal guardian if the victim is below the age of eighteen years or incompetent; or





LII Home



Contents



Next



Previous



Query



Next Hit



Prev. Hit



How to Query



(B) one or more family members or relatives designated by the court if the victim is deceased or incapacitated; if such person or persons are present at the sentencing hearing, regardless of whether the victim is present; and

(2) "crime of violence or sexual abuse" means a crime that involved the use or attempted or threatened use of physical force against the person or property of another, or a crime under chapter 109A of title 18, United States Code.

Notes

Rule 32.1. Revocation or Modification of Probation or Supervised Release

(a) Revocation of Probation or Supervised Release.

(1) Preliminary Hearing.

Whenever a person is held in custody on the ground that the person has violated a condition of probation or supervised release, the person shall be afforded a prompt hearing before any judge, or a United States magistrate ([FOOTNOTE 1](#)) who has been given the authority pursuant to 28 U.S.C. Sec. 636 to conduct such hearings, in order to determine whether there is probably ([FOOTNOTE 2](#)) cause to hold the person for a revocation hearing. The person shall be given

(A) notice of the preliminary hearing and its purpose and of the alleged violation;

(B) an opportunity to appear at the hearing and present evidence in the person's own behalf;

(C) upon request, the opportunity to question witnesses against the person unless, for good cause, the federal magistrate decides that justice does not require the appearance of the witness; and

(D) notice of the person's right to be represented by counsel.

The proceedings shall be recorded stenographically or by an electronic recording device. If probable cause is found to exist, the person shall be held for a revocation hearing. The person may be released pursuant to [Rule 46\(c\)](#) pending the revocation hearing. If probable cause is not found to exist, the proceeding shall be dismissed.

(2) Revocation Hearing.

The revocation hearing, unless waived by the person, shall be held within a reasonable time in the district of jurisdiction. The person shall be given

(A) written notice of the alleged violation;

(B) disclosure of the evidence against the person;

(C) an opportunity to appear and to present evidence in the person's own behalf;

(D) the opportunity to question adverse witnesses; and

(E) notice of the person's right to be represented by counsel.

(b) Modification of Probation or Supervised Release.



VII. JUDGMENT

Rule 32.1. Revocation or Modification of Probation or Supervised Release

(b) Modification of Probation or Supervised Release.



A hearing and assistance of counsel are required before the terms or conditions of probation or supervised release can be modified, unless the relief to be granted to the person on probation or supervised release upon the person's request or the court's own motion is favorable to the person, and the [attorney for the government](#) , after having been given notice of the proposed relief and a reasonable opportunity to object, has not objected. An extension of the term of probation or supervised release is not favorable to the person for the purposes of this rule.

(c) Production of Statements.**(1) In General.**

[Rule 26.2\(a\) - \(d\)](#) and [\(f\)](#) applies at any hearing under this rule.

(2) Sanctions for Failure to Produce Statement.

If a party elects not to comply with an order under [Rule 26.2\(a\)](#) to deliver a statement to the moving party, the court may not consider the testimony of a witness whose statement is withheld.

[Notes](#)**Rule 32.2. Criminal Forfeiture****(a) Notice to the Defendant.**

A court shall not enter a judgment of forfeiture in a criminal proceeding unless the indictment or information contains notice to the defendant that the government will seek the forfeiture of property as part of any sentence in accordance with the applicable statute.

(b) Entry of Preliminary Order of Forfeiture; Post Verdict Hearing.

(1) As soon as practicable after entering a guilty verdict or accepting a plea of guilty or *nolo contendere* on any count in an indictment or information with regard to which criminal forfeiture is sought, the court shall determine what property is subject to forfeiture under the applicable statute. If forfeiture of specific property is sought, the court shall determine whether the government has established the requisite nexus between the property and the offense. If the government seeks a personal money judgment against the defendant, the court shall determine the amount of money that the defendant will be ordered to pay. The court's determination may be based on evidence already in the record, including any written plea agreement or, if the forfeiture is contested, on evidence or information presented by the parties at a hearing after the verdict or finding of guilt.

(2) If the court finds that property is subject to forfeiture, it shall promptly enter a preliminary order of forfeiture setting forth the amount of any money judgment or

directing the forfeiture of specific property without regard to any third party's interest in all or part of it. Determining whether a third party has such an interest shall be deferred until any third party files a claim in an ancillary proceeding under Rule 32.2(c).

(3) The entry of a preliminary order of forfeiture authorizes the Attorney General (or a designee) to seize the specific property subject to forfeiture; to conduct any discovery the court considers proper in identifying, locating, or disposing of the property; and to commence proceedings that comply with any statutes governing third-party rights. At sentencing - or at any time before sentencing if the defendant consents - the order of forfeiture becomes final as to the defendant and shall be made a part of the sentence and included in the judgment. The court may include in the order of forfeiture conditions reasonably necessary to preserve the property's value pending any appeal.

(4) Upon a party's request in a case in which a jury returns a verdict of guilty, the jury shall determine whether the government has established the requisite nexus between the property and the offense committed by the defendant.

(c) Ancillary Proceeding; Final Order of Forfeiture.

(1) If, as prescribed by statute, a third party files a petition asserting an interest in the property to be forfeited, the court shall conduct an ancillary proceeding but no ancillary proceeding is required to the extent that the forfeiture consists of a money judgment.

(A) In the ancillary proceeding, the court may, on motion, dismiss the petition for lack of standing, for failure to state a claim, or for any other lawful reason. For purposes of the motion, the facts set forth in the petition are assumed to be true.

(B) After disposing of any motion filed under Rule 32.2(c)(1)(A) and before conducting a hearing on the petition, the court may permit the parties to conduct discovery in accordance with the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure if the court determines that discovery is necessary or desirable to resolve factual issues. When discovery ends, a party may move for summary judgment under [Rule 56](#) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure.

(2) When the ancillary proceeding ends, the court shall enter a final order of forfeiture by amending the preliminary order as necessary to account for any third-party rights. If no third party files a timely claim, the preliminary order becomes the final order of forfeiture, if the court finds that the defendant (or any combination of defendants convicted in the case) had an interest in the property that is forfeitable under the applicable statute. The defendant may not object to the entry of the final order of forfeiture on the ground that the property belongs, in whole or in part, to a codefendant or third party, nor may a third party object to the final order on the ground that the third party had an interest in the property.





(3) If multiple third-party petitions are filed in the same case, an order dismissing or granting one petition is not appealable until rulings are made on all petitions, unless the court determines that there is no just reason for delay.

(4) An ancillary proceeding is not part of sentencing.

(d) Stay Pending Appeal.

If a defendant appeals from a conviction or order of forfeiture, the court may stay the order of forfeiture on terms appropriate to ensure that the property remains available pending appellate review. A stay does not delay the ancillary proceeding or the determination of a third party's rights or interests. If the court rules in favor of any third party while an appeal is pending, the court may amend the order of forfeiture but shall not transfer any property interest to a third party until the decision on appeal becomes final, unless the defendant consents in writing or on the record.

(e) Subsequently Located Property; Substitute Property.

(1) On the government's motion, the court may at any time enter an order of forfeiture or amend an existing order of forfeiture to include property that:

(A) is subject to forfeiture under an existing order of forfeiture but was located and identified after that order was entered; or

(B) is substitute property that qualifies for forfeiture under an applicable statute.

(2) If the government shows that the property is subject to forfeiture under Rule 32.2(e)(1), the court shall:

(A) enter an order forfeiting that property, or amend an existing preliminary or final order to include it; and

(B) if a third party files a petition claiming an interest in the property, conduct an ancillary proceeding under Rule 32.2(c).

(3) There is no right to trial by jury under Rule 32.2(e).

[Rule 33. New Trial](#)

The court on motion of a defendant may grant a new trial to that defendant if required in the interest of justice. If trial was by the court without a jury the court on motion of a defendant for a new trial may vacate the judgment if entered, take additional testimony and direct the entry of a new judgment. A motion for a new trial based on the ground of newly discovered evidence may be made only before or within two years after final judgment, but if an appeal is pending the court may grant the motion only on remand of the case. A motion for a new trial based on any other grounds shall be made within 7 days

after verdict or finding of guilty or within such further time as the court may fix during the 7-day period.

Notes

Rule 34. Arrest of Judgment

The court on motion of a defendant shall arrest judgment if the indictment or information does not charge an offense or if the court was without jurisdiction of the offense charged. The motion in arrest of judgment shall be made within 7 days after verdict or finding of guilty, or after plea of guilty or nolo contendere, or within such further time as the court may fix during the 7-day period.

Notes

Rule 35. Correction or Reduction of Sentence

(a) Correction of a Sentence on Remand.

The court shall correct a sentence that is determined on appeal under 18 U.S.C. 3742 to have been imposed in violation of law, to have been imposed as a result of an incorrect application of the sentencing guidelines, or to be unreasonable, upon remand of the case to the court -

- (1) for imposition of a sentence in accord with the findings of the court of appeals; or
- (2) for further sentencing proceedings if, after such proceedings, the court determines that the original sentence was incorrect.

(b) Reduction of Sentence for Changed Circumstances.





LII Home



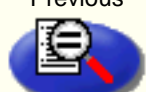
Contents



Next



Previous



Query



Next Hit



Prev. Hit



How to Query

VII. JUDGMENT

Rule 35. Correction or Reduction of Sentence

(b) Reduction of Sentence for Changed Circumstances.



The court, on motion of the Government made within one year after the imposition of the sentence, may reduce a sentence to reflect a defendant's subsequent, substantial assistance in the investigation or prosecution of another person who has committed an offense, in accordance with the guidelines and policy statements issued by the Sentencing Commission pursuant to section 994 of title 28, United States Code. The court may consider a government motion to reduce a sentence made one year or more after imposition of the sentence where the defendant's substantial assistance involves information or evidence not known by the defendant until one year or more after imposition of sentence. The court's authority to reduce a sentence under this subsection ([FOOTNOTE 1](#)) includes the authority to reduce such sentence to a level below that established by statute as a minimum sentence.

(c) Correction of Sentence by Sentencing Court.

The court, acting within 7 days after the imposition of sentence, may correct a sentence that was imposed as a result of arithmetical, technical, or other clear error.

[Notes](#)

Rule 36. Clerical Mistakes

Clerical mistakes in judgments, orders or other parts of the record and errors in the record arising from oversight or omission may be corrected by the court at any time and after such notice, if any, as the court orders.

[Notes](#)

(VIII. APPEAL) (Abrogated Dec. 4, 1967, eff. July 1, 1968)

(Rule 37. Taking Appeal; and Petition for Writ of Certiorari) (Abrogated Dec. 4, 1967, eff. July 1, 1968)

[Notes](#)

Rule 38. Stay of Execution

(a) Death.

A sentence of death shall be stayed if an appeal is taken from the conviction or sentence.

(b) Imprisonment.

A sentence of imprisonment shall be stayed if an appeal is taken from the conviction or sentence and the defendant is released pending disposition of the appeal pursuant to Rule 9(b) of the Federal Rules of Appellate Procedure. If not stayed, the court may recommend to the Attorney General that the defendant be retained at, or transferred to, a place of confinement near the place of trial or the place where an appeal is to be heard, for a period reasonably necessary to permit the defendant to assist in the preparation of an appeal to the court of appeals.

(c) Fine.

A sentence to pay a fine or a fine and costs, if an appeal is taken, may be stayed by the [district court](#) or by the court of appeals upon such terms as the court deems proper. The court may require the defendant pending appeal to deposit the whole or any part of the fine and costs in the registry of the district court, or to give bond for the payment thereof, or to submit to an examination of assets, and it may make any appropriate order to restrain the defendant from dissipating such defendant's assets.

(d) Probation.

A sentence of probation may be stayed if an appeal from the conviction or sentence is taken. If the sentence is stayed, the court shall fix the terms of the stay.

(e) Notice to Victims and Restitution.





LII Home



Contents



Next



Previous



Query



Next Hit



Prev. Hit



How to Query

FEDERAL RULES OF CRIMINAL PROCEDURE

(VIII. APPEAL) (Abrogated Dec. 4, 1967, eff. July 1, 1968)

Rule 38. Stay of Execution

(e) Notice to Victims and Restitution.



A sanction imposed as part of the sentence pursuant to 18 U.S.C. 3555 or 3556 may, if an appeal of the conviction or sentence is taken, be stayed by the district court or by the court of appeals upon such terms as the court finds appropriate. The court may issue such orders as may be reasonably necessary to ensure compliance with the sanction upon disposition of the appeal, including the entering of a restraining order or an injunction or requiring a deposit in whole or in part of the monetary amount involved into the registry of the district court or execution of a performance bond.

(f) Disabilities.

A civil or employment disability arising under a Federal statute by reason of the defendant's conviction or sentence, may, if an appeal is taken, be stayed by the [district court](#) or by the court of appeals upon such terms as the court finds appropriate. The court may enter a restraining order or an injunction, or take any other action that may be reasonably necessary to protect the interest represented by the disability pending disposition of the appeal.

[Notes](#)

[\(Rule 39. Supervision of Appeal\) \(Abrogated Dec. 4, 1967, eff. July 1, 1968\)](#)

[Notes](#)

IX. SUPPLEMENTARY AND SPECIAL PROCEEDINGS

[Rule 40. Commitment to Another District](#)

(a) Appearance Before Federal Magistrate Judge.

If a person is arrested in a district other than that in which the offense is alleged to have been committed, that person shall be taken without unnecessary delay before the nearest available [federal magistrate judge](#) , in accordance with the provisions of [Rule 5](#) .

Preliminary proceedings concerning the defendant shall be conducted in accordance with [Rule 5](#) and [5.1](#) , except that if no preliminary examination is held because an indictment has been returned or an information filed or because the defendant elects to have the preliminary examination conducted in the district in which the prosecution is pending, the person shall be held to answer upon a finding that such person is the person named in the indictment, information or warrant. If held to answer, the defendant shall be held to

answer in the [district court](#) in which the prosecution is pending - provided that a warrant is issued in that district if the arrest was made without a warrant - upon production of the warrant or a certified copy thereof. The warrant or certified copy may be produced by facsimile transmission.

(b) Statement by Federal Magistrate Judge.

In addition to the statements required by [Rule 5](#) , the [federal magistrate judge](#) shall inform the defendant of the provisions of [Rule 20](#) .

(c) Papers.

If a defendant is held or discharged, the papers in the proceeding and any bail taken shall be transmitted to the clerk of the [district court](#) in which the prosecution is pending.

(d) Arrest of Probationer or Supervised Releasee.

If a person is arrested for a violation of probation or supervised release in a district other than the district having jurisdiction, such person must be taken without unnecessary delay before the nearest available [federal magistrate judge](#) . The person may be released under [Rule 46\(c\)](#) . The federal magistrate judge shall:

- (1) Proceed under [Rule 32.1](#) if jurisdiction over the person is transferred to that district;
- (2) Hold a prompt preliminary hearing if the alleged violation occurred in that district, and either (i) hold the person to answer in the [district court](#) of the district having jurisdiction or (ii) dismiss the proceedings and so notify that court; or
- (3) Otherwise order the person held to answer in the [district court](#) of the district having jurisdiction upon production of certified copies of the judgment, the warrant, and the application for the warrant, and upon a finding that the person before the [magistrate judge](#) is the person named in the warrant.

(e) Arrest for Failure To Appear.





LII Home



Contents



Next



Previous



Query



Next Hit



Prev. Hit



How to Query



If a person is arrested on a warrant in a district other than that in which the warrant was issued, and the warrant was issued because of the failure of the person named therein to appear as required pursuant to a subpoena or the terms of that person's release, the person arrested must be taken without unnecessary delay before the nearest available [federal magistrate judge](#) . Upon production of the warrant or a certified copy thereof and upon a finding that the person before the magistrate judge is the person named in the warrant, the federal magistrate judge shall hold the person to answer in the district in which the warrant was issued.

(f) Release or Detention.

If a person was previously detained or conditionally released, pursuant to chapter 207 of title 18, United States Code, in another district where a warrant, information, or indictment issued, the [federal magistrate judge](#) shall take into account the decision previously made and the reasons set forth therefor, if any, but will not be bound by that decision. If the federal magistrate judge amends the release or detention decision or alters the conditions of release, the magistrate judge shall set forth the reasons therefor in writing.

[Notes](#)

[Rule 41. Search and Seizure](#)

(a) Authority To Issue Warrant.

Upon the request of a [federal law enforcement officer](#) or an [attorney for the government](#) , a search warrant authorized by this rule may be issued (1) by a [federal magistrate judge](#) , or a [state](#) court of record within the federal district, for a search of [property](#) or for a person within the district and (2) by a federal magistrate judge for a search of property or for a person either within or outside the district if the property or person is within the district when the warrant is sought but might move outside the district before the warrant is executed.

(b) Property or Persons Which May Be Seized With a Warrant.

A warrant may be issued under this rule to search for and seize any (1) [property](#) that constitutes evidence of the commission of a criminal offense; or (2) contraband, the fruits of crime, or things otherwise criminally possessed; or (3) property designed or intended for use or which is or has been used as the means of committing a criminal offense; or (4) person for whose arrest there is probable cause, or who is unlawfully restrained.

(c) Issuance and Contents.

(1) Warrant Upon Affidavit.

A warrant other than a warrant upon oral testimony under paragraph (2) of this subdivision shall issue only on an affidavit or affidavits sworn to before the [federal magistrate judge](#) or [state judge](#) and establishing the grounds for issuing the warrant. If the federal magistrate judge or state judge is satisfied that grounds for the application exist or that there is probable cause to believe that they exist, that magistrate judge or state judge shall issue a warrant identifying the [property](#) or person to be seized and naming or describing the person or place to be searched. The finding of probable cause may be based upon hearsay evidence in whole or in part. Before ruling on a request for a warrant the federal magistrate judge or state judge may require the affiant to appear personally and may examine under [oath](#) the affiant and any witnesses the affiant may produce, provided that such proceeding shall be taken down by a court reporter or recording equipment and made part of the affidavit. The warrant shall be directed to a civil officer of the United States authorized to enforce or assist in enforcing any [law](#) thereof or to a person so authorized by the President of the United States. It shall command the officer to search, within a specified period of time not to exceed 10 days, the person or place named for the property or person specified. The warrant shall be served in the [daytime](#) , unless the issuing authority, by appropriate provision in the warrant, and for reasonable cause shown, authorizes its execution at times other than daytime. It shall designate a federal magistrate judge to whom it shall be returned.

(2) Warrant Upon Oral Testimony.

(A) General Rule.

If the circumstances make it reasonable to dispense, in whole or in part, with a written affidavit, a [Federal magistrate judge](#) may issue a warrant based upon sworn testimony communicated by telephone or other appropriate means, including facsimile transmission.

(B) Application.

The person who is requesting the warrant shall prepare a document to be known as a duplicate original warrant and shall read such duplicate original warrant, verbatim, to the [Federal magistrate judge](#) . The Federal magistrate judge shall enter, verbatim, what is so read to such magistrate judge on a document to be known as the original warrant. The Federal magistrate judge may direct that the warrant be modified.

(C) Issuance.

If the [Federal magistrate judge](#) is satisfied that the circumstances are such as to make it reasonable to dispense with a written affidavit and that grounds for the application exist or that there is probable cause to believe that they exist, the Federal magistrate judge shall order the issuance of a warrant by directing the person requesting the warrant to sign the Federal magistrate judge's name on the duplicate original warrant. The Federal magistrate judge shall immediately sign the original warrant and enter on the face of the original warrant the exact time when the warrant was ordered to be issued. The finding of probable cause for a warrant upon oral testimony may be based on the same kind of evidence as is sufficient for a warrant upon affidavit.

(D) Recording and Certification of Testimony.

Rule 41. Search and Seizure

(c) Issuance and Contents.

(2) Warrant Upon Oral Testimony.



When a caller informs the [Federal magistrate judge](#) that the purpose of the call is to request a warrant, the Federal magistrate judge shall immediately place under [oath](#) each person whose testimony forms a basis of the application and each person applying for that warrant. If a voice recording device is available, the Federal magistrate judge shall record by means of such device all of the call after the caller informs the Federal magistrate judge that the purpose of the call is to request a warrant. Otherwise a stenographic or longhand verbatim record shall be made. If a voice recording device is used or a stenographic record made, the Federal magistrate judge shall have the record transcribed, shall certify the accuracy of the transcription, and shall file a copy of the original record and the transcription with the court. If a longhand verbatim record is made, the Federal magistrate judge shall file a signed copy with the court.

(E) Contents.

The contents of a warrant upon oral testimony shall be the same as the contents of a warrant upon affidavit.

(F) Additional Rule for Execution.

The person who executes the warrant shall enter the exact time of execution on the face of the duplicate original warrant.

(G) Motion To Suppress Precluded.

Absent a finding of bad faith, evidence obtained pursuant to a warrant issued under this paragraph is not subject to a motion to suppress on the ground that the circumstances were not such as to make it reasonable to dispense with a written affidavit.

(d) Execution and Return With Inventory.

The officer taking property under the warrant shall give to the person from whom or from whose premises the [property](#) was taken a copy of the warrant and a receipt for the property taken or shall leave the copy and receipt at the place from which the property was taken. The return shall be made promptly and shall be accompanied by a written inventory of any property taken. The inventory shall be made in the presence of the applicant for the warrant and the person from whose possession or premises the property was taken, if they are present, or in the presence of at least one credible person other than the applicant for the warrant or the person from whose possession or premises the property was taken, and shall be verified by the officer. The [federal magistrate judge](#) shall upon request deliver a copy of the inventory to the person from whom or from whose premises the property was taken and to the applicant for the warrant.

(e) Motion for Return of Property.

A person aggrieved by an unlawful search and seizure or by the deprivation of [property](#)



LII Home



Contents



Next



Previous



Query



Next Hit



Prev. Hit



How to Query

may move the [district court](#) for the district in which the property was seized for the return of the property on the ground that such person is entitled to lawful possession of the property. The court shall receive evidence on any issue of fact necessary to the decision of the motion. If the motion is granted, the property shall be returned to the movant, although reasonable conditions may be imposed to protect access and use of the property in subsequent proceedings. If a motion for return of property is made or comes on for hearing in the district of trial after an indictment or information is filed, it shall be treated also as a motion to suppress under [Rule 12](#) .

(f) Motion To Suppress.

A motion to suppress evidence may be made in the court of the district of trial as provided in [Rule 12](#) .

(g) Return of Papers to Clerk.

The [federal magistrate judge](#) before whom the warrant is returned shall attach to the warrant a copy of the return, inventory and all other papers in connection therewith and shall file them with the clerk of the [district court](#) for the district in which the [property](#) was seized.

(h) Scope and Definition.

This rule does not modify any act, inconsistent with it, regulating search, seizure and the issuance and execution of search warrants in circumstances for which special provision is made. The term "property" is used in this rule to include documents, books, papers and any other tangible objects. The term "daytime" is used in this rule to mean the hours from 6:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. according to local time. The phrase "federal law enforcement officer" is used in this rule to mean any government agent, other than an [attorney for the government](#) as defined in [Rule 54\(c\)](#) , who is engaged in the enforcement of the criminal laws and is within any category of officers authorized by the Attorney General to request the issuance of a search warrant.

[Notes](#)

Rule 42. Criminal Contempt

(a) Summary Disposition.





LII Home



Contents



Next



Previous



Query



Next Hit



Prev. Hit



How to Query



A criminal contempt may be punished summarily if the judge certifies that the judge saw or heard the conduct constituting the contempt and that it was committed in the actual presence of the court. The order of contempt shall recite the facts and shall be signed by the judge and entered of record.

(b) Disposition Upon Notice and Hearing.

A criminal contempt except as provided in [subdivision \(a\)](#) of this rule shall be prosecuted on notice. The notice shall state the time and place of hearing, allowing a reasonable time for the preparation of the defense, and shall state the essential facts constituting the criminal contempt charged and describe it as such. The notice shall be given orally by the judge in open court in the presence of the defendant or, on application of the United States attorney or of an attorney appointed by the court for that purpose, by an order to show cause or an order of arrest. The defendant is entitled to a trial by jury in any case in which an act of Congress so provides. The defendant is entitled to admission to bail as provided in these rules. If the contempt charged involves disrespect to or criticism of a judge, that judge is disqualified from presiding at the trial or hearing except with the defendant's consent. Upon a verdict or finding of guilt the court shall enter an order fixing the punishment.

[Notes](#)

X. GENERAL PROVISIONS

[Rule 43. Presence of the Defendant](#)

(a) Presence Required.

The defendant shall be present at the arraignment, at the time of the plea, at every stage of the trial including the impaneling of the jury and the return of the verdict, and at the imposition of sentence, except as otherwise provided by this rule.

(b) Continued Presence Not Required.

The further progress of the trial to and including the return of the verdict, and the imposition of sentence, will not be prevented and the defendant will be considered to have waived the right to be present whenever a defendant, initially present at trial, or having pleaded guilty or nolo contendere,

(1) is voluntarily absent after the trial has commenced (whether or not the defendant has been informed by the court of the obligation to remain during the trial),

(2) in a noncapital case, is voluntarily absent at the imposition of sentence, or

(3) after being warned by the court that disruptive conduct will cause the removal of the defendant from the courtroom, persists in conduct which is such as to justify exclusion from the courtroom.

(c) Presence Not Required.

A defendant need not be present:

(1) when represented by counsel and the defendant is an organization, as defined in 18 U.S.C. Sec. 18;

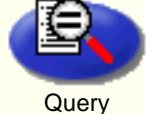
(2) when the offense is punishable by fine or by imprisonment for not more than one year or both, and the court, with the written consent of the defendant, permits arraignment, plea, trial, and imposition of sentence in the defendant's absence;

(3) when the proceeding involves only a conference or hearing upon a question of [law](#) ; or

(4) when the proceeding involves a correction of sentence under [Rule 35](#) .

[Notes](#)





How to Query



[Rule 44. Right to and Assignment of Counsel](#)

(a) Right to Assigned Counsel.

Every defendant who is unable to obtain counsel shall be entitled to have counsel assigned to represent that defendant at every stage of the proceedings from initial appearance before the [federal magistrate judge](#) or the court through appeal, unless the defendant waives such appointment.

(b) Assignment Procedure.

The procedures for implementing the right set out in [subdivision \(a\)](#) shall be those provided by [law](#) and by local rules of court established pursuant thereto.

(c) Joint Representation.

Whenever two or more defendants have been jointly charged pursuant to [Rule 8\(b\)](#) or have been joined for trial pursuant to [Rule 13](#) , and are represented by the same retained or assigned counsel or by retained or assigned counsel who are associated in the practice of [law](#) , the court shall promptly inquire with respect to such joint representation and shall personally advise each defendant of the right to the effective assistance of counsel, including separate representation. Unless it appears that there is good cause to believe no conflict of interest is likely to arise, the court shall take such measures as may be appropriate to protect each defendant's right to counsel.

[Notes](#)

[Rule 45. Time](#)

(a) Computation.

In computing any period of time the day of the act or event from which the designated period of time begins to run shall not be included. The last day of the period so computed shall be included, unless it is a Saturday, a Sunday, or a legal holiday, or, when the act to be done is the filing of some paper in court, a day on which weather or other conditions have made the office of the clerk of the [district court](#) inaccessible, in which event the period runs until the end of the next day which is not one of the aforementioned days. When a period of time prescribed or allowed is less than 11 days, intermediate Saturdays, Sundays and legal holidays shall be excluded in the computation. As used in these rules, "legal holiday" includes New Year's Day, Birthday of Martin Luther King, Jr., Washington's Birthday, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Columbus Day, Veterans Day, Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day, and any other day appointed as a holiday by the President or the Congress of the United States, or by the [state](#) in which the district court is held.

(b) Enlargement.

When an act is required or allowed to be done at or within a specified time, the court for cause shown may at any time in its discretion

(1) with or without motion or notice, order the period enlarged if request therefor is made before the expiration of the period originally prescribed or as extended by a previous order or

(2) upon motion made after the expiration of the specified period permit the act to be done if the failure to act was the result of excusable neglect; but the court may not extend the time for taking any action under Rules [29](#) , [33](#) , [34](#) and [35](#) , except to the extent and under the conditions stated in them.

((c) Unaffected by Expiration of Term.)

(Rescinded Feb. 28, 1966, eff. July 1, 1966)

(d) For Motions; Affidavits.

A written motion, other than one which may be heard ex parte, and notice of the hearing thereof shall be served not later than 5 days before the time specified for the hearing unless a different period is fixed by rule or order of the court. For cause shown such an order may be made on ex parte application. When a motion is supported by affidavit, the affidavit shall be served with the motion; and opposing affidavits may be served not less than 1 day before the hearing unless the court permits them to be served at a later time.

(e) Additional Time After Service by Mail.





Whenever a party has the right or is required to do an act within a prescribed period after the service of a notice or other paper upon that party and the notice or other paper is served by mail, 3 days shall be added to the prescribed period.

[Notes](#)

[Rule 46. Release From Custody](#)

(a) Release Prior to Trial.

Eligibility for release prior to trial shall be in accordance with 18 U.S.C. Sec. 3142 and 3144.

(b) Release During Trial.

A person released before trial shall continue on release during trial under the same terms and conditions as were previously imposed unless the court determines that other terms and conditions or termination of release are necessary to assure such person's presence during the trial or to assure that such person's conduct will not obstruct the orderly and expeditious progress of the trial.

(c) Pending Sentence and Notice of Appeal.

Eligibility for release pending sentence or pending notice of appeal or expiration of the time allowed for filing notice of appeal, shall be in accordance with 18 U.S.C. Sec. 3143. The burden of establishing that the defendant will not flee or pose a danger to any other person or to the community rests with the defendant.

(d) Justification of Sureties.

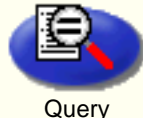
Every surety, except a corporate surety which is approved as provided by [law](#), shall justify by affidavit and may be required to describe in the affidavit the property by which the surety proposes to justify and the encumbrances thereon, the number and amount of other bonds and undertakings for bail entered into by the surety and remaining undischarged and all the other liabilities of the surety. No bond shall be approved unless the surety thereon appears to be qualified.

(e) Forfeiture.

(1) Declaration.

If there is a breach of condition of a bond, the [district court](#) shall declare a forfeiture of the bail.

(2) Setting aside.



The court may direct that a forfeiture be set aside in whole or in part, upon such conditions as the court may impose, if a person released upon execution of an appearance bond with a surety is subsequently surrendered by the surety into custody or if it otherwise appears that justice does not require the forfeiture.

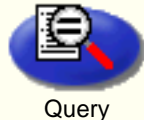
(3) Enforcement.

When a forfeiture has not been set aside, the court shall on motion enter a judgment of default and execution may issue thereon. By entering into a bond the obligors submit to the jurisdiction of the [district court](#) and irrevocably appoint the clerk of the court as their agent upon whom any papers affecting their liability may be served. Their liability may be enforced on motion without the necessity of an independent action. The motion and such notice of the motion as the court prescribes may be served on the clerk of the court, who shall forthwith mail copies to the obligors to their last known addresses.

(4) Remission.

After entry of such judgment, the court may remit it in whole or in part under the conditions applying to the setting aside of forfeiture in [paragraph \(2\)](#) of this subdivision.





(f) Exoneration.

When the condition of the bond has been satisfied or the forfeiture thereof has been set aside or remitted, the court shall exonerate the obligors and release any bail. A surety may be exonerated by a deposit of cash in the amount of the bond or by a timely surrender of the defendant into custody.

(g) Supervision of Detention Pending Trial.

The court shall exercise supervision over the detention of defendants and witnesses within the district pending trial for the purpose of eliminating all unnecessary detention. The [attorney for the government](#) shall make a biweekly report to the court listing each defendant and witness who has been held in custody pending indictment, arraignment or trial for a period in excess of ten days. As to each witness so listed the attorney for the government shall make a statement of the reasons why such witness should not be released with or without the taking of a deposition pursuant to [Rule 15\(a\)](#). As to each defendant so listed the attorney for the government shall make a statement of the reasons why the defendant is still held in custody.

(h) Forfeiture of Property.

Nothing in this rule or in chapter 207 of title 18, United States Code, shall prevent the court from disposing of any charge by entering an order directing forfeiture of property pursuant to 18 U.S.C. 3142(c)(1)(B)(xi) if the value of the property is an amount that would be an appropriate sentence after conviction of the offense charged and if such forfeiture is authorized by statute or regulation.

(i) Production of Statements.

(1) In General.

[Rule 26.2\(a\) - \(d\)](#) and [\(f\)](#) applies at a detention hearing held under 18 U.S.C. Sec. 3142, unless the court, for good cause shown, rules otherwise in a particular case.

(2) Sanctions for Failure to Produce Statement.

If a party elects not to comply with an order under [Rule 26.2\(a\)](#) to deliver a statement to the moving party, at the detention hearing the court may not consider the testimony of a witness whose statement is withheld.

Notes

Rule 47. Motions

An application to the court for an order shall be by motion. A motion other than one made during a trial or hearing shall be in writing unless the court permits it to be made orally. It

shall state the grounds upon which it is made and shall set forth the relief or order sought. It may be supported by affidavit.

[Notes](#)

Rule 48. Dismissal

(a) By Attorney for Government.

The Attorney General or the United States attorney may by leave of court file a dismissal of an indictment, information or complaint and the prosecution shall thereupon terminate. Such a dismissal may not be filed during the trial without the consent of the defendant.

(b) By Court.

If there is unnecessary delay in presenting the charge to a grand jury or in filing an information against a defendant who has been held to answer to the [district court](#) , or if there is unnecessary delay in bringing a defendant to trial, the court may dismiss the indictment, information or complaint.





LII Home



Contents



Next



Previous



Query



Next Hit



Prev. Hit



How to Query

[Notes](#)

Rule 49. Service and Filing of Papers

(a) Service: When Required.

Written motions other than those which are heard ex parte, written notices, designations of record on appeal and similar papers shall be served upon each of the parties.

(b) Service: How Made.

Whenever under these rules or by an order of the court service is required or permitted to be made upon a party represented by an attorney, the service shall be made upon the attorney unless service upon the party personally is ordered by the court. Service upon the attorney or upon a party shall be made in the manner provided in civil actions.

(c) Notice of Orders.

Immediately upon the entry of an order made on a written motion subsequent to arraignment the clerk shall mail to each party a notice thereof and shall make a note in the docket of the mailing. Lack of notice of the entry by the clerk does not affect the time to appeal or relieve or authorize the court to relieve a party for failure to appeal within the time allowed, except as permitted by Rule 4(b) of the Federal Rules of Appellate Procedure.

(d) Filing.

Papers required to be served shall be filed with the court. Papers shall be filed in the manner provided in civil actions.

((e) Filing of Dangerous Offender Notice.)

(Abrogated Apr. 27, 1995, eff. Dec. 1, 1995.)

[Notes](#)

Rule 50. Calendars; Plans for Prompt Disposition

(a) Calendars.

The district courts may provide for placing criminal proceedings upon appropriate calendars. Preference shall be given to criminal proceedings as far as practicable.

(b) Plans for Achieving Prompt Disposition of Criminal Cases.

To minimize undue delay and to further the prompt disposition of criminal cases, each

[district court](#) shall conduct a continuing study of the administration of criminal justice in the district court and before United States magistrate judges of the district and shall prepare plans for the prompt disposition of criminal cases in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 208 of Title 18, United States Code.

[Notes](#)

Rule 51. Exceptions Unnecessary





Exceptions to rulings or orders of the court are unnecessary and for all purposes for which an exception has heretofore been necessary it is sufficient that a party, at the time the ruling or order of the court is made or sought, makes known to the court the action which that party desires the court to take or that party's objection to the action of the court and the grounds therefor; but if a party has no opportunity to object to a ruling or order, the absence of an objection does not thereafter prejudice that party.

[Notes](#)

[Rule 52. Harmless Error and Plain Error](#)

(a) Harmless Error.

Any error, defect, irregularity or variance which does not affect substantial rights shall be disregarded.

(b) Plain Error.

Plain errors or defects affecting substantial rights may be noticed although they were not brought to the attention of the court.

[Notes](#)

[Rule 53. Regulation of Conduct in the Court Room](#)

The taking of photographs in the court room during the progress of judicial proceedings or radio broadcasting of judicial proceedings from the court room shall not be permitted by the court.

[Notes](#)

[Rule 54. Application and Exception](#)

(a) Courts.

These rules apply to all criminal proceedings in the United States District Courts; in the District ([FOOTNOTE 1](#)) of Guam; in the [District Court](#) for the Northern Mariana Islands, except as otherwise provided in articles IV and V of the covenant provided by the Act of March 24, 1976 (90 Stat. 263); in the District Court of the Virgin Islands; and (except as otherwise provided in the Canal Zone) ([FOOTNOTE 2](#)) in the United States District Court for the District of the Canal Zone; in the United States Courts of Appeals; and in the Supreme Court of the United States; except that the prosecution of offenses in the District Court of the Virgin Islands shall be by indictment or information as otherwise provided by [law](#) .

(b) Proceedings.

(1) Removed Proceedings.

These rules apply to criminal prosecutions removed to the United States district courts from [state](#) courts and govern all procedure after removal, except that dismissal by the attorney for the prosecution shall be governed by state [law](#) .

(2) Offenses Outside a District or State.

These rules apply to proceedings for offenses committed upon the high seas or elsewhere out of the jurisdiction of any particular [state](#) or district, except that such proceedings may be had in any district authorized by 18 U.S.C. Sec. 3238.

(3) Peace Bonds.



(b) Proceedings.

(3) Peace Bonds.



These rules do not alter the power of judges of the United States or of United States magistrate judges to hold to security of the peace and for good behavior under Revised Statutes, Sec. 4069, 50 U.S.C. Sec. 23, but in such cases the procedure shall conform to these rules so far as they are applicable.

(4) Proceedings Before United States Magistrate Judges.

Proceedings involving misdemeanors and other petty offenses are governed by Rule 58.

(5) Other Proceedings.

These rules are not applicable to extradition and rendition of fugitives; civil forfeiture of property for violation of a statute of the United States; or the collection of fines and penalties. Except as provided in [Rule 20\(d\)](#) they do not apply to proceedings under 18 U.S.C., Chapter 403 - Juvenile Delinquency - so far as they are inconsistent with that chapter. They do not apply to summary trials for offenses against the navigation laws under Revised Statutes Sec. 4300-4305, 33 U.S.C. Sec. 391-396, or to proceedings involving disputes between seamen under Revised Statutes, Sec. 4079-4081, as amended, 22 U.S.C. Sec. 256-258, or to proceedings for fishery offenses under the Act of June 28, 1937, c. 392, 50 Stat. 325-327, 16 U.S.C. Sec. 772-772i, or to proceedings against a witness in a foreign country under 28 U.S.C. Sec. 1784.

(c) Application of Terms.

As used in these rules the following terms have the designated meanings.

"Act of Congress" includes any act of Congress locally applicable to and in force in the District of Columbia, in Puerto Rico, in a territory or in an insular possession.

"**Attorney for the government**" means the Attorney General, an authorized assistant of the Attorney General, a United States Attorney, an authorized assistant of a United States Attorney, when applicable to cases arising under the laws of Guam the Attorney General of Guam or such other person or persons as may be authorized by the laws of Guam to act therein, and when applicable to cases arising under the laws of the Northern Mariana Islands the Attorney General of the Northern Mariana Islands or any other person or persons as may be authorized by the laws of the Northern Marianas to act therein.

"**Civil action**" refers to a civil action in a [district court](#) .

The words "**demurrer**," "**motion to quash**," "**plea in abatement**," "**plea in bar**" and "**special plea in bar**," or words to the same effect, in any act of Congress shall be construed to mean the motion raising a defense or objection provided in [Rule 12](#) .

"**District court**" includes all district courts named in subdivision (a) of this rule.

"**Federal magistrate judge**" means a [United States magistrate judge](#) as defined in 28



LII Home



Contents



Next



Previous



Query



Next Hit



Prev. Hit



How to Query

U.S.C. Sec. 631-639, a [judge of the United States](#) or another judge or judicial officer specifically empowered by statute in force in any territory or possession, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, or the District of Columbia, to perform a function to which a particular rule relates.

"**Judge of the United States**" includes a judge of a [district court](#) , court of appeals, or the Supreme Court.

"**Law**" includes statutes and judicial decisions.

"**Magistrate judge**" includes a [United States magistrate judge](#) as defined in 28 U.S.C. Sec. 631-639, a [judge of the United States](#) , another judge or judicial officer specifically empowered by statute in force in any territory or possession, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, or the District of Columbia, to perform a function to which a particular rule relates, and a [state](#) or local judicial officer, authorized by 18 U.S.C. Sec. 3041 to perform the functions prescribed in Rules 3, 4, and 5.

"**Oath**" includes affirmations.

"**Petty offense**" is defined in 18 U.S.C. Sec. 19.

"**State**" includes District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, territory and insular possession.

"**United States magistrate judge**" means the officer authorized by 28 U.S.C. Sec. 631-639.



X. GENERAL PROVISIONS

Rule 54. Application and Exception

(c) Application of Terms.



LII Home



Contents



Next



Previous



Query



Next Hit



Prev. Hit



How to Query

[Notes](#)

Rule 55. Records

The clerk of the [district court](#) and each [United States magistrate judge](#) shall keep records in criminal proceedings in such form as the Director of the Administrative Office of the United States Courts may prescribe. The clerk shall enter in the records each order or judgment of the court and the date such entry is made.

[Notes](#)

Rule 56. Courts and Clerks

The [district court](#) shall be deemed always open for the purpose of filing any proper paper, of issuing and returning process and of making motions and orders. The clerk's office with the clerk or a deputy in attendance shall be open during business hours on all days except Saturdays, Sundays, and legal holidays, but a court may provide by local rule or order that its clerk's office shall be open for specified hours on Saturdays or particular legal holidays other than New Year's Day, Birthday of Martin Luther King, Jr., Washington's Birthday, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Columbus Day, Veterans Day, Thanksgiving Day, and Christmas Day.

[Notes](#)

Rule 57. Rules by District Courts

(a) In General.

(1) Each [district court](#) acting by a majority of its district judges may, after giving appropriate public notice and an opportunity to comment, make and amend rules governing its practice. A local rule shall be consistent with - but not duplicative of - Acts of Congress and rules adopted under 28 U.S.C. Sec. 2072 and shall conform to any uniform numbering system prescribed by the Judicial Conference of the United States.

(2) A local rule imposing a requirement of form shall not be enforced in a manner that causes a party to lose rights because of a nonwillful failure to comply with the requirement.

(b) Procedure When There Is No Controlling Law.

A judge may regulate practice in any manner consistent with federal [law](#), these rules, and local rules of the district. No sanction or other disadvantage may be imposed for noncompliance with any requirement not in federal law, federal rules, or the local district

rules unless the alleged violator has been furnished in the particular case with actual notice of the requirement.

(c) Effective Date and Notice.

A local rule so adopted shall take effect upon the date specified by the [district court](#) and shall remain in effect unless amended by the district court or abrogated by the judicial council of the circuit in which the district is located. Copies of the rules and amendments so made by any district court shall upon their promulgation be furnished to the judicial council and the Administrative Office of the United States Courts and shall be made available to the public.

[Notes](#)

[Rule 58. Procedure for Misdemeanors and Other Petty Offenses](#)

(a) Scope.

(1) In General.

This rule governs the procedure and practice for the conduct of proceedings involving misdemeanors and other petty offenses, and for appeals to district judges in such cases tried by United States magistrate judges.





LII Home



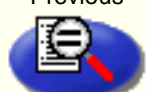
Contents



Next



Previous



Query



Next Hit



Prev. Hit



How to Query



(2) Applicability of Other Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure.

In proceedings concerning petty offenses for which no sentence of imprisonment will be imposed the court may follow such provisions of these rules as it deems appropriate, to the extent not inconsistent with this rule. In all other proceedings the other rules govern except as specifically provided in this rule.

(3) Definition.

The term "petty offenses for which no sentence of imprisonment will be imposed" as used in this rule, means any petty offenses as defined in 18 U.S.C. Sec. 19 as to which the court determines, that, in the event of conviction, no sentence of imprisonment will actually be imposed.

(b) Pretrial Procedures.

(1) Trial Document.

The trial of a misdemeanor may proceed on an indictment, information, or complaint or, in the case of a [petty offense](#) , on a citation or violation notice.

(2) Initial Appearance.

At the defendant's initial appearance on a misdemeanor or other [petty offense](#) charge, the court shall inform the defendant of:

(A) the charge, and the maximum possible penalties provided by [law](#) , including payment of a special assessment under 18 U.S.C. Sec. 3013, and restitution under 18 U.S.C. Sec. 3663;

(B) the right to retain counsel;

(C) the right to request the appointment of counsel if the defendant is unable to obtain counsel, unless the charge is a [petty offense](#) for which an appointment of counsel is not required;

(D) the right to remain silent and that any statement made by the defendant may be used against the defendant;

(E) the right to trial, judgment, and sentencing before a district judge, unless:

(i) the charge is a Class B misdemeanor motor-vehicle offense, a Class C misdemeanor, or an infraction; or

(ii) the defendant consents to trial, judgment, and sentencing before a [magistrate judge](#) ;

(F) the right to trial by jury before either a [United States magistrate judge](#) or a district

judge, unless the charge is a [petty offense](#) ; and (G) the right to a preliminary examination in accordance with 18 U.S.C. Sec. 3060, and the general circumstances under which the defendant may secure pretrial release, if the defendant is held in custody and charged with a misdemeanor other than a petty offense.

(3) Consent and Arraignment.

(A) Plea Before a [United States Magistrate Judge](#) .

A [magistrate judge](#) shall take the defendant's plea in a Class B misdemeanor charging a motor-vehicle offense, a Class C misdemeanor, or an infraction. In every other misdemeanor case, a magistrate judge may take the plea only if the defendant consents either in writing or orally on the record to be tried before the magistrate judge and specifically waives trial before a district judge. The defendant may plead not guilty, guilty, or with the consent of the magistrate judge, nolo contendere.





LII Home



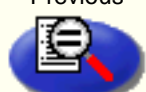
Contents



Next



Previous



Query



Next Hit



Prev. Hit



How to Query

X. GENERAL PROVISIONS

Rule 58. Procedure for Misdemeanors and Other Petty Offenses

(b) Pretrial Procedures.

(3) Consent and Arraignment.



(B) Failure to Consent.

In a misdemeanor case - other than a Class B misdemeanor charging a motor-vehicle offense, a Class C misdemeanor, or an infraction - [magistrate judge](#) shall order the defendant to appear before a district judge for further proceedings on notice, unless the defendant consents to trial before the magistrate judge.

(c) Additional Procedures Applicable Only to Petty Offenses for Which No Sentence of Imprisonment Will Be Imposed.

With respect to petty offenses for which no sentence of imprisonment will be imposed, the following additional procedures are applicable:

(1) Plea of Guilty or Nolo Contendere.

No plea of guilty or nolo contendere shall be accepted unless the court is satisfied that the defendant understands the nature of the charge and the maximum possible penalties provided by [law](#) .

(2) Waiver of Venue for Plea and Sentence.

A defendant who is arrested, held, or present in a district other than that in which the indictment, information, complaint, citation or violation notice is pending against that defendant may state in writing a wish to plead guilty or nolo contendere, to waive venue and trial in the district in which the proceeding is pending, and to consent to disposition of the case in the district in which that defendant was arrested, is held, or is present. Unless the defendant thereafter pleads not guilty, the prosecution shall be had as if venue were in such district, and notice of the same shall be given to the [magistrate judge](#) in the district where the proceeding was originally commenced. The defendant's statement of a desire to plead guilty or nolo contendere is not admissible against the defendant.

(3) Sentence.

The court shall afford the defendant an opportunity to be heard in mitigation. The court shall then immediately proceed to sentence the defendant, except that in the discretion of the court, sentencing may be continued to allow an investigation by the probation service or submission of additional information by either party.

(4) Notification of Right to Appeal.

After imposing sentence in a case which has gone to trial on a plea of not guilty, the court shall advise the defendant of the defendant's right to appeal including any right to appeal the sentence. There shall be no duty on the court to advise the defendant of any right of appeal after sentence is imposed following a plea of guilty or nolo contendere, except that the court shall advise the defendant of any right to appeal the sentence.

(d) Securing the Defendant's Appearance; Payment in Lieu of Appearance.

(1) Forfeiture of Collateral.

When authorized by local rules of the [district court](#) , payment of a fixed sum may be accepted in suitable cases in lieu of appearance and as authorizing the termination of the proceedings. Local rules may make provision for increases in fixed sums not to exceed the maximum fine which could be imposed.

(2) Notice to Appear.

If a defendant fails to pay a fixed sum, request a hearing, or appear in response to a citation or violation notice, the clerk or a [magistrate judge](#) may issue a notice for the defendant to appear before the court on a date certain. The notice may also afford the defendant an additional opportunity to pay a fixed sum in lieu of appearance, and shall be served upon the defendant by mailing a copy to the defendant's last known address.

(3) Summons or Warrant.

Upon an indictment or a showing by one of the other documents specified in [subdivision \(b\)\(1\)](#) of probable cause to believe that an offense has been committed and that the defendant has committed it, the court may issue an arrest warrant or, if no warrant is requested by the attorney for the prosecution, a summons. The showing of probable cause shall be made in writing upon [oath](#) or under penalty for perjury, but the affiant need not appear before the court. If the defendant fails to appear before the court in response to a summons, the court may summarily issue a warrant for the defendant's immediate arrest and appearance before the court.

(e) Record.





LII Home



Contents



Next



Previous



Query



Next Hit



Prev. Hit



How to Query



Proceedings under this rule shall be taken down by a reporter or recorded by suitable sound equipment.

(f) New Trial.

The provisions of Rule 33 shall apply.

(g) Appeal.

(1) Decision, Order, Judgment or Sentence by a District Judge.

An appeal from a decision, order, judgment or conviction or sentence by a district judge shall be taken in accordance with the Federal Rules of Appellate Procedure.

(2) Decision, Order, Judgment or Sentence by a United States Magistrate Judge.

(A) Interlocutory Appeal.

A decision or order by a [magistrate judge](#) which, if made by a district judge, could be appealed by the government or defendant under any provision of [law](#) , shall be subject to an appeal to a district judge provided such appeal is taken within 10 days of the entry of the decision or order. An appeal shall be taken by filing with the clerk of court a statement specifying the decision or order from which an appeal is taken and by serving a copy of the statement upon the adverse party, personally or by mail, and by filing a copy with the magistrate judge.

(B) Appeal From Conviction or Sentence.

An appeal from a judgment of conviction or sentence by a magistrate judge to a district judge shall be taken within 10 days after entry of the judgment. An appeal shall be taken by filing with the clerk of court a statement specifying the judgment from which an appeal is taken, and by serving a copy of the statement upon the United States Attorney, personally or by mail, and by filing a copy with the magistrate judge.

(C) Record.

The record shall consist of the original papers and exhibits in the case together with any transcript, tape, or other recording of the proceedings and a certified copy of the docket entries which shall be transmitted promptly to the clerk of court. For purposes of the appeal, a copy of the record of such proceedings shall be made available at the expense of the United States to a person who establishes by affidavit the inability to pay or give security therefor, and the expense of such copy shall be paid by the Director of the Administrative Office of the United States Courts.

(D) Scope of Appeal.

The defendant shall not be entitled to a trial de novo by a district judge. The scope of

([FOOTNOTE 1](#)) appeal shall be the same as an appeal from a judgment of a [district court](#) to a court of appeals.

(3) Stay of Execution; Release Pending Appeal.

The provisions of [Rule 38](#) relating to stay of execution shall be applicable to a judgment of conviction or sentence. The defendant may be released pending appeal in accordance with the provisions of [law](#) relating to release pending appeal from a judgment of a [district court](#) to a court of appeals.

[Notes](#)

Rule 59. Effective Date

These rules take effect on the day which is 3 months subsequent to the adjournment of the first regular session of the 79th Congress, but if that day is prior to September 1, 1945, then they take effect on September 1, 1945. They govern all criminal proceedings thereafter commenced and so far as just and practicable all proceedings then pending.





LII Home



Contents



Next



Previous



Query



Next Hit



Prev. Hit



How to Query



[Notes](#)

[Rule 60. Title](#)

These rules may be known and cited as the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure.

[Notes](#)

(APPENDIX OF FORMS) (Abrogated Apr. 28, 1983, eff. Aug. 1, 1983)

[Notes](#)

NOTES TO [RULES](#) (AS AMENDED TO JANUARY 26, 1998)

HISTORICAL NOTE

The original Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure were adopted by order of the Supreme Court on Dec. 26, 1944, transmitted to Congress by the Attorney General on Jan. 3, 1945, and became effective on Mar. 21, 1946.

The Rules have been amended Dec. 27, 1948, eff. Jan. 1, 1949; Dec. 27, 1948, eff. Oct. 20, 1949; Apr. 12, 1954, eff. July 1, 1954; Apr. 9, 1956, eff. July 8, 1956; Feb. 28, 1966, eff. July 1, 1966; Dec. 4, 1967, eff. July 1, 1968; Mar. 1, 1971, eff. July 1, 1971; Apr. 24, 1972, eff. Oct. 1, 1972; Nov. 20, 1972, eff. July 1, 1975, pursuant to Pub. L. 93-595; Mar. 18, 1974, eff. July 1, 1974; Apr. 22, 1974, eff. in part Aug. 1, 1975, and Dec. 1, 1975, pursuant to Pub. L. 93-361 and Pub. L. 94-64; Dec. 12, 1975, Pub. L. 94-149, Sec. 5, 89 Stat. 806; Apr. 26, 1976, eff. in part Aug. 1, 1976, and Oct. 1, 1977, pursuant to Pub. L. 94-349 and Pub. L. 95-78; Apr. 30, 1979, eff. in part Aug. 1, 1979, and Dec. 1, 1980, pursuant to Pub. L. 96-42; Apr. 28, 1982, eff. Aug. 1, 1982; Oct. 12, 1982, Pub. L. 97-291, Sec. 3, 96 Stat. 1249; Apr. 28, 1983, eff. Aug. 1, 1983; Oct. 12, 1984, Pub. L. 98-473, title II, Sec. 209, 215, 404, 98 Stat. 1986, 2014, 2067; Pub. L. 98-596, Sec. 11(a), (b), Oct. 30, 1984, 98 Stat. 3138; Apr. 29, 1985, eff. Aug. 1, 1985; Oct. 27, 1986, Pub. L. 99-570, title I, Sec. 1009(a), 100 Stat. 3207-8; Nov. 10, 1986, Pub. L. 99-646, Sec. 12(b), 24, 25(a), 54(a), 100 Stat. 3594, 3597, 3607; Mar. 9, 1987, eff. Aug. 1, 1987; Apr. 25, 1988, eff. Aug. 1, 1988; Nov. 18, 1988, Pub. L. 100-690, title VI, Sec. 6483, title VII, Sec. 7076, 7089(c), 102 Stat. 4382, 4406, 4409; Apr. 25, 1989, eff. Dec. 1, 1989; May 1, 1990, eff. Dec. 1, 1990; Apr. 30, 1991, eff. Dec. 1, 1991; Apr. 22, 1993, eff. Dec. 1, 1993; Apr. 29, 1994, eff. Dec. 1, 1994; Sept. 13, 1994, Pub. L. 103-322, title XXIII, Sec. 230101(b), title XXXIII, Sec. 330003(h), 108 Stat. 2078, 2141; Apr. 27, 1995, eff. Dec. 1, 1995; Apr. 23, 1996, eff. Dec. 1, 1996; Apr. 24, 1996, Pub. L. 104-132, title II, Sec. 207(a), 110 Stat. 1236; Apr. 11, 1997, eff. Dec. 1, 1997.

SOURCE

(As amended Apr. 24, 1972, eff. Oct. 1, 1972; Apr. 28, 1982, eff. Aug. 1, 1982; Apr. 22, 1993, eff. Dec. 1, 1993.)

NOTES OF ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON RULES - 1944

1. These rules are prescribed under the authority of two acts of Congress, namely: the Act of June 29, 1940, c. 445, 18 U.S.C. 687 (see 3771) (Proceedings in criminal cases prior to and including verdict; power of Supreme Court to prescribe rules), and the Act of November 21, 1941, c. 492, 18 U.S.C. 689 (see 3771, 3772) (Proceedings to punish for criminal contempt of court; application to sections 687 and 688).
2. The courts of the United States covered by the rules are enumerated in Rule 54(a). In addition to Federal courts in the continental United States they include district courts in Alaska, Hawaii, Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands. In the Canal Zone only the rules governing proceedings after verdict, finding or plea of guilty are applicable.
3. While the rules apply to proceedings before commissioners when acting as committing magistrates, they do not govern when a commissioner acts as a trial magistrate for the trial of petty offenses committed on Federal reservations. That procedure is governed by rules adopted by order promulgated by the Supreme Court on January 6, 1941 (311 U.S. 733), pursuant to the Act of October 9, 1940, c. 785, secs. 1-5. See 18 U.S.C. 576-576d (now 3401, 3402) (relating to trial of petty offenses on Federal reservations by United States commissioners).

NOTES OF ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON RULES - 1972 AMENDMENT

The rule is amended to make clear that the rules are applicable to courts of the United States and, where the rule so provides, to proceedings before United States magistrates and state or local judicial officers.

Primarily these rules are intended to govern proceedings in criminal cases triable in the United States District Court. Special rules have been promulgated, pursuant to the authority set forth in 28 U.S.C. Sec. 636(c), for the trial of "minor offenses" before United States magistrates. (See Rules of Procedure for the Trial of Minor Offenses Before United States Magistrates (January 27, 1971).)





LII Home



Contents



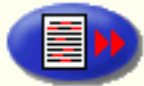
Next



Previous



Query



Next Hit



Prev. Hit



How to Query

X. GENERAL PROVISIONS

NOTES TO RULES (AS AMENDED TO JANUARY 26, 1998)

NOTES TO RULE 1

NOTES OF ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON RULES - 1972 AMENDMENT



However, there is inevitably some overlap between the two sets of rules. The Rules of Criminal Procedure for the United States District Courts deal with preliminary, supplementary, and special proceedings which will often be conducted before United States magistrates. This is true, for example, with regard to rule 3 - The Complaint; rule 4 - Arrest Warrant or Summons Upon Complaint; rule 5 - Initial Appearance Before the Magistrate; and rule 5.1 - Preliminary Examination. It is also true, for example, of supplementary and special proceedings such as rule 40 - Commitment to Another District, Removal; rule 41 - Search and Seizure; and rule 46 - Release from Custody. Other of these rules, where applicable, also apply to proceedings before United States magistrates. See Rules of Procedure for the Trial of Minor Offenses Before United States Magistrates, rule 1 - Scope:

These rules govern the procedure and practice for the trial of minor offenses (including petty offenses) before United States magistrates under Title 18, U.S.C. Sec. 3401, and for appeals in such cases to judges of the district courts. To the extent that pretrial and trial procedure and practice are not specifically covered by these rules, the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure apply as to minor offenses other than petty offenses. All other proceedings in criminal matters, other than petty offenses, before United States magistrates are governed by the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure.

State and local judicial officers are governed by these rules, but only when the rule specifically so provides. This is the case of rule 3 - The Complaint; rule 4 - Arrest Warrant or Summons Upon Complaint; and rule 5 - Initial Appearance Before the Magistrate. These rules confer authority upon the "magistrate," a term which is defined in new rule 54 as follows:

"Magistrate" includes a United States magistrate as defined in 28 U.S.C. Sec. 631-639, a judge of the United States, another judge or judicial officer specifically empowered by statute in force in any territory or possession, the commonwealth of Puerto Rico, or the District of Columbia, to perform a function to which a particular rule relates, and a state or local judicial officer, authorized by 18 U.S.C. Sec. 3041 to perform the functions prescribed in rules 3, 4, and 5.

Rule 41 provides that a search warrant may be issued by "a judge of a state court of record" and thus confers that authority upon appropriate state judicial officers.

The scope of rules 1 and 54 is discussed in C. Wright, *Federal Practice and Procedure: Criminal Sec. 21, 871-874* (1969, Supp. 1971), and 8 and 8A J. Moore, *Federal Practice chapters 1 and 54* (2d ed. Cipes 1970, Supp. 1971).

NOTES OF ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON RULES - 1982 AMENDMENT

The amendment corrects an erroneous cross reference, from Rule 54(c) to Rule 54(a), and replaces the word "defined" with the more appropriate word "provided."

NOTES OF ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON RULES - 1993 AMENDMENT

The Rule is amended to conform to the Judicial Improvements Act of 1990 (P.L. 101-650, Title III, Section 321) which provides that each United States magistrate appointed under section 631 of title 28, United States Code, shall be known as a United States magistrate judge.

CROSS REFERENCES

Power of Supreme Court to prescribe rules of procedure and evidence, see section 2072 of Title 28, Judiciary and Judicial Procedure.

NOTES TO [RULE 2](#)

NOTES OF ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON RULES - 1944

Compare Federal Rules of Civil Procedure (28 U.S.C., Appendix), Rule 1 (Scope of Rules), last sentence: "They (the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure) shall be construed to secure the just, speedy, and inexpensive determination of every action."

NOTES TO [RULE 3](#)

SOURCE

(As amended Apr. 24, 1972, eff. Oct. 1, 1972; Apr. 22, 1993, eff. Dec. 1, 1993.)

NOTES OF ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON RULES - 1944

The rule generally states existing law and practice, 18 U.S.C. 591 (now 3041) (Arrest and removal for trial); *United States v. Simon* (E.D.Pa.), 248 F. 980; *United States v. Maresca* (S.D.N.Y.), 266 F. 713, 719-721. It eliminates, however, the requirement of conformity to State law as to the form and sufficiency of the complaint. See, also, rule 57(b).





LII Home



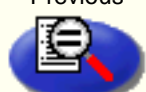
Contents



Next



Previous



Query



Next Hit



Prev. Hit



How to Query



NOTES OF ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON RULES - 1972 AMENDMENT

The amendment deletes the reference to "commissioner or other officer empowered to commit persons charged with offenses against the United States" and substitute therefor "magistrate."

The change is editorial in nature to conform the language of the rule to the recently enacted Federal Magistrates Act. The term "magistrate" is defined in rule 54.

NOTES OF ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON RULES - 1993 AMENDMENT

The Rule is amended to conform to the Judicial Improvements Act of 1990 (P.L. 101-650, Title III, Section 321) which provides that each United States magistrate appointed under section 631 of title 28, United States Code, shall be known as a United States magistrate judge.

CROSS REFERENCES

Arrest without warrant, filing of complaint on bringing arrested person before magistrate judge, see rule 5.

Copy of complaint, issuance of warrant of removal, see rule 40.

Dismissal of complaint, by Attorney General or United States attorney, see rule 48.

Extradition of fugitives from foreign country, complaint on oath, see section 3184 of this title.

Internal revenue law violations, see section 3045 of this title.

Warrant for arrest -

Description of offense charged in complaint, see rule 4.

Issued upon complaint, see rule 5.

Warrant of removal, issuance on copy of complaint, see rule 40.

NOTES TO [RULE 4](#)

SOURCE

(As amended Feb. 28, 1966, eff. July 1, 1966; Apr. 24, 1972, eff. Oct. 1, 1972; Apr. 22, 1974, eff. Dec. 1, 1975; July 31, 1975, Pub. L. 94-64, Sec. 3(1)-(3), 89 Stat. 370; Mar. 9, 1987, eff. Aug. 1, 1987; Apr. 22, 1993, eff. Dec. 1, 1993.)

NOTES OF ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON RULES - 1944

