U.S. Pretrial Services

Understanding Your Case While On Pretrial Services Supervision

Arraignment & Detention Hearing. Your bond and conditions are set. The court will give preliminary hearing and post indictment arraignment dates. If you are ordered on Pretrial Services supervision, you must telephone Pretrial Services (PSA) within 24 hours of your release.

Preliminary Hearing will not occur if you have already been indicted by a grand jury. If you have not been indicted, a preliminary hearing may take place where a magistrate judge will determine if there is enough evidence for a trial.

Post Indictment Arraignment. A magistrate judge will ask several questions such as your true name, if you have received a copy of the indictment, if you want it read in open court, and if you understand the charges against you. You will also receive your next court date.

Out of District Case. If you are being charged by another district, all further proceedings will be held in the other district. If you live in this district and are ordered on PSA supervision, you will continue to report to the officer in this district while you attend hearings in the charging district.

Case dismissed by a judge and your bond is exonerated (released). You are no longer on Pretrial Services supervision.

Trial

Guilty Plea. You will sign a plea agreement with the U.S. Attorney's Office and later enter a verbal plea before the court. You are still on PSA supervision.

Found Not Guilty. Bond is exonerated and you are no longer on Pretrial Services supervision.

"Hung Jury" or mistrial. You may have another trial. The court will decide if you are still on PSA supervision.

Found Guilty. The judge or jury finds you guilty. You are still on PSA supervision unless you have been remanded in court.

Whether you plead guilty or are found guilty, the court will refer you to a U.S. Probation Officer (USPO). The sole purpose of this referral is for the USPO to complete a pre-sentence report about you for the court. The USPO will make a sentencing recommendation to the court based on your individual information and the sentencing guidelines. Your behavior while under PSA supervision may also be included in this report. Once the report has been completed, your attorney will receive a copy. The report will be submitted to the court. It is very important to remember that YOU ARE STILL ON BOND AND REQUIRED TO REPORT TO YOUR ASSIGNED PRETRIAL OFFICER. YOU ARE STILL ON SUPERVISION. **NOTE: YOU HAVE NOT BEEN PLACED ON PROBATION.**

Sentencing

Sentenced to Probation, Electronic Monitoring, Community Correction Center or Home Confinement. You must report within 24 hours of sentencing to the U.S. Probation Office located in the same building as PSA. You will provide them your address and will be given a Probation Office to contact. Remember, you are to continue to report to your Pretrial Services Officer until you have made contact with your Probation Officer.

Sentenced to custody time and remanded into custody in court. Your bond is exonerated. You are no longer on Pretrial Services supervision. Once you have completed your time, you will then be on supervised release and supervised by the U.S. Probation Office.

Sentenced to custody time, but given a voluntary self surrender date. You are still on Pretrial Services supervision. You must continue to report to your PSA Officer until the date you self-surrender to the Bureau of Prisons or the United States Marshal's facility. Your bond will be exonerated upon your surrender. Once you have completed your time, you will then be on supervised release and supervised by the U. S. Probation Office.

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