

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI
WESTERN DIVISION**

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,	)	
	)	
Plaintiff,	)	
	)	
vs.	)	Case No. 23-00233-01-CR-W-BCW
	)	
RENETTA GOLDEN-LARIMORE,	)	
	)	
Defendant.	)	

ORDER

On October 18, 2023, the grand jury returned an indictment charging Defendants Renetta Golden-Larimore (1), Camonte Henderson (2), Tajona Manning (3), Tashawn Mayfield (4), Quinniece Smith (5), and Dannisha Taylor (6) with conspiracy to commit wire fraud in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1349 and wire fraud in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1343. Doc. 1. The indictment also contains a forfeiture allegation naming each defendant. *Id.* at 13-14. As of the date of this order, Defendants Manning, Mayfield, and Taylor entered change of pleas and are currently awaiting sentencing. Docs. 69, 71, 76. Defendants Henderson and Smith are currently set for changes of plea. Docs. 78, 79.

During the arraignment of Defendant Henderson, this matter was initially set on the December 4, 2023 trial docket. Doc. 14. Defense counsel orally requested a continuance to the March 18, 2024 trial docket based on needing additional time “to obtain and review the discovery, and to meet and confer with Defendant.” Docs. 14, 17, 18. The Court granted the motion. *Id.* During their arraignments, all defendants were notified that they are joined with co-defendants in this matter and were set for trial on the March 18, 2024 trial docket. Docs. 40, 41, 46, 49, 56, 57.

On January 1, 2024, defense counsel for Defendant Smith filed a motion to continue. Doc. 61. Therein, defense counsel requested a continuance to the June 3, 2024 Joint Criminal Jury Trial Docket based on needing “additional time to review discovery, to conduct an independent legal and factual investigation for pretrial motion preparation, to negotiate a resolution, and to prepare for trial.” *Id.* at 1-2. Government counsel objected to the continuance request. *Id.* at 1. After discussing the continuance request with the parties during scheduling conferences, the Court orally granted a continuance to the April 29, 2024 Joint Criminal Jury Trial Docket. Doc. 64, 65. This matter is currently set on the April 29, 2024 Joint Criminal Jury Trial Docket. Doc. 66.

On March 7, 2024, defense counsel for Defendant Golden-Larimore filed a motion to continue. Doc. 80. Therein, defense counsel requests a continuance to the August 12, 2024 Joint Criminal Jury Trial Docket. *Id.* at 1. Defense counsel explains Defendant Golden-Larimore “is still suffering from a stroke” and “[d]ue to the Defendant’s health concerns, Counsel has not been able to meet with the Defendant to determine her mental status with respect to proceeding with trial or if she is capable of making a plea.” *Id.* Government counsel has been notified of the requested continuance and does not object. *Id.*

In any case in which a plea of not guilty is entered, the defendant’s trial shall commence within seventy days from the filing of the information or indictment or the date of the defendant’s first appearance, whichever comes last. 18 U.S.C. § 3161(c)(1) (Speedy Trial Act). In computing the seventy-day time period, the periods of delay set forth in 18 U.S.C. § 3161(h) are to be excluded. Any period of delay resulting from a continuance granted at the request of a defendant is excludable if the Court finds the ends of justice served by the taking of such action outweigh the best interests of the public and the defendant in a speedy trial, provided the Court sets forth the reasons for such finding. See 18 U.S.C. § 3161(h)(7)(A).

In light of defense counsel's concerns about Defendant Golden-Larimore's mental status, and defense counsel's inability to meet with Defendant due to her health issues, the Court finds it would be unreasonable to expect counsel to prepare this case for trial prior to April 29, 2024, and thus, would deny Defendant a right to effective assistance of counsel. Upon consideration of the factors set forth in 18 U.S.C. § 3161(h)(7)(B), the Court finds the ends of justice served by granting a continuance outweigh the best interests of the public and the defendant in a speedy trial. The Court, in ordering this case removed from the April 29, 2024 Joint Criminal Jury Trial Docket, is not doing so because of congestion of the Court's calendar, in accordance with 18 U.S.C. § 3161(h)(7)(C).

For these reasons, it is

ORDERED that Defendant's Motion to Continue (Doc. 80) is **GRANTED**. This case is removed from the Joint Criminal Jury Trial Docket which commences April 29, 2024, and is set for trial on the Joint Criminal Jury Trial Docket which commences August 12, 2024. It is further

ORDERED that the time between the date of this Order and August 23, 2024, which is the last day of the August 12, 2024 Joint Criminal Jury Trial Docket, shall be excluded in computing the time within which this trial must commence pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 3161(h).

IT IS SO ORDERED.

DATE: March 8, 2024

/s/ W. Brian Gaddy
W. BRIAN GADDY
UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE