

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA**

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

v.

CORTNEY MERRITTS,

Defendant.

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Case No. 25-cr-00076-JMC

**JOINT MOTION TO CONTINUE
CERTAIN PRETRIAL DEADLINES**

The United States of America, by and through its attorney, the United States Attorney for the District of Columbia, and defendant Cortney Merritts, by and through his attorneys Justin Gelfand and Joseph DiRuzzo, respectfully submit this Joint Motion to Continue certain pretrial filing deadlines.

On March 20, 2025, Merritts was charged in an indictment with two counts of wire fraud, in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1343. (ECF No. 1.) The indictment also contains a forfeiture allegation. Merritts has pled not guilty to each count and has denied the forfeiture allegation.

On June 27, 2025, the Court issued a Pretrial Order setting forth deadlines in advance of the January 12, 2026, trial in this case. (ECF No. 14.) In accordance with that Order, on November 7, 2025, the parties each filed multiple Motions *In Limine*. Oppositions to the Motions *In Limine*, as well as the parties' Joint Pretrial Statement, are due on November 14, 2025.

As part of the Joint Pretrial Statement, the parties have been ordered to include, among other things, a joint proposed statement of the case, proposed voir dire questions, proposed jury instructions, a proposed verdict form, and exhibit lists, to include written objections where the parties are in disagreement as to any of the foregoing.

The parties are in the process of preparing the Joint Pretrial Statement but require additional time to meet and confer in an effort to come to agreement and resolve as many objections as possible before submitting our joint proposal to the Court. The parties also require additional time to prepare oppositions to the filed Motions *In Limine*.

To that end, the parties respectfully request a short one-week continuance of the November 14, 2025, filing deadlines, and ask the Court to issue an amended Order requiring the parties to file (1) oppositions to the Motions *In Limine*, and (2) the Joint Pretrial Statement, by November 21, 2025. All other deadlines in the Pretrial Order would remain unchanged.

Respectfully submitted,

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