

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF FLORIDA**

Case No. 22-20290-CR-BLOOM(s)

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

vs.

ERIC DEAN SHEPPARD

Defendant.

**UNITED STATES' UNOPPOSED MOTION FOR LEAVE TO FILE RESPONSES
TO DEFENDANT'S MOTION FOR JUDGMENT OF ACQUITTAL AND
DEFENDANT'S MOTION FOR NEW TRIAL IN EXCESS OF PAGE LIMIT**

The United States of America, through the undersigned Assistant United States Attorney, respectfully moves this Court for leave, pursuant to Southern District of Florida Rule 7.1(c)(2), to exceed the 20-page limit in its responses to the defendant's motions for judgment of acquittal and for new trial. In support thereof, the government states as follows:

1. Pursuant to the Court's order of February 9, 2024 (DE 207), the United States' response to the defendant's motion for judgment of acquittal is due by February 24, 2024, and its response to the defendant's motion for new trial is due by February 26, 2024.

2. The defendant's motion for judgment of acquittal is 20 pages long, with line spacing of 1.5 instead of the usual 2 spaces between lines.¹ The defendant's motion for new trial is 17 pages long, and also has line spacing of 1.5 instead of 2 spaces between lines. Each of the defendant's motions sets forth numerous arguments that the government needs to address, either with case citations or references to the record.

¹ Local Rule 5.1(a)(4) allows for motions to have no less than 1.5 spaces between lines.

3. The government is finalizing its responses to the defendant's motions, and will use the normal spacing of 2 spaces between lines. The government estimates that using 2 spaces between lines can add approximately five to seven pages to the document. The government, however, finds that the normal 2-line spacing makes the document easier to read. The government expects that its response to the defendant's motion for judgment of acquittal will be 5-8 pages outside the 20-page limit, and that its response to the motion for new trial will be between 3-5 pages outside the 20-page limit, both using 2-line spacing.

4. The undersigned AUSA conferred with counsel for the defendant, who indicated that the defendant has no objection to the government's request.

For the reasons set forth above, the United States respectfully requests that the Court grant the United States leave to exceed the 20-page limit in its response to the defendant's motion for judgment of acquittal and in its response to the defendant's motion for new trial.

Respectfully submitted,

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UNITED STATES ATTORNEY

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that on February 22, 2024, I electronically filed the foregoing motion and proposed order with the Clerk of the Court using CM/ECF.

s/Aimee Jimenez

Aimee C. Jimenez

Assistant United States Attorney