

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
DISTRICT OF MINNESOTA

United States of America,) File No. 22-cr-223
(NEB/DTS)
Plaintiff,)
v.) Courtroom 13W
Aimee Marie Bock(1),) Minneapolis, Minnesota
Salim Ahmed Said(3),) Wednesday, March 19, 2025
2:37 p.m.
Defendants.)

BEFORE THE HONORABLE NANCY E. BRASEL
UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT DISTRICT JUDGE

VOLUME XXII - JURY TRIAL PROCEEDINGS

Court Reporter: RENEE A. ROGGE, RMR-CRR
United States Courthouse
300 South Fourth Street, Box 1005
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55415

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Proceedings recorded by mechanical stenography;
Transcript produced by computer.

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APPEARANCES:

For Plaintiff: UNITED STATES ATTORNEY'S OFFICE
BY: JOSEPH H. THOMPSON
HARRY JACOBS
MATTHEW S. EBERT
DANIEL W. BOBIER
600 United States Courthouse
300 South Fourth Street
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55415

For Defendant KENNETH UBONG UDOIBOK P.A.
Aimee Marie Bock(1): BY: KENNETH U. UDOIBOK
310 Fourth Avenue South, #5010
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55415

For Defendant COLICH & ASSOCIATES
Salim Ahmed Said(3): BY: MICHAEL J. COLICH
ADRIAN SCOTT LAFAVOR-MONTEZ
RAGHEN LUCY
10 South Fifth Street, #420
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402

* * *

1 **2:37 P.M.**

2 **IN OPEN COURT**

3 **(JURY PRESENT)**

4 THE COURT: You may all be seated. Thank you.

5 Good afternoon, everyone.

6 I'll note for the record that all counsel and both
7 defendants are present in the presence of the jury.

8 I've been informed, members of the jury, that
9 you've reached a unanimous verdict; is that correct?

10 FOREPERSON: Yes, Your Honor.

11 THE COURT: Would you please hand the envelope to
12 the court security officer? I'm going to take that, the
13 verdict, and make sure that it is in the correct form. And
14 then I will publish the verdict.

15 Members of the jury, I'm now going to publish the
16 verdict. That means I will read it aloud here in court. I
17 would like you to listen carefully because after I do so, I
18 will ask each of you individually by juror number whether
19 you agree that this is your true and correct verdict.

20 United States versus Aimee Marie Bock. Count 1,
21 conspiracy to commit wire fraud. With respect to Count 1,
22 we, the jury, find the defendant Aimee Marie Bock guilty.

23 Count 2, wire fraud. With respect to Count 2, we,
24 the jury, find the defendant Aimee Marie Bock guilty.

25 With respect -- Count 4, wire fraud. With respect

1 to Count 4, we, the jury, find the defendant Aimee Marie
2 Bock guilty.

3 Count 5, wire fraud. With respect to Count 5, we,
4 the jury, find the defendant Aimee Marie Bock guilty.

5 Count 12, wire fraud. With respect to Count 12,
6 we, the jury, find the defendant Aimee Marie Bock guilty.

7 Count 15, conspiracy to commit federal programs
8 bribery. With respect to Count 15, we, the jury, find the
9 defendant Aimee Marie Bock guilty.

10 Count 40, federal programs bribery. With respect
11 to Count 40, we, the jury, find the defendant Aimee Marie
12 Bock guilty.

13 It is signed, dated today and signed by the
14 foreperson.

15 United States versus Salim Ahmed Said. Count 1,
16 conspiracy to commit wire fraud. With respect to Count 1,
17 we, the jury, find the defendant Salim Said guilty.

18 Count 2, wire fraud. With respect to Count 2, we,
19 the jury, find the defendant Salim Said guilty.

20 Count 5, wire fraud. With respect to Count 5, we,
21 the jury, find the defendant Salim Said guilty.

22 Count 8, wire fraud. With respect to Count 8, we,
23 the jury, find the defendant Salim Said guilty.

24 Count 12, wire fraud. With respect to Count 12,
25 we, the jury, find the defendant Salim Said guilty.

1 Count 15, conspiracy to commit federal programs
2 bribery. With respect to Count 15, we, the jury, find the
3 defendant Salim Said guilty.

4 Count 16, federal programs bribery. With respect
5 to Count 16, we, the jury, find the defendant Salim Said
6 guilty.

7 Count 17, federal programs bribery. With respect
8 to Count 17. We, the jury, find the defendant Salim Said
9 guilty.

10 Count 18, federal programs bribery. With respect
11 to Count 18, we, the jury, find the defendant Salim Said
12 guilty.

13 Count 19, federal programs bribery. With respect
14 to Count 19, we, the jury, find the defendant Salim Said
15 guilty.

16 Count 32, federal programs bribery. With respect
17 to Count 32, we, the jury, find the defendant Salim Said
18 guilty.

19 Count 34, federal programs bribery. With respect
20 to Count 34, we, the jury, find the defendant Salim Said
21 guilty.

22 Count 36, federal programs bribery. With respect
23 to Count 36, we, the jury, find the defendant Salim Said
24 guilty.

25 Count 37, federal programs bribery. With respect

1 to Count 37, we, the jury, find the defendant Salim Said
2 guilty.

3 Count 38, federal programs bribery. With respect
4 to Count 38, we, the jury, find the defendant Salim Said
5 guilty.

6 Count 41, conspiracy to commit concealment money
7 laundering. With respect to Count 41, we, the jury, find
8 the defendant Salim Said guilty.

9 Count 42, engaging in monetary transactions in
10 property derived from unlawful activity. With respect to
11 Count 42, we, the jury, find the defendant Salim Said
12 guilty.

13 Count 44, engaging in monetary transactions in
14 property derived from unlawful activity. With respect to
15 Count 44, we, the jury, find the defendant Salim Said
16 guilty.

17 Count 51, engaging in monetary transactions in
18 property derived from unlawful activity. With respect to
19 Count 51, we, the jury, find the defendant Salim Said
20 guilty.

21 Count 52 engaging in monetary transactions in
22 property derived from unlawful activity. With respect to
23 Count 52, we, the jury, find the defendant Salim Said
24 guilty.

25 Count 57, engaging in monetary transactions in

1 property derived from unlawful activity. With respect to
2 Count 57, we, the jury, find the defendant Salim Said
3 guilty.

4 The verdict is again dated today and signed by the
5 foreperson.

6 Members of the jury, at this time I'm going to ask
7 each of you whether these verdicts are your true and correct
8 verdict. To ensure unanimity, I will use your juror number.

9 Juror Number 1, are these your true and correct
10 verdicts?

11 JUROR NUMBER 1: Yes, Your Honor.

12 THE COURT: Juror Number 6, are these your true
13 and correct verdicts?

14 JUROR NUMBER 6: Yes, Your Honor.

15 THE COURT: Juror Number 15, are these your true
16 and correct verdicts?

17 JUROR NUMBER 15: Yes, Your Honor.

18 THE COURT: Juror Number 25, are these your true
19 and correct verdicts?

20 JUROR NUMBER 25: Yes, Your Honor.

21 THE COURT: Juror Number 32, are these your true
22 and correct verdicts?

23 JUROR NUMBER 32: Yes, Your Honor.

24 THE COURT: Juror Number 41, are these your true
25 and correct verdicts?

1 JUROR NUMBER 41: Yes, Your Honor.

2 THE COURT: Juror Number 45, are these your true
3 and correct verdicts?

4 JUROR NUMBER 45: Yes, Your Honor.

5 THE COURT: Juror Number 14, are these your true
6 and correct verdicts?

7 JUROR NUMBER 14: Yes, Your Honor.

8 THE COURT: Juror Number 16, are these your true
9 and correct verdicts?

10 JUROR NUMBER 16: Yes, Your Honor.

11 THE COURT: Juror Number 31, are these your true
12 and correct verdicts?

13 JUROR NUMBER 31: Yes, Your Honor.

14 THE COURT: Juror Number 39, are these your true
15 and correct verdicts?

16 JUROR NUMBER 39: Yes, Your Honor.

17 THE COURT: And, Juror Number 44, are these your
18 true and correct verdicts?

19 JUROR NUMBER 44: Yes, Your Honor.

20 THE COURT: I will have the courtroom deputy file
21 the verdicts in this case.

22 Members of the jury, on behalf of the court,
23 counsel, the defendants and the public, I want to thank you
24 for your service as jurors. It's extraordinary in this
25 case, as you know, and it's not always easy to sit in

1 judgment of another's actions.

2 And you have done your very difficult work well.
3 You've contributed greatly to democracy. And the time that
4 you spent here and in particular the attention that you have
5 paid to an enormous volume of evidence on a very difficult
6 case over six weeks makes your work extraordinary, and you
7 go with the court's thanks.

8 You are now excused from further service as a
9 juror. You are released from my admonition not to discuss
10 the case with anyone. If you wish to keep your notes, you
11 may do that, otherwise they will be destroyed.

12 I'm going to have the court security officer take
13 you back to the jury room. Gather your belongings. I would
14 really like to be able to meet with you after I attend to
15 some matters with the attorneys.

16 So while you do not have to stay, I sure would
17 appreciate the chance to be able to thank you in person.

18 All rise for the jury.

19 2:45 p.m.

20 **IN OPEN COURT**

21 **(JURY NOT PRESENT)**

22 THE COURT: You may all be seated.

23 I will enter a guilty verdict and judgment on each
24 count in the verdict form.

25 Ms. Bock and Mr. Said, I am referring you to the

1 probation office for the completion of a presentence report.
2 So the next step in our process is that probation will
3 prepare a presentence report. You are required or may be
4 interviewed to help probation fill out that report and
5 complete it. You may have your attorney with you for that
6 interview.

7 After the presentence report is prepared, counsel
8 for both sides may enter objections. I rule on those
9 objections at a sentencing hearing, and at that time I will
10 consider the presentence report, the position papers that
11 are submitted by counsel, any letters submitted by you or
12 those on your behalf.

13 I'm not going to set a sentencing date today.
14 Instead, I am going to wait until the presentence report is
15 prepared and will set a sentencing date that makes sense for
16 everyone.

17 Any questions about that process from either
18 counsel?

19 MR. UDOIBOK: No, Your Honor.

20 THE COURT: All right. As to release or detention
21 pending sentencing, does the government wish to address it?

22 MR. THOMPSON: We do, Your Honor.

23 THE COURT: Go ahead.

24 MR. THOMPSON: Your Honor, the government would
25 move to revoke the release of both defendants and detain

1 them pending sentencing.

2 They now both stand convicted of a number, a
3 number of federal crimes, including conspiracy to commit
4 wire fraud, wire fraud, conspiracy to commit federal
5 programs bribery, federal programs bribery and for Defendant
6 Said, there is money laundering counts.

7 Under federal statute, they shall be detained
8 unless there is a showing by clear and convincing evidence
9 that they are not likely to flee or pose a danger to the
10 community, and we don't think any such showing can be met.

11 THE COURT: And are you -- do you believe that's
12 true under both prongs or just flight?

13 MR. THOMPSON: I think under both prongs, Your
14 Honor, in light of the testimony and the evidence that was
15 presented to Your Honor.

16 THE COURT: All right. Thank you.

17 Mr. Udoibok.

18 MR. UDOIBOK: Ms. Bock has not violated her
19 conditions of release since she was charged with this
20 offense. She doesn't have a passport. She's not a flight
21 risk. She resides with her parents. She has no access to
22 engaging in the offenses that she's been convicted.

23 And she's been, she's followed this court's
24 conditions throughout over two years, and she's not a flight
25 risk, and she's not going to engage in the offenses upon

1 which she's been convicted.

2 And we ask that she be given some time to get her
3 affairs ready for prison.

4 THE COURT: Thank you.

5 Mr. Montez.

6 MR. MONTEZ: Thank you, Your Honor.

7 I would request that Mr. Said be allowed to remain
8 out of custody. While these are clearly serious
9 convictions, the crimes in and of themselves are not
10 inherently dangerous and do not inherently pose any threat
11 to the public.

12 The crimes of which they've been convicted of were
13 part of a situation that's no longer happening. And so the,
14 any remaining threat to public safety I don't really see
15 being there at all.

16 As far as flight risk goes, Your Honor, Mr. Said
17 has remained out of custody throughout the pendency of this
18 trial. There's always been the possibility that he would be
19 convicted and that he would be facing substantial prison
20 time. That remains true. Nothing has changed in regards to
21 that.

22 He hasn't had an opportunity to say goodbye to his
23 children. I understand that's not a factor, but it is a
24 factor to him.

25 So I would just ask that the court take those

1 things into consideration.

2 THE COURT: Thank you.

3 Two things have changed. One is the guilty
4 verdicts, and two is the law.

5 The law is now, presumes detention. So release of
6 a convicted defendant pending sentencing is expressly
7 governed by 18 U.S.C. 3143(a). That provides that if a
8 district court finds by clear and convincing evidence, so
9 that's my standard, that a defendant is not likely to flee
10 or pose a danger to the safety of any other person in the
11 community, the court shall order the release of a person in
12 order, in accordance with 3142.

13 So I have to find by clear and convincing evidence
14 that a defendant is not likely to flee or pose a danger to
15 the safety of any other person or the community. In other
16 words, there's a presumption of detention that defendants
17 can rebut.

18 Ms. Bock and Mr. Said must show by clear and
19 convincing evidence that they would be unlikely to flee or
20 pose a danger, and the statute importantly doesn't
21 distinguish between violent crime and white-collar crimes.

22 For example, in *United States v. Welsand*, the
23 Eighth Circuit affirmed a district court's finding that a
24 mail fraud defendant was likely to flee before sentencing
25 given the nature of his crime. That's 993 F.2d 1366, Eighth

1 Circuit, 1993.

2 As to Ms. Bock, the court cannot find that the
3 presumption has been rebutted, that is I cannot find by
4 clear and convincing evidence that Ms. Bock is unlikely to
5 flee.

6 Similarly, as to Mr. Said, the court cannot find
7 that the presumption has been rebutted, that is I cannot
8 find by clear and convincing evidence that Mr. Said is
9 unlikely to flee.

10 And I'm focusing my decision on the flight factor,
11 rather than the public safety factor, although frankly I
12 think that public safety is at risk as well.

13 The same factors have guided my decision for each
14 defendant, which I thought about carefully before today's
15 verdict. They are as follows:

16 First, the fraud scheme in this case was premised
17 on deception. Both defendants' deception include forged and
18 fraudulent documents. The court has a valid concern that
19 defendants may utilize similar methods of deception to flee
20 now that they are facing a significant sentence.

21 And, second, courts have often held that the very
22 real possibility of a high sentence has given defendants a
23 strong incentive to flee. That is certainly true here.

24 Third, the evidence at trial suggested that both
25 defendants displayed patterns of deception for over an

1 18-month period and an absolute inability to comply with
2 authority.

3 And, fourth, I'll note that there has been
4 heightened security through this trial for a number of
5 reasons, and that has been required through the entire trial
6 and also has been increased during the trial given events
7 during the trial.

8 All of those factors lead to my decision that the
9 presumption has not been rebutted, and therefore I am
10 ordering that pretrial release be revoked and that both
11 defendants be taken into custody. And I'll call the
12 marshals forward for that now.

13 Again, we will set a sentencing date at a
14 different time.

15 Actually before you do that, let me wrap up here
16 real quickly.

17 By local rule, any attorney or individual acting
18 on behalf of a party may contact jurors. You are not to do
19 that without my permission. So if you wish to contact any
20 juror, any of the attorneys must receive my permission. So
21 you need to contact me to do that.

22 Second, as to posttrial motion, any motion for
23 judgment of acquittal or motion for a new trial, 14 days
24 within the verdict. If you need relief from that deadline,
25 you may simply write and make a motion, and I will likely

1 give you reasonable relief as to that. But for right now,
2 I'm going to make sure that we're ordered for 14 days.

3 Mr. Thompson, is there anything else on behalf of
4 the government?

5 MR. THOMPSON: No, Your Honor. Thank you.

6 THE COURT: Mr. Udoibok.

7 MR. UDOIBOK: No, Your Honor.

8 THE COURT: Mr. Montez.

9 MR. MONTEZ: No, Your Honor. In the unlikely
10 event a juror reaches out to our office, what are we to do
11 in that situation?

12 THE COURT: It's unlikely, but call me first.

13 MR. MONTEZ: Okay.

14 THE COURT: Thank you. We're adjourned.

15 Thank you, everyone.

16 (Court adjourned at 2:56 p.m., 03-19-2025.)

17 * * *

18 I, Renee A. Rogge, certify that the foregoing is a
19 correct transcript from the record of proceedings in the
20 above-entitled matter.

21 Certified by: /s/Renee A. Rogge
22 Renee A. Rogge, RMR-CRR
23
24
25