U.S. Department of Justice

United States Attorney
District of Maryland

Paul Riley
Assistant United States Attorney
Paul.Riley@usdoj.gov

Suite 400
36 S. Charles Street
Baltimore, MD 21201-3119

DIRECT: 410-209-4959
MAIN: 410-209-4800
FAX: 410-962-3091

September 6, 2024

BY ECF
The Honorable George L. Russell III
Chief United States District Judge
United States District Court for the District of Maryland
United States Courthouse
101 West Lombard Street
Baltimore, MD 21201

Re: *United States v. Ryan Dales*, Crim. No. GLR-23-026

Dear Chief Judge Russell:

I write on behalf of the Government in the above-referenced matter to request respectfully that the Court order a *Lafler/Frye* hearing in this matter to establish the terms of the plea offer made to the Defendant, the fact that the plea offer was communicated to the Defendant, and the fact that the Defendant rejected the plea offer.

The purpose of such a hearing is plain: To ensure there is a clear record in the event the Defendant subsequently brings a claim under 28 U.S.C. § 2255 alleging that his attorney failed to effectively convey any plea offer. Further, such a hearing is warranted in light of the significant sentencing exposure the Defendant will face if he is convicted after his trials before Your Honor, which are currently set to begin on December 2, 2024.

Undersigned counsel has conferred with counsel for the Defendant concerning this request for a *Lafler/Frye* hearing; he does not object to it. Accordingly, the Government respectfully requests that the Court issue an Order of Reference to a Magistrate Judge for the purpose of conducting a *Lafler/Frye* hearing. Further, if the Court is amenable to it, the Government respectfully requests that the hearing be held promptly—if possible, in the next few weeks.

Respectfully submitted,

Erek L. Barron
United States Attorney

/s/
By: Paul A. Riley
Assistant United States Attorney

CC: All counsel (by ECF)