UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT OF TENNESSEE
AT CHATTANOOGA

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA	)	Case No. 1:24-cr-00080
	)	
v.	)	District Judge Charles E. Atchley, Jr.
	)	
RICKY LEE TAYLOR JR.	)	Magistrate Judge Christopher H. Steger

REPORT AND RECOMMENDATION

Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 636(b), the undersigned United States Magistrate Judge conducted a plea hearing in this case on February 12, 2025. At the hearing, Defendant entered a plea of guilty to Counts One and Two of the two count Information. On the basis of the record made at the hearing, the Court finds that Defendant is fully competent and capable of entering an informed plea; the plea is made knowingly and with full understanding of each of the rights waived by Defendant; it is made voluntarily and free from any force, threats, or promises; Defendant understands the nature of the charges and penalties provided by law; and the plea has a sufficient basis in fact. Acceptance of the plea, adjudication of guilt, acceptance of the Plea Agreement, and imposition of sentence are specifically reserved for the District Judge.

I therefore recommend that the Court: (1) grant Defendant's motion to withdraw his not guilty plea to Counts One and Two of the two count Information; (2) accept Defendant's guilty plea to Counts One and Two of the two count Information; (3) adjudicate Defendant guilty of Count One: wire fraud in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1343; (4) adjudicate Defendant guilty of Count Two: tax fraud in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 7206(1); and (5) order that Defendant remain out of custody subject to the Order Setting Conditions of Release [Doc. 16] pending sentencing or further order of the Court.

AUTHENTICATED U.S. GOVERNMENT INFORMATION GPO

The Defendant's sentencing hearing is scheduled before the Honorable United States District Judge Charles E. Atchley, Jr. on **July 10, 2025, at 10:00 a.m.**

ENTER.

/s/ *Christopher H. Steger*
UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE

NOTICE TO PARTIES

You have the right to *de novo* review by the district judge of the foregoing findings. Any application for review must be in writing; must specify the portions of the findings or proceedings objected to; and must be filed and served no later than fourteen (14) days after the plea hearing. Failure to file objections within fourteen days constitutes a waiver of any further right to challenge the plea of guilty in this matter. *See* 28 U.S.C. § 636(b).