

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF IDAHO

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Plaintiff,

v.

PAUL VARGAS, JR.,

Defendant.

Case No. 1:24-CR-00248-DCN-DKG

**REPORT AND
RECOMMENDATION**

On April 24, 2025, Defendant PAUL VARGAS, JR. appeared before the undersigned United States Magistrate Judge to enter a change of plea pursuant to a written plea agreement. (Dkt. 17). The Defendant executed a waiver of the right to have the presiding United States District Judge take his change of plea. Thereafter, the Court explained to the Defendant the nature of the charges contained in the Indictment (Dkt. 2), the maximum penalties applicable, his Constitutional rights, the impact that the Sentencing Guidelines will have, and that the District Judge will not be bound by the agreement of the parties as to the penalty to be imposed.

Having conducted the change of plea hearing and having inquired of the Defendant, defense counsel, and counsel for the government, the Court finds there is a factual basis for the Defendant's guilty plea, that it was entered voluntarily and with full knowledge of the consequences, and that the plea should be accepted. The undersigned also ordered a pre-sentence investigation to be conducted and a report prepared by the United States Probation Office.

Because the offense to which Defendant entered a guilty plea is an offense in a case described in subparagraph (A), (B), or (C) of 18 U.S.C. § 3142(f)(1), subjecting Defendant to detention upon a finding of guilt under Section 3143(a)(2), the undersigned considered whether, under Section 3145(c), exceptional reasons were clearly shown as to why Defendant's detention pending imposition of sentencing would not be appropriate.

In this case, the Government did not move for detention. The Court entered an Order of Release on November 11, 2024. (Dkt. 12). Defendant has been on release since that date and has no reported violations and is in compliance with the terms of release. The Government represents that it does not have information or reason to believe Defendant is at an enhanced risk of flight or danger to the community at this time.

Upon consideration of the totality of the circumstances presented in this case, including the conditions of release and upon finding Defendant is exceptionally unlikely to flee or cause a danger to the community if release is continued, the Court recommends release be continued. The Court finds that exceptional reasons have been clearly shown by Defendant that detention pending imposition of sentencing would not be appropriate.

RECOMMENDATION

NOW THEREFORE IT IS HEREBY RECOMMENDED:

- 1) The District Court accept Defendant PAUL VARGAS, JR.'s plea of guilty to Count One of the Indictment (Dkt. 2).
- 2) The District Court order forfeiture consistent with Defendant PAUL

VARGAS, JR.'s admission to the Criminal Forfeiture allegation in the Indictment (Dkt. 2) and the Plea Agreement (Dkt. 17).

3) The District Court continue Defendant's release pending sentencing, subject to the standard and additional conditions of release previously imposed in the Order Setting Conditions of Release. (Dkt. 12).

Written objections to this Report and Recommendation must be filed within fourteen (14) days pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 636(b)(1) and Local Rule 72.1(b), or as a result of failing to do so, that party may waive the right to raise factual and/or legal objections to the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit.

DATED: April 17, 2025


DEBORA K. GRASHAM
U.S. MAGISTRATE JUDGE