

I. CRIMINAL PROCEDURES

A. Pre-Trials

- 1) All initial pre-trial hearings will generally be set at 10:00 a.m. on Thursday mornings. If there are multiple pre-trial hearings set on the same day, they will all be set at 10:00 a.m. and will be addressed in succession. Routine cases, without lengthy or complex issues, will be heard first. The exception will be multi-defendant cases, which will be specifically set shortly after the 10:00 a.m. call. Changes of plea will be accepted during this time as well. Jury trials will continue to be set for Monday mornings at 9:00 a.m. All parties are expected to appear at the initial pre-trial hearing, even if you are asking for a continuance. If you will be seeking a continuance at that hearing, request a new pre-trial hearing that you believe to be *realistic* for your particular case. Ask for the amount of time you actually need and not something less. At the initial pre-trial I also expect that we will set realistic deadlines for the filing of Rule 12(b)(3) motions between a new pre-trial date and new trial date.
- 2) After the initial pre-trial hearing has been held, if you know in advance that you will only be seeking an unopposed continuance at an upcoming scheduled hearing, and there are no other issues requiring the Court's attention at that time, please file an unopposed motion to continue, in writing, no later than two business days before the hearing. In the motion, briefly state the reasons why you believe the continuance meets the "ends of justice" and request a new hearing date that you believe to be *realistic* for your particular case. I will then enter an Order on the Motion without the necessity of a hearing. (See attached sample Motion)
- 3) If at any time prior to the next scheduled pre-trial, a defendant desires to enter a plea of guilty, the parties are encouraged to contact my Judicial Assistant, Cathy Geier (309-671-4227) for scheduling of the plea, and as such, won't have to wait for the next scheduled pre-trial to enter the plea.

For the purpose of definition, "realistic" means "agreed to by all parties".
If the parties cannot agree, then it goes without saying that I will determine the definition of "realistic" after hearing from the parties.

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
CENTRAL DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS**

| | | |
|---------------------------|---|----------|
| UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, |) | |
| |) | |
| Plaintiff, |) | |
| |) | Case No. |
| v. |) | |
| |) | |
| JOHN DOE, |) | |
| |) | |
| Defendant. |) | |

UNOPPOSED MOTION TO CONTINUE

Now comes the Defendant (name), by his attorney, (name) and moves for a continuance of this matter as follows:

1. The case is set for pretrial on (date).
2. That a continuance is necessary because of (please state reason here).
3. That I have consulted with my client and he/she agrees and further agrees to waive any speedy trial rights as a result of this Motion.
4. That the Motion is made in the interest of justice and not for the purpose of delay.
5. That I have consulted with AUSA (name) and the government has no objection to the continuance.

Attorney for the Defendant