

Criminal Matters

a. Pleas and Sentencing

The Court will occasionally accept a *nolo contendere* plea over the Government's objection. Unless both the Government and defendant agree to waive it, the Court requires a pre-sentence investigation and report prior to sentencing. Disputes between counsel relating to the computation of sentencing guidelines are generally resolved by a hearing prior to sentencing.

b. Trials

The Court does not require submission of trial briefs in criminal trials. The Government is required to file a witness list, however, so that the witnesses may be disclosed to the jury during *voir dire*. Counsel are expected to review the Court's boilerplate jury instructions and to confer in an attempt to agree upon any additional proposed instructions before involving the Court in any dispute.