

Criminal Trials

The Court does require submission of briefs in criminal trials and does require submission of witness lists from the Government. Such witnesses are then disclosed to the jury during voir dire. The Court also requires jury instructions and proposed verdict form, prior to trial. Attorneys may exercise multiple peremptory challenges, and the Court alternates between Government and defense attorneys for opportunity to exercise. If all attorneys pass, a jury has been selected. Disputes between the Government and defense counsel regarding proposed jury instructions are resolved in chambers then, if necessary, on the record. The Court follows the same procedures relative to jury selection in criminal trials as in civil trials. Generally, the Court permits bench conferences during trial, depending upon the circumstances.