

IN THE COUNTY COURT OF THE SIXTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
OF THE STATE OF FLORIDA, PINELLAS COUNTY

STATE OF FLORIDA,

Plaintiff,

Case Nos. 

vs.

AARON SMITH-LEVIN,

Defendant.

PROCEEDINGS: Motion

DATE: December 5, 2025

BEFORE: The Honorable Kathleen T. Hessinger
County Court Judge

PLACE: Pinellas County Justice Center
14250 49th Street North
Clearwater, Florida 33762

REPORTER: Jill D. Gershon
Digital Court Reporter

Administrative Office of the Courts
Digital Court Reporting Department
Pinellas County Justice Center
14250 49th Street North, Ste. H-2000
Clearwater, Florida 33762
(727) 453-7474

A P P E A R A N C E S

APPEARING ON BEHALF OF THE STATE OF FLORIDA:

Morgan Mee, Assistant State Attorney
Office of Bruce Bartlett, State Attorney
Sixth Judicial Circuit, Pinellas County
14250 49th Street North
Clearwater, Florida 33762

APPEARING ON BEHALF OF THE DEFENDANT:

Lee Pearlman, Esquire
The Law Offices of Pearlman Trial Group
2274 State Road 580
Clearwater, Florida 33763

Jerry S. Theophilopoulos, Esquire
Theophilopoulos Law, P.A.
649 East Tarpon Avenue
Tarpon Springs, Florida 34689

P R O C E E D I N G S

THE COURT: All right. Let's go ahead and address Mr. Smith-Levin; get him brought out, please.

MR. PEARLMAN: Yes.

THE COURT: This is Defendant's renewed motion to set bond.

MR. PEARLMAN: It is, Your Honor.

MS. MEE: And Your Honor, before we begin the hearing, can you -- can we also re-emphasize the fact that there is to be no recordings, audio or video, made at any time.

MR. PEARLMAN: I also may have emphasized that very strongly in the hallway with everybody, so coming from you is different, but, yes, Your Honor.

THE COURT: I saw them all stream out with you.

MR. PEARLMAN: Yes.

THE COURT: All right. This is the deal. If you guys have any phones, anything like that, get them out of your hands, put them in a pocket, put it in a purse.

The only way in this courthouse that you can record other than the official recording that we have is if you have gotten permission from Court Administration. If you have not gotten permission from Court Administration to record anything, then I

1 am going to take your phone if I find out if you've
2 recorded anything. Do we all understand that?

3 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Yes, Your Honor.

4 THE COURT: Both sides because I don't know
5 where one ends and the other begins.

6 All right.

7 All right, I've got Aaron Smith-Levin and I've
8 got Defendant's renewed motion to set bond.

9 MR. PEARLMAN: Yes, Your Honor.

10 This is on the case that I am -- that I'm
11 assigned to, Your Honor. Obviously, additional
12 counsel has been brought on which is wonderful news,
13 I think, for all of us.

14 At the end of the day, we are hoping Your Honor
15 will now reconsider -- we understand that the last
16 hearing date, that information was presented that
17 caused Your Honor concern that there was not a
18 de-escalation, but continued or ongoing stance or
19 approach to what was occurring that caused Your Honor
20 concerns.

21 Where we're at with this, the State has -- was
22 kind enough this morning to give me information that
23 they are going to use to argue to maintain Mr. --
24 well, have my client continue remaining in custody,
25 the basis being, essentially, conversations -- jail

1 call conversations -- that he has had with members of
2 his organization that are strongly set up to protest
3 and protect individuals from Scientology.

4 Some of those involved him making statements
5 in regards to, you know, keeping this focus on
6 Scientology, not the Court, where the State, at this
7 point, specialize in custody, things in the nature of
8 the -- the label. But there was a label that was
9 given to one of the YouTube clips that was This Means
10 War, yet an escalation of the circumstances going on;
11 however, I've had more of an opportunity to obviously
12 break that down. That was kind of a 'that' moment
13 learning of it.

14 It was an eight-minute/nine-minute video
15 approximately. Nowhere in there was -- was there a
16 request or demand to escalate. Essentially, it meant
17 it was talking about 40 years of what my client and
18 his organization views as suppression of the ability
19 to protest against Scientology.

20 I know that's not Your Honor's concern. The
21 concern is the criminal allegations that have been
22 made, the one that I'm on involving the chalk aspect
23 that was allegedly put onto one of the Scientology
24 representatives and, in the newer case, which
25 involved the door incident and then the -- the

1 alleged touching of one of the Scientology employees
2 as well. Those are the main focuses.

3 What -- what -- so while my client is in these
4 recorded calls doing what he believes is in the best
5 interest of his organization as well as himself by
6 maintaining what they do and, as Your Honor's fully
7 aware and has commented, this is my client's passion,
8 but also what he does as part of his ability to
9 receive income. And so he has to maintain these
10 channels in that capacity.

11 There's nothing that's been said in any of these
12 situations is illegal or calling for violence or
13 damage of any one or any thing. He has not violated
14 Your Honor's contact order from the date that it was
15 entered in.

16 He is doing everything that he can to legally
17 continue to protest and maintain the organization
18 he's had for over three years. This organization has
19 helped over 50 people receive housing and food when
20 they leave Scientology and they don't have any assets
21 and that -- the funding for that organization also
22 comes through these donations and what he's doing
23 online.

24 So our objective and, again, Your Honor, I've
25 talked to my client at length, we are now in a

1 position where I've -- I have no -- I have no
2 concerns. He understands the dynamic, right.

3 What I've explained to him, what I've explained
4 to everybody who is here in support of him is
5 criminal defense cases are usually relatively
6 straightforward in that we want to get the best
7 outcome or beat the case. But when there's agendas
8 on multiple sides, it makes it more difficult.

9 My client will continue to protest and do as he
10 see fits within the confines of the law.

11 THE COURT: He's -- I'm -- I'm not taking away
12 what he can --

13 MR. PEARLMAN: You are not.

14 THE COURT: -- do and I think I've made myself
15 loud and clear is --

16 MR. PEARLMAN: Yeah.

17 THE COURT: -- he has every right to protest; he
18 has every right to say whatever he wants to say.

19 MR. PEARLMAN: Right.

20 THE COURT: What he doesn't have a right to do
21 is stick his phone into somebody's face and also
22 commit any type of unlawful act and he doesn't have a
23 right to violate my no-contact order.

24 He can say anything he wants to say, that's
25 America, that's freedom of speech. God bless

1 America, that's why I'm here. But I do draw the line
2 when he is trying to skirt my order of no contact.
3 It does draw the line when I have a concern about him
4 escalating the situation.

5 And -- because what I don't want to happen is
6 somebody injured or hurt and, you know, the -- the --
7 the downside of all this thing with Mr. Smith-Levin
8 is that the moment somebody smacks that phone out of
9 his or any of his friend's hands, they'll be the
10 first one yelling and screaming call the police, call
11 the police. Somebody hit me. They violated my
12 rights, yadda yadda ya, just like when he stuck his
13 foot in that door and, when they were closing the
14 door, he's yelling and screaming, oh, you -- you hit
15 me, you hit, you hit my foot, you hit my foot. Well,
16 you put your foot there to open the door.

17 So, you know, that's the concern I have. All
18 right? And so let me hear from the State and I'll
19 figure out where we're going from here.

20 MS. MEE: Yes, Your Honor, and this is
21 Morgan Mee for the record.

22 I just want to start out by addressing something
23 that was brought up last time that this defendant --
24 when -- that we addressed the motion to set bond and
25 that was specifically the YouTube video titled,

1 This Means War, We Are Doubling Down.

2 At that time, it was argued that the Defendant
3 had no control over his YouTube channel and that this
4 was just something one of his friends or family had
5 posted; however, just a couple days after the last
6 hearing, specifically, on the 24th of November, the
7 Defendant in a YouTube video where he was calling
8 from jail admitted to having control of the YouTube
9 video title saying he was the one who said to do that
10 title. So any argument from the Defendant saying
11 that he does not have control over the channel is
12 false.

13 I also want to go through a few of the jail
14 calls. As Mr. Pearlman mentioned, there are a
15 plethora of them; in fact, ASA Lechner sat through
16 and listened to several of them, however, was not
17 even able to make a dent in them. But those of note
18 include from the 21st of November after the motion
19 hearing, he repeatedly stated that Judge Hessinger is
20 making prejudicial statements towards the Defendant.
21 He said, verbatim, I need people to keep making
22 videos like fucking crazy -- excuse my language,
23 that's a direct quote -- I don't care what they are.
24 Encourages people to go to -- the Scientology
25 building stating -- continuing to encourage people to

1 go there and protest because this is not a violation.

2 He goes on to specifically refer to Your Honor
3 and states, I'm glad everyone was there to hear --
4 hear the attitude, the false statement, and
5 degradation. She doesn't understand the difference
6 between a video title and the content.

7 ASA Lechner watched this video on his own time
8 and it is clearly stated they are doubling down and
9 silencing the Defendant will only embolden what they
10 are doing. So, again, re-emphasizing the fact that
11 we are concerned about this escalating behavior
12 encouraging further action.

13 Then on the 22nd of November, a direct quote from
14 a jail call is, "It is better if we put this on
15 Scientology and not the SAO or the Judge, at least,
16 not until I get out of here."

17 We also received a packet similar to prior to
18 the last hearing detailing the contents of the
19 YouTube video dated 12/2 in which the Defendant,
20 again, did a phone video from -- a phone interview
21 from jail. And instead of being manipulated as the
22 Defense said multiple times throughout his video and
23 jail calls, ASA Lechner watched both that video and
24 another live interview and here are the quotes of
25 note from the 11/24 video.

1 It is specifically or repeatedly said that
2 Assistant State Attorney Morgan Mee is a brand new
3 lawyer and has no idea what she is doing; that
4 Scientology is playing her like a fiddle; and she
5 cannot even understand that there are two victims who
6 are not even allowed to use the internet.

7 She -- it also states -- the -- the Defendant
8 also states it is hard to recognize security guards
9 when they wear masks, which further emphasizes the
10 concern that posting a video that says, this mean
11 war, can be taken by followers to get close to
12 security guards and find out those identifications.

13 And then, finally, on this 12/2 video, he
14 reiterated the slander of Assistant State Attorney
15 Morgan Mee. Also stated, the Judge isn't a fan of
16 people like me and said that there has not been a
17 single violation of the restraining order.

18 So overall, it's the State's opinion, this
19 defendant has not grasped anything that has happened
20 thus far, will continue to incite others to
21 participate in his endeavors, and, Your Honor, quite
22 frankly, I don't think anything has changed since
23 we've started this conversation.

24 THE COURT: All right. Let me hear.

25 MR. PEARLMAN: I -- I mean, I think the response

1 to this, Your Honor, is my client -- we're -- some of
2 this gets taken out of context (unintelligible). He
3 doesn't have to agree or like the orders of the
4 Court. He does have to respect that --

5 THE COURT: I agree 100 percent.

6 MR. PEARLMAN: Right. And the issue that we
7 have in some of these (unintelligible), my client,
8 every one of his YouTubes begins with, you know, this
9 means war, it is a clip they that they use, it's part
10 of his branding, but the -- the content isn't there
11 for violence or escalation of that part other than go
12 and protest.

13 Again, his stance on Scientology is -- is just
14 that. And Your Honor, as -- you've said exactly, I
15 have no desire to stop him from legally doing what
16 he's allowed by Constitution, but there's nothing
17 here other than him being unhappy with the
18 circumstance and situation.

19 I have a hunch there's a lot of people will walk
20 out of here and feel a certain way on any given day.
21 It's not a personal issue at this point. It's about
22 whether somebody who has never been in trouble before
23 and is going through this process understands what
24 Your Honor wants to see done. And I believe he does.

25 I also -- we discussed this last time -- have

1 the psychological evaluation and counseling ready
2 to go that we want -- I want my client to do it
3 for his own interest and his own needs and
4 things that I think would be bad for him as well. I
5 (unintelligible) the Court where we're at.

6 I -- Your Honor had indicated potentially a
7 GPS monitor was something you were considering last
8 time. I don't know where you stand at this point,
9 but I think these things are relevant for somebody
10 who is now sitting in jail.

11 He -- he's not a fan of the circumstance, but he
12 knows why he's here and he knows what he cannot do.
13 And it's Your Honor's discretion, obviously, we leave
14 it in your hands.

15 MR. THEOPHILOPOULOS: If -- if I may add a
16 little, Your Honor.

17 THE COURT: Yeah, certainly.

18 MR. THEOPHILOPOULOS: Okay. I had to get up to
19 speed very quickly on this so I've spent a lot of
20 time along with Lee with Mr. Smith-Levin. He
21 understands what the Court's ruling has been, the
22 contact.

23 THE COURT: Apparently not because he's sitting
24 there telling his people that I don't understand it,
25 so --

1 MR. PEARLMAN: Well, I think as a content on
2 the --

3 MR. THEOPHILOPOULOS: Hold on, Lee, come on.

4 THE COURT: I -- I can't quite figure out why
5 does Mr. Smith-Levin -- oh, forget it, never mind.

6 MR. THEOPHILOPOULOS: What I think what -- what
7 we're getting into and I -- and I understand what the
8 Court's saying is -- but I think what we're getting
9 into is, you know, he's using his First Amendment
10 speech --

11 THE COURT: Which is fine. I'm -- I'm all about
12 that.

13 MR. THEOPHILOPOULOS: -- which is fine and I --
14 I agree with Court; however, we have what is alleged
15 two victims in this case and -- excuse me -- in each
16 case. What has he done with regards to violating
17 anything with them or the 500-foot rule? Nothing.

18 He's got a YouTube channel. I'm not a social
19 media geek. I don't do that stuff, but everybody out
20 there's doing it these days. It's a source of income
21 for him and it's a source of information. So he's
22 utilizing that, but at the end of the day, we're --
23 you know, we're holding a man in custody on two
24 cases. What has he done to violate the Court's
25 order?

1 THE COURT: Well, he -- he --

2 MR. THEOPHILOPOULOS: We -- I'm sorry.

3 THE COURT: -- he was. I mean, there was
4 definitely video of him shoving his phone in the face
5 of the first alleged victim in the first case.
6 There's video right on that. He allegedly didn't
7 know it was the same person, but he did it, so that's
8 what got him in the first place.

9 What kept him in was the second case --

10 MR. THEOPHILOPOULOS: Yes.

11 THE COURT: -- where he, you know, went back and
12 stuck his foot in the -- the door of Scientology when
13 he was supposed to not have any contact where the
14 place of employment is of that alleged victim and he
15 was walking right by Scientology.

16 He happens to see the door get open. He did an
17 about-face, sticks his foot in the door, and starts
18 pulling out his video to make more video content.

19 So, yes, he has been in direct violation of the
20 no-contact order. This has nothing to do with his
21 freedom of speech. That has had nothing to do with
22 his standing on the street corner protesting. I
23 don't care about that, he can do all he -- he can say
24 what he wants about me. I've been doing this for
25 over 20 years. Do you think that bothers me?

1 But he has, in fact, violated the no-contact
2 order and so that's what I'm trying to get through
3 this man's head. And it -- you know, it does boggle
4 my mind that he would be so naïve enough to -- I
5 already told -- he should know that his phone
6 conversations are getting monitored. He knows it
7 because every time he picked up the phone, they tell
8 him.

9 So he's really doing it because he's trying to
10 get content and it's all good -- great content to
11 stir up the masses on the anti-Scientology, which is
12 fine. But he's actually making a buck off of being
13 in jail, so the sympathy of that is -- is beyond me
14 because he's making it -- he's doing interviews, he's
15 making a buck. He's saying derogatory things against
16 the State and the Judge.

17 People love that. That's fine. He can say
18 that. That's freedom of speech, absolutely freedom
19 of speech. But I -- but the part that you're saying
20 that he didn't violate the no-contact order, he very
21 well did because that's why he's sitting in jail
22 because I wouldn't have put him in jail.

23 Despite what he says to stir up his masses is
24 that I know the difference between freedom of speech,
25 freedom of assembly, and violating the no-contact

1 order.

2 MR. THEOPHILOPOULOS: I would have a concern --
3 and I have no concern if he's released and I'll tell
4 you why. He's been doing this for a long time and
5 just recently, it's come to light. You know, he's
6 been arrested. This is somebody who's never been in
7 jail before. That's why I don't --

8 THE COURT: And he's escalating.

9 MR. THEOPHILOPOULOS: -- have -- that's why I
10 don't have a concern. He gets the message. What he
11 may be saying, you know, on his YouTube via phone
12 through the jail is one thing, but when I'm talking
13 to him and when Lee's talking to him, it's a whole
14 other scenario.

15 He gets what the Court is saying and I,
16 point-blank, you know, without sharing what we've
17 discussed, I told him what kind of Judge you are.
18 You're a tough, but good Judge. And he understands
19 that, but, again, you know, we need to distinguish
20 he's saying stuff, people may get upset versus
21 reality.

22 THE COURT: I -- I get it. I've heard exactly
23 what Ms. Mee said --

24 MR. THEOPHILOPOULOS: Okay.

25 THE COURT: -- and I know everything that he

1 said he's allowed to say. Kind of dumb, he's sitting
2 there doing it on the jail calls, but, you know,
3 that's his decision because he has a legal right to
4 say it.

5 MR. PEARLMAN: And --

6 THE COURT: I -- I don't have a problem. I
7 don't take personal offense to that.

8 MR. PEARLMAN: And just about, I think
9 Your Honor's concern was he's saying, I don't
10 understand the difference between, and I don't
11 think you take it as an attack, but you're concerned
12 about him grasping what you're trying to do.

13 That conversation was focused on the content.
14 This -- this means war which, again, was the catch
15 phrase for almost every single YouTube beginning that
16 I'm saying that's the title versus the content that
17 in no way was a threatening or call`1 to violence
18 kind of scenario. That's what he was frustrated by.

19 I think he was frustrated with me for not
20 knowing the difference between the two that day if
21 you recall. And I think that, you know, his stance
22 is I understand -- I understand the distinctions. I
23 understand what I cannot do and --

24 THE COURT: Well, we're going to find out
25 because I'm going to let him out.

1 But Mr. Smith-Levin, I know the difference
2 between your First Amendment right to freedom of
3 speech. You can say all you want about me. It's not
4 going to bother me. People have said a heck of a lot
5 worse than you have.

6 THE DEFENDANT: I understand, ma'am.

7 THE COURT: And you can say anything you want
8 about the State, all right, because you know what?
9 They are prosecutors and you have every right to say
10 anything you want about anybody. Okay? You're just
11 not allowed to yell fire in a building, all right?
12 That will get you arrested.

13 And you can protest all you want, but you are
14 not to have any contact with the two alleged victims
15 in these two cases which means you cannot come within
16 500 feet of them, their cars, their houses, their
17 place of employment.

18 So while you are protesting, you are to stay
19 500 feet away from any building that they are
20 employed in and I know that came up before about the
21 fact they work at several different buildings. It is
22 what it is. That's what their job is, that's what
23 they do. You are to stay away 500 feet from them.

24 MS. MEE: Your Honor?

25 THE COURT: Protest all you want.

1 MS. MEE: I'm sorry to interrupt you. I just
2 wanted to ask because the State had an anticipation
3 that this would be the direction you would head.

4 The State would request at this time, if
5 Your Honor would be so inclined, to increase the
6 distance to 1000 feet because there has already been
7 a 500-feet order and that was violated, so the State
8 would be requesting upon his release that there would
9 be 1000 feet with a GPS.

10 THE COURT: I'm going to keep 500 feet. If he
11 goes in and sticks his phone in somebody else's face
12 again or he violates that 500 feet, then he's going
13 to be right back in front of me. Okay?

14 And understand this, Mr. Smith-Levin, you're not
15 dealing with a podunk organization, so have no doubt
16 that they're going to pay attention to your 500 feet
17 and, as you've already seen, they apparently got
18 video everywhere.

19 THE DEFENDANT: Yes, ma'am.

20 THE COURT: All right? So you need to
21 understand that, okay, because they've been in here
22 armed with pretty clear video every time I've had a
23 court hearing in here. So you need to be absolutely
24 clear on that; do you understand?

25 THE DEFENDANT: I do, ma'am.

1 THE COURT: And I am in no way telling you that
2 you can't say anything you want as long as it doesn't
3 violate the law and your attorneys will let you know
4 what you can and cannot say, but one of them is that
5 yell fire in a crowded building.

6 And you can protest all you want as long as
7 you are not causing damage or you are not causing
8 injury to anyone and as long as you are following the
9 law. But you have two criminal charges against you
10 and you have a no-contact order and you are to follow
11 that no-contact order. I'm making myself loud and
12 clear to you.

13 THE DEFENDANT: Totally understood, ma'am.

14 MS. MEE: Your Honor, do you intend to outfit
15 this defendant with a GPS monitor?

16 THE COURT: No, I'm not because, quite frankly,
17 I don't want to sit here and have to deal with
18 whether pretrial services has to measure 500 feet
19 from every Scientology building in downtown
20 Clearwater --

21 MS. MEE: Understood.

22 THE COURT: -- okay? So I have no doubt that
23 the Scientology's doing that themselves, so they'll
24 provide you whatever they need to provide you with,
25 so why should we add the additional cost of a

1 GPS monitor. Okay?

2 MS. MEE: Understood, Your Honor.

3 THE COURT: What I don't want is somebody
4 injured or hurt on either side of this. All right?

5 MS. MEE: Yes, Your Honor.

6 THE COURT: So this is America. You can make a
7 buck all you want to make a buck as long as it's
8 legal. Got it?

9 THE DEFENDANT: Thank you.

10 THE COURT: All right. So I am going to grant
11 the motion to -- I think I'm going to release on
12 supervised ROR. We have a little bit more control of
13 what's going on at that point.

14 Do I have to reiterate the no-contact again or
15 do you absolutely understand that? And understand
16 this too, all right? You are in control of that
17 program, whatever it is that you guys have on your
18 social media, and I'm with Mr. Theophilopoulos. I
19 don't have any social media in my life and life is
20 great. All right. Nobody else's issues bother me
21 except for when they're in my courtroom.

22 So this is the deal. Part of that no-contact
23 order is that you are not to personally have any
24 contact with them; you are not to have any contact
25 with them via social media; and you are not to have

1 any third parties reach out to them.

2 So you can say anything you want to say about
3 them, but if you tell somebody to have some type of
4 contact with them, that is going to be in violation
5 of that no-contact order. So are you understanding
6 the distinction between the two?

7 THE DEFENDANT: I totally understand.

8 THE COURT: Say all you want --

9 THE DEFENDANT: Yeah.

10 THE COURT: -- but you get on that video or
11 whatever channel you've got there, YouTube, and you
12 are sitting there telling people to go do things with
13 them, you're in violation.

14 THE DEFENDANT: I understand.

15 THE COURT: You be very careful about what you
16 say; do you understand that?

17 THE DEFENDANT: I do.

18 THE COURT: All right.

19 MR. PEARLMAN: Your Honor, on the new
20 allegation, there -- arraignment has not been set.
21 Could we waive arraignment -- or I guess have him
22 arraigned today, whatever you'd like to do
23 procedurally. Would you like --

24 THE COURT: It's not on my calendar, so I -- I
25 don't take care of anything that's not on my

1 calendar.

2 MR. PEARLMAN: Absolutely, that's true.

3 THE COURT: I don't know when the arraignment
4 date is set.

5 MR. THEOPHILOPOULOS: There -- there is none.

6 THE COURT: Okay.

7 MR. THEOPHILOPOULOS: It was -- it was filed
8 October 23rd and it's just sitting out there.

9 THE COURT: State, do you know why the
10 arraignment's not been set? All right.

11 MR. THEOPHILOPOULOS: Would you -- would you
12 like the case number, Your Honor?

13 THE COURT: Not yet.

14 MS. MEE: No, Your Honor.

15 THE COURT: Well, I can get it actually here.

16 Okay. Let me do this and then we will actually
17 just let you do that and set you for a pretrial at
18 the same time of this case.

19 MR. THEOPHILOPOULOS: Yes, Your Honor.

20 THE COURT: We've -- we've had a lot here, so
21 but we had a pretrial -- okay. Yes, we'll go ahead
22 and do that.

23 MR. PEARLMAN: I believe that's because of the
24 revocations. They probably clerically changed the
25 dynamic.

1 THE COURT: Yeah, just got held up. Okay, so
2 this case, Madam Clerk, I am granting the -- the
3 renewed motion to set bond. He is going to be
4 released on supervised ROR.

5 I've got -- I don't have an order and I told
6 Tracy not to bug you guys for one because I didn't
7 know where I was going today.

8 MR. PEARLMAN: I was scared. I wasn't -- I
9 wasn't going to --

10 THE COURT: You were scared.

11 MR. PEARLMAN: -- you know, jinx anything, so
12 we --

13 THE COURT: Yeah. So I -- that's what I told
14 her. I'm, like, you know what? He doesn't know
15 where I'm going so -- and I didn't know where I was
16 going, so just go ahead and do an order that grants
17 the second motion to set bond. Defendant's on
18 supervised ROR and the Defendant is to follow the
19 no-contact order this Court clearly set forth in
20 court.

21 MR. PEARLMAN: As well as the 500 feet from any
22 place (unintelligible).

23 THE COURT: Yeah. He should have gotten a
24 no-contact order. Did he get --

25 THE DEFENDANT: I did, ma'am.

1 THE COURT: Okay. So, yes -- and so, you have
2 all of that Madam Clerk?

3 THE CLERK: Yes.

4 THE COURT: Okay. So get that order to Tracy
5 today and then I think the other case -- this case is
6 -69, so the other case must be 25-15304.

7 MR. PEARLMAN: Correct.

8 THE COURT: So Madam Clerk -- I'm going to hit
9 that button here. Right. Nothing has been set, so
10 is there a waiver of speedy trial?

11 MR. THEOPHILOPOULOS: We can waive speedy, yes.

12 THE COURT: Okay. Let's -- and waive speedy
13 trial. Arraignment has been waived.

14 MR. THEOPHILOPOULOS: Yes.

15 THE COURT: And we will set this case also for
16 pretrial conference on -- do I have a pretrial
17 pending on this case?

18 THE CLERK; I believe it's set for 12/18.

19 MS. MEE: Yes, Your Honor, that's what we have
20 as well.

21 THE COURT: Okay. Do we really need a pretrial
22 on 12/18 since we've spent so much time together
23 already?

24 MR. PEARLMAN: No, no.

25 THE COURT: Do you have discovery?

1 MR. PEARLMAN: Yeah, I believe we have what we
2 need out of the original case.

3 THE COURT: Okay. So on -- Madam Clerk, I'm
4 jumping all over the place so I want to keep you with
5 me.

6 THE CLERK: Yes.

7 THE COURT: So 25-10869-MM, we're going to
8 set -- take that off of the pretrial conference for
9 December 18th --

10 THE CLERK; Okay.

11 THE COURT: -- and we will set that for pretrial
12 conference on -- you can have either January 6th,
13 13th, or 15th.

14 MR. THEOPHILOPOULOS: 15th okay for you?

15 MR. PEARLMAN: We'll make it work.

16 MR. THEOPHILOPOULOS: Yeah, January 15th,
17 Your Honor.

18 THE COURT: All right. Pretrial conference,
19 January 15th at 8:30. And then, now going to the
20 other case, Madam Clerk, Case Number 25-15305 -- I'm
21 putting a note here so that I don't forget about it
22 either. That case, there's a waiver of speedy trial,
23 waive arraignment, is set for pretrial conference on
24 January 15th at 8:30 and let me find out where they
25 are on discovery on that case. Hold on.

1 I'm going to -- let's see.

2 All right. So it doesn't -- only looks like
3 Mr. Theophilopoulos has a notice of appearance in on
4 that case?

5 MR. THEOPHILOPOULOS: Correct.

6 THE COURT: So, of course you don't have the
7 discovery because you just put the notice in, so
8 State will be getting you the discovery out on that.

9 MR. PEARLMAN: From the bond status on the new
10 case, would you like to make that supervised ROR? I
11 don't know if there's a bond on that.

12 THE COURT: It was a non-arrest case so --

13 MR. PEARLMAN: Right.

14 THE COURT: -- there's no bond on it at all.

15 MR. PEARLMAN: Says you're released, okay.

16 THE DEFENDANT: Okay.

17 THE COURT: So you just want it -- he's got
18 nothing on it so you don't me doing anything on that.

19 Okay. All right. So Mr. Smith-Levin, you have
20 two very good attorneys. You couldn't have asked for
21 any better in regards to what you have retained, so
22 we just go from there.

23 THE DEFENDANT: Thank you, ma'am.

24 THE COURT: All right? All right, thank you.

25 MR. PEARLMAN: Thank you, Your Honor.

1 (Proceedings concluded.)

CERTIFICATE OF COURT REPORTER

STATE OF FLORIDA

COUNTY OF PINELLAS

I, Jill D. Gershon, a digital court reporter for the Sixth Judicial Circuit, do hereby certify that I was authorized to and did transcribe the foregoing proceedings and that the transcript is a true and correct record of said proceedings.

DATED this 26th day of January, 2026.

/S Jill D. Gershon
Jill D. Gershon
Digital Court Reporter
Sixth Judicial Circuit