

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF NEBRASKA

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Plaintiff,

vs.

LAFI JAFARI,

Defendant.

8:16-CR-318

TENTATIVE FINDINGS

The Court has received the revised presentence investigation report in this case. There are no motions for departure or variance. The defendant has filed an objection ([filing 110](#)) to the RPSR.

IT IS ORDERED:

1. The Court will consult and follow the Federal Sentencing Guidelines to the extent permitted and required by *United States v. Booker*, 543 U.S. 220 (2005) and subsequent cases. In this regard, the Court gives notice that, unless otherwise ordered, it will:
 - (a) give the advisory Guidelines respectful consideration within the context of each individual case and will filter the Guidelines' advice through the 18 U.S.C. § 3553(a) factors, but will not afford the Guidelines any particular or "substantial" weight;
 - (b) resolve all factual disputes relevant to sentencing by the greater weight of the evidence and without the aid of a jury;

- (c) impose upon the United States the burden of proof on all Guidelines enhancements;
- (d) impose upon the defendant the burden of proof on all Guidelines mitigators;
- (e) depart from the advisory Guidelines, if appropriate, using pre-*Booker* departure theory; and
- (f) in cases where a departure using pre-*Booker* departure theory is not warranted, deviate or vary from the Guidelines when there is a principled reason justifying a sentence different than that called for by application of the advisory Guidelines, again without affording the Guidelines any particular or "substantial" weight.

2. There are no motions that require resolution at sentencing. The defendant does, however, raise several objections to the RPSR.

First, the defendant argues that the facts as reflected in the plea agreement result in a base offense level 6 under U.S.S.G. § 2B.1.(a)(3). [Filing 110 at 1](#). The presentence report recommends a base offense level of 12.

Next, the defendant objects to paragraph 59 arguing that the defendant has only been convicted of speeding on one occasion. [Filing 110 at 1](#). The RPSR reflects two speeding convictions. RPSR at 10.

And last, the defendant objects to the underlying facts contained in paragraph 61 which, generally, describe an incident where the

defendant allegedly swindled a victim out of \$ 29,000.00. RPSR at 11. According to the defendant, those facts are "unsupported hearsay" and depict the defendant "in a false light." [Filing 110 at 2](#).

If the defendant objects to any of the factual allegations contained therein on an issue on which the government has the burden of proof, such as the base offense level and any enhancing factors, the government must present evidence at the sentencing hearing to prove the existence of the disputed facts. [United States v. Poor Bear, 359 F.3d 1038, 1041 \(8th Cir. 2004\)](#). The Court will resolve these issues at sentencing; but *the Court notes* that there is an 11(c)(1)(c) plea agreement in this case.

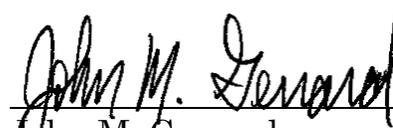
3. Except to the extent, if any, that the Court has sustained an objection, granted a motion, or reserved an issue for later resolution in the preceding paragraph, the parties are notified that the Court's tentative findings are that the presentence report is correct in all respects.
4. If any party wishes to challenge these tentative findings, that party shall, as soon as possible (but in any event no later than three (3) business days before sentencing) file with the Court and serve upon opposing counsel an objection challenging these tentative findings, supported by a brief as to the law and such evidentiary materials as are required, giving due regard to the local rules of practice governing the submission of evidentiary materials. If an evidentiary hearing is requested, such filings

should include a statement describing why a hearing is necessary and how long such a hearing would take.

5. Absent timely submission of the information required by the preceding paragraph, the Court's tentative findings may become final and the presentence report may be relied upon by the Court without more.
6. Unless otherwise ordered, any objection challenging these tentative findings shall be resolved at sentencing.

Dated this 25th day of September, 2018.

BY THE COURT:



John M. Gerrard
United States District Judge