

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE  
DISTRICT OF STETSON  
WESTVIEW DIVISION

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

v.

CASE NO. 1:21-cr-36

WANDA MAXIMOFF

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**ORDER**

This matter came before the Court today, September 23, 2021, for Defendant's initial appearance on the sole charge in the Indictment, Dkt. No. 1. This order is a non-exhaustive recitation of the matters raised at the initial appearance.

Defendant sought dismissal of the Indictment as untimely pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 3298. The Government contends the Indictment was returned in accordance with 18 U.S.C. § 3288 following the timely filing of an Information against Defendant and the convening of the District's grand jury, or, in the alternative, that it is entitled to equitable tolling of the statute of limitations due to the District's suspension of the grand jury during the COVID-19 pandemic. The Court directed the parties to file memoranda of law addressing **two questions**: (1) whether the Indictment was timely returned in view of

§§ 3288, 3298; and (2) whether the Government is otherwise entitled to any equitable tolling of a criminal statute of limitations. **The Court will also hold oral argument on Defendant's motion to dismiss.**

Additionally, the Government moved for the detention of Defendant pending trial under the Bail Reform Act, 18 U.S.C. § 3142. Defendant opposes the motion and has requested an evidentiary detention hearing. The Government's request and Defendant's opposition does not raise any novel legal issue that necessitates the presentation of case law or legal argument beyond the burdens and factors addressed in the applicable statute (the Bail Reform Act) and the weight any evidence presented at the detention hearing. Indeed, the undersigned explained the applicable law to Defendant at the conclusion of the initial appearance. **The Court will schedule a detention hearing on an expedited basis.**

**DONE AND ORDERED** this 23rd day of September 2021.

*Valentina Allegra de Fontaine*

Valentina Allegra de Fontaine  
Chief Judge, District of Stetson