

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF VIRGINIA
ALEXANDRIA DIVISION

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA . Criminal No. 1:24mj277
 .
 vs. . Alexandria, Virginia
 . July 22, 2024
 MOHAMMAD K. DABOUS, . 10:09 a.m.
 .
 Defendant. .
 .

TRANSCRIPT OF INITIAL APPEARANCE
BEFORE THE HONORABLE WILLIAM B. PORTER
UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE

APPEARANCES:

FOR THE GOVERNMENT: ALEXANDER AMICO, SAUSA
McKENZIE EHRHARDT, SAUSA
United States Attorney's Office
2100 Jamieson Avenue
Alexandria, VA 22314

ARABIC INTERPRETER: TOUFIC MAGED

ALSO PRESENT: GLENNA SMITH

TRANSCRIBER: ANNELIESE J. THOMSON, RDR, CRR
(703)629-3845

(Pages 1 - 5)

(Proceedings recorded by FTR Gold electronic sound recording,
transcript produced by computerized transcription.)

P R O C E E D I N G S

(Defendant present.)

MR. AMICO: Your Honor, the next case also involves an interpreter. It's United States versus Mohammad Dabous.

THE COURT: Page 1?

MR. AMICO: Mr. Dabous is present. And that is page 1 of your docket.

TOUFIC MAGED, ARABIC INTERPRETER, PREVIOUSLY SWORN

THE COURT: Mohammad Dabous? Good morning, sir.

THE DEFENDANT: Good morning.

THE COURT: Sir, you're here today in the federal court in the Eastern District of Virginia because you've been charged with a misdemeanor. The purpose of today's hearing is to advise you of some of your rights and to set further hearings in this case.

First, I want to make sure you're aware you have the right to remain silent at this and all future hearings. You also have the right to be evaluated for court-appointed counsel or to hire your own counsel.

Would you like to be evaluated for court-appointed counsel?

THE DEFENDANT: I would like the Court to assign an attorney for me.

THE COURT: Have you had an opportunity to fill out the financial disclosure form?

1 THE DEFENDANT: Yes, sir, I have filled it out.

2 THE COURT: Is all the information on there true and
3 accurate to the best of your information and belief?

4 THE DEFENDANT: Yes, Your Honor.

5 THE COURT: All right. I'll take a look at it.

6 Mr. Amico, you're going to be looking for conditions
7 of release on this one as well?

8 MR. AMICO: We will, Your Honor, and I'd like to just
9 point out for the Court's awareness Mr. Hamdan and Mr. Dabous's
10 charges for which they're appearing today stem from the same
11 incident, so there might be some conflicts that need to be
12 worked out with the Public Defender's Office.

13 THE COURT: Understood.

14 All right. Sir, I'm going to find you qualified for
15 court-appointed counsel, and I'll appoint the Federal Public
16 Defender to represent you.

17 THE DEFENDANT: Yes.

18 THE COURT: I didn't do this with Mr. Hamdan but I
19 should have: Will you please identify Mr. Dabous's charges and
20 potential penalties?

21 MR. AMICO: Yes. Mr. Dabous is charged with entering
22 military naval or Coast Guard property, in violation of 18 U.S.
23 Code, section 1382. It is a class B misdemeanor, which carries
24 six months' imprisonment, a \$5,000 fine, and a \$10 special
25 assessment.

1 THE COURT: Sir, those are the charges and the
2 potential penalties. This Court nor any other court has made
3 any judgment as to whether you're responsible for that charge,
4 but that's just to put you on notice of them.

5 We're going to continue this matter for a status
6 conference so you have an opportunity to talk with your
7 counsel, and we'll move it like the other one to September 17
8 at 10 a.m.

9 I understand the government is asking for conditions
10 of release. Mr. Amico, do you want to tell me what you want,
11 want me to do?

12 MR. AMICO: Yes, Your Honor. We ask that the
13 defendant be required to show up to all future court
14 appearances, to all future immigration proceedings, and that he
15 be reminded not to trespass onto Marine Corps Base Quantico or
16 any other military installation.

17 THE DEFENDANT: Yes.

18 THE COURT: Sir, the government has asked for certain
19 conditions of release. Did you hear them and do you understand
20 them, or would you like me to go over them with you?

21 THE DEFENDANT: Yes, Your Honor, I heard.

22 THE COURT: Okay. Good. So you need to appear at
23 our next hearing and at any future hearings for us, all
24 immigration hearings, and you are not to trespass on any
25 government facility, including Quantico. You'll be

1 provided with --

2 THE DEFENDANT: I understand.

3 THE COURT: You'll be provided with written
4 conditions of release, and the interpreter will go over that
5 with you at the end of this hearing once he has an opportunity
6 to meet with you. Do you understand?

7 THE DEFENDANT: Yes, Your Honor.

8 THE COURT: All right. Until then, you can step
9 back, and you'll have a chance to meet with the interpreter in
10 a moment. Thank you, sir, and good luck to you.

11 THE DEFENDANT: Thank you, sir.

12 THE COURT: Yes, sir.

13 THE INTERPRETER: Thank you, Your Honor.

14 THE COURT: Thank you, sir.

15 (Which were all the proceedings
16 had at this time.)

17

18 CERTIFICATE OF THE TRANSCRIBER

19 I certify that the foregoing is a correct transcript from
20 the official FTR Gold electronic sound recording of the
21 proceedings in the above-entitled matter.

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/s/
Anneliese J. Thomson

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