Clerk of the Superior Court
*** Electronically Filed ***
11/17/2026 8:00 AM

SUPERIOR COURT OF ARIZONA
MARICOPA COUNTY

CR2026-007790-001 DT 11/13/2026

HONORABLE SAVITA KASTURI

CLERK OF THE COURT
I. Alvarado
Deputy

STATE OF ARIZONA

COUNTY CCC ATTORNEY

v.

XANDER AKIL MCLENDON (001)

CCC PUBLIC DEFENDER-

COMM. IRELAND
COMM. KASTURI
JUDGE COVIL

NOT GUILTY ARRAIGNMENT

9:01 a.m.

Courtroom SCT 3B

State's Attorney: James Blair
Defendant's Attorney: James Simpson
Defendant: Present

A record of the proceedings is made digitally in lieu of a court reporter.

Defendant was present for the group advisement given on the record at 8:50 a.m. this date in SCT 3B.

Defense counsel waives formal reading of the charge(s).

IT IS ORDERED entering a Not Guilty Plea to all charges on behalf of the Defendant at this time.

SUPERIOR COURT OF ARIZONA
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In preparation for the Initial Pretrial Conference (IPTC), the parties shall do the following:

1. The defense attorney shall conduct a conflicts check within the office to determine whether a conflict exists. If a conflict exists, counsel shall staff the conflict with the appropriate supervisor, and counsel shall file the appropriate Motion to Withdraw so new counsel can appear at the Initial Pretrial Conference.

2. Motions to Modify Release Conditions shall be heard at the Initial Pretrial Conference. Motions shall be filed with the assigned Commissioner not later than 10 days prior to the Initial Pretrial Conference.

3. If a plea agreement is extended by the State, the State shall extend the plea not later than 10 days before the Initial Pretrial Conference. Defense Counsel shall make reasonable efforts to present the plea to in custody defendants before the Initial Pretrial Conference.

4. Motion for Rule 11 Evaluations shall be heard at the Initial Pretrial Conference. Motions shall be filed with the assigned Commissioner not less than 10 days before the Initial Pretrial Conference.

5. Defense Counsel shall prepare and file a List of Specific Items of Discovery required under Rule 15.1 (b), but which were not disclosed. See Rule 15.2(e). Such list shall be filed with the assigned Commissioner not less than 5 days before the Initial Pretrial Conference.

6. All electronic media (audio tapes, CD's, etc.) or documents which require language translation shall be submitted to the Court Interpretation and Translation Department (CITS) on or before the IPTC hearing date.

7. The Initial Pretrial Statement shall be filed with the assigned Commissioner not less than 3 days before the Initial Pretrial Conference hearing date.

ANY MOTION TO MODIFY RELEASE CONDITIONS, OR RULE 11 MOTIONS NOT FILED BEFORE THE INITIAL PRETRIAL CONFERENCE WILL BE HEARD AT THE COMPREHENSIVE PRETRIAL CONFERENCE BEFORE THE DESIGNATED MASTER CALENDAR JUDICIAL OFFICER. ALL MOTIONS SHALL BE IN WRITING WITH SPECIFIC FACTS TO SUPPORT THE MOTIONS.

This case is assigned to Judge Covil.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED setting an Initial Pretrial Conference for 12/14/2026 at 8:15 a.m. before Commissioner Ireland.

IT IS ORDERED setting a Comprehensive Pretrial Conference for 01/12/2027 at 8:30 a.m. before Judge Covil.

IT IS ORDERED that the attorneys for both the State and Defense be prepared to provide the court with the following information at the Comprehensive Pretrial Conference (CPTC):

A. The status of plea negotiations. This includes whether or not the State has tendered an offer; if so, when it expires; the results of the settlement conference; and whether or not a Donald advisement is required.

B. The status of disclosure by both the State and Defense. This includes what discovery has been disclosed and what discovery still needs to be disclosed. If any discovery is left undisclosed, it is required that all parties comply with Rule 15.6 and provide appropriate affidavits.

C. The number of days required for trial.

D. The number of witnesses to be used at trial, including any out-of-town witnesses. And the number of expert witnesses to be used at trial.

E. The status of interviews. This includes how many interviews have been conducted and how many are left to complete. This includes whether or not any depositions are going to be required. If depositions are required, it is ordered that the party file a motion requesting same no later than two days before the CPTC date.

F. Whether or not an interpreter is going to be required for either a witness or the defendant or both.

G. The number of jurors required for trial along with the recommended number of alternates.

H. Whether or not the State is requesting an aggravating factors trial to the jury.

I. Any special jury instructions.

J. Whether or not either party is requesting a lesser-included offense.

K. Whether or not there are any anticipated substantive motions to be filed by either party.

L. Whether or not there are any motions in limine anticipated.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED setting a Final Trial Management Conference (FTMC) on 04/05/2027 at 8:30 a.m. before Judge Covil.

IT IS ORDERED setting the Trial Assignment date on 04/12/2027 at 9:00 a.m. before the Master Calendar Assignment Judge. The Trial Assignment hearing is in person for all lawyers and defendants. The parties should contact the Trial Assignment division prior to the Trial Assignment date to request to appear virtually. The purpose of the hearing is to set dates for (1) the Trial Procedure Conference and (2) the jury selection date.

All self- represented litigants shall appear in person at the trial assignment date unless otherwise ordered. All in custody defendants shall be transported unless otherwise ordered.

Should the Trial Assignment Judge approve a virtual appearance, the Assignment Judge's division will email parties instructions and a link to join the Court Connect videoconference (for more information, visit https://superiorcourt.maricopa.gov/court-connect/). A hearing participant can also join by telephone by dialing 917-781-4590 and entering Access Code 103 815 458# If a virtual appearance has been approved counsel of record and defendants are ordered to appear via videoconference with their webcams enabled.

IT IS ORDERED that the Defendant shall contact and meet with his/her attorney in person no later than three weeks from this date, for the purpose of preparing for the Initial Pretrial Conference.

NOTICE TO DEFENDANTS:

Failure to comply with the above orders may result in revocation of Defendant's release from custody and/or the imposition of other sanctions.

The Defendant may be tried in his/her absence if he/she fails to appear for trial.

The Defendant is advised that, if convicted, the Defendant will be required to appear for sentencing. If the Defendant chooses not to appear, and the Defendant's absence prevents the Defendant from being sentenced within ninety days from the conviction, the Defendant may lose the right to a direct appeal.

LAST DAY: 05/12/2027.

IT IS ORDERED remanding the Defendant into the Maricopa County Sheriff's Office custody.

IT IS ORDERED setting bond in amount of $1,000,000.00.

IT IS ORDERED finding the Defendant indigent and appointing the Public Defender's Office to represent the Defendant for all further proceedings in this case.

Defendant is directed to appear at all scheduled court hearings and advised of the potential consequences should he/she fail to appear.

9:09 a.m. Matter concludes.

9:19 a.m. Court reconvenes with the parties and respective counsel present.

A record of the proceedings is made digitally in lieu of a court reporter.

After brief recess,

IT IS ORDERED vacating the Final Trial Management Conference set for 04/05/207 at 8:30 a.m. before Judge Covil.

IT IS ORDERED vacating the Trail Management set for 04/12/207 at 9:00 a.m. before Master Calendar Assignment Judge.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED setting a Final Trial Management Conference (FTMC) on 03/01/2027 at 8:30 a.m. before Judge Covil.

IT IS ORDERED setting the Trial Assignment date on 03/10/2027 at 9:00 a.m. before the Master Calendar Assignment Judge. The Trial Assignment hearing is in person for all lawyers and defendants. The parties should contact the Trial Assignment division prior to the Trial Assignment date to request to appear virtually. The purpose of the hearing is to set dates for (1) the Trial Procedure Conference and (2) the jury selection date.

New Last Day: 04/12/2027.

9:09 a.m. Matter concludes.