

Judge allows Saab to skip in-person arraignment appearance

United States v. Alex Nain Saab Morán · S.D. Fla. No. 1:26-cr-20020

Judge Kathleen M. Williams · Docket entry #26 · Filed 2026-07-22 · Filed by: Court

What happened

Magistrate Judge Lauren F. Louis granted in part an unopposed motion allowing Alex Saab to waive his personal appearance at his arraignment, scheduled for July 24, 2026 at 10:00 a.m. The order specifies that while Saab himself need not appear, his defense counsel must attend the hearing, which will be held in open court under Federal Rule of Criminal Procedure 10.

What it means

This is a procedural order and does not reflect any finding about guilt or the merits of the case. It simply allows the formal reading of charges and entry of his not-guilty plea, already submitted in writing, to proceed without Saab being physically present.

What happens next

The arraignment is set to proceed on July 24, 2026, with Saab's counsel appearing in his place.

Key passages from the filing (verbatim)

"The Court accepts Defendant's waiver of his personal appearance at his arraignment, scheduled for July 24, 2026, at 10:00 A.M. Defense counsel shall appear for the arraignment, which will be conducted in open court, consistent with Federal Rule of Criminal Procedure 10."

Page 1 — States exactly what the court ordered and what is required of counsel.

Docket text (official, in English)

ORDER granting, in part, unopposed 25 Motion to Accept Waiver of Personal Appearance as to Alex Nain Saab Moran (2). Signed by Magistrate Judge Lauren Fleischer Louis on 7/22/2026. See attached document for full details. (wnn) (Entered: 07/22/2026)

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