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Press Release

United States District Court of Puerto Rico announces Press and Public Access to Hearing for Case 20-cr-000258 (FAB) (United States v. Rafael Piña-Nieves) on August 14, 2020 at 11:30AM.

August 14, 2020 (San Juan, PR): The United States District Court for the District of Puerto Rico (“USDCPR”) informs that, in order to listen-in on the Initial Appearance Hearing for Rafael Pina-Nieves before Magistrate Judge Camille Vélez Rivé in United States v. Rafael Piña-Nieves, 20-cr-00258 (FAB), scheduled for Friday August 14, 2020 at 11:30AM by telephone, members of the press should send an email to presscredentials@prd.uscourts.gov. In accordance with the USDCPR’s [Guidelines for Press and Media Access to Video/Teleconference Hearings](#), email request should include the case number, date and time of the scheduled hearing, as well as the name and contact information (telephone and email address) of the news media organization interested in watching the hearing. Clerk’s Office staff may reach out to requesting parties to confirm information provided in the email request.

Recording and further broadcasting of the proceedings by any means is prohibited under Local Civil Rule 83F(b)(1). Although Judicial Conference policy generally prohibits the broadcasting of proceedings in federal trial courts, the Executive Committee of the Judicial Conference has approved a limited temporary exception to the policy to allow a judge to authorize the use of teleconference technology to provide the public and the press with audio access to court proceedings while public access to federal courthouses is restricted due to the health and safety concerns presented by the COVID-19 pandemic.

For additional information, please visit the USDCPR’s Internet website at <http://www.prd.uscourts.gov>, Twitter Account ([@USCourtsDPR](https://twitter.com/USCourtsDPR)) or call 787-772-3000.

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