

Hearings on July 20, and 24, 2012

On July 13, US District Judge Ellen Huvelle dismissed Count One, Conspiracy to Commit Piracy, and narrowed Count Two, Piracy, only to those acts committed by the defendant while he personally was on the high seas. On July 19, 2012, the Government filed a Motion asking the Court to reconsider her ruling. On July 20, 2012, the Court rejected the government's motion for reconsideration. On July 24, 2012, the government informed the Court that it intended to appeal her Dismissal of Count One and her ruling limiting Count Two. The Court then also dismissed Counts Three and Four, Conspiracy to Commit Hostage Taking and Hostage Taking. The Court ordered Ali Mohammed Ali released on house arrest, while the government appeals her rulings. The appeals process is expected to take several months, so trial is not expected to begin until sometime next year.