



**LORAIN COUNTY COURT OF COMMON PLEAS
LORAIN COUNTY, OHIO
JOURNAL ENTRY
Hon. D. Chris Cook, Judge**

Date May 1, 2025

Case No. 22CR106754

STATE OF OHIO
Plaintiff

Paul Griffin
Plaintiff's Attorney

VS

NAZIR ROUNTREE
Defendant

Pro Se
Defendant's Attorney

This matter is before the Court on Defendant's *Pro Se* Motion for Judicial Release, filed on April 18, 2025.

The motion is not well-taken and DENIED, *at this time*.

In the case at bar, the Defendant was sentenced on December 29, 2023, to an aggregate indefinite sentence of four to five and one-half years (4 – 5 ½) in prison. His sentence includes a one-year firearm specification (on Count Two) that was to be served consecutive and prior to his three to four and one-half (3 – 4 ½) year term on the predicate offenses.

At this point, having served his one-year firearm spec, the Defendant is eligible for judicial release and this Court did indicate at the plea and sentencing hearings that it would *consider* judicial release after the Defendant served 18-months.

The problem for the Court is while the Defendant has a low Current Security Level of "2," a Moderate Prison Intake (PIT) Score of "15," and no Current Security Threat Group (STG) Participation Level, he has accumulated 29 institutional violations between 1/23/2004 and 4/22/2025.

The Defendant was delivered to prison on 1/9/24, thus he picked-up his first violation just two weeks after entering prison, and his last violation was just one week ago.



Now to be fair, the majority of the violations are not particularly serious. They mostly involve failing to follow orders from prison personnel, directing profanity towards them, and being in possession of toothsome contraband such as ramen noodles, rice, bagels, pickles, honey buns, tortilla shells, sausages, beef crumble,¹ bacon, chicken, butter, one box of drink mix, 1 pack of chili, chips, etc. He also at times is in possession of unauthorized fans, pillows (with cases), and an extra blanket. On other occasions, he was found in possession of such delectables as firework pops, popcorn, (more) bagels, beef soups, Smores cereal, creamer, and mini blocks of spicy cheddar cheese.


Given this extensive and diverse litany of savory treats and staples, one might reasonably conclude that the Defendant is running a deli, cantina, or bed-&-breakfast out of his cell. Such initiative, in a different setting, would be laudable. But in prison, he appears to pay no attention to the rules and regulations regarding what he can, and cannot, possess.

As noted, individually, these violations are not egregious, though his repeated failure to follow orders and mistreatment of prison staff is of concern as it indicates an inability to conform to authority. This is particularly troubling as, if judicial release is granted, the Defendant will be placed on a community control sanction where he will also have to conform to authority and follow rules.

At this point, judicial release is not totally off the table, but this Court needs to see a better institutional record of compliance over the next six-months before releasing the Defendant early.

To that end, if the Defendant has an improved institutional record and wishes to re-file for judicial release, the Court will consider the motion on or about November 1, 2025.

IT IS SO ORDERED. No Record.


JUDGE D. CHRIS COOK

cc: Griffin, Asst. Pros.
Defendant, *Pro Se*
Ohio ODRC

¹ One can only imagine what "beef crumble" is actually comprised of.