

# APPENDIX A

PRECEDENTIAL

UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS  
FOR THE THIRD CIRCUIT

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No. 17-3826

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UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

v.

DONTE ISLAND,  
a/k/a Norman Tomas, a/k/a Norman Thomas

Donte Island,  
Appellant

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On Appeal from the United States District Court  
for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania  
(D.C. Criminal Action No. 2-03-cr-00592-001)  
District Judge: Honorable Jan E. DuBois

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Argued: November 6, 2018

Before: AMBRO, SCIRICA, and RENDELL, *Circuit  
Judges.*

(Filed: February 26, 2019)

Keith M. Donoghue, Esq. [ARGUED]  
Federal Community Defender Office for the  
Eastern District of Pennsylvania  
601 Walnut Street  
The Curtis Center  
Suite 540 West  
Philadelphia, PA 19106

*Counsel for Appellant*

Bernadette A. McKeon, Esq. [ARGUED]  
Robert A. Zauzmer, Esq.  
Office of the United States Attorney  
615 Chestnut Street  
Suite 1250  
Philadelphia, PA 19106

*Counsel for Appellee*

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OPINION OF THE COURT

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**SCIRICA, Circuit Judge**

In this appeal, we determine whether a defendant can count toward the service of his supervised release term a period

of time he is fugitive, that is, absent from the court's supervision. The statutory provisions governing supervised release do not contain plain language—or indeed any language—that expressly resolves that question. But, as the majority of Courts of Appeals to address the question have concluded, a defendant does not in fact serve his supervised release term while he deliberately absconds from the court's supervision. Accordingly, a defendant's supervised release term tolls while he is of fugitive status.

Defendant Donte Island appealed to challenge the District Court's order revoking his supervised release and sentencing him to a term of imprisonment. Island primarily contended that under 18 U.S.C. § 3583(i) the Court's jurisdiction terminated at the end of his three-year supervised release term. Island asserted the Court accordingly lacked authority to revoke his release based on his involvement in a police officer shooting first raised to the court a few days after those three years had passed. The government maintained the Court had jurisdiction to revoke Island's supervised release for the officer shooting violation based on an earlier-issued warrant for unrelated violations. We have no occasion to resolve that jurisdictional dispute, however, because we join the majority of Circuits that have addressed the issue to hold Island's supervised release term tolled while he was fugitive from the court's supervision. As a result of that tolling, Island's term of supervised release had not yet expired when the later warrant was issued. Because the District Court therefore had jurisdiction over the second warrant and underlying petition of violation, we will affirm.

**I.**

Following a jury trial in 2004, the District Court sentenced Island to 110 months' imprisonment and 3 years' supervised release for possession of a firearm by a convicted felon, 18 U.S.C. § 922(g)(1). Island commenced that three-year supervised release term on June 26, 2013, and it was scheduled to end on June 25, 2016.

Island completed the first two years of his release term without incident, but on September 18, 2015, Island's probation officer filed a petition of violation. The petition alleged Island had breached the terms of his release by committing several technical, *i.e.*, noncriminal or minor, violations, such as failing to notify his probation officer of a changed address and failing several drug tests. The petition noted that “[m]ore troublesome” among the violations was Island's failure to report to his probation officer. App'x 34. The officer relayed that Island “ceased reporting as instructed” on July 17, 2015, after which his “whereabouts [were] unknown.” App'x 34, 28. The petition chronicled over half a dozen attempts to contact Island in the coming months, none of which were successful. Island failed to report for a scheduled meeting, then did not respond to phone calls, voicemails, letters, or emails sent to him at several possible numbers and addresses. The Court issued a warrant on the basis of that petition the day it was filed, but that warrant remained outstanding.

On June 27, 2016—just over three years after Island's supervised release term had begun—the probation office filed a second petition of violation, styled as an “[a]mended” version of the first. App'x 35. The Court again issued a warrant the same day, now based on a new violation. The second petition alleged Island had committed a serious violation of the terms

of his release on June 21—just under three years after Island’s supervised release term had begun—by firing a weapon at two police officers, hitting one. Island was arrested and taken into custody by Delaware County authorities that day. The District Court held a teleconference with the government and Island’s counsel soon after receiving the petition, and the parties then agreed to delay a hearing on both petitions of violation until after the disposition of Island’s Delaware County charges. Island was convicted in July 2017 of attempted murder and other charges, then sentenced in the Court of Common Pleas of Delaware County, Pennsylvania to 33 to 100 years’ imprisonment.

The District Court held a supervised release revocation hearing on December 13, 2017. The government sought the statutory maximum revocation term of 24 months’ imprisonment; at the hearing, it stressed the severity of the officer shooting underlying the second violation petition. The government further emphasized Island “wasn’t within hours of completing his sentence on this. . . . He was 11 months a fugitive, right, so it’s not like he committed the crime on the 11th hour.” App’x 57–58. In response, Island emphasized he would already be serving 33 to 100 years in prison and argued “it would be excessive and unnecessary based on the practical realities of his case” to also enforce a revocation term of imprisonment. App’x 62. The court imposed the government’s recommended revocation sentence of 24 months, to run consecutively after Island’s state sentence, on the basis of only the second violation petition. Island now appeals.<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> The District Court had jurisdiction over the original charges under 18 U.S.C. § 3231 and over the supervised release

## II.

Island asserts on appeal that the District Court lacked jurisdiction under 18 U.S.C. § 3583(i) to revoke his supervised release because the warrant underlying revocation—based on the shooting—was untimely issued after the three-year calendar on his supervised release term had run. The government responds that the earlier warrant for unrelated technical violations endowed the District Court with ongoing jurisdiction, but also contends the warrant was timely because Island’s three-year supervised release term was tolled while he was of fugitive status. We may “affirm on any ground supported by the record,” *United States v. Mussagre*, 405 F.3d 161, 168 (3d Cir. 2005),<sup>2</sup> and we will here affirm on the basis that fugitive tolling of Island’s supervised release term rendered the second warrant timely.

### A.

We begin with an overview of the purpose of the supervised release scheme before turning to how fugitive tolling supports that scheme. Congress designed supervised release, laid out in 18 U.S.C. § 3583, to be “a form of postconfinement monitoring overseen by the sentencing

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violations under 18 U.S.C. § 3583. This court has appellate jurisdiction under 28 U.S.C. § 1291.

<sup>2</sup> The parties dispute the appropriate standard of review for the question whether the District Court had jurisdiction under 18 U.S.C. § 3583(i) to revoke Island’s supervised release. Because we affirm the District Court’s decision on a different ground, we have no occasion to resolve that dispute.

court.” *Johnson v. United States*, 529 U.S. 694, 696–97 (2000). “[T]he supervised release term constitutes part of the original sentence, and the congressional intent is for defendants to serve their full release term.” *United States v. Buchanan*, 638 F.3d 448, 455 (4th Cir. 2011). As the Supreme Court has explained, “Congress intended supervised release to assist individuals in their transition to community life. Supervised release fulfills rehabilitative ends,” providing “individuals with postconfinement assistance” through the supervision of the court. *United States v. Johnson*, 529 U.S. 53, 59 (2000). The court can provide such assistance because, “[w]hile on supervised release, the offender [is] required to abide by certain conditions,” *Johnson v. United States*, 529 U.S. at 697, such as regularly reporting to a probation officer, pursuing schooling or work, and refraining from further criminal activity, *see U.S.S.G. § 5D1.3(c); 18 U.S.C. § 3583(d)*. Congress authorized supervising courts to revoke supervised release and order reimprisonment when defendants fail to meet their release conditions. *See id. § 3583(e); Johnson v. United States*, 529 U.S. at 697.

The plain language of the supervised release statutory provisions is, contrary to the dissent’s suggestion, silent on how a defendant’s failure to comply with release terms effects the running of his sentence. *See 18 U.S.C. §§ 3583, 3624*. Though those provisions do not expressly provide for tolling when a defendant absconds from supervision, fugitive tolling furthers the purposes of the supervised release scheme. *See Staples v. United States*, 511 U.S. 600, 605 (1994). When a defendant under supervised release fails to meet release conditions by absconding from supervision, a court cannot effectively oversee his transition to the community. The majority of Courts of Appeals to address this question have

accordingly determined a defendant's term of supervised release is tolled during the period he is of "fugitive" status, *i.e.*, fails to report and comply with the terms of his postrelease sentence. *See United States v. Barinas*, 865 F.3d 99, 106 (2d Cir. 2017); *United States v. Buchanan*, 638 F.3d 448, 453–58 (4th Cir. 2011); *United States v. Murgua-Oliveros*, 421 F.3d 951, 954 (9th Cir. 2005). *But see United States v. Hernandez-Ferrer*, 599 F.3d 63, 67–68 (1st Cir. 2010) (declining to adopt fugitive tolling for supervised release).

The fugitive tolling doctrine reflects two key principles that align with the purposes of supervised release. *First*, the rehabilitative goals of supervised release are served only when defendants abide by the terms of their supervision—those goals are not served simply by the passage of time during the release term. "Mere lapse of time without imprisonment or other restraint contemplated by the law does not constitute service of sentence." *Anderson v. Corall*, 263 U.S. 192, 196 (1923). A supervising court cannot offer postconfinement assistance or ensure compliance with the terms of release while a defendant is truant. *See Barinas*, 865 F.3d at 107 (reasoning that measuring a supervised release term "by rote reference to a calendar" is "inconsistent . . . with Congress's goals in requiring supervised release"); *Murgua-Oliveros*, 421 F.3d at 954 ("A person on supervised release should not receive credit against his period of supervised release for time that . . . he was not in fact observing the terms of his supervised release.").

*Second*, the fugitive tolling doctrine reflects the settled principle that defendants are not generally credited for misdeeds, such as failing to comply with the terms of supervised release. *See Buchanan*, 638 F.3d at 452 (recognizing the "general rule that 'when the service of a

sentence is interrupted by conduct of the defendant the time spent out of custody on his sentence is not counted as time served thereon””) (quoting *United States v. Luck*, 664 F.2d 311, 312 (D.C. Cir. 1981)); *United States v. Crane*, 979 F.2d 687, 691 (9th Cir. 1992) (explaining the fugitive tolling doctrine enables courts to avoid “reward[ing] those who flee from bench warrants and maintain their fugitive status until the expiration of their original term of supervised release”). As the Second Circuit noted, the fugitive tolling doctrine corresponds to a variety of procedural doctrines that prevent rewarding fugitive defendants for misconduct: fugitive defendants are barred from invoking statutes of limitations, *see* 18 U.S.C. § 3290; appeals can be dismissed if defendants abscond, *see* *Ortega-Rodriguez v. United States*, 507 U.S. 234, 239 (1993); and defendants may not credit toward a term of imprisonment time when they have escaped from prison, *Corall*, 263 U.S. at 196. *See Barinas*, 865 F.3d at 107–08.

Because the fugitive tolling doctrine helps realize the design and purpose of supervised release, we join the majority of circuits to have considered the question and recognize a supervised release term tolls while a defendant is of fugitive status. A defendant cannot count toward his sentence time spent out of the court’s supervision as a consequence of his own doing. At the same time, the defendant’s absence does not free him to violate the terms of his supervised release without consequence; the defendant remains responsible for his violating conduct.<sup>3</sup> Fugitive tolling does not lift the conditions

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<sup>3</sup> As the Fourth Circuit explained:

When a defendant absconds while on supervised release, his absence precludes the sentencing court from exercising supervision over him.

of a defendant's supervised release, but instead recognizes the goals of supervised release are not served when defendants deliberately fail to follow its conditions.

This conclusion follows readily from our existing law. We considered the application of tolling doctrines to supervised release in *United States v. Cole*, 567 F.3d 110 (3d Cir. 2009), where we held supervised release would not toll when a defendant was deported as a condition of supervised release. We noted deportation is a statutorily-contemplated condition of supervised release under 18 U.S.C. § 3583(d), and reasoned “[i]f a defendant is removed and ordered excluded from the United States as a condition of supervised release, how can it be that the period of supervised release is tolled during that period?” *Id.* at 115. We compared that unsuccessful deportation tolling argument to 18 U.S.C. § 3624(e), which expressly provides for tolling of a supervised release period where “the person is imprisoned in connection with a

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Tolling is necessary in that instance to ensure that, upon being apprehended, the defendant will be subject to judicial supervision for a complete term. However, that does not mean that a defendant who has absconded thereby nullifies the terms and conditions of the supervised release order during his flight. Rather, the terms and conditions remain in effect, and the fugitive-defendant is not at liberty to embark on a “holiday” from them. To the extent that this result may seem harsh, it is the defendant’s own misconduct which creates it.

*Buchanan*, 638 F.3d at 458; *see also Barinas*, 865 F.3d at 109.

conviction for a Federal, State, or local crime” for at least 30 days. That comparison demonstrated Congress had considered two circumstances in which the defendant would be outside the court’s supervision—deportation and imprisonment—and determined how that difference would affect the running of the supervised release term. In the case of deportation, where the defendant’s distance from supervision results from Congress’s design in 18 U.S.C. § 3583(d), the defendant would get credit for time served; while in the case of imprisonment, where the defendant’s own actions lead to interruption of the release term, the release term would toll.

We find unconvincing the reliance of Island and the dissent on *Cole* to contend imprisonment is the only context in which supervised release may be tolled. We found “persuasive Cole’s argument that the canon of *expressio unius est exclusio alterius* suggests that where Congress has explicitly allowed for tolling only when the defendant is imprisoned on another charge, it does not intend for district courts to toll supervised release under any other circumstance.” 567 F.3d at 115. The First Circuit similarly depended on the *expressio unius* canon in rejecting the fugitive tolling doctrine. *See Hernández-Ferrer*, 599 F.3d at 68. But as noted, Congress explicitly laid out how imprisonment and deportation would affect the running of a supervised release term. We accordingly inferred in *Cole* that in addressing deportation and treating it as a condition of supervised release, Congress determined tolling should not then apply. But Congress did not address at all whether tolling principles should apply when a defendant is fugitive from the court’s supervision.

Indeed, Congress was silent on the question. While the dissent suggests that silence counsels in favor of proscribing

fugitive tolling, we note, as some of our sister Circuits have, “[t]he normal rule of statutory construction is that if Congress intends for legislation to change the interpretation of a judicially created concept” such as the one that a defendant cannot profit from his misdeeds, “it makes that intent specific.” *Midatlantic Nat. Bank v. New Jersey Dep’t of Env. Protection*, 474 U.S. 494, 501 (1986); *see Barinas*, 865 F.3d at 109 (“[W]e typically expect a clearer expression of an intention to override such longstanding precepts as the principle that a fugitive should not profit by his unlawful or contumacious conduct.”); *Buchanan*, 638 F.3d at 456 (“We find no indication to suggest that Congress considered the issue and intended to preclude the judicially created doctrine of fugitive tolling in the supervised release context.”); *cf. Young v. United States*, 535 U.S. 43, 52 (2002) (drawing “no negative inference from the presence of an express tolling provision” in one section of the Bankruptcy Code “and the absence of one in” another section, where the differing treatment “would be quite reasonable”). Recognizing tolling only in the single case of imprisonment would in fact, as our sister Circuits have explained, “impede achievement of Congress’s stated goals for supervised release.” *Barinas*, 865 F.3d at 109.

Our reasoning in *Cole* accords with the premises of fugitive tolling and reflects the distinction between defendants who deliberately defy the conditions of supervised release and those who leave the jurisdiction not on their own but at the government’s order. *Accord Barinas*, 865 F.3d at 109–10 (describing the running of a term during deportation as a “far cry from the circumstances in which [the defendant] was to remain in the United States for supervision and instead fled, in violation of the conditions imposed on him”); *Buchanan*, 638 F.3d at 457 (explaining fugitive tolling is “distinguishable”

from the decision not to toll during deportation “because the fugitive-defendant’s absence arises from his own misconduct. The same cannot be said about a defendant who has been removed from the country by government order”). *Cole* confirms a defendant cannot profit from his own misdeeds; the fugitive tolling doctrine reflects that principle.

Finally, the dissent contends 18 U.S.C. § 3583(i) precludes fugitive tolling. Section 3583(i) reads:

The power of the court to revoke a term of supervised release for violation of a condition of supervised release . . . extends beyond the expiration of the term of supervised release for any period reasonably necessary for the adjudication of matters arising before its expiration if, before its expiration, a warrant or summons has been issued on the basis of an allegation of such a violation.

We have held “§ 3583(i) is in fact jurisdictional and thus not subject to equitable tolling,” *United States v. Merlino*, 785 F.3d 79, 86 (3d Cir. 2015), but that holding does little to help Island because fugitive tolling is not based in Section 3583(i)’s jurisdictional grant. Section 3583(i) concerns the extension of a court’s jurisdiction, but it is undisputed that a court has jurisdiction during the defendant’s service of his supervised release term. We here begin with the question whether Island in fact served his supervised release term. Because, as we have explained, a defendant does not serve his term while fugitive, part of a fugitive defendant’s term remains to be served. During the remainder of that supervised release term, the district court correspondingly has jurisdiction. As the Second Circuit has

recognized, it is not “§ 3583(i) itself” which “authoriz[es] the tolling of the supervised-release period based on the defendant’s fugitive status.” *United States v. Barinas*, 865 F.3d 99, 109 (2d Cir. 2017). Instead, as discussed, “such tolling is consistent with the traditional principle that an absconder should not benefit from his fugitivity and is consistent with Congress’s sentencing scheme of supervision to facilitate the defendant’s transition to a law-abiding life in free society.” *Id.*

**B.**

For at least the period between the court’s issuance of the first warrant for violating supervised release in September 2015 and the shooting leading to Island’s apprehension by law enforcement in June 2016, Island was of fugitive status.<sup>4</sup> As Island’s probation officer timely notified the court and the government confirmed at the revocation hearing, Island repeatedly failed to report for scheduled meetings and drug tests. Island did not respond to the officer’s many attempts at contact in different media and at different addresses.<sup>5</sup> Under

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<sup>4</sup> To the extent Island suggests the fugitive tolling doctrine poses administrability problems because the precise date a defendant becomes fugitive may be difficult to ascertain, such concerns are overblown—and not at issue in this case. We note the Ninth Circuit has applied the fugitive tolling doctrine for decades without noteworthy administrability problems. *See United States v. Ignacio Juarez*, 601 F.3d 885, 886 (9th Cir. 2010); *Murgia-Oliveros*, 421 F.3d at 954.

<sup>5</sup> In fact, had Island actually been under the court’s supervision, the first warrant following technical violations of his supervised release could have been executed.

the fugitive tolling doctrine, Island cannot count those months spent outside the court's supervision toward his supervised release term. Accordingly, when the second warrant for violation of supervised release issued on June 27, 2016, it fell well within the tolled term. We therefore need not consider whether the first warrant endowed the District Court with jurisdiction over the unrelated later violations alleged in the second warrant. Because the second warrant was issued within the supervised release term properly accounting for fugitive tolling, we will affirm the trial court's revocation of supervised release.

**RENDELL, Circuit Judge, dissenting:**

The Majority opinion focuses on the goals of supervised release and concludes that tolling for fugitives from supervised release is appropriate. I believe this is incorrect for two reasons. First, the proper focus should be on the plain language of 18 U.S.C. § 3583(i), which states that the court has the power to extend the term of supervised release only when a warrant is issued prior to the expiration of the term of supervised release. Second, two precedential opinions of this court—*United States v. Merlino* and *United States v. Cole*—should lead us to conclude that tolling does not apply. Thus, tolling does not apply and the District Court was without the power to extend the term of Island’s supervised release based upon tolling.

Section 3583(i) grants the court the power to extend supervised release “beyond the expiration of the term of supervised release for any period reasonably necessary for the adjudication of matters arising before its expiration if, before its expiration, a warrant or summons has been issued on the basis of an allegation of such a violation.” 18 U.S.C. § 3583(i). By its plain language, a court has the power to adjudicate matters *after* the expiration of supervised release *if* a warrant or summons had been issued *before* the expiration of supervised release. There is no dispute that the District Court here issued the warrant *after* the technical term of supervised release expired. When faced with a similar issue we held in *United States v. Merlino* that § 3583(i) is “in fact jurisdictional,” and thus cannot be equitably tolled. 785 F.3d 79, 86 (3d Cir. 2015). I suggest that, in light of the express statutory directive of § 3583(i) and our opinion in *Merlino*, the

Majority's holding that "a supervised release term tolls while a defendant is of fugitive status" is wrong. Maj. Op. at 9.

In addition, Congress did incorporate tolling under 18 U.S.C. § 3624(e) for periods of imprisonment,<sup>1</sup> but has not incorporated tolling for fugitive status. We must determine whether Congress' silence regarding tolling for supervised release is evidence of its intent to preclude or include tolling for fugitive status. *See, e.g., Coffelt v. Fawkes*, 765 F.3d 197, 202 (3d Cir. 2014) (quoting *Burns v. United States*, 501 U.S. 129, 136 (1991)) (considering "textual and contextual evidence" to resolve congressional silence). The expression of one exception is often, but not always, evidence of the exclusion of other exceptions. *See Marx v. General Rev. Corp.*, 568 U.S. 371, 381 (2013) ("The force of any negative implication, however, depends on context.") (citing *expressio unius est exclusio alterius*). *Expressio unius* applies if it is "fair to suppose that Congress considered the unnamed possibility and meant to say no to it." *Id.* (quoting *Barnhart v. Peabody Coal Co.*, 537 U.S. 149, 168 (2003)). In essence, if Congress incorporated an exception to a rule, and in doing so would have considered other exceptions, but failed to include them, then we should presume Congress intended to exclude them.

That is the case here. Section 3624 is an express exception to § 3583. At a minimum, § 3624 is evidence that Congress considered tolling, and nonetheless only found

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<sup>1</sup>Section 3624(e) provides: "A term of supervised release does not run during any period in which the person is imprisoned in connection with a conviction for a Federal, State, or local crime unless the imprisonment is for a period of less than 30 consecutive days." 18 U.S.C. § 3624(e).

imprisonment to be an adequate justification. More telling is that, as the First Circuit noted, “the Sentencing Reform Act of 1984, which . . . codified prior case law that provided for tolling when a probationer was imprisoned for another offense, [] made no similar reincorporation of prior case law” for fugitive status. *United States v. Hernandez-Ferrer*, 599 F.3d 63, 68 (1st Cir. 2010).<sup>2</sup> “If Congress had wanted to authorize tolling when an offender absconds from supervision, we believe that it would have said so.” *Id.*

We have reasoned similarly and reached the same conclusion in the deportation context. In *United States v. Cole*,

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<sup>2</sup> Prior case law in the probation context lends further support to the conclusion that Congress intended § 3583(i)’s warrant requirement to govern the extension of a term of supervised release for fugitivity. In *United States v. Martin*, the Tenth Circuit addressed a defendant who absconded from federal supervision for three years, and determined that the period of supervision “tolled from the time the New Jersey court *issued its violator warrant* until the time Martin was returned to federal supervision after release from the Colorado state prison.” 786 F.2d 974, 975 (10th Cir. 1986) (emphasis added). Similarly, in *Nicholas v. United States*, the Ninth Circuit held “the five-year probationary period prescribed by section 3651 was extended by operation of law by the amount of time within the five-year period during which a probationer, in violation of the terms of his probation, *and for whom an arrest warrant has issued*, has voluntarily absented himself from the jurisdiction.” 527 F.2d 1160, 1162 (9th Cir. 1976) (emphasis added). In both cases, and just like under § 3583(i), the issuance of a valid warrant was a prerequisite to the court maintaining jurisdiction for an offender who absconded from supervision.

we held that the District Court plainly erred when it ordered the defendant's supervised release be tolled during the period he is removed from the country. 567 F.3d 110, 117 (3d Cir. 2009). The Majority contends that the fugitive tolling doctrine "follows readily from our existing law," Maj. Op. at 10, since "*Cole* confirms a defendant cannot profit from his own misdeeds," Maj. Op. at 13. Far from confirming the fugitive tolling doctrine, in *Cole* we reasoned appropriately, and contrary to the Majority, that if tolling has not been provided for, it is not authorized: "Congress has provided for an exception to this rule in only one situation: where the defendant is imprisoned for more than 30 days for another conviction . . . the canon of *expressio unius est exclusio alterius* suggests that where Congress has explicitly allowed for tolling only when the defendant is imprisoned on another charge, it does not intend for district courts to toll supervised release under any other circumstance." *Cole*, 567 F.3d at 114–15. The fact that tolling for fugitive status, as opposed to tolling for deportation, is a "traditional principle," Maj. Op. at 14 (quoting *United States v. Barinas*, 865 F.3d 99, 109 (2d Cir. 2017)), makes it *more*, not less, likely that it would have been contemplated and incorporated by Congress.

While the Majority suggests that defendants would receive a windfall without a tolling provision, the opportunity to benefit from absconding is small. "If an offender absconds before the expiration of his supervised release term, he will not do so with impunity." *Hernandez-Ferrer*, 599 F.3d at 69. As long as the Government issues a warrant before the expiration of the term of supervised release, it may extend the term of supervised release "for any period reasonably necessary for the adjudication of matters arising before its expiration[.]" 18 U.S.C. § 3583(i). And because absconding from supervision

is, on its own, grounds to revoke supervision, there is little excuse for the Government failing to issue a timely warrant in most circumstances. Although it is possible for an eleventh hour violation to go unpunished, such a circumstance is rare “given the ease with which the statute can be satisfied,” *United States v. Janvier*, 599 F.3d 264, 268 (2d Cir. 2010), and such is the nature of jurisdictional statutes. *See Dolan v. United States*, 560 U.S. 605, 610 (2010) (describing the prohibition of a jurisdictional statute as “absolute”). And in such a case, the only disadvantage to the Government occasioned by adhering to § 3583(i) is that the new warrant must stand on its own, *i.e.*, it is a warrant for a violation of law, not a violation of supervised release.

The ease and clarity of the current regime of a defined term of supervised release only makes the decision to permit tolling for fugitivity more troubling, especially considering the difficulties associated with defining a “fugitive” in the supervised release context. Contrary to the Majority’s assertion, Maj. Op. at 14, n.4, in the Ninth Circuit, district courts have extended the deadline of supervised release for “merely [] failing to comply with the terms of supervised release.” *United States v. Ertell*, Case No. 1:11-cr-00278-SAB 2016 WL 7491630 at \*3 (E.D. Cal. December 29, 2016) (quoting *U.S. v. Murguia-Oliveros*, 421 F.3d 951, 953 (9th Cir. 2005)). As a result, the clock may stop and start again when, for example, a supervisee fails to immediately notify his supervisor of a change in address, but does so a week later, fails to show up for a drug test, but calls his supervisor two hours after the missed appointment, and misses a required Alcoholics Anonymous meeting, but shows up to the meeting the following week. The best answer to these complex factual questions is found in the certainty of the text of the statute: “as

long as a warrant or summons issues before the expiration of the term, an offender who remains a fugitive will still be subject to the court's jurisdiction once located, and his conduct while a fugitive will be considered at sentencing.” *Hernandez-Ferrer*, 599 F.3d at 69. Instead, the Majority’s judicially created exception to § 3583(i) transforms a “minimal burden,” *Merlino*, 785 F.3d at 85, on the Government into an onerous task for the courts, and a complicated regime for the supervisee in attempting to determine the applicable period of tolling, and thus, when his term of supervised release ends.

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The First Circuit correctly noted that, “[i]n the end, this dispute boils down to a matter of statutory construction.” *Hernandez-Ferrer*, 599 F.3d at 66. Congress chose not to toll when a person absconds from supervised release, and in the absence of clear congressional intent, the plain language of § 3583(i) should control. Moreover, requiring the Government to fulfill the minimal burden of issuing a warrant before the expiration date is preferable to creating a new amorphous exception to a strictly jurisdictional statute. Thus, I respectfully dissent and would vacate the sentencing order and remand to the District Court for further proceedings.<sup>3</sup>

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<sup>3</sup> I can only speculate as to what those proceedings might entail. There would remain the issue of whether the Court would resentence Island believing that it had jurisdiction over the violation contained in the June warrant based on the earlier September warrant issued for factually unrelated violations. *See* Maj. Op. at 3–4. I would conclude that it does not have jurisdiction. *See, e.g., United States v. Campbell*, 883 F.3d 1148, 1153 (9th Cir. 2018) (concluding an earlier warrant does

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not provide jurisdiction for factually unrelated violations). Of course, the Court could then consider whether to sentence Island for the violations alleged in the September warrant. It is unclear whether the Court previously did so. The District Court found that Island had committed those violations but stated that it chose “not . . . to impose punishment[.]” App. 69. It may have done so knowing it would impose punishment based on the later warrant.

# **APPENDIX B**

UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS  
FOR THE THIRD CIRCUIT

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No. 17-3826

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UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

v.

DONTE ISLAND,  
a/k/a Norman Tomas, a/k/a Norman Thomas

Donte Island,  
Appellant

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(D.C. Crim. No. 2-03-cr-00592-001)

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SUR PETITION FOR REHEARING

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Present: SMITH, Chief Judge, MCKEE, AMBRO, CHAGARES, JORDAN,  
HARDIMAN, GREENAWAY, JR., SHWARTZ, KRAUSE, RESTREPO, BIBAS,  
PORTER, SCIRICA\* and RENDELL\*, Circuit Judges

The petition for rehearing filed by appellant in the above-entitled case having been submitted to the judges who participated in the decision of this Court and to all the other available circuit judges of the circuit in regular active service, and no judge who

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\* As to panel rehearing only.

concurred in the decision having asked for rehearing, and a majority of the judges of the circuit in regular service not having voted for rehearing, the petition for rehearing by the panel and the Court en banc, is denied. Judge Rendell would have voted for panel rehearing.

BY THE COURT,

s/ Anthony J. Scirica  
Circuit Judge

Dated: May 10, 2019  
Lmr/cc: Bernadette A. McKeon  
Robert A. Zauzmer  
Keith M. Donoghue

# APPENDIX C

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA

UNITED STATES

CRIMINAL ACTION

v.

DONTE ISLAND

NO. 03-592-01

**ORDER**

AND NOW, this 13th day of December, 2017, upon consideration of Petition for Violation of Supervised Release dated September 18, 2015, and Amended Petition for Violation of Supervised Release dated June 27, 2016, following a Hearing on December 13, 2017, with defendant, Donte Island, all counsel and the United States Probation Officer present, defendant having admitted the violations of supervised release charged in the Petition for Violation of Supervised Release dated September 18, 2015, and Amended Petition for Violation of Supervised Release dated June 27, 2016, and the Court having independently found defendant guilty of violations of supervised release charged in the Petition for Violation of Supervised Release dated September 18, 2015, and Amended Petition for Violation of Supervised Release dated June 27, 2016, in that,

A. In violation of Standard Condition No. 6 of supervised release imposed by Judgment dated May 17, 2005, which provided that defendant shall notify the probation officer within ten (10) days of any change in residence or employment, defendant, on June 30, 2015, advised the probation officer that he would be moving from 29 N. State Road, Upper Darby, Pennsylvania, to 1528 Elmwood Avenue, Unit 300, Folcroft, Pennsylvania, and ceased reporting as instructed on July 17, 2015. Numerous attempts made to contact defendant at both addresses were unsuccessful. Defendant's whereabouts as of the time the September 18, 2015 Petition was filed were unknown. This is a Grade C violation (Petition, September 18, 2015);

B. In violation of Standard Condition No. 7 of supervised release imposed by Judgment dated May 17, 2005, which provided that defendant shall refrain from excessive use of alcohol and

shall not purchase, possess, use, distribute or administer any controlled substance except as prescribed by a physician, defendant provided urine specimens on August 1 and 12, 2014, November 17 and 24, 2014, December 19, 2014, January 14, 2015, February 2, 2015, May 29, 2015, June 19 and 26, 2015, and July 10, 2015, all of which tested positive for the presence of cannabinoids-THC metabolite, and defendant admitted using marijuana to cope with stress, a Grade C violation (Petition, September 18, 2015);

C. In violation of Standard Condition No. 2 of supervised release imposed by Judgment dated May 17, 2005, which provided that defendant shall report to the probation officer and shall submit a truthful and complete written report within the first five days of each month, defendant, who met with the probation officer on July 10, 2015, to discuss a proposed modification of his term of supervised release, and was given until July 22, 2015, to consult with an attorney concerning the proposed modification, failed to contact the probation officer on July 22, 2015, and did not respond to attempts by the probation officer to contact him on July 28 and 31, 2015, August 13 and 24, 2015, and September 9, 16 and 17, 2015. In addition, defendant failed to report for drug testing on November 21, 2014, December 10 and 16, 2014, February 25, 2015, and July 17, 2015, as directed. This is a Grade C violation (Petition, September 18, 2015);

D. In violation of Special Condition No. 1 of supervised release imposed by Judgment dated May 17, 2005, which provided that defendant shall participate in a program or programs of treatment and testing for drug abuse including, but not limited to, the furnishing of urine specimens, at the direct of the United States Probation Office, until such time as defendant is released from the program or programs by the United States Probation Office, defendant failed to respond to instructions regarding dual diagnosis treatment while on supervision, a Grade C violation (Petition, September 18, 2015); and,

E. In violation of Standard Condition No. 1 of supervised release imposed by Judgment dated May 17, 2005, which provided that while on supervised release, defendant shall not commit another federal, state or local crime, defendant was convicted in the Court of Common Pleas of Delaware County, Pennsylvania, on July 20, 2017, of assault of law enforcement officer – Dorman; assault of law enforcement officer – DePietro; criminal attempt to murder of the first degree; possession of a firearm prohibited; and possession of a firearm with manufacturer number altered; and was sentenced to a term of imprisonment of thirty-three (33) to one hundred (100) years, a Grade A violation (Amended Petition, June 27, 2016),

**IT IS ORDERED** that the supervised release of defendant, Donte Island, imposed by Judgment dated May 17, 2005, is **REVOKED**.

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that, pursuant to the Sentencing Reform Act of 1984, defendant, Donte Island, is hereby **COMMITTED** to the custody of the Bureau of Prisons to be imprisoned for a term of two (2) years for the violation of supervised release detailed in paragraph E above, to run consecutive to the undischarged term of imprisonment imposed in state court.<sup>1</sup>

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that upon release from custody, defendant, Donte Island, shall **NOT** be **PLACED** on supervised release.

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that, excepting only as noted above, the Judgment dated May 17, 2005, **REMAINS IN EFFECT**.

**BY THE COURT:**

/s/ Hon. Jan E. DuBois

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**DuBOIS, JAN E., J.**

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<sup>1</sup> The Court does not impose a separate penalty for the violations of supervised release charged paragraphs A, B, C and D of the Petition for Violation of Supervised Release dated September 18, 2015).

# APPENDIX D

*J DuBois* → EASTERN

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

86

District of PENNSYLVANIA

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

V.

Donte Island,

a/k/a Norman Tomas, a/k/a Norman Thomas

JUDGMENT IN A CRIMINAL CASE

Case Number: 03-592-1

USM Number: 57825-066

Catherine C. Henry, Esquire

Defendant's Attorney

FILED

MAY 19 2005

MICHAEL E. KUNZ, Clerk  
By *D* Dep. Clerk

THE DEFENDANT:

pleaded guilty to count(s) \_\_\_\_\_

pleaded nolo contendere to count(s) \_\_\_\_\_  
which was accepted by the court.

X was found guilty on count(s) 1 of the Indictment  
after a plea of not guilty.

The defendant is adjudicated guilty of these offenses:

Title & Section	Nature of Offense	Offense Ended	Count
18 USC § 922(g)(1) and 924(e)	Possession of a firearm by a convicted felon	6/2/03	1

The defendant is sentenced as provided in pages 2 through 6 of this judgment. The sentence is imposed pursuant to the Sentencing Reform Act of 1984.

The defendant has been found not guilty on count(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Count(s) \_\_\_\_\_  is  are dismissed on the motion of the United States.

It is ordered that the defendant must notify the United States attorney for this district within 30 days of any change of name, residence, or mailing address until all fines, restitution, costs, and special assessments imposed by this judgment are fully paid. If ordered to pay restitution, the defendant must notify the court and United States attorney of material changes in economic circumstances.

May 17, 2005

Date of Imposition of Judgment

*Jan E. DuBois*  
Signature of Judge

ENTERED

MAY 19 2005

Jan E. DuBois, USDI  
Name and Title of Judge

CLERK OF COURT

May 17, 2005  
Date

DEFENDANT: Donte Island  
CASE NUMBER: 03-592-1

## IMPRISONMENT

The defendant is hereby committed to the custody of the United States Bureau of Prisons to be imprisoned for a total term of:

110 months on Count One of the Indictment. The term of imprisonment shall run consecutively to any undischarged term of imprisonment in state court.

The court makes the following recommendations to the Bureau of Prisons:

Defendant be designated to an institution in close proximity to Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, where his family resides, and at which he can participate in drug addiction and mental health treatment programs.

The defendant is remanded to the custody of the United States Marshal.

The defendant shall surrender to the United States Marshal for this district:

at \_\_\_\_\_  a.m.  p.m. on \_\_\_\_\_.

as notified by the United States Marshal.

The defendant shall surrender for service of sentence at the institution designated by the Bureau of Prisons:

before 2 p.m. on \_\_\_\_\_.

as notified by the United States Marshal.

as notified by the Probation or Pretrial Services Office.

## RETURN

I have executed this judgment as follows:

Defendant delivered on \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_

a \_\_\_\_\_, with a certified copy of this judgment.

\_\_\_\_\_  
UNITED STATES MARSHAL

By \_\_\_\_\_  
DEPUTY UNITED STATES MARSHAL

DEFENDANT: Donte Island  
CASE NUMBER: 03-592-1

## SUPERVISED RELEASE

Upon release from imprisonment, the defendant shall be on supervised release for a term of :

3 years on Count One of the Indictment.

The defendant must report to the probation office in the district to which the defendant is released within 72 hours of release from the custody of the Bureau of Prisons.

The defendant shall not commit another federal, state or local crime.

The defendant shall not unlawfully possess a controlled substance. The defendant shall refrain from any unlawful use of a controlled substance. The defendant shall submit to one drug test within 15 days of release from imprisonment and at least two periodic drug tests thereafter, as determined by the court.

- The above drug testing condition is suspended, based on the court's determination that the defendant poses a low risk of future substance abuse. (Check, if applicable.)
- The defendant shall not possess a firearm, destructive device, or any other dangerous weapon. (Check, if applicable.)
- The defendant shall cooperate in the collection of DNA as directed by the probation officer. (Check, if applicable.)
- The defendant shall register with the state sex offender registration agency in the state where the defendant resides, works, or is a student, as directed by the probation officer. (Check, if applicable.)
- The defendant shall participate in an approved program for domestic violence. (Check, if applicable.)

If this judgment imposes a fine or restitution, it is a condition of supervised release that the defendant pay in accordance with the Schedule of Payments sheet of this judgment.

The defendant must comply with the standard conditions that have been adopted by this court as well as with any additional conditions on the attached page.

## STANDARD CONDITIONS OF SUPERVISION

- 1) the defendant shall not leave the judicial district without the permission of the court or probation officer;
- 2) the defendant shall report to the probation officer and shall submit a truthful and complete written report within the first five days of each month;
- 3) the defendant shall answer truthfully all inquiries by the probation officer and follow the instructions of the probation officer;
- 4) the defendant shall support his or her dependents and meet other family responsibilities;
- 5) the defendant shall work regularly at a lawful occupation, unless excused by the probation officer for schooling, training, or other acceptable reasons;
- 6) the defendant shall notify the probation officer at least ten days prior to any change in residence or employment;
- 7) the defendant shall refrain from excessive use of alcohol and shall not purchase, possess, use, distribute, or administer any controlled substance or any paraphernalia related to any controlled substances, except as prescribed by a physician;
- 8) the defendant shall not frequent places where controlled substances are illegally sold, used, distributed, or administered;
- 9) the defendant shall not associate with any persons engaged in criminal activity and shall not associate with any person convicted of a felony, unless granted permission to do so by the probation officer;
- 10) the defendant shall permit a probation officer to visit him or her at any time at home or elsewhere and shall permit confiscation of any contraband observed in plain view of the probation officer;
- 11) the defendant shall notify the probation officer within seventy-two hours of being arrested or questioned by a law enforcement officer;
- 12) the defendant shall not enter into any agreement to act as an informer or a special agent of a law enforcement agency without the permission of the court; and
- 13) as directed by the probation officer, the defendant shall notify third parties of risks that may be occasioned by the defendant's criminal record or personal history or characteristics and shall permit the probation officer to make such notifications and to confirm the defendant's compliance with such notification requirement.

DEFENDANT: Donte Island  
CASE NUMBER: 03-592-1

### ADDITIONAL SUPERVISED RELEASE TERMS

1. Defendant shall participate in a program or programs of treatment and testing for drug abuse including, but not limited to, the furnishing of urine specimens, at the direction of the United States Probation Office, until such time as the defendant is released from the program or programs by the United States Probation Office.
2. Defendant shall participate in a mental health treatment program or programs, which may include urine testing, at the direction of the United States Probation Office, until such time as the defendant is released from the program or programs by the United States Probation Office.

DEFENDANT: Donte Island  
CASE NUMBER: 03-592-1

## CRIMINAL MONETARY PENALTIES

The defendant must pay the total criminal monetary penalties under the schedule of payments on Sheet 6.

	<u>Assessment</u>	<u>Fine</u>	<u>Restitution</u>
<b>TOTALS</b>	\$ 100.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00

The determination of restitution is deferred until \_\_\_\_\_. An *Amended Judgment in a Criminal Case* (AO 245C) will be entered after such determination.

The defendant must make restitution (including community restitution) to the following payees in the amount listed below.

If the defendant makes a partial payment, each payee shall receive an approximately proportioned payment, unless specified otherwise in the priority order or percentage payment column below. However, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 3664(i), all nonfederal victims must be paid before the United States is paid.

<u>Name of Payee</u>	<u>Total Loss*</u>	<u>Restitution Ordered</u>	<u>Priority or Percentage</u>
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**TOTALS**      \$ \_\_\_\_\_      \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Restitution amount ordered pursuant to plea agreement \$ \_\_\_\_\_

The defendant must pay interest on restitution and a fine of more than \$2,500, unless the restitution or fine is paid in full before the fifteenth day after the date of the judgment, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 3612(f). All of the payment options on Sheet 6 may be subject to penalties for delinquency and default, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 3612(g).

The court determined that the defendant does not have the ability to pay interest and it is ordered that:

the interest requirement is waived for the  fine  restitution.

the interest requirement for the  fine  restitution is modified as follows:

\* Findings for the total amount of losses are required under Chapters 109A, 110, 110A, and 113A of Title 18 for offenses committed on or after September 13, 1994, but before April 23, 1996.

DEFENDANT: Donte Island  
CASE NUMBER: 03-592-1

## SCHEDULE OF PAYMENTS

Having assessed the defendant's ability to pay, payment of the total criminal monetary penalties are due as follows:

A  Lump sum payment of \$ 100.00 due immediately, balance due

not later than \_\_\_\_\_, or  
 in accordance  C,  D,  E, or  F below; or

B  Payment to begin immediately (may be combined with  C,  D, or  F below); or

C  Payment in equal \_\_\_\_\_ (e.g., weekly, monthly, quarterly) installments of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ over a period of \_\_\_\_\_ (e.g., months or years), to commence \_\_\_\_\_ (e.g., 30 or 60 days) after the date of this judgment; or

D  Payment in equal \_\_\_\_\_ (e.g., weekly, monthly, quarterly) installments of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ over a period of \_\_\_\_\_ (e.g., months or years), to commence \_\_\_\_\_ (e.g., 30 or 60 days) after release from imprisonment to a term of supervision; or

E  Payment during the term of supervised release will commence within \_\_\_\_\_ (e.g., 30 or 60 days) after release from imprisonment. The court will set the payment plan based on an assessment of the defendant's ability to pay at that time; or

F  Special instructions regarding the payment of criminal monetary penalties:

Defendant shall pay to the United States of America a special assessment of \$100.00, which shall be due immediately and payable pursuant to the United States Bureau of Prisons Inmate Financial Responsibility Program.

Unless the court has expressly ordered otherwise, if this judgment imposes imprisonment, payment of criminal monetary penalties is due during imprisonment. All criminal monetary penalties, except those payments made through the Federal Bureau of Prisons' Inmate Financial Responsibility Program, are made to the clerk of the court.

The defendant shall receive credit for all payments previously made toward any criminal monetary penalties imposed.

Joint and Several

Defendant and Co-Defendant Names and Case Numbers (including defendant number), Total Amount, Joint and Several Amount, and corresponding payee, if appropriate.

The defendant shall pay the cost of prosecution.

The defendant shall pay the following court cost(s):

The defendant shall forfeit the defendant's interest in the following property to the United States:

Payments shall be applied in the following order: (1) assessment, (2) restitution principal, (3) restitution interest, (4) fine principal, (5) fine interest, (6) community restitution, (7) penalties, and (8) costs, including cost of prosecution and court costs.