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Criminal trial of Tripp scheduled to begin Jan. 18

The trial in the criminal case against Linda R. Tripp, who is accused of illegally taping a telephone conversation in December with Monica Lewinsky, the White House intern whose affair with President Clinton led to his impeachment, has been scheduled for Jan. 18. Hearing dates on motions are scheduled for Nov. 19 and Dec. 13. As in most criminal cases, hearing and trial dates could change.

Tripp was indicted in July on two felony counts in the case. In the second charge, she is accused of having her former attorney disclose the contents of the taped conversation to Newsweek magazine.

Howard Circuit Judge Diane O. Leasure will preside.