



U.S. Department of Justice

Ronald C. Machen Jr.
United States Attorney

FILED

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District of Columbia Clerk, U.S. District & Bankruptcy
Courts for the District of Columbia

*Judiciary Center
555 Fourth St., N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20530*

June 20, 2012

Barry Coburn, Esq.
1710 Rhode Island Avenue
Second Floor
Washington, D.C. 20036

Re: United States v. Donald M. Ramsey
Cr. No. 11-355-02

Dear Mr. Coburn:

This letter sets forth the full and complete plea offer to your client, Donald M. Ramsey ("your client"), from the Criminal Division of the Office of the United States Attorney for the District of Columbia (hereinafter also referred to as "the Government" or "this Office"). This plea offer will expire on June 29, 2012. If your client accepts the terms and conditions of this offer, please have your client execute this document in the space provided below. Upon receipt of the executed document, this letter will become the Plea Agreement. The terms of the offer are as follows:

1. **Charges and Statutory Penalties**

Your client agrees to plead guilty to Count One of the Indictment charging 18 U.S.C. § 371 (conspiracy). Your client understands that 18 U.S.C. § 371 carries a maximum sentence of five years imprisonment, a possible fine of \$250,000, or a fine of twice the pecuniary gain or loss pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 3571(d), a \$100 special assessment, a three-year term of supervised release, and an order of restitution, forfeiture, and an obligation to pay any applicable interest or penalties on fines or restitution not timely made.

In consideration of your client's plea to the above offenses, your client will not be further prosecuted criminally by this Office for the conduct set forth in the attached Statement of the Offense. This agreement not to prosecute your client does not extend to federal or local crimes of violence as those terms are defined in 18 U.S.C. § 16 and 23 D.C. Code § 1331(4). At the time of sentencing, the government will move to dismiss the other counts of the Indictment.

Your client agrees that with respect to any and all dismissed charges your client is not a “prevailing party” within the meaning of the “Hyde Amendment.” Section 617, P.L. 105-119 (Nov. 26, 1997), and will not file any claim under that law.

2. **Factual Stipulations**

Your client agrees that the attached “Statement of the Offense” fairly and accurately describes your client’s actions and involvement in the offense to which your client is pleading guilty. It is anticipated that prior to or during the plea hearing, your client will adopt and sign the Statement of the Offense as a written proffer of evidence.

3. **Sentencing Guidelines Stipulations**

Your client understands that the sentence in this case will be determined by the Court, pursuant to the factors set forth in 18 U.S.C. § 3553(a), including a consideration of the guidelines and policies promulgated by the United States Sentencing Commission, Guidelines Manual 2011 (hereinafter “Sentencing Guidelines” or “U.S.S.G”). Pursuant to Federal Rule of Criminal Procedure 11(c)(1)(B), and to assist the Court in determining the appropriate sentence, the parties stipulate to the following:

A. **Offense Level under the Guidelines**

2B1.1		
(a) Base Offense Level		6
(b)(1)(G) Loss more than \$200,000 less than \$400,000		12
TOTAL		18

Your client agrees not to seek any decreases in your client’s offense level other than those which are agreed to by the Government in this paragraph, Paragraph 3, and in Paragraph 10. Your client further agrees not to seek a downward departure for any other reason from the otherwise applicable guideline range established by the Sentencing Guidelines. These agreements do not limit your client’s right to ask for a variance pursuant to factors enumerated in 18 U.S.C. §3553(a). In the event that this plea offer is either not accepted by your client or is accepted by your client but the guilty plea is either rejected by the Court or subsequently is withdrawn, the parties will not be bound by the proposed interpretations of applicable Sentencing Guidelines provisions contained herein.

B. **Acceptance of Responsibility**

The Government agrees that a three-level reduction would be appropriate, pursuant to U.S.S.G § 3E1.1(b), provided that your client clearly demonstrates acceptance of responsibility,

to the satisfaction of the Government, through your client's allocution and subsequent conduct prior to the imposition of sentence, and provided that your client continues to show his acceptance of responsibility, as set forth in U.S.S.G. § 3E1.1, by: (a) cooperating with the presentence report writer (including answering all material questions truthfully and providing all financial information requested); (b) cooperating fully and truthfully with the Court in any proceeding arising from this matter; (c) complying with the other provisions of this agreement; and (d) abiding by the conditions set for his release, if he is released by the Court. If your client complies as set forth above, then the parties will agree and stipulate that the adjusted offense level would be **Level 15** (Stipulated Offense Level).

C. Criminal History Category

The parties are unable to calculate Mr. Ramsey's criminal history at this time.

4. Court Not Bound by the Plea Agreement

It is understood that pursuant to Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure 11(c)(1)(B) and 11(c)(3)(B) the Court is not bound by the above stipulations, either as to questions of fact or as to the parties' determination of the applicable Guidelines range, or other sentencing issues. In the event that the Court considers any Guidelines adjustments, departures, or calculations different from any stipulations contained in this Agreement, or contemplates a sentence outside the Guidelines range based upon the general sentencing factors listed in Title 18, United States Code, Section 3553(a), the parties reserve the right to answer any related inquiries from the Court.

5. Court Not Bound by the Non-Mandatory Sentencing Guidelines

It is understood that the sentence to be imposed upon your client is determined solely by the Court. It is understood that the Sentencing Guidelines are not binding on the Court. Your client acknowledges that your client's entry of a guilty plea to the charged offense authorizes the sentencing court to impose any sentence, up to and including the statutory maximum sentence, which may be greater than the applicable Guidelines range. The Government cannot, and does not, make any promise or representation as to what sentence your client will receive. Moreover, it is understood that your client will have no right to withdraw your client's plea of guilty should the Court impose a sentence outside the Guidelines range.

6. Restitution

In addition to the other penalties provided by law, the Court must also order that your client make restitution under 18 U.S.C. § 3663A. In addition to any restitution that may be ordered by the Court, your client agrees to make restitution in the amount of \$366,000 to all victims of your client's criminal conduct and not merely for those victims included in the count to which your client agrees to plead guilty. A payment plan may be determined by the Court at

the time of sentencing. Payments of restitution shall be made to the Clerk of the Court. The defendant agrees that, within 10 days of the execution of this plea agreement, he will submit a completed financial statement to the U.S. Attorney's Office, in a form it provides and as it directs. The Defendant promises that his financial statement and disclosures will be complete, accurate, and truthful.

The defendant expressly authorizes the U.S. Attorney's Office to obtain a credit report on him in order to evaluate the defendant's ability to satisfy any financial obligations imposed by the Court or agreed to herein.

The defendant understands and agrees that the restitution or fines imposed by the Court will be due and payable immediately and subject to immediate enforcement by the United States. If the Court imposes a schedule of payments, the defendant understands that the schedule of payments is merely a minimum schedule of payments and will not be the only method, nor a limitation on the methods, available to the United States to enforce the criminal judgment. If the defendant is sentenced to a term of imprisonment by the Court, the defendant agrees to participate in the Bureau of Prisons' Inmate Financial Responsibility Program, regardless of whether the court specifically directs the participation or imposes a schedule of payments.

The defendant certifies that he has made no transfer of assets in contemplation of this prosecution for the purpose of evading or defeating financial obligations that are created by the Agreement and/or that may be imposed upon him by the Court. In addition, the defendant promises that he will make no such transfers in the future until he has fulfilled the financial obligations under this agreement.

7. **Financial Arrangements**

Your client agrees that prior to or at the time of the sentencing, he will deliver to the Clerk's Office, United States District Court for the District of Columbia, a certified check in the amount of \$100.00, to cover the special assessment, as required in 18 U.S.C. section 3013.

8. **Forfeiture**

(a) Your client agrees to the forfeiture set forth in the Forfeiture Allegation in the Criminal indictment to which he is pleading guilty. Specifically, your client agrees to the forfeiture of a money judgment in the amount of \$366,000.

(b) Your client agrees that the proffer of evidence supporting your client's guilty plea is sufficient evidence to support this forfeiture. Your client agrees that the Court may enter a preliminary Consent Order of Forfeiture for this property at the time of his guilty plea or at any time before sentencing. Your client agrees that the Court will enter a Final Order Of Forfeiture for this property as part of his sentence.

(c) Your client agrees that this plea agreement permits the government to seek to forfeit any of his assets, real or personal, that are subject to forfeiture under any federal statute, whether or not this agreement specifically identifies the asset. Regarding any asset or property, your client agrees to forfeiture of all interest in: (1) any and all property constituting, or derived from, any proceeds he obtained, directly or indirectly, as the result of the violation to which he is pleading guilty; and (2) any substitute assets for property otherwise subject to forfeiture. See 18 U.S.C. § 982(a)(2)(A) and 21 U.S.C. § 853.

(d) Your client agrees that the government may choose in its sole discretion how it wishes to accomplish forfeiture of the property whose forfeiture he has consented to in this plea agreement, whether by criminal or civil forfeiture, using judicial or non-judicial forfeiture processes. If the government chooses to effect the forfeiture provisions of this plea agreement through the criminal forfeiture process, your client agrees to the entry of orders of forfeiture for such property and waives the requirements of Federal Rule of Criminal Procedure 32.2 regarding notice of the forfeiture in the charging instrument, announcement of the forfeiture at sentencing, and incorporation of the forfeiture in the judgment. Your client understands that the forfeiture of assets is part of the sentence that may be imposed in this case, and he waives any failure by the Court to advise him of this, pursuant to Federal Rule of Criminal Procedure 11(b)(1)(J), at the time of his guilty plea.

(e) Your client agrees to take all necessary actions to identify all assets over which your client exercises or exercised control, directly or indirectly, at any time since December 2005, or in which your client has or had during that time any financial interest. Your client will complete and provide to the undersigned Assistant United States Attorney a standard financial disclosure form, which has been provided to you with this plea agreement, within 10 days of the execution of this plea agreement. Your client agrees to take all steps as requested by the Government to obtain from any other parties by any lawful means any records of assets owned at any time by your client. Your client agrees to take all steps as requested by the Government to pass clear title to forfeitable interests or to property to the United States and to testify truthfully in any judicial forfeiture proceeding.

(f) Your client agrees to waive all constitutional and statutory challenges in any manner (including, but not limited to, direct appeal) to any forfeiture carried out in accordance with this plea agreement on any grounds, including that the forfeiture constitutes an excessive fine or punishment.

(g) The United States Attorney's Office agrees to make a non-binding recommendation to the Asset Forfeiture and Money Laundering Section at the Department of Justice that any monies obtained from the defendant through forfeiture be distributed to the victims of the offense in accordance with any restitution order entered in this case.

9. **Cooperation**

Your client agrees to cooperate with the government on the following terms and conditions:

A. Your client shall cooperate truthfully, completely, and forthrightly with this Office and other federal, state, and local law enforcement authorities identified by this Office in any matter as to which the government deems the cooperation relevant. Your client acknowledges that his cooperation may include, but will not necessarily be limited to, answering questions, providing sworn written statements, taking government-administered polygraph examination(s), and participating in covert law enforcement activities.

B. Your client shall promptly turn over to the government or other law enforcement authorities or direct such law enforcement authorities to any and all evidence of crime, all contraband and proceeds of crime, and all assets traceable to such proceeds of crime. Your client further agrees to the forfeiture of all assets which are proceeds of crime and/or traceable to proceeds of crime.

C. Your client shall testify fully and truthfully before any grand jury in the District of Columbia, and elsewhere, and at all trials of cases or other court proceedings in the District of Columbia, and elsewhere, at which his testimony may be deemed relevant by the government.

D. Your client shall not attempt to protect any person or entity through false information or omission, nor falsely to implicate any person or entity;

E. Your client agrees not to disclose to any person or entity the fact of or details regarding his cooperation with law enforcement authorities.

F. Your client understands and acknowledges that nothing in this agreement allows him to commit any criminal violation of local, state, or federal law during the period of his cooperation with law enforcement authorities or at any time prior to the sentencing in this case. The commission of a criminal offense during the period of his cooperation or at any time prior to sentencing will constitute a breach of this plea agreement and will relieve the government of all its obligations under this agreement. However, your client acknowledges and agrees that such a breach of this agreement will not entitle him to move to withdraw his plea of guilty. Your client further understands that, to establish a breach of this agreement, the government need only prove his commission of a criminal offense by a preponderance of the evidence.

10. **Departure Committee:** At the time of your client's sentencing, the government will advise the sentencing judge and the United States Probation Office in the District of Columbia of the full nature, extent, and value of the cooperation provided by your client to the government. In addition, before sentencing, the government will inform the Departure Committee of the United States Attorney's Office for the District of Columbia of the full nature, extent, and value

of the cooperation provided by your client to the government. If the Departure Committee determines that your client has provided substantial assistance in the investigation or prosecution of another person or entity that has committed any offense, then this Office will file a motion pursuant to U.S.S.G. § 5K1.1. Your client understands that the determination of whether he has provided “substantial assistance” is within the sole discretion of the United States Attorney for the District of Columbia. Your client further understands that the failure of this Office to file a “substantial assistance” departure motion is not a ground for him to move to withdraw his plea of guilty in this case.

11. **Use of Certain Information**

The United States and your client hereby agree that since your client has agreed to cooperate with the United States, information provided by your client shall not be held against him for purposes of calculating his sentence (*see* Sentencing Guidelines Section 1B1.8), and will not otherwise be used against him, except as follows:

A. information that was known to the United States prior to the date this plea agreement was agreed to by your client may be used directly and indirectly against your client in any criminal proceeding;

B. in a prosecution for perjury or giving a false statement pursuant to this agreement, statements made by your client as part of his cooperation may be used directly and indirectly against him; and

C. if there is a breach of this agreement by your client, as determined under the provisions of this agreement. In the event of such a breach, as set forth in Paragraph 14 below, the United States retains the right to use any information provided by your client directly and indirectly at any subsequent proceeding.

12. **Bond Conditions**

Your client acknowledges that while the Government will not seek a change in your client’s release conditions pending sentencing, the final decision regarding your client’s bond status or detention will be made by the Court at the time of your client’s plea of guilty. Should your client engage in further criminal conduct prior to sentencing, however, the Government may move to change your client’s conditions of release.

13. **Appeal**

It is agreed (a) that your client will not file a direct appeal of any sentence within or above the Stipulated Offense Level set forth above and (b) that the Government will not appeal any sentence within or below the Stipulated Offense Level. It is further agreed that any sentence within the Stipulated Offense Level is reasonable. This provision is binding on the parties even

if the Court employs a Guidelines analysis different from that stipulated to herein.

14. **Breach of Agreement**

Your client understands and agrees that if, after entering this Plea Agreement, your client fails specifically to perform or to fulfill completely each and every one of your client's obligations under this Plea Agreement, or engages in any criminal activity prior to sentencing, your client will have breached this Plea Agreement. In the event of such a breach: (a) the Government will be free from its obligations under the Agreement; (b) your client will not have the right to withdraw the guilty plea; (c) your client shall be fully subject to criminal prosecution for any other crimes, including perjury and obstruction of justice; and (d) the Government will be free to use against your client, directly and indirectly, in any criminal or civil proceeding, all statements made by your client and any of the information or materials provided by your client, including such statements, information and materials provided pursuant to this Agreement or during the course of any debriefings conducted in anticipation of, or after entry of this Agreement, including your client's statements made during proceedings before the Court pursuant to Fed. R. Crim. P. 11.

Your client acknowledges discussing with you Federal Rule of Criminal Procedure 11(f) and Federal Rule of Evidence 410, rules which ordinarily limit the admissibility of statements made by a defendant in the course of plea discussions or plea proceedings if a guilty plea is later withdrawn. Your client knowingly and voluntarily waives the rights which arise under these rules.

Your client understands and agrees that the Government shall only be required to prove a breach of this Plea Agreement by a preponderance of the evidence. Your client further understands and agrees that the Government need only prove a violation of federal, state, or local criminal law by probable cause in order to establish a breach of this Plea Agreement.

Nothing in this Agreement shall be construed to permit your client to commit perjury, to make false statements or declarations, to obstruct justice, or to protect your client from prosecution for any crimes not included within this Agreement or committed by your client after the execution of this Agreement. Your client understands and agrees that the Government reserves the right to prosecute your client for any such offenses. Your client further understands that any perjury, false statements or declarations, or obstruction of justice relating to your client's obligations under this Agreement shall constitute a breach of this Agreement. However, in the event of such a breach, your client will not be allowed to withdraw this guilty plea.

15. **Waiver of Statute of Limitations**

It is further agreed that should the conviction following your client's plea of guilty pursuant to this Agreement be vacated for any reason, then any prosecution that is not time-barred by the applicable statute of limitations on the date of the signing of this Agreement (including any counts that the Government has agreed not to prosecute or to dismiss at sentencing pursuant to this Agreement) may be commenced or reinstated against your client, notwithstanding the expiration of the statute of limitations between the signing of this Agreement and the commencement or reinstatement of such prosecution. It is the intent of this Agreement to

waive all defenses based on the statute of limitations with respect to any prosecution that is not time-barred on the date that this Agreement is signed.

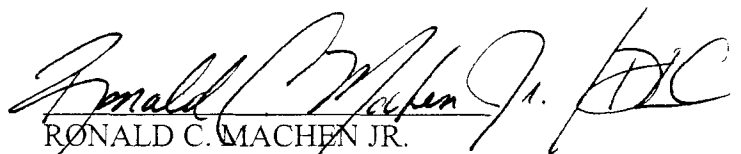
16. **Complete Agreement**

No other agreements, promises, understandings, or representations have been made by the parties or their counsel than those contained in writing herein, nor will any such agreements, promises, understandings, or representations be made unless committed to writing and signed by your client, defense counsel, and an Assistant United States Attorney for the District of Columbia.

Your client further understands that this Agreement is binding only upon the Criminal Division of the United States Attorney's Office for the District of Columbia. This Agreement does not bind the Civil Division of this Office or any other United States Attorney's Office, nor does it bind any other state, local, or federal prosecutor. It also does not bar or compromise any civil, tax, or administrative claim pending or that may be made against your client.

If the foregoing terms and conditions are satisfactory, your client may so indicate by signing the Agreement in the space indicated below and returning the original to me once it has been signed by your client and by you or other defense counsel.

Sincerely yours,


RONALD C. MACHEN JR.
UNITED STATES ATTORNEY

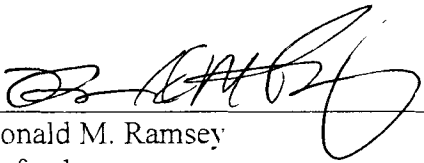
By: 
VIRGINIA CHEATHAM
Assistant U.S. Attorney

DEFENDANT'S ACCEPTANCE

I have read this Plea Agreement and have discussed it with my attorney. I fully understand this Agreement and agree to it without reservation. I do this voluntarily and of my own free will, intending to be legally bound. No threats have been made to me nor am I under the influence of anything that could impede my ability to understand this Agreement fully. I am pleading guilty because I am in fact guilty of the offense identified in this Agreement.

I reaffirm that absolutely no promises, agreements, understandings, or conditions have been made or entered into in connection with my decision to plead guilty except those set forth in this Plea Agreement. I am satisfied with the legal services provided by my attorney in connection with this Plea Agreement and matters related to it.

Date: 7/25/12

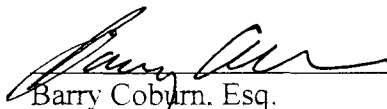


Donald M. Ramsey
Defendant

ATTORNEY'S ACKNOWLEDGMENT

I have read each of the pages constituting this Plea Agreement, reviewed them with my client, and discussed the provisions of the Agreement with my client, fully. These pages accurately and completely sets forth the entire Plea Agreement. I concur in my client's desire to plead guilty as set forth in this Agreement.

Date: 7/25/12



Barry Coburn, Esq.
Attorney for the Defendant