

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF GEORGIA
ATLANTA DIVISION**

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

v.

BERN BENOIT

JUDGMENT IN A CRIMINAL CASE

Case Number: 1:20-CR-296-JPB-CMS-4

USM Number: 79639-112

Anthony O. Egbase

Defendant's Attorney

THE DEFENDANT:

The defendant pleaded guilty to count 7 of the Indictment.

The defendant is adjudicated guilty of these offenses:

<u>Title & Section</u>	<u>Nature of Offense</u>	<u>Offense Ended</u>	<u>Count</u>
18 U.S.C. § 1349	CONSPIRACY TO COMMIT BANK FRAUD AND WIRE FRAUD	MAY 2020	7

The defendant is sentenced as provided in pages 2 through 7 of this judgment. The sentence is imposed pursuant to the Sentencing Reform Act of 1984.

The Court finds that the defendant does not have the ability to pay a fine and cost of incarceration. The Court will waive the fine and cost of incarceration in this case.

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.

September 8, 2021

Date of Imposition of Judgment



Signature of Judge

J. P. BOULEE, U. S. DISTRICT JUDGE

Name and Title of Judge

September 10, 2021

Date

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Judgment in a Criminal Case
Sheet 2 -- Imprisonment

IMPRISONMENT

The defendant is hereby committed to the custody of the Federal Bureau of Prisons to be imprisoned for a total term of **TWENTY-SEVEN (27) MONTHS as to Count 7 of the Indictment.**

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

- The defendant be placed in a facility in or near Los Angeles, California.
- The defendant be placed in facility with mental health counseling.

RETURN

I have executed this judgment as follows:

Defendant delivered on _____ to _____
at _____, with a certified copy of this judgment.

UNITED STATES MARSHAL

DEPUTY UNITED STATES MARSHAL

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Judgment in a Criminal Case
Sheet 3 -- Supervised Release

SUPERVISED RELEASE

Upon release from imprisonment, the defendant will be on supervised release for a term of **FIVE (5) YEARS as to Count 7 of the Indictment.**

MANDATORY CONDITIONS

1. You must not commit another federal, state or local crime.
2. You must not unlawfully possess a controlled substance.
3. You must refrain from any unlawful use of a controlled substance. You must 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.
4. You must make restitution in accordance with 18 U.S.C. §§ 3663 and 3663A or any other statute authorizing a sentence of restitution. Restitution payments must be made to Clerk, U.S. District Court, Northern District of Georgia, 2211 U.S. Courthouse, 75 Ted Turner Dr. SW, Atlanta, GA 30303.
5. You must cooperate in the collection of DNA as directed by the probation officer.

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

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STANDARD CONDITIONS OF SUPERVISION

As part of your supervised release, you must comply with the following standard conditions of supervision. These conditions are imposed because they establish the basic expectations for your behavior while on supervision and identify the minimum tools needed by probation officers to keep informed, report to the court about, and bring about improvements in your conduct and condition.

1. You must report to the probation office in the federal judicial district where you are authorized to reside within 72 hours of your release from imprisonment, unless the probation officer instructs you to report to a different probation office or within a different time frame.
2. After initially reporting to the probation office, you will receive instructions from the court or the probation officer about how and when you must report to the probation officer, and you must report to the probation officer as instructed.
3. You must not knowingly leave the federal judicial district where you are authorized to reside without first getting permission from the court or the probation officer.
4. You must answer truthfully the questions asked by your probation officer.
5. You must live at a place approved by the probation officer. If you plan to change where you live or anything about your living arrangements (such as the people you live with), you must notify the probation officer at least 10 days before the change. If notifying the probation officer in advance is not possible due to unanticipated circumstances, you must notify the probation officer within 72 hours of becoming aware of a change or expected change.
6. You must allow the probation officer to visit you at any time at your home or elsewhere, and you must permit the probation officer to take any items prohibited by the conditions of your supervision that he or she observes in plain view.
7. You must work full time (at least 30 hours per week) at a lawful type of employment, unless the probation officer excuses you from doing so. If you do not have full-time employment you must try to find full-time employment, unless the probation officer excuses you from doing so. If you plan to change where you work or anything about your work (such as your position or your job responsibilities), you must notify the probation officer at least 10 days before the change. If notifying the probation officer at least 10 days in advance is not possible due to unanticipated circumstances, you must notify the probation officer within 72 hours of becoming aware of a change or expected change.
8. You must not communicate or interact with someone you know is engaged in criminal activity. If you know someone has been convicted of a felony, you must not knowingly communicate or interact with that person without first getting the permission of the probation officer.
9. If you are arrested or questioned by a law enforcement officer, you must notify the probation officer within 72 hours.
10. You must not own, possess, or have access to a firearm, ammunition, destructive device, or dangerous weapon (i.e., anything that was designed, or was modified for, the specific purpose of causing bodily injury or death to another person such as nunchakus or tasers).
11. You must not act or make any agreement with a law enforcement agency to act as a confidential human source or informant without first getting the permission of the court.
12. If the probation officer determines that you pose a risk to another person (including an organization), the probation officer may require you to notify the person about the risk and you must comply with that instruction. The probation officer may contact the person and confirm that you have notified the person about the risk.
13. You must follow the instructions of the probation officer related to the conditions of supervision.

U.S. Probation Office Use Only

A U.S. probation officer has instructed me on the conditions specified by the court and has provided me with a written copy of this judgment containing these conditions. For further information regarding these conditions, see Overview of Probation and Supervised Release Conditions, available at: www.uscourts.gov

I understand that a violation of any of these conditions of supervised release may result in modification, extension, or revocation of my term of supervision.

Defendant's Signature _____ Date _____

USPO's Signature _____ Date _____

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SPECIAL CONDITIONS OF SUPERVISION

As part of your supervised release, you must comply with the following special conditions of supervision.

1. You must make full and complete disclosure of your finances and submit to an audit of your financial documents at the request of your probation officer. You must provide the probation officer with full and complete access to any requested financial information and authorize the release of any financial information. The probation office may share the financial information with the United States Attorney's Office.
2. You must not incur new credit charges, or open additional lines of credit without the approval of the probation officer.
3. You must participate in a mental health treatment program and follow the rules and regulations of that program. Such program may require that you submit to an evaluation and / or testing. The probation officer, in consultation with the treatment provider, will supervise your participation in the program (provider, location, modality, duration, intensity, etc.). You must pay all or part of the costs of the program based on your ability to pay unless excused by the probation officer.
4. You must take all mental health medication prescribed by your treating provider. You must pay for all or part of the costs of medication based on your ability to pay unless excused by the probation officer.
5. You must refrain from excessive use of alcohol.
6. You must submit your person, property, house, residence, vehicle, papers, computers (as defined in 18 U.S.C. § 1030(e)(1)), other electronic communications or data storage devices or media, or office, to a search conducted by a United States Probation Officer. Failure to submit to a search may be grounds for revocation of release. You must warn any other occupants that the premises may be subject to searches pursuant to this condition. An officer may conduct a search pursuant to this condition only when reasonable suspicion exists that you violated a condition of your supervision and that areas to be searched contain evidence of this violation. Any search must be conducted at a reasonable time and in a reasonable manner.
7. You must permit confiscation and/or disposal of any material considered to be contraband or any other item which may be deemed to have evidentiary value of violations of supervision.

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Judgment in a Criminal Case
Sheet 6 -- Criminal Monetary Penalties

CRIMINAL MONETARY PENALTIES

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

Special Assessment

TOTAL \$100

The Court finds that the defendant does not have the ability to pay a fine and cost of incarceration. The Court waives the fine and cost of incarceration in this case.

Fine

TOTAL \$0

Restitution

TOTAL \$1,105,217

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>
Cross River Bank Legal Department 400 Kelby Street, 14th Floor Fort Lee, New Jersey 07024	\$830,417	\$830,417
U.S. Small Business Administration (Address will be provided by the Government)	\$274,800	\$274,800
 TOTALS	 \$1,105,217	 \$1,105,217

Restitution amount ordered pursuant to plea agreement \$1,105,217.

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 restitution.

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Judgment in a Criminal Case
Sheet 7 -- Schedule of Payments

SCHEDULE OF PAYMENTS

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

- A. ☐ Lump sum payment of \$ due immediately, balance due:
☐ not later than _____, or
☐ in accordance with ☐ 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 _____ days (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 _____ days (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 **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:

Payable at a rate of no less than \$250 monthly to U.S. District Court Clerk. You must notify the Court of any changes in economic circumstances that might affect the ability to pay this financial penalty.

Unless the court has expressly ordered otherwise, if this judgment imposes imprisonment, payment of criminal monetary penalties is due during the period of 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, U.S. District Court 2211 U.S. Courthouse, 75 Ted Turner Drive, SW, Atlanta, GA 30303.

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:

- \$431,408.28 in funds seized from JPMorgan Chase Bank account number XXXXXX6415 held in the name of Transportation Management Services Inc.
- \$30,025.08 in funds seized from JPMorgan Chase Bank account number XXXXXX9428 held in the name of Bern Benoit.

Payments shall be applied in the following order: (1) assessment, (2) restitution principal, (3) restitution interest, (4) AVAA assessment, (5) fine principal, (6) fine interest, (7) community restitution, (8) JVTA assessment, (9) penalties, and (10) costs, including cost of prosecution and court costs.