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14 UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

15 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

16 FOR THE CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

17 UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

18 Plaintiff,

19 v.

20 ANDREW MARNELL,

21 Defendant.

No. CR 20-319-RGK

PLEA AGREEMENT FOR DEFENDANT
ANDREW MARNELL

22
23 1. This constitutes the plea agreement between ANDREW MARNELL
24 ("defendant") and the United States Attorney's Office for the Central
25 District of California (the "USAO") and the Fraud Section of the
26 Criminal Division of the United States Department of Justice
27 (collectively with the USAO, the "Offices") in the above-captioned
28 case. This agreement is limited to the Offices and cannot bind any

1 other federal, state, local, or foreign prosecuting, enforcement,
2 administrative, or regulatory authorities.

3 DEFENDANT'S OBLIGATIONS

4 2. Defendant agrees to:

5 a. Give up the right to indictment by a grand jury and,
6 at the earliest opportunity requested by the Offices and provided by
7 the Court, appear and plead guilty to counts one and two of the two-
8 count superseding information in the form attached to this agreement
9 as Exhibit A or a substantially similar form, which charges defendant
10 with bank fraud in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1344(2) and money
11 laundering in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1957.

12 b. Not contest facts agreed to in this agreement.

13 c. Abide by all agreements regarding sentencing contained
14 in this agreement.

15 d. Appear for all court appearances, surrender as ordered
16 for service of sentence, obey all conditions of any bond, and obey
17 any other ongoing court order in this matter.

18 e. Not commit any crime; however, offenses that would be
19 excluded for sentencing purposes under United States Sentencing
20 Guidelines ("U.S.S.G." or "Sentencing Guidelines") § 4A1.2(c) are not
21 within the scope of this agreement.

22 f. Be truthful at all times with the United States
23 Probation and Pretrial Services Office and the Court.

24 g. Pay the applicable special assessments at or before
25 the time of sentencing unless defendant has demonstrated a lack of
26 ability to pay such assessments.

27 h. Defendant agrees that any and all criminal debt
28 obligations ordered by the Court will be due in full and immediately.

1 The government is not precluded from pursuing, in excess of any
2 payment schedule set by the Court, any and all available remedies by
3 which to satisfy defendant's payment of the full financial
4 obligation, including referral to the Treasury Offset Program.

5 i. Complete the Financial Disclosure Statement on a form
6 provided by the Offices and, within 30 days of defendant's entry of a
7 guilty plea, deliver the signed and dated statement, along with all
8 of the documents requested therein, to the USAO by either email at
9 usacac.FinLit@usdoj.gov (preferred) or mail to the USAO Financial
10 Litigation Section at 300 North Los Angeles Street, Suite 7516, Los
11 Angeles, CA 90012. Defendant agrees that defendant's ability to pay
12 criminal debt shall be assessed based on the completed Financial
13 Disclosure Statement and all required supporting documents, as well
14 as other relevant information relating to ability to pay.

15 j. Authorize the Offices to obtain a credit report upon
16 returning a signed copy of this plea agreement.

17 k. Consent to the Offices inspecting and copying all of
18 defendant's financial documents and financial information held by the
19 United States Probation and Pretrial Services Office.

20 FORFEITURE AND FINANCIAL ACCOUNTABILITY

21 3. Defendant further agrees:

22 a. To forfeit all right, title, and interest in and to
23 any and all monies, properties, and/or assets of any kind, derived
24 from or acquired as a result of, or used to facilitate the commission
25 of, or involved in the illegal activity to which defendant is
26 pleading guilty, specifically including, but not limited to, the
27 following (collectively, the "Forfeitable Property"):

1 i. \$319,298.50 in United States currency seized
2 from defendant's residence;

3 ii. One Rolex Oyster watch serial 3341V2104 seized
4 from defendant's residence;

5 iii. One Rolex Oyster watch serial LW576819 seized
6 from defendant's residence;

7 iv. One 2020 Land Rover Range Rover, VIN:
8 SALGS2SE7LA597796 seized from defendant's residence;

9 v. One 2020 Ducati Motorcycle, VIN:
10 ZDMDAGNW6LB014163 seized from defendant's residence;

11 vi. One SanDisk thumbdrive, 1B80, FBI bar code
12 E6512901 seized from defendant's residence;

13 vii. One Lenovo ThinkPad 3 Dock, 1B77, FBI bar code
14 E6512898 seized from defendant's residence;

15 viii. One MacBook Model A1286, Serial Number:
16 W8016CXHAGU, 1B70, FBI bar code E6512891 seized from defendant's
17 residence;

18 ix. One Dell Latitude Laptop, Serial Number:
19 6WM6NN2, 1B69, FBI bar code E6512890 seized from defendant's
20 residence;

21 x. One Lenovo Yoga Laptop, Model Name: 80Y7,
22 Serial Number: PF0YW75K, 1B68, FBI bar code E6512889 seized from
23 defendant's residence;

24 xi. One Dell Latitude Laptop, Serial Number:
25 858BJM2, 1B67, FBI bar code E6512888 seized from defendant's
26 residence;

27 xii. Five SanDisk USB sticks, 1B65, FBI bar code
28 E6512886 seized from defendant's residence;

1 xiii. One black Apple Watch with black band, 1B64,
2 FBI bar code E6512885 seized from defendant's residence;

3 xiv. One Gamer Storm tower, Serial Number:
4 DC2016082400194, 1B62, FBI bar code E6512883 seized from defendant's
5 residence;

6 xv. One Lenovo ThinkCentre computer tower, Model
7 Number: S17Y00, Serial Number: MJ06EL2N, 1B59, FBI bar code E6512880
8 seized from defendant's residence;

9 xvi. One white and blue PNY USB flash drive, 32GB,
10 1B57, FBI bar code E6512878 seized from defendant's residence;

11 xvii. One digital camera Coolpix L310 with SD card
12 in Lowepro case, 1B56, FBI bar code E6512877 seized from defendant's
13 residence;

14 xviii. One iPhone 11 in black Spigen case, 1B54, FBI
15 bar code E6512875 seized from defendant's residence;

16 xix. One Aria flash drive, 1B52, FBI bar code
17 E6512873 seized from defendant's residence;

18 xx. One iWatch, Serial Number: FHLQKEBCG9J8 in
19 42mm case without band, 1B51, E6512872 seized from defendant's
20 residence;

21 xxi. One Anker external hard drive, 1B50, FBI bar
22 code E6512871 seized from defendant's residence;

23 xxii. One Garmin watch, M/N: HRM-S33 with band,
24 1B49, FBI bar code E6512870 seized from defendant's residence;

25 xxiii. One Royal Caribbean flash drive, 1B48, FBI bar
26 code E6512869 seized from defendant's residence;

1 xxiv. One white and gold iPhone, Model A1533, IMEI:
2 357989057801980 in rubber case, 1B46, FBI bar code E6512867 seized
3 from defendant's residence;

4 xxv. One white "Very Kool" cell phone, 1B45, FBI
5 bar code E6512866 seized from defendant's residence;

6 xxvi. One grey MacBook, Model A2251, Serial Number:
7 C02CWHKFML7H, 1B41, FBI bar code E6512862 seized from defendant's
8 residence;

9 xxvii. One iPad in Louis Vuitton case cover, 1B37,
10 FBI bar code E6512858 seized from defendant's residence;

11 xxviii. One grey MacBook, Model A2179, Serial Number:
12 C02CQ20MPV4M, in blue case, 1B34, FBI bar code E6512855 seized from
13 defendant's residence;

14 xxix. One grey MacBook, Model A2251, Serial Number:
15 C02CJBZMML7H, 1B33, FBI bar code E6512854 seized from defendant's
16 residence;

17 xxx. One Lenovo ThinkPad X1, Serial Number: R9-
18 0QGLTR, 1B32, FBI bar code E6512853 seized from defendant's
19 residence;

20 xxxi. One grey iPhone in black Spigen phone case,
21 1B31, FBI bar code E6512852 seized from defendant's residence;

22 xxxii. One grey Samsung phone, IMEI: 352620111233028,
23 1B30, in black Spigen phone case, FBI bar code E6512851 seized from
24 defendant's residence;

25 xxxiii. One grey Samsung phone, IMEI: 352620111356092,
26 1B29, FBI bar code E6512850 seized from defendant's residence;

27 xxxiv. One unknown digital device, 1B66, FBI bar code
28 E6512887 seized from defendant's residence;

1 xxxv. \$165,894.19 seized from an account ending 6944
2 at Interactive Brokers LLC held in the name of Xtractd LLC;

3 xxxvi. \$3,321.90 seized from an account ending 9164 at
4 Interactive Brokers LLC held in the name of Andrew J. Marnell;

5 xxxvii. \$526.32 seized from an account ending 2842 at
6 Interactive Brokers LLC held in the name of Andrew J. Marnell;

7 xxxix. \$1,366,895.04 seized from an account ending
8 2627 at Charles Schwab Inc. and Charles Schwab Futures, subsidiaries
9 of Charles Schwab Corporation held in the name of Andrew Marnell;

10 xl. \$5,217.77 seized from an account ending 6538
11 at Aspiration Financial LLC held in the name of Andrew Marnell; and

12 xli. \$324.84 seized from an account ending 6561 at
13 Aspiration Financial LLC held in the name of Andrew Marnell.

14 b. To the Court's entry of an order of forfeiture at or
15 before sentencing with respect to the Forfeitable Property and to the
16 forfeiture of the assets.

17 c. That the Preliminary Order of Forfeiture shall become
18 final as to the defendant upon entry.

19 d. To take whatever steps are necessary to pass to the
20 United States clear title to the Forfeitable Property, including,
21 without limitation, the execution of a consent decree of forfeiture
22 and the completing of any other legal documents required for the
23 transfer of title to the United States.

24 e. Not to contest any administrative forfeiture
25 proceedings or civil judicial proceedings commenced against the
26 Forfeitable Property. If defendant submitted a claim and/or petition
27 for remission for all or part of the Forfeitable Property on behalf
28 of himself or any other individual or entity, defendant shall and

1 hereby does withdraw any such claims or petitions, and further agrees
2 to waive any right he may have to seek remission or mitigation of the
3 forfeiture of the Forfeitable Property. Defendant further waives any
4 and all notice requirements of 18 U.S.C. § 983(a)(1)(A).

5 f. Not to assist any other individual in any effort
6 falsely to contest the forfeiture of the Forfeitable Property.

7 g. Not to claim that reasonable cause to seize the
8 Forfeitable Property was lacking.

9 h. To prevent the transfer, sale, destruction, or loss of
10 any and all assets described above to the extent defendant has the
11 ability to do so.

12 i. To fill out and deliver to the USAO a completed
13 financial statement listing defendant's assets on a form provided by
14 the USAO.

15 j. That forfeiture of Forfeitable Property shall not be
16 counted toward satisfaction of any special assessment, fine,
17 restitution, costs, or other penalty the Court may impose.

18 k. With respect to any criminal forfeiture ordered as a
19 result of this plea agreement, defendant waives: (1) the requirements
20 of Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure 32.2 and 43(a) regarding
21 notice of the forfeiture in the charging instrument, announcements of
22 the forfeiture at sentencing, and incorporation of the forfeiture in
23 the judgment; (2) all constitutional and statutory challenges to the
24 forfeiture (including by direct appeal, habeas corpus or any other
25 means); and (3) all constitutional, legal, and equitable defenses to
26 the forfeiture of the Forfeitable Property in any proceeding on any
27 grounds including, without limitation, that the forfeiture
28 constitutes an excessive fine or punishment. Defendant acknowledges

1 that the forfeiture of the Forfeitable Property is part of the
2 sentence that may be imposed in this case and waives any failure by
3 the Court to advise defendant of this, pursuant to Federal Rule of
4 Criminal Procedure 11(b)(1)(J), at the time the Court accepts
5 defendant's guilty pleas.

6 THE OFFICES' OBLIGATIONS

7 4. The Offices agree to:

8 a. Not contest facts agreed to in this agreement.

9 b. Abide by all agreements regarding sentencing contained
10 in this agreement.

11 c. Except for criminal tax violations (including
12 conspiracy to commit such violations chargeable under 18 U.S.C.
13 § 371), not further criminally prosecute defendant for violations of
14 15 U.S.C. § 645 and 18 U.S.C. §§ 1001, 1014, 1028, 1029, 1341, 1344,
15 1956, and 1957, arising out of defendant's conduct described in the
16 agreed-to factual basis set forth in Exhibit B to this agreement.

17 Defendant understands that the Offices are free to criminally
18 prosecute defendant for any other unlawful past conduct or any
19 unlawful conduct that occurs after the date of this agreement.

20 Defendant agrees that at the time of sentencing the Court may
21 consider the uncharged conduct in determining the applicable
22 Sentencing Guidelines range, the propriety and extent of any
23 departure from that range, and the sentence to be imposed after
24 consideration of the Sentencing Guidelines and all other relevant
25 factors under 18 U.S.C. § 3553(a).

26 d. At the time of sentencing, move to dismiss the
27 underlying indictment as against defendant. Defendant agrees,
28 however, that at the time of sentencing the Court may consider any

1 dismissed charges in determining the applicable Sentencing Guidelines
2 range, the propriety and extent of any departure from that range, and
3 the sentence to be imposed.

4 e. At the time of sentencing, provided that defendant
5 demonstrates an acceptance of responsibility for the offenses up to
6 and including the time of sentencing, recommend a two-level reduction
7 in the applicable Sentencing Guidelines offense level, pursuant to
8 U.S.S.G. § 3E1.1, and recommend and, if necessary, move for an
9 additional one-level reduction if available under that section.

10 f. Recommend that defendant be sentenced to a term of
11 imprisonment no higher than the low end of the applicable Sentencing
12 Guidelines range, provided that the offense level used by the Court
13 to determine that range is 31 or higher and provided that the Court
14 does not depart downward in offense level or criminal history
15 category. For purposes of this agreement, the low end of the
16 Sentencing Guidelines range is that defined by the Sentencing Table
17 in U.S.S.G. Chapter 5, Part A.

18 NATURE OF THE OFFENSES

19 5. Defendant understands that for defendant to be guilty of
20 the crime charged in count one of the superseding information, that
21 is, bank fraud, in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section
22 1344(2), the following must be true:

23 First, defendant knowingly carried out a scheme or plan to
24 obtain money or property from a financial institution by making
25 false statements or promises;

26 Second, defendant knew that the statements or promises were
27 false;
28

1 Third, the statements or promises were material, that is, they
2 had a natural tendency to influence, or were capable of
3 influencing, a financial institution to part with money or
4 property;

5 Fourth, defendant acted with the intent to defraud, that is, the
6 intent to deceive and cheat; and

7 Fifth, the financial institution was federally insured.

8 6. Defendant understands that for defendant to be guilty of
9 the crime charged in count two of the superseding information, that
10 is, money laundering, in violation of Title 18, United States Code,
11 Section 1957, the following must be true:

12 First, the defendant knowingly engaged or attempted to engage in
13 a monetary transaction;

14 Second, the defendant knew the transaction involved criminally
15 derived property;

16 Third, the property had a value greater than \$10,000;

17 Fourth, the property was, in fact, derived from bank fraud as
18 alleged in count two of the superseding information; and

19 Fifth, the transaction occurred in the United States.

20 The term "monetary transaction" means the deposit, withdrawal,
21 transfer, or exchange, in or affecting interstate commerce, of funds
22 or a monetary instrument by, through, or to a financial institution.

23 The term "criminally derived property" means any property
24 constituting, or derived from, the proceeds of a criminal offense.

25 PENALTIES AND RESTITUTION

26 7. Defendant understands that the statutory maximum sentence
27 that the Court can impose for a violation of Title 18, United States
28 Code, Section 1344(2), is: 30 years' imprisonment; a 5-year period of

1 supervised release; a fine of \$1,000,000 or twice the gross gain or
2 gross loss resulting from the offense, whichever is greatest; and a
3 mandatory special assessment of \$100.

4 8. Defendant understands that the statutory maximum sentence
5 that the Court can impose for a violation of Title 18, United States
6 Code, Section 1957, is: 10 years' imprisonment; a 3-year period of
7 supervised release; a fine of \$250,000 or twice the twice the amount
8 of the criminally derived property involved in the offense, whichever
9 is greatest; and a mandatory special assessment of \$100.

10 9. Defendant understands, therefore, that the total maximum
11 sentence for all offenses to which defendant is pleading guilty is:
12 40 years' imprisonment; a 5-year period of supervised release; a fine
13 of \$1,250,000 or twice the gross gain or gross loss resulting from
14 the offenses, whichever is greatest; and a mandatory special
15 assessment of \$200.

16 10. Defendant understands that defendant will be required to
17 pay full restitution to the victims of the offenses to which
18 defendant is pleading guilty. Defendant agrees that, in return for
19 the Offices' compliance with their obligations under this agreement,
20 the Court may order restitution to persons other than the victims of
21 the offenses to which defendant is pleading guilty and in amounts
22 greater than those alleged in the counts to which defendant is
23 pleading guilty. In particular, defendant agrees that the Court may
24 order restitution to any victim of any of the following for any
25 losses suffered by that victim as a result: (a) any relevant conduct,
26 as defined in U.S.S.G. § 1B1.3, in connection with the offenses to
27 which defendant is pleading guilty; and (b) any counts dismissed and
28 charges not prosecuted pursuant to this agreement as well as all

1 relevant conduct, as defined in U.S.S.G. § 1B1.3, in connection with
2 those counts and charges. The parties currently believe that the
3 applicable amount of restitution is approximately \$7,341,376.33, but
4 recognize and agree that this amount could change based on facts that
5 come to the attention of the parties prior to sentencing.

6 11. Defendant understands that under 21 U.S.C. § 862a,
7 defendant will not be eligible for assistance under state programs
8 funded under the Social Security Act or Federal Food Stamp Act or for
9 federal food stamp program benefits, and that any such benefits or
10 assistance received by defendant's family members will be reduced to
11 reflect defendant's ineligibility.

12 12. Defendant understands that supervised release is a period
13 of time following imprisonment during which defendant will be subject
14 to various restrictions and requirements. Defendant understands that
15 if defendant violates one or more of the conditions of any supervised
16 release imposed, defendant may be returned to prison for all or part
17 of the term of supervised release authorized by statute for the
18 offense that resulted in the term of supervised release, which could
19 result in defendant serving a total term of imprisonment greater than
20 the statutory maximum stated above.

21 13. Defendant understands that, by pleading guilty, defendant
22 may be giving up valuable government benefits and valuable civic
23 rights, such as the right to vote, the right to possess a firearm,
24 the right to hold office, and the right to serve on a jury. Defendant
25 understands that he is pleading guilty to a felony and that it is a
26 federal crime for a convicted felon to possess a firearm or
27 ammunition. Defendant understands that the convictions in this case
28 may also subject defendant to various other collateral consequences,

1 including but not limited to revocation of probation, parole, or
2 supervised release in another case and suspension or revocation of a
3 professional license. Defendant understands that unanticipated
4 collateral consequences will not serve as grounds to withdraw
5 defendant's guilty pleas.

6 14. Defendant and his counsel have discussed the fact that, and
7 defendant understands that, if defendant is not a United States
8 citizen, the convictions in this case makes it practically inevitable
9 and a virtual certainty that defendant will be removed or deported
10 from the United States. Defendant may also be denied United States
11 citizenship and admission to the United States in the future.
12 Defendant understands that while there may be arguments that
13 defendant can raise in immigration proceedings to avoid or delay
14 removal, removal is presumptively mandatory and a virtual certainty
15 in this case. Defendant further understands that removal and
16 immigration consequences are the subject of a separate proceeding and
17 that no one, including his attorney or the Court, can predict to an
18 absolute certainty the effect of his convictions on his immigration
19 status. Defendant nevertheless affirms that he wants to plead guilty
20 regardless of any immigration consequences that his pleas may entail,
21 even if the consequence is automatic removal from the United States.

22 FACTUAL BASIS

23 15. Defendant admits that defendant is, in fact, guilty of the
24 offenses to which defendant is agreeing to plead guilty. Defendant
25 and the Offices agree to the statement of facts set forth in Exhibit
26 B to this agreement and incorporated herein by reference, and agree
27 that this statement of facts is sufficient to support pleas of guilty
28 to the charges described in this agreement and to establish the

Sentencing Guidelines factors set forth in paragraph 17 below but is not meant to be a complete recitation of all facts relevant to the underlying criminal conduct or all facts known to either party that relate to that conduct.

SENTENCING FACTORS

16. Defendant understands that in determining defendant's sentence the Court is required to calculate the applicable Sentencing Guidelines range and to consider that range, possible departures under the Sentencing Guidelines, and the other sentencing factors set forth in 18 U.S.C. § 3553(a). Defendant understands that the Sentencing Guidelines are advisory only, that defendant cannot have any expectation of receiving a sentence within the calculated Sentencing Guidelines range, and that after considering the Sentencing Guidelines and the other § 3553(a) factors, the Court will be free to exercise its discretion to impose any sentence it finds appropriate up to the maximum set by statute for the crimes of conviction.

17. Defendant and the Offices agree to the following applicable Sentencing Guidelines factors:

Base Offense Level:	7	[U.S.S.G. § 2B1.1 (a) (1)]
<u>Specific Offense Characteristics</u>		
Intended loss greater than \$9,500,000 and less than or equal to \$25,000,000	+20	[U.S.S.G. § 2B1.1 (b) (1) (K)]
More than \$1,000,000 derived from a financial institution	+2	[U.S.S.G. § 2B1.1 (b) (17)]
1957 Money Laundering	+1	[U.S.S.G. §§ 2S1.1 (a) (1) & (b) (2) (A), 3D1.2 (c)]

1 18. Defendant and the Offices reserve the right to argue that
2 additional specific offense characteristics, adjustments, and
3 departures under the Sentencing Guidelines are appropriate.

4 19. Defendant understands that there is no agreement as to
5 defendant's criminal history or criminal history category.

6 20. Defendant and the Offices reserve the right to argue for a
7 sentence outside the sentencing range established by the Sentencing
8 Guidelines based on the factors set forth in 18 U.S.C. § 3553(a)(1),
9 (a)(2), (a)(3), (a)(6), and (a)(7).

10 WAIVER OF CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS

11 21. Defendant understands that by pleading guilty, defendant
12 gives up the following rights:

13 a. The right to persist in a plea of not guilty.

14 b. The right to a speedy and public trial by jury.

15 c. The right to be represented by counsel -- and if
16 necessary have the Court appoint counsel -- at trial. Defendant
17 understands, however, that, defendant retains the right to be
18 represented by counsel -- and if necessary have the Court appoint
19 counsel -- at every other stage of the proceeding.

20 d. The right to be presumed innocent and to have the
21 burden of proof placed on the government to prove defendant guilty
22 beyond a reasonable doubt.

23 e. The right to confront and cross-examine witnesses
24 against defendant.

25 f. The right to testify and to present evidence in
26 opposition to the charges, including the right to compel the
27 attendance of witnesses to testify.

1 g. The right not to be compelled to testify, and, if
2 defendant chose not to testify or present evidence, to have that
3 choice not be used against defendant.

4 h. Any and all rights to pursue any affirmative defenses,
5 Fourth Amendment or Fifth Amendment claims, and other pretrial
6 motions that have been filed or could be filed.

7 WAIVER OF RETURN OF DIGITAL DATA

8 22. Understanding that the government has in its possession
9 digital devices and/or digital media seized from defendant, defendant
10 waives any right to the return of digital data contained on those
11 digital devices and/or digital media and agrees that if any of these
12 digital devices and/or digital media are returned to defendant, the
13 government may delete all digital data from those digital devices
14 and/or digital media before they are returned to defendant.

15 WAIVER OF APPEAL OF CONVICTION

16 23. Defendant understands that, with the exception of an appeal
17 based on a claim that defendant's guilty pleas were involuntary, by
18 pleading guilty defendant is waiving and giving up any right to
19 appeal defendant's convictions on the offenses to which defendant is
20 pleading guilty. Defendant understands that this waiver includes,
21 but is not limited to, arguments that the statutes to which defendant
22 is pleading guilty are unconstitutional, and any and all claims that
23 the statement of facts provided herein is insufficient to support
24 defendant's pleas of guilty.

25 LIMITED MUTUAL WAIVER OF APPEAL OF SENTENCE

26 24. Defendant agrees that, provided the Court imposes a total
27 term of imprisonment on all counts of conviction of no more than 135
28 months, defendant gives up the right to appeal all of the following:

1 (a) the procedures and calculations used to determine and impose any
2 portion of the sentence; (b) the term of imprisonment imposed by the
3 Court; (c) the fine imposed by the Court, provided it is within the
4 statutory maximum; (d) to the extent permitted by law, the
5 constitutionality or legality of defendant's sentence, provided it is
6 within the statutory maximum; (e) the amount and terms of any
7 restitution order, provided it requires payment of no more than
8 \$7,341,376.33; (f) the term of probation or supervised release
9 imposed by the Court, provided it is within the statutory maximum;
10 and (g) any of the following conditions of probation or supervised
11 release imposed by the Court: the conditions set forth in Amended
12 General Order 20-04 of this Court; the drug testing conditions
13 mandated by 18 U.S.C. §§ 3563(a)(5) and 3583(d); and the alcohol and
14 drug use conditions authorized by 18 U.S.C. § 3563(b)(7).

15 25. The Offices agree that, provided (a) all portions of the
16 sentence are at or above the statutory minimum and at or below the
17 statutory maximum specified above and (b) the Court imposes a term of
18 imprisonment of no less than 108 months, the Offices give up their
19 right to appeal any portion of the sentence, with the exception that
20 the Offices reserve the right to appeal the amount of restitution
21 ordered if that amount is less than \$7,341,376.33.

22 WAIVER OF COLLATERAL ATTACK

23 26. Defendant also gives up any right to bring a post-
24 conviction collateral attack on the convictions or sentence,
25 including any order of restitution, except a post-conviction
26 collateral attack based on a claim of ineffective assistance of
27 counsel, a claim of newly discovered evidence, or an explicitly
28 retroactive change in the applicable Sentencing Guidelines,

1 sentencing statutes, or statutes of conviction. Defendant
2 understands that this waiver includes, but is not limited to,
3 arguments that the statutes to which defendant is pleading guilty are
4 unconstitutional, and any and all claims that the statement of facts
5 provided herein is insufficient to support defendant's pleas of
6 guilty. The agreement in this paragraph does not affect in any way
7 the right of the Offices to appeal the sentence imposed by the Court.

8 RESULT OF WITHDRAWAL OF GUILTY PLEA

9 27. Defendant agrees that if, after entering guilty pleas
10 pursuant to this agreement, defendant seeks to withdraw and succeeds
11 in withdrawing defendant's guilty pleas on any basis other than a
12 claim and finding that entry into this plea agreement was
13 involuntary, then (a) the Offices will be relieved of all of its
14 obligations under this agreement; and (b) should the Offices choose
15 to pursue any charge that was either dismissed or not filed as a
16 result of this agreement, then (i) any applicable statute of
17 limitations will be tolled between the date of defendant's signing of
18 this agreement and the filing commencing any such action; and
19 (ii) defendant waives and gives up all defenses based on the statute
20 of limitations, any claim of pre-indictment delay, or any speedy
21 trial claim with respect to any such action, except to the extent
22 that such defenses existed as of the date of defendant's signing this
23 agreement.

24 RESULT OF VACATUR, REVERSAL OR SET-ASIDE

25 28. Defendant agrees that if any count of conviction is
26 vacated, reversed, or set aside, the Offices may: (a) ask the Court
27 to resentence defendant on the remaining count of conviction, with
28 both the Offices and defendant being released from any stipulations

1 regarding sentencing contained in this agreement, (b) ask the Court
2 to void the entire plea agreement and vacate defendant's guilty plea
3 on the remaining count of conviction, with both the Offices and
4 defendant being released from all their obligations under this
5 agreement, and defendant agreeing that any statute of limitations
6 will be tolled, and all speedy trial claims and claims of pre-
7 indictment delay will be waived, to the same extent as if a breach
8 had been declared, or (c) leave defendant's remaining conviction,
9 sentence, and plea agreement intact. Defendant agrees that the
10 choice among these three options rests in the exclusive discretion of
11 the Offices.

12 EFFECTIVE DATE OF AGREEMENT

13 29. This agreement is effective upon signature and execution of
14 all required certifications by defendant, defendant's counsel, and an
15 Assistant United States Attorney.

16 BREACH OF AGREEMENT

17 30. Defendant agrees that if defendant, at any time after the
18 effective date of this agreement, knowingly violates or fails to
19 perform any of defendant's obligations under this agreement ("a
20 breach"), the Offices may declare this agreement breached. All of
21 defendant's obligations are material, a single breach of this
22 agreement is sufficient for the Offices to declare a breach, and
23 defendant shall not be deemed to have cured a breach without the
24 express agreement of the Offices in writing. If the Offices declare
25 this agreement breached, and the Court finds such a breach to have
26 occurred, then: (a) if defendant has previously entered guilty pleas
27 pursuant to this agreement, defendant will not be able to withdraw
28

1 the guilty pleas, and (b) the Offices will be relieved of all their
2 obligations under this agreement.

3 31. Following the Court's finding of a knowing breach of this
4 agreement by defendant, should the Offices choose to pursue any
5 charge that was either dismissed or not filed as a result of this
6 agreement, then:

7 a. Defendant agrees that any applicable statute of
8 limitations is tolled between the date of defendant's signing of this
9 agreement and the filing commencing any such action.

10 b. Defendant waives and gives up all defenses based on
11 the statute of limitations, any claim of pre-indictment delay, or any
12 speedy trial claim with respect to any such action, except to the
13 extent that such defenses existed as of the date of defendant's
14 signing this agreement.

15 c. Defendant agrees that: (i) any statements made by
16 defendant, under oath, at the guilty plea hearing (if such a hearing
17 occurred prior to the breach); (ii) the agreed to factual basis
18 statement in this agreement; and (iii) any evidence derived from such
19 statements, shall be admissible against defendant in any such action
20 against defendant, and defendant waives and gives up any claim under
21 the United States Constitution, any statute, Rule 410 of the Federal
22 Rules of Evidence, Rule 11(f) of the Federal Rules of Criminal
23 Procedure, or any other federal rule, that the statements or any
24 evidence derived from the statements should be suppressed or are
25 inadmissible.

COURT AND UNITED STATES PROBATION AND PRETRIAL SERVICES

OFFICE NOT PARTIES

32. Defendant understands that the Court and the United States Probation and Pretrial Services Office are not parties to this agreement and need not accept any of the Offices' sentencing recommendations or the parties' agreements to facts or sentencing factors.

33. Defendant understands that both defendant and the Offices are free to: (a) supplement the facts by supplying relevant information to the United States Probation and Pretrial Services Office and the Court, (b) correct any and all factual misstatements relating to the Court's Sentencing Guidelines calculations and determination of sentence, and (c) argue on appeal and collateral review that the Court's Sentencing Guidelines calculations and the sentence it chooses to impose are not error, although each party agrees to maintain its view that the calculations in paragraph 17 are consistent with the facts of this case. While this paragraph permits both the Offices and defendant to submit full and complete factual information to the United States Probation and Pretrial Services Office and the Court, even if that factual information may be viewed as inconsistent with the facts agreed to in this agreement, this paragraph does not affect defendant's and the Offices' obligations not to contest the facts agreed to in this agreement.

34. Defendant understands that even if the Court ignores any sentencing recommendation, finds facts or reaches conclusions different from those agreed to, and/or imposes any sentence up to the maximum established by statute, defendant cannot, for that reason, withdraw defendant's guilty pleas, and defendant will remain bound to

1 fulfill all defendant's obligations under this agreement. Defendant
2 understands that no one -- not the prosecutor, defendant's attorney,
3 or the Court -- can make a binding prediction or promise regarding
4 the sentence defendant will receive, except that it will be within
5 the statutory maximum.

6 NO ADDITIONAL AGREEMENTS

7 35. Defendant understands that, except as set forth herein, and
8 in any agreement or addendum signed by all parties, there are no
9 promises, understandings, or agreements between the Offices and
10 defendant or defendant's attorney, and that no additional promise,
11 understanding, or agreement may be entered into unless in a writing
12 signed by all parties or on the record in court.

13 //

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PLEA AGREEMENT PART OF THE GUILTY PLEA HEARING

36. The parties agree that this agreement will be considered part of the record of defendant's guilty plea hearing as if the entire agreement had been read into the record of the proceeding.

AGREED AND ACCEPTED

UNITED STATES ATTORNEY'S OFFICE
FOR THE CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
CRIMINAL DIVISION, FRAUD SECTION

TRACY L. WILKISON
Acting United States Attorney



09/03/2021

KERRY L. QUINN
Assistant United States Attorney
SCOTT ARMSTRONG
Trial Attorney, Fraud Section

Date



ANDREW MARNELL
Defendant

9/3/21
Date



NEHA CHRISTERNA
Attorney for Defendant ANDREW MARNELL

9/3/21

Date

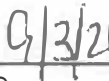
CERTIFICATION OF DEFENDANT

I have read this agreement in its entirety. I have had enough time to review and consider this agreement, and I have carefully and thoroughly discussed every part of it with my attorney. I understand the terms of this agreement, and I voluntarily agree to those terms. I have discussed the evidence with my attorney, and my attorney has advised me of my rights, of possible pretrial motions that might be filed, of possible defenses that might be asserted either prior to or at trial, of the sentencing factors set forth in 18 U.S.C. § 3553(a),

1 of relevant Sentencing Guidelines provisions, and of the consequences
2 of entering into this agreement. No promises, inducements, or
3 representations of any kind have been made to me other than those
4 contained in this agreement. No one has threatened or forced me in
5 any way to enter into this agreement. I am satisfied with the
6 representation of my attorney in this matter, and I am pleading
7 guilty because I am guilty of the charges and wish to take advantage
8 of the promises set forth in this agreement, and not for any other
9 reason.

10 

11 ANDREW MARNELL
12 Defendant

13 
14 Date

15 CERTIFICATION OF DEFENDANT'S ATTORNEY

16 I am ANDREW MARNELL's attorney. I have carefully and thoroughly
17 discussed every part of this agreement with my client. Further, I
18 have fully advised my client of his rights, of possible pretrial
19 motions that might be filed, of possible defenses that might be
20 asserted either prior to or at trial, of the sentencing factors set
21 forth in 18 U.S.C. § 3553(a), of relevant Sentencing Guidelines
22 provisions, and of the consequences of entering into this agreement.
23 To my knowledge: no promises, inducements, or representations of any
24 kind have been made to my client other than those contained in this
25 agreement; no one has threatened or forced my client in any way to
26 enter into this agreement; my client's decision to enter into this
27 agreement is an informed and voluntary one; and the factual basis set
28

1 forth in this agreement is sufficient to support my client's entry of
2 guilty pleas pursuant to this agreement.

3
4 
5 NEHA CHRISTERNA
6 Attorney for Defendant
7 ANDREW MARNELL

9/3/21

Date

EXHIBIT A

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Plaintiff,

v.

ANDREW MARNELL,
aka "Andrew Maxwell,"
aka "Andrew Merrill,"
aka "Tyler Lerman,"

Defendant.

CR No. 20-319(A)-RGK

F I R S T
S U P E R S E D I N G
I N F O R M A T I O N

[18 U.S.C. § 1344(2): Bank Fraud;
18 U.S.C. § 1957: Money
Laundering); 18 U.S.C. § 982:
Criminal Forfeiture]

The Acting United States Attorney charges:

COUNT ONE

[18 U.S.C. §§ 1344(2), 2(b)]

A. INTRODUCTORY ALLEGATIONS

At times relevant to this First Superseding Information:

Defendant MARNELL and the MARNELL-Controlled Entities

37. Defendant ANDREW MARNELL, also known as ("aka") "Andrew Maxwell," aka "Andrew Merrill," aka "Tyler Lerman," was a resident of Los Angeles, California.

38. Defendant MARNELL owned and controlled corporate entities registered in various states under various names, including Shale

1 Creek LLC ("Shale Creek"), Slatestone LLC ("Slatestone"), and
2 Quicksilver LLC ("Quicksilver") (the "MARNELL-controlled entities").

3 The Paycheck Protection Program

4 39. The Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security
5 ("CARES") Act was a federal law enacted in or around March 2020 and
6 designed to provide emergency financial assistance to the millions of
7 Americans who were suffering the economic effects caused by the
8 COVID-19 pandemic. One source of relief provided by the CARES Act
9 was the authorization of up to \$349 billion in forgivable loans to
10 small businesses for job retention and certain other expenses,
11 through a program referred to as the Paycheck Protection Program
12 ("PPP"). In or around April 2020, Congress authorized over \$300
13 billion in additional PPP funding.

14 40. In order to obtain a PPP loan, a qualifying business was
15 required to submit a PPP loan application signed by an authorized
16 representative of the business. The PPP loan application required
17 the business (through its authorized representative) to acknowledge
18 the program rules and make certain affirmative certifications in
19 order to be eligible to obtain the PPP loan. In the PPP loan
20 application, the applicant (through its authorized representative)
21 was required to state, among other things, its: (a) average monthly
22 payroll expenses; and (b) number of employees. These figures were
23 used to calculate the amount of money the small business was eligible
24 to receive under the PPP. In addition, the applicant was required to
25 provide documentation showing its payroll expenses.

26 41. A business's PPP loan application was received and
27 processed, in the first instance, by a participating lender. If a
28 PPP loan application was approved, the participating lender funded

1 the PPP loan using its own monies. Data from the application,
2 including information about the borrower, the total amount of the
3 loan, and the listed number of employees, was transmitted by the
4 lender to the Small Business Administration ("SBA") in the course of
5 processing the loan.

6 42. PPP loan proceeds were required to be used by the business
7 on certain permissible expenses: payroll costs, interest on
8 mortgages, rent, and utilities. The PPP allowed the interest and
9 principal on the PPP loan to be entirely forgiven if the business
10 spent the loan proceeds on these expense items within a designated
11 period of time after receiving the proceeds and used a certain amount
12 of the PPP loan proceeds on payroll expenses.

13 Financial Institutions & Bank Account Controlled By Defendant MARNELL

14 43. Lender A was a financial institution based in Texas and was
15 an SBA approved lender of PPP loans.

16 44. Casino 1 was a casino and gaming establishment with an
17 annual gaming revenue of more than \$1,000,000 and was licensed under
18 the laws of the State of Nevada, and qualified as a "financial
19 institution" for the purpose of 31 U.S.C. § 5312 and 18 U.S.C.
20 § 1957.

21 45. Bank A was a financial institution based in San Francisco,
22 California.

23 46. Defendant MARNELL controlled and was a signatory to
24 multiple accounts at an affiliate of Bank A, which was a broker
25 registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission under the
26 Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (15 U.S.C. § 78a et seq.), and
27 qualified as a "financial institution" for the purpose of 31 U.S.C.
28 § 5312 and 18 U.S.C. § 1957. Among the accounts that defendant

MARNELL controlled at the Bank A affiliate was an individual brokerage account in the name of "Andrew Justin Marnell," account number ending in 2627 (the "2627 account").

B. THE SCHEME TO DEFRAUD

47. Beginning in or about March 2020, and continuing until on or about July 16, 2020, in Los Angeles County, within the Central District of California, and elsewhere, defendant MARNELL, together with others known and unknown to the Acting United States Attorney, knowingly and with intent to defraud, devised, participated in, executed, and attempted to execute a scheme to obtain moneys, funds, credits, assets, and other property owned by and in the custody and control of Lender A by means of materially false and fraudulent pretenses, representations, and promises, and the concealment of material facts.

48. The fraudulent scheme operated and was carried out, in substance, as follows:

a. Defendant MARNELL submitted, and caused to be submitted, false and fraudulent applications to Lender A for PPP loans purportedly on behalf of the MARNELL-controlled entities (collectively, the "PPP Applications"). Specifically:

i. On or about April 14, 2020, defendant MARNELL submitted, and caused to be submitted, an application for a PPP loan in the amount of \$439,000 for borrower Shale Creek, which was represented to be a Montana-headquartered firm, owned and controlled by "Tyler Lerman," having 26 employees and average monthly payroll expenses of \$175,600;

ii. On or about April 29, 2020, defendant MARNELL submitted, and caused to be submitted, an application for a PPP loan

1 in the amount of \$1,341,700 for borrower Slatestone, which was
2 represented to be a Wyoming-headquartered firm, owned and controlled
3 by "Andrew Merrill," having 75 employees and average monthly payroll
4 expenses of \$536,680; and

5 iii. On or about May 11, 2020, defendant MARNELL
6 submitted, and caused to be submitted, an application for a PPP loan
7 in the amount of \$1,818,000 for borrower Quicksilver, which was
8 represented to be a Montana-headquartered firm, owned and controlled
9 by "Andrew Maxwell," having 129 employees and average monthly payroll
10 expenses of \$727,200.

11 b. Defendant MARNELL submitted, and caused to be
12 submitted, false documents and information to Lender A to obtain and
13 to try to obtain PPP loans in the names of the MARNELL-controlled
14 entities, including the following:

15 i. A false identification document concerning the
16 ownership and control of Quicksilver, namely, a photograph of a fake
17 United States passport in the name of "Andrew Maxwell," with
18 defendant MARNELL's picture;

19 ii. False Internal Revenue Service ("IRS") Form 940 tax
20 forms for Shale Creek, Slatestone, and Quicksilver, purporting to be
21 Employer's Annual Federal Unemployment Tax Act Returns filed with the
22 IRS for those entities; and

23 iii. False payroll data and documentation for Shale
24 Creek, Slatestone, and Quicksilver, including documents purporting to
25 be payroll registers for 2019 and 2020, purporting to show wages paid
26 to employees of those entities.

1 c. Defendant MARNELL made, and caused to be made, false
2 statements in the PPP Applications, which defendant MARNELL knew were
3 false when he made them and caused them to be made. For example:

4 i. Defendant MARNELL falsely represented that the funds
5 sought through the PPP Applications would be used to pay payroll and
6 other business expenses of the MARNELL-controlled entities, when, in
7 fact, defendant MARNELL intended to use and did use the PPP loan
8 proceeds to fund options and futures trading activities, to engage in
9 gambling and entertainment activities, and to pay other personal
10 expenses;

11 ii. Defendant MARNELL falsely represented that "the
12 Applicant has not and will not receive another loan under the
13 Paycheck Protection Program," and that the applicant did not own any
14 other business or have common management with any other business,
15 when, in fact, defendant MARNELL intended to and did obtain other
16 loans under the Paycheck Protection Program for the MARNELL-
17 controlled entities and all the MARNELL-controlled entities had
18 common management; and

19 iii. Defendant MARNELL falsely represented that "Tyler
20 Lerman," "Andrew Merrill," and "Andrew Maxwell" were the owners of
21 the MARNELL-controlled entities, when, in fact, as defendant MARNELL
22 then knew, he owned and controlled those entities.

23 d. In reliance on defendant MARNELL's materially false
24 statements and his concealment of material facts, Lender A approved
25 and funded the PPP loans sought by defendant MARNELL in the names of
26 the MARNELL-controlled entities. Specifically, on or about the
27 following dates, Lender A sent the following funding wires:

1 i. On or about April 16, 2020, Lender A wired, via ACH
2 transfer, approximately \$439,000 to an account ending 2842 at
3 Interactive Brokers LLC, maintained in defendant MARNELL's name;

4 ii. On or about May 11, 2020, Lender A wired, via ACH
5 transfer, approximately \$1,341,700 to the 2627 account; and

6 iii. On or about May 12, 2020, Lender A wired, via ACH
7 transfer, approximately \$1,818,000 to an account ending 6279 at Live
8 Oak Banking Company, which was a business account in Quicksilver's
9 name on which defendant MARNELL was the sole signer.

10 e. From on or about April 16, 2020, through on or about
11 July 16, 2020, in contravention of defendant MARNELL's
12 representations to Lender A and PPP rules, defendant MARNELL used PPP
13 loan proceeds from Lender A to, among other things, fund options and
14 futures trading activities, to engage in gambling and entertainment
15 activities, and to pay other personal expenses.

16 C. EXECUTION OF THE SCHEME

17 49. On or about April 29, 2020, in Los Angeles County, within
18 the Central District of California, and elsewhere, defendant MARNELL
19 committed and willfully caused others to commit an act which
20 constituted an execution of the fraudulent scheme, namely, the
21 submission of an application to Lender A for a PPP loan in the name
22 of Slatestone.

COUNT TWO

[18 U.S.C. §§ 1957, 2(b)]

50. On or about June 5, 2020, in Los Angeles County, within the Central District of California, and elsewhere, defendant ANDREW MARNELL, aka "Andrew Maxwell," aka "Andrew Merrill," aka "Tyler Lerman," knowing that the funds involved represented the proceeds of some form of unlawful activity, engaged in and willfully caused others to engage in a monetary transaction, in and affecting interstate commerce, in criminally derived property of a value greater than \$10,000, namely, the transfer of \$150,000 from the 2627 Account to Casino 1, which property, in fact, was derived from specified unlawful activity, namely, bank fraud, in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 1344(2), as charged in Count One of this First Superseding Information.

FORFEITURE ALLEGATION ONE

[18 U.S.C. § 982(a)(2)]

51. Pursuant to Rule 32.2(a) of the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure, notice is hereby given that the United States of America will seek forfeiture as part of any sentence, pursuant to Title 18, United States Code, Section 982(a)(2), in the event of the conviction of defendant ANDREW MARNELL, aka "Andrew Maxwell," aka "Andrew Merrill," aka "Tyler Lerman," of the offense set forth in Count One of this First Superseding Information.

52. Defendant MARNELL, if so convicted, shall forfeit to the United States of America the following:

(a) All right, title and interest in any and all property, real or personal, constituting, or derived from, any proceeds obtained, directly or indirectly, as a result of the offense; and

(b) To the extent such property is not available for forfeiture, a sum of money equal to the total value of the property described in subparagraph (a).

53. Pursuant to Title 21, United States Code, Section 853(p), as incorporated by Title 18, United States Code, Section 982(b), defendant MARNELL, if so convicted, shall forfeit substitute property, up to the total value of the property described in the preceding paragraph if, as the result of any act or omission of defendant MARNELL, the property described in the preceding paragraph, or any portion thereof: (a) cannot be located upon the exercise of due diligence; (b) has been transferred, sold to or deposited with a third party; (c) has been placed beyond the jurisdiction of the court; (d) has been substantially diminished in value; or (e) has

1 been commingled with other property that cannot be divided without
2 difficulty.

FORFEITURE ALLEGATION TWO

[18 U.S.C. § 982(a)(1)]

54. Pursuant to Rule 32.2(a) of the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure, notice is hereby given that the United States will seek forfeiture as part of any sentence, pursuant to Title 18, United States Code, Section 982(a)(1), in the event of the conviction of defendant ANDREW MARNELL, aka "Andrew Maxwell," aka "Andrew Merrill," aka "Tyler Lerman," of the offense set forth in Count Two of this First Superseding Information.

55. Defendant MARNELL, if so convicted, shall forfeit to the United States of America the following:

(a) Any property, real or personal, involved in such offense, and any property traceable to such property; and

(b) To the extent such property is not available for forfeiture, a sum of money equal to the total value of the property described in subparagraph (a).

56. Pursuant to Title 21, United States Code, Section 853(p), as incorporated by Title 18, United States Code, Section 982(b)(1), and Title 18, United States Code, Section 982(b)(2), the defendant, if so convicted, shall forfeit substitute property, if, by any act or omission of the defendant, the property described in the preceding paragraph, or any portion thereof: (a) cannot be located upon the exercise of due diligence; (b) has been transferred, sold to, or deposited with a third party; (c) has been placed beyond the jurisdiction of the court; (d) has been substantially diminished in value; or (e) has been commingled with other property that cannot be divided without difficulty. Substitution of assets shall not be ordered, however, where the convicted defendant acted merely as an

1 intermediary who handled but did not retain the property in the
2 course of the money laundering offense unless the defendant, in
3 committing the offense giving rise to the forfeiture, conducted three
4 or more separate transactions involving a total of \$100,000.00 or
5 more in any twelve-month period.

6
7 TRACY L. WILKISON
8 Acting United States Attorney
9

10
11 SCOTT M. GARRINGER
12 Assistant United States Attorney
13 Chief, Criminal Division

14 RANEE A. KATZENSTEIN
15 Assistant United States Attorney
16 Chief, Major Frauds Section

17 JOSEPH BEEMSTERBOER
18 Chief, Fraud Section
19 United States Department of Justice

20 MONICA E. TAIT
21 Assistant United States Attorney
22 Deputy Chief, Major Frauds Section

23 KERRY L. QUINN
24 Assistant United States Attorney
25 Major Frauds Section

26 SCOTT ARMSTRONG
27 Trial Attorney, Fraud Section
28 United States Department of Justice

EXHIBIT B

EXHIBIT B TO PLEA AGREEMENT FOR DEFENDANT ANDREW MARNELL

STATEMENT OF FACTS SUPPORTING PLEA AGREEMENT

Defendant ANDREW MARNELL also known as ("aka") "Andrew Maxwell," aka "Andrew Merrill," aka "Tyler Lerman" ("defendant"), stipulates and agrees that he committed the following criminal activity:

BACKGROUND

1. At all relevant times, defendant was a resident of Los Angeles, California, within the Central District of California.

2. Defendant owned and controlled corporate entities registered in various states under various names, including Shale Creek LLC ("Shale Creek"), Slatestone LLC ("Slatestone"), Quicksilver LLC ("Quicksilver"), xtracted LLC ("xtracted"), Stratrock Ventures LLC ("Stratrock"), and East Bay Associates LLC ("East Bay Associates") (collectively, the "defendant-controlled entities").

The Paycheck Protection Program

3. The Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security ("CARES") Act was a federal law enacted in or around March 2020 and designed to provide emergency financial assistance to the millions of Americans who were suffering the economic effects caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. One source of relief provided by the CARES Act was the authorization of up to \$349 billion in forgivable loans to small businesses for job retention and certain other expenses, through a program referred to as the Paycheck Protection Program ("PPP"). In or around April 2020, Congress authorized over \$300 billion in additional PPP funding.

1 4. In order to obtain a PPP loan, a qualifying business
2 was required to submit a PPP loan application signed by an
3 authorized representative of the business. The PPP loan
4 application required the business (through its authorized
5 representative) to acknowledge the program rules and make
6 certain affirmative certifications in order to be eligible to
7 obtain the PPP loan. In the PPP loan application, the applicant
8 (through its authorized representative) was required to state,
9 among other things, its: (a) average monthly payroll expenses;
10 and (b) number of employees. These figures were used to
11 calculate the amount of money the small business was eligible to
12 receive under the PPP. In addition, the applicant was required
13 to provide documentation showing its payroll expenses.

14 5. A business's PPP loan application was received and
15 processed, in the first instance, by a participating lender. If
16 a PPP loan application was approved, the participating lender
17 funded the PPP loan using its own monies. Data from the
18 application, including information about the borrower, the total
19 amount of the loan, and the listed number of employees, was
20 transmitted by the lender to the Small Business Administration
21 ("SBA") in the course of processing the loan.

22 6. PPP loan proceeds were required to be used by the
23 business on certain permissible expenses: payroll costs,
24 interest on mortgages, rent, and utilities. The PPP allowed the
25 interest and principal on the PPP loan to be entirely forgiven
26 if the business spent the loan proceeds on these expense items
27 within a designated period of time after receiving the proceeds
28

1 and used a certain amount of the PPP loan proceeds on payroll
2 expenses.

3 **The Economic Injury Disaster Loan Program**

4 7. The Economic Injury Disaster Loan Program ("EIDL") was
5 an SBA program that provided low-interest financing to small
6 businesses, renters, and homeowners in regions affected by
7 declared disasters.

8 8. The CARES Act authorized the SBA to provide EIDL loans
9 of up to \$2 million to eligible small businesses experiencing
10 substantial financial disruption due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

11 9. To obtain an EIDL loan, a qualifying business was
12 required to submit an application to the SBA and provide
13 information about the business's operations, such as the number
14 of employees, gross revenues for the 12-month period preceding
15 the disaster, and cost of goods sold in the 12-month period
16 preceding the disaster. In the case of EIDL loans for COVID-19
17 relief, the 12-month period was the 12-month period from January
18 31, 2019, to January 31, 2020. The applicant was also required
19 to certify that all of the information in the application was
20 true and correct to the best of the applicant's knowledge.

21 10. EIDL loan applications were submitted directly to the
22 SBA and processed by the agency with support from a government
23 contractor. The amount of the loan, if the application was
24 approved, was determined based, in part, on the information
25 provided by the applicant about employment, revenue, and cost of
26 goods sold, as described in paragraph 9 above. Any funds issued
27 under an EIDL loan were issued directly by the SBA.
28

1 11. EIDL loan funds could be used for payroll expenses,
2 sick leave, production costs, and business obligations, such as
3 debts, rent, and mortgage payments. If the applicant also
4 obtained a loan under the PPP, the EIDL loan funds could not be
5 used for the same purpose as the PPP loan funds.

6 Financial Institutions

7 12. "Lender A" was a federally-insured financial
8 institution based in Texas that was an approved SBA lender of
9 PPP loans.

10 13. "Lender B" was a non-bank lender based in New York,
11 New York that was an approved SBA lender of PPP loans.

12 14. "Lender C" was a non-bank lender based in San
13 Francisco, California that was an approved SBA lender of PPP
14 loans.

15 15. "Lender D" was a federally-insured financial
16 institution based in Reading, Pennsylvania that was an approved
17 SBA lender of PPP loans.

18 16. "Lender E" was a non-bank lender based in Atlanta,
19 Georgia that was an approved SBA lender of PPP loans.

20 17. Casino 1 was a casino and gaming establishment with an
21 annual gaming revenue of more than \$1,000,000 and was licensed
22 under the laws of the State of Nevada, and qualified as a
23 "financial institution" for the purpose of 31 U.S.C. § 5312 and
24 18 U.S.C. § 1957.

25 Bank Accounts Controlled by Defendant

26 18. Bank A was a financial institution based in San
27 Francisco, California.

1 19. Defendant controlled and was a signatory to multiple
2 accounts at an affiliate of Bank A, which was a broker
3 registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission under the
4 Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (15 U.S.C. § 78a et seq.), and
5 which qualified as a "financial institution" for the purpose of
6 31 U.S.C. § 5312 and 18 U.S.C. § 1957. Among the accounts that
7 defendant controlled at the Bank A affiliate was an individual
8 brokerage account in the name of "Andrew Justin Marnell,"
9 account number ending in 2627 (the "2627 account").

10 **I. BANK FRAUD SCHEME (COUNT 1)**

11 20. Beginning in or about March 2020, and continuing until
12 on or about July 16, 2020, in Los Angeles County, within the
13 Central District of California, and elsewhere, defendant,
14 together with others known and unknown to the Grand Jury,
15 knowingly and with intent to defraud, devised, participated in,
16 executed, and attempted to execute a scheme to obtain moneys,
17 funds, credits, assets, and other property owned by and in the
18 custody and control of Lender A by means of materially false and
19 fraudulent pretenses, representations, and promises, and the
20 concealment of material facts, in violation of 18 U.S.C.
21 § 1344(2).

22 21. The fraudulent scheme operated and was carried out, in
23 substance, as follows:

24 a. Defendant submitted, and caused to be submitted,
25 false and fraudulent applications to Lender A for PPP loans
26 purportedly on behalf of the defendant-controlled entities
27 (collectively, the "PPP Applications to Lender A").
28 Specifically:

1 i. On or about April 14, 2020, defendant
2 submitted, and caused to be submitted, an application for a PPP
3 loan in the amount of \$439,000 for borrower Shale Creek, which
4 was represented to be a Montana-headquartered firm, owned and
5 controlled by "Tyler Lerman," having 26 employees and average
6 monthly payroll expenses of \$175,600;

7 ii. On or about April 29, 2020, defendant
8 submitted, and caused to be submitted, an application for a PPP
9 loan in the amount of \$1,341,700 for borrower Slatestone, which
10 was represented to be a Wyoming-headquartered firm, owned and
11 controlled by "Andrew Merrill," having 75 employees and average
12 monthly payroll expenses of \$536,680; and

13 iii. On or about May 11, 2020, defendant
14 submitted, and caused to be submitted, an application for a PPP
15 loan in the amount of \$1,818,000 for borrower Quicksilver, which
16 was represented to be a Montana-headquartered firm, owned and
17 controlled by "Andrew Maxwell," having 129 employees and average
18 monthly payroll expenses of \$727,200.

19 b. Defendant submitted, and caused to be submitted,
20 false documents and information to Lender A to obtain and to try
21 to obtain PPP loans in the names of the defendant-controlled
22 entities, including the following:

23 i. A false identification document concerning the
24 ownership and control of Quicksilver, namely, a photograph of a
25 fake United States passport in the name of "Andrew Maxwell,"
26 with defendant's picture;

27 ii. False Internal Revenue Service ("IRS") Form
28 940 tax forms for Shale Creek, Slatestone, and Quicksilver,

1 purporting to be Employer's Annual Federal Unemployment Tax Act
2 Returns filed with the IRS for those entities; and

3 iii. False payroll data and documentation for
4 Shale Creek, Slatestone, and Quicksilver, including documents
5 purporting to be payroll registers for 2019 and 2020, purporting
6 to show wages paid to employees of those entities.

7 c. Defendant made, and caused to be made, false
8 statements in the PPP Applications to Lender A, which defendant
9 knew were false when he made them and caused them to be made.

10 For example:

11 i. Defendant falsely represented that the funds
12 sought through the PPP Applications to Lender A would be used to
13 pay payroll and other business expenses of the defendant-
14 controlled entities, when, in fact, defendant intended to use
15 and did use the PPP loan proceeds to fund options and futures
16 trading activities, to engage in gambling and entertainment
17 activities, and to pay other personal expenses;

18 ii. Defendant falsely represented that "the
19 Applicant has not and will not receive another loan under the
20 Paycheck Protection Program," and that the applicant did not own
21 any other business or have common management with any other
22 business, when, in fact, defendant intended to and did obtain
23 other loans under the Paycheck Protection Program for the
24 defendant-controlled entities and all the defendant-controlled
25 entities had common management; and

26 iii. Defendant falsely represented that "Tyler
27 Lerman," "Andrew Merrill," and "Andrew Maxwell" were the owners
28

1 of the defendant-controlled entities, when, in fact, as
2 defendant then knew, he owned and controlled those entities.

3 d. In reliance on defendant's materially false
4 statements and his concealment of material facts, Lender A
5 approved and funded the PPP loans sought by defendant in the
6 names of the defendant-controlled entities. Specifically, on or
7 about the following dates, Lender A sent the following funding
8 wires:

9 i. On or about April 16, 2020, Lender A wired, via
10 ACH transfer, approximately \$439,000 to an account ending 2842
11 at Interactive Brokers LLC, maintained in defendant's name;

12 ii. On or about May 11, 2020, Lender A wired, via
13 ACH transfer, approximately \$1,341,700 to an account ending 2627
14 at Charles Schwab Inc., maintained in defendant's name; and

15 iii. On or about May 12, 2020, Lender A wired, via
16 ACH transfer, approximately \$1,818,000 to an account ending 6279
17 at Live Oak Banking Company, which was a business account in
18 Quicksilver's name on which defendant was the sole signer.

19 e. From on or about April 16, 2020, through on or
20 about July 16, 2020, in contravention of defendant's
21 representations to Lender A and PPP rules, defendant used PPP
22 loan proceeds from Lender A to, among other things, fund options
23 and futures trading activities, to engage in gambling and
24 entertainment activities, and to pay other personal expenses.

25 C. EXECUTIONS OF THE SCHEME

26 22. On or about the following dates, in Los Angeles
27 County, within the Central District of California, and
28 elsewhere, defendant committed and willfully caused others to

1 commit the following acts, each of which constituted an
2 execution of the fraudulent scheme:

3 DATE	ACT
4 4/14/2020	Submission of application to Lender 5 A for PPP loan in the name of Shale 6 Creek.
7 4/29/2020	Submission of application to Lender 8 A for PPP loan in the name of 9 Slatestone.
5/11/2020	Submission of application to Lender A for PPP loan in the name of Quicksilver.

10 **III. MONEY LAUNDERING (COUNT 2)**

11 23. Defendant also engaged in and willfully caused others
12 to engage in the transfer, in or affecting interstate commerce,
13 of funds by, through, or to a financial institution ("monetary
14 transactions") using the proceeds of his bank fraud scheme to
15 fund gambling activities, among other uses of criminal proceeds,
16 including the following monetary transaction: On June 1, 2020,
17 in Los Angeles County, defendant caused a \$150,000 wire transfer
18 from the 2726 account to Casino 1, which represented more than
19 \$10,000 in proceeds of the \$1,341,700 PPP loan that defendant
20 obtained from Lender A in the name of Slatestone. At the time
21 of the monetary transaction, defendant knew that the \$150,000
22 constituted, or was derived from, the proceeds he obtained from
23 his bank fraud scheme, described above. Defendant understands
24 and acknowledges that the transfer of the \$150,000 constituted
25 money laundering in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1957.

26 **IV. WIRE FRAUD SCHEME (RELEVANT CONDUCT)**

27 24. Defendant also agrees that he engaged in the following
28 related criminal conduct during and in preparation for the bank
fraud scheme described above and that the bank fraud scheme and

1 wire fraud scheme described below and the conduct involved in
2 both schemes were part of the same course of conduct and a
3 common scheme or plan, and are relevant conduct under United
4 States Sentencing Guideline 1B1.3.

5 A. THE SCHEME TO DEFRAUD

6 25. Beginning in or about March 2020, and continuing until
7 in or about July 2020, in Los Angeles County, defendant
8 knowingly and with intent to defraud, devised, participated in,
9 executed, and attempted to execute a scheme to defraud Lenders
10 A, B, C, D, and E and the SBA as to material matters, and to
11 obtain moneys, funds, assets, and other property owned by and in
12 the custody and control of Lenders A, B, C, D, and E and the SBA
13 by means of material false and fraudulent pretenses,
14 representations, and promises, and the concealment of material
15 facts.

16 26. The fraudulent scheme operated and was carried out, in
17 substance, as follows:

18 a. Defendant submitted false and fraudulent
19 applications to Lenders A, B, C, D, and E and to the SBA for PPP
20 and EIDL loans purportedly on behalf of the defendant-controlled
21 entities.

22 b. Defendant submitted false documents and
23 information to Lenders A, B, C, D and E and to the SBA to obtain
24 and to try to obtain PPP and EIDL loans in the names of the
25 defendant-controlled entities, including the submission of false
26 identification documents, false Internal Revenue Service ("IRS")
27 tax forms, and false payroll data and documentation.
28

1 c. Defendant made, and caused to be made, materially
2 false and fraudulent statements in the applications for PPP and
3 EIDL loans, which defendant knew were false and fraudulent when
4 he made them and caused them to be made, including the
5 following:

6 i. Defendant knowingly submitted fake payroll
7 documentation, fake identification documents, and fake IRS tax
8 forms as supporting documentation to obtain PPP and EIDL loans.

9 ii. Defendant falsely represented that the funds
10 sought through the applications for PPP and EIDL loans would be
11 used to pay payroll and other business expenses of the
12 defendant-controlled entities, when, in fact, defendant intended
13 to use and did use the loan proceeds to fund options and futures
14 trading activities, to engage in gambling and entertainment
15 activities, and to pay other personal expenses;

16 iii. Defendant falsely represented in PPP loan
17 applications that "the Applicant has not and will not receive
18 another loan under the Paycheck Protection Program," and that
19 the applicant did not own any other business or have common
20 management with any other business, when, in fact, defendant
21 intended to and did obtain other loans under the Paycheck
22 Protection Program for the defendant-controlled entities and all
23 the defendant-controlled entities had common management; and

24 iv. Defendant falsely represented that "Tyler
25 Lerman," "Andrew Merrill," "Andrew Maxwell," and defendant's
26 husband, S.R., were the owners of the defendant-controlled
27 entities, when, in fact, as defendant then knew, he owned and
28 controlled those entities.

d. In reliance on defendant's materially false statements and his concealment of material facts, Lenders A, B, C, and D and the SBA approved and funded PPP and EIDL loans sought by defendant in the names of the defendant-controlled entities.

27. The PPP loans that that defendant obtained or attempted to obtain as part of the fraudulent scheme included the following:

Lender	Borrower	Listed Principal	Requested Loan Amount/ Intended Loss	Funded Amount	Amount Still Outstanding (Restitution)
Lender A	Shale Creek	Tyler Lerman	\$439,000	\$439,000	\$439,000
Lender A	Quicksilver	Andrew Maxwell	\$1,818,000	\$1,818,000	\$0
Lender A	Slatestone	Andrew Merrill	\$1,341,700	\$1,341,700	\$1,341,700
Lender B	Quicksilver	Andrew Maxwell	\$1,842,929.17	\$1,842,929.17	\$1,842,929.17
Lender B	Stratrock	S.R.	\$1,842,929.16	\$1,842,929.16	\$1,842,929.16
Lender C	East Bay Associates	Andrew Maxwell	\$456,917	\$352,500	\$352,500
Lender D	Xtractd	Andrew Marnell	\$1,352,318	\$1,352,318	\$1,352,318
Lender E	Slatestone	Andrew Merrill	\$1,301,050	\$0	\$0
Lender E	East Bay Associates	Andrew Maxwell	Not Available	\$0	\$0
Lender E	Quicksilver	Andrew Merrill	Not Available	\$0	\$0
Totals			\$10,394,843	\$8,989,376	\$7,171,376.33

28. Defendant also obtained and attempted to obtain EIDL loans for defendant-controlled entities as part of the same fraudulent scheme and based on similar misrepresentations as he used to obtain and to attempt to obtain PPP loans, including misrepresentations concerning the revenue of defendant-

1 controlled entities and the intended use of loan proceeds. The
2 EIDL loans that defendant obtained as part of the scheme
3 included the following:

Lender	Borrower	Listed Principal	Requested Loan Amount/ Intended Loss	Funded Amount	Amount Still Outstanding (Restitution)
SBA	xtractd	Andrew Marnell	\$160,000	\$160,000	\$160,000
SBA	Slatestone	Andrew Marnell	\$160,000	\$10,000	\$10,000
Totals			\$320,000	\$170,000	\$170,000

12 29. As set forth above, defendant purposefully sought to
13 obtain \$10,714,843 in fraudulent PPP and EIDL loans from Lenders
14 A through E and the SBA in connection with this fraud scheme,
15 and he owes approximately \$7,341,376.33 in restitution.

16 B. USE OF THE WIRES

17 30. As one example of the use of interstate wires to
18 execute the fraudulent scheme, on or about May 11, 2020, in Los
19 Angeles County, defendant caused Lender A to transfer \$1,341,700
20 via an interstate wire sent to the 2627 account, representing
21 fraudulently-obtained PPP loan proceeds defendant had obtained
22 from Lender A for borrower Slatestone.

23 Victim Impact & Other Sentencing Factors

24 31. In total, defendant fraudulently sought more than
25 \$10.7 million in small business loans, ultimately causing actual
26 losses of more than \$7 million.

32. Defendant obtained more than \$1,000,000 from a financial institution as part of the fraudulent scheme, because he obtained more than \$1 million from Lenders A, B, C, and D.

33. Defendant admits and acknowledges that the scheme involved money laundering in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1957, including the money laundering transaction charged in count two of the superseding information.

* * *

CERTIFICATION OF DEFENDANT

I have read this STATEMENT OF FACTS IN SUPPORT OF PLEA AGREEMENT ("statement of facts") in its entirety. I have had enough time to review and consider this statement of facts, and I have carefully and thoroughly discussed every part of it with my attorney. I agree that this statement of facts is accurate and correct, and is sufficient to support pleas of guilty to the charges described in the plea agreement and to establish the Sentencing Guidelines factors set forth in paragraph 17 of the plea agreement.


ANDREW MARNELL
Defendant

9/3/21
Date

CERTIFICATION OF DEFENDANT'S ATTORNEY

I am ANDREW MARNELL's attorney. I have carefully and thoroughly discussed every part of this statement of facts with my client and agree that it is sufficient to support pleas of guilty to the charges described in the plea agreement and to establish the Sentencing Guidelines factors set forth in paragraph 17 of the plea agreement.



9/3/21