

Case No. 24-cr-469-KMW



U.S. Department of Justice
United States Attorney
District of New Jersey

PHILIP R. SELLINGER
United States Attorney

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April 5, 2024

Richard J. Fuschino, Jr.
Law Office of Richard J. Fuschino
1600 Locust Street
Philadelphia, PA 19103

Re: Plea Agreement with Lisa Smith

Dear Mr. Fuschino:

This letter sets forth the plea agreement between your client, Lisa Smith, and the United States Attorney for the District of New Jersey (the "Office"). This offer will expire on **Wednesday, April 10, 2024**, if it is not accepted in writing by that date. If Lisa Smith does not accept this plea agreement, her sentencing exposure could increase beyond what is discussed in this plea agreement as a result of this Office's investigation.

Charges

Conditioned on the understandings specified below, the Office will accept a guilty plea from Lisa Smith to a one-count Information charging her with bank fraud conspiracy, in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1349. If Lisa Smith enters a guilty plea and is sentenced on this charge, and otherwise fully complies with this agreement, this Office will not initiate any further criminal charges against Lisa Smith for her role in the criminal conduct charged in the criminal complaint, Mag. No. 23-2052, or for her role in applying for and receiving fraudulent Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) loans for the entities set forth in Schedule B, or for laundering or spending the proceeds from these loans.

But if a guilty plea in this matter is not entered for any reason or a guilty plea or judgment of conviction entered in accordance with this agreement does not remain in full force and effect, this Office may reinstate any dismissed charges and initiate any other charges against Lisa Smith even if the applicable statute of limitations period for those charges expires after Lisa Smith signs this agreement, and Lisa Smith agrees not to assert that any such charges are time-barred.

Sentencing

The violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1349 to which Lisa Smith agrees to plead guilty carries a statutory maximum prison sentence of 30 years and a statutory maximum fine equal to the greatest of: (1) \$1,000,000; (2) twice the gross amount of any pecuniary gain that any persons derived from the offense; or (3) twice the gross amount of any pecuniary loss sustained by any victims of the offense. The prison sentence may run consecutively to any prison sentence Lisa Smith is serving or is ordered to serve.

The sentence to be imposed upon Lisa Smith is within the sole discretion of the sentencing judge, subject to the provisions of the Sentencing Reform Act, 18 U.S.C. §§ 3551-3742, and the sentencing judge's consideration of the United States Sentencing Guidelines. Those Guidelines are advisory, not mandatory. The sentencing judge may impose any reasonable sentence up to and including the statutory maximum term of imprisonment and the maximum statutory fine. This Office cannot and does not make any representation or promise as to what Guidelines range may be found by the sentencing judge, or as to what sentence Lisa Smith ultimately will receive.

Lisa Smith specifically agrees that for purposes of sentencing, uncharged offenses and/or dismissed counts will be treated as relevant conduct pursuant to U.S.S.G. § 1B1.3, to the extent that the offenses are related to the count of conviction.

Further, in addition to imposing any other penalty on Lisa Smith, the sentencing judge as part of the sentence:

- (1) will order Lisa Smith to pay an assessment of \$100 pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 3013, which assessment must be paid by the date of sentencing;
- (2) must order Lisa Smith to pay restitution pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 3663 *et seq.*;
- (3) may order Lisa Smith, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 3555, to give reasonable notice and explanation of the conviction to any victims of her offense;
- (4) must order forfeiture, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 981(a)(1)(C) and 28 U.S.C. § 2461;
- (5) pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 3583, may require Lisa Smith to serve a term of supervised release of not more than 5 years, which will begin at the expiration of any term of imprisonment imposed. Should Lisa Smith be placed on a term of supervised release and subsequently violate any of the conditions of supervised release before the expiration of its term, Lisa Smith may be sentenced to not more than three years' imprisonment in addition to any prison term previously imposed, regardless of the statutory maximum term of imprisonment set forth above and without credit for time previously served on post-release supervision, and may be sentenced to an additional term of supervised release.

Restitution

Pursuant to the Mandatory Victim Restitution Act, 18 U.S.C. § 3663A, Lisa Smith agrees to pay full restitution to the victims of the offense of conviction or from the scheme, conspiracy, or pattern of criminal activity underlying that offense in an amount that fully compensates the victims for the losses sustained as a result of those offenses. As part of her restitution obligations, Lisa Smith agrees to make full restitution for all losses—including the full loan amount and all advances, origination fees, processing fees, and accrued interest—associated with the loans listed on Schedule B.

Forfeiture

As part of her acceptance of responsibility, Lisa Smith agrees to forfeit to the United States, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 982(a)(2)(A), any property, real or personal, constituting, or derived from, proceeds she obtained directly or indirectly as a result of the commission of the conspiracy offense charged in the Information. Lisa Smith further agrees that the value of such property was \$183,146.42; that one or more of the conditions set forth in 21 U.S.C. § 853(p) exists; and that the United States is therefore entitled to forfeit substitute assets equal to the value of the proceeds obtained by Lisa Smith, in an amount not to exceed \$183,146.42 (the “Forfeiture Amount”). Lisa Smith consents to the entry of an order requiring her to pay the Forfeiture Amount, in the manner described below (the “Order”), and that the Order will be final as to Lisa Smith prior to sentencing, pursuant to Rule 32.2(b)(4) of the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure, and which may be satisfied in whole or in part with substitute assets. Lisa Smith further agrees that upon entry of the Order, the United States Attorney’s Office is authorized to conduct any discovery needed to identify, locate, or dispose of property sufficient to pay the Forfeiture Amount in full or in connection with any petitions filed with regard to proceeds or substitute assets, including depositions, interrogatories, and requests for production of documents, and the issuance of subpoenas, and Lisa Smith agrees to cooperate with this discovery.

All payments made in full or partial satisfaction of the Forfeiture Amount shall be made by postal money order, bank, or certified check, made payable in this instance to the United States Marshals Service, indicating Lisa Smith’s name and case number on the face of the check; and shall be delivered by mail to the United States Attorney’s Office, District of New Jersey, Attn: Asset Forfeiture and Money Laundering Unit, 970 Broad Street, 7th Floor, Newark, New Jersey 07102.

Lisa Smith waives the requirements of Rules 32.2 and 43(a) of the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure regarding notice of the forfeiture in the charging instrument, announcement of the forfeiture at sentencing, and incorporation of the forfeiture in the judgment. Lisa Smith understands that criminal forfeiture is part of the sentence that may be imposed in this case and waives any failure by the court to advise him of this pursuant to Rule 11(b)(1)(J) of the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure at the guilty plea proceeding. Lisa Smith waives any and all constitutional, statutory, and other challenges to the forfeiture on any and all grounds, including that the forfeiture constitutes an excessive fine or punishment under the Eighth Amendment. It is further understood that any forfeiture of Lisa Smith’s assets shall not be treated as satisfaction of

any fine, restitution, cost of imprisonment, or any other penalty the Court may impose upon her in addition to forfeiture.

Lisa Smith further agrees that, if requested to do so, not later than the date she enters her plea of guilty she will provide a complete and accurate Financial Disclosure Statement on the form provided by this Office. If Lisa Smith fails to provide a complete and accurate Financial Disclosure Statement by the date she enters her plea of guilty, or if this Office determines that Lisa Smith has intentionally failed to disclose assets on her Financial Disclosure Statement, Lisa Smith agrees that that failure constitutes a material breach of this agreement, and this Office reserves the right, regardless of any agreement or stipulation that might otherwise apply, to oppose any downward adjustment for acceptance of responsibility pursuant to U.S.S.G. § 3E1.1, and to seek leave of the Court to withdraw from this agreement or seek other relief.

Rights of The Office Regarding Sentencing

Except as otherwise provided in this agreement, this Office reserves the right to take any position with respect to the appropriate sentence to be imposed on Lisa Smith by the sentencing judge. This Office may also correct any misstatements relating to the sentencing proceedings and provide the sentencing judge and the United States Probation Office all law and information relevant to sentencing, favorable or otherwise. And this Office may inform the sentencing judge and the United States Probation Office of: (1) this agreement; and (2) the full nature and extent of Lisa Smith's activities and relevant conduct with respect to this case.

Stipulations

This Office and Lisa Smith will stipulate at sentencing to the statements set forth in the attached Schedule A, which is part of this plea agreement. Both parties understand that the sentencing judge and the United States Probation Office are not bound by those stipulations and may make independent factual findings and may reject any or all of the parties' stipulations. Nor do these stipulations restrict the parties' rights to respond to questions from the Court and to correct misinformation that has been provided to the Court.

This agreement to stipulate on the part of this Office is based on the information and evidence that this Office possesses as of the date of this agreement. Thus, if this Office obtains or receives additional evidence or information prior to sentencing that it believes materially conflicts with a Schedule A stipulation, that stipulation shall no longer bind this Office. A determination that a Schedule A stipulation is not binding shall not release the parties from any other portion of this agreement, including any other Schedule A stipulation.

If the sentencing court rejects a Schedule A stipulation, both parties reserve the right to argue on appeal or at post-sentencing proceedings that the sentencing court did so properly. Finally, to the extent that the parties do not stipulate to a particular fact or legal conclusion in this agreement, each reserves the right to argue how that fact or conclusion should affect the sentence.

Waiver of Appeal and Post-Sentencing Rights

As set forth in Schedule A and the paragraph below, this Office and Lisa Smith waive certain rights to appeal, collaterally attack, or otherwise challenge the judgment of conviction or sentence.

Immigration Consequences

Lisa Smith understands that, if Lisa Smith is not a citizen of the United States, Lisa Smith's guilty plea to the charged offense will likely result in Lisa Smith being subject to immigration proceedings and removed from the United States by making Lisa Smith deportable, excludable, or inadmissible, or ending Lisa Smith's naturalization. Lisa Smith understands that the immigration consequences of this plea will be imposed in a separate proceeding before the immigration authorities. Lisa Smith wants and agrees to plead guilty to the charged offense regardless of any immigration consequences of this plea, even if this plea will cause Lisa Smith's removal from the United States. Lisa Smith understands that Lisa Smith is bound by this guilty plea regardless of any immigration consequences. Accordingly, Lisa Smith waives any right to challenge the guilty plea, sentence, or both based on any immigration consequences. Lisa Smith also agrees not to seek to withdraw this guilty plea, or to file a direct appeal, or any kind of collateral attack challenging the guilty plea, conviction, or sentence, based on any immigration consequences of the guilty plea or sentence.

Other Provisions

This agreement is limited to the United States Attorney's Office for the District of New Jersey and cannot bind other federal, state, or local authorities. If requested to do so, however, this Office will bring this agreement to the attention of other prosecuting offices.

This agreement was reached without regard to any civil or administrative matters that may be pending or commenced in the future against Lisa Smith. So this agreement does not prohibit the United States, any agency thereof (including the Internal Revenue Service and Immigration and Customs Enforcement) or any third party from initiating or prosecuting any civil or administrative proceeding against her.

No provision of this agreement shall preclude Lisa Smith from pursuing in an appropriate forum, when permitted by law, a claim that she received constitutionally ineffective assistance of counsel.

No Other Promises

This agreement constitutes the entire plea agreement between Lisa Smith and this Office and supersedes any previous agreements between them. No additional promises, agreements, or conditions have been made or will be made unless set forth in writing and signed by the parties.

Very truly yours,

PHILIP R. SELLINGER
United States Attorney
District of New Jersey



By: DANIEL A. FRIEDMAN
JASON M. RICHARDSON
Assistant United States Attorneys

APPROVED:



SARA A. ALIABADI
Deputy Attorney-In-Charge, Camden

I have received this letter from my attorney, Richard J. Fuschino, Jr., Esq. I have read it. My attorney and I have reviewed and discussed it and all of its provisions, including those addressing the charge, sentencing, stipulations (including the attached Schedule A and Schedule B), waiver, forfeiture, restitution, and immigration consequences. I understand this letter fully and am satisfied with my counsel's explanations. I accept its terms and conditions and acknowledge that it constitutes the plea agreement between the parties. I understand that no additional promises, agreements, or conditions have been made or will be made unless set forth in writing and signed by the parties. I want to plead guilty pursuant to this plea agreement.

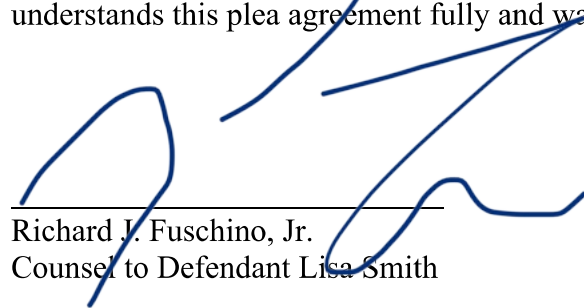
AGREED AND ACCEPTED:



LISA SMITH

Date: 4/10/2024

I have reviewed and discussed with my client this plea agreement and all of its provisions, including those addressing the charge, sentencing, stipulations (including the attached Schedule A and Schedule B), waiver, forfeiture, restitution, and immigration consequences. My client understands this plea agreement fully and wants to plead guilty pursuant to it.



Richard J. Fuschino, Jr.
Counsel to Defendant Lisa Smith

Date:

Plea Agreement with Lisa Smith

Schedule A

1. The Office and Lisa Smith recognize that the United States Sentencing Guidelines are not binding upon the Court. Each party nevertheless agrees to these stipulations.
2. The version of the Guidelines effective November 1, 2023, applies in this case.
3. The applicable guideline is U.S.S.G. § 2B1.1. This guideline carries a Base Offense Level of 7 because the statutory maximum prison sentence for the charged offense is 20 years or more.
4. Specific Offense Characteristic U.S.S.G. § 2B1.1(b)(1)(J) applies because the total loss amount is greater than \$3,500,000 but less than \$9,500,000. This Specific Offense Characteristic results in an increase of 18 levels.
5. U.S.S.G. § 3B1.1 applies because Lisa Smith was a manager or supervisor (but not an organizer or leader) and the criminal activity involved five or more participants or was otherwise extensive. This results in an increase of 3 levels.
6. As of the date of this letter, Lisa Smith has clearly demonstrated a recognition and affirmative acceptance of personal responsibility for the offense charged. Therefore, a downward adjustment of 2 levels for acceptance of responsibility is appropriate if Lisa Smith's acceptance of responsibility continues through the date of sentencing. *See* U.S.S.G. § 3E1.1(a).
7. As of the date of this letter, Lisa Smith has assisted authorities in the investigation or prosecution of her own misconduct by timely notifying authorities of her intention to enter a plea of guilty, thereby permitting the Office to avoid preparing for trial and permitting the Office and the court to allocate their resources efficiently. At sentencing, the Office will move for a further 1-point reduction in Lisa Smith's offense level pursuant to U.S.S.G. § 3E1.1(b) if the following conditions are met: (a) Lisa Smith enters a plea pursuant to this agreement, (b) this Office, in its discretion, determines that Lisa Smith's acceptance of responsibility has continued through the date of sentencing and Lisa Smith therefore qualifies for a 2-point reduction for acceptance of responsibility pursuant to U.S.S.G. § 3E1.1(a), and (c) Lisa Smith's offense level under the Guidelines prior to the operation of § 3E1.1(a) is 16 or greater.
8. Accordingly, the parties agree that the total Guidelines offense level applicable to Lisa Smith is 25 (the "Total Offense Level").
9. The parties agree not to advocate for any upward or downward adjustment or departure from the Guidelines range resulting from (a) the Total Offense Level and (b) the criminal history category that the sentencing judge applies under Chapter 4 of the Guidelines without any departure or variance. But each party may seek a variance from that Guidelines range, which the other party may oppose.
10. If the term of imprisonment does not exceed 71 months, and except as specified in the next paragraph below, Lisa Smith will not challenge or seek to reduce by any means any

component of the sentence imposed by the sentencing judge for any reason other than ineffective assistance of counsel. The term “any means” includes a direct appeal under 18 U.S.C. § 3742 or 28 U.S.C. § 1291, a motion to vacate the sentence under 28 U.S.C. § 2255, a motion to reduce the term of imprisonment under 18 U.S.C. § 3582(c)(1)(B) or (c)(2), a motion for early termination of supervised release under 18 U.S.C. § 3583(e)(1), and any other appeal, motion, petition, or writ, however captioned, that seeks to attack or modify any component of the sentence. If the term of imprisonment is at least 57 months, this Office will not challenge by appeal, motion, or writ any component of the sentence imposed by the sentencing judge. The provisions of this paragraph bind the parties even if the sentencing judge employs a Guidelines analysis different from the one above.

11. Both parties reserve the right to file or to oppose any appeal, collateral attack, writ or motion not barred by the preceding paragraph or any other provision of this plea agreement. Moreover, the preceding paragraph does not apply to:

- i. Any proceeding to revoke the term of supervised release;
- ii. A motion for a reduction of the term of imprisonment under 18 U.S.C. § 3582(c)(1)(A); or
- iii. An appeal from the denial of a § 3582(c)(1)(A) motion on the grounds that the court erred in finding no extraordinary and compelling circumstances warranting a reduced term of imprisonment or that the court failed to consider those circumstances as a discretionary matter under the applicable factors of 18 U.S.C. § 3553(a).

Plea Agreement with Lisa Smith**Schedule B – Identified Lenders and Loans**

Lender	Loan Number	Amount Funded
KeyBank	8019068603	\$122,000.00
KeyBank	6947478906	\$145,833.00
KeyBank	8481498701	\$145,000.00
KeyBank	4330548708	\$145,000.00
KeyBank	7290838601	\$145,000.00
KeyBank	5526678610	\$143,000.00
KeyBank	4204178703	\$145,000.00
KeyBank	3085908906	\$147,000.00
KeyBank	9380578609	\$140,000.00
KeyBank	6229508603	\$145,000.00
KeyBank	6177688902	\$145,000.00
KeyBank	6546858803	\$145,000.00
KeyBank	7648378502	\$75,000.00
KeyBank	8546598404	\$50,000.00
KeyBank	7106658901	\$148,000.00
KeyBank	1827308501	\$140,000.00
KeyBank	7103088901	\$147,000.00
KeyBank	5480598603	\$141,665.00
KeyBank	4795598603	\$145,833.00
KeyBank	9074878509	\$135,415.00
KeyBank	1596818602	\$146,875.00
KeyBank	6243338509	\$146,000.00
KeyBank	6461288505	\$105,000.00
KeyBank	1525698605	\$36,465.00
KeyBank	3376038709	\$125,000.00
KeyBank	4704678805	\$93,902.00
KeyBank	4704198803	\$100,140.00
KeyBank	3469378607	\$129,790.00
KeyBank	4537298909	\$149,790.00