

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI
WESTERN DIVISION

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,)	
)	
Plaintiff,)	
)	
v.)	No. 07-00200-04-CR-W-FJG
)	
ROBERT R. PETERS,)	
)	
)	
Defendant.)	

PLEA AGREEMENT

Pursuant to Rule 11(c)(1)(C) of the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure, the parties described below have entered into the following plea agreement, in which the parties agree to request of the Court a specific sentence of eight years (96-months) in prison as an appropriate disposition of the case, to be followed by five years of supervised release, no fine, and a \$100 special assessment for each count of conviction:

1. The Parties. The parties to this agreement are the United States Attorney's Office for the Western District of Missouri (otherwise referred to as "the Government" or "the United States"), represented by Matt J. Whitworth, Acting United States Attorney, and Jeffrey Valenti, Assistant United States Attorney, and the defendant, Robert R. Peters ("the defendant"), represented by Daniel Hobart.

The defendant understands and agrees that this plea agreement is only between him and the United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, and that it does

not bind any other federal, state, or local prosecution authority or any other government agency, unless otherwise specified in this agreement.

2. Defendant's Guilty Plea. The defendant agrees, if the Court permits pursuant to Rule 11(c)(1)(C), to and hereby does plead to an Information charging the lesser included offense that alleges a violation of 21 U.S.C. §§ 841(a)(1), (b)(1)(B), and 846, that is, conspiracy to distribute fifty (50) grams or more of methamphetamine.

By entering into this plea agreement, the defendant admits that he knowingly committed this offense, and is in fact guilty of this offense.

3. Factual Basis for Guilty Plea. The parties agree that the facts constituting the offenses to which he is pleading guilty are as follows:

That between on or about January 1, 2002, and May 31, 2007, in the Western District of Missouri and elsewhere, ROBERT R. PETERS, defendant herein, did knowingly and intentionally combine, conspire, confederate, and agree with others, both known and unknown, to distribute a mixture or substance containing a detectable amount of methamphetamine, a Schedule II controlled substance, in an amount of 50 grams or more, contrary to the provisions of Title 21, United States Code, Sections 841(a)(1) and 841(b)(1)(B); all in violation of Title 21, United States Code, Section 846.

Defendant was a member of the El Forastero Motorcycle Club chartered in Kansas City, Missouri. The El Forastero have an affiliate organization known as the Galloping Goose Motorcycle Club and in fact, the clubs share a common clubhouse in Kansas City,

Missouri. As a member of the El Forastero, he was required to annually pay dues and attend a certain number of motorcycle trips, known as “runs” per year. On each run, the members were required to pay run money that was pooled, or collected by each club charter, forwarded to the specific El Forastero or Galloping Goose charter that hosted the particular motorcycle run, and was used to purchase methamphetamine, cocaine, and marijuana. Those drugs were maintained in run bags and were distributed, or made available, to all the club members that attended the run. The defendant knew what the money was going to be used for and knowingly contributed run money and in so doing, the defendant admits that he distributed methamphetamine, cocaine, and marijuana and assisted others in the distribution of those drugs.

As an active member of the El Forastero Motorcycle Club, defendant participated in the distribution of between 500 - 1500 grams of methamphetamine, figuring at least 20 runs over 5 years, each involving the distribution of 1 ounce (28 grams) of methamphetamine or more per run.

4. Use of Factual Admissions. The defendant acknowledges, understands, and agrees that the admissions contained in Paragraph 3 and other portions of this plea agreement will be used for the purpose of determining his guilt and advisory sentencing range under the United States Sentencing Guidelines (“U.S.S.G.”), including the calculation of the defendant’s offense level in accordance with U.S.S.G. § 1B1.3(a)(2). The defendant acknowledges, understands, and agrees that the conduct charged in any

dismissed counts of the indictment as well as all other uncharged related criminal activity may be considered as “relevant conduct” pursuant to U.S.S.G. § 1B1.3(a)(2) in calculating the offense level for the charges to which he is pleading guilty.

5. Statutory Penalties. The defendant understands that upon his plea of guilty to the information charging him with conspiracy to distribute fifty (50) grams or more of methamphetamine, the maximum penalty the Court may impose is not less than 5 years of imprisonment, not more than 40 years imprisonment, not more than a \$2,000,000 fine, not less than 4 years of supervised release, and a \$100 mandatory special assessment which must be paid in full at the time of sentencing. Were the defendant to proceed on the indicted charge pursuant to 21 U.S.C. §§ 841(a)(2) and (b)(1)(A), the minimum penalty the Court could impose would have been not less than 10 years of imprisonment, nor more than life imprisonment, not more than an \$4,000,000 fine, not less than 5 years of supervised release, and a \$100 mandatory special assessment. However, as part of this agreement, the government agrees to file a the lesser included offense outlined above, if the defendant enters a plea of guilty as contemplated within this agreement.

6. Sentencing Procedures. The defendant acknowledges, understands, and agrees to the following:

a. in determining the appropriate sentence, the Court will consult and consider the United States Sentencing Guidelines promulgated by the United States Sentencing Commission; these Guidelines, however, are advisory in nature, and the Court may impose a sentence either less than or greater than the defendant’s applicable Guidelines range, unless the sentence imposed is “unreasonable”;

b. the Court will determine the defendant's applicable Sentencing Guidelines range at the time of sentencing;

c. in addition to a sentence of imprisonment, the Court shall impose a term of supervised release not less than four years pursuant to 21 U.S.C. § 841(a)(1);

d. the Court may impose any sentence authorized by law, including a sentence that is outside of, or departs from, the applicable Sentencing Guidelines range;

e. any sentence of imprisonment imposed by the Court will not allow for parole;

f. the Court must order restitution to be paid to victims of the offense to which he is pleading guilty, the conduct charged in any dismissed counts of the indictment, and all other uncharged related criminal activity;

g. the defendant may not withdraw his guilty plea solely because of the nature or length of the sentence imposed by the Court;

h. The defendant agrees to forfeit all interests he owns or over which he exercises control, directly or indirectly, in any asset that is subject to forfeiture to the United States either directly or as a substitute for property that was subject to forfeiture but is no longer available for the reasons set forth in 21 U.S.C. § 853(p). With respect to any asset which the defendant has agreed to forfeit, the defendant waives any constitutional and statutory challenges in any manner (including direct appeal, habeas corpus, or any other means) to any forfeiture carried out in accordance with this plea agreement on any grounds, including that the forfeiture constitutes an excessive fine or punishment under the Eighth Amendment to the United States Constitution;

i. The defendant agrees that the United States may institute civil judicial or administrative forfeiture proceedings against all forfeitable assets in which the defendant has an interest, and that he will not contest any such forfeiture proceedings;

7. Government's Agreements. Based upon evidence in its possession at this time, the United States Attorney's Office for the Western District of Missouri, as part of this plea agreement, agrees not to bring any additional charges against defendant for any federal criminal offenses related to the violations as described in Count One of the information, for which it has venue and which arose out of the defendant's conduct described therein.

The defendant understands that this plea agreement does not foreclose any prosecution for an act of murder or attempted murder, an act or attempted act of physical or sexual violence against the person of another, or a conspiracy to commit any such acts of violence or any criminal activity of which the United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri has no knowledge.

The defendant recognizes that the United States' agreement to forego prosecution of all of the criminal offenses with which the defendant might be charged is based solely on the promises made by the defendant in this agreement. If the defendant breaches this plea agreement, the United States retains the right to proceed with the original charges and any other criminal violations established by the evidence. The defendant expressly waives his right to challenge the initiation of the dismissed or additional charges against him if he breaches this agreement. The defendant expressly waives his right to assert a statute of limitations defense if the dismissed or additional charges are initiated against him following a breach of this agreement. The defendant further understands and agrees

that if the Government elects to file additional charges against him following his breach of this plea agreement, he will not be allowed to withdraw his guilty plea.

8. Preparation of Presentence Report. The defendant understands the United States will provide to the Court and the United States Probation Office a government version of the offense conduct. This may include information concerning the background, character, and conduct of the defendant, including the entirety of his criminal activities. The defendant understands these disclosures are not limited to the count to which he has pleaded guilty. The United States may respond to comments made or positions taken by the defendant or the defendant's counsel and to correct any misstatements or inaccuracies. The United States further reserves its right to make any recommendations it deems appropriate regarding the disposition of this case, subject only to any limitations set forth in this plea agreement. The United States and the defendant expressly reserve the right to speak to the Court at the time of sentencing pursuant to Rule 32(i)(4) of the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure.

9. Withdrawal of Plea. Either party reserves the right to withdraw from this plea agreement for any or no reason at any time prior to the entry of the defendant's plea of guilty and its formal acceptance by the Court. In the event of such withdrawal, the parties will be restored to their pre-plea agreement positions to the fullest extent possible.

The parties understand that if the Court accepts the proposed plea agreement herein, it is bound by the eight year (96-month) sentence agreed to by the parties and will

enforce it. The parties also understand that if the Court rejects the proposed plea agreement, the defendant will be permitted to withdraw his plea of guilty and the case would go forward as if no plea agreement had been reached.

10. Agreed Guidelines Applications. With respect to the application of the Sentencing Guidelines to this case, the parties stipulate and agree as follows:

- a. Pursuant to Rule 11(c)(1)(C) of the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure, the parties agree that the defendant should be sentenced to eight years (96-months) imprisonment;
- b. The parties further agree that to reach a total sentence of eight years (96-months), that the defendant be sentenced to the following: For Count One (Conspiracy), the total sentence agreed to is 96-months. In exchange for defendant's acceptance of a 96-month sentence, the Government has agreed to not seek an enhanced sentence under the indicted charges pursuant to 21 U.S.C. §§ 841(a)(1) and (b)(1)(A);
- c. The defendant consents to judicial fact-finding by a preponderance of the evidence for all issues pertaining to the determination of the defendant's sentence, including the determination of any mandatory minimum sentence (including the facts that support any specific offense characteristic or other enhancement or adjustment), and any legally authorized increase above the normal statutory maximum. The defendant waives any right to a jury determination beyond a reasonable doubt of all facts used to determine and enhance the sentence imposed, and waives any right to have those facts alleged in the indictment. The defendant also agrees that the Court, in finding the facts relevant to the imposition of sentence, may consider any reliable information, including hearsay; and
- d. The defendant has admitted his guilt and clearly accepted responsibility for his actions, and has assisted authorities in the investigation or prosecution of his own misconduct by timely notifying authorities of his intention to enter a plea of guilty, thereby permitting the Government to avoid preparing for trial and permitting the Government and the Court to allocate their resources efficiently. Therefore, he is entitled to a three-level reduction pursuant to § 3E1.1(b) of the Sentencing Guidelines. The Government, at the time of sentencing, will file a

written motion with the Court to that effect, unless the defendant (1) fails to abide by all of the terms and conditions of this plea agreement and his pretrial release; or (2) attempts to withdraw his guilty plea, violates the law, or otherwise engages in conduct inconsistent with his acceptance of responsibility;

e. There is no agreement between the parties regarding the defendant's criminal history category.

f. The defendant understands and agrees that the factual admissions contained in paragraphs 3 and 4 of this plea agreement, and any admissions that he will make during his plea colloquy, support the imposition of the agreed Guidelines calculations contained in this agreement.

11. Effect of Non-Agreement on Guidelines Applications. The parties understand, acknowledge, and agree that there are no agreements between the parties with respect to any Sentencing Guidelines issues other than those specifically listed in Paragraph 10, and its subsections. As to any other Guidelines issues, the parties are free to advocate their respective positions at the sentencing hearing.

12. Change in Guidelines Prior to Sentencing. The defendant agrees that if any applicable provision of the Guidelines changes after the execution of this plea agreement, then any request by defendant to be sentenced pursuant to the new Guidelines will make this plea agreement voidable by the United States at its option. If the Government exercises its option to void the plea agreement, the United States may charge, reinstate, or otherwise pursue any and all criminal charges that could have been brought but for this plea agreement.

13. Government's Reservation of Rights. The defendant understands that the United States expressly reserves the right in this case to:

a. oppose or take issue with any position advanced by defendant at the sentencing hearing which might be inconsistent with the provisions of this plea agreement;

b. comment on the evidence supporting the charges in the indictment;

c. oppose any arguments and requests for relief the defendant might advance on an appeal from the sentences imposed; and

d. oppose any post-conviction motions for reduction of sentence, or other relief.

14. Waiver of Constitutional Rights. The defendant, by pleading guilty, acknowledges that he has been advised of, understands, and knowingly and voluntarily waives the following rights:

a. the right to plead not guilty and to persist in a plea of not guilty;

b. the right to be presumed innocent until his guilt has been established beyond a reasonable doubt at trial;

c. the right to a jury trial, and at that trial, the right to the effective assistance of counsel;

d. the right to confront and cross-examine the witnesses who testify against him;

e. the right to compel or subpoena witnesses to appear on his behalf; and

f. the right to remain silent at trial, in which case his silence may not be used against him.

The defendant understands that by pleading guilty, he waives or gives up those rights and that there will be no trial. The defendant further understands that if he pleads

guilty, the Court may ask him questions about the offense or offenses to which he pleaded guilty, and if the defendant answers those questions under oath and in the presence of counsel, his answers may later be used against him in a prosecution for perjury or making a false statement. The defendant also understands he has pleaded guilty to a felony offense and, as a result, will lose his right to possess a firearm or ammunition and might be deprived of other rights, such as the right to vote or register to vote, hold public office, or serve on a jury.

15. Waiver of Appellate and Post-Conviction Rights.

a. The defendant acknowledges, understands, and agrees that by pleading guilty pursuant to this plea agreement he waives his right to appeal or collaterally attack a finding of guilt following the acceptance of this plea agreement.

b. The defendant expressly waives his right to appeal his sentence, directly or collaterally, on any ground except a sentence imposed in excess of the statutory maximum or an illegal sentence, that is, sentencing error more serious than a misapplication of the Sentencing Guidelines, an abuse of discretion, or the imposition of an unreasonable sentence. However, if the United States exercises its right to appeal the sentence imposed as authorized by 18 U.S.C. § 3742(b), the defendant is released from this waiver and may, as part of the Government's appeal, cross-appeal his sentence as authorized by 18 U.S.C. § 3742(a) with respect to any issues that have not been stipulated to or agreed upon in this agreement.

16. Waiver of FOIA Request. The defendant waives all of his rights, whether asserted directly or by a representative, to request or receive from any department or agency of the United States any records pertaining to the investigation or prosecution of

this case including, without limitation, any records that may be sought under the Freedom of Information Act, 5 U.S.C. § 552, or the Privacy Act of 1974, 5 U.S.C. § 552a.

17. Waiver of Claim for Attorney's Fees. The defendant waives all of his claims under the Hyde Amendment, 18 U.S.C. § 3006A, for attorney's fees and other litigation expenses arising out of the investigation or prosecution of this matter.

18. Defendant's Agreement to Destruction of Biological Evidence. In accordance with 18 U.S.C. § 3600A(c)(2), the defendant knowingly and voluntarily waives his right to request DNA testing of any biological evidence which may have been obtained or seized by law enforcement in his case. Defendant agrees that all biological evidence which may have been obtained or seized may be destroyed by law enforcement authorities.

19. Defendant's Breach of Plea Agreement. If the defendant commits any crimes, violates any conditions of release, or violates any term of this plea agreement between the signing of this plea agreement and the date of sentencing, or fails to appear for sentencing, or if the defendant provides information to the Probation Office or the Court that is intentionally misleading, incomplete, or untruthful, or otherwise breaches this plea agreement, the United States will be released from its obligations under this agreement. The defendant, however, will remain bound by the terms of the agreement, and will not be allowed to withdraw his plea of guilty.

The defendant also understands and agrees that in the event he violates this plea agreement, all statements made by him to law enforcement agents subsequent to the execution of this plea agreement, any testimony given by him before a grand jury or any tribunal or any leads from such statements or testimony shall be admissible against him in any and all criminal proceedings. The defendant waives any rights that he might assert under the United States Constitution, any statute, Rule 11(f) of the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure, Rule 410 of the Federal Rules of Evidence, or any other federal rule that pertains to the admissibility of any statements made by him subsequent to this plea agreement.

20. Defendant's Representations. The defendant acknowledges that he has entered into this plea agreement freely and voluntarily after receiving the effective assistance, advice and approval of counsel. The defendant acknowledges that he is satisfied with the assistance of counsel, Daniel Hobart, and that counsel has fully advised him of his rights and obligations in connection with this plea agreement. The defendant further acknowledges that no threats or promises, other than the promises contained in this plea agreement, have been made by the United States, the Court, his attorneys or any other party to induce him to enter his plea of guilty.

21. No Undisclosed Terms. The United States and defendant acknowledge and agree that the above-stated terms and conditions constitute the entire plea agreement between the parties, and that any other terms and conditions not expressly set forth in this

agreement do not constitute any part of the parties' agreement and will not be enforceable against either party.

22. Standard of Interpretation. The parties agree that, unless the constitutional implications inherent in plea agreements require otherwise, this plea agreement should be interpreted according to general contract principles and the words employed are to be given their normal and ordinary meanings. The parties further agree that, in interpreting this agreement, any drafting errors or ambiguities are not to be automatically construed

against either party, whether or not that party was involved in drafting or modifying this agreement.

Matt J. Whitworth
Acting United States Attorney

Dated 5/27/09

By /s/Jeffrey Valenti
Jeffrey Valenti
Assistant United States Attorney

I have consulted with my attorney and fully understand all of my rights with respect to the offenses charged in the indictment. Further, I have consulted with my attorney and fully understand my rights with respect to the provisions of the Sentencing Guidelines. I have read this plea agreement and carefully reviewed every part of it with my attorney. I understand this plea agreement and I voluntarily agree to it.

Dated 5/27/09

/s/Robert R. Peters
Robert R. Peters
Defendant

I am defendant Robert R. Peters' attorney. I have fully explained to him his rights with respect to the offenses charged in the indictment. Further, I have reviewed with him the provisions of the Sentencing Guidelines which might apply in this case. I have carefully reviewed every part of this plea agreement with him. To my knowledge, Robert R. Peters' decision to enter into this plea agreement is an informed and voluntary one.

Dated 5/27/09

/s/Daniel Hobart
Daniel Hobart
Attorney for Defendant