UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF NEW JERSEY CRIMINAL NO. 15-196-1(FLW)

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

: TRANSCRIPT OF PLEA

1

V.

: APRIL 28, 2015

BOBBY BOYE, a/k/a/ BOBBY AJI-BOYE, a/k/a/ BOBBY AJI-BOYE,

Defendant

CLARKSON S. FISHER, UNITED STATES COURTHOUSE 402 EAST STATE STREET, TRENTON, NEW JERSEY 08608

B E F O R E: THE HONORABLE FREDA L. WOLFSON, USDJ

APPEARANCES:

PAUL J. FISHMAN, UNITED STATES ATTORNEY By: SHIRLEY U. EMEHELU, AUSA On behalf of the Government

K. ANTHONY THOMAS,
On behalf of the Defendant

VINCENT RUSSONIELLO, CCR OFFICIAL U.S. COURT REPORTER (609)588-9516 CERTIFICATION

PURSUANT TO TITLE 28, U.S.C., SECTION 753, THE FOLLOWING TRANSCRIPT IS CERTIFIED TO BE AN ACCURATE TRANSCRIPTION OF MY STENOGRAPHIC NOTES IN THE ABOVE-ENTITLED MATTER.

VINCENT RUSSONIELLO, CCR OFFICIAL U.S. COURT REPORTER

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3
             (In open court, defendant present.)
1
2
            THE CLERK: All rise.
 3
            THE COURT: Thank you.
 4
            I'll have the appearances, then you may be
5
    seated.
6
7
            MS. EMEHELU: Good morning, your Honor.
            Assistant United States Attorney Shirley
8
9
    Emehelu on behalf of the United States. With me at
    counsel table is Special Agent Richard Tilenda of the
10
11
    FBI.
            MR. THOMAS: Good morning, your Honor.
12
            K. Anthony Thomas, Assistant Federal Public
13
    Defender, on behalf of Mr. Bobby Boye, who is standing
14
    to the right of me.
15
16
             THE COURT: Thank you. You may be seated at
    this time.
17
             I understand that Mr. Boye and the government
18
    have entered into a plea agreement and that Mr. Boye
19
20
    wishes to proceed with a Rule 11 hearing. Is that
21
    correct?
            MR. THOMAS: That's correct, your Honor.
22
            THE COURT: Would you please administer the
23
2.4
    oath.
25
    ///
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4
    BOBBY BOYE, sworn.
1
    EXAMINATION BY the Court:
 2
 3
             THE COURT: Mr. Boye, do you understand that
 4
    you are now under oath and if you answer any of my
 5
    questions falsely your answers may later be used
 6
7
    against you in another prosecution for perjury or
    making a false statement?
8
            THE DEFENDANT: Yes, your Honor, I do.
9
            THE COURT: Please state your full name.
10
            THE DEFENDANT: Bobby Boye.
11
            THE COURT: How old are you?
12
            THE DEFENDANT: I'm 51.
13
            THE COURT: What is your education?
14
            THE DEFENDANT: I have two Master's degrees.
15
    have a law degree, and two Master's degrees in law and
16
17
    tax accounting.
             THE COURT: Are your degrees here in the United
18
19
    States?
             THE DEFENDANT: Yes, UCLA, and an MBA in tax
20
21
    accounting from USC.
             THE COURT: Thank you.
22
            Mr. Boye, have you ever been treated or
23
24
    recently been treated for any mental illness or
25
    addiction to narcotic drugs of any kind?
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5
             THE DEFENDANT: Never.
1
             THE COURT: In the last 24 hours have you taken
 2
    any medication, any pills, any drugs, or drunk any
 3
    alcoholic beverage of any kind?
 4
             THE DEFENDANT: I had vitamin C yesterday.
 5
             THE COURT: Beyond vitamin C, anything else,
 6
    any medication?
 7
             THE DEFENDANT: No, I don't take any
8
9
    medication.
10
            THE COURT: The oath that you have taken
    obliges you to provide me with truthful answers. So
11
    if, at any time, you do not understand my question,
12
    please let me know so I could try to make it clearer
13
14
    for you.
             So please speak up if you do not understand my
15
    questions. All right.
16
             THE DEFENDANT: Yes, I will.
17
            THE COURT: Thank you.
18
19
            Have you received a copy of the Information
    that is being filed against you in this case, that is,
20
    the written charges being made?
21
22
             THE DEFENDANT: Can you say that again, please?
             THE COURT: Have you received a copy of the
23
24
    Information?
25
            THE DEFENDANT: Yes.
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THE COURT: Do you understand that the
1
    Information charges: From in or about March 2012
2
    through in or about May 2013, in the District of New
3
    Jersey, and elsewhere, that you knowingly and
4
    intentionally conspired and agreed with others, known
5
    and unknown, to devise a scheme and artifice to
6
    defraud what is known as "Country A," and to obtain
7
    money and property from Country A by means of
8
    materially false and fraudulent pretenses,
9
    representations, and promises, and for the purpose of
10
    executing such scheme and artifice, transmitted and
11
    caused to be transmitted by means of wire
12
    communications in interstate and foreign commerce,
13
    certain writings, signs, signals, pictures, and
14
    sounds, in violation of Title 18, United States Code,
15
    Section 1343, and in violation of Title 18, United
16
17
    States Code, Section 1349.
            Do you understand the charge against you in
18
    this case?
19
            THE WITNESS: Yes, I do.
20
            THE COURT: Have you discussed the charge and
21
    the case in general with Mr. Thomas as your attorney?
22
            THE DEFENDANT: Yes.
23
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THE COURT: Are you fully satisfied with the counsel, representation, and advice that he has given

24

to you in this case?

THE DEFENDANT: Yes.

THE COURT: Since this is proceeding by way of an Information, there are certain questions that I will ask you at this time.

You have been charged with the commission of a felony. You have a constitutional right to be charged by an Indictment of a grand jury. But you could waive that right and consent to being charged by Information of the United States Attorney. Instead of an Indictment, the felony charge against you has been brought by the United States Attorney by the filing of an Information.

Unless you waive Indictment, you may not be charged with a felony unless a grand jury finds by return of an Indictment that there is probable cause to believe that a crime has been committed and that you committed it. If you do not waive Indictment, the government may present the case to the grand jury and request it to indict you.

A grand jury is composed of at least 16 and not more than 23 persons, and at least 12 grand jurors must find that there is probable cause to believe you committed the crime with which you are charged before you may be indicted. The grand jury might or might

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8
    not indict you. If you waive Indictment by the grand
1
    jury, the case will proceed against you on the United
2
    States Attorney's Information just as though you had
3
    been indicted.
            Mr. Boye, have you discussed the matter of
5
    waiving your right to Indictment by the grand jury
6
    with your attorney?
7
            THE DEFENDANT: Yes.
8
            THE COURT: Do you understand your right to
9
    Indictment by a grand jury?
10
11
            THE DEFENDANT: Yes, I do.
            THE COURT: Have any threats or promises been
12
    made to induce you to waive Indictment?
13
            THE DEFENDANT: No.
14
            THE COURT: Do you wish to waive your right to
15
    Indictment by a grand jury?
16
            THE DEFENDANT: Yes, I do.
17
            THE COURT: Mr. Thomas, do you see any reason
18
    why your client should not waive Indictment?
19
20
            MR. THOMAS: No, your Honor.
             THE COURT: If you have the Waiver of
2.1
    Indictment form, present it to your client. If he
22
    agrees, he should sign it at this time.
23
            (Pause.)
2.4
             THE COURT: Would you hand it up, please.
25
```

(Document handed up to the Court.)

THE COURT: First, I note that the Waiver of Indictment form has been signed in open court by both Mr. Boye and Mr. Thomas, after I have informed him of his rights, and I find that the waiver is knowingly and voluntarily made, it is accepted, I have signed it, and we will proceed.

Mr. Boye, my understanding is your willingness to plead guilty today is a result of discussions that you or your attorney have had with the attorney for the government. Is that correct?

THE DEFENDANT: That's correct.

THE COURT: You may have a seat at this time.

I'd ask, Ms. Emehelu, if you would, please summarize the essential terms of the plea agreement.

MS. EMEHELU: Yes, your Honor.

The proposed plea agreement provides that, if Mr. Boye enters a guilty plea and is sentenced on the charge of conspiracy to commit wire fraud and otherwise fully complies with all the terms of the agreement, the U.S. Attorney's Office for the District of New Jersey will not initiate any further criminal charges against Mr. Boye for, between in or about March 2012 through in or about May 2013, conspiring with others, known and unknown, to commit wire fraud

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by engaging in a scheme to defraud Country A, whereby
1
    Mr. Boye caused Country A to award a multi-million
2
    dollar consulting contract to his firm, Opus & Best
3
    Law Services, LLC, or Opus & Best, without disclosing
4
    his affiliation with Opus & Best to Country A, and
5
    then divert it to his own personal use the more than
6
    $3.5 million that Country A paid to Opus & Best under
7
    the contract.
8
            The plea agreement also provides on pages 4
9
    through 7 inclusive that Mr. Boye agrees to forfeit
10
11
    certain items:
            First, a forfeiture money judgment in the
12
    amount of $4,233,015.42;
13
            Any contents of five JP Morgan Chase bank
14
    accounts ending in 0399, 6170, 5820, 7116 and 2735,
15
16
    respectively;
            As well as three vehicles, namely, a 2012
17
    Bentley Continental, a 2012 Range Rover, and a 2011
18
19
    Rolls Royce;
            Two watches, namely, an IWC "DaVinci"
20
    Perpetual and a Franck Muller "Conquistador Grand
21
22
    Prix" watch; and.
            Four real estate properties located in Ramsey,
23
24
    North Haledon, Oakland, and Elizabeth, New Jersey,
25
    respectively, or any proceeds traceable to those
```

properties.

The plea agreement also includes a Schedule A with factual and Guideline stipulations, including the applicable base offense level 7, and the applicable loss calculation, specifically, a stipulation that the total loss resulting from the wire fraud conspiracy was more than \$2.5 million but not more than \$7 million, resulting in an increase of 18 levels from the base offense level.

In addition, the parties have stipulated that Mr. Boye abused a position of trust, resulting in a two-level enhancement, and that he is entitled to a three-level reduction for acceptance of responsibility.

Finally, the plea agreement includes an agreed upon total Guidelines offense level of 24, and an appellate waiver, which I can discuss in greater detail, if your Honor wanted to go through the waiver colloquy.

THE COURT: I will be doing that. Feel free to just briefly describe it on the record.

MS. EMEHELU: Yes, your Honor.

Essentially, if Mr. Boye is sentenced within the Guideline range resulting from an offense level 24 or below that range, he waives his right to file an

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appeal, collateral attack, or other post-conviction
1
    motion, with the exception of a later motion,
2
    post-conviction motion, of ineffective assistance of
3
    counsel. That is the only exception.
4
            The government likewise waives its right to
5
    file an appeal if Mr. Boye is sentenced within the
6
    Guideline range resulting from an offense level 24 or
7
    higher than that range.
8
            The government believes that these are the
9
10
    essential terms of the plea agreement entered into by
11
    the parties, your Honor.
            THE COURT:
                        Thank you.
12
            Do you have the plea agreement at counsel
13
14
    table, Mr. Thomas?
            MR. THOMAS: Yes, I do, your Honor.
15
            THE COURT: Would you put it before your
16
17
    client, please.
            Mr. Boye, you are being shown the plea bargain
18
    letter in this case. Have you read the entire plea
19
20
    agreement?
            THE DEFENDANT: Yes, your Honor.
21
            THE COURT: And have you had an opportunity to
22
    discuss the plea agreement with your lawyer before you
23
24
    signed it?
25
            THE DEFENDANT: Yes, your Honor.
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13
            THE COURT: Please look at the agreement and
1
    let me know if your signature appears there.
2
            THE DEFENDANT: Yes.
3
            THE COURT: Mr. Thomas, does your signature
4
    appear as defense counsel?
5
            MR. THOMAS: Yes, your Honor.
6
            THE COURT: Ms. Emehelu, does your signature
7
    appear or that of a representative of the U.S.
8
9
    Attorney's Office?
            MS. EMEHELU: Yes, your Honor.
10
11
            THE COURT: Thank you.
            Mr. Boye, do you feel with the explanations
12
    and advice of your attorney that you fully understand
13
    all of the terms of plea bargain letter?
14
            THE DEFENDANT: Yes, your Honor.
15
            THE COURT: That letter is supposed to set out
16
    all the bargains, benefits, things that flow to you in
17
    exchange for your willingness to plead guilty to the
18
    Information.
19
            Do you feel that the plea bargain letter sets
20
    forth both accurately and completely all of the terms
21
22
    of the plea bargain as you understand it?
            THE DEFENDANT: Yes, your Honor.
23
            THE COURT: Do you have any questions at all
24
    that you wish to ask me or your attorney about what
25
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14
    the plea bargain letter means or what any of the words
1
    or phrases in there mean?
2
            THE DEFENDANT: No.
3
            THE COURT: Do you understand the terms of the
4
5
    plea agreement?
            THE DEFENDANT: Yes, I do.
6
            THE COURT: Has anyone made any other or
7
    different promises or assurances to you of any kind in
8
    an effort to induce you to enter a plea of guilty in
9
    this case?
10
            THE DEFENDANT: No.
11
            THE COURT: Has anyone attempted in any way to
12
    force you to plead guilty in this case?
13
            THE DEFENDANT: No.
14
            THE COURT: Are you pleading guilty of your own
15
    free will because you are guilty?
16
            THE DEFENDANT: That's correct.
17
            THE COURT: Do you understand that the offense
18
    to which you are pleading guilty is a felony offense?
19
20
            THE DEFENDANT: Yes, I do.
             THE COURT: If your plea is accepted, you will
21
    be adjudged guilty of that offense and that
22
    adjudication may deprive you of certain civil rights,
23
    such as the right to vote, the right to hold public
24
    office, the right to serve on a jury, and the right to
25
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                                                                 15
         possess any kind of firearm. Do you understand those
     1
     2
         consequences?
                 THE DEFENDANT: Yes, I do.
     3
                 THE COURT: Your plea agreement also provides
     4
         that under certain circumstances you are waiving or
     5
         giving up your right to file an appeal or collaterally
     6
         attack the sentence imposed in this case. Are you
     7
         familiar with those terms?
     8
     9
                 THE DEFENDANT: Yes.
                 THE COURT: I will now ask you certain
    10
    11
         questions in that regard.
                 Do you understand that in the absence of a
    12
         waiver, the law permits every defendant, such as
    13
         yourself, to file an appeal of a conviction or
    14
         sentence if you believe that there has been an error?
    15
    16
                 THE DEFENDANT: Yes, I do.
                 THE COURT: Do you understand that in the
    17
         absence of a waiver, you have a right, if you believe
    18
         that there has been an error, to file a collateral
    19
         challenge to your conviction or sentence under 28
    20
    21
         U.S.C., Section 2255?
                 THE DEFENDANT: Yes, I do.
    22
```

THE COURT: Do you understand that by pleading guilty, you are automatically waiving your right to appeal any errors that occurred before your entry of

23

24

this guilty plea including any rulings on any pretrial 1 motions that may have been filed? 2 THE DEFENDANT: Yes, your Honor. 3 THE COURT: And do you understand, as set forth 4 5 in your plea agreement, if I impose a sentence that 6 falls within or below the Guidelines range applicable to an offense level 24, you cannot file an appeal, a 7 Section 2255 petition, writ, motion, or any collateral 8 attack challenging your sentence? 9 THE DEFENDANT: Yes, I do. 10 THE COURT: And do you understand that your 11 plea agreement only allows you to challenge your 12 sentence under the following circumstances: 13 14 One, if I impose a sentence that is above the 15 range applicable to the offense level 24; 16 Two, to challenge my determination of your 17 criminal history category; or Lastly, to claim that you received 18 constitutionally ineffective assistance of counsel. 19 20 Do you understand that those are the only circumstances under which you can file an appeal? 21 22 THE DEFENDANT: Yes, I do, your Honor. THE COURT: Did you discuss the effect of this 23 24 unconditional guilty plea and waiver of appeal and 25 waiver of your right to file for post-conviction

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relief with your attorney?
1
            THE DEFENDANT: Yes, I did.
2
            THE COURT: Are you satisfied with the
3
    explanations that he has provided to you?
4
            THE DEFENDANT: Yes, I am.
5
6
            THE COURT: At this time, I'm going to, first,
    describe the statute under which you have been
7
    charged, and then the maximum penalties that you face.
8
            Title 18, United States Code, Section 1343
9
    provides in relevant part:
10
            "Whoever, having devised or intending to
11
    devise any scheme or artifice to defraud, or for
12
    obtaining money or property by means of false or
13
    fraudulent pretenses, representations, or promises,
14
    transmits or causes to be transmitted by means of
15
    wire, radio, or television communication in interstate
16
    or foreign commerce, any writings, signs, signals,
17
    pictures, or sounds for the purpose of executing such
18
    a scheme or artifice, shall be guilty of a crime
19
20
    against the United States."
            Section 1349 provides:
21
            "Any person who conspires to commit any
22
    offense under this chapter, including wire fraud,
23
    under 18 U.S.C., Section 1343," which I just read to
24
```

you, "shall be guilty of a crime against the United

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18
1
    States."
            First, do you understand the statute under
2
    which you have been charged?
3
            THE WITNESS: Yes, I do.
            THE COURT: The maximum penalties are as
 5
    follows:
 6
            A statutory maximum prison sentence of
7
    20 years.
8
            A statutory maximum fine equal to the greatest
9
    of $250,000, or twice the gross amount of any
10
11
    pecuniary gain that any persons derived from the
    offense, or twice the gross amount of any pecuniary
12
    loss sustained by any victims of the offense.
13
            Any fines imposed by the Court in excess of
14
    $2500 are subject to the payment of interest.
15
            You will be ordered to pay a mandatory special
16
    assessment of $100 for the single count of conviction,
17
    which must be paid on or before the date of
18
19
    sentencing.
            You may be ordered to pay restitution.
20
            You may be ordered to give notice to any
21
    victims of your offense.
22
             The Court may impose a term of supervised
23
    release of not more than 3 years, which would begin at
24
    the expiration of any term of imprisonment imposed.
25
```

And if you are placed on a term of supervised release and then violate any of the conditions of that release before the term expires, you may be sentenced to not more than 2 years imprisonment in addition to any prison term previously imposed and in addition to the statutory maximum term of imprisonment I have just outlined for you, and you may be required to serve an additional term of supervised release.

Mr. Boye, do you understand the penalties that you face as a result of your guilty plea?

THE DEFENDANT: Yes, I do.

THE COURT: All right. At this time, as well, I'm going to briefly describe the Sentencing Guidelines.

First, however, do you understand that the United States Sentencing Guidelines are advisory and not mandatory?

THE DEFENDANT: Yes.

THE COURT: And, thus, do you understand that this Court, I, may impose a sentence that is higher or lower than that recommended by the Guidelines?

THE DEFENDANT: Yes, I do.

THE COURT: Are you aware that the Sentencing Guidelines take into account the actual conduct in which you engaged, consider the victims of your

offense, the role that you played, and whether or not 1 you have engaged in any obstruction of justice or have 2 accepted responsibility for your acts? 3 THE DEFENDANT: Yes. 4 THE COURT: Do you also understand that your 5 criminal history is an important factor in applying 6 the Sentencing Guidelines? 7 THE DEFENDANT: Yes. 8 THE COURT: And do you understand that until a 9 Presentence Report is completed, it is impossible for 10 either me or for your lawyer to know exactly what 11 sentence range will be required by the Guidelines? 12 13 THE DEFENDANT: Yes. THE COURT: Do you also understand that it may 14 be necessary to resolve disputed facts contained in 15 the Presentence Report and that also may affect the 16 17 applicable Guidelines and your sentence? THE DEFENDANT: Yes. 18 THE COURT: Have you discussed the Sentencing 19 Guidelines with your attorney? 20 THE DEFENDANT: Yes. 21 THE COURT: Has he explained to you the various 22 considerations that go into determining what Guideline 23 shall be applied? 24

THE DEFENDANT: Yes.

2.3

2.4

THE COURT: And certainly by having reviewed the plea agreement, my understanding is your attorney has attempted to predict for you what the Guideline range may be based on the information that he currently has. Is that correct?

THE DEFENDANT: That's correct, your Honor.

THE COURT: But do you understand that at this point in time, it may be impossible for him to make a completely accurate assessment as to the Guideline range which will actually apply in your case because he does not yet have all the necessary information and has not seen the Presentence Report?

THE DEFENDANT: Yes.

THE COURT: And do you understand that you will not be able to withdraw your plea on the ground that anyone's prediction as to the Guideline range proved to be inaccurate?

THE DEFENDANT: Yes.

THE COURT: Do you also understand that the Court will not be able to determine the Guideline sentence for your case until after the Presentence Report has been completed and you and the government have had an opportunity to challenge the reported facts and the application of the Guidelines recommended by the Probation Office?

THE DEFENDANT: Yes.

THE COURT: And do you understand the sentence imposed may be different from any estimate your attorney may have given you?

THE DEFENDANT: That's correct.

THE COURT: And do you realize that any stipulations or agreements between you and the government as to what the applicable facts are or what the guidelines are, are not binding on me if the Presentence Investigation Report or other sources persuade me that they are inaccurate?

THE DEFENDANT: Yes.

THE COURT: Do you also understand that there is no parole in the federal system and that if you are sentenced to prison, you will not be released on parole prior to the completion of the sentence that I actually impose on you except for good time credits, if any?

THE DEFENDANT: Yes.

THE COURT: While I understand from the Pretrial Services report that you are a naturalized citizen, nevertheless, I'm going to ask you these questions out of an abundance of caution.

Do you understand that if you are not a citizen of the United States, your guilty plea to the

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charged offense would likely result in your being
1
    subject to immigration proceedings and removed from
2
    the United States?
3
            THE DEFENDANT: Yes.
4
            THE COURT: Did you consult with counsel about
5
    any possible immigration consequences?
6
            THE DEFENDANT: Yes.
7
            THE COURT: All right.
8
            At this time, I'm going to describe for you
9
    certain rights that you have.
10
            Do you understand that you have a right to
11
    plead not guilty to any offense charged against you
12
    and to persist in that plea to a trial by jury.
13
            THE DEFENDANT: Yes.
14
            THE COURT: During a trial, you would also have
15
    the right to the assistance of counsel for your
16
    defense, the right to see and hear all the witnesses
17
    and have them cross-examined in your defense, the
18
    right on your own part to decline to testify unless
19
20
    you voluntarily elected to do so in your own defense,
    and the right to the issuance of subpoenas or
21
    compulsory process to compel the attendance of
22
    witnesses to testify in your defense.
23
             Mr. Boye, do you understand you would have
24
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those rights at a jury trial?

THE DEFENDANT: Yes.

THE COURT: Also, at a jury trial, you would have the benefit of the presumption of innocence. The Court would instruct the jury that consistent with your presumed innocence, they must look upon you as innocent of all the charges against you and that that presumption continues during the jury deliberations, thereafter, until such point in time, if it ever arrived, when a unanimous jury was satisfied that the government had proved your guilt beyond a reasonable doubt.

Also, at a trial, you would have no duty to testify or to introduce any evidence. I would instruct the jury that they could not hold that against you or consider it in any way.

Thus, at your trial, you would have no burden of proving anything and the sole burden of proof would be upon the government to prove each and every essential element of the crime charged beyond a reasonable doubt, and that burden would never shift from the government at any time.

Mr. Boye, do you understand that you have the right to appointment of counsel if you could not afford one for the trial and appeal if there were a quilty verdict?

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                                                                 25
                 THE DEFENDANT: Yes, I do.
     1
                 THE COURT: Do you also understand that by
     2
         entering a plea of quilty, if that plea is accepted by
     3
         me, that there will be no trial?
     4
                 THE DEFENDANT: Yes.
     5
                 THE COURT: Do you understand that you will
     6
         have waived or given up your right to a trial, as well
     7
         as the other rights associated with the trial, that I
     8
         have just described for you?
     9
                 THE DEFENDANT: Yes.
    10
                 THE COURT: I've previously read to you the
    11
         statute under which you have been charged. I'm now
    12
         going to describe the essential elements of the crime
    13
         to which you are pleading guilty, and the government
    14
    15
         would have to prove each and every one of the
         essential elements beyond a reasonable doubt:
    16
                 Section 1349, of Title 18, the elements are as
    17
         follows:
    18
                 First, that two or more persons agreed to
    19
         commit wire fraud;
    20
                 Second, that you were a party to or member of
    21
         that agreement; and
    22
```

Third, that you knowingly joined the

The elements of the object of the conspiracy,

23

24

25

agreement.

```
that is, wire fraud, in violation of Title 18, Section
1
    1343, are as follows:
2
            First, that someone devised, or intended to
3
    devise, a scheme or artifice to defraud another of
4
5
    money or property;
            Second, that you knowingly and wilfully
6
    participated in the scheme or artifice with specific
7
    intent to defraud another of money or property; and
8
            Third, for the purpose of executing or
9
    attempting to execute that scheme the use of
10
    interstate wires occurred.
11
            Do you understand the essential elements of
12
    the crime to which you are pleading quilty?
13
            THE WITNESS: Yes, I do.
14
            THE COURT: And do you understand the
15
    government would have to prove each of those beyond a
16
17
    reasonable doubt?
18
            THE DEFENDANT: Yes, I do.
            THE COURT: At this time, I'm going to ask you
19
    questions about what you did in this matter.
20
            Starting in or about April 2010, were you
21
    working as an international petroleum tax advisor for
22
    a foreign sovereign nation, that I will refer to as
23
    "Country A"?
24
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THE DEFENDANT: Yes.

THE COURT: From in or about March 2012 through 1 in or about May 2013, in the District of New Jersey, 2 and elsewhere, did you knowingly and intentionally 3 conspire and agree with others to enrich yourself by 4 fraudulently obtaining, and attempting to obtain, 5 lucrative consulting contracts from Country A for your 6 entity, Opus & Best Law Services, LLC, that I'll refer 7 to as "Opus & Best" in the rest of the questions? 8 THE DEFENDANT: Yes. 9 THE COURT: In or about February 2012, did you 10 learn that Country A was soliciting bids for a 11 contract to provide legal and tax accounting advice to 12 13 Country A? THE DEFENDANT: Yes. 14 THE COURT: I'm going to refer to that as the 15 "contract" in the rest of my questions. 16 Around the same time, in or about March 2012, 17 did you create Opus & Best for the purpose of bidding 18 for the contract from Country A and other countries? 19 THE WITNESS: 20 Yes. THE COURT: In or about March 2012, did you 21 author several fraudulent documents submitted by Opus 22 & Best to Country A, in connection with Opus & Best's 23 bid for the contract? 24

THE DEFENDANT: Yes.

THE COURT: And I'll refer to those documents in the ensuing questions as the "bid documents."

Around this time, in or about March 2012, did you pay a relative to create a website for Opus & Best, which contained numerous misrepresentations, including but not limited to, false claims regarding Opus & Best's credentials and experience?

THE WITNESS: Yes.

1.8

THE COURT: Did you also create or cause others to create Opus & Best email accounts, including an email account for a purported partner at Opus & Best with the initials DL?

THE DEFENDANT: Yes.

THE COURT: I will refer to that email account as the "DL email account."

On or about March 17th, 2012, did you cause an email containing the bid documents to be sent from the DL email account to representatives of Country A, in order to submit Opus & Best's formal bid for the contract?

THE WITNESS: Yes.

THE COURT: Did the bid documents that you caused to be submitted contain a number of false statements and material misrepresentations that were intended to give Country A the misimpression that Opus

& Best was a legitimate established firm?

THE DEFENDANT: Yes.

2.1

THE COURT: Specifically, did you falsely claim in the bid documents that Opus & Best was founded in 1985, when in reality you created Opus & Best in or about March 2012 for the purpose of submitting the fraudulent bid documents to Country A?

THE DEFENDANT: Yes.

THE COURT: Did you falsely claim in the bid documents that Opus & Best was registered as a legal and accounting services provider in Europe, the Middle East, and Africa, when in reality the newly formed Opus & Best was only registered in the State of New York?

THE DEFENDANT: Yes.

THE COURT: Did you also falsely claim in the bid documents that Opus & Best employed numerous first class attorneys, accountants, and economists who practiced in the mining, oil and gas sector, when in reality you were the sole member of Opus & Best?

THE DEFENDANT: Yes.

THE COURT: Did you falsely claim in the bid documents that Opus & Best's relevant consulting experience over the past 5 years purportedly included the provision of consulting services to another

foreign sovereign nation, which I'll refer to as "Country B," when in reality Opus & Best had never done consulting work for Country B?

THE DEFENDANT: Yes.

THE COURT: At the time you submitted the bid documents to Country A, and as part of your employment as a legal advisor to Country A, did you serve on a committee responsible for reviewing and evaluating the submitted bids for the contract including Opus & Best's submission?

THE DEFENDANT: Yes.

THE COURT: I'll refer to that committee as the "bid review committee."

By virtue of sitting on the bid review committee, do you acknowledge that Country A trusted you to advise them correctly?

THE DEFENDANT: Yes.

THE COURT: Did you cause the bid documents that Opus & Best submitted to falsely state that there was no conflict of interest entailed by Opus & Best's proposed engagement, when in reality your affiliation with Opus & Best created a conflict of interest and rendered you a third-party beneficiary of the proposed contract?

THE DEFENDANT: Yes.

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1
            THE COURT: In or about 2012, did Country A
2
    award Opus & Best the contract?
3
            THE DEFENDANT: Yes.
            THE COURT: On or about June 3, 2012, did you
4
    and others cause Country A to enter into a contract
5
    for consulting services with Opus & Best -- I'll refer
6
    to it as the "consulting contract" -- which consulting
7
    contract listed you as one of the two project
8
    coordinators acting on behalf of Country A?
            THE DEFENDANT: Yes.
10
            THE COURT: Was the consulting contract in the
11
    amount of approximately $4,900,000?
12
            THE DEFENDANT: Yes.
13
14
            THE COURT: Upon becoming a project
    coordinator, did you fail to disclose to Country A
15
    your affiliation with Opus & Best?
16
17
            THE DEFENDANT: Yes.
            THE COURT: Did you cause Country A to wire a
18
    total of approximately $3,510,000 from a Country A
19
    account to the Federal Reserve Bank of New York --
20
    I'll refer to it as the "Country A account" -- to Opus
21
    & Best's JP Morgan Chase account ending in 0399?
22
23
            THE DEFENDANT: Yes.
            THE COURT: I'll refer to that as the "Opus &
24
25
    Best 0399 account."
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Do you acknowledge that these wires were 1 processed via transmissions from New Jersey to New 2 York? 3 THE DEFENDANT: Yes. 4 THE COURT: Specifically, on or about June 15, 5 2012, did you cause Country A to wire approximately 6 \$1,080,000 from the Country A account to the Opus & 7 Best 0399 account? 8 THE DEFENDANT: Yes. 9 THE COURT: On or about July 20, 2012, did you 10 cause Country A to wire approximately \$432,000 from 11 the Country A account to the Opus & Best 0399 account? 12 THE DEFENDANT: Yes. 13 THE COURT: On or about August 3, 2012, did you 14 cause Country A to wire approximately \$720,000 from 15 the Country A account to the Opus & Best 0399 account? 16 THE DEFENDANT: Yes. 17 THE COURT: On or about December 12, 2012, did 18 you cause Country A to wire approximately \$648,000 19 from the Country A account to the Opus & Best 0399 20 account? 21 THE DEFENDANT: Yes. 22 THE COURT: On or about December 17, 2012, did 23 you cause Country A to wire approximately \$630,000 24

from the Country A account to the Opus & Best 0399

1 account? 2 THE DEFENDANT: Yes. THE COURT: In or about 2013, did you attempt 3 to obtain additional business from Country A? 4 THE DEFENDANT: Yes. 5 THE COURT: For example, in or about 6 March 2013, after you and others registered an Opus & 7 Best entity as a Hong Kong company -- that I'll refer 8 to as "Opus & Best-Hong Kong" -- did Opus & Best-Hong 9 Kong along with a local Hong Kong law firm cause a 10 proposal to be sent to Country A for training Country 11 A's employees in conducting tax auditing? 12 THE DEFENDANT: Yes. 13 THE COURT: Did you and others seek an advanced 14 payment of approximately \$250,000 from Country A for 15 this proposed venture with Opus & Best-Hong Kong? 16 THE DEFENDANT: Yes. 17 THE COURT: Did you divert the more than 18 approximately \$3.5 million wired by Country A to Opus 19 & Best for purported consulting services for your own 20 21 personal use? THE DEFENDANT: Yes. 22 THE COURT: Did you use more than \$2 million of 23 the total proceeds of the fraud to purchase four 24

properties located in New Jersey, three luxury

1 | vehicles, and two designer watches?

THE DEFENDANT: Yes.

THE COURT: In committing the actions described in the Information, did you act knowingly, wilfully, and with the intent to defraud?

THE DEFENDANT: Yes.

THE COURT: And are you pleading guilty today because you are, in fact, guilty of the crime charged in the Information, that is, conspiring to commit wire fraud?

THE DEFENDANT: Yes.

THE COURT: Ms. Emehelu, would you please represent what the government would be prepared to prove at trial if the case proceeded to trial.

MS. EMEHELU: Yes, your Honor.

The United States represents that, had this matter proceeded to trial, the government would have been prepared to prove beyond a reasonable doubt all of the essential elements of the offense charged in the Information.

The government would have proven beyond a reasonable doubt that the funds paid by Country A to Opus & Best were transmitted by means of interstate wire.

The government would have proven its case

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through the introduction of, among other things, documentary evidence, including the fraudulent bid documents submitted, or caused to be submitted, by Mr. Boye to Country A, bank and other business records, witness testimony, and email and other communications.
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The United States believes that, in conjunction with the representations set forth by the United States, as well as Mr. Boye's affirmative answers to the questions posed by your Honor, that this will provide a sufficient factual basis for the Court to accept his guilty plea to the proposed Information.

THE COURT: Thank you.

Mr. Boye, how do you now plead to the charge in the Information, guilty or not guilty?

THE DEFENDANT: Guilty.

THE COURT: It is the finding of the Court in the case of United States v. Bobby Boye that the defendant is competent and capable of entering an informed plea, that he is aware of the nature of the charge and the consequences of the plea, and that the plea of guilty is a knowing and voluntary plea supported by an independent basis in fact containing each of the essential elements of the offense.

The plea is therefore accepted and the

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defendant is now adjudged guilty of that offense.

Mr. Boye, a written Presentence Report will be prepared by the Probation Office to assist me in sentencing. You will be asked to give information for the report and your attorney may be present if you wish.

You and your attorney will have the opportunity to read the Presentence Report before the sentencing hearing and file any objections to the report before the sentencing hearing.

At the sentencing hearing you will have the opportunity to speak in mitigation of your sentence and your attorney will be given the opportunity to speak on your behalf as well.

You will now be referred to the Probation Office for a Presentence Investigation Report with sentencing scheduled for August 13, 2015, at 10:00 a.m..

Mr. Boye has been on pretrial release with bail conditions. Are there any applications in that record?

MS. EMEHELU: None by the government, your 23 Honor.

> MR. THOMAS: No, your Honor, not at this time. THE COURT: Thank you.

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            Then, at this time, I'll take the original of
1
    any of the documents I haven't received, the
2
    Information, the plea agreement, and the Rule 11
3
    application, please.
4
             (Documents handed up to the Court,).
5
            THE COURT: Anything else, counsel?
6
            MS. EMEHELU: No, thank you, your Honor.
            MR. THOMAS: No, your Honor.
8
            THE COURT: Thank you.
9
            THE CLERK: All rise.
10
             (Proceedings concluded.)
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CERTIFICATE

I, Vincent Russoniello, Official United States Court Reporter and Certified Court Reporter of the State of New Jersey, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and accurate transcript of the proceedings as taken stenographically by and before me at the time, place and on the date hereinbefore set forth.

I do further certify that I am neither a relative nor employee nor attorney nor counsel of any of the parties to this action, and that I am neither a relative nor employee of such attorney or counsel, and that I am not financially interested in this action.

Russoniello, Certificate No. 675

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