

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

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Plaintiff,

v.

BONTIEA BERNEDETTE GOSS,

Defendant.

Case No. 19-03048-01-CR-S-BCW

PLEA AGREEMENT

Pursuant to Rule 11(c)(1)(B) of the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure, the parties described below have entered into the following plea agreement:

1. **The Parties.** The parties to this agreement are the United States Attorney's Office for the Western District of Missouri, represented by United States Attorney Teresa A. Moore and the undersigned Assistant United States Attorneys and the Public Integrity Section of the U.S. Department of Justice, Criminal Division, represented by Chief Corey R. Amundson, and the undersigned Criminal Division Attorneys (otherwise referred to as "the Government" or "the United States"), and the defendant, Bontiea Bernedette Goss ("the defendant"), represented by Melanie Morgan and Branden Bell. The defendant understands and agrees that this plea agreement does not bind any other federal, state or local prosecution authority or any other government agency, unless otherwise specified in this agreement or any addendum thereto. The defendant understands that the United States' agreement is contingent upon both Bontiea Bernedette Goss and Tommy Ray Goss successfully pleading guilty in this case. Should either defendant not plead guilty as agreed, or seek to withdraw his or her pleas, the United States shall be entitled to exercise all

remedies for breach as to both defendants, including revoking either or both agreements. Defendant agrees and understands that Defendant Bontiea Goss will plead guilty first.

2. **Defendant's Guilty Plea**. The defendant agrees to and hereby does plead guilty to Count 1 of the Second Superseding Indictment ("the Indictment"), charging her with a violation of **Title 18, United States Code, Section 371**, that is, **Conspiracy**. The defendant also agrees to forfeit to the United States the property described in the Forfeiture Allegation of the Indictment. By entering into this plea agreement, the defendant admits that she 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 offense to which the defendant is pleading guilty are as follows:

A. Persons and Entities

Preferred Family Healthcare, Inc. ("PFH") was a Missouri nonprofit corporation headquartered at 1111 South Glenstone Avenue, in Springfield, Greene County, Missouri, within the Western District of Missouri. Originally, and for most of its existence, PFH was known as Alternative Opportunities, Inc. ("AO"), a Missouri nonprofit corporation formed on December 3, 1991. Effective May 1, 2015, AO merged with Preferred Family Healthcare, Inc., of Kirksville, Missouri, with the merged entity retaining the PFH name and corporate charter. (Hereinafter, "the Charity" shall refer to the entity known as Preferred Family Healthcare, Inc., after April 30, 2015, and Alternative Opportunities, Inc., prior to May 1, 2015.)

During each calendar year material to this Plea Agreement, the State of Arkansas received benefits in excess of \$10,000 under Federal programs involving grants, contracts, subsidies, loans, guarantees, insurance, and other forms of Federal assistance.

Bontiea Bernedette Goss ("B. GOSS") was the Charity's Chief Operating Officer and had the authority to approve expenses and provide oversight.

Milton Russell Cranford, also known as "Rusty" Cranford ("Cranford"), was a lobbyist registered with the Arkansas Secretary of State. Cranford also served as an executive of the Charity.

Jeremy Young Hutchinson (“Hutchinson”) served as a Senator in the Arkansas Senate from 2011 to 2018 and was therefore an agent of the State of Arkansas. HUTCHINSON was also an attorney during all times material to this Plea Agreement.

B. The Government’s Proof

B. GOSS acknowledges and agrees that the United States would prove the following facts and allegations at trial by competent evidence, establishing beyond a reasonable doubt that she is guilty of Count 1 of the Indictment:

(1) Object

B. GOSS acknowledges and agrees that the conduct described below in Section B (2) (Manner and Means), and in Section B (3) (Overt Acts) would prove beyond a reasonable doubt that B. GOSS voluntarily and intentionally joined in an agreement to violate Title 18, United States Code, Section 666(a)(2).

(2) Manner and Means

The manner and means of the conspiracy were:

- At Cranford’s recommendation, B. GOSS approved the hiring of Hutchinson by the Charity as an outside attorney.
- Between 2013 and 2015, Hutchinson was paid by the Charity an amount greater than \$5,000.
- In exchange for the payments he received from the Charity, in addition to performing legitimate legal work, Hutchinson also agreed to use his official position to perform official action that would benefit the Charity and its clients involving something of a value of \$5,000 or more.

(3) Overt Acts

In or about 2013, at Cranford’s recommendation, B. GOSS approved the hiring of Hutchinson by the Charity as an outside attorney. Between 2013 and 2015, Hutchinson was paid by the Charity an amount greater than \$5,000. During the course of the conspiracy, B. GOSS became aware that in addition to receiving payments for legitimate work, Hutchinson was being compensated, in part, in exchange for using his official position to provide official action that had the potential to benefit the Charity and its clients. B. GOSS understood that she was in

a position to stop payments or otherwise terminate Hutchinson's employment and failed to do so.

C. Forfeiture and Restitution

Bontiea GOSS agrees to the entry of a forfeiture money judgment and/or restitution against her in an amount of no less than zero dollars and no more than \$4,350,000 to be shared with her co-defendant Tommy Ray GOSS. For example, if the Court ultimately ordered the Defendants Tommy Ray and Bontiea GOSS to forfeit and/or pay a combined restitution amount of \$4,350,000, the United States would agree to recommend that the Defendants Tommy Ray and Bontiea GOSS be given the opportunity to decide on the amounts each defendant pays in satisfaction of that total payment to be determined in connection with the sentencing of this matter, which amount the Defendants Tommy Ray and Bontiea GOSS reserve the right to litigate at sentencing. If Defendants are unable to reach agreement with respect to the allocation of a restitution amount between the Defendants, Defendants agree that any dispute thereto will be resolved by the Court and in the sole discretion of the Court.

4. **Use of Factual Admissions and Relevant Conduct.** 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 her 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 charge to which she is pleading guilty.

5. **Statutory Penalties.** The defendant understands that, upon her plea of guilty to Count 1 of the Indictment, charging her with violation of **18 U.S.C. § 371**, that is, **Conspiracy**, the maximum penalties the Court may impose are 5 years’ imprisonment, 3 years’ supervised release,

a fine of \$250,000 (or twice the amount of the gross gain or gross loss, whichever is greater), an order of restitution, and a \$100 mandatory special assessment, which must be paid in full at the time of sentencing. The defendant further understands that this offense is a Class D felony.

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 may impose a term of supervised release of up to three years; the Court must impose a period of supervised release if a sentence of imprisonment of more than one year is imposed.

d. If the defendant violates a condition of her supervised release, the Court may revoke her supervised release and impose an additional period of imprisonment of up to two years without credit for time previously spent on supervised release. In addition to a new term of imprisonment, the Court also may impose a new period of supervised release, the length of which cannot exceed three years, less the term of imprisonment imposed upon revocation of the defendant's first supervised release.

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

f. Any sentence of imprisonment imposed by the Court will not allow for parole.

g. The Court is not bound by any recommendation regarding the sentence to be imposed or by any calculation or estimation of the Sentencing Guidelines range offered by the parties or the United States Probation Office.

h. The defendant may not withdraw her guilty plea solely because of the nature or length of the sentence imposed by the Court.

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 she will not contest any such forfeiture proceedings.

j. The defendant agrees to forfeit all interests she owns or over which she 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) (which is applicable to this action pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 981(a)(1)(C) and 28 U.S.C. § 2461(c)). Bontiea GOSS agrees to the entry of a forfeiture money judgment and/or restitution against her in an amount of no less than zero dollars and no more than \$4,350,000 to be shared with her co-defendant Tommy Ray GOSS. For example, if the Court ultimately ordered the Defendants Tommy Ray and Bontiea GOSS to forfeit and/or pay a combined restitution amount of \$4,350,000 the United States would agree to recommend that the Defendants Tommy Ray and Bontiea GOSS be given the opportunity to decide on the amounts each defendant pays in satisfaction of that total payment to be determined in connection with the sentencing of this matter, which amount the Defendants Tommy Ray and Bontiea GOSS reserve the right to litigate at sentencing. If Defendants are unable to reach agreement with respect to the allocation of a restitution amount between the Defendants, Defendants agree that any dispute thereto will be resolved by the Court and in the sole discretion of the Court. 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.

k. The defendant agrees to fully and truthfully disclose the existence, nature and location of all assets forfeitable to the United States, either directly or as a substitute asset, in which she and his co-conspirators have or had any direct or indirect financial interest, or exercise or exercised control, directly or indirectly, during the period from **2013** to the present. The defendant also agrees to fully and completely assist the United States in the recovery and forfeiture of all such forfeitable assets.

l. The defendant agrees to take all necessary steps to comply with the forfeiture matters set forth herein before her sentencing.

m. Within 10 days of the execution of this plea agreement, at the request of the USAO, the defendant agrees to execute and submit: (1) a Tax Information Authorization form; (2) an Authorization to Release Information; (3) a completed financial disclosure statement; and (4) copies of financial information that the defendant submits to the U.S. Probation Office. The defendant understands that the United States will use the financial information when making its recommendation to the Court regarding the defendant's acceptance of responsibility.

7. **Government's Agreements.** Based upon evidence in its possession at this time, the United States, as part of this plea agreement, agrees not to bring any additional charges against the defendant for any federal criminal offenses related to the crimes charged in the Indictment for which it has venue and which arose out of the defendant's conduct described above. Additionally, the United States agrees to dismiss, as to Bontiea GOSS only, Counts 2-4; 6-10; 12-17; 19-22; 26; 30; 31; 33 and 34 of the Second Superseding Indictment, and the First Superseding and the original Indictment in its entirety, at sentencing.

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 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 her right to challenge the initiation of the dismissed or additional charges against her if she breaches this agreement. The defendant expressly waives her right to assert a statute of limitations defense if the dismissed or additional

charges are initiated against her following a breach of this agreement. The defendant further understands and agrees that, if the United States elects to file additional charges against her following her breach of this plea agreement, she will not be allowed to withdraw her 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 her criminal activities. The defendant understands these disclosures are not limited to the count to which she 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. However, after the plea has been formally accepted by the Court, the defendant may withdraw her plea of guilty only if the Court rejects the plea agreement, or if the defendant can show a fair and just reason for requesting the withdrawal. The defendant understands that, if the Court accepts her plea of guilty and this plea agreement but subsequently imposes a sentence that is outside the defendant's applicable

Sentencing Guidelines range, or imposes a sentence that the defendant does not expect, like or agree with, she will not be permitted to withdraw her plea of guilty.

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

a. The Sentencing Guidelines do not bind the Court and are advisory in nature. The Court may impose a sentence that is either above or below the defendant's applicable Guidelines range, provided the sentence imposed is not "unreasonable."

b. The United States will not recommend a sentencing guidelines enhancement for obstruction of justice under U.S.S.G. § 3C1.1, as to Bontiea GOSS.

c. As to other enhancements or adjustments, there are no agreements between the parties, and both the United States and the defendant reserve the right to advocate their respective positions regarding the applicability of other enhancements or adjustments to the Guidelines.

d. The defendant has admitted her guilt and clearly accepted responsibility for her actions and 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 Government to avoid preparing for trial and permitting the Government and the Court to allocate their resources efficiently. Therefore, she 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, any supplement thereto, and his pretrial release; or (2) attempts to withdraw her guilty plea, violates the law, or otherwise engages in conduct inconsistent with her acceptance of responsibility.

e. The parties agree that the Court will determine her applicable criminal history category after receipt of the presentence investigation report prepared by the United States Probation Office.

f. The defendant understands that the estimate of the parties with respect to the Guidelines computation set forth in the subsections of this paragraph does not bind the Court or the United States Probation Office with respect to the appropriate Guidelines levels. Additionally, the failure of the Court to accept these

stipulations will not, as outlined in paragraph 9 of this plea agreement, provide the defendant with a basis to withdraw his plea of guilty.

g. The defendant understands that the Court may impose any sentence authorized by law, including any sentence outside the applicable Guidelines range that is not “unreasonable.” The United States agrees to limit its sentencing recommendation in this case to no more than 48 months (4 years). The defendant reserves the right to argue for any lawful sentence, including a sentence outside the Guidelines range.

h. 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.

i. The defendant understands and agrees that the factual admissions contained in paragraph 3 of this plea agreement, and any admissions that she will make during her plea colloquy, support the imposition of the agreed upon 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 the 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 the 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 that the United States remains free on appeal or collateral proceedings to defend the legality and propriety of the sentence actually imposed, even if the Court chooses not to follow any recommendation made by the United States; 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 she 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 her 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 her behalf;
- and

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

The defendant understands that, by pleading guilty, she waives or gives up those rights and that there will be no trial. The defendant further understands that, if she pleads guilty, the Court may ask her questions about the offense to which she pleaded guilty, and if the defendant answers those questions under oath and in the presence of counsel, her answers may later be used against her in a prosecution for perjury or making a false statement. The defendant also understands that she has pleaded guilty to a felony offense and, as a result, will lose her 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, she waives her right to appeal or collaterally attack a finding of guilt following the acceptance of this plea agreement, except on grounds of (1) ineffective assistance of counsel; or (2) prosecutorial misconduct; and

b. The defendant expressly waives her right to appeal her sentence, directly or collaterally, on any ground except claims of: (1) ineffective assistance of counsel; (2) prosecutorial misconduct; or (3) a sentence imposed in excess of the statutory maximum. 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 her 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 Venue.** The defendant waives any challenge to venue in the Western District of Missouri.

17. **Discovery Waiver.** The defendant waives the right to any further discovery or disclosures of information not already provided at the time of the entry of the guilty plea, other than

information required to be disclosed under Federal Rule of Criminal Procedure 32(i)(2) and exculpatory or impeachment information casting doubt upon sentencing factors.

18. **Financial Obligations.** By entering into this plea agreement, the defendant represents that he understands and agrees to the following financial obligations:

a. The Court may order restitution to the victims of the offense to which the defendant is pleading guilty. The defendant agrees that the Court may order restitution in connection with the conduct charged in any counts of the indictment which are to be dismissed and all other uncharged, related criminal activity.

b. Bontiea GOSS agrees to the entry of a forfeiture money judgment and/or restitution against her in an amount of no less than zero dollars and no more than \$4,350,000 to be shared with her co-defendant Tommy Ray GOSS. For example, if the Court ultimately ordered the Defendants Tommy Ray and Bontiea GOSS to forfeit and/or pay a combined restitution amount of \$4,350,000 the United States would agree to recommend that the Defendants Tommy Ray and Bontiea GOSS be given the opportunity to decide on the amounts each defendant pays in satisfaction of that total payment to be determined in connection with the sentencing of this matter, which amount the Defendants Tommy Ray and Bontiea GOSS reserve the right to litigate at sentencing. If Defendants are unable to reach agreement with respect to the allocation of a restitution amount between the Defendants, Defendants agree that any dispute thereto will be resolved by the Court and in the sole discretion of the Court. The United States agrees to recommend that any forfeiture amount ordered by the Court be applied to the payment of any restitution amount ordered by the Court.

c. The United States may use the Federal Debt Collection Procedures Act and any other remedies provided by law to enforce any restitution order that may be entered as part of the sentence in this case and to collect any fine.

d. The defendant will fully and truthfully disclose all assets and property in which she has any interest, or over which the defendant exercises control, directly or indirectly, including assets and property held by a spouse, nominee or other third party. The defendant's disclosure obligations are ongoing, and are in force from the execution of this agreement until the defendant has satisfied the restitution order in full.

e. Within ten (10) days of the execution of this plea agreement, at the request of the USAO, the defendant agrees to execute and submit: (1) a Tax

Information Authorization form; (2) an Authorization to Release Information; (3) a completed financial disclosure statement; and (4) copies of financial information that the defendant submits to the U.S. Probation Office. The defendant understands that the United States will use the financial information when making its recommendation to the Court regarding the defendant's acceptance of responsibility.

f. At the request of the USAO, the defendant agrees to undergo any polygraph examination the United States might choose to administer concerning the identification and recovery of forfeitable assets and restitution.

g. The defendant hereby authorizes the USAO to obtain a credit report pertaining to her to assist the USAO in evaluating the defendant's ability to satisfy any financial obligations imposed as part of the sentence.

h. The defendant understands that a Special Assessment will be imposed as part of the sentence in this case. The defendant promises to pay the Special Assessment of \$100 by submitting a satisfactory form of payment to the Clerk of the Court prior to appearing for the sentencing proceeding in this case. The defendant agrees to provide the Clerk's receipt as evidence of her fulfillment of this obligation at the time of sentencing.

i. The defendant certifies that she has made no transfer of assets or property for the purpose of: (1) evading financial obligations created by this Agreement; (2) evading obligations that may be imposed by the Court; or (3) hindering efforts of the USAO to enforce such financial obligations. Moreover, the defendant promises that she will make no such transfers in the future.

j. In the event the United States learns of any misrepresentation in the financial disclosure statement, or of any asset in which the defendant had an interest at the time of this plea agreement that is not disclosed in the financial disclosure statement, and in the event such misrepresentation or nondisclosure changes the estimated net worth of the defendant by ten thousand dollars (\$10,000.00) or more, the United States may at its option: (1) choose to be relieved of its obligations under this plea agreement; or (2) let the plea agreement stand, collect the full forfeiture, restitution and fines imposed by any criminal or civil judgment, and also collect 100% (one hundred percent) of the value of any previously undisclosed assets. The defendant agrees not to contest any collection of such assets. In the event the United States opts to be relieved of its obligations under this plea agreement, the defendant's previously entered plea of guilty shall remain in effect and cannot be withdrawn.

19. **Waiver of FOIA Request.** The defendant waives all of her 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.

20. **Waiver of Claim for Attorney's Fees.** The defendant waives all of her 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.

21. **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 her to law enforcement agents subsequent to the execution of this plea agreement, any testimony given by her before a grand jury or any tribunal, or any leads from such statements or testimony, shall be admissible against her in any and all criminal proceedings. The defendant waives any rights that she 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 her subsequent to this plea agreement.

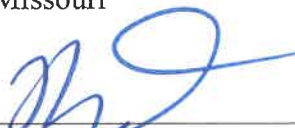
22. **Defendant's Representations.** The defendant acknowledges that she has entered into this plea agreement freely and voluntarily after receiving the effective assistance, advice and approval of counsel. The defendant acknowledges that she is satisfied with the assistance of counsel, and that counsel has fully advised her of her 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 her to enter her plea of guilty.

23. **No Undisclosed Terms.** The United States and the defendant acknowledge and agree that the above stated terms and conditions, together with any written supplemental agreement that might be presented to the Court in camera, constitute the entire plea agreement between the parties, and that any other terms and conditions not expressly set forth in this agreement or any written supplemental agreement do not constitute any part of the parties' agreement and will not be enforceable against either party.

24. **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.

TERESA A. MOORE
United States Attorney, Western District of
Missouri

Dated: 9/28/2022

By: 
RANDALL D. EGGERT
Assistant United States Attorney

By: 
STEPHANIE G. MAZZANTI
Special Assistant United States Attorney

COREY R. AMUNDSON
Chief, Public Integrity Section

Dated: 9/28/2022

By: 
MARCO A. PALMIERI
Senior Litigation Counsel

(Continued on Subsequent Page)


I have consulted with my attorneys and fully understand all of my rights with respect to the offense charged in the Indictment. Further, I have consulted with my attorneys 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 attorneys. I understand this plea agreement and I voluntarily agree to it.

Dated: 9/28/2022


BONTIEA BERNEDETTE GOSS
Defendant

We are defendant Bontiea Bernedette Goss's attorneys. We have fully explained to her her rights with respect to the offense charged in the Indictment. Further, we have reviewed with her the provisions of the Sentencing Guidelines that might apply in this case. We have carefully reviewed every part of this plea agreement with her. To our knowledge, Bontiea Bernedette Goss's decision to enter into this plea agreement is an informed and voluntary one.

Dated: 9/28/2022


MELANIE MORGAN
Attorney for Defendant

Dated: 9/28/2022


BRANDEN BELL
Attorney for Defendant