

**IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE UNITED STATES  
FOR THE DISTRICT OF NEW MEXICO**

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,	)	
	)	
Plaintiff,	)	
	)	
vs.	)	Cr. No. 07-_____
	)	
MANUEL GUARA,	)	
	)	
Defendant.	)	
	)	

**PLEA AGREEMENT**

Pursuant to Rule 11, Fed. R. Crim. P., the parties notify the Court of the following agreement between the United States Attorney for the District of New Mexico, the Defendant, MANUEL GUARA, and the Defendant's counsel, Kari T. Morrissey, Esq.:

**REPRESENTATION BY COUNSEL**

1. The Defendant understands the Defendant's right to be represented by an attorney and is so represented. The Defendant has thoroughly reviewed all aspects of this case with the Defendant's attorney and is fully satisfied with that attorney's legal representation.

**RIGHTS OF THE DEFENDANT**

2. The Defendant further understands the Defendant's rights:
  - a. to be charged and prosecuted by indictment;
  - b. to plead not guilty, or having already so pleaded, to persist in that plea;
  - c. to have a trial by jury; and
  - d. at a trial:

- 1) to confront and cross-examine adverse witnesses,
- 2) to be protected from compelled self-incrimination,
- 3) to testify and present evidence on the Defendant's own behalf, and
- 4) to compel the attendance of witnesses for the defense.

**WAIVER OF RIGHTS AND PLEA OF GUILTY**

3. The Defendant agrees to waive these rights and to plead guilty to Counts 1 and 2 of an Information to be filed in this matter charging the Defendant in Count 1 with Conspiracy in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 371, and Frauds and Swindles (Mail Fraud) in violation of 18 U.S.C. §§ 1341 and 1346 in Count 2.

**SENTENCING**

4. The Defendant understands that the maximum penalty the Court can impose for each count of the Information is:

- a. For the Defendant's violation of the Conspiracy statute:
  - 1) a term of imprisonment of not more than 5 (five) years;
  - 2) a fine not to exceed \$250,000.00;
  - 3) a term of supervised release of not more than 3 (three) years that must follow any term of imprisonment. (If the Defendant serves a term of imprisonment, is then released on supervised release, and violates the conditions of supervised release, the Defendant's supervised release could be revoked -- even on the last day of the term -- and the Defendant could then be returned to another period of incarceration and a new term of supervised release.);
  - 4) a mandatory special penalty assessment of \$100.00; and
  - 5) restitution as may be ordered by the Court pursuant to law, 18 U.S.C. § 3663A.

- b. For the Defendant's violation of the Frauds and Swindles (Mail Fraud) statute:
- 1) a term of imprisonment of not more than 20 (twenty) years;
  - 2) a fine not to exceed \$250,000.00;
  - 3) a term of supervised release of not more than 3 (three) years that must follow any term of imprisonment. (If the Defendant serves a term of imprisonment, is then released on supervised release, and violates the conditions of supervised release, the Defendant's supervised release could be revoked -- even on the last day of the term -- and the Defendant could then be returned to another period of incarceration and a new term of supervised release.);
  - 4) a mandatory special penalty assessment of \$100.00; and
  - 5) restitution as may be ordered by the Court pursuant to law.

5. The parties recognize that the federal sentencing guidelines are advisory, but that the Court is required to consider them in determining the sentence it imposes.

6. The United States reserves the right to make known to the United States Probation Office, for inclusion in the presentence report to be prepared under Rule 32, Fed. R. Crim. P., any information the United States believes may be helpful to the Court, including but not limited to information about any relevant conduct under U.S.S.G. § 1B1.3.

#### **DEFENDANT'S ADMISSION OF FACTS**

7. The Defendant admits to the following facts:
- a. By my signature on this plea agreement, I am acknowledging that I am pleading guilty because I am, in fact, guilty of the offenses to which I am pleading guilty. I recognize and accept responsibility for my criminal conduct. Moreover, in pleading guilty, I acknowledge that if I chose to go to trial instead of entering this guilty

plea, the United States could prove facts sufficient to establish my guilt to all of the charges to which I am pleading guilty beyond a reasonable doubt. I specifically admit the following facts related to the charges against me, and declare under penalty of perjury that all of these facts are true and correct:

b. In the year 2002, my company, Datcom, Inc., was recruited by Raul Parra to work on what Parra called a very big technology job at the new Metro Court. Parra told me that the total project was worth approximately \$4 million, and that I was guaranteed to make \$100,000.00. I told Parra that I was interested in the job.

c. I later met with Parra and with the owner of a company called Integrated Control Systems ("ICS"). Parra explained that Datcom did not have the necessary GSA number to obtain the contract. ICS had a GSA number and could be the general contractor and hire Datcom as a subcontractor. The owner of ICS agreed to hire Datcom as a subcontractor.

d. Through Datcom, I hired various other subcontractors to perform electronics and communications work at the new Metro Court. I prepared invoices for the work performed by Datcom and the other subcontractors. I showed my pricing to Parra, who told me how much to mark up the invoices. The markup on the invoices was substantial. I submitted the completed invoices to ICS in summary form. On Parra's instructions, I did not provide ICS with details in support of the Datcom invoices.

e. I would receive payment from ICS in the amounts of my marked up invoices. After payment of my vendors, I would be left with a large sum of money. The money left over was, essentially, the markup that Parra had instructed me to add to the invoices. All told, this extra money came to approximately \$3 million. At Parra's instruction, I transferred almost all of the extra money to Parra and to "Parra & Gagnon Consulting."

f. I retained approximately \$100,000.00 as my share of the proceeds of the crimes to which I am pleading guilty.

g. In furtherance of the conspiracy to which I am pleading guilty, and to effect the objects thereof, on or about October 15, 2003, I submitted an invoice in the amount of \$569,000.00 to ICS.

h. In furtherance of the scheme and artifice to which I am pleading guilty, and to achieve the objects thereof, on or about November 21, 2003, I and others caused a check, drawn upon an account of the State of New Mexico and payable in the amount of \$675,470.99, to be mailed from the Financial Control Division of the New Mexico Department of Finance and Administration in Santa Fe, New Mexico, to the Accounting Department of the Bernalillo County Metropolitan Court in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

8. By signing this agreement, I admit all the foregoing facts and admit that there is a factual basis for each element of the crimes to which I am pleading guilty. I agree that the Court may rely on any of these facts, as well as any undisputed facts in the presentence report, to determine my sentence, including, but not limited to, the advisory guideline offense level.

## STIPULATIONS

9. To assist the Court in determining the advisory sentencing guideline range, the United States and the Defendant stipulate as follows:

a. As of the date of this agreement, the Defendant has clearly demonstrated a recognition and affirmative acceptance of personal responsibility for the Defendant's criminal conduct. Consequently, pursuant to U.S.S.G. § 3E1.1, so long as the Defendant continues to accept responsibility for the Defendant's criminal conduct, the Defendant is entitled to a three-level reduction from his base offense level as calculated under the sentencing guidelines. This reduction depends on the Defendant personally providing to the United States Probation Officer who prepares the pre-sentence report in this case an appropriate written statement in which the Defendant clearly establishes the Defendant's entitlement to this reduction. Further, the United States is free to withdraw this stipulation if the Defendant engages in any conduct that is inconsistent with acceptance of responsibility between the date of this agreement and the sentencing hearing.

b. The loss amount attributable to the Defendant's conduct was more than \$70,000.00 but not more than \$120,000.00 for purposes of U.S.S.G. § 2B1.1.

10. The Defendant understands that the above stipulations are not binding on the Court and that whether the Court accepts the stipulations is a matter solely within the discretion of the Court after it has reviewed the pre-sentence report. Further, the Defendant understands that the Court may choose to deviate from the advisory guideline sentence. The Defendant understands that if the Court does not accept the

above stipulations and reaches an advisory guideline sentence different than expected by the Defendant, or if the Court deviates from the advisory guideline range, the Defendant will not seek to withdraw the plea of guilty. In other words, regardless of any stipulations the parties may enter into, insofar as is otherwise permitted by law, the Defendant's final sentence is solely within the discretion of the Court.

### **DEFENDANT'S ADDITIONAL OBLIGATIONS**

11. The Defendant understands the Defendant's obligation to provide the United States Probation Office with truthful, accurate, and complete information. The Defendant represents that the Defendant has complied with and will continue to comply with this obligation.

12. The Defendant hereby agrees that:

a. The Defendant will cooperate with the United States by giving truthful and complete information and/or testimony concerning his participation in and knowledge of criminal activities. The Defendant understands that if he falsely implicates an innocent person in the commission of a crime or exaggerates the involvement of any person in the commission of a crime in order to appear cooperative, or if the Defendant falsely minimizes the involvement of any person in the commission of a crime in order to protect that person, then the Defendant will be in violation of this plea agreement, and the United States will have the right to rescind the plea agreement and re-institute criminal proceedings against the Defendant.

b. The Defendant will testify truthfully if called as a witness in any state or federal grand jury investigation and/or any civil or criminal proceeding brought in the District of New Mexico or elsewhere.

c. If requested to do so by the United States Attorney's Office, the Defendant will provide all documents, records, writings, tangible objects, or materials of any kind that are in his possession or under his custody or control and that relate directly or indirectly to any area of inquiry or investigation in this proceeding.

d. If requested to do so by the United States Attorney's Office, the Defendant will submit a personal financial statement under oath and/or submit to interviews by the United States Attorney's Office regarding his capacity to satisfy any fines and/or restitution.

e. If the Defendant complies with the obligations he has undertaken in this plea agreement, and if he has provided substantial assistance within the meaning of 18 U.S.C. § 3553(e) and U.S.S.G. § 5K1.1, the government will move upon completion of the Defendant's cooperation to have the Court depart downward from the applicable guideline sentence. The Defendant understands, however, that the decision whether to depart downwards, as well as the amount of any departure, is solely within the discretion of the Court. The Defendant further understands that the determination as to whether the defendant has provided substantial assistance will be made in the sole discretion of the United States Attorney for the District of New Mexico.

### **WAIVER OF APPEAL RIGHTS**

13. The Defendant is aware that federal law affords a Defendant the right to appeal the sentence imposed. Acknowledging that, the Defendant knowingly waives the right to appeal any sentence within the statutory range applicable to the statute(s) of conviction.

### **GOVERNMENT'S AGREEMENT**

14. Provided that the Defendant fulfills the Defendant's obligations as set out above, the United States agrees that the United States will not bring additional criminal charges against the Defendant arising out of the Defendant's conduct now known to the United States Attorney's Office for the District of New Mexico. The Defendant understands that this agreement is limited solely to the United States Attorney's Office for the District of New Mexico and does not bind any other federal, state, or local agencies or prosecuting authorities, including the Tax Division of the U.S. Department of Justice.

### **VOLUNTARY PLEA**

15. The Defendant agrees and represents that this plea of guilty is freely and voluntarily made and is not the result of force, threats, or promises (other than the promises set forth in this agreement). There have been no representations or promises from anyone as to what sentence the Court will impose. The Defendant represents that the Defendant is pleading guilty because the Defendant is in fact guilty, and for no other reason.

### **VIOLATION OF PLEA AGREEMENT**

16. The Defendant agrees that if the Defendant violates any provision of this agreement, the United States may declare this agreement null and void, and the Defendant will thereafter be subject to prosecution for any criminal violation, including but not limited to any crime(s) or offense(s) contained in or related to the charges in this

case, as well as perjury, false statement, obstruction of justice, and any other crime committed by the Defendant during this prosecution.

**SPECIAL ASSESSMENT**

17. At the time of sentencing, the Defendant will tender to the United States District Court, District of New Mexico, 333 Lomas Blvd. NW, Suite 270, Albuquerque, New Mexico 87102, a money order or certified check payable to the order of the **United States District Court** in the amount of \$200.00 in payment of the special penalty assessments described above.

**ENTIRETY OF AGREEMENT**

18. This document is a complete statement of the agreement in this case and may not be altered unless done so in writing and signed by all parties.

AGREED TO AND SIGNED this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2007.

LARRY GOMEZ  
Acting United States Attorney

Jonathon M. Gerson  
Paula G. Burnett  
Assistant United States Attorneys  
Post Office Box 607  
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87102  
(505) 346-7274

I have read this agreement and carefully reviewed every part of it with my attorney. I understand the agreement and voluntarily sign it.

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MANUEL GUARA  
Defendant

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KARI T. MORRISSEY  
Attorney for Defendant