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Attorneys for Plaintiff UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

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### UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

FOR THE CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Plaintiff,

v.

RYU GOEKU,

Defendant.

No. CR 16-325

PLEA AGREEMENT FOR DEFENDANT RYU GOEKU

UNDER SEAL

This constitutes the plea agreement between RYU GOEKU ("defendant") and the Fraud Section of the Criminal Division of the U.S. Department of Justice and the United States Attorney's Office for the Central District of California (together, "the government") in the above-captioned case. This agreement is limited to the government, as defined to include only the above two components, and does not bind any other federal, state, local, or foreign prosecuting, enforcement, administrative, or regulatory authorities.

### DEFENDANT'S OBLIGATIONS

- Defendant agrees to:
- Give up the right to indictment by a grand jury and, at the earliest opportunity requested by the government and provided

- by the Court, appear and plead guilty to a two-count Information in the form attached to this agreement as Exhibit A or a substantially similar form (the "Information"), charging defendant in Count One with conspiracy to commit wire fraud, in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1349, and in Count Two with subscribing to a false tax return, in violation of 26 U.S.C. § 7206(1).
  - b) Not contest facts agreed to in this agreement.
- c) Abide by all agreements regarding sentencing contained in this agreement.

- d) Appear for all court appearances, surrender as ordered for service of sentence, obey all conditions of any bond, and obey any other ongoing court order in this matter.
- e) Not commit any crime; however, offenses that would be excluded for sentencing purposes under United States Sentencing Guidelines ("U.S.S.G." or "Sentencing Guidelines") § 4A1.2(c) are not within the scope of this agreement.
- f) Be truthful at all times with Pretrial Services, the United States Probation Office, and the Court.
- g) Pay the applicable special assessment at or before the time of sentencing unless defendant lacks the ability to pay and prior to sentencing submits a completed financial statement on a form to be provided by the government.
- 3. Defendant further agrees to cooperate fully with the government, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Internal Revenue Service, the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, and, as directed by the government, any other federal, state, local, or foreign prosecuting, enforcement, administrative, or regulatory authority. This cooperation requires defendant to:

- b) Attend all meetings, grand jury sessions, trials or other proceedings at which defendant's presence is requested by the government or compelled by subpoena or court order.
- c) Produce voluntarily all documents, records, or other tangible evidence relating to matters about which the government, or its designee, inquires.
- 4. For purposes of this agreement: (1) "Cooperation Information" shall mean any statements made, or documents, records, tangible evidence, or other information provided, by defendant pursuant to defendant's cooperation under this agreement; and (2) "Plea Information" shall mean any statements made by defendant, under oath, at the guilty plea hearing and the agreed to factual basis statement in this agreement.

## THE GOVERNMENT'S OBLIGATIONS

5. The government agrees to:

- a) Not contest facts agreed to in this agreement.
- b) Abide by all agreements regarding sentencing contained in this agreement.
- c) At the time of sentencing, provided that defendant demonstrates an acceptance of responsibility for the offenses up to and including the time of sentencing, recommend a two-level reduction in the applicable Sentencing Guidelines offense level, pursuant to U.S.S.G. § 3E1.1, and recommend and, if necessary, move for an additional one-level reduction if available under that section.

6. The government further agrees:

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- Not to offer as evidence in its case-in-chief in the a) above-captioned case or any other criminal prosecution that may be brought against defendant by the government, or in connection with any sentencing proceeding in any criminal case that may be brought against defendant by the government, any Cooperation Information. Defendant agrees, however, that the government may use both Cooperation Information and Plea Information: (1) to obtain and pursue leads to other evidence, which evidence may be used for any purpose, including any criminal prosecution of defendant; (2) to cross-examine defendant should defendant testify, or to rebut any evidence offered, or argument or representation made, by defendant, defendant's counsel, or a witness called by defendant in any trial, sentencing hearing, or other court proceeding; and (3) in any criminal prosecution of defendant for false statement, obstruction of justice, or perjury.
- at sentencing for the purpose of determining the applicable guideline range, including the appropriateness of an upward departure, or the sentence to be imposed, and to recommend to the Court that Cooperation Information not be used in determining the applicable guideline range or the sentence to be imposed. Defendant understands, however, that Cooperation Information will be disclosed to the probation office and the Court, and that the Court may use Cooperation Information for the purposes set forth in U.S.S.G § 1B1.8(b) and for determining the sentence to be imposed.

- c) In connection with defendant's sentencing, to bring to the Court's attention the nature and extent of defendant's cooperation.
- d) If the government determines, in its exclusive judgment, that defendant has both complied with defendant's obligations under paragraphs 2 and 3 above and provided substantial assistance to law enforcement in the prosecution or investigation of another ("substantial assistance"), to move the Court pursuant to U.S.S.G. § 5K1.1 to fix an offense level and corresponding guideline range below that otherwise dictated by the sentencing guidelines, and to recommend a sentence within this reduced range.

# DEFENDANT'S UNDERSTANDINGS REGARDING COOPERATION

- 7. Defendant understands the following:
- a) Any knowingly false or misleading statement by defendant will subject defendant to prosecution for false statement, obstruction of justice, and perjury and will constitute a breach by defendant of this agreement.
- b) Nothing in this agreement requires the government or any other prosecuting, enforcement, administrative, or regulatory authority to accept any cooperation or assistance that defendant may offer, or to use it in any particular way.
- c) Defendant cannot withdraw defendant's guilty plea if the government does not make a motion pursuant to U.S.S.G. § 5K1.1 for a reduced guideline range or if the government makes such a motion and the Court does not grant it or if the Court grants such a government motion but elects to sentence above the reduced range.
- d) At this time the government makes no agreement or representation as to whether any cooperation that defendant has

provided or intends to provide constitutes or will constitute substantial assistance. The decision whether defendant has provided substantial assistance will rest solely within the exclusive judgment of the government.

- e) The government's determination whether defendant has provided substantial assistance will not depend in any way on whether the government prevails at any trial or court hearing in which defendant testifies or in which the government otherwise presents information resulting from defendant's cooperation.
- not relieve the defendant from any legal obligation to pay additional amounts due and owing to the Internal Revenue Service ("IRS"). The defendant understands that nothing in this agreement restricts the United States or the IRS from initiating any collection or civil enforcement action relating thereto, nor does this agreement bar the defendant from civilly contesting any liabilities determined by the IRS, or bar the defendant from exercising his rights in collection proceedings as provided by the Internal Revenue code and standard IRS procedure.

## NATURE OF THE OFFENSE

8. Defendant understands that for defendant to be guilty of the crime charged in Count One of the Information, that is, conspiracy to commit wire fraud in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1349, the following must be true: (1) beginning in or about January 2010, or earlier, and ending no earlier than in or about September 2013, there was an agreement between two or more persons to commit the crime of wire fraud; and (2) the defendant became a member of the

conspiracy knowing of a least one of its objects and intending to help accomplish it.

Defendant further understands that the elements of wire fraud in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1343 are: (1) the defendant knowingly participated in a scheme or plan to defraud, or a scheme or plan for obtaining money or property by means of false or fraudulent pretenses, representations, or promises; (2) the statements made or facts omitted as part of the scheme were material; that is, they had a natural tendency to influence, or were capable of influencing, a person to part with money or property; (3) the defendant acted with the intent to defraud, that is, the intent to deceive or cheat; and (4) the defendant used, or caused to be used, a wire communication to carry out or attempt to carry out an essential part of the scheme.

9. Defendant understands that for defendant to be guilty of the crime charged in Count Two of the Information, that is, subscribing to a false tax return, in violation of 26 U.S.C. § 7206(1), the following must be true: (1) defendant signed and filed a tax return for the year 2011 that he knew contained false information as to a material matter; (2) the return contained a written declaration that it was being signed subject to the penalties of perjury; and (3) in filing the false tax return defendant acted willfully and intentionally, that is, defendant knew that federal tax law imposed a duty on him, and defendant intentionally and voluntarily violated that duty.

# PENALTIES AND RESTITUTION

10. Defendant understands that the statutory maximum sentence that the Court can impose for a violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1349, as

charged in Count One of the Information, is: 20 years imprisonment; a 3-year period of supervised release; a fine of \$250,000 or twice the gross gain or gross loss resulting from the offense, whichever is greatest; and a mandatory special assessment of \$100.

- 11. Defendant understands that the statutory maximum sentence that the Court can impose for a violation of 26 U.S.C. § 7206(1), as charged in Count Two of the Information, is: 3 years imprisonment; a 1-year period of supervised release; a fine of \$100,000 or twice the gross gain or gross loss resulting from the offense, whichever is greatest; payment of the costs of prosecution; and a mandatory special assessment of \$100.
- 12. Defendant understands therefore, that for both Counts One and Two, the statutory maximum sentence that the court can impose is: 23 years imprisonment; a 3-year period of supervised release; a fine of \$350,000 or twice the gross gain or gross loss resulting from the offense, whichever is greatest; the payment of the costs of prosecution for Count Two; and a mandatory special assessment of \$200.
- pay full restitution to the victims of the offenses to which defendant is pleading guilty. Defendant agrees that, in return for the government's compliance with its obligations under this agreement, the Court may order restitution to persons other than the victims of the offenses to which defendant is pleading guilty and in amounts greater than those alleged in the count to which defendant is pleading guilty. In particular, defendant agrees that the Court may order restitution to any victim for any losses suffered by that victim as a result of any relevant conduct, as defined in U.S.S.G.

§ 1B1.3, in connection with the offenses to which defendant is pleading guilty. The parties currently believe the applicable amount of restitution is approximately \$16,796,629.67, but recognize and agree that this amount could change based on facts that come to the attention of the parties prior to sentencing. The defendant agrees to pay full restitution to the IRS in an amount of \$15,981. Any restitution paid to the IRS shall be credited by the IRS against any amount which the defendant owes the IRS, in accordance with standard IRS procedure.

- 14. Defendant understands that supervised release is a period of time following imprisonment during which defendant will be subject to various restrictions and requirements. Defendant understands that if defendant violates one or more of the conditions of any supervised release imposed, defendant may be returned to prison for all or part of the term of supervised release authorized by statute for the offenses that resulted in the term of supervised release, which could result in defendant serving a total term of imprisonment greater than the statutory maximum stated above.
- 15. Defendant understands that, by pleading guilty, defendant may be giving up valuable government benefits and valuable civic rights, such as the right to vote, the right to possess a firearm, the right to hold office, and the right to serve on a jury.

  Defendant understands that once the Court accepts defendant's guilty plea, it will be a federal felony for defendant to possess a firearm or ammunition. Defendant understands that the conviction in this case may also subject defendant to various other collateral consequences, including but not limited to revocation of probation, parole, or supervised release in another case and suspension or

revocation of a professional license. Defendant understands that unanticipated collateral consequences will not serve as grounds to withdraw defendant's guilty plea.

16. Defendant understands that, if defendant is not a United States citizen, the felony conviction in this case may subject defendant to: removal, also known as deportation, which may, under some circumstances, be mandatory; denial of citizenship; and denial of admission to the United States in the future. The Court cannot, and defendant's attorney also may not be able to, advise defendant fully regarding the immigration consequences of the felony conviction in this case. Defendant understands that unexpected immigration consequences will not serve as grounds to withdraw defendant's guilty plea.

# FACTUAL BASIS

17. Defendant admits that defendant is, in fact, guilty of the offenses to which defendant is agreeing to plead guilty. Defendant and the government agree to the statement of facts provided below and agree that this statement of facts is sufficient to support a plea of guilty to the charges described in this agreement and to establish the Sentencing Guidelines factors set forth in paragraph 19 below but is not meant to be a complete recitation of all facts relevant to the underlying criminal conduct or all facts known to either party that relate to that conduct.

In or around 2009, defendant GOEKU began working for and with co-conspirators D.M., T.M., Jn.M., and J.H., and others, and shortly thereafter, with co-conspirator Jm.M. D.M. was the beneficial owner and primary officer of Owner Management Service, LLC, d/b/a Trust Holding Service Co., OMS Global, LLC,

and affiliated companies (collectively, "the Companies"), located in Los Angeles County, within the Central District of California. The Companies purported to assist property owners ("distressed borrowers") in short sales where the property owners could no longer afford mortgage payments on the properties ("distressed properties"). At the direction of the conspirators, distressed borrowers transferred distressed properties' titles to trusts established and controlled by the conspirators, based on representations by D.M. and other coconspirators that they would perform short sales on behalf of the distressed borrowers. Defendant GOEKU worked as a manager at the Companies under the direction of co-conspirator D.M.

Defendant GOEKU transferred two distressed properties he owned to co-conspirator D.M.'s control, based on representations that she would facilitate short sales of the properties.

Instead of performing short sales as represented, the conspirators rented the distressed properties to third-parties, collecting rent and not paying most mortgages on the distressed properties. The conspirators then engaged in various tactics designed by D.M. and other co-conspirators to delay foreclosure by lenders on distressed properties so the conspirators could continue collection of rent from these properties. These tactics included, but were not limited to: (1) fabricating short sale offers for distressed properties using stolen and fictitious identities and submitting those offers to lenders, including financial institutions insured by the FDIC; (2) falsifying financial and tax statements for distressed borrowers, including by forging the signatures of distressed

borrowers, and submitting them to lenders, including financial institutions insured by the FDIC; (3) filing bankruptcy petitions in the names of distressed borrowers without their knowledge, including by forging the signatures of distressed borrowers on the petitions; and (4) fabricating liens on the distressed properties. At the direction of D.M., GOEKU would assist with these tactics to delay foreclosure on properties controlled by the conspirators.

Substantially all of the false documents created by defendant GOEKU and his co-conspirators and submitted to lenders or to servicers, were transmitted by wire, and specifically, by fax, through interstate commerce. The fraudulent actions of the conspirators exposed financial institutions to new and increased risk of loss.

As a result of the foregoing fraudulent actions by the conspirators, the Companies obtained at least approximately \$16,796,629.67 in rental income from 2009 through September 2013.

In addition, beginning in or around January 9, 2012, at the direction of D.M. and other co-conspirators, defendant GOEKU knowingly and fraudulently made false statements under penalty of perjury in relation to the bankruptcy proceeding under Title 11 of the United States Code entitled In re Owner Management Service, LLC, Case No. 12-bk-10231, in the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Central District of California ("the bankruptcy proceedings"). In particular, at the direction of D.M. and other co-conspirators, defendant GOEKU signed under penalty of perjury a January 9, 2012 Chapter 11 bankruptcy

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petition for Owner Management Service, LLC, knowing it to contain false statements, including falsely identifying the defendant, not D.M., as the owner and manager of Owner Management Service, LLC. Also, at the direction of D.M. and other co-conspirators, defendant GOEKU testified falsely under penalty of perjury in the course of the bankruptcy proceedings, including by knowingly and fraudulently making the false statement that the defendant, not D.M., was the owner and manager of Owner Management Service, LLC.

In addition, on or about February 11, 2012, defendant GOEKU willfully made and subscribed to a joint U.S. Individual Income Tax Return, Form 1040, for the tax year 2011, which defendant verified by a written declaration that said the tax return was made under the penalty of perjury, and was true, correct, and complete, and which was filed with the IRS. However, as defendant GOEKU then well knew, said Form 1040 was not true and correct as to every material matter. Specifically, defendant GOEKU listed or caused to be listed a false amount for adjusted gross income. Defendant GOEKU reported gross income of \$45,206, when, in fact, as he then well knew, he earned approximately \$46,065 more than that for the 2011 tax year. Defendant GOEKU falsely subscribed to the return willfully, with the specific intent to violate the law. The tax loss to the IRS for the 2011 tax year was \$7,439. Defendant GOEKU further agrees that as a result of listing false amounts for adjusted gross income in returns for tax years 2010 and 2012, (i) the tax loss to the IRS for 2010 was \$1,293, and (ii) the tax loss to the IRS for 2012 was \$7,249.

SENTENCING FACTORS

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18. Defendant understands that in determining defendant's sentence the Court is required to calculate the applicable

Sentencing Guidelines range and to consider that range, possible departures under the Sentencing Guidelines, and the other sentencing factors set forth in 18 U.S.C. § 3553(a). Defendant understands that the Sentencing Guidelines are advisory only, that defendant cannot have any expectation of receiving a sentence within the calculated Sentencing Guidelines range, and that after considering the Sentencing Guidelines and the other § 3553(a) factors, the Court will be free to exercise its discretion to impose any sentence it finds appropriate up to the maximum set by statute for the crimes of conviction.

19. Defendant and the government agree to the following applicable Sentencing Guidelines factors:

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[U.S.S.G. § 2B1.1(a)(2)]
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         Base Offense Level:
         Specific Offense
17
         Characteristics
18
         Gain between $9.5m and $25m: +20 [U.S.S.G. § 2B1.1(b)(1)(K)]
19
         Resulted in substantial
20
         financial hardship
         to 25 or more victims:
                                            [U.S.S.G. § 2B1.1(b)(2)(C)]
                                        +6
21
                                        +2
                                              [U.S.S.G. § 2B1.1(b)(10)]
         Sophisticated Means:
22
         Acceptance of
                                                     [U.S.S.G. § 3E1.1]
23
         Responsibility:
                                        -3
24
         Total Offense Level:
                                        32
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The government will agree to a two-level downward adjustment for acceptance of responsibility (and, if applicable, move for an additional one-level downward adjustment under U.S.S.G. § 3E1.1(b)) only if the conditions set forth in paragraph 5(c) are met. Subject

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to paragraphs 6(d) above and 30 below, defendant and the government agree not to seek or argue, either orally or in writing, that any other specific offense characteristics, adjustments, or departures relating to the offense level be imposed, except that defendant reserves the right to seek a downward adjustment pursuant to U.S.S.G. § 3B1.2 solely on the grounds that he is being held accountable under U.S.S.G. § 181.3 for a loss amount under U.S.S.G. § 2B1.1 that greatly exceeds his personal gain from the offense charged in Count One. Defendant agrees, however, that if, after signing this agreement but prior to sentencing, defendant were to commit an act, or the government were to discover a previously undiscovered act committed by defendant prior to signing this agreement, which act, in the judgment of the government, constituted obstruction of justice within the meaning of U.S.S.G. § 3C1.1, the government would be free to seek the enhancement set forth in that section.

- 20. Defendant understands that there is no agreement as to defendant's criminal history or criminal history category.
- 21. Defendant and the government reserve the right to argue for a sentence outside the sentencing range established by the Sentencing Guidelines based on the factors set forth in 18 U.S.C. § 3553(a)(1), (a)(2), (a)(3), (a)(6), and (a)(7).

### WAIVER OF CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS

- 22. Defendant understands that by pleading guilty, defendant gives up the following rights:
  - a) The right to persist in a plea of not guilty.
  - b) The right to a speedy and public trial by jury.

- d) The right to be presumed innocent and to have the burden of proof placed on the government to prove defendant guilty beyond a reasonable doubt.
- e) The right to confront and cross-examine witnesses against defendant.
- f) The right to testify and to present evidence in opposition to the charges, including the right to compel the attendance of witnesses to testify.
- g) The right not to be compelled to testify, and, if defendant chose not to testify or present evidence, not to have that choice be used against defendant.
- h) Any and all rights to pursue any affirmative defenses, Fourth Amendment or Fifth Amendment claims, and other pretrial motions that have been filed or could be filed.

## WAIVER OF APPEAL OF CONVICTION

23. Defendant understands that, with the exception of an appeal based on a claim that defendant's guilty plea was involuntary, by pleading guilty defendant is waiving and giving up any right to appeal defendant's conviction on the offenses to which defendant is pleading guilty.

## LIMITED MUTUAL WAIVER OF APPEAL OF SENTENCE

24. Defendant agrees that, provided the Court imposes a total term of imprisonment on all counts of conviction of no more than 151

months, defendant gives up the right to appeal all of the following:

(a) the procedures and calculations used to determine and impose any portion of the sentence; (b) the term of imprisonment imposed by the Court; (c) the fine imposed by the Court, provided it is within the statutory maximum; (d) the amount and terms of any restitution order, provided it requires payment of no more than \$16,796,629.67; (e) the term of probation or supervised release imposed by the Court, provided it is within the statutory maximum; and (f) any of the following conditions of probation or supervised release imposed by the Court: the conditions set forth in General Orders 318, 01-05, and/or 05-02 of this Court; the drug testing conditions mandated by 18 U.S.C. §§ 3563(a)(5) and 3583(d); and the alcohol and drug use conditions authorized by 18 U.S.C. § 3563(b)(7).

- 25. Defendant also gives up any right to bring a postconviction collateral attack on the convictions or sentence,
  including any order of restitution, except a post-conviction
  collateral attack based on a claim of ineffective assistance of
  counsel, a claim of newly discovered evidence, or an explicitly
  retroactive change in the applicable Sentencing Guidelines,
  sentencing statutes, or statutes of conviction.
- 26. The government agrees that, provided (a) all portions of the sentence are at or below the statutory maximum specified above and (b) the Court imposes a term of imprisonment of no less than 121 months, the government gives up its right to appeal any portion of the sentence, with the exception that the government reserves the right to appeal the amount of restitution ordered if that amount is less than \$16,796,629.67.

#### RESULT OF WITHDRAWAL OF GUILTY PLEA

27. Defendant agrees that if, after entering a guilty plea pursuant to this agreement, defendant seeks to withdraw and succeeds in withdrawing defendant's guilty plea on any basis other than a claim and finding that entry into this plea agreement was involuntary, then (a) the government will be relieved of all of its obligations under this agreement, including in particular its obligations regarding the use of Cooperation Information; and (b) in any investigation, criminal prosecution, or civil, administrative, or regulatory action, defendant agrees that any Cooperation Information and any evidence derived from any Cooperation Information shall be admissible against defendant, and defendant will not assert, and hereby waives and gives up, any claim under the United States Constitution, any statute, or any federal rule, that any Cooperation Information or any evidence derived from any Cooperation Information should be suppressed or is inadmissible.

### EFFECTIVE DATE OF AGREEMENT

28. This agreement is effective upon signature and execution of all required certifications by defendant, defendant's counsel, and an attorney for the government.

### BREACH OF AGREEMENT

29. Defendant agrees that if defendant, at any time after the effective date of this agreement, knowingly violates or fails to perform any of defendant's obligations under this agreement ("a breach"), the government may declare this agreement breached. For example, if defendant knowingly, in an interview, before a grand jury, or at trial, falsely accuses another person of criminal conduct or falsely minimizes defendant's own role, or the role of

another, in criminal conduct, defendant will have breached this agreement. All of defendant's obligations are material, a single breach of this agreement is sufficient for the government to declare a breach, and defendant shall not be deemed to have cured a breach without the express agreement of the government in writing. If the government declares this agreement breached, and the Court finds such a breach to have occurred, then:

- a) If defendant has previously entered a guilty plea pursuant to this agreement, defendant will not be able to withdraw the guilty plea.
- b) The government will be relieved of all its obligations under this agreement; in particular, the government:

  (i) will no longer be bound by any agreements concerning sentencing and will be free to seek any sentence up to the statutory maximum for the crimes to which defendant has pleaded guilty; and (ii) will no longer be bound by any agreement regarding the use of Cooperation Information and will be free to use any Cooperation Information in any way in any investigation, criminal prosecution, or civil, administrative, or regulatory action.
- c) The government will be free to criminally prosecute defendant for false statement, obstruction of justice, and perjury based on any knowingly false or misleading statement by defendant.
- d) In any investigation, criminal prosecution, or civil, administrative, or regulatory action: (i) defendant will not assert, and hereby waives and gives up, any claim that any Cooperation Information was obtained in violation of the Fifth Amendment privilege against compelled self-incrimination; and (ii) defendant agrees that any Cooperation Information and any Plea Information, as

well as any evidence derived from any Cooperation Information or any Plea Information, shall be admissible against defendant, and defendant will not assert, and hereby waives and gives up, any claim under the United States Constitution, any statute, Rule 410 of the Federal Rules of Evidence, Rule 11(f) of the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure, or any other federal rule, that any Cooperation Information, any Plea Information, or any evidence derived from any Cooperation Information or any Plea Information should be suppressed or is inadmissible.

## COURT AND PROBATION OFFICE NOT PARTIES

- 30. Defendant understands that the Court and the United States Probation Office are not parties to this agreement and need not accept any of the government's sentencing recommendations or the parties' agreements to facts or sentencing factors.
- 31. Defendant understands that both defendant and the government are free to: (a) supplement the facts by supplying relevant information to the United States Probation Office and the Court, (b) correct any and all factual misstatements relating to the Court's Sentencing Guidelines calculations and determination of sentence, and (c) argue on appeal and collateral review that the Court's Sentencing Guidelines calculations and the sentence it chooses to impose are not error, although each party agrees to maintain its view that the calculations in paragraph 19 are consistent with the facts of this case. While this paragraph permits both the government and defendant to submit full and complete factual information to the United States Probation Office and the Court, even if that factual information may be viewed as inconsistent with the facts agreed to in this agreement, this

paragraph does not affect defendant's and the government's obligations not to contest the facts agreed to in this agreement.

32. Defendant understands that even if the Court ignores any sentencing recommendation, finds facts or reaches conclusions different from those agreed to, and/or imposes any sentence up to the maximum established by statute, defendant cannot, for that reason, withdraw defendant's guilty plea, and defendant will remain bound to fulfill all defendant's obligations under this agreement. Defendant understands that no one -- not the prosecutor, defendant's attorney, or the Court -- can make a binding prediction or promise regarding the sentence defendant will receive, except that it will be within the statutory maximum.

## NO ADDITIONAL AGREEMENTS

33. Defendant understands that, except as set forth herein, there are no promises, understandings, or agreements between the government and defendant or defendant's attorney, and that no additional promise, understanding, or agreement may be entered into unless in a writing signed by all parties or on the record in court.

# PLEA AGREEMENT PART OF THE GUILTY PLEA HEARING

34. The parties agree that this agreement will be considered part of the record of defendant's guilty plea hearing as if the entire agreement had been read into the record of the proceeding.

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AGREED AND ACCEPTED ANDREW WEISSMANN 3 Chief U.S. Department of Justice Criminal Division, Fraud Section 5 BENJAMIN SINGER Deputy Chief U.S. Department of Justice Criminal Division, Fraud Section NIALL M. O'DONNELL CASEY O'NEILL Trial Attorneys 10 U.S. Department of Justice Criminal Division, Fraud Section 11 12 RYU GOEK 13 Defendant 14 15 CALLIE GLANTON STEELE Attorney for Defendant RYU GOEKU 16 17 CERTIFICATION OF DEFENDANT 18 I have read this agreement in its entirety. I have had enough 19 time to review and consider this agreement, and I have carefully and 20 thoroughly discussed every part of it with my attorney. I understand 21 the terms of this agreement, and I voluntarily agree to those terms. 22 I have discussed the evidence with my attorney, and my attorney has 23 advised me of my rights, of possible pretrial motions that might be 24 filed, of possible defenses that might be asserted either prior to 25 or at trial, of the sentencing factors set forth in 18 U.S.C.

§ 3553(a), of relevant Sentencing Guidelines provisions, and of the

consequences of entering into this agreement. No promises,

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inducements, or representations of any kind have been made to me other than those contained in this agreement. No one has threatened or forced me in any way to enter into this agreement. I am satisfied with the representation of my attorney in this matter, and I am pleading guilty because I am guilty of the charges and wish to take advantage of the promises set forth in this agreement, and not for

any other reason.

RYU GOEKU/ Defendant

5/9/16

# CERTIFICATION OF DEFENDANT'S ATTORNEY

I am RYU GOEKU's attorney. I have carefully and thoroughly discussed every part of this agreement with my client. Further, I have fully advised my client of his rights, of possible pretrial motions that might be filed, of possible defenses that might be asserted either prior to or at trial, of the sentencing factors set forth in 18 U.S.C. § 3553(a), of relevant Sentencing Guidelines provisions, and of the consequences of entering into this agreement. To my knowledge: no promises, inducements, or representations of any kind have been made to my client other than those contained in this agreement; no one has threatened or forced my client in any way to enter into this agreement; my client's decision to enter into this agreement is an informed and voluntary one; and the factual basis set forth in this agreement is sufficient to support my client's entry of a guilty plea pursuant to this agreement.

Callie Glanton Steele Date

Attorney for Defendant RYU GOEKU

EXHIBIT A

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LLC (together with all predecessors, successors, and affiliates, hereinafter collectively referred to as "the Companies"), located at 20960 Knapp Street, Chatsworth, California, within the Central District of California.

- 3. The Companies purported to provide foreclosure relief to individual borrowers ("distressed borrowers") whose properties were facing foreclosure ("distressed properties").
- 4. Co-conspirator D.M., a resident of Los Angeles County, California, within the Central District of California, was a beneficial owner and controller of the Companies.
- 5. Co-conspirator T.M., a resident of Los Angeles County, California, within the Central District of California, was a beneficial owner, officer, and primary finance manager for the Companies.
- 6. Co-conspirator Jn.M., a resident of Los Angeles
  County, California, within the Central District of California,
  was an officer and the head of the short sale department for the
  Companies.
- 7. Co-conspirator Jm.M., a resident of Los Angeles
  County, California, within the Central District of California,
  was an officer and a primary property manager, among other
  roles, for the Companies.
- 8. Co-conspirator J.H., a resident of Los Angeles County, California, within the Central District of California, was employed in the short sale department of the Companies.

9. A bankruptcy case is commenced by the filing of a petition for bankruptcy under Title 11 of the United States Code. An individual who files a petition for bankruptcy is known under federal bankruptcy law as a "debtor".

### B. THE OBJECT OF THE CONSPIRACY

through at least in or about September 2013, in Los Angeles

County, within the Central District of California, and
elsewhere, defendant RYU GOEKU, and others known and unknown to
the United States, knowingly and willfully combined, conspired,
and agreed to commit the following offense against the United
States: wire fraud, that is, with intent to defraud, having
devised and intending to devise a scheme and artifice to
defraud, and to obtain money and property by means of materially
false and fraudulent pretenses, representations, and promises,
and for the purpose of executing the scheme transmitted and
caused to be transmitted wire communications in interstate
commerce, in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1343.

#### C. THE MANNER AND MEANS OF THE CONSPIRACY

- 11. The object of the conspiracy was carried out, and was to be carried out, in substance, as follows:
- a. Co-conspirator D.M. and other co-conspirators would identify distressed borrowers whose properties were facing foreclosure.
- b. Co-conspirator D.M. and other co-conspirators would misrepresent to the distressed borrowers that the Companies would perform a short sale and thus avoid foreclosure on the distressed properties; based on that misrepresentation,

the distressed borrowers would transfer title for the distressed properties to trusts controlled by the co-conspirators.

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- c. Instead of performing short sales as represented, the co-conspirators rented the distressed properties to third parties, collecting rent and not paying most mortgages on the distressed properties.
- At the direction of D.M. and other coconspirators, defendant GOEKU and other co-conspirators engaged in various tactics designed by D.M. and other co-conspirators to delay foreclosure on the distressed properties so the conspirators could continue the collection of rent from these properties. These tactics included: (1) fabricating short sale offers for distressed properties using stolen and fictitious identities and submitting those offers to lenders, including financial institutions insured by the FDIC; (2) falsifying financial and tax statements for distressed borrowers, including by forging the signatures of distressed borrowers, and submitting them, in most instances by wire, that is, facsimile communication, through interstate commerce, to lenders; (3) filing bankruptcy petitions for distressed borrowers without their knowledge, including by forging the signatures of distressed borrowers on the petitions; and (4) fabricating liens on the distressed properties. As a result of those tactics, the lenders were exposed to new and increased risk of loss.
- e. One of the distressed properties for which these tactics were used was located at 13243 Bryson Street in Arleta, California ("Bryson Street Property"). Based on representations by the co-conspirators, including GOEKU, the distressed borrower

for the Bryson Street Property, J.V., transferred the Bryson Street Property's title to a trust controlled by the coconspirators. Thereafter, the co-conspirators leased the Bryson Street Property and collected the rent payments. While collecting rent, to delay foreclosure on the Bryson Street Property, the co-conspirators created fake short sale offer documents for the Bryson Street Property, including by using a stolen identity, S.M.L., as a purported short sale offeror and transmitted those falsified documents, through the use of interstate electronic wires, to the mortgage servicer. The conspirators also fabricated tax returns, authorization forms, and hardship letters for distressed borrower J.V., and submitted those fabricated documents to the servicer for the Bryson Street Property to delay foreclosure.

- f. The conspirators would cause payments to be made to themselves from the proceeds of the scheme, which included rental income from the distressed properties.
- g. During the course of a bankruptcy proceeding entitled In re Owner Management Service, LLC, Case No. 12-bk-10231, in the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Central District of California, at the direction of D.M. and other coconspirators, GOEKU knowingly and fraudulently made false statements under penalty of perjury, including falsely stating that GOEKU, not D.M., was the owner and manager of debtor Owner Management Service, LLC, to hide its true ownership by coconspirator D.M.

COUNT TWO

2 [26 U.S.C. § 7206(1)]

12. On or about February 11, 2012, in Los Angeles County, in the Central District of California, defendant RYU GOEKU, a resident of Los Angeles County, within the Central District of California, did willfully make and subscribe to a joint U.S. Individual Income Tax Return, Form 1040, for the tax year 2011, which defendant verified by a written declaration made under penalty of perjury was true, correct, and complete, and which was filed with the Internal Revenue Service. In truth and in fact, defendant GOEKU did not believe the tax return to be true and correct as to every material matter, in that the return reported adjusted gross income of \$45,206, whereas, as defendant GOEKU well knew and believed, he had earned approximately \$46,065 more than that for the 2011 tax year.

ANDREW WEISSMANN
Chief
U.S. Department of Justice
Criminal Division, Fraud Section

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