



U.S. Department of Justice

1400 New York Avenue
Washington, D.C. 20530
(202) 353-7693

April 21, 2009

VIA FEDEX and EMAIL

David Finn, Esq.
Milner & Finn
2828 North Harwood Street
Suite 1950, Lock Box 9
Dallas, TX 75201

Re: Davis Plea Agreement

Dear Mr. Finn:

This letter sets forth the terms of the plea agreement between your client, James Davis, and the United States, by and through the Fraud Section of the Criminal Division of the Department of Justice and the United States Attorney's Office for the Southern District of Texas (hereinafter referred to as the "United States"), regarding your client's involvement with Stanford Group, Inc., Stanford International Bank, Ltd., and related entities including the predecessor bank, Guardian Trust, from at least 1989 through the present. The terms of this "Agreement" are as follows:

1. Davis agrees to waive prosecution by indictment and to plead guilty to three counts of a Criminal Information, charging Davis: in Count 1 with conspiracy to violate the following laws: Securities fraud, in violation of Title 15, United States Code, Sections 78j(b) and 78ff(a), and Title 17, Code of Federal Regulations, Section 240.10b-5; wire fraud, in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 1343; mail fraud, in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 1341; and obstruction of a proceeding before the Securities and Exchange Commission, in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 1505; all in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 371; in Count 2 with mail fraud, in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Sections 1341 and 2; and in Count 3 with obstruction of a proceeding before the Securities and Exchange Commission, in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Sections 1505 and 2. The Criminal Information also includes a forfeiture allegation, as further discussed herein.

Handwritten notes and signatures:
- DEP -
JL
D.F.
JMD
- DEP -
JL
D.F.
JMD

2. Davis is aware that his sentence will be imposed by the Court. Davis understands and agrees that federal sentencing law requires the Court to impose a sentence that is reasonable and that the Court must consider the United States Sentencing Guidelines and Policy Statements (hereinafter "Sentencing Guidelines") in effect at the time of the sentencing in determining that reasonable sentence. Davis acknowledges and understands that the Court will compute an advisory sentence under the United States Sentencing Guidelines and that the applicable

guidelines will be determined by the Court relying in part on the results of a Pre-Sentence Investigation by the Court's Probation Department, which investigation will commence after the guilty plea has been entered. Davis is also aware that, under certain circumstances, the Court may depart from the advisory sentencing guideline range that it has computed, and may raise or lower that advisory sentence under the Sentencing Guidelines. Davis is further aware and understands that while the Court is required to consider the advisory guideline range determined under the Sentencing Guidelines, it is not bound to impose a sentence within that range. Davis understands that the facts that determine the offense level will be found by the Court at the time of sentencing and that in making those determinations the Court may consider any reliable evidence, including hearsay, as well as the provisions or stipulations in this Agreement. The United States and Davis agree to recommend that the Sentencing Guidelines should apply and that pursuant to United States v. Booker, the Guidelines provide a fair and just resolution based on the facts of this case, and that no downward departures or variances are appropriate other than the reduction for acceptance of responsibility noted in paragraph 12 and the potential for a reduction under the terms set forth in paragraph 9. The Court is permitted to tailor the ultimate sentence in light of other statutory concerns, and such sentence may be either more severe or less severe than the Sentencing Guidelines' advisory sentence. Knowing these facts, Davis understands and acknowledges that the Court has the authority to impose any sentence within and up to the statutory maximum authorized by law for the offenses identified in paragraph 1 and that Davis may not withdraw the plea solely as a result of the sentence imposed.

3. Davis also understands and acknowledges that as to Count 1, the Court may impose a statutory maximum term of imprisonment of up to five (5) years. Davis understands and acknowledges that as to Count 2, the Court may impose a statutory maximum term of imprisonment of up to twenty (20) years. Davis understands and acknowledges that as to Count 3, the Court may impose a statutory maximum term of imprisonment of up to five (5) years. In addition to any period of imprisonment as reflected above, the Court may also impose a period of supervised release of up to three (3) years to commence at the conclusion of the period of imprisonment. In addition to a term of imprisonment and supervised release, the Court may impose a fine of up to the greater of \$250,000, or twice the gross pecuniary gain or loss pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 3571(d).

4. Davis further understands and acknowledges that, in addition to any sentence imposed under paragraph 3 of this Agreement, a special assessment in the total amount of \$300 will be imposed on Davis. Davis agrees that any special assessment imposed shall be paid immediately after sentencing.

5. Davis further understands and acknowledges that he (a) shall truthfully and completely disclose all information with respect to the activities of himself and others concerning all matters about which the United States inquires of him, which information can be used for any purpose; (b) shall cooperate fully with the United States and any other law enforcement agency designated by the United States; (c) shall attend all meetings at which the United States requests his presence; (d) shall provide to the United States, upon request, any document, record, or other

tangible evidence relating to matters about which the United States or any designated law enforcement agency inquires of him; (e) shall truthfully testify before the grand jury and at any trial and other court proceeding with respect to any matters about which the United States may request his testimony; (f) shall bring to the attention of the United States all crimes which he has committed, and all administrative, civil, or criminal proceedings, investigations, or prosecutions in which he has been or is a subject, target, party, or witness; and, (g) shall commit no further crimes whatsoever. Moreover, any assistance Davis may provide to federal criminal investigators shall be pursuant to the specific instructions and control of the United States and designated investigators. In carrying out his obligations under this paragraph, Davis shall neither minimize his own involvement nor fabricate, minimize or exaggerate the involvement of others.

6. Davis shall provide, when requested, the Probation Department and counsel for the United States with a full, complete and accurate personal financial statement listing all assets under his direct or indirect control, including any assets he may have transferred or placed in the control of others within the 10 year period prior to execution of this Agreement. If Davis provides incomplete or untruthful statements in his personal financial statement, his action shall be deemed a material breach of this Agreement and the United States shall be free to pursue all appropriate charges against him notwithstanding any agreements to forbear from bringing additional charges otherwise set forth in this Agreement.

7. Provided that Davis commits no new criminal offenses and provided he continues to demonstrate an affirmative recognition and affirmative acceptance of personal responsibility for his criminal conduct, the United States agrees that it will recommend at sentencing that Davis receive a three-level reduction for acceptance of responsibility pursuant to Section 3E1.1 of the Sentencing Guidelines, based upon Davis' recognition and affirmative and timely acceptance of personal responsibility. The United States, however, will not be required to make this sentencing recommendation if Davis: (1) fails or refuses to timely enter his guilty plea and to make a full, accurate and complete disclosure to the United States and the Probation Department of the circumstances surrounding the relevant offense conduct and his present financial condition; (2) is found to have misrepresented facts to the United States prior to entering this Agreement; or (3) commits any misconduct after entering into this Agreement, including but not limited to committing a state or federal offense, violating any term of release, or making false statements or misrepresentations to any governmental entity or official.

8. The United States reserves the right to inform the Court and the Probation Department of all facts pertinent to the sentencing process, including all relevant information concerning the offenses committed, whether charged or not, as well as concerning Davis and Davis' background. Subject only to the express terms of any agreed-upon sentencing recommendations contained in this Agreement, the United States further reserves the right to make any recommendation as to the quality and quantity of punishment.

9. The United States reserves the right to evaluate the nature and extent of Davis' cooperation and to make Davis' cooperation, or lack thereof, known to the Court at the time of

sentencing. If, in the sole and unreviewable judgment of the United States, Davis' cooperation is of such quality and significance to the investigation or prosecution of other criminal matters as to warrant the Court's downward departure from the sentence required by the Sentencing Guidelines, the United States may, at or before sentencing make, a motion pursuant to Title 18, United States Code, Section 3553(e), Section 5K1.1 of the Sentencing Guidelines, or subsequent to sentencing by motion pursuant to Rule 35 of the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure, reflecting that Davis has provided substantial assistance and recommending a sentence reduction. Davis acknowledges and agrees, however, that nothing in this Agreement may be construed to require the United States to file such a motion and that the United States' assessment of the nature, value, truthfulness, completeness, and accuracy of Davis' cooperation shall be binding on Davis.

10. Davis understands and acknowledges that the Court is under no obligation to grant a motion by the United States pursuant to Title 18, United States Code, Section 3553(e), 5K1.1 of the Sentencing Guidelines or Rule 35 of the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure, as referred to in paragraph 9 of this Agreement, should the United States exercise its discretion to file such a motion.

11. Davis admits and acknowledges that the following facts are true and that the United States could prove them at trial beyond a reasonable doubt:

- a. That Davis' participation in the conspiracy and scheme and artifice resulted in a loss of more than \$400,000,000;
- b. That Davis' offense involved more than two-hundred fifty (250) victims;
- c. That a substantial part of Davis' fraudulent scheme was committed from outside the United States and otherwise involved sophisticated means;
- d. That Davis' offense affected the safety and soundness of a financial institution and endangered the solvency or financial security of 100 or more victims; and
- e. That Davis abused a position of trust as Chief Financial Officer of Stanford Group, Inc., and Stanford International Bank, Ltd.

12. Based on the foregoing, the United States and Davis agree that although not binding on the Probation Department or the Court, the applicable Sentencing Guidelines adjusted offense level is as follows:

- a. Section 2B1.1(a) - Base offense level for wire fraud offense 7
- b. Section 2B1.1(b)(1)(K) - Loss of more than \$400,000,000 30
- c. Section 2B1.1(b)(2)(B) - More than 250 victims 6
- d. Section 2B1.1(b)(9)(C) & (D)- Substantial part of scheme committed outside the United States and otherwise used sophisticated means 2
- e. Section 2B1.1(b)(14)(B) - Affecting safety and soundness

	of a financial institution and endangering the solvency or financial security of 100 or more victims	4
f.	Section 3B1.3 - Abuse of position of trust	2
g.	Section 2B1.1(b)(14)(C) - Combination of enhancement for more than 250 victims (+6) and enhancement for safety and soundness of a financial institution and endangering the solvency or financial security of 100 or more victims (+4) equals 10, therefore reduced to 8	-2
h.	Sections 3E1.1(a) and 3E1.1(b) Acceptance of Responsibility (if applicable)	-3
	TOTAL OFFENSE LEVEL - ADJUSTED	<u>46</u>

13. Davis agrees to forfeiture of all property, real or personal, which constitutes or is derived from proceeds traceable to the violations of 18 U.S.C. § 371 (conspiracy to commit wire and mail fraud) and 18 U.S.C. § 1343 (wire fraud). Davis agrees that all such property is subject to criminal forfeiture pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 2461(c) (incorporating 18 U.S.C. § 981(a)(1)(C)), as property constituting, or derived from, proceeds obtained, directly or indirectly, as the result of the conspiracy (Count 1) and mail fraud scheme (Count 2). In order to effectuate the forfeiture, Davis agrees to the entry of a Consent Order of Forfeiture, in the form of a money judgment, of \$1,000,000,000.00 (one billion dollars). Davis acknowledges that the money judgment is subject to forfeiture as proceeds of illegal conduct or substitute assets for property otherwise subject to forfeiture.

14. Davis also agrees that he shall assist the United States in all proceedings, whether administrative or judicial, involving the forfeiture to the United States of all rights, title, and interest, regardless of their nature or form, in the assets which Davis has agreed to forfeit, and any other assets, including real and personal property, cash and other monetary instruments, wherever located, which Davis or others to his knowledge have accumulated as a result of illegal activities. Such assistance shall include Davis' consent to the entry of any order deemed by the United States as necessary to effectuate said forfeitures. In addition, Davis agrees to identify as being subject to forfeiture and/or restitution all such assets, and to assist in the transfer of such property to the United States by delivering to the United States upon the United States' request, all necessary and appropriate documentation with respect to said assets, including consents to forfeiture, quit claim deeds and any and all other documents necessary to deliver good and marketable title to said property. To the extent the assets are no longer within the possession and control or name of Davis, Davis agrees that the United States may seek substitute assets within the meaning of 21 U.S.C. § 853. Davis further agrees to assist the United States in recovering all victim assets, wherever located, including but not limited to, executing requests for repatriation of said assets, wherever located, and facilitating the entry of court orders or treaty requests regarding said assets, wherever located. Davis further agrees not to alienate, transfer or encumber any asset over which he has direct or indirect control unless otherwise agreed to by the United

States or permitted by order of the Court. Failure to comply with the terms of this paragraph will constitute a material breach of this agreement.

15. Davis knowingly and voluntarily agrees to waive any claim or defenses he may have under the Eighth Amendment to the United States Constitution, including any claim of excessive fine or penalty with respect to the forfeited assets or victim restitution. Davis further knowingly and voluntarily waives his right to a jury trial on the forfeiture of said assets, waives any statute of limitations with respect to the forfeiture of said assets, and waives any notice of forfeiture proceedings, whether administrative or judicial, against the forfeited assets. Davis waives the requirements of Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure 32.2 and 43(a) regarding notice of the forfeiture in the charging instrument, announcement of the forfeiture at sentencing, and incorporation of the forfeiture in the judgment. Davis acknowledges that he understands that the forfeiture of assets is part of the sentence that may be imposed in this case and waives any failure by the court to advise him of this, pursuant to Rule 11(b)(1)(J), at the time his guilty plea is accepted.

16. Davis acknowledges that because the offenses of conviction occurred after April 24, 1996, restitution is mandatory without regard to the Davis' ability to pay and that the Court must order Davis to pay restitution for the full loss caused by his criminal conduct pursuant to Title 18, United States Code, Section 3663A, provided, however, that the United States agrees that the value of any property returned to victims through the forfeiture and remission process shall be credited against any order of restitution due to victims.

17. Davis is aware that the sentence has not yet been determined by the Court. Davis is also aware that any estimate of the probable sentencing range or sentence that Davis may receive, whether that estimate comes from Davis' attorney, the United States, or the Probation Department, is a prediction, not a promise, and is not binding on the United States, the Probation Department or the Court. Davis further understands that any recommendation that the United States makes to the Court as to sentencing, whether pursuant to this Agreement or otherwise, is not binding on the Court and the Court may disregard the recommendation in its entirety. Davis understands and acknowledges, as previously acknowledged in paragraph 2 above, that Davis may not withdraw his plea based upon the Court's decision not to accept a sentencing recommendation made by Davis, the United States, or a recommendation made jointly by both Davis and the United States.

18. Davis is aware that Title 18, United States Code, Section 3742 affords Davis the right to appeal the sentence imposed in this case. Acknowledging this, in exchange for the undertakings made by the United States in this Agreement, Davis hereby waives all rights conferred by Section 3742 to appeal any sentence imposed, including any forfeiture or restitution ordered, or to appeal the manner in which the sentence was imposed, unless the sentence exceeds the maximum permitted by statute. Davis further understands that nothing in this Agreement shall affect the right of the United States and/or its duty to appeal as set forth in Title 18, United States Code, Section 3742(b). If the United States appeals Davis' sentence pursuant to Section

3742(b), however, Davis shall be released from this waiver of appellate rights. By executing this Agreement, Davis acknowledges that he has discussed the appeal waiver set forth in this Agreement with his attorney. Davis further agrees, together with the United States, to request that the district Court enter a specific finding that the Davis' waiver of his right to appeal the sentence to be imposed in this case was knowing and voluntary.

19. Davis acknowledges that he has accepted this Agreement and decided to plead guilty because he is in fact guilty. By entering this plea of guilty, the defendant waives any and all right to withdraw his plea or to attack his conviction, either on direct appeal or collaterally, on the ground that the Government has failed to produce any discovery material, *Jencks Act* material, exculpatory material pursuant to *Brady v. Maryland*, 373 U.S. 83 (1963), other than information establishing the factual innocence of the defendant, and impeachment material pursuant to *Giglio v. United States*, 405 U.S. 150 (1972), that has not already been produced as of the date of the signing of this Agreement.

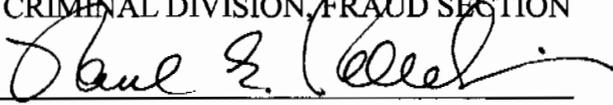
20. For purposes of criminal prosecution, this Agreement shall be binding and enforceable upon the Fraud Section of the Criminal Division of the United States Department of Justice and the United States Attorney's Office for the Southern District of Texas. The United States does not release Davis from any claims under Title 26, United States Code. Further, this Agreement in no way limits, binds, or otherwise affects the rights, powers or duties of any state or local law enforcement agency or any administrative or regulatory authority.

21. In the event that Davis does not plead guilty or if Davis breaches this Agreement by failing to comply with any terms hereto, Davis agrees and understands that he thereby waives any protection afforded by Section 1B1.8(a) of the Sentencing Guidelines and Rule 11(f) of the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure, and that any statements made by him as part of his cooperation with the United States, or otherwise, both prior or subsequent to signing this Agreement, will be admissible against him without any limitation in any civil or criminal proceeding and Davis shall assert no claim under the United States Constitution, any statute, Rule 410 of the Federal Rules of Evidence, or any other federal rule that such statements or any leads therefrom should be suppressed. By entering into this Agreement, Davis intends to waive all rights in the foregoing respects.

22. This Agreement is the entire agreement and understanding between the United States and Davis. There are no other agreements, promises, representations or understandings.

Respectfully submitted,

STEVEN A. TYRRELL, CHIEF
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
CRIMINAL DIVISION, FRAUD SECTION

By: 

PAUL E. PELLETIER, Principal Deputy Chief
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
CRIMINAL DIVISION, FRAUD SECTION

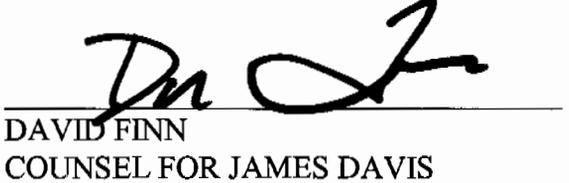
TIMOTHY JOHNSON
ACTING UNITED STATES ATTORNEY

By: 

GREGG COSTA
ASSISTANT UNITED STATES ATTORNEY


JAMES DAVIS
DEFENDANT

Date: _____


DAVID FINN
COUNSEL FOR JAMES DAVIS

Date: _____