

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

**FILED**  
UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO

MAY 25 2010

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, )  
 )  
 Plaintiff, )  
 )  
 vs. )  
 )  
 STEVEN LAYNE, )  
 )  
 Defendant. )

MATTHEW J. DYKMAN  
CLERK *MD*

Cr. No. 09-1764 JH

**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, Steven Layne, and the Defendant's counsel, Alonzo Padilla:

**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 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 the indictment charging a violation of, 21 U.S.C. § 841(a)(1) and (b)(1)(A) that being Possession with intent to Distribute 500 grams and more of a mixture and substance containing a detectable amount of methamphetamine and 18 U.S.C. § 922(g)(1) and 924(a)(2), that being Felon in Possession of a Firearm.

**SENTENCING**

4. The Defendant understands that the minimum and maximum penalties the Court can impose is:

**Count 1:**

- a. imprisonment for a period of not less than 10 years nor more than life;
- b. a fine not to exceed the greater of \$4,000,000.00 or twice the pecuniary gain to the defendant or pecuniary loss to the victim;
- c. a mandatory term of supervised release of not less than 5 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.);

- d. a mandatory special penalty assessment of \$100.00; and
- e. restitution as may be ordered by the Court.

Count 2:

- a. imprisonment for a period of not more than 10 years;
- b. a fine not to exceed the greater of \$250,000.00 or twice the pecuniary gain to the defendant or pecuniary loss to the victim;
- c. a mandatory term of supervised release of not less than 3 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.);
- d. a mandatory special penalty assessment of \$100.00; and
- e. restitution as may be ordered by the Court.

5. The Defendant may (or may not) be eligible for the "safety valve" provisions set forth at 18 U.S.C. § 3553(f)(1)-(5) and U.S.S.G. § 5C1.2. If the Defendant establishes eligibility for each of the elements in § 3553(f)(1)-(5) and U.S.S.G. § 5C1.2, the Defendant would be entitled to a reduction of two levels from the base offense level as calculated under the sentencing guidelines, and the sentence imposed could be less than the statutory minimum

sentence described above. This reduction depends on, among other requirements of § 3553(f), the Defendant truthfully providing to the Government, before sentencing, all information and evidence concerning the offenses that were part of the same course of conduct underlying this agreement. Additionally, this reduction depends on the Defendant having not more than one criminal history point as determined under the sentencing guidelines.

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

7. The United States reserves the right to make known to the United States Pretrial Services and Probation Office and to the Court, for inclusion in the presentence report to be prepared under Federal Rule of Criminal Procedure 32 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**

8. By my signature on this plea agreement, I am acknowledging that I am pleading guilty because I am, in fact, guilty of the offense(s) 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 plea, the United States could prove facts sufficient to establish my guilt of the offense(s) 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:

On or about March 30, 2009, in San Juan County, in the District of New Mexico, I

possessed 500 grams and more of a mixture and substance containing a detectable amount of methamphetamine, which I intended to distribute for monetary gain.

On March 30, 2009, a valid search warrant was executed at my home address located at 714 County Road 2900, in Aztec, NM. During the search, police found a number of firearms, and illegal narcotics, including: 908.5 grams of methamphetamine; a Stevens Rifle Model 325, Caliber 30/30, Serial Number Unknown; Glenfield Model 25 Rifle 22, Serial Number 26503779; Hiawatha Model 189 M, .22 Caliber, Serial Number Unknown; Springfield Model 840 222, Serial Number 247622; and, UMC Rifle, .22 Caliber, Serial Number U-6991.

I was advised of my Miranda Rights, which understood clearly. I then voluntarily agreed to speak with agents. I admitted that I was involved in the sale and purchase of methamphetamine. I admitted that I recently met a man who gave me an ounce of methamphetamine in exchange for a vehicle. The man continued to supply me with methamphetamine and recently "fronted" me roughly a pound and a half of methamphetamine (which is the drugs seized on March 30). I admitted that the firearms belong to me as well. I was convicted of a felony for the distribution of a controlled substance on February 9, 1982, which I acknowledge makes me a felon in possession of a firearm.

9. By signing this agreement, the Defendant admits that there is a factual basis for each element of the crime(s) to which the Defendant will plead guilty. The Defendant agrees that the Court may rely on any of these facts, as well as facts in the presentence report, to determine the Defendant's sentence, including, but not limited to, the advisory guideline offense level.

#### **STIPULATIONS**

10. 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 reduction of three levels from the base offense level as calculated under the sentencing guidelines. This reduction is contingent upon the Defendant personally providing to the United States Probation Officer who prepares the presentence report in this case an appropriate oral or 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. Such conduct would include committing additional crimes, failing to appear in Court as required, and/or failing to obey any conditions of release that the Court may set.

b. Except under circumstances where the Court, acting on its own, fails to accept this plea agreement, the Defendant agrees that, upon the Defendant's signing of this plea agreement, the facts that the Defendant has admitted under this plea agreement as set forth above, as well as any facts to which the Defendant admits in open court at the Defendant's plea hearing, shall be admissible against the Defendant under Federal Rule of Evidence 801(d)(2)(A) in any subsequent proceeding, including a criminal trial, and the Defendant expressly waives the Defendant's rights under Federal Rule of Criminal Procedure 11(f) and Federal Rule of Evidence 410 with regard to the facts the Defendant admits in conjunction with this plea agreement.

11. The Defendant understands that the above stipulations are not binding on the Court and that whether the Court accepts these stipulations is a matter solely within the discretion of the Court after it has reviewed the presentence report. Further, the Defendant understands that the Court may choose to vary from the advisory guideline sentence. The Defendant understands that if the Court does not accept any one or more of the above stipulations and reaches an advisory guideline sentence different than expected by the Defendant, or if the Court varies from the advisory guideline range, the Defendant will not seek to withdraw the Defendant's plea of guilty. In other words, regardless of any stipulations the parties may enter into, the Defendant's final sentence is solely within the discretion of the Court.

**DEFENDANT'S ADDITIONAL OBLIGATIONS**

12. The Defendant understands the Defendant's obligation to provide the United States Pretrial Services and 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.

**VALIDITY OF CONVICTIONS**

13. The Defendant agrees that the Defendant is the same person who was previously convicted of the following offenses, each of which was at the time of conviction punishable by imprisonment for a term exceeding one year:

- a. State of New Mexico v. Steven Layne; CR 81-349, District Court of Aztec, NM; Distribution of a Controlled Substance, November 13, 1981.

14. The Defendant further agrees that the conviction listed above is valid and free from fundamental error, and that the Defendant's constitutional rights, including the right to counsel, were not violated when the conviction was obtained.

**WAIVER OF APPEAL RIGHTS**

15. The Defendant is aware that 28 U.S.C. § 1291 and 18 U.S.C. § 3742 afford a Defendant the right to appeal a conviction and the sentence imposed. Acknowledging that, the Defendant knowingly waives the right to appeal the Defendant's conviction(s) and any sentence within the applicable advisory guideline range as determined by the Court. The Defendant specifically agrees not to appeal the Court's resolution of any contested sentencing factor in determining the advisory sentencing guideline range. In other words, the Defendant waives the right to appeal both the Defendant's conviction(s) and the right to appeal any sentence imposed in this case except to the extent, if any, that the Court may depart or vary upward from the advisory sentencing guideline range as determined by the Court. In addition, the Defendant agrees to waive any collateral attack to the Defendant's conviction(s) pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 2255, except on the issue of ineffective assistance of counsel.

**GOVERNMENT'S AGREEMENT**

16. Provided that the Defendant fulfills the Defendant's obligations as set out above, the United States agrees that:

- a. The United States will not bring additional criminal charges against the Defendant arising out of the facts forming the basis of the present indictment.
- b. The United States will not file an enhancement under 21 U.S.C. § 851.

- c. The United States agrees that the firearms found on Defendant's property did not appear to be used in connection with any drug trafficking conducted by Defendant.

17. This agreement is limited 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.

#### **VOLUNTARY PLEA**

18. 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 promises from anyone as to what sentence the Court will impose. The Defendant also represents that the Defendant is pleading guilty because the Defendant is in fact guilty.

#### **VIOLATION OF PLEA AGREEMENT**

19. 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**

20. 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

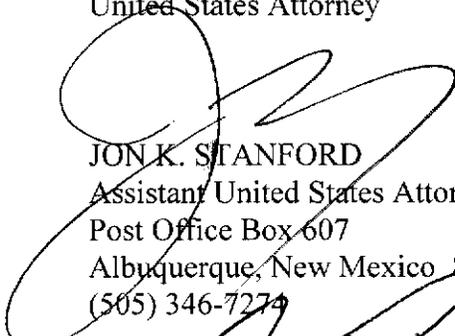
87102, a money order or certified check payable to the order of the **United States District Court** in the amount of \$ 100 in payment of the special penalty assessment described above.

**ENTIRETY OF AGREEMENT**

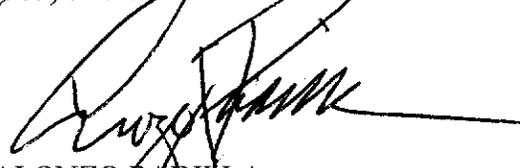
21. This document is a complete statement of the agreement in this case and may not be altered unless done so in writing and signed by all parties.

AGREED TO AND SIGNED this 25 day of May, 2010.

KENNETH J. GONZALES  
United States Attorney



JON K. STANFORD  
Assistant United States Attorney  
Post Office Box 607  
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87102  
(505) 346-7274



ALONZO PADILLA  
Attorney for the Defendant

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



STEVEN LAYNE  
Defendant