



**U.S. Department of Justice**

*Leah B. Foley*  
*United States Attorney*  
*District of Massachusetts*

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*Main Reception: (617) 748-3100*

*John Joseph Moakley United States Courthouse*  
*1 Courthouse Way*  
*Suite 9200*  
*Boston, Massachusetts 02210*

May 16, 2025

Sean Smith, Esq.  
Rudolf Smith LLP  
446 Main Street, Suite 1503  
Worcester, MA 01608

Re: United States v. Matthew D. Lane

Dear Attorney Smith:

The United States Attorney for the District of Massachusetts (the "U.S. Attorney") and your client, Matthew D. Lane ("Defendant"), agree as follows, pursuant to Federal Rule of Criminal Procedure 11(c)(1)(B):

1. Change of Plea

As soon as practicable, Defendant will waive indictment and plead guilty to each count of an Information charging him with conspiracy to threaten to impair the confidentiality of information obtained from a protected computer without authorization, in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 371 (Count One); threatening to impair the confidentiality of information obtained from a protected computer without authorization and aiding and abetting, in violation of 18 U.S.C. §§ 1030(a)(7)(B), (c)(3)(A) and 2 (Count Two); and accessing a protected computer without authorization and thereby obtaining information and aiding and abetting, in violation of 18 U.S.C. §§ 1030(a)(2)(C), (c)(2)(B)(i) & (ii) and 2; and aggravated identity theft, in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1028A(a)(1) (Count Four). Defendant admits that Defendant committed the crimes specified in these counts and is in fact guilty of each one. Defendant also agrees to waive venue, to waive any applicable statute of limitations, and to waive any legal or procedural defects in the Information.

2. Penalties

Defendant faces the following mandatory minimum and maximum penalties:

On each of Counts One, Two, and Three, incarceration for five years; supervised release for three years; a fine of \$250,000 or twice the gross gain or loss from the offense, whichever is greater; a mandatory special assessment of \$100; restitution; and forfeiture to the extent charged in the Information.

On Count Four, a mandatory term of incarceration of two years consecutive to any other term of imprisonment imposed on Defendant on Counts One, Two, and Three; a fine of \$250,000 or twice the gross gain or loss from the offense, whichever is greater; a mandatory special assessment of \$100; and restitution.

Defendant understands that, if Defendant is not a United States citizen by birth, pleading guilty may affect Defendant's immigration status. Defendant agrees to plead guilty regardless of any potential immigration consequences, even if Defendant's plea results in being automatically removed from the United States.

3. Sentencing Guidelines

The parties agree, based on the following calculations, that Defendant's total "offense level" under the Guidelines is 27, plus the mandatory two-year term of imprisonment for his conviction on Count Four:

Group 1: 18 U.S.C. § 1030(a)(2) (Count 3)

- a) Defendant's base offense level is 6 (USSG § 2B1.1(a)(2));
- b) Defendant's offense level is increased by 20, because the loss was more than \$9.5 million but not more than \$25 million (USSG § 2B1.1(b)(1)(K));
- c) Defendant's offense level is increased by 2, because the offense involved sophisticated means and the defendant intentionally engaged in or caused the conduct constituting sophisticated means (USSG § 2B1.1(b)(10)(C));
- d) Defendant's offense level is increased by 2, because Defendant was convicted of an offense under 18 U.S.C. § 1030, and the offense involved an intent to obtain personal information (USSG § 2B1.1(b)(18));
- e) Defendant's offense level is increased by 2, because Defendant used a special skill in a manner that significantly facilitated the commission or concealment of the offense (USSG § 3B1.3);

Group 2: 18 U.S.C. §§ 371, 1030(a)(7) (Counts 1 and 2)

- f) Defendant's base offense level is 18 (USSG § 2B3.2(a));
- g) Defendant's offense level is increased by 2, because the amount demanded or

the loss to the victim was more than \$95,000 but not more than \$500,000 (USSG §§ 2B3.2(b) and 2B3.1(b)(7)(C));

- h) Defendant's offense level is increased by 2, because Defendant used a special skill in a manner that significantly facilitated the commission or concealment of the offense (USSG § 3B1.3)

Grouping Analysis

- i) Defendant's offense level is unaffected, because the offense level for Group 2 nine or more levels less serious than the offense level for Group 1 (USSG § 3D1.4);

Additional Adjustments

- j) Defendant's offense level is decreased by 3, because Defendant has accepted responsibility for Defendant's crimes (USSG § 3E1.1); and
- k) Defendant's offense level is decreased by 2, because Defendant meets all of the criteria under USSG § 4C1.1(a).

Defendant understands that the Court is not required to follow this calculation or even to sentence Defendant within the Guidelines and that Defendant may not withdraw Defendant's guilty plea if Defendant disagrees with how the Court calculates the Guidelines or with the sentence the Court imposes.

Defendant also understands that the government will object to any reduction in Defendant's sentence based on acceptance of responsibility if: (a) at sentencing, Defendant (directly or through counsel) indicates that Defendant does not fully accept responsibility for having engaged in the conduct underlying each of the elements of the crimes to which Defendant is pleading guilty; or (b) by the time of sentencing, Defendant has committed a new federal or state offense, or has in any way obstructed justice.

If, after signing this Agreement, Defendant's criminal history score or Criminal History Category is reduced, the U.S. Attorney reserves the right to seek an upward departure under the Guidelines.

Nothing in this Plea Agreement affects the U.S. Attorney's obligation to provide the Court and the U.S. Probation Office with accurate and complete information regarding this case.

4. Sentence Recommendation

The U.S. Attorney agrees to recommend the following sentence to the Court:

- a) incarceration within the Guidelines sentencing range as calculated by the parties, plus an additional 24 months for Defendant's conviction on Count 4;

- b) no fine;
- c) 36 months of supervised release;
- d) a mandatory special assessment of \$400, which Defendant must pay to the Clerk of the Court by the date of sentencing;
- e) restitution in an amount to be determined at sentencing; and
- f) forfeiture as set forth in Paragraph 6.

Defendant agrees that all criminal monetary penalties, including special assessment, restitution, forfeiture, and/or fine imposed shall be due and payable immediately, and further agrees that any Court-ordered repayment schedule does not preclude further enforcement or collection by the United States.

Defendant agrees to provide the U.S. Attorney with written materials supporting any request for a downward departure or variance from the applicable Guidelines sentencing range no later than 21 days before the scheduled sentencing hearing.

5. Waiver of Appellate Rights and Challenges to Conviction or Sentence

Defendant has the right to challenge Defendant's conviction and sentence on "direct appeal." This means that Defendant has the right to ask a higher court (the "appeals court") to look at what happened in this case and, if the appeals court finds that the trial court or the parties made certain mistakes, overturn Defendant's conviction or sentence. Also, in some instances, Defendant has the right to file a separate civil lawsuit claiming that serious mistakes were made in this case and that Defendant's conviction or sentence should be overturned.

Defendant understands that Defendant has these rights, but now agrees to give them up. Specifically, Defendant agrees that:

- a) Defendant will not challenge Defendant's conviction on direct appeal or in any other proceeding, including in a separate civil lawsuit; and
- b) Defendant will not challenge any prison sentence of 111 months or less or any court orders relating to forfeiture, restitution, fines or supervised release. This provision is binding even if the Court's Guidelines analysis is different than the one in this Agreement.

The U.S. Attorney agrees that, regardless of how the Court calculates Defendant's sentence, the U.S. Attorney will not appeal any sentence of imprisonment of 94 months or more.

Defendant understands that, by agreeing to the above, Defendant is agreeing that Defendant's conviction and sentence will be final when the Court issues a written judgment after the sentencing hearing in this case. That is, after the Court issues a written judgment, Defendant will lose the right to appeal or otherwise challenge Defendant's conviction and sentence, regardless of whether Defendant later changes Defendant's mind or finds new information that would have led Defendant not to agree to give up these rights in the first place.

Defendant is agreeing to give up these rights at least partly in exchange for concessions the U.S. Attorney is making in this Agreement.

The parties agree that, despite giving up these rights, Defendant keeps the right to later claim that Defendant's lawyer rendered ineffective assistance of counsel, or that the prosecutor or a member of law enforcement involved in the case engaged in misconduct serious enough to entitle Defendant to have Defendant's conviction or sentence overturned.

6. Forfeiture

Defendant understands that the Court will, upon acceptance of Defendant's guilty plea, enter an order of forfeiture as part of Defendant's sentence, and that the order of forfeiture may include assets directly traceable to Defendant's offense, assets used to facilitate Defendant's offense, substitute assets and/or a money judgment equal to the value of the property derived from, or otherwise involved in, the offense.

The assets to be forfeited specifically include, without limitation, the following:

- a. \$160,981 in United States currency, to be entered in the form of an Order of Forfeiture (Money Judgment).

Defendant admits that \$160,981 is subject to forfeiture on the grounds that it is equal to the amount of proceeds Defendant derived from the offense.

Defendant acknowledges and agrees that the amount of the forfeiture money judgment represents proceeds the Defendant obtained (directly or indirectly), and/or facilitating property and/or property involved in, the crimes to which Defendant is pleading guilty and that, due at least in part to the acts or omissions of Defendant, the proceeds or property have been transferred to, or deposited with, a third party, spent, cannot be located upon exercise of due diligence, placed beyond the jurisdiction of the Court, substantially diminished in value, or commingled with other property which cannot be divided without difficulty. Accordingly, Defendant agrees that the United States is entitled to forfeit as "substitute assets" any other assets of Defendant up to the value of the now missing directly forfeitable assets.

Defendant agrees to consent to the entry of an order of forfeiture for such property and waives the requirements of Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure 11(b)(1)(J), 32.2, and 43(a) regarding notice of the forfeiture in the charging instrument, advice regarding the forfeiture at the change-of-plea hearing, announcement of the forfeiture at sentencing, and incorporation of the

forfeiture in the judgment. Defendant understands and agrees that forfeiture shall not satisfy or affect any fine, lien, penalty, restitution, cost of imprisonment, tax liability or any other debt owed to the United States.

If the U.S. Attorney requests, Defendant shall deliver to the U.S. Attorney within 30 days after signing this Plea Agreement a sworn financial statement disclosing all assets in which Defendant currently has any interest and all assets over which Defendant has exercised control, or has had any legal or beneficial interest. Defendant further agrees to be deposed with respect to Defendant's assets at the request of the U.S. Attorney. Defendant agrees that the United States Department of Probation may share any financial information about the Defendant with the United States Attorney's Office.

Defendant also agrees to waive all constitutional, legal, and equitable challenges (including direct appeal, habeas corpus, or any other means) to any forfeiture carried out in accordance with this Plea Agreement.

Defendant hereby waives and releases any claims Defendant may have to any vehicles, currency, or other personal property seized by the United States, or seized by any state or local law enforcement agency and turned over to the United States, during the investigation and prosecution of this case, and consents to the forfeiture of all such assets.

Without limiting the above, Defendant states that Defendant is the sole and lawful owner of, and consents to forfeiture of, the following substitute assets:

- a. XMR addresses:
  - i. 47GGQsFrGz2VajWsv2iWXyCsr2ftZXd8UKCF2pzM2jF64qMYSSV  
fjP7SuMKh1aD92rcaBRZTaUZhaS519wqrJHZ2VXFXYV8
  - ii. 89fBN2DUeoYXxkUpYf39vM3gL58rpu5nPKWpK1cDH4WfgnM  
mLPBJmgEuvYhNSkkZq1bVx3riYiFEFUPodp98DJEJTLDMbo
  - iii. 86pKyZw8SUyaLi9jHYmeuiCArYh4PfcUtF6KMoPSxkRjGEPsV5g  
nSyjEKS4eoHHhztHLSqCKiwpQFMEb1RcFdtVGLhk3B4q
  - iv. 88tdpszxoy7YztKf7ZTezBZJqHJDbswtBT2hXZXgekkthTQMz1AZe  
Frh66CynuimCt3Nnon7Xui1QQgzyXvnW16K93xJgM6
  - v. 85wkBVECTew8N3AQ4iKjng11v2B4GPiQyC8rkqR1xJ7T3PAEdCE  
7qiAQHDaMCn6Cqa6pEKmZskE59NehgMfZi6xsDaomWrf
  - vi. 8A4N3WtgGEfdreLnubsMVGWbq7sk36ugrioBmHBSV5eXeyDadw  
FHKAe8HbmJmLxU2WiFUJEhbzfmD2T1VwKoZX1f9gdZhTW
  - vii. 87x3MPs1hTE3NwN32ETfZzR7J4PRheCLKGBNDXSgr9Seh3mKq  
DyJbhBg8w9YyUCJ8n9Bd8uBSzSsRZN9vFUX9ip91gVDZu2
  - viii. 8A7EiBafFEa1PcMJirSGkqGH1ECfyCBZ71dqyUsAHQoWAuvKYH  
JNZgAgvzgnN1xEuWLaWc9Vh9WoAHm22yjdQdsaAxRVADy
  - ix. 85RrrzDdcCXTpceXvF8beXW2SNzJbqZrUHcZsg7u57dq4X3pLK5A  
WEHhJWDSxhvokcaxmAS1WMdWj6oM8f84NaXmGajfiPu

- x. 82rDUUh6TmpKGH231Aj2aoLU4gb34erfr6JBuNMdTP9A7TbWhqc  
1f9cCmkQeS6zXsWTPJnjtchPz6Daqg2EkqcMyTGRxUtp
- xi. 8BEMeUVkPwY5WMWFnP5mCAa3MDb5GR8UVhhQFed7r2rga4d  
aNKy1yqDYmGZardkJvSikX9HDqo3KZTznSpFQ8RG5SUnWR7v
- xii. 84x5QaZQYUMVkiVQ2iw6HvHnB4qNgiJJ52rD16au23dEX6dfaM3  
M5B5BhLKaHP4MuEdCuVL3UhoZwKCcppLJgtC5kQcRfVAP

Defendant agrees to assist fully in the forfeiture of the foregoing assets. Defendant agrees to promptly take all steps necessary to pass clear title to the forfeited assets to the United States, including but not limited to executing any and all documents necessary to transfer such title, assisting in bringing any assets located outside of the United States within the jurisdiction of the United States, and taking whatever steps are necessary to ensure that assets subject to forfeiture are not sold, disbursed, wasted, hidden or otherwise made unavailable for forfeiture. Defendant further agrees (a) not to assist any third party in asserting a claim to the forfeited assets in an ancillary proceeding, and (b) to testify truthfully in any such proceeding.

#### 7. Civil Liability

This Plea Agreement does not affect any civil liability, including any tax liability, Defendant has incurred or may later incur due to Defendant's criminal conduct and guilty plea to the charges specified in Paragraph 1 of this Agreement.

#### 8. Breach of Plea Agreement

Defendant understands that if Defendant breaches any provision of this Agreement, violates any condition of Defendant's pre-trial release or commits any crime following Defendant's execution of this Plea Agreement, Defendant cannot rely upon such conduct to withdraw Defendant's guilty plea. Defendant's conduct, however, would give the U.S. Attorney the right to be released from the U.S. Attorney's commitments under this Agreement, to pursue any charges that were, or are to be, dismissed under this Agreement, and to use against Defendant any of Defendant's statements, and any information or materials Defendant provided to the government during investigation or prosecution of Defendant's case—even if the parties had entered any earlier written or oral agreements or understandings about this issue.

Defendant also understands that if Defendant breaches any provision of this Agreement or engages in any of the aforementioned conduct, Defendant thereby waives any defenses based on the statute of limitations, constitutional protections against pre-indictment delay, and the Speedy Trial Act, that Defendant otherwise may have had to any charges based on conduct occurring before the date of this Agreement.

#### 9. Who is Bound by Plea Agreement

This Agreement is only between Defendant and the U.S. Attorney for the District of Massachusetts. It does not bind the Attorney General of the United States or any other federal, state, or local prosecuting authorities.

10. Modifications to Plea Agreement

This Agreement can be modified or supplemented only in a written memorandum signed by both parties, or through proceedings in open court.

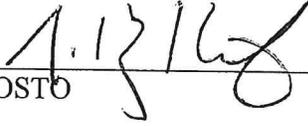
\* \* \*

If this letter accurately reflects the agreement between the U.S. Attorney and Defendant, please have Defendant sign the Acknowledgment of Plea Agreement below. Please also sign below as Witness. Return the original of this letter to Assistant U.S. Attorney Kristen A. Kearney.

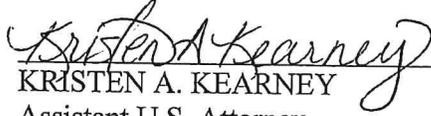
Sincerely,

LEAH B. FOLEY  
United States Attorney

By:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
SETH B. KOSTO  
Chief  
Securities, Financial & Cyber Fraud Unit

KRISS BASIL  
Deputy Chief  
Securities, Financial & Cyber Fraud Unit

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
KRISTEN A. KEARNEY  
Assistant U.S. Attorney

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF PLEA AGREEMENT

I have read this letter and discussed it with my attorney. The letter accurately presents my agreement with the United States Attorney's Office for the District of Massachusetts. There are no unwritten agreements between me and the United States Attorney's Office, and no United States government official has made any unwritten promises or representations to me in connection with my guilty plea. I have received no prior offers to resolve this case.

I understand the crimes I am pleading guilty to and the maximum penalties for those crimes. I have discussed the Sentencing Guidelines with my lawyer, and I understand the sentencing ranges that may apply.

I am satisfied with the legal representation my lawyer has given me, and we have had enough time to meet and discuss my case. We have discussed the charges against me, possible defenses I might have, the terms of this Agreement and whether I should go to trial.

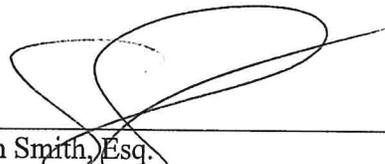
I am entering into this Agreement freely and voluntarily and because I am in fact guilty of the offenses. I believe this Agreement is in my best interest.



Matthew D. Lane  
Defendant

Date: 5/20/25

I certify that Matthew D. Lane has read this Agreement and that we have discussed what it means. I believe Matthew D. Lane understands the Agreement and is entering into it freely, voluntarily, and knowingly. I also certify that the U.S. Attorney has not extended any other offers regarding a change of plea in this case.



Sean Smith, Esq.  
Attorney for Defendant

Date: 5/20/25