#### RETURN OF INFORMATION

Please present	this form to th	e Magistrate	Judge or his	s Deputy	Clerk at t	ne time
your return is made.						

DATE:

June 29, 2015

CRIMINAL DEFENDANT

WARRANT/SUMMONS ASSIGNED

**AUSA** 

CR15-425

RONALD HUNT

**SUMMONS** 

TPD

LDA

FILED

JUN 29 2015

U.S. DISTRICT COURT DISTRICT OF RHODE ISLAND

Please return this form to GALE JAMES in the U.S. Attorney's Office with the pertinent information or call her with the information at 709-5023.

## UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF RHODE ISLAND

JUN 29 2015
U.S. DISTRICT COURT
DISTRICT OF PHODE ISLAND

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

v.

RONALD HUNT,

Defendant.

Cr. No.

In violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1343

(Wire Fraud)

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### **INFORMATION**

The United States Attorney Charges that:

At all times material to this Information:

- 1. From June 2009 to October 2013, Defendant RONALD HUNT was employed as a customer support specialist for Columbia Management Investment Services (CMIS) at their Providence, Rhode Island call center. CMIS is a subsidiary of Ameriprise Financial and is responsible for managing and servicing mutual fund accounts for Ameriprise Financial clients. CMIS and Ameriprise Financial operated in interstate and foreign commerce.
- 2. In and around March of 2013, HUNT, with the purpose of defrauding CMIS and its clients, used his position as a customer support specialist with CMIS to research deceased clients who had unredeemed Ameriprise Financial mutual fund accounts and no listed beneficiaries. HUNT identified two such Ameriprise Financial mutual fund accounts which belonged to two deceased sisters who had resided in Galway, Ireland.

- 3. On or about May 13, 2013, HUNT applied for a new business bank account with TD Bank, which had branches in the district of Rhode Island, under the name "Celtic Savings", which had an address located in Bristol, Rhode Island. On May 15, 2013, HUNT applied for a mutual fund account with Vanguard, also under the name "Celtic Savings".
- 4. On May 19, 2013, HUNT submitted the necessary redemption paperwork for the two sisters' CMIS accounts. HUNT defrauded CMIS by using the alias "Sean Kane" as the fictitious executor for both accounts. On this same day, HUNT, using the "Sean Kane" alias, applied for two mutual fund accounts with CMIS under the sisters' names.
- 5. On May 20, 2013, HUNT, using the fictitious "Sean Kane" alias as executor, transferred a total of \$769,242.24 from one sister's Ameriprise Financial mutual fund account into a CMIS account. Additionally, HUNT transferred \$459,531.91 from the second sister's Ameriprise Financial account into a CMIS account. The total amount fraudulently transferred by HUNT was \$1,228,774.15.
- 6. On May 21, 2013, HUNT, again using the alias "Sean Kane", transferred this total, \$1,228,774.15, via a wire transfer from Ireland to the United States, from the CMIS accounts into the "Celtic Savings" TD Bank account controlled by HUNT.
- 7. On May 23, 2013 and again on August 29, 2013, HUNT caused checks totaling \$750,000.00, drawn from his "Celtic Savings" TD Bank account, to be deposited into his "Celtic Savings" Vanguard account.

#### **COUNT ONE**

8. On or about May 21, 2013, in the District of Rhode Island and elsewhere, the defendant RONALD HUNT, for the purpose of executing a scheme and artifice to defraud and to obtain money and property by means of materially false and fraudulent pretenses, representations and promises, knowingly transmitted and caused \$1,228,774.15, more or less, to be transmitted by means of wire communication in interstate and foreign commerce from Ireland to Rhode Island.

All in violation of 18 U.S.C. §§ 1343 and 2.

PETER F. NERONHA United States Attorney

ADI GOLDSTEIN

Assistant U.S. Attorney

Chief of the Criminal Division

TERRENCE P. DONNELLY

Assistant U.S. Attorney

# UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF RHODE ISLAND

JUN 29 2015

U.S. DISTRICT COURT
DISTRICT OF RHODE IS AND

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

:

v.

RONALD HUNT



62

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## PLEA AGREEMENT

Pursuant to Rule 11(c)(1)(B) of the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure, the United States and Defendant, RONALD HUNT have reached the following agreement:

- 1. Defendant's Obligations:
- a. Defendant will waive presentation of this matter to a grand jury and consent to the filing of a one-count Information which charges defendant with Wire Fraud, 18 U.S.C. § 1343. Defendant agrees to plead guilty to said Information. Defendant further agrees that the time between the filing of this plea agreement and the scheduled date for the change of plea is excludable under the Speedy Trial Act, 18 U.S.C. § 3161.
  - 2. Government's Obligations. In exchange for Defendant's plea of guilty:
- a. The government will recommend that the Court impose a term of imprisonment within the range of sentences for the offense level determined by the Court under the United States Sentencing Guidelines (the U.S.S.G. or "guidelines").
- b. For purposes of determining the offense level, the government agrees to recommend a two-level reduction in the offense level for acceptance of responsibility under § 3E1.1(a) of the guidelines if Defendant continues to demonstrate acceptance of responsibility through sentencing.

- c. As of the date of this agreement, Defendant has timely notified authorities of an intention to enter a plea of guilty. If the offense level is 16 or greater and Defendant enters a plea of guilty pursuant to this agreement, the government will move the sentencing Court for an additional decrease of one level, pursuant to U.S.S.G. § 3E1.1(b)(2), unless Defendant indicates an intention not to enter a plea of guilty, thereby requiring the government to prepare for trial.
- d. The government is free to recommend any combination of supervised release, fines, and restitution which it deems appropriate.
- 3. Defendant understands that the guidelines are not binding on the Court, and that, although the Court must consult the guidelines in fashioning any sentence in this case, the guidelines are only advisory, and the Court may impose any reasonable sentence in this matter up to the statutory maximum penalties after taking into account the factors enumerated in 18 U.S.C. § 3553(a).
  - 4. Specific Agreements:
- a. The United States and defendant agree to recommend to the Court that the amount of loss in this case is more than \$1,000,000 but less than \$2,500,000; namely, \$1,228,773.43.
  - 5. The maximum statutory penalty for the offense to which defendant is pleading are:

    Count 1 Wire Fraud, 18 U.S.C. § 1343
- 20 years imprisonment, a fine of up to \$250,000, a term of supervised release of 3 years, and a mandatory special assessment of \$100.

- 6. Defendant agrees that, after Defendant and Defendant's counsel sign this agreement, counsel will return it to the United States Attorney's Office along with a money order or certified check, payable to the Clerk, United States District Court, in payment of the special assessments.

  Failure to do so, unless the Court has made a previous finding of indigence, will relieve the government of its obligation to recommend a reduction in the offense level under the guidelines for acceptance of responsibility.
  - 7. Defendant is advised and understands that:
- a. The government has the right, in a prosecution for perjury or making a false statement, to use against Defendant any statement that Defendant gives under oath;
- b. Defendant has the right to plead not guilty, or having already so pleaded, to persist in that plea;
  - c. Defendant has the right to a jury trial;
- d. Defendant has the right to be represented by counsel and if necessary have the

  Court appoint counsel at trial and every other stage of the proceeding;
- e. Defendant has the right at trial to confront and cross-examine adverse witnesses, to be protected from self-incrimination, to testify and present evidence, and to compel the attendance of witnesses; and
  - f. Defendant waives these trial rights if the Court accepts a plea of guilty.
- 8. The government reserves its full right of allocution, including the right to present any information to the Court for its consideration in fashioning an appropriate sentence, the right to

correct misstatements, misrepresentations, or omissions by Defendant, and to answer any questions asked by the Court.

- 9. Except for paragraphs 2 and 4, above, the parties have made no agreement concerning the application of the guidelines in this case.
- 10. Defendant understands that the Court alone makes all sentencing decisions, including the application of the guidelines and the sentence to be imposed. The Court is not bound by the parties' stipulations of fact, offense level adjustments, or the government's recommendations. The Court is free to impose any sentence it deems appropriate up to and including the statutory maximum. Defendant also understands that even if the Court's guideline determinations and sentence are different than Defendant expects, Defendant will not be allowed to withdraw Defendant's plea of guilty.
- 11. Defendant hereby waives Defendant's right to appeal the convictions and sentences imposed by the Court, if the sentences imposed by the Court are within or below the sentencing guideline range determined by the Court. This agreement does not affect the rights or obligations of the United States as set forth in 18 U.S.C. § 3742(b), and the government retains its right to appeal any of the Court's sentencing determinations.
- This agreement is binding on the government only if Defendant pleads guilty, fulfills all Defendant's obligations under the agreement, does not engage in any conduct constituting obstruction of justice under § 3C1.1 of the guidelines, and does not commit any new offenses.

  Defendant understands that if Defendant violates this agreement in any way, the government shall be released from its obligations under the agreement and will be free to make any recommendations

that it deems appropriate. If that occurs, Defendant shall not have the right to withdraw Defendant's guilty plea.

- 13. This agreement is limited to the District of Rhode Island and does not bind any other federal, state, or local prosecutive authorities.
- 14. This agreement constitutes the entire agreement between the parties. No other promises or inducements have been made concerning the plea in this case. Defendant acknowledges that no person has, directly or indirectly, threatened or coerced Defendant to enter this agreement. Any additions, deletions, or modifications to this agreement must be made in writing and signed by all the parties in order to be effective.
- 15. Counsel for Defendant states that Counsel has read this agreement, been given a copy of it for Counsel's file, explained it to Defendant, and states that to the best of Counsel's knowledge and belief, Defendant understands the agreement.

16. Defendant states that Defendant has read the agreement or has had it read to

Defendant, has discussed it with Defendant's Counsel,	, understands it, and agrees to its provisions.
Ronald Tus	6/02/15
RONALD HUNT	Date /
Defendant	
Rober B. Man	6/11/15
ROBERT B. MANN	Date
Counsel for Defendant	
Verrence - Barnet	6/24/15
TERRENCE P. DONNELLY	Date
Assistant U.S. Attorney	
Cot Coll	6/24/15
ADI GOLDSTEIN	Date
Assistant U.S. Attorney	
Chief, Criminal Division	

DEFENDANT INFORMATION RELATIVE TO A CRIMINAL ACTION - IN U.SDISTRICT COURT				
BY: ☑ INFORMATION ☐ INDICTMENT ☐ COMPLAIN	T CASE NO			
Matter Sealed: Juvenile Other than Juvenile  Pre-Indictment Plea Superseding Defendant Added Indictment Charges/Counts Added Information				
Name of District Court, and/or Judge/Magistrate Location (City)  UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT RHODE ISLAND DISTRICT OF RHODE ISLAND  Name and Office of Person  PETER F. NERONHA	Address: Collinsville, Illinois 62234			
Furnishing Information on THIS FORM Phone No.  Name of Asst. U.S. Attorney (if assigned)  Attorney THIS FORM Phone No.  TERRENCE P. DONNELLY	Birth Date 1970			
PROCEEDING	- I remail (in applicable)			
Name of Complainant Agency, or Person (& Title, if any) U.S. Secret Service	Social Security Number 972			
person is awaiting trial in another Federal or State Court (give name of court)	DEFENDANT			
this person/proceeding transferred from another district per (circle one) FRCrP 20, 21 or 40. Show District  this is a reprosecution of charges previously dismissed which were dismissed on motion of:  U.S. Atty Defense  this prosecution relates to a pending case involving this same defendant. (Notice of Related Case must still be filed with the Clerk.)  prior proceedings or appearance(s) before U.S. Magistrate Judge regarding this defendant were recorded under	Issue: Warrant Summons  Location Status:  Arrest Date or Date Transferred to Federal Custody Currently in Federal Custody Currently in State Custody Writ Required Currently on bond Fugitive  Defense Counsel (if any): Robert B. Mann, Esq.			
Place of offense RHODE ISLAND County	Appointed on Target Letter			
This report amends AO 257 previously submitted				
OFFENSE CHARGED - U.S.C. CITATION - STATUTORY MAXIMUM PENALTIES - ADDITIONAL INFORMATION OR COMMENTS				
Total # of Counts 1				
Set Title & Section/Offense Level (Petty = 1 / Misdemeanor = 3 / Felony = 4)	Description of Offense Charged Felony/Misd.			
	ire Fraud			
Max Penalty: 20 years imprisonment; fine of up to \$2	☐ Misdemeanor ☐ Felony ☐ Misdemeanor ☐ Helony ☐ Misdemeanor ☐ Misdemeanor ☐ Felony ☐ Misdemeanor ☐ Misdemeanor ☐ Felony ☐ Misdemeanor ☐ Felony ☐ Misdemeanor ☐ Felony			
Es	Stimated Trial Days: 5  Misdemeanor Felony Misdemeanor			