



U.S. Department of Justice

*United States Attorney
District of New Jersey*

*970 Broad Street, 7th floor
Newark, New Jersey 07102*

973-645-2700

June 24, 2014

Marc E. Kasowitz, Esq.
Kasowitz Benson Torres & Friedman LLP
1633 Broadway
New York, NY 10019

Re: Plea Agreement with ADAM S. GOTTBETTER

Dear Mr. Kasowitz:

This letter sets forth the plea agreement between your client, ADAM S. GOTTBETTER ("GOTTBETTER"), and the United States Attorney for the District of New Jersey ("this Office").

Charge

Conditioned on the understandings specified below, this Office will accept a guilty plea from GOTTBETTER to a one-count information, which charges GOTTBETTER with conspiring with others to commit securities fraud and mail fraud between in or about June 2012 and in or about November 2013, in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 371. If GOTTBETTER enters a guilty plea and is sentenced on this charge, and otherwise fully complies with all of the terms of this agreement, this Office will not initiate any further criminal charges against GOTTBETTER for his involvement in stock market manipulation schemes between in or about June 2011 and in or about November 2013, involving the publicly traded stock of the following companies: HBP Energy Corp. ("HBPE"), f/k/a Lido International Corp. ("LIDO"); Rio Bravo Oil, Inc. ("RIOB"); Dynastar Holdings, Inc. ("DYNA"); and Kentucky USA Energy, Inc. ("KYUS"). However, in the event that a guilty plea in this matter is not entered for any reason or the judgment of conviction entered as a result of this guilty plea does not remain in full force and effect, GOTTBETTER agrees that any dismissed charges and any other charges that are not time-barred by the applicable statute of limitations on the

date this agreement is signed by GOTTBETTER may be commenced against him, notwithstanding the expiration of the limitations period after GOTTBETTER signs the agreement.

Sentencing

The violation of 18 U.S.C. § 371 to which GOTTBETTER agrees to plead guilty carries a statutory maximum prison sentence of 5 years and a statutory maximum fine equal to the greatest of: (1) \$250,000; or (2) twice the gross amount of any pecuniary gain that any persons derived from the offense; or (3) twice the gross amount of any pecuniary loss sustained by any victims of the offense. Fines imposed by the sentencing judge may be subject to the payment of interest.

The sentence to be imposed upon GOTTBETTER is within the sole discretion of the sentencing judge, subject to the provisions of the Sentencing Reform Act, 18 U.S.C. §§ 3551-3742, and the sentencing judge's consideration of the United States Sentencing Guidelines. The United States Sentencing Guidelines are advisory, not mandatory. The sentencing judge may impose any reasonable sentence up to and including the statutory maximum term of imprisonment and the maximum statutory fine. This Office cannot and does not make any representation or promise as to what guideline range may be found by the sentencing judge, or as to what sentence GOTTBETTER ultimately will receive.

Further, in addition to imposing any other penalty on GOTTBETTER, the sentencing judge: (1) will order GOTTBETTER to pay an assessment of \$100 pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 3013, which assessment must be paid by the date of sentencing; (2) may order GOTTBETTER to pay restitution pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 3663 *et seq.*; (3) may order GOTTBETTER, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 3555, to give notice to any victims of his offense; and (4) pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 3583, may require GOTTBETTER to serve a term of supervised release of not more than three years, which will begin at the expiration of any term of imprisonment imposed. Should GOTTBETTER be placed on a term of supervised release and subsequently violate any of the conditions of supervised release before the expiration of its term, GOTTBETTER may be sentenced to not more than two years' imprisonment in addition to any prison term previously imposed, regardless of the statutory maximum term of imprisonment set forth above and without credit for time previously served on post-release supervision, and may be sentenced to an additional term of supervised release.

Rights of This Office Regarding Sentencing

Except as otherwise provided in this agreement, this Office reserves its right to take any position with respect to the appropriate sentence to be imposed on GOTTBETTER by the sentencing judge, to correct any misstatements relating to the sentencing proceedings, and to provide the sentencing judge and the United States Probation Office all law and information relevant to sentencing, favorable or otherwise. In addition, this Office may inform the sentencing judge and the United States Probation Office of: (1) this agreement; and (2) the full nature and extent of GOTTBETTER's activities and relevant conduct with respect to this case.

Immigration Consequences

GOTTBETTER understands that, if he is not a citizen of the United States, his guilty plea to the charged offense may result in his being subject to immigration proceedings and removed from the United States by making him deportable, excludable, or inadmissible, or ending his naturalization. GOTTBETTER understands that the immigration consequences of this plea will be imposed in a separate proceeding before the immigration authorities. GOTTBETTER wants and agrees to plead guilty to the charged offense regardless of any immigration consequences of this plea, even if this plea will cause his removal from the United States. GOTTBETTER understands that he is bound by his guilty plea regardless of any immigration consequences of the plea. Accordingly, GOTTBETTER waives any and all challenges to his guilty plea and to his sentence based on any immigration consequences, and agrees not to seek to withdraw his guilty plea, or to file a direct appeal or any kind of collateral attack challenging his guilty plea, conviction, or sentence, based on any immigration consequences of his guilty plea.

Stipulations

This Office and GOTTBETTER agree to stipulate at sentencing to the statements set forth in the attached Schedule A, which is hereby made a part of this plea agreement. This agreement to stipulate, however, cannot and does not bind the sentencing judge, who may make independent factual findings and may reject any or all of the stipulations entered into by the parties. To the extent that the parties do not stipulate to a particular fact or legal conclusion, each reserves the right to argue the existence of and the effect of any such fact or conclusion upon the sentence. Moreover, this agreement to stipulate on the part of this Office is based on the information and evidence that this Office possesses as of the date of this agreement. Thus, if this Office obtains or receives additional evidence or information prior to sentencing that it determines to be credible and to be materially in conflict with any stipulation in the attached Schedule A, this Office shall not be bound by any such stipulation. A determination that any stipulation is not binding shall not release either this Office or GOTTBETTER from any other portion of this

agreement, including any other stipulation. If the sentencing court rejects a stipulation, both parties reserve the right to argue on appeal or at post-sentencing proceedings that the sentencing court was within its discretion and authority to do so. These stipulations do not restrict the Government's right to respond to questions from the Court and to correct misinformation that has been provided to the Court.

Waiver of Appeal and Post-Sentencing Rights

As set forth in Schedule A, this Office and GOTTBETTER waive certain rights to file an appeal, collateral attack, writ, or motion after sentencing, including but not limited to an appeal under 18 U.S.C. § 3742 or a motion under 28 U.S.C. § 2255.

Forfeiture

GOTTBETTER agrees that as part of his acceptance of responsibility and pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 981(a)(1)(C) and 28 U.S.C. § 2461(c), he will consent to the entry of a forfeiture money judgment ("Forfeiture Money Judgment") in the amount of \$344,966.55. GOTTBETTER further agrees to forfeit all of his right, title and interest in any and all specific property traceable to the commission of the offense to which he agrees to plead guilty, with the proceeds from the sale of such property to be applied to the Forfeiture Money Judgment in partial satisfaction thereof.

Payment of the Forfeiture Money Judgment shall be made by certified or bank check payable to the United States Marshals Service, with the criminal docket number noted on the face of the check. GOTTBETTER shall cause said check to be hand-delivered to the Asset Forfeiture and Money Laundering Unit, United States Attorney's Office, District of New Jersey, 970 Broad Street, Newark, New Jersey 07102.

GOTTBETTER further agrees to consent to the entry of orders of forfeiture consistent with this agreement and the Forfeiture Money Judgment to be imposed by the Court and waives the requirements of Rules 32.2 and 43(a) of the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure regarding notice of the forfeiture in the charging instrument, announcement of the forfeiture at sentencing, and incorporation of the forfeiture in the judgment. GOTTBETTER waives any and all constitutional, statutory and other challenges to any forfeiture carried out in accordance with this plea agreement on any grounds, including that the forfeiture constitutes an excessive fine or punishment under the Eighth Amendment. If the amount of the Forfeiture Money Judgment is determined prior to the GOTTBETTER's sentencing, GOTTBETTER consents to the entry of a Consent Judgment of Forfeiture that will be final as to the Forfeiture Money Judgment prior to GOTTBETTER's sentencing, pursuant to

Rule 32.2(b)(4) of the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure. GOTTBETTER understands that the forfeiture 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) of the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure at the guilty plea proceeding. GOTTBETTER further understands that any forfeiture of the GOTTBETTER's assets shall not be treated as satisfaction of any fine, restitution, cost of imprisonment, or any other penalty the Court may impose upon the GOTTBETTER in addition to forfeiture; however, this Office agrees to recommend to the Attorney General that any forfeited money or property be remitted or restored to eligible victims of the offense, pursuant to 21 U.S.C. § 853(i) (incorporated by 28 U.S.C. § 2461(c)), 28 C.F.R. Pt. 9, and other applicable law, it being understood that this Office has authority only to recommend such relief and that the final decision of whether to grant relief rests with the Department of Justice, which will make its decision in accordance with applicable law.

Other Provisions

This agreement is limited to the United States Attorney's Office for the District of New Jersey and cannot bind other federal, state, or local authorities. However, this Office will bring this agreement to the attention of other prosecuting offices, if requested to do so.

This agreement was reached without regard to any civil or administrative matters that may be pending or commenced in the future against GOTTBETTER. This agreement does not prohibit the United States, any agency thereof (including the Internal Revenue Service or the Securities and Exchange Commission), or any third party from initiating or prosecuting any civil or administrative proceeding against GOTTBETTER.

No Other Promises

This agreement constitutes the plea agreement between GOTTBETTER and this Office and supersedes any previous agreements between them. No additional promises, agreements, or conditions have been made or will be made unless set forth in writing and signed by the parties.

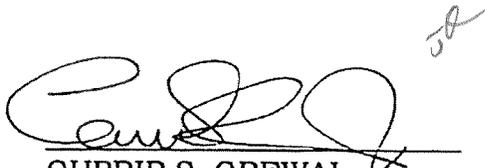
Very truly yours,

PAUL J. FISHMAN
United States Attorney

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'N. P. Grippo', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

By: NICHOLAS P. GRIPPO
JENNY KRAMER
Assistant U.S. Attorneys

APPROVED:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Gurbir S. Grewal', with a long horizontal line extending to the right. There is a small handwritten mark above the signature.

GURBIR S. GREWAL
Chief, Economic Crimes Unit

I have received this letter from my attorney, MARC E. KASOWITZ, Esq. I have read it. My attorney and I have discussed it and all of its provisions, including those addressing the charge, sentencing, waiver, forfeiture, and immigration consequences. I understand this letter fully. I hereby accept its terms and conditions and acknowledge that it constitutes the plea agreement between the parties. I understand that no additional promises, agreements, or conditions have been made or will be made unless set forth in writing and signed by the parties. I want to plead guilty pursuant to this plea agreement.

AGREED AND ACCEPTED:



ADAM S. GOTTBETTER

Date: JUN 30, 2014

I have discussed with my client this plea agreement and all of its provisions, including those addressing the charge, sentencing, waiver, forfeiture, and immigration consequences. My client understands this plea agreement fully and wants to plead guilty pursuant to it.



MARC E. KASOWITZ, ESQ.

Date: 7/1/14

Plea Agreement With ADAM S. GOTTBETTER

Schedule A

1. This Office and ADAM S. GOTTBETTER ("GOTTBETTER") recognize that the United States Sentencing Guidelines are not binding upon the Court. This Office and GOTTBETTER nevertheless agree to the stipulations set forth herein, and agree that the Court should sentence GOTTBETTER within the Guidelines range that results from the total Guidelines offense level set forth below. This Office and GOTTBETTER further agree that neither party will argue for the imposition of a sentence outside the Guidelines range that results from the agreed total Guidelines offense level.

2. The version of the United States Sentencing Guidelines effective November 1, 2013, applies in this case. The applicable guideline is U.S.S.G. § 2B1.1(a)(2). This guideline carries a Base Offense Level of 6.

3. GOTTBETTER's gain from the criminal conduct is more than \$200,000 but less than \$400,000, which results in a 12-level enhancement pursuant to U.S.S.G. § 2B1.1(b)(1)(G) and Application Note 3(B).

4. Specific Offense Characteristic § 2B1.1(b)(10)(C) applies, because the offense involved sophisticated means. This results in an increase of 2 levels.

5. GOTTBETTER abused a position of trust or used a special skill in a manner that significantly facilitated the commission or concealment of the relevant criminal activity, pursuant to U.S.S.G. § 3B1.3. This results in an increase of 2 levels.

6. As of the date of this letter, GOTTBETTER has clearly demonstrated a recognition and affirmative acceptance of personal responsibility for the offense charged. Therefore, a downward adjustment of 2 levels for acceptance of responsibility is appropriate if GOTTBETTER's acceptance of responsibility continues through the date of sentencing. See U.S.S.G. § 3E1.1(a).

7. As of the date of this letter, GOTTBETTER has assisted authorities in the investigation or prosecution of his own misconduct by timely notifying authorities of his intention to enter a plea of guilty, thereby permitting the government to avoid preparing for trial and permitting the government and the court to allocate their resources efficiently. If GOTTBETTER enters a plea pursuant to this agreement and qualifies for a 2-level reduction for acceptance of responsibility pursuant to U.S.S.G. § 3E1.1(a), and if in addition GOTTBETTER's offense level under the Guidelines prior to the operation of §

3E1.1(a) is 16 or greater, GOTTBETTER will be entitled to a further 1-level reduction in his offense level pursuant to U.S.S.G. § 3E1.1(b).

8. In accordance with the above, the parties agree that the total Guidelines offense level applicable to GOTTBETTER is 19 (the “agreed total Guidelines offense level”).

9. The parties agree not to seek or argue for any upward or downward departure, adjustment or variance not set forth herein. The parties further agree that a sentence within the Guidelines range that results from the agreed total Guidelines offense level of 19 is reasonable.

10. GOTTBETTER knows that he has and, except as noted below in this paragraph, voluntarily waives, the right to file any appeal, any collateral attack, or any other writ or motion, including but not limited to an appeal under 18 U.S.C. § 3742 or a motion under 28 U.S.C. § 2255, which challenges the sentence imposed by the sentencing court if that sentence falls within or below the Guidelines range that results from the agreed total Guidelines offense level of 19. This Office will not file any appeal, motion, or writ which challenges the sentence imposed by the sentencing court if that sentence falls within or above the Guidelines range that results from the agreed total Guidelines offense level of 19. The parties reserve any right they may have under 18 U.S.C. § 3742 to appeal the sentencing court’s determination of the criminal history category. The provisions of this paragraph are binding on the parties even if the Court employs a Guidelines analysis different from that stipulated to herein. Furthermore, if the sentencing court accepts a stipulation, both parties waive the right to file an appeal, collateral attack, writ, or motion claiming that the sentencing court erred in doing so.

11. Both parties reserve the right to oppose or move to dismiss any appeal, collateral attack, writ, or motion barred by the preceding paragraph and to file or to oppose any appeal, collateral attack, writ, or motion not barred by the preceding paragraph.

General Information

Court	United States District Court for the District of New Jersey; United States District Court for the District of New Jersey
Federal Nature of Suit	Criminal
Docket Number	2:14-cr-00467