

The Honorable John C. Coughenour

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE
WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON
AT SEATTLE

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
Plaintiff,
v.
CAMERON BRANDON SHEA,
Defendant.

NO. CR20-032JCC

PLEA AGREEMENT

The United States of America, by and through Tessa M. Gorman, Acting United States Attorney for the Western District of Washington, and Thomas M. Woods, Assistant United States Attorney for said District, Defendant CAMERON SHEA and Defendant’s attorney Gregory Murphy, enter into the following Agreement, pursuant to Federal Rule of Criminal Procedure Rule 11(c).

1. **The Charges.** Defendant, having been advised of the right to have this matter tried before a jury, agrees to waive that right and enters pleas of guilty to the following charges contained in the Superseding Indictment:

a. Conspiracy to Mail Threatening Communications, to Commit Cyberstalking, and to Interfere with Federally Protected Activities, in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 371.

1 b. Interference with Federally Protected Activity, in violation of Title
2 18, United States Code, Section 245.

3 2. **Elements of the Offense.** The elements of the offenses to which
4 Defendant are pleading guilty are as follows:

5 **Count 1: Conspiracy**

6 First, there was an agreement between two or more persons to commit at
7 least one crime as charged in the superseding indictment;

8 Second, the defendant became a member of the conspiracy knowing of at
9 least one of its objects and intending to help accomplish it;

10 Third, one of the members of the conspiracy performed at least one overt
11 act for the purpose of carrying out the conspiracy.

12 **First Object of the Conspiracy**

13 The elements of the first object of the conspiracy, Mailing Threatening
14 Communications, in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 876, are as
15 follows:

16 First, the defendant knowingly mailed or arranged to have mailed a letter
17 addressed to a person containing a threat to injure the person;

18 Second, such letter was transmitted for the purpose of issuing a threat, or
19 with knowledge that the letter would be viewed as a threat.

20 **Second Object of the Conspiracy**

21 The elements of the second object of the conspiracy, Cyberstalking, in
22 violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 2261A are as follows:

23 First, the defendant acted with the intent to kill, injure, harass, intimidate,
24 or place under surveillance with intent to kill, injure, harass, or intimidate another person;

25 Second, the defendant used the mail, any interactive computer service,
26 electronic communication service, electronic communication system of interstate
27 commerce, or any other facility of interstate or foreign commerce to engage in a course of
28 conduct that;

1 Third, created a reasonable fear of the death of or serious bodily injury to the
2 person, or caused, attempted to cause, or would be reasonably expected to cause
3 substantial emotional distress to the person.

4 **Third Object of the Conspiracy**

5 The elements of the third object of the conspiracy, Interference with Federally
6 Protected Activity, in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 245, are as
7 follows:

8 First, the defendant threatened force;

9 Second, the defendant willfully intimidated or interfered with a person or
10 attempted to do so;

11 Third, the defendant did so because of that person's religion;

12 Fourth, the defendant acted because that person enjoying private employment;

13 Fifth, the defendant threatened a dangerous weapon, explosives, or fire.

14 **Count 5: Interference with Federally Protected Activity**

15 First, the defendant threatened force;

16 Second, the defendant willfully intimidated or interfered with a person or
17 attempted to do so;

18 Third, the defendant did so because of that person's religion;

19 Fourth, the defendant acted because that person enjoying private employment;

20 Fifth, the defendant threatened a dangerous weapon, explosives, or fire.

21 3. **The Penalties.** Defendant understands that the statutory penalties
22 applicable to the offense to which Defendant is pleading guilty are as follows:

23 a. For the offense of Conspiracy, as charged in Count 1: A maximum
24 term of imprisonment of up to 5 years, a fine of up to \$250,000, a period of supervision
25 following release from prison of up to 3 years, and a mandatory special assessment of
26 \$100 dollars. If a probationary sentence is imposed, the probation period can be for up to
27 five years.

1 b. For the offense of Interference with Federally Protected Activity, as
2 charged in Count 5: A maximum term of imprisonment of up to 10 years, a fine of up to
3 \$250,000, a period of supervision following release from prison of up to 3 years, and a
4 mandatory special assessment of \$100 dollars. If a probationary sentence is imposed, the
5 probation period can be for up to five years.

6 Defendant understands that supervised release is a period of time following
7 imprisonment during which Defendant will be subject to certain restrictive conditions and
8 requirements. Defendant further understands that, if supervised release is imposed and
9 Defendant violates one or more of the conditions or requirements, Defendant could be
10 returned to prison for all or part of the term of supervised release that was originally
11 imposed. This could result in Defendant serving a total term of imprisonment greater
12 than the statutory maximum stated above.

13 Defendant understands that as a part of any sentence, in addition to any term of
14 imprisonment and/or fine that is imposed, the Court may order Defendant to pay
15 restitution to any victim of the offense, as required by law.

16 Defendant further understands that the consequences of pleading guilty may
17 include the forfeiture of certain property, either as a part of the sentence imposed by the
18 Court, or as a result of civil judicial or administrative process.

19 Defendant agrees that any monetary penalty the Court imposes, including the
20 special assessment, fine, costs, or restitution, is due and payable immediately and further
21 agrees to submit a completed Financial Statement of Debtor form as requested by the
22 United States Attorney's Office.

23 **4. Rights Waived by Pleading Guilty.** Defendant understands that by
24 pleading guilty, Defendant knowingly and voluntarily waives the following rights:

- 25 a. The right to plead not guilty and to persist in a plea of not guilty;
- 26 b. The right to a speedy and public trial before a jury of Defendant's
27 peers;

- c. The right to the effective assistance of counsel at trial, including, if Defendant could not afford an attorney, the right to have the Court appoint one for Defendant;
- d. The right to be presumed innocent until guilt has been established beyond a reasonable doubt at trial;
- e. The right to confront and cross-examine witnesses against Defendant at trial;
- f. The right to compel or subpoena witnesses to appear on Defendant's behalf at trial;
- g. The right to testify or to remain silent at trial, at which trial such silence could not be used against Defendant; and
- h. The right to appeal a finding of guilt or any pretrial rulings.

5. **United States Sentencing Guidelines.** Defendant understands and acknowledges that the Court must consider the sentencing range calculated under the United States Sentencing Guidelines and possible departures under the Sentencing Guidelines together with the other factors set forth in Title 18, United States Code, Section 3553(a), including: (1) the nature and circumstances of the offenses; (2) the history and characteristics of Defendant; (3) the need for the sentence to reflect the seriousness of the offenses, to promote respect for the law, and to provide just punishment for the offenses; (4) the need for the sentence to afford adequate deterrence to criminal conduct; (5) the need for the sentence to protect the public from further crimes of Defendant; (6) the need to provide Defendant with educational and vocational training, medical care, or other correctional treatment in the most effective manner; (7) the kinds of sentences available; (8) the need to provide restitution to victims; and (9) the need to avoid unwarranted sentence disparity among defendants involved in similar conduct who have similar records. Accordingly, Defendant understands and acknowledges that:

- a. The Court will determine Defendant's Sentencing Guidelines range at the time of sentencing;

1 b. After consideration of the Sentencing Guidelines and the factors in
2 18 U.S.C. 3553(a), the Court may impose any sentence authorized by law, up to the
3 maximum term authorized by law;

4 c. The Court is not bound by any recommendation regarding the
5 sentence to be imposed, or by any calculation or estimation of the Sentencing Guidelines
6 range offered by the parties or the United States Probation Department, or by any
7 stipulations or agreements between the parties in this Plea Agreement; and

8 d. Defendant may not withdraw a guilty plea solely because of the
9 sentence imposed by the Court.

10 6. **Ultimate Sentence.** Defendant acknowledges that no one has promised or
11 guaranteed what sentence the Court will impose.

12 7. **Statement of Facts.** The parties agree on the following facts. Defendant
13 admits Defendant is guilty of the charged offenses:

14 a. In or about November 2019, CAMERON SHEA, using the moniker
15 Krokodil, participated in a private Wire chat group titled, Operation Erste Säule. Shea
16 was a member of Atomwaffen Division (“AWD”). Shea created a chat group to
17 collaborate and coordinate an effort to deliver threatening messages. SHEA described the
18 Operation in a message to the chat group: “*We’re coordinating this nation wide
19 Operation called Operation Erste Säule, named after the first pillar of stat[e] power,
20 AKA the media. We will be poster[ing] journalists houses and media buildings to send a
21 clear message that we too have leverage over them . . . The goal, of course, is to erode
22 the media/states air of legitimacy by showing people that they have names and addresses,
23 and hopefully embolden others to act as well.*” SHEA helped organized the operation
24 over a period of months.

25 b. As part of the operation, each participant was directed to identify,
26 research, and locate journalists in their area. At one point, certain Jewish people were
27 located and chosen as targets for the operation. SHEA stated that the identification of
28 these targets was “*Excellent work!*” and “*Outstanding.*”

1 c. On or about December 11, 2019, SHEA explained to the group that
 2 he wanted to coordinate the operation on the same night so journalists would be caught
 3 off guard, and to accomplish an effective “*show of force, demonstrating we are capable*
 4 *of massive coordination.*”

5 d. Three posters were developed to use in the operation, which are
 6 depicted below. Under the poster design, the victim’s personal information, such as their
 7 home address, was to be placed in the box at the bottom.



17 e. On January 25, 2020, SHEA mailed the above-described “Your
 18 Actions Have Consequences” poster depicting a Molotov cocktail to an individual
 19 employed by the Anti-Defamation League (“ADL”). In so doing, SHEA was motivated
 20 by the fact that individual was Jewish and the ADL’s mission to combat anti-Semitism.
 21 SHEA also mailed posters to another individual associated with the ADL and a news
 22 reporter who had done stories about AWD.

23 f. The parties agree that the Court may consider additional facts
 24 contained in the Presentence Report (subject to standard objections by the parties) and/or
 25 that may be presented by the United States or Defendant at the time of sentencing, and
 26 that the factual statement contained herein is not intended to limit the facts that the parties
 27 may present to the Court at the time of sentencing.
 28

1 **8. Acceptance of Responsibility.** At sentencing, *if* the Court concludes
2 Defendant qualifies for a downward adjustment acceptance for acceptance of
3 responsibility pursuant to USSG § 3E1.1(a) and Defendant's offense level is 16 or
4 greater, the United States will make the motion necessary to permit the Court to decrease
5 the total offense level by three (3) levels pursuant to USSG §§ 3E1.1(a) and (b), because
6 Defendant has assisted the United States by timely notifying the United States of
7 Defendant's intention to plead guilty, thereby permitting the United States to avoid
8 preparing for trial and permitting the Court to allocate its resources efficiently.

9 **9. Non-Prosecution of Additional Offenses.** As part of this Plea Agreement,
10 the United States Attorney's Office for the Western District of Washington agrees to
11 dismiss Counts 2-4 and not to prosecute Defendant for any additional offenses known to
12 it as of the time of this Plea Agreement based upon evidence in its possession at this time,
13 and that arise out of the conduct giving rise to this investigation, and moves to dismiss
14 the remaining counts in the Superseding Indictment at the time of sentencing. In this
15 regard, Defendant recognizes the United States has agreed not to prosecute all of the
16 criminal charges the evidence establishes were committed by Defendant solely because
17 of the promises made by Defendant in this Plea Agreement. Defendant agrees, however,
18 that for purposes of preparing the Presentence Report, the United States Attorney's
19 Office will provide the United States Probation Office with evidence of all conduct
20 committed by Defendant.

21 Defendant agrees that any charges to be dismissed before or at the time of
22 sentencing were substantially justified in light of the evidence available to the United
23 States, were not vexatious, frivolous or taken in bad faith, and do not provide Defendant
24 with a basis for any future claims under the "Hyde Amendment," Pub. L. No. 105-119
25 (1997).

26 **10. Breach, Waiver, and Post-Plea Conduct.** Defendant agrees that, if
27 Defendant breaches this Plea Agreement, the United States may withdraw from this Plea
28 Agreement and Defendant may be prosecuted for all offenses for which the United States

1 has evidence. Defendant agrees not to oppose any steps taken by the United States to
2 nullify this Plea Agreement, including the filing of a motion to withdraw from the Plea
3 Agreement. Defendant also agrees that, if Defendant is in breach of this Plea Agreement,
4 Defendant has waived any objection to the re-institution of any charges that previously
5 were dismissed or any additional charges that had not been prosecuted.

6 Defendant further understands that if, after the date of this Agreement, Defendant
7 should engage in illegal conduct, or conduct that violates any conditions of release or the
8 conditions of confinement (examples of which include, but are not limited to, obstruction
9 of justice, failure to appear for a court proceeding, criminal conduct while pending
10 sentencing, and false statements to law enforcement agents, the Pretrial Services Officer,
11 Probation Officer, or Court), the United States is free under this Plea Agreement to file
12 additional charges against Defendant or to seek a sentence that takes such conduct into
13 consideration by requesting the Court to apply additional adjustments or enhancements in
14 its Sentencing Guidelines calculations in order to increase the applicable advisory
15 Guidelines range, and/or by seeking an upward departure or variance from the calculated
16 advisory Guidelines range. Under these circumstances, the United States is free to seek
17 such adjustments, enhancements, departures, and/or variances even if otherwise
18 precluded by the terms of the Plea Agreement.

19 **11. Waiver of Appellate Rights and Rights to Collateral Attacks.**

20 Defendant acknowledges that, by entering the guilty plea(s) required by this plea
21 agreement, Defendant waives all rights to appeal from Defendant's conviction, and any
22 pretrial rulings of the Court, and any rulings of the Court made prior to entry of the
23 judgment of conviction. Defendant further agrees that, provided the Court imposes a
24 custodial sentence that is within or below the Sentencing Guidelines range (or the
25 statutory mandatory minimum, if greater than the Guidelines range) as determined by the
26 Court at the time of sentencing, Defendant waives to the full extent of the law:

27 a. Any right conferred by Title 18, United States Code, Section 3742,
28 to challenge, on direct appeal, the sentence imposed by the Court, including any fine,

1 restitution order, probation or supervised release conditions, or forfeiture order (if
2 applicable); and

3 b. Any right to bring a collateral attack against the conviction and
4 sentence, including any restitution order imposed, except as it may relate to the
5 effectiveness of legal representation; and

6 This waiver does not preclude Defendant from bringing an appropriate motion
7 pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 2241, to address the conditions of Defendant's confinement or
8 the decisions of the Bureau of Prisons regarding the execution of Defendant's sentence.

9 If Defendant breaches this Plea Agreement at any time by appealing or collaterally
10 attacking (except as to effectiveness of legal representation) the conviction or sentence in
11 any way, the United States may prosecute Defendant for any counts, including those with
12 mandatory minimum sentences, that were dismissed or not charged pursuant to this Plea
13 Agreement.

14 12. **Voluntariness of Plea.** Defendant agrees that Defendant has entered into
15 this Plea Agreement freely and voluntarily, and that no threats or promises were made to
16 induce Defendant to enter a plea of guilty other than the promises contained in this Plea
17 Agreement or set forth on the record at the change of plea hearing in this matter.

18 13. **Statute of Limitations.** In the event this Plea Agreement is not accepted
19 by the Court for any reason, or Defendant breaches any of the terms of this Plea
20 Agreement, the statute of limitations shall be deemed to have been tolled from the date of
21 the Plea Agreement to: (1) thirty (30) days following the date of non-acceptance of the
22 Plea Agreement by the Court; or (2) thirty (30) days following the date on which a breach
23 of the Plea Agreement by Defendant is discovered by the United States Attorney's
24 Office.

25 14. **Completeness of Agreement.** The United States and Defendant
26 acknowledge that these terms constitute the entire Plea Agreement between the parties,
27 except as may be set forth on the record at the change of plea hearing in this matter. This
28

1 Agreement binds only the United States Attorney's Office for the Western District of
2 Washington. It does not bind any other United States Attorney's Office or any other
3 office or agency of the United States, or any state or local prosecutor.

4 Dated this 7th day of April, 2021.

5
6 /s Cameron Shea
7 CAMERON SHEA
8 Defendant

9 /s Gregory Murphy
10 GREGORY MURPHY
11 Attorney for Cameron Shea

12 /s Todd Greenberg
13 TODD GREENBERG
14 Assistant United States Attorney

15 /s Thomas Woods
16 THOMAS M. WOODS
17 Assistant United States Attorney
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28