NICOLA T. HANNA United States Attorney DENNISE D. WILLETT Assistant United States Attorney Chief, Santa Ana Branch Office ROSALIND WANG (Cal. Bar No. 218626) Assistant United States Attorney Santa Ana Branch Office 5 United States Courthouse 411 West Fourth Street, Suite 8000 Santa Ana, California 92701 6 Telephone: (714) 338-3547 7 Facsimile: (714) 338-3708 Rosalind.wang@usdoj.gov E-mail: 8 Attorneys for Plaintiff UNITED STATES OF AMERICA 9 10 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT 11 FOR THE CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA 12 UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, SA No. CR 18-123-AG 13 Plaintiff, PLEA AGREEMENT FOR DEFENDANT 14 ROBERT TINOCO PEREZ v. 15 ROBERT TINOCO PEREZ, et al., 16 Defendants. 17 18 This constitutes the plea agreement between ROBERT TINOCO 19 PEREZ ("defendant") and the United States Attorney's Office for the 20 Central District of California ("the USAO") in the above-captioned 21 This agreement is limited to the USAO and cannot bind any case. 22 other federal, state, local, or foreign prosecuting, enforcement, 23 administrative, or regulatory authorities. 24 DEFENDANT'S OBLIGATIONS 25 2. Defendant agrees to: 26 a) At the earliest opportunity requested by the USAO and 27 provided by the Court, appear and plead quilty to count one of the

indictment in <u>United States v. Robert Perez and William Jason</u>

<u>Plumley</u>, SA CR No. 18-123-AG, which charges defendant with

Conspiracy to Distribute Controlled Substances, in violation of 21

U.S.C. §§ 846, 841(a)(1).

- b) Not contest facts agreed to in this agreement.
- c) Abide by all agreements regarding sentencing contained in this agreement.
- d) Appear for all court appearances, surrender as ordered for service of sentence, obey all conditions of any bond, and obey any other ongoing court order in this matter.
- e) Not commit any crime; however, offenses that would be excluded for sentencing purposes under United States Sentencing Guidelines ("U.S.S.G." or "Sentencing Guidelines") § 4A1.2(c) are not within the scope of this agreement.
- f) Be truthful at all times with the United States
  Probation and Pretrial Services Office and the Court.
- g) Pay the applicable special assessment at or before the time of sentencing unless defendant lacks the ability to pay and prior to sentencing submits a completed financial statement on a form to be provided by the USAO.

#### THE USAO'S OBLIGATIONS

- 3. The USAO agrees to:
  - a. Not contest facts agreed to in this agreement.
- b. Abide by all agreements regarding sentencing contained in this agreement.
- c. At the time of sentencing, provided that defendant demonstrates an acceptance of responsibility for the offense up to and including the time of sentencing, recommend a two-level

reduction in the applicable Sentencing Guidelines offense level, pursuant to U.S.S.G. § 3E1.1, and recommend and, if necessary, move for an additional one-level reduction if available under that section.

d. At the time of sentencing, move to dismiss the remaining counts of the indictment as against defendant. Defendant agrees, however, that at the time of sentencing the Court may consider any dismissed charges in determining the applicable Sentencing Guidelines range, the propriety and extent of any departure from that range, and the sentence to be imposed.

## NATURE OF THE OFFENSE

4. Defendant understands that for defendant to be guilty of the crime charged in count one of the indictment, that is, Conspiracy to Distribute Controlled Substances, in violation of Title 21, United States Code, Sections 846, 841(a)(1), the following must be true: (1) beginning on a date unknown and continuing to on or about June 12, 2018, there was an agreement between two or more persons to distribute oxycodone, hydrocodone, and amphetamine salts; and (2) defendant joined in the agreement knowing of its purpose and intending to help accomplish that purpose. Defendant admits that defendant is, in fact, guilty of this offense as described in count one of the indictment.

### PENALTIES

5. Defendant understands that the statutory maximum sentence that the Court can impose for a violation of Title 21, United States Code, Sections 846, 841(a)(1), (b)(1)(C), as charged in count one of the indictment, is: 20 years' imprisonment; a lifetime period of supervised release; a fine of up to \$1,000,000 or

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twice the gross gain or gross loss resulting from the offense, whichever is greatest; and a mandatory special assessment of \$100.

- 6. Defendant understands that the statutory mandatory minimum sentence that the Court must impose for a violation of Title 21, United States Code, Sections 846, 841(a)(1), (b)(1)(C), as charged in count one of the indictment, is a three-year period of supervised release if a term of imprisonment is imposed.
- 7. Defendant understands that supervised release is a period of time following imprisonment during which defendant will be subject to various restrictions and requirements. Defendant understands that if defendant violates one or more of the conditions of any supervised release imposed, defendant may be returned to prison for all or part of the term of supervised release authorized by statute for the offense that resulted in the term of supervised release, which could result in defendant serving a total term of imprisonment greater than the statutory maximum stated above.
- 8. Defendant understands that under 21 U.S.C. § 862a, defendant will not be eligible for assistance under state programs funded under the Social Security Act or Federal Food Stamp Act or for federal food stamp program benefits, and that any such benefits or assistance received by defendant's family members will be reduced to reflect defendant's ineligibility.
- 9. Defendant understands that, by pleading guilty, defendant may be giving up valuable government benefits and valuable civic rights, such as the right to vote, the right to possess a firearm, the right to hold office, and the right to serve on a jury.

  Defendant understands that once the court accepts defendant's guilty plea, it will be a federal felony for defendant to possess a firearm

or ammunition. Defendant understands that the conviction in this case may also subject defendant to various other collateral consequences, including but not limited to revocation of probation, parole, or supervised release in another case and suspension or revocation of a professional license. Defendant understands that unanticipated collateral consequences will not serve as grounds to withdraw defendant's quilty plea.

10. Defendant understands that, if defendant is not a United States citizen, the felony conviction in this case may subject defendant to: removal, also known as deportation, which may, under some circumstances, be mandatory; denial of citizenship; and denial of admission to the United States in the future. The court cannot, and defendant's attorney also may not be able to, advise defendant fully regarding the immigration consequences of the felony conviction in this case. Defendant understands that unexpected immigration consequences will not serve as grounds to withdraw defendant's guilty plea.

## FACTUAL BASIS

11. Defendant admits that defendant is, in fact, guilty of the offense to which defendant is agreeing to plead guilty. Defendant and the USAO agree to the statement of facts provided below and agree that this statement of facts is sufficient to support a plea of guilty to the charge described in this agreement and to establish the Sentencing Guidelines factors set forth in paragraph 13 below but is not meant to be a complete recitation of all facts relevant to the underlying criminal conduct or all facts known to either party that relate to that conduct.

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From approximately 2017 and continuing until June 12, 2018, defendant knowingly and intentionally participated in a conspiracy to distribute controlled substances with co-defendant WILLIAM JASON PLUMLEY and other co-conspirators. During this time, defendant was a medical doctor licensed to practice medicine in California.

Defendant would issue prescriptions for oxycodone, hydrocodone, and amphetamine salts to PLUMLEY and to third parties. Defendant, PLUMLEY, and the other co-conspirators knew that the prescriptions were issued, and intended that the prescriptions be issued, outside the usual course of professional medical practice and without a legitimate medical purpose. PLUMLEY and the other co-conspirators would then sell the prescriptions or the controlled substances for cash, and share the proceeds with defendant. In furtherance of the conspiracy, the following occurred:

On or about December 4, 2017, defendant issued a prescription to the patient name "Kenneth Hall" for 60 pills of 30 mg Adderall (amphetamine salts), knowing that the drugs would not be used by Kenneth Hall. Defendant sold the prescription to PLUMLEY.

On or about December 18, 2017, defendant issued a prescription to the patient name "Kenneth Hall" for 90 pills of 30 mg Roxicodone (oxycodone), knowing that the drugs would not be used by Kenneth Hall. Defendant sold the prescription to PLUMLEY for approximately \$700.

On December 26, 2017, at defendant's medical clinic in Santa Ana, California, PLUMLEY asked defendant to issue prescriptions to the name of a third-party patient. Defendant instructed PLUMLEY to obtain new patient paperwork filled out with the personal information of that third-party patient. PLUMLEY gave defendant new

patient paperwork filled out with the personal information of a fictitious patient, "Gabriel Montoya." Defendant issued to "Gabriel Montoya" one prescription for 120 pills of 30 mg Roxicodone, and one prescription for 60 pills of 30 mg Adderall. Defendant sold the prescriptions to PLUMLEY for at least \$400 cash.

On January 11, 2018, at defendant's clinic in Santa Ana, defendant issued two prescriptions to fictitious patient "Dewayne Brooks," one for 130 pills of 10 mg Norco (hydrocodone), and one for 60 pills of 30 mg Adderall. Defendant also issued a prescription to "Gabriel Montoya" for 90 pills of 30 mg Roxicodone. Defendant sold the three prescriptions to PLUMLEY for at least \$300 cash.

On January 25, 2018, at defendant's clinic in Santa Ana, defendant issued two prescriptions to "Dewayne Brooks," one for 90 pills of 30 mg Roxicodone and one for 60 pills of 20 mg Adderall, and a third prescription to "Gabriel Montoya" for 120 pills of 10 mg Norco. Defendant sold the three prescriptions to PLUMLEY for cash.

In all of the above transactions, defendant issued the prescriptions knowing that the drugs would not be used for a legitimate medical purpose. Defendant never spoke to or examined anyone purporting to be "Dewayne Brooks" or "Gabriel Montoya."

## SENTENCING FACTORS

12. Defendant understands that in determining defendant's sentence the Court is required to calculate the applicable Sentencing Guidelines range and to consider that range, possible departures under the Sentencing Guidelines, and the other sentencing factors set forth in 18 U.S.C. § 3553(a). Defendant understands that the Sentencing Guidelines are advisory only, that defendant cannot have any expectation of receiving a sentence within the

calculated Sentencing Guidelines range, and that after considering the Sentencing Guidelines and the other § 3553(a) factors, the Court will be free to exercise its discretion to impose any sentence it finds appropriate between the mandatory minimum, if applicable, and up to the maximum set by statute for the crime of conviction.

13. Defendant and the USAO agree to the following applicable Sentencing Guidelines factors:

Base Offense Level: 26 [U.S.S.G. § 2D1.1(c)(7)]

Abuse of Position of Trust: +2 [U.S.S.G. § 3B1.3]

Defendant and the USAO reserve the right to argue that additional specific offense characteristics, adjustments, and departures under the Sentencing Guidelines are appropriate.

Defendant understands that defendant's offense level could be increased if defendant is a career offender under U.S.S.G. §§ 4B1.1 and 4B1.2. If defendant's offense level is so altered, defendant and the USAO will not be bound by the agreement to Sentencing Guideline factors set forth above.

- 14. Defendant understands that there is no agreement as to defendant's criminal history or criminal history category.
- 15. Defendant and the USAO reserve the right to argue for a sentence outside the sentencing range established by the Sentencing Guidelines based on the factors set forth in 18 U.S.C. § 3553(a)(1), (a)(2), (a)(3), (a)(6), and (a)(7).

## WAIVER OF CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS

- 16. Defendant understands that by pleading guilty, defendant gives up the following rights:
  - a. The right to persist in a plea of not guilty.

- b. The right to a speedy and public trial by jury.
- c. The right to be represented by counsel -- and if necessary have the court appoint counsel -- at trial. Defendant understands, however, that, defendant retains the right to be represented by counsel -- and if necessary have the court appoint counsel -- at every other stage of the proceeding.

- d. The right to be presumed innocent and to have the burden of proof placed on the government to prove defendant guilty beyond a reasonable doubt.
- e. The right to confront and cross-examine witnesses against defendant.
- f. The right to testify and to present evidence in opposition to the charges, including the right to compel the attendance of witnesses to testify.
- g. The right not to be compelled to testify, and, if defendant chose not to testify or present evidence, to have that choice not be used against defendant.
- h. Any and all rights to pursue any affirmative defenses, Fourth Amendment or Fifth Amendment claims, and other pretrial motions that have been filed or could be filed.

## WAIVER OF APPEAL OF CONVICTION

17. Defendant understands that, with the exception of an appeal based on a claim that defendant's guilty plea was involuntary, by pleading guilty defendant is waiving and giving up any right to appeal defendant's conviction on the offense to which defendant is pleading guilty. Defendant understands that this waiver includes, but is not limited to, arguments that the statutes to which defendant is pleading guilty are unconstitutional, and any

and all claims that the statement of facts provided herein is insufficient to support defendant's plea of guilty.

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## LIMITED MUTUAL WAIVER OF APPEAL OF SENTENCE

- Defendant agrees that, provided the Court imposes a 18. sentence within or below the range corresponding to a total offense level of 25 and the applicable criminal history category as determined by the Court, defendant gives up the right to appeal all of the following: (a) the procedures and calculations used to determine and impose any portion of the sentence; (b) the term of imprisonment imposed by the Court; (c) the fine imposed by the court, provided it is within the statutory maximum; (d) to the extent permitted by law, the constitutionality or legality of defendant's sentence, provided it is within the statutory maximum; (e) the term of probation or supervised release imposed by the Court, provided it is within the statutory maximum; and (f) any of the following conditions of probation or supervised release imposed by the Court: the conditions set forth in General Orders 318 and 18-10 of this Court; the drug testing conditions mandated by 18 U.S.C. §§ 3563(a)(5) and 3583(d); and the alcohol and drug use conditions authorized by 18 U.S.C. § 3563(b)(7).
- 19. The USAO agrees that, provided all portions of the sentence are at or above the statutory minimum, if applicable, and at or below the statutory maximum specified above, the USAO gives up its right to appeal any portion of the sentence.

## RESULT OF WITHDRAWAL OF GUILTY PLEA

20. Defendant agrees that if, after entering a guilty plea pursuant to this agreement, defendant seeks to withdraw and succeeds in withdrawing defendant's guilty plea on any basis other than a

claim and finding that entry into this plea agreement was involuntary, then (a) the USAO will be relieved of all of its obligations under this agreement; and (b) should the USAO choose to pursue any charge that was either dismissed or not filed as a result of this agreement, then (i) any applicable statute of limitations will be tolled between the date of defendant's signing of this agreement and the filing commencing any such action; and (ii) defendant waives and gives up all defenses based on the statute of limitations, any claim of pre-indictment delay, or any speedy trial claim with respect to any such action, except to the extent that such defenses existed as of the date of defendant's signing this agreement.

## EFFECTIVE DATE OF AGREEMENT

21. This agreement is effective upon signature and execution of all required certifications by defendant, defendant's counsel, and an Assistant United States Attorney.

## BREACH OF AGREEMENT

22. Defendant agrees that if defendant, at any time after the signature of this agreement and execution of all required certifications by defendant, defendant's counsel, and an Assistant United States Attorney, knowingly violates or fails to perform any of defendant's obligations under this agreement ("a breach"), the USAO may declare this agreement breached. All of defendant's obligations are material, a single breach of this agreement is sufficient for the USAO to declare a breach, and defendant shall not be deemed to have cured a breach without the express agreement of the USAO in writing. If the USAO declares this agreement breached, and the Court finds such a breach to have occurred, then: (a) if

defendant has previously entered a guilty plea pursuant to this agreement, defendant will not be able to withdraw the guilty plea, and (b) the USAO will be relieved of all its obligations under this agreement.

- 23. Following the Court's finding of a knowing breach of this agreement by defendant, should the USAO choose to pursue any charge that was either dismissed or not filed as a result of this agreement, then:
- a. Defendant agrees that any applicable statute of limitations is tolled between the date of defendant's signing of this agreement and the filing commencing any such action.
- b. Defendant waives and gives up all defenses based on the statute of limitations, any claim of pre-indictment delay, or any speedy trial claim with respect to any such action, except to the extent that such defenses existed as of the date of defendant's signing this agreement.
- c. Defendant agrees that: (i) any statements made by defendant, under oath, at the guilty plea hearing (if such a hearing occurred prior to the breach); (ii) the agreed-to factual basis statement in this agreement; and (iii) any evidence derived from such statements, shall be admissible against defendant in any such action against defendant, and defendant waives and gives up any claim under the United States Constitution, any statute, Rule 410 of the Federal Rules of Evidence, Rule 11(f) of the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure, or any other federal rule, that the statements or any evidence derived from the statements should be suppressed or are inadmissible.

# COURT AND UNITED STATES PROBATION AND PRETRIAL SERVICES OFFICE NOT PARTIES

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- 24. Defendant understands that the Court and the United States
  Probation and Pretrial Services Office are not parties to this
  agreement and need not accept any of the USAO's sentencing
  recommendations or the parties' agreements to facts or sentencing
  factors.
- Defendant understands that both defendant and the USAO are free to: (a) supplement the facts by supplying relevant information to the United States Probation and Pretrial Services Office and the Court, (b) correct any and all factual misstatements relating to the Court's Sentencing Guidelines calculations and determination of sentence, and (c) argue on appeal and collateral review that the Court's Sentencing Guidelines calculations and the sentence it chooses to impose are not error, although each party agrees to maintain its view that the calculations in paragraph 13 are consistent with the facts of this case. While this paragraph permits both the USAO and defendant to submit full and complete factual information to the United States Probation and Pretrial Services Office and the Court, even if that factual information may be viewed as inconsistent with the facts agreed to in this agreement, this paragraph does not affect defendant's and the USAO's obligations not to contest the facts agreed to in this agreement.
- 26. Defendant understands that even if the Court ignores any sentencing recommendation, finds facts or reaches conclusions different from those agreed to, and/or imposes any sentence up to the maximum established by statute, defendant cannot, for that reason, withdraw defendant's guilty plea, and defendant will remain

bound to fulfill all defendant's obligations under this agreement.

Defendant understands that no one -- not the prosecutor, defendant's attorney, or the Court -- can make a binding prediction or promise regarding the sentence defendant will receive, except that it will be within the statutory maximum.

## NO ADDITIONAL AGREEMENTS

27. Defendant understands that, except as set forth herein, there are no promises, understandings, or agreements between the USAO and defendant or defendant's attorney, and that no additional promise, understanding, or agreement may be entered into unless in a writing signed by all parties or on the record in court.

## PLEA AGREEMENT PART OF THE GUILTY PLEA HEARING

28. The parties agree that this agreement will be considered

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part of the record of defendant's guilty plea hearing as if the entire agreement had been read into the record of the proceeding. AGREED AND ACCEPTED 3 4 UNITED STATES ATTORNEY'S OFFICE FOR THE CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA 5 NICOLA T. HANNA 6 United States Attorney 7 <sup>6</sup>8 ROSALIND WANG 9 Assistant United States Attorney 10 11 TINOCO PEREZ ROBERT 12 Defendant 13 14 KATHERINE CORRIGAN Counsel for Defendant 15 ROBERT TINOCO PEREZ 16

## CERTIFICATION OF DEFENDANT

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I have read this agreement in its entirety. I have had enough time to review and consider this agreement, and I have carefully and thoroughly discussed every part of it with my attorney. I understand the terms of this agreement, and I voluntarily agree to those terms. I have discussed the evidence with my attorney, and my attorney has advised me of my rights, of possible pretrial motions that might be filed, of possible defenses that might be asserted either prior to or at trial, of the sentencing factors set forth in 18 U.S.C. § 3553(a), of relevant Sentencing Guidelines provisions, and of the consequences of entering into this agreement. No promises, inducements, or representations of any kind have been made

to me other than those contained in this agreement. No one has threatened or forced me in any way to enter into this agreement. I am satisfied with the representation of my attorney in this matter, and I am pleading guilty because I am guilty of the charge's and wish to take advantage of the promises set forth in this agreement, and not for/ any other reason.

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ROBERT TINOCO PEREZ

Defendant

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## CERTIFICATION OF DEFENDANT'S ATTORNEY

I am ROBERT TINOCO PEREZ's attorney. I have carefully and thoroughly discussed every part of this agreement with my client. Further, I have fully advised my client of his rights, of possible pretrial motions that might be filed, of possible defenses that might be asserted either prior to or at trial, of the sentencing factors set forth in 18 U.S.C. § 3553(a), of relevant Sentencing Guidelines provisions, and of the consequences of entering into this agreement. To my knowledge: no promises, inducements, or representations of any kind have been made to my client other than those contained in this agreement; no one has threatened or forced my client in any way to enter into this agreement; my client's // //

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1	decision to enter into this agreement is an informed and voluntary
2	one; and the factual basis set forth in this agreement is sufficient
3	to support my client's entry of a guilty plea pursuant to this
4	agreement.
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6	KATHERINE CORRIGAN Date
7	Attorney for Defendant ROBERT TINOCO PEREZ
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