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OFFICIAL U.S. COURT REPORTER: MS. TONIA M. HARRIS, RPR
United States District Court
401 Courthouse Square
Tenth Floor
Alexandria, VA 22314

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PROCEEDINGS

(Court proceedings commenced at 10:57 a.m.)

THE COURTROOM CLERK: Criminal No. 2025-70. United States of America versus Ricky O'Quinn.

Counsel, please note your appearances for the record.

MS. ROBESON: Good morning, Your Honor. Kathleen Robeson, Vincent Falvo, and Drew Bradylyons for the United States.

THE COURT: Good morning.

MS. GINSBERG: Good morning, Your Honor. Nina Ginsberg and Larry Nathans for Mr. O'Quinn. And Your Honor has admitted Mr. Nathans's pro hac vice already.

THE COURT: Very good.

Good morning. This matter comes on today for anticipated plea of guilty prior to indictment; is that correct?

MS. GINSBERG: That is correct, Your Honor.

THE COURT: I'll ask the clerk to please swear the defendant.

(Defendant sworn.)

THE DEFENDANT: I do.

THE COURT: Ms. Ginsberg -- okay. It's been handed up.

United States v. O'Quinn

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1 Mr. Quinn, before accepting your plea of guilty,
2 there are certain questions that I need to ask you. If you do
3 not understand these questions, please feel free to ask either
4 the Court or your counsel.

5 What is your full name, sir?

6 THE DEFENDANT: Ricky Dallas O'Quinn.

7 THE COURT: The indictment does not have Dallas.

8 And do you seek to amend the indictment or have him also known
9 as?

10 MS. ROBESON: Yes, Your Honor.

11 THE COURT: All right. That will be directed. Any
12 objection, Ms. Ginsberg?

13 MS. GINSBERG: No, but I assume you're talking about
14 the criminal information.

15 THE COURT: The criminal information. I'm sorry,
16 yes.

17 MS. GINSBERG: No objection, Your Honor.

18 THE COURT: What is your date of birth, sir?

19 THE DEFENDANT: July 30, 1961, Your Honor.

20 THE COURT: How old are you, sir?

21 THE DEFENDANT: 63, Your Honor.

22 THE COURT: What's the highest level of education
23 you have completed?

24 THE WITNESS: High school.

25 THE COURT: Do you have any problems reading,

Tonia M. Harris OCR-USDC/EDVA 703-646-1438

1 writing, or understanding the English language?

2 THE DEFENDANT: No, sir.

3 THE COURT: I have to ask you this question, sir,
4 with all due respect, are you under the influence of any
5 narcotics or alcohol this morning?

6 THE DEFENDANT: No, Your Honor.

7 THE COURT: Are you entirely satisfied with the
8 services of your attorneys?

9 THE DEFENDANT: Yes, I am, Your Honor.

10 THE COURT: Have you received a copy of the charging
11 documents before being called upon to plea and believe you
12 understand what the government must prove before you may be
13 found guilty of this offense?

14 THE DEFENDANT: Yes, sir.

15 THE COURT: Have you had enough time to discuss the
16 charge and its elements with your lawyer?

17 THE DEFENDANT: Yes, I have, Your Honor.

18 THE COURT: Have you had enough time to discuss with
19 your lawyer any possible defenses that you may have?

20 THE DEFENDANT: Yes, sir.

21 THE COURT: Are you aware of your right to go before
22 a grand jury and to potentially be indicted before being
23 forced to stand trial?

24 THE DEFENDANT: Yes, Your Honor.

25 THE COURT: Sir, I have in my hand a document

1 entitled waiver of indictment. It purports to have the
2 signatures of your attorney and your signature thereon. Did
3 you, in fact, sign this document?

4 THE DEFENDANT: Yes, I did.

5 THE COURT: Did you read it before you signed it?

6 THE DEFENDANT: Yes, sir.

7 THE COURT: And if you had any questions either
8 Ms. Ginsberg or her colleague answered those questions?

9 THE DEFENDANT: Yes, Your Honor.

10 THE COURT: I'll direct that the waiver of
11 indictment be made a part of the record in this matter.

12 Have you discussed with your lawyers whether you
13 should enter a plea of guilty or not guilty?

14 THE DEFENDANT: Yes, Your Honor.

15 THE COURT: After these discussions, did you decide
16 for yourself to enter this plea of guilty?

17 THE DEFENDANT: Yes, sir.

18 THE COURT: Are you entering this plea of guilty
19 freely and voluntarily?

20 THE DEFENDANT: Yes, Your Honor.

21 THE COURT: Are you entering this plea of guilty
22 because you are in fact guilty of this offense?

23 THE DEFENDANT: Yes, sir.

24 THE COURT: Has your attorney advised you of the
25 maximum punishment of which the law provides upon conviction

1 of this offense?

2 THE DEFENDANT: Yes, Your Honor.

3 THE COURT: It's my understanding, sir, that with
4 regard to this particular offense, conspiracy, the maximum
5 penalties are five years imprisonment, a fine of the greater
6 of \$250,000 or twice the gross gain or loss, forfeiture of
7 assets, a special assessment pursuant to code of \$100, and a
8 three-year term of supervised release.

9 Do you understand those are the maximum punishments
10 which the law provides?

11 THE DEFENDANT: Yes, Your Honor.

12 THE COURT: Ms. Ginsberg or her colleague,
13 Mr. Nathans, can you describe for the Court the nature of your
14 interactions with your client regarding his decision to enter
15 this plea of guilty?

16 MS. GINSBERG: Yes, Your Honor. We were retained
17 approximately a year ago, I believe, and we have been in
18 discussions with the government and Mr. O'Quinn. Over that
19 period of time, regarding all of the elements of the offense,
20 the factual underpinnings of it, we have had extensive
21 conversations with Mr. O'Quinn, sometimes on a daily basis to
22 review the information necessary for him to make a decision
23 whether or not to plead guilty. And I am more than convinced
24 that he understands the circumstances and the consequences of
25 his entering a guilty plea in an entirely knowing and not

1 involuntarily.

2 THE COURT: Mr. O'Quinn, do you agree with your
3 counsel regarding her representations regarding the nature of
4 her interactions with you regarding your decision to enter
5 this plea of guilty?

6 THE DEFENDANT: Yes, Your Honor.

7 THE COURT: Do you understand in this case
8 supervised release or probation may or may not be granted and
9 ultimately it is up to the Court to decide what the
10 appropriate sentence is?

11 THE DEFENDANT: Yes, sir.

12 THE COURT: Do you understand that by pleading
13 guilty you waive certain rights? Let me go over those with
14 you. Do you understand that you're waiving your right to a
15 trial by jury?

16 THE DEFENDANT: Yes, Your Honor.

17 THE COURT: Do you understand that you're waiving
18 your right not to speak against yourself?

19 THE DEFENDANT: Yes, sir.

20 THE COURT: Do you understand that you're waiving
21 your right to challenge your accusers?

22 THE DEFENDANT: Yes, Your Honor.

23 THE COURT: Do you understand that you're waiving
24 your right to defend yourself, including the ability of the
25 Court to subpoena witnesses and evidence on your behalf?

1 THE DEFENDANT: Yes, sir.

2 THE COURT: Sir, I have in my hand another document
3 entitled notice of right to appeal sentence under limited
4 circumstances. Again, it purports to have your signature
5 thereon and the signature of your attorney.

6 Did you, in fact, sign this document?

7 THE DEFENDANT: Yes, I did, sir.

8 THE COURT: Again, did you read it before you signed
9 it?

10 THE DEFENDANT: Yes, I did.

11 THE COURT: And if you had any questions
12 Ms. Ginsberg answered those questions?

13 THE DEFENDANT: Correct.

14 THE COURT: Now, sir, with regard to this notice of
15 right to appeal sentence under limited circumstances, if the
16 Court were to impose an illegitimate or illegal sentence,
17 obviously, you would be entitled to appeal that, but
18 significantly or substantially all of your other appellate
19 rights are going to be waived by entering this plea of guilty.
20 Do you understand that, sir?

21 THE DEFENDANT: Yes, Your Honor.

22 THE COURT: Do you understand, sir, that -- do you
23 understand that you could serve an additional period of
24 incarceration above the statutory maximum allowed for the
25 underlying offense if you violate any condition of supervised

1 release that this Court imposes. Specifically, if this Court
2 finds by a preponderance of the evidence that you violated the
3 condition of supervised release, it may revoke supervised
4 release and impose a term of imprisonment equal to, all or
5 part of the supervised release term authorized by statute
6 without any credit for time previously served on postrelease
7 supervision subject to a cap based on the nature of the
8 underlying offense.

9 Has Ms. Ginsberg gone over that with you?

10 THE DEFENDANT: Yes, sir.

11 THE COURT: Essentially, sir, let me try to explain
12 it as simply as I can.

13 As you've heard, the maximum sentence in this case
14 is five years imprisonment. And just by way of example, if
15 the Court were to decide that the appropriate sentence in your
16 case is one year, if you came back on a supervised release
17 violation, the Court could actually sentence you to more time
18 on the supervised release violation than it did on the
19 original disposition.

20 Do you understand that, sir?

21 THE DEFENDANT: Yes, Your Honor.

22 THE COURT: Thank you, sir.

23 I'll ask the government to put on a prima facie
24 case.

25 MS. ROBESON: If this case went to trial, the United

1 States would prove with admissible and credible evidence that
2 since February 2021 until November of 2024 Mr. O'Quinn served
3 as a vice president at large of SPFPA, which was the
4 International Union of Security, Police, and Fire
5 Professionals of America. It's second highest position.

6 Company-1 was an Alabama corporation with
7 headquarters in Herndon, Virginia, and it engaged in the
8 business of providing protective security officers at federal
9 workplaces in numerous states. SPFPA represented, sought to
10 represent, and would admit to its membership the employees of
11 Company-1.

12 Company-2 was a Florida corporation, which also
13 engaged in the business of providing protective security
14 officers at federal workplaces in numerous states. Mabel
15 O'Quinn, the wife of Mr. O'Quinn, was the founder,
16 incorporator, and the initial director of Company-2.

17 From the incorporation of Company-2 until
18 November 2024, Ms. O'Quinn served -- or excuse me -- until the
19 present, Ms. O'Quinn served as the company chief executive
20 officer and its president. Mr. O'Quinn participated in the
21 finance, budget, decision-making, and operations of Company-2
22 since its inception. Both Mr. and Mrs. O'Quinn endeavored to
23 hide Mr. O'Quinn's involvement in operating Company-2.

24 SPFPA also represented, sought to represent, and
25 admit to its membership the employees of Company-2. Beginning

1 at least as early as April 2013 and continuing through
2 June 20, 2024, Individual 1, who was associated with Company-1
3 and acting on its behalf, agreed to award lucrative
4 subcontracts to supply private security guards at various
5 federal installations in the United States to Company-2.

6 The proceeds from these awards -- these awards
7 sub-contracted to Company-1, to Company-2 to provide security
8 guards totalling to tens of millions of dollars. Individual 1
9 made these awards knowing that Ricky O'Quinn was an officer
10 employee at SPFPA which represented the employees of
11 Company-1, and that Ricky O'Quinn was married to Mabel
12 O'Quinn. Ricky O'Quinn and Mabel O'Quinn agreed to accept
13 these subcontracts, their proceeds on behalf of Company-2.

14 Mabel O'Quinn would then deposit the proceeds from
15 the subcontracts from Company-1 to Company-2 into a bank
16 account that was entitled "The O'Quinn Family Trust" at Bank
17 of America. From 2018 to 2023 Company-2 had a gross income
18 exceeding \$7 million. Mr. O'Quinn benefited from these funds
19 that were deposited to the bank account from Company-1, and he
20 used them for his own personal benefit and the benefit of his
21 family.

22 Also, beginning in 2010, when Company-2 was founded,
23 Individual 1 had an unwritten, under-the-table agreement with
24 the O'Quinn's that Individual 1's family would receive
25 40 percent of the ownership and/or profits of Company-2. From

1 that date forward, Individual 1 would exercise significant
2 hidden influence over many of Company-2 decisions and
3 operations. For example, Individual 1 instructed Company-2 to
4 refrain from bidding on private security contracts and only
5 bid in conjunction with Company-1. Individual 1 also
6 instructed Company-2 over which vendors and consultants it
7 would hire, and monitored and directed Company-2's finances.

8 In exchange for this hidden 40 percent interest and
9 control of Company-2, Individual 1 directed lucrative
10 subcontracts on behalf of Company-1 as its president to
11 Company-2. Individual 1 also agreed to support Company-2 and
12 ensure that they would be able to win prime contracts.
13 Individual 1's secret actions on behalf of Company-2 resulted
14 in Company-2 being awarded more than 170 million in contract
15 proceeds as a subcontractor to Company-1, and beginning in
16 April of 2015 as a prime contractor with Company-1 as its
17 subcontract.

18 Both Individual 1 and the O'Quinn's understood that
19 any involvement or interest by Ricky O'Quinn and Company-2 was
20 also to be kept secret as he was prohibited from receiving
21 money or things of value from Company-1 or Company-2 as an
22 officer in SPFPA. In January of 2015, Individual 1 and
23 another family member of Individual 1, which is Individual 2,
24 incorporated MCKHU, Inc. Two of Individual 1's other family
25 members, both Company-1 employees, would thereafter operate a

1 side business under the name of MCKHU, Inc. Individual 1
2 directed Company-2 MCKHU Inc., as a consultant to Company-2.

3 After which, Company-2 would then pay MCKHU large
4 amounts of money from February to December 2019. Company-2
5 paid \$498,543.35 to another corporation that was set up by
6 members of Individual 1's family, Frontline Source.

7 In 2022, Company-2 paid an additional \$426,750 to
8 Frontline Source. In total from 2019 to 2023 Company-2 paid
9 over \$2 million to Frontline Source. The O'Quinns directed
10 these payments to Company-1 because Company-2 would not have
11 been able to win subprime contracts or subcontracts without
12 Company-1 and Individual 1's support.

13 THE COURT: Thank you, ma'am.

14 You may stand, Mr. O'Quinn. I have certain
15 documents I need to go over with you. The first is the
16 criminal information which is essentially the same thing that
17 would be returned in an indictment, which you have waived in
18 this case. It purports to lay out the allegations against
19 you.

20 Have you had an opportunity to review that with
21 Ms. Ginsberg?

22 MS. GINSBERG: Yes, Your Honor.

23 THE COURT: I'll direct that the criminal
24 information be made a part of the record along with the notice
25 to appeal sentence under limited circumstances. In addition

1 to that, sir, the government just provided a statement of
2 facts. A statement of facts which outlines what they believe
3 the evidence would be against you. There's a written
4 agreement with regard to the plea in this matter and certain
5 other associated documents in this case.

6 Have you had an opportunity to review those
7 documents?

8 THE DEFENDANT: Yes, Your Honor.

9 THE COURT: I'll direct that the plea agreement and
10 the associated documents along with those be dealt with
11 appropriately.

12 Sir, has anyone connected with your arrest, such as
13 the police or the prosecution or anyone, threatened you or
14 forced you to enter this plea of guilty?

15 THE DEFENDANT: No, sir.

16 THE COURT: Have any promises been made to you
17 concerning your plea of guilty other than those outlined in
18 the plea agreement, which we just discussed?

19 THE DEFENDANT: No, Your Honor.

20 THE COURT: Do you understand, sir, as I indicated
21 earlier, that it is up to the Court to decide what the
22 appropriate sentence is in this case? Obviously, I will
23 listen to what the government has to say, I'll listen to what
24 your lawyers have to say, and at the very end of the
25 sentencing, I'll give you an opportunity to allocute and tell

1 me whatever you think that the Court needs to hear.

2 Do you understand, sir, that it is ultimately up to
3 the Court to decide what the appropriate sentence is?

4 THE DEFENDANT: Yes, Your Honor.

5 THE COURT: Do you now make any claim that you're
6 innocent or not guilty of these charges?

7 THE DEFENDANT: No, sir.

8 THE COURT: Do you understand, sir, that upon the
9 completion of this event, where we're talking about whether or
10 not you want to enter a plea of guilty or not, the Court will
11 order a presentence report? We'll review that report -- I'll
12 allow you the opportunity to review the report with your
13 counsel, and then we'll decide what the appropriate
14 disposition in this case is.

15 Do you understand that, sir?

16 THE DEFENDANT: Yes, sir.

17 THE COURT: Are you a citizen of the United States
18 of America?

19 THE DEFENDANT: Yes, Your Honor.

20 THE COURT: Do you understand if you are not a
21 citizen of the United States of America, a plea of guilty may
22 result in your deportation, the exclusion from admission to
23 this country, the denial of naturalization under federal law,
24 and other adverse immigration consequences?

25 THE DEFENDANT: Yes, Your Honor.

1 THE COURT: Do you understand that the counsel that
2 you've hired for this criminal matter have no professional
3 obligation with regard to any civil consequences, which may
4 arise as a result of this conviction?

5 THE DEFENDANT: Yes, sir.

6 THE COURT: After having discussed the matter with
7 your attorney, do you freely and voluntarily enter this plea
8 of guilty, waive your right to a trial by jury and indictment,
9 and request the Court to hear all matters of law and fact?

10 THE DEFENDANT: Yes, Your Honor.

11 THE COURT: Do you have any questions that you wish
12 to ask the Court before the Court decides to accept your plea
13 of guilty?

14 THE DEFENDANT: No, sir.

15 THE COURT: Do you have any questions for your
16 counsel?

17 THE DEFENDANT: No, sir.

18 THE COURT: The Court being of the opinion that the
19 plea of guilty and waiver of jury trial and indictment is
20 voluntarily and intelligently made with an understanding of
21 the nature of the charges and the consequences of said plea of
22 guilty and waivers and thus accepts the plea and waiver and
23 finds the defendant guilty of the charges contained in the
24 criminal information.

25 Counsel, have you all discussed what date you want

1 for sentencing?

2 MS. GINSBERG: Your Honor, we have and we would ask
3 the Court, if its willing, to set a sentencing date out about
4 six months.

5 THE COURT: Any objection?

6 MS. ROBESON: No, Your Honor.

7 THE COURT: Mr. O'Quinn, it is your right and
8 prerogative to be sentenced within a specific period of time,
9 but Ms. Ginsberg has suggested that we go outside the typical
10 or usual timeframe for sentencing and wants to go out six
11 months. Is that your choice also, sir?

12 THE DEFENDANT: Yes, sir.

13 THE COURT: Very good.

14 Ms. Ginsberg, how about September 10th?

15 MS. GINSBERG: Your Honor, I am holding that week
16 for a trial.

17 THE COURT: Okay. September 17th.

18 MS. GINSBERG: That's a good date for us, Your
19 Honor.

20 THE COURT: Let's go with September 17th and that
21 will be at 10 o'clock. September 17th at 10 o'clock.
22 Government's position on bond.

23 MS. ROBESON: Your Honor, we have no objection for
24 Mr. O'Quinn to be released with the conditions of bond
25 suggested by pretrial. We would ask for two additional

1 conditions. The first that Mr. O'Quinn surrender his passport
2 to his counsel, and then the second that his travel be
3 restricted to the state of Florida, the Eastern District of
4 Virginia, and then anywhere within the continental United
5 States, but that he have his probation officer's approval
6 first.

7 THE COURT: Okay. Pretrial has also recommended a
8 few other conditions. That all future employment be approved
9 in advance as deemed necessary by the probation department.
10 You're still adhering to that one?

11 MS. ROBESON: Yes, Your Honor.

12 THE COURT: And that he not have any contact with
13 any alleged coconspirators, victims, or potential witnesses,
14 and refrain from speaking about the charge with his wife
15 unless in the presence of counsel.

16 MS. ROBESON: Yes, Your Honor.

17 THE COURT: And to provide access to all financial
18 records as requested by pretrial services?

19 MS. ROBESON: Yes, Your Honor.

20 THE COURT: Ms. Ginsberg, do you or your client have
21 any objection to those conditions?

22 MS. GINSBERG: No, Your Honor. Those were agreed
23 upon between the parties.

24 THE COURT: Very good.

25 MS. GINSBERG: I will say that Mr. O'Quinn is not

1 intending to seek future employment. He is retired at this
2 point.

3 THE COURT: Very good. What is the status of his
4 passport?

5 MS. GINSBERG: I have possession of his passport.

6 THE COURT: You're an officer of the Court so I will
7 just direct that you hold on to it.

8 MS. GINSBERG: I will do that. And he did have
9 firearms in his home. We have a certified letter from a
10 person who has taken custody of those firearms.

11 THE COURT: Very good.

12 Ms. Armentrout is preparing a document that you're
13 going to need to review with your client. The Court is going
14 to allow the defendant to remain on bond pending his
15 sentencing date.

16 So you need to go outside and discuss this form with
17 him and sign off on it and then you can slip back in and get
18 Ms. Tinsley's attention and the Court will sign it.

19 (Off the record discussion.)

20 THE COURT: Ms. Robeson, what we need you to do is
21 those specific travel conditions that you articulated we need
22 you to write those in.

23 MS. ROBESON: Yes, Your Honor.

24 THE COURT: So if you could step out with
25 Ms. Ginsberg and we'll take care of the rest of the court

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docket.

MS. ROBESON: Yes, Your Honor.

(Proceedings adjourned at 11:16 a.m.)

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CERTIFICATE OF REPORTER

I, Tonia Harris, an Official Court Reporter for the Eastern District of Virginia, do hereby certify that I reported by machine shorthand, in my official capacity, the proceedings had and testimony adduced upon the Plea hearing in the case of the **UNITED STATES OF AMERICA versus RICKY O'QUINN**, Criminal Action No.: 1:25-cr-70, in said court on the 2nd day of April, 2025.

I further certify that the foregoing 22 pages constitute the official transcript of said proceedings, as taken from my machine shorthand notes, my computer realtime display, together with the backup tape recording of said proceedings to the best of my ability.

In witness whereof, I have hereto subscribed my name, this July 21, 2025.



Tonia M. Harris, RPR
Official Court Reporter