

**IN THE SUPREME COURT OF PENNSYLVANIA**

OFFICE OF DISCIPLINARY COUNSEL, : No. 2362 Disciplinary Docket No. 3  
: :  
Petitioner : No. 34 DB 2017  
: :  
v. : Attorney Registration No. 33803  
: :  
J. MICHAEL FARRELL, : (Philadelphia)  
: :  
Respondent :

**ORDER**

**PER CURIAM**

**AND NOW**, this 4<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2019, upon consideration of the Verified Statement of Resignation, J. Michael Farrell is disbarred on consent from the Bar of this Commonwealth, retroactive to March 10, 2017. See Pa.R.D.E. 215. Respondent shall comply with the provisions of Pa.R.D.E. 217 and pay costs to the Disciplinary Board pursuant to Pa.R.D.E. 208(g).

A True Copy Patricia Nicola  
As Of 12/04/2019

Attest:   
Chief Clerk  
Supreme Court of Pennsylvania

BEFORE THE DISCIPLINARY BOARD OF  
THE SUPREME COURT OF PENNSYLVANIA

OFFICE OF DISCIPLINARY COUNSEL, : No. 2362 Disc. Dkt.  
Petitioner : No. 3  
: :  
v. : No. 34 DB 2017  
: :  
: Atty. Reg. No. 33803  
J. MICHAEL FARRELL, : :  
Respondent : (Philadelphia)

RESIGNATION  
UNDER Pa.R.D.E. 215

J. Michael Farrell hereby tenders his unconditional resignation from the practice of law in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in conformity with Pa.R.D.E. 215 ("Enforcement Rules") and further states as follows:

1. He is an attorney admitted in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, having been admitted to the bar on May 4, 1981. His attorney registration number is 33803.

2. He is currently on suspended status as a result of a March 10, 2017 Order issued by the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania placing him on temporary suspension pursuant to Enforcement Rule 214(d)(5) ("the temporary suspension Order"). A true and correct copy of the temporary suspension Order is attached as "Exhibit A."

3. He desires to submit his resignation as a member of said bar.

FILED  
11/19/2019  
The Disciplinary Board of the  
Supreme Court of Pennsylvania

4. His resignation is freely and voluntarily rendered; he is not being subjected to coercion or duress; and he is fully aware of the implications of submitting this resignation.

5. He is aware that there is presently pending an investigation into allegations that he has been guilty of misconduct, based upon his convictions in the United States District Court for the District of Maryland in a criminal case captioned ***United States of America v. James Michael Farrell***, Criminal No. RWT-15-0562 ("the criminal case").

6. He acknowledges that in February 2017, a jury found him guilty of money laundering (6 counts), attempted tampering with official proceedings (2 counts), conspiracy to engage in money laundering, and attempted witness tampering. True and correct copies of the Indictment and the jury's Verdict Form are attached as "Exhibit B" and "Exhibit C," respectively.

7. He acknowledges that on July 17, 2017, he was sentenced by the Honorable District Judge Roger W. Titus, as reflected in the Judgment in a Criminal Case, a true and correct copy of which is attached as "Exhibit D."

8. He submits the within resignation because the said convictions constitute a per se ground for discipline under Enforcement Rule 203(b)(1).

9. He submits the within resignation because he knows that he could not successfully defend himself against charges of professional misconduct based upon the convictions.

10. He is fully aware that submission of this Resignation Statement is irrevocable and that he can only apply for reinstatement to the practice of law pursuant to the provisions of Enforcement Rule 218(b) and (c).

11. Upon entry of the order disbaring him on consent, he will promptly comply with the notice, withdrawal, resignation, trust accounting, and cease-and-desist provisions of subdivisions (a), (b), (c) and (d) of Enforcement Rule 217.

12. After entry of the order disbaring him on consent, he will file a verified statement of compliance as required by Enforcement Rule 217(e)(1).

13. He is aware that the waiting period for eligibility to apply for reinstatement to the practice of law under Enforcement Rule 218(b) shall not begin until he files the verified statement of compliance.

14. He acknowledges that he is fully aware of his right to consult and employ counsel to represent him in the instant proceeding. He has retained, consulted and acted upon the advice of counsel, Samuel C. Stretton, Esquire, in connection with his decision to execute the within resignation.

15. He requests that his disbarment be made retroactive to March 10, 2017, the date that the temporary suspension Order was entered. He is advised that the Office of Disciplinary Counsel does not oppose his request. He understands that the decision to grant his request lies solely within the discretion of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania.

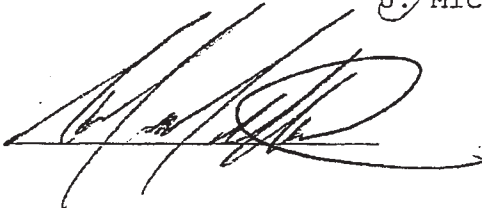
16. He is aware that under Enforcement Rule 215(c)(5), this Resignation Statement will be public.

It is understood that the statements made herein are subject to the penalties of 18 Pa.C.S., Section 4904 (relating to unsworn falsification to authorities).

Signed this 9<sup>TH</sup> day of NOVEMBER, 2019.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
J. Michael Farrell

WITNESS:



**IN THE SUPREME COURT OF PENNSYLVANIA**

In the Matter of : No. 2362 Disciplinary Docket No. 3  
: :  
J. MICHAEL FARRELL : Board File No. C1-17-125  
: :  
: (United States District Court for the District  
: of Maryland, Criminal No. RWT-15-0562)  
: :  
: Attorney Registration No. 33803  
: :  
: (Philadelphia)

**ORDER**

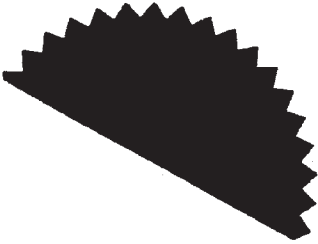
**PER CURIAM**

**AND NOW**, this 10<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2017, the Joint Petition to Temporarily Suspend an Attorney is granted, J. Michael Farrell is placed on temporary suspension, see Pa.R.D.E. 214(d)(5), and he shall comply with all the provisions of Pa.R.D.E. 217.

A True Copy Patricia Nicola  
As Of 3/10/2017

Attest:   
Chief Clerk  
Supreme Court of Pennsylvania

AC  
DAJ/MBZ: USAO2015R00665



IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE DISTRICT OF MARYLAND

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

v.

JAMES MICHAEL FARRELL,  
Defendant

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CRIMINAL NO. *RWT 15cr0562*

(Money Laundering Conspiracy, 18 U.S.C. § 1956(h); Money Laundering, 18 U.S.C. § 1956(a)(1)(B)(i); Tampering with Official Proceeding, 18 U.S.C. § 1512(c)(2); Tampering with Witness, 18 U.S.C. § 1512(b)(3); Aiding and Abetting, 18 U.S.C. § 2; Forfeiture, 21 U.S.C. § 853, 18 U.S.C. §§ 924(d) and 982, 28 U.S.C. § 2461(c)

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INDICTMENT

COUNT ONE

(Money Laundering Conspiracy)

The Grand Jury for the District of Maryland charges:

U.S. DISTRICT COURT  
DISTRICT OF MARYLAND  
2015 OCT 26 PM 4:57  
M. J. FARRELL  
DEPUTY

Background

1. Between at least 2007 and January 2013, Matt Nicka, a/k/a “Anthony Thacker,” a/k/a “Grump,” a/k/a “Matt Smith,” a/k/a “Matt Marino,” a/k/a “Matt St. John,” a/k/a “Morrow,” a/k/a “Calvin Bartlett,” a/k/a “Matthew Johnson,” a/k/a “Surfer Dude” (“Nicka”), was the leader of a drug trafficking organization (“the Nicka Organization”) which shipped thousands of pounds of marijuana to distribution hubs, including one located in Maryland. At the Maryland hub, the marijuana was distributed to wholesale traffickers, who would then redistribute the marijuana to retail distributors located on the east coast of the United States.

2. On or about March 20, 2009, law enforcement officers executed a state search warrant at a residence on Hickory Drive in Baltimore, Maryland. During the execution of the search warrant, officers recovered documents that identified various warehouses being used for marijuana distribution and documents that identified the purchase of a jet. Officers also discovered drug calculation sheets reflecting over \$10,000,000 in transactions.

3. On or about March 27, 2009, a federal grand jury investigation commenced. The investigation continued through the date of this Indictment.

4. On December 15, 2010, a federal grand jury in the District of Maryland returned an Indictment in *United States v. Matt Nicka, et al.*, Criminal Case No. RWT-10-0777, charging 13 defendants, including **Matt Nicka, Gretchen Peterson, a/k/a "Bella," a/k/a "Dispatch," David D'Amico, a/k/a "Joe Bono," a/k/a "O.D.B.," a/k/a "John Franklin," a/k/a "John Frankland," a/k/a "Captain Jack," a/k/a "Mark Peters," and Jeffrey Putney, a/k/a "Jeffy," a/k/a "Tom," a/k/a "J.P.,"** with one count of Conspiracy to Distribute 1,000 Kilograms or More of Marijuana, in violation of Title 21, United States Code, Section 846.

5. On June 1, 2011, a one count Superseding Indictment was returned, which added **Daniel McIntosh, a/k/a "Barfly," a/k/a "B-Fly," and Anthony Marcantoni, a/k/a "Mr. Purple,"** as defendants.

6. On May 2, 2012, a sixteen count Second Superseding Indictment was returned, which included nine defendants remaining from the previous Superseding Indictment (including **Matt Nicka, Gretchen Peterson, David D'Amico, Jeffrey Putney, and Anthony Marcantoni**) and also added an additional defendant. All ten remaining defendants were charged in Count One with Conspiracy to Distribute 1,000 Kilograms or More of Marijuana, in violation of Title 21, United States Code, Section 846, between 2001 and January 2011. Six defendants (including



**Matt Nicka, Gretchen Peterson, David D'Amico, and Daniel McIntosh**) were charged in Count Two with Conspiracy to Commit Money Laundering, in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 1956(h), between 2003 and August 2009.

7. **Matt Nicka and Gretchen Peterson** were fugitives until their arrest in Canada in August 2013.

8. **David D'Amico** was a fugitive until his arrest in Colombia, South America in or about August 2013.

9. **Jeffrey Putney** remains a fugitive.

10. At all times relevant to this Indictment, defendant **JAMES MICHAEL FARRELL** (“**FARRELL**”) was a lawyer admitted to practice law in Pennsylvania and New Jersey and maintained a law office located at 718 Arch St., Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

11. At all times relevant to this Indictment, defendant **FARRELL** maintained a commercial banking account ending in 1641 in the name of “James Michael Farrell, J M Farrell Counselor,” at an address of 5 North Clinton Avenue, Wenonah NJ 08090, with Wells Fargo Bank (previously operating as Wachovia Bank) (“the Wachovia Commercial Account”).

12. At all times relevant to this Indictment, Attorney 1 was a lawyer admitted to practice law in Maryland and maintained a law office located in the vicinity of Baltimore, Maryland.

13. At all times relevant to this Indictment, Attorney 2 was a lawyer admitted to practice law in Maryland and maintained a law office located in the vicinity of Baltimore, Maryland.

**The Charge**

14. From a time unknown to the Grand Jury, but beginning at least in or about 2009, and continuing through at least in or about April 2013, in the District of Maryland and elsewhere, the defendant,

**MICHAEL FARRELL,**

did knowingly conspire with **Matt Nicka, a/k/a “Anthony Thacker,” a/k/a “Grump,” a/k/a “Matt Smith,” a/k/a “Matt Marino,” a/k/a “Matt St. John,” a/k/a “Morrow,” a/k/a “Calvin Bartlett,” a/k/a “Matthew Johnson,” a/k/a “Surfer Dude,” Gretchen Peterson, a/k/a “Bella,” a/k/a “Dispatch,” David D’Amico, a/k/a “Joe Bono,” a/k/a “O.D.B.,” a/k/a “John Franklin,” a/k/a “John Frankland,” a/k/a “Captain Jack,” a/k/a “Mark Peters,” and Jeffrey Putney, a/k/a “Jeffy,” a/k/a “Tom,” a/k/a “J.P.,”** and with other persons known and unknown to the grand jury to conduct and attempt to conduct financial transactions which in fact involved the proceeds of specified unlawful activity—to wit, conspiracy to distribute and possession with intent to distribute controlled substances, in violation of Title 21, United States Code, Section 846, and distribution and possession with intent to distribute controlled substances in violation of Title 21, United States Code, Section 841—while knowing that the property involved in the financial transactions represented the proceeds of some form of unlawful activity and knowing that the transactions were designed in whole and in part to conceal and disguise the nature, location, source, ownership and control of the proceeds of said specified unlawful activity, in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 1956(a)(1)(B)(i).

**Manner and Means of the Money Laundering Conspiracy**

15. It was part of the conspiracy that one or more coconspirators purchased and used financial instruments, including but not limited to money orders, and transferred funds among accounts at multiple financial institutions to conceal that funds were derived from drug proceeds.

16. It was further part of the conspiracy that the coconspirators delivered funds, usually in the form of cash, to defendant **FARRELL**.

17. It was further part of the conspiracy that defendant **FARRELL** deposited some of the cash into his commercial bank accounts, recording the deposits as payments in the name of individuals who had not, in fact, retained the defendant.

18. It was further part of the conspiracy that defendant **FARRELL** wrote checks and disbursed cash, and caused another person to do so, to pay for the legal representation of grand jury witnesses or individuals charged or under investigation in federal court and state court in Maryland in connection with the activities of members of the Nicka Organization, including legal representation by Attorney 1 and Attorney 2.

20. It was further part of the conspiracy that defendant **FARRELL** used and caused another person to use drug proceeds to obtain money orders and deposit them into the inmate accounts of one or more incarcerated individuals with knowledge of the drug conspiracy charged in *United States v. Matt Nicka et al.*, Criminal Case. No. RWT-10-0777.

21. It was further part of the conspiracy that defendant **FARRELL** and his coconspirators structured financial transactions between each other and other persons to evade Internal Revenue Service (“IRS”) filing requirements for transactions involving more than \$10,000 in cash payments in a single transaction, and thereby further conceal from the

government large cash transactions by members of the Nicka Organization and its suppliers and customers.

18 U.S.C. § 1956(h)

**COUNT TWO**  
**(Money Laundering)**

The Grand Jury for the District of Maryland further charges that:

1. Paragraphs 1 through 12 of Count One are incorporated here.
2. On or about October 30, 2010, in the District of Maryland and elsewhere, the defendant,

**JAMES MICHAEL FARRELL,**

did knowingly conduct and attempt to conduct a financial transaction affecting interstate and foreign commerce, namely the delivery of check #10936 in the amount of \$1,000.00 drawn on defendant FARRELL's Wachovia commercial bank account ending in 1641 to Attorney 1 in Baltimore, Maryland, as payment of legal fees for a grand jury witness, which involved the proceeds of a specified unlawful activity—to wit, conspiracy to distribute and possess with intent to distribute controlled substances, in violation of Title 21, United States Code, Section 846, and distribution and possession with intent to distribute controlled substances in violation of Title 21, United States Code, Section 841—knowing that the transaction was designed in whole and in part to conceal and disguise the nature, source, ownership, and control of the proceeds of said specified unlawful activity and that the property involved in the financial transaction represented the proceeds of some form of unlawful activity.

18 U.S.C. § 1956(a)(1)(B)(i)  
18 U.S.C. § 2

**COUNT THREE**  
**(Money Laundering)**

The Grand Jury for the District of Maryland further charges that:

1. Paragraphs 1 through 12 of Count One are incorporated here.
2. On or about November 26, 2010, in the District of Maryland and elsewhere, the

defendant,

**JAMES MICHAEL FARRELL,**

did knowingly conduct and attempt to conduct a financial transaction or cause another person to conduct or attempt to conduct a financial transaction affecting interstate and foreign commerce, namely the delivery of check #10951 in the amount of \$1,500.00 drawn on defendant **FARRELL's** Wachovia commercial bank account ending in 1641 to Attorney 1 in Baltimore, Maryland, as payment of legal fees for a grand jury witness, which involved the proceeds of a specified unlawful activity—to wit, conspiracy to distribute and possess with intent to distribute controlled substances, in violation of Title 21, United States Code, Section 846, and distribution and possession with intent to distribute controlled substances in violation of Title 21, United States Code, Section 841—knowing that the transaction was designed in whole and in part to conceal and disguise, the nature, source, ownership, and control of the proceeds of said specified unlawful activity and that the property involved in the financial transaction represented the proceeds of some form of unlawful activity.

18 U.S.C. § 1956(a)(1)(B)(i)

18 U.S.C. § 2

**COUNT FOUR**  
**(Tampering With Official Proceeding)**

The Grand Jury for the District of Maryland further charges that:

**Introduction**

1. Paragraphs 1 through 11 of Count One are incorporated here.
2. At all times relevant to this Count of the Indictment, Drug Dealer 1 was a drug distributor who received wholesale quantities of marijuana from the Nicka Organization.
3. In or about early 2011, the Drug Enforcement Administration (“DEA”) initiated forfeiture procedures under DEA Case # GD-11-0089 to forfeit property seized from Drug Dealer 1 in or about December 2010.
4. On or about February 16, 2011, defendant **FARRELL** met with Drug Dealer 1, discussed the potential filing of a claim by Drug Dealer 1 with the DEA seeking the return of certain property seized by the DEA for forfeiture in DEA Case # GD-11-0089, and advised Drug Dealer 1 that Drug Dealer 1 should not disclose to the DEA the identity of the individual or individuals who gave Drug Dealer 1 property identified in DEA Case # GD-11-0089 as DEA ID # 11-DEA-541542.
5. On or about February 28, 2011, defendant **FARRELL** caused affidavits in support of the forfeiture of certain property (including the property identified as DEA ID # 11-DEA-541542) that contained the purported notarized signature of Drug Dealer 1—even though Drug Dealer 1 had not, in fact, appeared before the notary public—to be prepared and submitted to the DEA.

**The Charge**

6. On or about February 16, 2011, in the District of Maryland and elsewhere, the defendant,

**JAMES MICHAEL FARRELL**

did knowingly and corruptly attempt to obstruct, influence and impede an official proceeding, to wit, the administrative forfeiture proceedings in DEA Case # GD-11-0089.

18 U.S.C. § 1512(c)(2)

18 U.S.C. § 2



**COUNT FIVE**  
**(Money Laundering)**

The Grand Jury for the District of Maryland further charges that:

1. Paragraphs 1 through 11 and Paragraph 13 of Count One are incorporated here.
2. On or about April 28, 2011, in the District of Maryland and elsewhere, the

defendant,

**JAMES MICHAEL FARRELL,**

did knowingly conduct and attempt to conduct a financial transaction and cause another person to conduct and attempt to conduct a financial transaction affecting interstate and foreign commerce, namely the delivery of check #11159 in the amount of \$1,250.00 drawn on defendant **FARRELL's** Wachovia commercial bank account ending in 1641 to Attorney 2 in Baltimore, Maryland, as payment for legal fees for representation of a member of the Nicka Organization, which involved the proceeds of a specified unlawful activity—to wit, conspiracy to distribute and possess with intent to distribute controlled substances, in violation of Title 21, United States Code, Section 846, and distribution and possession with intent to distribute controlled substances in violation of Title 21, United States Code, Section 841—knowing that the transaction was designed in whole and in part to conceal and disguise the nature, source, ownership, and control of the proceeds of said specified unlawful activity and that the property involved in the financial transaction represented the proceeds of some form of unlawful activity.

18 U.S.C. § 1956(a)(1)(B)(i)  
18 U.S.C. § 2

**COUNT SIX**  
**(Money Laundering)**

The Grand Jury for the District of Maryland further charges that:

1. Paragraphs 1 through 11 and Paragraph 13 of Count One are incorporated here.
2. On or about June 20, 2011, in the District of Maryland and elsewhere, the

defendant,

**JAMES MICHAEL FARRELL,**

did knowingly conduct and attempt to conduct a financial transaction and cause another person to conduct and attempt to conduct a financial transaction affecting interstate and foreign commerce, to wit, the delivery of check #11252 in the amount of \$1,250.00 drawn on defendant **FARRELL's** Wachovia commercial bank account ending in 1641 to Attorney 2 in Baltimore, Maryland, as payment of legal fees for representation of a member of the Nicka Organization, which involved the proceeds of a specified unlawful activity—to wit, conspiracy to distribute and possess with intent to distribute controlled substances, in violation of Title 21, United States Code, Section 846, and distribution and possession with intent to distribute controlled substances in violation of Title 21, United States Code, Section 841—knowing that the transaction was designed in whole and in part to conceal and disguise, the nature, source, ownership, and control of the proceeds of said specified unlawful activity and that the property involved in the financial transaction represented the proceeds of some form of unlawful activity.

18 U.S.C. § 1956(a)(1)(B)(i)  
18 U.S.C. § 2

**COUNT SEVEN**  
**(Money Laundering)**

The Grand Jury for the District of Maryland further charges that:

**Introduction**

1. Paragraphs 1 through 11 of Count One are incorporated here.
2. At all times relevant to this Count of the Indictment, Inmate 1 was incarcerated at the Chesapeake Detention Facility in Baltimore, Maryland.

**The Charge**

3. On or about June 13, 2012, in the District of Maryland and elsewhere, the defendant,

**JAMES MICHAEL FARRELL,**

did knowingly conduct and attempt to conduct a financial transaction affecting interstate and foreign commerce, namely the deposit of Western Union money order bearing number 14-487613810 in the amount of \$100.00 into account of Inmate 1 at the Chesapeake Detention Facility in Baltimore, Maryland, which involved the proceeds of a specified unlawful activity—to wit, conspiracy to distribute and possess with intent to distribute controlled substances, in violation of Title 21, United States Code, Section 846, and distribution and possession with intent to distribute controlled substances in violation of Title 21, United States Code, Section 841—knowing that the transaction was designed in whole and in part to conceal and disguise, the nature, source, ownership, and control of the proceeds of said specified

unlawful activity and that the property involved in the financial transaction represented the proceeds of some form of unlawful activity.

18 U.S.C. § 1956(a)(1)(B)(i)  
18 U.S.C. § 2

**COUNT EIGHT**  
**(Witness Tampering)**

The Grand Jury for the District of Maryland further charges that:

**Introduction**

1. Paragraphs 1 through 11 of Count One are incorporated here.
2. At all times relevant to this Count of the Indictment, Drug Dealer 2 was an indicted defendant in *United States v. Matt Nicka, et al.*, Criminal Case No. RWT-10-777.
3. On or about July 11, 2012, knowing that Drug Dealer 2 was represented by other counsel, defendant **FARRELL** met with Drug Dealer 2, discussed the indictment in Criminal Case No. RWT-10-777, agreed to contact the Nicka Organization to obtain funds to assist with Drug Dealer 2's legal expenses, and directed Drug Dealer 2 to meet with federal law enforcement officers and federal prosecutors for a proffer but to only tell them what they already knew rather than sharing all information known to Drug Dealer 2 about the drug conspiracy and money laundering conspiracy charged in *United States v. Matt Nicka et al.*, Criminal Case No. RWT-10-0777.

**The Charge**

4. On or about July 11, 2012, in the District of Maryland and elsewhere, the defendant,

**JAMES MICHAEL FARRELL,**

did knowingly attempt to corruptly persuade another person, namely Drug Dealer 2, and did engage in misleading conduct toward another person, namely Drug Dealer 2, with intent to hinder, delay, and prevent the communication to a law enforcement officer of the United States of information relating to the commission of a federal offense, to wit, information relating to the

drug conspiracy and money laundering conspiracy charged in *United States v. Matt Nicka, et al*,

Criminal Case No. RWT-10-0777.

18 U.S.C. § 1512(b)(3)

18 U.S.C. § 2

**COUNT NINE**  
**(Tampering with Official Proceeding)**

The Grand Jury for the District of Maryland further charges that:

1. Paragraphs 1 through 11 of Count One and Paragraphs 2 and 3 of Count Eight are incorporated here.

2. On or about July 11, 2012, in the District of Maryland and elsewhere, the defendant,

**JAMES MICHAEL FARRELL,**

did knowingly and corruptly attempt to obstruct, influence and impede an official proceeding, to wit, *United States v. Matt Nicka, et al.*, Criminal Case No. RWT-10-0777.

18 U.S.C. § 1512(c)(2)  
18 U.S.C. § 2

**COUNT TEN**  
**(Witness Tampering)**

The Grand Jury for the District of Maryland further charges that:

**Introduction**

1. Paragraphs 1 through 11 of Count One and Paragraph 2 of Count Eight are incorporated here.
2. On or about July 31, 2012, knowing that Drug Dealer 2 was represented by other counsel, and after having previously directed Drug Dealer 2 to meet with federal law enforcement officers and federal prosecutors for a proffer but to only tell them what they already knew rather than sharing all information known to Drug Dealer 2 about the drug conspiracy and money laundering conspiracy charged in *United States v. Matt Nicka et al.*, Criminal Case No. RWT-10-0777, defendant **FARRELL** met with Drug Dealer 2 and paid him approximately \$19,800 in United States currency.

**The Charge**

3. On or about July 31, 2012, in the District of Maryland and elsewhere, the defendant,

**JAMES MICHAEL FARRELL,**

did knowingly attempt to corruptly persuade another person, namely Drug Dealer 2, and did engage in misleading conduct toward another person, namely Drug Dealer 2, with intent to hinder, delay, and prevent the communication to a law enforcement officer of the United States of information relating to the commission of a federal offense, to wit, information relating to the



drug conspiracy and money laundering conspiracy charged in *United States v. Matt Nicka, et al.*,

Criminal Case No. RWT-10-0777.

18 U.S.C. § 1512(b)(3)

18 U.S.C. § 2

**COUNT ELEVEN**  
**(Tampering With Official Proceeding)**

The Grand Jury for the District of Maryland further charges that:

1. Paragraphs 1 through 11 of Count One, Paragraph 2 of Count Eight, and Paragraph 2 of Count Ten are incorporated here.
2. On or about July 31, 2012, in the District of Maryland and elsewhere, the defendant,

**JAMES MICHAEL FARRELL,**

did knowingly and corruptly attempt to obstruct, influence and impede an official proceeding, to wit, the case of *United States v. Matt Nicka, et al*, Criminal Case No. RWT-10-0777.

18 U.S.C. § 1512(c)(2)  
18 U.S.C. § 2

**COUNT TWELVE**  
**(Money Laundering)**

The Grand Jury for the District of Maryland further charges that:

1. Paragraphs 1 through 11 of Count One and Paragraph 2 of Count Seven are incorporated here.
2. On or about December 28, 2012, in the District of Maryland and elsewhere, the defendant,

**JAMES MICHAEL FARRELL,**

did knowingly conduct and attempt to conduct a financial transaction affecting interstate and foreign commerce, to wit, the deposit of Western Union money order bearing number 14-596952797 in the amount of \$150.00 into the account number of Inmate 1 at the Chesapeake Detention Facility in Baltimore Maryland, which involved the proceeds of a specified unlawful activity—to wit, conspiracy to distribute and possess with intent to distribute controlled substances, in violation of Title 21, United States Code, Section 846, and distribution and possession with intent to distribute controlled substances in violation of Title 21, United States Code, Section 841—knowing that the transaction was designed in whole and in part to conceal and disguise, the nature, source, ownership, and control of the proceeds of said specified unlawful activity and that the property involved in the financial transaction represented the proceeds of some form of unlawful activity.

18 U.S.C. § 1956(a)(1)(B)(i)  
18 U.S.C. § 2

**FORFEITURE ALLEGATION**

The Grand Jury for the District of Maryland further finds that:

1. Pursuant to Title 18, United States Code, Section 982(a)(1), upon conviction of the offenses in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 1956 alleged in Count One through Count Three, Count Five through Count Seven, and Count Twelve of this Indictment, the defendant shall forfeit to the United States of America all property, real or personal, involved in such offense, and all property traceable to such property. The property to be forfeited includes, but is not limited to a sum of money equal to the value of any property involved in the money laundering offenses for which the defendant has been convicted, which sum shall be at least \$100,000.00.

2. If, as a result of any act or omission of the defendant, any such property subject to forfeiture:

- a. cannot be located upon the exercise of due diligence;
- b. has been transferred or sold to, or deposited with, a third person;
- c. has been placed beyond the jurisdiction of the Court;
- d. has been substantially diminished in value; or
- e. has been commingled with other property which cannot be subdivided without difficulty;

the United States of America shall be entitled to forfeiture of substitute property pursuant to

Title 21, United States Code, Section 853(p), as incorporated by Title 28, United States Code,  
Section 2461(c).

21 U.S.C. § 853  
18 U.S.C. § 982  
28 U.S.C. § 2461(c)  
Fed. R. Crim. P. 32.2(a)

  
Rod J. Rosenstein  
United States Attorney

A TRUE BILL:

**SIGNATURE REDACTED**

Foreperson

Dated: October 26, 2015

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE DISTRICT OF MARYLAND

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

v.

JAMES MICHAEL FARRELL

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:  
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:  
:

CRIMINAL NO. RWT-15-0562

FILED ENTERED  
LOGGED RECEIVED

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FEB 06 2017

VERDICT FORM

COUNT ONE

BY AT GREENBELT CLERK, U.S. DISTRICT COURT DISTRICT OF MARYLAND DEPUTY

1. How do you find the defendant, James Michael Farrell, as to Count One of the Indictment (Money Laundering Conspiracy), guilty or not guilty?

Guilty  Not Guilty

COUNT TWO

2. How do you find the defendant, James Michael Farrell, as to Count Two of the Indictment (Money Laundering on or about October 30, 2010), guilty or not guilty?

Guilty  Not Guilty

COUNT THREE

3. How do you find the defendant, James Michael Farrell, as to Count Three of the Indictment (Money Laundering on or about November 26, 2010), guilty or not guilty?

Guilty  Not Guilty

COUNT FOUR

4. How do you find the defendant, James Michael Farrell, as to Count Four of the Indictment (Attempted Tampering with Official Proceeding on or about February 16, 2011), guilty or not guilty?

Guilty  Not Guilty



**COUNT FIVE**

5. How do you find the defendant, James Michael Farrell, as to Count Five of the Indictment (Money Laundering on or about April 28, 2011), guilty or not guilty?

Guilty ✓ Not Guilty \_\_\_\_\_

**COUNT SIX**

6. How do you find the defendant, James Michael Farrell, as to Count Six of the Indictment (Money Laundering on or about June 20, 2011), guilty or not guilty?

Guilty ✓ Not Guilty \_\_\_\_\_

**COUNT SEVEN**

7. How do you find the defendant, James Michael Farrell, as to Count Seven of the Indictment (Money Laundering on or about June 13, 2012), guilty or not guilty?

Guilty ✓ Not Guilty \_\_\_\_\_

**COUNT EIGHT**

8. How do you find the defendant, James Michael Farrell, as to Count Eight of the Indictment (Attempted Witness Tampering on or about July 11, 2012), guilty or not guilty?

Guilty ✓ Not Guilty \_\_\_\_\_

**COUNT NINE**

9. How do you find the defendant, James Michael Farrell, as to Count Nine of the Indictment (Attempted Tampering with Official Proceedings on or about July 11, 2012), guilty or not guilty?

Guilty ✓ Not Guilty \_\_\_\_\_

**COUNT TEN**

10. How do you find the defendant, James Michael Farrell, as to Count Ten of the Indictment (Attempted Witness Tampering on or about July 31, 2012), guilty or not guilty?

Guilty \_\_\_\_\_ Not Guilty ✓

**COUNT ELEVEN**

11. How do you find the defendant, James Michael Farrell, as to Count Eleven of the Indictment (Attempted Tampering with Official Proceeding on or about July 31, 2012), guilty or not guilty?

Guilty \_\_\_\_\_ Not Guilty  \_\_\_\_\_

**COUNT TWELVE**

12. How do you find the defendant, James Michael Farrell, as to Count Twelve of the Indictment (Money Laundering on or about December 28, 2012), guilty or not guilty?

Guilty  \_\_\_\_\_ Not Guilty \_\_\_\_\_

The foregoing constitutes the unanimous verdict of the jury.

**REDACTED**

**REDACTED  
SIGNATURE**



# United States District Court District of Maryland

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

**JUDGMENT IN A CRIMINAL CASE**  
(For Offenses Committed on or After November 1, 1987)

v.

Case Number: RWT-8-15-CR-00562-001

**JAMES MICHAEL FARRELL**

Defendant's Attorney: Barry Coburn & Peggy Bennett  
Assistant U.S. Attorney: Deborah A Johnston &

Sandra Wilkinson  
FILED  
LOGGED  
ENTERED  
RECEIVED

JUL 24 2017

AT GREENBELT  
CLERK, U.S. DISTRICT COURT  
DISTRICT OF MARYLAND  
DEPUTY

**THE DEFENDANT:**

- pleaded guilty to count(s) \_\_\_\_\_
- pleaded nolo contendere to count(s) \_\_\_\_\_, which was accepted by the court. BY
- was found guilty on count(s) 1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,12 after a plea of not guilty.

<u>Title &amp; Section</u>	<u>Nature of Offense</u>	<u>Date Offense Concluded</u>	<u>Count Number(s)</u>
18 U.S.C. § 1956(h)	Money Laundering Conspiracy	04/01/2013	1
18 U.S.C. § 1956(a)(1)(B)(i)	Money Laundering	10/30/2010	2

The defendant is adjudged guilty of the offenses listed above and sentenced as provided in pages 2 through 7 of this judgment. The sentence is imposed pursuant to the Sentencing Reform Act of 1984 as modified by U.S. v. Booker, 543 U.S. 220 (2005).

- The defendant has been found not guilty on count(s) 10,11
- Counts \_\_\_\_\_ is/are dismissed on the motion of the United States.

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that the defendant shall notify the United States Attorney for this district within 30 days of any change of name, residence, or mailing address until all fines, restitution, costs, and special assessments imposed by this judgment are fully paid.

July 17, 2017  
Date of Imposition of Judgment

  
Roger W. Titus  
United States District Judge

July 24, 2017  
Date

Name of Court Reporter: Marlene Kerr

**DEFENDANT: JAMES MICHAEL FARRELL****CASE NUMBER: RWT-8-15-CR-00562-001****ADDITIONAL COUNTS OF CONVICTION**

<u>Title &amp; Section</u>	<u>Nature of Offense</u>	<u>Date Offense Concluded</u>	<u>Count Number(s)</u>
18 U.S.C. § 1956(a)(1)(B)(i)	Money Laundering	11/26/2010	3
18 U.S.C. §1512(c)(2)	Tampering With Official Proceeding	02/16/2011	4
18 U.S.C. § 1956(a)(1)(B)(i)	Money Laundering	04/28/2011	5
18 U.S.C. § 1956(a)(1)(B)(i)	Money Laundering	06/20/2011	6
18 U.S.C. § 1956(a)(1)(B)(i)	Money Laundering	06/13/2012	7
18 U.S.C. §1512(b)(3)	Tampering With Witness	07/11/2012	8
18 U.S.C. §1512(c)(2)	Tampering With Official Proceeding	07/11/2012	9
18 U.S.C. § 1956(a)(1)(B)(i)	Money Laundering	12/28/2012	12

DEFENDANT: James Michael Farrell

CASE NUMBER: RWT-8-15-CR-00562-001

**IMPRISONMENT**

The defendant is hereby committed to the custody of the United States Bureau of Prisons to be imprisoned for a total term of 42 months as to each count to run concurrent (total time to be served 42 months).

The court makes the following recommendations to the Bureau of Prisons:

- 1. Designate the defendant to the nearest facility to the Philadelphia, PA area for which he is eligible, in order to be close to family members.
- 2. That if eligible, the defendant will be enrolled in the 500 Hour Residential Drug and Alcohol Program (RDAP) or, if not, in any substance abuse program for which he may be eligible.

The defendant is remanded to the custody of the United States Marshal.

The defendant shall surrender to the United States Marshal for this district:

- at \_\_\_\_\_ a.m./p.m. on \_\_\_\_\_.
- as notified by the United States Marshal.

The defendant shall surrender, at his/her own expense, to the institution designated by the Bureau of Prisons at the date and time specified in a written notice to be sent to the defendant by the United States Marshal. If the defendant does not receive such a written notice, defendant shall surrender to the United States Marshal:

before 2pm on August 28<sup>th</sup> 2017.

**A defendant who fails to report either to the designated institution or to the United States Marshal as directed shall be subject to the penalties of Title 18 U.S.C. §3146. If convicted of an offense while on release, the defendant shall be subject to the penalties set forth in 18 U.S.C. §3147. For violation of a condition of release, the defendant shall be subject to the sanctions set forth in Title 18 U.S.C. §3148. Any bond or property posted may be forfeited and judgment entered against the defendant and the surety in the full amount of the bond.**

**RETURN**

I have executed this judgment as follows:

Defendant delivered on \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_, with a certified copy of this judgment.

\_\_\_\_\_  
UNITED STATES MARSHAL

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
DEPUTY U.S. MARSHAL

## SUPERVISED RELEASE

Upon release from imprisonment, the defendant shall be on supervised release for a term of Term of 18 months as to each count to run concurrent.

**The defendant shall comply with all of the following conditions:**

The defendant shall report to the probation office in the district to which the defendant is released within 72 hours of release from the custody of the Bureau of Prisons.

### A. MANDATORY CONDITIONS

- 1) You must not commit another federal, state or local crime.
- 2) You must not unlawfully possess a controlled substance.
- 3) You must refrain from any unlawful use of a controlled substance. You must submit to one drug test within 15 days of release from imprisonment and at least two periodic drug tests thereafter, as determined by the court.
  - The above drug testing condition is suspended, based on the court's determination that you pose a low risk of future substance abuse. *(check if applicable)*
- 4)  You must cooperate in the collection of DNA as directed by the probation officer. *(check if applicable)*
- 5)  You must comply with the requirements of the Sex Offender Registration and Notification Act (42 U.S.C. § 16901, *et seq.*) as directed by the probation officer, the Bureau of Prisons, or any state sex offender registration agency in the location where you reside, work, are a student, or were convicted of a qualifying offense. *(check if applicable)*
- 6)  You must participate in an approved program for domestic violence. *(check if applicable)*

You must comply with the standard conditions that have been adopted by this court as well as with any other conditions on the attached page

### B. STANDARD CONDITIONS OF SUPERVISION

As part of your supervised release, you must comply with the following standard conditions of supervision. These conditions are imposed because they establish the basic expectations for your behavior while on supervision and identify the minimum tools needed by probation officers to keep informed, report to the court about, and bring about improvements in your conduct and condition.

- 1) You must report to the probation office in the federal judicial district where you are authorized to reside within 72 hours of your release from imprisonment, unless the probation officer instructs you to report to a different probation office or within a different time frame.
- 2) After initially reporting to the probation office, you will receive instructions from the court or the probation officer about how and when you must report to the probation officer, and you must report to the probation officer as instructed.
- 3) You must not knowingly leave the federal judicial district where you are authorized to reside without first getting permission from the court or the probation officer.
- 4) You must answer truthfully the questions asked by your probation officer.
- 5) You must live at a place approved by the probation officer. If you plan to change where you live or anything about your living arrangements (such as the people you live with), you must notify the probation officer at least 10 days before the change. If notifying the probation officer in advance is not possible due to unanticipated circumstances, you must notify the probation officer within 72 hours of becoming aware of a change or expected change.
- 6) You must allow the probation officer to visit you at any time at your home or elsewhere, and you must permit the probation officer to take any items prohibited by the conditions of your supervision that he or she observes in plain view.
- 7) You must work full time (at least 30 hours per week) at a lawful type of employment, unless the probation officer excuses you from doing so. If you do not have full-time employment you must try to find full-time employment, unless the probation officer excuses you from doing so. If you plan to change where you work or anything about your work (such as your position or your job responsibilities), you must notify the probation officer at least 10 days before the change. If notifying the probation officer at least 10 days in advance is not possible due to unanticipated circumstances, you must notify the probation officer within 72 hours of becoming aware of a change or expected change.
- 8) You must not communicate or interact with someone you know is engaged in criminal activity. If you know someone has been convicted of a felony, you must not knowingly communicate or interact with that person without first getting the permission of the probation officer.

**DEFENDANT: James Michael Farrell**

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- 9) If you are arrested or questioned by a law enforcement officer, you must notify the probation officer within 72 hours.
- 10) You must not own, possess, or have access to a firearm, ammunition, destructive device, or dangerous weapon (i.e., anything that was designed, or was modified for, the specific purpose of causing bodily injury or death to another person such as nunchakus or tasers).
- 11) You must not act or make any agreement with a law enforcement agency to act as a confidential human source or informant without first getting the permission of the court.
- 12) If the probation officer determines that you pose a risk to another person (including an organization), the probation officer may require you to notify the person about the risk and you must comply with that instruction. The probation officer may contact the person and confirm that you have notified the person about the risk.
- 13) You must follow the instructions of the probation officer related to the conditions of supervision.

### **C. SUPERVISED RELEASE ADDITIONAL CONDITIONS**

#### **Mental Health Treatment**

You must participate in a mental health treatment program and follow the rules and regulations of that program. The probation officer, in consultation with the treatment provider, will supervise your participation in the program (provider, location, modality, duration, intensity, etc.). You must pay the costs of the program as directed by the probation officer.

#### **Fine**

The defendant shall pay a fine in the amount of \$15,000 at the time of supervision, if not already paid.

#### **Special Assessment**

Pay special assessment in the amount of \$100.00 each count, for a total of \$1,000.00, as directed by the probation officer.



DEFENDANT: James Michael Farrell

CASE NUMBER: RWT-8-15-CR-00562-001

### SCHEDULE OF PAYMENTS

Payments shall be applied in the following order: (1) assessment, (2) restitution principal, (3) restitution interest, (4) fine principal, (5) fine interest, (6) community restitution, (7) penalties, and (8) costs, including cost of prosecution and court costs.

Payment of the total fine and other criminal monetary penalties shall be due as follows:

- A  In full immediately; or
- B  \$ \_\_\_\_\_ immediately, balance due (in accordance with C, D, or E); or
- C  Not later than \_\_\_\_\_; or
- D  Installments to commence \_\_\_\_\_ day(s) after the date of this judgment.
- E  In \_\_\_\_\_ (e.g. equal weekly, monthly, quarterly) installments of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ over a period of \_\_\_\_\_ year(s) to commence when the defendant is placed on supervised release.

The defendant will receive credit for all payments previously made toward any criminal monetary penalties imposed.

Unless the court expressly orders otherwise, if this judgment imposes a period of imprisonment, payment of criminal monetary penalties shall be due during the period of imprisonment. All criminal monetary penalties, except those payments made through the Bureau of Prisons Inmate Financial Responsibility Program, are to be made to the Clerk of the Court.

**NO RESTITUTION OR OTHER FINANCIAL PENALTY SHALL BE COLLECTED THROUGH THE INMATE FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY PROGRAM.**

If the entire amount of criminal monetary penalties is not paid prior to the commencement of supervision, the balance shall be paid:

- in equal monthly installments during the term of supervision; or
- on a nominal payment schedule of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ per month during the term of supervision.

The U.S. probation officer may recommend a modification of the payment schedule depending on the defendant's financial circumstances.

Special instructions regarding the payment of criminal monetary penalties:

Joint and Several

Defendant and Co-Defendant Names and Case Numbers (including defendant number), Total Amount, Joint and Several Amount, and corresponding payee, if appropriate.

- The defendant shall pay the cost of prosecution.
- The defendant shall pay the following court cost(s):
- The defendant shall forfeit the defendant's interest in the following property to the United States:

**CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE**

I certify that this filing complies with the provisions of the *Public Access Policy of the Unified Judicial System of Pennsylvania: Case Records of the Appellate and Trial Courts* that require filing confidential information and documents differently than non-confidential information and documents.

Submitted by: Office of Disciplinary Counsel

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: Richard Hernandez, Disciplinary Counsel

Attorney No. (if applicable): 57254