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IN THE STATE COURT OF APPLING COUNTY
STATE OF GEORGIA

STATE OF GEORGIA *
vs. *
KELSEY RAYNER, SR., *
Defendant. * CASE NO.
* 2017S-405, 2017S-406,
2017S-407

* * * * *

Guilty Plea Proceedings taken before Crystal P. Peacock,
Georgia Certified Court Reporter No. B-1962, at the Appling
County Courthouse, Baxley, Georgia, on July 24, 2017,
commencing at approximately 11:00 a.m. and continuing
therefrom until concluded, the Honorable E. Preston Johnson,
Jr., Presiding.

* * * * *

APPEARANCES OF COUNSEL:
FOR THE STATE: Mr. Terry Turner
State Solicitor General
35 Tippins Street
Baxley, GA 31513
FOR THE DEFENDANT: Mr. Kelsey Rayner, Sr.
(Pro Se)
REPORTER: Ms. Crystal P. Peacock
Certified Court Reporter
93 Crystal Lane
Baxley, Georgia 31513

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I n d e x

I. PROCEEDINGS. 3
II. RULING OF THE COURT. 8
III. CERTIFICATE OF REPORTER. 10

Exhibits

Number	Tendered	Admitted
None.		

1 (July 24, 2017; 11:00 a.m.; With all
2 Parties Present in the Jury Room,
3 Proceedings Began and Continued as
4 follows:)

5 THE COURT: Kelsey.

6 DEFENDANT RAYNER: How are you doing, Mr. Pres?

7 THE COURT: I'm all right. All right. We're on
8 the record in the case of the State of Georgia versus
9 Kelsey Rayner, Sr., charged in Case Number 2017S-405,
10 406, and 407, with disorderly conduct, harassing
11 communication, theft of services. All right. I have a
12 plea form here indicating your desire to plead guilty;
13 is that correct?

14 DEFENDANT RAYNER: Yes, sir.

15 THE COURT: The plea form that you signed, did you
16 have a chance to go over this before you signed it, or
17 did he go over it with you?

18 DEFENDANT RAYNER: He went over it with me because
19 I wanted to bond out. It's a bond to get me out.

20 THE COURT: Uh-huh (affirmative).

21 DEFENDANT RAYNER: Because that - that judge,
22 Ronnie Lewis, was trying to take me through a prelim,
23 and it was three of us, and we all said we didn't want
24 that. And there was a lot of stuff we signed, a lot of
25 forms, Mr. Pres - Mr. Johnson. I don't mean to be rude

1 or nothing. Some of that I thought it wasn't right,
2 tried to hold me on a cash bond instead of some bonds.
3 If I can get out, Mr. - I could have called Mr. Tim.
4 But it was three of us he did like that, and we
5 didn't...

6 THE COURT: Well, I mean they set a bond, right?

7 DEFENDANT RAYNER: Yes, sir.

8 THE COURT: Yeah. I mean you can get - I mean you
9 can get in touch with the bondsman and get a - get a -
10 well, I mean - I mean what's - what's - I guess - how
11 long you been in jail?

12 DEFENDANT RAYNER: I mean I don't even know. I was
13 up in Pierce County for a minute. And I been using the
14 bathroom, passing blood and all that, too. They
15 supposed to took me to the hospital after that, but they
16 didn't. I really need my body checked out, Mr. Pres.
17 Whatever you can do to help me get out I'd appreciate
18 it.

19 THE COURT: I mean I - right now, I'm - I mean the
20 purpose of them bringing you here today was to arraign
21 you on these charges because they've already been
22 accused, I guess is my point. So that...

23 DEFENDANT RAYNER: Okay.

24 THE COURT: ...- what - what I need to do is make
25 sure you understand what you're doing. I mean this...

1 DEFENDANT RAYNER: Yes, sir.

2 THE COURT: ...indicates that you want - that
3 you're asking to plead guilty, and I need to know that,
4 you know, what your intentions are before we can go any
5 further. Okay?

6 DEFENDANT RAYNER: Yes, sir. Just whatever we're
7 going to do...

8 THE COURT: I mean I can't - I can't -- I mean the
9 - the bond's been set. I mean if you can make the bond,
10 that's fine, you can get out and then get ready to
11 defend the case if you want to do it that way, or if
12 you're wanting to enter a plea of guilty, that's fine,
13 but I mean I - I just need to know that's what you
14 intend to do.

15 DEFENDANT RAYNER: That's what I did out there,
16 yes, sir.

17 THE COURT: I mean that's what I need to know is if
18 you...

19 DEFENDANT RAYNER: Yes, sir.

20 THE COURT: ... -- you know, I assume that the
21 Solicitor went over everything he was going to be
22 recommending and all that, right?

23 DEFENDANT RAYNER: Yes, sir. Yes, sir.

24 THE COURT: Okay. Did you - do you understand
25 what your rights are,...

1 DEFENDANT RAYNER: Yes, sir.

2 THE COURT: ...that are in the plea form and all
3 that you're - and that you're giving those up when you
4 enter a plea? You understand that? We won't come back
5 at a later date to determine whether you're guilty or
6 innocent? This will be it. You under...

7 DEFENDANT RAYNER: Yes, sir.

8 THE COURT: ...stand?

9 DEFENDANT RAYNER: Yes, sir.

10 THE COURT: You understand that?

11 DEFENDANT RAYNER: I understand.

12 THE COURT: Is that...

13 DEFENDANT RAYNER: I understand now.

14 THE COURT: ...what you're wanting to do?

15 DEFENDANT RAYNER: Yes, sir.

16 THE COURT: All right. Has anybody threatened you
17 or coerced you or offered you any hope of benefit or
18 reward to get you to enter this plea here today?

19 DEFENDANT RAYNER: Like I said, that Ronnie Lewis,
20 Judge, you know him; don't you?

21 THE COURT: Yeah.

22 DEFENDANT RAYNER: He - I felt like he tricked me
23 because it was a lot of things I signed. There was a
24 lot of papers that I signed. But this - this helped me
25 out. Y'all got rid of some of it, but I thank you.

1 That'll work. I only got to make bond...

2 THE COURT: Well, they got you pleading to the
3 disorderly conduct, harassing communication, and theft
4 of services.

5 DEFENDANT RAYNER: And I didn't even go to that
6 hearing because I felt like I wasn't harassing him or
7 nothing like that, but...

8 THE COURT: Well, you can't not go if they - if
9 they have...

10 DEFENDANT RAYNER: Yes, sir.

11 THE COURT: ...- hold a preliminary hearing, you
12 don't go, they're going to bind it over which is what
13 happened.

14 DEFENDANT RAYNER: Okay. I understand.

15 THE COURT: Which is why you're here today.

16 DEFENDANT RAYNER: I understand Mr. Pres.

17 THE COURT: Is this what you want to do, Mr.
18 Rayner?

19 DEFENDANT RAYNER: Yes, sir, as long as it'll get
20 me a bond. If it'll get me a bond and I can get out...

21 THE COURT: Well, I assume there's nothing else
22 holding you and that you'll be able to get out.

23 DEFENDANT RAYNER: Yes, sir. That'll work.
24 That'll work.

25 THE COURT: All right. All right. Well, I'll

1 accept...

2 DEFENDANT RAYNER: I trust your word.

3 THE COURT: Well, I - I'm just here to make sure
4 you understand what you're doing. I - I don't know
5 anything about the facts or the circumstances...

6 DEFENDANT RAYNER: Yes, sir.

7 THE COURT: ...other than, you know, what I just
8 can read on the accusation.

9 DEFENDANT RAYNER: Yes, sir.

10 THE COURT: Anyway,...

11 DEFENDANT RAYNER: Yes, sir.

12 THE COURT: Okay. Are you entering this plea
13 freely and voluntarily?

14 DEFENDANT RAYNER: Yes, sir.

15 (ENTERS GUILTY PLEA)

16 **RULING OF THE COURT:**

17 THE COURT: Okay. Well, I'll accept it and find
18 that it is freely, voluntarily, intelligently entered.
19 On the disorderly conduct, it's three hundred and sixty-
20 five days in jail, but that is suspended upon your
21 satisfactory completion of twelve months probation, a
22 fine in the amount of five, fifty-two. There's another
23 special condition here, that you not have any contact
24 with the William K. Eason family.

25 DEFENDANT RAYNER: Yes, sir.

1 THE COURT: Him or his family. And then on the
2 harassing communications, twelve months - well, three
3 hundred and sixty-five days in jail to run consecutive,
4 suspended upon satisfactory completion of twelve months
5 probation, a fine in the amount of eight-o-five, and
6 that's again no contact with - with Mr. Eason or his
7 family.

8 DEFENDANT RAYNER: Yes, sir.

9 THE COURT: The third count, the theft of services,
10 three hundred and sixty-five days in jail suspended upon
11 the satisfactory completion of twelve months probation,
12 a fine in the amount of eight-o-five.

13 DEFENDANT RAYNER: Yes, sir.

14 THE COURT: Okay. And then the - the doing business
15 without a license, that's going to be dismissed. Okay?

16 DEFENDANT RAYNER: Yes, sir.

17 THE COURT: All right. Okay. That'll do it. If
18 you'll go with this gentleman, they'll - the - probation
19 is going to go over everything with you, okay?

20 DEFENDANT RAYNER: Yes, sir.

21 THE COURT: All right, man.

22 DEFENDANT RAYNER: Thank you, Mr. Pres.

23 THE COURT: Good luck to you, hear?

24 DEFENDANT RAYNER: Yes, sir.

25 (PROCEEDINGS CONCLUDED at approximately 11:20 a.m.)

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CERTIFICATE

STATE OF GEORGIA :
COUNTY OF APPLING :

I, CRYSTAL P, PEACOCK, Certified Court Reporter Number B-1962, hereby certify that the within and foregoing record of the Proceedings in the matter of the State of Georgia vs. Kelsey Rayner, Sr., Case Numbers 2017S-405, 2017S-406, and 2017S-407, was held at the time and place aforesaid, and that the foregoing pages contained herein numbered One through Nine, constitute a true and accurate transcript of the Proceedings as held therein.

I FURTHER CERTIFY that I bear no statutorily prohibitive relationship to any of the parties in this cause, that I am not of counsel and have no personal or financial interest in the pending events or the outcome of this matter.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I affix my Hand and Official Seal at Baxley, Appling County, Georgia, this 11th day of July, 2018.

Crystal P. Peacock 
CRYSTAL P. PEACOCK, CCR B-1962
Georgia Certified Court Reporter

cp/CP