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**COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS**

**SUFFOLK, ss.**

**SUPERIOR COURT  
CRIMINAL ACTION  
NO. 12-11155**

**COMMONWEALTH**

**v.**

**ANNIE DOOKHAN**

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**SENTENCING DECISION**

**RE-PROPOSED GUILTY PLEA**

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After consideration of the submissions of the parties and the arguments of counsel before this judge on October 18, 2013, I have decided that, if the defendant were to plead guilty before me, I would not exceed a sentence of three to five years in state prison, with a probationary term to follow, without allowing Ms. Dookhan to withdraw her change of plea. Probation would be for a period of two years and, if she is paroled short of five years, the probation would be unsupervised while she is being overseen by a parole officer.

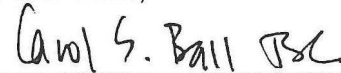
I have reached this decision mindful of the uniqueness of this case and the extremes presented. On the one hand the defendant presents as a tragic and broken person who has been undone by her own ambition. The Commonwealth concedes that her criminal behavior was driven by nothing more than a desire to be recognized as a productive employee. On the other hand, the consequences of her behavior, which she

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ought to have foreseen, have been nothing short of catastrophic: innocent persons were incarcerated, guilty persons have been released to further endanger the public, millions and millions of public dollars are being expended to deal with the chaos Ms. Dookhan created, and the integrity of the criminal justice system has been shaken to the core.

It is certainly true that Ms. Dookhan has no prior record, that her disabled child will become another victim of her crimes upon her incarceration, and that the guidelines call for a sentence of but twelve to thirty-six months at the high end. However, given the magnitude of the harm she has done, considerations of general deterrence and, particularly, punishment dictate a significantly harsher sentence.

By the court,



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Carol S. Ball

Justice of the Superior Court

Date: October 23, 2013