

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF FLORIDA**

CASE NO. 0:24-CR-60003-WILLIAMS

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

v.

ERNEST BERNARD GONDER JR.,

Defendant.

**DECLARATION OF BRYAN PIPER
IN SUPPORT OF FORFEITURE OF SUBSTITUTE ASSETS**

I, Bryan Piper, under penalty of perjury, declare:

1. I am Special Agent Bryan Piper with the Federal Bureau of Investigation ("FBI") and have been so since 2004. I am currently assigned to a Public Corruption Squad in Miami where I conduct investigations involving bribery, Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) loan fraud, Economic Injury and Disaster Loan (EIDL) fraud, election crimes, and money laundering.

2. The information contained in this declaration is based upon my personal knowledge and my review of documents and records gathered during the course of this investigation, as well as information obtained, directly or indirectly, from other sources and agents, including information provided to me by other agents who are involved in the investigation. I make this sworn declaration in support of the United States' Motion for Order of Forfeiture of Substitute Assets. Because this declaration is being submitted for a limited purpose, it does not include all of the facts that I have learned during the course of the investigation.

3. In the course of the investigation law enforcement reviewed financial records, queried available databases, and conducted due diligence to locate forfeitable property traceable

to the count of conviction in this case. After investigating the Defendant's assets, it is the conclusion of the declarant that due to the Defendant's acts or omissions, directly forfeitable property either cannot be located upon the exercise of due diligence; has been transferred or sold to, or deposited with, a third party; has been placed beyond the jurisdiction of the court; has been substantially diminished in value; or has been commingled so proceeds cannot be divided without difficulty.

Dated on March 12th, 2024, in Miami, Florida


BRYAN PIPER
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATIONS