

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF FLORIDA  
MIAMI DIVISION

No. 22-cr-20552-DAMIAN/Torres

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Plaintiff,

v.

DAVID RIVERA,

Defendants.

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**MOTION TO SET BAIL PENDING SENTENCING**

Defendant, David Rivera, through counsel respectfully moves this Honorable Court to set bail pending sentencing, and states:

1. Having been convicted by a jury on May 1st, 2026 (Dkt. 488) and remanded to the custody of the U.S. Marshal upon immediate motion of the government, Rivera now moves the Court to revisit his entitlement to bail for the reasons set out below.
2. Unlike immediately after the verdict, Rivera is now prepared to post a secured, combined personal-surety and deposit bond of in excess of \$7,000,000 which establishes by clear and convincing evidence as required by 18, USC § 3143 that he is not likely to flee<sup>1</sup> as follows:

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<sup>1</sup> Post verdict, the government sought Rivera's remand only based on "risk of flight". (Tr.p.3)

- A. Letter from Monsignor Wilfredo Pena Moredo, a Catholic Priest for over 52 years and friend for more than thirty years, offering to secure Rivera's bail with his home located in Miami, Florida<sup>2</sup> having an estimated equity value of \$575,000. Exhibit "A"
- B. Letter from Modesto "Mitch" Maidique, professor "Emeritus" and 23 year President of Florida International University, offering to secure bail with a \$100,000 deposit into the Registry of the Court. Exhibit "B"
- C. Letter from Mark Rosenberg, professor and former President of Florida International University and forty-year friend, offering to serve as co-surety and to secure Rivera's bail with his home located in Miami, Florida having an estimated equity value of \$500,000. Exhibit "C"
- D. Letter from Manuel Prieguez, former Florida State Representative and a twenty-five-year friend, offering to serve as co-surety and to secure Rivera's bail with his home located in Miami, Florida having an estimated equity value of \$1,600,000. Exhibit "D"
- E. Letter from Alina Garcia, Miami-Dade County Supervisor of Elections and over forty-year friend, offering to serve as co-surety and to secure Rivera's bail with her home located in Miami Florida having an estimated equity value of \$400,000. Exhibit "E"
- F. Letter from Alex Hanna, Esq., a thirty-year friend, offering to serve as co-surety and to deposit \$100,000 into the registry of the court to secure Rivera's bail. Exhibit "F"
- G. Letter from Isabel Fernandez De Luna, a thirty-six-year friend, offering to serve as a co-surety and to secure Rivera's bail with the \$800,000-\$900,000 equity in her home located in Miami, Florida. Exhibit "G"

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<sup>2</sup> Pursuant to Fed.R.Crim.P. 49.1(a)(5) only the city and state of the home addresses are listed. The defendant will provide complete addresses to the government.

- H. Letter from Evelyn Pate, a lifelong friend, offering to serve as co-surety and to secure Rivera's bail with the over \$300,000 in equity in her home located in Sunrise, Florida.  
Exhibit "H"
- I. Letter from Juan Carlos Zapata, a forty-year friend, offering to serve as a co-surety and to secure Rivera's bail with his home located in Miami Florida with an equity value of approximately \$267,000.00. Exhibit "I"
- J. Letter from Yvonne Soler Mckinley, a longtime friend former City Manager of the City of Doral and the City of South Miami, offering to serve a co-surety and to secure Rivera's bail with her home located in Miami, FL with an estimated equity of \$570,000.  
Exhibit "J"
3. Rivera bears the burden under 18 U.S.C. § 3143(a)(1) of establishing by clear and convincing evidence that he is not likely to flee or pose a danger to the community. He has met that burden.
4. The bond package now before the Court is extraordinary by any measure: ten co-sureties who collectively offer in excess of \$5,000,000 of in real property and an additional Two Million Dollar 10% bond secured with \$200,000 to be paid into the Registry of the Court. That amounts to a total bond of \$7,000,000.
5. These are not nominal supporters. They are individuals who have known Rivera for an aggregate of more than 150 years and who are prepared to place their homes and personal savings at risk because they know, from direct and personal experience, that he will not flee.
6. Each of the letters attached hereto as Exhibits A through J reflects not merely a financial commitment, but a personal one, made by individuals who have watched David Rivera show up for this community over decades and who, without hesitation, stand behind him now. These co-sureties speak for themselves.

7. Mark B. Rosenberg, former President of Florida International University and now a University Professor and Senior Fellow at the Jack Gordon Institute, has known Rivera for over forty years — since Rivera was a student in his class. Rosenberg has spent decades advising federal agencies and testifying before Congress on national security matters. He writes that he understands what it means when someone poses a genuine risk, and that David Rivera does not.
8. Monsignor Wilfredo Peña Moredo, a Catholic priest for fifty-two years who has known Rivera for more than thirty, writes that he has watched Rivera face adversity with dignity, composure, and faith, and has never known him to avoid responsibility or fail to answer for his obligations.
9. Modesto "Mitch" Maidique, President Emeritus of Florida International University for twenty-three years, describes Rivera as the "Father of the FIU Medical School" and states without reservation that Rivera has never run from obligation or difficult circumstance — pledging \$100,000 of his own personal funds because he is fully confident Rivera will honor every condition this Court imposes.
10. Yvonne Soler-McKinley, who served as City Manager of the City of Doral and the City of South Miami and has known Rivera since before he held public office, writes that he was never motivated by money, status, or fame, and that his concern for people was genuine, extending to friends, neighbors, and strangers alike, regardless of political affiliation, because answering the call for those in need was simply who he was.
11. Rivera's ties to this community are not abstract. He has lived and worked in South Florida his entire adult life. He co-supports two children in Atlanta. He has no passport.
12. Rivera has been battling prostate cancer for the past three years, which further anchors him to his medical providers, his support network, and this jurisdiction. Whatever financial resources

he once had, have been all but entirely consumed by the defense of this case. He has no means of flight and no place to go. Rivera is also actively defending a separate matter pending in this district, which requires his continued presence here and his ongoing ability to assist and consult with counsel. Detention serves no one's interest in the just resolution of that proceeding.

13. Given the incredible financial bond package being offered, any suggestion that Rivera would place the co-sureties, many very prominent and all long-time friends, at risk of losing their property or cash is, respectfully, baseless. Consider the consequences for Rivera's life if he were to do such a thing and the conclusion that he would not is a forgone one.

14. Rivera can also be required to report to Pretrial Services on whatever schedule the Court deems necessary, participate in the location monitoring program, abide by a curfew or Home Detention and limit his travel to that necessary to work with counsel in his civil and criminal matters in this district and those districts associated with those matters, as further conditions of bond.

15. With regard to arguments made by counsel for the government about Rivera's conduct as alleged in the District of Columbia FARA case, he has pled not guilty in that case and is entitled to the presumption of innocence on those charges. He was admitted to bond in that matter and has been fully compliant with his personal surety bond notwithstanding the serious nature of the allegations against him and should not be called upon to sacrifice his constitutional rights and mount his defense to that case in order to get bail in this one. That case is for another place and day and this Court should not be second guessing the bail determination made by the DC federal court.

**CERTIFICATE OF CONFERENCE**

Pursuant to Local Rule 88.9(a), undersigned counsel certifies that he has conferred with AUSA Harold Schimkat who does oppose the relief sought in this motion.

WHEREFORE, the defendant is requesting that the Court enter an order, pursuant to 18 USC § 3143(a), admitting the defendant to Release pending sentencing, secured by the \$5,000,000 in home equities a \$2,000,000, 10% deposit bond, and the additional special conditions set forth above.

Should the Court require a hearing to address this motion, counsel is prepared to appear before the Court in person, along with the individual sureties, to address any concerns held by the Court.

Respectfully submitted on May 19<sup>th</sup>, 2026.

**EDWARD R. SHOCHAT, PA**  
201 S. Biscayne Blvd., Suite 3000  
Miami, FL 33131  
Tel: (786) 525-3621  
By: /s/ Edward R. Shohat  
**Edward R. Shohat**  
Florida Bar No. 152634  
ed@edwardrshohat.com

**JONES WALKER LLP**  
201 S. Biscayne Blvd., Suite 3000  
Miami, FL 33131  
Tel: (305) 679-5700  
By: /s/ David S. Weinstein  
**David S. Weinstein**  
Florida Bar No. 749214  
dweinstein@joneswalker.com  
*Counsel for David Rivera*

## EXHIBIT "A"



# *Parroquia Santa Bernardita*

*"Proclamemos Juntos la Grandeza del Señor"*

Lc. 1:46

May 12, 2026

Honorable Melissa Damian  
99 N. E. Fourth Street Room 1061  
Miami, Florida 33132

## NOTICE OF WILLINGNESS TO SERVE AS A CO-SURETY

United States of America. V. David Rivera, Case #22-60522-cr- DAMIAN

Honorable Judge Damian:

I respectfully write this letter in support of David Rivera and to the Court of my willingness to serve as a co-surety on any post-trial bond the Court may consider appropriate.

To demonstrate my commitment, I am prepared to pledge full equity in my residence located at [REDACTED] Miami, Florida [REDACTED]. The property has an estimated market value of approximately \$575,000, is owned free and clear of any mortgage.

I do not make this commitment casually.

As a catholic priest of fifty two years, during my ministry I have known for more than thirty years David Rivera, and during that time I have had the privilege of watching him grow into a man of faith guided by faith, values, and a sincere sense of responsibility towards others.

In pastoral life, one learns who people truly are not during moments of comfort or recognition, but during periods of hardship and uncertainty. I have seen David face adversity with dignity, composure, and faith. I have never known him to avoid responsibility or fail to answer for his obligations.

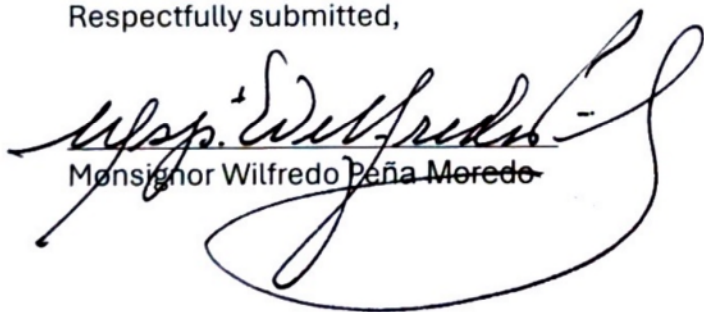
Over the years, I have watched him repeatedly show up for people-for individuals in need, for Families facing difficult circumstances, for this community, for Florida, and for this country regardless of politics or party affiliation. His willingness to help others has never depend on who would receive credit or whether it would benefit him personally. It has simply been part of who he is

If this Honorable Court would ever find it helpful. I would gladly provide a long list of specific occasions over the court of decades in which David Rivera demonstrated, through his actions and conduct, that he is a man who shows up, stand by his commitments, and does not run from difficult circumstances.

Your Honor, I firmly that David Rivera will comply with every condition imposed by this Court and will appear whenever required, including for the service of any sentence ordered. I do not believe he presents a risk of flight.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Monsignor Wilfredo Peña Moredo'. The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping flourish at the end. Below the signature, the name 'Monsignor Wilfredo Peña Moredo' is printed in a standard font.

Monsignor Wilfredo Peña Moredo

## EXHIBIT “B”

**Modesto "Mitch" Maidique, PhD**

**Coral Gables Florida**

May 11, 2026

The James Lawrence King Federal Justice Building  
Honorable Melissa Damian 99 N.E. Fourth Street, Room 1061  
Miami, Florida 33132

**COMMITMENT CO-SURETY \$100,000 CASH**

Re: United States of America v. David Rivera, Case No. 22-60522

Dear Judge Damian:

My name is Modesto "Mitch" Maidique. I am a Professor Emeritus of the Florida International University College of Business. Previously, I served as President of Florida International University for twenty-three years and served as the Alvah H. Chapman Jr. Eminent Scholar Chair in Leadership at the FIU College of Business.

I write to express my commitment to serve as a co-surety on any post-trial bond for Congressman David Rivera in the above-referenced case. While I do not own real property to pledge, I am fully prepared to pledge One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000.00) in cash as security because of my complete confidence in David Rivera's character and reliability.

I have known David Rivera personally for more than twenty-five years. Over that time, I have had the opportunity to observe not only his public service, but also the many meaningful contributions he has made to this community and to the State of Florida, often without recognition and often through sheer persistence and determination.

One contribution that I know especially well is the creation of the Florida International University Herbert Wertheim College of Medicine (HWCOM). I refer to David Rivera as the "Father of the FIU Medical School" because I genuinely believe there would be no FIU Medical School without David Rivera. His commitment, advocacy, and determination were critical in making that institution a reality. The impact of that achievement continues to benefit students, families, physicians, and the broader South Florida community every single day. Thus far, the college has graduated over 1,000 MDs and has helped thousands through our signature Neighborhood Health Program.

Throughout the many years I have known him personally, I have seen David consistently show up for others, for institutions, and for this community. He has never struck me as someone simply motivated by personal recognition, economic ambitions or self-interest. Instead, I have known him as someone willing to take on difficult responsibilities and difficult fights because he believed they mattered.

I place my trust in David Rivera because I know him to be responsible, dependable, and accountable. He has never personally let me down as a colleague or as a friend. He is not someone who runs from obligations or difficult circumstances. To the contrary, I have seen him repeatedly face challenges directly and continue standing by the people and institutions that depended on him.

I am fully confident that David Rivera will appear for all proceedings required by this Honorable Court, including the service of any sentence that might be imposed.

I would not pledge One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000.00) of my limited personal funds if I believed otherwise. I believe he will honor both the trust placed in him by this Court and the sacrifices being made by those willing to stand solidly behind him.

For all of these reasons, I know without a doubt that David Rivera will not pose a risk of flight.

Respectfully submitted,

*Modesto Maidique*

Modesto "Mitch" Maidique, PhD

President Emeritus and Professor Emeritus, FIU

## EXHIBIT “C”

Mark B. Rosenberg

May 9, 2026

Honorable Melissa Damian  
The James Lawrence King Federal Justice Building-Room 1061  
Miami, Florida 33132

Re: United States of America v. David Rivera, Case # 22-60522-cr-DAMIAN

Dear Judge Damian:

My name is Mark B. Rosenberg. I am a former President of Florida International University (2009 to 2022) and now serve as a University Professor at FIU and Senior Fellow at the Jack Gordon Institute.

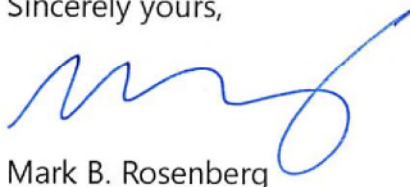
I am willing to serve as a co-surety on any post-trial bond for David Rivera in the above-referenced case which will include my pledge of the equity value of my home located at [REDACTED] Miami Florida [REDACTED]. I have known David Rivera for well over 40 years, since he was a student in my class. In all that time, he has consistently demonstrated a commitment to our country, our values and his institutions.

I have spent decades studying, advising, and testifying before Congress on matters of national security, and working alongside federal agencies including the U.S. Department of State and the intelligence community. I understand what it means when someone poses a genuine risk. David Rivera does not.

I am certain that David will appear for any and all purposes, including the service of any sentence imposed by the Court in this case. I am willing to risk my own home because I fully believe in David. At present, I estimate the market value of my home to be \$875,000. There is a first mortgage with a principal value of \$375,000. There is no other debt or lien on the property. Consequently, the estimated equity value of the home is \$500,000. If necessary, I will obtain a current appraisal on the home.

David Rivera has dedicated himself to this community long before and throughout his years of public service. His roots here are deep, his ties are real, and he loves this community. I am confident that David Rivera will honor every obligation this Court imposes and that he does not pose a risk of flight.

Sincerely yours,



Mark B. Rosenberg

## EXHIBIT "D"

Manuel Prieguez  
[REDACTED]

May 9, 2026

Honorable Melissa Damian  
99 N.E. Fourth Street Room 1061  
Miami, Florida 33132

**NOTICE OF WILLINGNESS TO SERVE AS A CO-SURETY**

**Re: United States of America v. David Rivera, Case # 22-60522-cr-DAMIAN**

Dear Judge Damian:

My name is Manuel Prieguez, and I am a former Florida State Representative. I respectfully write to advise the Court of my willingness to serve as a co-surety on any post-trial bond for David Rivera in the above-referenced case. As part of that commitment, I am prepared to pledge the full value of my real property located at [REDACTED] Miami, Florida [REDACTED]

I have known David Rivera for more than twenty-five years. We served together in the Florida Legislature, and over the course of those years I came to know him not only professionally, but personally. I have seen firsthand the way he handles responsibility, pressure, and adversity. In my experience, David Rivera is someone who shows up.

I have watched him stand up for other people, for constituents, for colleagues, for friends, and for causes he believed in, even when doing so was difficult or unpopular. I have seen him carry burdens for others and continue moving forward under circumstances that would cause many people to walk away. He does not run from responsibility, and I have absolutely no doubt that he will not run from this one.

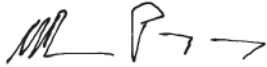
That certainty is the reason I am willing to place my own property behind my word to this Court.

I am fully confident that David Rivera will appear for any and all proceedings required by this Honorable Court, including the service of any sentence imposed. Based on everything I have known of him over the last quarter century, I believe that without hesitation or reservation.

At present, the market value of my property is at least \$1,600,000. There is no mortgage or lien on the property, and the full equity value is at least \$1,600,000. If necessary, I will gladly obtain a current appraisal of the property.

I stake both my property and my personal credibility on this pledge because I firmly believe David Rivera does not present a risk of flight.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a stylized 'M' followed by a vertical line and a horizontal line, and a 'P' followed by a horizontal line and a vertical line.

**Manuel Prieguez**  
**Former Florida State Representative**

## EXHIBIT "E"

Alina Garcia  
Supervisor of Elections Miami Dade County



May 8, 2026

The James Lawrence King Federal Justice Building  
Honorable Melissa Damian  
99 N.E. Fourth Street Room 1061  
Miami Florida 33132

Re: United States of America v. David Rivera, Case # 22-60522-cr-DAMIAN

Dear Judge Damian:

My name is Alina Garcia. I am the first constitutionally elected Supervisor of Elections for Miami-Dade County and a former Florida State Representative for District 115.

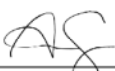
I write to tell you of my willingness to serve as a co-surety on any post-trial bond for David Rivera in the above-referenced case, which will include my pledge of the equity value of my home located at [REDACTED] Miami Florida [REDACTED]

I have known David Rivera for well over 41 years. I worked for him during his time as a Florida State Representative and later as a United States Congressman. I went on to serve in the Florida State House myself. Over four decades I have witnessed his unwavering dedication to the people of Florida and to this country. He gave years of his life to public service, fighting for his constituents and for the values that define this community. He is a man who has always put Florida and its people first, and that is not the character of someone who walks away from his obligations.

I am certain that David will appear for any and all purposes, including the service of any sentence imposed by this Honorable Court in this case. I am willing to risk my own home because I unquestionably believe in David Rivera.

At present, I estimate the market value of my home to be \$875,000. There is a first mortgage with a principal value of \$475,000. There is no other debt or lien on the property. Consequently, the estimated equity value of the home is \$400,000. If necessary, I will obtain a current appraisal on the home.

I make this pledge with complete confidence that David Rivera will meet every obligation this Court sets before him. He has never walked away from his responsibilities, and he will not do so now. I stake my home and my word on it. David Rivera does not pose a risk of flight.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Alina Garcia  
Supervisor of Elections  
Miami Dade County

**EXHIBIT ‘F’**

**Alex Hanna, Esq., LL.M**



May 09, 2026

The James Lawrence King Federal Justice Building  
Honorable Melissa Damian  
99 N.E. Fourth Street, Room 1061  
Miami, Florida 33132

Re: United States of America v. David Rivera, Case No. 22-60522-cr-DAMIAN

Dear Judge Damian:

My name is Alex Hanna. I am a practicing attorney in Miami, Florida, and have been a member in good standing of the Florida Bar for over 25 years. I have been married for 23 years and am the father of two children, both recent graduates of Gulliver Preparatory School who will be attending the University of Miami.

I write to respectfully share my personal knowledge of David Rivera's character and history, and to ask that it be considered by the Court in connection with any determination regarding post-trial release.

I have known David since approximately 1995–1996. Early in our relationship, I worked alongside him within the Cuban community, including efforts connected to El Partido Orthodox del Pueblo Cubano and with individuals such as Dr. Luis Conte Agüero. During that same period, I volunteered alongside him on the Bob Dole for President campaign and on other political efforts. These experiences gave me a firsthand view of David's work ethic and how he interacted with people in both public and private settings.

I was present during key moments in his political career, including when he first ran for the Florida House of Representatives and later when he ran for the United States Congress. I recall the long hours, the direct engagement with constituents, and his willingness to take on difficult issues rather than avoid them.

One example that has stayed with me over the years occurred during our early work in the community, when a group of recently arrived Cuban exiles, individuals with very limited resources, approached for help navigating basic needs and government processes. I observed David take the time to sit with them, listen patiently to their concerns, and help

connect them with resources and guidance, even though there was no political benefit to doing so at that moment. It was not a public setting, and there was nothing to gain, he simply gave his time and attention to people who needed it.

Over the course of nearly three decades, I have known David not only professionally but as a friend. In my interactions with him, he has been consistent in maintaining relationships over time and in showing up for people when it mattered. As an attorney, I do not make such statements lightly, and it is my considered judgment that the David Rivera I have known for many years is capable of reflection and rehabilitation.

I fully understand the seriousness of the matter before the Court. Based on my longstanding relationship with him, I am confident that David Rivera will comply with any conditions set by this Court and will appear for all required proceedings. I do not believe he poses a risk of flight or a danger to the community.

As a longtime member of the Miami legal community, I value my professional reputation and would not make this commitment unless I had complete confidence that Mr. Rivera will comply fully with the Court's conditions and appear as required.

I am also willing to serve as a co-surety and to pledge up to \$100,000 in secured assets in support of any bond the Court may set.

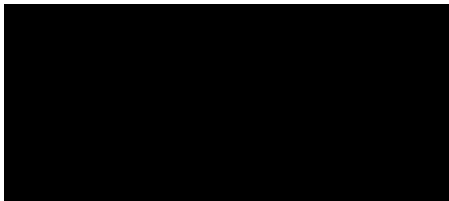
I respectfully ask the Court to take these factors into account.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

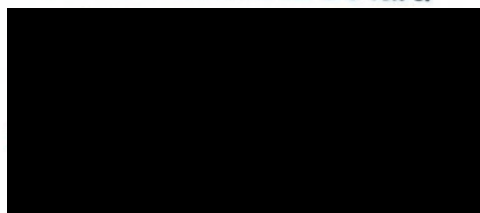
\_\_\_\_\_/s/\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Alex Hanna, Esq., LL.M



## EXHIBIT "G"

**Isabel Fernandez De lara**



May 13, 2026

Honorable Melissa Damian  
The James Lawrence King Federal Justice Building  
99 N.E. Fourth Street, Room 1061  
Miami, Florida 33132

**COMMITMENT TO SURETY OF Eight Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$800,000.00)**

Re: United States of America v. David Rivera, Case No. 22-60522-cr-DAMIAN

Honorable Judge Damian:

My name is Isabel Fernandez De Lara, I respectfully write to express my commitment to serve as a co-surety on any post-trial bond granted to David Rivera.

As part of that commitment, I am prepared to pledge the equity in my residence located at [REDACTED] Miami, Florida [REDACTED]. The current estimated market value of the property is at least Eight Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$800,000.00), and likely closer to Nine Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$900,000.00). The outstanding mortgage balance is approximately Ninety-Six Thousand Dollars (\$96,000.00).

I have known David Rivera since 1990, and over the course of all these years I have come to love him like a son. Our relationship is deeply personal and rooted in decades of friendship, trust, and shared responsibilities through both joyful and difficult moments in life.

David and I are also co-godparents to the son of a dear friend of ours who sadly passed away. After her passing, we both stepped into important roles in helping guide and raise that young boy into a man. Watching David fulfill that responsibility over the years only strengthened my respect and admiration for the kind of person he is. He has always approached that role with love, loyalty, consistency, and a genuine sense of duty.

In my experience, David has always been someone people can rely upon. He values family, relationships, trust, and dignity. He has been present for the people he loves during their hardest moments, and he has never turned his back on those who depended on him. Those

are not qualities that can be manufactured or performed. They are qualities that come from character.

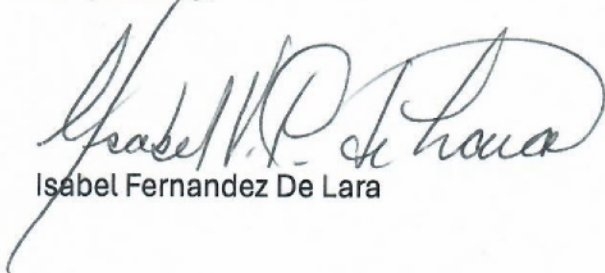
As an additional confirmation of my belief that David Rivera will not flee, I know in my heart that he would never abandon his godson or walk away from the responsibilities and relationships that have defined his life for decades. The bonds he has with the people closest to him are real, meaningful, and deeply important to him.

I know David Rivera personally and intimately enough to say, without hesitation, that he is not a flight risk. I know that he will appear for every proceeding required by this Honorable Court, including the service of any sentence imposed. I do not believe he would ever betray the trust placed in him by this Court or by the people willing to place their homes and personal assets behind him.

I make this pledge sincerely, knowingly, and with complete confidence in David Rivera's character and integrity. He is not a flight risk.

Thank you and I will be happy to discuss this matter with your or anyone that you assign.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Isabel Fernandez De Lara". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with large loops and a long tail that extends downwards and to the left.

Isabel Fernandez De Lara

**EXHIBIT “H”**

Evelyn D. Pate



May 13, 2026

The James Lawrence King Federal Justice Building  
Honorable Melissa Damian  
99 N.E. Fourth Street, Room 1061  
Miami, Florida 33132

CO-SURETY COMMITMENT FOR DAVID RIVERA

Re: United States of America v. David Rivera, Case No. 22-60522-cr-DAMIAN

Dear Judge Damian:

My name is Evelyn D. Pate, and I write to advise you that I am committed to serve as a co-surety on any post-trial bond granted to David Rivera.

To demonstrate to the Court my commitment and belief in David Rivera, I am prepared to pledge the equity in my residence located at [REDACTED] Sunrise, Florida [REDACTED]. The current estimated market value of the property is approximately Four Hundred Thirty Thousand Dollars (\$430,000.00). The outstanding mortgage balance is approximately One Hundred Eleven Thousand Four Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$111,450.00). The estimated equity value is therefore approximately Three Hundred Eighteen Thousand Five Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$318,550.00).

I have known David Rivera for most of my life and have had the opportunity to watch him grow into the man he is today. In all those years, I have known him to be a good man with strong values, faith in God, dignity, and a deep respect for the trust people place in him. He is someone who understands the importance of responsibility and keeping your word.

Over the years, David has been there whenever I or my family have needed him. Whether during difficult moments or important milestones in life, he has always shown kindness, honesty, compassion, and a willingness to help without expecting anything in return. Those actions are what define a person's true character, and they are the reason I trust him completely. I would be happy to speak with you personally to share many of these experiences.

I know David Rivera personally, and I know him to be trustworthy and dependable. I know that he would never abandon the people who are placing their faith, homes, savings, and

reputations behind him. I have absolutely no doubt that he will appear for all proceedings required by this Honorable Court, including the service of any sentence imposed.

I make this pledge sincerely, knowingly, and without hesitation because David Rivera is not a flight risk.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Evelyn D. Pate

**EXHIBIT "I"**

Juan Carlos Zapata



May 10, 2026

The James Lawrence King Federal Justice Building  
Honorable Melissa Damian  
99 N.E. Fourth Street Room 1061  
Miami Florida 33132

Re: United States of America v. David Rivera, Case # 22-60522-cr-DAMIAN

Dear Judge Damian:

My name is Juan Carlos Zapata. I am a former Florida State Representative and Miami Dade County Commissioner.

I am willing to serve as a co-surety on any post-trial bond for David Rivera in the above-referenced case, which will include my pledge of the equity value of my home located at [REDACTED] Miami Florida [REDACTED] valued at approximately \$267,000.00.

I have known David Rivera for close to 40 years. I worked with him for 8 years in the Florida House of Representatives and he was my seat mate for 2 of those years. I know him very well and have seen his actions and efforts that contributed greatly to our state. Over those four decades, two constants defined David's public life: his opposition to the evils of communism and his commitment to the welfare of our community.

I have no doubt David will appear for all his required court appearances and will subject himself to the will of the court. I am willing to pledge my residential property on his behalf.

I kindly request the court to look at his record of service, his strong community bonds and the commitment of his close friends and reconsider affording him the ability to be released on bail.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'JC Zapata'.

JC Zapata

**EXHIBIT “J”**

Yvonne Soler-McKinley

[REDACTED]  
Coral Gables, Florida [REDACTED]

May 12, 2026

Honorable Melissa Damian  
99 N.E. Fourth Street, Room 1061  
Miami, Florida 33132

**CO-SURETY FOR DAVID RIVERA -- \$570,000.00**

Re: United States of America v. David Rivera, Case No. 22-60522-cr-DAMIAN

Dear Judge Damian:

My name is Yvonne Soler-McKinley. I previously served as City Manager for the City of Doral and the City of South Miami. I am now enjoying my retirement.

I respectfully write to express my deep commitment to serve as a co-surety on any bond allowed for the post-trial release of David Rivera. If there is anyone who has earned the trust of this community and of the many people whose lives he has touched over the years, it is David Rivera. I believe the willingness of so many individuals to stand behind him and place their own homes, savings, and reputations at risk speaks far louder than words ever could.

As part of that commitment, I am prepared to pledge the equity in my residence located at [REDACTED] Coral Gables, Florida [REDACTED]. The current estimated market value of the property is approximately Eight Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$850,000.00). The outstanding mortgage balance is approximately Two Hundred Eighty Thousand Dollars (\$280,000.00). The estimated equity value is therefore approximately Five Hundred Seventy Thousand Dollars (\$570,000.00).

I know that David is not a threat to anyone or anything and is definitely not a flight risk.

I have known David Rivera since 1982, when we were both very young. Over the last four decades, he has remained a constant and dependable presence not only in my life, but in the life of my family as well. There are people who change completely

over time depending on circumstance, ambition, or position. David was never one of those people. The same convictions and loyalty he had as a young man are the same qualities I still see in him today.

Even before he ever held public office, David spoke passionately about freedom, democracy, and the dangers of communism because those beliefs were deeply personal to him. What always stood out to me was that he was never motivated by money, status, or fame. His concern for people was genuine. He never limited his kindness or support to people who agreed with him politically or personally. Whether someone was a friend, a neighbor, or simply a person in need of help, David was known for answering the call and trying to help however he could.

Over many years, I have watched him handle difficult situations head on instead of avoiding them. When challenges arose, he did not disappear or distance himself from responsibility. He stayed engaged, faced problems directly, and continued showing up for the people counting on him. Even during his years in politics, he was known for treating people with kindness and respect regardless of political affiliation or personal differences. That consistency over forty years is why I trust him completely today.

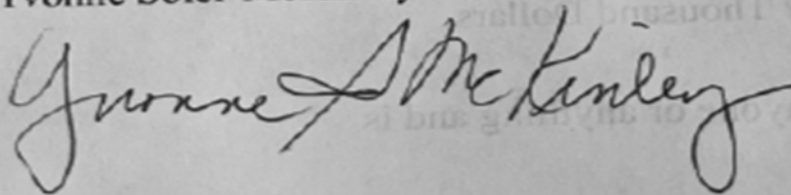
I have absolutely no doubt that David Rivera will appear for all proceedings required by this Honorable Court, including the service of any sentence imposed. In all the years I have known him, he has always faced difficult circumstances directly and with dignity.

I know that he would never betray the trust placed in him by this Court or by those willing to place their homes and personal assets behind their belief in him.

I make this pledge knowingly, sincerely, and without reservation because **I know David Rivera does not pose a risk of flight.**

Respectfully submitted,

Yvonne Soler-McKinley

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Yvonne Soler-McKinley". The signature is written in black ink on a light-colored background.