

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
MIDDLE DISTRICT OF FLORIDA  
TAMPA DIVISION



UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

vs.

Case No. 8:03-CR-77-T-30TBM

GHASSAN ZAYED BALLUT  
\_\_\_\_\_ /

**DEFENDANT GHASSAN BALLUT'S EX PARTE NOTICE OF  
WITHDRAWAL OF EX PARTE MOTION FOR APPOINTMENT  
AND COMPENSATION OF PARALEGAL TO ASSIST COUNSEL**

The Defendant, GHASSAN ZAYED BALLUT, by and through his undersigned counsel, hereby gives ex parte notice to the Court of his request to withdraw the Defendant's Ex Parte Motion for Appointment and Compensation of Paralegal to Assist Counsel, filed on or about May 19, 2003, without prejudice, and advises the Court as follows:

1. The Defendant's undersigned counsel had interviewed and selected a specific candidate to serve as a paralegal to assist the undersigned counsel, said paralegal to be compensated pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 3006A(e), and the Defendant subsequently filed his Ex Parte Motion containing a budget proposal for the paralegal for approval by the Court.

2. The Defendant's undersigned counsel has been informed by the candidate for the paralegal position that, due to recently occurring personal considerations unrelated to any aspect of this cause, she is no longer able to serve in the paralegal position as proposed.

3. The proposed budget submitted within the Defendant's Ex Parte Motion is no longer valid as it was based upon the compensation requests of this specific candidate.

4. Under the circumstances, the Defendant's Ex Parte Motion should not remain pending but should be withdrawn without prejudice to a future ex parte motion for paralegal assistance, as

186

the Defendant's undersigned counsel will pursue alternatives for paralegal assistance.

WHEREFORE, the Defendant requests permission to withdraw without prejudice his Ex Parte Motion for Appointment and Compensation of Paralegal to Assist Counsel.

Dated this 24th day of July, 2003.



---

Bruce G. Howie  
Piper, Ludin, Howie & Werner, P.A.  
5720 Central Avenue  
St. Petersburg, FL 33707  
Telephone (727) 344-1111  
Facsimile (727) 344-1117  
Florida Bar No. 263230  
Attorney for GHASSAN ZAYED BALLUT