

EXHIBIT 3

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Attorneys for Plaintiff and Proposed Intervenors

15 **IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF GUAM**
16 **TERRITORY OF GUAM**

17 GUAM SOCIETY OF OBSTETRICIANS)
AND GYNECOLOGISTS, *et al.*,)

18 Plaintiffs)

19 vs.)

20 LOURDES A. LEON GUERRERO, *et al.*,)

21 Defendants.)
22

CIVIL CASE NO. 90-00013

**DECLARATION OF SHANDHINI
RAIDOO, M.D., M.P.H., IN SUPPORT OF
MOTION TO INTERVENE AS
PLAINTIFFS**

23 **I, Shandhini Raidoo, M.D., M.P.H., declare and state the following:**

24 1. I am a board-certified obstetrician-gynecologist (“OB/GYN”) with over a decade

1 of experience providing comprehensive reproductive health care, including abortion. After my
2 OB/GYN residency, I completed a two-year Fellowship in Complex Family Planning, where I
3 received subspecialist training in research, teaching, and clinical practice in complex abortion and
4 contraception. I am licensed to practice medicine in Hawai‘i and Guam, and based in O‘ahu,
5 Hawai‘i.

6 2. Currently, I am an Assistant Professor in the Department of Obstetrics,
7 Gynecology, and Women’s Health at the University of Hawai‘i in Honolulu. I provide
8 comprehensive obstetric and gynecological care to patients—i.e., prenatal care, labor and
9 delivery, surgery, preventative care (e.g., Pap smears, STD testing), contraception, and
10 medication and procedural abortion—while also teaching and supervising medical students,
11 residents, and fellows. I also provide abortion services at Planned Parenthood health centers in
12 Honolulu and Maui.

13 3. Over the past seven years, I have provided numerous workshops and clinical
14 trainings to health care providers on a range of reproductive health care issues throughout
15 Micronesia, including in the Federated States of Micronesia and American Samoa.

16 4. I also conduct research and publish in peer-reviewed journals on a number of
17 topics relating to reproductive health care, including abortion and contraception.

18 5. The statements and opinions in this declaration are my own, and not made on
19 behalf of the medical or academic facilities in which I provide care. The statements and opinions
20 expressed herein are based on my personal knowledge, experience, education, training, and
21 review of the relevant medical literature.

22 6. As a physician who provides abortion care to patients in Guam, I was generally
23 aware that Guam had banned abortion in the 1990s, but that the ban was struck down after
24 litigation and had remained blocked ever since. On February 1, 2023, I learned that the Attorney

1 General of Guam had filed a motion to vacate the permanent injunction against that ban, Public
2 Law 20-134 (P.L. 20-134 or the “Ban”).

3 7. I have reviewed P.L. 20-134, and understand from conversations with my
4 attorneys that, if the Attorney General’s motion is granted and the Ban is allowed to take effect,
5 the Ban would criminalize providing and obtaining abortions, and even speech about abortion
6 care. It is my understanding that these prohibitions would apply not only to abortions provided
7 and obtained, and speech about abortion, in Guam, but could also apply to abortion care and
8 speech about abortion in Hawai‘i, where abortion is legal.

9 8. If the Ban is allowed to take effect again, it will directly impact my ability to
10 provide medication abortion via telemedicine to people on Guam, to counsel pregnant people in
11 Guam about abortion as an option and refer them off-island for care, to advocate for the right to
12 access abortion, and even to provide Guam-based patients with legal abortions in Hawai‘i. The
13 Ban would also have a disastrous impact on the ability of my patients in Guam to access abortion
14 care, even if they are able to come to Hawai‘i where abortion is legal. And because I am one of
15 only two physicians providing abortion care on Guam, I know that none of the parties presently
16 involved in the case are currently providing abortion care on Guam. Thus, in order to protect these
17 interests, I seek to intervene in this case, and submit this declaration in support of Proposed
18 Intervenors’ Motion to Intervene as Plaintiffs.

19 **Our Telemedicine Abortion Practice**

20 9. Since 2016, my colleagues and I have used telemedicine to provide medication
21 abortion to hundreds of patients in Hawai‘i, and since January 2022, to over 65 patients in Guam
22 as well.

23 10. There are two main methods of abortion: procedural (sometimes referred to as
24 “surgical”) and medication abortion. Both methods are safe, effective means of terminating a

1 pregnancy. My colleagues and I provide both methods of abortion to patients, and offer
2 telemedicine for medication abortion.

3 11. In my experience, and as is reflected in the ample medical research and literature
4 on the topic, using telemedicine for medication abortion is extremely safe, effective, and has high
5 patient-satisfaction.

6 12. This service has enabled our patients in Guam, and on those Hawai‘ian islands,
7 where abortion access is minimal or non-existent, to access the care they need without
8 unnecessary delay; without having to fly hundreds of miles and potentially staying overnight at a
9 hotel; and without incurring travel costs, childcare costs, lost wages and/or jeopardizing their
10 ability to keep their abortion decision confidential.

11 13. All patients who are interested in obtaining a medication abortion through
12 telemedicine undergo an initial screening by telephone. During this screening, a trained staff
13 member obtains basic information (i.e., the patient’s last menstrual period for initial pregnancy
14 dating purposes and any pre-existing major medical conditions) to preliminarily assess eligibility.
15 The staff member explains the process, including any lab work, ultrasound, or other testing that
16 may be necessary.

17 14. If the patient is preliminarily eligible and interested in proceeding, the staff
18 member will schedule the patient for a video appointment with a physician (myself or one of my
19 colleagues) and provide the patient with information and forms to review prior to the appointment.
20 Patients may be instructed to obtain certain pre-abortion tests from a local provider, but these tests
21 are not medically necessary for all patients.

22 15. During the video appointment, one of the very first things we discuss with patients
23 are their options for continuing or ending their pregnancy. In my experience, the vast majority of
24 patients are certain of their abortion decision by the time of their video appointment. Even for

1 those who are certain, we explain the different methods of abortion that are available to them. For
2 a patient in Guam, we may also need to clarify that if they remain on Guam, the only method of
3 abortion we can offer them is medication, but if they travel to Hawai'i, they could have either a
4 procedural or medication abortion.

5 16. For those who are uncertain, we answer their questions and provide nondirective
6 counseling to enable them to make the decision that is best for them and their circumstances,
7 including deciding not to have an abortion.

8 17. If the patient is interested in a medication abortion, we then assess their eligibility
9 for medication abortion.

10 18. During the appointment, we also explain the medication abortion process—e.g.,
11 how to take the medications, what to expect when they take the medications, potential side effects
12 and complications. Finally, we go over the required consent forms, answer any questions, and
13 take any other necessary steps to ensure that the patient's consent is informed and voluntary.

14 19. Once the patient's eligibility is confirmed and consent forms are e-signed, we
15 either mail them the medications or, for our O'ahu based patients who choose to use this service,
16 they can come to the office to pick them up. All patients are provided the medications, instructions
17 for taking the medications, and two urine pregnancy tests. We also provide all patients with the
18 phone number to our office, as well as a phone number staffed 24-hours a day/7-days a week (for
19 any issues that arise after regular office hours).

20 20. We ask all patients when they intend to start the medication abortion, and a follow-
21 up call with a physician is scheduled for 1-2 weeks later to do an initial assessment of whether
22 the abortion was successful.

23 21. If there are no issues, the patient will be told to take a urine pregnancy test 4 weeks
24 after they started the medication abortion and to report the results to our staff. If that test result

1 triggers any concerns, the patient will be referred to myself or another physician for additional
2 follow-up at that time.

3 22. All care provided to Hawai‘i-based patients is provided consistent with Hawai‘i
4 law authorizing and regulating abortion, and all care provided to Guam-based patients is provided
5 consistent with Guam’s multiple abortion statutes, *see, e.g.*, 9 G.C.A. § 31.20, 10 G.C.A. § 3218.1,
6 and the telemedicine litigation discussed below, *see Raidoo v. Camacho*, No. CV 21-00009, 2021
7 WL 4076772 (D. Guam Sept. 3, 2021).

8 23. In my experience, patient satisfaction with medication abortion using telemedicine
9 is extremely high both because of the privacy and flexibility it affords. Some of our patients have
10 told us that, if it were not for telemedicine, they would not have been able to obtain an abortion
11 at all.

12 **Abortion Access in Guam**

13 24. Prior to 2018, approximately 200–300 abortions per year were provided in Guam.¹
14 However, to the best of my knowledge, since the last known abortion provider in Guam, Dr.
15 William Freeman, retired from providing abortions in 2018, no physicians in Guam took his place.

16 25. Prior to 2018, it was extremely rare for my colleagues or I to see abortion patients
17 from Guam. I estimate that we saw such patients once a year or less. These patients usually came
18 to Hawai‘i in order to consult with specialists at our hospital after receiving a diagnosis of a fetal
19 anomaly. If, after consulting with a specialist, they decided to terminate the pregnancy, we could
20 provide that care to them.

21 26. I first became aware that there were no longer any abortion providers in Guam
22 from news articles about the retirement of Dr. Freeman in 2018.

23 27. I reached out to the physician who took over Dr. Freeman’s clinic and he informed
24

¹ “2018 Guam Statistical Yearbook.” *Office of the Governor, Bureau of Statistics and Plans*, 2019, pp. 205–208, <http://www.spc.int/DigitalLibrary/Get/o5r7x>.

1 me that they would no longer be providing abortion services. I reached out to other physicians
2 and advocates but was unable to find anyone who intended to fill the gap and continue to provide
3 abortion services.

4 28. After Dr. Freeman retired, I saw first-hand the impact of the lack of abortion access
5 in Guam. Between mid-2018 and January 2022, I estimate that my colleagues and I saw
6 approximately 10–15 abortion patients from Guam. While still a small number, this is obviously
7 a tremendous increase as compared to the numbers we used to see.

8 29. These patients told me of the huge financial and personal burdens they faced in
9 traveling to Hawai‘i for an abortion. Many of the patients who are able to travel to Hawai‘i tend
10 to need a procedural abortion; for example, they may have a wanted pregnancy and travel to
11 Hawai‘i to consult with experts about a fetal anomaly, then make the decision to terminate the
12 pregnancy while they are in Hawai‘i. For some patients who contacted our office, the financial
13 and other logistics ended up being too difficult to overcome and they never make it.

14 30. Indeed, given the hundreds of abortions per year on Guam before Dr. Freeman
15 retired from providing abortions, I believe there are many other people for whom the prospect of
16 coming to Hawai‘i for abortion care was so daunting that they did not even reach out in the first
17 place. Those patients had no option but to continue their pregnancies to term against their will or
18 self-manage their abortions outside of the formal medical system.

19 31. After Dr. Freeman retired from providing abortion care, and during this time, I was
20 also aware of an increase in calls from people in Guam who heard about the telemedicine abortion
21 service we provided in Hawai‘i, asking whether they too could obtain abortions through the
22 telemedicine service without leaving the island. Even though we could not provide them care in
23 Guam at that time, we provided information to patients who were considering traveling to Hawai‘i
24 for abortion.

1 32. Dr. Kaneshiro and I, who had Guam medical licenses, desired to provide
2 medication abortion via telemedicine to patients in Guam but were unable to do so as a result of
3 two Guam laws.

4 33. In January 2021, Dr. Kaneshiro and I sued to challenge the two laws preventing
5 us from providing telemedicine abortion in Guam. When news about the lawsuit came out, I am
6 aware that our clinic received an influx of calls and other messages on social media from pregnant
7 people in Guam who wanted abortions. Although we still could not yet provide them with
8 medication abortion via telemedicine, I counseled the patients about their options, including that
9 we could provide them with care if they came to Hawai'i.

10 34. As a result of that lawsuit, we were able to expand our telemedicine abortion
11 service to Guam, starting in January 2022. *See Raidoo v. Camacho*, No. CV 21-00009, 2021 WL
12 4076772 (D. Guam Sept. 3, 2021) (permitting use of telemedicine to satisfy abortion informed
13 consent law), *appeal docketed*, No. 21-16559 (9th Cir. Sept. 23, 2021); Order, *Raidoo*, 2021 WL
14 4076772, Dkt. No 27 (court-ordered settlement recognizing telemedicine permitted under 9
15 G.C.A. §§ 31.20, 31.21). We currently provide medication abortion via telemedicine to patients
16 in Guam, as authorized under Guam's multiple statutes regulating abortion, through 11 weeks of
17 pregnancy. Since extending our services to pregnant patients in Guam, Dr. Kaneshiro and I have
18 provided over 65 patients in Guam with medication abortions. In 2022, approximately 8% of our
19 telemedicine abortion patients lived on Guam.

20 35. Because we are not located on Guam and have only recently been able to open our
21 practice to people on the island, we rely in large part on people in Guam to refer patients to us.
22 Many of our patients learn about our telemedicine abortion services from a provider that they
23 have seen in Guam. Others search on the internet and see news articles covering our clinic, and
24 others learn about us from a friend or other trusted person.

1 my ethical and moral commitments to care for patients in need. I have fought hard to be able to
2 provide abortions to people in Guam, so it would be upsetting to know that I have the ability to
3 provide this very safe care, but to be prohibited from providing it.

4 40. If abortion becomes illegal in Guam, I believe that most pregnant people who want
5 an abortion would end up being forced to continue the pregnancy because they do not have the
6 means to travel to Hawai‘i. This could have broad consequences, as there is ample evidence
7 showing that a lack of abortion is detrimental to public health, both because of the long-term
8 physical and psychological risks of forced pregnancy and denied abortion care and because of the
9 risks that patients end their pregnancies by unsafe means. Patients in Guam seeking abortions
10 have told me that they already have children who need their care, or that they are in school or
11 working. For these patients, having an abortion is important so that they can care for the children
12 they already have or continue with their career endeavors. Some of my patients also have medical
13 conditions that are caused by or could be exacerbated by continuing a pregnancy. My Guam
14 patients frequently tell me how grateful they are that our medication abortion telemedicine
15 practice is available because they know there’s no one in the community who can provide them
16 with this care, and without our practice they do not have anywhere to go.

17 41. While it will be extremely difficult (if not insurmountable) for many, based on my
18 experience, I believe that at least some pregnant people seeking an abortion will find the resources
19 to travel to Hawai‘i from Guam if the Ban is allowed to go into effect. But I am also very
20 concerned that Section 3 of the Ban could be used to prosecute me for providing abortions in
21 Hawai‘i (where abortion is legal) to Guam-based patients. My attorneys have informed me that,
22 given the language of the Ban, and because it is not explicitly limited to abortions provided in
23 Guam, there is a risk that a prosecutor in Guam could try to use it to prosecute me for care I
24 provide to Guam residents in Hawai‘i. This is a concern I know other abortion providers around

1 the country have faced based on the language of certain state abortion bans.

2 42. As a result, if the injunction against Section 3 of the Ban is vacated, I would not
3 provide telemedicine medication abortion services to eligible patients in Guam, and would be
4 very concerned about caring for patients who reside in Guam if they travel to Hawai‘i for abortion
5 care. I don’t know whether we would be permitted to continue to provide care to patients from
6 Guam, nor whether myself or the rest of the staff would be willing to take the risk.

7 43. Similar to my concerns about Section 3, I am concerned that under Section 4 of
8 the Ban, my patients from Guam would be exposed to criminal prosecution if they are forced to
9 self-manage their abortions in Guam, outside the medical system. Or they would even be exposed
10 to criminal prosecution if they come to Hawai‘i for an abortion, where it is legal, once they return
11 to Guam.

12 44. Further, it is my understanding that, under Section 5 of the Ban, I would risk
13 criminal prosecution for speaking about abortion in many different contexts, even if I am speaking
14 about abortion care that is legal (such as care I provide in Hawai‘i), and even if I do not intend
15 what I say to cause someone to obtain an illegal abortion in Guam. I am very afraid that a lot of
16 things I currently say about abortion would violate Section 5 of the Ban.

17 45. For example, as discussed above, if the Ban is allowed to go into effect, based on
18 my experience, I believe we will still get calls from pregnant people in Guam seeking abortions,
19 just as we did before we were able to offer our medication abortion telemedicine practice to
20 pregnant people on the island and there were no abortion providers on Guam, and just as we
21 continue to receive calls from pregnant people seeking abortion care living on other islands in the
22 Pacific where abortion is illegal or heavily restricted. People will still need abortions, and they
23 will still look for all the options available to them.

24 46. When pregnant people from Guam seeking abortions called before we were able

1 to provide medication abortion via telemedicine, I would still talk to callers about their pregnancy
2 options, including coming to see us Hawai‘i for an abortion, or I would talk generally about the
3 different methods of abortions that are available, even though I was not able to provide them with
4 abortion care in Guam. If the Ban goes into effect, I would still want to counsel patients about
5 abortion as an option, and refer those who want an abortion to Hawai‘i for care. But I fear that I
6 could be subject to criminal prosecution under Section 5 for doing so.

7 47. Additionally, while I would never encourage someone to have an abortion they
8 did not want, in some cases—e.g., where a patient has a medical condition where pregnancy
9 threatens their health—I would counsel my patient that an abortion would be the option most
10 likely to minimize risk to their health. Just this past week I spoke to a patient in Guam who has
11 had multiple cesarean sections and blood pressure complications during her last pregnancy, which
12 led to her having to be sent off-island for the final weeks of her pregnancy, and her labor and
13 delivery. She wanted to know about her options for her current pregnancy, as she was very
14 concerned about the risks to her health and the challenges for her family, if that were to happen
15 again. I spoke with her about the risks and all of her options, but advised her that abortion was
16 the option that would minimize the risk to her health to the greatest extent. I have offered similar
17 guidance to patients who have cardiac conditions or other health risks, though if they wish to
18 continue their pregnancies, we would alternatively come up with a plan to minimize the health
19 risks.

20 48. In other cases, my patients have expressed to me that they want an abortion, but
21 are conflicted because abortion is so stigmatized. In those situations, I offer my patients support
22 by telling them that the clinic and broader community supports them in making the decision that
23 is right for them, including if that decision is to have an abortion. I would tell a patient in that
24 situation that “you are the only person who lives inside your life, who lives this pregnancy, and

1 who knows what an abortion means to you.” I would never try to convince a patient to have an
2 abortion, but I do try to assist patients in making the best decision for themselves and their families
3 by sharing information with them.

4 49. If Section 5 of the Ban was allowed to go into effect, I would be very concerned
5 about continuing to offer such counseling to pregnant people in Guam. If I am not able to offer
6 them complete counseling on their options, it would impact my ability to provide health care
7 consistent with my understanding of medical ethics—which is that I should be able to give
8 patients all the information they need to weigh their options and make a decision. If I cannot
9 provide them with all of the relevant information, I feel I would be providing them with an
10 unbalanced view of their options, which runs counter to my belief that as a health care provider,
11 I should not change the core medical care I provide based on where someone is located.

12 50. I also speak to the press, including local press in Guam, about our practice and the
13 abortion services we offer. I commonly speak favorably about abortion in such interviews, like
14 saying that abortion has to be accessible because people never know when they will be in a
15 situation when they need one, and that is why we need access that is widespread. I think speaking
16 to the media and advocating for access to abortion is a big part of my work as an abortion provider,
17 so that people have accurate information about their reproductive health care options. I feel that
18 it is important to lift up the importance of abortion access in general, and the challenges people
19 face in accessing abortion in Guam. However, if Section 5 of the Ban was allowed to go into
20 effect, it would impact what I would say about abortion access in Guam, because I would not
21 want to risk criminal prosecution if those tasked with enforcement viewed my advocacy as
22 “soliciting” people in Guam to obtain an abortion.

23 * * *


24 51. I know first-hand how challenging it is for people in a remote place to try to access

1 abortion care, and I know how important it is to make that care available, which is why I have
2 fought to expand my telemedicine practice to Guam. If the Ban is allowed to go into effect, it
3 would undo all of that work and, more importantly, nullify basic access to abortion care on Guam.
4 That is why I feel a particular ethical obligation—as a physician who serves patients in U.S.
5 territories and throughout the Pacific—to join this lawsuit.

6 52. For all these reasons, and the reasons stated above, I urge this Court to permit me
7 to intervene in this lawsuit, and to leave in place the injunction against the Ban.

1 I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

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3 Executed this 7th of March, 2023.

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7 SHANDHINI RAIDOO, M.D., M.P.H.

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