

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA  
WESTERN DIVISION**

NO. \_\_\_\_\_

<b>UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,</b>	)	
	)	
<b>Plaintiff,</b>	)	
	)	
v.	)	<b>COMPLAINT FOR</b>
	)	<b>FORFEITURE <i>IN REM</i></b>
<b>\$115,413.00 IN U. S. CURRENCY,</b>	)	
	)	
<b>Defendant.</b>	)	

The United States of America, by and through the United States Attorney for the Eastern District of North Carolina, states as follows:

1. This is a civil action *in rem* brought to enforce the provisions of 21 U.S.C. § 881(a)(6) providing for the forfeiture of money furnished or intended to be furnished by any person in exchange for a controlled substance or listed chemical in violation of the Controlled Substances Act, 21 U.S.C. §§ 801 *et seq.*, proceeds traceable to such an exchange, and/or money used or intended to be used to facilitate a violation of the Controlled Substances Act.
2. This Court has subject matter jurisdiction over this matter by virtue of 28 U.S.C. §§ 1345 and 1355(a). The Court has *in rem* jurisdiction by virtue of 28 U.S.C. § 1355(b). Venue in this district is proper by virtue of 28 U.S.C. § 1395(b).
3. The defendant is \$115,413.00 in United States Currency.

4. The defendant was seized in Wake County, North Carolina and is currently located in the Seized Asset Deposit Fund Account maintained by the United States Department of Treasury, within the jurisdiction of this Court.

5. The potential claimant in this action is Ramon Lee Lyon.

6. The facts and circumstances supporting the seizure and forfeiture of the defendant are contained in Exhibit A, Declaration of Special Agent Tony J. Bell with the Department of Homeland Security, Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), Homeland Security Investigations (HSI), which is attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference. Such facts constitute probable cause for the seizure, arrest, and forfeiture of the defendant property and are sufficient to support a reasonable belief that the government will meet its burden of proof at trial that the defendant property should be forfeited.

7. The defendant constitutes money furnished or intended to be furnished by any person in exchange for a controlled substance or listed chemical in violation of the Controlled Substances Act, proceeds traceable to such an exchange, and/or money used or intended to be used to facilitate a violation of the Controlled Substances Act, and is, therefore, subject to forfeiture pursuant to Title 21, United States Code, Section 881(a)(6).

WHEREFORE, in accordance with Supplemental Rule G(3)(b)(i), the plaintiff requests that the Clerk issue a warrant of arrest *in rem* for the defendant; that due notice be given to all parties to appear and show cause why the forfeiture should not be decreed; that judgment be entered declaring the defendant be forfeited to the

United States of America for disposition according to law; and that the United States of America be granted such other relief as this Court may deem just and proper, together with the costs and disbursements of this action.

Respectfully submitted this 9<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2020.

ROBERT J. HIGDON, JR.  
United States Attorney

BY: /s/ Matthew L. Fesak  
MATTHEW L. FESAK  
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## VERIFICATION

I, Tony J. Bell, Special Agent, Department of Homeland Security, Immigration and Customs Enforcement, Homeland Security Investigations, declare under penalty of perjury, as provided by 28 U.S.C. § 1746, that the foregoing Complaint for Forfeiture is based on reports and information known and/or furnished to me and to the best of my information and belief, is true and correct.

This the 9th day of October, 2020.



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Tony J. Bell  
Special Agent  
Department of Homeland Security, Immigration  
and Customs Enforcement, Homeland Security  
Investigations