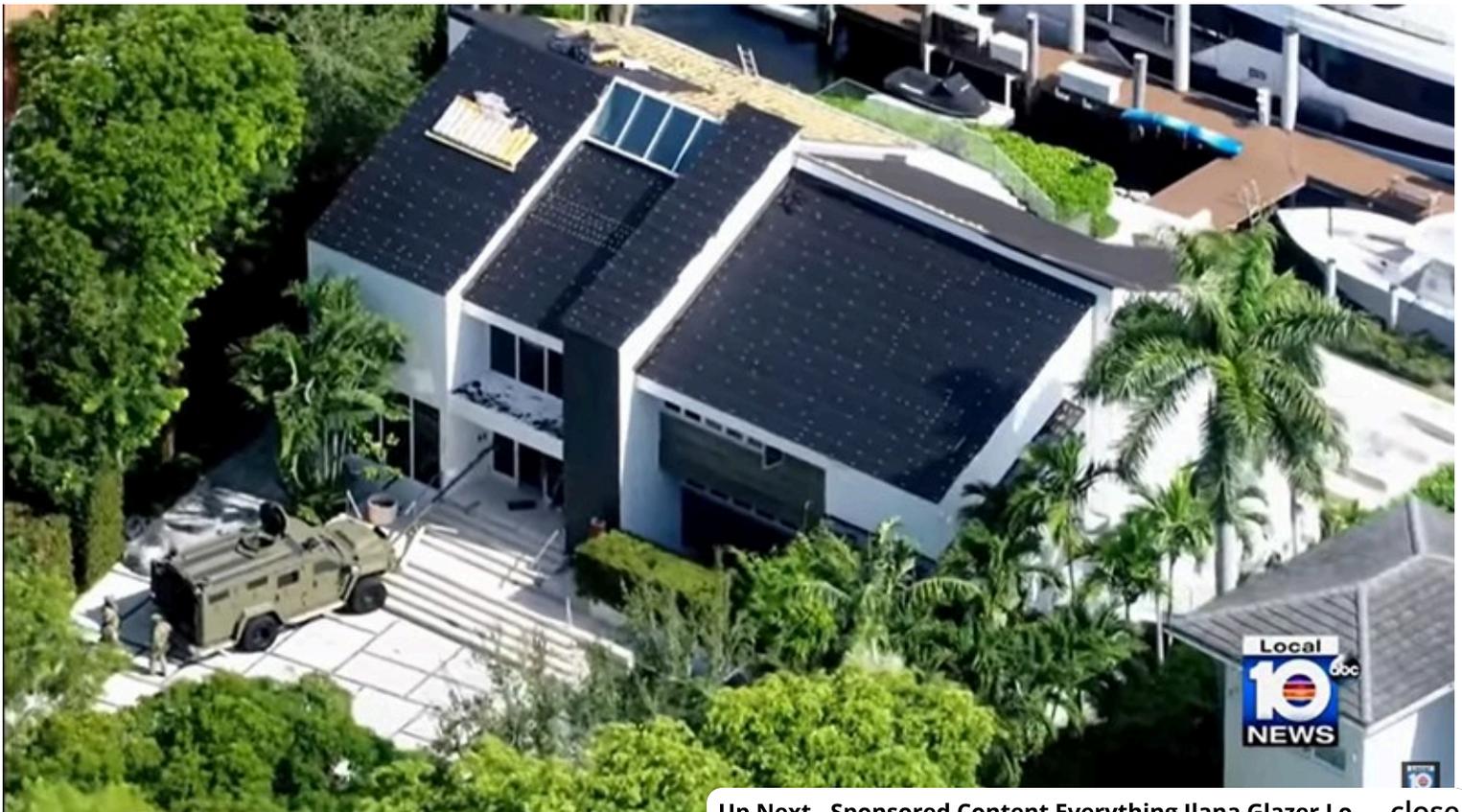


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Miami Developer Sergio Pino Found Dead After FBI Swarms House

Pino was under investigation after several men were charged with trying to violently intimidate his estranged wife.

By Zulekha Pitts | July 16, 2024



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Agents swarmed Miami developer Sergio Pino's home on

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Miami developer Sergio Pino died at his home as agents descended on the property amid an investigation into the death of his estranged wife, Tatiana Pino.



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Pino, 67, was found inside the Isla Dorada Boulevard residence around 10 a.m. with a fatal gunshot wound. His lawyer, Sam Rabin, tells *New Times* that Pino committed suicide as agents swarmed the house.

In June, the FBI raided the Coral Gables home in connection with an investigation into alleged assaults against Tatiana Pino and her family, which led to the arrest of four individuals, one of whom was a household employee of Sergio Pino.

On the morning of Tuesday, July 16, the FBI returned to Pino's home, and Coral Gables police blocked access to the area around the property. Loud bangs were heard from a block away, and helicopters were hovering in the area. Coral Gables Fire Rescue arrived, followed by an ambulance, and later, a van from the medical examiner's office, the *Herald* reported.

The FBI released a statement describing agents' entry into the home and their discovery of Pino.

"Upon arrival, members of the FBI Miami SWAT team attempted to call out any occupants of the residence. When there was no response, the SWAT team entered the residence and conducted a methodical search to locate the subject. Ultimately, Mr. Pino was discovered alone in an upstairs bedroom," the bureau said in a statement.

Pino had denied allegations that he hired men to intimidate his wife during their divorce. The four defendants in the case have pleaded not guilty to hit-and-run and arson charges.

In a statement provided to *New Times*, Rabin called law enforcement activity at his client's residence "unprecedented and unnecessary, especially since we had offered to surrender him should that have become necessary."

"Today's events mark a very tragic ending to an investigation that we were confident we could successfully defend. There were many rumors and allegations but what was lacking was evidence," Rabin says.

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Prosecutors say that in August 2023, during the Pinos' divorce proceedings, a truck rammed into Tatiana's car as she pulled into her driveway.

Vehicles were set on fire in two incidents at Tatiana's sister's home, according to court documents.

Tatiana Pino's divorce attorney, Raymond Rafool, had filed a motion earlier in July

alleging a recent "attempt on Ms. Pino's life." Tatiana Pino has testified that she believed Sergio tried to poison her – claims he denied. Sergio Pino also reported threats and vandalism to his property during the divorce proceedings.

When reached by *New Times* on Tuesday afternoon, Rafool responded, "Under the circumstances, we are not commenting at this time."

Sergio Pino was one of most prolific Hispanic developers in the U.S. He ran Century Homebuilders, which has constructed 15,000 homes since he founded it in the mid-1990s.

Tatiana filed for divorce from Sergio in 2022 after more than 30 years of marriage.



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Though she's a Jersey girl by birth, **ZULEKHA PITTS**, known as Zee by her family and friends, has deep roots in Florida. Before coming to *New Times*, she worked as a content creator and digital producer for *USA Today* and content producer for 3TV and CBS 5 News in Phoenix and also has experience as a digital host for the jewelry home-shopping channel Gem Shopping Network in Atlanta. A graduate of Rutgers University with a degree in Journalism and Media Studies, Zee is wrapping up a master's in communication at Villanova.

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