A6024 90445

HURWITZ, ORIHUELA & HAYES, LLP Douglas B. Hayes (Bar No. 232709) 2 dbh@hohlawyers.com Nicolas Orihuela (Bar No. 221898) 3 no@hohlawyers.com Superior Court of California 5757 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 503 County of Los Angeles 4 Los Angeles, CA 90036 MAY 27 2015 Telephone: (323) 965-2103 Facsimile: (323) 965-2146 5 Sherri R. Carter, Exacutive Officer/Clerk By Myerra Office Deputy Attorneys for Plaintiff ALEXY C. RAFAEL 6 Myrna Beltran MUST HIROSFIGE 7 8 SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA 9 FOR THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES (CENTRAL DISTRICT) 10 BC582875 ALEXY C. RAFAEL, Case No. 11 Plaintiff, **COMPLAINT FOR:** 12 v. (1) DISABILITY DISCRIMINATION 13 IN VIOLATION OF CAL. GOV'T CITY OF CARSON; and DOES 1 through CODE § 12940(a); 14 25, inclusive (2) PERCEIVED DISABILITY DISCRIMINATION IN 15 Defendants. VIOLATION OF CAL. GOV'T CODE § 12926.1; 16 (3) FAILURE TO ACCOMMODATE DISABILITY (CAL. GOV'T CODE 17 $\S 12940(m), (n)$; (4) FAILURE TO ENGAGE IN THE 18 INTERACTIVE PROCESS (CAL. GOV'T CODE § 12940(n); 19 (5) INTERFERENCE WITH AND FAILURE TO PROVIDE LEAVE: 20 (6) RETALIATION; (7) FAILURE TO PREVENT 21 DISCRIMINATION; (8) DECLARATORY RELIEF; AND (9) INJUNCTIVE RELIEF. 22 DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAGED AND SERVICE OF THE SERVICE OF T 23 24 25 26 Plaintiff ALEXY C. RAFAEL ("Plaintiff") complains and alleges as follows: 27 28 **COMPLAINT FOR DAMAGES**

7

11

12

13 14 15

17

18

16

19

2021

22

23

24 25

· 26

) 27 (C) 28

1,5

GENERAL ALLEGATIONS

- Plaintiff at all times herein relevant was an individual residing in the County of Los Angeles, State of California.
- 2. Plaintiff is informed and believes and thereon alleges that Defendant CITY OF CARSON ("Defendant") is and at all times mentioned herein was a public entity under and by virtue of the laws of the State of California; and headquartered at 701 E. Carson St., Carson, CA 90745.
- 3. Plaintiff is informed and believes that Defendant is and "employer" as defined by California Government Code sections 12926(d), 12940(a), and 12940(j)(4)(A) and other applicable law.
- 4. The true names and capacities of Defendants Does 1 through 25, whether individual, corporate, associate or otherwise, are unknown to Plaintiff at this time and Plaintiff will seek leave of Court to amend this Complaint to identify their true names and capacities when the same have been ascertained. Plaintiff is informed and believes and based thereon alleges that each of the Doe Defendants is, in some manner, responsible for the events and happenings herein set forth and proximately caused injury and damages to Plaintiff as alleged herein.
- 5. Plaintiff is informed and believes, and based thereon alleges, that each Defendant acted in all respects pertinent to this action as the agent of the other Defendants, carried out a joint scheme, business plan or policy in all respects pertinent hereto, and the acts of each of the Defendants are legally attributable to the other Defendants.
- 6. Plaintiff is informed and believe, and based thereon alleges, that each of the Defendants was the agent, servant, and employee of each of the other Co-Defendants, and in doing the things alleged, acted in the course and scope of such agency and employment.

FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS

7. Plaintiff has worked in the Human Resources Department with Defendant for approximately the last fourteen (14) years. Plaintiff's specific job title was Senior Human Resources Analyst. Plaintiff is Filipino.

- 8. During and at all times, Plaintiff performed his job duties with Defendant in a competent manner. In all of Plaintiff's yearly performance evaluations, Plaintiff received at least "above standard" ratings. Plaintiff received his last full performance review in November 2012 and, again, received an "above standard" rating.
- 9. During Plaintiff's employment, he has been harassed, discriminated against, and retaliated against over the course of the last several years. Plaintiff is informed, believes, and alleges that this illegal treatment has been directed by Elito Santarina, a member of Defendant's City Council.
- 10. The illegal conduct began in mid 2013 when Plaintiff received a directive from Mr. Santarina to ensure that certain employees were given and placed into various City of Carson jobs. Mr. Santarina is Filipino. Each of the individuals that Mr. Santarina wanted Plaintiff to place into City of Carson jobs was also Filipino. Plaintiff believed the main reason Mr. Santarina made this directive was because he (Mr. Santarina) wanted more Filipinos holding City of Carson jobs. Plaintiff also believed that Mr. Santarina wanted to repay favors owed to his (Mr. Santarina's) Filipino constituents and simultaneously limit the number of African-American employees working for the City of Carson. In fact, Plaintiff received several resumes and/or copies of job applications directly from Mr. Santarina; all of the resumes and job applications were for Filipino individuals.
- 11. Plaintiff objected to Mr. Santarina's directive as it was unlawful to give an individual a position based solely on an individual's race, ethnicity, and/or national origin.

 Plaintiff felt that employment positions at the City of Carson should be filled based on objective criteria, such as analyzing a person's resume, job qualifications, and past work experience.
- 12. After objecting to Mr. Santarina's directive, Plaintiff began to suffer retaliation with threats of termination, even though Plaintiff's performance had always been satisfactory.
- 13. The threats of termination increased during the summer of 2013 when Mr. Santarina engineered the dismissal of David Biggs, the then existing City Manager. Instead of going through a lengthy recruitment process to replace Mr. Biggs, Defendant's City Council immediately voted to appoint Samuel Ghaly into the City Manager position.

إرإا

- 14. Mr. Ghaly had not worked as a City Manager prior to his appointment with Defendant. Plaintiff felt that Mr. Ghaly was appointed to assist in pushing through certain directives that were opposed by Mr. Briggs and other employees of Defendant, including Plaintiff. Plaintiff feared that one of these directives Mr. Ghaly would attempt to push through was his termination.
- 15. Plaintiff's fears were realized when in August 2013, Defendant placed Plaintiff on administrative leave. Defendant had no reason or cause to place Plaintiff on an administrative leave. As such, no reason was given to Plaintiff for his being placed on leave. However, Plaintiff is informed and believes that the directive to place him on administrative leave came from Mr. Santarina and was a further example of Defendant's retaliatory conduct.
- 16. Plaintiff is informed and believes that after being placed on administrative leave, Mr. Ghaly attempted to fabricate false allegations that Plaintiff was a poor performer. Plaintiff is informed and believes that Defendant engaged in this retaliatory behavior in an attempt to force Plaintiff to resign and/or justify his eventual termination.
- 17. The above behavior caused Plaintiff to understandably develop stress, anxiety, and depression. As such, Plaintiff submitted a request to take a medical leave of absence pursuant to the Family Medical Leave Act ("FMLA"). Defendant repeatedly denied Plaintiff's FMLA leave requests, in further acts of retaliation. Ultimately, Plaintiff's FMLA request was submitted to an independent/third party physician who approved Plaintiff's medical certification, thereby assuring his leave was protected under FMLA.
- 18. While on leave, Defendant's harassment, discrimination, and retaliation of Plaintiff continued. For example, Defendant continually claimed that Plaintiff being on an extended leave of absence was causing Defendant an "undue hardship." Defendant's argument was illogical as Plaintiff was well aware of other employees who Defendant had allowed to remain on medical leave (and leaves of absence) for upwards of four (4) years without claiming any "undue hardship."
- 19. Throughout his medical leave, Plaintiff is informed and believes that Defendant wanted Plaintiff to resign and not come back to work. However, in early 2015, Plaintiff's

ųЛ

physician released Plaintiff to return to work with certain restrictions.

- 20. After receiving Plaintiff's medical release, Defendant held an interactive process meeting with Plaintiff in February 2015. At this meeting, Defendant unilaterally determined that it could not accommodate Plaintiff's work restrictions and placed him on a further unpaid three (3) month leave of absence.
- 21. In May 2015, Defendant held another interactive process meeting regarding Plaintiff's work release. As a result of this meeting, Plaintiff was supposed to be allowed to return to work. Instead, Defendant's retaliation continued. For example, Plaintiff was not allowed to return to work on his release date as Defendant admitted that they were not prepared for his return. Rather, Plaintiff was asked to return to work on or about May 19, 2015. Additionally, just before Plaintiff's return, Defendant gave away Plaintiff's private office to a lower-level employee, despite the office being vacant during Plaintiff's leave of absence. Defendant deleted Plaintiff's name in the City's published official list of current employees and removed his name from the department's directory. Defendant also did not pay Plaintiff on or about May 15, 2015, in conformity with its standard practice.
- 22. Plaintiff was set to return to work on or about May 19, 2015 when he was informed the City of Carson was placing him on another administrative leave, rather than allowing him to return to work. Plaintiff was informed that he was being place on administrative leave because of a recent complaint by another employee. Plaintiff has not been given the details of this specific complaint but believes it is a trumped-up allegation being used to prevent his return to work. As such, the harassment, discrimination, and retaliation against Plaintiff are continuing, as it appears Plaintiff will never be allowed to return to work.
- 23. Within the time provided by law, Plaintiff filed a complaint with the California Department of Fair Employment and Housing, in full compliance with these sections, and received the right-to-sue letter regarding his claims.

20[°]

ა 27 რ --

ĻΠ

FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION

DISABILITY DISCRIMINATION

- 24. Plaintiff realleges and incorporates herein paragraphs 1 through 23 of this complaint as though fully set forth.
- 25. At all times herein mentioned, the Fair Employment and Housing Act ("FEHA"), California Government Code section 12940(a), was in full force and effect and binding on Defendants. These statutes required Defendants to refrain from discriminating and/or harassing against any employee on the basis of a physical and/or mental disability.
- 26. Plaintiff suffered from a disability as defined by FEHA and as discussed above. Despite this, Plaintiff was able to perform the essential functions of his employment position with Defendants both with and without reasonable accommodation.
- 27. Plaintiff believes and thereon alleges that his disabilities were a motivating and substantial factor for Defendant's various adverse actions against Plaintiff, including but not limited to being placed on administrative leave (three times), being unfairly disciplined, being harassed, having his FMLA leave request denied, and repeatedly not being allowed to return to work.
- 28. As a proximate result of the aforesaid acts of Defendants, and each of them, Plaintiff has suffered actual, consequential and incidental financial losses, including without limitation, loss of salary and benefits, and the intangible loss of employment related opportunities in his field and damage to his professional reputation, all in an amount subject to proof at the time of trial.
- 29. As a proximate result of the wrongful acts of Defendants, and each of them, Plaintiff has suffered and continues to suffer emotional distress, humiliation, mental anguish and embarrassment, as well as the manifestation of physical symptoms. Plaintiff is informed and believes and thereupon alleges that he will continue to experience said physical and emotional suffering for a period in the future not presently ascertainable, all in an amount subject to proof at the time of trial.

ĻЛ

30. As a proximate result of the wrongful acts of Defendants, and each of them, Plaintiff has been forced to hire attorneys to prosecute his claims herein, and has incurred and is expected to continue to incur attorneys' fees and costs in connection therewith. Plaintiff is entitled to recover attorneys' fees and costs under section 12965(b) of the California Government Code.

CI

SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION

PERCEIVED DISABILITY DISCRIMINATION IN VIOLATION OF CAL. GOV'T CODE § 12926.1

- 31. Plaintiff realleges and incorporates herein paragraphs 1 through 30 of this complaint as though fully set forth.
- 32. At all times herein mentioned, California Government Code section 12940(a), was in full force and effect and binding on Defendants. These statutes required Defendants to refrain from discriminating and/or harassing against any employee that they perceive as having a physical and/or mental disability.
 - 33. During Plaintiff's employment, Defendants regarded Plaintiff as disabled.
- 34. Plaintiff believes and thereon alleges that this perceived disability was a motivating and substantial factor for Defendant's various adverse actions against Plaintiff, including but not limited to being placed on administrative leave (three times), being unfairly disciplined, being harassed, having his FMLA leave request denied, and repeatedly not being allowed to return to work.
- 35. As a proximate result of the aforesaid acts of Defendants, and each of them, Plaintiff has suffered actual, consequential and incidental financial losses, including without limitation, loss of salary and benefits, and the intangible loss of employment related opportunities in his field and damage to his professional reputation, all in an amount subject to proof at the time of trial.
- 36. As a proximate result of the wrongful acts of Defendants, and each of them,
 Plaintiff has suffered and continues to suffer emotional distress, humiliation, mental anguish and

ųЛ

embarrassment, as well as the manifestation of physical symptoms. Plaintiff is informed and believes and thereupon alleges that he will continue to experience said physical and emotional suffering for a period in the future not presently ascertainable, all in an amount subject to proof at the time of trial.

37. As a proximate result of the wrongful acts of Defendants, and each of them,
Plaintiff has been forced to hire attorneys to prosecute his claims herein, and has incurred and is
expected to continue to incur attorneys' fees and costs in connection therewith. Plaintiff is entitled
to recover attorneys' fees and costs under section 12965(b) of the California Government Code.

THIRD CAUSE OF ACTION

FAILURE TO ACCOMMODATE DISABILITY IN VIOLATION OF CAL. GOV'T CODE § 12940(m)

- 38. Plaintiff realleges and incorporates herein paragraphs 1 through 37 of this complaint as though fully set forth.
- 39. At all times herein mentioned, California Government Code section 12940(m), was in full force and effect and binding on Defendants. This statute affirmed Defendants' duty to make reasonable accommodations for the physical and/or mental disabilities of Plaintiff. This statute further requires Defendants to engage in an interactive process to reach a reasonable accommodation for an employee's disability.
- 40. Plaintiff alleges that Defendants failed to accommodate his disabilities. Plaintiff further alleges that Defendants failed to engage in an interactive process to reach an accommodation concerning Plaintiff's disabilities. Plaintiff believes and thereon alleges that his request to Defendants for an accommodation concerning his disabilities were motivating and substantial factors for Defendant's various adverse actions against Plaintiff, including but not limited to being placed on administrative leave (three times), being unfairly disciplined, being harassed, having his FMLA leave request denied, and repeatedly not being allowed to return to work.

(N.)

i,J

- 41. As a proximate result of the aforesaid acts of Defendants, and each of them, Plaintiff has suffered actual, consequential and incidental financial losses, including without limitation, loss of salary and benefits, and the intangible loss of employment related opportunities in his field and damage to his professional reputation, all in an amount subject to proof at the time of trial.
- 42. As a proximate result of the wrongful acts of Defendants, and each of them, Plaintiff has suffered and continues to suffer emotional distress, humiliation, mental anguish and embarrassment, as well as the manifestation of physical symptoms. Plaintiff is informed and believes and thereupon alleges that he will continue to experience said physical and emotional suffering for a period in the future not presently ascertainable, all in an amount subject to proof at the time of trial.
- 43. As a proximate result of the wrongful acts of Defendants, and each of them, Plaintiff has been forced to hire attorneys to prosecute his claims herein, and has incurred and is expected to continue to incur attorneys' fees and costs in connection therewith. Plaintiff is entitled to recover attorneys' fees and costs under section 12965(b) of the California Government Code.

FOURTH CAUSE OF ACTION

FAILURE TO ENGAGE IN THE INTERACTIVE PROCESS IN VIOLATION OF CAL. GOV'T CODE § 12940(n)

- 44. Plaintiff realleges and incorporates herein paragraphs 1 through 43 of this complaint as though fully set forth.
- 45. At all times herein mentioned, California Government Code section 12940(n), was in full force and effect and binding on Defendants. This statute required Defendants to engage in an interactive process in assessing an employee's physical and/or mental disability in order to provide an accommodation. Section 12940(n) makes it an unlawful employment practice for an employer to fail to engage in a timely, good faith, interactive process with the employee to determine the effective accommodations, if any, in response to a request for an

9

10

15

16

14

17

18 19

20

21 22

23

24

25 26

27

Ų

28

accommodation by an employee with a disability.

- During his employment, Plaintiff suffered from disabilities which were known to 46. Defendants. Defendants, however, never engaged in any interactive process with Plaintiff.
- 47. As a proximate result of the aforesaid acts of Defendants, and each of them. Plaintiff has suffered actual, consequential and incidental financial losses, including without limitation, loss of salary and benefits, and the intangible loss of employment related opportunities in his field and damage to his professional reputation, all in an amount subject to proof at the time of trial.
- 48. As a proximate result of the wrongful acts of Defendants, and each of them. Plaintiff has suffered and continues to suffer emotional distress, humiliation, mental anguish and embarrassment, as well as the manifestation of physical symptoms. Plaintiff is informed and believes and thereupon alleges that he will continue to experience said physical and emotional suffering for a period in the future not presently ascertainable, all in an amount subject to proof at the time of trial.
- 49. As a proximate result of the wrongful acts of Defendants, and each of them. Plaintiff has been forced to hire attorneys to prosecute his claims herein, and has incurred and is expected to continue to incur attorneys' fees and costs in connection therewith. Plaintiff is entitled to recover attorneys' fees and costs under section 12965(b) of the California Government Code.

FIFTH CAUSE OF ACTION

INTERFERENCE WITH AND FAILURE TO PROVIDE LEAVE IN VIOLATION OF CALIFORNIA GOVERNMENT CODE § 12945.2(t)

- Plaintiff realleges and incorporates herein paragraphs 1 through 49 of this 50. complaint as though fully set forth.
- 51. The laws of the State of California prohibit an employer from discriminating or retaliating against an employee for exercising his right to take medical leave under the California Family Rights Act ("CFRA"). Cal. Gov't Code §§ 12945.2; 12945.2(1); 2 Cal. Code. Regs. §

المبارية إ

11094.

- 52. Plaintiff is informed and believes and thereupon alleges that, at all times relevant herein, Defendants employed more than 50 persons within 75 miles of the worksite where Plaintiff was employed.
- 53. During Plaintiff's employment, Plaintiff requested medical leave. At the time Plaintiff requested medical leave, Plaintiff had more than 12 months of service with Defendants and over 1,250 hours of service with Defendants during the previous 12 month period. Plaintiff is informed and believes and thereupon alleges that he was entitled to leave pursuant to sections 12945.2 et seq. of the California Government Code.
- 54. Defendants' interference with and failure to provide Plaintiff with leave as described in this Complaint violates the California Fair Employment and Housing Act as promulgated in sections 12945.2 *et seq.* of the California Government Code and other law.
- 55. As a proximate result of the aforesaid acts of Defendants, and each of them, Plaintiff has suffered actual, consequential and incidental financial losses, including without limitation, loss of salary and benefits, and the intangible loss of employment related opportunities in his field and damage to his professional reputation, all in an amount subject to proof at the time of trial.
- 56. As a proximate result of the wrongful acts of Defendants, and each of them, Plaintiff has suffered and continues to suffer emotional distress, humiliation, mental anguish and embarrassment, as well as the manifestation of physical symptoms. Plaintiff is informed and believes and thereupon alleges that he will continue to experience said physical and emotional suffering for a period in the future not presently ascertainable, all in an amount subject to proof at the time of trial.
- 57. As a proximate result of the wrongful acts of Defendants, and each of them, Plaintiff has been forced to hire attorneys to prosecute his claims herein, and has incurred and is expected to continue to incur attorneys' fees and costs in connection therewith. Plaintiff is entitled to recover attorneys' fees and costs under section 12965(b) of the California Government Code.

١...١

ĻΠ

SIXTH CAUSE OF ACTION

RETALIATION IN VIOLATION OF

CALIFORNIA GOVERNMENT CODE §§ 12940 ET SEQ.

- 58. Plaintiff realleges and incorporates herein paragraphs 1 through 57 of this complaint as though fully set forth.
- 59. At all relevant times herein and in violation of sections 12940 *et seq*. of the California Government Code, Defendants retaliated against Plaintiff by adversely affecting Plaintiff's employment after he complained about Defendant's unlawful and discriminatory activities.
- 60. As a proximate result of the aforesaid acts of Defendants, and each of them, Plaintiff has suffered actual, consequential and incidental financial losses, including without limitation, loss of salary and benefits, and the intangible loss of employment related opportunities in his field and damage to his professional reputation, all in an amount subject to proof at the time of trial.
- 61. As a proximate result of the wrongful acts of Defendants, and each of them, Plaintiff has suffered and continues to suffer emotional distress, humiliation, mental anguish and embarrassment, as well as the manifestation of physical symptoms. Plaintiff is informed and believes and thereupon alleges that he will continue to experience said physical and emotional suffering for a period in the future not presently ascertainable, all in an amount subject to proof at the time of trial.
- 62. As a proximate result of the wrongful acts of Defendants, and each of them, Plaintiff has been forced to hire attorneys to prosecute his claims herein, and has incurred and is expected to continue to incur attorneys' fees and costs in connection therewith. Plaintiff is entitled to recover attorneys' fees and costs under section 12965(b) of the California Government Code and applicable law.

I, F

N.)

ندها ارپا

SEVENTH CAUSE OF ACTION

FAILURE TO PREVENT DISCRIMINATION IN VIOLATION OF CALIFORNIA GOVERNMENT CODE § 12940(k)

- 63. Plaintiff realleges and incorporates herein paragraphs 1 through 62 of this complaint as though fully set forth.
- 64. At all times mentioned herein, sections 12940 et seq. of the California Government Code, including but not limited to sections 12940(k), were in full force and effect and were binding upon Defendants and each of them. These sections impose on an employer a duty to take immediate and appropriate corrective action to end discrimination and take all reasonable steps necessary to prevent discrimination from occurring, among other things.
- 65. Defendants failed to take immediate and appropriate corrective action to end the discrimination. Defendants also failed to take all reasonable steps necessary to prevent the discrimination from occurring.
- 66. In failing and/or refusing to take immediate and appropriate corrective action to end the discrimination and in failing and/or refusing to take all reasonable steps necessary to prevent discrimination from occurring, Defendants violated California law, causing Plaintiff to suffer damages as set forth above.
- 67. As a proximate result of the aforesaid acts of Defendants, and each of them, Plaintiff has suffered actual, consequential and incidental financial losses, including without limitation, loss of salary and benefits, and the intangible loss of employment related opportunities in his field and damage to his professional reputation, all in an amount subject to proof at the time of trial.
- 68. As a proximate result of the wrongful acts of Defendants, and each of them,
 Plaintiff has suffered and continues to suffer emotional distress, humiliation, mental anguish and
 embarrassment, as well as the manifestation of physical symptoms. Plaintiff is informed and
 believes and thereupon alleges that he will continue to experience said physical and emotional
 suffering for a period in the future not presently ascertainable, all in an amount subject to proof

at the time of trial.

69. As a proximate result of the wrongful acts of Defendants, and each of them, Plaintiff has been forced to hire attorneys to prosecute his claims herein, and has incurred and is expected to continue to incur attorneys' fees and costs in connection therewith. Plaintiff is entitled to recover attorneys' fees and costs under section 12965(b) of the California Government Code.

8

9

2

3

4

5

6

EIGHTH CAUSE OF ACTION

DECLARATORY RELIEF

[Against All Defendants]

- 70. Plaintiff realleges and incorporates by this reference, as though set forth in full, paragraphs 1 through 69, inclusive.
- 71. California Government Code section 12920 sets forth the public policy of the State of California as follows:

It is hereby declared as the public policy of this state that it is necessary to protect and safeguard the right and opportunity of all persons to seek, obtain, and hold employment without discrimination or abridgment on account of race, religious creed, color, national origin, ancestry, physical disability, mental disability, medical condition, genetic information, marital status, sex, gender, gender identity, gender expression, age, or sexual orientation.

It is recognized that the practice of denying employment opportunity and discriminating in the terms of employment for these reasons foments domestic strife and unrest, deprives the state of the fullest utilization of its capacities for development and advancement, and substantially and adversely affects the interests of employees, employers, and the public in general.

Further, the practice of discrimination because of race, color, religion, sex, gender, gender identity, gender expression, sexual orientation, marital status, national origin, ancestry, familial status. source of income, disability, or genetic information in housing accommodations is declared to be against public policy.

It is the purpose of this part to provide effective remedies that will

eliminate these discriminatory practices.

This part shall be deemed an exercise of the police power of the state for the protection of the welfare, health, and peace of the people of this state.

72. California Government Code section12920.5 embodies the intent of the California legislature and states:

In order to eliminate discrimination, it is necessary to provide effective remedies that will both prevent and deter unlawful employment practices and redress the adverse effects of those practices on aggrieved persons. To that end, this part shall be deemed an exercise of the Legislature's authority pursuant to Section 1 of Article XIV of the California Constitution.

73. Moreover, California Government Code section12921, subdivision (a) says in pertinent part:

The opportunity to seek, obtain, and hold employment without discrimination because of race, religious creed, color, national origin, ancestry, physical disability, mental disability, medical condition, genetic information, marital status, sex, gender, gender identity, gender expression, age, or sexual orientation is hereby recognized as and declared to be a civil right.

74. An actual controversy has arisen and now exists between Plaintiff and Defendants concerning their respective rights and duties as it is believed that Defendants may allege that Plaintiff has been treated based on a non-discriminatory, legitimate reason and Plaintiff's disability and complaints were not substantial motivating factors for Defendant's various adverse actions against Plaintiff, including but not limited to being placed on administrative leave (three times), being unfairly disciplined, being harassed, having his FMLA leave request denied, and repeatedly not being allowed to return to work. Plaintiff contends that the reason given by Defendants was a pretext to mask its true reason(s) for its illegal conduct. Plaintiff is informed and believes, and on that basis alleges, that Defendants shall dispute Plaintiff's contention and shall assert its reason was non-discriminatory and legitimate.

- 75. Pursuant to Code of Civil Procedure section 1060, Plaintiff desires a judicial determination of his rights and duties, and a declaration that his disability was a substantial motivating factor in the decision to mistreat him.
- 76. A judicial declaration is necessary and appropriate at this time under the circumstances in order that Plaintiff, for himself and on behalf of employees of the State of California and in conformity with the public policy of the State, obtain a judicial declaration of the wrongdoing of Defendants and to condemn such discriminatory employment policies or practices. *See Harris v. City of Santa Monica*, 2013 WL 452959 (Cal. Feb. 7, 2013).
- 77. A judicial declaration is necessary and appropriate at this time such that Defendants may also be aware of its obligations under the law to not engage in discriminatory practices and violate the law.
- 78. California Government Code section 12965(b) provides that an aggrieved party, such as the Plaintiff herein, may be awarded reasonable attorney's fees and costs. "In civil actions brought under this section, the court, in its discretion, may award to the prevailing party, including the department, reasonable attorney's fees and costs, including expert witness fees." Such fees and costs expended by an aggrieved party may be awarded for the purpose redressing, preventing, or deterring discrimination.

NINTH CAUSE OF ACTION

INJUNCTIVE RELIEF

- 79. Plaintiff repeats and re-alleges Paragraphs 1 through 78, inclusive, above, and incorporates same herein as though set forth in full.
- 80. The acts and omissions of the Defendants, and each of them, have caused irreparable harm to Plaintiff and will continue to cause irreparable harm to current employees unless the complained of conduct is enjoined. There is no immediate, adequate or speedy remedy at law to redress the continuing retaliatory policies and practices of Defendants, and, therefore, Plaintiff seeks affirmative and injunctive relief as follows:

3

- a. for an injunction restraining Defendants, and each of them, from continuing or maintaining any policy, practice, custom or usage which is retaliatory in nature against any employee exercising his/her rights under FEHA;
- b. for an injunction restraining Defendant, along with its supervising employees, agents and all those subject to its control or acting in concert with it from causing, encouraging, condoning or permitting the practice of retaliation and willful violations of FEHA;
- c. for affirmative relief requiring Defendants, and each of them, to conduct training of all employees to "sensitize" them to the harmful nature of retaliating against an employee exercising his/her rights under FEHA. The proposed plan of education and training should also include training and detection, and correction and prevention of such retaliatory practices;
- d. for affirmative relief requiring Defendants, and each of them, to notify all employees and supervisors, through individual letters and permanent postings in prominent locations in all offices that retaliation violates the California Fair Employment and Housing Act and the consequences of violation of such laws and policies;
- e. for affirmative relief requiring Defendants, and each of them, to develop clear and effective policies and procedures for employees complaining of retaliation or violations of FEHA so they may have their complaints promptly and thoroughly investigated (by a neutral fact finder) and informal as well as formal processes for hearing, adjudication and appeal of the complaints; and
- f. for affirmative relief requiring Defendants, and each of them, to develop appropriate sanctions or disciplinary measures for supervisors or other employees who are found to have committed retaliatory acts, including warnings to the offending person and notations in that person's employment record for reference in the event future complaints are directed against that person, and dismissal where other measures fail.

PRAYER

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff prays for judgment against Defendants, and each of them, as follows:

- 1. For all actual, consequential and incidental financial losses including lost wages, benefits, medical bills, mental and emotional distress, and other special and general damages according to proof but in excess of the jurisdictional limit of this court;
 - 2. For compensatory and general damages in an amount according to proof;
- 3. Plaintiff seeks injunctive relief to restrain Defendants from engaging in further discrimination of its employees, and to order Defendants to take all reasonable steps to prevent discrimination from occurring, to promptly investigate claims of discrimination, and to prevent retaliation;
 - 4. For declaratory relief;
- 5. That Plaintiff be awarded attorney's fees and costs pursuant to section 12965 of the California Government Code, and/or other applicable law; and
 - 6. For such other and further relief that is just and proper.

Dated: May 22, 2015

HURWITZ, ORIHUELA & HAYES, LLP

By:

Douglas B. Hayes,

Attorneys for Plaintiff Alexy C. Rafael

ĻЛ

DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL

Plaintiff Alexy C. Rafael hereby demands that this matter be submitted to and tried before a jury on all issues triable by a jury.

Dated: May 22, 2015

HURWITZ, ORIHUELA & HAYES, LLP

By:

Douglas B. Hayes,

Attorneys for Plaintiff Alexy C. Rafael

Į,J

COMPLAINT FOR DAMAGES

ATTORNEY OR PARTY WITHOUT ATTORNEY (Name, State Bail Douglas Hayes (Bar No. 232709)	number, and address):	FOR COURT USE ONLY			
Douglas Hayes (Bar No. 232709)					
HURWITZ, ORIHUELA & HAYES, LLP 5757 Wilshire Blvd, Suite 503					
Los Angeles, California 90036		FILED			
TELEPHONE NO.: (323) 965-2103	FAX NO.: (323) 965-2146				
ATTORNEY FOR (Name): Plaintiff ALEXY C.	RAFAEL.	County of Los Angeles			
SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF L					
STREET ADDRESS: 111 North Hill St.	OS /RIGERES	MAY 27 2015			
MAILING ADDRESS: 111 North Hill St.					
CITY AND ZIP CODE: Los Angeles, CA 900	112	Sherri R. Carter, Executive Officer/Clerk			
BRANCH NAME: Central District	J12	By Alyana Deputy			
CASE NAME:		Myrna Beltran			
	t al	"",""			
RAFAEL v. CITY OF CARSON, e	i ai.	DO F			
CIVIL CASE COVER SHEET	Complex Case Designation	CASE NUMBER: BC 5 8 2 8 7 5			
✓ Unlimited Limited	Counter Joinder				
(Amount (Amount	Counter Joinder	, JUDGE:			
demanded demanded is	Filed with first appearance by defend	dant			
exceeds \$25,000) \$25,000 or less)	(Cal. Rules of Court, rule 3.402)	DEPT:			
Items 1–6 be	low must be completed (see instructions	on page 2).			
1. Check one box below for the case type the	at best describes this case:				
Auto Tort	Contract	Provisionally Complex Civil Litigation			
Auto (22)	Breach of contract/warranty (06)	(Cal. Rules of Court, rules 3.400-3.403)			
Uninsured motorist (46)	Rule 3.740 collections (09)	Antitrust/Trade regulation (03)			
	` ′	Construction defect (10)			
Other PI/PD/WD (Personal Injury/Property Damage/Wrongful Death) Tort	Other collections (09)				
	Insurance coverage (18)	Mass tort (40)			
Asbestos (04)	Other contract (37)	Securities litigation (28)			
Product liability (24)	Real Property	Environmental/Toxic tort (30)			
Medical malpractice (45)	Eminent domain/Inverse	Insurance coverage claims arising from the			
Other PI/PD/WD (23)	condemnation (14)	above listed provisionally complex case			
Non-PI/PD/WD (Other) Tort	Wrongful eviction (33)	types (41)			
Business tort/unfair business practice (0)	Other real property (26)	Enforcement of Judgment			
Civil rights (08)	Unlawful Detainer	Enforcement of judgment (20)			
1 - 	Commercial (31)				
Defamation (13)	` '	Miscellaneous Civil Complaint			
Fraud (16)	Residential (32)	RICO (27)			
Intellectual property (19)	Drugs (38)	Other complaint (not specified above) (42)			
Professional negligence (25)	Judicial Review	Miscellaneous Civil Petition			
Other non-PI/PD/WD tort (35)	Asset forfeiture (05)	Partnership and corporate governance (21)			
Employment	Petition re: arbitration award (11)	Other petition (not specified above) (43)			
Wrongful termination (36)	Writ of mandate (02)	canon pounds (not operation above) (10)			
✓ Other employment (15)	Other judicial review (39)				
		ules of Court. If the case is complex, mark the			
factors requiring exceptional judicial mana	agement:	dies of court. If the case is complex, mark the			
		or of witnesses			
		er of witnesses			
b. Extensive motion practice raising		with related actions pending in one or more courts			
issues that will be time-consumir		ties, states, or countries, or in a federal court			
c. Substantial amount of document	ary evidence f. L Substantial p	ostjudgment judicial supervision			
O Bosselies south (short all that and the	. [7]				
3. Remedies sought (check all that apply): a	. ——	declaratory or injunctive relief cpunitive			
4. Number of causes of action (specify): N		. 2			
5. This case is✓ is not a cla	iss action suit.				
6 If there are any known related cases, file	and serve a notice of related case. (You	may (sectorm CM-015.)			
Date: May 21, 2015	4				
Douglas B. Hayes		SIGNATURE OF DARRY OR ATTORNEY FOR DARRY			
(TYPE OR PRINT NAME)	NOTICE	SIGNATURE OF PARTY OR ATTORNEY FOR PARTY)			
Plaintiff must file this cover sheet with the		ng (except small claims cases or cases filed			
under the Probate Code, Family Code, or Welfare and Institutions Code). (Cal. Rules of Court, rule 3.220.) Failure to file may result					
in sanctions.					
File this cover sheet in addition to any cover sheet required by local court rule.					
	If this case is complex under rule 3.400 et seq. of the California Rules of Court, you must serve a copy of this cover sheet on all				
other parties to the action or proceeding.					
Unless this is a collections case under rule	e 3.740 or a complex case, this cover sh	eet will be used for statistical purposes only. Page 1 of 2			
Form Adopted for Mandatory Use	CIVIL CASE COVER SHEET	Cal. Rules of Court, rules 2.30, 3.220, 3.400-3.403, 3.740;			
Judicial Council of California CM-010 [Rev. July 1, 2007]	SITIL GAGE GOVER SHEET	Cal. Standards of Judicial Administration, std. 3.10 www.courtinfo.ca.gov			
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		www.countino.ca.gov			

BC 5 8 2 8 7 5

CIVIL CASE COVER SHEET ADDENDUM AND STATEMENT OF LOCATION (CERTIFICATE OF GROUNDS FOR ASSIGNMENT TO COURTHOUSE LOCATION)

This form is required pursuant to Local Rule 2.0 in all new civil case filings in the Los Angeles Superior Court.
Item I. Check the types of hearing and fill in the estimated length of hearing expected for this case:
JURY TRIAL? $ olimits$ YES CLASS ACTION? \square YES LIMITED CASE? \square YES TIME ESTIMATED FOR TRIAL $ olimits$ $ olimits$ Hours/ $ olimits$ DAY
Item II. Indicate the correct district and courthouse location (4 steps - If you checked "Limited Case", skip to Item III, Pg. 4
Step 1: After first completing the Civil Case Cover Sheet form, find the main Civil Case Cover Sheet heading for your case in the left margin below, and, to the right in Column A , the Civil Case Cover Sheet case type you selected.
Step 2: Check one Superior Court type of action in Column B below which best describes the nature of this case.
Step 3: In Column C , circle the reason for the court location choice that applies to the type of action you have checked. For any exception to the court location, see Local Rule 2.0.
Applicable Reasons for Choosing Courthouse Location (see Column C below)
 Class actions must be filed in the Stanley Mosk Courthouse, central district. May be filed in central (other county, or no bodily injury/property damage). Location where cause of action arose. Location where bodily injury, death or damage occurred. Location where performance required or defendant resides. Location of property or permanently garaged vehicle. Location where petitioner resides. Location where petitioner resides. Location where petitioner resides. Location where one or more of the parties reside. Location of property or permanently garaged vehicle. Location where petitioner resides. Location where petitioner resides. Location of property or permanently garaged vehicle. Location where petitioner resides. Location of property or permanently garaged vehicle. Location where petitioner resides. Location of property or permanently garaged vehicle. Location where petitioner resides. Location of property or permanently garaged vehicle. Location where petitioner resides. Location of property or permanently garaged vehicle. Location of property or permanently garaged vehicle.

Step 4: Fill in the information requested on page 4 in Item III; complete Item IV. Sign the declaration.

A Civil Case Cover Sheet Category No:	B Type of Action (Check only one)	C Applicable Reasons - See Step 3 Above
Auto (22)	□ A7100 Motor Vehicle - Personal Injury/Property Damage/Wrongful Death	1., 2., 4.
Uninsured Motorist (46)	□ A7110 Personal Injury/Property Damage/Wrongful Death – Uninsured Motorist	1., 2., 4.
Asbestos (04)	□ A6070 Asbestos Property Damage □ A7221 Asbestos - Personal Injury/Wrongful Death	2. 2.
Product Liability (24)	☐ A7260 Product Liability (not asbestos or toxic/environmental)	1., 2., 3., 4., 8.
Medical Malpractice (45)	□ A7210 Medical Malpractice - Physicians & Surgeons □ A7240 Other Professional Health Care Malpractice	1., 4. 1., 4.
Other Personal Injury Property Damage Wrongful Death (23)	 □ A7250 Premises Liability (e.g., slip and fall) □ A7230 Intentional Bodily Injury/Property Damage/Wrongful Death (e.g., assault, vandalism, etc.) □ A7270 Intentional Infliction of Emotional Distress □ A7220 Other Personal Injury/Property Damage/Wrongful Death 	1., 4. 1., 4. 1., 3. 1., 4.

Other Personal Hijury Property Damage/ Wrongful Death Tort

Auto

Non-Personal Injury/ Property Damage/ Wrongful Death Tort

Employment

ontract

Property

Unlawful Detainer

······································		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	
Civi Case Cover Sheet Category No		B Type of Action (Check only one)	C Applicable Reasons - See Step 3 Above
Business Tort (07)	Business Tort (07) A6029 Other Commercial/Business Tort (not fraud/breach of contract)		i., 3.
Civil Rights (08)	□ A6005	Civil Rights/Discrimination	1., 2., 3.
Defamation (13)	□ A6010	Defamation (slander/libel)	1., 2., 3.
Fraud (16)	□ A6013	Fraud (no contract)	1., 2., 3.
	□ A6017	Legal Malpractice	1., 2., 3.
Professional Negligence (25)	□ A6050	Other Professional Malpractice (not medical or legal)	1., 2., 3.
Other (35)	□ A6025	Other Non-Personal Injury/Property Damage tort	2.,3.
Wrongful Termination (36)	□ A6037	Wrongful Termination	1., 2., 3.
0, 5	☑ A6024	Other Employment Complaint Case	1.2, 3.
Other Employment (15)	□ A6109	Labor Commissioner Appeals	10.
	□ A6004	Breach of Rental/Lease Contract (not unlawful detainer or wrongful eviction)	2., 5.
Breach of Contract/ Warranty (06)	□ A6008	Contract/Warranty Breach -Seller Plaintiff (no fraud/negligence)	2., 5.
(not insurance)	□ A6019	Negligent Breach of Contract/Warranty (no fraud)	1., 2., 5.
. !	□ A6028	Other Breach of Contract/Warranty (not fraud or negligence)	1., 2., 5.
Collections (09)	□ A6002	Collections Case-Seller Plaintiff	2., 5., 6.
Concensions (co)	□ A6012	Other Promissory Note/Collections Case	2., 5.
Insurance Coverage (18)	□ A6015	Insurance Coverage (not complex)	1., 2., 5., 8.
	□ A6009	Contractual Fraud	1., 2., 3., 5.
Other Contract (37)	□ A6031	Tortious Interference	1., 2., 3., 5.
	□ A6027	Other Contract Dispute(not breach/insurance/fraud/negligence)	1., 2., 3., 8.
Eminent Domain/Inverse Condemnation (14)	□ A7300	Eminent Domain/Condemnation Number of parcels	2.
Wrongful Eviction (33)	□ A6023	Wrongful Eviction Case	2., 6.
	□ A6018	Mortgage Foreclosure	2., 6.
Other Real Property (26)	□ A6032	Quiet Title	2., 6.
	□ A6060	Other Real Property (not eminent domain, landlord/tenant, foreclosure)	2., 6.
Unlawful Detainer-Commercial (31)	□ A6021	Unlawful Detainer-Commercial (not drugs or wrongful eviction)	2., 6.
Unlawful Detainer-Residential (32)	□ A6020	20 Unlawful Detainer-Residential (not drugs or wrongful eviction) 2., 6.	
Unlawful Detainer- Post-Foreclosure (34)	□ A6020I	FUnlawful Detainer-Post-Foreclosure	2., 6.
Unlawful Detainer-Drugs (38)		Unlawful Detainer-Drugs	2., 6.

RAFAEL v. CITY OF CARSON, et al.

CASE NUMBER

	A Givi Case Cover Sheet Category No:		Type of Action (Check only one)		C Applicable Reasons : See Step 3 Above
	Asset Forfeiture (05)		6108 Asset Forfeiture Case		2., 6.
Judicial Review	Petition re Arbitration (11)		A6115 Petition to Compel/Confirm/Vacate Arbitration		2., 5.
	1 1 1 1		6151 Writ - Administrative Mandamus		2., 8.
Writ of Mandate (02)			6152 Writ - Mandamus on Limited Court Case Matter		2.
Ä			6153 Writ - Other Limited Court Case Review		2.
	Other Judicial Review (39)		6150 Other Writ /Judicial Review	Other Writ /Judicial Review	
Provisionally Complex Litigation	Antitrust/Trade Regulation (03)		6003 Antitrust/Trade Regulation		1., 2., 8.
	Construction Defect (10)		6007 Construction Defect		1., 2., 3.
	Claims Involving Mass Tort (40)		6006 Claims Involving Mass Tort		1., 2., 8.
	Securities Litigation (28)		.6035 Securities Litigation Case	Securities Litigation Case	
risiona	† Toxic Tort Environmental (30)		.6036 Toxic Tort/Environmental	Toxic Tort/Environmental	
Prov	Insurance Coverage Claims from Complex Case (41)		.6014 Insurance Coverage/Subrogation (complex case or	ily)	1., 2., 5., 8.
	,		.6141 Sister State Judgment	· ·	2., 9.
せせ	•		.6160 Abstract of Judgment	*	2., 6.
Enforcement of Judgment	Enforcement of Judgment (20)		.6107 Confession of Judgment (non-domestic relations)		2., 9.
forc Judi		ò	.6140 Administrative Agency Award (not unpaid taxes)		2., 8.
<u>Б</u> 2			.6114 Petition/Certificate for Entry of Judgment on Unpaid	l Tax	2., 8.
;	4 4 1		.6112 Other Enforcement of Judgment Case		2., 8., 9.
s s	RICO (27)		6033 Racketeering (RICO) Case		1., 2., 8.
llaneous omplaints			.6030 Declaratory Relief Only		1., 2., 8.
	Other Complaints		.6040 Injunctive Relief Only (not domestic/harassment)		2., 8.
Miscellaneous Civil Complaints	(Not Specified Above) (42)		.6011 Other Commercial Complaint Case (non-tort/non-co	omplex)	1., 2., 8.
			.6000 Other Civil Complaint (non-tort/non-complex)		1., 2., 8.
,	Partnership Corporation Governance (21)	_	.6113 Partnership and Corporate Governance Case		2., 8.
			.6121 Civil Harassment		2., 3., 9.
Suo			.6123 Workplace Harassment		2., 3., 9.
fane etiti	Other Petitions (Not Specified Above)		.6124 Elder/Dependent Adult Abuse Case	•	2., 3., 9.
Miscellaneous Civil Petitions		0	6190 Election Contest		2.
ĔÖ	(43)		6110 Petition for Change of Name		2., 7.
**:			6170 Petition for Relief from Late Claim Law		2., 3., 4., 8.
			6100 Other Civil Petition		2., 9.
	6				L

15.

SHORT TITLE: RAFAEL v. CITY OF CARSON, et al.	CASE NUMBER

Item III. Statement of Location: Enter the address of the accident, party's residence or place of business, performance, or other circumstance indicated in Item II., Step 3 on Page 1, as the proper reason for filing in the court location you selected.

			ADDRESS:
REASON: Check the appropriate boxes for the numbers shown under Column C for the type of action that you have selected for this case.			701 E. Carson Street
□1. ☑2. □3. □4. □5. □]6. □7. □8. 〔		
CITY:	STATE:	ZIP CODE:	
Carson	CA	90745	
and correct and that the above-	entitled matter	is properly file	erjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing is true of for assignment to the STANLEY MOSK courthouse in the mia, County of Los Angeles [Code Civ. Proc., § 392 et seq., and Local
Rule 2.0, subds. (b), (c) and (d)].			
Dated: May 21, 2015	, _		
			(SIGNATURE OF ATTORNEY/FILING PARTY)

PLEASE HAVE THE FOLLOWING ITEMS COMPLETED AND READY TO BE FILED IN ORDER TO PROPERLY COMMENCE YOUR NEW COURT CASE:

- 1. Original Complaint or Petition.
- 2. If filing a Complaint, a completed Summons form for issuance by the Clerk.
- 3. Civil Case Cover Sheet, Judicial Council form CM-010.
- Civil Case Cover Sheet Addendum and Statement of Location form, LACIV 109, LASC Approved 03-04 (Rev. 03/11).
- 5. Payment in full of the filing fee, unless fees have been waived.
- A signed order appointing the Guardian ad Litem, Judicial Council form CIV-010, if the plaintiff or petitioner is a minor under 18 years of age will be required by Court in order to issue a summons.
- 7. Additional copies of documents to be conformed by the Clerk. Copies of the cover sheet and this addendum must be served along with the summons and complaint, or other initiating pleading in the case.