# SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

Coordination Proceeding Special Title (Rule 1550(b))

#### **ANTELOPE VALLEY GROUNDWATER CASES**

Included Actions:

Los Angeles County Waterworks District No. 40 v. Diamond Farming Co., Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles, Case No. BC 325 201

Los Angeles County Waterworks District No. 40 v. Diamond Farming Co., Superior Court of California, County of Kern, Case No. S-1500-CV-254-348

Wm. Bolthouse Farms, Inc. v. City of Lancaster Diamond Farming Co. v. City of Lancaster Diamond Farming Co. v. Palmdale Water Dist. Superior Court of California, County of Riverside, consolidated actions, Case Nos. RIC 353 840, RIC 344 436, RIC 344 668

Willis v. Los Angeles County Waterworks District No. 40, Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles, Case No. BC 364 553

Wood v. Los Angeles County Waterworks District No. 40, Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles, Case No. BC 391869

Wood v. A.V. Materials, Inc., et al., Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles, Case No. BC 509546

*Wood v. County of Los Angeles*, Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles, Case No. BS 143790

Little Rock Sand and Gravel, Inc., Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles, Case No. MC026932 [Add-On Petition Pending]

Judicial Council Coordination Proceeding No. 4408

For Court's Use Only: Santa Clara County Case No. 2005-1-CV-049053 (for E-Posting/E-Service Purposes Only)

Date/Time: Thursday, March 16, 2023 (Day 2 of 2)

Location: Department 3 Superior Court of California County of Santa Clara

Present: Hon. Jack Komar, Judge (Ret.) J. Morriss, Clerk (SC)

Mary Argyropoulos, Reporter CSR#9775 D. Cutforth, Deputy Sheriff

#### MINUTE ORDER:

## **EVIDENTIARY HEARING**. (1) C/F 12-13-22

(1) Watermaster's Motion for Monetary, Declaratory and Injunctive Relief Against Zamrzlas;

- (2) Motion by Johnny and Pamella Zamrzla to Set Aside or Modify Judgment; and
- (3) Motion by Johnny Lee and Jeannette Zamrzla to Set Aside or Modify Judgment.

Motion #1 (Watermaster's Motion for Monetary, Declaratory and Injunctive Relief Against Zamrzlas) will be further set for a later date, depending on the outcome of the Zamrzlas' motions (Motion #2 and Motion #3).

9:03 AM: Matter goes on the record in Department 3 of the Santa Clara County Superior Court, Hon. Jack Komar (Ret.) presiding. Matter is being Real-Time reported.

## The following parties are present in court:

**Nicholas Shepard**, for Defendants Johnny Zamrzla, Pamella Zamrzla, Johnny Lee Zamrzla and Jeanette Zamrzla

Sheri Zamrzla-Greco, who identifies herself as a party in interest

**Jenifer Ryan**, for Defendant City of Los Angeles and Los Angeles World Airports

Robert Kuhs, for Grimmway Enterprises

Craig Parton, for Antelope Valley Watermaster

#### The following parties are present via Microsoft Teams:

**Thomas S. Bunn**, for Palmdale Water District

**Christopher M. Sanders**, for County Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County Nos. 14 and 20

## Cameron Goodman, for Antelope Valley Watermaster

William Sloan, for U.S. Borax

9:04 am: Mr. Shepard moves to admit certain exhibits.

Exhibit(s) marked and identified on behalf of the ZAMRZLAS

Exhibit	Description	ID	Admit
#			
21	Judgment and Physical Solution	3-16-23	3-16-23
22	Judgment Approving Small Pumper Class	3-16-23	3-16-23
	Settlement		
23	June 26, 2009 Notice of Class Action	3-15-23	3-16-23
37	Zamrzla RFA to Grimmway/Grimmway Response	3-16-23	3-16-23
	and Amended Response		
38	Zamrzla SROG to Grimmway/Grimmway	3-16-23	3-16-23
	Response and Amended Response		
39	Zamrzla FROG to Grimmway/Grimmway	3-16-23	3-16-23
	Response and Amended Response		
40	Zamrzla RPD to Grimmway/Grimmway Response	3-16-23	3-16-23

9:11 am: Mr. Shephard calls his witness, <u>PAMELLA ZAMRZLA</u>, who is sworn by the clerk. She gives her home address at the court's request. Mr. Shepard conducts <u>direct examination</u>.

Exhibit(s) marked and identified on behalf of the ZAMRZLAS

Exhibit	Description	ID	Admit
#			
9	SCE Billing Records 2009-2022 - 75th Street	3-16-23	3-16-23
10	SCE Billing Records 2008-2021 - 80th Street	3-16-23	3-16-23
24	Aerial Photo 1/14/2002	3-16-23	3-16-23
			(Admitted
			subject to
			cross)
25	Aerial Photo 12/16/2010	3-16-23	3-16-23
			(Admitted
			subject to
			cross)
26	Aerial Photo 48910 80th St W - 7/15/2011	3-16-23	3-16-23
27	Aerial Photo 48910 80th St W - 12/3/2011	3-16-23	3-16-23
28	Aerial Photo 48910 80th St W - 8/25/2012	3-16-23	3-16-23
29	Aerial Photo 48910 80th St W - 5/24/2013	3-16-23	3-16-23
30	Aerial Photo 48910 80th St W - 4/11/2015	3-16-23	3-16-23
31	Aerial Photo 48910 80th St W - 4/29/17	3-16-23	3-16-23
46	Photos - Onions circa 2003	3-16-23	3-16-23
47	Photos - circa 2011-2013	3-16-23	3-16-23

48	Ranch Grant Deed 1970	3-16-23	3-16-23
49	75th St Farm Grant Deed 1986	3-16-23	3-16-23
50	75th St Farm Grant Deed 1999	3-16-23	3-16-23
51	80th D8 Grant Deed 199	3-16-23	
52	Ranch Grant Deed 1999	3-16-23	3-16-23

The court periodically questions the witness during the direct examination.

- 9:59 am: Mr. Shepard refers the witness to previously-admitted exhibit, Zamrzla's Exhibit 23. Direct examination resumes.
- 10:13 am: Ms. Ryan **cross-examines** the witness.
- 10:19 am: Ms. Ryan has lodged with the court a sealed deposition transcript: Pamella Zamrlza's 8/17/2022 deposition. The court unseals the copy at this time.
- 10:20 am: Ms. Ryan reads from Pamella Zamrzla's 8/17/22 deposition transcript, page 16, line 14 onward.
- 10:22 am: Ms. Ryan refers the witness to previously-admitted exhibit, Settling Parties & Watermaster's joint exhibit, SPW 16: Declaration of Kevin Berg.
- 10:27 am: Ms. Ryan refers the witness to previously-admitted exhibit, Zamrzla's Exhibit 23.
- 10:32 am: The court breaks for the midmorning. Off the record.
- 10:47 am: Matter reconvenes on the record with all parties present as before. The witness retakes the stand. Mr. Parton **cross-examines** the witness on behalf of the Watermaster.
- 11:11 am: No questions for this witness from any counsel appearing remotely.

Mr. Kuhs **cross-examines** the witness. He directs the witness to a number of different previously-admitted exhibits.

- 11:46 am: Mr. Shepard conducts **re-direct examination**.
- 11:52 am: Mr. Shepard refers the witness to previously-admitted exhibit, Settling Parties & Watermaster's joint exhibit, SPW 62: June 9, 2018 letter from Watermaster. Re-direct continues.
- 12:00 pm: Matter is in recess for the lunch break and will reconvene at 1:30pm.
- 1:31 pm: Matter reconvenes on the record with all parties present as before (with the exception of William Sloan, who joints the session at 1:37pm, and Thomas Bunn, who joins at 1:39pm.)

The witness retakes the stand and the court reminds her that she remains

under oath. Mr. Kuhs conducts **re-cross examination** of the witness, Pamella Zamrzla.

1:32 pm: Mr. Kuhs reads from Johnny Zamrzla's 6/03/22 deposition transcript, page

237, line 18 onward.

1:40 pm: No further questions from counsel. The court questions the witness.

1:44 pm: No further questions for this witness. The witness is excused.

1:45 pm: Mr. Shepard calls his next witness, **JOHNNY LEE ZAMRZLA**, who is sworn by

the clerk. He provides his home address at the court's request. Mr. Shepard

conducts direct examination.

Exhibit(s) marked and identified on behalf of the ZAMRZLAS

Exhibit	Description	ID	Admit
#			
11	SCE Billing Records 2008-2018 - 8163 Avenue D8	3-16-23	3-16-23

2:07 pm: Ms. Ryan **cross-examines** the witness.

Exhibit(s) marked and identified on behalf of the SETTLING PARTIES & WATERMASTER (JOINT EXHIBIT)

Exhibit	Description	ID	Admit
#			
SPW 51	2014 Grant Deed, Parcel 027 (JLZ000001-4)	3-16-23	3-16-23

2:25 pm: The court's Microsoft Teams session times out and ends. The clerk restarts it

and parties slowly reconnect.

2:26 pm: Mr. Parton **cross-examines** the witness.

2:35 pm: Mr. Kuhs **cross-examines** the witness.

2:44 pm: Mr. Kuhs reads from Johnny Zamrzla's 6/03/22 deposition transcript, page

36, line 7 onward.

2:49 pm: No further questions from counsel for this witness. The court questions the

witness.

2:52 pm: No further questions for this witness. The witness is excused.

2:53 pm: Remaining witnesses and time estimates are discussed, as well as a path

forward after this hearing is over.

2:58 pm: Matter breaks for the midafternoon recess.

3:12 pm: Mr. Shepard calls his next witness, **JEANETTE ZAMRZLA**, who is sworn by

the clerk. She states her home address at the court's request. Mr. Shepard

conducts direct examination.

3:16 pm: Ms. Ryan **cross-examines** the witness.

Exhibit(s) marked and identified on behalf of the ZAMRZLAS

E	xhibit	Description	ID	Admit
	#			
	20	Declaration of Johnny Lee Zamrzla and Jeanette	3-16-23	
		Zamrzla		

3:18 pm: Mr. Kuhs **cross-examines** the witness.

3:19 pm: The court questions the witness.

3:20 pm: No further questions for this witness. The witness is excused.

Mr. Shepard asks to move certain exhibits into evidence.

Exhibit(s) marked and identified on behalf of the ZAMRZLAS

Exhibit #	Description	ID	Admit
16	Declaration of Michael McLachlan	3-16-23	3-16-23 (as stated)
17	Declaration of William V. Leever, Jr.	3-16-23	3-16-23
53	Stipulation and Order RE: Small Pumper Class Notice Issues 5/6/09	3-16-23	3-16-23
54	Groundwater Usage Analysis of Antelope Valley Groundwater Basin Small Pumper Class. 07/09/15	3-16-23	3-16-23
55	Los Angeles County Waterworks District No. 40's Notice of Motion and Motion for Legal Findings on Water Code Requirements to Report Extractions of Groundwater in Los Angeles	3-16-23	Not admitted
56	Oppositions and Joinders to Los Angeles County Waterworks District No. 40's Motion for Legal Findings on Water Code Requirements	3-16-23	Not admitted
58	Minute Order 2/14/12	3-16-23	Not admitted

The court admits Zamrzlas Exhibit 16 over counsel's objections, but will disregard the legal conclusions stated in the declaration.

3:37 pm: Mr. Shepard RESTS.

The court will take notice of all the records in this proceeding going back to 2005.

3:38 pm: Mr. Parton RESTS on behalf of the Watermaster.

The court directs questions to counsel.

3:44 pm: Mr. Parton reads aloud the definition of "small pumper class member."

3:48 pm: The court asks for closing briefs.

The court sets a briefing schedule:

--Mr. Shepard's brief due 4/14/23 by noon

--Opposition briefs are due 5/12/23 by noon. There will be separate oppositions from Settling Parties and the Watermaster.

--Reply briefs due 5/26/23 by noon. **Matter will then be deemed submitted.** 

Counsels to keep each brief, including each reply at 20 pages or less.

If parties run into problems with timing or page limits, the parties are to meet and confer.

3:56 pm: Matter adjourns.