1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10	Michael D. McLachlan, Bar No. 181705 LAW OFFICES OF MICHAEL D. McLACH 10490 Santa Monica Boulevard Los Angeles, California 90025 Phone: (310) 954-8270 Fax: (310) 954-8271 Daniel M. O'Leary, Bar No. 175128 LAW OFFICE OF DANIEL M. O'LEARY 10490 Santa Monica Boulevard Los Angeles, California 90025 Phone: (310) 481-2020 Fax: (310) 481-0049 Attorneys for Plaintiff and the Class	HLAN, APC												
12	SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA													
13	COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES													
14 15 16	Coordination Proceeding Special Title (Rule 1550(b)) ANTELOPE VALLEY GROUNDWATER CASES	Judicial Council Coordination Proceeding No. 4408 (Honorable Jack Komar)												
17 18 19 20	RICHARD A. WOOD, an individual, on behalf of himself and all others similarly situated, Plaintiff, v.	Case No.: BC 391869 SUPPLEMENTAL DECLARATION OF MICHAEL D. MCLACHLAN IN SUPPORT OF MOTION FOR APPROVAL OF AWARD OF ATTORNEY FEES AND COSTS												
21 22 23 24	LOS ANGELES COUNTY WATERWORKS DISTRICT NO. 40; et al. Defendants.	Date: January 7, 2014 Time: 10:00 a.m. Dept: Los Angeles Superior Court, Old Dept 1												
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SUPPLEMENTAL DECLARATION OF MICHAEL D. MCLACHLAN IN SUPPORT OF MOTION FOR APPROVAL OF AWARD OF ATTORNEY FEES AND COSTS

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SUPPLEMENTAL DECLARATION OF MICHAEL D. MCLACHLAN

I, Michael D. McLachlan, declare:

- 1. I make this declaration of my own personal knowledge, except where stated on information and belief, and if called to testify in Court on these matters, I could do so competently.
- 2. I am co-counsel of record of record for Plaintiff Richard Wood and the Class, and am duly licensed to practice law in California. I make this declaration in support of the Motion for Approval of Award of Attorney Fees and Costs.
- 3. I was first asked to participate in this litigation during the summer of 2007. I was later contacted by David Zlotnick in October of 2007, but due to my schedule and some other concerns, declined to participate at that time. I did give Mr. Zlotnick a number of potential names of class action attorneys to contact, and did in fact contact three on my own in an effort to help him, to no avail. I remained in sporadic contact with Mr. Zlotnick over the next six months, and he informed me in or about early May of 2008 that he had exhausted all potential contacts and was unable to find a qualified attorney willing to take on the matter.
- 4. Attached as Exhibit 4 is a true and correct copy of the relevant portions of the hearing transcript of December 18, 2007.
- 5. The inherent problems with the inability to recover expert costs, and hence the inability retain work product experts, has been extremely challenging. So much so that unless and until the law changes in this regard, I would never take this sort of case again. Being put in the profoundly anxiety provoking and stressful position of being ever on the verge of non-self-induced malpractice, on the one hand, and being forced to donate large sums of unrecoverable case costs to a lawsuit of serious risk, is not a situation I would wish on anyone.
- 6. On a particle day-to-day level, not having access to an expert for five years on a case of this technical nature, made it extremely challenging to litigate. If I did not have more than 20 years' experience working with hydrologists, hydrogeologists, and

engineers, as well as my own science background, it would have been impossible to adequately represent the Class.

- 7. In the early phase of my involvement in this litigation, I conducted a nationwide survey of cases, as well as an internet search, in order to determine whether a class action
- 8. The example of purportedly excessive legal research D40 attempts to reference in September of 2011 (Opp. 10:1-4), involved in fact absolutely no legal research. D40 overstates the quantity of work at 21.9 hours, and also mistakes what is entirely technical research on numerous water use issues impacting the Class, and directly relevant to the then-ongoing but settlement discussions as well as the substance of the overall litigation. While a portion of this work might have been done by an expert witness, D40 did its level best to stop any expert work until December of 2012. I will also note that I did use a paralegal where appropriate on this task (see September 7, 2011, 3.8 hours).
- 9. I am not shy in using paralegal where the work to be performed is properly paralegal work. As can be seen by the billing records, we used nearly 500 hours of paralegal time on this case. Like most contingent lawyers, I use sound judgment in deploying my staffing resources, as well as my own time. The division of labor in my office, which at all relevant times has also included Mr. O'Leary's office, is one lawyer (two if you include Mr. O'Leary), paralegals, and administrative staff.
- 10. D40 questions my review and summary of the deposition transcripts of its key defense experts prior to the Phase Three Trial. This is standard practice for me in preparing for trial, although I typically do this only for the more important witnesses, as was the case here. And, much of this work involved preparing my examination outlines for the witnesses in question. It should also be noted that I did not attend the depositions of several of these witnesses, so my analysis and review of their transcripts was necessary in any event. Similarly, D40 criticizes me for having spent almost 70 hours reviewing and analyzing the incredible mass of data and reports generated by the parties and

experts. Again, all of this work in November of 2011 was necessary in preparation for the Phase 3 Trial. Some of this work might have been performed by an expert witness (perhaps only a small portion), but D40 insisted that we litigate without such an expert. Given the choice lay down and do nothing in the face of these obstacles, or to zealously pursue the interests of my client and Class, I chose the latter, as would have any responsible attorney.

- 11. All but one of the remaining time entries D40 questions, totaling approximately 32 hours, was all directly related to the Phase 3 and Phase 4 trials. It is unknown exactly how much discovery material was produced and generated in those years, but it was many thousands of pages (and I believe well over 10,000 pages). It would have been impossible to litigate this case without reviewing some of these materials, and it is frankly surprising to me that I did not spend much more time doing so (I am certain that I did not record a good bit of my time spent in this regard, but I have now surrendered that time).
- 12. The one other entry D40 challenges, on June 11, 2010, related to the data generated by class member survey, as well as the nearly 700 responses to the class questionnaire. This work related to primarily two things: the identification of non-class members and an assessment of the data that class members could provide regarding their water use. This was all property attorney work. As the Court can see in the time entries during the summer of 2010, I left nearly all of the paralegal-type work on these projects to paralegals, as is reflected in the large amounts of paralegal time.
- 13. What is also of note is that D40 does not cite to a single instance of block billing, or duplicative billing by either Class Counsel.
- 14. Attached hereto as Exhibit 5 is a true and correct copy of San Francisco Daily Journal Article published on August 12, 2012 summarizing the Valeo 2012 Halftime Report, as survey of legal billing rates conducted by Valeo Partners, LLC. This survey shows the average partner and associate billing rates in Los Angeles are \$797 and \$550 respectively, and in San Francisco, \$750 and \$495, respectively.

	15.	Attached as Exhibit 6 are several Westlaw CourtExpress Legal Billing
Repor	ts for n	nany California attorneys in 2009. These rates support a market rate above
the ne	gotiate	d rate of \$550.

- 16. Attached as Exhibit 7 is ALM's Daily Report dated February 22, 2011 of for many California attorneys. These rates support a market rate above the negotiated rate of \$550.
- 17. The following are some rates that have been found reasonable by Courts in California: *Charlebois v. Angels Baseball LP* (C.D.Cal. May 30, 2012) 2012 U.S.Dist. LEXIS 91069 [disability access class action; 22 years of experience, \$630 for 2012]; *Molina, et al. v. Lexmark Inter'l*, LASC Case No. BC 339177 [class action for vacation pay; 17 years, \$600, and 20 years, \$550 for 2012]; *Stonebrae v. Toll Bros.* (N.D.Cal. 2011) 2011 U.S.Dist. LEXIS 39832 [commercial action; 18 years, \$515 in 2010]; *Wren v. RGIS Inventory Specialists* (N.D.Cal. 2011) 2011 U.S.Dist LEXIS 38667 [class action; 17 years, \$650 in 2010]; *Anderson v. Nextel Retail Stores, LLC* (C.D.Cal. 2010) U.S.Dist. LEXIS 71598 [wage and hour; 14 years, \$655 in 2010].
- 18. Attached as Exhibit 8 is a true and correct copy of a 2010 Order in the Central District of California awarding a Los Angeles attorney (Douglas Silverstein), with 15 years of experience, an hourly rate of \$700 in a wage and hour class action.
- 19. In the event it is of relevance to the Court, attached as Exhibit 9 is a true and correct copy of the allocation table used by the Settling Defendants to set the payment percentages in the Settlement Agreement. This table is based upon relative groundwater production by the various public water suppliers during the period of 2000-2006. The numbers found in this table come from the Summary Expert Report, discovery documents, and data produced by the water suppliers in this litigation.

1	I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the
2	foregoing is true and correct. Executed this 1st day of January, 2014, at Los Angeles,
3	California.
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6	Michael D. McLachlan
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LOS ANGELES, CA; TUESDAY, DECEMBER 18, 2007; 9:00 A.M. 1 2. DEPARTMENT NO. 1 HON. JACK KOMAR, JUDGE CASE NO.: SANTA CLARA CASE NO. 1-05-CV-049053 3 CASE NAME: ANTELOPE VALLEY GROUNDWATER CASES 5 APPEARANCES: (AS NOTED ON TITLE PAGE) 6 7 (CHARLOTTE NICHOLAS MOHAMED, CSR #2384) 8 ---0---9 THE COURT: GOOD MORNING. IN THE ANTELOPE VALLEY MATTERS, THIS IS THE TIME 10 SET FOR HEARING ON THE MOTION TO AMEND AND TO CERTIFY A CLASS. 11 IT IS ALSO HERE FOR A STATUS CONFERENCE AND A CASE MANAGEMENT 12 13 CONFERENCE. 14 I THINK WE HAVE A LARGE NUMBER OF PEOPLE ON THE 15 TELEPHONE, AND SEVERAL COUNSEL ARE HERE. I THINK WHAT WE WILL DO FIRST IS GET APPEARANCES FROM THOSE WHO ARE HERE. AND I'D 16 REMIND EACH OF YOU WHO ARE HERE AND ON THE TELEPHONE, WHEN YOU 17 18 SPEAK, PLEASE IDENTIFY YOURSELF EACH TIME FOR THE BENEFIT OF 19 THE COURT REPORTER. 20 ALL RIGHT. SO LET'S HAVE COUNSEL WHO ARE 21 PRESENT. 22 MR. DOUGHERTY: GOOD MORNING, YOUR HONOR. 23 ROBERT DOUGHERTY FOR ANTELOPE VALLEY UNITED 24 MUTUAL GROUP. 25 MR. WEINSTOCK: GOOD MORNING, YOUR HONOR. 26 HENRY WEINSTOCK FOR TEJON RANCH.

MR. LEMIEUX: GOOD MORNING, YOUR HONOR.

WAYNE LEMIEUX, SPECIAL APPEARANCE FOR THE

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- 1 ANTELOPE VALLEY STATE WATER CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATES.
- 2 MY SON KEITH WILL BE HERE IN A MOMENT. HE IS IN
- 3 ANOTHER DEPARTMENT APPEARING ON BEHALF OF LITTLEROCK CREEK
- 4 IRRIGATION DISTRICT AND SEVERAL OTHERS FOR WHICH HE HAS
- 5 APPEARED IN THE PAST.
- 6 MR. EVERTZ: GOOD MORNING, YOUR HONOR.
- 7 DOUG EVERTZ FOR THE CITY OF LANCASTER.
- 8 MS. GOLDSMITH: GOOD MORNING, YOUR HONOR.
- 9 JANET GOLDSMITH FOR THE CITY OF LOS ANGELES.
- MR. MARKMAN: GOOD MORNING, YOUR HONOR.
- 11 JAMES MARKMAN FOR THE CITY OF PALMDALE.
- MR. BUNN: GOOD MORNING, YOUR HONOR.
- 13 THOMAS BUNN FOR PALMDALE WATER DISTRICT AND
- 14 QUARTZ HILL WATER DISTRICT.
- MR. DAVIS: GOOD MORNING, YOUR HONOR.
- 16 MICHAEL DAVIS, MARLENE ALLEN-HAMMARLUND, AND TINA
- 17 BRISTER OF GRESHAM SAVAGE NOLAN AND TILDEN FOR SERVICE ROCK
- PRODUCTS, FOR HEALY ENTERPRISES, AND FOR SHEEP CREEK WATER
- 19 COMPANY.
- MR. TOOTLE: GOOD MORNING, YOUR HONOR.
- 21 JOHN TOOTLE FOR CALIFORNIA WATER SERVICE COMPANY.
- MR. ZLOTNICK: GOOD MORNING, YOUR HONOR.
- 23 DAVID ZLOTNICK FOR PLAINTIFF WILLIS.
- MR. BRUNICK: BILL BRUNICK FOR ANTELOPE VALLEY EAST KERN
- 25 WATER AGENCY.
- MR. PFAEFFLE: GOOD MORNING.
- FRED PFAEFFLE, L.A. COUNTY WATER WORKS DISTRICT
- 28 40.

- 1 MR. DUNN: GOOD MORNING, YOUR HONOR.
- 2 JEFFREY DUNN FOR L.A. COUNTY WATER WORKS DISTRICT
- 3 NUMBER 40 AND ROSAMOND COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT.
- 4 MR. FIFE: GOOD MORNING, YOUR HONOR.
- 5 MICHAEL FIFE, ANTELOPE VALLEY GROUNDWATER
- 6 AGREEMENT ASSOCIATION.
- 7 THE COURT: ALL RIGHT. LET'S HAVE TELEPHONIC
- 8 APPEARANCES, PLEASE.
- 9 MR. CROW: GOOD MORNING, YOUR HONOR.
- 10 MICHAEL CROW FOR THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA.
- MR. BLUM: GOOD MORNING, YOUR HONOR.
- 12 SHELDON BLUM ON BEHALF OF THE SHELDON R. BLUM
- 13 TRUST.
- MR. KIEL: GOOD MORNING, YOUR HONOR.
- 15 PETER KIEL FOR [INTELLIGIBLE]
- 16 [SUBSEQUENT STATED TELEPHONE APPEARANCES UNINTELLIGIBLE]
- 17 THE COURT: OKAY. NOW I WANT EVERYBODY TO STOP FOR A
- MOMENT. WE MISSED A COUPLE. ACCORDING TO THE REPORTER WE
- 19 MISSED ALOT OF YOU.
- 20 SO I'M GOING TO ASK TELEPHONIC TO START OVER
- 21 AGAIN, SPEAK SLOWLY, AND SPELL YOUR LAST NAME.
- 22 MR. CROW: MICHAEL CROW, C-R-O-W, FOR THE STATE OF
- 23 CALIFORNIA.
- 24 MR. BLUM: SHELDON BLUM FOR SHELDON R. BLUM TRUST,
- 25 B-L-U-M.
- 26 MR. KIEL: PETER KIEL, K-I-E-L, FOR COUNTY SANITATION
- 27 DISTRICTS.
- 28 MR. HERREMA: BRAD HERREMA, H-E-R-R-E-M-A, FOR ANTELOPE

1	VALLEY GROUNDWATER AGREEMENT ASSOCIATION.
2	MR. FATES: TED FATES, F-A-T-E-S, FOR DEL SUR RANCH LLC.
3	MR. LEININGER: THIS IS LEE LEININGER FOR THE UNITED
4	STATES, SPELLED L-E-I-N-I-N-G-E-R.
5	THE COURT: ALL RIGHT. ANY OTHERS?
6	MR. SANDERS: CHRIS SANDERS, S-A-N-D-E-R-S.
7	THE COURT: ALL RIGHT. ANY OTHERS ON THE TELEPHONE?
8	MR. ZIMMER: YES, YOUR HONOR.
9	RICHARD ZIMMER, Z-I-M-M-E-R, FOR BOLTHOUSE
10	PROPERTIES AND WILLIAM BOLTHOUSE FARMS.
11	MR. MELIN: AND, YOUR HONOR, THIS A FELIPE MELIN
12	REPRESENTING COPA DE ORO.
13	THE COURT: SPELL YOUR LAST NAME, COUNSEL.
14	MR. MELIN: M-E-L-I-N.
15	THE COURT: ANY OTHERS?
16	[NO AUDIBLE RESPONSE]
17	THE COURT: ALL RIGHT. WE HAVE SEVERAL MATTERS NOW TO
18	TALK ABOUT AND WE ARE GOING TO START WITH MR. ZLOTNICK,
19	REPRESENTING MISS WILLIS.
20	MR. ZLOTNICK: GOOD MORNING, YOUR HONOR
21	THE COURT: GOOD MORNING.
22	I RECEIVED ESSENTIALLY A STATUS STATEMENT FROM
23	YOU BUT IT WAS NOT CLEAR TO ME WHAT YOU INTENDED TO DO.
24	MR. ZLOTNICK: YOUR HONOR, AS THE COURT IS AWARE, I
25	MEAN, AT THIS POINT, YOUR HONOR DID CERTIFY A CLASS AND MISS
26	WILLIS AS A REPRESENTATIVE FOR THE NON-PUMPING GROUP.
27	AT THIS POINT, DESPITE GOOD FAITH EFFORTS AND
28	OBVIOUSLY I HAD HOPED AND EXPECTED WE WOULD BE BEYOND THIS

1	STAGE BUT WE STILL DON'T HAVE EITHER A PROPOSED REPRESENTATIVE
2	OR DEFINITIVE AGREEMENT FROM COUNSEL TO REPRESENT THE GROUP OF
3	PUMPERS, SMALL PUMPERS.
4	SO I HAVE BEEN TALKING TO PEOPLE, WITHOUT TRYING
5	TO TWIST ARMS, TRYING TO USE MY PERSUASIVE EFFORTS, AND YET WE
6	HAVEN'T MADE ANY PROGRESS IN REALITY OR AT LEAST, YOU KNOW,
7	NONE THAT HAS REACHED THAT STAGE WHERE I CAN SAY THAT THERE
8	IS THAT WE HAVE A REPRESENTATIVE AND/OR COUNSEL.
9	SO ONE OF THE ISSUES AND THIS HAS BEEN A
10	STUMBLING BLOCK AND A CONCERN OF MR. MC LACHLAN WHO HAD
11	EARLIER INDICATED THAT HE WAS INTERESTED IN PROCEEDING AS
12	COUNSEL ONE OF THE ISSUES THAT HE HAS IS THAT HE HAS A
13	SMALL OFFICE AND IT IS HIS CONCERN THAT HE WOULD BE INUNDATED
14	WITH TELEPHONE CALLS FROM CLASS MEMBERS, AND THAT WOULD BE A
15	PROBLEM FOR HIM TO HANDLE THAT, GIVEN THE PRIOR EXPERIENCES
16	THAT HE HAS DEALING WITH SIMILAR TYPES OF CLASSES.
17	I'VE TRIED TO DISCUSS THAT WITH THEM AND COME UP
18	WITH WAYS THAT MIGHT AMELIORATE THAT PROBLEM. ONE
19	POSSIBILITY IS OBVIOUSLY IF WE WERE ABLE TO DEFER SENDING
20	NOTICE, FOR SOME PERIOD OF TIME AT LEAST, THAT WOULD OBVIOUSLY
21	ELIMINATE THAT CONCERN. HE WOULDN'T BE GETTING HUNDREDS OF,
22	WHATEVER, CALLS FROM PEOPLE. HE MAY GET A FEW BECAUSE OF
23	REPORTS FROM THE PRESS, BUT NOTHING VERY SIGNIFICANT.
24	I DID BROACH THAT IDEA WITH MR. DUNN WHO, WITHOUT
25	COMMITTING HIS CLIENT, CERTAINLY FELT THAT HIS CLIENT WOULD
26	RATHER SEND ONE NOTICE AT THE END, YOU KNOW, LATER ON IN THE
27	CASE, IF POSSIBLE, YOU KNOW, IN THE CONTEXT OF THE SETTLEMENT
28	RATHER THAN HAVE TO GO THROUGH THE EXPENSE TWICE. SO THAT IS

1	ONE POSSIBILITY.
2	I HAVE CALLS OUT THERE. SOMEBODY COULD CALL ME
3	TOMORROW AND SAY THEY ARE HAPPY TO STEP FORWARD. I'VE BEEN
4	SPEAKING TO PEOPLE AND ENCOUNTERED PEOPLE WHO INDICATED
5	INTEREST BEFORE, YOU KNOW, TURNS OUT HAVE ONE PROBLEM OR
6	ANOTHER WHEN PUSH COMES TO SHOVE.
7	SO I'M IN AN AWKWARD POSITION BECAUSE I'M NOT
8	I CAN'T REPRESENT THEM. I AM REPRESENTING THE OTHER SUB
9	CLASS. AND I CAN'T EVEN PROMISE THEM AT THIS POINT WHO WOULD
10	BE REPRESENTING THEM.
11	SO IT HAS BEEN A FRUSTRATING PROCESS, AND I'M
12	SORRY BUT WE HAVE MADE NO REAL PROGRESS.
13	THE COURT: IN TERMS OF THE NON-PUMPING CLASS, AT THIS
14	POINT, AT THIS EARLY STAGE OF THESE PROCEEDINGS, IS THEIR
15	INTEREST DIFFERENT THAN THE SMALL PUMPER WHO MAY HAVE A WELL
16	IN THE BACKYARD OR ON THE ACRE OR TWO THAT IS OWNED BY THE
17	PARTY, SUCH THAT THERE IS A CONFLICT THAT WOULD PRECLUDE THIS
18	CASE PROCEEDING WITH THE CLASS CERTIFIED?
19	I'M LOOKING FOR A WAY TO MOVE THIS CASE ALONG TO
20	AVOID FURTHER DELAYS AND TO GET INTO SOME OF THE SUBSTANTIVE
21	ISSUES WHICH WE CANNOT DO
22	MR. ZLOTNICK: RIGHT.
23	THE COURT: UNLESS THE COURT HAS JURISDICTION OVER
24	ALL THE PARTIES.
25	MR. ZLOTNICK: I UNDERSTAND, YOUR HONOR.
26	WELL, I WILL I MEAN, I THINK TO ANSWER YOUR
27	HONOR'S QUESTION, AT THIS STAGE I DON'T THINK THERE IS A
28	CONFLICT. I THINK WHEN YOU GET TO THE SELF-HELP ISSUE THEN

- 1 THERE IS A POTENTIAL CONFLICT YOU HAVE OF TRYING TO NEGOTIATE
- 2 A SETTLEMENT. IN THAT CONTEXT THERE IS A CONFLICT.
- 3 I THINK IF THERE WERE -- IF IT WERE STRUCTURED SO
- 4 THAT THERE WERE ONE CLASS AND MY OFFICE WAS APPOINTED AS LEAD
- 5 CLASS COUNSEL, AND THE CALLS WERE DIRECTED TO US, THAT
- 6 MR. MC LACHLAN WAS SORT OF SUB-CLASS COUNSEL FOR THE OTHER
- 7 PUMPING GROUP, THAT MIGHT BE ANOTHER WAY TO SOLVE THAT
- 8 PROBLEM. AND WE WOULD BE GETTING THE CALLS BUT DIRECT THE
- 9 CALLS FROM THE PUMPERS ONTO HIM TO THE EXTENT NECESSARY. I
- 10 MEAN, WE WOULD RESOLVE WHATEVER QUESTIONS WE COULD. SO THAT
- 11 MIGHT BE ANOTHER WAY TO SOLVE THE PROBLEM.
- 12 BECAUSE I DON'T THINK AT PRESENT, OTHER THAN THE
- 13 FACT OF IN THE SETTLEMENT CONTEXT -- AND QUITE FRANKLY, GIVEN
- 14 THE PRESENCE OF A NUMBER OF OTHER COUNSEL, VERY EXPERIENCED
- 15 AND CAPABLE COUNSEL -- MR. FIFE, MR. ZIMMER, MR. JOYCE --
- 16 REPRESENTING THE PUMPING GROUP, I'M NOT CONCERNED THAT THEIR
- 17 INTERESTS AS A GROUP ARE GOING TO GO UNREPRESENTED.
- 18 THE COURT: WELL, THE IMPORTANT OBLIGATION WE ALL HAVE
- 19 IS TO ENSURE THAT EVERY PARTY'S RIGHTS ARE PROTECTED AND THAT
- 20 DUE PROCESS IS PROVIDED TO THEM.
- 21 I WOULD BE INTERESTED IN HEARING FROM OTHER
- 22 COUNSEL CONCERNING THE SUGGESTION, THE QUESTION THAT I JUST
- 23 ASKED.
- MR. DOUGHERTY: YOUR HONOR, ROBERT DOUGHERTY.
- THE COURT: MR. DOUGHERTY, WHY DON'T YOU SPEAK BY
- 26 STEPPING UP TO THE PODIUM, PLEASE.
- MR. DOUGHERTY: ROBERT DOUGHERTY.
- 28 YOUR HONOR, ON THE ISSUE OF THE POTENTIAL

- 1 CONFLICT, I UNDERSTAND THAT THERE ARE SOME PUMPERS THAT MAY
- TAKE THE POSITION THAT THE NONPUMPERS DO NOT HAVE ANY WATER
- 3 RIGHTS. AND FOR THAT REASON ALONE I THINK IT WOULD BE A
- 4 CONFLICT OR A POTENTIAL CONFLICT.
- 5 THE COURT: WELL, THAT WOULD ARISE CERTAINLY AT A LATER
- 6 STAGE IN THE PROCEEDINGS, WOULDN'T IT?
- 7 MR. DOUGHERTY: I DON'T KNOW THAT IT WOULD.
- 8 THE COURT: IN THE FIRST INSTANCE, WHETHER ONE PARTY
- 9 DISPUTES ANOTHER PARTY'S RIGHTS TO PUMP OR TO HAVE A CLAIM OF
- 10 A RIGHT TO WATER, IT SEEMS ME IS NOT GOING TO ARISE UNTIL SUCH
- 11 TIME AS THE COURT HAS DETERMINED FIRST OF ALL THAT THERE IS A
- 12 CLAIM THAT IS SUPPORTABLE FOR PRESCRIPTIVE RIGHTS.
- 13 MR. DOUGHERTY: THAT IS POSSIBLE, YOUR HONOR. I FIGURE
- 14 IF THERE IS GOING TO BE A CONFLICT AT ANY STAGE OF THE
- 15 PROCEEDINGS, IT OUGHT TO BE RECOGNIZED AND AVOIDED AS SOON AS
- 16 POSSIBLE.
- 17 THE COURT: I AGREE WITH THAT PRINCIPLE, BUT THE
- 18 OUESTION THAT I HAVE IS WHETHER OR NOT WE CAN PHASE THE
- 19 SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES IN SUCH A WAY THAT THE CONFLICT DOESN'T
- 20 ARISE UNTIL LATER AND WE CAN DEAL WITH PROTECTING THOSE RIGHTS
- 21 OF OTHERS AT THAT TIME.
- 22 OF COURSE THE OTHER POSSIBILITY IS THAT IF THE
- 23 NOTICE IS SENT OUT AND A PARTY WISHES TO ASSERT THAT THEY ARE
- 24 NOT A MEMBER OF THE CLASS OR THAT THEIR INTERESTS DIVERGE,
- 25 THEY CAN CERTAINLY OPT OUT OF THE CLASS. AND THEN THEY ARE IN
- A DIFFERENT POSITION, AREN'T THEY?
- 27 MR. DOUGHERTY: YES, YOUR HONOR. BUT IN THE IDEAL
- 28 WORLD YOU JUST WONDER HOW MANY OF THESE FOLKS DO GET SERVED.

- 1 UNLESS THEY DO CONTACT AN ATTORNEY, THEY ARE REALLY NOT GOING TO KNOW WHAT IS GOING ON HERE. AND I THINK OUR EXPERIENCE UP IN SANTA MARIA 3 SHOWS THAT YOU CAN SERVE A WHOLE BUNCH OF PEOPLE AND THEY JUST 5 SIT THERE. 6 AND THAT IS ALL I HAVE TO SAY. 7 THE COURT: ALL RIGHT. ALL RIGHT. MR. FIFE? Я 9 MR. FIFE: MICHAEL FIFE. YOUR HONOR, THERE IS A CURRENT CONFLICT, IT IS 10 11 NOT SOMETHING THAT IS IN THE FUTURE. IN THE ANTELOPE VALLEY THERE IS A STRANGE DYNAMIC WITHIN THE LANDOWNERS THAT YOU 12 13 DIDN'T ENCOUNTER IN SANTA MARIA AND THAT REALLY HASN'T BEEN AT 14 THE FOREFRONT IN PAST ADJUDICATIONS, AND THAT IS THAT THE 15 DORMANT OVERLYERS, THAT IS THE NON-PUMPING LANDOWNERS, ARE SO NUMEROUS AND MAKE UP SUCH A LARGE PART OF THE VALLEY, THAT THE 16 PUMPERS ARE ACTUALLY MORE ADVERSE TO THEM THAN THEY ARE TO THE 17 18 PURVEYORS. 19 THE THREAT OF CORRELATIVE RIGHTS, THE THREAT THAT 20 THOSE NONPUMPERS WOULD BEGIN TO PUMP AND THAT THE CURRENT 21 PUMPERS' RIGHTS WOULD BE DIMINISHED PROPORTIONATELY IS A MUCH 22 BIGGER THREAT TO THE PUMPING LANDOWNERS THAN IS THE THREAT OF 23 PRESCRIPTION. 24 THE WHOLE USE OF PRESCRIPTION HERE, BECAUSE OF
- THE WHOLE USE OF PRESCRIPTION HERE, BECAUSE OF

 THAT DYNAMIC, WE SORT OF GET INTO A STRANGE REVERSAL FROM WHAT

 WE HAVE ENCOUNTERED IN PAST ADJUDICATIONS WHERE THE PUMPERS IN

 THE ANTELOPE VALLEY LEGALLY MAY PREFER TO BE PRESCRIBED

 AGAINST SO THAT THEIR RIGHTS ARE DEFINED THROUGH SELF HELP.

- 1 THE NONPUMPERS DON'T FACE THAT. IF THEY ARE PRESCRIBED
- 2 AGAINST, THEY'LL GET NOTHING. AND SO THEY ARE INCLINED, FROM
- 3 THE FIRST MOMENT, TO FIGHT AGAINST PRESCRIPTION. WHEREAS THE
- 4 PUMPERS MAY ACTUALLY BE IN FAVOR OF BEING PRESCRIBED AGAINST.
- 5 AND SO THAT TRACES BACK THEN TO THE STAGE OF THE
- 6 ADJUDICATION RIGHT NOW. AS WE MOVE INTO THE NEXT PHASE,
- 7 ANYTHING THAT HAPPENS IN THIS COURTROOM THAT MOVES US TOWARDS
- 8 THE PRESCRIPTIVE RIGHTS PORTION OF THE CASE, WHETHER THAT IS
- 9 THE NEXT PHASE OR THE PHASE AFTER THE NEXT PHASE, THOSE TWO
- 10 INTERESTS WILL DIVERGE. THAT IS THE CONFLICT IN FRONT OF THE
- 11 COURT RIGHT NOW.
- 12 BUT THEN THERE IS ALSO THE ISSUE OF SETTLEMENT
- 13 NEGOTIATIONS. WE ARE CONDUCTING SETTLEMENT NEGOTIATIONS. THE
- 14 PUMPERS WILL GO INTO THE SETTLEMENT NEGOTIATIONS. AND I THINK
- 15 I CAN REVEAL MY POSITION; WON'T SAY ANYTHING ABOUT OTHERS. MY
- 16 POSITION GOING IN IS THAT THE NONPUMPERS GET ZERO. IF I HAVE
- 17 NONPUMPERS IN MY GROUP, I'LL BE ACTING ADVERSE TO THEM.
- 18 I REALLY DON'T SEE HOW MR. ZLOTNICK CAN GO INTO
- 19 THE SETTLEMENT NEGOTIATIONS AND SPEAK ON BEHALF OF HIS
- 20 CLIENTS, THE NONPUMPERS AND THE PUMPERS AT THE SAME TIME.
- 21 BECAUSE FOR THE PUMPERS, HE'LL HAVE TO SAY THAT THE NONPUMPERS
- 22 GET ZERO; FOR THE NONPUMPERS HE'LL HAVE TO SAY THEY GET
- 23 SOMETHING. THEY CAN'T BE RECONCILED.
- 24 THE COURT: EXPLAIN TO ME WHY YOU WOULD BE INTERESTED
- 25 IN HAVING PRESCRIPTION RUN AGAINST YOU?
- 26 MR. FIFE: IF WE ARE PRESCRIBED AGAINST, THEN OUR WATER
- 27 RIGHTS ARE DEFINED BY SELF HELP. AND THAT MEANS THAT OUR
- 28 WATER RIGHTS ARE DEFINED IN TERMS OF OUR HISTORICAL

- 1 PRODUCTION.
- THE COURT: WELL, NOT NECESSARILY SO. YOU MAY ALSO
- 3 FIND YOUR RIGHTS ARE DIMINISHED.
- 4 MR. FIFE: THEY MAY BE DIMINISHED BUT THE POTENTIAL OF
- 5 DIMINISHMENT IS MUCH GREATER IF WE HAVE TO SHARE THE SAFE
- 6 YIELD OF THE BASIN CORRELATIVELY WITH THE THOUSANDS AND
- 7 THOUSANDS OF DORMANT OVERLYERS, EACH OF WHOM COULD PUT AN
- 8 ALFAFA FARM ON THEIR PROPERTY.
- 9 THE COURT: WELL, IT OBVIOUSLY WILL BE DETERMINED BY
- 10 WHETHER OR NOT THE DORMANT OVERLYERS HAVE ANY RIGHTS LEFT AT
- 11 ALL, BASED UPON PRESCRIPTION, SINCE THAT IS AN ISSUE THAT HAS
- 12 TO BE DETERMINED.
- MR. FIFE: EXACTLY.
- 14 THE COURT: BUT LET'S BACK UP JUST A LITTLE BIT.
- 15 IS IT NOT TRUE THAT THE CONFIGURATION OF THE
- 16 VALLEY AND THE HYDROGEOLOGICAL ASPECTS OF THE VALLEY ARE
- 17 ISSUES ABOUT WHICH THERE IS NOT LIKELY TO BE A CONFLICT; THAT
- 18 THAT IS A DETERMINATION, HOWEVER IT TURNS OUT, THAT THE COURT
- 19 IS GOING TO HAVE TO MAKE THAT IS GOING TO IMPACT ALL PARTIES
- 20 EQUALLY?
- 21 MR. FIFE: NOT NECESSARILY. FOR EXAMPLE, THE QUESTION
- 22 OF SUB-BASINS. AND JUST USING THE ANALOGY OF SANTA MARIA
- 23 AGAIN. THERE WAS THE ISSUE OF SUB-BASINS IN SANTA MARIA.
- 24 YOU CAN ARGUE HYDROGEOLOGICALLY THAT THERE ARE
- 25 SUB-BASINS, BUT YOU CAN ARGUE JUST AS VALIDLY FROM A
- 26 MANAGEMENT PERSPECTIVE THAT A BASIN SHOULD BE TREATED AS ONE
- 27 BASIN. AND IT CAN HAVE -- IT CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE WHEN YOU
- 28 ARE TALKING ABOUT PRESCRIPTION AND THE OVERALL WATER BALANCE,

- 1 WHETHER YOU ARE DOING MULTIPLE SUB-BASIN WATER BALANCES OR A
- 2 BASIN-WIDE WATER BALANCE. AND THAT'S THE REASON IT WAS AN
- 3 ISSUE IN SANTA MARIA, IT WAS BECAUSE IT WAS EASIER TO SHOW.
- 4 THE COURT: WELL, MR. FIFE, SHOULD WE JUST DISMISS ALL
- 5 THE COMPLAINTS AND CROSS-COMPLAINTS AND SAY THAT THIS CASE IS
- 6 AT AN END BECAUSE THE COURT CAN'T ADJUDICATE IT? IS THAT WHAT
- 7 WE SHOULD DO?
- 8 MR. FIFE: WELL, SINCE MY CLIENTS ARE DEFENDANTS AND
- 9 ARE PAYING A GREAT DEAL OF MONEY TO TRY TO DEFEND THEIR
- 10 PROPERTY RIGHTS, WE WOULDN'T MIND THAT.
- 11 THE COURT: HOW DO YOU THINK THAT WOULD BENEFIT YOUR
- 12 CLIENTS?
- 13 MR. FIFE: WELL, MY CLIENTS HAVE BEEN PUMPING FROM THE
- 14 ANTELOPE VALLEY FOR THREE GENERATIONS AND THE WATER LEVELS
- 15 HAVE GONE UP AND DOWN OVER THE COURSE OF THOSE GENERATIONS.
- 16 AND FOR THE LAST TEN YEARS THEY HAVE BEEN FAIRLY STABLE.
- 17 BUT WE HAVEN'T SUGGESTED THAT. AND WE HAVEN'T --
- 18 WE DON'T THINK THAT -- WE THINK THE CASE CAN MOVE FORWARD.
- 19 THERE ARE MANY AVENUES TO MOVE IT FORWARD. WE HAVE TRIED TO
- 20 ARTICULATE SOME OF THOSE IN OUR PAPERS THAT WE FILED.
- 21 THE COURT: WELL, GIVE ME AN EXAMPLE OF HOW THIS CASE
- 22 CAN MOVE FORWARD WITHOUT HAVING JURISDICTION OVER ALL THE
- 23 PEOPLE WHO HAVE ANY CLAIM AT ALL TO WATER RIGHTS IN THIS
- VALLEY.
- 25 MR. FIFE: THE L.A. COUNTY CAN VERY EASILY PRODUCE THE
- 26 NAMES AND ADDRESSES OF EVERYONE IN THE VALLEY. THEY CAN -- WE
- 27 CAN CERTIFY A CLASS FOR NONPUMPERS. AND ANYONE WHO CHECKS
- 28 THAT BOX ON THE FORM THAT SAYS THAT THEY PUMP WATER SHOULD BE

- 1 INDIVIDUALLY NAMED AND SERVED. THAT IS ONE WAY TO DO IT.
- THE COURT: OKAY. NOW THE COURT HAS PREVIOUSLY
- 3 CERTIFIED A CLASS OF NONPUMPERS; IS THAT TRUE?
- 4 MR. FIFE: UH-HUH.
- 5 THE COURT: I'VE MADE AN ORDER. I HAVEN'T SEEN THE
- 6 ACTUAL DESCRIPTION OF THE CLASS, BUT I THINK IT IS PRETTY
- 7 CLEAR WHAT IT IS.
- 8 MR. FIFE: AND I'VE GOTTEN CONFUSED BY THE STATE OF THE
- 9 PLEADINGS BECAUSE WE SEEM TO GO BACK AND FORTH. THE LAST I
- 10 CHECKED, MR. ZLOTNICK WAS ACTUALLY GOING TO FILE A MOTION.
- 11 THE COURT: WELL, HIS MOTION, THOUGH, IS GOING TO
- 12 ENCOMPASS THE CLASS OF SMALL PUMPERS.
- MR. FIFE: OKAY.
- 14 THE COURT: BUT WHAT I WOULD LIKE TO SEE HAPPEN HERE IS
- 15 COUNSEL, AT LEAST COUNSEL WHO ARE CURRENTLY INVOLVED IN THE
- 16 CASE, TO COME TO SOME AGREEMENT AS TO HOW WE CAN PROCEED.
- 17 BECAUSE I WOULD LIKE TO SET THIS MATTER FOR PHASING THE TRIAL
- 18 AND I WOULD LIKE TO DO THAT WITH SOME REASONABLE CERTAINTY,
- 19 THAT WE CAN ACCOMPLISH IT. BUT I CAN'T DO THAT UNLESS WE HAVE
- 20 SOME AGREEMENT AS TO THE JURISDICTIONAL BASIS FOR EACH OF THE
- 21 PARTIES WHO ARE CURRENTLY BEFORE THE COURT AS WELL AS THE
- 22 CLASS OF DORMANT PUMPERS.
- 23 MR. FIFE: AND WE HAVE -- WE WANT THAT ALSO, YOUR
- 24 HONOR. AND WE HAVE NO OBJECTION TO THE CLASS OF NONPUMPERS.
- 25 WE REALLY, PROPERLY CONFIGURED, WOULD HAVE NO OBJECTION TO A
- 26 CLASS OF PUMPERS. WE, IN FACT, VOLUNTEERED TO REPRESENT THEM.
- 27 AND I RAISE THAT IN THE PAPERS.
- 28 YOU KNOW, A VERY SIMPLE WAY OF DOING THIS WHOLE

- 1 THING WOULD BE TO CERTIFY MR. ZLOTNICK'S CLASS FOR NONPUMPERS.
- 2 YOU COULD CERTIFY A CLASS FOR PUMPERS. PUT ALL THE PUMPERS
- 3 INTO ONE CLASS. OUR GROUP WILL REPRESENT THEM. AND THE
- 4 PURVEYORS CAN PAY THE BILL.
- 5 IT'S FUNNY BUT THERE IS PRECEDENCE FOR IT. IT IS
- 6 DONE IN OTHER ADJUDICATIONS.
- 7 THE COURT: I WOULD FAIL TO SEE THE HUMOR.
- 8 MR. FIFE: I'M SERIOUS THOUGH.
- 9 THE COURT: MY SENSE IS THAT WE CERTAINLY CAN MOVE
- 10 AHEAD WITH A CLASS OF NONPUMPERS. AND EVERYBODY WITHIN THE
- 11 VALLEY WHO OWNS REAL PROPERTY CAN BE SERVED WITH A COPY OF THE
- 12 NOTICE. AND IF THEY CHOOSE TO REPRESENT TO THE COURT THAT
- 13 THEY ARE IN FACT PUMPERS, THEY CAN BE INDIVIDUALLY SERVED AND
- 14 NAMED; AND/OR IF THEY OPT OUT, THEY CAN BE CERTIFIED AND
- 15 SERVED.
- 16 I MADE THAT SUGGESTION ABOUT TWO HEARINGS AGO
- 17 AND SUGGESTED THAT IT WOULD BE AN AUTOMATIC OPT-OUT FOR
- ANYBODY WHO WAS A PUMPER THAT WAS NOT ALREADY SERVED HERE.
- 19 WHY WOULD THAT NOT CONFER JURISDICTION SUFFICIENT
- TO MOVE THIS CASE FORWARD AND SET IT FOR TRIAL?
- 21 MR. FIFE: I THINK THAT WOULD BE SUFFICIENT. AND WHEN
- 22 YOU SUGGESTED THAT A COUPLE OF HEARINGS AGO, WE WERE QUITE
- 23 SATISFIED WITH THAT. IT WAS THEN THAT THERE WERE OTHER
- 24 PROPOSALS THAT CAME IN TO TRY TO PUT PUMPERS INTO A CLASS, AND
- 25 THAT IS WHERE WE HIT THE SAME SNAG EVERY TIME. EVERY TIME
- 26 THAT IT IS JUST A NONPUMPERS CLASS AND PUMPERS WOULD BE
- 27 INDIVIDUALLY NAMED AND SERVED, EVERYTHING IS FINE AND THERE IS
- 28 NO OBJECTION. IT ONLY GETS MESSED UP WHEN THERE IS THEN A

- 1 PROPOSAL THAT COMES IN TO TRY TO PUT PUMPERS IN A CLASS.
- THE COURT: ALL RIGHT. MR. LEMIEUX.
- 3 MR. WAYNE LEMIEUX: THANK YOU, YOUR HONOR.
- 4 I SHOULD BE CLEAR: I'M WAYNE LEMIEUX. I'M HERE
- 5 REPRESENTING THE LITTLE ROCK GROUP.
- THE COURT: THE OTHER LEMIEUX.
- 7 MR. WAYNE LEMIEUX: THE OTHER LEMIEUX.
- 8 I REALLY DON'T HAVE -- WHATEVER THE EUPHEMISM
- 9 IS -- "A DOG IN THIS FIGHT." I GUESS THAT IS POOR TASTE AFTER
- 10 MICHAEL VICK. BUT I HAVE A SUGGESTION: PERHAPS THE NOTICE
- 11 SHOULD INCLUDE THE WAIVER OF CONFLICT, BECAUSE THAT IS WHAT WE
- 12 ARE TALKING ABOUT HERE IS WAIVER OF CONFLICT OR THE EXISTENCE
- 13 OF A POTENTIAL CONFLICT. AND MAYBE EVEN THE COURT COULD MAKE
- 14 A FINDING THAT AS OF TODAY THERE IS NO CONFLICT AND THAT UNTIL
- YOU SAY DIFFERENTLY THERE IS NO CONFLICT. AND THEN ALL WE
- 16 HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT IS FORMER CLIENT PROBLEMS. AND IF WE STAY
- 17 AHEAD OF THAT, AS WOULD BE THE CASE WITH THE NOTICE, THAT
- 18 MIGHT SOLVE IT. I WOULD THINK SMALL PUMPERS COULD OPT INTO
- 19 THE CLASS, IF THEY WANTED TO, BY WAIVING CONFLICT.
- 20 THE COURT: WELL, I THINK THERE IS HOWEVER A CONFLICT.
- 21 MR. WAYNE LEMIEUX: EVENTUALLY.
- 22 THE COURT: YEAH. AND I THINK MY RHETORICAL QUESTION
- 23 ABOUT THERE NOT BEING ONE REALLY, I THINK, HELPS TO EXPLAIN
- THAT THERE IN FACT IS ONE.
- 25 I THINK THAT, HOWEVER, A PROPER NOTICE SENT OUT
- 26 TO ALL PROPERTY OWNERS GIVING ANYBODY WHO IS A PUMPER WHO IS
- NOT ALREADY A PARTY TO THIS LAWSUIT AN OPPORTUNITY TO OPT OUT
- 28 OR TO CHECK A BOX THAT SAYS THEY ARE A PUMPER THEREFORE THEY

- 1 ARE A MEMBER OF THE CLASS AND THEY WOULD BE OBLIGATED TO
- 2 PROVIDE THE COURT WITH THAT NOTICE, WOULD THEN GIVE THE COURT
- 3 AN OPPORTUNITY TO PROCEED BECAUSE THE PARTIES CAN THEN SERVE
- 4 THOSE INDIVIDUALS INDIVIDUALLY.
- 5 MR. WAYNE LEMIEUX: I THINK I'M ONLY ADDING ONE OTHER
- 6 LAYER TO THAT AND ASKING IS IT POSSIBLE FOR THAT SMALL PUMPER
- 7 TO CHECK A BOX TO SAY, "I AM A PUMPER. I RECOGNIZE THERE IS A
- 8 CONFLICT BUT I STILL WANT TO BE IN THE CLASS."
- 9 THE COURT: YES. I THINK THAT IS CERTAINLY SOMETHING
- 10 THEY CAN DO. BUT WAIVER OF A CONFLICT --
- 11 MR. WAYNE LEMIEUX: TRICKY THING.
- 12 THE COURT: YEAH. I'M A LITTLE CONCERNED ABOUT THE DUE
- 13 PROCESS ASPECTS OF THAT WAIVER.
- 14 MR. WAYNE LEMIEUX: THANK YOU, YOUR HONOR.
- 15 THE COURT: BUT I WOULD LIKE TO SEE, IF COUNSEL CAN
- 16 AGREE AS TO A FORM OF NOTICE TO THE NON-PUMPING CLASS THAT IT
- 17 WOULD ENCOMPASS THAT TYPE OF A NOTICE, I THINK WE COULD
- 18 PROBABLY MOVE FORWARD.
- MR. DOUGHERTY: ROBERT DOUGHERTY AGAIN.
- 20 THE CONCERN I WOULD SEE THERE IS WHAT HAPPENS IF
- 21 THE FOLKS GET THE NOTICE; THAT THEY JUST DON'T DO A THING WITH
- 22 IT. AND YOU CAN'T OBVIOUSLY TELL WHO IS A PUMPER OR WHO IS
- 23 NOT A PUMPER. AND SO THAT KIND OF BRINGS YOU WHERE PROBABLY
- 24 YOU WOULD HAVE TO SERVE THEM.
- 25 THE COURT: WELL, IF A PARTY RECEIVES A NOTICE THAT
- 26 PUTS THEM IN THE CLASS, THEY DO HAVE AN OBLIGATION TO RESPOND
- TO THE COURT TO OPT OUT, TO CLAIM THEY DON'T FIT WITHIN THE
- 28 CLASS, OR THAT THEY CHOOSE NOT TO BE A MEMBER OF THE CLASS

- 1 FOR A NUMBER OF REASONS. AND YOU ARE ASKING HOW WE MAKE
- 2 EVERYBODY ACT PERFECTLY TO PROTECT THEIR OWN INTERESTS. AND I
- 3 DON'T THINK I KNOW THE ANSWER TO THAT ANY MORE THAN YOU DO.
- 4 MR. DOUGHERTY: THAT IS TRUE, YOUR HONOR. THE QUESTION
- 5 WOULD BE IF THEY DON'T RETURN THE NOTICE OR WHATEVER THEY ARE
- 6 TO SIGN, THEN HOW DO WE CHARACTERIZE THEM? DO WE SAY THAT
- 7 THEY ARE NONPUMPERS OR THAT THEY ARE PUMPERS? I DON'T KNOW.
- 8 THE COURT: WELL, THEIR RIGHTS WOULD BE DETERMINED AS A
- 9 MEMBER OF THE CLASS.
- 10 WELL, I WOULD LIKE COUNSEL TO MEET AND CONFER
- 11 CONCERNING THE FORM OF A NOTICE. AND I'M THINKING THAT I
- 12 WOULD LIKE YOU TO DO THAT -- OF COURSE THERE ARE ALOT OF
- 13 PEOPLE ON THE TELEPHONE THAT AREN'T HERE, SO I'M GOING TO HAVE
- 14 TO GIVE YOU SOME DEADLINES FOR ACCOMPLISHING THAT, AND I WILL.
- 15 BUT I WOULD LIKE TO KNOW IF ANYBODY ELSE HAS
- ANYTHING TO OFFER CONCERNING THAT? EITHER HERE IN THE
- 17 COURTROOM OR ON THE TELEPHONE.
- 18 MR. DUNN?
- 19 MR. DUNN: YOUR HONOR, JUST SO THAT SOME OF US ARE
- 20 CLEAR ON WHAT DIRECTION WE ARE HEADED, MAYBE IT IS HELPFUL TO
- 21 CIRCLE BACK JUST BRIEFLY FOR A MOMENT WITH HOW WE GOT TO THIS
- POINT.
- 23 THE REASON WHY I THINK WE ARE HERE TODAY
- 24 GENERALLY IS THAT WE HAVE A LARGE NUMBER OF PROPERTY OWNERS IN
- 25 THE ANTELOPE VALLEY WHO NEED TO BECOME PART OF THIS CASE
- 26 SUBJECT TO COURT JURISDICTION. WE KNOW GENERALLY THEY EXIST
- 27 IN TWO GROUPS.
- 28 THERE IS A GROUP OF PEOPLE WHO PUMP; PEOPLE WHO

1	DO NOT PUMP. I THINK IT IS IMPORTANT FOR US TO BRING OUT THE
2	FACT THAT PRAGMATICALLY, REALISTICALLY, TO ACQUIRE
3	JURISDICTION OVER THESE PROPERTY OWNERS, THE CLASS MECHANISM
4	IS NECESSARY. AND IT WILL BE NECESSARY FOR BOTH SMALL PUMPERS
5	AND PEOPLE WHO DO NOT PUMP, BECAUSE BOTH GROUPS ARE ESTIMATED
6	TO BE QUITE LARGE, EXTRAORDINARILY LARGE IN NUMBER.
7	AND IF THERE WERE TO BE A SITUATION WHERE THERE
8	WOULD ONLY BE A SINGLE CLASS OF SMALL PUMPERS EXCUSE ME
9	A SINGLE CLASS OF NONPUMPERS, REPRESENTED BY MR. ZLOTNICK, THE
10	COURT AND THE PARTIES, THE PRESENT PARTIES, WOULD STILL BE
11	FACED WITH THE PROBLEM OF THIS LARGE NUMBER OF ESTIMATED SMALL
12	PUMPERS. AND SO WE COME BACK TO THAT ISSUE YET AGAIN.
13	AND SO I THINK WHERE THIS CASE HAS TO BE HEADED,
14	QUITE FRANKLY, IS IN ORDER TO MOVE IT ALONG IS THAT WE WILL
15	NEED A CLASS MECHANISM OR CLASS MECHANISMS FOR BOTH GROUPS.
15 16	NEED A CLASS MECHANISM OR CLASS MECHANISMS FOR BOTH GROUPS. TODAY WE HAVE A CLASS OF NONPUMPERS REPRESENTED
-	
16	TODAY WE HAVE A CLASS OF NONPUMPERS REPRESENTED
16 17	TODAY WE HAVE A CLASS OF NONPUMPERS REPRESENTED BOTH BY LEGAL COUNSEL AND A CLASS REPRESENTATIVE. THE ISSUE
16 17 18	TODAY WE HAVE A CLASS OF NONPUMPERS REPRESENTED BOTH BY LEGAL COUNSEL AND A CLASS REPRESENTATIVE. THE ISSUE IS HOW DO WE DEAL THEN WITH THESE "SMALL PUMPERS," AS THEY ARE
16 17 18 19	TODAY WE HAVE A CLASS OF NONPUMPERS REPRESENTED BOTH BY LEGAL COUNSEL AND A CLASS REPRESENTATIVE. THE ISSUE IS HOW DO WE DEAL THEN WITH THESE "SMALL PUMPERS," AS THEY ARE COMMONLY CALLED HERE.
16 17 18 19 20	TODAY WE HAVE A CLASS OF NONPUMPERS REPRESENTED BOTH BY LEGAL COUNSEL AND A CLASS REPRESENTATIVE. THE ISSUE IS HOW DO WE DEAL THEN WITH THESE "SMALL PUMPERS," AS THEY ARE COMMONLY CALLED HERE. THERE HAS BEEN SOME CONCERN RAISED BY
16 17 18 19 20 21	TODAY WE HAVE A CLASS OF NONPUMPERS REPRESENTED BOTH BY LEGAL COUNSEL AND A CLASS REPRESENTATIVE. THE ISSUE IS HOW DO WE DEAL THEN WITH THESE "SMALL PUMPERS," AS THEY ARE COMMONLY CALLED HERE. THERE HAS BEEN SOME CONCERN RAISED BY MR. ZLOTNICK THAT AGAIN THE SHEER NUMBER OF THESE FOLKS MAY
16 17 18 19 20 21	TODAY WE HAVE A CLASS OF NONPUMPERS REPRESENTED BOTH BY LEGAL COUNSEL AND A CLASS REPRESENTATIVE. THE ISSUE IS HOW DO WE DEAL THEN WITH THESE "SMALL PUMPERS," AS THEY ARE COMMONLY CALLED HERE. THERE HAS BEEN SOME CONCERN RAISED BY MR. ZLOTNICK THAT AGAIN THE SHEER NUMBER OF THESE FOLKS MAY INUNDATE BOTH CLASS COUNSEL, BOTH FOR THE PUMPERS AND SMALL
16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23	TODAY WE HAVE A CLASS OF NONPUMPERS REPRESENTED BOTH BY LEGAL COUNSEL AND A CLASS REPRESENTATIVE. THE ISSUE IS HOW DO WE DEAL THEN WITH THESE "SMALL PUMPERS," AS THEY ARE COMMONLY CALLED HERE. THERE HAS BEEN SOME CONCERN RAISED BY MR. ZLOTNICK THAT AGAIN THE SHEER NUMBER OF THESE FOLKS MAY INUNDATE BOTH CLASS COUNSEL, BOTH FOR THE PUMPERS AND SMALL PUMPERS. AND ONE SOLUTION TO THAT, ONE ALTERNATIVE, IS WHAT
16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24	TODAY WE HAVE A CLASS OF NONPUMPERS REPRESENTED BOTH BY LEGAL COUNSEL AND A CLASS REPRESENTATIVE. THE ISSUE IS HOW DO WE DEAL THEN WITH THESE "SMALL PUMPERS," AS THEY ARE COMMONLY CALLED HERE. THERE HAS BEEN SOME CONCERN RAISED BY MR. ZLOTNICK THAT AGAIN THE SHEER NUMBER OF THESE FOLKS MAY INUNDATE BOTH CLASS COUNSEL, BOTH FOR THE PUMPERS AND SMALL PUMPERS. AND ONE SOLUTION TO THAT, ONE ALTERNATIVE, IS WHAT MR. ZLOTNICK SUGGESTED, AND THAT IS THAT THE COURT USE THE
16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25	TODAY WE HAVE A CLASS OF NONPUMPERS REPRESENTED BOTH BY LEGAL COUNSEL AND A CLASS REPRESENTATIVE. THE ISSUE IS HOW DO WE DEAL THEN WITH THESE "SMALL PUMPERS," AS THEY ARE COMMONLY CALLED HERE. THERE HAS BEEN SOME CONCERN RAISED BY MR. ZLOTNICK THAT AGAIN THE SHEER NUMBER OF THESE FOLKS MAY INUNDATE BOTH CLASS COUNSEL, BOTH FOR THE PUMPERS AND SMALL PUMPERS. AND ONE SOLUTION TO THAT, ONE ALTERNATIVE, IS WHAT MR. ZLOTNICK SUGGESTED, AND THAT IS THAT THE COURT USE THE CLASS MECHANISM BUT IN A WAY THAT IS COMMONLY DONE BOTH IN THE

- AN OPPORTUNITY TO NOT JUST OPT OUT OF THE CLASS BUT TO OPT OUT

 OF THE CLASS SETTLEMENT. AND THAT IS ONE ALTERNATIVE THAT WAS
- 3 RAISED BY MR. ZLOTNICK. IN THAT THE CASE COULD MOVE FORWARD
- 4 TO SOME EXTENT, PARTICULARLY ON THE SETTLEMENT SIDE, AND THE
- 5 CLASS NOTICE THEN COULD GO OUT ONCE THERE IS AN PROPOSED
- 6 SETTLEMENT FOR THE CLASS.
- 7 THE OTHER ALTERNATIVE IS WHAT THE COURT HAS
- 8 BROUGHT UP THIS MORNING, AND IT HAS BEEN DISCUSSED EARLIER,
- 9 AND THAT IS THE CLASS MECHANISM IS VERY PRAGMATIC. WE CAN
- 10 CERTIFY A CLASS OF ALL PROPERTY OWNERS FOR THE LIMITED
- 11 PURPOSES, FOR THE PURPOSES THAT THE COURT HAS DESCRIBED THIS
- 12 MORNING. THERE ARE PREDOMINANT ISSUES OF FACT THAT ARE COMMON
- 13 TO ALL THE PROPERTY OWNERS IN THE BASIN AND THAT HAS TO DO
- 14 WITH THE YIELD OF THE BASIN, HOW MUCH WATER CAN BE SAFELY
- 15 ALLOCATED REGARDLESS OF WHETHER YOU PUMP OR DON'T PUMP OR YOU
- 16 ARE A PURVEYOR.
- 17 THERE ARE CERTAIN YIELD DETERMINATIONS AND
- 18 CHARACTERISTICS OF THE BASIN THAT ARE COMMON TO ALL PROPERTY
- 19 OWNERS. AND I WOULD ALSO ADD THAT PROPERTY OWNERS ALSO SHARE
- 20 COMMON FACTUAL AND LEGAL ISSUES REGARDING THE RIGHTS THAT THE
- 21 PUBLIC WATER SUPPLIERS HAVE.
- 22 THE CONCERNS THAT HAVE BEEN RAISED THIS MORNING
- BY VARIOUS COUNSEL FOR PROPERTY OWNERS HAVE TO DO WITH
- 24 CONFLICT THAT YET MAY ARISE WHEN PROPERTY OWNERS, VIS A VIS
- 25 EACH OTHER, ATTEMPT TO USE THESE LEGAL PROCEEDINGS. UNDER
- 26 WELL-ESTABLISHED CLASS ACTION LAW AND PROCEDURE WE CAN DEAL
- 27 WITH THAT AT A LATER TIME. AND I THINK WHAT WE ARE SUGGESTING
- 28 HERE IS IT MAY BE AN ACCEPTABLE RESOLUTION OF THIS ROADBLOCK

- 1 THAT WE FACE TO HAVE A CLASS CERTIFIED FOR CERTAIN ISSUES.
- 2 AND THEN THE LAST COMMENT IS: I AGREE WITH THE
- 3 COURT; I THINK THIS CAN AND SHOULD BE WORKED OUT WITH COUNSEL.
- 4 I THINK IT CAN BE DONE.
- 5 OUR REQUEST IS THAT IF THE COURT IS GOING TO SET
- A DEADLINE TO DO THAT, I THINK IT SHOULD BE A SHORT DEADLINE,
- 7 PERHAPS NO LATER THAN JANUARY 4, BECAUSE IT IS JUST OVER A
- 8 COUPLE OF WEEKS. THESE ISSUES ARE NOT NEW TO THE ACTIVE
- 9 COUNSEL IN THIS CASE. WE HAVE BEEN DEALING WITH THIS NOW FOR
- 10 A LONG TIME. I THINK WE ARE AT A POINT WHERE WE CAN
- 11 INTELLIGENTLY DISCUSS AND GET IT RESOLVED.
- 12 HAVING SAID THAT, IT IS VERY DIFFICULT, WITH THE
- 13 LARGE NUMBER OF ACTIVE COUNSEL IN THIS CASE, PARTICULARLY ON
- 14 THE PROPERTY OWNER SIDE, TO GET PEOPLE TOGETHER, TO SIT DOWN
- 15 IN A ROOM AND TRY AND DO THIS. IT HAS BEEN MUCH MORE
- 16 PRODUCTIVE TO HAVE SORT OF INDIVIDUAL CONVERSATIONS WITH MR.
- 17 ZLOTNICK AND WITH OTHERS.
- 18 AND I'LL CLOSE BY SIMPLY SAYING I THINK WE ARE AT
- 19 A POINT WHERE WE NEED TO AGAIN RE-VISIT THE LIAISON COUNSEL
- 20 ROLE AND OPPORTUNITIES JUST TO HELP IN THESE KINDS OF PROBLEMS
- 21 WHEN THEY COME UP WHERE WE NEED TO, WITHIN A REASONABLE PERIOD
- 22 BUT SHORT PERIOD OF TIME, GET IMPORTANT ISSUES RESOLVED.
- 23 I'M CONCERNED THAT IF WE DECIDE JANUARY 4 IS
- 24 GOING TO BE OUR DEADLINE TO GET THIS ISSUE RESOLVED -- AND I
- 25 THINK THAT IS AN APPROPRIATE DEADLINE -- IT IS GOING TO BE
- 26 PARTICULARLY DIFFICULT WITH THE LARGE NUMBER OF COUNSEL. IT
- 27 IS NOT AN INTENT TO EXCLUDE ANYONE BUT A REQUEST PERHAPS TO
- 28 HAVE A MORE ORGANIZED APPROACH ON THE COUNSEL, LEGAL COUNSEL,

- 1 SIDE SO THAT WE ARE NOT COMING BACK EVERY 30 DAYS BEFORE THE
- 2 COURT AND WE DON'T HAVE ISSUES RESOLVED.
- 3 THANK YOU.
- 4 THE COURT: WELL, MR. DUNN, IT SEEMS TO ME THAT IF THE
- 5 COURT SETS A DEADLINE -- I DO INTEND TO DO THAT -- I WANT A
- 6 DEADLINE THAT MAY NOT NECESSARILY PRESENT TOTAL AGREEMENT BY
- 7 ALL COUNSEL, BUT I WANT A PROPOSAL THAT THE COURT CAN ACCEPT
- 8 AS A REASONABLE PROPOSAL THAT I CAN MAKE MY COURT ORDER.
- 9 SO I THINK IT APPROPRIATE TO HAVE COUNSEL MEET
- 10 AND CONFER. AND I MAY HAVE MORE THAN ONE PROPOSAL THAT THE
- 11 COURT CAN CHOOSE FROM. BUT I CERTAINLY WOULD EXPECT THAT TO
- 12 OCCUR.
- 13 AND I AM ALSO THINKING, IN TERMS OF OUR NEXT
- 14 HEARING DATE, BECAUSE THERE ARE A COUPLE OF MATTERS THAT ARE
- 15 CURRENTLY SCHEDULED.
- MR. DUNN: YES.
- 17 THE COURT: ONE ON THE 14TH, I BELIEVE, AND ONE ON THE
- 18 28TH, OF JANUARY.
- 19 SO IT SEEMS TO ME THAT -- I WANT THIS TO HAPPEN
- 20 QUICKLY. I THINK THAT THE PROPOSAL OF THE CLASS NOTICE TO
- 21 DORMANT PUMPERS IS SOMETHING THAT I EXPECT TO SEE A PROPOSAL
- 22 FOR A FORM AND I WANT COUNSEL TO WORK WITH MR. ZLOTNICK. YOU
- 23 CAN DO IT INDIVIDUALLY OR YOU CAN DO IT ALL AT ONCE OR HOWEVER
- 24 SEQUENTIALLY YOU FIND IT MOST APPROPRIATE; MAKING SURE THAT
- 25 YOU LET -- THAT EVERY COUNSEL RECEIVES NOTICE OF WHAT YOU ARE
- DOING, SO THAT THEY WILL HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY TO PARTICIPATE TO
- 27 SEE IF YOU CAN REACH AGREEMENT. BUT I'M NOT INSISTING THAT
- 28 YOU REACH AGREEMENT.

- 1 MR. DUNN: I UNDERSTAND.
- 2 THE COURT: I WILL MAKE AN ORDER APPROPRIATELY BASED ON
- 3 A RECOMMENDATION.
- 4 NOW THERE ARE A COUPLE OF WAYS, AS YOU HAVE
- 5 INDICATED, THAT THIS CAN BE ACCOMPLISHED. IT IS GOING TO
- 6 REQUIRE NOTICE BE SENT OUT, AND IT IS GOING TO GIVE PARTIES AN
- 7 OPPORTUNITY TO OPT OUT.
- 8 WE CAN'T SEND OUT A NOTICE OF SETTLEMENT UNLESS
- 9 THE PRINCIPAL PARTIES HAVE AN AGREEMENT TO SETTLE THIS CASE.
- 10 AND IT DOESN'T SEEM TO ME THAT THAT IS LIKELY TO HAPPEN
- 11 QUICKLY. IT MAY ULTIMATELY HAPPEN, BUT I THINK THAT THE MAJOR
- 12 PLAYERS HAVE TO BE INVOLVED HERE BEFORE THAT CAN HAPPEN.
- 13 SO I'D BE INTERESTED, IF ANY OTHER COUNSEL HAVE
- 14 ANYTHING THEY WANT TO OFFER CONCERNING THIS PROPOSAL,
- 15 INCLUDING COUNSEL ON THE TELEPHONE.
- MR. JOYCE: YOUR HONOR?
- 17 THE COURT: YES.
- MR. JOYCE: BOB JOYCE.
- 19 I CAME IN ON LINE LATE. I WANT TO MAKE FORMALLY
- MY APPEARANCE.
- THE COURT: ALL RIGHT. THANK YOU, MR. JOYCE.
- MR. JOYCE: THANK YOU.
- 23 THE COURT: OKAY. WELL, MR. DUNN, YOU THINK YOU CAN
- 24 HAVE A PROPOSAL THAT REPRESENTS YOUR THOUGHTS AS WELL AS THE
- THOUGHTS OF OTHER COUNSEL BY THE 14TH?
- MR. DUNN: YES, YOUR HONOR.
- THE COURT: OKAY. THAT WILL BE THE DATE. JANUARY 14.
- 28 WE HAVE A MOTION THAT IS CURRENTLY SCHEDULED FOR

Associate billing rates start climbing again

Average rates going back up after stagnation brought on by recession

By Kevin Lee

Daily Journal Staff Writer

Average law firm billing rates are back on the rise after stagnating somewhat in the years following the 2008 financial crisis. But most of the action is taking place in associate billing rates, which jumped 7.5 percent in the first half of the year compared to the same period in 2011, more than twice the average rate increase in partner billing rates nationwide.

Industry experts say the discrepancy appears to be the market correcting itself after firms sloughed off associates and froze associate hiring in 2009 and 2010.

Partner billing rates, by comparison, rose 3.4 percent in the first half of the year compared to the year-earlier period, according to the latest research by Valeo Partners LLC, a Washington D.C.-based consulting firm.

Valeo compiled data on the billing rates of lawyers at 550 U.S. law firms through publicly available documents, such as court filings, fee applications and disclosure statements submitted to federal agencies,

Chuck Chandler, a Valeo co-founder and partner, said this year's rate increases were instituted to offset the lack of rate movement during the recession.

"The associates took the hit after 2008. Some firms laid off as much as 10 percent of their associates, delayed hiring new classes and froze compensation," he said. "Naturally, billing rates were slow to increase during that period."

For the first six months of this year, California markets all saw associate rate increases below the national average. Associates in San Francisco and Silicon Valley together claimed the highest average rate increase of the California markets — 7.3 percent.

"Northern California has all of the social media, the technology companies, which creates a lot of dealmaking and IPOs and also good fees and hourly rates," Chandler said.

By comparison, Los Angeles associates saw their rates go up an average of 6.6 percent. In San Diego, associate rates rose 4.2 percent. SF Daily Journal August 10, 2012

Law firms generally increase billing rates each year, according to Sheppard, Mullin, Richter & Hampton LLP partner Marc A. Sockol, who manages the firm's Palo Alto office.

"If inflation goes up 3 percent, so do our associate billing rates, because that is what covers rent, lights, computers, telephones, desks," Sockoi said. "During those first couple years of this recession, we chose not to

See Page 5 — ASSOCIATE

Average Law Firm Billing Rates

Location	Position	2012	2011	Percent Increase
Los Angeles	Partner	\$797	\$766	4.0%
ros Vilkeles	Associate	\$550	\$516	6.6%
Can Diago	Partner	\$568	\$568	0%
San Diego	Associate	\$394	\$378	4.2%
and Special Control of the Control o	Partner	\$675	\$654	3.2%
San Francisco	Associate	\$482	\$449	7.3%
Metional	Partner	\$750	\$725	3.4%
National	Associate	\$495	\$460	7.5%

Source: Valeo 2012 Haiftime Report

Associate billing rates going up

Continued from page 1

boost our billing rates."

Sockol declined to provide specific billing rates but said the firm varies its associate rates by practice group and geography. For 2012, the firm raised associate billing rates roughly 3 percent, he said.

James G. Leipold, executive director of the National Association for Law Placement in Washington D.C., said the jump in billing rates results from the overall decrease of associates at law firms, especially at large law firms. Large law firms, which are the biggest employers of junior lawyers, are relying less on partnership-track associates and more on staff lawyers, paralegals and contract lawyers.

NALP data reveals that from 2008 to 2011, large law firms on average hired entry-level associates at an

annual starting salary of \$160,000. Some law firms cut their starting salaries to \$145,000 during that time but not many. Leipold said he thought more firms would follow suit.

'If inflation goes up 3 percent, so do our associate billing rates, because that is what covers rent, lights, computers, telephones, desks.'

--- Marc A. Sockol

"What we saw was that law firms reduced their associate class sizes dramatically, but they didn't reduce their pay," Leipold said. "They just provided many fewer jobs."

Some large firms have turned to creating nonpartnership-track staff lawyer positions for new classes of junior lawyers, whose billing rates and compensation are lower than those of partnership-track associates.

Law firms can then maintain or increase the billing rates for the small number of associates on the partnership track, knowing they can turn to their staff lawyers, paralegals or contract lawyers to drive down the cost of legal services for clients.

"I think you'll see that [approach] more in the next couple of years," Leipold said. "It's another way for them to bring the salary structure back down and meet the cost-containment demands of clients and use people more efficiently."

kevin lee@dailyjournal.com

Westlaw CourtExpress

VOLUME 11, NUMBER 1

LEGAL BILLING REPORT

May 2009

BY BILLING RATE

California Rate Report

TOTAL 4.320.00	16,235.00	946.00	425.00	639.20	3,555,00	49,552.00	96,075.00	2,175,00	580.00	68,952.00	6,868.00	12.892.50	117,173.00	17,745.00	15,015.00	325.00	22,962.00	508.00	11 125.00	8,235.00	110,220.00	74,750.00	12,540.00	118.00	16,530,00	1,653.00	19.305.00	11,449.00	13,545,00	6,615,50	18.250.00	6,580.00	21,343.50	228,735.00	130.50	10,458.00	38,480.00	3,520.00	3,318.00
HOURS 4.50	17.00	1.10	0.50	0.80	4.50	65.20	128,10	2.90	0.80	101,40	10.10	19.10	176.20	27.30	23,10	0.50	35.60	0.80	17,80	13.50	183.70	124.60	20.90	0.20	28.50	2.90	35.10	21.40	25.80	13,10	36.50	14.00	45.90	508.30	0.30	25.20	96.20	8.80	8.40
RATE \$ 960.00	955.00	860.00	850.00	799,00	790.00	760,00	750.00	750.00	725.00	680,00	680.00	675.00	665.00	650.00	650.00	650.00	645.00	635.00	625.00	610.00	600.00	600.00	600.00	590.00	580,00	570.00	550.00	535,00	525.00	505.00	\$00.00	470.00	465.00	450,00	435.00	415.00	400.00	400.00	395.00
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ADMITTED 1986	1990	1975	1990	1986	1978	1979	1984	1982	1987	2005	1978	1986	2001	1981	1598	1987	1993	1997	1970	2001	2003	1988	2004	1991	2003	2003	1984	1995	1997	2000	2005	2006	2006	2005	2002	2007	2008	2005	2006
<u>GRADUATED</u> 1986	1990	1975	1990	1986	1975	1979	1984	1982	1987	2005	1978	1985	2001	1877	1997	1987	1989	1997	1970	2001	2003	1988	2004	1991	2003	2003	1984	1995	1997	2000	2005	2006	2006	2005	2002	2007	2006	2006	2006
FIRM Davis Polk & Wardwell (CA)	Davis Polk & Wardwell (CA)	O'Melveny & Myers LLP (CA)	Kise, Tuchin, Bogdanolf & Stem, LLP	Weil, Gotshal & Manges LLP (CA)	Gibson Ounn & Crutcher, LLP (CA)	Hennigan Bennett & Dorman LLP	White & Case (LP (CA)	Pachulski Stang Ziehl Young Jones & Weintraub (CA)	Pachulski Stang Zlahi Young Jones & Weintraub (CA)	Davis Polk & Wardwell (CA)	Hennigan Bennett & Dorman LLP	Pachulski Stang Zlahi Young Jones & Weintraub (CA)	While & Case LLP (CA)	Pachulski Stang Ziehi Young Jones & Weintraub (CA)	Klee, Tuchin, Boadanoff & Stern, LLP	Munger Tolles & Olson L.C.	Pachulski Stang Ziehi Young Jones & Weintraub (CA)	Gibson Dunn & Crutcher, LLP (CA)	Munger Tolles & Olson LLC	Gibson Dunn & Crutcher, LLP (CA)	White & Case LLP (CA)	Munger Tolles & Olson LLC	White & Case LLP (CA)	Klee, Tuchin, Bogdancif & Stem, LLP	Well, Gotshal & Manges LLP (CA)	Gibson Dunn & Crutcher, LLP (CA)	Munger Tolles & Olson L.C.	Pachulski Stang Zlahl Young Jones & Weintraub (CA)	Munger Tolles & Olson L.C.	Hennigan Bannett & Domian LLP	Well, Gotshal & Manges LLP (CA)	Gibson Dunn & Crutcher, LLP (CA)	Well, Gatshal & Manges LLP (CA)	Munger Tollas & Oison LLC	Munger Tolles & Olson LLC	Well, Golshal & Manges LLP (CA)	Munger Tolles & Olson LLC	Munger Tolles & Olson LLC	O'Malveny & Myers LLP (CA)
PROFESSIONAL P Kelly, Jr., Danlel	P Cowles, Julia	P. Ounham, Scott	P Tuchin, Michael	P Ballack, Karen	P. Amald, Dennis	OC Morris, Michael	P Averch, Cralg	P Kharssch, Ira D.	P Komfeld, Alan	A Lamb, Peter	P Ining, Jeanne E.	P Kevane, Henry	A Gorsich, Ronald	P Brown, Kenneth H.	P Fidler, David	P Welssmann, Henry	P Bertenthal, David M.	P Montgomery, Cromwell	P Brown, Dennis	A Newman, Samuel	A Delrafim, Shiva	P Vincent, Garth	A Scott, Melanie	P Buchanan, Laura	A Ger Kwang-chien, B.	A Eqdal, David	P Heintz, Jeffrey	ı	P. Rutten, James	A Morse, Joshua	A Maletic, Michael	A Barshop, Melissa	A Liu, Lestle	A Kaufman, Derek	A Hochleutner, Brian	A Nathan, Joseph	A Jasper, M. Lance	A Eskandari, Barney	A Rubin, Erendira E.

California Rate Report

TOTAL	\$ 513.50	4,792.50	825.00	1,612.00	6,210.00	90.00	408.50	63.00	451.00	325.00	
HOURS	1.30	13.50	2,50	6,20	27.60	0.40	1.90	0.30	2,20	2.50	
RATE	\$ 385.00	355.00	330,00	260,00	225.00	225.00	215.00	210.00	205.00	125.00	
STATE	ð	ర	ÇĄ				ర				
ADMITTED	2004	2008	2007								
GRADUATED	2004	2008	2007								
FIRM	Munger Tolles & Olson LLC	Well, Gotshal & Manges LLP (CA)	O'Melveny & Myers LLP (CA)	O'Melveny & Myers LLP (CA)	Pachulski Sland Zlehl Young Jones & Weintraub (CA)	Pachulski Stang Ziahl Young Jones & Weintraub (CA)	Kiea, Tuchin, Bogdanoff & Stern, LLP	Henniqan Benneil & Dorman LLP	Pachulski Slang Zlehl Young Jones & Weintraub (CA)*	Pachulski Slang Ziehl Young Jones & Weintraub (CA)	
PROFESSIONAL	A Schneider, Bradiey	A Reagan, Matthew	А Guzman, Тапуа	PP Neglis, Ross	Finslyson, Kalhe	Jeffries, Patricia J.	PP Pearson, Sanda	PP Floyd, Kevin	PP Knotts, Charyl	CMA Pitman, Sheryle	

Westlaw CourtExpress

LEGAL BILLING REPORT

VOLUME 11, NUMBER 2

August 2009

BY BILLING RATE

California ĸate Report

TOTAL \$ 88.00	191,250,00	63,240.00	27.965.00	5,334,00	3,444,00	59,696,00	32,724.00	18,138.50	7,362,50	141,900.00	1,425.00	150.00	5,254.00	4,662.00	7,322.50	77,630.00	18,550.00	3,822,50	80,624,50	26,595,00	147,297,50	1,587,50	7,015,00	130,500.00	44,940.00	21,180.00	31,436,00	7,130.00	285.00	7,514,50	25,190.00	892.50	682.50	87,650.00	20,900,00	55,341.00	1,927.00	140,755.50	00 001 1
HOURS 0.10	225.00	74.40	32.90	6.35	4,10	72.80	40.40	20.30	9.50	189.20	1.90	0.20	7.10	6.30	10.10	110.90	26.50	5,50	117.70	39.40	221.50	2.50	11.50	217.50	74.90	35.30	54.20	12.40	0.50	13.30	45.80	1.70	1.30	175.30	41.80	111.80	4, 10	302.70	0, 00,
<u>RATE</u> \$ 860.00	850.00	850.00	850,00	840,00	840.00	820.00	810.00	795.00	775.00	750.00	750,00	750.00	740.00	740.00	725.00	700.00	700.00	695.00	685.00	675.00	665.00	635.00	610.00	600,00	800.00	600.00	580.00	575.00	570.00	565.00	550,00	525.00	525.00	500.00	500.00	495,00	470.00	465.00	
STATE	₹5	SA.	CA	Š	ర	ర	ర	స	5	Ç	5	క	CA	ð	రే	ర	న	S	S	Š	Ą	Ą	క	ర	ర	Ą	გ ე	Ċ	Ϋ́	S,	Ą	Ϋ́O	ర	ర	ర	క	ÇA	S	1
ADMITTED 1982	1984	1990	1975	1986	1976	1991	1986	1978	1994	1984	1990	1980	1999	1987	1987	1998	1987	1992	1998	1995	2001	1997	2001	2003	2004	1996	2003	1989	2003	1984	2006	2001	1976	2005	2003	2003	2006	2006	V V V V
GRADUATED 1982	1984	1990	1975	1986	1975	1991	1986	1978	1993	1984	1980	1980	1939	1997	1987	1897	1987	1661	1998	1995	2001	1997	2001	2003	2004	1996	2003	1999	2003	1984	2006	2001	1976	2005	2003	2003	2006	2006	
EIRM Glason Dunn & Crutcher, LLP (CA)	Klee, Tuchin, Boqdanoff & Stern, LLP	Klee, Tuchin, Bogdanoff & Stem, LLP	Kise, Tuchin, Bogdanoff & Siern, LLP	Gibson Dunn & Crutcher, LLP (CA)	Gibson Dunn & Cruicher, LLP (CA)	Quinn Emanuel Urquhart Oliver & Hadges, LLP	Weil, Gotshal & Manges LLP (CA)	Pachulski Stang Ziehl Young Jones & Weintraub (CA)	Quinn Emanuel Urquhart Oliver & Hadges, LLP	While & Case LLP (CA)	Jones Day (CA)	Jones Day (CA)	Quinn Emanuel Urquhari Oliver & Hedges, LLP	Quinn Emanuel Urquhart Oliver & Hedges, LLP	Pachulski Stang Ziehl Young Jones & Weintraub (CA)	Sidley Austin Brown & Wood LLP (CA)	Jones Day (CA)	Pachulski Stang Ziehl Young Jones & Weintraub (CA)	White & Case LLP (CA)	Gibson Dunn & Cruicher, LLP (CA)	White & Case LLP (CA)	Gibson Dunn & Cruicher, LLP (CA)	Gibson Dunn & Cruicher, LLP (CA)	White & Case LLP (CA)	White & Case LLP (CA)	Jones Day (CA)	Well, Gotshal & Manges LLP (CA)	Kiee, Tuchin, Bogdanoff & Stern, LLP	Glbson Dunn & Crutcher, LLP (CA)	Jones Day (CA)	White & Case LLP (CA)	Jones Day (CA)	Pachulski Stang Ziehl Young Jones & Weintraub (CA)	Well, Gotshaf & Manges LLP (CA)	Jones Day (CA)	Klee, Tuchin, Boadanoff & Stern, LLP	Gibson Dunn & Gruicher, LLP (CA)	Well, Gotshal & Manges LLP (CA)	The state of the s
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California nate Report

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	CIRM White & Case U.P (CA)	2008	2008 2008	N S	5 460.00	105.50	101AL S 48,530.00
	White & Case LLP (CA)	2007	2007	Ą	460.00	20.30	9,338.00
	McKerns Long & Aldridge LLP (CA)	1997	1997	ζ	450.00	15.00	6,750.00
	McKenna Long & Aldridge LLP (CA)	1997	1997	CA	450.00	10.00	4,500.00
	Klee, Tuchin, Bogdanoff & Stern, LLP	2005	2005	ð	430.00	366.70	157,681.00
Pozmanter, Courtney	Kiee, Tuchin, Bogdanoif & Stem, LLP	2005	2005	ć	430.00	23.20	9,976.00
 A Dickerson, Matthew 	Sidley Austin Brown & Wood LLP (CA)	2007	2007	CA	425.00	25.30	10.752,50
	Sidley Austin Brown & Wood LLP (CA)	2006	2006	۲	425.00	5,40	2,295.00
	Well, Gotshaf & Manges LLP (CA)	2007	2007	క	415,00	61.50	25,522.50
	Gibson Dunn & Crutcher, LLP (CA)	2008	2008	Ϋ́	400.00	4.00	1,600,00
	Sidley Austin Brown & Wood L.P (CA)	2008	2008	₹5	375.00	49.30	18,487.50
	Klee, Tuchin, Boqdanoff & Stern, LLP	2008	2008	ÇĄ	300.00	4,70	1,410.00
	Klee, Tuchin, Boadanoff & Stern, LLP	2008	2008	ర్	300.00	2.10	630.00
	Pachulski Stang Ziehl Young Jones & Weintraub (CA)				250.00	4.90	1,225.00
	Pachulski Stang Zlehi Young Jones & Weintraub (CA)				225,00	8.50	1,912.50
PP Grycener, Michelle	McKenna Long & Aldridge LLP (CA)				215.00	40.60	8,729.00
	Klee, Tuchin, Bogdanoff & Stern, LLP			ర	215.00	38.00	7,740.00
	Pachulski Stang Ziehl Young Jones & Weintraub (CA)				195,00	2.00	390,00
	Gibson Dunn & Crutcher, LLP (CA)				165.00	0.50	82.50

Westlaw CourtExpress

LEGAL BILLING REPORT

VOLUME 11, NUMBER 3

December 2009

BY BILLING RATE

California Rate Report

PROFESSIONAL P Oschulesi Bichad M	FIRM Docksish Chang Zickt Varies board & Malabout (An)	GRADUATED	ADMITTED	STATE	RATE	HOURS	TOTAL
P Patterson, Thomas	Klee, Tuchin, Boadanoff & Slam, LLP	1984	1384	5 5	850.00	382.60	333 710.00
P Tuchin, Michael	Klee, Tuchin, Bogdanoff & Stern, LLP	1990	1990	ర	850.00	201.40	171.190.00
P Stern, David	Klee, Tuchin, Bogdanoff & Stern, LLP	1975	1975	క	850.00	66.80	58,480.00
P Pachulski, Richard M.	Pachulski Stang Ziehl Young Jones & Weintraub (CA)	1979	1979	క	850.00	68.00	57,800.00
- 1	Gibson Dunn & Crutcher, LLP (CA)	1975	1976	Ą	840,00	1,00	840.00
~1	Pachulski Stang Ziehl Young Jones & Weintraub (CA)	1978	1978	გ	825,00	258.25	211,406,25
	Quinn Emarruel Urquhart Oliver & Hedgas, LLP	1991	1891	క	820.00	240.60	197,292.00
E	Quinn Emanuel Urquhart Oliver & Hedges, LLP	1986	1986	Ϋ́	820.00	80.20	65,764.00
,	Pachulski Stang Ziehl Young Jones & Weintraub (CA)	1981	1981	ర	795.00	357.30	284,053.50
- 1	Pachulski Stang Ziehl Young Jones & Weintraub (CA)	1980	1981	ర	795.00	158.50	126,007.50
- 1	Pachulski Stang Ziehl Young Jones & Weintraub (CA)	1978	1978	ర	795.00	94.00	74,730.00
P Ziehl, Dean A.	Pachulski Stang Ziehl Young Jones & Weintraub (CA)	1978	1978	ð	785.00	20.30	16,138.50
P Winston, Eric D.	Quinn Emanuel Urquhart Diiver & Hedges, LLP	1999	1999	ర	740.00	54.00	38,860.00
	Quinn Emanuel Urquitert Oliver & Hedges, LLP	1997	1997	5	740.00	11.20	8,288.00
P Komfeld, Alan	Pachulski Stang Ziehl Young Jones & Weintraub (CA)	1987	1987	8	725.00	10.10	7,322.50
- 1	Pachulski Slang Ziehi Young Jones & Weintraub (CA)	1991	1992	ర	695.00	5.50	3,822.50
	Pachulski Stang Ziehl Young Jones & Weintraub (CA)	1983	1983	ర	695.00	3.40	2,363.00
P Parker, Daryl	Pachulski Stang Ziehi Young Jones & Weintraub (CA)	1969	1970	ర	675.00	60.80	41,040,00
P Mahoney, James	Pachulski Stang Ziehl Young Jones & Weintraub (CA)	1968	1987	5	675.00	16.60	11,205,00
P Arash, Dora	Glbson Dunn & Crucher, LLP (CA)	1995	1995	ð	675.00	14.80	00.066,8
P Davids, Ronn	Klee, Tuchin, Boqdanoff & Stem, LLP	1995	1995	క	650.00	1.40	910.00
A Newman, Samuel	Gibson Dunn & Crutcher, LLP (CA)	2001	2001	CA	610.00	3.70	2,257.00
C Hochman, Harry	Pachulski Stang Zlani Young Jones & Weinfraub (CA)	1987	1887	ర	585.00	100.80	69,976.00
A Newmark, Victoria	Pachulski Stang Ziehi Young Jones & Weintraub (CA)	1996	1997	ర	595.00	32.50	19,337.50
C Cho, Shifley	Pachulski Stang Ziehl Young Jones & Weintreub (CA)	1997	1997	ð	595,00	19.40	11,543.00
C Hochman, Hamy		1987	1987	క	575.00	57.60	33,120,00
A Dinkelman, Jennifer		1999	1999	A A	575.00	1.40	805.00
OC Metcalf, Brian	Kiee, Tuchln, Bogdanoff & Stern, LLP	1999	1998	CA	575.00	0.70	402.50
· . I	Pachulski Stang Ziehi Young Jones & Weintraub (CA)	1976	1976	cA	525.00	1.30	682.50
- 1	Kiee, Tuchin, Bogdanoff & Stem, LLF	2003	2003	CA	495.00	109.70	54,301.50
	Pachulski Staro Ziehl Young Jones & Weintraub (CA)	1993	1599	ర	495.00	0.50	247.50
	Glbson Dunn & Crutcher, LLP (CA)	2006	2006	S S	470.00	2.10	987.00
A Liu, Lesile	Well, Gotshal & Manges LLP (CA)	2006	2006	Ą	465.00	9.80	4.557.00
P Phillip, Laurence	McKenna Long & Aldridge LLP (CA)	1997	1997	ð	450.00	2.70	1,215.00
A Guess, David	Klee, Tuchin, Bogdanoff & Stem, LLP	2005	2005	∀	430.00	402.90	173,247.00
PP Sarles, Joseph C					380.00	4,60	1,748.00
A Ellot, Korin	Klee, Tuctrin, Bogdanoff & Stern, LLP	2008	2008	Ą	300.00	16.80	4,980.00
PP Lacroix, Martine	Quinn Emanuel Urquhart Oliver & Hedges, LLP				250.00	20.30	5,075,00
LIB Forrester, Lesfie A.	Pachulski Stang Zlehl Young Jones & Weintraub (CA)				250,00	4.90	1.225.00

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Californía Rate Report

	FIRM	GRADUATED	ADMITTED	STATE	RATE	HOURS	TOTAL
	Pachulski Stang Ziehl Young Jones & Weintraub (CA)				\$ 250.00	1.80	\$ 450.00
					225.00	47,90	10,777,50
	Pachulski Stang Ziehl Young Jones & Weintraub (CA)				225.00	8.50	1,912.50
	Pachulski Stang Zlehi Young Jones & Weintraub (CA)				225.00	0,40	80.00
	McKenna Long & Aldridge LLP (CA)				215.00	60,40	12,986.00
	Klae, Tuchin, Bogdanoff & Stern, LLP				215,00	52,40	11,268.00
	Pachulski Stang Ziehl Young Jones & Weintraub (CA)				195.00	59.75	11,651.25
	Pachulski Stano Ziehl Young Jones & Weintraub (CA)				195.00	90.9	1,170.00
	Pachulski Stang Ziehl Young Jones & Weintraub (CA)				195.00	2,00	390.00
	McKerna Long & Aldridge LLP (CA)				180.00	3.00	540.00
	Pachulski Stang Ziehl Young Jones & Weintraub (CA)				150.00	16.90	2,535,00
	Pachulski Stang Ziehl Young Jones & Weintraub (CA)				150.00	0.80	120.00
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Home	Make Sections	Court Opinions	Court Calendars	rs Public Noboes	Bench Guide	How to Advortise	rortise Contact Us	\$D1			w.		
Going Rate Home Page >>		All records for firms	in Søn Francisco	for firms in Sett Francisco CA United States					Check too any Teles, Phetodose Aleas, Franc. Coly, Statis. Country, District States on December Aleas for sealand to have	the Practice	Area, Figure	Cry. State	Chunty,
Martie	Tab	Practice Area	€ Ares	Feige	Å.	2150 2150	Country	Gradustad.	Practicing	2006	2007	3002	2009
Adelson, Ellot A. Agerbrase, Aarbn L.	Partjer	Litigation	_	With the base of the second	Say francisco	3	United Streets	Law School	South Standard				Zabies
Albroff, Hers J. Baker, James P.		g essequiza	Employee Ballette and	Concentraly Marking and Ellis Jones Day	San Francisco San Francisco San Francisco	ర ే రే రే	United States United States United States	1980	1960	250 250 250 250		_	750
Bass, Erte Basveriuti, Poter J.	Associate Partner	Service Service	Existing Restructuring and Restructuring	Farella, Breun and Mariel Joine Eay	San Francisco San Francisco	55	United States	Ptůl	4264	•	400	745 7	877
Berning, Scott M. Berening, David M.	A Partition	Books of Commercial	Biologies and Finence Commercial Littletion Bankuptry and	Morgan Lowis and Bockles Prichabit. Sang. Ziehl and Jones.	San Prancisco San Francisco	దే చే	United States United States	2001	2008		w	3,	345
Boersch, Nantra	Partner	Comprise	Copposes Citostral	Joines Day	San Francisco	5	United States		1986				725
Bonston, Jeffrey	Portrac	White Cales O	Make Cole: Creme. Commercial Literation	Kand L Galos	Sen Francisco	5	United States			-,	525. 5	280	
Brown, Donald W. Brownerg J. Taylor Buonatulo, Blanda N.	Partner Associate N. Pettner	Business Tori sed	Business and Finance Tist and Etheromenia	Convergen and Burhas Morgan Lewis and Bockha King and Standing	Sun Fancisco Sun Francisco Sun Francisco	১ 55	United States United States United States	1996	1990 1990	940	,	in di	556
Carte, Ruth Ann Christiersen, C. Brachy	Associates yethy Parties	Corporate Fina	Environmental Composite Finance and	Carette Status and Martel Oldstvary, and Myers	San Francisco San Francisco	క చ	Urused States			**	380	675	
Christian, Ryan M. Correa, Michaelina		Surfeess and Rec	Business Respuctiving	Northing and Ellis Jones Day	San Francisco San Francisco	55	United States United States	2001	2001	313		w	828
Crosby, Peter J.	Course	Series Series	Surveyes Restricturing and Recognition	Jones Dey	Sen Francisco	ð	United States	1984	1984		Ø.	585	202
Center, Doug Dissels Sam Cress, Bergeman Dann, Megan Dubnggowski, Danes T.		Employer Basiness Complex Securities Trial	£ -6	Fatelia Status and Martisl Fatelia Brains and Martisl Holler, Elindan Heller, Elindan	Ser Francisco Sér Francisco Ser Francisco Ser Francisco Ser Francisco	5555 8	Unded States Unded States Unded States	*****		es es es	2.45.25 5.65.25 2.25.25	•	
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"GAMESTOP" or "Defendants"). All terms herein should have the same meaning

as defined in the Stipulation.

This Court has considered the propriety of Class Counsel's application for the reasonable fee of up to 33 1/3%, or \$1,083,333.33 of the Maximum Settlement Amount in attorneys' fees for serving as Class Counsel, and \$10,000.00 for reimbursement of actual costs for serving as Class Counsel. The Court has further considered Class Counsel's request for a \$10,000.00 enhancement award for Dario Barrera, for serving as the Named Plaintiff

Based upon the unopposed Motion, this Court having read and considered all papers, pleadings, arguments, and evidence submitted, and good cause appearing therefore, this Court now finds and orders as follows:

FINDINGS

The Court finds that Class Counsel's request for a 33 1/3 % of Maximum Settlement Amount is reasonable given the benefits of the class action settlement to the class, and the amount of time and energy class counsel invested into reaching a resolution. Class Counsel's hourly rates are also reasonable compared to rates charged by similar attorneys, especially in light of Counsel's extensive experience in the field and. Specifically, the Court finds that the following hourly rates are reasonable: Douglas N. Silverstein, \$700; Michael G. Jacob, \$450; Catherine J. Roland, \$300; and, Alicia Goukasian, \$475. The Court finds that a multiplier of 1.8 is reasonable in light of the contingent nature of this matter.

The Court also approves the Incentive Award to the Named Plaintiff to reward him for his stalwart dedication to the Class and active involvement in the suit.

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5 Sunset Blvd., Ste. 4 s Angeles, CA 9006 Tel: (310) 273-3180 Fax: (310) 273-6137

ORDER GOOD CAUSE APPEARING THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT: The Court hereby awards Class Counsel attorneys' fees in the amount of \$1,083,333.33 and costs in the amount of \$10,000.00; and The Court also hereby awards an Incentive Award in the amount of \$10,000.00 to the Named Plaintiff. IT IS SO ORDERED. DATED: November 29, 2010 By: Otis D. Wright, I United States District Court Judge

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