

# SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO

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Feb-07-2018 2:22 pm

Case Number: CGC-18-564162

Filing Date: Feb-07-2018 2:20

Filed by: KALENE APOLONIO

Image: 06209589

COMPLAINT

DEPARTMENT OF FAIR EMPLOYMENT AND HOUSING VS. CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO - DEPARTMENT OF ET AL

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## Instructions:

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SUM-100

FOR COURT USE ONLY (SOLO PARA USO DE LA CORTE)

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through 10,			**********	una D	320 1	
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TANESH NUTALL, Real Party in Interest.

# YOU ARE BEING SUED BY PLAINTIFF:

(LO ESTÁ DEMANDANDO EL DEMANDANTE):

DEPARTMENT OF FAIR EMPLOYMENT AND HOUSING, an agency of the State of California,

NOTICE! You have been sued. The court may decide against you without your being heard unless you respond within 30 days. Read the information below.

You have 30 CALENDAR DAYS after this summons and legal papers are served on you to file a written response at this court and have a copy served on the plaintiff. A letter or phone call will not protect you. Your written response must be in proper legal form if you want the court to hear your case. There may be a court form that you can use for your response. You can find these court forms and more information at the California Courts Online Self-Help Center (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp), your county law library, or the courthouse nearest you. If you cannot pay the filing fee, ask the court clerk for a fee waiver form. If you do not file your response on time, you may lose the case by default, and your wages, money, and property may be taken without further warning from the court.

There are other legal requirements. You may want to call an attorney right away. If you do not know an attorney, you may want to call an attorney referral service. If you cannot afford an attorney, you may be eligible for free legal services from a nonprofit legal services program. You can locate these nonprofit groups at the California Legal Services Web site (www.lawhelpcalifornia.org), the California Courts Online Self-Help Center (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp), or by contacting your local court or county bar association. NOTE: The court has a statutory lien for waived fees and costs on any settlement or arbitration award of \$10,000 or more in a civil case. The court's lien must be paid before the court will dismiss the case. ¡AVISO! Lo han demandado. Si no responde dentro de 30 días, la corte puede decidir en su contra sin escuchar su versión. Lea la información a

Tiene 30 DÍAS DE CALENDARIO después de que le entreguen esta citación y papeles legales para presentar una respuesta por escrito en esta corte y hacer que se entregue una copia al demandante. Una carta o una llamada telefónica no lo protegen. Su respuesta por escrito tiene que estar en formato legal correcto si desea que procesen su caso en la corte. Es posible que haya un formulario que usted pueda usar para su respuesta. Puede encontrar estos formularios de la corte y más información en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California (www.sucorte.ca.gov), en la biblioteca de leyes de su condado o en la corte que le quede más cerca. Si no puede pagar la cuota de presentación, pida al secretario de la corte que le dé un formulario de exención de pago de cuotas. Si no presenta su respuesta a tiempo, puede perder el caso por incumplimiento y la corte le podrá quitar su sueldo, dinero y bienes sin más advertencia.

Hay otros requisitos legales. Es recomendable que llame a un abogado inmediatamente. Si no conoce a un abogado, puede llamar a un servicio de remisión a abogados. Si no puede pagar a un abogado, es posible que cumpla con los requisitos para obtener servicios legales gratuitos de un programa de servicios legales sin fines de lucro. Puede encontrar estos grupos sin fines de lucro en el sitio web de California Legal Services, (www.lawhelpcalifornia.org), en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California, (www.sucorte.ca.gov) o poniéndose en contacto con la corte o el colegio de abogados locales. AVISO: Por ley, la corte tiene derecho a reclamar las cuotas y los costos exentos por imponer un gravamen sobre cualquier recuperación de \$10,000 ó más de valor recibida mediante un acuerdo o una concesión de arbitraie en un caso de derecho civil. Tiene que pagar el gravamen de la corte antes de que la corte pueda desechar el caso.

The name and address of the court is: (El nombre y dirección de la corte es):

San Francisco Superior Court

400 McAllister Street 400 McAllister Street

94102-4514 San Francisco, CA

The name, address, and telephone number of plaintiffs attorney, or plaintiff without an attorney, is:

(El nombre, la dirección y el número de teléfono del abogado del demandante, o del demandante que no tiene abogado, es): (916) 478-7251 (888) 382-5293

Jennet Zapata (#277063)

Department of Fair Employment and Housing

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2218 Kausen Drive, Suite 100 Elk Grove, CA 95758

DATE: (Fecha) CLERK OF THE COURT

(Secretario)

Deputy (Adjunto)

(For proof of service of this summons, use Proof of Service of Summons (form POS-010).)

(Para prueba de entrega de esta citatión use el formulario Proof of Service of Summons, (POS-010)). NOTICE TO THE PERSON SERVED: You are served

as an individual defendant.

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2.	as the person sued under the fictitious name of (s	pecify):
3.	on behalf of (specify):	
	under: CCP 416.10 (corporation) CCP 416.20 (defunct corporation) CCP 416.40 (association or partnership) other (specify):	CCP 416.60 (minor) CCP 416.70 (conservatee) CCP 416.90 (authorized person)
4.	by personal delivery on (date):	Page

CASE NUMBER: (Númer CGC 50): 18-564162

ORIGINAL

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NELSON CHAN (#109272)

FEB 07 2018

## IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Case N CAC - 18 - 564162

CIVIL RIGHTS COMPLAINT FOR COMPENSATORY DAMAGES AND INJUNCTIVE RELIEF FOR **DISCRIMINATION IN PUBLIC** 

[Gov. Code, § 12948; Civ. Code, § 51; Gov. Code, § 11135, subd. (a)]

Plaintiff DEPARTMENT OF FAIR EMPLOYMENT AND HOUSING (DFEH) alleges the

POLICE ACCOUNTABILITY (DEPARTMENT OF POLICE ACCOUNTABILITY), and DOES

ONE through TEN, inclusive, in its own name and on behalf of real party in interest TANESH

NUTALL (NUTALL).



COURT PAPER State of California Std. 113 Rev. 3-95

### **NATURE OF SUIT**

- 1. The DFEH brings this civil rights case to vindicate Ms. Tanesh Nutall's right to be free from discrimination and to enforce compliance with the Fair Employment and Housing Act (FEHA; Gov. Code, § 12900 et seq.) and the Unruh Civil Rights Act (Unruh Act; Civ. Code, § 51 et seq.).
- 2. Defendant Department of Police Accountability violated the Unruh Act when it discriminated against Ms. Nutall on the basis of her gender identity and expression. A Department of Police Accountability employee, Ms. Mary Ivas, denied Ms. Nutall, an African-American transgender woman, access to the women's restroom and made derogatory comments to Ms. Nutall. This incident caused Ms. Nutall significant emotional stress, and other damages.
- 3. In addition, as a recipient of financial assistance from the State of California, defendants violated the anti-discriminatory provisions of Government Code section 11135.

## **PARTIES**

- 4. Plaintiff DFEH is the state agency charged with enforcing the civil rights established by the FEHA and is authorized by Government Code section 12965 to file civil complaints on behalf of itself and persons aggrieved by discriminatory practices. The Department's enforcement of the FEHA and the Unruh Act (Civ. Code, § 51), as incorporated into the FEHA under Government Code section 12948, is an exercise of the police power of the State of California, and implements the public policy of the State of California, to protect the civil rights of all people in California to be free and equal and to have full and equal access to accommodations, advantages, facilities, privileges, or services in all business establishments of every kind whatsoever no matter what their sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or gender expression is. (Gov. Code, §§ 12920, 12926, subd. (r), and Civ. Code, § 51, subds. (a), (e).)
- 5. Real party in interest Tanesh Nutall is a "person" "aggrieved" by an alleged unlawful practice under Civil Code section 52, subdivision (f), and is therefore the real party in interest in this matter.
- 6. Defendant Department of Police Accountability is now and was, at all times relevant to this complaint, a "business establishment" under Civil Code section 51. The Department of Police

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Accountability is a department of the City and County of San Francisco. The Department of Police Accountability accepts and investigates complaints filed by members of the public against San Francisco police officers. Its investigators are civilians who have never been police officers. Plaintiff believes and thereon alleges that Ms. Ivas was an employee of the Department of Police Accountability at all times relevant to this complaint.

- The Department of Police Accountability was originally named the Office of Citizen 7. Complaints (OCC). In 2016, an amendment to the San Francisco City Charter (section 4.136) renamed the OCC the Department of Police Accountability.
- At all relevant times, Ms. Nutall attended a training in defendants' office building. A 8. Department of Police Accountability employee unlawfully denied Ms. Nutall full and equal accommodations, facilities, or privileges by denying her access to the women's restroom due to her gender identity and expression as an African-American transgender woman.
- At all times relevant to this complaint, defendants were funded directly by the State of 9. California or received financial assistance from the State of California, and are subject to Government Code section 11135's anti-discriminatory provisions, which provide in relevant part that "[n]o person in the State of California shall, on the basis of sex, race, color . . . or sexual orientation, be unlawfully denied full and equal access to the benefits of, or be unlawfully subjected to discrimination under, any program or activity that is conducted, operated, or administered by the state or by any state agency, is funded directly by the state, or receives any financial assistance from the state."
- The true names of DOES ONE through TEN are unknown to DFEH at this time. The 10. DFEH sues these defendants by fictitious names pursuant to Code of Civil Procedure section 474. The DFEH will amend this complaint to allege their true names and capacities when the same are ascertained. Each of the DOE defendants is legally responsible for the injuries and damages alleged in this complaint.
- 11. The DFEH is informed and believes, and thereon alleges that, at all times mentioned herein, each and every defendant is and was the agent or employee of their co-defendants herein and was acting within the scope of said agency, service, employment, or representation, and that each and

every defendant herein is jointly and severally responsible and liable to the real party for the damages hereinafter alleged.

## PROCEDURAL HISTORY, JURISDICTION, AND VENUE

- 12. The DFEH realleges and fully incorporates by reference each and every allegation contained in paragraphs 1 through 11, inclusive.
  - 13. The DFEH files this action pursuant to Government Code section 12965.
- 14. Venue is proper in San Francisco County under Government Code section 12965, subdivision (a), because the unlawful practices complained of in this complaint occurred in San Francisco County.
- 15. On or about February 8, 2017, Ms. Nutall filed a verified complaint with the DFEH alleging that the Office of Citizen Complaints (now the Department of Police Accountability) had denied full or equal accommodations and facilities, in violation of the Unruh Act, within the preceding year. DFEH investigated Ms. Nutall's complaint and found merit to her allegations.
- 16. The parties participated in a mediation convened pursuant to Government Code section 12965 on February 1, 2018, but were unable to resolve their differences.
  - 17. All conditions precedent to the filing of this civil action have been fulfilled.
- 18. The amount of damages sought by this complaint exceeds the minimum jurisdictional limits of this Court.

## **FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS**

- 19. The DFEH realleges and incorporates by reference each and every allegation contained in paragraphs 1 through 18, inclusive.
- 20. Tanesh Nutall is an African-American transgender woman. At the time of the unlawful denial of public accommodations, Ms. Nutall worked for the San Francisco AIDS Foundation (AIDS Foundation) as its TransLife Program Manager. She was an HIV/AIDS educator and headed a program for gender non-conforming individuals. Ms. Nutall was confident in her appearance and conducted her daily activities without self-consciousness.

- 21. As part of her job responsibilities at the AIDS Foundation, on Thursday, February 18, 2016, Ms. Nutall attended a training presented by the San Francisco Department of Public Health/HIV Health Services. The training was titled "Tools for De-Escalation and Support: Working with Clients who have experienced Poverty, Violence, and Other Traumas." The presenters were Ms. Dania Sacks March, LCSW, MPH and Natalie Thoreson, M.Ed. Ms. Thoreson is a consultant with InVision Consulting. The training was held at the Department of Police Accountability building at 25 Van Ness Ave., San Francisco.
- 22. At approximately 11:00 or 11:30 a.m., during a break, Ms. Nutall left the training room to use the restroom, which was available to employees and visitors of the Department of Police Accountability, and was located around the corner from the training room.
- 23. When Ms. Nutall was a few steps away from the women's restroom door, she saw another woman entering the restroom. The women's restroom had a key pad, which required a code. As the woman (later identified as Ms. Mary Ivas) entered the key code, Ms. Nutall asked her, "Excuse me Miss, can you hold the door?" Ms. Ivas turned to Ms. Nutall and said, "No, this is a women's restroom," implying that Ms. Nutall was not a woman. Ms. Ivas quickly closed the door behind her, denying Ms. Nutall access to the restroom consistent with her gender identity. Ms. Ivas perceived Ms. Nutall as a drag queen, a man in drag, or a man in woman's clothing.
- 24. At all times relevant to this complaint, Ms. Ivas was an investigator for the Department of Police Accountability, and she obtained the key code to the restroom door through her employment at that Department.
- 25. Shaken, Ms. Nutall returned to the training room and informed the instructor, Ms. Thoreson, that someone was denying her access to the women's restroom. Ms. Nutall asked Ms. Thoreson to accompany her so she could safely access the women's restroom without being further accosted. As they approached the bathroom, Ms. Ivas was exiting the restroom. Ms. Nutall told Ms. Thoreson, "That's the woman right there. She wouldn't let me use the restroom." Ms. Ivas turned to Ms. Thoreson and Ms. Nutall. Ms. Ivas responded, "Yes, this is a woman's restroom, and that is a fucking man." She then turned to Ms. Nutall and called her a "fucking freak." Ms. Thoreson told Ms.

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Ivas that what she did was unacceptable and asked for her name and whether she was employed in the building.

- 26. Ms. Ivas ignored Ms. Thoreson's questions and ran down the hall and into an office. Ms. Nutall and Ms. Thoreson followed her into the office where they again requested she provide her name and position. Ms. Ivas again refused to provide any information. An office manager, possibly Deputy Director Erik Baltazar, and a security guard then arrived. Ms. Nutall and Ms. Thoreson described the incident to the manager and security guard and again requested the woman's name. Both the office manager and security guard refused to provide her name. The security guard then suggested Ms. Nutall write up a formal complaint and handed her a small piece of paper.
- 27. Ms. Thoreson had to return to the class, so Ms. Nutall went alone to discuss the issue with the front desk security guard on the first floor. That guard instructed her to go to the eighth floor to file a complaint with the San Francisco Human Rights Commission. Ms. Nutall was then joined by her direct supervisor at the San Francisco AIDS Foundation, Ace Robinson, who arrived to support her. Ms. Nutall and Mr. Robinson went to the eighth floor and began the process of filing a statement with the City of San Francisco Human Rights Commission representative.
- 28. Ms. Nutall filed a complaint with the Human Rights Commission, and later filed with DFEH.

#### FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION

Violation of the Unruh Civil Rights Act on the Basis of Gender Identity and Expression (Civ. Code, § 51, subd. (b), against all defendants)

- 29. The DFEH realleges, and incorporates by reference, each and every allegation contained in paragraphs 1 through 28, inclusive.
- 30. Civil Code section 51, subdivision (b), makes it an unlawful practice for a business establishment of every kind whatsoever to deny full and equal accommodations or facilities because of sex. Civil Code section 51, subdivision (e)(5) defines "sex" to include a person's gender identity and gender expression. "Gender expression" means "a person's gender-related appearance and behavior whether or not stereotypically associated with the person's assigned sex at birth." (Civ. Code,  $\S$  51, subd. (e)(5).) The acts and conduct of the defendants, as described above, constitute unlawful discrimination in violation of Civil Code section 51, subdivision (b).

	31.	At all relevant times, the Department of Police Accountability was a business
establi	shment	under Government Code section 51, subdivision (b). This Department of Police
Accou	ntability	accepts and investigates complaints filed by members of the public against San
Franci	sco poli	ce officers. Their investigators are civilians who have never been police officers

- 32. Defendants harassed and denied the real party in interest, Ms. Nutall, full and equal accommodations or facilities because of her gender identity or gender expression as a transgender woman. A motivating reason for defendants' conduct was their perception of the real party in interest's gender identity/gender expression as a transgender woman.<sup>1</sup>
- 33. Real party in interest, Ms. Nutall was harmed and defendants' conduct was a substantial factor in causing such harm.
- 34. As a direct result of the defendants' unlawful practices, Ms. Nutall incurred medical and other pecuniary expenses. Ms. Nutall has lost wages and other benefits of employment and will continue to do so in the foreseeable future.
- 35. Ms. Nutall suffered, and continues to suffer, from emotional distress, anxiety, frustration, humiliation, mental anguish, and other non-pecuniary losses.
- 36. The DFEH lacks a plain, speedy, adequate remedy at law to prevent such harm, injury, and loss until this Court enjoins the unlawful conduct and grants other affirmative relief as prayed for wherein.

# SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION Discrimination by a Program or Activity that Receives State Funds (Gov. Code, § 11135, subd. (a), as to all defendants)

37. The DFEH realleges, and incorporates by reference, each and every allegation contained in paragraphs 1 through 36, inclusive.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> California Civil Jury Instruction No. 3060 titled "Unruh Civil Rights Act – Essential Factual Elements (Civ. Code, §§ 52)" states that the Plaintiff must establish that "a substantial motivating reason" for Defendants' discriminatory conduct was his or her protected characteristic. The Judicial Council Instruction concedes that the courts have not addressed whether the Harris v. City of Santa Monica (2013) 56 Cal.4th 203, 232 substantial motivating reason test used in FEHA applies to Unruh claims, and it is the DFEH's position that it does not need to plead or prove "substantial motivating reason." Nonetheless, in this case, gender identity and expression were the substantial motivating reasons for the Department of Police Accountability's denial of access to the women's restroom to Ms. Nutall.



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harassment from occurring.

State of California on the basis of sex.

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suffered, and continues to suffer, from emotional distress, anxiety, frustration, humiliation, mental anguish, and other non-pecuniary losses.

43. The DFEH lacks a plain, speedy, adequate remedy at law to prevent such harm, injury, and loss until this Court enjoins the unlawful conduct and grants other affirmative relief as prayed for wherein.

lost wages and other benefits of employment in an amount to be proven at trial.

the state, or receives any financial assistance from the state."

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California Government Code section 11135, subdivision (a) provides that no person in

At all relevant times, the Department of Police Accountability is and was a department

the State of California shall be unlawfully denied full and equal access to the benefits of, or be

of the City and County of San Francisco, which receives financial assistance from the State of

discriminatory provision, which provides in relevant part that "[n]o person in the State of California

shall, on the basis of sex, race, color . . . or sexual orientation, be unlawfully denied full and equal

access to the benefits of, or be unlawfully subjected to discrimination under, any program or activity

that is conducted, operated, or administered by the state or by any state agency, is funded directly by

Accountability is liable for subjecting Ms. Nutall to unlawful discrimination because a Department

employee denied Ms. Nutall access to the women's bathroom at the Department's building, as well as

by failing to adequately train its supervisors, managers or employees on preventing discrimination or

Under Government Code section 11135, subdivision (a), the Department of Police

As a direct result of the defendants' unlawful practices, Ms. Nutall incurred costs and

As a further and direct result of the defendants' unlawful practices, Ms. Nutall has

California; as such, the Department must abide by Government Code section 11135's anti-

unlawfully subjected to discrimination under any program or activity that receives funding from the

# COURT PAPER State of California Std. 113 Rev. 3-95

# PRAYER FOR RELIEF All Causes of Action

WHEREFORE, the DFEH prays that the Court issue judgment in favor of the DFEH and real party in interest, Tanesh Nutall, and order defendants to do the following:

- 1. Pay Ms. Nutall damages caused by defendants, including actual damages, including but not limited to out-of-pocket expenses and loss of earnings and, damages for emotional distress resulting from defendants' unlawful practices, up to three times the amount of actual damage, in an amount to be determined at trial;
- 2. Cease and desist from discriminating and harassing any persons on the basis of sex, gender identity and gender expression;
- 3. Within 90 days of entry of judgment, Department of Police Accountability will conduct, at its own expense, a minimum of one (1) two-hour in-person gender identity/gender expression harassment and discrimination prevention training for all employees of the Department. That training should occur annually thereafter for a period of three years, for all supervisors, managers, employees, and human resources personnel working at the Department.
- 4. Within 30 days of entry of judgment, that the Department of Police Accountability certify mandatory DFEH poster DFEH-E04P-ENG (Transgender Rights in the Workplace) has been placed in a conspicuous place where employees tend to congregate, at all its facilities in California and that it distribute DFEH pamphlets titled "Public Access Discrimination and Civil Rights" (DFEH U02B-ENG & DFEH U02B-SP) and "Unruh Civil Rights Act Fact Sheet "(DFEH U01P-ENG) to all its employees.
- 5. Within 100 days of the Court's order, that the Department of Police Accountability submit a verified report of completion and continued compliance with the requirements outlined above. The report shall include a copy of any training materials used, a sign-in sheet or other form of acknowledgement of training received.
- 6. Pay reasonable attorney fees and costs to DFEH and Ms. Nutall's attorney, Transgender Law Center, as provided by statute; and

For such other relief as the Court deems just and proper. 7. DATED: February 7, 2018 DEPARTMENT OF FAIR EMPLOYMENT AND HOUSING **NELSON CHAN** Assistant Chief Counsel JENNET ZAPATA Staff Counsel 



			011.040
ATTORNEY OR PARTY WITHOUT ATTORNEY (Name, State B.	ar number, and address):	FOR COURT USE ON	CM-010
Jennet Zapata (#277063)			_
Department of Fair Employme 2218 Kausen Drive	ent and Housing	FILE	n
Suite 100			
Elk Grove, CA 95758		San Francisco County Supe	erior Court
TELEPHONE NO.: (916) 478-7251	FAX NO.: (888) 382-5293		
ATTORNEY FOR (Name): Department of	Fair Employment and Housi	na FEB 0 7 201	18
SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF S	an Francisco		
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Other Pi/PD/WD (Personal Injury/Property	Rule 3.740 collections (09)	Antitrust/Trade regulation (03)	'
Damage/Wrongful Death) Tort	Other collections (09)	Construction defect (10)	
Asbestos (04)	Insurance coverage (18)	Mass tort (40)	ľ
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Fraud (16)	Residential (32)	RICO (27)	
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6. If there are any known related cases, file ar	id serve a notice of related case. (You not	y use form CM-015.)	
Date: 2/1/2018	15		
Jennet Zapata (#277063) (TYPE OR PRINT NAME)		man)	
(FITE OR FINE)	NOTION (SIGN	NATURE OF PARTY OR ATTORNEY FOR PARTY	)
Plaintiff must file this cover sheet with the file	NOTICE NOTICE		
<ul> <li>Plaintiff must file this cover sheet with the file under the Probate Code, Family Code, or Win sanctions</li> </ul>	lelfare and Institutions Code) (Cal Bules	(except small claims cases or cas	es filed
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<ul> <li>If this case is complex under rule 3,400 et s</li> </ul>	eq. of the California Rules of Court, you n	nust serve a copy of this cover she	eet on all
and parties to the action of proceeding.			
Unless this is a collections case under rule :	5.140 or a complex case, this cover sheet	will be used for statistical purpose	es only.

Form Adopted for Mandatory Use Judicial Council of California CM-010 [Rev. July 1, 2007]

CIVIL CASE COVER SHEET | egal | Cal. Rules of Court, rules 2.30 pc 220 3.400 | Solution is Cal. Rules of Court, rules 2.30 pc 220 3.400 | Cal. Rules of Court, rules 2.30 pc 220 3.400 | Cal. Rules of Court, rules 2.30 pc 220 3.400 | Cal. Rules of Court, rules 2.30 pc 220 3.400 | Cal. Rules of Court, rules 2.30 pc 220 3.400 | Cal. Rules of Court, rules 2.30 pc 220 3.400 | Cal. Rules of Court, rules 2.30 pc 220 3.400 | Cal. Rules of Court, rules 2.30 pc 220 3.400 | Cal. Rules of Court, rules 2.30 pc 220 3.400 | Cal. Rules of Court, rules 2.30 pc 220 3.400 | Cal. Rules of Court, rules 2.30 pc 220 3.400 | Cal. Rules of Court, rules 2.30 pc 220 3.400 | Cal. Rules of Court, rules 2.30 pc 220 3.400 | Cal. Rules of Court, rules 2.30 pc 220 3.400 | Cal. Rules of Court, rules 2.30 pc 220 3.400 | Cal. Rules of Court, rules 2.30 pc 220 3.400 | Cal. Rules of Court, rules 2.30 pc 220 3.400 | Cal. Rules of Court, rules 2.30 pc 220 3.400 | Cal. Rules of Court, rules 2.30 pc 220 3.400 | Cal. Rules of Court, rules 2.30 pc 220 3.400 | Cal. Rules of Court, rules 2.30 pc 220 3.400 | Cal. Rules of Court, rules 2.30 pc 220 3.400 | Cal. Rules of Court, rules 2.30 pc 220 3.400 | Cal. Rules of Court, rules 2.30 pc 220 3.400 | Cal. Rules of Court, rules 2.30 pc 220 3.400 | Cal. Rules of Court, rules 2.30 pc 220 3.400 | Cal. Rules of Court, rules 2.30 pc 220 3.400 | Cal. Rules of Court, rules 2.30 pc 220 3.400 | Cal. Rules of Court, rules 2.30 pc 220 3.400 | Cal. Rules of Court, rules 2.30 pc 220 3.400 | Cal. Rules of Court, rules 2.30 pc 220 3.400 | Cal. Rules of Court, rules 2.30 pc 220 3.400 | Cal. Rules of Court, rules 2.30 pc 220 3.400 | Cal. Rules of Court, rules 2.30 pc 220 3.400 | Cal. Rules of Court, rules 2.30 pc 220 3.400 | Cal. Rules of Court, rules 2.30 pc 220 3.400 | Cal. Rules of Court, rules 2.30 pc 220 3.400 | Cal. Rules of Court, rules 2.30 pc 220 3.400 | Cal. Rules of Court, rules 2.30 pc 220 3.400 | Cal. Rules of Court, rules 2.30 pc 220 3.400 | Cal. Rules 2.30 pc 220 3.400 | Cal. Rules 2.30 pc 220 3.400 | Cal. Rules 2.



# INSTRUCTIONS ON HOW TO COMPLETE THE COVER SH

To Plaintiffs and Others Filing First Papers. If you are filing a first paper (for example, a complaint) in a civil case, you must complete and file, along with your first paper, the Civil Case Cover Sheet contained on page 1. This information will be used to compile statistics about the types and numbers of cases filed. You must complete items 1 through 6 on the sheet. In item 1, you must check one box for the case type that best describes the case. If the case fits both a general and a more specific type of case listed in item 1, check the more specific one. If the case has multiple causes of action, check the box that best indicates the primary cause of action. To assist you in completing the sheet, examples of the cases that belong under each case type in item 1 are provided below. A cover sheet must be filed only with your initial paper. Failure to file a cover sheet with the first paper filed in a civil case may subject a party, its counsel, or both to sanctions under rules 2.30 and 3.220 of the California Rules of Court.

To Parties in Rule 3.740 Collections Cases. A "collections case" under rule 3.740 is defined as an action for recovery of money owed in a sum stated to be certain that is not more than \$25,000, exclusive of interest and attorney's fees, arising from a transaction in which property, services, or money was acquired on credit. A collections case does not include an action seeking the following: (1) tort damages, (2) punitive damages, (3) recovery of real property, (4) recovery of personal property, or (5) a prejudgment writ of attachment. The identification of a case as a rule 3.740 collections case on this form means that it will be exempt from the general time-for-service requirements and case management rules, unless a defendant files a responsive pleading. A rule 3.740 collections case will be subject to the requirements for service and obtaining a judgment in rule 3.740.

To Parties in Complex Cases. In complex cases only, parties must also use the Civil Case Cover Sheet to designate whether the case is complex. If a plaintiff believes the case is complex under rule 3.400 of the California Rules of Court, this must be indicated by completing the appropriate boxes in items 1 and 2. If a plaintiff designates a case as complex, the cover sheet must be served with the complaint on all parties to the action. A defendant may file and serve no later than the time of its first appearance a joinder in the plaintiffs designation, a counter-designation that the case is not complex, or, if the plaintiff has made no designation, a designation that CASE TYPES AND EXAMPLES

#### **Auto Tort**

Auto (22)—Personal Injury/Property Damage/Wrongful Death Uninsured Motorist (46) (if the case involves an uninsured motorist claim subject to arbitration, check this item instead of Auto)

Other PI/PD/WD (Personal Injury/ Property Damage/Wrongful Death) Tort

Asbestos (04)

Asbestos Property Damage Asbestos Personal Injury/ Wrongful Death Product Liability (not asbestos or

toxic/environmental) (24)

Medical Malpractice (45)

Medical Malpractice-Physicians & Surgeons

Other Professional Health Care Malpractice

Other PI/PD/WD (23)

Premises Liability (e.g., slip and fall)

Intentional Bodily Injury/PD/WD

(e.g., assault, vandalism)

Intentional Infliction of

**Emotional Distress** 

Negligent Infliction of

**Emotional Distress** Other PI/PD/MD

## Non-PI/PD/WD (Other) Tort

Business Tort/Unfair Business

Practice (07)

Civil Rights (e.g., discrimination,

false arrest) (not civil

harassment) (08)

Defamation (e.g., slander, libel)

(13)

Fraud (16)

Intellectual Property (19)

Professional Negligence (25)

Legal Malpractice

Other Professional Malpractice

(not medical or legal)

Other Non-PI/PD/WD Tort (35)

**Employment** 

Wrongful Termination (36)

Other Employment (15)

### Contract

Breach of Contract/Warranty (06)

Breach of Rental/Lease

Contract (not unlawful detainer or wrongful eviction)

Contract/Warranty Breach—Seller

Plaintiff (not fraud or negligence)

Negligent Breach of Contract/

Warranty

Other Breach of Contract/Warranty

Collections (e.g., money owed, open

book accounts) (09)

Collection Case—Seller Plaintiff

Other Promissory Note/Collections

Case

Insurance Coverage (not provisionally

complex) (18) Auto Subrogation

Other Coverage

Other Contract (37)

Contractual Fraud

Other Contract Dispute

## Real Property

**Eminent Domain/Inverse** 

Condemnation (14)

Wrongful Eviction (33)

Other Real Property (e.g., quiet title) (26)

Writ of Possession of Real Property

Mortgage Foreclosure

Quiet Title

Other Real Property (not eminent

domain, landlord/tenant, or

foreclosure)

## **Unlawful Detainer**

Commercial (31)

Residential (32)

Drugs (38) (if the case involves illegal

drugs, check this item; otherwise,

report as Commercial or Residential)

## **Judicial Review**

Asset Forfeiture (05)

Petition Re: Arbitration Award (11)

Writ of Mandate (02)

Writ-Administrative Mandamus

Writ-Mandamus on Limited Court

Case Matter

Writ-Other Limited Court Case

Review

Other Judicial Review (39)

Review of Health Officer Order

Notice of Appeal-Labor

Commissioner Appeals

## Provisionally Complex Civil Litigation (Cal. Rules of Court Rules 3.400-3.403)

Antitrust/Trade Regulation (03)

Construction Defect (10)

Claims Involving Mass Tort (40)

Securities Litigation (28)

Environmental/Toxic Tort (30)

Insurance Coverage Claims

(arising from provisionally complex

case type listed above) (41)

## **Enforcement of Judgment**

Enforcement of Judgment (20)

Abstract of Judgment (Out of

County)

Confession of Judgment (non-

domestic relations)

Sister State Judgment

Administrative Agency Award

(not unpaid taxes)

Petition/Certification of Entry of

Judgment on Unpaid Taxes

Other Enforcement of Judgment

Case

## Miscellaneous Civil Complaint

**RICO (27)** 

Other Complaint (not specified

above) (42)

**Declaratory Relief Only** 

Injunctive Relief Only (non-

harassment)

Mechanics Lien

Other Commercial Complaint

Case (non-tort/non-complex)

Other Civil Complaint

(non-tort/non-complex)

## **Miscellaneous Civil Petition**

Partnership and Corporate

Governance (21) Other Petition (not specified

above) (43)

Civil Harassment

Workplace Violence

Elder/Dependent Adult

Abuse

**Election Contest** 

Petition for Name Change

Petition for Relief from Late

Claim

Other Civil Petition