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

### SUMMONS (CITACION JUDICIAL)

NOTICE TO DEFENDANT: (AVISO AL DEMANDADO)	:	ENDORSEU
GILROY UNIFIED SCH	OOL DISTRICT, a business entity of form E, an individual; and DOES 1-100	2016 JUN &2 A 11: 56
YOU ARE BEING SUED B' (LO ESTÁ DEMANDANDO		Oadd H. Yanasshi, Clark de Superiu Coun County of Sarta Clara, California
JOHN JG DOE		By: Osay of Saria Cara, Caractina
below. You have 30 CALENDAR DAY served on the plaintiff. A letter or case. There may be a court form Online Self-Help Center (www.couthe court clerk for a fee waiver for may be taken without further war There are other legal requirent referral service. If you cannot affective an enoprofit groups at the Cal (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfihelp), costs on any settlement or arbitrative of the continuación.  Tiene 30 DIAS DE CALENDAI conte y hacer que se entregue un en formato legal correcto si dese Puede encontrar estos formulario biblioteca de leyes de su condar que le dé un formulario de exence podrá quitar su sueldo, dinero y la remisión a abogados. Si no puede programa de servicios legales situativa.	nents. You may want to call an attorney right away, it you do no bord an attorney, you may be eligible for free legal services from idiornia Legal Services Web site (www.lawhelpcalifornia.org), the or by contacting your local court or county bar association. NOT atton award of \$10,000 or more in a civil-case. The court's lien in no responde dentro de 30 días, la corte puede decidir en su court you a company of the county of the coun	e a written response at this court and have a copy in proper legal form if you want the court to hear your arms and more information at the California Courts se nearest you. If you cannot pay the filling fee, ask ase by default, and your wages, money, and property a nonprofit legal services program. You can locate a California Courts Online Self-Help Center a california Courts Online Self-Help Center is: The court has a statutory lien for waived fees and must be paid before the court will dismiss the case. Intra sin escuchar su versión. Lea la información a la para presentar una respuesta por escrito en esta lo protegen. Su respuesta por escrito fiene que estar mulario que usted pueda usar para su respuesta. Cortes de California (www.sucorte.ca.gov), en la cuota de presentación, pida al secretario de la corte puede perder el caso por incumplimiento y la corte le conoce a un abogado, puede llamar a un servicio de la spara obtener servicios legales gratultos de un con en el sitio web de California Legal Services, a goy) o poniéndose en contacto con la corte o el
colegio de abogados locales. Av cualquier recuperación de \$10,0 pagar el gravamen de la corte ar	ISO: Por ley, la corte tiene derecho a reciamar las cuolas y los 00 ó más de valor recibida mediante un acuerdo o una concesidates de que la corte pueda desechar el caso.	CASIUS BABIINDO DUI BIIDVIIDI UN VIQYONIVA SVVIV
	orte es): Santa Clara County Superior Court	(Número del Caso): 16 C V 296774
Downtown Superior Cou 191 North First Street, S	art an Jose, CA 95113	
The name, address, and telep (El nombre, la dirección y el ni	hone number of plaintiffs attorney, or plaintiff without an Imero de teléfono del abogado del demandante, o del di	Ave #800. Tryine. CA92612.9492529990
DATE: (Fecha)	Clerk, by (Secretario)	, Deputy (Adjunto)
(For proof of service of this sur (Para prueba de entrega de es	Clerk, by (Secretario)  mmons, use Proof of Service of Summors sta citation use el formulario Report of Service of Summor  NOTICE TO THE PERSON SERVED; You are server  1 as an individual defendant.  2 as the person sued under the fictitious name	d
	3. on behalf of (specify):  under: CCP 416.10 (corporation)  CCP 416.20 (defunct corporation)  CCP 416.40 (association or partner other (specify):	CCP 416.60 (minor) CCP 416.70 (conservatee) ship) CCP 416.90 (authorized person)

by personal delivery on (date):

		CIN-010
ATTORNEY OR PARTY WITHOUT ATTORNEY (Name, Stale) John C. Manly, Esq. SBN 149080	umber, and address):	FOR COURT USE ONLY
MANLY, STEWART & FINALDI		
19100 Von Karman Avenue, Suite 800		and the first back
I Irvine, CA 92612		ENDORSED
тецерноме но.: 949-252-9990	fax no.: 949-252-9991	
ATTORNEY FOR (Name): JOHN JG DOE	- Carlos - C	I FILED
SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF SA		
STREET ADDRESS: 191 North First Street	t	2016 JUN 22 A 11: 56
MAILING ADDRESS:		thip 2014 55 14 11. 24
city and zep code: San Jose, CA 95113	<b>~</b>	
BRANCH NAME: Downtown Superior (	Jourt	PARI America Grante Grana Cont
CASE NAME:		COUNTY OF STATES OF STATES AND ADDRESS OF ST
JOHN JG DOE v. GILROY UNIFIE	ED SCHOOL DISTRICT, et al.	Downski
CIVIL CASE COVER SHEET	Complex Case Designation	16 C V 296774
Unlimited Limited		10,0499
(Amount (Amount	Counter Joinder	. , JUDGE:
demanded demanded is	Filed with first appearance by defend	ant
exceeds \$25,000) \$25,000 or less)	(Cal. Rules of Court, rule 3,402)	DEPT:
	ow must be completed (see instructions o	on page 2).
1. Check one box below for the case type that	t best describes this case: '	•
Auto Tort	Contract	Provisionally Complex Civil Litigation
Auto (22)	Breach of contract/warranty (06)	(Cal. Rules of Court, rules 3.400-3.403)
Uninsured motorist (46)	Rule 3,740 collections (09)	Antitrust/Trade regulation (03)
Other PI/PD/WD (Personal Injury/Property	Other collections (09)	Construction defect (10)
Damage/Wrongful Death) Tort	Insurance coverage (18)	Mass tort (40)
Asbestos (04)	Other contract (37)	Securities litigation (28)
Product liability (24)	Real Property	Environmental/Toxic tort (30)
Medical malpractice (45)	Eminent domain/inverse	insurance coverage claims arising from the
Olher PI/PD/WD (23)	condemnation (14)	above listed provisionally complex case
Non-PI/PD/WD (Other) Tort	Wrongful eviction (33)	types (41)
	Other real property (26)	Enforcement of Judgment
Business tort/unfair business practice (07	Unlawful Detainer	Enforcement of Judgment (20)
Civil rights (08)		Miscellaneous Civil Complaint
Defamation (13)	Residential (32)	1
Fraud (16)	· ·	RICO (27)
Intellectual property (19)	Drugs (38)	Other complaint (not specified above) (42)
Professional negligence (25)		Miscellaneous Civil Petition
Other non-PI/PD/WD tort (35)	Asset forfeiture (05)	Partnership and corporate governance (21)
Employment	Petition re: arbitration award (11)	Other petition (not specified above) (43)
Wrongful termination (36)	Writ of mandate (02)	
Other employment (15)	Other judicial review (39)	
2. This case is is is not com	plex under rule 3.400 of the California Ri	ules of Court. If the case is complex, mark the
factors requiring exceptional judicial mana		
a. Large number of separately repre	sented parties d. Large numbe	er of witnesses
b. Extensive motion practice raising	difficult or novel e. Coordination	with related actions pending in one or more courts
issues that will be time-consumin		tles, states, or countries, or in a federal court
c. Substantial amount of documents		ostjudgment judicial supervision
	- Continued	
3. Remedies sought (check all that apply): a	. Monetary b. Monmonetary;	declaratory or injunctive relief c. 1 punitive
4. Number of causes of action (specify): 6		
	ss action suit.	
6. If there are any known related cases, file	and serve a notice of related case. (You	mayyuse form CM-015.)
Date: June 2016		
JOHN C. MANLY, ES		
(TYPE OR PRINT NAME)	×	SIGNATURE OF PARTY OF ATTORNEY FOR PARTY)
v	NOTICE	
<ul> <li>Plaintiff must file this cover sheet with the</li> </ul>	first paper filed in the action or proceeding	ng (except small claims cases or cases filed
under the Probate Code, Family Code, or	Welfare and Institutions Code). (Cal. Ru	les of Court, rule 3.220.) Fallure to file may result
in sanctions.	tor about reguland by local court rule	
• File this cover sheet in addition to any cov	er of the California Rules of Court wo	u must serve a copy of this cover sheet on all
other parties to the action or proceeding.	. seq. of the California Naise of Coult, yo	a most point a copy of this control shoot on all
Unless this is a collections case under rule	e 3.740 or a complex case, this cover sh	eet will be used for statistical purposes only.

COMPLAINT FOR DAMAGES

- 2. Defendant GILROY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT is, and at all times stated herein was, a business entity of form unknown, having its principal place of business in the County of Santa Clara, State of California. GILROY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT conducts significant educational activities in the State of California, and is the primary entity that owns, operates, supervises and controls Gilroy High School, DOUGLAS LE, and Does 1-100.
- 3. Defendant DOUGLAS LE ("LE") is, and at all times stated herein was, an adult male, residing in the County of Santa Clara, in the State of California. During the period of time in which the childhood sexual harassment and abuse of Plaintiff JOHN JG DOE occurred, LE was a teacher, tutor and coach employed by GILROY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT, Gilroy High School and Does 1-100.
- 4. Defendants DOES 1 through 100, inclusive, and each of them, are sued herein under fictitious names. Plaintiff is, as of yet, unaware of the true names and capacities of the DOE Defendants and therefore sues them by fictitious names. When their true names and capacities are ascertained, Plaintiff will request leave of Court to amend this Complaint to state their true names and capacities herein.
- 5. At all times stated herein, each Defendant was responsible in some manner or capacity for the occurrences herein alleged, and Plaintiff's damages, as herein alleged, were proximately caused by all Defendants.
- 6. At at all times stated herein, there existed a unity of interest and ownership amongst Defendants, and each of them, such that any individuality and separateness between

- 7. At all times stated herein, GILROY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT, Gilroy High School and Does 1-100 represented that LE was a highly qualified teacher, tutor and coach, a person of high ethical and moral standing who would competently fulfill these roles. Based upon these representations, Plaintiff's parents reasonably believed that LE was a person worthy of their trust and entrusted Plaintiff to the care of GILROY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT, Gilroy High School, LE and Does 1-100.
- 8. At all times stated herein, LE acted within the course and scope of his employment by GILROY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT, Gilroy High School and Does 1-100.
- 9. At all times stated herein, the acts and omissions committed by each Defendant occurred with the permission, consent and ratification of each and every other Defendant and, as such, each Defendant is jointly and severally liable to Plaintiff.

## FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS APPLICABLE TO ALL CLAIMS

- 10. Until his graduation in June of 2015, Plaintiff was a student at Gilroy High School and GILROY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT, and was under their control and supervision.
- 11. At all times material herein, LE was employed by Gilroy High School and GILROY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT as a teacher, tutor and coach. In such capacities, LE was under the direct supervision, employ, agency, and control of the GILROY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT, Gilroy High School and DOES 1-100. LE's duties and responsibilities included, but were not limited to, teaching, tutoring, coaching, mentoring, and advising students of Gilroy High School.
- 12. Through his position with Gilroy High School and GILROY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT, LE was put into direct contact with Plaintiff, a student at Gilroy High School. LE used his position of authority and trust to verbally, mentally and sexually abuse and harass

- 13. As a student at Gilroy High School Plaintiff was under LE's direct supervision, care and control, thus creating a special, fiduciary relationship, and/or special care relationship with Gilroy High School, GILROY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT and Does 1-100.

  Additionally, as a minor child under their custody, care and control, Gilroy High School and GILROY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT and Does 1-100 stood *in loco parentis* with respect to Plaintiff while he was attending school and school-related functions.
- 14. Prior to and during the period of LE's harassment and abuse of Plaintiff, GILROY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT, Gilroy High School and Does 1-100 knew that LE had previously engaged in unlawful sexually-related conduct with minors at Gilroy High School. GILROY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT, Gilroy High School and Does 1-100 had a duty to disclose to these facts to Plaintiff, to his parents and to others, but negligently and/or intentionally suppressed, concealed and failed to disclose this critical information. The duty to disclose this information arose via the special, trusting, confidential, fiduciary, and/or *in loco parentis* relationship between Plaintiff and GILROY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT, Gilroy High School, LE and Does 1-100.
- failed to take reasonable steps and/or implement reasonable safeguards to avoid acts of unlawful sexual conduct by LE, including, but not limited to termination of LE's employment. Instead, Defendants ignored and/or actively concealed the sexual harassment and abuse of Plaintiff and others by LE that had already occurred. The incidents of abuse outlined herein occurred while Plaintiff was under the control of GILROY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT, Gilroy High School, LE and Does 1-100. LE, employed as a teacher, tutor and coach, committed his actions while in the course and scope of his employment by GILROY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT and Does 1-100. While so employed, LE targeted Plaintiff in the following fashion:

a.	As part of his pedophilic "grooming" LE sadistically broke down the
	confidence of targeted students, including Plaintiff, by referencing the
	targeted students, including Plaintiff, as "stupid" and "dumb";

- b. LE manipulated the grades of Plaintiff who, through no fault of his own, triggered LE's sadistic and abusive tendencies. LE maintained an A, B or F grading scale. No other teacher in the school maintained this bizarre, pretextual, mentally abusive and scholastically demoralizing type of grading scale. LE would assign the students who triggered his pedophilic tendencies, including Plaintiff, an "F" on their progress reports. The "F" was assigned notwithstanding the actual percentage grade that the targeted students, including Plaintiff, achieved. In order to bring the grade up, the targeted students, including Plaintiff, were required to attend LE's after school "tutoring" sessions, during which LE would verbally and sexually harass, intimidate and abuse the targeted students, including Plaintiff;
- c. LE, on numerous occasions, would attach the school projector to LE's personal laptop and expose the students to youtube videos which contained profanity and content of a sexual nature;
- d. Through acts of both verbal and physical abuse, including, but not limited to, verbal insults and slamming students' books off of their desks, taking food off their desks and consuming it while massaging their backs, telling the students that he would "fuck your mother", "I fucked your mother", "I bet my dick is bigger than yours", LE sadistically and maliciously "tested the waters" to determine which students were more vulnerable and would not verbally or physically rebuff LE's escalating verbal and physical abuse;
- e. Posing as a female on Facebook, LE sent Plaintiff messages of a sexual nature, urging Plaintiff to send graphic photographs of Plaintiff to LE.
- 16. Plaintiff further alleges that, GILROY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT, Gilroy High School and Does 1-100 failed to report and did hide and conceal from students, parents, teachers, law enforcement authorities, civil authorities and others, the true facts and relevant information necessary to bring LE to justice for the sexual misconduct he committed with minors, as well as protect their fiduciaries, including Plaintiff.
- 17. GILROY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT, Gilroy High School and Does 1-100 also implemented various measures designed to, or which effectively, made LE's conduct harder to detect including, but not limited to:
  - a. Permitting LE to remain in a position of authority and trust after Defendants knew or should have known that LE was sexually harassing students;
  - b. Placing LE in a separate and secluded environment, including placing him in charge of children in the positions of teacher, tutor and coach, which allowed LE to sexually harass the children, including Plaintiff;

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- Allowing LE to come into contact with minors, including Plaintiff, without c. adequate supervision;
- Failing to inform, or concealing from Plaintiff's parents and law d. enforcement officials the fact that LE was sexually harassing students, thereby enabling LE's actions;
- Holding out LE to Plaintiff and his parents, students, and to the school e. community as being in good standing and trustworthy;
- Failing to take reasonable steps, and implement reasonable safeguards to f. avoid acts of unlawful sexual conduct by LE with students, who were minor children: and
- Failing to put in place a system or procedure to supervise and/or monitor g. employees, volunteers, representatives or agents to ensure that they did not harass or abuse minors in Defendants' care, including Plaintiff.
- During the period of abuse of Plaintiff at the hands of LE, Defendants had the 18. authority and the ability to terminate LE's verbal abuse and sexual assaults on Plaintiff, but Defendants negligently and/or willfully failed to do so, thereby allowing the abuse to occur and to continue unabated. This failure was a part of Defendants' plan and arrangement to conceal wrongful acts, avoid and inhibit detection, block public disclosure, avoid scandal, avoid the disclosure of their tolerance of child sexual harassment and abuse, preserve a false appearance of propriety, and avoid investigation and action by public authorities, including law enforcement. Such actions were motivated by a desire to protect the reputation of Defendants and protect the monetary support of Defendants while fostering an environment where such abuse could continue to occur.
- As a direct result of the verbal and physical abuse, intimidation and sexual 19. harassment that he suffered at the hands of LE, Plaintiff began and continues to experience multiple emotional, physical and psychological problems which include, but are not limited to: depression; academic demoralization; dread that LE's actions would destroy Plaintiff's ability to gain entrance into a good college; sleeplessness; distrust, isolation and alienation. LE's actions thwarted and destroyed what should have been the happiest and most carefree period in Plaintiff's life.
- As a direct and proximate result of the Defendants' tortious acts, omissions, 20. wrongful conduct and/or breaches of their duties, whether willful or negligent, Plaintiff's

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Duty to act promptly and diligently and not ignore or minimize problems;

Duty to supervise diligently:

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- Duty to refrain from violating Plaintiff's right to protection from bodily restraint or harm, from personal insult, from defamation, and from injury to his personal relations (Civil Code § 43);
- Duty to abstain from injuring the person or property of Plaintiff, or infringing upon any of his rights (Civil Code § 1708);
- Duty to report suspected incidents of child abuse and more specifically childhood sexual abuse (Penal Code §§ 11166, 11167); and
- Duty to prevent discrimination or sexual harassment and abuse from occurring in public educational facilities (Educational Code § 200, et seq.).
- Compulsory education laws create a special relationship between students and 22. Defendants, and students have a constitutional guarantee to a safe, secure and peaceful school environment. Defendants failed to acknowledge unsafe conditions, and therefore failed to guarantee safe surroundings in an environment in which Plaintiff was not free to leave, specifically including but not limited to allowing LE to take children for purposes of sexual activity and allowing LE to operate in isolated environments, incapable of monitoring from the outside, wherein LE sexually harassed and abused Plaintiff and others.
- Defendants had and have a duty to protect students, including Plaintiff. 23. Defendants were required, and failed, to provide adequate campus and off-site school event supervision, and failed to be properly vigilant in seeing that supervision was sufficient to ensure the safety of Plaintiff and others.
- Defendants lodged with LE the color of authority, by which he was able to 24. influence, direct and abuse Plaintiff and others, and to act illegally, unreasonably and without respect for the person and safety of Plaintiff.
- Defendants had a duty to and failed to adequately train and supervise the advisors, 25. teachers, mentors and staff to create a positive and safe educational environment, specifically including training to perceive, report and stop inappropriate conduct by other members of the staff, specifically including LE, with children.
- Defendants were required to and failed to exercise careful supervision of the moral 26. conditions in their school, and provide supervision before and after school. This duty extended beyond the classroom.

27. In subjecting Plaintiff to the wrongful treatment herein described, LE acted willfully and maliciously with the intent to harm Plaintiff, and in conscious disregard of Plaintiff's rights, so as to constitute malice and/or oppression under California Civil Code section 3294. Plaintiff is therefore entitled to an award of punitive damages against LE, in an amount to be determined by the court according to proof. Plaintiff is also entitled to recovery of reasonable attorney's fees against LE who has or will be convicted of a felony. Code of Civil Procedure section 1021.4. Plaintiff reserves the right to request attorney's fees pursuant to this code section, based upon LE's felony convictions, for any felony criminal acts perpetrated against Plaintiff.

# FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION NEGLIGENCE (Against all Defendants)

- 28. Plaintiff re-alleges and incorporates by reference herein each and every allegation contained herein above as though fully set forth and brought in this cause of action.
- 29. Plaintiff is informed and believes, and on that basis alleges that prior to and after the first incident of LE's sexual harassment and abuse of Plaintiff, through the present, Defendants, knew or should have reasonably known that LE had or was capable of verbally, physically, sexually, and/or mentally abusing Plaintiff and other victims.
- 30. Defendants had special duties to protect the minor Plaintiff and the other students within Gilroy High School and the GILROY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT, when such students were entrusted to their care. Plaintiff's care, welfare and/or physical custody was entrusted to Defendants. Defendants voluntarily accepted the entrusted care of Plaintiff. As such, Defendants owed Plaintiff, a minor child, a special duty of care, in addition to a duty of ordinary care, and owed Plaintiff the higher duty of care that adults dealing with children owe to protect them from harm. The duty to protect and warn arose from the special, trusting, confidential, and/or fiduciary relationship between Defendants and Plaintiff. Before the onslaught of abuse, Plaintiff felt great trust, faith and confidence in Defendants, and in LE as his teacher, tutor, adviser and mentor.
- 31. Defendants breached their duties of care to the Plaintiff by allowing LE to come into contact with Plaintiff and other students, without supervision; by failing to adequately hire,

- 32. Defendants breached their duty to Plaintiff by, *inter alia*, failing to investigate or otherwise confirm or deny such facts, failing to reveal such facts to Plaintiff, the community of the school, students, minors, and law enforcement agencies, placing and continuing to place LE in positions of trust and authority within Gilroy High School and the GILROY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT, and holding out, and continuing to hold out LE to Plaintiff, the public, the community of the school, students, minors, and law enforcement agencies as being in good standing and trustworthy.
- 33. Defendants breached their duty to Plaintiff by, *inter alia*, failing to adequately monitor and supervise LE and/or stopping LE from committing wrongful sexual acts with minors including Plaintiff. This belief is founded on the fact that the Principal and other faculty members at Gilroy High School and GILROY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT had suspected the abuse and/or harassment was occurring at the time, and failed to investigate into the matter further. Based on these facts, Defendants knew and/or should have known of LE's incapacity to supervise and/or stop employees of Defendants from committing wrongful sexual acts with minors.

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- 34. Under the Child Abuse and Neglect Reporting Act, Defendants, by and through their employees and agents, were child care custodians and were under a statutory duty to report known or suspected incidents of sexual harassment or abuse of minors to a child protective agency, pursuant to California Penal Code § 11166, and/or not to impede the filing of any such report.
- 35. Plaintiff is informed and believes, and on that basis alleges, that Defendants knew or should have known that LE, their agent, teacher, tutor, coach, advisor and mentor and had sexually abused, or harassed, or caused harm, and other injuries to minors, giving rise to a duty to report such conduct under California Penal Code § 11166.
- Plaintiff is informed and believes, and on that basis alleges, that Defendants also 36. knew, or should have known in the exercise of reasonable diligence, that an undue risk to minors, including Plaintiff, existed because Defendants did not comply with California's mandatory reporting requirements.
- By failing to report the continuing harassment and abuse, which Defendants and 37. each of them knew or should have known, and by ignoring the fulfillment of the mandated compliance with the reporting requirements provided under California Penal Code § 11166, Defendants created the risk and danger contemplated by the Child Abuse and Neglect Reporting Act, and as a result, unreasonably and wrongfully exposed Plaintiff and other minors to sexual harassment and abuse.
- 38. Plaintiff was a member of the class of persons for whose protection California Penal Code § 11166 was specifically adopted to protect. Had Defendants adequately reported the abuse and harassment of Plaintiff and other minors as required by California Penal Code § 11166, further harm to Plaintiff and other minors would have been avoided.
- As a proximate result of Defendants' failure to follow the mandatory reporting 39. requirements of California Penal Code § 11166, Defendants wrongfully denied Plaintiff and other minors, the intervention of child protection services. Such public agencies would have changed the then-existing arrangements and conditions that provided the access and opportunities for the abuse and sexual harassment of Plaintiff by LE.

41. As a result of the above-described conduct, Plaintiff has suffered and continues to suffer great pain of mind and body, shock, emotional distress, physical manifestations of emotional distress, embarrassment, loss of self-esteem, disgrace, academic demoralization, humiliation, and loss of enjoyment of life; has suffered and continues to suffer and was prevented and will continue to be prevented from performing daily activities and obtaining the full enjoyment of life; will sustain loss of earnings and earning capacity, and/or has incurred and will continue to incur expenses for medical and psychological treatment, therapy, and counseling.

# SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION NEGLIGENT SUPERVISION (Against Defendant GILROY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT and GILROY HIGH SCHOOL and Does 1-100 Only)

- 42. Plaintiff re-alleges and incorporates by reference herein each and every allegation contained herein above as though fully set forth and brought in this cause of action.
- 43. As an educational institution for minors, where all of the students are entrusted to the counselors, advisors, mentors, coaches, faculty members, administrators and teachers, Defendants expressly and implicitly represented that these individuals, including LE, were not a sexual threat to children and others who would fall under LE's influence, control, direction, and guidance.
- 44. Defendants negligently failed to supervise LE in his position of trust and authority as a teacher, tutor, coach, advisor and mentor, and/or other authority figure, where he was able to commit wrongful acts against the Plaintiff. Defendants failed to provide reasonable supervision of LE. Defendants further failed to take reasonable measures to prevent sexual harassment and abuse of minors, including Plaintiff.

- 45. Plaintiff is informed and believes, and on that basis alleges, that at no time during the periods of time alleged did Defendants have in place a system or procedure to reasonably investigate, supervise and/or monitor teachers, including LE, to prevent pre-sexual grooming and/or sexual harassment, and abuse of children, nor did they implement a system or procedure to oversee or monitor conduct toward minors, students and others in Defendants' care.
- 46. Defendants were or should have been aware and understood how vulnerable children were to sexual harassment and abuse by counselors, advisors, mentors, coaches, teachers and other persons of authority. Defendants' conduct constituted numerous breaches of their duties to Plaintiff.
- 47. Under the Child Abuse and Neglect Reporting Act, Defendants, by and through their employees and agents, were child care custodians and were under a statutory duty to report known or suspected incidents of sexual abuse of minors to a child protective agency, pursuant to California Penal Code section 11166, and/or not to impede the filing of any such report.

  Defendants knew or should have known that LE had sexually abused or caused harm, and other injuries to minors, including Plaintiff, giving rise to a duty to report such conduct under California Penal Code section 11166.
- 48. Defendants knew, or should have known in the exercise of reasonable diligence, that an undue risk to minors, including Plaintiff, existed because Defendants did not comply with California's mandatory reporting requirements. By failing to report the continuing abuse, of which Defendants and each of them knew or should have known, and by ignoring the fulfillment of the mandated compliance with the reporting requirements provided under California Penal Code section 11166, Defendants created the risk and danger contemplated by the Child Abuse and Neglect Reporting Act, and as a result, unreasonably and wrongfully exposed Plaintiff and other minors to sexual harassment and abuse.
- 49. Plaintiff was a member of the class of persons for whose protection California

  Penal Code section 11166 was specifically adopted to protect. Had Defendants adequately
  reported the sexual abuse and harassment of Plaintiff and other minors as required by California
  Penal Code section 11166, further harm to Plaintiff would have been avoided.

50. As	s a proximate result of Defendants' failure	to follow the mandatory reporting
requirements of (	California <u>Penal Code</u> section 11166, Defe	endants wrongfully denied Plaintiff and
other minors the	intervention of child protection services.	Such public agencies would have
changed the then	n-existing arrangements and conditions tha	t provided the access and opportunities
for the sexual har	rassment and abuse of Plaintiff by LE.	

- 51. The physical, mental, and emotional damages and injuries resulting from the sexual harassment and abuse of Plaintiff by LE, were the type of occurrence and injuries that the Child Abuse and Neglect Reporting Act was designed to prevent. As a result, Defendants' failure to comply with the mandatory reporting requirements of California Penal Code section 11166 also constituted a per se breach of Defendants' duties to Plaintiff.
- 52. Defendants breached their duty to Plaintiff by, *inter alia*, failing to adequately monitor and supervise LE and/or stopping LE from committing wrongful sexual harassment and abuse of minors including Plaintiff. The administration at Gilroy High School and GILROY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT had suspected the abuse was occurring at the time, and failed to investigate into the matter further. Based on these facts, Defendants knew and/or should have known of LE's incapacity to supervise and/or stop employees of Defendants from committing wrongful sexual acts with minors.
- 53. As a result of the above-described conduct, Plaintiff has suffered and continues to suffer great pain of mind and body, shock, emotional distress, physical manifestations of emotional distress, embarrassment, loss of self-esteem, disgrace, humiliations, and loss of enjoyment of life; has suffered and continues to suffer and was prevented and will continue to be prevented from performing daily activities and obtaining the full enjoyment of life; will sustain loss of earnings and earning capacity, and/or has incurred and will continue to incur expenses for medical and psychological treatment, therapy, and counseling.

# THIRD CAUSE OF ACTION NEGLIGENT HIRING/RETENTION (Against Defendant GILROY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT, GILROY HIGH SCHOOL and Does 1-100 Only)

54. Plaintiff re-alleges and incorporates by reference herein each and every allegation

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contained herein above as though fully set forth and brought in this cause of action.

- By virtue of Plaintiff's special relationship with Defendants and Defendants' 55. relation to LE, Defendants owed Plaintiff a duty to not hire and/or retain LE, given his dangerous and exploitive propensities, which Defendants knew or reasonably should have known had they engaged in a meaningful and adequate investigation of his background prior to hiring him.
- As an educational institution and operator of a school, where all of the students are 56. minors entrusted to the schools and its employees and agents, Defendants expressly and implicitly represented that the counselors, advisors, mentors, coaches, teachers and others, including LE, were not a sexual threat to children and others who would fall under LE's influence, control, direction, and guidance.
- 57. Plaintiff is informed and believes, and on that basis alleges, that at no time during the periods of time alleged did Defendants have in place a system or procedure to reasonably investigate, supervise and/or monitor teachers, including LE, to prevent pre-sexual grooming and/or sexual harassment and abuse of children, nor did they implement a system or procedure to oversee or monitor conduct toward minors, students and others in Defendants' care. Defendants were or should have been aware and understood how vulnerable children were to sexual harassment, and abuse by teachers and other persons of authority within the control of Defendants.
- Plaintiff is informed, and believes, and on that basis alleges, that the Defendants 58. were put on notice, and should have known that LE had previously engaged in dangerous and inappropriate conduct, and that it was, or should have been foreseeable that he was engaging, or would engage in illicit sexual activities with Plaintiff, and others, under the cloak of his authority, confidence, and trust, bestowed upon him through Defendants.
- Defendants were placed on actual and/or constructive notice that LE had engaged 59. in dangerous and inappropriate conduct, both before his employment within Defendants, and during that employment. Plaintiff is informed, and thereon alleges, that other third parties, minors, students, law enforcement officials and/or parents informed Defendants of inappropriate conduct committed by LE. Even though Defendants knew or should have known of these

activities by LE, Plaintiff is informed that Defendants failed to use reasonable care in investigating LE and did nothing to investigate, supervise or monitor LE to ensure the safety of the minor students. Defendants' conduct was a breach of their duty to Plaintiff.

- 60. Under the Child Abuse and Neglect Reporting Act, Defendants, by and through their employees and agents, were child care custodians and were under a statutory duty to report known or suspected incidents of sexual abuse of minors to a child protective agency, pursuant to California Penal Code section 11166, and/or not to impede the filing of any such report. Plaintiff is informed and believes, and on that basis alleges, that Defendants knew or should have known that their agent, counselor, advisor and mentor, LE, and other employees, agents, teachers and staff within Defendants, had sexually abused or caused harm, and other injuries to minors, including Plaintiff, giving rise to a duty to report such conduct under California Penal Code section 11166.
- or should have known in the exercise of reasonable diligence, that an undue risk to minors, including Plaintiff, existed because Defendants did not comply with California's mandatory reporting requirements. By failing to report the continuing harassment and abuse, which Defendants and each of them knew or should have known, and by ignoring the fulfillment of the mandated compliance with the reporting requirements provided under California Penal Code section 11166, Defendants created the risk and danger contemplated by the Child Abuse and Neglect Reporting Act, and as a result, unreasonably and wrongfully exposed Plaintiff and other minors to sexual harassment and abuse.
- 62. Plaintiff was a member of the class of persons for whose protection California

  Penal Code section 11166 was specifically adopted to protect. Had Defendants adequately
  reported the sexual harassment and abuse of Plaintiff and other minors as required by California

  Penal Code section 11166, further harm to Plaintiff and other minors would have been avoided.
- 63. As a proximate result of Defendants' failure to follow the mandatory reporting requirements of California Penal Code section 11166, Defendants wrongfully denied Plaintiff and other minors the intervention of child protection services. Such public agencies would have

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changed the then-existing arrangements and conditions that provided the access and opportunities for the harassment and abuse of Plaintiff by LE

- The physical, mental, and emotional damages and injuries resulting from the 64. harassment and abuse of Plaintiff by LE, were the type of occurrence and injuries that the Child Abuse and Neglect Reporting Act was designed to prevent.
- As a result, Defendants' failure to comply with the mandatory reporting 65. requirements of California Penal Code section 11166 also constituted a per se breach of Defendants' duties to Plaintiff.
- As a result of the above-described conduct, Plaintiff has suffered and continues to 66. suffer great pain of mind and body, shock, emotional distress, physical manifestations of emotional distress, embarrassment, loss of self-esteem, disgrace, humiliations, and loss of enjoyment of life; has suffered and continues to suffer and was prevented and will continue to be prevented from performing daily activities and obtaining the full enjoyment of life; will sustain loss of earnings and earning capacity, and/or has incurred and will continue to incur expenses for medical and psychological treatment, therapy, and counseling.

#### FOURTH CAUSE OF ACTION INTENTIONAL INFLICTION OF EMOTIONAL DISTRESS (Against DEFENDANT LE only)

- Plaintiff re-alleges and incorporates by reference herein each and every allegation 67. contained herein above as though fully set forth and brought in this cause of action.
- LE's conduct toward Plaintiff, as described herein, was outrageous and extreme. 68. A reasonable person would not expect or tolerate the sexual harassment, and abuse of Plaintiff by LE. Plaintiff had great trust, faith and confidence in LE and in Defendants, which, by virtue of LE's and Defendants' wrongful conduct, turned to fear. LE's conduct described herein was intentional and malicious and done for the purpose of causing or with the substantial certainty that Plaintiff would suffer humiliation, mental anguish, and emotional and physical distress.
- As a result of the above-described conduct, Plaintiff has suffered and continues to 69. suffer great pain of mind and body, shock, emotional distress, physical manifestations of emotional distress, embarrassment, loss of self-esteem, disgrace, humiliation, and loss of

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enjoyment of life; has suffered and continues to suffer and was prevented and will continue to be prevented from performing daily activities and obtaining the full enjoyment of life; will sustain loss of earnings and earning capacity, and/or has incurred and will continue to incur expenses for medical and psychological treatment, therapy, and counseling.

70. The conduct of LE was oppressive, malicious and despicable in that it was intentional and done in conscious disregard for the rights and safety of others, and was carried out with a conscious disregard of Plaintiff's right to be free from such tortious behavior, such as to constitute oppression, fraud or malice pursuant to California Civil Code section 3294, entitling Plaintiff to punitive damages against this Defendant in an amount appropriate to punish and set an example of Defendants.

## FIFTH CAUSE OF ACTION

- Plaintiff re-alleges and incorporates by reference herein each and every allegation 71. contained herein above as though fully set forth and brought in this cause of action.
- Education Code section 220 states "No person shall be subjected to 72. discrimination on the basis of disability, gender, gender identity, gender expression, nationality, race or ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation, or any other characteristic that is contained in the definition of hate crimes set forth in Section 422.55 of the Penal Code in any program or activity conducted by an educational institution that receives, or benefits from, state financial assistance or enrolls pupils who receive state student financial aid."
- Education Code section 201 states "All pupils have the right to participate fully 73. in the educational process, free from discrimination and harassment [...] California's public schools have an affirmative obligation to combat racism, sexism, and other forms of bias, and a responsibility to provide equal educational opportunity [...] Harassment on school grounds directed at an individual on the basis of personal characteristics or status creates a hostile environment and jeopardizes equal educational opportunity as guaranteed by the California Constitution and the United States Constitution [...] There is an urgent need to

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prevent and respond to acts of hate violence and bias-related incidents that are occurring at an increasing rate in California's public schools [...] It is the intent of the Legislature that this chapter shall be interpreted as consistent with [...] Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 (20 U.S.C. Sec. 1681, et seq.) [...] the Unruh Civil Rights Act (Secs. 51 to 53, incl., Civ. C.), and the Fair Employment and Housing Act (Pt. 2.8 (commencing with Sec. 12900), Div. 3, Gov. C.), except where this chapter may grant more protections or impose additional obligations, and that the remedies provided herein shall not be the exclusive remedies, but may be combined with remedies that may be provided by the above statutes."

- The California Supreme Court has determined: "Responsibility for the safety of 74. public school students is not borne solely by instructional personnel. School principals and other supervisory employees, to the extent their duties include overseeing the educational environment and the performance of teachers and counselors, also have the responsibility of taking reasonable measures to guard pupils against harassment . . ." C.A. v. William S. Hart Union High School Dist. et. al., (2012) 53 Cal. 4th 861, 871.
- "A principal is liable when it ratifies an originally unauthorized tort. The failure to 75. discharge an agent or employee may be evidence of ratification. . . If the employer, after knowledge or opportunity to learn of the agent's misconduct, continues the wrongdoer in service, the employer may become an abettor and may make himself liable in punitive damages." Murillo v. Rite Stuff Foods Inc., (1998) 65 Cal. App. 4th 833, 852 (internal citations omitted).
- During Plaintiff's time as a student at Gilroy High School, Defendant LE 76. intentionally, recklessly and wantonly made sexual advances, solicitations, requests, demands for sexual compliance of a hostile nature based on Plaintiff's gender that were unwelcome, pervasive and severe, including but not limited to Defendant LE: verbally, physically and sexually harassing the Plaintiff, all while LE was acting in the course and scope of his agency/ employment with Defendants, and each of them.
- The incidents of abuse outlined herein above took place while Plaintiff was under 77. the control of LE, in his capacity and position as a teacher, tutor, coach, advisor and mentor and while acting specifically on behalf of Defendants.

- 79. Because of Plaintiff's relationship with LE as a student at Gilroy High School and the GILROY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT, and Plaintiff's young age as a minor student, Plaintiff was unable to easily terminate the student-teacher, student-advisor, and student-mentor relationships that he had with Defendant LE. Because of LE's position of authority over Plaintiff, and Plaintiff's mental and emotional state, and Plaintiff's young age under the age of consent, Plaintiff was unable to, and did not give meaningful consent to such acts.
- 80. Prior to removing LE from his position as a teacher, GILROY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT and Gilroy High School's administrations had launched an investigation into LE's inappropriate behavior towards students at the Gilroy High School. Clearly, apprised that LE was engaging in suspicious behavior, Gilroy High School nevertheless continued LE in employment. Even though the Defendants knew or should have known of these activities by Defendant LE, Defendants did nothing to investigate, supervise or monitor Defendant LE to ensure the safety of the minor students, but instead ratified such conduct by retaining LE in employment and retaining the benefits of his employment.
- 81. Defendants' conduct was a breach of their duties to Plaintiff. Defendants' ratified LE's despicable harassment of Plaintiff by retaining LE in employment despite having knowledge that the verbal, mental, emotional abuse and sexual harassment was occurring. As a result of the above-described conduct, Plaintiff has suffered and continues to suffer great pain of mind and body, shock, emotional distress, physical manifestations of emotional distress, embarrassment, loss of self-esteem, disgrace, humiliations, and loss of enjoyment of life; has suffered and continues to suffer and was prevented and will continue to be prevented from performing daily activities and obtaining the full enjoyment of life; will sustain loss of earnings and earning

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capacity, and/or has incurred and will continue to incur expenses for medical and psychological treatment, therapy, and counseling.

82. The aforesaid acts directed towards the Plaintiff were carried out with a conscious disregard of Plaintiff's right to be free from such tortious behavior, such as to constitute oppression, fraud or malice pursuant to California Civil Code section 3294, entitling Plaintiff to punitive damages against Defendant LE in an amount appropriate to punish and set an example of him, and also pursuant to Civil Code section 52. Plaintiff is also entitled to attorney's fees and costs from Defendants pursuant to Civil Code section 52, especially given GILROY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT's authorization or ratification of such acts by its managing agents, officers or directors.

# (Against Defendant LE Only)

- Plaintiff realleges and incorporates by reference herein each and every allegation 83. contained herein above as though fully set forth and brought in this cause of action.
- Defendants' acts committed against Plaintiff, as alleged herein, including the 84 sexual harassment and abuse of the minor Plaintiff constitute gender violence and a form of sex discrimination in that one or more of Defendants' acts would constitute a criminal offense under state law that has as an element the use, attempted use, or threatened use of physical force against the person of another, committed at least in part based on the gender of the victim, whether or not those acts have resulted in criminal complaints, charges, prosecution, or conviction.
- Defendants' acts committed against Plaintiff, as alleged herein, including the 85. sexual harassment and abuse of the minor Plaintiff constitutes gender violence and a form of sex discrimination in that Defendants' conduct caused a threatened physical intrusion or physical invasion of a sexual nature upon Plaintiff under coercive conditions, whether or not those acts have resulted in criminal complaints, charges, prosecution, or conviction.
- As a proximate result of Defendant LE's acts, Plaintiff is entitled to actual 86. damages, compensatory damages, punitive damages, injunctive relief, any combination of those, or any other appropriate relief pursuant to Civil Code section 3294 and Civil Code section 53.

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Plaintiff is also entitled to an award of attorney's fees and costs pursuant to Civil Code § 52.4, against Defendant LE.

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

#### FOR ALL CAUSES OF ACTION

- For past, present and future general damages in an amount to be determined at 1.
- For past, present and future special damages, including but not limited to past, 2. present and future lost earnings, economic damages and others, in an amount to be determined at
  - Any appropriate punitive or exemplary damages against Defendant LE; 3.
  - 4. Any appropriate statutory damages;
  - 5. For costs of suit;
  - For interest as allowed by law; 6.
- For attorney's fees and costs as applicable pursuant to California Code of Civil 7. Procedure §§ 52.4, 1021.4 and 1021.5 against Defendant LE; Civil Code §52 against Defendants LE and GILROY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT, or otherwise as allowable by law;
  - For such other and further relief as the court may deem proper. 8.

Dated: June , 2016

MANLY, STEWART & FINALDI

By:

JOHN C. MANLY, Esq. Attorney for Plaintiff, JOHN JG DOE

Dated: June , 2016

ALLRED MAROKO & GOLDBERG

By:

Attorney for Plaintiff, JOHN JG DOE

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#### CIVIL LAWSUIT NOTICE

Superior Court of California, County of Santa Clara 191 N. First St., San Jose, CA 95113 CASE NUMBER:

16 C V 296774

#### PLEASE READ THIS ENTIRE FORM

<u>PLAINTIFF</u> (the person suing): Within 60 days after filling the lawsuit, you must serve each Defendant with the Complaint, Summons, an Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) Information Sheet, and a copy of this Civil Lawsuit Notice, and you must file written proof of such service.

<u>DEFENDANT</u> (The person sued): You must do each of the following to protect your rights:

- 1. You must file a written response to the Complaint, using the proper legal form or format, in the Clerk's Office of the Court, within 30 days of the date you were served with the Summons and Complaint;
- 2. You must serve by mail a copy of your written response on the Plaintiff's attorney or on the Plaintiff if Plaintiff has no attorney (to "serve by mail" means to have an adult other than yourself mail a copy); and
- You must attend the first Case Management Conference.

Warning: If you, as the Defendant, do not follow these instructions, you may automatically lose this case.

<u>RULES AND FORMS:</u> You must follow the California Rules of Court and the Superior Court of California, County of Santa Clara Local Civil Rules and use proper forms. You can obtain legal information, view the rules and receive forms, free of charge, from the Self-Help Center at 99 Notre Dame Avenue, San Jose (408-882-2900 x-2926), <a href="https://www.scselfservice.org">www.scselfservice.org</a> (Select "Civil") or from:

- State Rules and Judicial Council Forms: www.courtinfo.ca.gov/forms and www.courtinfo.ca.gov/rules
- Local Rules and Forms: http://www.sccsuperiorcourt.org/civil/rule1toc.htm

<u>CASE MANAGEMENT CONFERENCE (CMC):</u> You must meet with the other parties and discuss the case, in person or by telephone, at least 30 calendar days before the CMC. You must also fill out, file and serve a Case Management Statement (Judicial Council form CM-110) at least 15 calendar days before the CMC.

You or your attorney must appear at the CMC. You may ask to appear by telephone - see Local Civil Rule 8.

Your Case Management Judge is: Maureen Fola	nDepartment:8
The 1st CMC is scheduled for: (Completed by Clerk a	(Court) Time: 3:30pm in Department: 8
The next CMC is scheduled for: (Completed by party	if the 1st CMC was continued or has passed)
Date:	Time: In Department:

ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION (ADR): If all parties have appeared and filed a completed ADR Stipulation Form (local form CV-5008) at least 15 days before the CMC, the Court will cancel the CMC and mail notice of an ADR Status Conference. Visit the Court's website at <a href="https://www.sccsuperiorcourt.org/civil/ADR/">www.sccsuperiorcourt.org/civil/ADR/</a> or call the ADR Administrator (408-882-2100 x-2530) for a list of ADR providers and their qualifications, services, and fees.

WARNING: Sanctions may be imposed if you do not follow the California Rules of Court or the Local Rules of Court.

### SANTA CLARA COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION INFORMATION SHEET

Many cases can be resolved to the satisfaction of all parties without the necessity of traditional litigation, which can be expensive, time consuming, and stressful. The Court finds that it is in the best interests of the parties that they participate in alternatives to traditional litigation, including arbitration, mediation, neutral evaluation, special masters and referees, and settlement conferences. Therefore, all matters shall be referred to an appropriate form of Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) before they are set for trial, unless there is good cause to dispense with the ADR requirement.

#### What Is ADR?

ADR is the general term for a wide variety of dispute resolution processes that are alternatives to litigation. Types of ADR processes include mediation, arbitration, neutral evaluation, special masters and referees, and settlement conferences, among others forms.

#### What are the advantages of choosing ADR instead of litigation?

ADR can have a number of advantages over litigation:

- ADR can save time. A dispute can be resolved in a matter of months, or even weeks, while litigation can take years.
- ADR can save money. Attorney's fees, court costs, and expert fees can be reduced or avoided altogether.
- ADR provides more participation. Parties have more opportunities with ADR to express their interests and concerns, instead
  of focusing exclusively on legal rights.
- ADR provides more control and flexibility. Parties can choose the ADR process that is most likely to bring a satisfactory
  resolution to their dispute.
- ADR can reduce stress. ADR encourages cooperation and communication, while discouraging the adversarial atmosphere of litigation. Surveys of parties who have participated in an ADR process have found much greater satisfaction than with parties who have gone through litigation.

#### What are the main forms of ADR offered by the Court?

Mediation is an informal, confidential, flexible and non-binding process in the mediator helps the parties to understand the interests of everyone involved, and their practical and legal choices. The mediator helps the parties to communicate better, explore legal and practical settlement options, and reach an acceptable solution of the problem. The mediator does not decide the solution to the dispute; the parties do.

Mediation may be appropriate when:

- The parties want a non-adversary procedure
- The parties have a continuing business or personal relationship
- Communication problems are interfering with a resolution
- There is an emotional element involved
- The parties are interested in an injunction, consent decree, or other form of equitable relief

**Neutral evaluation**, sometimes called "Early Neutral Evaluation" or "ENE", is an informal process in which the evaluator, an experienced neutral lawyer, hears a compact presentation of both sides of the case, gives a non-binding assessment of the strengths and weaknesses on each side, and predicts the likely outcome. The evaluator can help parties to identify issues, prepare stipulations, and draft discovery plans. The parties may use the neutral's evaluation to discuss settlement.

Neutral evaluation may be appropriate when:

- The parties are far apart in their view of the law or value of the case
- The case involves a technical issue in which the evaluator has expertise
- Case planning assistance would be helpful and would save legal fees and costs
- The parties are interested in an injunction, consent decree, or other form of equitable relief

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Arbitration is a less formal process than a trial, with no jury. The arbitrator hears the evidence and arguments of the parties and then makes a written decision. The parties can agree to binding or non-binding arbitration. In binding arbitration, the arbitrator's decision is final and completely resolves the case, without the opportunity for appeal. In non-binding arbitration, the arbitrator's decision could resolve the case, without the opportunity for appeal, unless a party timely rejects the arbitrator's decision within 30 days and requests a trial. Private arbitrators are allowed to charge for their time.

Arbitration may be appropriate when:

- · The action is for personal injury, property damage, or breach of contract
- Only monetary damages are sought
- Witness testimony, under oath, needs to be evaluated
- An advisory opinion is sought from an experienced litigator (if a non-binding arbitration)

Civil Judge ADR allows parties to have a mediation or settlement conference with an experienced judge of the Superior Court. Mediation is an informal, confidential, flexible and non-binding process in which the judge helps the parties to understand the interests of everyone involved, and their practical and legal choices. A settlement conference is an informal process in which the judge meets with the parties or their attorneys, hears the facts of the dispute, helps identify issues to be resolved, and normally suggests a resolution that the parties may accept or use as a basis for further negotiations. The request for mediation or settlement conference may be made promptly by stipulation (agreement) upon the filing of the Civil complaint and the answer. There is no charge for this service.

Civil Judge ADR may be appropriate when:

- · The parties have complex facts to review
- The case involves multiple parties and problems
- The courthouse surroundings would be helpful to the settlement process

Special masters and referees are neutral parties who may be appointed by the court to obtain information or to make specific fact findings that may lead to a resolution of a dispute.

Special masters and referees can be particularly effective in complex cases with a number of partles, like construction disputes.

Settlement conferences are informal processes in which the neutral (a judge or an experienced attorney) meets with the parties or their attorneys, hears the facts of the dispute, helps identify issues to be resolved, and normally suggests a resolution that the parties may accept or use as a basis for further negotiations.

Settlement conferences can be effective when the authority or expertise of the judge or experienced attorney may help the parties reach a resolution.

#### What kind of disputes can be resolved by ADR?

Although some disputes must go to court, almost any dispute can be resolved through ADR. This includes disputes involving business matters; civil rights; collections; corporations; construction; consumer protection; contracts; copyrights; defamation; disabilities; discrimination; employment; environmental problems; fraud; harassment; health care; housing; insurance; intellectual property; labor; landlord/tenant; media; medical malpractice and other professional negligence; neighborhood problems; partnerships; patents; personal injury; probate; product liability; property damage; real estate; securities; sports; trade secret; and wrongful death, among other matters.

Where can you get assistance with selecting an appropriate form of ADR and a neutral for your case, information about ADR procedures, or answers to other questions about ADR?

#### Contact:

Santa Clara County Superior Court ADR Administrator 408-882-2530 Santa Clara County DRPA Coordinator 408-792-2784