SC-100

Plaintiff's Claim and ORDER to Go to Small Claims Court

Notice to the person being sued:

- You are the defendant if your name is listed in ② on page 2 of this form or on form SC-100A. The person suing you is the plaintiff, listed in ① on page 2.
- You and the plaintiff must go to court on the trial date listed below. If you
 do not go to court, you may lose the case. If you lose, the court can order
 that your wages, money, or property be taken to pay this claim.
- · Bring witnesses, receipts, and any evidence you need to prove your case.
- Read this form and all pages attached to understand the claim against you and to protect your rights.

Aviso al Demandado:

- Usted es el Demandado si su nombre figura en ② de la página 2 de este formulario, o en el formulario SC-100A. La persona que lo demanda es el Demandante, la que figura en ① de la página 2.
- Usted y el Demandante tienen que presentarse en la corte en la fecha del juicio indicada a continuación. Si no se presenta, puede perder el caso. Si pierde el caso, la corte podría ordenar que le quiten de su sueldo, dinero u otros bienes para pagar este reclamo.
- · Lleve testigos, recibos y cualquier otra prueba que necesite para probar su caso
- Lea este formulario y todas las páginas adjuntas para entender la demanda en su contra y para proteger sus derechos.

FILED
YOLO SUPERIOR COURT

JUL 1 6 2024

BY A. SULLIVAN

DEPUTY

Fill in court name and street address:

Superior Court of California, County of Yolo Superior Court

Clerks Office - Civil 1000 Main Street Woodland, CA 95695

Court fills in case number when form is filed.

Case Number: SC2024 - 01 Q2 Case Name:

Order to Go to Court

The people in 1 and 2 must attend court: (Clerk fills out section below.)

Trial Date 1. On 100 12074 9 Department	Name and address of court, if different from above
3. Date: JUL 1 6 2024 SHAWN C. LAN	NDRY A. SULLIVAN , Deputy

Instructions for the person suing:

Do not use this form to recover COVID-19 rental debt, which is unpaid rent or other financial obligations under a tenancy due between March 1, 2020, and September 30, 2021. (See Code of Civil Procedure, §1179.02.) To recover COVID-19 rental debt, use form SC-500, Plaintiff's Claim and ORDER to Go to Small Claims Court.

- · You are the plaintiff. The person you are suing is the defendant.
- Before you fill out this form, read form <u>SC-100-INFO</u>, <u>Information for the Plaintiff</u>, to know your rights. You can get form SC-100-INFO at any courthouse or county law library, or go to <u>www.courts.ca.gov/forms</u>.
- Fill out pages 2, 3, and 4 of this form. Make copies of all the pages of this form and any attachments—one for each party named in this case and an extra copy for yourself. Take or mail the original and the copies to the court clerk's office and pay the filing fee. The clerk will write the date of your trial in the box above. Your court may allow electronic filing. Check your local court website for information: www.courts.ca.gov/find-my-court.htm.
- You must have someone at least 18—not you or anyone else listed in this case—give each defendant a court-stamped copy of all pages of this form and any pages this form tells you to attach. There are special rules for "serving," or delivering, this form to public entities, associations, and some businesses. See forms SC-104, SC-104B, and SC-104C.
- · Go to court on your trial date listed above. Bring witnesses, receipts, and any evidence you need to prove your case.



The plaintiff (the person, business, or public entity that is suing) is: Name: Phone:			
Straat addrass:		·	
Street Street	City	State	
Mailing address (if different):			
Street	City	State	Zip
Email address (if available):			
If more than one plaintiff, list next pl			
Name:	Phone	:	
Street address:			
Street Mailing address (if different)	City	State	Zip
Mailing address (if different):Street	City	 State	
Email address (if available):	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		—·r
 ☐ Check here if more than two plaintiffs and ☐ Check here if either plaintiff listed above is ☐ Check here if any plaintiff is a "licensee" of Code sections 23000 et seq. 	s doing business under a fictitious or "deferred deposit originator" ((payday lender ₎	•
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Plain	tiff (lis	st names):	Case Number:
3	b. W	Then did this happen? (Date):	
	If	no specific date, give the time period: Date started.	Through:
c. How did you calculate the money owed to you? (Do not include court costs or fees for servi			ot include court costs or fees for service.)
		heck here if you need more space. Attach one sheet o	f paper or form and write "SC-100, Item 3" at
4	sue.		iting, or by phone) to pay you before you ty, you must ask the defendant to give you
		es	
5	-	are you filing your claim at this courthouse covers the area (check the one that applied) (1) Where the defendant lives or does business. (2) Where the plaintiff's property was damaged. (3) Where the plaintiff was injured.	
 b. Where the buyer or lessee signed the contract, lives now, or lived when the contract was made, is about an offer or contract for personal, family, or household goods, services, or loans. (Code § 395(b).) c. Where the buyer signed the contract, lives now, or lived when the contract was made, if this claretail installment contract (like a credit card). (Civ. Code, § 1812.10.) 			
	d. 🗆	Where the buyer signed the contract, lives now, or permanently garaged, if this claim is about a vehic	lived when the contract was made, or where the vehicle is le finance sale. (Civ. Code, § 2984.4.)
	e	Other (specify):	
6	List	the zip code of the place checked in ⑤ a	bove (if you know):
7	_	our claim about an attorney-client fee dis and if you have had arbitration, fill out form SC-10	
8)		you suing a public entity? 🗌 Yes 💆 N	•
If yes, you must file a written claim with the entity first. A claim was filed on (date):		A claim was filed on (date):	
	If the	public entity denies your claim or does not answer v	within the time allowed by law, you can file this form.

Plaintiff (list names):	Case Number:
 Have you filed more than 12 other small Yes No If yes, the filing fee for this can 	I claims within the last 12 months in California? se will be higher.
Is your claim for more than \$2,500? If you answer yes, you also confirm that you have n small claims cases for more than \$2,500 in Californ	not filed, and you understand that you may not file, more than two
11) I understand that by filing a claim in sm claim.	all claims court, I have no right to appeal this
I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the S attachments to this form is true and correct.	state of California that the information above and on any
Date:	· 201
Plaintiff types or prints name here	Mark Baker Plaintiff signs here
Date:	
Second plaintiff types or prints name here	Second plaintiff signs here



Requests for Accommodations

Assistive listening systems, computer-assisted real-time captioning, or sign language interpreter services are available if you ask at least five days before the trial. For these and other accommodations, contact the clerk's office for form (Civ. Code, § 54.8.)



SC-100

Information for the defendant (the person being sued)

"Small claims court" is a special court where claims for \$12,500 or less are decided. Individuals, including "natural persons" and sole proprietors, may claim up to \$12,500. Corporations, partnerships, public entities, and other businesses are limited to claims of \$6,250. (See below for exceptions.*) The process is quick and cheap. The rules are simple and informal. You are the *defendant*—the person being sued. The person who is suing you is the *plaintiff*.

Do I need a lawyer? You may talk to a lawyer before or after the case. But you *may not* have a lawyer represent you in court (unless this is an appeal from a small claims case).

How do I get ready for court? You don't have to file any papers before your trial, unless you think this is the wrong court for your case. But bring to your trial any witnesses, receipts, and evidence that support your case. And read "Be Prepared for Your Trial" at

What if I need an accommodation? If you have a disability or are hearing impaired, fill out form

Give the form to your court clerk or the

ADA/Access Coordinator.

What if I don't speak English well? Ask the court clerk as soon as possible for a court-provided interpreter. You may use form or a local court form to request an interpreter. If a court interpreter is unavailable for your trial, it may be necessary to reschedule your trial. You cannot bring your own interpreter for the trial unless the interpreter has been approved by the court as a certified, registered, or provisionally qualified interpreter. (See Cal. Rules of Court, rule 2.893, and form .)

Where can I get the court forms I need? Go to any courthouse or your county law library, or print forms at

What happens at the trial? The judge will listen to both sides. The judge may make a decision at your trial or mail the decision to you later.

What if I lose the case? If you lose, you may appeal. You'll have to pay a fee. (Plaintiffs cannot appeal their own claims.)

- If you were at the trial, file form
 You must file within 30 days after the clerk hands or mails you the judge's decision (judgment) on form
 or form
- If you were not at the trial, fill out and file form
 to ask the judge to
 cancel the judgment (decision). If the judge does not give you a
 new trial, you have 10 days to appeal the decision. File form

For more information on appeals, see

Do I have options? Yes. If you are being sued you can:

• Settle your case before the trial. If you and the plaintiff agree on how to settle the case before the trial, the plaintiff must file form or a written and signed settlement agreement with the clerk. Ask the Small Claims Advisor for help.

- Prove this is the wrong court. Send a letter to the court before your trial explaining why you think this is the wrong court. Ask the court to dismiss the claim. You must serve (give) a copy of your letter (by mail or in person) to all parties. (Your letter to the court must say you have done so.)
- Go to the trial and try to win your case. Bring witnesses, receipts, and any evidence you need to prove your case. To have the court order a witness to go to the trial, fill out form

and have it served on the witness.

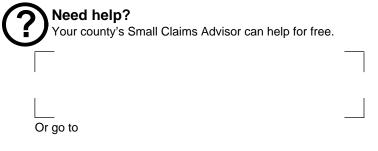
- against the plaintiff, and the claim is appropriate for small claims court as described on this form, you may file *Defendant's Claim* (form) and bring the claim in this action. If your claim is for *more* than allowed in small claims court, you may still file it in small claims court if you give up the amount over the small claims value amount, or you may file a claim for the full value of the claim in the appropriate court. If your claim is for more than allowed in small claims court *and* relates to the same contract, transaction, matter, or event that is the subject of the plaintiff's claim, you may file your claim in the appropriate court and file a motion to transfer the plaintiff's claim to that court to resolve both matters together. You can see a description of the amounts allowed in the paragraph above, titled "Small Claims Court."
- Agree with the plaintiff's claim and pay the money. Or, if you can't pay the money now, go to your trial and say you want to make payments.
- Let the case "default." If you don't settle and do not go to the trial (default), the judge may give the plaintiff what he or she is asking for plus court costs. If this happens, the plaintiff can legally take your money, wages, and property to pay the judgment.

What if I need more time?

You can change the trial date if:

- You cannot go to court on the scheduled date (you will have to pay a fee to postpone the trial), *or*
- You did not get served (receive this order to go to court) at least 15 days before the trial (or 20 days if you live outside the county).

Ask the Small Claims Clerk about the rules and fees for postponing a trial. Or fill out form (or write a letter) and mail it to the court *and* to all other people listed on your court papers before the deadline. Enclose a check for your court fees, unless a fee waiver was granted.



^{*} Exceptions: Different limits apply in an action against a defendant who is a guarantor. (See Code Civ. Proc., § 116.220(c).) Limits do not apply in an action to recover COVID-19 rental debt. (See Code Civ. Proc., §§ 116.223 & 1179.02; form SC-500.)



SC-100

Información para el demandado (la persona demandada)

La "Corte de reclamos menores" es una corte especial donde se deciden casos por \$12,500 o menos. Los individuos, o sea las "personas físicas" y los propietarios por cuenta propia, pueden reclamar hasta \$12,500. Las corporaciones, asociaciones, entidades públicas y otras empresas solo pueden reclamar hasta \$6,250. (Vea abajo para las excepciones.*) El proceso es rápido y económico. Las reglas son sencillas e informales. Usted es el Demandado—la persona que se está demandando. La persona que lo está demandando es el Demandante.

¿Necesito un abogado? Puede hablar con un abogado antes o después del caso. Pero no puede tener a un abogado que lo represente ante la corte (a menos que se trate de una apelación de un caso de reclamos menores).

¿Cómo me preparo para ir a la corte? No tiene que presentar ningún documento antes del juicio, a menos que piense que ésta es la corte equivocada para su caso. Pero lleve al juicio cualquier testigos, recibos y pruebas que apoyan su caso. Y lea "Esté preparado para su juicio" en www.courts.ca.gov/reclamosmenores/preparese.

¿Qué hago si necesito una modificación? Si tiene una discapacidad o tiene impedimentos de audición, llene el formulario MC-410, Solicitud de modificaciones para discapacidad. Entregue el formulario al secretario de la corte o al Coordinador de Acceso/ADA de su corte.

¿Qué pasa si no hablo bien inglés? Solicite un intérprete al secretario de la corte lo más pronto posible. Puede usar el formulario INT-300 o un formulario de su corte local. Si no está disponible un intérprete de la corte para su juicio, es posible que se tenga que cambiar la fecha de su juicio. No puede llevar su propio intérprete para el juicio a menos que el intérprete haya sido aprobado por la corte como un intérprete certificado, registrado, o provisionalmente calificado. (Vea la regla 2.893 de las Reglas de la Corte de California, y el formulario INT-140.)

¿Dónde puedo obtener los formularios de la corte que necesito? Vaya a cualquier edificio de la corte, la biblioteca legal de su condado, o imprima los formularios en www.courts.ca.gov/smallclaims/forms (página está en inglés).

¿Qué pasa en el juicio? El juez escuchará a ambas partes. El juez puede tomar su decisión durante la audiencia o enviársela por correo después.

¿Qué pasa si pierdo el caso? Si pierde, puede apelar. Tendrá que pagar una cuota. (El Demandante no puede apelar su propio reclamo.)

- Si estuvo presente en el juicio, llene el formulario SC-140, Aviso de apelación (Notice of Appeal). Tiene que presentarlo dentro de 30 días después de que el secretario le entregue o envíe la decisión (fallo) del juez en el formulario SC-200 o SC-130, Aviso de publicación del fallo (Notice of Entry of Judgment).
- Si no estuvo en el juicio, llene y presente el formulario SC-135, Aviso de petición para anular el fallo y Declaración para pedirle al juez que anule el fallo (decisión). Si la corte no le otorga un nuevo juicio, tiene 10 días para apelar la decisión. Presente el formulario SC-140.

Para obtener más información sobre las apelaciones, vea www.courts.ca.gov/reclamosmenores/apelaciones.

¿Tengo otras opciones? Sí. Si lo están demandando, puede:

 Resolver su caso antes del juicio. Si usted y el Demandante se ponen de acuerdo en cómo resolver el caso antes del juicio, el Demandante tiene que presentar el formulario CIV-110 Solicitud de desestimación (Request for Dismissal) o un acuerdo de resolución escrito y firmado al secretario de la corte. Pídale al Asesor de Reclamos Menores que lo ayude.

- Probar que es la corte equivocada. Envíe una carta a la corte antes del juicio explicando por qué cree que es la corte equivocada. Pídale a la corte que despida el reclamo. Tiene que entregar (dar) una copia de su carta (por correo o en persona) a todas las partes. (Su carta a la corte tiene que decir que hizo la entrega.)
- Ir al juicio y tratar de ganar el caso. Lleve testigos, recibos y
 cualquier prueba que necesite para probar su caso. Si desea que
 la corte emita una orden de comparecencia para que los testigos
 vayan al juicio, llene el formulario SC-107, Citatorio de reclamos
 menores (Small Claims Subpoena) y entrégueselo legalmente al
 testigo.
- Demandar a la persona que lo demandó. Si tiene un reclamo contra el Demandante, y el reclamo se puede presentar en la corte de reclamos menores, tal como se describe en este formulario, puede presentar el formulario SC-120, Reclamo del demandado (Defendant's Claim) y presentarlo en este mismo caso. Si su reclamo excede el límite permitido en la corte de reclamos menores, puede igualmente presentarlo en la corte de reclamos menores si está dispuesto a limitar su reclamo al máximo permitido, o puede presentar un reclamo por el monto total en la corte apropiada. Si su reclamo excede el límite permitido en la corte de reclamos menores y está relacionado con el mismo contrato, transacción, asunto o acontecimiento que el reclamo del Demandante, puede presentar su reclamo en la corte apropiada y presentar una moción para transferir el reclamo del Demandante a dicha corte, para poder resolver los dos reclamos juntos. Puede ver una descripción de los montos permitidos en el párrafo anterior titulado "Corte de reclamos menores".
- Aceptar el reclamo del Demandante y pagar el dinero. O, si no puede pagar en ese momento, vaya al juicio y diga que quiere hacer los pagos a plazos.
- No ir al juicio y aceptar el fallo por falta de comparecencia. Si no llega a un acuerdo con el Demandante y no va al juicio (fallo por falta de comparecencia), el juez le puede otorgar al Demandante lo que está reclamando más los costos de la corte. En ese caso, el Demandante legalmente puede tomar su dinero, su sueldo o sus bienes para cobrar el fallo.

¿Qué hago si necesito más tiempo? Puede cambiar la fecha del juicio si:

- No puede ir a la corte en la fecha programada (tendrá que pagar una cuota para aplazar el juicio), o
- No le entregaron los documentos legalmente (no recibió la orden para ir a la corte) por lo menos 15 días antes del juicio (ó 20 días si vive fuera del condado).

Pregúntele al secretario de reclamos menores sobre las reglas y las cuotas para aplazar un juicio. O llene el formulario SC-150 (o escriba una carta) y envíelo antes del plazo a la corte y a todas las otras personas que figuran en sus papeles de la corte. Adjunte un cheque para pagar los costos de la corte, a menos que le hayan dado una exención.



¿Necesita ayuda? El Asesor de Reclamos Menores de su condado le puede ayudar sin cargo.

O visite www.courts.ca.gov/reclamosmenores/asesores.

* Excepciones: Existen diferentes límites en un reclamo contra un garante. (Vea el Código de Procedimiento Civil, sección 116.220 (c).) Los límites no se aplican a las acciones para reclamar una deuda de alquiler del COVID-19. (Vea el Código de Procedimiento Civil, secciones 116.223 y 1179.02; y el formulario SC-500.)

	ou entered on your form, please press the Clea end of the form when finished.	MC-
PLAINTIFF/PETITIONER: Mark Baker	CASE NUMBER:	IVIC-
DEFENDANT/RESPONDENT: Regency Centers		
	DECLARATION	
(This form must be attached to an	other form or court paper before it can be filed in court.)	
See Attach ments		
voloro undon nonella de la comina del comina de la comina del comina de la comina del comina de la comina del comina de la comina del comina de la c		
	State of California that the foregoing is true and correct.	
ate: July 16, 2024		
lark Baker	Mal 12	
(TYPE OR PRINT NAME)	(SIGNATURE OF DECLARANT)	
	Attorney for Plaintiff Petitioner	☐ Defenda
	Respondent Other (Specify):	

For your protection and privacy, please press

1	Mark Baker 9450 SW Gemini Drive PMB 44671		
2	Beaverton, OR 97008		
3	mbaker@softlights.org Pro Se		
4	SMALL CLAIMS COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA		
5	YOLO COUNTY		
6			
7	MARK BAKER,	Case No.:	
8	Plaintiff, vs.	COMPLAINT PURSUANT TO: THE UNRUH CIVIL RIGHTS ACT, CALIFORNIA CIVIL CODE §§ 51	
10	REGENCY CENTERS	\$2,500	
11	Defendant		
12			
13	<u>I. INTRO</u>	<u>DUCTION</u>	
14	1. Plaintiff Mark Baker ("Plaintiff"), an individual diagnosed with the qualified disability of		
15	autism spectrum disorder, alleges that Regency Centers operates a video surveillance		
16	system that uses unvetted, unregulated, hazardous, dangerous, and discriminatory blue		
17	LED lights and that these excessively intense LED lights caused injury to, and created a		
18	discriminatory barrier for, Plaintiff.		
19	II. UNRUH CIVIL RIGHTS ACT		
20	2. California Civil Code Section 51 states:		
21	(b) All persons within the jurisdiction of this state are free and equal, and no matter		
22	what their sex, race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, disability , medical		
23	COMPLAINT PURSUANT TO:THE UNRUH CIVIL RIO	GHTS ACT, CALIFORNIA CIVIL CODE §§ 51\$2,500 -	

1		condition, genetic information, marital status, sexual orientation, citizenship, primary
2		language, or immigration status are entitled to the full and equal accommodations,
3		advantages, facilities, privileges, or services in all business establishments of
4		every kind whatsoever. (emphasis added).
5		(f) A violation of the right of any individual under the federal Americans with
6		Disabilities Act of 1990 (Public Law 101-336) shall also constitute a violation of this
7		section.
8	3.	The Americans with Disabilities Act implementing regulation 28 C.F.R. § 36.402(a)(1)
9		states:
10		Any alteration to a place of public accommodation or a commercial facility, after January 26, 1992, shall be made so as to ensure that, to the maximum extent feasible,
11		the altered portions of the facility are readily accessible to and usable by individuals with disabilities, including individuals who use wheelchairs. 1
12		with disabilities, including matriaudis who use wheelchairs.
13	4.	Regency Centers' alteration of adding an LVT video surveillance system with intense blue
14		LED lights denies Plaintiff full and equal access to services at The Marketplace Shopping
15		Center in Davis, California due to Plaintiff's autism and adverse neurological and
16		psychological reactions to such intense LED light.
17		II AI TEDATION
18		II. ALTERATION
19	5.	Regency Centers made the alteration of adding an LVT video surveillance system that uses
20		excessively intense blue LED lights, some of which digitally pulse. This alteration has
21		made the area around the LVT system not readily accessible and not usable by Plaintiff due
22		
23		s://www.law.cornell.edu/cfr/text/28/36.402 IPLAINT PURSUANT TO:THE UNRUH CIVIL RIGHTS ACT, CALIFORNIA CIVIL CODE §§ 51\$2,500 -

CIVIL CODE §§ 51\$2,500 -

to Plaintiff's involuntary adverse neurological reactions, including anger, panic, fear, and non-epileptic seizure. Thus, the alteration of adding the LVT video surveillance system with blue LED lights is in violation of 28 C.F.R. § 36.402(a)(1).

- 6. A Light Emitting Diode is a device that emits Visible Light radiation from a flat surface.

 The US Department of Energy states that LEDs are a "radically new technology" that emit a "directional" light with "unique characteristics." It is the directional, focused nature of LEDs and their unique characteristics that make many LED devices unsafe for individuals with disabilities, and which creates discriminatory barriers for individuals diagnosed with autism.
- 7. The US Access Board publishes guidelines for accessibility. The Access Board states, "When alterations are made to a primary function area, an accessible path of travel to the area must be provided. The accessible path of travel must extend from the altered primary function area to site arrival points, including public sidewalks and parking and passenger loading zones provided on the site. The path of travel also includes access to restrooms, telephones, and drinking fountains, where provided to serve the primary function area." Path-of-Travel is a major element of Access Board guidelines. The alteration of adding the LVT system with the blue LED lights restricts Plaintiff's path of travel over a wide area since the LED light retains most of its intensity over long distances. As stated by the Access Board, not only is the altered primary function area required to be accessible, but the path of travel to and from the altered area and to and from other locations must be

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² https://www1.eere.energy.gov/buildings/publications/pdfs/ssl/ssl lessons-learned 2014.pdf

³ https://www.access-board.gov/ada/guides/chapter-2-alterations-and-additions/

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accessible. Thus, even if Plaintiff parks on the far side of The Marketplace parking lot, the blue LED lights on the LVT system create a prohibited discriminatory barrier because they interfere with Plaintiff's path of travel through the parking lot and between businesses.

- 8. 28 C.F.R. §36.402 states:
 - (b) Alteration. For the purposes of this part, an alteration is a change to a place of public accommodation or a commercial facility that affects or could affect the usability of the building or facility or any part thereof.
 - The addition of an LED light is a "change" that "affects" or "could affect" the "usability" of the "facility or any part thereof". Plaintiff suffers severe psychological trauma, including non-epileptic seizures, when exposed to high-radiance LED lights and digitally flashing LED lights. Prior to the alteration of adding the LVT system with blue LED lights, Plaintiff had no difficulty accessing The Marketplace Shopping Center parking lot. Once the LVT system with blue LED lights was added to the parking lot ("the alteration"), Plaintiff could no longer safely, fully, and equally access The Marketplace Shopping Center parking lot and associated businesses. Clearly, the "usability" of the parking lot facility, access to businesses, and path of travel were affected by the addition of the LVT system and the blue LED lights.

III. LACK OF GOOD FAITH EFFORT

10. After the first injury and discrimination incident at The Marketplace Shopping Center involving the blue LED lights on March 10, 2024, Plaintiff contacted the Regency Centers leasing agent, Jenny Hess, via email along with a letter requesting ADA accommodation. (EXHIBIT A).

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- 11. Ms. Hess never responded. Plaintiff then emailed Lisa Palmer, CEO of Regency Centers on March 14, 2024, and April 4, 2024. Ms. Palmer did not respond.
- 12. On April 5, 2024, Greta Morris, Litigation Counsel for Regency Centers, notified Plaintiff that Regency Centers would respond to Plaintiff's injury complaint and request for accommodation. On May 10, 2024, Regency Centers denied Plaintiff's request for accommodation. (EXHIBIT B). Ms. Morris wrote, "While we appreciate your concerns, the lighting provides an essential security measure for the safety of our tenants and their patrons." The language of this response is astonishing, as it clearly indicates that Regency Centers' position is that "safety" is for all "tenants and their patrons" EXCEPT patrons with disabilities. This is prima facie discrimination.
- 13. On June 1, 2024, Plaintiff emailed Defendant with a notice that the alteration of LEDs creates a discriminatory barrier for Plaintiff. (EXHIBIT C). Defendant took no action to eliminate the discriminatory barrier.
- 14. Regency Centers acted in bad faith by failing to engage in an interactive grievance process to find a solution to the harm and discrimination caused by the blue LED lights. Could the intensity be reduced? Could the digital flashing be stopped? Could the color be changed? Are the blue LEDs providing actual security, or are the blue lights just marketing hype? Regency Centers made no effort to find a solution to the problem and no effort to comply with federal ADA statutes and regulations and Unruh Act statutes prohibiting discrimination and requiring full and equal access.

IV. ACTIONS OF OTHER COMPANIES

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- 5. In a similar situation involving a different shopping center, Woodland Crossing, Plaintiff contacted the property management company, Engstrom Properties, on January 9, 2024, and notified the property manager that the blue LED lights on the LVT system in their shopping center created a dangerous and discriminatory condition.
- 16. Engstrom Properties then contacted LVT and requested that the blue LED lights be turned off. LVT implemented the request, and the blue LED lights were turned off within a few days of the request.
- 17. After the blue LED lights on the LVT system were turned off, there is no indication that Woodland Crossing has become a hotbed of crime. There is no indication that any store owner has gone out of business because the blue LED lights were turned off. There is no indication that shoppers feel less safe at Woodland Crossing. However, what is known definitively is that Plaintiff can now access Woodland Crossing without suffering the fear, anxiety, panic, eye pain, non-epileptic seizures, restricted path of travel, and discriminatory barrier that existed when the blue LED lights on the LVT system were turned on.
- 18. In a second instance, on February 1, 2024, Plaintiff contacted Klassen Smith Construction about the blue LED lights on an LVT system impairing his cognitive functioning while driving his vehicle on the I-80 freeway. Klassen Smith contacted LVT, and the blue LED lights were turned off within a few days. Klassen Smith is still in business, even though the blue LED lights were turned off. There is no indication that there was an increase in thefts at the construction site after the blue LED lights were turned off. However, what is known is that Plaintiff can now drive on I-80 without being impaired and discriminated against by the blue LED lights on the LVT system.

- 19. In a third instance, On June 14, 2024, Plaintiff contacted NAPA Auto parts about a blue LED flashing light on a video surveillance system inside a NAPA store in Woodland, California. A risk manager for NAPA called Plaintiff and notified Plaintiff that the blue LED flashing lights would be turned off immediately.
- 20. Sometimes a company will claim that modifying a facility to accommodate an individual with a disability is an undue burden. In this situation, Regency Centers has not made the undue burden claim. This is likely due to the fact that turning off the blue LED lights is extraordinarily simple and could never be considered to be an undue burden, and also because the requirement of 28 C.F.R. § 36.402(a)(1) is that any alteration made after 1992 must ensure that the altered area be readily accessible and usable by individuals with disabilities, and thus an undue burden claim cannot be made because the addition of the LVT system with the blue LED lights was made after 1992.
- 21. Thus, while other companies have acted in good faith and had the blue LED lights on the LVT system turned off once notified of the dangerous and discriminatory situation created by the blue LED lights, Regency Centers has chosen to act in bad faith and has chosen the "so sue me" approach to ADA and Unruh compliance.

V. LED PHYSICS AND HARM

22. LEDs are in many ways similar to lasers, creating an intense beam of light. LEDs act as a spotlight because of the non-curved surface of the LED chip. As the Department of Energy stated, LEDs are a "radically new technology" that emit a "directional" light with "unique characteristics."

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- 23. One of the differences between lasers and LEDs is that the US Food and Drug

 Administration has published performance standards for lasers to help ensure the health
 and safety of the public. While the FDA's laser standards may not be perfect, they do
 provide a minimum of protection for the public. On other hand, the FDA has failed to
 publish performance standards for LEDs, so there are no limits on intensity, no limits on
 spectral power distribution, and no limits on digital pulsing.
- 24. Regency Centers has failed to vet the blue LED lights on the LVT system to ensure that they are safe for individuals with autism. Regency Centers has no idea if the blue LED lights are safe for those with autism, epilepsy, PTSD, photophobia, or even the general public. Regency Centers simply started using this unregulated technology without showing any concern for the health or safety or civil rights of individuals who would encounter the blue LED lights.
- 25. The federal government has not stated that LED lights are safe for individuals with autism.

 The FDA has failed to publish performance standards for LED products to protect the public welfare. Given that the blue LED lights have been proven to be injurious to Plaintiff, the blue LED lights create a discriminatory barrier and must be turned off or removed to protect Plaintiff and to afford Plaintiff full and equal access to The Marketplace Shopping Center.

VI. SOFT LIGHTS FOUNDATION

26. Plaintiff experiences no difficulties with traditional light sources such as the sun, incandescent light bulbs, or slow flashing tungsten filament lights. Plaintiff also experienced no problems with LEDs during the 1980s, 1990s, and 2000s, when the COMPLAINT PURSUANT TO:THE UNRUH CIVIL RIGHTS ACT, CALIFORNIA CIVIL CODE §§ 51\$2,500 -

intensity was low. 20th century LED alarm clocks and LED indicator lights posed no issue for Plaintiff. Plaintiff also has no difficulty with modern LED flat screen computer monitors, so long as the intensity is not too high.

- 27. LEDs became intolerable for Plaintiff around 2016, when high-powered LEDs suddenly appeared in vehicle headlights and streetlights and as digital flashing lights on police vehicles and traffic signs. Plaintiff finds today's LED indicator lights on washing machines and tools to be unbearably intense and has taken to covering up such LEDs with tape.
- 28. In 2019, after being repeatedly subjected to these new high-powered LED lights, Plaintiff suffered a mental breakdown and spent four days in the hospital. It was at this time that Plaintiff was diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder and that Plaintiff's attending physician associated the autism diagnosis with Plaintiff's reactions to LED lights. Until this event, Plaintiff had never considered himself to be on the autism spectrum. It was only due to the release of high-intensity LED lights into the environment that Plaintiff discovered that he has a limit to how intense a light can be before the light becomes neurologically intolerable.
- 29. Due to the lack of government regulation and explicit protection of individuals with disabilities from LED lights, Plaintiff began the painstaking process of learning about LEDs and why they are so dangerous for individuals with autism. Plaintiff started the Soft Lights Foundation as an advocacy organization to also assist other individuals who were suffering similarly.
- 30. The Soft Lights Foundation has submitted dozens of formal petitions to federal and state agencies to request regulation of LED products. This includes petitions to the Department COMPLAINT PURSUANT TO:THE UNRUH CIVIL RIGHTS ACT, CALIFORNIA CIVIL CODE §§ 51\$2,500 -

of Energy, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, Access Board, and Food and Drug Administration. Petitions were also submitted to state-level agencies such as the California Highway Patrol and California Emergency Medical Services Authority. Every petition has been ignored or denied. The Soft Lights Foundation has sent hundreds of letters to cities, state attorney generals, state regulatory agencies, state legislators, companies, and members of Congress, notifying them of the hazardous, dangerous, and discriminatory nature of LED Visible Light radiation devices and failure of the FDA to comply with 21 U.S.C. 360ii(a) and publish performance standards to ensure protection of public health and safety. There has been a near-total blanket refusal by all government agencies to take any steps to regulate LED products and protect the public and individuals with disabilities from LED light.

Because Plaintiff and the Soft Lights Foundation have exhausted nearly all administrative remedies, Plaintiff began initiating lawsuits against government agencies and companies, as lawsuits seem to be the only way to achieve compliance with existing laws. Plaintiff filed a lawsuit against the Food and Drug Administration on January 24, 2024.⁴ Plaintiff filed a lawsuit against the city of Fairfield, California on December 14, 2023.⁵ This lawsuit was amended at the direction of the Court.⁶ The Soft Lights Foundation is a co-plaintiff in a light trespass nuisance lawsuit involving a citizen being harmed by the LED lights from a car dealership. This lawsuit against the Defendant is the first Small Claims lawsuit by

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http://www.softlights.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/01/Mark-Baker-vs.-FDA filed.pdf

https://www.softlights.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/12/Baker-v.-Fairfield Filed.pdf

⁶ https://www.softlights.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/05/Baker-v.-Fairfield-Amended.pdf

Plaintiff involving the Unruh Civil Rights Act. Plaintiff sincerely hopes that one or more of these lawsuits will be successful so that the process of protecting Plaintiff and other individuals from harm and discrimination can begin.

32. Plaintiff proudly acknowledges his efforts as President of the Soft Lights Foundation and efforts to eliminate unsafe LED products from public spaces to protect individuals with disabilities from the harms and discriminatory barriers created by LED products.

VII. AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDER

- 33. The human neurological system is complex, and therefore it would not be unexpected if autism is not the sole reason for Plaintiff's adverse reactions to LED light.
- 34. Perhaps Plaintiff has undiagnosed photophobia. Perhaps previous exposure to formaldehyde caused Plaintiff to become hyper-sensitive to LED light. Perhaps Plaintiff has some other neurological condition that has not been diagnosed. However, it was Plaintiff's attending physician at Kaiser Permanente in 2019 who diagnosed Plaintiff with autism spectrum disorder and who tied Plaintiff's mental breakdown as being caused by LED lights and Plaintiff's sensitivity to light as an individual with autism.
- 35. It is irrelevant for purposes of this discrimination lawsuit as to the exact biological mechanism of Plaintiff's reaction to LED light. The legally relevant fact is that Plaintiff has been medically diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder and that autism is a qualified disability for this claim.
- 36. The other legally relevant fact is that the blue LED lights on the LVT system are neurologically intolerable for Plaintiff, restrict Plaintiff's path of travel, cause

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psychological injury to Plaintiff, and thus create an illegal discriminatory barrier. As noted multiple times previously, 28 C.F.R. § 36.402(a)(1) states that any alteration made after 1992 must ensure that the altered area be readily accessible and usable by individuals with disabilities. Plaintiff is an individual with a qualified disability and the alteration of adding the LVT system with blue LED lights created an area that is not readily accessible and not usable by Plaintiff and also interferes with Plaintiff's path of travel. Thus, the alteration of adding the LVT system with the blue LED lights violates 28 C.F.R. § 36.402(a)(1). Defendant has no mechanism for avoiding the requirements of 28 C.F.R. § 36.402(a)(1) and thus the alteration of adding the LVT system with the blue LED lights must be undone. EXHIBIT D is a letter of support from Dr. Janine Manuel. Dr. Manuel writes, "In the case of Mark Baker, I attest to the adverse effect that LED illumination has had on his life

- 37. EXHIBIT D is a letter of support from Dr. Janine Manuel. Dr. Manuel writes, "In the case of Mark Baker, I attest to the adverse effect that LED illumination has had on his life causing hospitalization, loss of employment (as head of department as a mathematics teacher) and psychological trauma. He is placed on the autistic spectrum. Flashing LED illumination is of particular distress to Mark evoking a fight/flight response, intense sensation of fear and ongoing psychological trauma."
- 38. EXHIBITs E and F are a letter of support from MarieAnn Cherry, an individual diagnosed with epilepsy. Ms. Cherry writes, "After what seemed like a long time, Mark was able to tell me that a fire truck had passed by with its LED lights flashing, driving right by the car where he sat. From what I heard, by the abrupt onset, jolt, arc and character of the event, it reminded me of some sort of brain seizure."
- 39. ChatGPT is a Large Language Model Artificial Intelligence system that is able to synthesize vast amounts of knowledge found on the Internet. ChatGPT has not established

itself as being a perfect system, but it has shown that it can generate coherent statements about an idea or a topic using existing knowledge.

- 40. When ChatGPT was asked about strobing lights, ChatGPT responded with a bulleted list, including, "Sensory Processing Issues: Individuals with sensory processing disorders or conditions like autism may experience strobing lights as overwhelming or distressing. This can lead to frustration or rage as a response to the intense sensory input." and "Sensory Overload: For individuals with sensory processing issues, the overwhelming sensory input from strobing lights can lead to a state of overload. The body might respond to this overload by initiating the fight-or-flight response as a means of self-protection." (EXHIBIT G).
- 41. Thus, ChatGPT's responses demonstrate that it is already well known that intense, flashing/strobing lights can be overwhelming and debilitating for individuals with autism. Plaintiff's own adverse reactions to the blue LED lights on the LVT system confirm what is already well known. To protect individuals with autism from harm and discrimination, intense static LED lights and flashing LED lights must not be used in places of public accommodation.

VIII. BLUE LED LIGHTS

42. The blue LED lights on the LVT system are purposely designed to invoke fear. Bryce Benard, Outside Counsel for LVT, wrote to Plaintiff:

We note that the use of the blue and/or LED lights, including in the flashing mode, is an essential part of the entire security apparatus provided by LVT's product. The lights

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operate as a deterrent to illegal conduct (thefts, assaults, rapes, etc.) as well as providing light and notice of the product itself (that thereby prevents accidents). The light also provides exposure to the notices that individuals may be videotaped by the product as another essential part of the security system of the LVT product. Clients buy and use the LVT product to ensure safety and security in parking lots—and to help eliminate crime and accidents. The blue and/or LED lights, including flashing mode, are essential to the efficacy of the security product and service, and essential to the business of LVT and the clients who use the product. (EXHIBIT H).

- 43. Mr. Benard offers no evidence to support his assertion that the blue LED lights, in fact, do deter illegal conduct, but his statements make clear that the blue lights are purposely designed to be aggressive and to put people on notice that they are being watched. Thus, the intensity and digital pulsing are a "design feature" of the LVT system.
- 44. The color blue is associated with the police. It seems clear that LVT has chosen blue for their LED lights to cause people to associate the LVT system with the police. The LVT system is designed to be a show of force and to invoke fear in the individuals who use The Marketplace parking lot. The blue LED lights are designed to be exceedingly intense to convey a sense of authority and power to individuals in the parking lot.
- 45. What Mr. Benard ignores is the impact that such high-intensity and digitally pulsing LED lights have on individuals with disabilities. Are these blue LED lights safe for individuals with autism or epilepsy or PTSD? Do these blue LED lights impair vision or cognitive functioning or create an unsafe distraction for drivers?
- 46. Mr. Benard writes, "For example, in reviewing several websites, including that of Autism Speaks, it is suggested that using 'light covers, sunglasses, or a hat under fluorescent COMPLAINT PURSUANT TO:THE UNRUH CIVIL RIGHTS ACT, CALIFORNIA CIVIL CODE §§ 51\$2,500 -

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22 23 lights' is an effective way to address hypersensitivity to lights. In addition, one site noted that the best way to address photophobia was with glasses that filter potentially harmful wavelengths and light. In our research, there are numerous glasses available on the market that could be used to address hypersensitivity or photophobia." (EXHIBIT H)

- 47. LVT's position statement is really the crux of the issue of discrimination. LVT attempts to place the burden of surviving the intensity of their blue LED lights onto the individual with the disability, suggesting that the individual purchase special glasses as a way to mitigate the negative impacts of their product. However, Congress has made it explicit that the burden of ensuring the protection of individuals with disabilities falls to the owners and managers of businesses. If a company wants to be in business, then the Americans with Disabilities Act tells the company that it is their duty and their obligation to ensure that individuals with disabilities have full and equal access to business services, including unrestricted path of travel. Mr. Benard does not state that the LVT product is safe for individuals with autism, but instead offers discriminatory suggestions for coping with their dangerous product. The ADA and Unruh Civil Rights Act prohibit such discrimination.
- As per Mr. Benard, LVT is not interested in reducing the intensity or eliminating the digital 48. pulsing of the blue LED lights to accommodate individuals with disabilities, and LVT believes that, as a vendor, they have no obligation to comply with the ADA. LVT thus throws all their clients under the bus and declines to accept any responsibility for ADA and Unruh Civil Rights Act obligations.

IX. VISUAL FREEDOM – CIVIL RIGHT

- 49. Light travels at the speed of light. In addition, human vision is mostly automatic, with eye movements controlled by mostly non-conscious mechanisms called Saccadic Eye Movements. It is biologically impossible for Plaintiff to control his eye movements to ensure that Plaintiff is not struck by LED light from the LVT system.
- 50. LED light is directional, and thus it travels long distances with little dispersion. The result is that the blue LED lights on the LVT system can adversely impact Plaintiff even several blocks away. Plaintiff suffered this situation in the Woodland Crossing situation, where Plaintiff would be struck by the blue LED lights on the LVT system approximately two to three blocks away from the shopping center, causing Plaintiff to suffer agitation, anger, pain, and panic.
- Shopping Center but cannot tolerate the blue LED lights on the LVT system, is Plaintiff supposed to close both eyes and walk from Safeway to Togo's? Is Plaintiff supposed to walk backwards from Safeway to Togo's? Defendant has offered no recourse to Plaintiff as to how to navigate The Marketplace Shopping Center when the blue LED lights on the LVT system are operating.

X. CONGRESS

- 52. It is critical that the ADA and Unruh Civil Rights Act be viewed in their entirety and how the ADA and Unruh Civil Rights Act apply to this case.
- 53. Title 42, Chapter 126, Section 12101 of the United States Code contains the Findings and Purpose of the ADA. 42 U.S.C. §12101(a) states:

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The Congress finds that—

- (1) physical or mental disabilities in no way diminish a person's right to fully participate in all aspects of society, yet many people with physical or mental disabilities have been precluded from doing so because of discrimination; others who have a record of a disability or are regarded as having a disability also have been subjected to discrimination;
- (2) historically, society has tended to isolate and segregate individuals with disabilities, and, despite some improvements, such forms of discrimination against individuals with disabilities continue to be a serious and pervasive social problem;
- (3) discrimination against individuals with disabilities persists in such critical areas as employment, housing, public accommodations, education, transportation, communication, recreation, institutionalization, health services, voting, and access to public services;
- (4) unlike individuals who have experienced discrimination on the basis of race, color, sex, national origin, religion, or age, individuals who have experienced discrimination on the basis of disability have often had no legal recourse to redress such discrimination;
- (5) individuals with disabilities continually encounter various forms of discrimination, including outright intentional exclusion, the discriminatory effects of architectural, transportation, and communication barriers, overprotective rules and policies, failure to make modifications to existing facilities and practices,

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- exclusionary qualification standards and criteria, segregation, and relegation to lesser services, programs, activities, benefits, jobs, or other opportunities;
- (6) census data, national polls, and other studies have documented that people with disabilities, as a group, occupy an inferior status in our society, and are severely disadvantaged socially, vocationally, economically, and educationally;
- (7) the Nation's proper goals regarding individuals with disabilities are to assure equality of opportunity, full participation, independent living, and economic self-sufficiency for such individuals; and
- (8) the continuing existence of unfair and unnecessary discrimination and prejudice denies people with disabilities the opportunity to compete on an equal basis and to pursue those opportunities for which our free society is justifiably famous, and costs the United States billions of dollars in unnecessary expenses resulting from dependency and nonproductivity.
- 54. High intensity LEDs did not exist in 1990 when the ADA was passed, and yet the goals of Congress have not changed. The blue LED lights on the LVT system are an example of the "continuing existence of unfair and unnecessary discrimination and prejudice" which denies Plaintiff equal opportunity. The blue LED lights on the LVT system are an example of how "individuals with disabilities continually encounter various forms of discrimination, including outright intentional exclusion, the discriminatory effects of architectural" barriers. Congress stated that, "historically, society has tended to isolate and segregate individuals with disabilities, and, despite some improvements, such forms of discrimination against individuals with disabilities continue to be a serious and pervasive social problem". COMPLAINT PURSUANT TO:THE UNRUH CIVIL RIGHTS ACT, CALIFORNIA CIVIL CODE §§ 51\$2,500 -

The blue LED lights on the LVT continue the pattern of historical discrimination that the ADA was designed to prevent.

- In the plain reading of 42 U.S.C. §12101(a), Congress made clear that discrimination against individuals is unacceptable and that individuals with disabilities are not to be denied full and equal access to businesses and that the burden of ensuring that facilities are readily accessible and usable by individuals with disabilities falls to the owners and property managers of those businesses, as detailed in 28 C.F.R. Part 36.
- 56. 28 C.F.R. § 36.101(b) states:

Broad coverage. The primary purpose of the ADA Amendments Act is to make it easier for people with disabilities to obtain protection under the ADA. Consistent with the ADA Amendments Act's purpose of reinstating a broad scope of protection under the ADA, the definition of "disability" in this part shall be construed broadly in favor of expansive coverage to the maximum extent permitted by the terms of the ADA. The primary object of attention in cases brought under the ADA should be whether entities covered under the ADA have complied with their obligations and whether discrimination has occurred, not whether the individual meets the definition of "disability." The question of whether an individual meets the definition of "disability" under this part should not demand extensive analysis.

57. The ADA Amendments Act was supposed to make it easier for Plaintiff to obtain protection under the ADA. However, the ADA is premised on the theory that companies will generally act in good faith and will generally comply with the law. Regency Centers, on the other hand, is not acting in good faith, and has chosen to make it as difficult as possible for Plaintiff to obtain protection. It should not require a lawsuit to get a light COMPLAINT PURSUANT TO:THE UNRUH CIVIL RIGHTS ACT, CALIFORNIA CIVIL CODE §§ 51\$2,500 -

turned off to protect an individual with a disability, but such is the situation that now exists with Regency Centers.

58. 28 C.F.R. § 36.201 states:

General. (a) Prohibition of discrimination. No individual shall be discriminated against on the basis of disability in the full and equal enjoyment of the goods, services, facilities, privileges, advantages, or accommodations of any place of public accommodation by any private entity who owns, leases (or leases to), or operates a place of public accommodation.

- 59. The use of excessively intense, unregulated, unapproved, unvetted, hazardous, and dangerous LED devices that cause anger, fear, agitation, non-epileptic seizures and psychiatric trauma in Plaintiff and prevent Plaintiff from full and equal enjoyment of services and facilities at The Marketplace Shopping Center is discrimination. This discrimination is clearly prohibited by 28 C.F.R. § 36.201.
- 60. Regency Centers has taken the "so sue me" approach. Plaintiff's only recourse in this matter is via the Courts, since Regency Centers is unwilling to act responsibly or within the law and since neither the ADA nor the Unruh Civil Rights Act provide an automatic mechanism for enforcing ADA and Unruh violations. Turning off a blue LED light is about as easy a task as one could imagine, so Regency Centers's refusal to simply turn off the blue LED lights on the LVT system and willingness to engage in a lawsuit over such a seemingly trivial matter suggests that the "so sue me" approach for ADA and Unruh compliance is just standard operating procedure for Regency Centers.

XI. CONCLUSION

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For the reasons stated above, Plaintiff requests that this Court award Punitive Damages to Plaintiff in the amount of \$2,500 due to Regency Center's failure to act in good faith, the psychological trauma and injury caused by Regency Center's actions, Regency Center's failure to address the dangerous and discriminatory conditions even after receiving a Constructive Notice of the dangerous and discriminatory condition, and Regency Center's failure to comply with 28 C.F.R. Part 36 and California Civil Code Section 51.

Dated: July 16, 2024

Respectfully Submitted,

By: /s/ Mark Baker 9450 SW Gemini Drive PMB 44671 Beaverton, OR 97008 mbaker@softlights.org

Exhibit A

Soft Lights Foundation 9450 SW Gemini Drive PMB 44671 Beaverton, OR 97008

March 10, 2024

BY EMAIL

Jennifer Hess, Leasing Agent Regency Centers jenniferhess@regencycenters.com

Re: Request for Accommodation – LED Lights on LVT System

Dear Jennifer Hess,

The Soft Lights Foundation is a 501(c)(3) non-profit whose mission is to advocate for the protection of individuals from the harms of Visible Light radiation emitted by products that use Light Emitting Diodes. I write to you now on behalf of our client, Mark Baker, a California resident. Mr. Baker is also the Founder and President of the Soft Lights Foundation.

Mr. Baker has been diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder which is a qualifying disability under the Americans with Disabilities Act. Due solely to his disability, Mr. Baker is unable to neurologically tolerate the intense Visible Light radiation emitted by many products that use LEDs.

On March 10, 2024, at approximately 6:45pm, Mr. Baker was struck by the intense blue LED lights from the LiveView Technologies spy camera system in operation at The Marketplace Shopping Center in Davis, California. This blue LED light caused Mr. Baker eye pain and a serious psychological injury. In the case of the LVT camera system, some of the blue LEDs are flashing, which caused Mr. Baker to suffer anxiety and the start of a panic attack. Mr. Baker was forced to leave the property without being able to dine at the Dos Coyotes restaurant.

Therefore, Mr. Baker requests accommodation so that Mr. Baker has full, safe, and equal access to all the facilities owned or operated by Regency Centers. There are at least two LVT systems in operation at The Marketplace Shopping Center.

The Soft Lights Foundation has expertise on the topic of LED lights. LEDs emit a powerful, intense, directed energy light, often with extreme levels of hazardous blue wavelength light and square wave flicker. Many individuals, especially those with neurological sensitivity to Visible Light radiation, are unable to tolerate the combination of intensity, extreme blue, digital flicker, and/or digital flashing that is typical of LED products. The adverse health effects from exposure to LED Visible Light radiation includes seizures, migraines, anxiety, impaired motor skills, and eye pain.

The US Food and Drug Administration is mandated by Congress to publish performance standards for LED products, as per 21 U.S.C. 360hh – 360ss. However, despite this mandate, the FDA has failed to publish these performance standards. Nearly all LED products are unregulated, despite

many of them having been shown to be hazardous to human and ecosystem health. Because of the failure of the FDA to comply with 21 U.S.C. 360hh – 360ss, a lawsuit has been filed against the FDA.¹

The US Access Board is a federal government agency tasked with publishing guidelines for buildings and infrastructure. However, the Access Board has not published any guidelines for businesses in how to respond to accommodation requests for LED products. The Access Board is waiting for guidance from the FDA on this issue.

As per Title III of the ADA, a public accommodation shall not subject an individual on the basis of a disability to a denial of the opportunity of the individual to benefit from the facilities of a place of public accommodation.² Because the LED lights on the LVT system deny Mr. Baker the opportunity to benefit from the services provided by The Marketplace Shopping Center fully, safely, and equally, the LVT systems create an illegal discriminatory barrier.

As per 42 U.S.C. Chapter 126, Mr. Baker is requesting accommodation for the LED lights on the LVT systems. The accommodation that Mr. Baker is requesting is that both the top and bottom blue LED lights be turned off. Mr. Baker has already received this accommodation from the Woodland Crossing shopping center, and from the Klassen Smith construction company.^{3,4} LiveView Technologies is fully aware of the discriminatory nature of the LED lights on their systems, and it is a simple matter for them to turn the LED lights off, without any adverse impact on the service they provide. Mr. Baker's accommodation request is reasonable, readily achievable, and not an undue burden to Regency Centers.

Mr. Baker requests approval of his accommodation request within 30 days. Mr. Baker reserves the right to file a discrimination lawsuit should Regency Centers fail to provide the requested accommodation or other mutually agreeable accommodation. Please provide a response within 30 days and direct all communications to me.

Sincerely,

/s/ Mark Baker President Soft Lights Foundation mbaker@softlights.org www.softlights.org

¹ http://www.softlights.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/01/Mark-Baker-vs.-FDA filed.pdf

² https://www.ada.gov/law-and-regs/regulations/title-iii-regulations/

³ https://www.softlights.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/01/Soft-Lights-Mail-Ace-Hardware.pdf

 $^{^{4}\,\}underline{\text{https://www.softlights.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/02/Soft-Lights-Mail-Request-for-Accommodation-Blue-LED-Lights-Klassen-Smith.pdf}$

Exhibit B



Mark Baker <mbaker@softlights.org>

LED Discrimination Lawsuit

Morris, Greta <GretaMorris@regencycenters.com> To: Mark Baker <mbaker@softlights.org>

Fri, May 10, 2024 at 9:54 AM

Mr. Baker -

After review, Regency has decided not to alter the LVT security technology lighting. While we appreciate your concerns, the lighting provides an essential security measure for the safety of our tenants and their patrons.

Best,

Greta Morris Litigation Counsel 904 598 7408

One Independent Drive, Suite 114 Jacksonville, FL 32202



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From: Mark Baker <mbaker@softlights.org> Sent: Wednesday, May 8, 2024 3:11 PM

To: Morris, Greta <GretaMorris@regencycenters.com> **Cc:** Hess, Jennifer <JenniferHess@regencycenters.com>

Subject: LED Discrimination Lawsuit

CAUTION: External email – be careful with links/attachments, especially if from unknown source OR if unexpected from known source

Ms. Morris,

[Quoted text hidden]

BY EMAIL

Greta Morris, Litigation Counsel Regency Centers GretaMorris@regencycenters.com

Re: Notification of Alteration Using LEDs Creating a Discriminatory Barrier

Dear Greta Morris,

I am notifying Regency Centers that an installation of an LED device such as on a security system or parking lot lighting is an alteration as defined by the Americans with Disabilities Act. The alteration of installing and operating a system using LEDs would create a new discriminatory barrier for me due to my condition of autism spectrum disorder, and therefore this alteration would make the altered area not readily accessible and usable for me and would be a violation of the ADA.

28 C.F.R. § 36.402(a)(1) states, "Any alteration to a place of public accommodation or a commercial facility, after January 26, 1992, shall be made so as to ensure that, to the maximum extent feasible, the altered portions of the facility are readily accessible to and usable by individuals with disabilities..." A facility is broadly construed as any business operation, including vehicles.

On May 24, 2024, the US Food and Drug Administration issued a decision that the FDA will not publish performance standards for any LED product.² Despite the requirements of 21 U.S.C. 360ii(a)(6)(B), the FDA has chosen to not liaise with any other federal agency to establish the required performance standards for any LED product, including those performance standards necessary to ensure protection and non-discrimination for individuals with autism spectrum disorder. The result is that the US Access Board has no disability access guidelines for LED products to ensure full and equal access to places of public accommodation.

Due to the lack of federal regulation of LED products, any decision by Regency Centers to install or operate an LED system will require that Regency Centers first publish its own regulations for LED products to ensure the health, safety, and civil rights of individuals with autism spectrum disorder and Regency Centers must ensure that all alterations that include an LED device be readily accessible and usable by individuals with autism spectrum disorder.

Sincerely,

/s/ Mark Baker

Mailing Address: 9450 SW Gemini Drive PMB 44671

¹ https://www.law.cornell.edu/cfr/text/28/36.402

² https://www.softlights.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/05/Final-Response-Citizen-Petitions-FDA-2022-P-1151-FDA-2023-P-0233-FDA-2023-P-3828-FDA-2023-P-3879.pdf

Beaverton, OR 97008 mbaker@softlights.org

Exhibit D

30/03/2024

Dr Janine Manuel

Email: janine.m.manuelgmail.com Phone/ New Zealand: 0064 22 6307308

To whom it may concern:

Mark Baker is a fellow colleague with whom I have worked and collaborated in my capacity as a medical doctor in the field of clinical analysis over the last two years. I also work as a freelance medical translator for a biotech company in Germany. During this period, I have supported two organizations centered on the impact of LED illumination on health, one in the United Kingdom (LightAware) and the other The Softlights Foundation in the United States of America.

As a clinical analyst the information and data I have been party to has shown LED illumination to have neurological consequences (seizure, migraine, headache, and other neurological effects). This includes adverse effects on those with autism.

The effects of LEDs causing seizure, migraine and other neurological conditions have resulted in individuals being excluded from municipal life, loss of employment, confined in part to their home and significant deterioration of their health (previous well and fully participating in life).

In the case of Mark Baker, I attest to the adverse effect that LED illumination has had on his life causing hospitalization, loss of employment (as head of department as a mathematics teacher) and psychological trauma. He is placed on the autistic spectrum. Flashing LED illumination is of particular distress to Mark evoking a fight/flight response, intense sensation of fear and ongoing psychological trauma.

Sincerely

Dr Janine Manuel

BHB MBChB FRNZCGP

Clinical Analyst/ Medical Translator

Jonasal

June, 2024

To Whom It May Concern:

Dr. John Lincoln of the charity Light Aware introduced me to Mark Baker several years ago. Mark and I have since become friends. One time in spring, 2021, I was talking to Mark on the phone. I was home in Upstate New York and he was sitting in his car in a park in Medford, Oregon. I'd been telling him about a project I was starting, when he suddenly made a sharp gasping sound, as if he'd just been shocked or struck. Alarmed, I said his name, and asked was he all right? what had happened? but he didn't answer. I could hear a commotion, an agitation like someone moving around or thrashing about, plus a background noise I couldn't identify. I kept calling to Mark, anxious for him to answer and tell me what was going on. I was afraid to hang up and try to send him help, but I also afraid not to. After a while, I could hear Mark speaking again, but his voice was shaking and disjointed, like he was disoriented in some way. The background noise was gone. After what seemed like a long time, Mark was able to tell me that a fire truck had passed by with its LED lights flashing, driving right by the car where he sat. From what I heard, by the abrupt onset, jolt, arc and character of the event, it reminded me of some sort of brain seizure. I have epilepsy and I've had seizures myself and witnessed seizures in family members and in my students. The way that Mark was left disoriented and finding it hard to speak was like symptoms of a seizure's aftermath. I stayed on the phone with him quite a while longer as he gradually recovered. It was a striking, terrible experience. Obviously much, much worse for him, but I felt badly shaken up. I have no doubt, either, that had I been in that park when the truck passed, I too would've suffered an equally sudden and severe reaction to that fire truck's flashers..I'm attaching an incident report with this letter to illustrate.

Sincerely, MarieAnn Cherry Washington County, New York

Exhibit F

Incident Report

On the morning April 12, 2023, between eleven AM and noon, I was driving in Cambridge, NY, with my mother in the passenger seat beside me. It was a sunny, clear day, and visibility was excellent. We had just entered the village, turning off Rt 59, heading east on Main Street, when I saw a flashing light about 150 feet ahead of us, on the sidewalk to the north. It was mounted on the cab of a bobcat belonging to the DPW, who were collecting yard debris. At almost the same moment, I spotted another flashing light on a truck driving east in front of us. I knew if my mother caught a glimpse of either flasher, she would have a seizure. I tried to warn her to duck her head, but before I could get the words out she began seizing in her seat. I was afraid she was going to hit her head against the window, but had to keep my hands on the wheel and couldn't shield her. There were no side roads I could turn down to get away from the flashing lights. If I drove forward, I'd have been bringing us closer to the flashing light on the bobcat, and following the flasher on the truck. In desperation, I pulled over to the side of the road, and held a piece of cardboard between my mother and the flashing lights.

That part of Main Street is narrow, and while we were siting there, another truck, this one a flatbed, drove by with a flasher on its roof, and a Post Office truck drove by with its flashers on, as well. It took several minutes for my mother to stop seizing, and several more for her to recover enough to hold the cardboard herself so I could drive forward and get us out of sight of the flashing lights. I had to keep checking in every direction for more flashers. The entire experience was nerve-wracking and terrifying. When we got to the house, my mother was disoriented, her left arm and hand seemed stiff, and she couldn't walk. After I helped her get indoors, she remained incapacitated for the rest of the day.

Sylvana Maione

April 12, 2023

Exhibit G

I decided to see what ChatGPT would bring up about strobing lights. I am aware of the limitations of the searches but it was still interesting.

My prompt: why do some people feel rage when they are exposed to strobing lights? ChatGPT response:

Rage or strong emotional reactions to strobing lights can be attributed to several factors:

- 1. **Neurological Sensitivity**: Some individuals have heightened sensitivity to visual stimuli. Strobing lights can overstimulate the brain, leading to discomfort, irritation, and in some cases, aggressive or emotional responses.
- 2. **Migraine Triggers**: Strobing lights are known triggers for migraines in susceptible individuals. The discomfort and pain associated with an impending migraine can provoke irritability or anger.
- 3. **Photosensitive Epilepsy**: While not common, some people have a condition called photosensitive epilepsy, where flashing lights can trigger seizures. The anxiety or fear of a seizure can lead to heightened emotional responses.
- 4. **Sensory Processing Issues**: Individuals with sensory processing disorders or conditions like autism may experience strobing lights as overwhelming or distressing. This can lead to frustration or rage as a response to the intense sensory input.
- 5. **Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD)**: For some, strobing lights may serve as a trigger for PTSD, especially if they have experienced traumatic events involving flashing lights. The strong emotional reaction can include anger or rage.
- 6. **General Discomfort and Stress**: Strobing lights can be physically uncomfortable for anyone, leading to eyestrain, headaches, and general stress. This discomfort can manifest as irritability or anger.

Understanding these underlying factors can help in managing environments to minimize exposure for those who are particularly sensitive to strobing lights.

My prompt: can the lights trigger the fight/flight reaction?

ChatGPT response:

Yes, strobing lights can trigger the fight-or-flight response in some individuals. This is due to several mechanisms:

- 1. **Autonomic Nervous System Activation**: The rapid, unpredictable changes in visual input from strobing lights can activate the autonomic nervous system. This system controls the body's involuntary responses and can trigger the fight-or-flight response, leading to increased heart rate, heightened alertness, and a surge of adrenaline.
- 2. **Perceived Threat**: The brain might perceive the strobing lights as a potential threat due to their intense and disorienting nature. This perceived threat can activate the amygdala, the part of the brain responsible for processing fear and triggering the fight-or-flight response.
- 3. **Sensory Overload**: For individuals with sensory processing issues, the overwhelming sensory input from strobing lights can lead to a state of overload. The body might respond to this overload by initiating the fight-or-flight response as a means of self-protection.

- 4. **PTSD Triggers**: For those with PTSD, strobing lights can act as a trigger for past traumatic experiences, especially if the trauma involved similar stimuli. This can activate the fight-or-flight response as the body reacts to the perceived danger.
- 5. **Neurological Response**: The sudden and intense stimulation from strobing lights can disrupt normal brain activity, leading to a heightened state of arousal. This disruption can activate the fight-or-flight response as the brain attempts to cope with the unexpected and intense sensory input.

These reactions are deeply ingrained physiological responses meant to protect the individual from harm, even if the actual threat is not present.

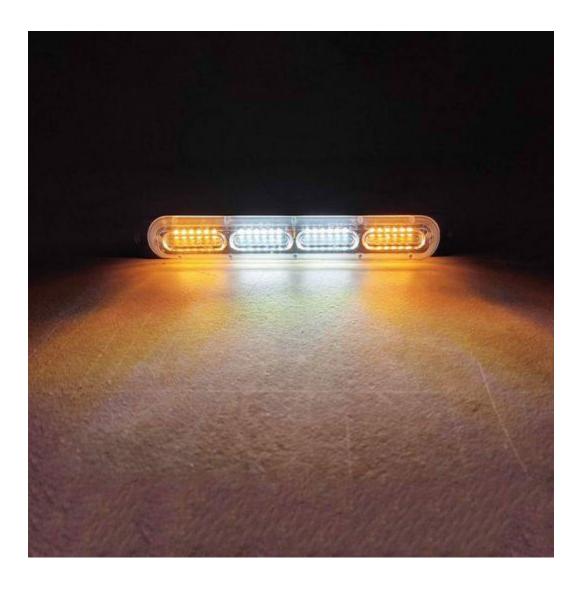


Exhibit F



Bryan K. Benard Partner Licensed in California and Utah Phone 801.799.5833 bbenard@hollandhart.com

May 29, 2024

VIA EMAIL and U.S. MAIL mbaker@softlights.org

Mark Baker 9450 SW Gemini Drive PMB 44671 Beaverton, OR 97008

Re: LED Light Issues

Confidential Settlement Communication; Subject to Federal Rule of

Evidence 401

Dear Mr. Baker,

This office has been retained to assist LiveView Technologies, Inc. ("LVT") with respect to the numerous letters you have sent to LVT, as well as the additional information you have been sending to LVT clients. We have carefully reviewed the information as well as the Americans with Disabilities Act ("ADA") concerns you have raised.

As previously explained to you by Bryce Higbee, LVT's General Counsel, Title III of the ADA does not apply to LVT in this context because it is neither a property owner nor landlord of any of the properties you have mentioned before. As such, LVT does not have any obligations to provide public accommodations to any locations where it is neither property owner nor landlord, and thus, LVT does not have any obligations under the ADA toward you or with respect to the concerns you have raised.

It appears that you are aware of this as you have provided LVT with documents suggesting you are contacting and/or potentially suing clients of LVT that may be subject to Title III of the ADA for using LVT products in their parking lots. As we understand it, you are suggesting that such clients have created barriers to your access to these public spaces, in violation of the ADA, when the LVT products they have use and incorporate blue and/or LED lights. We disagree that the LVT product creates any such barriers to public access.

As Mr. Higbee has already explained to you, there are no regulations, guidelines or laws imposing a duty on a property owner to accommodate your requests regarding external lighting or shutting off blue and/or LED lights. Indeed, it is important to note that the ADA Accessibility



Mark Baker May 29, 2024 Page 2

Guidelines (ADAAGs) make no mention whatsoever with respect to such lighting requirements in architectural designs or in public accommodations. If there were ever such a requirement under the ADA related to blue and/or LED lights, or such lights in a flashing mode, then certainly such guidance would be found in the ADAAGs. As there are no such guidelines or requirements, then there is no requirement under the ADA and your requests could be rejected on that basis alone.

In addition, it is important to note that an exception exists under the ADA that does not require an entity to fundamentally alter or change the essential nature of the business or product in allowing public access. We note that the use of the blue and/or LED lights, including in the flashing mode, is an essential part of the entire security apparatus provided by LVT's product. The lights operate as a deterrent to illegal conduct (thefts, assaults, rapes, etc.) as well as providing light and notice of the product itself (that thereby prevents accidents). The light also provides exposure to the notices that individuals may be videotaped by the product as another essential part of the security system of the LVT product. Clients buy and use the LVT product to ensure safety and security in parking lots—and to help eliminate crime and accidents. The blue and/or LED lights, including flashing mode, are essential to the efficacy of the security product and service, and essential to the business of LVT and the clients who use the product. Since all of the above are fundamental and essential parts of the security system, it is unlikely that the ADA would ever require LVT or its clients to fundamentally alter the product in such a way as to not use the blue and/or LED lights—or to disable that essential function of the product.

Nonetheless, in an effort to resolve your concerns, particularly those as against LVT's clients, and engage in the interactive process as contemplated by the ADA, LVT would like to engage in discussions with you. Again, while the ADA does not apply to LVT, this is an effort to address your overall concerns about LVT's product with respect to public access where LVT's products may be in use.

First, under the ADA, it is reasonable for an entity that has been asked to provide an accommodation to request medical documentation to substantiate the qualifying disability and understand the restrictions created by the disability. While we have received some information from you, will you please provide medical notes and information describing the qualifying disability and the restrictions you have in place related to blue and/or LED lights (including flashing mode).

Second, at the same time, please propose some potential accommodations for us to consider. We understand in the past you have asked that the blue and/or LED lights be turned off entirely or that they not be used in a flashing mode. Since turning that part of the security system off would fundamentally alter an essential function, we ask that you provide ideas about potential reasonable accommodations that fall short of disabling the lights or the light functions. It would be worthwhile for our discussion to have such options.



Mark Baker May 29, 2024 Page 3

For example, in reviewing several websites, including that of Autism Speaks, it is suggested that using "light covers, sunglasses, or a hat under fluorescent lights" is an effective way to address hypersensitivity to lights. In addition, one site noted that the best way to address photophobia was with glasses that filter potentially harmful wavelengths and light. In our research, there are numerous glasses available on the market that could be used to address hypersensitivity or photophobia.

We can think of several potential reasonable accommodations in this situation. Again, however, we believe it is upon you to provide to us sufficient medical documentation and to suggest alternative reasonable accommodations. Upon receipt of such information, LVT will consider the information you have provided and look at providing reasonable accommodations and/or assisting its clients in providing such reasonable accommodations in specific locations where the LVT security product is used.

We look forward to hearing from you and further discussing these issues.

Very truly yours,

Bryan K. Benard

Partner

of Holland & Hart LLP

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