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**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA**KRISTIN M. PERRY, SANDRA B. STIER,
PAUL T. KATAMI, and JEFFREY J.
ZARRILLO,

Plaintiffs,

v.

ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER, in his official
capacity as Governor of California; EDMUND
G. BROWN, JR., in his official capacity as
Attorney General of California; MARK B.
HORTON, in his official capacity as Director of
the California Department of Public Health and
State Registrar of Vital Statistics; LINETTE
SCOTT, in her official capacity as Deputy
Director of Health Information & Strategic
Planning for the California Department of Public
Health; PATRICK O'CONNELL, in his official
capacity as Clerk-Recorder for the County of
Alameda; and DEAN C. LOGAN, in his official
capacity as Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk for
the County of Los Angeles,

Defendants.

CASE NO. 09-CV-2292 VRW

**PLAINTIFFS' CASE MANAGEMENT
STATEMENT**

Date: August 19, 2009

Time: 10:00 a.m.

Judge: Chief Judge Walker

Location: Courtroom 6, 17th Floor

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**I.
INTRODUCTION**

Plaintiffs have brought this federal lawsuit because Proposition 8, the California ballot initiative that stripped gay and lesbian individuals of their recognized right to marry the person they love, violates their rights under the United States Constitution. Prop. 8 violates the Due Process Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment because it denies a single disfavored group, gay and lesbian individuals, the fundamental right to marry. Prop. 8 violates the Equal Protection Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment because it discriminates against Plaintiffs on the basis of their sexual orientation and gender without any compelling, or even rational, basis for the discrimination. Every day that Prop. 8 remains the law of California, Plaintiffs and thousands of other gay and lesbian individuals are denied fundamental rights that are cherished and enjoyed by others, and they suffer substantial, irreparable harm.

Plaintiffs intend to present to the Court a robust record of evidence—including testimony from Plaintiffs, Defendants, the proponents of Prop. 8 (“Intervenors”), other fact witnesses and leading experts—that will powerfully demonstrate both the unconstitutionality of Prop. 8 and the devastating harm that it causes. Plaintiffs will prove their claims in a public trial consisting of live witness testimony, cross-examination, and argument, except as to those issues that may be resolved in Plaintiffs’ favor as a matter of law through summary judgment. A prompt, thorough trial on all disputed factual issues is the most effective and efficient way to present the record on which this case will be decided. Plaintiffs respectfully request that the Court set this case for trial before the end of the calendar year.

This Court has recognized the importance of building a complete record in this case and proceeding promptly to trial. In its June 30, 2009 Order, this Court recognized that Plaintiffs’ claims raise “serious questions” and stated its intention to “proceed directly and expeditiously to the merits of Plaintiffs’ claims and to determine, on a complete record, whether injunctive relief may be appropriate.” Doc #76 at 5. The Court identified a number of factual issues that may have an impact on Plaintiffs’ claims and stated that “[t]he just, speedy and inexpensive determination of these issues would appear to call for *proceeding promptly to trial*.” *Id.* at 9 (emphasis added).

Intervenors argue that there should be no trial in this case, and that numerous factual and legal issues should be disposed of before discovery is even conducted. Intervenors urge the Court not to follow the steps through which trial courts traditionally build factual records and decide cases—discovery, followed by motions for summary judgment, followed by trial—but instead to have an early round of pre-discovery dispositive motions followed by extensive, post-discovery submissions on all issues that remain to be resolved. Intervenors’ approach is neither just nor efficient. It would deprive Plaintiffs of the opportunity to build a complete factual record, to present their case through live witness testimony, and to cross-examine in open court those who seek to defend and justify the denial of their constitutional rights. It would similarly deprive the Court of the opportunity to question fact and expert witnesses and to assess their credibility in Court. Lastly, the preparation of extensive briefing on every issue that may possibly affect the merits of Plaintiffs’ claims, and the submission of voluminous written testimony, deposition excerpts, and exhibits is in no way more efficient or effective than having experienced lawyers try their case before the Court.

Plaintiffs respectfully submit this Case Management Statement to address how this case should proceed up to and including trial on the merits. *See* July 2, 2009 Tr. at 34:2-12 (directing the parties to submit case management statements describing “what facts you think can be determined by the Court without the necessity of further proceedings, those facts that you think may require discovery, those facts which may require resolution by some means other than judicial notice, and a plan of action, whether it’s a motion for summary judgment or motions, plural, for summary judgment on one side or the other. But I would like to get down to the specifics of how we are going to proceed.”).¹ First, Plaintiffs will provide a general overview of their position on case management

¹ Plaintiffs, Defendants, and Intervenors have had several telephonic discussions of the issues raised by the Court. These included a detailed telephonic meet-and-confer on July 20, 2009 in which the parties discussed their overall approaches to case management and how they intended to address the specific factual issues identified by the Court. The parties concluded that it would be better to submit separate Case Management Statements than to attempt to agree on a joint Case Management Statement. The parties exchanged draft Case Management Statements on August 5, 2009. Plaintiffs’ understanding of Intervenors’ positions with respect to case management is based on these communications and exchanges.

in this action. Second, Plaintiffs will address each specific factual issue raised in the Court's June 30, 2009 Order. Third, Plaintiffs will propose a pre-trial and trial calendar for this action.

II. OVERVIEW OF PLAINTIFFS' POSITION ON CASE MANAGEMENT

A. Trial

Plaintiffs will prove their claims in a public trial consisting of live witness testimony, cross-examination, and argument. The trial record will include testimony from Plaintiffs, Defendants, Intervenor and other fact witnesses, documentary evidence relating to the Prop. 8 campaign, and testimony from leading experts in several fields relevant to Plaintiffs' claims.² Plaintiffs expect trial to last between two and three weeks and respectfully request that it be scheduled for December 2009. Plaintiffs' approach is consistent with this Court's prior direction concerning building a record and proceeding promptly to trial. *See* Doc #76 at 9 ("The just, speedy and inexpensive determination of these issues would appear to call for proceeding promptly to trial."); *see* July 2, 2009 Tr. at 25:4 ("We develop records with trials.").

The crux of Intervenor's case management plan is that there should be no trial at all. Intervenor appears to base their position that trial is unnecessary on their view that many, although certainly not all, of the facts at issue in this case are "legislative facts" as to which the Court is not required to follow strict evidentiary procedures or take judicial notice.³ For several reasons, this

² Plaintiffs had hoped it might be possible to use stipulations between Plaintiffs and Intervenor to narrow the issues that the Court must resolve. However, after close analysis of the areas of dispute and several meet-and-confer discussions with Intervenor, Plaintiffs do not anticipate that stipulations will significantly narrow the issues before the Court. Discussions between Plaintiffs and Intervenor since the July 2, 2009 Case Management Conference have led to no meaningful agreements. While the parties may be able to stipulate to certain specific, publicly known and objectively verifiable facts that may be relevant to the factual issues identified in the Court's June 30, 2009 Order, any such stipulations are unlikely to resolve the larger factual issues themselves or to eliminate the need for evidence on such issues.

³ Generally, legislative facts are "those applicable to the entire class of cases," whereas adjudicative facts are "those applicable only to the case before" the court. *United States v. \$124,570 U.S. Currency*, 873 F.2d 1240, 1244 (9th Cir. 1989). "Adjudicative facts are facts about the parties and their activities, businesses, and properties, usually answering the questions of who did what, where, when, how, why, with what motive or intent; adjudicative facts are roughly the kind of facts that go to a jury in a jury case. Legislative facts do not usually concern the immediate parties but are general facts which help the tribunal decide questions of law, policy, and discretion." *Marshall v. Sawyer*, 365 F.2d 105, 111 (9th Cir.

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1 Court should decline Intervenor's invitation to resolve the important issues presented by this case
2 without any trial and live testimony.

3 Plaintiffs should have the opportunity to put on their case before the Court, including their
4 live testimony and the live testimony of experienced experts who will address subjects of great
5 importance to the resolution of Plaintiffs' claims. *See United States v. Yida*, 498 F.3d 945, 950 (9th
6 Cir. 2007 ("Underlying both the constitutional principles and the rules of evidence is a preference for
7 live testimony."). The Court should have the opportunity to observe and question the witnesses in
8 this case, including both fact and expert witnesses, in order to assess their credibility and better
9 understand the relevant testimony and the issues presented. *See id.* ("Live testimony gives the jury
10 (or other trier of fact) the opportunity to observe the demeanor of the witness while testifying.").
11 Similarly, Plaintiffs should have the opportunity to cross-examine, in open court and before the finder
12 of fact, those defending and seeking to justify the discriminatory scheme established by Prop. 8. *See*
13 *Govt. of the Virgin Is. v. Aquino*, 378 F.2d 540, 548 (3d Cir. 1967) ("It is indeed rarely that a cross-
14 examiner succeeds in compelling a witness to retract testimony which is harmful to his client, but it is
15 not infrequently that he leads a hostile witness to reveal by his demeanor—his tone of voice, the
16 evidence of fear which grips him at the height of cross-examination, or even his defiance—that his
17 evidence is not to be accepted as true, either because of partiality or overzealousness or inaccuracy,
18 as well as outright untruthfulness."). Lastly, given the breadth of issues presented by Plaintiffs'
19 claims and the existence of alternative theories and standards of review, a traditional, live trial will be
20 more efficient and effective than having the parties brief any and all issues that remain in dispute and
21 leaving the Court to sort through those submissions in chambers.

22 The distinction that Intervenor's seek to draw between legislative and adjudicative facts does
23 not justify a case management plan that bypasses trial. First, Intervenor's do not and cannot contend
24 that all of the facts implicated by Plaintiffs' claims are legislative as opposed to adjudicative, yet they
25

26 [Footnote continued from previous page]

27 1966) (internal citation and quotation marks omitted). Rule 201 of the Federal Rules of
28 Evidence, which sets forth the circumstances under which a Court may take judicial notice of
facts, is limited on its face to adjudicative facts, thus giving courts greater latitude and
discretion when deciding legislative facts. *See* Fed. R. Evid. 201 advisory committee's note.

offer no explanation of why the relevant adjudicative facts should not be decided through trial. This case will require resolution of numerous adjudicative facts that pertain specifically to the parties, including the circumstances of and injuries to each Plaintiff and the campaign by Intervenor to pass the specific initiative that is challenged here. Under Intervenor's proposed case management plan, even true adjudicative facts would be resolved solely on the papers and without a trial.

Second, while a court may not be *required* to follow formal evidentiary and trial procedures with respect to legislative facts, it undoubtedly has discretion to do so and Intervenor cites no authority to the contrary. Indeed, courts have found that "[e]videntiary hearings, although not necessary to determine legislative facts, nevertheless may be helpful in certain circumstances." *Ass'n of Nat'l Advertisers, Inc. v. FTC*, 627 F.2d 1151, 1163-64 (D.C. Cir. 1979) (observing that some legislative facts "justify exploration in a trial-type format because they are sufficiently narrow in focus and sufficiently material to the outcome of the proceeding to make it reasonable and useful for the agency to resort to trial-type procedure to resolve them."); *H.B.R.R. Co. v. Am. Cyanamid Co.*, 916 F.2d 1174, 1183 (7th Cir. 1990) (Posner, J.) (noting that the line between adjudicative and legislative facts is not "hard and fast" and that "[i]f facts critical to a decision on whether [a particular legal standard should apply] cannot be determined with reasonable accuracy without an evidentiary hearing, such a hearing can and should be held . . . "); *see also* Fed. R. Evid. 201 advisory committee's note (Judicial determination of legislative facts "should, however, leave open the possibility of introducing evidence through regular channels in appropriate situations."). In this case, a traditional trial is the best possible course of action. For example, because many of the facts that Intervenor portrays as legislative are likely to be presented through experts, there is every reason to use the usual methods of testing those experts' opinions, including live testimony and cross-examination.⁴

⁴ Intervenor suggests that a trial is unnecessary because, when addressing true legislative facts, an appellate court can consider evidence not in the record. This misses the point. Both sides have made clear that they intend to rely on expert testimony with respect to many of the facts at issue in this case. Expert testimony must be solicited in the district court and is not admissible for the first time on appeal. *See Dietary Supplemental Coalition, Inc. v. Sullivan*, 978 F.2d 560, 562 (9th Cir. 1992) ("Because the expert testimony was not before the district court, it is not part of the record on appeal."); *Hart v. Sheahan*, 396 F.3d 887, 894 (7th Cir.

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Third, while Intervenor note that some other courts have decided cases involving marriage equality without a trial, they ignore the fact that *Romer v. Evans* was decided following a three week trial. *See Romer v. Evans*, 517 U.S. 620, 625 (1996). In *Romer*, as here, the plaintiffs challenged a ballot initiative that amended a state constitution to strip gay and lesbian individuals of rights that they previously enjoyed. The trial court built a record through trial, the case went up on appeal, and the plaintiffs' rights were ultimately vindicated. Given the importance of the issues presented by this case and the likelihood that, regardless of the outcome, it will be reviewed on appeal, this Court should conduct a full trial on the merits as to all disputed facts.⁵

B. Discovery

Plaintiffs intend to use written discovery and depositions to build the factual record in this case. One important area of discovery will be the Prop. 8 campaign itself, including without limitation: (1) how it came about and who was behind it; (2) how the campaign formulated the arguments that it would make to the voters in favor of stripping gay and lesbian individuals of the right to marry; (3) the intent of the campaign and the voters in proposing and passing Prop. 8; and (4) the role that animus toward and/or disapproval of gay and lesbian individuals played in Prop. 8.

Plaintiffs wish to conduct discovery on an expedited basis and will commit to such discovery whatever resources are necessary to build a complete factual record as quickly as possible. Plaintiffs propose that all fact discovery be completed by October 2, 2009. Plaintiffs propose that the time for responding to written discovery be shortened to 14 calendar days. Because Plaintiffs anticipate that Intervenor may resist certain discovery to which Plaintiffs are entitled, Plaintiffs request that the Court implement a procedure through which all discovery disputes would be briefed and decided within two weeks of the dispute arising.

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2005) (only "academic or other studies" regarding "legislative" facts may be cited for the first time on appeal). For the reasons explained above, the best way to solicit expert testimony is through a live trial in which the Court can assess the credibility of each expert and ask questions of each expert.

⁵ If the Court is considering adjusting trial procedures based on the role of legislative facts in this case, Plaintiffs respectfully request that the parties be given a full opportunity to brief how, if at all, this distinction should affect the presentation of evidence, which specific facts are indeed properly characterized as legislative, and which are adjudicative.

1 Plaintiffs intend to present testimony from expert witnesses on several subjects pertaining to
 2 Plaintiffs' claims. Plaintiffs understand that Intervenor also will be relying on expert witnesses for
 3 numerous subjects. Plaintiffs propose that the parties exchange reports from all designated experts on
 4 October 9, 2009, one week after the close of fact discovery. The parties would then exchange reports
 5 from true rebuttal witnesses (witnesses testifying to matters that could not have been foreseen at the
 6 time of the initial exchange of reports) by October 19, 2009 and complete all expert depositions by
 7 October 23, 2009.

8 It is clear from Intervenor's positions on case management that they will try to restrict the
 9 issues on which Plaintiffs even get the benefit of discovery, first by asking the Court to resolve
 10 certain factual and legal issues on an early dispositive motion before discovery can be taken, and
 11 second by arguing that certain broad subjects—including the intent of the proponents of Prop. 8 and
 12 the voters who passed it—are wholly irrelevant and therefore off-limits for discovery. Of course, the
 13 Federal Rules of Civil Procedure entitle Plaintiffs to liberal discovery that need only be "reasonably
 14 calculated to lead to the discovery of admissible evidence." Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(b)(1). While
 15 Plaintiffs believe that they can build the factual record they require through targeted and expedited
 16 discovery, any attempt by Intervenor to prevent Plaintiffs from building that factual record should be
 17 rejected. *See* July 2, 2009 Tr. at 12:8-13 ("I want to give the plaintiffs, the defendants and the
 18 intervenors the opportunity to make the record they think is appropriate for the decision.").

19 **C. Dispositive Motions**

20 Plaintiffs propose that there be a single round of dispositive motions, to be filed after fact and
 21 expert discovery are completed. Plaintiffs propose that all such dispositive motions be filed by
 22 October 30, 2009, one week after the close of discovery, and that dispositive motions be heard by the
 23 Court three weeks later, on November 20, 2009.

24 Intervenor propose an initial round of briefing on supposedly dispositive or controlling legal
 25 issues *before* discovery has been taken and a complete factual record assembled. This proposal by
 26 Intervenor, like their paper trial proposal, is an attempt to avoid a trial on the merits in which
 27 Plaintiffs will have an opportunity to present live witness testimony and cross-examine Intervenor's
 28 witnesses. It is an unsubtle attempt to take issues off the table before Plaintiffs even have access to

discovery.⁶ Early motions for partial summary judgment would be wasteful under the circumstances of this case, where Plaintiffs' claims raise numerous disputed factual issues and the entire proceeding, including dispositive motions, can and should be conducted on an expedited basis. Such a procedure would almost inevitably lead to duplicative briefing, where issues are briefed once before discovery and yet again after discovery is closed (not to mention a third time if Intervenor get the "paper trial" they desire). Plaintiffs propose that all dispositive motions be filed after fact and expert discovery are completed, giving each side one opportunity to seek adjudication of claims or issues as to which they believe no triable issue of material fact exists.

III. PLAINTIFFS' CASE MANAGEMENT PLAN WITH RESPECT TO THE DEVELOPMENT AND RESOLUTION OF SPECIFIC FACTUAL ISSUES

This Court has identified certain specific issues that may need to be resolved in order to decide Plaintiffs' claims, and it also has asked that the parties address which facts can be resolved without further proceedings, which ones will require discovery, and which may require resolution by a means other than judicial notice. Plaintiffs will address each issue in turn.⁷ As a general matter,

⁶ Intervenor take the position that *Baker v. Nelson*, 409 U.S. 810 (1972) controls the outcome of this case. Intervenor are wrong. In *Baker*, over 25 years ago, the Supreme Court dismissed "for want of a substantial federal question" an appeal from a Minnesota Supreme Court decision rejecting federal due process and equal protection challenges to the State's refusal to issue a marriage license to a same-sex couple. 191 N.W.2d 185 (Minn. 1971). But summary dismissals are binding only "on the precise issues presented and necessarily decided," *Mandel v. Bradley*, 432 U.S. 173, 176 (1977) (per curiam), and only to the extent they have not been undermined by later "doctrinal developments" in Supreme Court case law. *Hicks v. Miranda*, 422 U.S. 332, 344 (1975) (internal quotation marks omitted). Neither requirement is met here. The issue decided in *Baker*—a State's complete refusal to recognize same-sex relationships—is different from the issue presented here, namely whether California may constitutionally reserve marriage for opposite-sex couples and relegate same-sex couples to the lesser and unequal status of domestic partnership. Moreover, the Supreme Court's subsequent decisions in *Lawrence*—which invalidated a state prohibition on same-sex intimate conduct on due process grounds—and *Romer*—which struck down a state initiative prohibiting any government action to protect gay and lesbian individuals from discrimination on equal protection grounds—have fatally undermined *Baker*. Indeed, at least one federal district court in California has concluded as much. See *Smelt v. County of Orange*, 374 F. Supp. 2d 861, 873 (C.D. Cal. 2005) ("Doctrinal developments show it is not reasonable to conclude the questions presented in the *Baker* jurisdictional statement would still be viewed by the Supreme Court as 'unsubstantial.'"), *rev'd in part on other grounds*, 447 F.3d 673 (9th Cir. 2006).

⁷ Plaintiffs have limited their discussion to the factual issues specifically identified by the Court. While Plaintiffs believe that the Court's list is quite comprehensive, they reserve the

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1 Plaintiffs believe that further proceedings will likely be required as to each of the issues identified by
 2 the Court. Plaintiffs expect that Intervenor will be unable to come forward with competent evidence
 3 sufficient to raise a genuine issue of material fact as to some or all elements of Plaintiffs' claims, and
 4 as to those elements Plaintiffs will seek summary judgment in its favor at the close of discovery.
 5 However, with respect to any remaining factual disputes between the parties, a public trial on the
 6 merits is the appropriate proceeding through which to resolve those disputes.

7 **A. Facts Pertaining to the Appropriate Level of Scrutiny.**

8 Plaintiffs will demonstrate that Prop. 8 violates the Equal Protection Clause of the Fourteenth
 9 Amendment because it denies to a single, disfavored group—gay and lesbian individuals—the right
 10 to marry the person they love, a right that is cherished and enjoyed by virtually all other citizens.
 11 Plaintiffs believe that Prop. 8 should be evaluated under strict or at least heightened scrutiny, both
 12 because a fundamental right is at issue and because gay and lesbian individuals as a group satisfy the
 13 established legal standard for heightened scrutiny. *See United States v. Hancock*, 231 F.3d 557, 565
 14 (9th Cir. 2000) (a “law is subject to strict scrutiny if it targets a suspect class or burdens the exercise
 15 of a fundamental right”); *see also City of Cleburne v. Cleburne Living Ctr.*, 473 U.S. 432, 442-47
 16 (1985) (identifying four factors that guide the Court’s suspect class inquiry, including (1) whether the
 17 group at issue has suffered a history of purposeful discrimination; (2) whether the characteristics that
 18 distinguish the group bear any relation to the group’s ability to participate in and contribute to
 19 society; (3) whether the distinguishing characteristic is immutable; and (4) the political power of the
 20 subject class). However, Plaintiffs also contend and will demonstrate that Prop. 8 fails even under
 21 rational basis scrutiny because no rational basis exists for Prop. 8’s exclusion of gay and lesbian
 22 individuals from civil marriage.

23 Intervenor has taken the position that gay and lesbian individuals should not be treated as a
 24 suspect class, and thus not receive the benefit of heightened scrutiny, because sexual orientation has
 25 no settled definition and is somehow illusive or subjective as a concept. This position only reflects
 26

27 [Footnote continued from previous page]

28 right to raise additional factual issues as necessary, or to modify their position on particular
 issues discussed herein as fact and expert discovery progress in this matter.

the depth of the dispute between Plaintiffs and Intervenor that this Court will need to resolve. Plaintiffs will demonstrate that a person's sexual orientation is an integral part of that individual's identity, and that people whose sexual orientation is gay or lesbian make up a group that should be treated as a suspect class for purposes of equal protection analysis.⁸

1. The History of Discrimination Faced by Gay and Lesbian Individuals.

Plaintiffs intend to present evidence at trial demonstrating that gay and lesbian individuals have faced a long, pervasive and harmful history of discrimination, both governmental and private, that continues today. Plaintiffs' evidence will include their own testimony, possibly the testimony of other fact witnesses, and expert testimony. Plaintiffs will depose any experts put forth by Intervenor on this subject.

The parties are unlikely to be able to reach a stipulation that would eliminate the need for evidence concerning the history of discrimination against gay and lesbian individuals. While Intervenor has indicated that they do not dispute that gay and lesbian individuals have faced past discrimination based on their sexual *conduct*, they seem unwilling to concede that gay and lesbian individuals have faced discrimination based on their sexual *orientation* and their status as gay or lesbian. Plaintiffs will argue that the discrimination faced by gay and lesbian individuals has gone far beyond their sexual *conduct*, and is often based on perceptions, prejudices, or other impressions that are not based on or related to any specific conduct, whether sexual in nature or not. Intervenor also apparently intend to argue that discrimination against gay and lesbian individuals has decreased

⁸ Contrary to Intervenor's position, courts have proven quite capable of understanding the concept of sexual orientation and applying that definition to a group of people who are gay or lesbian. See *Romer v. Evans*, 517 U.S. 620, 623 (1996) (recognizing that the constitutional amendment challenged in that case "prohibits all legislative, executive or judicial action at any level of state or local government designed to protect the named class, *a class we shall refer to as homosexual persons or gays or lesbians.*") (emphasis added); *In re Marriage Cases*, 183 P.3d 384, 442 (2008) ("Because a person's sexual orientation is so integral an aspect of one's identity, it is not appropriate to require a person to repudiate or change his or her sexual orientation in order to avoid discriminatory treatment."). Similarly, the State of California expressly bars discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation through the Unruh Civil Rights Act. See Cal. Civ. Code § 51(b) ("All persons within the jurisdiction of this state are free and equal, and no matter what their sex, race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, disability, medical condition, marital status, or *sexual orientation* are entitled to the full and equal accommodations, advantages, facilities, privileges, or services in all business establishments of every kind whatsoever.") (emphasis added).

1 significantly in recent years, further evidencing their intent to dispute that the existence of
2 discrimination merits heightened scrutiny.

3 Moreover, even if Intervenor were willing to concede that this element of the test for
4 heightened scrutiny is met in this case, this would not eliminate the need for the Court to hear
5 evidence concerning the discrimination suffered by gay and lesbian individuals. First, such evidence
6 is relevant to issues other than heightened scrutiny, such as the role of animus in California's passage
7 of Prop. 8. Second, there are clearly aspects of the discrimination issue on which the parties will be
8 unable to reach agreement, such as whether specific examples of law or conduct constitute
9 discrimination and the pervasiveness of such discrimination both historically and today.

10 **2. Whether the Characteristics Defining Gays and Lesbians as a Class Might**
11 **Affect Their Ability to Contribute to Society.**

12 Plaintiffs intend to present evidence at trial demonstrating that being gay or lesbian bears no
13 relationship to a person's ability to contribute to society, and that gay and lesbian individuals have
14 made and will continue to make significant contributions to society. Plaintiffs' evidence will include
15 their own testimony, possibly the testimony of other fact witnesses, and expert testimony. Plaintiffs
16 will depose any experts that Intervenor put forth on this subject.

17 Intervenor has indicated that they may be willing to stipulate that, other than as to
18 procreative ability, gay and lesbian individuals are as able to contribute to society as are
19 heterosexuals, although they have not proposed specific language for any such stipulation.
20 Intervenor also could represent, on the record, that they will not dispute that this element of the test
21 for heightened scrutiny under the Equal Protection Clause is met in this case. But as with the issue of
22 historical discrimination, Plaintiffs do not believe that these steps would eliminate the need for
23 evidence. For example, evidence of the contributions of gay and lesbian individuals to society is
24 fundamental to demonstrating and understanding the irrationality and injustice of singling them out
25 for exclusion from civil marriage. Moreover, Plaintiffs anticipate that there are aspects of the extent
26 and ability of gay and lesbian individuals to contribute to society, including as parents and with
27 respect to responsible and planned procreation, to which Intervenor will not be willing to stipulate.
28

1 **3. Whether Sexual Orientation Can Be Changed and, If So, Whether Gay**
2 **and Lesbian Individuals Should Be Encouraged to Change It.**

3 Plaintiffs will present evidence at trial that sexual orientation is fundamental to a person's
4 identity, that there is no credible evidence that sexual orientation can or should be changed, and that it
5 can be harmful to an individual to attempt to change it. The Ninth Circuit and the California
6 Supreme Court have both held that sexual orientation is "immutable" because it is so fundamental to
7 a person's identity that a person should not be required to abandon it as a condition to enjoying a
8 legal right. *See Hernandez-Montiel v. INS*, 225 F.3d 1084, 1093 (9th Cir. 2000) ("Sexual orientation
9 and sexual identity . . . are so fundamental to one's identity that a person should not be required to
10 abandon them."); *In re Marriage Cases*, 183 P.3d 384, 442 (2008) ("Because a person's sexual
11 orientation is so integral an aspect of one's identity, it is not appropriate to require a person to
12 repudiate or change his or her sexual orientation in order to avoid discriminatory treatment.").
13 Plaintiffs' evidence will include their own testimony, possibly the testimony of other fact witnesses,
14 and expert testimony, and Plaintiffs will depose Intervenor's experts. Intervenor's have stated their
15 intent to present evidence that sexual orientation can be changed and to take the position that any
16 consideration of whether one should be encouraged to change it is irrelevant. Therefore, stipulation
17 on this subject likely will not be possible.

18 **4. The Relative Political Power of Gay and Lesbian Individuals, Including**
19 **Successes of Both Pro-Gay and Anti-Gay Legislation.**

20 Plaintiffs intend to present evidence at trial that gay and lesbian individuals lack the political
21 power to adequately protect their rights and interests from infringement by the majority, and that they
22 are at least as lacking in such power as other groups as to whom courts consistently have applied
23 heightened scrutiny with respect to equal protection claims. Plaintiffs will present primarily expert
24 testimony on this subject. Plaintiffs may propound discovery on this issue to the governmental
25 defendants, and will depose Intervenor's experts. Plaintiffs and Intervenor's agree that while it may
26 be possible to stipulate to certain publicly known and objectively verified facts, such as the passage
27 or failure of a law that might serve or disserve the interests of gay and lesbian individuals, they are
28 not likely to be able to stipulate as to the existence or lack of political power.

B. Facts Pertaining to Whether Plaintiffs' Claims Involve a Fundamental Right and Warrant Strict Scrutiny on That Basis.

The United States Supreme Court has long recognized that the right to marry is a fundamental right protected under the Due Process Clause and that any restriction of that right must withstand strict scrutiny. *See M.L.B. v. S.L.J.*, 519 U.S. 102, 116 (1996) (“[c]hoices about marriage” are “sheltered by the Fourteenth Amendment against the State’s unwarranted usurpation, disregard or disrespect”); *Loving v. Virginia*, 388 U.S. 1, 12 (1967) (the “freedom to marry has long been recognized as one of the vital personal rights essential to the orderly pursuit of happiness by free men”). By amending the California Constitution to limit the definition of marriage to a man and a woman, and thus excluding same-sex couples from the institution of civil marriage, Prop. 8 deprives gay and lesbian individuals of their fundamental right to marry. Thus, the strict scrutiny standard must be applied to Prop. 8.

Intervenors do not dispute that the right to marry is a fundamental right, nor do they seriously contend that Prop. 8 would withstand strict scrutiny. Instead, Intervenors seek to cast the right at issue in this case not as the long-established right to “marriage,” but rather as some new right to “same-sex marriage.” This is a word game that could be used to justify virtually any discrimination that has existed for a sufficiently long period of time. This case no more involves some new right to “same-sex marriage” than *Loving v. Virginia* involved a new right to “interracial marriage.” Thus, the issue in this trial will not be, as Intervenors would have it, whether “same sex marriage” is deeply rooted in this nation’s history and tradition. Rather, the issue will be whether the deeply rooted right to marry has been denied to a single, disfavored group without a compelling state interest for doing so.

1. The History of Marriage and Why Its Confines Have Evolved Over Time.

Plaintiffs intend to present evidence at trial concerning the history of marriage and how it has evolved over time, particularly to rebut any argument by Intervenors that marriage has somehow had a singular or static definition over time. Plaintiffs also will present evidence of historical limitations to and burdens on marriage that were once considered “definitional” but are now universally deemed untenable and, in many cases, unconstitutional. Plaintiffs expect to present primarily expert testimony on this subject and will depose Intervenors’ experts. Plaintiffs and Intervenors agree that

they may be able to stipulate to certain publicly known and objectively verifiable facts about the history of marriage, but certain aspects of the history of marriage will remain to be resolved by the Court.

C. Facts Pertaining to Potential State Interests Raised by Intervenors.

Regardless of the level of scrutiny ultimately applied in this case, resolution of the merits of Plaintiffs' claims will require the Court to evaluate interests offered by Intervenors to justify Prop. 8 and determine whether they satisfy the applicable standard of scrutiny. Plaintiffs will show that none of the supposed interests offered to justify Prop. 8 provides even a rational basis, let alone a compelling basis, for its unequal treatment of gay and lesbian individuals.

1. The Longstanding Definition of Marriage in California.

Plaintiffs intend to present evidence concerning the evolution of the definition of marriage in California over time, including specifically (a) the abandonment of restrictions and qualifications once considered "definitional," and (b) the repeated and concerted efforts of groups disapproving of gay and lesbian individuals to prevent or undo any advances that those individuals made toward obtaining marriage equality. Plaintiffs will rely primarily on expert testimony for this subject and will depose Intervenors' experts. Plaintiffs and Intervenors agree that it will likely be possible to stipulate to certain publicly known and objectively verifiable facts about the historical definition of marriage in California, but that there will be other aspects of this topic as to which the parties will disagree.

2. Whether the Exclusion of Same-Sex Couples from Marriage Leads to Increased Stability in Opposite-Sex Marriages or Whether Permitting Same-Sex Couples to Marry Destabilizes Opposite-Sex Marriages.

One justification that repeatedly has been offered for excluding gay and lesbian individuals from civil marriage is that doing so somehow "protects" marriage, presumably for opposite-sex couples. In order to refute that purported justification and show that it provides no rational basis for Prop. 8, Plaintiffs intend to present evidence at trial both that excluding same-sex couples does not increase the stability of opposite-sex marriage and that including same-sex couples would not destabilize opposite-sex marriages. Plaintiffs will show that recognizing the loving and committed relationships of same-sex couples in the same manner that we recognize similar, opposite-sex

relationships will have no adverse affect whatsoever on opposite-sex relationships. Plaintiffs will rely primarily on expert testimony on this issue and will depose Intervenors' experts. Intervenors have indicated they may present evidence that permitting same-sex marriages would destabilize opposite-sex marriages.

3. Whether a Married Mother and Father Provide the Optimal Child-Rearing Environment and Whether Excluding Same-Sex Couples from Marriage Promotes This Environment.

Plaintiffs intend to present evidence at trial that there is no difference between the ability of a same-sex couple to provide a healthy, positive child-rearing environment and the ability of an opposite-sex couple to provide such an environment. Plaintiffs also will present evidence at trial that excluding same-sex couples from marriage does not advance, and indeed actually harms, the objective of providing an optimal child-rearing environment for children. Plaintiffs will depose Intervenors' experts on this subject. Intervenors have acknowledged that agreement on this subject is not likely.

4. Whether and How California Has Acted to Promote These Interests in Other Family Law Contexts.

Plaintiffs intend to present at trial two categories of evidence relevant to this issue. First, Plaintiffs intend to present evidence that California has, through various legislative enactments, taken positions that are contrary to certain of the justifications offered in support of Prop. 8, such as the suggestion that same-sex couples provide a less-than-optimal child-rearing environment, have not been subjected to discrimination, or are not fully contributing and equal members of society. Second, Plaintiffs intend to present evidence that California has *not* enacted legislation that would better and more directly serve some of the purposes articulated in support of Prop. 8, thus demonstrating that Prop. 8 is underinclusive and driven not by the proffered justifications but rather by animus toward gay and lesbian individuals. Plaintiffs intend to present expert testimony on this issue and will depose Intervenors' experts. Stipulations may be possible as to publicly known and objectively verifiable facts concerning laws that have or have not been passed in California, but other facts on this issue and concerning the implications of agreed-upon facts likely will require resolution by the Court.

D. Facts Pertaining to Whether Prop. 8 Discriminates Based on Sexual Orientation, Gender, or Both.

Plaintiffs will demonstrate at trial that Prop. 8 discriminates both on the basis of sexual orientation and on the basis of gender. It discriminates on the basis of sexual orientation because it prohibits gay and lesbian individuals from marrying the person they love. It discriminates on the basis of gender because it either allows or does not allow a person to marry a particular other person based solely on the first person's gender.

1. The History and Development of California's Exclusion of Same-Sex Couples from Marriage.

Plaintiffs intend to present evidence concerning the history and development of California's exclusion of same-sex couples from civil marriage, focusing specifically on Prop. 8, but also addressing earlier similar efforts. Plaintiffs intend to present fact witness testimony from the proponents of Prop. 8 and others who supported the campaign and documentary evidence. Plaintiffs also will present expert testimony on this subject. While it may be possible for the parties to stipulate as to certain publicly known and objectively verifiable facts concerning the history and development of California's ban on same-sex marriage, Plaintiffs do not believe that a more comprehensive stipulation with Intervenor on this subject is likely.

2. Whether the Availability of Opposite-Sex Marriage Is a Meaningful Option for Gays and Lesbians.

Plaintiffs will present evidence at trial that excluding same-sex couples from the definition of marriage in California's constitution denies gay and lesbian individuals the right to marry and that telling gay and lesbian individuals that they are free to marry someone of the opposite sex does not provide a meaningful option or meaningful access to civil marriage. Plaintiffs will present their own testimony on this issue, possibly the testimony of other fact witnesses, and expert testimony. Plaintiffs will depose Intervenor's experts. Intervenor has indicated that they may dispute this point by presenting evidence that some gay and lesbian individuals do marry people of the opposite sex.

Plaintiffs note that their claims are not dependent on whether it is a "meaningful option" for a gay or lesbian individual to marry someone of the opposite sex rather than the person they wish to marry who is of the same sex. The fundamental right to marry has been construed as the right to

1 marry the person of one's choice. For example, the plaintiffs prevailed in *Loving v. Virginia*, 388
 2 U.S. 1 (1967), even though it may well have been a "meaningful option" for the plaintiffs to marry
 3 someone of the same race. Similarly, even if it were a "meaningful option" for a person of one
 4 religion to marry someone of the same religion, a ballot initiative barring inter-faith marriages would
 5 certainly fail to pass constitutional muster.

6 **3. Whether the Exclusion of Same-Sex Couples from Marriage Meaningfully**
 7 **Restricts Options Available to Heterosexuals.**

8 Plaintiffs will present evidence that Prop. 8 discriminates against gays and lesbians because it
 9 restricts their ability to marry the person of their choice, while not restricting the ability of
 10 heterosexuals to marry the person of their choice. Importantly, heterosexuals are not restricted from
 11 marrying someone of the opposite sex even if that marriage will not further procreative purposes (for
 12 example, if the person he or she would marry is infertile or has no interest in bearing children), or
 13 would provide a less-than-optimal child-rearing environment (for example, if the person he or she
 14 would marry has a history of physical abuse or has a substance abuse problem). Plaintiffs may
 15 present testimony from fact witnesses other than themselves on this issue, and they will present
 16 expert testimony. Plaintiffs will depose Intervenors' experts on this subject. Intervenors have
 17 indicated that they may be willing to stipulate that Prop. 8 does not meaningfully restrict the options
 18 available to heterosexuals, although they have not proposed specific language.

19 **4. Whether Requiring One Man and One Woman in Marriage Promotes**
 20 **Stereotypical Gender Roles.**

21 Plaintiffs will present evidence at trial that excluding same-sex couples from the definition of
 22 marriage serves no legitimate or rational purpose. Plaintiffs also will present evidence at trial that
 23 Prop. 8 impermissibly discriminates on the basis of gender in addition to sexual orientation. This is
 24 so because, under Prop. 8, a man is free to marry a person that a woman would be barred from
 25 marrying solely because of her gender, and vice-versa. Plaintiffs believe that the issue of gender
 26 stereotypes may become relevant to the extent Intervenors point to "tradition" as a justification for
 27 Prop. 8, as perpetuation of tradition for tradition's sake may well perpetuate both stereotypes and
 28 historical discrimination. This issue could also be relevant to the extent Intervenors argue that a
 household with a mother and father is an inherently better environment in which to raise children

than one with two parents of the same sex, as such an argument may well draw on gender stereotypes. To the extent evidence on this issue is necessary, Plaintiffs would likely present it through expert witness testimony. Plaintiffs will depose Intervenor's experts.

E. Facts Pertaining to Whether Prop. 8 Was Passed with Discriminatory Intent.

Plaintiffs will demonstrate that Prop. 8 lacks any compelling justification or even rational basis, and was driven by discriminatory intent, animus, and moral disapproval of gay and lesbian individuals. Numerous cases have recognized that the presence of animus or discriminatory intent is directly relevant to whether a challenged law passes constitutional muster. *See Romer v. Evans*, 517 U.S. 620, 634 (1996) (laws such as Amendment 2 "raise the inevitable inference that the disadvantage imposed is born of animosity toward the class of persons affected"); *United States Dep't of Agric. v. Moreno*, 413 U.S. 528, 534 (1973) ("For if the constitutional conception of 'equal protection of the laws' means anything, it must at the very least mean that bare congressional desire to harm a politically unpopular group cannot constitute a legitimate government interest."); *City of Cleburne v. Cleburne Living Ctr.*, 473 U.S. 432 (1985) (striking down zoning ordinance requiring a home for the mentally retarded to obtain a special use permit and finding that "[r]equiring the permit in this case appears to rest on an irrational prejudice against the mentally retarded").

Intervenor's oppose any inquiry into the role of animus or discriminatory intent toward gay and lesbian individuals on the part of the backers of Prop. 8 and those who supported it. Their position cannot stand given the clear relevance of animus and discriminatory intent under *Romer*, *Moreno*, and other controlling authorities. Intervenor's argument that an inquiry into animus or discriminatory intent is nevertheless improper because the Supreme Court in *Romer* did not specifically address record evidence of animus in its passage, and focused instead on the absence of any rational basis for Amendment 2, is without merit. Intervenor's do not and cannot assert, of course, that plaintiffs in *Romer* did not present evidence of animus behind Amendment 2. They did. Moreover, the fact that a court may be able to infer animus and discriminatory intent from the fact that a law lacks even a rational basis does not mean, as Intervenor's seems to argue, that Plaintiffs cannot present and the Court cannot consider direct evidence of animus and discriminatory intent to

support that conclusion. Lastly, the Supreme Court has directly addressed evidence of animus and discriminatory intent in other cases such as *Moreno* and *City of Cleburne*.

1. The Voters' Motivation or Motivations for Supporting Prop. 8, Including Advertisements and Ballot Literature Considered by California Voters.

As discussed above, Plaintiffs will present evidence at trial that Prop. 8 was driven by animus and moral disapproval of gay and lesbian individuals, both on the part of those driving the initiative and on the part of voters. Plaintiffs will prove this through testimony from the proponents of Prop. 8 and other fact witnesses, documents pertaining to the initiative, and expert testimony. Plaintiffs will require fact discovery on this issue in the form of testimony and documents from the proponents of Prop. 8 and possibly other fact witnesses. Intervenors have taken the position that evidence of their motivations or those of the voters is irrelevant. Plaintiffs strongly disagree and submit that evidence of animus and discriminatory intent on the part of the proponents of Prop. 8 and those who supported it is directly relevant to Plaintiffs' claims and the controlling legal standard.

2. The Differences in Actual Practice of Registered Domestic Partnerships, Civil Unions and Marriage, Including Whether Married Couples Are Treated Differently from Domestic Partners in Governmental and Non-Governmental Contexts.

Plaintiffs will present evidence at trial that although California affords to gay and lesbian citizens many of the same substantive rights available to married couples through domestic partnerships, there are significant and meaningful differences between those institutions. Plaintiffs will present their own testimony concerning the significance of marriage, and also expert testimony concerning differences between the institutions and how people are treated in both the governmental and non-governmental context. Plaintiffs and Intervenors agree that they will likely be able to stipulate to differences in treatment by the government that are reflected in statutes or regulations, but that agreements as to how people may be treated differently in the private sphere will be more difficult.

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**IV.
PROPOSED SCHEDULE**

Plaintiffs respectfully propose the following schedule for this action.

Fact Discovery Cutoff	October 2, 2009
Exchange Expert Reports	October 9, 2009
Exchange Rebuttal Expert Reports	October 19, 2009
Expert Discovery Cutoff	October 23, 2009
Dispositive Motions Due	October 30, 2009
Hearing on Dispositive Motions	November 20, 2009
Pre-Trial Conference	December 7, 2009
Trial	December 14, 2009

In order to facilitate the above-described expedited schedule, Plaintiffs propose that the time for responding to all written discovery be shortened to 14 calendar days, that all documents be produced on the day that written responses to document requests are served, and that all discovery disputes be resolved on an abbreviated schedule whereby a motion is filed, the response is due seven days later, and the Court decides the motion within fourteen days of filing.

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