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1 JAMES V. FITZGERALD, III (State Bar No. 55632) NOAH G. BLECHMAN (State Bar No. 197167) McNamara, Ney, Beatty, Slattery, 2 BORGES & AMBACHER LLP 1211 Newell Avenue 3 Post Office Box 5288 4 Walnut Creek, CA 94596 Telephone: (925) 939-5330 Facsimile: (925) 939-0203 5 Attorneys for Defendants 6 ROBERT REICHERT and KEVIN MORRIS 7 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT 8 NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA 9 10 CHRISTOPHER HAMMOND, 11 MATTHEW HAMMOND, individually 12 and as Successors in Interest for PAUL HAMMOND, decedent; and EMILY HAMMOND, a minor, and LINDSEY 13 HAMMOND, a minor, individually and as Successors in Interest for PAUL 14 HAMMOND, decedent, and by and through their Guardian ad Litem, CHERYL 15 HAMMOND. 16 Plaintiffs, 17 VS. 18 COUNTY OF CONTRA COSTA, ROBERT REICHERT, KEVIN MORRIS, 19 SHERIFF WARREN E. RUPF and DOES 20

ONE to ONE HUNDRED, inclusive,

Defendants.

Case No. C10-1454 JCS

STIPULATION AND PROPOSED ORDER SEEKING DISCLOSURE OF PRIVATE MEDICAL AND/OR PSYCHOLOGICAL RECORDS OF **DECEDENT FROM DUFFY'S NAPA** VALLEY DRUG & ALCOHOL REHABILITATION CENTER

Judge: Hon. Joseph C. Spero

IT IS HEREBY STIPULATED AND AGREED by and between the parties to this action, through their respective counsel of record, and approved by the Court in the accompanying Order, as follows:

1. WHERAS Mr. Brian Gearinger and Mr. John Scott are the attorneys that represent and have been retained by the family members of Decedent Paul Hammond ("Decedent") in this wrongful death civil action. Both counsel for the Plaintiffs are of record and have

STIPULATION AND ORDER FOR DISCLOSURE OF MEDICAL/PSYCHOLOGICAL RECORDS OF DECEDENT FROM DUFFY'S REHAB CENTER - CV10-01454 JCS

made appearances for Plaintiffs' in this action.

- 2. WHEREAS Defendants in this matter seek to subpoen the medical, treatment, drug/alcohol and/or psychological and other related records of the Decedent from Duffy's Napa Valley Drug & Alcohol Rehabilitation Center, Calistoga, CA ("Duffy's"), to investigate the claims and contentions of Plaintiffs in this civil matter and to further investigate the relevant background of Decedent as it directly relates to issues in this case.
- 3. WHEREAS all counsel in this matter agree that the confidentiality and privacy rights of Decedent have been waived by Plaintiffs in relation to documents and information bearing on issues in this wrongful death civil matter, to include prior medical, treatment, drug/alcohol and/or psychological treatment of Decedent at Duffy's within the time prescribed in the subpoena, namely January 1, 2001, through June 7, 2009, the date of Decedent's death.
- 4. WHEREAS Plaintiffs, as successor in interest for the Decedent, by and through their attorneys Mr. Brian Gearinger and Mr. John Scott, consent to the disclosure of medical, treatment, drug/alcohol and/or psychological and other related records from Duffy's pertaining to the Decedent. 42 CFR Ch.1 Part 2.15(b)(2).
- 5. WHEREAS all counsel in this matter agree that good cause exists for the disclosure of such records because other ways of obtaining the information are not available, and the public interest and need for the disclosure outweighs the potential injury to the patient, who is now deceased, the physician-patient relationship and the treatment services, in accordance with 42 CFR Ch.1 Part 2.64(d); 42 U.S.C. 290ee-3.
- 6. WHEREAS all counsel in this matter will maintain, within the rules governing civil actions in Federal Court, the confidentiality and privacy of any records produced from Duffy's in relation to Decedent, if any such records exist, throughout the course of this litigation, to safeguard against unauthorized disclosure, in accordance with 42 CFR Ch.1 Part 2.64(e); 42 U.S.C. 290ee-3. The records produced by Duffy's shall be deemed "confidential" per the Stipulated Protective Order on file in this matter.

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7.	WHEREAS counsel for the parties have agreed that Plaintiffs' counsel will be sent the
	subpoenaed records of Decedent at Duffy's for a "first look" at such records and
	Plaintiffs will then produce those records to Defendants. If any records are withheld by
	Plaintiffs' counsel following their review, a privilege log will be produced providing
	such grounds of non-production.

- WHEREAS Duffy's should produce non-redacted copies of medical, treatment, drug/alcohol and/or psychological records of Decedent pursuant to the language in the respective subpoena and such production should be made directly to Brian Gearinger, Esq., Gearinger Law Group, 825 Van Ness Avenue, 4th Floor, San Francisco, CA 94109, counsel for Plaintiffs, per the above listed protocol. Any non-relevant information can be redacted by Plaintiffs' counsel per agreement and protocol, if need be.
- 9. WHEREAS the information sought in these subpoenas by Defendants is not sought for the purposes of any criminal investigation or prosecution. Rather, this information is relevant to potential liability and damages issues in this civil action brought by Decedent's family members.
- 10. WHEREAS Plaintiffs' counsel, on behalf of Plaintiffs, hereby waives relevant HIPPA protections in accordance with the above stipulations to move this litigation forward.

IT IS SO STIPULATED, THROUGH COUNSEL OF RECORD.

Dated: March 28, 2010

McNamara, Ney, Beatty, Slattery, **BORGES & AMBACHER LLP** 

/s/ James V. Fitzgerald, III James V. Fitzgerald, III Noah G. Blechman Attorneys for Defendants ROBERT REICHERT and KEVIN MORRIS

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	1	Dated: March 28, 2010 OFFICE O	F THE COUNTY COUNSEL OF CONTRA COSTA	
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	3	By: <u>/s</u> Jane	/ Janet Holmes t Holmes / Janice Amenta	
	4	Atto	rneys for Defendants JNTY OF CONTRA COSTA and SHERIFF	
	5	WA	RREN E. RUPF	
	6	Dated: March 28, 2010 GEARING	ER LAW GROUP	
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LLP	8	By: /s	/ Brian Gearinger	
	9	Bria	n Gearinger rneys for Plaintiffs	
BROTHERS 6	10	Dated: March 28, 2010 THE Score	τ Law Firm	
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RGE CA	12	By:/s	John Houston Scott Houston Scott	
ty, BORG TLAW CREEK, CA	13	John Atto	Houston Scott rneys for Plaintiffs	
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		STIPULATION AND ORDER FOR DISCLOSURE OF 4 MEDICAL/PSYCHOLOGICAL RECORDS OF DECEDENT		

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## ORDER

WHEREAS, having read the foregoing stipulation between all parties, by and through their attorneys of record, and having found good cause demonstrated by the parties for the disclosure of un-redacted copies of the medical, drug/alcohol, treatment and/or psychological records of Decedent Paul Hammond from Duffy's Napa Valley Drug & Alcohol Rehabilitation Center, Calistoga, CA, the Court authorizes the disclosure of said records.

## THEREFORE, THE COURT ORDERS AS FOLLOWS:

- 1. Duffy's Napa Valley Drug & Alcohol Rehabilitation Center, Calistoga, CA, shall produce un-redacted batestamped copies of the medical, drug/alcohol, treatment and/or psychological records of Decedent Paul Hammond, from January 1, 2001, through June 7, 2009, the date of Decedent's death. The disclosure of such information shall be limited to the time period above.
- These records are to be produced directly to Plaintiffs' attorney of record, Mr. 2. Brian Gearinger, Esq., Gearinger Law Group, 825 Van Ness Avenue, 4th Floor, San Francisco, CA 94109, for a first look and Mr. Gearinger will produce those records to Defendants per the above listed protocol.
- Disclosure of these records and the information contained therein is subject to the 3. Stipulated Protective Order regarding the production of confidential records, filed with this Court on August 24, 2010, (Doc. # 22), to safeguard against the disclosure of confidential information to unauthorized persons.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

March 29, 2011 DATED:



Hon. Joseph C. Spero United States District Court Magistrate Judge