Wells Fargo Bank, National Association et al v. City of Richmond, California et al

Doc. 9

I, John C. Ertman, hereby declare, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1746 and under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States, that the following is true and correct:

- 1. I am member of the law firm Ropes & Gray LLP, attorneys for Plaintiffs Wells Fargo Bank, National Association, Deutsche Bank Trust Company Americas, and Deutsche Bank National Trust Company. I submit this declaration in support of Plaintiffs' motion for a preliminary injunction in this action.
- 2. Attached hereto as Exhibit A is a copy of a letter, dated July 31, 2013, sent by the City Manager's Office of Defendant City of Richmond, California ("Richmond") to Deutsche Bank, as Trustee of loans targeted for seizure by Richmond. Upon information and belief, similar letters were sent on or about this date to other trustees or servicers for approximately 620 loans targeted for seizure by Richmond.
- 3. Attached hereto as Exhibit B is a true and correct copy of an article from The Wall Street Journal, dated July 4, 2012, titled "Cities Consider Seizing Mortgages" (accessed from The Wall Street Journal's website on August 5, 2013). That article refers to the following documents published by Defendant Mortgage Resolution Partners LLC ("MRP"), which are available on The Wall Street Journal's website, true and correct copies of which are attached hereto: a slide presentation from MRP to investors titled "Homeownership Protection Program: A Solution to a Critical Problem" (attached hereto as Exhibit C); "Frequently Asked Questions" document by MRP (attached hereto as Exhibit D); and a legal memorandum by Robert Hockett, a Professor of Law at Cornell Law School who, upon information and belief, serves as a paid consultant to MRP (attached hereto as Exhibit E).
- 4. Attached hereto as Exhibit F is a true and correct copy of an article from the San Francisco Chronicle, dated June 16, 2013, titled "A Rescue for Richmond's Underwater Mortgages?," accessed from the San Francisco Chronicle's website on August 5, 2013.
- Attached hereto as Exhibit G is a true and correct copy of a letter from MRP, dated July 13, 2012, available at <a href="http://mortgageresolutionpartners.com/response-to-asf-letter-july-13-2012">http://mortgageresolutionpartners.com/response-to-asf-letter-july-13-2012</a>, accessed on August 5, 2013.

August 5, 2013.

- 6. Attached hereto as Exhibit H is a true and correct copy of an "Agenda Report," dated April 2, 2013, from the City Manager of the Defendant City of Richmond, California ("Richmond") to Richmond's mayor and members of its city council.
- 7. Attached hereto as Exhibit I is a true and correct copy of an unexecuted "Advisory Services Agreement" between Richmond and MRP, which was enclosed with the above-referenced "Agenda Report."
- 8. Attached hereto as Exhibit J is a true and correct copy of a slide presentation titled "Richmond CARES," published by MRP, which was enclosed with the above-referenced "Agenda Report."
- 9. Attached hereto as Exhibit K is a true and correct copy of an executed "Advisory Services Agreement," dated July 21, 2013, between Richmond and MRP, available at www.ci.richmond.ca.us/documentcenter/view/27354, accessed on August 5, 2013.
- 10. Attached hereto as Exhibit L is a true and correct copy of an MRP slide presentation titled "North Las Vegas CARES" that, upon information and belief, was presented by MRP to the mayor, members of the city council, and other local officials of the City of North Las Vegas, Nevada.
- 11. Attached hereto as Exhibit M is a true and correct copy of the "Adopted Operating Budget 2011-2012" for the City of Richmond, available at <a href="http://www.ci.richmond.ca.us/index.aspx?NID=2454">http://www.ci.richmond.ca.us/index.aspx?NID=2454</a>, accessed on August 5, 2013.
- 12. The content of a July 2013 radio interview with the City Manager of Richmond, Bill Lindsay, in which Mr. Lindsay noted that Defendants' mortgage loan seizure program is designed to address a "very traditional sort of market failure," is available at <a href="http://kged02.streamguys.us/anon.kged/radio/RDnews/2013/07/1374540121516.mp3">http://kged02.streamguys.us/anon.kged/radio/RDnews/2013/07/1374540121516.mp3</a>, accessed on
- 13. The content of a July 15, 2013 radio interview with the Mayor of Richmond, Gayle McLaughlin, in which she explained that Richmond is a "little bit further along" than other cities in pursuing MRP's program, is available at <a href="http://kalw.org/post/today-your-call-what-are-local-solutions-help-homeowners-threatened-foreclosures">http://kalw.org/post/today-your-call-what-are-local-solutions-help-homeowners-threatened-foreclosures</a>, accessed on August 5, 2013.

14. The content of a June 20, 2013 radio interview with Mayor McLaughlin and Steven Gluckstern of MRP is available at <a href="http://www.kpfa.org/archive/id/92669">http://www.kpfa.org/archive/id/92669</a>, accessed on August 5, 2013.

Date: New York, New York August 7, 2013

John C. Ertman