1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

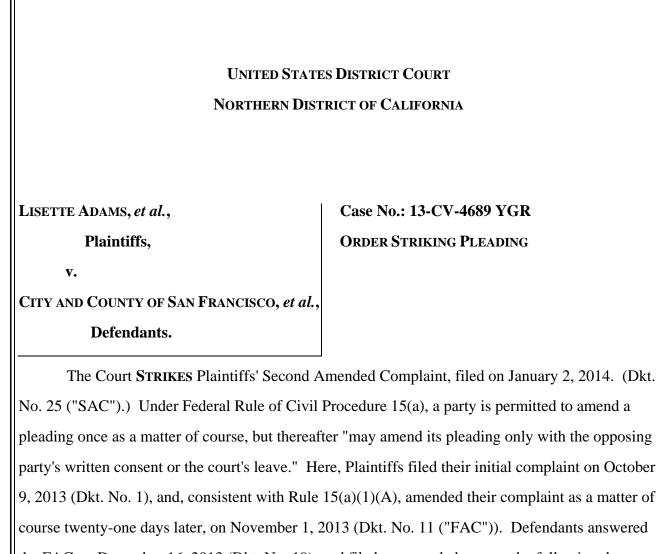
9

10

11

12

13



14 15 pleading once as a matter of course, but thereafter "may amend its pleading only with the opposing party's written consent or the court's leave." Here, Plaintiffs filed their initial complaint on October 16 17 9, 2013 (Dkt. No. 1), and, consistent with Rule 15(a)(1)(A), amended their complaint as a matter of 18 course twenty-one days later, on November 1, 2013 (Dkt. No. 11 ("FAC")). Defendants answered 19 the FAC on December 16, 2013 (Dkt. No. 19), and filed an amended answer the following day, 20 December 17, 2013 (Dkt. No. 20). On January 2, 2014, without seeking leave of the Court or filing a stipulation or other memorandum of Defendants' written consent to amendment, Plaintiffs filed 21 the SAC. The SAC, having been filed in contravention of Rule 15, is without legal effect and is 22 23 hereby STRUCK. The FAC remains the operative complaint in this case. Defendants need not 24 answer the SAC. Nothing in this Order bars Plaintiffs from further seeking amendment of the FAC 25 consistent with Rule 15. The Clerk shall strike Docket No. 25 from the record.

26

28

IT IS SO ORDERED.

27 Date: January 7, 2014

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT JUDGE