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**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA
SAN JOSE DIVISION**

ALAN JOHNSON,

Plaintiff,

vs.

COUNTY OF SANTA CRUZ,
DISTRICT ATTORNEY KATHRYN
CANLIS, in her official capacity,

Defendants.

CASE NO. C 02 0441 JW

**PLAINTIFF'S REPLY IN SUPPORT
OF CROSS-MOTION FOR PARTIAL
SUMMARY JUDGMENT**

Date: September 13, 2004

Time: 9:00 a.m.

Judge: James Ware

Courtroom: 8

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**Case No. C 02 0441 JW
PLAINTIFF'S REPLY RE CROSS-MOTION SJ**

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POINT 1

FOR THE MOST PART, THE COUNTY SEEMS TO HAVE IGNORED THE PAPERS AND EVIDENCE FILED BY MR. JOHNSON IN HIS OPPOSITION TO THE S/J MOTION.

First, in evaluating Mr. JOHNSON’s within Cross-Motion for Summary Judgment (“CROSS-MOTION”),¹ the entirety of the motion along with the entirety of the moving and opposing papers in the S/J MOTION should be considered by the Court and the parties [*Fair Housing Council of Riverside County, Inc. v. Riverside Two* (9th Cir. 2001) 249 F.3d 1132, 1137 (“That is, a simultaneous cross-motion is another means to bring to the district court’s attention a controversy over the facts.”)].²

Second, the “Defendants Opposition To Plaintiff’s Cross-Motion. . .” (“COUNTY OPP.”) virtually ignores all the facts and the law set forth in the OPP. PAPERS, including the OPP. MEMO, Mr. JOHNSON’s declaration, the Evidentiary Objections filed by Mr. JOHNSON and the Requests for Judicial Notice. As the OPP. PAPERS were specifically incorporated by reference in the CROSS-MOTION [*id.* at 1-2], this stratagem implies that the COUNTY concedes these issues.

POINT 2

THE COUNTY, IN EFFECT, PRETENDS THAT *CANLIS I* DOES NOT EXIST; AND THUS, IT TACITLY CONCEDES THAT THE ISSUES THEREIN ARE PRECLUDED HEREIN.

First, the COUNTY ignores the fact that it lost *Canlis I* and the issue preclusion arguments, except to recharacterize those arguments as an improper motion *in limine* [*compare* COUNTY OPP. at 1:12-14; 5:19-28; 6-7:1-21 *with* OPP. MEMO at 9:11-28; 10-11:1-2 *and*

¹The COUNTY is correct in its observation that the CROSS-MOTION is addressed to the Third and Fourth Claims For Relief, and that the Complaint does not specifically allege an equal protection claim, even though Mr. JOHNSON contends that it is implied from the facts.

²Mr. JOHNSON will therefore refer to and incorporate such moving papers already filed in the CROSS-MOTION and in the Opposition to the S/J MOTION, including the abbreviations and acronyms cited therein.

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1 CROSS-MOTION at 4-5:1-3]. By its thundering silence, Mr. JOHNSON assumes that the
2 COUNTY concedes the obvious: the issues litigated in *Canlis I* are now precluded as a matter
3 of law, including potential defenses.

4 **Second**, in the CROSS-MOTION, Mr. JOHNSON demonstrates that the COUNTY
5 has no affirmative defenses to the due process claims, including the averment that the
6 COUNTY could have fired Mr. JOHNSON “for cause,” because the COUNTY failed to
7 pursue that defense or claim in *Canlis I* [OPP. MEMO at 2:27; 28:1-6; 11:6-21]. Instead of
8 dealing with the facts and law cited, including prior and current admissions of the COUNTY,
9 it simply tautologically argues that such issue preclusion amounts to an impermissible motion
10 *in limine* [COUNTY OPP. at 5:19-28; 6-7:1-21]. The COUNTY never explains the basis for
11 the global assertion that a preclusion of evidence is not applicable to a motion for summary
12 judgment, particularly where the doctrine of issue preclusion applies [*cf.* Fed. R. Civ. P.
13 37(c)(1)].

14 **POINT 3**

15 **THE TESTIMONY OF DANIA TORRES WONG IS** 16 **INADMISSIBLE TO PROVE LACK OF CUSTOM OR PRACTICE** **OR VIRTUALLY ANYTHING ELSE.**

17 **First**, the COUNTY ignores the “Objections of Plaintiff, Alan Johnson, in
18 Opposition to Motion for Summary Judgment” interposed to, *inter alia*, the legal conclusions
19 contained in the Torres Wong Declaration. Therefore, aside from the ordinances which the
20 Court may judicially notice, the COUNTY has no evidence to support the suppositions and
21 the legal conclusions contained therein, including the assertion that Ms. CANLIS was not a
22 final policymaker [COUNTY OPP. at 14:7-14]. Moreover, neither those ordinances nor, more
23 importantly, California law support the conclusion that Ms. CANLIS was not the final
24 policymaker [OPP. MEMO at 2:15-25; 3-6:1-25; *see infra*].

25 **Second**, a kindred point: the COUNTY argues that Mr. JOHNSON concedes that
26 the COUNTY has no custom or policy to violate anybody’s civil rights [COUNTY OPP. at
27 10:22-26]. Not quite: Mr. JOHNSON has now presented unrefuted evidence that the

1 BOARD and Ms. CANLIS fired Mr. JOHNSON and that, under California law, Ms. CANLIS
2 was a final policymaker, which such evidence includes the myriad admissions contained in the
3 Appellate Transcript in *Canlis I* and the **COUNTY's answers to interrogatories herein**
4 [OPP. MEMO at 2:15-25; 3-9:1-9; *see infra*].

5 **POINT 4**

6 **AS A MATTER OF LAW AND THE PRIOR ADMISSIONS OF**
7 **THE COUNTY, MS. CANLIS WAS THE FINAL POLICYMAKER**
8 **FOR THE COUNTY IN DEALING WITH HER**
9 **INVESTIGATIVE STAFF; AND/OR THE BOARD DELEGATED**
10 **THOSE RESPONSIBILITIES TO MS. CANLIS.**

11 The COUNTY states that Mr. JOHNSON has not presented any evidence that Ms.
12 CANLIS had final policy making authority [COUNTY OPP. at 14:20-24]. That proposition
13 is incorrect.

14 **First**, as set forth in the OPP. MEMO at 2:18-24 (*citing Christie v. Iopa* (9th Cir. 1999)
15 176 F.3d 1231, 1235-1236, 1238-40), the relevant standards by which the Court may assess
16 §1983 liability against the COUNTY are: (1) the person causing the violation has final
17 policymaking authority; or (2) there has been a **delegation** from the final policymaker which
18 is not subject to meaningful review; or (3) the final policymaker **ratified** a subordinate's actions,
19 which, ordinarily, ratification is a question for the jury; or (4) the final policymaker was
20 **deliberately indifferent** to even a single unconstitutional act. And, contrary to the assertions
21 of the COUNTY [COUNTY OPP. at 9, fn. 4], there is nothing in *Ulrich* to conclude that the
22 fourth prong of deliberate indifference has been abrogated [*Ulrich v. City and County of San*
23 *Francisco* (9th Cir. 2002) 308 F.3d 968, 984-85 (“There are, however, two other routes available
24 for a plaintiff to establish the liability of municipal defendants: . . . or (2) by showing that an
25 official with final policymaking authority **either delegated** that authority to, **or ratified** the
26 decision of, a subordinate.”) (Emphasis added; and citations omitted.)].

27 **Second**, the COUNTY ignores the proposition set forth in the OPP. MEMO [*id.* at
28 3:1-2], that under **state law**, the DISTRICT ATTORNEY has independent rights and
responsibilities with which the BOARD cannot interfere, even if they touch upon employment

1 matters, **particularly when it comes to the investigators for the office:**

2 The board of supervisors has no inherent powers; the counties are
3 legal subdivisions of the state, and the county board of supervisors can
4 exercise only those powers expressly granted it by Constitution or statutes
5 and those necessarily implied therefrom . . . [T]he board has **no power to**
6 **itself appoint deputies or assistants to the district attorney.** . . . [T]he
7 board has **no power to perform county officer's statutory duties for**
8 **them or direct the manner in which duties are performed.** . . . [T]he
9 board may not, by failing to appropriate funds, prevent the district attorney
10 from incurring necessary expenses for crime detection as county charges.

11[¶¶]

12 [T]he appellant board proceeded in excess of its jurisdiction in
13 attempting to transfer the **control of the district attorney's investigative**
14 **functions from the district attorney to the sheriff.**

15 [Hicks v. Board of Supervisors (1977) 69 Cal.App.3d 228, 242-44 (Emphasis added and citations
16 omitted.); Dobb v. County of San Diego (1994) 8 Cal.4th 1200, 1209, fn.4 (“[T]he board of
17 supervisors does not have the power to perform the county officers' statutory duties for
18 them or direct the manner in which the duties are performed.”) (Emphasis added; bracket
19 material added; internal quotation marks and citation omitted)].

20 **Third**, contrary to the assertions of the COUNTY [COUNTY OPP. at 12:20-28; 13-
21 14: 1-24], nothing in the ordinances cited by the COUNTY definitively states that the BOARD
22 is the final policymaker when it comes to Ms. CANLIS' investigative staff--only that, subject
23 to the approval of the BOARD, the CSC shall prescribe rules, etc. for all employees [Hitt v.
24 Connell (5th Cir. 2002) 301 F.3d 240, 248 (“But the mere authority to review an employment
25 decision is not decisive. The commission became involved as an adjudicative tribunal after Hitt
26 chose to appeal his notice of termination. Its task was to review Constable Connell's decision
27 for conformity with applicable law and regulations, **not to initiate Connell's action or**
28 **generally superintend Connell's employment practices.**”) (Emphasis added.)]. Moreover,
even if the ordinances etched in stone that the BOARD was the final policymaker with regard
to the DISTRICT ATTORNEY's hiring and firing of her investigative staff, it would illegally
preempt and contradict state law [Cal. Const., art. 11, §7 (“A county or city may make and
enforce within its limits all local, police, sanitary, and other ordinances and regulations **not in**

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1 conflict with general laws.”) (Emphasis added); *see ante*].

2 **Fourth**, the COUNTY ignores the fact that in its verified answers to interrogatories
3 it told an entirely different story—over and over—about the scope of authority and policy making
4 of the DISTRICT ATTORNEY in making this and other employment decisions about her
5 staff [OPP. MEMO at 3:22-24; *see e.g.*, Fink Decl. Ex. K, Response to Interrog. 1 (“The District
6 Attorney **may chose her management employees** and may organize her office and allocate
7 personnel in any legitimate way **in furtherance of her duty to prosecute crime** on behalf of
8 the people of the State of California.”) (Emphasis added.)]. In the Response to Interrogatory
9 4 when asked about the Fifth Affirmative Defense that “Defendants acted. . .**in accordance**
10 **with Defendants’ policies and procedures**” [Fink Decl. Ex. K at 4:11-26 (Emphasis
11 added.)], the COUNTY reaffirmed that it was part of the COUNTY’s policies and procedures
12 that “The District Attorney **may chose her management employees** and may organize her
13 office and allocate personnel in any legitimate way **in furtherance of her duty to prosecute**
14 **crime** on behalf of the people of the State of California.” [*id.* at 4:22-25]. When asked about
15 the Sixth Affirmative Defense, that their actions were motivated by non-discriminatory reasons,
16 the COUNTY gave the same answer [Response 5; Fink Decl. Ex. K at 4:27-28; 5:13]. When
17 asked about its Seventh Affirmative Defense, that it did not act unconstitutionally, the
18 COUNTY gave the same answer [Response 6; Fink Decl. Ex. K at 5:14-27]. When asked
19 about its Sixteenth Affirmative Defense, that it fired Mr. JOHNSON for non-political reasons,
20 the COUNTY gave the same answer [Response 12; Fink Decl. Ex. K at 8:6-20]. The
21 COUNTY cannot escape its prior admissions just to avoid summary judgment [*Kennedy v. Allied*
22 *Mut. Ins. Co.* (9th Cir. 1991) 952 F.2d 262, 266 (“The general rule in the Ninth Circuit is that a
23 party cannot create an issue of fact by an affidavit contradicting his prior deposition
24 testimony.”) (Citations omitted.); *Donohoe v. Consolidated Operating & Production Corp.* (7th Cir.
25 1992) 982 F.2d 1130, 1136, fn.4. (“The district court did not consider this affidavit, because it
26 contradicted Cole's earlier responses to an **interrogatory.**”) (Emphasis added.)]. And, this is
27 equally true for inconsistent legal conclusions [*Cleveland v. Policy Management Systems Corp.* (1999)

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28 **Case No. C 02 0441 JW**
PLAINTIFF’S REPLY RE CROSS-MOTION SJ

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1 526 U.S. 795, 807, 119 S.Ct. 1597, 1604 (“[W]e believe that a similar insistence upon
2 explanation is warranted here, where the conflict involves a legal conclusion.”)].

3 **Fifth**, the COUNTY ignores the fact that in *Canlis I* the **COUNTY, through its**
4 **lawyers**, the COUNTY COUNSEL, argued that **Ms. CANLIS had independent standing**
5 to pursue the Writ of Mandate to the Santa Cruz Superior Court and then to pursue the
6 subsequent appeal to the Sixth Appellate District [OPP. MEMO at 4:3-13].

7 **Sixth**, the COUNTY ignores the fact that in *Canlis I* the COUNTY admitted that the
8 COUNTY and Ms. CANLIS were synonymous [OPP. MEMO at 4:14-26; 15:1-3]; and indeed,
9 during the Administrative Hearing of March 6, 2002, the COUNTY COUNSEL represented,
10 on the record to the CSC, that there was no distinction between her representation of the
11 DISTRICT ATTORNEY and the COUNTY [OPP. MEMO at 4:23-26].

12 **Seventh**, the COUNTY ignores the fact that in *Canlis I*, Mr. JOHNSON demurred
13 to the writ proceedings supposedly brought by Ms. CANLIS on the grounds that she, as the
14 DISTRICT ATTORNEY, did not have standing to act on behalf of the COUNTY, only the
15 COUNTY did, which was joined in by the CSC; and that the COUNTY and their lawyers, the
16 COUNTY COUNSEL, successfully argued to the contrary [OPP. MEMO at 5:4-16].

17 **Eighth**, as seen in *Canlis I*, the COUNTY represented therein that the COUNTY and
18 Ms. CANLIS were one and the same. Now the COUNTY eschews that position. In doing
19 so, the COUNTY ignores Mr. JOHNSON’s argument that the COUNTY should now be
20 judicially estopped from arguing contrary positions in order to escape liability [OPP. MEMO
21 at 5:10-16].

22 **Ninth**, the COUNTY claims that “It is clear that Canlis' discretionary
23 decisions in the employment area *were* constrained by policies not of her making and that her
24 decisions *were* subject to review by the municipality's authorized policymakers.” [COUNTY
25 OPP. at 14:16-19]. Of course in saying so, the COUNTY ignores the fact that both
26 structurally, conceptually and factually, there was **no review** procedure **to the BOARD**
27 **available to Mr. JOHNSON**; and the COUNTY has **presented no evidence of such a review**
28 **procedure by the BOARD**, therefore, what Ms. CANLIS said “was it” [OPP. MEMO at 6:

1 3-19]. **Furthermore, nothing** in the ordinances establishes any procedure for Mr. JOHNSON
2 or anybody else to seek review of the decision of Ms. CANLIS to the BOARD [COUNTY
3 OPP. at 12:20-28; 13-14:1-24]. The closest internal right of review was to the CSC [COUNTY
4 OPP. at 14:4-6]—which Mr. JOHNSON did, and which he won. In sum, the BOARD has
5 legally positioned itself so that, after the CSC decided a matter, any putative appellant to the
6 BOARD is structurally caught between Scylla and Charybdis—“*you can’t get there from here*” [*cf.*
7 *Rhodes v. Robinson* (9th Cir., Aug. 19, 2004, No. 03-15335) 2004 WL 1852892, *4 (“Yossarian
8 was moved very deeply by the absolute simplicity of this clause of Catch-22 and let out a
9 respectful whistle. [¶] ‘That’s some catch, that Catch-22,’ he observed. ‘It’s the best there is,’
10 Doc Daneeka agreed.” [¶] --Joseph Heller, *Catch-22*, at 47 (6th ed. 1976)”) (Italics added.)].

11 **Tenth**, the COUNTY ignores the fact that, even though the CSC and the Superior
12 Court ordered him reinstated, the COUNTY discharged him and withheld all of his pay and
13 benefits until the Sixth Appellate District said otherwise [OPP. MEMO at 6:20-25].

14 **POINT 5**

15 **MR. JOHNSON HAS PRESENTED UNDISPUTED EVIDENCE, 16 INCLUDING ADMISSIONS IN *CANLIS I*, THAT THE BOARD 17 FIRED MR. JOHNSON AND/OR PARTICIPATED IN THE 18 DECISION AND/OR IT RATIFIED HIS TERMINATION.**

19 The COUNTY contends that there is no evidence that it ratified the acts of Ms.
20 CANLIS [COUNTY OPP. at 14:25-28; 15-16:1-9].

21 **First**, the COUNTY ignores the evidence, including its admissions in *Canlis I* to the
22 contrary [OPP. MEMO at 7:8-25; 8:1-7]. The COUNTY presents no evidence to rebut the
23 Appellate Transcript, or Declaration of Mr. JOHNSON, or Declaration of Mr. FINK, or its
24 own prior Petitioner’s Brief therein [*id.*]. The COUNTY cannot now create evidence by
25 eschewing its former admissions [*Block v. City of Los Angeles* (9th Cir. 2001) 253 F.3d 410, 419
26 (“ A party cannot create a genuine issue of material fact to survive summary judgment by
27 contradicting his earlier version of the facts.”) (Citations omitted.)].

28 **Second**, there is nothing in the ordinances cited in the COUNTY OPP. that says an
employment decision is final until approved by the BOARD. However, even assuming

1 **arguendo only**, that any of the ordinances could be so interpreted, then it would follow that
2 the BOARD, along with Ms. CANLIS, fired Mr. JOHNSON as a matter of fact and
3 law—otherwise the paychecks would have kept coming.

4 **Third**, and contrary to the assertions of the COUNTY [COUNTY OPP. at 14-16:1-
5 9], there is no evidence presented by the COUNTY to rebut their own admissions that the
6 BOARD knew about the allegations that Mr. JOHNSON’s constitutional rights had been
7 violated because: (1) the CSC told them so in writing [Ex. A, Canlis Depo., Ex. 13 thereto]; (2)
8 they knew about the allegations in the state case and this federal case, as the COUNTY
9 COUNSEL represented them therein and notice to the COUNTY COUNSEL is notice to the
10 BOARD [see e.g., Heath Decl. at 1-3, ¶¶2, 6-8, 10; Exs. A, E, G & I; *Christie*, 176 F.3d at 1239
11 (“After Christie’s case was dismissed, but while Anderson’s case was still pending, both
12 Plaintiffs filed this action against Kimura. Anderson **alleged** that Iopa had violated, and was
13 continuing to violate, his constitutional rights. **Filing the action thus provided Kimura with**
14 **notice of Iopa’s alleged ongoing constitutional violations. [E]ach party is ... considered**
15 **to have notice of all facts, notice of which can be charged upon the attorney.”)**
16 (Emphasis added; citations and internal quotation marks omitted.)]. There is no requirement
17 that the BOARD know, **in fact**, that her actions were unconstitutional or retaliatory or
18 malevolent.

19 **Fourth**, the evidence in *Canlis I* indisputably demonstrates that: (1) the CSC told the
20 BOARD directly in a letter to the BOARD that their actions were illegal and criminal [Ex. F;
21 Appellate Tx. at 74; Fink Decl. ¶11, Ex. G thereto, Petitioner’s Brief at 5 (admitting that the
22 CSC asked the BOARD to withdraw the litigation); Ex. A, Canlis Depo., Ex. 13 thereto]; (2)
23 the CSC told the COUNTY COUNSEL directly in the administrative hearings that Ms.
24 CANLIS’ actions were illegal; (3) the CSC through its attorneys and the pleadings in *Canlis I*
25 told the COUNTY COUNSEL, the attorneys for the BOARD, that Ms. CANLIS’ actions
26 were illegal; (4) the Superior Court told the BOARD, through the COUNTY COUNSEL, that
27 Ms. CANLIS’ actions were illegal; and finally (5) the Sixth Appellate Court told the BOARD,

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1 through the COUNTY COUNSEL, that Ms. CANLIS' actions were illegal. There is no
2 evidence to rebut the conclusion drawn from such evidence that the BOARD thus were on
3 notice as to Mr. JOHNSON's constitutional claims; and that it should have dropped the legal
4 proceedings, rather than drag Mr. JOHNSON through years of state court litigation [*id.* at 1241
5 (“**Kimura obtained notice of Iopa's alleged constitutional violations when Anderson**
6 **filed this action.** The evidence that Anderson presented in opposition to the motion for
7 summary judgment would permit a rational trier of fact to find that Kimura then **deliberately**
8 **chose to allow Iopa's constitutional violations to continue. Thus, the district court**
9 **erred by holding that, as a matter of law, Anderson could not prove deliberate**
10 **indifference.**”) (Emphasis added.)].

11 **Fifth**, the findings of the CSC, as the authorized agent of the BOARD [COUNTY
12 OPP. at 14:12-14], constitute an admission by the COUNTY and the BOARD that the firing
13 was illegal and that the BOARD knew it was illegal [Fed. R. Evid. 801(d)(2)].

14 **Sixth**, nothing in the cases cited by the COUNTY and particularly *Christie* hold that
15 there is no requirement that the BOARD know, **in fact**, that Ms. CANLIS' actions were
16 unconstitutional or retaliatory or malevolent [*Christie* at 1241; *Henry v. County of Shasta* (9th Cir.
17 1997) 132 F.3d 512, 518 (“It is a reasonable inference--**indeed, the only reasonable**
18 **inference**--that after Henry filed suit and successfully served process against the county, it
19 knew about the **alleged** malfeasance of its employees at the jail.”) (Emphasis added.), as
20 amended, 137 F.3d 1372 (9th Cir.); *McRorie v. Shimoda* (9th Cir. 1986) 795 F.2d 780, 784 (“Policy
21 or custom may be inferred if, after [constitutional violations], ... officials took no steps to
22 reprimand or discharge the [prison] guards, or if they otherwise failed to admit the guards'
23 conduct was in error.”) (Citation omitted)].

24 **Seventh** and in any case, the argument is a red-herring. As pointed out in the OPP.
25 MEMO at 9:21-24, for a procedural due process violation, **subjective intent is irrelevant**
26 [*Williams v. Wilkinson* (S.D. Ohio 2000) 122 F.Supp.2d 894, 904 (“**Subjective intent is not an**
27 **element** of a claim of deprivation of procedural due process under the Fourteenth

1 Amendment.”) (Emphasis added.)). **Therefore, the BOARD only had to know that the**
2 **decision to fire Mr. JOHNSON was not a clerical error, as opposed to a deliberate or**
3 **malevolent decision.**

4 **POINT 6**

5 **BY ITS AVOIDING THE SUBJECT, THE COUNTY CONCEDES**
6 **THAT IT IS LIABLE TO MR. JOHNSON UNDER THE FOURTH**
7 **CLAIM FOR RELIEF FOR VIOLATION OF THE DUE PROCESS**
8 **PROVISIONS OF ARTICLE I, §7 OF THE CALIFORNIA**
9 **CONSTITUTION.**

10 Aside from addressing the clerical errors in the CROSS-MOTION [COUNTY OPP.
11 at 1, fn. 1], the COUNTY is silent on the Article I, §7 state claim. Therefore, Mr. JOHNSON
12 assumes that their defense rises or falls on their discussion of §1983 liability.

13 **First**, the COUNTY does not dispute that Mr. JOHNSON can seek reinstatement
14 and other equitable relief under the California Constitution [OPP. MEMO at 22:25-28; 23:1-5,
15 *citing Katzberg v. Regents of University of California* (2002) 29 Cal.4th 300, 307].

16 **Second**, the COUNTY cites no authority to demonstrate that the doctrine of
17 respondeat superior does not apply therein or that Article I, §7 is tethered to any “final
18 policymaker” requirement or to any other such conceptual roadblock.

19 **POINT 7**

20 **THE ARGUMENT THAT MR. JOHNSON IS ENTITLED TO**
21 **ONLY NOMINAL DAMAGES IS IRRELEVANT TO LIABILITY**
22 **UNDER THE THIRD AND FOURTH CLAIMS.**

23 The COUNTY says, without benefit of evidence, that it could have legally fired Mr.
24 JOHNSON anyway [COUNTY OPP. at 5:27-28; 6-: 1-21]. That assertion has inherent
25 defects:

26 **First**, the supposed “beliefs” of Ms. CANLIS—whether in good faith or not—are
27 irrelevant to a due process claim. Had Mr. JOHNSON been given a hearing, the COUNTY
28 would have to prove the charges. Likewise, the COUNTY must prove that, in fact, Mr.
JOHNSON did the bad things of which it says he did and that it constitutes “good cause.”
Nothing in the cases cited by the COUNTY state otherwise. “An individual must have an

1 opportunity to confront all the evidence adduced against him, in particular that evidence with
2 which the decisionmaker is familiar.” [Vanelli v. Reynolds School Dist. No. 7 (9th Cir. 1982) 667
3 F.2d 773, 780]. The COUNTY has failed to produce any evidence that Mr. JOHNSON
4 committed any of these qualifying, “good cause” miscreant acts—or, indeed, any bad acts.

5 **Second**, and without analyzing the position further, even as the COUNTY admits,
6 once a violation has been found, Mr. JOHNSON is entitled to what it now calls “nominal
7 damages” [COUNTY OPP. at 5:19-28; 6-7:1-21].

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9 Dated: August 27, 2004

MESIROW, FINK, EISENHART &
DAWSON

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/s/
STEVEN M. FINK, Attorneys for Plaintiff,
ALAN JOHNSON

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Mesirow
&
Fink

4 **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

5 I, the undersigned, under penalty of perjury, certify and declare:

6 That I am a citizen of the United States, over 18 years of age, a resident of or
7 employed in the County where the herein described mailing took place, and not a party to the
8 within action.

9 That my business address is 10 Almaden Boulevard, Suite 400, San Jose, California
10 95113.

11 That on behalf of Mesirow, Fink, Eisenhart & Dawson, I served the foregoing
12 document(s) described as:

13 **PLAINTIFF'S REPLY IN SUPPORT OF CROSS-MOTION FOR**
14 **PARTIAL SUMMARY JUDGMENT**

15 on the following person(s) in this action by placing a true and accurate copy thereof in an
16 envelope addressed as follows:

17 Jason M. Heath, Esq.
18 Office of the County Counsel
19 701 Ocean Street, Suite 505
20 Santa Cruz, CA 95060-4068

21 which envelope was then sealed and postage fully prepaid therein, and on the date this
22 certificate was executed, shown below, was placed for collection and mailing following our
23 ordinary business practices. I am readily familiar with this business practice for collecting and
24 processing correspondence for mailing. On the same day that correspondence is placed for
25 collection and mailing, it is deposited in the United States Mail at San Jose, Santa Clara County,
26 California.

27 I declare that the above service was made at the direction of a member of the bar of
28 this Court.

Executed on August 27, 2004 at San Jose, California.

/s/ Sally M. Wagner