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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF UTAH CENTRAL DIVISION

Utah Coalition of La Raza, et al.,

Plaintiffs,

v.

Gary R. Herbert, et al.,

Defendants.

DECLARATION OF CHRIS BURBANK

Case No. 2:11-cv-00401-BCW

Judge: Brooke C. Wells

DECLARATION OF CHRIS BURBANK

I, CHRIS BURBANK, hereby declare:

I make this declaration based on my own personal knowledge and if called to testify I could and would do so competently as follows:

- 1. I have been employed with the Salt Lake City Police Department for 20 years and I have served as the Chief of Police since March 2006.
- 2. I have a Bachelor of Science degree in Sociology from the University of Utah and I am a graduate of the FBI's National Executive Institute. I currently serve as the 1st Vice President for the Major Cities Chief Association, a professional association of Chiefs and Sheriffs representing the largest cities in the United States and Canada. Additionally, I serve as the Chairman of the Valley Police Alliance and am a member of the Utah Peace Officers Standards and Training Council. During my time in law enforcement leadership, I have been recognized for my leadership and dedication to the principle of fair and equitable policing for all community members.
- 3. As the Salt Lake City Chief of Police, I am responsible for safeguarding civil rights and ensuring the public safety of all people living and traveling within my jurisdiction, regardless of their race, ethnicity or immigration status. Salt Lake City is the largest city in the State of Utah, with a population of 186,440 according to the 2010 Census results. Approximately one-quarter of Salt Lake City's population is Hispanic.
- 4. As the Chief of Police, I am additionally responsible for establishing appropriate policies, guidelines and training for my officers. Paramount is helping new officers understand the culture of our organization, the core of which is based on a fundamental respect for the rights of all individuals we encounter while carrying out our policing duties. Utah HB 497, which was signed into law on March 15, 2011, and becomes effective May 10, 2011, undermines the culture of community participation I have worked to create in my department by alienating nearly one-

- quarter of the population we are sworn to protect and serve and by signaling that certain individuals are entitled to fewer rights than others.
- 5. I believe HB 497 is misguided legislation that serves to make a law enforcement officer's job more difficult because it erodes the vital community trust on which we, as law enforcement officers in the State of Utah, so heavily rely. HB 497 significantly expands a Utah law enforcement officer's authority to detain individuals based upon their perceived ethnicity. The complicated system of immigration status checks created by HB 497 distances the community from police officers.
- 6. Section 1003 of HB 497 creates an overly complex system governing an officer's duty to verify immigration status of individuals with whom they come into contact, in certain situations mandating verification and in others permitting or even encouraging it. This makes it extremely difficult to monitor or eliminate racial bias in citizen contacts. These provisions will drive a wedge between the community and the police regardless of whether the status verification is mandatory or optional because the overriding message these provisions send to the community is that Utah police officers are less concerned about ensuring a community member's safety and more concerned about their immigration status.
- 7. Although HB 497 provides Utah law enforcement with some discretion to verify status in certain situations, I am concerned that officers in neighboring cities and counties will inquire into immigration status in all situations or will make determinations about when to exercise this discretion based on race, appearance or manner of speaking. Moreover, some law enforcement agencies in the state may feel obligated to inquire into immigration status in all situations because of the provisions of HB 497 that subject agencies to potential liability for policies that in any way limit enforcement of federal immigration law. The net effect will be a public perception that all Utah law enforcement officers are engaging in immigration enforcement because the public does not distinguish between Salt Lake City police officers and police from other counties and cities. As a direct

- result, community members will fear contact with any law enforcement official in the State of Utah and the good work of police officers will be compromised.
- 8. A recent study conducted by the Consortium for Police Leadership in Equity

 (CPLE) in Salt Lake City showed that people across the board, regardless of
 immigration status, race, ethnicity or national background, are significantly less
 likely to report crimes if they feel officers are engaged in immigration
 enforcement, interjecting bias into our policing actions. I have received numerous
 anecdotal reports of individuals who have fallen victim to a crime and have failed
 to report these incidents because of the rhetoric surrounding proposed immigration
 laws.
- 9. There is a direct correlation between public perception that local law enforcement officers are engaging in federal immigration enforcement and fear of police officers. If officers are viewed as immigration agents, victims and witnesses of crime are less likely to report violations and participate in prosecution. This lack of cooperation creates an environment in which the criminal element thrives and creates a class of silent victims. Entire segments of our community become wary of contacting law enforcement and effective community policing fails. This negatively impacts all community members in our state, not only immigrant communities.
- 10. HB 497 inappropriately imposes civil enforcement priorities ahead of criminal activity. By requiring officers to verify immigration status in certain instances and permitting verification in others, Utah law enforcement officers will be forced to extend the duration of stops in order to carry out status verification, including stops involving U.S. citizens and individuals with valid immigration status. Under section 1003 of HB 497, if an individual is unable to present one of a few listed documents, the officer may attempt to verify the individual's immigration status. This will dramatically prolong detention duration because immigration status is not something that can be easily and expeditiously verified in the field. Law enforcement officers in the field do not have access to a database containing

information about an individual's immigration status. Therefore, an officer's only option to verify immigration status will be to contact Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) directly and wait for verification or unnecessarily book individuals into jail. This may subject my agency to liability because it allows officers to extend the duration of a stop without suspicion of criminal activity, the traditional standard by which we operate.

- 11. These provisions of HB 497 additionally divert the resources of my agency in concerning ways. I currently have 24 motorcycle officers. They issue approximately 30,000 citations per year, which under Utah law is technically an arrest. The process of issuing a citation takes less than 10 minutes per stop. If officers are engaged in civil immigration status checks in the field or booking individuals into jail to determine immigration status, there will be a tremendous impact on officers' ability to answer calls for service and engage in proactive policing.
- 12. HB 497 also impacts our jail resources. In Utah, law enforcement officers have discretion to determine whether to book individuals for Class B or C misdemeanors, which include traffic violations. In Salt Lake City, our policy is not to book individuals for Class B and C misdemeanors. However, with the heightened emphasis upon immigration, officers in other parts of the state have resorted to booking individuals for minor offenses in order to facilitate immigration status checks. Currently, the Salt Lake County Detention Facility releases between 700 and 900 criminal violators per month solely for the reason of overcrowding. Booking and holding individuals for the purpose of civil immigration infractions will cause the release of more criminals onto the streets of our cities. Again, my concern is the result will be an increase in crime and an emboldened criminal element committing crimes with impunity.
- 13. Utah established a Driving Privilege Card for individuals who do not have social security numbers. This is a significant benefit for Utah law enforcement because it provides a consistent form of picture identification. In the list of documents

establishing identification and a presumption of lawful presence, found in section 1004, the Driving Privilege Card is not listed. Under the provisions of HB 497, presenting a Driving Privilege Card to a Utah law enforcement officer may be viewed as an automatic red flag, triggering additional questioning and verification of immigration status. As a result, people will be less likely to apply for or use the Driving Privilege Card, meaning more individuals will be driving in the State of Utah without the authority and education to do so. This makes our job as law enforcement officers extremely difficult, especially as it relates to traffic violations and accidents.

- 14. According to the provisions of section 1004 of HB 497, individuals presenting identification from states that do not verify immigration status, such as New Mexico and Washington, will also trigger additional immigration screening. Without the presumption granted in section 1004, my officers will require additional proof of lawful presence or citizenship for individuals presenting these forms of identification. Section 1004 also provides that showing one of the enumerated documents creates a presumption of lawful presence unless the officer has a reasonable suspicion that the document presented is false. This creates an unacceptable risk that officers will base a finding of reasonable suspicion that the document presented is false on factors such as race, appearance or manner of speaking.
- 15. In addition to listing documents that create a presumption of lawful presence, HB 497 also provides that an individual is presumed to be a citizen or national of the United States if the person makes a statement or affirmation to a law enforcement officer, unless the officer has a reasonable suspicion that the statement or affirmation is false. This provision creates tremendous liability for my officers because there is absolutely no way that I can adequately train my officers in how to determine whether the statement or affirmation is false a hunch is not enough. This provision creates a significant risk that officers will resort to racial profiling in

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determining whether to credit a statement or affirmation as to citizenship. It further exposes officers to accusations of acting in an arbitrary or capricious manner.

- 16. HB 497 also creates liability for my officers by greatly expanding their powers to detain and arrest under Utah law. Section 77-7-2, which describes a law enforcement officer's power to arrest, was significantly expanded to allow for warrantless arrest of individuals whom a law enforcement officer has "reasonable cause to believe" is an alien and either subject to a removal order issued by an immigration judge, a civil immigration detainer, or who is charged or convicted in another state with an aggravated felony as defined under federal immigration law. These provisions would require officers to make very complicated determinations that they do not have the expertise to make. Before HB 497, warrantless arrest provisions have generally been based on observable facts that can be seen and articulated and which, together, provide the basis for probable cause that a violation of criminal law has occurred. HB 497, on the other hand, permits warrantless arrest based on factors that cannot be readily observed, such as "reasonable cause to believe that the person is an alien" and would allow for arrest based solely on violations of civil immigration law rather than criminal law. These provisions invite racial profiling and expand the power to arrest in dangerous ways.
- 17. HB 497 also undermines my ability to set law enforcement priorities for my agency because I cannot prohibit the allocation of already scarce resources toward civil immigration enforcement instead of violent crimes and criminal enforcement. HB 497 provides that "a state or local governmental agency ... may not ... limit or restrict by ordinance, regulation, or policy the authority of any law enforcement agency or other governmental agency to assist the federal government in the enforcement of any federal law or regulation governing immigration..." I am concerned that policies or guidelines I establish regarding enforcement priorities could be called into question under this provision, thus undermining my ability to appropriately manage the department.

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18. HB 497 compromises the integrity of the law enforcement profession by calling upon Utah law enforcement officers to make determinations that they are neither equipped nor appropriately able to make. The law's complexity makes it impossible to adequately train officers and leaves it open to such wide interpretation that it becomes susceptible to abuse that would lead to systemic constitutional violations by officers in the field. HB 497 will negatively impact public safety by driving a wedge between Utah police and the communities we are sworn to serve. Scarce law enforcement resources in the State of Utah will be diverted from their primary and most important mission of ensuring public safety, and crime will increase as a result.

19. I declare under penalty of perjury of the laws that the foregoing is true and correct. Executed this 4th day of May, 2011, in Salt Lake City, Utah.

