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 Board

**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 FRANK
 CORDOVA**

Case No. 2:11-cv-00401-BCW
 Judge: Brooke C. Wells

Declaration of Frank Cordova

I, Frank Cordova, hereby declare:

1. I make this declaration based on my own personal knowledge and if called to testify I could and would do so competently as follows.
2. I am the current Executive Director of Centro Civico Mexicano (“CCM”). I am also the President of CCM’s Board of Directors. I’m a Chicano born in the U.S.
3. Centro Civico Mexicano is the oldest nonprofit Hispanic organization in Utah. It is a nonpolitical, nonreligious, nondiscriminatory organization that serves the Hispanic community in the Salt Lake Valley by providing educational, cultural, social, and athletic activities.
4. Centro’s purpose is to promote the spirit of unity and collaboration among all Hispanics, to foster greater appreciation and awareness of the rich heritage and history of Mexican and other Hispanic cultures, and to enhance the educational and socio-economic well being of Mexicans and other Hispanics.
5. CCM provides a community center where educational, cultural, social, and athletic activities can be held and where community services and other resources can be centrally provided. CCM offers English and Spanish language classes and computer classes. The community uses our space for ballet folklórico, soccer, and Aztec dancing. We provide building rentals for quinceñeras, dances, and other events.
6. CCM has about 60 formal members who pay dues each year. Thousands of community members use our facilities and services each year. Based on my conversations with

members, I believe that about 95% of the people who use CCM's facilities and services are undocumented.

7. Since SB 81 passed in 2009 we have been getting 20-30% fewer rentals. This is because SB 81 allows some police to inquire about immigration status, which causes some of our members to be afraid to go out in public. During the last Cinco de Mayo celebration we were down 50% in revenue. Based on conversations that I and others of my staff have had with community members, we believe this decline is in part because SB 81 has had a chilling effect on our members' activities – immigrants are afraid to leave home because they could be stopped by law enforcement and asked for their documents.
8. Vendors who sell goods such as trinkets and carvings at our events are also afraid to come to CCM. Normally we get about ten vendors at our events. Last year we only had two vendors for the Cinco de Mayo celebration. This has affected CCM's income because vendors would usually make a donation to CCM. Similar to our members, the reason that vendors are coming less is in part because they are afraid of getting stopped by law enforcement and getting asked for their documents. CCM thinks that this decrease in attendance will worsen if HB 497 is implemented.
9. Two years ago, our facilities were always booked. Now we have had to reduce our prices by \$300 in order to get adequate bookings. If HB 497 is implemented, the number of people who rent our facilities will be even fewer as members of our community have told us they will be afraid to leave their house or to host celebrations or events where they fear they would be targeted by the police. They always call us to ask if it is safe for them to

go out. We try to reassure them, but they are the ones who must decide whether they are comfortable coming here.

10. CCM often participates in marches as an organization. Our members always ask if it's safe for them to go to the marches. Members have expressed to me that they are concerned that after HB 497 is implemented the police at the marches will ask them for their documents. We try to reassure them, but HB 497 will discourage them from attending the marches.

11. CCM receives several calls per week regarding concerns about immigration issues and the police. I received a call from a man who was asked for his immigration papers after he was pulled over for a traffic stop. The officer said he failed to signal, which is a very minor offense. Other people have told us that they get stopped for failing to signal when in fact they did signal. We think the real reason he was stopped is because he is Mexican. Once he admitted that he was undocumented, the police arrested him and ICE put a hold on him.

12. My son has been pulled over several times based on the way he looks. He is Chicano and has dreadlocks. The police asked to take his picture for their gang files even though he is not part of a gang. CCM has heard of many instances where the police ask to search the cars of young people after they are pulled over. Most of them are local kids who are born here and have undocumented parents. Chicano youth often tell us that they get pulled over based on racial profiling. Even though they are US citizens, the police stop them based on the way they look. We refer those calls to another service provider. CCM is concerned that racial profiling by the police will increase if HB 497 is implemented, and

that the police will use HB 497 as a reason to ask anyone who looks or sounds like an immigrant for their papers.

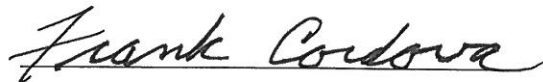
13. CCM has spent a lot of time this year working to oppose the various Utah immigration bills and to educate the Hispanic community about them. CCM's original organizational goals this year were to work on mental health issues and outreach to people who are illiterate in the state. Mental health is something that the Hispanic community traditionally does not want to talk about, so we think it is important to address it. We are concerned that people who are illiterate are not getting the information they need, so we are using radio and television to communicate with them. We have not been able to focus as much as we want on mental health and literacy because we have been forced to do so much educational activities around the immigration bills in response to the needs of our members.
14. CCM sponsors a little league team, but we have had very little time to spend with them because we have been distracted by the immigration bills.
15. Another one of CCM's goals is to build four new buildings. Our buildings right now have been standing for over 50 years without any renovations and we desperately need new buildings. We have 13 Board Members who are responsible for fundraising. Most of them have been working on the new immigration bills and have not had the time or energy to fundraise the money we need for the new buildings. The Board spent 30-40% of their time on immigration issues during the legislative session because they went to the Legislature every week. Although the legislative session is only 45 days long, we meet months in advance to prepare for it. The project to tear down our current buildings and

build new ones has been put on hold because the Board has not been able to raise the money. Our original goal was to construct the new buildings in two to five years. This has been slowed down because of the work on the immigration issue.

16. CCM now holds weekly meetings to discuss the immigration bills. We host other organizations who are working to educate people about the bills. We are still tracking the impact of the new immigration laws. In our entire history, we have never focused as much time on the immigration issue as we now are forced to do now. This is because the immigration bills, and especially HB 497, have such a negative effect on our members.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

EXECUTED this 26 day of April, 2011 in Salt Lake City, Utah.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Frank Cordova". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Frank Cordova