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# IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF ARIZONA

DANIEL ARTHUR GUTENKAUF,
Plaintiff,

v.
CITY OF TEMPE, et al.,
Defendants.

No. CV 10-2129-PHX-FJM

**ANSWER** 

Defendants Thomas and Rose Ann Ryff, Charles and Deborah Meyer, David and Jaquelina McAllister, Mary Jo Barsetti and David Nerland, P. Ben Arredondo and Ruthann Albrighton-Arredondo, Shelly Seyler, and Louraine C. Arkfeld for their Answer to Plaintiff's First Amended Complaint ("Complaint") hereby admit, deny and affirmatively allege as follows:

# I. JURISDICTION

1. Defendants admit the allegations contained in paragraph 1 of the Complaint.

# II. <u>VENUE</u>

2. Defendants admit the allegations contained in paragraph 2 of the Complaint.

#### III. THE PARTIES

3. Defendants admit the allegations contained in paragraphs 3, 7, 13, 15, 21, and 23 of the Complaint.

4. Answering paragraph 19 of the Complaint, Defendants affirmatively allege
that Defendant Shelly Seyler is an unmarried woman; therefore, her actions were no
taken on behalf of a marital community. Defendants admit the remaining allegations
contained in paragraph 19 of the Complaint.

- 5. Answering paragraph 20 of the Complaint, Defendants affirmatively allege that Defendant Louraine C. Arkfeld is an unmarried woman; therefore, her actions were not taken on behalf of a marital community. Defendants admit the remaining allegations contained in paragraph 20 of the Complaint.
- 6. The remaining paragraphs contained in Section III of the Complaint are directed at defendants other that responding Defendants, therefore, no response is necessary. To the extent that the Court deems a response is necessary, Defendants deny said allegations and demand strict proof thereof.

# IV. BACKGROUND FACTS

- 7. Defendants admit the allegations contained in paragraphs 37 through 41 of the Complaint.
- 8. Answering paragraphs 42 through 65 of the Complaint, Defendants assert that the allegations contained therein reference the events that occurred during Plaintiff's civil traffic hearing in the Tempe Municipal Court. Defendants admit those allegations to the extent that they conform to the official record of the proceedings maintained by the Tempe Municipal Court. To the extent the allegations vary from the official record of the Tempe Municipal Court, Defendants deny said allegations and demand strict proof thereof.
- 9. Defendants admit the allegations contained in paragraphs 66 through 72 of the Complaint.
- 10. Defendants are without sufficient knowledge or information to form a belief as to the truth or falsity of the allegations contained in paragraph 73 of the Complaint and hereby demand strict proof thereof.

Complaint.

	11.	Defendants	admit t	he al	llegations	contained	in pa	ıragraphs	74 th	rough	80	of
the Co	omplair	nt.										
	12.	Defendants	deny	the	allegation	s contair	ned i	in parag	raph	81	of	the

- 13. Defendants admit the allegations contained in paragraphs 82 through 86 of the Complaint.
- 14. Answering paragraph 87 of the Complaint, Defendants affirmatively allege that the loyalty oath signed Defendant McAllister and the other defendants fully complies with Arizona law. Defendants further assert that Plaintiff has no standing to assert that the loyalty oath does not comply with Arizona law.
- 15. Answering paragraphs 88 and 89 of the Complaint, Defendants affirmatively allege that the statutes referenced therein speak for themselves and need no interpretation by Plaintiff.
- 16. Defendants are without sufficient knowledge or information to form a belief as to the truth or falsity of the allegations contained in paragraph 90 of the Complaint and hereby demand strict proof thereof.
- 17. Defendants admit the allegations contained in paragraphs 91 through 93 of the Complaint.
- 18. Defendants deny the allegations contained in paragraphs 94 and 95 of the Complaint.
- 19. Defendants admit the allegations contained in paragraphs 96 through 99 of the Complaint.
- 20. Defendants are without sufficient knowledge or information to form a belief as to the truth or falsity of the allegations contained in paragraph 100 of the Complaint and hereby demand strict proof thereof.

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#### IV. CLAIM FOR RELIEF

# CAUSE OF ACTION #1: DEPRIVATION OF RIGHTS UNDER COLOR OF STATE LAW

#### **COUNT I**

- 21. Defendants through this reference re-assert their admissions, denials, and affirmative allegations above as if specifically set forth herein.
- 22. Answering paragraphs 102 and 103 of the Complaint, Defendants affirmatively allege that the superior court's minute entry speaks for itself and interpretation by Plaintiff is necessary.
- 23. The remaining paragraphs contained in Count I of the Complaint are directed at defendants other than responding Defendants, therefore, no response is necessary. To the extent that the Court deems a response is necessary, Defendants deny said allegations and demand strict proof thereof.

#### **COUNT II**

- 24. Defendants through this reference re-assert their admissions, denials, and affirmative allegations above as if specifically set forth herein.
- 25. The remaining paragraphs contained in Count II of the Complaint are directed at defendants other than responding Defendants, therefore, no response is necessary. To the extent that the Court deems a response is necessary, Defendants deny said allegations and demand strict proof thereof.

#### **COUNT III**

- 26. Defendants through this reference re-assert their admissions, denials, and affirmative allegations above as if specifically set forth herein.
- 27. The remaining paragraphs contained in Count III of the Complaint are directed at defendants other than responding Defendants, therefore, no response is necessary. To the extent that the Court deems a response is necessary, Defendants deny said allegations and demand strict proof thereof.

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Tempe City Attorney's Office 21 East Sixth Street, Suite 201 P.O. Box 5002 Tempe, Arizona 85280 **COUNT IV** 

- 28. Defendants through this reference re-assert their admissions, denials, and affirmative allegations above as if specifically set forth herein.
  - 29. Defendants deny allegations 124 through 128 of the Complaint.

#### **COUNT V**

- 30. Defendants through this reference re-assert their admissions, denials, and affirmative allegations above as if specifically set forth herein.
- 31. Defendants deny the allegations contained in paragraphs 130 through 134 of the Complaint. Defendants further affirmatively allege that Defendant Mary Jo Barsetti, as a judicial officer in a judicial proceeding, is cloaked with judicial immunity for any actions taken in this matter.

#### **COUNT VI**

- 32. Defendants through this reference re-assert their admissions, denials, and affirmative allegations above as if specifically set forth herein.
- 33. Defendants deny the allegations contained in paragraphs 136 through 142 of the Complaint. Defendants further affirmatively allege that Defendant Mary Jo Barsetti, as a judicial officer in a judicial proceeding, is cloaked with judicial immunity for any actions taken in this matter.

#### **COUNT VII**

- 34. Defendants through this reference re-assert their admissions, denials, and affirmative allegations above as if specifically set forth herein.
- 35. The remaining paragraphs contained in Count VII of the Complaint are directed at defendants other than responding Defendants; therefore, no response is necessary. To the extent that the Court deems a response is necessary, Defendants deny said allegations and demand strict proof thereof.

#### **COUNT VIII**

36. Defendants through this reference re-assert their admissions, denials, and affirmative allegations above as if specifically set forth herein.

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37. The remaining paragraphs contained in Count VIII of the Complaint are directed at defendants other than responding Defendants; therefore, no response is necessary. To the extent that the Court deems a response is necessary, Defendants deny said allegations and demand strict proof thereof.

#### **COUNT IX**

- 38. Defendants through this reference re-assert their admissions, denials, and affirmative allegations above as if specifically set forth herein.
- 39. The remaining paragraphs contained in Count IX of the Complaint are directed at defendants other than responding Defendants; therefore, no response is necessary. To the extent that the Court deems a response is necessary, Defendants deny said allegations and demand strict proof thereof.

#### **COUNT X**

- 40. Defendants through this reference re-assert their admissions, denials, and affirmative allegations above as if specifically set forth herein.
- 41. The remaining paragraphs contained in Count X of the Complaint are directed at defendants other than responding Defendants; therefore, no response is necessary. To the extent that the Court deems a response is necessary, Defendants deny said allegations and demand strict proof thereof.

#### **COUNT XI**

- 42. Defendants through this reference re-assert their admissions, denials, and affirmative allegations above as if specifically set forth herein.
- 43. Answering the remaining allegations in Count XI of the Complaint, Defendants deny the allegations, or Defendants assert that they are without sufficient knowledge to admit or deny said allegations and therefore deny the same and demand strict proof thereof.

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# CAUSE OF ACTION #2: CIVIL RICO COUNT I

- 44. Defendants through this reference re-assert their admissions, denials, and affirmative allegations above as if specifically set forth herein.
- 45. Answering paragraph 242 of the Complaint, Defendants assert that the referenced statutes speak for themselves and no interpretation by Plaintiff is necessary.
- 46. Paragraphs 243 through 246 are directed at defendants other than responding Defendants; therefore, no response is necessary. To the extent the Court deems a response is necessary, Defendants deny said allegations and demand strict proof thereof.
- 47. Answering paragraph 247 of the Complaint, Defendants assert that the referenced statute speaks for itself and no interpretation by Plaintiff is necessary.
- 48. Paragraphs 248 through 259 are directed at defendants other than responding Defendants; therefore, no response is necessary. To the extent the Court deems a response is necessary, Defendants deny said allegations and demand strict proof thereof.
- 49. Defendants deny the allegations contained in paragraphs 260 through 268 of the Complaint.

#### **COUNT II**

- 50. Defendants through this reference re-assert their admissions, denials, and affirmative allegations above as if specifically set forth herein.
- 51. Answering paragraph 270 of the Complaint, Defendants assert that the referenced statute speaks for itself and no interpretation by Plaintiff is necessary.
- 52. Paragraphs 271 through 285 are directed at defendants other than responding Defendants; therefore, no response is necessary. To the extent the Court deems a response is necessary, Defendants deny said allegations and demand strict proof thereof.

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53.	Defendants	deny	the	allegations	contained	in	paragraph	286	of	the
Complaint.										

#### **COUNT III**

- 54. Defendants through this reference re-assert their admissions, denials, and affirmative allegations above as if specifically set forth herein.
- 55. Answering paragraphs 288 and 289 of the Complaint, Defendants assert that the referenced statutes speak for themselves and no interpretation by Plaintiff is necessary.
- 56. Defendants deny the allegations contained in paragraphs 290 through 296 of the Complaint.
- 57. Paragraphs 297 and 298 are directed at defendants other than responding Defendants; therefore, no response is necessary. To the extent the Court deems a response is necessary, Defendants deny said allegations and demand strict proof thereof.

#### **COUNT IV**

- 58. Defendants through this reference re-assert their admissions, denials, and affirmative allegations above as if specifically set forth herein.
- 59. Paragraphs 299 through 308 are directed at defendants other than responding Defendants; therefore, no response is necessary. To the extent the Court deems a response is necessary, Defendants deny said allegations and demand strict proof thereof.
- 60. Answering paragraphs 309 through 339 of the Compliant, Defendants are either without sufficient knowledge to admit or deny the allegations, or said allegations are directed at defendants other than responding defendants. Therefore, Defendants deny said allegations and demand strict proof thereof.

# CAUSE OF ACTION #3: ACTION FOR DAMAGES DUE TO A CONSPIRACY

61. Defendants through this reference re-assert their admissions, denials, and affirmative allegations above as if specifically set forth herein.

- 62. Answering paragraphs 341 and 342, Defendants allege that the dictionary references speak for themselves and not interpretation by Plaintiff is necessary.
- 63. Answering paragraph 343, Defendants affirmatively allege that the Minutes speak for themselves and no interpretation by Plaintiff is necessary.
- 64. Defendants deny the allegations contained in paragraphs 344 through 355 of the Complaint.
- 65. Paragraphs 356 through 362 are directed at defendants other than responding Defendants; therefore, no response is necessary. To the extent the Court deems a response is necessary, Defendants deny said allegations and demand strict proof thereof.
- 66. Defendants deny the remaining allegations contained in Cause of Action #3 of the Complaint.

## **DEMAND FOR DECLARATORY RELIEF**

# **Demand One (Redflex)**

- 67. Defendants through this reference re-assert their admissions, denials, and affirmative allegations above as if specifically set forth herein.
- 68. Paragraphs 371 through 382 are directed at defendants other than responding Defendants; therefore, no response is necessary. To the extent the Court deems a response is necessary, Defendants deny said allegations and demand strict proof thereof.

# **Demand Two (City of Tempe)**

- 69. Defendants through this reference re-assert their admissions, denials, and affirmative allegations above as if specifically set forth herein.
- 70. Defendants deny the allegations contained in paragraphs 384 through 388 of the Complaint.
- 71. Defendants deny the allegations contained in paragraph 389 through 400 of the Complaint, except that Defendants admit that Plaintiff made numerous public records

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requests to the City of Tempe for copies of loyalty oaths of several City of Tempe employees.

### **DEMAND FOR INJUNCTIVE RELIEF**

- 72. Defendants through this reference re-assert their admissions, denials, and affirmative allegations above as if specifically set forth herein.
- 73. Answering paragraphs 402 and 403 of the Complaint, Defendants deny that injunctive relief is proper in this case.

### ADDENDUM: NEWLY DISCOVERED INFORMATION

- 74. Defendants through this reference re-assert their admissions, denials, and affirmative allegations above as if specifically set forth herein.
- 75. Defendants deny the allegations contained in paragraphs 405 through 414 of the Complaint to the extent that they allege that Defendants violated Plaintiffs constitutional rights or committed any other wrongdoing. Defendants further allege that said paragraphs are directed at defendants other than responding Defendants; therefore, no additional response from them is necessary. To the extent that the Court deems a greater response is necessary, Defendants deny said allegations and demand strict proof thereof.
  - 76. Defendants deny each and every allegation not specifically admitted herein.

# AFFIRMATIVE AND AVOIDANCE DEFESES.

- 77. Plaintiff's Complaint fails to state a claim upon which relief can be granted.
- 78. Plaintiff lacks standing to bring the claims alleged in his Complaint.
- 79. Defendants did not violate Plaintiff's constitutional rights.
- 80. Defendants complied with state and federal law as it existed at the time.
- 81. Plaintiff suffered no harm as a result of Defendants' actions or inactions.
- 24 82. Plaintiff is not entitled to punitive damages against Defendants.
  - 83. Defendants are protected from suit by Plaintiff by legislative immunity and/or judicial immunity and/or qualified immunity.
  - 84. The Court may lack subject matter jurisdiction.

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85. Defendants assert that Plaintiff compromised and settled his claim(s) for damages he allegedly suffered herein when he filed his notice of claim with the City and the City accepted the notice of claim for payment.

86. Defendants, by way of this Answer, hereby place Plaintiff on notice that they preserve their right to defend this claim based on immunities set forth in state and federal law and any affirmative defenses set forth in Rule 8(c), Fed.R.Civ.P.

**WHEREFORE,** Defendants respectfully request that Plaintiff receive nothing by way of his Complaint and that Defendants be awarded their costs and fees as allowed for under the law.

DATED this 1st day of March, 2011.

#### TEMPE CITY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

/s/ Clarence E. Matherson, Jr. Andrew B. Ching Clarence E. Matherson, Jr. Catherine M. Bowman 21 E. Sixth Street, Suite 201 P.O. Box 5002 Tempe, Arizona 85280 Attorneys for Defendants

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE I hereby certify that on March 1, 2011, I electronically transmitted the attached document to the Clerk's Office using the CM/ECF System for filing and mailed a copy of same to: Daniel Arthur Gutenkauf 1847 E. Apache Blvd., #41 Tempe, AZ 85281 Plaintiff I further certify that on March 2, 2011, the attached document was hand-delivered to: HONORABLE FREDERICK J. MARTONE United States District Court Sandra Day O'Connor U.S. Courthouse, Suite 526 401 W. Washington Street, SPC 62 Phoenix, AZ 85003 /s/ Erin Fillmore Tempe City Attorney's Office 21 East Sixth Street, Suite 201 P.O. Box 5002 Tempe, Arizona 85280