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3:03-CV-02502 PINNOCK V. MANTIC ASHANTIS

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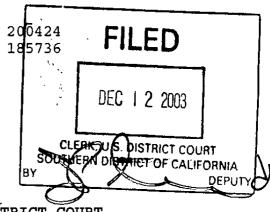
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Attorneys for Plaintiffs



UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

MANTIC ASHANTI'S CAUSE, SUING | Case No.: 03 CV ON BEHALF OF THEODORE A. PINNOCK AND ITS MEMBERS; and THEODORE A. PINNOCK, An Individual,

Plaintiffs,

v.

CHILI'S GRILL & BAR - CAMINO DEL RIO NORTH, SAN DIEGO, a.k.a. CHILI'S HAMBURGER GRILL AND BAR - CAMINO DEL RIO NORTH, SAN DIEGO; BRINKER INTERNATIONAL; BRINKER RESTAURANT CORPORATION; CHARMAINE C. WILLIS; And

DOES 1 THROUGH 10, Inclusive

Defendants.

2502

CIVIL COMPLAINT:

DISCRIMINATORY PRACTICES IN PUBLIC ACCOMMODATIONS [42 U.S.C. 12182(a) ET. SEQ; CIVIL CODE 51, 52, 54, 54.1]

NEGLIGENCE

[CIVIL CODE 1714(a), 2338, 3333; EVIDENCE CODE 669(a)]

DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL [F.R.Civ.P. rule 38(b); Civ.L.R. 38.1]

INTRODUCTION

Plaintiffs MANTIC ASHANTI'S CAUSE SUING ON BEHALF OF THEODORE A. PINNOCK AND ITS MEMBERS and THEODORE A. PINNOCK, An Individual,

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herein complain, by filing this Civil Complaint in accordance with rule 8 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure in the Judicial District of the United States District Court of the Southern District of California, that Defendants have in the past, and presently are, engaging in discriminatory practices against individuals with disabilities, specifically including minorities with disabilities. Plaintiffs allege this civil action and others substantial similar thereto are necessary to compel access compliance because empirical research on the effectiveness of Title III of the Americans with Disabilities Act indicates this Title has failed to achieve full and equal access simply by the executive branch of the Federal Government funding and promoting voluntary compliance efforts. Further, empirical research shows when individuals with disabilities give actual notice of potential access problems to places of public accommodation without a federal civil rights action, the public accommodations do not remove the access barriers. Therefore, Plaintiffs make the following allegations in this federal civil rights action:

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

1. The federal jurisdiction of this action is based on the Americans with Disabilities Act, 42 United States Code 12101-12102, 12181-12183 and 12201, et seq. Venue in the Judicial District of the United States District Court of the Southern District of California is in accordance with 28 U.S.C. § 1391(b) because a substantial part of Plaintiffs' claims arose within the Judicial District of the United States District Court of the Southern District of California.

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SUPPLEMENTAL JURISDICTION

The Judicial District of the United States District Court of the Southern District of California has supplemental jurisdiction over the state claims as alleged in this Complaint pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1367(a). The reason supplemental jurisdiction is proper in this action is because all the causes of action or claims derived from federal law and those arising under state law, as herein alleged, arose from common nucleus of operative facts. common nucleus of operative facts, include, but are not limited to, the incidents where Plaintiff's Member Theodore A. Pinnock was denied full and equal access to Defendants' facilities, goods, and/or services in violation of both federal and state laws when they attempted to enter, use, and/or exit Defendants' facilities as described below within this Complaint. Further, due to this denial of full and equal access, Theodore A. Pinnock and other persons with disabilities were injured. Based upon the said allegations, the state actions, as stated herein, are so related to the federal actions that they form part of the same case or controversy and the actions would ordinarily be expected to be tried in one judicial proceeding.

NAMED DEFENDANTS AND NAMED PLAINTIFFS

3. Defendants are, and, at all times mentioned herein, were, a business or corporation or franchise organized and existing and/or doing business under the laws of the State of California.

Defendant CHILI'S GRILL & BAR - CAMINO DEL RIO NORTH, SAN DIEGO, a.k.a. CHILI'S HAMBURGER GRILL AND BAR - CAMINO DEL RIO NORTH, SAN DIEGO is located at 4252 Camino Del Rio N, San Diego, California,

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Plaintiffs are informed and believe and thereon allege 92108. that Defendants BRINKER INTERNATIONAL and/or BRINKER RESTURANT CORPORATION, is the owner, operator, and/or doing business as CHILI'S GRILL & BAR - CAMINO DEL RIO NORTH, SAN DIEGO, a.k.a. CHILI'S HAMBURGER GRILL AND BAR - CAMINO DEL RIO NORTH, SAN DIEGO. Defendant BRINKER RESTURANT CORPORATION is located at 6820 LBJ Freeway, Dallas, Texas 75240. Plaintiffs are informed and believe and thereon allege that Defendant CHARMAINE C. WILLIS, is the owner, operator, and/or lessor of the property located at 4242 Camino Del Rio N, San Diego, California, 92108, Assessor Parcel Number 461-300-16-00, 461-330-18-00 and 461-300-19-00. Plaintiffs are informed and believe and thereon allege that address 4252 Camino Del Rio N, San Diego, California 92108 is included in the above stated Assessor Parcel 461-300-16-00, 461-300-18-00 and/or Assessor Parcel 461-300-19-00. Defendant CHARMAINE C WILLIS, is located at 2552 Caminito Viejo, La Jolla, California, 92037. words Plaintiffs" and "Plaintiff's Member" as used herein specifically include the organization MANTIC ASHANTI'S CAUSE, its Members, its member Theodore A. Pinnock and persons associated with its Members who accompanied Members to Defendants' facilities, as well as THEODORE A. PINNOCK, An Individual. Defendants Does 1 through 10, were at all times relevant herein subsidiaries, employers, employees, agents, of CHILI'S GRILL & BAR - CAMINO DEL RIO NORTH, SAN DIEGO, a.k.a. CHILI'S HAMBURGER GRILL AND BAR - CAMINO DEL RIO NORTH, SAN DIEGO; BRINKER INTERNATIONAL; BRINKER RESTAURANT CORPORATION; CHARMAINE C.

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WILLIS. Plaintiffs are ignorant of the true names and capacities

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Defendants.

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of Defendants sued herein as Does 1 through 10, inclusive, and therefore sues these Defendants by such fictitious names. Plaintiffs will pray leave of the court to amend this complaint to allege the true names and capacities of the Does when ascertained. Plaintiffs are informed and believe, and thereon allege, that Defendants and each of them herein were, at all times relevant to the action, the owner, lessor, lessee, franchiser, franchisee, general partner, limited partner, agent, employee, representing partner, or joint venturer of the remaining Defendants and were acting within the course and scope of that relationship. Plaintiffs are further informed and believe, and thereon allege, that each of the Defendants herein gave consent to, ratified,

CONCISE SET OF FACTS

and/or authorized the acts alleged herein to each of the remaining

- Plaintiff MANTIC ASHANTI'S CAUSE is an organization that advocates on the behalf of its members with disabilities when their civil rights and liberties have been violated. Plaintiff's member THEODORE A. PINNOCK is a member of Plaintiff Organization and has an impairment in that he has Cerebral Palsy and due to this impairment he has learned to successfully operate a wheelchair.
- On or about August 1, 2003, Plaintiff's member THEODORE A. PINNOCK went to Defendants' CHILI'S GRILL & BAR - CAMINO DEL RIO NORTH, SAN DIEGO, a.k.a. CHILI'S HAMBURGER GRILL AND BAR - CAMINO DEL RIO NORTH, SAN DIEGO facilities to utilize their goods and/or services. When Plaintiff's member patronized Defendants' CHILI'S

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GRILL & BAR - CAMINO DEL RIO NORTH, SAN DIEGO, a.k.a. CHILI'S HAMBURGER GRILL AND BAR - CAMINO DEL RIO NORTH, SAN DIEGO facilities, he was unable to use and/or had difficulty using the public accommodations' disabled parking, access ramp, entrance, bar area seating, bar counter, main dining area seating, interior path of travel, and restroom facilities at Defendants' business establishment because they failed to comply with ADA Access Guidelines For Buildings and Facilities (hereafter referred to as "ADAAG") and/or California's Title 24 Building Code Requirements. Defendants failed to remove access barriers within the entrance, bar area seating, bar counter, main dining area seating, interior path of travel, and restroom facilities of Defendants' CHILI'S GRILL & BAR - CAMINO DEL RIO NORTH, SAN DIEGO, a.k.a. CHILI'S HAMBURGER GRILL AND BAR - CAMINO DEL RIO NORTH, SAN DIEGO establishment.

Plaintiff's member personally experienced difficulty with said access barriers at Defendants' CHILI'S GRILL & BAR - CAMINO DEL RIO NORTH, SAN DIEGO, a.k.a. CHILI'S HAMBURGER GRILL AND BAR -CAMINO DEL RIO NORTH, SAN DIEGO facilities. For example, the parking facilities of Defendants' establishment are inaccessible. The parking facility has sixty-two (62) parking spaces, two (2) of which are designated as disabled parking spaces. The two (2) existing disabled parking spaces are inaccessible as they are only fifteen feet (15') long and the disability color markings are badly faded. Also a ramp impermissibly encroaches into the access aisle of the existing disabled parking space. A compliant "regular" disabled parking space is at least eighteen feet (18')

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long with proper markings on the parking stall/access aisle and without encroachment of a ramp into the access aisle. parking facility is required to have a total of three (3) designated disabled parking spaces, one of which must be a compliant "van accessible" disabled parking space and the other two (2) required disabled parking spaces must be compliant "regular" disabled parking spaces. A compliant "van accessible" disabled parking space is at least eighteen feet (18') long with an access aisle that is eight feet (8') wide. The parking facility at Defendants' CHILI'S GRILL & BAR - CAMINO DEL RIO NORTH, SAN DIEGO, a.k.a. CHILI'S HAMBURGER GRILL AND BAR - CAMINO DEL RIO NORTH, SAN DIEGO establishment fails to have the required "van accessible" parking space and also fails to have two (2) compliant "regular" disabled parking spaces.

The front entrance to Defendants establishment is not The access ramp leading to the entrance of the restaurant, fails to be accessible, as it has only one (1) handrail. A ramp with a slope of 5%-8.33% is required to have two (2) handrails. The front entrance door is inaccessible, as it requires ten pounds (10 lbs.) of pressure to operate. The main entrance door is inaccessible, as it requires eleven pounds (11 lbs.) of pressure to operate. Outside doors like the front entrance door and the main entrance door are not to exceed the maximum required pressure of eight and a half pounds (8 ½ lbs.) to The entrance to the restaurant fails to have the required disability signage.

The interior path of travel within the restaurant fails to be

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accessible, as the interior path of travel narrows to a mere thirty inches (30") in some areas. The interior path of travel is required to be a minimum of thirty-six inches (36") in width.

- 11. The cashier counter/bar is inaccessible. The height of the cashier counter/bar exceeds the maximum allowable height of thirty-four inches (34"). The minimum requirement is that there be at least a three-foot (3') section that is no higher than thirty-four inches (34").
- The seating inside the Defendants' establishment is inaccessible. The seating inside the main dining area is inaccessible because the main dining area fails to have a sufficient number of the required accessible seats. There are one hundred and forty (140) seats located inside the main dining area, five (5) of which are accessible. The five (5) accessible seats fail to be designated as accessible seating. Further, the main dining area must meet the requirement that five percent (5%) of all of its seats have a knee clearance depth of nineteen inches (19") a width of thirty inches (30") and a height of twenty-seven inches (27") minimum, which in this case requires seven (7) seats to be designated as accessible. The seating in the bar area is also inaccessible because the bar area fails to have to have any of the required accessible seats. There are forty (40) seats located in the bar area. Twenty-four (24) of the forty (40) seats have a knee clearance depth of only five inches (5"), ten of the forty (40) seats have a five inch (5") step up, and the other six (6) seats have a table height of forty five inches (45"). These seats fail to meet the requirement that five percent (5%) of all

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of its seats have a knee clearance depth of nineteen inches (19") a width of thirty inches (30") and a height of twenty-seven inches (27") minimum, which in this case requires two (2) seats to be designated as accessible.

The Men's restroom at the Defendants' establishment is inaccessible. The entrance door requires too much pressure to operate, as it requires seven pounds (7 lbs.) of pressure to open. The maximum requirement for an inside door like this one is five pounds (5lbs.) of pressure. The strike clearance of the restroom door is a mere six inches (6") and fails to meet the minimum width requirement of eighteen inches (18"). As a result of these violations of the Americans With Disabilities Act and/or Title 24 of the California Building Code, Plaintiff's Member and Plaintiff THEODORE A. PINNOCK was unable to maneuver his wheelchair into the men's restroom. The width of the clear floor space in front of the urinal is only twenty-nine inches (29") when it should be at least the required thirty inches (30"). The stall fails to have the required handles on both sides of the door. The diaper changing counter is inaccessible, as it is forty-five inches (45") The diaper changing counter exceeds the maximum allowable height of thirty-four inches (34"). The hot water and drainpipes under the lavatory fail to have the required insulation. restroom also fails to have the required audible visual alarm system.

14. Pursuant to federal and state law, Defendants are required to remove barriers to their existing facilities. Further, Defendants had actual knowledge of their barrier removal duties under the

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27 28 Americans with Disabilities Act and the Civil Code before January 26, 1992. Also, Defendants should have known that individuals with disabilities are not required to give notice to a governmental agency before filing suit alleging Defendants failed to remove architectural barriers.

Plaintiffs believe and herein allege Defendants' facilities have access violations not directly experienced by Plaintiff's Member which preclude or limit access by others with disabilities, including, but not limited to, Space Allowance and Reach Ranges, Accessible Route, Protruding Objects, Ground and Floor Surfaces, Parking and Passenger Loading Zones, Curb Ramps, Ramps, Stairs, Elevators, Platform Lifts (Wheelchair Lifts), Windows, Doors, Entrances, Drinking Fountains and Water Coolers, Water Closets, Toilet Stalls, Urinals, Lavatories and Mirrors, Sinks, Storage, Handrails, Grab Bars, and Controls and Operating Mechanisms, Alarms, Detectable Warnings, Signage, and Telephones. Accordingly, Plaintiffs allege Defendants are required to remove all architectural barriers, known or unknown. Also, Plaintiffs allege Defendants are required to utilize the ADA checklist for Readily Achievable Barrier Removal approved by the United States Department of Justice and created by Adaptive Environments. Based on these facts, Plaintiffs allege Plaintiff's Member

and Plaintiff Theodore A. Pinnock was discriminated against each time he patronized Defendants' establishments. Plaintiff's Member and Plaintiff Theodore A. Pinnock was extremely upset due to Defendants' conduct. Further, Plaintiff's Member and Plaintiff THEODORE A. PINNOCK experienced pain in his legs, back, arms,

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shoulders and wrists when he attempted to enter, use, and exit

- CHILI'S GRILL & BAR CAMINO DEL RIO NORTH, SAN DIEGO, a.k.a. CHILI'S HAMBURGER GRILL AND BAR - CAMINO DEL RIO NORTH, SAN DIEGO; BRINKER INTERNATIONAL; BRINKER RESTAURANT CORPORATION; CHARMAINE C. WILLIS; and Does 1 through 10 will be referred to collectively hereinafter as "Defendants."
- 18. Plaintiffs aver that the Defendants are liable for the following claims as alleged below:

DISCRIMINATORY PRACTICES IN PUBLIC ACCOMMODATIONS FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION AGAINST ALL DEFENDANTS- Claims Under The Americans With Disabilities Act Of 1990

CLAIM I AGAINST ALL DEFENDANTS: Denial Of Full And Equal Access

19. Based on the facts plead at \P 6-16 above and elsewhere in this complaint, Plaintiff's Member was denied full and equal access to Defendants' goods, services, facilities, privileges, advantages, or accommodations. Plaintiffs allege Defendants are a public accommodation owned, leased and/or operated by Defendants. Defendants' existing facilities and/or services failed to provide full and equal access to Defendants' facility as required by 42 U.S.C. § 12182(a). Thus, Plaintiff's Member was subjected to

discrimination in violation of 42 United States Code 2 12182(b)(2)(A)(iv) and 42 U.S.C. § 12188 because Plaintiff's Member was denied equal access to Defendants' existing facilities. 20. Plaintiff's member Theodore A. Pinnock has physical impairments as alleged in ¶ 6 above because his conditions affect one or more of the following body systems: neurological, musculoskeletal, special sense organs, and/or cardiovascular. 8 Further, Plaintiff's member Theodore A. Pinnock's said physical impairments substantially limits one or more of the following 10 major life activities: walking. In addition, Plaintiff's member 11 Theodore A. Pinnock cannot perform one or more of the said major 12 life activities in the manner, speed, and duration when compared 13 to the average person. Moreover, Plaintiff's member Theodore A. 14 Pinnock has a history of or has been classified as having a 15 physical impairment as required by 42 U.S.C. § 12102(2)(A). 16 CLAIM II AGAINST ALL DEFENDANTS: Failure To Make Alterations In 17 Such A Manner That The Altered Portions Of The Facility Are Readily Accessible And Usable By Individuals With Disabilities 18 Based on the facts plead at \P 6-16 above and elsewhere in 19 this complaint, Plaintiff's Member Theodore A. Pinnock was denied 20 full and equal access to Defendants' goods, services, facilities, 21 privileges, advantages, or accommodations within a public 22 accommodation owned, leased, and/or operated by Defendants. 23 Defendants altered their facility in a manner that affects or 24 could affect the usability of the facility or a part of the 25 26 facility after January 26, 1992. In performing the alteration, Defendants failed to make the alteration in such a manner that, to 27

the maximum extent feasible, the altered portions of the facility

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1 are readily accessible to and usable by individuals with disabilities, including individuals who use wheelchairs, in 3 violation of 42 U.S.C. §12183(a)(2).

Additionally, the Defendants undertook an alteration that affects or could affect the usability of or access to an area of the facility containing a primary function after January 26, 1992. Defendants further failed to make the alterations in such a manner that, to the maximum extent feasible, the path of travel to the altered area and the bathrooms, telephones, and drinking fountains serving the altered area, are readily accessible to and usable by individuals with disabilities in violation 42 U.S.C. §12183(a)(2). 23. Pursuant to 42 U.S.C. §12183(a), this failure to make the alterations in a manner that, to the maximum extent feasible, are readily accessible to and usable by individuals with disabilities constitutes discrimination for purposes of 42 U.S.C. §12183(a). Therefore, Defendants discriminated against Plaintiff's Member Theodore A. Pinnock in violation of 42 U.S.C. § 12182(a). 24. Thus, Plaintiff's Member Theodore A. Pinnock was subjected to discrimination in violation of 42 U.S.C. § 12183(a), 42 U.S.C.

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facilities.

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CLAIM III AGAINST ALL DEFENDANTS: Failure To Remove Architectural Barriers

Pinnock was denied equal access to Defendants' existing

25. Based on the facts plead at \P 6-16 above and elsewhere in this complaint, Plaintiff's Member was denied full and equal

§12182(a) and 42 U.S.C. §12188 because said Member Theodore A.

1 access to Defendants' goods, services, facilities, privileges, advantages, or accommodations within a public accommodation owned, 3 leased, and/or operated by Defendants. Defendants failed to remove barriers as required by 42 U.S.C. § 12182(a). Plaintiffs are informed, believe, and thus allege that architectural barriers 6 which are structural in nature exist within the following physical 7 elements of Defendants' facilities: Space Allowance and Reach Ranges, Accessible Route, Protruding Objects, Ground and Floor 9 Surfaces, Parking and Passenger Loading Zones, Curb Ramps, Ramps, 10 Stairs, Elevators, Platform Lifts (Wheelchair Lifts), Windows, 11 Doors, Entrances, Drinking Fountains and Water Coolers, Water 12 Closets, Toilet Stalls, Urinals, Lavatories and Mirrors, Sinks, 13 Storage, Handrails, Grab Bars, and Controls and Operating 14 Mechanisms, Alarms, Detectable Warnings, Signage, and Telephones. 15 Title III requires places of public accommodation to remove 16 architectural barriers that are structural in nature to existing 17 facilities. [See, 42 United States Code 12182(b)(2)(A)(iv).] 18 Failure to remove such barriers and disparate treatment against a 19 person who has a known association with a person with a disability 20 are forms of discrimination. [See 42 United States Code 21 12182(b)(2)(A)(iv).] Thus, Plaintiff's Member was subjected to 22 discrimination in violation of 42 United States Code 23 12182(b)(2)(A)(iv) and 42 U.S.C. § 12188 because said Member was 24 denied equal access to Defendants' existing facilities. 25 26

CLAIM IV AGAINST ALL DEFENDANTS: Failure To Modify Practices, Policies And Procedures

26. Based on the facts plead at $\P\P$ 6-16 above and elsewhere in

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this complaint, Defendants failed and refused to provide a reasonable alternative by modifying its practices, policies and procedures in that they failed to have a scheme, plan, or design to assist Plaintiff's Member and/or others similarly situated in entering and utilizing Defendants' services, as required by 42 U.S.C. § 12188(a). Thus, said Member was subjected to discrimination in violation of 42 United States Code 12182(b)(2)(A)(iv) and 42 U.S.C. § 12188 because said Member was denied equal access to Defendants' existing facilities.

III of Plaintiffs' First Cause Of Action above, and the facts elsewhere herein this complaint, Plaintiffs will suffer irreparable harm unless Defendants are ordered to remove architectural, non-architectural, and communication barriers at Defendants' public accommodation. Plaintiffs allege that Defendants' discriminatory conduct is capable of repetition, and this discriminatory repetition adversely impacts Plaintiffs and a substantial segment of the disability community. Plaintiffs allege there is a national public interest in requiring accessibility in places of public accommodation. Plaintiffs have no adequate remedy at law to redress the discriminatory conduct of Plaintiff's Member desires to return to Defendants' Defendants. places of business in the immediate future. Accordingly, the Plaintiffs allege that a structural or mandatory injunction is necessary to enjoin compliance with federal civil rights laws enacted for the benefit of individuals with disabilities.

28. WHEREFORE, Plaintiffs pray for judgment and relief as

hereinafter set forth.

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SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION AGAINST ALL DEFENDANTS - CLAIMS UNDER CALIFORNIA ACCESSIBILITY LAWS

CLAIM I: Denial Of Full And Equal Access

Based on the facts plead at \P 6-16 above and elsewhere in this complaint, Plaintiff's Member was denied full and equal access to Defendants' goods, services, facilities, privileges, advantages, or accommodations within a public accommodation owned, leased, and/or operated by Defendants as required by Civil Code Sections 54 and 54.1. Defendants' facility violated California's Title 24 Accessible Building Code by failing to provide access to Defendants' facilities due to violations pertaining to the Space Allowance and Reach Ranges, Accessible Route, Protruding Objects, Ground and Floor Surfaces, Parking and Passenger Loading Zones, Curb Ramps, Ramps, Stairs, Elevators, Platform Lifts (Wheelchair Lifts), Windows, Doors, Entrances, Drinking Fountains and Water Coolers, Water Closets, Toilet Stalls, Urinals, Lavatories and Mirrors, Sinks, Storage, Handrails, Grab Bars, and Controls and Operating Mechanisms, Alarms, Detectable Warnings, Signage, and Telephones.

30. These violations denied Plaintiff's Member full and equal access to Defendants' facility. Thus, said Member was subjected to discrimination pursuant to Civil Code §§ 51, 52, and 54.1 because Plaintiff's Member was denied full, equal and safe access to Defendants' facility, causing severe emotional distress.

CLAIM II: Failure To Modify Practices, Policies And Procedures

31. Based on the facts plead at $\P\P$ 6-16 above and elsewhere

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herein this complaint, Defendants failed and refused to provide a reasonable alternative by modifying its practices, policies, and procedures in that they failed to have a scheme, plan, or design to assist Plaintiff's Member and/or others similarly situated in entering and utilizing Defendants' services as required by Civil Thus, said Member was subjected to discrimination in violation of Civil Code § 54.1.

CLAIM III: Violation Of The Unruh Act

32. Based on the facts plead at ¶¶ 6-16 above and elsewhere herein this complaint and because Defendants violated the Civil Code § 51 by failing to comply with 42 United States Code § 12182(b)(2)(A)(iv) and 42 U.S.C. § 12183(a)(2), Defendants did and continue to discriminate against Plaintiff's Member and persons similarly situated in violation of Civil Code §§ 51, 52, and 54.1. Based on the facts plead at ¶¶ 6-17 above, Claims I, II, and III of Plaintiffs' Second Cause Of Action above, and the facts elsewhere herein this complaint, Plaintiffs will suffer irreparable harm unless Defendants are ordered to remove architectural, non-architectural, and communication barriers at Defendants' public accommodation. Plaintiffs allege that Defendants' discriminatory conduct is capable of repetition, and this discriminatory repetition adversely impacts Plaintiffs and a substantial segment of the disability community. allege there is a state and national public interest in requiring accessibility in places of public accommodation. Plaintiffs have no adequate remedy at law to redress the discriminatory conduct of Defendants. Plaintiff's Member desires to return to Defendants'

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places of business in the immediate future. Accordingly, the Plaintiffs allege that a structural or mandatory injunction is necessary to enjoin compliance with state civil rights laws enacted for the benefit of individuals with disabilities.

Wherefore, Plaintiffs pray for damages and relief as hereinafter stated.

Treble Damages Pursuant To Claims I, II, III Under The California Accessibility Laws

Defendants, each of them respectively, at times prior to and including, the month of August, 2003, and continuing to the present time, knew that persons with physical disabilities were denied their rights of equal access to all potions of this public facility. Despite such knowledge, Defendants, and each of them, failed and refused to take steps to comply with the applicable access statutes; and despite knowledge of the resulting problems and denial of civil rights thereby suffered by Plaintiff's Member THEODORE A. PINNOCK and other similarly situated persons with disabilities. Defendants, and each of them, have failed and refused to take action to grant full and equal access to persons with physical disabilities in the respects complained of hereinabove. Defendants, and each of them, have carried out a course of conduct of refusing to respond to, or correct complaints about, denial of disabled access and have refused to comply with their legal obligations to make Defendants' CHILI'S GRILL & BAR -CAMINO DEL RIO NORTH, SAN DIEGO, a.k.a. CHILI'S HAMBURGER GRILL AND BAR - CAMINO DEL RIO NORTH, SAN DIEGO facilities accessible pursuant to the Americans With Disability Act Access Guidelines (ADAAG) and Title 24 of the California Code of Regulations (also

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known as the California Building Code). Such actions and continuing course of conduct by Defendants, and each of them, evidence despicable conduct in conscious disregard of the rights and/or safety of Plaintiff's Member and of other similarly situated persons, justifying an award of treble damages pursuant to sections 52(a) and 54.3(a) of the California Civil Code. 36. Defendants', and each of their, actions have also been oppressive to persons with physical disabilities and of other members of the public, and have evidenced actual or implied malicious intent toward those members of the public, such as Plaintiff's Member and other persons with physical disabilities who have been denied the proper access to which they are entitled by law. Further, Defendants', and each of their, refusals on a day-to-day basis to correct these problems evidence despicable conduct in conscious disregard for the rights of Plaintiff's Member THEODORE A. PINNOCK and other members of the public with physical disabilities.

37. Plaintiffs pray for an award of treble damages against Defendants, and each of them, pursuant to California Civil Code sections 52(a) and 54.3(a), in an amount sufficient to make a more profound example of Defendants and encourage owners, lessors, and operators of other public facilities from willful disregard of the rights of persons with disabilities. Plaintiffs do not know the financial worth of Defendants, or the amount of damages sufficient to accomplish the public purposes of section 52(a) of the California Civil Code and section 54.3 of the California Civil Code.

38. Wherefore, Plaintiffs pray for damages and relief as hereinafter stated.

DEFENDANTS- Negligence as to Plaintiff THEODORE A. PINNOCK only

39. Based on the facts plead at ¶¶ 6-16 above and elsewhere in this complaint, Defendants owed Plaintiff Theodore A. Pinnock a statutory duty to make their facility accessible and owed Plaintiff Theodore A. Pinnock a duty to keep Plaintiff Theodore A. Pinnock reasonably safe from known dangers and risks of harm. This said duty arises by virtue of legal duties proscribed by various federal and state statutes including, but not limited to, ADA, ADAAG, Civil Code 51, 52, 54, 54.1 and Title 24 of the California Administrative Code and applicable 1982 Uniform Building Code standards as amended.

PLAINTIFF THEODORE A. PINNOCK'S THIRD CAUSE OF ACTION AGAINST ALL

- 40. Title III of the ADA mandates removal of architectural barriers and prohibits disability discrimination. As well, Defendants' facility, and other goods, services, and/or facilities provided to the public by Defendants are not accessible to and usable by persons with disabilities as required by Health and Safety Code § 19955 which requires private entities to make their facility accessible before and after remodeling, and to remove architectural barriers.
- 41. Therefore, Defendants engaged in discriminatory conduct in that they failed to comply with known duties under the ADA, ADAAG, Civil Code 51, 52, 54, 54.1, 54.3, ADAAG, and Title 24, and knew or should have known that their acts of nonfeasance would cause Plaintiff THEODORE A. PINNOCK emotional, bodily and personal

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injury. Plaintiff THEODORE A. PINNOCK alleges that there was bodily injury in this matter because when Plaintiff THEODORE A. PINNOCK attempted to enter, use, and exit Defendants' establishment, Plaintiff THEODORE A. PINNOCK experienced pain in his legs, back, arms, shoulders, and wrists. Plaintiffs further allege that such conduct was done in reckless disregard of the probability of said conduct causing Plaintiff THEODORE A. PINNOCK to suffer bodily or personal injury, anger, embarrassment, depression, anxiety, mortification, humiliation, distress, and fear of physical injury. Plaintiff THEODORE A. PINNOCK, An Individual, alleges that such conduct caused THEODORE A. PINNOCK, An Individual, to suffer the injuries of mental and emotional distress, including, but not limited to, anger, embarrassment, depression, anxiety, mortification, humiliation, distress, and fear of physical injury. Plaintiff THEODORE A. PINNOCK, An Individual, additionally alleges that such conduct caused THEODORE A. PINNOCK, An Individual, to suffer damages as a result of these injuries.

42. Wherefore, Plaintiffs pray for damages and relief as hereinafter stated.

DEMAND FOR JUDGMENT FOR RELIEF:

- A. For general damages pursuant to Cal. Civil Code §§ 52, 54.3, 3281, and 3333;
- B. For \$4,000 in damages pursuant to Cal. Civil Code § 52 for each and every offense of Civil Code § 51, Title 24 of the California Building Code, ADA, and ADA Accessibility Guidelines;
- C. In the alternative to the damages pursuant to Cal. Civil

Code § 52 in Paragraph B above, for \$1,000 in damages pursuant to Cal. Civil Code § 54.3 for each and every offense of Civil Code § 54.1, Title 24 of the California Building Code, ADA, and ADA Accessibility Guidelines;

D. For injunctive relief pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 12188(a) and Cal. Civil Code § 55. Plaintiffs request this Court enjoin Defendants to remove all architectural barriers in, at, or on their facilities related to the following: Space Allowance and Reach Ranges, Accessible Route, Protruding Objects, Ground and Floor Surfaces, Parking and Passenger Loading Zones, Curb Ramps, Ramps, Stairs, Elevators, Platform Lifts (Wheelchair Lifts), Windows, Doors, Entrances, Drinking Fountains and Water Coolers, Water Closets, Toilet Stalls, Urinals, Lavatories and Mirrors, Sinks, Storage, Handrails, Grab Bars, and Controls and Operating Mechanisms, Alarms, Detectable Warnings, Signage, and Telephones.

F. For treble damages pursuant to Cal. Civil Code §§ 52(a) and 54.3(a);

For attorneys' fees pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 1988, 42 U.S.C.

- G. A Jury Trial and;
- H. For such other further relief as the court deems proper.
 Respectfully submitted:

PINNOCK & WAKEFIELD

Dated: December 11, 2003

§ 12205, and Cal. Civil Code § 55;

By:

MICHELLE L. WAKEFIELD, ÉSQ. DAVID C. WAKEFIELD, ESQ.

Attorneys for Plaintiffs