USDC SCAN INDEX SHEET

















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3:04-CV-01213 RIVERA V. KAMILI

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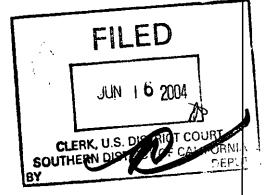
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27 28 LAW OFFICES OF ROY L. LANDERS ROY L. LANDERS (BAR #64920) LaTOYA S. REDD (BAR # 218342) 7840 MISSION CENTER COURT, SUITE 101 SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA 92108 TELEPHONE (619) 296-7898 FACSIMILE (619) 296-5611

Attorney for Plaintiff, Ismael Rivera



UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

'04 CV 1213

JAH (BLI)

ISMAEL RIVERA,

Plaintiff,

VS.

MIKE KAMILI, dba DEL TACO;SAL SALEM; AMY SALEM; MIKE SALEM; BOUSHRA SALEM AND DOES 1-10, INCLUSIVE

Defendants.

Case No.:

COMPLAINT FOR DAMAGES RE: VIOLATION OF CIVIL RIGHTS ON BASIS OF DISCRIMINATION IN PUBLIC ACCOMMODATIONS; NEGLIGENT INFLICTION OF EMOTIONAL DISTRESS; INTENTIONAL INFLICTION OF EMOTIONAL DISTRESS; DECLARATORY RELIEF; DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL

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JURISDICTION AND VENUE

- 1. (a) Jurisdiction of this action is invoked on the basis of 28 USC 1331 and 1343,42 USC 12101-12102, 12181-12183 and 12201, et. seq., which is applicable to causes of action where persons with disabilities have been denied their civil rights. Venue in the Southern Judicial District of California in the United States District Court is in accord with 28. U.S.C. Section 1391(b) because a substantial part of Plaintiff's claims arose within the Judicial District of the United States District Court of the Southern District of California.
- (b) <u>Supplemental Jurisdiction</u>. The Judicial District of the United States District Court of the Southern District of California has supplemental jurisdiction over the state claims alleged in this Complaint pursuant to 28 U.S.C. Section 1367(a). Supplemental jurisdiction is appropriate in this

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action on the basis that all the causes of action or claims derived from federal law and those arising under state law, as herein alleged, arose from a common nucleus of operative facts. The common nucleus of operative facts, include, but are not limited to, the incidents whereby Plaintiff was denied full and equal access to Defendant's facilities, goods, and/or services in violation of both federal and state laws when Plaintiff attempted to enter, use, and/or exit Defendant's facilities as described within this Complaint. Further, due to this denial of full and equal access, Plaintiff and other person's with disabilities were injured. Based upon such 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.

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PARTIES

- 2. Defendant, Make Kamili, dba Del Taco was and at all times herein mentioned, was a duly organized business, association, or corporation duly authorized to exist and operate within the State of California and County of San Diego and the owner, lessee, or tenant of the premises located at 110 West El Norte Parkway Escondido, California.
- 3. Plaintiff is informed and believes and thereon alleges that defendants Sal Salem, Amy Salem, Mike Salem and Boushra Salem are the owners and/or landlords of the subject property upon which Defendants' business is sited.
- 4. Plaintiff is informed and believes and thereon alleges that each of the named defendants herein operate a business and or/facility of public accommodation as defined and described within 42 USC 12181(7)(b) of the American with Disabilities Act [ADA] and, as such, must comply with the ADA under provisions of Title III therein.
- 5. Plaintiff is ignorant of the Defendants sued as Does 1-10 herein, and therefore sues them in their fictitious names as Doe Defendants. Plaintiff is informed and believes and thereon alleges that Does 1-10 are the owners, operators, lessees or tenants of the subject property and each of the Doe Defendants at all times herein were acting as the agent and or representative of each other and, thereby, are responsible in some manner for the injuries and damages complained of herein.

Plaintiff will seek leave of the court to amend this complaint to name Doe Defendants when the same is ascertained.

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GENERAL ALLEGATIONS COMMON TO ALL CLAIMS

- 6. Plaintiff is a male who is disabled and confined to a wheelchair. He has no control over his lower extremities and must use a wheelchair to transport himself and to affect the basic necessities of his everyday existence. Plaintiff's disability substantially limits one or more of life's major activities and therefore he is disabled as defined under section 42 USC 12102(2)(A)(B)(C).
- 7. On or about April 24, 2004 Plaintiff patronized the premises of Defendants to utilize goods and/or services offered by Defendants. When Plaintiff attempted to gain access to the goods and/or services offered by Defendants he encountered access barriers because the premises failed to comply with federal ADA Access Guidelines For Building and Facilities [hereinafter "ADAAG"]; Department of Justice [DOJ] regulations at 28 CFR. 36.201; 36.304 and/or the State of California's Title 24 Building Code Requirements.
- 8. The specific difficulty Plaintiff had in entering and utilizing Defendants' facility and which amount to a violation of ADAAG, DOJ regulations and Title 24 of the California Building Code are:
- a. Site entrance signage does not comply with CA Title 24 1129B.5
- b. Designated disabled van accessible parking does not comply with ADAAG 4.1.2(5)(b) and Title
 24 1129B.4.2
- c. Designated parking stalls are not in compliance with ADAAG 4.1.2(5)(a) and Title 24 1129B.1
- d. Access aisle warning signage is lacking required NO PARKING signage.
- e. Lack of van accessible aisle as required by ADAAG 4.6.3 and Title 24 1129B.4.2
- f. Curb ramp location is improper and in violation of ADAAG 4.7.6
- g. Entrance signage is not proper per ADAAG 4.1.3(16)(b) and Title 24 1127B.3
- h. Bathroom international symbol does not comply with ADAAG 4.30.4 and Title 241117B.5.5.2
- i. Lack of raise Braille characters per ADAAG 4.30.4 and Title 24 1117B.5.6.1&2

to remove all architectural barriers, known or unknown. Also, Plaintiff alleges Defendants are

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 required to utilize the ADA checklist for Readily Achievable Barrier Removal approved by the United States Department of Justice and created by Adaptive Environments.

12. Plaintiff desires to return to Defendants' places of business and utilize their facilities without being discriminated against in the immediate future.

IV

FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION

(Violation of Civil Rights-American With Disabilities Act)

13. Plaintiff realleges the allegations in paragraphs 1 through 12 as though set forth fully herein.

Claim 1: Denial of Full and Equal Access

14. Based on the facts asserted above Plaintiff has been denied full and equal access to Defendants' goods, services, facilities, privileges, advantages, or accommodations. Defendant business is a public accommodation owned, leased and/or operated by Defendants and each of them. Defendants' existing facilities and/or services failed to provide full and equal access to Defendants' facility as required by 42 U.S.C. Section 12182(a). Thus, Plaintiff was subjected to discrimination in violation of 42 U.S.C. 12182(b)(2)(A)(ii)(iv) and 42 U.S.C. section 12188 because Plaintiff was denied equal access to Defendants' existing facilities.

15. Plaintiff has a physical impairment as alleged herein because his condition affects one or more of the following body systems: neurological, musculoskeletal, special sense organs, and/or cardiovascular. Further, his physical impairments substantially limits one or more of the following major life activities: [walking]. In addition, Plaintiff cannot perform one or more of the said major life activities in the manner speed, and duration when compared to the average person. Moreover, Plaintiff has a history of or has been classified as having a physical impairment as required by 42 U.S.C. section 12102(2)(A).

Claim 2: Failure To Remove Architectural Barriers

16. Based upon the facts alleged herein, Plaintiff 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 the named Defendants. Defendants individually and collectively failed to remove barriers as required by 42 U.S.C. 12182(a) and 28 CFR 36.304.

Plaintiff is informed and believes, and thus alleges that architectural barriers which are structural in nature exist at the following physical elements of Defendants' facilities:

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. Pursuant to 42 USC section 12182(b)(2)(iv) and 28 CFR 36.304 Title III requires places of public accommodation to remove architectural barriers that are structural in nature within existing facilities. Failure to remove such barriers and disparate treatment against a person who has a known association with a person with a disability are forms of prohibited discrimination. Accordingly, Plaintiff was subjected to discrimination in violation of 42 USC 12182(b)(2)(A)(iv) and 42 USC 12188.

Claim 3: Failure To Modify Practices, Policies And Procedures

- 17. Based on the facts alleged in 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 and/or others similarly situated in entering and utilizing Defendants' services, as required by 42 U.S.C. Section 12188(a). Thus, Plaintiff was subjected to discrimination in violation of 42 U.S.C. section 12182(b)(2)(A)(iv); 28 CFR 36.302 and 42 U.S.C. section 12188 because Plaintiff was denied equal access to Defendants' existing facilities.
- 18. As a result of the wrongful and discriminatory practices of defendants, plaintiff has suffered actual damages consisting of special damages and general damages in an amount to be determined at time of trial herein.
- 19. Pursuant to the provisions of 42 USC 12188 plaintiff seeks injunctive relief and an order directing defendants to cease and desist from discriminating against plaintiff and others similarly situated and for an order that defendants comply with the Americans With Disabilities Act forthwith.

20. Under the provisions of 42 USC 12205 Plaintiff is entitled to an award of reasonably attorneys fees and requests that the court grant such fees as are appropriate.

VI

SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION

(Violation Of Civil Rights Under California Accessibility Laws)

- 21. Plaintiff realleges the allegations of the First Cause of Action as though set forth fully herein.
 - (a) Denial Of Full And Equal Access
- 22. Plaintiff has been 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 in violation of California Civil Code Sections 54 and 54.1 and California Health and Safety Code Section 19955. The actions of Defendants also violate the provisions of Title 24 of the State of California Building Codes with regard to accessibility for persons with disabilities by failing to provide access to Defendants facilities due to violations pertaining to accessible routes, ground and floor surfaces, parking and passenger loading zones, curb ramps, ramps, stairs, elevators, platform lifts (wheelchair lifts), windows, doors, toilet stalls, urinals, lavatories and mirrors, sinks, storage, handrails, grab bars, controls and operating mechanisms alarms, detectable warnings, signage and telephones.
- 23. On the above basis Plaintiff has been wrongfully discriminated against.
 - (b) Failure To Modify Practices, Policies And Procedures
- 24. Defendants have failed and refused and continue to fail and refuse to provide a reasonable alternative to allow plaintiff equal access to their facility by modifying their practices, policies, and procedures in that that they failed to have s scheme, plan, or design to assist Plaintiff and others similarly situated in entering and utilizing Defendants' goods or services as required by California Civil Code section 54 and 54.1. Accordingly Defendants have wrongfully discriminated against Plaintiff.

VII

THIRD CAUSE OF ACTION

(Violation of The Unruh Civil Rights Act)

25. Plaintiff realleges the allegations of the Second Cause of Action as though set forth fully herein.

26. Section 51(b) of the Cal. Civ. Code [The Unruh Civil Rights Act], provides in pertinent part:

"All persons within the jurisdiction of this state are free and equal, and no matter what their sex, race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, disability, or medical condition is entitled to the full and equal accommodations, advantages, facilities, privileges, or services in all business establishments of every kind whatsoever."

27. Defendants have violated the provisions of Civ. Code 51 (b) by

failing and refusing to provide free and equal access to Plaintiff to their facility on the same basis as other persons not disabled. By their failure to provide equal access to Plaintiff as herein alleged,

Defendants have also violated 42 U.S.C. section 12182(b)(2)(A)(iv) as provided in Cal. Civ. Codes

15 section 51(f).

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28. By reason of their acts and denial of Plaintiff's civil rights Defendants also violated the provisions of Cal. Civ. Code section 52, which makes a person or entity in violation of Cal.Civ.

Code 51 liable for the actual damages to a Plaintiff including treble damages where appropriate.

continuing to the present time, knew that persons with physical disabilities were denied their rights

29. Defendants and each of them, at all times prior to and including April 2004, respectively and

of equal access to all portions 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 suffered by Plaintiff and other

similarly situated persons with disabilities.

30. Defendants and each of them have failed and refused to take action to grant full and equal access to person with physical disabilities. Defendants have carried out a course of conduct of

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 refusing to respond to, or correct complaints about unequal access and have refused to comply with their legal obligations to make the subject facility accessible pursuant the ADAAG and the California Building Code [Title 24 of the California Code of Regulations]. 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 and those similarly situated and thus justify an award of treble damages pursuant to section 52(a) and 54.3(a) of the Cal.Civ. Code or alternatively an award of punitive damages in an appropriate amount.

- 31. Plaintiff has suffered emotional and physical damage and continues to suffer such damages all in an amount to be determined at time of trial.
- 32. Under the provisions of Cal. Civ. Code section 55 Plaintiff seeks an award of reasonable attorney's fees and costs as a result of having to bring this action. Plaintiff requests the court to award such fees in an appropriate amount.

VIII

FOURTH CAUSE OF ACTION

(Negligent Infliction of Emotional Distress)

- 33. Plaintiff realleges the allegations of the Third Cause of Action as though set forth fully herein.
- 34. Defendants and each of them owed a duty to Plaintiff to make their facility accessible and to keep Plaintiff reasonably safe from known dangers and risks of harm. This duty arises by virtue of the legal duties proscribed by various federal and state statutes including, but not limited to, ADA, ADAAG, California Civil Code sections 51, 52, 54, 54.1 and Title 24 of the California Code of Regulations. Defendants had a duty of due care not to do or cause anything to happen that would subject Plaintiff to undue stress, embarrassment, chagrin, and discouragement.

35. Defendants breached their duty of care to Plaintiff by the actions and inaction complained of herein and as a result thereof Plaintiff was shocked, discouraged, embarrassed and outraged at the callousness and disregard of Defendants. Defendants knew or had reason to know that by denying Plaintiff equal access to their facility and failing and refusing to remove architectural barriers, Plaintiff would suffer emotional and/or mental distress because of such discrimination and disparate treatment. Defendants breached their duty of care to plaintiff by the perpetration of the acts outlined herein.

36. As a proximate result of the actions of Defendants Plaintiff did suffer emotional and mental stress and pain and suffering all in an amount to be determined at time of trial.

IX

FIFTH CAUSE OF ACTION

(Intentional Infliction of Emotional Distress)

- 37. Plaintiff realleges the allegations of the Fourth Cause of Action as though set forth fully herein.
- 38. The actions of Defendants and each of them are despicable, intentional and done with conscious disregard of the rights and safety of Plaintiff and as such should be regarded at outrageous.
- 39. As a proximate result of Defendants' actions Plaintiff has suffered severe emotional and mental distress all to his damage in an amount to be determined at time of trial.
- 40. Plaintiff seeks an award of punitive damages for this claim as the actions of Defendants are tantamount to outrageous conduct and subject them to exemplary damages.

X

SIXTH CAUSE OF ACTION

(DECLARATORY RELIEF)

- 41. Plaintiff realleges and incorporates by reference each and every allegation contained in paragraphs 1-40 of this complaint as though set forth fully herein.
- 42. An actual controversy now exists in that plaintiff is informed and believes and thereon alleges that Defendants' premises are in violation of the disabled access laws of the State of California

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(Rev. 07/89)

CIVIL COVER SHEET

The JS-44 civil cover sheet and the information contained herein neither replace nor supplement the filing and service of pleadings or other papers as required by law, except as provided by local rules of court. This form, approved by the Judicial Conference of the United States in September 1974, is required for the use of the Clerk of Court for the purpose of initiating the Livil docket sheet. (SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON THE SECOND PAGE OF THIS FORM.)

I (a) PLAINTIFFS

PLAINTIFF

RIVERA, ISMAEL

(b) COUNTY OF RESIDENCE OF FIRST LISTED

(EXCEPT IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES)

DEFENDANTS

CLERK U.S. DISTRICT COURT COUNTY OF RESIDENCE OF FIRST DISTED DEFENDANT

VASOUTHERN PIRE LOCATION OF THE TOEPLITY NOTE: IN LAND CONDEM

INVOLVED

ATTORNEYS (IF KNOWN)

(For Diversity Cases Only)

Citizen or Subject of a Foreign

'04 CV 1213

JAH (BL')

(c) ATTORNEYS (FIRM NAME, ADDRESS, AND TELEPHONE NUMBER) Law Office of Roy L. Landers 7840 Mission Center Ct., #101 San Diego, California 92108

(619) 296-7898 IL BASIS OF JURISDICTION (PLACE AN 1 IN ONE BOX ONLY)

1U.S. Government Plaintiff

2U.S. Government Defendant

x x 3Federal Question

(U.S. Government Not a Party)

4Diversity (Indicate Citizenship of Parties in

SAN DIEGO

Citizen of This State

III. CITIZENSHIP OF PRINCIPAL PARTIES (PLACE AN X IN ONE BOX FOR PLAINTIFF AND ONE BOX FOR DEFENDANT

> Incorporated or Principal Place of Business • 1

in This State Incorporated and Principal Place of Business Citizen of Another State

in Another State Foreign Nation • 6 • 6

Country IV. CAUSE OF ACTION (CITE THE US CIVIL STATUTE UNDER WHICH YOU ARE FILING AND WRITE A BRIEF STATEMENT OF CAUSE, DO NOT CITE JURISDICTIONAL STATUTES UNLESS DIVERSITY).

42 USC 12101 - 12102; 12181 - 12183; and 12201, et seq. Discrimination on basis of disability (Public Accommodations)

CONTRACT	TORTS		FORFEITURE/PENALTY	BANKRUPTCY	OTHER STATUTES	
110 Insurance	PERSONAL INJURY	PERSONAL INJURY	610 Agriculture	422 Appeal 28 USC 158	400 State Reappointment	
120 Marine	310 Airplane	 362 Personal Injury- 	620 Other Food & Drug	423 Withdrawal 28 USC 157	410 Antitrust	
130 Miller Act	315 Airplane Product Liability	Medical Malpractice	625 Drug Related Seizure	PROPERTY RIGHTS	430 Banks and Banking	
140 Negotiable Instrument	320 Assault, Libel & Slander	 365 Personal Injury - 	of Property 21 USC881	820 Copyrights	450 Commerce/ICC Rates/etc.	
150 Recovery of Overpayment	330 Federal Employers'	Product Liability	630 Liquor Laws	830 Patent	460 Deportation	
& Enforcement of Judgment	Liability	 368 Asbestos Personal Injury 	640 RR & Truck	840 Trademark	470 Racketeer Influenced and	
151 Medicare Act	340 Marine	Product Liability	650 Airline Regs	SOCIAL SECURITY	Corrupt Organizations	
152 Recovery of Defaulted Student	345 Marine Product	PERSONAL PROPERTY	660 Occupational Safety/Health	861 HIA (13958)	810 Scicctive Service	
Loans (Excl. Veterans)	Liability	370 Other Fraud	690 Other	862 Black Lung (923)	850 Securities/Commodities	
153Recovery of Overpayment	350 Motor Vehicle	371 Truth in Lending	LABOR	863 DIWC/DIWW (405(R))	Exchange	
of Veterans Benefits	355 Motor Vehicle Product	* 380 Other Personal	710Fair Labor Standards Act	864 SSID Title XVI	875 Customer Challenge 12 US	
160 Stockholders Suits	Lishility	Property Demage	720 Labor/Mgmt, Relations	865 RSI (405(g))	891 Agricultural Acts	
190 Other Contract	360 Other Personal Injury	385 Property Damage	730 Labor/Mgmt. Reporting &	FEDERAL TAX SUITS	892 Economic Stabilization Act	
195 Contract Product Liability	,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,	Product Liability	Disclosure Act	870 Taxes (U.S. Plaintiff	893 Environmental Matters	
REAL PROPERTY	CIVIL RIGHTS	PRISONER PETITIONS	740 Railway Labor Act	or Defendant)	894 Energy Allocation Act	
210 Lend Condemnation	441 Voting	510 Motions to Vacate Sentence	790 Other Labor Litigation	871 JRS - Third Party	895 Freedom of Information Ac	
220 Foreclosure	442 Employment	Habeas Corpus	791 Empl. Ret. Inc.	26 USC 7609	900 Appeal of Fee Determination	
220 Porecionne 230 Rent Lesse & Electment	l ''	- can G	1		Under Equal Access to Justice	
	443 Housing/Accommodations	530 General	Security Act		L	
240 Tort to Land	444 Welfare	535 Death Penalty			950 Constitutionality of State	
245 Tort Product Liability	440 Other Civil Rights XX	540 Mandamus & Other			890 Other Statistory Actions	
290 All Other Real Property		550 Civil Rights			1	
		555 Prisoner Conditions			Ī	

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XX1 Original Proceeding * 2 Removal from

• 3 Remanded from Appelate State Court Court

Reopened

• 4 Reinstated or • 5 Transferred from another district (specify)

6 Multidistrict Litigation

 7 Appeal to District Judge from Magistrate Judgment

VII. REQUESTED IN COMPLAINT:

 CHECK IF THIS IS A CLASS ACTION UNDER f.r.c.p. 23

DEMAND \$

Check YES only if demanded in complaint: JURY DEMAND: YES • NO

VIII. RELATED CASES) IF ANY (See Instructions):

0/16/02 DATE

::ODMA\PCDOCS\WORDPERFECT\22816\1 January 24, 2000 (3:10pm)

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