LAW OFFICES OF ROY L. LANDERS ROY L. LANDERS (BAR #64920) 7840 MISSION CENTER COURT, SUITE 101 2 AN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA 92108 FILED CLERK, U.S. DISTRICT COURT TELEPHONÉ (619) 296-7898 3 FACSIMILE (619) 296-5611 DEC - 2 2004 Attorney for Plaintiff, Gaynor Carlock 4 5 6 7 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT 8 CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA 9 CENTRAL DIVISION SACV04-1387-DOC(MLGx) 10 11 Case No.: GAYNOR CARLOCK, COMPLAINT FOR DAMAGES RE 12 ATION OF CIVIL RIGHTS ON SIS OF DISCRIMINATION IN 13 Plaintiff, ACCOMMODATIONS; 14 vs. ITIONAL INFLICTION OF SUNCOAST VENTURES, dba TACO 15 BELL/PIZZA HUT; WALLACE DECLARATORY RELIEF; DEMAND 16 ENDERLE, TRUSTEE OF THE FOR JURY TRIAL 17 WALLACE ENDERLE TRUST AND 18 DOES 1-10, INCLUSIVE, 19 Defendants. 20 21 I 22 JURISDICTION AND VENUE 1. (a) Jurisdiction of this action is invoked on the basis of 28 USC 1331 and 1343,42 23 24 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 Central 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 Complaint for Damages re: Violation of Civil Rights Page 1 of 14

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arose within the Judicial District of the United States District Court of the Central District of California.

(b) <u>Supplemental Jurisdiction</u>. The Judicial District of the United States District Court of the Central 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 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.

### II

## **PARTIES**

- 2. Defendant, Sun Coast Ventures 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 Orange and the owner, lessee, or tenant of the premises located at 17502 17<sup>th</sup> Street Tustin, California.
- 3. Plaintiff is informed and believes and thereon alleges that defendant Wallace Enderle is the Trustee of the Wallace Enderle Trust, which plaintiff is informed and believes and thereon alleges is the owner and/or landlord 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 July 7, 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:

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.

or unknown. Also, Plaintiff alleges Defendants are required to utilize the ADA

checklist for Readily Achievable Barrier Removal approved by the United States

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### 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

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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 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 section 51(f).
- 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.

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29. Defendants and each of them, at all times prior to and including July 2004, respectively and continuing to the present time, knew that persons with physical disabilities were denied their rights 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.

and equal access to person with physical disabilities. Defendants have carried out a course of conduct of 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

contained in paragraphs 1-40 of this complaint as though set forth fully herein.

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9. For costs of suit incurred herein and;

10. For such other and further relief as the court deems proper.

By:

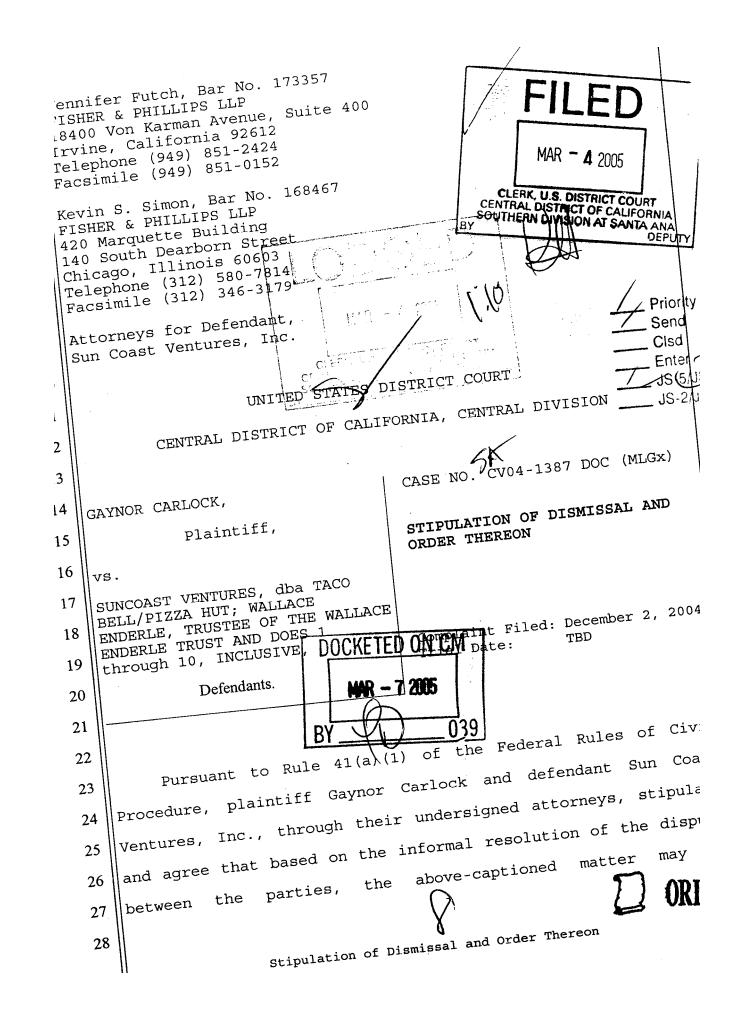
# **DEMAND FOR JURY**

Plaintiff respectfully requests that the claims made herein be heard and determined by a jury.

Respectfully submitted, THE LAW OFFICES OF ROY L. LANDERS

Dated: 1//22/14

Attorney for Plaintiff, Gaynor Carlock



1	dismiss	ed as to <b>all</b>	claims	and a.	11 defendants, with prejudice,
2	each pa	rty to bear i	ts own o	costs a	and attorneys' fees.
3		* /			
4	DATED:	February $\underline{\psi}$ ,	2005		FISHER & PHILLIPS LLP
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17	DATED:	February 27,	2005		LAW OFFICES OF ROY L. LANDERS
18 19		<u>,                                     </u>			( A The last
20			,	By:	Attorneys for Plaintiff,
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#### ORDER

This matter having come before the Court on the parties'

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT the above-captioned litigation

is dismissed as to all claims and all defendants, with

prejudice, each party to bear its own costs and attorneys'

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STIPULATION OF DISMISSAL,

Dated: March 4,2005

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fees.

Clavid O. Carter

United States District Judge