Guy Griffithe, In Pro Per 1 29061 Lupin Pl. Canyon Lake, CA 92587 Defendant/Respondent, In Pro Per 3 4 5 SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA 6 **COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE** 7 8 CASE NO. CVSW2306964 9 RYAN RANDELL THOMAS, an Assigned for all purposes to: individual; Honorable Judge James Hodgkins 10 Plaintiff/Petitioner RESPONDENT GUY GRIFFITHE'S 11 RESPONSE TO PETITIONOR RYAN RANDELL THOMAS'S REQUEST FOR VS. 12 CIVIL HARASSMENT ORDER 13 GUY GRIFFITHE, an individual; Petition Filed: AUGUST 25, 2022 14 Defendants/Respondent Dept.: S-101 15 Hearing Date: September 14, 2023 16 Hearing Time: 08:30AM 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 RESPONDENT GUY GRIFFITHE'S RESPONSE TO PETITIONOR RYAN RANDELL

THOMAS'S REQUEST FOR CIVIL HARASSMENT ORDER

STATEMENT OF FACTS

Background History:

Ryan Randell Thomas is a 47-year-old male who suffers from many self-induced medical conditions, all primarily related to alcohol abuse. In 2021, Mr. Thomas suffered a seizure at his employment at Chevron. Due to this event, Mr. Thomas was home on work disability. In early 2022, Valerie Spencer, who is the sister to Mr. Thomas's prior brief girlfriend, and friend to Mr. Thomas, became aware of his condition. During the discovery that Mr. Thomas was engaged in aggressive alcohol abuse, Ms. Spencer attempted to assist Mr. Thomas in some basic caretaking needs, in support of their friendship.

Ms. Spencer discovered that Mr. Thomas had not been paying any of his bills, including his home, which was in Corona, Ca. Mr. Thomas would call Ms. Spencer regularly requesting assistance. Upon discovery, Ms. Spencer recommended that he sell his home before it gets foreclosed on, preserving his equity so he didn't lose it. As Ms. Spencer is a licensed Real Estate agent in California, Mr. Thomas and Ms. Spencer entered into a listing agreement with the brokerage company she was employed through to sell the home. Mr. Thomas requested Ms. Spencer to find a place close to where we lived so we could provide more care, and so he had people close to him. Due to Mr. Thomas's extreme alcohol abuse condition, he was estranged from his family. His family refused to see him due to the lack of effort made to improve his life. Based on the equity in Mr. Thomas's home from the sale, Ms. Spencer was able to negotiate on his behalf, the purchase of a newly remodeled mobile home in Canyon Lake, California. The sale of his home allowed him to acquire his new home for Two-Hundred and Ninety-Five Thousand, which would be paid in full, and leave Mr. Thomas nearly eighty thousand dollars in his account.

In March of 2022, Ms. Spencer and I spent a great deal of time cleaning out, repairing, and moving Mr. Thomas from his Corona home. During the transition, Mr. Thomas became ill, whereby I had to insist on taking him to the emergency room, where they admitted him. While he was admitted, Ms. Spencer and I continued to move him entirely out of, and into, his new home, as there were many deadlines to release the home to the new buyer. We then arranged all the move ourselves

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to his new home, unpacked and set everything up so he could be comfortable. Mr. Thomas was severely depressed that he was constantly fighting depression and his will to live.

Mr. Thomas's Obsession

In spending several months with Mr. Thomas, taking him to his doctor's appointments, dealing with negotiations with creditors, taking and assisting him with dealing with several legal issues with his ex-wife, I started to discover patterns. Mr. Thomas was using his drinking as a reason to "get attention" from people, especially woman. Due to his refusal to get up and use the bathroom or perform even the basic requirements. Mr. Thomas would soil himself, even defecate himself daily so he could have Ms. Spencer change and wash him. This not only became concerning, but more importantly, he figured out that if he just does nothing, he could manipulate people to service him without him having to make any effort.

Mr. Thomas became very emotional, and we had many conversations regarding him being infatuated with different woman. At one point, he confessed his love for Ms. Spencer, which made her extremely uncomfortable, yet she continued to care for him because if she didn't, there was no one else who was willing. Being that Ms. Spencer is my wife, and we both spent timeless hours, nearly daily with him, I found it to be disrespectful, highly inappropriate, and distasteful. I expressed concerns with Ms. Spencer, and moving forward, decided that I would perform tasks that did not require my present in person. Ms. Spencer continued to care for Mr. Thomas, as he requested, she added him as a recipient for IHSS ("In Home Supportive Services"). Both Ms. Spencer and I are both providers with IHSS. Ms. Spencer has been a provider for more than eight years, and I have been a provider for two and a half years. We see a need to provide services for those adults who are suffering and need help. Mr. Thomas's obsession grew unto several females, where he would call them and confess his love, offer to buy them things and state he was going to marry them. This was almost a daily recurrence. We felt the best way for him to get to a healthy relationship was through therapy, rehabilitation, and with proper medical care. Occasionally I would come and assist Ms. Spencer with issues related to the property, such as a storage shed and acquiring, picking up and moving furniture, due to the continued soiling and destruction from Mr. Thomas.

Additional Resources:

Financial Resources:

In addition to the services, we have provided many other resources to Mr. Thomas. I introduced to Mr. Maartin Rossouw, who is a financial advisor. Mr. Thomas wanted to do something with his 401K, so I introduced him, so Maartin could go over options available for Mr. Thomas. Based on the IRA Maartin had available, it allowed Mr. Thomas to move his money over and get a 30-35% bonus on the money, along with a good return on his investment. Ms. Spencer and I wanted to make sure that Mr. Thomas would have the financial freedom to survive and last for years to come. The bonus Mr. Thomas received into the IRA, by moving the money over, was nearly one hundred thousand dollars. Mr. Rossouw also assisted in reviewing Mr. Thomas's taxes for the last several years, as I discovered that Mr. Thomas did not, and refused to file them. Based on the tax obligation being requested, it became clear that we needed to intervene, so the IRS did not lien his home.

Asset Protection:

Due to the on-going health condition of Mr. Thomas, I arranged with Mr. Rossouw, to set up a trust for Mr. Thomas. When Ms. Spencer arranged the purchase of his new home, being that it was free and clear, there was a need to ensure the assets were protected. Additionally, it was important to ensure that his beneficiaries were elected. Mr. Rossouw did have the trust prepared from counsel, and Mr. Thomas elected his beneficiaries. Mr. Thomas does not have any biological children, and he is somewhat estranged from his family. I still suggested he add his mother as a beneficiary but instead, he decided to add Ms. Spencer, mainly because she has been his biggest support for the last nearly couple years, and Mr. Vicellous Shannon, who is a friend we requested come in to assist in providing 24-hour care when needed.

Vicellous Shannon:

As stated *supra*, Mr. Shannon is a long-term who does not necessarily have a background in caregiving, however, he has spent twenty-two years raising his daughters. He is also very active and knowledgeable in the health and fitness arena. We all agreed that it would be beneficial for Mr.

Shannon to stay with Mr. Thomas to support us with Mr. Thomas's rehabilitation. The parties agreed that Mr. Shannon would exist in the areas of daily cooking, exercise and mental conditioning.

Through the many months, nearly sixteen, I helped Mr. Thomas with all of his violations with the POA, gave advice to motivate him, and even brought in Mr. Vicellous Shannon, to assist in providing care around the clock. It was becoming concerning that Mr. Thomas was refusing to go to the bathroom, cook or even do the basic things for himself. He was ordering Captain Morgan Rum by the handle, almost everyday and having it delivered to the house, along with cigarettes. He even got to the point where he stopped smoking outside and began smoking inside the house, with no regard for the health of others there to care for him.

Ms. Spencer and I worked with Mr. Shannon to assist in helping get Mr. Thomas mobile, stretching, walking, eating, and just getting to an overall better health. After a couple of months of Mr. Shannon being there, Mr. Thomas was eating better, exercising, and he started walking again. We used motivational discussions of getting better and engaging with woman, a future of employment as a resource to motivate him.

The holidays were upon everyone, and a lady friend of Mr. Thomas appeared. Mr. Thomas being desperate, sought attention from any female that would give it him. Based on my own brief observation, and what was told to me by Mr. Thomas and Mr. Shannon, Ms. Flerchinger would stop by and hang out with Mr. Thomas. During these visits, she would engage in drinking with him. After she left, Mr. Thomas would become extremely desperate and begin calling her nonstop, talking to Mr. Shannon and Ms. Spencer, almost daily, stating that he was going to marry Ms. Flerchinger and that she was his girlfriend. This spiraled him downhill again. It appeared that Mr. Thomas was playing a game of manipulation, where he would act even more help-less to get symphony from all parties involved. This was his way of trying to keep everyone there, so he wasn't alone, and to try and get Ms. Flerchinger to move in. Ms. Flerchinger disappeared again after heated conversations with Mr. Thomas regarding the status of their non-existent relationship. She stated that they are nothing more than friends, would never be more than friends.

Danielle Flerchinger:

Shortly after Ms. Spencer and I moved Mr. Thomas into his new home, around March/April 2022, a friend of Mr. Thomas showed up. By this time, Ms. Spencer and I had already been very active in assisting Mr. Thomas in his caretaking needs. Of course, we were concerned about his mental wellbeing. Ms. Flerchinger appeared to be in a bad situation, where she needed to get away. The first time I met her I March/April of 2022, is when Ms. Spencer needed to take Mr. Thomas to an appointment. It was discovered that Ms. Flerchinger had been at Mr. Thomas's house for several days and didn't even have a change of clothes. Ms. Spencer brought over a dress, so she had something to wear. Mr. Thomas kept informing us that it was his girlfriend, and she was walking around naked in the home. Due to the extreme fragility of Mr. Thomas, we were concerned that he was being taken advantage of. She joined us on the trip to the doctors, where we asked questions about her to discover some sort of baseline as to her character. We did not see or hear from her until the holidays.

Around the holidays is when Ms. Flerchinger started to come around. This time it was a bit different. This is when she met Mr. Shannon. It quickly became apparent that she had an interest in Mr. Shannon. Mr. Thomas claimed he was in love with Ms. Flerchinger, yet she continued to tell Mr. Thomas that there would never be anything between them. Secretly, Ms. Flerchinger and Mr. Shannon engaged in what would be months of sexual conduct in Mr. Thomas's home, mostly while Mr. Thomas was passed out drunk on the couch. Mr. Thomas did not sleep in his room as he refused to leave the couch, even if he had to use the restroom. He figured that Ms. Spencer would clean him up so why go to the bathroom. Some sort of physical attention was better than none.

During this time, Ms. Flerchinger's boyfriend appeared at Mr. Thomas's home, demanding that she come out. Mr. Thomas, under the assumption that she was not there, allowed the boyfriend to enter the home. In fact, she was in Mr. Shannon's room. Ms. Flerchinger snuck out of the slider and started hiding behind the mobile homes, where now neighbors thought there was an issue and called the police. Mr. Thomas became suspicious, being that the boyfriend was able to pinpoint her location. Mr. Thomas demanded Mr. Shannon open his door, which he did once she snuck out. This

became quiet the cat and mouse game. Ms. Flerchinger and Mr. Shannon, having to keep this personal engagement a secret, and Ms. Flerchinger having to keep her own lies a secret from her boyfriend.

It became clear that both Mr. Shannon and Ms. Flerchinger had developed feelings for one another, yet they were hiding this from Mr. Thomas, who was madly in love with Ms. Flerchinger. Ms. Flerchinger would tell Mr. Thomas about her financial situation, not asking for money, but putting it out there in a way to manipulate Mr. Thomas to want to give her the money, being that he was in love with her, in spite her repeated statements that there will be no relationship between them. One even Ms. Flerchinger needed to stay the night to escape her living situation. Mr. Thomas broke into the room where she was sleeping, wanting to sleep in the bed with her. She finally gave in on condition that he did not touch her. Later in the evening, Mr. Thomas got up, displayed his privates, and peed all over the floor. This was due to him being heavily intoxicated, which is a normal daily occurrence, as he drinks a handle of rum every couple days. Mr. Shannon could hear everything that was going on, and being that Mr. Shannon and Ms. Flerchinger were actively in a sexual relationship, he was very concerned.

It was around this time that Mr. Thomas gave Ms. Flerchinger around fourteen thousand dollars (\$14,000). She claimed it was to pay off her truck, representing she needed to get it out of someone's name. She was requesting to be put on Mr. Thomas's bank account so she could use his account to show income, as she had no verifiable proof of income. This was to mislead lenders in believing that she had income to qualify for a loan. She claimed she would pay back the loan to Mr. Thomas. As of my conversation in early August 2023, she has not paid back a single dime.

What has become more concerning, the fact that Ms. Flerchinger has become increasingly more involved once learning that Mr. Thomas put Mr. Shannon and Ms. Spencer on his trust as beneficiaries. Ms. Flerchinger appeared to become extremely upset based on the representation of Mr. Shannon. She was upset that she was not on his Mr. Thomas's trust. In a guise to manipulate Mr. Thomas, and for Mr. Thomas to have the ongoing presence of Ms. Flerchinger, Mr. Thomas continuously engaged Ms. Flerchinger to assist in discovery events occurring related to Mr.

Thomas's financial concerns.

Financial Transaction Inquiries:

Ms. Spencer informed me that Mr. Thomas was becoming extremely low on money, to the point where she was concerned about how he was going to pay his normal living expenses. This prompted Ms. Spencer to make an inquiry with Mr. Thomas regarding a lot of money that had gone from his account. Early on, we discovered that he gave his ex-wife Ten thousand dollars, which was not owed to her, however, Mr. Thomas likes to tell people that he has a half a million dollars so people will want to be around him. This, of course, only attracts greedy and selfish people, looking for a way to take advantage of Mr. Thomas.

On a regular basis, Mr. Thomas would request that Mr. Shannon go to the store and purchase food and alcohol. This was normal and conducted at the direction of Mr. Thomas. In or around June 2023, Mr. Thomas asked Ms. Spencer about missing money from his account. Ms. Spencer, becoming concerned, started to ask questions as only Mr. Shannon and Ms. Spencer had access to Mr. Thomas's debt card.

Ms. Spencer demonstrated to Mr. Thomas that each time she goes to the store, she logs the transaction, provides proof of the receipts, and has never pulled any cash back from any transaction. Ms. Spencer briefly discussed this with Ms. Flerchinger, where Ms. Spencer explained, and has supporting proof, showing every transaction she has made. Ms. Spencer reports everything on log for trackability and accounting. This is where Ms. Spencer pointed out that the only other person it could be is Mr. Shannon. Mr. Thomas almost daily would request Mr. Shannon to handle his day-to-day purchase of alcohol and cigarettes.

Result of Financial Findings:

Cashback from ATM and Store:

On or around August 4, 2023, Mr. Shannon arrived at our home where he took Ms. Spencer and I aside, admitted that he was the person who was taking cash back from the store, and taking monies out of the ATM. He explained that he was in an extremely bad situation, where his daughters were getting evicted, and he needed to help them. I asked him how much money he believes he took;

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1 || he stated around Five Thousand Dollars. Ms. Spencer and I were displeased but appreciated him coming forward so this could be addressed and resolved between the parties. This came after Ms. Flerchinger engaged in a very heated discussion with Mr. Shannon, where I was on the phone with Mr. Thomas, I could hear her yelling, threatening and being extremely aggressive with him. She was accusing him of stealing.

While I was on the phone with Mr. Thomas, I calmly discussed with him what I believe the reason is behind her attack on him. It was at this moment that I disclosed that Mr. Shannon was the responsible party for the missing money. I also disclosure that Ms. Flerchinger was engaged in a sexual relationship with Mr. Shannon, which they both were keeping from him. I believe the Ms. Flerchinger became extremely hostile due to her telling Mr. Shannon that there is, and would never be, any romantic relationship with Mr. Thomas. The day prior, Mr. Shannon walked in the living room, both Mr. Thomas and Ms. Flerchinger were intoxicated and passed out, except Ms. Flerchinger was laying on Mr. Thomas in panties, knowing that he is soiled. One could only assume this was to manipulate him and give him some sort of false hope.

On or around August 6, 2023, Mr. Shannon requested that I come and have a discussion with him and Mr. Thomas, regarding everything that had occurred recently. I have not sat and spoken with Mr. Thomas in nearly a year due to his Blanton disrespect. However, I felt that the current situation warranted stepping in and making sure the parties were able to come to agreeable terms. It was that day that I came over and sat with both Mr. Thomas and Mr. Shannon and just generally caught up on the events that were occurring. Additionally, I spoke to Mr. Thomas regarding how he is doing, his bathing, social security, rehab for his drinking, Mr. Shannon, and Ms. Flerchinger's, interactions, managing his money and making sure he understands the role everyone is playing in his life.

I suggested that Mr. Shannon and Mr. Thomas draft an agreement, whereby, the parties agreed that Mr. Shannon would repay the Five Thousand Dollars with interest, for a full repayment of Six Thousand Dollars, in accordance with the terms set-forth in the agreement. An agreement was drafted, executed by the parties, and a general release was in the agreement, as to Mr. Shannon,

for all claims prior to the agreement. This is the same claim that I am being accused of in this Restraining Order, which does not involve me, and has been resolved between the two parties by written agreement.

Zelle Transaction:

In or around June – July 2023, Mr. Thomas called and accused Ms. Spencer of taking Two Thousand Dollars from his account, sending it to her via Zelle. During the call, Ms. Flerchinger voice came up, as Mr. Thomas appeared to have had her on the phone. It appears that Ms. Flerchinger is the driving force behind a lot of the misrepresentations, false allegations, claims, and assumptions made, which Mr. Thomas being vulnerable to her manipulation, this has grown to be a very big concern, which we fear could leave him without resources and overall care.

Ms. Spencer informed Mr. Thomas that she sat down and discussed getting reimbursed for all the items that she had paid for out of her pocket for him. He agreed and they sent the Zelle together for the reimbursement. It came as a shock when Ms. Spencer received the phone call. I was there and heard the entire conversation. I simply advised that Ms. Spencer provide the expense logs and receipts for all the transactions that she was being reimbursed for, demonstrating that the transaction was legitimate. More concerning, it appears that Mr. Thomas has been caught in several lies, stating that he "doesn't remember" but in fact, he has had many conversations regarding issues that were being handled, yet claims to Ms. Flerchinger that he never had them. Even when Mr. Thomas stated he never spoke to me, Ms. Spencer was on the phone, and Mr. Shannon was present in the room with Mr. Thomas. Yet, Mr. Thomas still claims the call didn't occur. The concern is, why is he lying to people, is it a form of manipulation, or does he have a cognizant memory issue that needs to be addressed. Ms. Spencer went to Mr. Thomas with the logs and receipts and showed him exactly what the reimbursement was for. Due to this continuing, Ms. Spencer decided it wasn't worth the headache, and sent him back the money.

Amazon Transaction:

Mr. Thomas stated that he was getting several charges on his bank account from Amazon. This was a bit concerning, and no one had a viable reason why this was occurring. First, Mr. Thomas

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accused Mr. Shannon because he was receiving a lot of Amazon packages to the house. I asked a few questions to help figure out the situation. I asked Ms. Spencer if she was ordering anything for Mr. Thomas. She stated that she orders for all her clients through Amazon, however, she was unaware of what all these charges were for.

Ms. Flerchinger and Mr. Thomas then accused me of the charges. The basis for this claim was due to them calling Amazon and my name coming up on a charge. This became extremely concerning to me as I don't have an Amazon account under my control. I immediately reached out to Ms. Spencer, being that couple years ago one of her clients did charge backs on Amazon, which was Ms. Spencer's account, causing it to get closed. I then let her use an account that I had so she could make sure she was able to get the items needed. Unfamiliar with how Amazon works, and without any access, I contacted Amazon and started my own investigation. What I learned is, Ms. Spencer has all her client's cards on the account, so when she purchases items for them, they can get billed and shipped to the right address. What Ms. Spencer was unaware of, when you do transactions, you must make sure you click on certain shipping addresses and make sure the right card comes up. Most often when Ms. Spencer orders items for Mr. Thomas, she would have them shipped to our home address so she can make sure it is received and she would take it over to his house. I discovered that his card was also attached to our address for his shipping. Upon discovery, I went through every transaction, conducted an accounting, and informed Ms. Spencer and Mr. Thomas of the findings. Due to the oversight of this, I requested Ms. Spencer to reimburse Mr. Thomas for all charges that were arbitrarily charged to his card. She agreed and sent him the reimbursement payments. This was especially important to me as the Amazon account that Ms. Spencer was using was in my name, and I wanted to make sure that anything attached to me was resolved. There was no malice, intentional ill intent by any party, upon notice, accounting was completed, and discovery was made and corrected. Mr. Thomas understood and was pleased that we finally were able to get to the bottom of this and get it resolved. There were still charges that were charges to his bank account, but due to them not being attached to an account that we could research, those charges would have to be investigated another way.

Defamation:

After discovering the facts surrounding the Amazon transactions, Ms. Spencer requested that I get on a call with Mr. Thomas and go through the findings with both. As stated *supra*, I went into great details and resolved the matter. What wasn't resolved was Mr. Shannon informed me that he was overhearing conversations where Mr. Thomas was telling his hockey friends that I was stealing from him. During the call between Ms. Spencer and Mr. Thomas, in which Mr. Shannon was present on Mr. Thomas's side, I stated to Mr. Thomas that I heard that he was telling third parties that I was stealing from him. This comes after Mr. Shannon already admitted to taking the money, and after a full discussion was had regarding the Amazon. Mr. Thomas was fully informed that I had no access to the Amazon account, and this was an error by Ms. Spencer that was already corrected. I informed him that if he continues to disparage me and my reputation with third parties, I will be forced to file a defamation claim with the court. I requested that he inform Ms. Flerchinger of the same, so they were both put on notice.

Nowhere in the conversation did I, nor anyone else, threaten, threat to hard, put in fear of their safety, attempt to harm, or threaten Mr. Thomas or Ms. Flerchinger. In fact, both Ms. Spencer and I continued to ensure that Mr. Thomas was getting the needed support and help. I was informed that Mr. Thomas told Ms. Flerchinger that I was going to "Press Charges" against her if she didn't stop looking into this. The facts remain, I did an investigation, uncovered exactly what was happening, and worked to make sure that it was resolved in a productive way for all parties. When Mr. Thomas stated to Ms. Flerchinger that I threatened to press charges, Mr. Shannon immediately informed them both, that was not what was said. Mr. Shannon, having heard the conversation, recited what I said to Mr. Thomas in stating that if either one continued to wrongfully disparage me, after having all the facts, I would file a defamation suit. Instead, even after knowing the facts. Mr. Thomas, and Ms. Flerchinger decided to file these frivolous claims against Ms. Spencer and I. This is extremely troubling, especially where Mr. Thomas knows that we currently have a Restraining Order, and Criminal Protective Order against someone who has made creditable threats to kill my family and myself. This action Mr. Thomas has taken has restricted my right to protect my family

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from a real creditable threat. After the phone call, I have not seen, interacted, called, texted, or had any form of communication with Mr. Thomas. This came as a shock and disappointment. I have only encountered Ms. Flerchinger a couple of times in my life, which was months, if not over a year ago. I have made no threats, not even spoken to her since March – April of 2022. All the claims are manufactured, false and premeditated to harm Ms. Spencer and I, aimed to remove the help from Mr. Thomas, and cause long-term damage.

Additional Topics of Interest:

I.H.S.S. and Medical:

Mr. Thomas directed Ms. Spencer to apply for In Home Supportive Services, so he could get her compensated for assisting him. I was present when Mr. Thomas asked if she would help him get services. At the direction of Mr. Thomas, Ms. Spencer assisted him in applying for services. This came after he was admitted into the hospital, and he applied for Medical at the hospital. Mr. Thomas purposely failed to disclose his assets to the hospital, then later to the State for services.

California Medicaid (Medi-Cal) eligibility limits for income and assets are \$130,000.00 in total assets. Here, Mr. Thomas was always aware that he had assets exceeding the maximum requirements yet chose to proceed forward in defrauding the State. Mr. Thomas has a home that is paid off valued at \$310,000.00, he has his IRA's valued at nearly \$300,000.00 and another \$50,000.00 in his bank account. This would give him a total asset value of \$660,000.00 less the maximum allowed of \$130,000.00, providing an overage of assets in the amount of \$530,000.00. This is a clear and deliberate act of defrauding the State of California. All of the documents and forms were approved and signed by Mr. Thomas.

Additionally, Ms. Spencer, due to Mr. Thomas dilapidating health, contacted an attorney to assist with providing Mr. Thomas perminate disability. Mr. Thomas's refusal to get better, continue drinking, it is foreseeable that he will be permanently disabled. In June 2023, he was approved for disability, where he will receive his full benefit as if he was retiring at 64, instead of current age of 47. This now will provide him with an income for the rest of his life. Ms. Spencer informed him that he would need to stop his IHSS services, and if wanted to continue services with her, she would

need to be paid out of pocket. Mr. Thomas stated that Ms. Spencer has been doing an amazing job, and he doesn't want her to leave. Suddenly, Ms. Flerchinger started to come around and it appears that Mr. Thomas may want her to take over services so he can pay her instead. As heartening as that is, Ms. Spencer had no issues in stepping aside if that is his wish. Both Ms. Spencer and I are genuinely concerned about his welfare, but we have no issue with stepping aside if he wants different care.

ARGUMENT

Under C.C.P § 527.6. (a) (1) A person who has suffered harassment as defined in subdivision (b) may seek a temporary restraining order and an order after hearing prohibiting harassment as provided in this section. (2) A minor, under 12 years of age, accompanied by duly appointed and acting guardian ad litem, shall be permitted to appear in court without counsel for the limited purpose of requesting or opposing a request for a temporary restraining order or order after hearing, or both, under this section as provided in Section 374.

- (b) For purposes of this section, the following terms have the following meanings:
 - (1) "Course of conduct" is a pattern of conduct composed of a series of acts over a period of time, however short, evidencing a continuity of purpose, including following or stalking an individual, making harassing telephone calls to an individual, or sending harassing correspondence to an individual by any means, including, but not limited to, the use of public or private mails, interoffice mail, facsimile, or email. Constitutionally protected activity is not included within the meaning of "course of conduct."
 - (2) "Credible threat of violence" is a knowing and willful statement or course of conduct that would place a reasonable person in fear for the person's safety or the safety of the person's immediate family, and that serves no legitimate purpose.
 - (3) "Harassment" is unlawful violence, a credible threat of violence, or a knowing and willful course of conduct directed at a specific person that seriously alarms, annoys, or harasses the person, and that serves no legitimate purpose. The course of conduct must be that which would cause a reasonable person to suffer substantial emotional distress and must actually cause substantial emotional distress to the petitioner.
 - (6) "Temporary restraining order" and "order after hearing" mean orders that include any of the following restraining orders, whether issued ex parte or after notice and hearing:
 - (A) An order enjoining a party from harassing, intimidating, molesting, attacking, striking, stalking, threatening, sexually assaulting, battering, abusing, telephoning, including, but not limited to, making annoying telephone calls, as described in Section 653m of the Penal Code, destroying personal property, contacting, either directly or indirectly, by mail or otherwise, or coming within a specified distance of, or disturbing the peace of, the petitioner.

Here, Petitioner Ryan Randell Thomas, cites in his request that he "fears" I will "harm" her,

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Presumably referring to Danielle Elise Flerchinger. These of course are keys words that the Court considers in the issuance of a restraining order. He further goes on to state that both, me, and Ms. Spencer "verbally wrongfully accused Danielle as well as told me that id she keeps being involved in helping him she will regret it and they will ruin her personal life." These allegations are completely false and without merit. At no time did either Ms. Spencer, or Mr. Griffithe, ever accused Danielle of anything. At no time did either Ms. Spencer or Mr. Griffithe state that if she kept being involved, she would regret it and we would ruin her personal life. In fact, nothing in the statement raises to the level warranting a restraining order under CCP § 527.6. First, in Mr. Thomas's attachment Item 7a(3), he states "They have also threatened me and my friend Danielle Flerchinger." This is patently false; it appears that based on false information that he stated to Ms. Flerchinger, he is stating false facts. More importantly, Mr. Shannon had already informed her that the statements presented by Mr. Thomas were false. Yet, they both continued in filing a frivolous action to harm Ms. Spencer and I. No where does Mr. Thomas actually state how he was threatened, what was said that he felt was a threat, other than "The continued to insist that we need to stop looking into this and drop it, or they will press charges against Danielle and I for defamation of character against them" and "They are also threatening to ruin Danielle's ("personal life") and press theft charges against her, for my money missing." This is patently false. Mr. Griffithe nor Ms. Spencer have ever threatened either Mr. Thomas or Ms. Flerchinger. None of the statements presented by Mr. Thomas rise to the level in which warrants a restraining order for harassment under CCP § 527.6, which would be to harass, attack, threat to harm or annoy someone where they fear for their safety. Here, Mr. Griffithe has only stated that if Mr. Thomas continues to make false statements that cause injury to his reputation, he will file a defamation suit, and inform Ms. Flerchinger of the same. There was no threat to harm, hurt, harass, stalk, annoy or engage in any unlawful act that would put the parties in fear for personal safety.

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Furthermore, Thomas appears to focus on claims he is alleging against Ms. Flerchinger, which have no merit in this action, as she is not, and would not be party to this order. Mr. Thomas states false statements, which have no merit under CCP 527.6. The claims made by Mr. Thomas as to his harassment, is protected speech under the First Amendment to the United States Constitution. The court does not have the power to do such things as grant restraining order to nonparties to the lawsuit, including Ms. Flerchinger, as it appears is the basis of this suit from Mr. Thomas. The evidence shows that Ms. Spencer and Mr. Griffithe have continuously looked out for Mr. Thomas's best interest, attempted to resolve any disputes between the parties, and have worked in good faith.

To warrant a restraining order under CCP § 527.6, the petitioner must show that the three prongs of harassment have been met. "A course of conduct directed towards a specific person that annoyed or harassed them for no legitimate purpose, the sort of thing that would cause a reasonable person to suffer substantial emotional distress." Mr. Griffithe was duly informed that Mr. Thomas was actively engaging in informing non-associated, third parties that Mr. Griffithe was stealing from Mr. Thomas. This is a provably false statement, in which Mr. Thomas knew, yet continued to spread false lies about Mr. Griffithe. Therefore, Mr. Griffithe had a legitimate reason for conversing with Mr. Thomas and stating that if he continued to wrongfully accuse him, he would have to file a defamation suit. A reasonable person would have understood that if they continued to disparage a person, this could result in a suit for those actions, instead, here, they are misrepresenting facts to the courts, attempting to get wrongful and frivolous action granted by the court. The Second prong is not met because it is protected speech that a party could inform a party that if they continue with wrongful acts, a lawsuit could be filed against them. This was not done in malice, or after the math, therefore could only be construed merely as a threat of lawsuit if they continue, and that does not meet the requirement under CCP § 527.6. Being that the prongs required to obtain a restraining

order under CCP § 527.6 have not been met, the court should rule in favor of the respondent, dismiss this action with prejudice, and sanction Petitioner for filing this frivolous action. More importantly, it was in fact Mr. Shannon who stated to Ms. Flerchinger that she would inform her boyfriend of her sexual activities and involvement with Mr. Thomas. Mr. Thomas and Ms. Flerchinger are accusing Mr. Griffithe and Ms. Spencer of things they know are untrue, and that came from Mr. Shannon, whom they are not seeking an order from.

PETITIONER FILED THIS FRIVOLOUS ACTION WILLFULLY KNOWING IT WAS FALSE

Mr. Thomas and Ms. Flerchinger have both been informed that the statements from Mr. Thomas to Ms. Flerchinger were in fact false, that Mr. Griffithe never stated he would press charges for anything, never stated that he would ruin Ms. Flerchinger personal life, especially as Mr. Griffithe has had no interaction or knowledge, past what has been told to him, about her. Mr. Shannon informed both Mr. Thomas and Ms. Flerchinger that Mr. Thomas's representation was in fact false, yet they both continued to file these frivolous filings, stating that "we will see what the court does, and if they deny them, they deny them", this type of frivolous action should not be allowed and go unnoticed.

California has strict rules against filing and an individual that knowingly or willfully attempts to file a false or fraudulent restraining order is guilty of a felony upon conviction and is punishable by a fine of up to \$5,000 or up to five years of imprisonment, or both. Here, Mr. Thomas was completely aware that Mr. Griffithe had never threatened him, put him in fear for his safety or conducted himself in any way that would rise to the level of a restraining order. This action is completely without merit, filed intentionally and willfully to harm Griffithe, with no regard for the rules of court, or the damage it imposes on the respondent. This is nothing more than false claims and malicious prosecution by the petitioner. Mr. Thomas has filed this action in bad faith and the court should impose sanctions.

Due to this frivolous action, Mr. Griffithe was required to sell his gun, which he needed to protect his family from a real creditable threat. Mr. Griffithe and Ms. Spencer, currently have a restraining order against a third party who has made creditable threats to kill him and his family. This has resulted not only in a restraining order, but the restrained party violating the order more than 13 times, which led to the Riverside District Attorney filing Criminal Felony charges against the party. Mr. Thomas, being aware of this, filed this frivolous action, knowing it would restrict Mr. Griffithe's constitutional right to bear arms and protect his family from a threat. This has now left the family bare of any protection, knowing that this party has violated his order more than 13 times. This has caused extreme emotional distress upon Ms. Spencer and Mr. Griffithe. Both Mr. Griffithe and Ms. Spencer are aware of the importance of threats and harassment, being that they have been victims of such harassment. Neither would engage in such conduct that would lead to such a claim under CCP 527.6. Both are advocates against violence and support helping parties affected by such in getting help.

CONCLUSION

Mr. Griffithe requests the court to deny Mr. Thomas's suit for Restraining Order. Mr. Thomas frivolously filed this action at what appears the direction of Ms. Flerchinger or predicated on false statements of fact. Mr. Griffithe nor Ms. Spencer has ever threatened anyone, therefore, the allegations set forth do not meet the prongs required for a restraining order. Mr. Griffithe requests the court sanction the petitioner for filing this frivolous action, which is typically done to deter them from future misconduct. Lastly, Mr. Griffithe requests the court dismiss this action with prejudice and remove the parties from Clets, allowing Mr. Griffithe and Ms. Spencer to obtain the proper protection as required from the true danger in which they are currently the protected parties.

I declare that under penalty of perjury under the laws of the state of California, the foregoing is true and correct.

Dated: September 5, 2023.

Guy Giffithe, Pro Per Respondent/Defendant