DENNIS J. HERRERA, State Bar #139669 1 City Attorney YVONNE R. MERÉ, State Bar #173594 2 JERRY THREET, State Bar #205983 **Deputy City Attorneys** 3 MAY 12 2014 1390 Market Street, 6th Floor San Francisco, California 94102-5408 4 CLERK OF THE COURT (415) 554-3914 Telephone: Superior Court of California, County of San Francisco 5 Facsimile: (415) 437-4644 DEPUTY CLERK E-Mail: jerry.threet@sfgov.org 6 Attorneys for Plaintiffs PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA AND 7 CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO 8 SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA 9 COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO 10 UNLIMITED JURISDICTION 11 CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO. Case No. CGC 14-539230 a Municipal Corporation, and the PEOPLE OF 12 THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA, by and through DENNIS J. HERRERA, City Attorney 13 for the City and County of San Francisco, 14 Plaintiffs, 15 VS. 16 BALVANTSINH "BILL" THAKOR, an COMPLAINT FOR INJUNCTIVE RELIEF, CIVIL individual; KIRANSINH THAKOR, an PENALTIES, RESTITUTION, AND DAMAGES 17 individual; BAHAVASINH THAKOR, an WITH EXHIBITS A THROUGH D [PART ONE individual; LATABEN B. THAKOR, an OF TWO 18 individual; 56 MASON, LLC; BALBOA HOTEL, LLC; CIVIC CENTER HOTEL, LLC; 19 KEAN HOTEL, LLC; SHREE JALABAPA HOTEL, LP; SHREE JALARAM, LLC; Type of Case: Antitrust/Trade regulation (03) 20 SHREE JALARAM HOTEL, LP; SHREE JALARAM LODGING, LP; SHREE JALARAMBAPA HOTEL, LP; TKB INVESTMENTS, LLC; TKB INVESTMENTS, 22 LP; URAVI, LLC; WINTON HOTEL, LLC; 23 and DOE ONE through DOE FIFTY, inclusive, Defendants. 24 The CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO, a municipal corporation, and the PEOPLE 25 OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA, by and through San Francisco City Attorney DENNIS J. 26 HERRERA, ("Plaintiffs") file their Complaint against DEFENDANTS BALVANTSINH "BILL" 27

THAKOR (hereinafter "BILL THAKOR"), an individual; KIRANSINH THAKOR, an individual;

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BAHAVASINH THAKOR, an individual; LATABEN B. THAKOR, an individual; 56 MASON, LLC; BALBOA HOTEL, LLC; CIVIC CENTER HOTEL, LLC; KEAN HOTEL, LLC; SHREE JALABAPA HOTEL, LP; SHREE JALARAM, LLC; SHREE JALARAM HOTEL, LP; SHREE JALARAM LODGING, LP; SHREE JALARAMBAPA HOTEL, LP; TKB INVESTMENTS, LLC; TKB INVESTMENTS, LLC; and WINTON HOTEL, LLC and DOE ONE THROUGH DOE FIFTY, inclusive.

Plaintiffs hereby allege as set forth below:

INTRODUCTION

- Single-room occupancy ("SRO") residential hotels ("SRO hotels") provide housing of
 last resort for significant numbers of vulnerable San Francisco residents, including seniors, persons
 with disabilities, and others on low or fixed incomes.
- 2. This action arises out of Defendants' unlawful, unfair and fraudulent business practices relating to their ownership, management, operation and maintenance of multiple, SRO hotel properties ("Defendants' Properties") in San Francisco, California, over the last four years. During that time, Defendants have been responsible for over 880 rooms in at least 15 SRO hotels, including the following:
 - Admiral Hotel, 608 O'Farrell Street 30 rooms;
 - Aldrich Hotel, 439 Jones Street −35 rooms;
 - Auburn Hotel, 481 Minna Street 78 rooms;
 - Balboa Hotel, 120 Hyde Street − 32 rooms;
 - Best Inn, 162 Taylor Street 28 rooms;
 - Bristol Hotel, 56 Mason Street 59 rooms;
 - Budget Inn (formerly National Hotel), 1139 Market Street 94 rooms;
 - Civic Center Hotel, 20 12th Street 156 rooms;
 - Hotel Krupa, 700 Jones Street 25 rooms;
 - Jalaram Hotel, 868 Valencia Street 24 rooms;
 - Kean Hotel, 1018 Mission Street 75 rooms;
 - Kiran Hotel (a/k/a Crystal Hotel or Royal Hotel), 130 Eddy Street 38 rooms;

- Page Hotel, 161 Leavenworth Street 35 rooms;
- Warfield Hotel, 118 Taylor Street 62 rooms;
- Winton Hotel, 445 O'Farrell Street 110 rooms.
- 3. Defendants are owners or have ownership interests in multiple residential SRO hotel buildings in San Francisco, or are agents of the owners who manage, maintain, and/or operate said buildings on behalf of the owners.
- 4. As described in further detail below, Defendants' unlawful, unfair and fraudulent business practices include: failing to make repairs necessary to maintain Defendants' Properties in a safe, habitable, and code compliant condition; maintaining Defendants' Properties in a state that constitutes an ongoing public nuisance and a blight on the surrounding neighborhoods; demanding and receiving rents from low-income, vulnerable tenants for residential units that are legally required to be habitable, while instead providing residential units that are not habitable; depriving occupants of SRO Hotels of tenancy rights in violation of law; contracting with the City to provide safe, habitable, code compliant residential housing units for vulnerable, low-income tenants, but instead providing units that are not safe, habitable or code compliant; and doing construction and remodeling work at Defendants' Properties without requisite permits and/or using unlicensed contractors.
- 5. By owning, operating, managing, and maintaining multi-unit residential hotels in the above manner, Defendants have been and are engaged in a conspiracy to violate local and state health and safety laws; laws designed to protect residential tenants and consumers; laws prohibiting false claims in local government contracting; as well as in a conspiracy to engage in unfair, unlawful, and fraudulent business practices in violation of Business and Professions Code Sections 17200-17210 (the "Unfair Competition Law").
- 6. Plaintiffs seek in this Complaint to enjoin Defendants' future violations of law; for an award of civil penalties against Defendants for past and ongoing violations of law; for treble damages for their submission of false claims for payment by the City; and for restitution of any money or property, real or personal, they obtained through their unfair and unlawful business acts and practices.

PARTIES AND SUBJECT PROPERTIES

Plaintiffs

- 7. Plaintiff CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO (the "CITY" or "CCSF") is a municipal corporation organized and existing under and by virtue of the laws of the State of California, and is a city and county.
- 8. The CITY brings this action pursuant to the State Housing Law; Civil Code Sections 3479, 3480, 3491, 3494; Code of Civil Procedure Section 731; Government Code Section 12652; and the San Francisco Housing, Building, Health and Administrative Codes.
- 9. Plaintiff PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA (the "PEOPLE"), by and through San Francisco City Attorney Dennis J. Herrera, brings this action pursuant to the Business and Professions Code Sections 17200-17210, Civil Code Sections 3479, 3480, 3491, and 3494, and Code of Civil Procedure Section 731.

THAKOR FAMILY Defendants

- 10. DEFENDANTS BALVANTSINH "BILL" THAKOR ("BILL THAKOR"),
 KIRANSINH THAKOR, BAHAVASINH THAKOR, and LATABEN B. THAKOR (hereinafter, the
 "THAKOR FAMILY") are, and at all relevant times were, the managers, operators, maintainers,
 owners, affiliates and/or agents of multiple, SRO residential hotel buildings within the City and
 County of San Francisco, both individually and operating as a partnership, including operating through
 the business entities named as Defendants in this action.
- 11. DEFENDANTS BALVANTSINH "BILL" THAKOR and LATABEN B. THAKOR are related as husband and wife, and DEFENDANTS KIRANSINH THAKOR and BAHAVASINH THAKOR are their sons.
- 12. The THAKOR FAMILY operates as a business unit, with individual family members consulting other members of the THAKOR FAMILY in making business decisions, and also operates through multiple business entities of which members of the THAKOR FAMILY are controlling partners, members, shareholders, and/or officers, including 56 MASON, LLC; BALBOA HOTEL, LLC; CIVIC CENTER HOTEL, LLC; KEAN HOTEL, LLC; SHREE JALABAPA HOTEL, LP; SHREE JALARAM, LLC; SHREE JALARAM LODGING, LP;

SHREE JALARAMBAPA HOTEL, LP; TKB INVESTMENTS, LLC; TKB INVESTMENTS, LP; URAVI, LLC; and WINTON HOTEL, LLC.

Business Entity Defendants

- 13. DEFENDANT 56 MASON, LLC is, and at all relevant times was, a limited liability company formed and operating under the laws of the State of California, and a manager, operator, maintainer, owner, affiliate and/or agent of SRO hotel buildings within the City and County of San Francisco, including the Bristol Hotel at 56 Mason Street. 56 MASON, LLC's business address is 116 Taylor Street San Francisco, California 94102.
- 14. DEFENDANT 56 MASON, LLC at all relevant times acted as an alter ego of the THAKOR FAMILY.
- 15. DEFENDANT BALBOA HOTEL, LLC is, and at all relevant times was, a limited liability company formed and operating under the laws of the State of California, and a manager, operator, maintainer, owner, affiliate and/or agent of SRO hotel buildings within the City and County of San Francisco, including the Balboa Hotel at 120 Hyde Street. BALBOA HOTEL, LLC's business address is 116 Taylor Street San Francisco, California 94102.
- 16. DEFENDANT BALBOA HOTEL, LLC at all relevant times acted as an alter ego of the THAKOR FAMILY.
- 17. DEFENDANT CIVIC CENTER HOTEL, LLC is, and at all relevant times was, a limited liability company formed and operating under the laws of the State of California, and a manager, operator, maintainer, owner, affiliate and/or agent of SRO hotel buildings within the City and County of San Francisco, including the Civic Center Hotel located at 20 12th Street. CIVIC CENTER HOTEL, LLC's business address is 116 Taylor Street San Francisco, California 94102.
- 18. DEFENDANT CIVIC CENTER HOTEL, LLC at all relevant times acted as an alter ego of the THAKOR FAMILY.
- 19. DEFENDANT KEAN HOTEL, LLC is, and at all relevant times was, a limited liability company formed and operating under the laws of the State of California, and a manager, operator, maintainer, owner, affiliate and/or agent of SRO hotel buildings within the City and County of San Francisco, including the Kean Hotel located at 1018 Mission Street. KEAN HOTEL, LLC's business

address is 116 Taylor Street San Francisco, California 94102.

- 20. DEFENDANT KEAN HOTEL, LLC at all relevant times acted as an alter ego of the THAKOR FAMILY.
- 21. DEFENDANT SHREE JALABAPA HOTEL, LP is, and at all relevant times was, a limited partnership company formed and operating under the laws of the State of California, and a manager, operator, maintainer, owner, affiliate and/or agent of SRO hotel buildings within the City and County of San Francisco, including the Jalaram Hotel at 868 Valencia Street. SHREE JALABAPA HOTEL, LP'S business address is 116 Taylor Street San Francisco, California 94102.
- 22. DEFENDANT SHREE JALABAPA HOTEL, LP at all relevant times acted as an alter ego of the THAKOR FAMILY.
- 23. DEFENDANT SHREE JALARAM, LLC is, and at all relevant times was, a limited liability company formed and operating under the laws of the State of California, and a manager, operator, maintainer, owner, affiliate and/or agent of SRO hotel buildings within the City and County of San Francisco, including the Hotel Krupa at 700 Jones Street. SHREE JALARAM, LLC's business address is 116 Taylor Street San Francisco, California 94102.
- 24. DEFENDANT SHREE JALARAM, LLC at all relevant times acted as an alter ego of the THAKOR FAMILY.
- 25. DEFENDANT SHREE JALARAM HOTEL, LP is, and at all relevant times was, a limited liability company formed and operating under the laws of the State of California, and a manager, operator, maintainer, owner, affiliate and/or agent of SRO hotel buildings within the City and County of San Francisco, including the Bristol Hotel at 56 Mason Street. SHREE JALARAM HOTEL, LP's business address is 116 Taylor Street San Francisco, California 94102.
- 26. DEFENDANT SHREE JALARAM HOTEL, LP at all relevant times acted as an alter ego of the THAKOR FAMILY, including BILL THAKOR AND LATABEN THAKOR.
- 27. DEFENDANT SHREE JALARAM LODGING, LP is, and at all relevant times was, a limited partnership company formed and operating under the laws of the State of California, and a manager, operator, maintainer, owner, affiliate and/or agent of SRO hotel buildings within the City and County of San Francisco, including the Budget Inn at 1139 Market Street. SHREE JALARAM

LODGING, LP'S business address is 116 Taylor Street San Francisco, California 94102.

- 28. DEFENDANT SHREE JALARAM LODGING, LP at all relevant times acted as an alter ego of the THAKOR FAMILY, including BILL THAKOR and KIRANSINH THAKOR.
- 29. DEFENDANT SHREE JALARAMBAPA HOTEL, LP is, and at all relevant times was, a limited partnership company formed and operating under the laws of the State of California, and a manager, operator, maintainer, owner, affiliate and/or agent of SRO hotel buildings within the City and County of San Francisco, including the Kean Hotel at 1018 Mission Street. SHREE JALARAMBAPA HOTEL, LP'S business address is 116 Taylor Street San Francisco, California 94102.
- 30. DEFENDANT SHREE JALARAMBAPA HOTEL, LP at all relevant times acted as an alter ego of the THAKOR FAMILY, including BILL THAKOR AND LATABEN THAKOR.
- 31. DEFENDANT TKB INVESTMENTS, LLC is, and at all relevant times was, a limited liability company formed and operating under the laws of the State of California, and a manager, operator, maintainer, owner, affiliate and/or agent of SRO hotel buildings within the City and County of San Francisco, including the Winton Hotel at 445 O'Farrell Street. TKB INVESTMENTS, LLC'S business address is 116 Taylor Street San Francisco, California 94102.
- 32. DEFENDANT TKB INVESTMENTS, LLC at all relevant times acted as an alter ego of the THAKOR FAMILY, including BILL THAKOR.
- 33. DEFENDANT TKB INVESTMENTS, LP is, and at all relevant times was, a limited partnership company formed and operating under the laws of the State of California, and a manager, operator, maintainer, owner, affiliate and/or agent of SRO hotel buildings within the City and County of San Francisco, including the Budget Inn at 1139 Market Street. TKB INVESTMENTS, LP'S business address is 116 Taylor Street, San Francisco, California 94102.
- 34. DEFENDANT TKB INVESTMENTS, LP at all relevant times acted as an alter ego of the THAKOR FAMILY, including BILL THAKOR and KIRANSINH THAKOR.
- 35. DEFENDANT URAVI, LLC is, and at all relevant times was, a limited liability company formed and operating under the laws of the State of California, and a manager, operator, maintainer, owner, affiliate and/or agent of SRO hotel buildings within the City and County of San

Francisco, including the Kiran Hotel at 130 Eddy Street. URAVI, LLC'S business address is listed variously as 130 Eddy Street, San Francisco California 94102, and 868 Valencia Street, San Francisco, California 94110 (the same address where the Jalaram Hotel is located).

- 36. DEFENDANT URAVI, LLC at all relevant times acted as an alter ego of the THAKOR FAMILY, including BILL THAKOR.
- 37. DEFENDANT WINTON HOTEL, LLC is, and at all relevant times was, a limited liability company formed and operating under the laws of the State of California, and a manager, operator, maintainer, owner, affiliate and/or agent of SRO hotel buildings within the City and County of San Francisco, including the Winton Hotel at 445 O'Farrell Street. WINTON HOTEL, LLC's business address is 116 Taylor Street San Francisco, California 94102.
- 38. WINTON HOTEL, LLC at all relevant times acted as an alter ego of the THAKOR FAMILY, including BILL THAKOR.
- 39. Defendants DOE ONE through DOE FIFTY are sued herein under fictitious names. Plaintiff do not at this time know the true names or capacities of said defendants, but pray that the same may be inserted herein when ascertained.

Alter Ego Allegations

40. There exists a unity of interest and ownership between and among the individual members of the THAKOR FAMILY and business entity Defendants 56 MASON, LLC; BALBOA HOTEL, LLC; CIVIC CENTER HOTEL, LLC; KEAN HOTEL, LLC; SHREE JALABAPA HOTEL, LP; SHREE JALARAM, LLC; SHREE JALARAM HOTEL, LP; SHREE JALARAM LODGING, LP; SHREE JALARAMBAPA HOTEL, LP; TKB INVESTMENTS, LLC; TKB INVESTMENTS, LP; URAVI, LLC; and WINTON HOTEL, LLC, such that any individuality and separateness between these Defendants have ceased and each is an alter-ego of the other. At all times mentioned herein, each of these Defendants has committed acts establishing alter ego liability including but not limited to: the use of the same office or business location; the employment of the same employees and attorney; the failure to adequately capitalize and/or the total absence of capitalization; the use of the business entity as a mere shell, instrumentality or conduit for a single venture or the business of an individual or another business entity; the concealment and

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misrepresentation of the identity of the responsible ownership, management and financial interest; the disregard of legal formalities and the failure to maintain arms-length relationships with other Defendants; sole ownership of all the stock by one individual or members of one family; confusion of business records of the separate Defendants; and the co-mingling of funds and assets and the unauthorized diversion of funds and assets for other than business entity uses. As such, adherence to the fiction of the separate existence of each Defendant as an entity distinct from each other would permit an abuse of the corporate, LP and LLC privileges and would promote injustice. Each Defendant was but an instrumentality or conduit of the other in the prosecution of a single venture, namely the management, ownership and operation of residential SRO hotel buildings. Therefore, it would be inequitable for any Defendant to escape liability for an obligation incurred as much for that Defendant's benefit as for the other Defendants.

41. DEFENDANT BILL THAKOR, individually or through other members of the THAKOR FAMILY, at all times relevant herein, was a shareholder and/or member of and dominated, controlled, managed and operated Defendant entities including, but not limited to, the following: 56 MASON, LLC; BALBOA HOTEL, LLC; CIVIC CENTER HOTEL, LLC; KEAN HOTEL, LLC; SHREE JALABAPA HOTEL, LP; SHREE JALARAM, LLC; SHREE JALARAM HOTEL, LP; SHREE JALARAM LODGING, LP; SHREE JALARAMBAPA HOTEL, LP; TKB INVESTMENTS, LLC; TKB INVESTMENTS, LP; URAVI, LLC; and WINTON HOTEL, LLC, to such an extent that, at all times herein mentioned, there existed a unity of interest and ownership between these Defendants and BILL THAKOR. BILL THAKOR, therefore, was the alter-ego of these Defendants and any individuality or separateness of these Defendants and BILL THAKOR have ceased. At all times mentioned herein, BILL THAKOR has committed acts establishing his alter ego liability including but not limited to: use of the same office or business location as the Defendant entities; the use of Defendant entities as a mere shell, instrumentality or conduit for a single venture or for his individual business; the concealment and misrepresentation of his ownership, management and financial interest; the disregard of legal formalities and the failure to maintain arms-length relationships with Defendant entities; sole ownership of all the stock by him or members of his family; failure to adequately capitalize and/or the total absence of capitalization; and the co-mingling of funds

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and assets and the unauthorized diversion of funds and assets for other than business entity uses. As the alter ego of these Defendants, BILL THAKOR orchestrated, ratified and was otherwise involved in the unlawful conduct described herein. Therefore, adherence to the fiction of a separate existence of these Defendants as entities separate and distinct from BILL THAKOR would permit an abuse of the corporate, LP and LLC privileges and would promote injustice by allowing BILL THAKOR to evade liability or veil assets that should in equity be used to satisfy the civil penalties and injunctive relief sought by Plaintiffs. Each Defendant was but an instrumentality or conduit of BILL THAKOR in the prosecution of a single venture, namely the management, ownership and operation of residential SRO hotel buildings. Therefore, it would be inequitable for BILL THAKOR to escape liability for an obligation incurred as much for BILL THAKOR'S benefit as for the other Defendants.

DEFENDANT KIRANSINH THAKOR, individually or through other members of the THAKOR FAMILY, at all times relevant herein, was a shareholder and/or member of and dominated, controlled, managed and operated Defendant entities including, but not limited to, the following: 56 MASON, LLC; BALBOA HOTEL, LLC; CIVIC CENTER HOTEL, LLC; KEAN HOTEL, LLC; SHREE JALABAPA HOTEL, LP; SHREE JALARAM, LLC; SHREE JALARAM HOTEL, LP; SHREE JALARAM LODGING, LP; SHREE JALARAMBAPA HOTEL, LP; TKB INVESTMENTS, LLC; TKB INVESTMENTS, LP; URAVI, LLC; and WINTON HOTEL, LLC, to such an extent that, at all times herein mentioned, there existed a unity of interest and ownership between these Defendants and KIRANSINH THAKOR. KIRANSINH THAKOR, therefore, was the alter-ego of these Defendants and any individuality or separateness of these Defendants and KIRANSINH THAKOR have ceased. At all times mentioned herein, KIRANSINH THAKOR has committed acts establishing his alter ego liability including but not limited to: use of the same office or business location as the Defendant entities; the use of Defendant entities as a mere shell, instrumentality or conduit for a single venture or for his individual business; the concealment and misrepresentation of his ownership, management and financial interest; the disregard of legal formalities and the failure to maintain arms-length relationships with Defendant entities; sole ownership of all the stock by him or members of his family; failure to adequately capitalize and/or the total absence of capitalization; and the co-mingling of funds and assets and the unauthorized diversion of funds and assets for other than

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business entity uses. As the alter ego of these Defendants, KIRANSINH THAKOR orchestrated, ratified and was otherwise involved in the unlawful conduct described herein. Therefore, adherence to the fiction of a separate existence of these Defendants as entities separate and distinct from KIRANSINH THAKOR would permit an abuse of the corporate, LP and LLC privileges and would promote injustice by allowing KIRANSINH THAKOR to evade liability or veil assets that should in equity be used to satisfy the civil penalties and injunctive relief sought by Plaintiffs. Each Defendant was but an instrumentality or conduit of KIRANSINH THAKOR in the prosecution of a single venture, namely the management, ownership and operation of residential SRO hotel buildings. Therefore, it would be inequitable for KIRANSINH THAKOR to escape liability for an obligation incurred as much for KIRANSINH THAKOR'S benefit as for the other Defendants.

43. DEFENDANT BAHAVASINH THAKOR, individually or through other members of the THAKOR FAMILY, at all times relevant herein, was a shareholder and/or member of and dominated, controlled, managed and operated Defendant entities including, but not limited to, the following: 56 MASON, LLC; BALBOA HOTEL, LLC; CIVIC CENTER HOTEL, LLC; KEAN HOTEL, LLC; SHREE JALABAPA HOTEL, LP; SHREE JALARAM, LLC; SHREE JALARAM HOTEL, LP; SHREE JALARAM LODGING, LP; SHREE JALARAMBAPA HOTEL, LP; TKB INVESTMENTS, LLC; TKB INVESTMENTS, LP; URAVI, LLC; and WINTON HOTEL, LLC, to such an extent that, at all times herein mentioned, there existed a unity of interest and ownership between these Defendants and BAHAVASINH THAKOR. BAHAVASINH THAKOR, therefore, was the alter-ego of these Defendants and any individuality or separateness of these Defendants and BAHAVASINH THAKOR have ceased. At all times mentioned herein, BAHAVASINH THAKOR has committed acts establishing his alter ego liability including but not limited to: use of the same office or business location as the Defendant entities; the use of Defendant entities as a mere shell, instrumentality or conduit for a single venture or for his individual business; the concealment and misrepresentation of his ownership, management and financial interest; the disregard of legal formalities and the failure to maintain arms-length relationships with Defendant entities; sole ownership of all the stock by him or members of his family; failure to adequately capitalize and/or the total absence of capitalization; and the co-mingling of funds and assets and the unauthorized diversion

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of funds and assets for other than business entity uses. As the alter ego of these Defendants, BAHAVASINH THAKOR orchestrated, ratified and was otherwise involved in the unlawful conduct described herein. Therefore, adherence to the fiction of a separate existence of these Defendants as entities separate and distinct from BAHAVASINH THAKOR would permit an abuse of the corporate, LP and LLC privileges and would promote injustice by allowing BAHAVASINH THAKOR to evade liability or veil assets that should in equity be used to satisfy the civil penalties and injunctive relief sought by Plaintiffs. Each Defendant was but an instrumentality or conduit of BAHAVASINH THAKOR in the prosecution of a single venture, namely the management, ownership and operation of residential SRO hotel buildings. Therefore, it would be inequitable for BAHAVASINH THAKOR to escape liability for an obligation incurred as much for BAHAVASINH THAKOR'S benefit as for the other Defendants.

44. DEFENDANT LATABEN B. THAKOR, an individual, at all times relevant herein, was a shareholder and/or member of and dominated, controlled, managed and operated Defendant entities including, but not limited to, the following: 56 MASON, LLC; BALBOA HOTEL, LLC; CIVIC CENTER HOTEL, LLC; KEAN HOTEL, LLC; SHREE JALABAPA HOTEL, LP; SHREE JALARAM, LLC; SHREE JALARAM HOTEL, LP; SHREE JALARAM LODGING, LP; SHREE JALARAMBAPA HOTEL, LP; TKB INVESTMENTS, LLC; TKB INVESTMENTS, LP; URAVI, LLC; and WINTON HOTEL, LLC, to such an extent that, at all times herein mentioned, there existed a unity of interest and ownership between these Defendants and LATABEN B. THAKOR. LATABEN B. THAKOR, therefore, was the alter-ego of these Defendants and any individuality or separateness of these Defendants and LATABEN B. THAKOR have ceased. At all times mentioned herein, LATABEN B. THAKOR has committed acts establishing her alter ego liability including but not limited to: use of the same office or business location as the Defendant entities; the use of Defendant entities as a mere shell, instrumentality or conduit for a single venture or for her individual business; the concealment and misrepresentation of her ownership, management and financial interest; the disregard of legal formalities and the failure to maintain arms-length relationships with Defendant entities; sole ownership of all the stock by her or members of her family; failure to adequately capitalize and/or the total absence of capitalization; and the co-mingling of funds and assets and the

unauthorized diversion of funds and assets for other than business entity uses. As the alter ego of these Defendants, LATABEN B. THAKOR orchestrated, ratified and was otherwise involved in the unlawful conduct described herein. Therefore, adherence to the fiction of a separate existence of these Defendants as entities separate and distinct from LATABEN B. THAKOR would permit an abuse of the corporate, LP and LLC privileges and would promote injustice by allowing LATABEN B. THAKOR to evade liability or veil assets that should in equity be used to satisfy the civil penalties and injunctive relief sought by Plaintiffs. Each Defendant was but an instrumentality or conduit of LATABEN B. THAKOR in the prosecution of a single venture, namely the management, ownership and operation of residential SRO hotel buildings. Therefore, it would be inequitable for LATABEN B. THAKOR to escape liability for an obligation incurred as much for LATABEN B. THAKOR'S benefit as for the other Defendants.

GENERAL ALLEGATIONS

- I. STATE AND LOCAL LAWS VIOLATED BY DEFENDANTS.
 - A. Renting Unhabitable Residential Rooms To Vulnerable Occupants.
- 45. California Civil Code Sections 1941, et seq. require that any lessor of a building intended for residential purposes must maintain the building in a condition that makes it fit for habitability, and sets out multiple standard requirements that must be met to achieve this standard of habitability or tenantability.
- 46. Defendants have routinely failed to meet the requirements of these habitability laws in Defendants' Properties, and thus have routinely collected rents for untenantable dwellings in violation of Civil Code Section 1942.4.
 - B. Depriving SRO Hotel Occupants Of Tenancy Rights.
- 47. California Civil Code Section 1940.1 provides that no person may require an occupant of a residential hotel to move, or to check out and re-register, before the expiration of 30 days occupancy, if a purpose of this requirement is to have that person maintain transient occupancy status and thus be deprived of the protections provided by law to tenants by Title 5, Chapter 2 of the Civil Code (Sections 1940-1954.1).
 - 48. San Francisco Administrative Code Section 37.2(r)(1) provides that it is unlawful for a

landlord to refuse to allow a guest of a residential hotel to continue to stay in a hotel room for 32 days or more in order to prevent that guest from gaining tenancy rights under the San Francisco Administrative Code.

- 49. Defendants routinely engage in business practices that prevent occupants of Defendants' Properties from gaining tenancy rights under the above state and local laws, with the denial of such rights being a purpose, if not the main purpose, of such business practices.
 - C. Maintaining Public Nuisances
- 50. California Civil Code Sections 3479, et seq. make it an illegal public nuisance to maintain a property in a state that is injurious to health, indecent or offensive to the senses, or interferes with the comfortable enjoyment of life or property.
- 51. San Francisco Housing Code Sections 204(c)(2), 401, 1001, Building Code Sections 102, 103, 106.1.1, Electrical Code Section 89.17, and Plumbing Code Section 103.1 define a violation of their provisions as a *per se* public nuisance.
- 52. Defendants routinely engage in business practices at Defendants' Properties that violate the above provisions related to public nuisances.
 - D. Doing Construction Work Without Required Permits Or Contractor's License.
- 53. The Contractors' State License Law, California Business and Professions Code Section 7000, et seq., makes it illegal for contracting work to be done by a person who is not a contractor licensed by the California State Contractors Licensing Board.
- 54. San Francisco Electrical Code Section 89.120(D) makes it illegal for any electrical work to be performed in San Francisco unless it is performed by the state licensed electrical contractor to whom the permit is issued.
- 55. Defendants routinely, directly or indirectly, perform construction work under permits issued by the San Francisco Building Department to other people and not to them, and without using a licensed contractor to perform or supervise such work.
 - E. False Claims For Payment From The City.
- 56. The False Claims Act, California Government Code Sections 12650 et seq., makes it illegal for a City contractor to present or cause to be presented a false or fraudulent claim for payment

by the City. A contractor's implied of express representation, in connection with seeking payment by the City, that the contractor is in compliance with the material terms of the contract, including but not limited to provisions requiring compliance with state or local law, is a false claim within the meaning of the False Claims Act.

- 57. Defendants contract with the City to provide multiple residential rooms in Defendants' Properties for use by clients of CCSF departments.
- 58. Defendants submit, or cause to be submitted, claims to the City for payments under those contracts, representing that those rooms are safe and habitable when in fact that was false and Defendants were in material breach of their contracts with CCSF including provisions requiring compliance with state and local law.

II. ILLUSTRATIVE ACTS OF UNFAIR BUSINESS PRACTICES BY DEFENDANTS AT DEFENDANTS' PROPERTIES.

- A. Winton Hotel, 445 O'Farrell Street, San Francisco, CA
- 59. The THAKOR FAMILY DEFENDANTS and DEFENDANTS WINTON HOTEL, LLC and TKB INVESTMENTS, LLC own and operate the Winton Hotel located at 445 O'Farrell Street, San Francisco, California, and have done so since at least 2007.
- 60. In their ownership and operation of the Winton Hotel, the THAKOR FAMILY DEFENDANTS and DEFENDANTS WINTON HOTEL, LLC and TKB INVESTMENTS, LLC have routinely kept and maintained the Property in violation of multiple local and state health and safety codes, thereby depriving vulnerable tenants of the habitable rooms to which they are by law entitled, while also causing and maintaining a *per se* public nuisance.
- 61. Among the violations of health and safety codes committed by the THAKOR FAMILY DEFENDANTS and DEFENDANTS WINTON HOTEL, LLC and TKB INVESTMENTS, LLC at the Winton Hotel are the failure to contain lead paint during attempted abatement efforts, to provide fire proofing materials in construction of the building, to provide adequate security at building and room entrances, to provide plumbing adequate to avoid leaks of raw sewage. Attached hereto as Exhibit A are true and correct copies of Notices of Violations and Administrative Orders issued to these Defendants, evidencing the violations of state and local law caused by their unfair and unlawful

business practices.

- 62. In addition to the above violations of health and safety codes, the THAKOR FAMILY DEFENDANTS and DEFENDANTS WINTON HOTEL, LLC and TKB INVESTMENTS, LLC performed and continue to perform construction work at the Winton Hotel without permits authorizing them to do such work, and/or under permits issued by the San Francisco Building Department to other people and not to them, and/or without using licensed contractors to perform or supervise such work.
- 63. The THAKOR FAMILY DEFENDANTS and DEFENDANTS WINTON HOTEL, LLC and TKB INVESTMENTS, LLC also have routinely failed to meet the requirements of state and local habitability laws at the Winton Hotel, and thus have routinely collected rents for untenantable dwellings in violation of Civil Code Section 1942.4
- 64. The THAKOR FAMILY DEFENDANTS and DEFENDANTS WINTON HOTEL, LLC and TKB INVESTMENTS, LLC also contract with the City to provide multiple safe and habitable residential rooms in the Winton Hotel for use by clients of CCSF departments.
- 65. The THAKOR FAMILY DEFENDANTS and DEFENDANTS WINTON HOTEL, LLC and TKB INVESTMENTS, LLC submit, or cause to be submitted, claims to the City for payments under those contracts, expressly or impliedly representing that those rooms are safe and habitable as required by their contracts with CCSF and by state and local law, while knowing that many or all of the rooms are neither safe nor habitable.
- 66. These alleged acts are illustrative of the unfair and unlawful business practices of the THAKOR FAMILY DEFENDANTS and DEFENDANTS WINTON HOTEL, LLC and TKB INVESTMENTS, LLC at the Winton Hotel, and are not intended to be an exhaustive list of such illegal business practices at that or other locations.
 - B. Civic Center Hotel, 20 12th Street, San Francisco, CA
- 67. The THAKOR FAMILY DEFENDANTS and DEFENDANT CIVIC CENTER HOTEL, LLC own and operate the Civic Center Hotel located at 20 12th Street, San Francisco, California, and have done so since at least 2007.
- 68. In their ownership and operation of the Civic Center Hotel, the THAKOR FAMILY DEFENDANTS and DEFENDANT CIVIC CENTER HOTEL, LLC have routinely kept and

maintained the Property in violation of multiple local and state health and safety codes, thereby depriving vulnerable tenants of the habitable rooms to which they are by law entitled, while also causing and maintaining a *per se* public nuisance.

- 69. Among the health and safety code violations committed by the THAKOR FAMILY DEFENDANTS and DEFENDANT CIVIC CENTER HOTEL, LLC at the Civic Center Hotel are failure to keep the property free from pest infestations, including rampant bedbug infestations, to provide adequate fire protection and safety, to provide adequate security, to provide functional plumbing that does not result in repeated sewage leaks, failure to provide residential rooms and bathrooms that are free of mold and mildew, and failure to provide adequate heat. Attached hereto as Exhibit B are true and correct copies of Notices of Violations and Administrative Orders issued to these Defendants, evidencing the violations of state and local law caused by their unfair and unlawful business practices.
- 70. The THAKOR FAMILY DEFENDANTS and DEFENDANT CIVIC CENTER

 HOTEL, LLC also have routinely failed to meet the requirements of state and local habitability laws at
 the Civic Center Hotel and have routinely collected rents for untenantable dwellings in violation of
 Civil Code Section 1942.4
- 71. In addition to the above health and safety code violations, the THAKOR FAMILY DEFENDANTS and DEFENDANT CIVIC CENTER HOTEL, LLC performed and continue to perform construction work at the Civic Center Hotel without permits authorizing them to do such work, and/or under permits issued by the San Francisco Building Department to other people and not to them, and/or without using a licensed contractor to perform or supervise such work.
- 72. The THAKOR FAMILY DEFENDANTS and DEFENDANT CIVIC CENTER

 HOTEL, LLC also contract with the City to provide and do provide multiple residential rooms in the

 Civic Center Hotel for use by clients of CCSF departments.
- 73. The THAKOR FAMILY DEFENDANTS and DEFENDANT CIVIC CENTER
 HOTEL, LLC submit, or cause to be submitted, claims to the City for payments under those contracts,
 expressly or impliedly representing that those rooms are safe and habitable as required by their
 contracts with CCSF and by state and local law, while knowing that many or all of the rooms are

neither safe nor habitable.

- 74. These alleged acts are illustrative of the unfair and unlawful business practices of the THAKOR FAMILY DEFENDANTS and DEFENDANT CIVIC CENTER HOTEL, LLC at the Civic Center Hotel, and are not intended to be an exhaustive list of such illegal business practices at that or other locations.
 - C. Kean Hotel, 1018 Mission Street, San Francisco, CA
- 75. The THAKOR FAMILY DEFENDANTS and DEFENDANTS SHREE JALABAPA HOTEL, LP and SHREE JALARAMBAPA HOTEL, LP own and operate the Kean Hotel located at 1018 Mission Street, San Francisco, California, and have done so since at least 1999.
- 76. In their ownership and operation of the Kean Hotel, the THAKOR FAMILY
 DEFENDANTS and DEFENDANTS SHREE JALABAPA HOTEL, LP and SHREE
 JALARAMBAPA HOTEL, LP have routinely kept and maintained the Property in violation of multiple local and state health and safety codes, thereby depriving vulnerable tenants of the habitable rooms to which they are by law entitled, while also causing and maintaining a per se public nuisance.
- 77. Among the health and safety code violations committed by the THAKOR FAMILY DEFENDANTS and DEFENDANTS SHREE JALABAPA HOTEL, LP and SHREE JALARAMBAPA HOTEL, LP at the Kean Hotel are failure to keep the property free from pest infestations, including rampant cockroach and bedbug infestations, failure to provide an operable elevator, failure to provide adequate fire protection and safety, failure to provide adequate security, failure to provide plumbing adequate to avoid repeated sewage leaks, failure to provide safe and functional wiring, failure to provide residential room and bathrooms free of mold and mildew, and failure to provide adequate heat. Attached hereto as Exhibit C are true and correct copies of Notices of Violations and Administrative Orders issued to these Defendants, evidencing the violations of state and local law caused by their unfair and unlawful business practices.
- 78. The THAKOR FAMILY DEFENDANTS and DEFENDANTS SHREE JALABAPA HOTEL, LP and SHREE JALARAMBAPA HOTEL, LP also have routinely failed to meet the requirements of state and local habitability laws at the Kean Hotel, and have routinely collected rents for untenantable dwellings in violation of Civil Code Section 1942.4

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	79. The THAKOR FAMILY DEFENDANTS and DEFENDANTS SHREE JALABAPA
	HOTEL, LP and SHREE JALARAMBAPA HOTEL, LP also have violated California Civil Code
	Section 1940.1 at the Kean Hotel by requiring occupants to move, or to check out and re-register,
	before the expiration of 30 days occupancy, with a purpose to have occupants maintain transient
	occupancy status and thus be deprived of the protections provided by law to tenants by Title 5,
	Chapter 2 of the Civil Code (Sections 1940-1954.1).
1	CO. THE WALKER TAXABLE PROPERTY AND A PARTY OF THE PARTY

- 80. The THAKOR FAMILY DEFENDANTS and DEFENDANTS SHREE JALABAPA HOTEL, LP and SHREE JALARAMBAPA HOTEL, LP also have violated San Francisco Administrative Code Section 37.2(r)(1) by refusing to allow hotel guests to continue to stay in a hotel room for 32 days or more in order to prevent such guests from gaining tenancy rights under the San Francisco Administrative Code.
- 81. In addition, the THAKOR FAMILY DEFENDANTS and DEFENDANTS SHREE JALABAPA HOTEL, LP and SHREE JALARAMBAPA HOTEL, LP performed and continue to perform construction work at the Kean Hotel without permits authorizing them to do such work, and/or under permits issued by the San Francisco Building Department to other people and not to them, and/or without using a licensed contractor to perform or supervise such work.
- 82. The THAKOR FAMILY DEFENDANTS and DEFENDANTS SHREE JALABAPA HOTEL, LP and SHREE JALARAMBAPA HOTEL, LP also contract with the City to provide and do provide multiple residential rooms in the Kean Hotel for use by clients of CCSF departments.
- 83. The THAKOR FAMILY DEFENDANTS and DEFENDANTS SHREE JALABAPA HOTEL, LP and SHREE JALARAMBAPA HOTEL, LP submit, or cause to be submitted, claims to the City for payments under those contracts, expressly or impliedly representing that those rooms are safe and habitable as required by their contracts with CCSF and by state and local law, while knowing that many or all of the rooms are neither safe nor habitable.
- 84. These alleged acts are illustrative of the unfair and unlawful business practices of the THAKOR FAMILY DEFENDANTS and DEFENDANTS SHREE JALABAPA HOTEL, LP and SHREE JALARAMBAPA HOTEL, LP at the Kean Hotel, and are not intended to be an exhaustive list of such illegal business practices at that or other locations.

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Budget Inn, 1139 Market Street, San Francisco, CA

The THAKOR FAMILY DEFENDANTS and DEFENDANTS TKB INVESTMENTS. LP and SHREE JALARAM LODGING, LP own and operate the Budget Inn, located at 1139 Market Street, San Francisco, California, and have done so since at least 1999.

- In their ownership and operation of the Budget Inn, the THAKOR FAMILY 86. DEFENDANTS TKB INVESTMENTS, LP and SHREE JALARAM LODGING, LP have routinely kept and maintained the Property in violation of multiple local and state health and safety codes, thereby depriving vulnerable tenants of the habitable rooms to which they are by law entitled, while also causing and maintaining a per se public nuisance.
- Among the health and safety code violations committed by the THAKOR FAMILY 87. DEFENDANTS and DEFENDANTS TKB INVESTMENTS, LP and SHREE JALARAM LODGING, LP at the Budget Inn are failure to keep the property free from pests, including rampant cockroach and bedbug infestations, failure to provide adequate fire protection and safety, failure to provide adequate security, failure to provide plumbing adequate to avoid repeated sewage leaks, failure to provide safe and functional wiring, failure to provide residential rooms and bathrooms free of mold and mildew, and failure to provide adequate heat. Attached hereto as Exhibit D are true and correct copies of Notices of Violations and Administrative Orders issued to these Defendants, evidencing the violations of state and local law caused by their unfair and unlawful business practices.
- 88. The THAKOR FAMILY DEFENDANTS and DEFENDANTS TKB INVESTMENTS, LP and SHREE JALARAM LODGING, LP also have routinely failed to meet the requirements of state and local habitability laws at the Budget Inn, and have routinely collected rents for untenantable dwellings in violation of Civil Code Section 1942.4
- 89. In addition, the THAKOR FAMILY DEFENDANTS and DEFENDANTS TKB INVESTMENTS, LP and SHREE JALARAM LODGING, LP performed and continue to perform construction work at the Budget Inn without permits authorizing them to do such work, and/or under permits issued by the San Francisco Building Department to other people and not to them, and/or without using a licensed contractor to perform or supervise such work.
 - 90. These alleged acts are illustrative of the unfair and unlawful business practices of the

The THAKOR FAMILY DEFENDANTS and DEFENDANTS 56 MASON, LLC and SHREE JALARAM HOTEL, LP own and operate the Bristol Hotel, located at 56 Mason Street, San

- In their ownership and operation of the Bristol Hotel, the THAKOR FAMILY DEFENDANTS and DEFENDANTS 56 MASON, LLC and SHREE JALARAM HOTEL, LP have routinely kept and maintained the Property in violation of multiple local and state health and safety codes, thereby depriving vulnerable tenants of the habitable rooms to which they are by law entitled,
- Among the health and safety code violations committed by the THAKOR FAMILY DEFENDANTS and DEFENDANTS 56 MASON, LLC and SHREE JALARAM HOTEL, LP at the Bristol Hotel are failure to keep the property free from pests, failure to provide an operable elevator, failure to provide adequate fire protection and safety, failure to provide adequate security, failure to provide plumbing adequate to prevent repeated sewage leaks, failure to provide safe and functional wiring, failure to provide residential rooms and bathrooms free of mold and mildew, failure to provide adequate trash facilities, and failure to provide adequate heat. Attached hereto as Exhibit E are true and correct copies of Notices of Violations and Administrative Orders issued to these Defendants, evidencing the violations of state and local law caused by their unfair and unlawful business practices.
- 94. Additional health and safety code violations committed by the THAKOR FAMILY DEFENDANTS and DEFENDANTS 56 MASON, LLC and SHREE JALARAM HOTEL, LP at the Bristol Hotel include release of hazardous lead paint chips and dust during unlicensed construction work at the site, endangering the health of both residents and workers.
- 95. The THAKOR FAMILY DEFENDANTS and DEFENDANTS 56 MASON, LLC and SHREE JALARAM HOTEL, LP also have routinely failed to meet the requirements of state and local habitability laws at the Bristol Hotel, and have routinely collected rents for untenantable dwellings in

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- 96. In addition, the THAKOR FAMILY DEFENDANTS and DEFENDANTS 56 MASON, LLC and SHREE JALARAM HOTEL, LP perform construction work at the Bristol Hotel without a permit that authorizes them to do such work, and/or under permits issued by the San Francisco Building Department to other people and not to them, and/or without using a licensed contractor to perform or supervise such work.
- 97. These alleged acts are illustrative of the unfair and unlawful business practices of the THAKOR FAMILY DEFENDANTS and DEFENDANTS 56 MASON, LLC and SHREE JALARAM HOTEL, LP at the Bristol Hotel, and are not intended to be an exhaustive list of such illegal business practices at that or other locations.
 - F. Page Hotel, 161 Leavenworth Street, San Francisco, CA
- 98. BILL THAKOR and the THAKOR FAMILY DEFENDANTS, individually and/or through an unknown business entity, own and operate the Page Hotel, located at 161 Leavenworth Street, San Francisco, California, and have done so since at least 2002.
- 99. In their ownership and operation of the Page Hotel, BILL THAKOR and the THAKOR FAMILY DEFENDANTS have routinely kept and maintained the Property in violation of multiple local and state health and safety codes, thereby depriving vulnerable tenants of the habitable rooms to which they are by law entitled, while also causing and maintaining a *per se* public nuisance.
- THAKOR FAMILY DEFENDANTS at the Page Hotel are failure to keep the property free from pests, failure to repair or replace decayed and unsafe stairs, failure to provide adequate bathroom facilities, failure to provide adequate fire protection and safety, failure to provide adequate security, failure to provide adequate plumbing free from repeated leaks, failure to provide safe and functional wiring, failure to provide residential rooms and bathrooms free of mildew and mold, and failure to provide adequate trash facilities. Attached hereto as Exhibit F are true and correct copies of Notices of Violations and Administrative Orders issued to these Defendants, evidencing the violations of state and local law caused by their unfair and unlawful business practices.
 - 101. Additional health and safety code violations committed by BILL THAKOR and the

THAKOR FAMILY DEFENDANTS at the Page Hotel include release of hazardous lead paint chips and dust, endangering the health of both residents and workers.

- 102. BILL THAKOR and the THAKOR FAMILY DEFENDANTS also have routinely failed to meet the requirements of state and local habitability laws at the Page Hotel, and thus have routinely collected rents for untenantable dwellings in violation of Civil Code Section 1942.4
- and continue to perform construction work at the Page Hotel without permits authorizing them to do such work, and/or under permits issued by the San Francisco Building Department to other people and not to them, and/or without using a licensed contractor to perform or supervise such work.
- 104. BILL THAKOR and the THAKOR FAMILY DEFENDANTS also contract with the City to provide and do provide multiple residential rooms in the Page Hotel for use by clients of CCSF departments.
- 105. BILL THAKOR and the THAKOR FAMILY DEFENDANTS submit, or cause to be submitted, claims to the City for payments under those contracts, expressly or impliedly representing that those rooms are safe and habitable as required by their contracts with CCSF and by state and local law, when in fact many or all of the rooms are neither safe nor habitable.
- These alleged acts are illustrative of the unfair and unlawful business practices of BILL THAKOR and the THAKOR FAMILY DEFENDANTS at the Page Hotel, and are not intended to be an exhaustive list of such illegal business practices at that or other locations.
 - G. Warfield Hotel, 118 Taylor Street, San Francisco, CA
- 107. The THAKOR FAMILY DEFENDANTS owned and operated the Warfield Hotel located at 118 Taylor Street, San Francisco, California, from approximately September 1, 2001 until approximately August 31, 2013.
- 108. In their ownership and operation of the Warfield Hotel, the THAKOR FAMILY DEFENDANTS routinely kept and maintained the Property in violation of multiple local and state health and safety codes, thereby depriving vulnerable tenants of the habitable rooms to which they are by law entitled, while also causing and maintaining a *per se* public nuisance.
 - 109. Among the health and safety code violations committed by the THAKOR FAMILY

 DEFENDANTS at the Warfield Hotel were the following substandard conditions: 1) rodent, cockroach and bedbug infestations; 2) insufficient security and fire safety for entry doors in multiple units; 3) plumbing leaks; 4) damaged walls and floors; 5) severe mold and mildew; 6) lack of working smoke detectors; 7) insufficient number of showers; 8) multiple units filled with debris clutter from hoarding that creates a pest and fire danger; and 11) defective or missing fire sprinklers.

- 110. The THAKOR FAMILY DEFENDANTS also have routinely failed to meet the requirements of state and local habitability laws at the Warfield Hotel, and have routinely collected rents for unternantable dwellings in violation of Civil Code Section 1942.4
- 111. In addition to the above violations of health and safety codes, the THAKOR FAMILY DEFENDANTS performed and continue to perform construction work at the Warfield Hotel without permits authorizing them to do such work, and/or under permits issued by the San Francisco Building Department to other people and not to them, and/or without using a licensed contractor to perform or supervise such work.
- 112. The THAKOR FAMILY DEFENDANTS also contracted with the City to provide and did provide multiple residential rooms in the Warfield Hotel for use by clients of CCSF departments.
- 113. The THAKOR FAMILY DEFENDANTS submitted, or caused to be submitted, claims to the City for payments under those contracts, expressly or impliedly representing that those rooms are safe and habitable as required by their contracts with CCSF and by state and local law, when in fact many or all of the rooms are neither safe nor habitable.
- 114. These alleged acts are illustrative of the unfair and unlawful business practices of the THAKOR FAMILY DEFENDANTS at the Warfield Hotel, and are not intended to be an exhaustive list of such illegal business practices at that or other locations.
- 115. Plaintiffs on July 29, 2013 filed a related action in this Court against BILL THAKOR and KIRANSINH THAKOR for their violations of law as owners and operators of the Warfield Hotel. See Superior Court Number CGC-13-533157.
 - H. Other THAKOR FAMILY DEFENDANT Properties.
- 116. The THAKOR FAMILY DEFENDANTS, individually, collectively, and/or through unknown business entities, also have owned and operated other SRO Hotels in the same manner as

above during the period of time May 1, 2010 until the present. Other SRO Hotels operated by Defendants, and representative examples of Defendants illegal activities at those hotels, include the following:

- a. Admiral Hotel, 608 O'Farrell Street 30 rooms sewer leaks, lack of adequate lead paint containment, plumbing leaks, water leaks from exterior, pest infestation, lack of working elevator;
- b. Aldrich Hotel, 439 Jones Street -35 rooms violations of local and state health and safety statutes and habitability laws involving mold, lack of working elevator, inadequate fire safety protection, pest infestation;
- c. Auburn Hotel, 481 Minna Street 78 rooms lack of heat, inadequate bathroom facilities, lack of lead paint debris containment, plumbing leaks, mold, pest infestation, inadequate fire safety, inadequate security, performing construction work without permits;
- d. Balboa Hotel, 120 Hyde Street -32 rooms lack of heat, construction work without permit, inadequate electrical service, lack of security, mold, plumbing leaks, extreme hoarding and cluttering causing imminent fire hazard, inadequate fire safety protection;
 - e. Best Inn, 162 Taylor Street 28 rooms lack of heat, plumbing leaks;
 - f. Hotel Krupa, 700 Jones Street 25 rooms inadequate fire protection;
 - g. Jalaram Hotel, 868 Valencia Street 24 rooms pest infestation;
- h. Kiran Hotel, 130 Eddy Street 38 rooms lack of heat, pest infestation, plumbing leaks, mold, inoperable elevator.

I. Only Illustrative Examples.

117. The Defendants' actions described above in relation to specific properties are merely examples. Defendants have engaged in the unlawful and unfair business acts and practices described in this Complaint in connection with numerous properties they currently own, operate and manage, or have owned, operated or managed in the past.

FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION – DEPRIVATION OF TENANCY RIGHTS BROUGHT BY PLAINTIFF PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA AGAINST ALL DEFENDANTS

(Civil Code Section 1940.1)

- 118. Plaintiff PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA hereby incorporate by reference Paragraphs 1 through 117, as though fully set forth herein.
- 119. Defendants are now, and for a considerable period of time heretofore and at all times mentioned, in violation of California Civil Code Section 1940.1, which provides that no person may require an occupant of a residential hotel to move or check out before the expiration of 30 days occupancy, with a purpose of maintaining occupants in a transient occupancy status and thus depriving them of the protections provided by law to tenants by Title 5, Chapter 2 of the Civil Code (Sections 1940-1954.1).
- 120. Residents of Defendants' Hotels for 30 days or more gain rights under California Civil Code 1940, et seq.
- 121. Defendants' actions, more particularly described above, establish a pattern and practice of requiring occupants to check out of their hotel rooms before the expiration of 30 days with a purpose to prevent them from obtaining tenancy rights.
- 122. Defendants' actions harm Plaintiff because they increase the number of San Franciscans without stable homes, and put these residents at risk of living on the streets. San Francisco has a public interest in decreasing the number of San Franciscans at risk for homelessness and living in unstable housing.
- 123. Plaintiff has no adequate remedy at law in that damages are insufficient to protect the public from the present danger and harm caused by the practices described above. Unless Defendants are enjoined from engaging in the aforementioned practices, said community and neighborhood, and the residents and citizens of the City and County of San Francisco, will suffer irreparable injury and damage, in that Defendants will continue to require occupants to check out before those occupants can obtain tenancy status in the Property, to disrupt the lives of the citizens and residents of the City and County of San Francisco, and to deny the citizens the right to protection under California Civil Code Section 1940.1.

- 124. Defendants' practice of depriving vulnerable individuals of tenancy rights subjects them to civil penalties of \$500 per violation and attorneys fees as set forth in Civil Code Section 1940.1(b).
- 125. Defendants' practice depriving vulnerable senior and disabled individuals of tenancy rights makes Defendants liable for treble damages under California Civil Code Section 3345.

SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION – DEPRIVATION OF TENANCY RIGHTS BROUGHT BY PLAINTIFF CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO AGAINST ALL DEFENDANTS

(San Francisco Administrative Code Sections 37.2, 37.10B)

- 126. Plaintiff CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO hereby incorporates by reference Paragraphs 1 through 125 as though fully set forth herein.
- 127. Defendants are now, and for a considerable period of time heretofore and at all times mentioned, in violation of San Francisco Administrative Code Section 37.2, which provides that it is unlawful for a landlord to refuse to allow a hotel guest to continue to stay in a hotel room for 32 days or more in order to prevent that guest from gaining tenancy rights under the San Francisco Administrative Code.
- 128. Residents of Defendants' Hotels for 32 continuous days or more gain rights under San Francisco Administrative Code Section 37.2(r)(1).
- 129. Defendants' actions, more particularly described above, establish a pattern and practice of requiring occupants to check out of their hotel rooms before the expiration of 32 days to avoid providing tenancy rights to these occupants.
- 130. In addition, by depriving hotel guests of the ability to gain tenancy rights as described above, Defendants also have engaged in "tenant harassment" under San Francisco Administrative Code Section 37.10B.
- 131. Defendants' actions harm Plaintiff because they increase the number of San Franciscans without stable homes, and put these residents at risk of living on the streets. San Francisco has a public interest in decreasing the number of San Franciscans at risk for homelessness and living in unstable housing.
- 132. Plaintiff has no adequate remedy at law in that damages are insufficient to protect the public from the present danger and harm caused by the practices described above. Unless Defendants

are enjoined from engaging in the aforementioned practices, said community and neighborhood, and the residents and citizens of the City and County of San Francisco, will suffer irreparable injury and damage, in that Defendants will continue to require occupants to check out before those occupants can obtain tenancy status in the Property, to disrupt the lives of the citizens and residents of the City and County of San Francisco, and to deny the citizens the right to protection under the San Francisco Administrative Code.

133. Defendants' illegal business practice of abridging tenancy rights of their clients subjects them to a mandatory fine of \$1000 per violation as set forth in San Francisco Administrative Code 37.10B(c)(5).

THIRD CAUSE OF ACTION FOR PUBLIC NUISANCE BROUGHT BY PLAINTIFFS AGAINST DEFENDANTS

COUNT ONE

PUBLIC NUISANCE PER SE

FOR VIOLATIONS OF THE SAN FRANCISCO MUNICIPAL CODES AGAINST ALL DEFENDANTS

(San Francisco Housing Code Sections 204(c)(2), 401, 1001; San Francisco Building Code Sections 102, 103, 106A; San Francisco Health Code Section 581.)

- 134. Plaintiffs hereby incorporate by reference paragraphs 1 through 133 above and make them a part of this cause of action, as though fully set forth herein.
- 135. Plaintiffs bring this cause of action pursuant to San Francisco Housing Code Sections 204(c)(2), 401, 1001, San Francisco Building Code Sections 102, 103, 106A, and San Francisco Health Code Section 581.
- 136. Defendants are now, and for a considerable period of time and at all times herein mentioned have been maintaining Defendants' Properties in violation of San Francisco Housing Code Sections 204(c)(2), 401, 1001, San Francisco Building Code Sections 102, 103, 106A, and San Francisco Health Code Section 581. Defendants violated the above code provisions by failing to timely abate violations of local health and safety codes and also by failing to file and secure requisite permits that would allow them to lawfully commence construction at Defendants' Properties.
- 137. At all times herein mentioned Defendants had notice and knowledge that Defendants' Properties constituted public nuisances because they were served with the administrative notices issued by DBI, but failed to take reasonable steps to timely abate the nuisances.

- 138. Plaintiffs have no adequate remedy at law in that damages are insufficient to protect the public from the present danger and harm caused by the conditions described above.
- 139. Unless said nuisances are abated, the residents of Defendants' Properties and the residents and citizens of the City and County of San Francisco, will suffer irreparable injury and damage, in that said conditions will continue to be injurious to the continuous enjoyment of the life and the free use of property of said residents of the City and County of San Francisco and the People of the State of California.
- 140. By failing to timely abate violations of local health and safety codes and also by failing to file and secure requisite permits that would allow them to lawfully commence construction at Defendants' Properties, Defendants have violated, disobeyed, omitted, neglected and refused to comply with the San Francisco Housing Code and the notices issued by DBI and Defendants are thus subject to civil penalties up to \$1,000 per day for each day that such violations existed and were permitted to continue at each property as set forth in Housing Code Section 204(c)(2).

COUNT TWO GENERAL PUBLIC NUISANCE FOR VIOLATIONS OF CIVIL CODE SECTION 3479 AND 3480 AGAINST ALL DEFENDANTS (Civil Code Sections 3479, 3480)

- 141. Plaintiffs hereby incorporate by reference paragraphs 1 through 140 above and make them a part of this cause of action, as though fully set forth herein.
- 142. As described above, Defendants are now, and for a considerable period of time, and all times herein mentioned have been, maintaining Defendants' Properties in such a manner as to constitute a continuing public nuisance within the meaning of Civil Code Sections 3479 and 3480. The conditions giving rise to said public nuisances are the violations of the municipal codes and other conditions described in greater detail above at Defendants' Properties. The practices described above are injurious to the health and safety of the residents and the community, are offensive to the senses, and interfere with the comfortable enjoyment of life and properties. The practices described above also affect a considerable number of persons and an entire community or neighborhood.
- 143. At all times herein mentioned, Defendants knew or should have known that Defendants' Properties were being maintained as public nuisances, but failed to take reasonable steps

to timely abate the nuisance.

- 144. Unless enjoined, Defendants will continue to operate Defendants' Properties in the above-described public nuisance conditions.
- 145. Plaintiffs have no adequate remedy at law in that damages are insufficient to protect the public from the present danger and harm caused by the conditions described above. Unless injunctive relief is granted to enjoin Defendants, the public will suffer irreparable injury and damage.
- 146. Unless this nuisance is abated, the community, neighborhood, and the residents and citizens of the State of California and the City and County of San Francisco will suffer irreparable injury and damage, in that said conditions will continue to be injurious to the enjoyment and the free use of the life and property of said residents and citizens of the State of California and the City and County of San Francisco.

FOURTH CAUSE OF ACTION FOR VIOLATIONS OF THE STATE HOUSING LAW BROUGHT BY PLAINTIFF CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO AGAINST ALL DEFENDANTS (Health And Safety Code Sections 17910-17998.3)

- 147. Plaintiff City and County of San Francisco hereby incorporates by reference paragraphs 1 through 146 above and make them a part of this cause of action, as though fully set forth herein.
- 148. Defendants now are, and for a considerable period of time heretofore and at all times herein mentioned have been, maintaining and Defendants' Properties as substandard buildings within the meaning of Health and Safety Code Section 17920.3. The conditions creating said substandard buildings are the on-going violations of the San Francisco Municipal Codes, as well as state and local law relating to the rights of tenants. The substandard conditions at the properties substantially endanger the health and safety of the occupants and the general public.
- 149. At all times herein mentioned Defendants have had notice and knowledge that Defendants' Properties are substandard buildings.
- 150. Plaintiffs have no adequate remedy at law in that damages are insufficient to protect the residents and the public from the harm caused by the conditions described herein.
 - 151. Unless said substandard conditions are abated, the occupants of Defendants' Properties

and the residents and citizens of the City and County of San Francisco, will suffer irreparable injury and damage, in that said conditions will continue to endanger the health and safety of the occupants of the properties and the occupants of the adjacent properties and the public.

FIFTH CAUSE OF ACTION FOR FALSE CLAIMS AGAINST THE CITY BROUGHT BY PLAINTIFF THE CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO AGAINST DEFENDANTS

(Government Code Section 12651)

- 152. Plaintiff City and County of San Francisco hereby incorporates by reference paragraphs
 1 through 151 above and make them a part of this cause of action, as though fully set forth herein.
- 153. Defendants, through the THAKOR FAMILY DEFENDANTS, and DEFENDANTS WINTON HOTEL, LLC, TKB INVESTMENTS, LLC, CIVIC CENTER HOTEL, LLC, SHREE JALABAPA HOTEL, LP, and SHREE JALARAMBAPA HOTEL, LP have contracted or do contract with the City to provide multiple residential rooms in Defendants' Properties for use by clients of CCSF departments, including at the Civic Center Hotel, the Kean Hotel, the Page Hotel, and the Winton Hotel.
- 154. As part of their written agreements with the City, Defendants specifically agreed that they "[are] responsible for maintenance and repair of common areas and sleeping rooms in the entire hotel(s), including the rooms and floors rented by [the City]. Owner will maintain the hotel(s), including all rooms rented by [the City], in clean, safe, habitable condition and in accordance with all health and safety codes applicable to the operation of the building. This includes utilizing professional extermination services on a regular basis and more often if necessary." See Exhibit G.
- 155. As part of their written agreements with the City, Defendants also specifically agreed that they "will provide 24 hour, seven days per week front desk personnel in order to maintain a secure and safe environment. Front desk personnel will be trained to provide professional services and communication to [City] clients and providers. Owner will be in compliance with codes and ordinances as applicable; such as the SRO Sprinkler Ordinance and the SRO Visitor Policy." See Exhibit G.
- 156. Every such agreement with the City also includes a legally implied requirement that the residential rooms be kept in a condition that is both habitable and compliant with state and local health

and safety codes.

- 157. Defendants have presented, or caused to be presented, claims to the City for payments under those contracts, expressly or impliedly representing that those rooms are safe and habitable as required by their contracts with CCSF and by state and local law, knowing that many or all of the rooms are neither safe nor habitable and knowing that they were in violation of many state and local laws. Examples of such claims by Defendants are attached as Exhibit H.
- 158. By falsely certifying that the SRO hotel rooms they provide under contract with the City are safe and habitable and compliant with state and local law when they are not, Defendants have violated California Government Code Section 12651.

SIXTH CAUSE OF ACTION FOR UNLAWFUL, UNFAIR, & FRAUDULENT BUSINESS PRACTICES BROUGHT BY PLAINTIFF THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA AGAINST ALL DEFENDANTS (Business and Professions Code Sections 17200 - 17210)

- 159. Plaintiff City and County of San Francisco hereby incorporates by reference paragraphs 1 through 158 above and make them a part of this cause of action, as though fully set forth herein.
- 160. Plaintiff, acting to protect the public from unlawful, unfair, and fraudulent practices, brings this cause of action in the public interest in the name of the People of the State of California, pursuant to Business and Professions Code Section 17200 17210.
- 161. Defendants transact business in the form of ownership, management and operation of SRO Hotels within the City and County of San Francisco, State of California. The violations of law described herein have been and are being carried out wholly or in part within the City and County of San Francisco.
- 162. The actions of Defendants are in violation of the laws and public policies of the City and County of San Francisco and the State of California and are inimical to the rights and interest of the general public.
- 163. Through the conduct described above, Defendants have engaged in a pattern and practice of unlawful, unfair, and fraudulent business practices prohibited by Business and Professions Code Sections 17200 17210 including but not limited to the following:

- A. Violating the State Housing Law by maintaining and operating substandard properties that endanger the life, limb, health, property, safety, and welfare of the occupants and the general public;
- B. Violating the San Francisco Housing, Building, and Health Codes:
- C. Creating per se and general public nuisances in violation of state and local law;
- Collecting rents for untenantable dwellings in violation of Civil Code Section
 1942.4;
- E. Depriving occupants of Defendants' Properties of tenancy rights in violation of local and state law;
- F. Performing construction work on residential units unlawfully and without proper permits; and
- G. Submitting or causing to be submitted to the City claims for payment for residential rooms for use by City clients while falsely certifying that those rooms were being maintained in a safe, healthy and habitable condition in compliance with state and local law.
- 164. Plaintiffs are informed and believe that as a direct and proximate result of the foregoing acts and practices, Defendants have received or will receive income and other benefits, which they would not have received if they had not engaged in the violations of Business and Professions Code Section 17200 described in this Complaint.
- 165. Defendants were able to unfairly compete with other businesses in the State of California by engaging in a pattern and practice of illegal activities that have violated the law and public policy of the City and of the State of California.
- 166. Plaintiff has no adequate remedy at law in that damages are insufficient to protect the public from the present harm caused by the conditions described in this Complaint. Defendants will continue to engage in unfair, unlawful, and fraudulent business practices. Unless injunctive relief is granted to enjoin Defendants' unfair and unlawful business practices, Plaintiffs will suffer irreparable injury and damage.
 - 167. Defendants are subject to civil penalties of up to \$2,500 per violation of the Business

Properties and any structures on Defendants' Properties and all parts thereof have been repaired and

- 10. Grant Plaintiffs a lien upon Defendants' Properties in the amount Plaintiffs expended pursuant to authority and a judgment in that amount against Defendant, its successors and assigns;
- 11. Order Defendant to pay all abatement costs, pursuant to Building Code Section 102A.14 and 102A.17;
- 12. Order Defendants not to claim any deduction with respect to state taxes for interest, taxes, expenses, depreciation, or amortization paid or incurred with respect Defendants' Properties for the taxable year of the initial Order or Notice to the present until all such Orders and Notices are abated, pursuant to State Housing Law Section 17980.7(b)(1);
- 13. Enjoin Defendants and their successors in interest, by themselves or through their agents, officers, managers, representatives, employees, and anyone acting on their behalf, from operating, conducting, using, occupying, or in any way permitting the use of Defendants' Properties in violation of the Civil Code Sections 3479 and 3480, the State Housing Law, the San Francisco Building Code, the San Francisco Housing Code or the San Francisco Health Code, or otherwise engaging in the unfair and unlawful business practices described in this Complaint, pursuant to Business and Professions Code Section 17203-17204.
- 14. Enjoin Defendants from continuing to deprive guests of Defendants' Properties of tenancy rights in violation of San Francisco Administrative Code Sections 37.2 and 37.10B, pursuant to Section 37.10B(c)(4).
- 15. Enjoin Defendants from spending, transferring, encumbering, or removing from California any money received from Defendants' Properties or in payment for the unfair, unlawful, and fraudulent acts alleged in the Complaint;

Civil Penalties

16. Order Defendants to pay civil penalties of \$500 for each day any violation of the San Francisco Building Code was committed or permitted to continue pursuant to San Francisco Building Code Section 103A;

Order restitution of all money or property Defendants acquired as a result of their

fraudulent business practices as described herein, pursuant to Business and Professions Code Section

17203;

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1	while Defendants maintained the Property in violation of law, pursuant to Business and Professions
2	Code Section 17203;
3	Attorneys' Fees and Costs
4	28. Award Plaintiffs recovery of their attorneys' fees, costs, and expenses incurred to secure
5	safe housing at Defendants' Properties, pursuant to Health and Safety Code Section 17980.7(d)(1);
6.	29. Award Plaintiffs their attorneys' fees and costs pursuant to San Francisco
7	Administrative Code Section 37.10B(c)(5).
8	30. Award Plaintiffs recovery of their costs incurred herein, pursuant to Code of Civil
9	Procedure Section 1032 and Government Code Section 12651;
10	Other Relief
11	31. Authorize Plaintiffs to record an Abstract of Judgment that constitutes a prior lien over
12	any lien that any Defendants in this case may hold on Defendants' Properties; and
13	32. Grant such other and further relief as this Court should find just and proper, including
14	attorneys' fees, prejudgment interest, and costs, as otherwise allowed by statute.
15	Dated: May 12, 2014
16	DENNIS J. HERRERA City Attorney
17	YVONNE MERÉ Chief Attorney, Neighborhood and Resident Safety Division
18	JERRY THREET Deputy City Attorney
19	1 Al A
20	By: ferry / wed
21	JERRY THREHT Deputy City Attorney
22	Attorney for Plaintiffs
23	CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO AND PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA
24	FEOFLE OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA
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Exhibit	<u>Description</u>
Α	Winton Hotel Department of Building Inspection Notices of Violations and Administrative Orders
В	Civic Center Hotel Department of Building Inspection Notices of Violations and Administrative Orders
C	Kean Hotel Department of Building Inspection Notices of Violations and Administrative Orders
D	Budget Inn Department of Building Inspection Notices of Violations and Administrative Orders
E	Bristol Hotel Department of Building Inspection Notices of Violations and Administrative Orders
F	Page Hotel Department of Building Inspection Notices of Violations and Administrative Orders
G	Contracts between Defendants and Department of Public Health for rooms in Defendants' SRO residential hotels
H	Invoices from Defendants to Department of Public Health requesting payment for rooms in Defendants' SRO residential hotels

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