#### ase 1:21-cv-01657-JLT-HBK Document 19-7 Filed 05/09/22 Page 1 of 10 SHAWN MEERKAMPER (SBN 296964) RICHARD SAENZ (pro hac vice 1 shawn@transgenderlawcenter.org forthcoming) TRANSGENDER LAW CENTER rsaenz@lambdalegal.org 2 P.O. Box 70976 LAMBDA LEGAL Oakland, California 94612 120 Wall Street, 19th Floor 3 New York, New York 10005 Telephone: (510) 587-9696 Telephone: (212) 809-8585 4 AMANDA C. GOAD (SBN 297131) agoad@aclusocal.org DIMITRI D. PORTNOI (SBN 282871) 5 **ACLU FOUNDATION OF SOUTHERN** dportnoi@omm.com MICHAEL J. SIMEONE (SBN 326844) **CALIFORNIA** 6 1313 W. 8<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 200 msimeone@omm.com Los Angeles, California 90017 ELIZABETH A. ARIAS (SBN 318283) 7 Telephone: (213) 977-9500 earias@omm.com SHIVANI I. MORRISON (SBN 8 CHRISTINA S. PAEK (SBN 341994) 342874) cpaek@lambdalegal.org smorrison@omm.com Q LAMBDA LEGĂL O'MELVENY & MYERS LLP 4221 Wilshire Boulevard, Suite 280 400 South Hope Street, 18th Floor 10 Los Angeles, California 90010 Los Angeles, California 90071 Telephone: (213) 382-7600 Telephone: (213) 430-6000 11 NORA HUPPERT (SBN 330552) SHILPI AGARWAL (SBN 270749) 12 nhuppert@lambdalegal.org sagarwal@aclunc.org LAMBDA LEGAL **ACLU FOUNDATION OF** 13 65 E. Wacker Place, Suite 2000 NORTHERN CALIFORNIA Chicago, Illinois 60601 39 Drumm Street 14 San Francisco, California 94111 Telephone: (312) 663-4413 Telephone: (415) 621-2493 15 Attorneys for Proposed Intervenors 16 17 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT 18 EASTERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA (FRESNO DIVISION) 19 Case No. 1:21-cv-01657-JLT-HBK 20 JANINE CHANDLER, et al., 21 **DECLARATION OF SHAWN** Plaintiffs, THOMAS MEERKAMPER 22 v. 23 CALIFORNIA DEP'T OF CORRECTIONS AND REHABILITATION, et al., 24 Defendants. 25

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I, Shawn Thomas Meerkamper, do declare:

- 1. I make this declaration based on my own personal knowledge, and if called to testify I could and would do so as follows:
- 2. I am the Senior Staff Attorney at Transgender Law Center, and I am one of Proposed Intervenors' counsel in this matter.
- 3. I am submitting this declaration to detail pre-filing meet and confer efforts by Proposed Intervenors' counsel regarding Proposed Intervenors' Motion to Intervene in the above-captioned case.

### Plaintiffs Do Not Oppose the Motion to Intervene

- 4. On April 12, 2022, another of Proposed Intervenors' counsel, Elizabeth Arias of O'Melveny & Myers LLP, contacted Plaintiffs' counsel via a letter attached to an email, to request to meet and confer regarding the Motion to Intervene. A true and correct copy of that letter is attached hereto as EXHIBIT A.
- 5. On April 15, 2022, Proposed Intervenors' counsel, Ms. Arias and myself, met and conferred by phone with Plaintiffs' counsel, Lauren Adams and Candice Jackson.
- 6. Plaintiffs' counsel informed us that they do not oppose Proposed Intervenors' Motion to Intervene and that they believe they do not have grounds to oppose the Motion to Intervene.

## Defendants Decline to Share Position on Motion to Intervene

- 7. On April 12, 2022, I contacted Defendants' Counsel, via a letter attached to an email, to request to meet and confer regarding the Motion to Intervene. A true and correct copy of that letter is attached hereto as EXHIBIT B.
- 8. On April 29, Proposed Intervenors' counsel, Ms. Arias and myself, met and conferred with Defendants' counsel, Preeti Bajwa, Anthony Corso, Misha Igra, and Colin Shaff.

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9. Ms. Bajwa requested that Proposed Intervenors file an amicus brief rather than move to intervene.

- 10. I explained that intervention, rather than *amicus* participation, is the appropriate mechanism for Proposed Intervenors to protect their interests in this litigation because Proposed Intervenors have different interests in this litigation than Defendants; because Proposed Intervenors variously sponsored SB 132 and are its intended beneficiaries; because Proposed Intervenors have an interest in more aggressive implementation and interpretation of SB 132 than Defendants do; and because Proposed Intervenors deserve to have their voices heard in this case in a more central way than as amici.
- 11. Ms. Igra then asked whether part of Proposed Intervenors' aim was to "coerce" CDCR to implement SB 132 differently. I took issue with the word "coerce," and Ms. Igra offered the word "urge" instead. I agree that this is part of what Proposed Intervenors have to say. Ms. Igra responded that this was "very helpful" information.
- 12. I understood this exchange to indicate that Defendants would not welcome Proposed Intervenors' views as to the implementation and interpretation of SB 132; that Defendants have a conflicting view; and that Defendants do not plan to convey Proposed Intervenors' views to the Court, or advocate for Proposed Intervenors' interests in prompt and thorough implementation of SB 132, in this litigation.
- 13. Ms. Arias invited Defendants' counsel to share what concerns they have about the Motion to Intervene. Ms. Igra declined and claimed that their concerns about the Motion to Intervene are attorney work product.
- Ms. Arias asked Defendants' counsel to clarify that they will oppose 14. the Motion to Intervene. Ms. Igra stated that Defendants will not take a position on the Motion to Intervene until after reviewing the motion. Although Proposed Intervenors never asked Defendants to stipulate to intervention, Ms. Igra stated that

# Defendants do not stipulate to intervention. I declare under penalty of perjury of the laws of the State of North Carolina and the United States that the foregoing is true and correct. Executed this 6th day of May 2022 at Durham, North Carolina. Shawn Thomas Meerkamper

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# **EXHIBIT A**

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Page 6 of 10 **Melveny** 

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April 12, 2022

Elizabeth Arias D: +1 213 430 7423 earias@omm.com

Candice Jackson Freeman, Mathis & Gary, LLP 1010 B Street, Suite 300 San Rafael, California 94901 cjackson@fmglaw.com

Lauren Adams Women's Liberation Front 1802 Vernon St. NW, #2036 Washington, DC 20009 legal@womensliberationfront.org

#### **VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL**

Re: <u>Chandler, et al. v. Cal. Dep't of Corrs. & Rehab., et al., Case No. 1:21-cv-01657-JLT-HBK</u>

#### Counsel:

I write to request a meet and confer in the above-listed case as required by Judge Thurston's Standing Order. See Dkt. No. 12. I am part of a legal team planning to file a motion to intervene, pursuant to Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 24, on behalf of the Transgender Gender-Variant & Intersex Justice Project ("TGIJP") and as many as four incarcerated transgender individuals.

TGIJP is a not-for-profit 501(c)(3) organization based in San Francisco, California. TGIJP's membership includes transgender, gender-variant, and intersex ("TGI") people living inside and out of California prisons. TGIJP works with and advocates for its members on issues like prison safety and appropriate housing. As part of its policy work, TGIJP sponsored SB 132.

Because TGIJP advocates for incarcerated TGI people and sponsored SB 132, it has a significant interest in the implementation of SB 132. The incarcerated transgender individuals we represent have a similarly significant interest in SB 132 because they are the law's intended beneficiaries. These interests will be seriously impaired if your clients are successful in enjoining SB 132. And because our clients' interests are sufficiently distinct from the existing defendants, they are not adequately represented by the current parties.

The motion to dismiss filed yesterday by Defendants confirms that our clients' interests are not adequately represented: Defendants argue that they have wide discretion to slow down and stop implementation of SB 132—a point that our clients dispute. See Dkt. 15-1 at 13, 16–17.



Please let us know some dates and times you are available in the next week to discuss whether you will oppose the motion to intervene and whether you will agree to adjust the current motion to dismiss briefing schedule so that our clients can participate in the briefing. If you do not oppose the motion and would be amenable to adjusting the briefing schedule, email confirmation of that is sufficient.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Arias

for O'Melveny & Myers LLP

# **EXHIBIT B**



PO Box 70976 Oakland, CA 94612 510.587.9696 www.transgenderlawcenter.org

April 12, 2022

Preeti Bajwa & Anthony Corso
Office of the Attorney General
455 Golden Gate Ave. Suite 11000
San Francisco, CA 94102
preeti.bajwa@doj.ca.gov
anthony.corso@doj.ca.gov

#### **VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL**

Re: <u>Chandler, et al. v. Cal. Dep't of Corrs. & Rehab., et al. , Case No. 1:21-cv-01657-JLT-HBK</u>

#### Counsel:

I write to request a meet and confer as required by Judge Thurston's Standing Order in the above-listed matter. See Dkt. No. 12. I am part of a legal team planning to file a motion to intervene pursuant to Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 24 on behalf of the Transgender Gender-Variant & Intersex Justice Project ("TGIJP") and as many as four incarcerated transgender individuals. I first informed you of this intended intervention via email on March 2, 2022.

TGIJP is a not-for-profit 501(c)(3) organization based in San Francisco, California. TGIJP's membership includes transgender, gender-variant, and intersex ("TGI") people living inside and out of California prisons. TGIJP works with and advocates for its members on issues like prison safety and appropriate housing. As part of its policy work, TGIJP sponsored SB 132.

Because TGIJP advocates for incarcerated TGI people and sponsored SB 132, it has a significant interest in the implementation of SB 132. The incarcerated transgender individuals we represent have a similarly significant interest in SB 132 because they are the law's intended beneficiaries. These interests will be seriously impaired if Plaintiffs in this matter are successful in enjoining SB 132. And because our clients' interests are sufficiently distinct from the existing defendants, they are not adequately represented by the current parties.

The motion to dismiss Defendants filed yesterday confirms that our clients' interests are not adequately represented: Defendants argue that they have wide discretion to slow down and stop implementation of SB 132—a point that our clients dispute. See Dkt. 15-1 at 13, 16–17.

Please let us know some dates and times you are available in the next week to discuss whether you will oppose the motion to intervene and whether you will agree to structure the current

motion to dismiss briefing schedule so that our clients can participate in the briefing. If you do not oppose the motion and would be amenable to adjusting the briefing schedule, email confirmation of that is sufficient.

Sincerely,

Shawn Thomas Meerkamper

Senior Staff Attorney

Transgender Law Center