1 2 3 4 5 6	Kristen Clarke, Assistant Attorney General Sameena S. Majeed, Chief Megan K. Whyte De Vasquez, Deputy Chief Noah Sacks, Trial Attorney United States Department of Justice 4 Constitution Square 150 M St., NE Suite 800 Washington, DC 20530 Tel: (202) 305-1901 Fax: (202) 514-1116 noah.sacks@usdoj.gov Christopher Chiou, United States Attorney		
7 8	Holly A. Vance, Assistant United States Attorney 400 South Virginia St., Suite 900 Reno, Nevada 89501 Tel: (775) 784-5438		
9	Fax: (775) 784-5181 holly.a.vance@usdoj.gov		
10	Attorneys for Plaintiff United States of America		
11	UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT		
12	DISTRICT OF NEVADA		
13	UNITED STATES OF AMERICA	Case No. 2:20-cv-01809-JCM-BNW	
14	Plaintiffs,		
15	V.	CONSENT ORDER	
16 17	LAS VEGAS JAYCEES SENIOR CITIZENS MOBILE HOME COMMUNITY, NEWPORT PACIFIC FAMILY OF COMPANIES, and SHERRY POLLEY-TOMPKINS,		
18	Defendants.		
19	I INTRODUCTION		
20	I. <u>INTRODUCTION</u>		
21	1. Plaintiff United States of America filed this action to enforce Title VIII of the		
22	Civil Rights Act of 1968, as amended by the Fair Housing Amendments Act of 1988, 42		
23	U.S.C. §§ 3601-3619 ("the Act" or "the FHA").		
24			

- 2. The United States filed this action on September 29, 2020, on behalf of Complainants Patricia Ambrouso and Cheryl Rheamount ("Complainants") in accordance with 42 U.S.C. § 3612(o).
- 3. At times relevant to this Complaint, Ms. Ambrouso was the owner of a mobile home located in the Las Vegas Jaycees Senior Citizens Mobile Home Community located at 5805 W. Harmon Avenue, Las Vegas, Nevada, 89103 (the "Mobile Home Community").
- 4. The Complaint alleges that Ms. Rheamount, Ms. Ambrouso's adult daughter, has Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder ("PTSD") and Major Depressive Disorder, which substantially impair her ability to work and interact with others, and is therefore an individual with a disability as defined by the Fair Housing Act, 42 U.S.C. § 3602(h). The Complaint further alleges that at all times relevant to the Complaint, Ms. Rheamount used an assistance animal, described as a pit bull dog named Lil, which alleviated her symptoms and which she would take with her when she would visit her mother's home at the Mobile Home Community.
- 5. Defendant Las Vegas Jaycees Senior Citizens Mobile Community ("Jaycees") is the owner of the Mobile Home Community. Pursuant to a Property Management Agreement between Las Vegas Jaycees, and Defendant Newport Pacific Family of Companies, with the legal entity name of Newport Pacific Capital Company, Inc., a California corporation ("Newport"), Newport currently manages the Mobile Home Community.
- 6. At all times relevant to this Complaint, Defendant Sherry Polley-Tompkins was an employee of Newport and was the on-site Community Manager at the Mobile Home Community. She was responsible for the daily management of the Mobile Home Community, acting under the direction and at the discretion of, Newport and the Jaycees' Board of Directors.

- 7. The United States' Complaint alleges that Defendants violated the FHA by: refusing to grant Ms. Ambrouso a reasonable accommodation to its breed restriction policy to allow Ms. Rheamount to visit the Mobile Home Community with her assistance animal, in violation of 42 U.S.C. §§ 3604(f)(1), (f)(2), and (f)(3)(b); and by interfering with Ms. Ambrouso's and Ms. Rheamount's FHA rights and retaliating against them after they requested a reasonable accommodation, in violation of 42 U.S.C. § 3617.
- 8. The parties agree that the claims against Defendants should be resolved without further proceedings or a trial. This Consent Order resolves all claims in the Complaint against Defendants.

II. GENERAL INJUNCTION

It is hereby STIPULATED, ADJUDGED, and ORDERED as follows:

- 9. This Court has jurisdiction over the subject matter of the action pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1331 and 1345 and 42 U.S.C. § 3612(o).
- 10. Defendants, their agents, their employees, and all others in active concert or participation with them, will not discriminate on the basis of a disability as prohibited by the FHA, and are hereby enjoined from:
 - a. Discriminating in the rental of, or otherwise making unavailable or denying, a
 dwelling to any buyer or renter because of a disability or because of the disability
 of someone associated with the buyer or renter, in violation of 42 U.S.C. §
 3604(f)(1);
 - b. Discriminating against any person in the terms, conditions, or privileges of rental of a dwelling, or in the provision of services or facilities in connection with such a dwelling, because of a disability, or because of the disability of someone associated with that person, in violation of 42 U.S.C. § 3604(f)(2);

- c. Refusing to make reasonable accommodations in rules, policies, practices, or services when such accommodations may be necessary to afford an equal opportunity to use and enjoy a dwelling, in violation of 42 U.S.C. § 3604(f)(3)(B); and
- d. Coercing, intimidating, threatening, or interfering with any person in the exercise or enjoyment of, or on account of any person having exercised or enjoyed, or on account of any person having aided or encouraged any other person in the exercise or enjoyment of, any right granted or protected by Sections 3604, 3605, or 3606 of the FHA, in violation of 42 U.S.C. § 3617.

III. MANDATORY EDUCATION AND TRAINING

- 11. Within 60 days of the entry of this Consent Order, Jaycees and Newport will provide written confirmation that they provide accommodation and Fair Housing Act training to all park location managers, leasing agents, and employees and representatives who have decision making authority with respect to residents. Within that same timeframe, Jaycees' and Newport's employees and/or agents who have management or administrative duties with respect to the sale, leasing, or rental of housing at the Mobile Home Community shall have attended, at the Defendants' expense, an additional training program regarding the Fair Housing Act, including in particular the FHA's prohibitions against disability discrimination. The training materials shall be approved in advance by the United States and shall be conducted by a qualified party of Newport's choice and paid for by Defendants.
- 12. Defendants hereby confirm that any new employees hired to work with or for Defendants who will perform management or administrative duties with respect to the sale, lease, or rental of housing at the Mobile Home Community have always attended and will

continue to attend fair housing training within 30 days of the start of their employment. The Defendants shall bear the costs associated with this training.

13. Defendants shall maintain a list of all employees who are required to and have attended the training required by Paragraphs 11-12. Such list shall be provided to the United States on an annual basis as part of the reporting required by Paragraph 20, through the duration of this Consent Order.

IV. NONDISCRIMINATION POLICY

- 14. Within 45 days of the entry of this Consent Order, Defendants will confirm the posting and display within the Mobile Home Community's rental offices and in a prominent location on the premises of the Mobile Home Community a sign no smaller than 11 inches by 14 inches indicating that all units are available for sale, lease, or rental on a nondiscriminatory basis. An 11-by-14 inch poster that comports with 24 C.F.R. Part 110 satisfies this requirement.
- 15. Jaycees and Newport (so long as it is managing the Mobile Home Community) shall continue to ensure that any new advertising for the Mobile Home Community in newspapers, in telephone directories, on radio, on television, on the internet, or in other media, and any signs, pamphlets, brochures, rental applications, leases, and other promotional literature includes a fair housing logo, the phrase "Equal Housing Opportunity Provider," and/or the following sentences:

"We are an equal opportunity housing provider. We do not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, disability, familial status, or national origin."

V. REASONABLE ACCOMMODATION POLICY

16. Within 35 days of the entry of this Consent Order, Defendants shall review and revise as necessary and appropriate their specific written policy, the "Reasonable

Accommodation Policy for Persons with Disabilities," for receiving and handling requests for reasonable accommodations made by persons with disabilities at the Mobile Home Community. This policy shall comply with the requirements of 42 U.S.C. §§ 3601-3619 and all other applicable federal and state laws and shall include the following provisions:

- a. A description of where and how requests for accommodations in rules, policies, practices, or services are to be accepted and processed;
- b. Each request for a reasonable accommodation and the response thereto shall be fully documented by Defendants, including retaining copies of any written requests or decisions through the duration of this Consent Order;
- c. All requests for a reasonable accommodation shall be acknowledged, in writing, within 7 business days of Defendants' receipt of an oral or a written request;
- d. Persons requesting a reasonable accommodation shall be notified in writing of the decision regarding their request within 14 business days of the receipt of that request, including an explanation if the request is denied;
- e. Jaycees and/or Newport shall not impose any additional fees or costs on any person who has exercised his/her rights under the Fair Housing Act to make one or more reasonable accommodation requests and, if applicable, to receive a reasonable accommodation; and
- f. Jaycees and/or Newport shall not retaliate against any person who has exercised his/her rights under the Fair Housing Act.
- 17. Within 35 days of the entry of this Consent Order, Jaycees and/or Newport shall provide a draft of the Reasonable Accommodation Policy for Persons with Disabilities to counsel for the United States for review. The United States shall respond to the Defendants' proposed policy within 35 days of its receipt. If the United States objects to any part of the

Defendants' proposal, the parties shall have 30 days from the date the United States gives notice of its objection to resolve their disagreement. If they are unable to do so, the parties shall submit the dispute to the Court for resolution. Defendants shall implement the Reasonable Accommodation Policy for Persons with Disabilities at the Mobile Home Community within 14 days of approval by the United States or determination by the Court. Defendants may amend the Policy once it has been implemented only after receiving approval from the United States, or, if the United States denies such approval, upon Order of the Court.

18. Jaycees and/or Newport will continue to keep written records of each request for reasonable accommodation made at the Mobile Home Community for the duration of this Consent Order. These records shall include: (a) the name, address, and telephone number of the person making the request; (b) the date on which the request was received; (c) the nature of the request; (d) whether the request was granted or denied; and (e) if the request was denied, the reason(s) for the denial.

VI. REPORTING AND RECORD KEEPING

- 19. Defendants shall notify and provide documentation to the United States of the following events within 30 days of their occurrence:
- a. The continuation of the Reasonable Accommodation Policy for Persons with Disabilities;
- b. The implementation of any change to the Reasonable Accommodation Policy for Persons with Disabilities;
- c. The confirmation of the posting of the Nondiscrimination Policy in accordance with Part IV of this Consent Order;
- d. The denial of a request for a reasonable accommodation by any person at the Mobile Home Community, including the requester's name, address, and telephone number, the

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date of the request, the details of the request, and the written explanation provided to the requester for denying the request; and

- The making of any written or oral complaint against the Defendants regarding e. discrimination on the basis of disability at the Mobile Home Community, including a copy of the written complaint itself or a written summary of an oral complaint, and the name, address, and telephone number of the complainant. Defendants shall also promptly provide the United States with information concerning resolution of the complaint.
- 20. Jaycees shall be responsible for the preparation of annual compliance reports beginning on the anniversary of the entry of this Consent Order and continuing every year thereafter, except that the final report shall be submitted 60 days prior to the expiration of this Consent Order. The compliance report shall include: (a) copies of any advertising for the rental, leasing or sale of housing in the Mobile Home Community in newspapers, in telephone directories, on radio, on television, on the internet, or in other media published since the effective date of this Consent Order or the submission of the prior compliance report; (b) a list of all reasonable accommodation requests submitted to Jaycees by persons at the Mobile Home Community, including residents or prospective residents, since the effective date of this Agreement or the submission of the prior compliance report, including the name and contact information of the requester, the property at which the request was made, the date of the request, the nature of the request, and whether the request was granted or denied; and (c) a list of employees trained pursuant to paragraphs 11 and 12, above.
- 21. While this Consent Order remains in effect, Defendants shall preserve all records relating to their obligations under this Consent Order. Representatives of the United States shall be permitted, upon providing reasonable notice to the Defendants, to inspect and copy at

reasonable times any and all records related to the Defendants' obligations under this Consent Order.

VII. RELIEF FOR COMPLAINANTS PATRICIA AMBROUSO AND CHERYL RHEAMOUNT

- 22. Within 35 days of the entry of this Consent Order, Defendants shall deliver to the United States a check payable to Patricia Ambrouso in the amount of \$80,000 and a check payable to Cheryl Rheamount in the amount of \$20,000. Such checks shall fully satisfy any claim for damages by Complainants against Defendants arising from the events giving rise to this lawsuit.
- 23. As a prerequisite to receiving payment pursuant to Paragraph 22, Ms. Ambrouso and Ms. Rheamount shall execute a release of all claims, legal or equitable, that they may have against the Defendants relating to the claims asserted in this lawsuit. This release will be drafted by defense counsel and attached hereto as Exhibit A. The United States shall deliver the signed releases to counsel for the Defendants.

VIII. <u>JURISDICTION, DURATION, AND SCOPE</u>

- 24. This Consent Order is effective immediately upon its entry by the Court, and shall remain in effect for thirty months from the date of its entry.
- 25. The Court shall retain jurisdiction over this action and the parties thereto for the purpose of enforcing and modifying the terms of the Consent Order while the Consent Order remains in effect.
- 26. The United States may move the Court to extend the period in which this Consent Order is in effect if the United States believes it is likely that the Defendants violated one or more terms of the Consent Order as it relates to the Mobile Home Community or if the interests of justice so require to effectuate the rights and obligations arising from this Consent

Order as they related to the Mobile Home Community. This action and the Complaint shall be deemed dismissed with prejudice upon the expiration of this Consent Order.

- 27. Any time limits for performance imposed by this Consent Order may be extended by mutual written agreement of the parties.
- 28. The terms of this Consent Order shall not be modified, revised, or altered unless mutually agreed upon in writing by the parties and approved by the Court.
- 29. The parties shall endeavor in good faith to resolve informally any differences regarding interpretation of and compliance with this Consent Order prior to bringing such matters to the Court for resolution. However, in the event Defendants fail to perform in a timely manner any act required by this Consent Order or act in violation of any provision of this Order, the United States may move the Court to impose any remedy authorized by law or equity, including, but not limited to, an order requiring performance or non-performance of certain acts and an award of damages and costs.
- 30. The United States may take steps to monitor the Defendants' compliance with the Agreement, including conducting fair housing tests at the housing owned and/or managed by Defendants.
- 31. If, at any time before the expiration of this Consent Order, Defendants sell or otherwise relinquish their interest or management responsibilities for the Mobile Home Community to a bona fide, independent, third-party in an arms-length transaction, their obligations under this Consent Order, except for paragraph 22, shall cease. For purposes of

¹ For purposes of this Consent Order, "arms-length transaction" is defined as a transaction that has been arrived at in the marketplace between independent, non-affiliated persons, unrelated by blood or marriage, with opposing economic interests regarding that transaction. A transaction involving a corporate entity in which the Corporate Defendants, or any person related to the Corporate Defendants by corporate affiliation are officers, members, executives, managers, partners, employees, subsidiaries, affiliates, or agents, shall not be considered an arms-length transaction.

this paragraph, a "bona fide, independent, third-party" is one in which neither Defendants nor their officers, members, executives, managers, partners, employees, subsidiaries, affiliates, or agents has any current or past financial, contractual, personal, or familial relationship.

- 32. If, at any time while this Consent Order remains in effect, Newport has concluded its management duties and is no longer managing the Mobile Home Community, or the Mobile Home Community has been relinquished, sold or transferred to a bona-fide third party in an arms-length transaction, the relevant Defendant shall inform the United States within 30 days of such event, and provide the date of any such conclusion, transfer, or sale, together with copies of the relevant documents showing conclusion, transfer, or sale, and the name(s) and contact information for the transferee.
- 33. If any transfer of interest in the Mobile Home Community is not an arms-length transaction, Defendants shall remain jointly and severally liable, along with the transferee, for any violations of this Consent Order.

IX. COSTS OF LITIGATION

34. Expect as provided for in Paragraph 29, Plaintiff, Complainants, and Defendants each shall be responsible for their own attorney's fees and costs associated with this action.

X. TERMINATION OF LITIGATION HOLD

35. The Parties agree that, as of the effective date of this Consent Order, litigation is not "reasonably foreseeable" concerning the matters described in the United States' Complaint. To the extent that Plaintiff, Complainants, and Defendants previously implemented a litigation hold to preserve documents, electronically stored information (ESI), or things related to the matters described in the Complaint, they are no longer required to maintain such a litigation hold. Nothing in this paragraph relieves any of the parties of any other obligations imposed by this Consent Order.

IT IS SO ORDERED:

HONORABLE JAMES C. MAHAN STATES DISTRICT JUDGE

Mus C. Mahan

UNITEDATED: September 8, 2021

1	Dated: August 30, 2021	
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3		Respectfully submitted,
4		MERRICK B. GARLAND Attorney General
5	CANDIGE OF THE CANON	WDIGTEN GLADWE
6	CHRISTOPHER CHIOU United States Attorney	KRISTEN CLARKE Assistant Attorney General Civil Rights Division
7	HOLLY A. VANCE Assistant United States Attorney	5
8	United States Attorney's Office 400 South Virginia St., Suite 900	SAMEENA S. MAJEED Chief
9	Reno, Nevada 89501 Tel: (775) 784-5438	Housing and Civil Enforcement Section
10	Fax: (775) 784-5181	/s/ Noah D. Sacks MEGAN K. WHYTE DE VASQUEZ
11		Deputy Chief NOAH D. SACKS
12		Trial Attorney
13		Housing and Civil Enforcement Section Civil Rights Division U.S. Department of Justice
14		4 Constitution Square
15		150 M St., NE Suite 800 Washington, DC 20530 Tel: (202) 305-1901
16		Fax: (202) 514-1116
17		noah.sacks@usdoj.gov
18		
19		Attorneys for Plaintiff United States for America
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Case 2:20-cv-01809-JCM-BNW Document 28 Filed 09/08/21 Page 14 of 16

1	Dated: August 30, 2021	KROESCHESCHINDLER LLP
2		By: /s/ Thomas R. Kroesche Thomas R. Kroesche
3		Thomas R. Kroesche Eric J. Schindler Michelle J. Berner
4		Attorneys for Defendants Newport Pacific Capital Company, Las Vegas Jaycees
5		Senior Citizens Mobile Home Community and Sherry Polley-Tompkins
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EXHBIT A

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RELEASE OF CLAIMS

3	In consideration of the terms of the Consent Order entered in <i>United States v. Las Vegas</i>
4	Jaycees Senior Citizens Mobile Home Park et al., 2:20-cv-01809-JCM-BNW, and the
5	Defendants' payment to me of [\$20,000 or \$80,000], I, [Cheryl Rheamount, ("Rheamount") or
6	Patricia Ambrouso ("Ambrouso")] hereby release and forever discharge Defendants Newport
7	Pacific Capital Company, Inc. a California corporation (named as "Newport Pacific Family of
8	Companies" in this lawsuit) ("Newport Pacific"), Las Vegas Jaycees Senior Citizens Mobile
9	Home Community, a Nevada corporation ("LV Jaycees"), and Sherry Polley-Tompkins
10	("Tompkins"), and their officers, directors, agents, employees, assigns, and other affiliates from
11	any and all liability for any claims, legal or equitable, pursuant to Federal, state, common or
12	Nevada law, asserted and unasserted, known or unknown, arising out of or related to the facts
13	and circumstances alleged in the Complaint in the above referenced action as of the effective
14	date of the Consent Order.
15	I hereby represent that I have not transferred or assigned any claim covered by this
16	release. I acknowledge that I have read and understand this release and have executed it
17	voluntarily and with full knowledge of its legal consequences.
18 19	By: Name: [Cheryl Rheamount or Patricia Ambrouso] Date:, 2021
20	By:
21	Name: Newport Pacific Capital Company, Inc. Date: , 2021
22	
23	By:
24	Name: Las Vegas Jaycees Senior Citizens Mobile Home Community

Case 2:20-cv-01809-JCM-BNW Document 28 Filed 09/08/21 Page 16 of 16

1	Date:, 2021	
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3	By:Name: Sherry Polley-Tompkin	as
4	Date:, 2021	
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