

ROBINS KAPLAN LLP
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MARK D. ROSENBAUM, 59940
mrosenbaum@publiccounsel.org
KATHRYN A. EIDMANN, 268053
keidmann@publiccounsel.org
AMANDA K. PERTUSATI, 296669
apertusati@publiccounsel.org
AMANDA MANGASER SAVAGE, 325996
asavage@publiccounsel.org
AMELIA PIAZZA, SBN 342473
apiazza@publiccounsel.org
YI LI, SBN 354281
yli@publiccounsel.org
PUBLIC COUNSEL LAW CENTER
610 S. Ardmore Avenue
Los Angeles, California 90005
Telephone: (213) 385-2977
Facsimile: (213) 385-9089

EVE L. HILL, 202178
EHill@browngold.com
JAMIE STRAWBRIDGE, Pro Hac Vice
JStrawbridge@browngold.com
BROWN GOLDSTEIN & LEVY, LLP
120 E. Baltimore St., Suite 2500
Baltimore, Maryland 21202
Telephone: (410) 962-1030
Facsimile: (401) 385-0869

Attorneys for Plaintiffs

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA**

JEFFREY POWERS, *et al.*,

Plaintiffs,

vs.

DENIS RICHARD MCDONOUGH, in
his official capacity, Secretary of
Veterans Affairs, *et al.*,

Defendants,

BRIDGELAND RESOURCES, LLC,

Intervenor.

ROMAN M. SILBERFELD, 62783
RSilberfeld@RobinsKaplan.com
DAVID MARTINEZ, 193183
DMartinez@robinskaplan.com
TOMMY H. DU, 305117
TDu@RobinsKaplan.com
ROBINS KAPLAN LLP
2121 Avenue of the Stars, Ste. 2800
Los Angeles, California 90067
Telephone: (310) 552-0130
Facsimile: (310) 229-5800

T.E. GLENN, 155761
TGlenn@innercitylaw.org
AMANDA POWELL, 318036
APowell@innercitylaw.org
CHARLES KOHORST, 327558
CKohorst@innercitylaw.org
INNER CITY LAW CENTER
1309 East Seventh Street
Los Angeles, California 90021
Telephone: (213) 891-2880
Facsimile: (213) 891-2888

Case No.: 2:22-cv-08357-DOC-KS

PLAINTIFFS' WITNESS LIST

DATE: JULY 15, 2024
TIME: 8:30 AM
LOCATION: FIRST STREET COURTHOUSE
HON: DAVID O. CARTER

TRIAL DATE: AUGUST 6, 2024

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1 Plaintiffs submit the following proposed witness list pursuant C.D. Cal.
 2 Local Rule 16-5. Plaintiffs intend to call the following witnesses to provide
 3 testimony at the trial in this matter. In addition, Plaintiffs reserve the right to call
 4 witnesses proposed by Defendants, and to call rebuttal and/or impeachment
 5 witnesses in response to testimony provided by Defendants. Plaintiffs have
 6 provided their best estimate as to the general order of witnesses, however, the order
 7 may be subject to change based upon the availability of witnesses and scheduling
 8 during trial.

9 The nature of testimony is a broad, general description of anticipated
 10 testimony, and is not intended to limit more specific testimony relevant to the case.
 11 Additionally, direct examination estimates are good faith estimates of anticipated
 12 testimony but are not intended to limit the evidence Plaintiffs’ intend to offer to
 13 support their positions. Plaintiffs reserve their rights to put on additional testimony
 14 and exceeding the estimated examination times to the extent necessary to rebut the
 15 evidence submitted by Defendants.

Witness Name	Party	Nature of Testimony	Estimate for Direct Examination
Shad Meshad	Plaintiffs	Mr. Meshad is the Founder and President of the National Veterans Foundation (“NVF”). NVF is a veteran-run organization located in Los Angeles that provides life-sustaining services for veterans throughout the country, but in particular for unhoused veterans living on the streets of Los Angeles. The NVF’s Homeless Veteran Outreach Program provides outreach missions each week to areas of Los Angeles with high concentrations of homeless individuals to assist unhoused veterans living in encampments	1 hour

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		and other circumstances obtain food, water, and, for the past few years, supplies to reduce the likelihood of contracting COVID-19. The Street Outreach team identifies homeless veterans and works to get them into programs that will get them off the streets. This work is an integral part of NVF’s mission to stop veteran suicide, the rates of which are double that of non-veteran counterparts.	
Robert Reynolds	Plaintiffs	Mr. Reynolds is a veteran and currently an independent contractor for Concourse Federal. Mr. Reynolds is intimately familiar with Plaintiffs and their housing situation and is expected to provide testimony regarding his attempts to assist homeless veterans obtain housing, including daily outreach to homeless veterans. He is an advocate for veterans and will testify regarding his efforts to unsuccessfully work with Federal Defendants and the problems that continue to persist.	1 hour
Joshua Petitt	Plaintiffs	Mr. Petitt is a veteran with a 100% service-connected disability rating. Mr. Petitt is expected to provide testimony about his efforts to obtain treatment and permanent supportive housing from Federal Defendants and the obstacles that he has encountered in trying to obtain treatment for his service-connected disability.	30 minutes
Lavon Johnson	Plaintiffs	Mr. Johnson is a veteran with a 100% service-connected disability rating. Mr. Johnson is expected to	30 minutes

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		provide testimony about his efforts to obtain treatment and permanent supportive housing from Federal Defendants and the obstacles that he has encountered in trying to obtain treatment for his service-connected disability, including the AMI Rule.	
Joseph Fields	Plaintiffs	Mr. Fields is an Army veteran with a 100% service-connected disability rating. He is expected to testify about his efforts to obtain treatment and housing from VAGLAHS and the obstacles he has encountered in trying to obtain treatment for his service-connected disability.	30 minutes
Jeffrey Powers	Plaintiffs	Mr. Powers is a veteran with a 90% service-connected disability rating. Mr. Powers is expected to provide testimony about his efforts to obtain treatment and permanent supportive housing from Federal Defendants and the obstacles that he has encountered in trying to obtain treatment for his service-connected disability.	30 minutes
Laurieann Wright	Plaintiffs	Ms. Wright is a veteran with a 100% service-connected disability rating. Ms. Wright is expected to provide testimony about her efforts to obtain treatment and permanent supportive housing from Federal Defendants and the obstacles that she has encountered in trying to obtain treatment for her service-connected disability, including having to travel from Lancaster, California to the WLAVA Campus because of the lack of available	30 minutes

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		and appropriate housing near the campus.	
Sally Hammitt	Plaintiffs	Ms. Hammitt is the Chief of the Community Engagement & Reintegration Service at VAGLAHS. She is expected to testify about the by-name list and the number of homeless veterans in the Greater Los Angeles Area. In addition, Ms. Hammit is expected to provide testimony regarding the services that VAGLAHS provides to homeless veterans and the efforts to secure housing for veterans.	1 hour
John Kuhn	Plaintiffs	Mr. Kuhn is the Deputy Medical Center Director of VAGLAHS. Mr. Kuhn is responsible for the VA’s efforts in providing housing and services to homeless veterans in the Greater Los Angeles area, including efforts to secure permanent housing and temporary housing to homeless veterans.	1.5 hours
Steven Braverman	Plaintiffs	Dr. Braverman is the Interim VISN 22 Network Director of the VA Desert Pacific Healthcare Network. He was previously appointed as the Medical Center Director of the VAGLAHS. He is expected to provide testimony regarding the operations of VAGLAHS and activities as well as the implantation of the master plans for the WLA Grounds.	1.5 hours
Keith Harris	Plaintiffs	Mr. Harris is the Senior Executive Homelessness Agent for VAGLAHS. He is expected to provide testimony regarding the implementation of the master plan on the WLA Grounds and the	1 hour

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		supervision of employees who provide outreach, case management, health care, and housing services to veterans experiencing or at risk of homelessness.	
Michael Dennis*	Plaintiffs	Mr. Dennis is the Senior Program Advisor of the Office of Public Housing & Voucher Programs. Mr. Dennis is expected to provide testimony on the HUD-VASH Program along with HUD’s partnership with the local public housing authorities for the distribution of HUD-VASH vouchers.	1 hour
Alan Trinh	Plaintiffs	Mr. Trinh is the acting Executive Director for Ambulatory Care for VAGLAHS. Prior to his current position, Mr. Trinh was the Chief of the Office of Strategic, Facility and Master Planning and oversaw the development and implementation of the master plan including the infrastructure for the construction projects on the campus.	1 hour
Brett Simms	Plaintiffs	Mr. Simms is the Executive Director of the Office of Asset Enterprise Management. Mr. Simms is knowledgeable about the VA’s enhanced used lease program and the construction of housing on the WLA Grounds and is expected to provide testimony on such issues.	1 hour
Steve Soboroff	Plaintiffs	Mr. Soboroff has worked on real estate projects spanning 5 decades and has been devoted his career to “finish line” implementation by breaking down extremely complex	1.5 hours

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		projects into simple day-by-day tasks to achieve project completion. He is expected to provide expert testimony regarding the current use of the WLAVA Campus and what can be done to use the property effectively to provide a community which include quality temporary housing, an increase in permanent housing, and other important services and facilities for homeless veterans. In particular, Mr. Soboroff will identify sites for the placement of temporary supportive housing units, the overview of the planning and execution of the project for housing on the WLAVA Campus, the need for more permanent supportive housing, and the inadequacies of the current master plan and concept.	
Randy Johnson	Plaintiffs	Mr. Johnson is a real estate developer with over 40 years of experience. He is expected to provide expert testimony regarding the existing situation on the WLAVA Campus and what can be done to use the property effectively to provide both temporary and permanent housing on the property to help alleviate veteran homelessness.	1.5 hours
Benjamin Henwood	Plaintiffs	Dr. Henwood is a licensed clinical social worker and the Frances L. and Robert G. Feldman Professor of Social Policy and Health at the University of Southern California. He is expected to provide expert testimony regarding the definition of permanent supportive housing, the target population that permanent supportive housing was	2 hours

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		designed to serve, the evidence based for permanent supportive housing, key elements for its effectiveness, and its importance to addressing veteran homelessness.	
Jonathan Sherin	Plaintiffs	Dr. Sherin is a board-certified Psychiatrist and Neurologist. He has dedicated his life to the study and eradication of homelessness, and in particular, the eradication of homelessness among veterans. Dr. Sherin is expected to provide expert testimony regarding the inadequate response of the VA to veteran homelessness, the development of an intentional community of the WLAVA Campus, the targeting of multiple veteran populations to prevent unacceptable outcomes, the urgent need to develop temporary housing units, the creation of permanent housing units, and the creation and expansion of a full range of resources and services for homeless veterans.	2 hours
Steven Durham*	Plaintiffs	Mr. Durham is the Director of Housing Voucher Programs and is expected to provide testimony on the policies and procedures of the HUD-VASH Program along with HUD’s partnership with the local public housing authorities for the distribution of HUD-VASH vouchers	1 hour
Dennis Culhane	Plaintiffs	Dr. Culhane is a Professor at the University of Pennsylvania. He is expected to provide testimony concerning the homelessness crisis in Los Angeles, and the quality of the HUD-VASH program’s (in-)	1.5 hours

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		<p>effectiveness in addressing or resolving that crisis. He is also expected to testify that the veteran homelessness crisis in Los Angeles has not been abated by either the VA’s or the County/City of Los Angeles’ initiatives, and that the HUD-VASH program is not working to resolve the veteran homelessness crisis either, both based upon the number of exits compared to entries into the program, and because of the inadequacy of the case management function provided by the VA. He will base this testimony on facts presented to him through public records and information made available by the VA itself, as well as through his experience working for the VA.</p>	
<p>Andrew Carrillo</p>	<p>Plaintiffs</p>	<p>Mr. Carrillo is a Member of the Board of Directors of the Bandini Foundation. Mr. Carrillo was also previously the President of the Santa Monica Historical Society and the President of Los Californianos. Mr. Carrillo is expected to testify about the historical use of the WLA Grounds, the 388-acre parcel that was donated to the VA.</p>	<p>1 hour</p>
<p>William DePuy</p>	<p>Plaintiffs</p>	<p>Mr. DePuy is General Counsel for Intervenor Bridgeland Resources, LLC (“Bridgeland”). Mr. DePuy is expected to provide testimony on behalf of Bridgeland, including the amount of revenue generated from Bridgeland’s operations on the WLA Campus and the purpose of</p>	<p>30 minutes</p>

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		the Bridgeland’s operations on the WLA Campus.	
Margarita Lares*	Plaintiffs	Ms. Lares is the Chief Programs Officer at HACLA. Ms. Lares is expected to testify about Federal Defendants’ partnership with local public housing authorities relating to the HUD-VASH program, including but not limited to, the implementation of the HUD-VASH program, the voucher referral process, the number of veterans in the HUD-VASH program, and the utilization or lack thereof of the HUD-VASH vouchers in the Greater Los Angeles area.	1 hour
Carlos VanNatter	Plaintiffs	Mr. VanNatter is the Director of Section 8 Housing at HACLA. Mr. VanNatter is expected to testify about Federal Defendants’ partnership with local public housing authorities relating to the HUD-VASH program, including but not limited to, the implementation of the HUD-VASH program, the voucher referral process, the number of veterans in the HUD-VASH program, and the utilization or lack thereof of the HUD-VASH vouchers in the Greater Los Angeles area.	1.5 hours
Gennifer Yoshimaru	Plaintiffs	Ms. Yoshimaru is the Assistant Head of School at Brentwood School. She is expected to provide testimony regarding Brentwood School’s use of its facility on the WLAVA Campus and its violation of the West Los Angeles Leasing Act.	1 hour

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Barbara Davis	Plaintiffs	Ms. Davis is an administrator for SafetyPark. She is expected to provide testimony regarding Safety Park’s obligations under and violation of the West Los Angeles Leasing Act.	1 hour
Anthony DeFrancesco	Plaintiffs	Mr. DeFrancesco is the Chief Liaison and Executive Director for the UCLA Veterans Initiatives and Partnerships. Mr. DeFrancesco is expected to provide testimony regarding UCLA’s use of its facilities on the WLAVA Campus, the UC Regents’ obligations under the West Los Angeles Leasing Act, and UCLA and the UC Regents’ violation of the West Los Angeles Leasing Act.	1.5 hours

DATED: July 8, 2024

PUBLIC COUNSEL LAW CENTER
 MARK D. ROSENBAUM
 KATHRYN A. EIDMANN
 AMANDA K. PERTUSATI
 AMANDA MANGASER SAVAGE
 AMELIA PIAZZA
 YI LI

/s/ Mark D. Rosenbaum
 MARK D. ROSENBAUM
 Attorneys for Plaintiffs

DATED: July 8, 2024

BROWN GOLDSTEIN & LEVY, LLP
 EVE L. HILL
 JAMIE STRAWBRIDGE

/s/ Eve L. Hill
 EVE L. HILL
 Attorneys for Plaintiffs

DATED: July 8, 2024

INNER CITY LAW CENTER
T.E. GLENN
AMANDA POWELL
CHARLES KOHORST

s/ T. E. Glenn

T. E. GLENN

Attorneys for Plaintiffs

DATED: July 8, 2024

ROBINS KAPLAN LLP
ROMAN M. SILBERFELD
DAVID MARTINEZ
TOMMY H. DU

/s/ ROMAN M. SILBERFELD

ROMAN M. SILBERFELD

Attorneys for Plaintiffs

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