1 2 3 4	MICHAEL J. AGUIRRE (SBN 60402) MARIA C. SEVERSON (SBN 173967) AGUIRRE & SEVERSON, LLP 501 West Broadway, Suite 1050 San Diego, CA 92101 Telephone: (619) 876-5364 Facsimile: (619) 876-5368		
5	GIRARDI KEESE		
6	THOMAS V. GIRARDI (SBN 36603)		
7	1126 Wilshire Blvd Los Angeles, California, 90017		
8	Telephone: (213) 977-0211 Facsimile: (213) 481-1554		
9	LAW OFFICE OF LAWRENCE W. SHEA		
10	LAWRENCE W. SHEA, II (SBN 126976) P.O. Box 6353 San Diego, CA 92166		
11	Telephone: (858) 263-1727		
12	Attorneys for Plaintiff		
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14	SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA		
15	COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO		
16			
16 17	JOHN A. GORDON, an individual,	Case No.	
	JOHN A. GORDON, an individual, Plaintiff,	COMPLAINT FOR WASTE OF PUBLIC	
17			
17 18	Plaintiff, v. 101 ASH, LLC, a Delaware limited liability	COMPLAINT FOR WASTE OF PUBLIC	
17 18 19	Plaintiff, v. 101 ASH, LLC, a Delaware limited liability company; 101 ASH MEMBER PARTNERS, LLC, a California limited	COMPLAINT FOR WASTE OF PUBLIC	
17 18 19 20	Plaintiff, v. 101 ASH, LLC, a Delaware limited liability company; 101 ASH MEMBER PARTNERS, LLC, a California limited liability company; CISTERRA DEVELOPMENT, LLC, a California	COMPLAINT FOR WASTE OF PUBLIC	
17 18 19 20 21	Plaintiff, v. 101 ASH, LLC, a Delaware limited liability company; 101 ASH MEMBER PARTNERS, LLC, a California limited liability company; CISTERRA DEVELOPMENT, LLC, a California limited liability company; SHAPERY DEVELOPERS GAS & ELECTRIC	COMPLAINT FOR WASTE OF PUBLIC	
17 18 19 20 21 22	Plaintiff, v. 101 ASH, LLC, a Delaware limited liability company; 101 ASH MEMBER PARTNERS, LLC, a California limited liability company; CISTERRA DEVELOPMENT, LLC, a California limited liability company; SHAPERY DEVELOPERS GAS & ELECTRIC PROPERTY, LP, a California Limited Partnership; SHAPERY DEVELOPERS	COMPLAINT FOR WASTE OF PUBLIC	
17 18 19 20 21 22 23	Plaintiff, v. 101 ASH, LLC, a Delaware limited liability company; 101 ASH MEMBER PARTNERS, LLC, a California limited liability company; CISTERRA DEVELOPMENT, LLC, a California limited liability company; SHAPERY DEVELOPERS GAS & ELECTRIC PROPERTY, LP, a California Limited Partnership; SHAPERY DEVELOPERS GAS & ELECTRIC CORP.; a California corporation; GAS & ELECTRIC	COMPLAINT FOR WASTE OF PUBLIC	
17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24	Plaintiff, v. 101 ASH, LLC, a Delaware limited liability company; 101 ASH MEMBER PARTNERS, LLC, a California limited liability company; CISTERRA DEVELOPMENT, LLC, a California limited liability company; SHAPERY DEVELOPERS GAS & ELECTRIC PROPERTY, LP, a California Limited Partnership; SHAPERY DEVELOPERS GAS & ELECTRIC CORP.; a California corporation; GAS & ELECTRIC HEADQUARTERS BUILDING – SAN DIEGO, L.P., a California Limited	COMPLAINT FOR WASTE OF PUBLIC	
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17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26	Plaintiff, v. 101 ASH, LLC, a Delaware limited liability company; 101 ASH MEMBER PARTNERS, LLC, a California limited liability company; CISTERRA DEVELOPMENT, LLC, a California limited liability company; SHAPERY DEVELOPERS GAS & ELECTRIC PROPERTY, LP, a California Limited Partnership; SHAPERY DEVELOPERS GAS & ELECTRIC CORP.; a California corporation; GAS & ELECTRIC HEADQUARTERS BUILDING – SAN DIEGO, L.P., a California Limited Partnership; CITY OF SAN DIEGO, a	COMPLAINT FOR WASTE OF PUBLIC	

COMPLAINT FOR WASTE OF PUBLIC FUNDS AND FRAUD

and DOES 1 to 100, INCLUSIVE,

Defendants.

INTRODUCTION

- 1. This taxpayer lawsuit seeks to stop the waste of, and to recover, the City of San Diego's public funds in what has been called "the city's worst land deal ever": the \$120 million lease-to-own agreement for the Sempra building on 101 Ash Street (Ash Street Building) in San Diego, California. The City of San Diego was defrauded and induced to enter into a 20-year lease-to-own agreement for the Ash Street Building based on false information and concealment of material facts about the building on which the City relied, and that if those facts were not concealed or mispresented, the City would not have entered into the lease-to-own agreement related to the building.
- 2. The City was induced to enter into the transaction by misrepresentations that the City would save \$44 million, and that the building was in good condition fit for occupancy by City staff. The misrepresentations and concealment of material facts by Defendants who held property interests were relied upon by the City and induced the City to enter into the agreement to spend its budget funds over a protracted period of time for an asset that provides no beneficial use to the City and does not fit within the debt limit laws for such a transaction.

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

- 3. This Court has jurisdiction over the action because this is a civil action wherein the matter in controversy exceeds the jurisdictional minimum of the Court.
- 4. The acts and omissions complained of in this action took place in San Diego, California. Venue is proper because the acts and/or omissions complained of took place, in whole or in part, within the venue of this Court.
- 5. Plaintiff brings this action pursuant to CCP § 526a to restrain Defendants from illegally expending and wasting public funds under Code Civ. Proc. § 526a. Specifically, Plaintiff seeks to obtain a judgment, restraining and preventing any illegal expenditure of waste of injury to the funds or other property of a local agency regarding the building and property located at 101

Ash Street, San Diego CA 92101, and for the City to recover costs and damages proximately caused by the wrongful acts alleged herein.

PARTIES AND KEY PLAYERS

- 6. Plaintiff John A. Gordon is a resident of the City of San Diego and has paid taxes that fund the City of San Diego.
- 7. Defendant Cisterra Development, LLC (Cisterra) was organized as a limited liability company on June 9, 2015. Cisterra does business in the State of California, County of San Diego. Defendant Cisterra had a prior relationship with the City relating to a successful lease-to-own property, and used that affinity to fraudulently induce the City to enter into the transaction that is the subject of this lawsuit.
- 8. Cisterra Development is the name generally used by Steven Black and his series of affiliate companies, with David Dick and Nicole Cutler (identified as Controller) executing documents for Cisterra. Jason Wood is an employee and agent of the Cisterra companies and made representations on behalf of Cisterra to the City of San Diego.
- 9. Cisterra Development operates under the names including Cisterra Development, LLC (cancelled three months after the subject lease agreement); Cisterra Partners, LLC, a California limited liability company, identifies its business as Real Estate Development/Management; Cisterra Investors, LLC, a Delaware limited liability company operating in California identifying its business as Investment; Cisterra Development-Gov, LLC, a California corporation formed October 4, 2016 (just before the proposed lease was considered by the San Diego City Council), canceled July 20, 2020 the same time as a Preliminary Report on 101 Ash Street was released.
- 10. Defendant 101 Ash, LLC was formed as a Delaware limited liability company on September 8, 2016, and registered in California as a foreign limited liability company on December 1, 2016. 101 Ash, LLC, a business owned by Defendant Cisterra and which Steven Lyle Black is its Manager and member. Defendant 101 Ash, LLC does business in the State of California, County of San Diego and is the current owner of the building located at 101 Ash

Street, San Diego CA 92101. David Dick is its authorized agent and Nicole Cutler of Cisterra Development is its controller.

- 11. 101 Ash Member Partners, LLC is a California limited liability company first registered on December 13, 2016, identifying its business as Real Estate Investment, and is an affiliate of 101 Ash, LLC formed for effectuating the lease to own transaction with the City.
- 12. The business and mailing address for each Cisterra entity set forth above, including the 101 Ash Street entities, is 3580 Carmel Mountain Road, Suite 460, San Diego, California 92130. Steven Black is identified as a manager or other authorized agent of each entity; David Dick is identified as an agent and organizer, and Nicole Cutler is identified as an agent and/or Controller.
- 13. Defendant Shapery Developers Gas & Electric Property, L.P. (Shapery Developers LP) was organized as a California limited partnership on October 28, 1993. Shapery Developers Gas & Electric Corp. (Shapery Developers Corp.) was at all material times the general partner of Shapery Developers LP, doing business in the State of California, County of San Diego. Shapery Developers LP, owned the property located at 101 Ash Street. On January 3, 2017, Defendants Shapery Developers LP and Gas & Electric Headquarters Building San Diego, L.P. (Gas & Electric LP) transferred title of 101 Ash Street property to Defendant Cisterra through its company 101 Ash, LLC. The same day, Defendant Cisterra through its company Defendant 101 Ash, LLC entered into a twenty-year lease with the City for the building located at 101 Ash Street, San Diego CA 92101. Then on June 8, 2017, Shapery Developers LP, through is sole general partner Shapery Developers Corp. and its President Sandor W. Shapery, filed a statement of cancellation.
- 14. Defendant Shapery Developers Gas & Electric Corp. (Shapery Developers Corp.) is a California corporation incorporated on October 27, 1993. Sandor W. Shapery is President and Chief Executive Officer. Shapery Developers Corp. at all material times was the general partner of Shapery Developers Limited Partnership.
- 15. Defendant Gas & Electric Headquarters Building San Diego, L.P. (Gas & Electric LP) was organized as a California limited partnership on November 3, 1986 under its

prior name, Shapery Center Developers, Ltd.. The sole general partner of Gas & Electric LP is Shapery Developers Gas & Electric Corp. (Shapery Developers Corp.). Defendant Gas & Electric LP does business in the State of California, County of San Diego, and owned the property located at 101 Ash Street. On January 3, 2017, Gas & Electric LP and Shapery Developers LP transferred title to Defendant Cisterra through its company 101 Ash, LLC. The same day, Defendant Cisterra through its company 101 Ash, LLC, entered into a twenty-year lease-purchase with the City for the building located at 101 Ash Street, San Diego CA 92101.

- 16. Defendant City of San Diego, a municipal corporation of the State of California, is required to comply with the applicable provisions of the laws of its Charter and the Constitution of the State of California. The City of San Diego is named as a necessary defendant for purposes of the relief sought.
- Officer of the City of San Diego and as a necessary defendant for purposes of the relief sought. Defendant Charvel is in charge of debt management and responsible for expending public funds for rent, operating expenses, and anything else required under the City's lease-to-own agreement for the building located at 101 Ash Street, San Diego CA 92101. Specifically, Defendant Charvel has been authorized to transfer public funds from the Real Estate Assets Operating Department Budget to the Citywide Program Expenditures Department and expend those funds for rent, operating expenses, improvements, and other requirements under the City-leasehold. Defendant Charvel is also authorized to establish a restricted Capital Improvement Program "CIP" fund for capital improvements relating specifically to 101 Ash Street, San Diego CA 92101.
- 18. DOE DEFENDANTS 1-20, acting together on behalf of the non-City Defendants, participated in the scheme to provide false information to City representatives in order to induce the City to enter into the lease-to-own agreement in violation of the debt limit laws within the California Constitution and the City charter.
- 19. DOE DEFENDANTS 1-30 possessed an interest in the non-City Defendants and used their power to obtain funds from the City to ultimately benefit them. Veil piercing is proper here where the ends of justice require disregarding the separate nature of the partnership and/or

- corporate entities, especially where Shapery Developers LP and certain Cisterra entities filed for dissolution after the City was induced by fraud to enter into the transactions at issue herein.
- 20. DOE DEFENDANTS 31-50 are charged with responsibilities concerning the City of San Diego 101 Ash Street lease and payments for the City of San Diego and are sued as parties necessary to the requested relief.
- 21. Plaintiff is informed and believes, and thereupon alleges, that at all times relevant and mentioned herein, Defendants and DOES 1 through 100, inclusive, and each of them, were the agents, servants, employees, independent contractors, co-conspirators, retailers, distributors, wholesalers, management companies, subsidiaries and/or joint ventures of the remaining Defendants, and each of them, and were at all times material hereto acting within the authorized course, scope and purpose of said agency and employment, and/or that all of said acts were subsequently performed with the knowledge, acquiescence, ratification and consent of the respective principals, and the benefits thereof accepted by said principals.
- 22. The true names and/or capacities, whether individual, corporate, governmental, associate, or otherwise, of Defendant DOES 1 through 100, inclusive, and each of them, are unknown to Plaintiff, who therefore sue said Defendants by such fictitious names. Plaintiff is informed and believes, and thereon alleges, that each Defendant fictitiously named herein as a DOE is legally responsible as alleged herein, for the events and damages hereinafter referred to, and which legally caused the injuries and damages to Plaintiff as hereinafter alleged. Plaintiff will seek leave of Court to amend this Complaint to insert the true names and/or capacities of such fictitiously named Defendants when the same have been ascertained.

GENERAL ALLEGATIONS

- 23. This taxpayer action is brought because San Diego City officials have failed to vindicate the rights of Plaintiff and other San Diego taxpayers to stop the waste of funds and to recover funds already wasted relating to the 101 Ash Street building.
- 24. Sempra Energy is a utility holding company; its principal asset is San Diego Gas & Electric (SDG&E). Sempra and SDG&E operated out of the Ash Street Building from 1968

through 2015 when both companies moved to a new high-rise building at 488 Eighth Ave in East Village San Diego. Sempra headquarters buildings are shown here:



Old Ash Street Sempra Building



New East Village Sempra Building

- 25. The old Sempra building on Ash Street has 21 stories and is 315,545 square feet. The new Sempra building on 8th Ave has 16 stories and is 393,322 square feet.
- 26. The new Sempra building in East Village cost \$165 million and has been leased to Sempra for 25 years. The old Sempra building (Ash Street Building) cost the City of San Diego \$127.8 million in a 20- year lease-to-own agreement.
- 27. On January 23, 2013, San Diego Union Tribune's Roger Showley reported Sempra was thinking of building a new downtown office tower. ¹
- 28. On March 7, 2013, San Diego real estate firm Dannecker & Associates reported the building Sempra was planning to move into was a 16-story building in the East Village neighborhood of downtown San Diego that Cisterra Development was planning to build.²
- 29. On May 1, 2013, Roger Showley reported Sempra was considering moving out of the Ash Street Building and that Sempra "may be leaning toward moving out of its headquarters to a new building downtown." Showley reported Sandor Shapery, Sempra's landlord for the Ash Street Building, "said he'd offer the building to the city for its office needs, currently located in several buildings downtown." Reporter Showley quoted Shapery: "I think it would make a wonderful city hall."³

¹ Roger Showley, *Sempra moving into new offices?*, SAN DIEGO UNION-TRIBUNE (Jan. 23, 2013), https://www.sandiegouniontribune.com/business/growth-development/sdut-sempra-office-new-construction-renew-lease-2013jan23-htmlstory.html.

² Dannecker & Associates, *New Sempra Energy Building East Village*, (Mar. 7, 2013), http://www.welcometosandiego.com/2013/03/new-sempra-energy-building-east-village/.

³ Roger Showley & Jason Hughes, *Sempra Favorable to Moving*, HUGHES MARINO (May 1, 2013), https://hughesmarino.com/new-york/blog/2013/05/01/sempra-favorable-to-moving/.

30. On August 28, 2013, San Diego Union Tribune's Roger Showley reported Sempra had committed "to moving to a new 16-story headquarters in two years in downtown's East Village." Showley reported "Sempra signed a 25-year lease with Cisterra Development for the entire 300,000-square-foot building."

- 31. On January 3, 2017, Shapery through his companies, Shapery Developers LP and Gas & Electric LP, transferred the property to 101 Ash, LLC, a company of Cisterra Development. Also, on January 3, 2017, Cisterra Development through its company 101 Ash LLC, conveyed a lease in the Ash Street property to the City of San Diego.
- 32. The two-step transaction used to transfer the property from Shapery Developers to the City of San Diego is shown here:



- 33. Shapery and Cisterra formed a joint venture for the purpose of moving the old 101 Ash Street tenant (Sempra) into new headquarters while securing a new buyer or tenant (City of San Diego) for the Ash Street Building. The joint venture was formed for the purpose of inducing the City of San Diego to enter into the lease-to-own agreement for Shapery and Cisterra's profit and so as to offload the building onto the City.
- 34. Six months prior to the property transference of January 2017, City of San Diego Director of Real Estate Assets, Cybele Thompson, signed a letter on July 21, 2016, expressing the mutual intention of and agreement between Cisterra Development and the City of San Diego with respect to the pending purchase by Cisterra, and the possible purchase agreement assignment or lease-to-own option by the City for the Ash Street Building. This letter also states Cisterra was unable to recover their escrow deposits and were not able to "recover the various due diligence and transactional costs we incurred investigating the Property and putting the transaction together,

⁴ Roger Showley, *Sempra getting new HQ in 2015*, SAN DIEGO UNION-TRIBUNE (Aug. 28, 2013), https://www.sandiegouniontribune.com/business/growth-development/sdut-sempra-cisterra-east-village-office-2013aug28-htmlstory.html.

c.

such as fees paid to consultants and other professionals." Cisterra provided the City with three options:

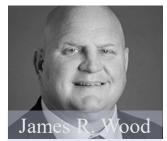
- a. **Option 1** City would have the right to take an assignment of Cisterra's New Purchase Agreement. The City would also have to pay Cisterra's initial unrecovered expenses (\$11,270), option payment (\$100,000 upon execution of the contract and \$100,000 per month until closing) and additional expenses (\$39,000)
- b. Option 2 City would have the right to enter into a 20-year lease of the entire Ash Street Building. This option had flat rental rates and a \$5 million tenant improvement allowance, ownership by the City at the end of the lease, and similar terms and conditions as the Civic Center Plaza lease. The rent will be determined based on interest rates and spreads once the City selects this option and the interest rates could be locked. If the City selected the option the day of the letter, the rent would total approximately \$126,070,000 over the 20-year term.

d. **Option 3** – City could terminate the transaction at any time and concurrently reimburse Cisterra for all Unrecovered Expenses, Options Payments and Additional Expenses.

- 35. City Council members considered the Shapery-Cisterra proposal to acquire the old Ash Street Building by a 20-year lease to own agreement in a committee meeting September 21, 2016, and a City Council meeting on October 17, 2016. In the committee and council meetings, City Staff conveyed the information they obtained from Shapery and Cisterra to support the Council decision to decide in favor of the City acquiring the Ash Street building by way of the 20-year lease-to-own agreement. The Committee and Council relied on the information Shapery and Cisterra provided to City staff.
- 36. At the time Cisterra was inducing the City of San Diego with its representations, the entity that would later consummate the deal, Cisterra's 101 Ash, LLC, had not yet been formed. The City Council meeting too place on October 17, 2016, whereas filings before the California Secretary of State relating to 101 Ash, LLC were not filed until December 1, 2016 after the Shapery-Cisterra-City of San Diego agreement to lease-to-own.
- 37. The information provided by Shapery and Cisterra representatives was recorded in San Diego City Staff Report 16-070-Revised. Sandor Shapery of Shapery Developers and James R. Wood of Cisterra provided information to the City of San Diego to induce City officials to

enter into the 20-year lease to own agreement Cisterra. Mr. Shapery and Mr. Wood are shown here:





- 38. Mr. Shapery and Mr. Wood provided the following information to induce the San Diego City Council to authorize the Mayor to execute a 20-year lease-to-own agreement (Lease) between the City of San Diego and 101 Ash, LLC, one of the entities defendants Cisterra and Shapery used to convey the Ash Street Building to the City of San Diego.
- 39. Defendants Shapery and Cisterra successfully convinced San Diego City staff that under the 20-year lease to own transaction, the transaction would save the City \$44 million. Defendants Shapery and Cisterra also convinced City Staff to proceed with the 20-year lease-to-own agreement with a March 2016 Condition Report that represented the Ash Street Building "was observed to be in good condition" and had a "remaining useful life of at least an additional 40 years barring any natural disasters." The report's "only recommendation for immediate repair was an amount of \$10,000 to clean, caulk and pressure wash the exterior."
- 40. Cisterra and Shapery Defendants commissioned a report and provided information to the City of San Diego representing it was truthful and with the intent it be relied upon by the City. It was relied upon by the City; the facts represented were false.
- 41. Shapery and Cisterra Defendants knew the City needed space for its Development Services Department, amongst other staff and City services, because the City's property known as "COB" had become insufficient. The defendants knew the City needed to move employees into the Ash Street Building within months of closing on the transaction.
- 42. Cisterra had a relationship with the City of San Diego based on a then-recent lease-to-own agreement relating to the Civic Center Plaza. Cisterra used this affinity to induce the

City of San Diego to proceed with a lease-to-own agreement to get around the California debt limit laws imposed upon municipalities in California Constitution Art. XVI, Sec. 18.

- 43. In reliance on the foregoing statements, the City of San Diego spent \$4,183,448.50 in Fiscal Year 2017 in connection with the lease-to-own agreement between the City of San Diego and 101 Ash, LLC. In addition, the City in reliance on the foregoing statements spent \$2,673,633 for operating expenses and \$1,509,816 for rent. The City spent in reliance on the foregoing statements significant additional sums for necessary remedial work to the Ash Street Building in an attempt, albeit unsuccessful to date, to make it safe for human occupancy and City staff.
- 44. Defendants' misrepresentations were fraudulent as the condition of the Ash Street Building was in such a state of disrepair the City could not use or occupy the building at the time of the execution of the lease-to-own agreement. Defendants Shapery and Cisterra provided nearly all the documents the City relied on to enter into the lease-to-own agreement for the Ash Street Building. Defendants' documents and statements failed to represent that the Ash Street Building was in need of major repair including a significant amount of asbestos abatement and major repairs to the building's electrical, plumbing, lighting, HVAC and ceiling systems.
- 45. Defendants' misrepresentations were also contrary to written testimony provided to the California Public Utilities Commission by James C. Seifert, Manager of Corporate Real Estate, Land Services and Facilities for former tenant Sempra's SDG&E, where he admitted the building would need "a minimum of \$3 million of building infrastructure capital repairs that would be required to keep the building operational." Seifert also admitted the building would "potentially need \$12 to \$15 million in unspecified repairs." Significantly, Seifert admitted in his written testimony: "to remove the existing asbestos and rebuild the impacted space was estimated to cost \$16 to \$25 million."
- 46. Due to the extensive amount of remedial work and major repairs actually required to make the Ash Street Building safe for human occupancy and operational for City workers and the public, the City has not been able to use or occupy the Ash Street Building for over three and a half years since its lease was effective in January 2017. The City has and continues to lease the

building that cannot be used or occupied at an unabated rent price of \$534,726.50 per month. Over the 42 months since the lease was executed, the City has expended more than \$20 million solely for rental costs of a building the City cannot use or occupy, and will not be able to use or occupy the property in the foreseeable future. This amount does not include the millions of dollars of City funds spent and wasted in a futile attempt to remediate and repair.

- 47. Based on and because of the above misleading statements of Shapery and Cisterra's agents, City decisionmakers formed a conception of the facts that was materially mistaken. City decisionmakers believed the Sempra building could house City work force members starting in January 2019. City decisionmakers so developed another mistaken belief the lease payments under the lease purchase agreement represented the fair rental value for use of the Ash Street building, when in fact, the lease payments far exceeded the fair market value of the Ash Street building, which the City has not been able to occupy to date.
- 48. From at least August to December 2019, the County of San Diego's Air Pollution Control District identified ongoing problems with the Building's abatement of asbestos.
- 49. In January 2020, the City attempted to use and occupy the Ash Street Building and started transitioning City workers and operations to the Ash Street Building.
- 50. On January 16, 2020, the County Air Pollution Control District issued a Public Nuisance Violation for asbestos found in an area accessible to City employees. The County Air Pollution Control District stated the building should be shut down because the building was unsafe for human occupancy.
- 51. To date, the City has been unable to use or occupy the Ash Street Building because it is still unsafe for human occupancy and has cost the City millions of dollars in remedial work.

FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION

Fraudulent Misrepresentation (Against All Non-City Defendants and DOE Defendants)

- 52. Plaintiff realleges each allegation above as though set forth herein.
- 53. The statements defendants Shapery and Cisterra made to the City Staff were false. The Shapery and Cisterra defendants knew their representations to the City Staff were false.

- 54. Defendants Shapery and Cisterra made their misstatements with the intent to induce the City Council members to approve the 20-year lease-to-own agreement in contradiction of the debt limit laws.
- 55. The City Council members in fact relied upon defendants Cisterra and Shapery's misstatements, and as a direct and proximate result, agreed to adopt the 20-year lease-to-own agreement and make payments as set forth therein.
- 56. As a direct and proximate reliance on defendants Cisterra and Shapery's misrepresentations, the City of San Diego has suffered damages including the difference between the actual value of that which the City of San Diego parted (i.e. the obligation to pay over \$127 million) and the substantially lesser actual value of the Ash Street Building. In addition, the City of San Diego, through Plaintiff, seeks the amounts actually and reasonably expended in reliance upon the fraud, an amount which will compensate for loss of use and enjoyment of the Ash Street Building to the extent that any such loss was proximately caused by the fraud. In addition, Plaintiff seeks for the City an amount which will compensate the City of San Diego for any loss of profits or other gains which were reasonably anticipated and would have been earned by the City of San Diego from the use or sale of the Ash Street Building.

SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION

Negligent Misrepresentation (Against All Non-City Defendants and DOE Defendants)

- 57. Plaintiff realleges each allegation above as though fully set forth herein.
- 58. The statements defendants Shapery and Cisterra made to the City Staff were false. Defendants Shapery and Cisterra knew or should have known their misstatements to the City Staff were false.
- 59. Defendants Shapery and Cisterra made their misstatements negligently with the intent to induce the City Council members to approve the 20-year lease to own agreement.
- 60. The City Council members in fact relied upon defendants' Cisterra and Shapery misstatements and as a direct and proximate result agreed to adopt the 20-year lease to own agreement.

61. As a direct and proximate reliance on defendants Cisterra and Shapery's misrepresentations, the City of San Diego has suffered damages including the difference between the actual value of that which the City of San Diego parted, the obligation to pay over \$127 million and the substantially lesser actual value of the Ash Street Building. In addition, the City of San Diego seeks the amounts actually and reasonably expended in reliance upon the fraud, an amount which will compensate the City of San Diego for loss of use and enjoyment of the Ash Street Building to the extent that any such loss was proximately caused by the fraud. In addition, Plaintiff for the City of San Diego seeks an amount which will compensate the City of San Diego for any loss of profits or other gains which were reasonably anticipated and would have been earned by the City of San Diego from the use or sale of the Ash Street Building. All the foregoing damages in an amount according to proof at trial.

THIRD CAUSE OF ACTION Waste of Public Funds and Resources

(Against All non-City Defendants)

- 62. Plaintiff realleges each allegation above as though set forth herein.
- 63. California Code of Civil Procedure sections 526a permits private individuals and entities to bring an action to "obtain a judgment, restraining and preventing any illegal expenditure of, waste of, or injury to, the estate, funds, or other property of a local agency."
- 64. The primary purpose of CCP § 526a is to enable a large body of citizenry to challenge government action that would otherwise go unchallenged in the courts because of the standing requirements.
- 65. Section 526a provides a mechanism for controlling and restraining Defendants' illegal, injurious, or wasteful action. Section 526a must be liberally construed to achieve the remedial purpose of allowing challenges to government action.
- 66. Plaintiff is a resident of the City of San Diego and pays taxes to the City of San Diego to support its budget.
- 67. Plaintiff brings this action to restrain Defendants public waste under CCP § 526a, and seeks to obtain a judgment, restraining, and preventing any illegal expenditure or waste of

public funds regarding 101 Ash Street. Plaintiff also seeks damages.

- 68. As detailed above, the City-leasehold for the building at 101 Ash Street was a result of fraud and negligent misrepresentation and is a waste of public funds because it is a dilapidated building unsafe for human occupancy and does not provide any kind of benefit or use for the City of San Diego or public.
- 69. The building located at 101 Ash Street Building does not have any public benefit nor useful purpose because it cannot be used for its intended purposes—providing City services to the public. Since the building is unsafe for human occupancy, and the extensive of amount of remedial work required to make the building safe, the public will not be able to use the building in the foreseeable future.
- 70. The leasehold for the building located at 101 Ash Street has resulted in an unnecessary duplication of City-leased buildings and serves no useful purpose.
- 71. The leasehold for the building located at 101 Ash Street has and will cost a great deal more than alternative plans considered, without any finding of an additional public benefit.
- 72. As a result of Shapery and Cisterra Defendants' fraudulent and negligent misrepresentations regarding leasing the building located at 101 Ash Street, the City now has immediate and present indebtedness that exceeds the fair market value of the property and will exceed the City's yearly income and revenue. If required to remedy the damages caused as a result of Defendants' fraud and negligent misrepresentations, future fiscal years will be responsible for paying indebtedness in violation of Cal. Art. XVI, Sec. 18.
- 73. The lease obligations are immediate and present because Defendant Rolando Charvel, as the City's Chief Financial Officer, is authorized to expend all funds for rent, operating expenses required by the City-leasehold. Defendant Charvel is also authorized to transfer public funds from the Real Estate Assets Operating Department Budget to the Citywide Program Expenditures Department and expend those funds for rent, operating expenses, improvements, and other requirements under the City-leasehold. Defendant Charvel is also authorized to establish a restricted Capital Improvement Project "CIP" fund for capital improvements relating specifically to 101 Ash Street, San Diego CA 92101.

1	74.	The City-leasehold for the building located at 101 Ash Street constitutes a waste of
2	public funds.	
3	PRAYER FOR RELIEF	
4	WHE	REFORE, Plaintiff prays for judgment as follows:
5	1.	For an order enjoining Defendants and each of them from continuing to waste
6	public funds related to the City-leased building located at 101 Ash Street, San Diego, CA 92101	
7	under CCP § 526a;	
8	2.	For an order enjoining Defendants from the City's use of the building located at
9	101 Ash Stree	et, San Diego, CA 92101 for City-related business including City operations and
10	City offices under CCP § 526a;	
11	3.	For an order declaring Defendants' actions constitute an illegal expenditure and
12	waste of public funds in violation of the California Constitution under CCP § 526a;	
13	4.	For all damages and costs proximately caused to the City by the non-City
14	defendants' fraud, and including damages to the City under California Civil Code § 3343;	
15	5.	For rescission of the agreement pursuant to Cal. Civil Code § 1689 as the consent
16	for the agreement was given by mistake, or obtained through fraud; the consideration for the	
17	obligation of the rescinding party failed, in whole or in part, through the fault of the party as to	
18	whom it rescinds; and the public interest will be prejudiced by permitting the contract to stand;	
19	6.	For damages under CCP § 526a and other damages according to proof at trial;
20	7.	For Plaintiff's attorney fees and costs of suit incurred in this matter as provided by
21	Cal. Code. Ci	v. Proc. § 1021.5 and any other applicable law;
22	8.	For interest at the legal rate; and
23	9.	For any other further relief the Court deems just and proper.
24		ACHIDDE & CEVEDCON LLD
25		AGUIRRE & SEVERSON, LLP
26	Dated: Augus	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
27		Maria C. Severson, Esq.
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