BLACK & RICE LLP 1 Martha D. Rice, SBN 262100 mrice@attyblack.com 2 Robert N. Black, SBN 70178 3 rblack@attvblack.com The McNulty House 4 710 H Street 5 Crescent City, CA 95531 707-464-7637 Tel: 6 707-464-7647 Fax: 7 Martha D. Rice, City Attorney 8 City of Crescent City 9 10 11 12 MAGAN L. NATHA AND SARLA M. NATHA, 13 14 Petitioners, v. 15 CITY OF CRESCENT CITY, A 16 MUNICIPAL CORPORATION OF THE 17 STATE OF CALIFORNIA AND DOES 1-10, 18

No filing fee per Gov. Code § 6103

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF DEL NORTE

Case No.: CVPT-2021-1184

CITY OF CRESCENT CITY'S ANSWER TO UNVERIFIED FIRST AMENDED PETITION FOR REFORMATION OF CONTRACT, DECLARATORY RELIEF AND INJUNCTIVE RELIEF

GENERAL DENIAL

Defendant City of Crescent City ("City") answers Plaintiff's unverified Petition on file herein as follows:

Respondents.

Under and pursuant to the provision of California Code of Civil Procedure, specifically, Section 431.30(d) thereof, City generally denies each and every allegation of said unverified First Amended Petition, and the whole thereof, and each and every allegation of each and every cause of action alleged therein. In addition, without admitting any allegations contained in the unverified Petition, City asserts the following affirmative defenses:

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FIRST AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

(Laches)

1. As a first and separate affirmative defense to the unverified First Amended Petition on file herein, City alleges that Petitioners waited an unreasonable amount of time before asserting their claims, if any, against City and is barred from asserting such claims under the doctrine of laches.

SECOND AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

(Equitable Estoppel)

2. As a second and separate affirmative defense to the unverified First Amended Petition on file herein, City alleges that Petitioners herein, and each and every cause of action contained in the unverified Petition, is barred by reason of acts, omissions, and courses of conduct by Petitioners, by which City relied on to its detriment, thereby barring each and every cause of action under the Doctrine of Equitable Estoppel.

THIRD AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

(Full Performance)

3. As a third and separate affirmative defense to the unverified First Amended Petition on file herein, City alleges that it has appropriately, completely, and fully performed and discharged any and all obligations and legal duties arising out of the matters alleged in Petitioners' unverified Petition.

FOURTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

(Discharged Duties)

4. As a fourth and separate affirmative defense to the unverified First Amended Petition on file herein, City alleges that prior to commencement of this action, City duly satisfied and discharged all duties and obligations owed to Petitioner arising out of any and all agreements, representations, or contracts made by or on behalf of City.

FIFTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

(Ratification of Acts)

5. As a fifth and separate affirmative defense to the unverified First Amended Petition on file herein, City alleges that Petitioners by their own conduct and/or omissions, has ratified the acts, conduct and omissions, if any, of City; therefore, Petitioners are barred from seeking any relief from City.

SIXTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

(Lawful Acts)

6. As a sixth and separate affirmative defense to the unverified Petition on file herein, City alleges that the unverified First Amended Petition, and each cause of action, is barred because at all relevant times, City's actions with respect to Petitioners were done in compliance with applicable law. To the extent that any discretion was available, City acted in the legitimate exercise of that discretion. City acted at all time in good faith and with due care, pursuant to applicable laws and regulations.

SEVENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

(Irreparable Harm)

7. As a seventh and separate affirmative defense to the unverified First Amended Petition on file herein, City alleges that Petitioners have not and will not suffer irreparable harm, making injunctive relief improper.

EIGHTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

(No Cause of Action)

8. As an eighth and separate affirmative defense to the unverified First Amended Petition on file herein, City alleges that Petitioners' unverified Petition, in its entirety, nor any purported cause of action set forth therein, alleges facts sufficient to constitute a cause of action against City.

NINTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

(Lack of Equity)

9. As a ninth and separate affirmative defense to the unverified First Amended Petition on file herein, City alleges that as between City and Petitioners, the equities do not preponderate in favor of Petitioner as to grant the relief requested.

TENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

(Unclean Hands)

10. As a tenth and separate affirmative defense to the unverified First Amended Petition on file herein, City alleges that due to Petitioners' own conduct, Petitioners should be barred from obtaining the relief requested by the equitable doctrine of unclean hands.

ELEVENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

(Collateral Estoppel)

11. As an eleventh and separate affirmative defense to the unverified First Amended Petition on file herein, City alleges that some or all of the claims asserted in the unverified First Amended Petition are barred by the doctrine of collateral estoppel.

TWELFTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

(Res Judicata)

12. As a twelfth and separate affirmative defense to the unverified First Amended Petition on file herein, City alleges that dome or all of the claims asserted in the unverified First Amended Petition are barred by the doctrine of res judicata.

THIRTEENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

(Government Claims Act)

13. As a thirteenth and separate affirmative defense to the unverified First Amended Petition on file herein, City asserts that any refund of "in lieu fees" is subject to the Government Claims

Act (Gov. Code § 900 et seq.) and Crescent City Municipal Code Chapter 1.20 and the applicable procedural requirements and statute of limitations contained therein.

FOURTEENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

(Reservation)

14. As a fourteenth and separate affirmative defense to the unverified First Amended Petition on file herein City reserves its right to amend its answer to assert further affirmative defenses that are not presently known but may become known and available through further investigation and discovery.

PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, the City of Crescent City prays for judgment as follows:

- 1. That the Court enter judgment in favor of the City;
- 2. That Petitioners takes nothing by way of their Petition;
- 3. That the Court award the City its costs and attorney's fees in connection with this action; and
- 4. For such other and further relief as the Court may deem just and proper.

DATED: 12/20/2021

BLACK & RICE LLP

Martha D. Rice, City Attorney

City of Crescent City

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