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| 5<br>6<br>7<br>8<br>9<br>10  | Lawrence S. Greenwald Lawrence P. Fletcher-Hill GORDON, FEINBLATT, ROTHMAN, HOFFBERGER & HOLLANDER, LLC 233 E. Redwood Street Baltimore, Maryland 21202 Telephone No.: (410) 576-4264 Fax No.: (410) 576-4246 Attorneys for Defendants Beretta U.S.A. Corp a        | Jeff G. Harmeyer State Bar No. 149173 MCATEE • HARMEYER LLP 401 West A Street, Suite 1850 San Diego, California 92101 Telephone No.: (619) 231-9800 Fax No.: (619) 234-3800 and Fabbrica d'Armi Pietro Beretta S.p.A.  |
| 12<br>13<br>14   |   | HE STATE OF CALIFORNIA   |
| 15<br>16<br>17<br>18<br>19<br>20<br>21<br>22<br>23<br>24<br>25<br>26<br>27 | Coordination Proceeding Special Title (Rule 1550 (b))  FIREARMS CASE  Including actions:  People, et al. v. Arcadia Machine & Tool, Inc., et al.,  People, et al. v. Arcadia Machine & Tool, Inc., et al.,  People, et al. v. Arcadia Machine & Tool, Inc., et al., | JUDICIAL COUNCIL COORDINATION PROCEEDING NO. 4095  San Francisco Superior Court No. 303753 Los Angeles Superior Court No. BC210894 Los Angeles Superior Court No. BC214794  DECLARATION OF LAWRENCE P. FLETCHER-HILL ON BEHALF OF DEFENDANTS BERETTA U.S.A. CORP. AND FABBRICA D'ARMI PIETRO BERETTA S.p.A. IN SUPPORT OF CERTAIN DEFENDANTS' MOTION FOR AN ORDER PRECLUDING EVIDENCE THAT DEFENDANTS' ALLEGED CONDUCT HAS CAUSED ACQUISITION OF FIREARMS BY CRIMINALS AND OTHER PROHIBITED PERSONS  DATE: July 19, 2002 TIME: 8:30 a.m. DEPT.: 65 TRIAL DATE: April 23, 2003 Hon. Vincent P. DiFiglia |
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DEC. OF FLETCHER-HILL IN SUPPORT OF CERTAIN DEFENDANTS' MOTION FOR AN ORDER PRECLUDING EVIDENCE THAT DEFENDANTS' ALLEGED CONDUCT HAS CAUSED ACQUISITION OF FIREARMS, ETC.

 I, Lawrence P. Fletcher-Hill, declare as follows:

- 1. I am admitted *pro hac vice* in this case to represent defendants Beretta U.S.A. Corp. ("Beretta USA") and Fabbrica d'Armi Pietro Beretta S.p.A. ("Pietro Beretta").
- 2. On Beretta USA and Pietro Beretta have received documents produced by plaintiffs in response to discovery requests and in plaintiffs' attempt to comply with the Court's March 26, 2001 Order. In that Order, the Court required plaintiffs to produce all documents in their possession "[a] which reflect how criminals and others acquired the firearms manufactured and/or sold by defendants and previously identified by plaintiffs and [b] whether the manner of acquisition has a factual nexus to defendants' alleged conduct."
- 3. In their complaints, plaintiffs allege that criminals and others not legally permitted to acquire firearms acquire them through straw purchases, illegal sales by federally licensed firearm dealers, gun show sales, sales by so-called kitchen table dealers, and theft. Plaintiffs claim that the acquisition of Beretta firearms in these ways is attributable to the business practices of Beretta USA or Pietro Beretta.
- 4. The documents produced by plaintiffs have been reviewed in detail by me and by other attorneys or legal assistants under my supervision. The documents were reviewed to identify any information concerning the acquisitional history of any identified Beretta firearm and, as provided in the Court's March 26, 2001 Order, "whether the manner of acquisition has a factual nexus to [Beretta USA's or Pietro Beretta's] alleged conduct." Set forth below, arranged by each of the plaintiff jurisdictions, is all information in the documents produced by plaintiffs that possibly bears on these issues.

## 5. <u>City of Berkeley</u>

Plaintiffs produced what appear to be Berkeley Police Department incident reports involving the recovery of six Beretta firearms by the Berkeley Police Department from 1996 through 1999. Plaintiffs have also produced a property room database that lists Beretta firearms held by the Berkeley Police Department. That database lists by serial number two additional Beretta firearms for which plaintiffs have produced no incident reports. The property room database contains no information concerning the acquisitional history of any Beretta firearm or

any factual nexus between the manner of acquisition and any alleged conduct by Beretta USA or Pietro Beretta.

Our comprehensive review of the incident documents produced by plaintiffs reveals the following acquisitional information concerning identified Beretta firearms in the City of Berkeley:

| Straw Purchases                             | None      |
|---|-----------|
| Illegal Sales By Federally Licensed Dealers | None      |
| Gun Show Sales                              | None      |
| Licensed Kitchen Table Dealer Sales         | None      |
| Theft                                       | See Below |

Theft. There is one City of Berkeley incident report in which the Beretta firearm was reported stolen from a private residence. There is no information to establish any factual nexus between the alleged theft and any business practice of Beretta USA or Pietro Beretta.

Plaintiffs have produced little or no information concerning the manner in which any of the eight Beretta firearms identified in the City of Berkeley were acquired by the criminal or person in possession of the firearm, and they have produced no information at all concerning any factual nexus between the manner of acquisition for those firearms and any alleged business practice of Beretta USA or Pietro Beretta.

### 6. City of San Francisco

Plaintiffs produced what appear to be San Francisco Police Department incident reports involving the recovery of 68 Beretta firearms by the San Francisco Police Department from 1996 through 1999. Plaintiffs have also produced a property room database that lists Beretta firearms held by the San Francisco Police Department. That database lists by serial number 67 additional Beretta firearms for which plaintiffs have produced no incident reports. The property room database contains no information concerning the acquisitional history of any Beretta firearm or any factual nexus between the manner of acquisition and any alleged conduct by Beretta USA or Pietro Beretta.

Our comprehensive review of the incident documents produced by plaintiffs reveals the following acquisitional information concerning identified Beretta firearms in the City of San Francisco:

| Straw Purchases                             | None      |
|---|-----------|
| Illegal Sales By Federally Licensed Dealers | None      |
| Gun Show Sales                              | None      |
| Licensed Kitchen Table Dealer Sales         | None      |
| Theft                                       | See Below |

Theft. There are eight City of San Francisco incident reports in which there is some mention of the recovered Beretta firearm being stolen at some point. In six of those incident reports, the information is little more than a reference to the gun being reported stolen from a private party at some point. In two incident reports, the firearm was reported to have been stolen from a police officer. In none of these eight instances of theft are the circumstances of the alleged theft given with specificity, and there is no information to establish any factual nexus between the alleged theft and any business practice of Beretta USA or Pietro Beretta.

Plaintiffs have produced little or no information concerning the manner in which any of the 135 Beretta firearms identified in the City of San Francisco were acquired by the criminal or person in possession of the firearm, and they have produced no information at all concerning any factual nexus between the manner of acquisition for those firearms and any alleged business practice of Beretta USA or Pietro Beretta.

### 7. City of Oakland

Plaintiffs produced what appear to be Oakland Police Department incident reports involving the recovery of 92 Beretta firearms by the Oakland Police Department from 1996 through 1999. Plaintiffs have also produced a property room database that lists Beretta firearms held by the Oakland Police Department. That database lists by serial number 115 additional Beretta firearms for which plaintiffs have produced no incident reports. The property room database contains no information concerning the acquisitional history of any Beretta firearm or

DEC. OF FLETCHER-HILL IN SUPPORT OF CERTAIN DEFENDANTS' MOTION FOR AN ORDER PRECLUDING EVIDENCE THAT DEFENDANTS' ALLEGED CONDUCT HAS CAUSED ACQUISITION OF FIREARMS, ETC.

any factual nexus between the manner of acquisition and any alleged conduct by Beretta USA or Pietro Beretta.

Our comprehensive review of the incident documents produced by plaintiffs reveals the following acquisitional information concerning identified Beretta firearms in the City of Oakland:

| See Below |
|-----------|
| None      |
| See Below |
| None      |
| See Below |
|           |

**Straw Purchase.** One Oakland Police Department incident report refers to a Beretta firearm recovered from an individual who claimed that his wife purchased the gun for him. That report contains no other information about the circumstances of the purchase and no information establishing any factual nexus between the alleged purchase and any business practice of Beretta USA or Pietro Beretta. (OAK025798-025815.)

Gun Show Sales. Two of the Oakland Police Department incident reports refer to purchases of firearms associated with flea markets. In one incident, an individual in possession of what appeared to be a stolen Beretta firearm claimed to have purchased the gun in a private sale at a flea market, but no other circumstances of the alleged acquisition were given. (OAK011479-011490.) In the other incident, the Oakland Police Department conducted an undercover investigation in which private purchases of guns, including one Beretta firearm, were arranged at a flea market and completed at private residences. (OAK028284-028321.) In neither of these incidents is there any information establishing any factual nexus between the flea market activity and any business practice of Beretta USA, Pietro Beretta or any other firearm manufacturer.

Theft. There are ten City of Oakland incident reports in which there is some mention of the recovered Beretta firearm being stolen at some point. In eight of those incident reports, the information is little more than a reference to the gun being reported stolen from a private party at some point. In two of those eight incident reports, the information concerning a theft is

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ambiguous or nothing more than an inference that the gun was stolen. In none of these instances of theft are the circumstances of the alleged theft given with specificity, and there is no information to establish any factual nexus between the alleged theft and any business practice of Beretta USA or Pietro Beretta.

Plaintiffs have produced little or no information concerning the manner in which any of the 207 Beretta firearms identified in the City of Oakland were acquired by the criminal or person in possession of the firearm, and they have produced no information at all concerning any factual nexus between the manner of acquisition for those firearms and any alleged business practice of Beretta USA or Pietro Beretta.

### 8. <u>City of Sacramento</u>

Plaintiffs produced what appear to be Sacramento Police Department incident reports involving the recovery of 76 Beretta firearms by the Sacramento Police Department from 1996 through 1999. Plaintiffs have also produced a property room database that lists Beretta firearms held by the Sacramento Police Department. That database lists by serial number 79 additional Beretta firearms for which plaintiffs have produced no incident reports. The property room database contains no information concerning the acquisitional history of any Beretta firearm or any factual nexus between the manner of acquisition and any alleged conduct by Beretta USA or Pietro Beretta.

Our comprehensive review of the incident documents produced by plaintiffs reveals the following acquisitional information concerning identified Beretta firearms in the City of Sacramento:

| Straw Purchases                             | None      |
|---|-----------|
| Illegal Sales By Federally Licensed Dealers | None      |
| Gun Show Sales                              | See Below |
| Licensed Kitchen Table Dealer Sales         | None      |
| Theft                                       | See Below |

Gun Show Sales. In one of the Sacramento Police Department incident reports, the individual in possession of a Beretta firearm is quoting as stating that he purchased the gun at a Cal-Expo gun show "a couple of years ago." The incident report does not provide other circumstances of the alleged purchase, and it does not establish any factual nexus between the alleged purchase and any business practice of Beretta USA or Pietro Beretta. (SAC0022355-0022359.)

Theft. There are seven City of Sacramento incident reports in which there is some mention of the recovered Beretta firearm being stolen at some point. In none of these instances of theft are the circumstances of the alleged theft given with specificity, and there is no information to establish any factual nexus between the alleged theft and any business practice of Beretta USA or Pietro Beretta.

Plaintiffs have produced little or no information concerning the manner in which any of the 155 Beretta firearms identified in the City of Sacramento were acquired by the criminal or person in possession of the firearm, and they have produced no information at all concerning any factual nexus between the manner of acquisition for those firearms and any alleged business practice of Beretta USA or Pietro Beretta.

### 9. City of East Palo Alto

Plaintiffs produced what appear to be East Palo Alto Police Department incident reports involving the recovery of four Beretta firearms by the East Palo Alto Police Department from 1996 through 1999. Plaintiffs have also produced a property room database that lists Beretta firearms held by the East Palo Alto Police Department. That database lists by serial number two additional Beretta firearms for which plaintiffs have produced no incident reports. The property room database contains no information concerning the acquisitional history of any Beretta firearm or any factual nexus between the manner of acquisition and any alleged conduct by Beretta USA or Pietro Beretta.

Our comprehensive review of the incident documents produced by plaintiffs reveals the following acquisitional information concerning identified Beretta firearms in the City of East Palo Alto:

| Straw Purchases                             | None |
|---|------|
| Illegal Sales By Federally Licensed Dealers | None |
| Gun Show Sales                              | None |
| Licensed Kitchen Table Dealer Sales         | None |
| Theft                                       | None |

Plaintiffs have produced little or no information concerning the manner in which any of the six Beretta firearms identified in the City of East Palo Alto were acquired by the criminal or person in possession of the firearm, and they have produced no information at all concerning any factual nexus between the manner of acquisition for those firearms and any alleged business practice of Beretta USA or Pietro Beretta.

### 10. County of San Mateo

Plaintiffs produced what appear to be San Mateo County Sheriff's Office incident reports involving the recovery of 25 Beretta firearms by the San Mateo County Sheriff's Office from 1996 through 1999. Plaintiffs have also produced a property room database that lists Beretta firearms held by the San Mateo County Sheriff's Office. That database lists by serial number 21 additional Beretta firearms for which plaintiffs have produced no incident reports. The property room database contains no information concerning the acquisitional history of any Beretta firearm or any factual nexus between the manner of acquisition and any alleged conduct by Beretta USA or Pietro Beretta.

Our comprehensive review of the incident documents produced by plaintiffs reveals the following acquisitional information concerning identified Beretta firearms in the County of San Mateo:

| Straw Purchases                             | None      |
|---|-----------|
| Illegal Sales By Federally Licensed Dealers | None      |
| Gun Show Sales                              | See Below |
| Licensed Kitchen Table Dealer Sales         | None      |

Gun Show Sales. One San Mateo County Sheriff's Office incident report identifies a Beretta firearm recovered from an individual who stated to the officers that he and his wife purchased the gun in a non-dealer transaction in 1994 at a gun show at the Cow Palace. The incident report also identifies the gun as having been previously lost or stolen. It does not otherwise give any information about the acquisition of the firearm or any information establishing any factual nexus between the acquisition of the firearm and any business practice of Beretta USA or Pietro Beretta. (SMC03962-03977.)

Theft. In addition to the incident described above, there are two other San Mateo County Sheriff's Office incident reports in which there is some mention of the recovered Beretta firearm being stolen at some point. In neither of these instances of theft are the circumstances of the alleged theft given with specificity, and there is no information to establish any factual nexus between the alleged theft and any business practice of Beretta USA or Pietro Beretta.

Plaintiffs have produced little or no information concerning the manner in which any of the 46 Beretta firearms identified in the County of San Mateo were acquired by the criminal or person in possession of the firearm, and they have produced no information at all concerning any factual nexus between the manner of acquisition for those firearms and any alleged business practice of Beretta USA or Pietro Beretta.

## 11. County of Alameda

Plaintiffs produced what appear to be Alameda County Sheriff's Department incident reports involving the recovery of seven Beretta firearms by the Alameda County Sheriff's Department from 1996 through 1999. Plaintiffs have also produced a property room database that lists Beretta firearms held by the Alameda County Sheriff's Department. That database lists by serial number four additional Beretta firearms for which plaintiffs have produced no incident reports. The property room database contains no information concerning the acquisitional history of any Beretta firearm or any factual nexus between the manner of acquisition and any alleged conduct by Beretta USA or Pietro Beretta.

Our comprehensive review of the incident documents produced by plaintiffs reveals the following acquisitional information concerning identified Beretta firearms in the County of Alameda:

| None |
|------|
| None |
| None |
| None |
| None |
|      |

Plaintiffs have produced little or no information concerning the manner in which any of the 11 Beretta firearms identified in the County of Alameda were acquired by the criminal or person in possession of the firearm, and they have produced no information at all concerning any factual nexus between the manner of acquisition for those firearms and any alleged business practice of Beretta USA or Pietro Beretta.

# 12. <u>City of Inglewood</u>

Plaintiffs produced what appear to be Inglewood Police Department incident reports involving the recovery of 16 Beretta firearms by the Inglewood Police Department from 1996 through 1999. Plaintiffs have also produced a property room database that lists Beretta firearms held by the Inglewood Police Department. That database lists by serial number 12 additional Beretta firearms for which plaintiffs have produced no incident reports. The property room database contains no information concerning the acquisitional history of any Beretta firearm or any factual nexus between the manner of acquisition and any alleged conduct by Beretta USA or Pietro Beretta.

Our comprehensive review of the incident documents produced by plaintiffs reveals the following acquisitional information concerning identified Beretta firearms in the City of Inglewood:

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| Straw Purchases                             | None      |
|---|-----------|
| Illegal Sales By Federally Licensed Dealers | None      |
| Gun Show Sales                              | None      |
| Licensed Kitchen Table Dealer Sales         | None      |
| Theft                                       | See Below |

Theft. There are two City of Inglewood incident reports in which there is some mention of the recovered Beretta firearm being stolen at some point. In none of these instances of theft are the circumstances of the alleged theft given with specificity, and there is no information to establish any factual nexus between the alleged theft and any business practice of Beretta USA or Pietro Beretta.

Plaintiffs have produced little or no information concerning the manner in which any of the 28 Beretta firearms identified in the City of Inglewood were acquired by the criminal or person in possession of the firearm, and they have produced no information at all concerning any factual nexus between the manner of acquisition for those firearms and any alleged business practice of Beretta USA or Pietro Beretta.

### 13. City of Compton

Plaintiffs produced what appear to be Compton Police Department incident reports involving the recovery of 48 Beretta firearms by the Compton Police Department from 1996 through 1999. Plaintiffs have also produced a property room database that lists Beretta firearms held by the Compton Police Department. That database lists by serial number 48 additional Beretta firearms for which plaintiffs have produced no incident report. The property room database contains no information concerning the acquisitional history of any Beretta firearm or any factual nexus between the manner of acquisition and any alleged conduct by Beretta USA or Pietro Beretta.

Our comprehensive review of the incident documents produced by plaintiffs reveals the following acquisitional information concerning identified Beretta firearms in the City of Compton:

| None      |
|-----------|
| None      |
| None      |
| None      |
| See Below |
|           |

Theft. There are ten City of Compton incident reports in which there is some mention of the recovered Beretta firearm being stolen at some point. In none of these instances of theft are the circumstances of the alleged theft given with specificity, and there is no information to establish any factual nexus between the alleged theft and any business practice of Beretta USA or Pietro Beretta.

Plaintiffs have produced little or no information concerning the manner in which any of the 96 Beretta firearms identified in the City of Compton were acquired by the criminal or person in possession of the firearm, and they have produced no information at all concerning any factual nexus between the manner of acquisition for those firearms and any alleged business practice of Beretta USA or Pietro Beretta.

### 14. County of Los Angeles

Plaintiffs produced what appear to be Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department incident reports involving the recovery of 307 Beretta firearms by the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department from 1996 through 1999. Plaintiffs have also produced a property room database that lists Beretta firearms held by the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department. That database lists by serial number 830 additional Beretta firearms for which plaintiffs have produced no incident reports. The property room database contains no information concerning the acquisitional history of any Beretta firearm or any factual nexus between the manner of acquisition and any alleged conduct by Beretta USA or Pietro Beretta.

Our comprehensive review of the incident documents produced by plaintiffs reveals the following acquisitional information concerning identified Beretta firearms in the County of Los Angeles:

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| Gun Show Sales                      | See Below |
|-------------------------------------|-----------|
| Licensed Kitchen Table Dealer Sales | None      |
| Theft                               | See Below |

See Below

Straw Purchases

**Straw Purchase.** In one incident, the suspect stated that his cousin had purchased the Beretta firearm for him. The report does not otherwise give any circumstances of the purchase, and it does not establish any factual nexus between the alleged purchase and any business practice of Beretta USA or Pietro Beretta. (LACO051066-051077.)

Illegal Sales by Federally Licensed Dealer. Aside from the incident reports, plaintiffs have produced documents relating to three different prosecutions arising from firearm sales in Los Angeles County. Those prosecutions involved Beretta and other firearms. First, although the conduct did not occur within the time period covered by discovery in these cases, Zak Komor was prosecuted for sales in 1992 in which he falsified the identities of the gun purchasers in records of B&E Guns, a federal firearms licensee (FFL). The sales for which he was prosecuted included Beretta firearms. Second, several employees of RNJ Guns and Ammo, another FFL, were prosecuted for illegally converting firearms into machine guns. The converted guns did not include any Beretta firearms. The documents produced by plaintiffs include references to the allegedly illegal possession of Beretta firearms in 1995 and 1996 by Hernando Domingo. The documents state that Mr. Domingo purchased at least one Beretta firearm from RNJ Guns and Ammo, but they do not disclose the circumstances of that purchase and nothing involving Mr. Domingo or any Beretta firearm was included in the ultimate indictment. Third, John Raymond Thompson, who held an FFL as Verde Corp., was prosecuted for exporting firearms, including Beretta firearms, to Mexico without a license. The documents do not include information about how Mr. Thompson acquired the firearms.

In none of these prosecutions was there any information demonstrating any factual nexus between the criminal activity of these third parties and any business practice of Beretta USA or

**Gun Show Sales.** In one of the Los Angeles County incident reports, the individual in possession of a Beretta firearm stated that he purchased the gun at a "swap-meet" in Pomona. The incident report otherwise gives no circumstances of the alleged purchase, and it does not establish any factual nexus between the alleged purchase and any business practice of Beretta USA or Pietro Beretta. (LACO057706-057717.)

Theft. There are 56 County of Los Angeles incident reports in which there is some mention of the recovered Beretta firearm being stolen at some point. In 54 of those incident reports, the information is little more than a reference to the gun being reported stolen from a private party at some point. In seven of those 54 incident reports, the information concerning a theft is ambiguous or nothing more than an inference that the gun was stolen. In two incidents, the firearm was reported to have been stolen from a police officer – in one instance from a City of Los Angeles police officer and in the other instance from a park police officer. In none of these instances of theft are the circumstances of the alleged theft given with specificity, and there is no information to establish any factual nexus between the alleged theft and any business practice of Beretta USA or Pietro Beretta.

Plaintiffs have produced little or no information concerning the manner in which any of the 1,137 Beretta firearms identified in the County of Los Angeles were acquired by the criminal or person in possession of the firearm, and they have produced no information at all concerning any factual nexus between the manner of acquisition for those firearms and any alleged business practice of Beretta USA or Pietro Beretta.

#### 15. <u>City of Los Angeles</u>

Plaintiffs produced what appear to be Los Angeles Police Department incident reports involving the recovery of 292 Beretta firearms by the Los Angeles Police Department from 1996 through 1999. Plaintiffs have also produced a property room database that lists Beretta firearms held by the Los Angeles Police Department. That database lists by serial number 770 additional Beretta firearms for which plaintiffs have produced no incident reports. I doubt the accuracy of the property room database because it contains numerous instances in which the same serial

number is listed more than once and is used to identify firearms of more than one manufacturer. Even accepting the City of Los Angeles property room database as accurate, it contains no information concerning the acquisitional history of any Beretta firearm or any factual nexus between the manner of acquisition and any alleged conduct by Beretta USA or Pietro Beretta.

Our comprehensive review of the incident documents produced by plaintiffs reveals the following acquisitional information concerning identified Beretta firearms in the City of Los Angeles:

| Straw Purchases                             | See Below |
|---|-----------|
| Illegal Sales By Federally Licensed Dealers | None      |
| Gun Show Sales                              | See Below |
| Licensed Kitchen Table Dealer Sales         | None      |
| Theft                                       | See Below |

**Straw Purchase.** There is one City of Los Angeles incident report in which the suspect stated that he purchased firearms, including Beretta firearms, for resale by his brother in the Philippines. The incident report provides no information to establish any factual nexus between the alleged purchase and any business practice of Beretta USA or Pietro Beretta. (2 LACity 025905-026019.)

Gun Shows. In one City of Los Angeles incident report, the individual in possession of a Beretta firearm, which was reported to be stolen in Miami, Florida in 1986, stated that he believed he purchased it in the late 1980s at the Great Western gun show in Pomona. He also referred to his purchase of another Beretta firearm in 1983 at the same gun show. There is no other information concerning the circumstances of either purchase, and there is no information to establish any factual nexus between the alleged purchases and any business practice of Beretta USA or Pietro Beretta. (LACity 0041369-0041678.)

Theft. There are 46 City of Los Angeles incident reports in which there is some mention of the recovered Beretta firearm being stolen at some point. In 44 of those incident reports, the information is little more than a reference to the gun being reported stolen from a private party at

some point. In two of those 44 incident reports, the information concerning a theft is ambiguous or nothing more than an inference that the gun was stolen. In one incident, the firearm was reported to have been stolen from a Los Angeles police officer. In another incident, the firearm was reported to have been stolen from a pawn shop. In none of these instances of theft are the circumstances of the alleged theft given with specificity, and there is no information to establish any factual nexus between the alleged theft and any business practice of Beretta USA or Pietro Beretta.

Plaintiffs have produced little or no information concerning the manner in which any of the 1,062 Beretta firearms identified in the City of Los Angeles were acquired by the criminal or person in possession of the firearm, and they have produced no information at all concerning any factual nexus between the manner of acquisition for those firearms and any alleged business practice of Beretta USA or Pietro Beretta.

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing statements are true and correct.

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Dated: June 24, 2002

Lawrence P. Fletcher-Hill

Lawrence P. Fletcher-Hill

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