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

ADAM BRANDY, et al.,

Plaintiffs,

v.

ALEX VILLANUEVA, et al.,

Defendants.

CASE NO: CV20-02874-AB (SK)
Hon. André Birotte Jr., Ctrm. 7B, 7th Fl., 1st Street
Hon. Steve Kim, Ctrm. 540, 5th Fl., Roybal

**DECLARATION OF PAUL SIMON,
M.D., M.P.H. IN SUPPORT OF CITY
DEFENDANTS’ OPPOSITION TO
PLAINTIFFS’ APPLICATION FOR A
TEMPORARY RESTRAINING
ORDER AND ORDER TO SHOW
CAUSE WHY A PRELIMINARY
INJUNCTION SHOULD NOT ISSUE**

DECLARATION OF PAUL SIMON, M.D., M.P.H.

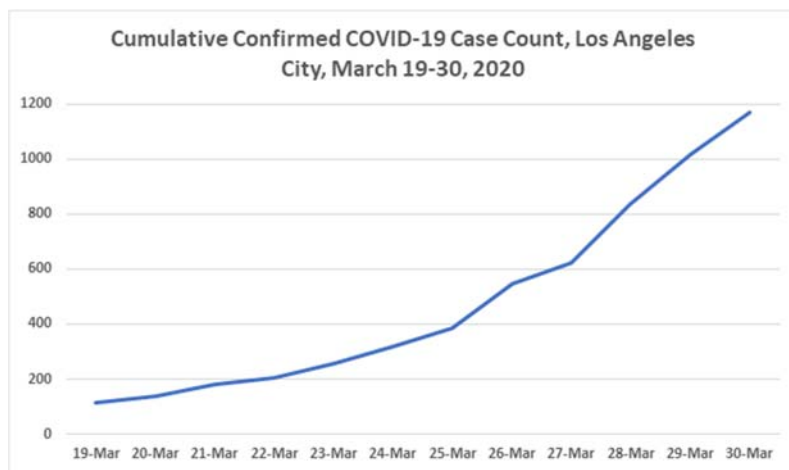
Paul Simon declares:

1. I am the Chief Science Officer of the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health. I have been assigned as a medical advisor to the City of Los Angeles to assist in its response to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. I could testify truthfully to the following facts, of which I have personal knowledge.

2. COVID-19 is a dangerous illness caused by SARS-CoV-2 (or, in lay terms, the novel coronavirus). SARS-CoV-2 spreads like the common cold: An infected person coughs, sneezes, or otherwise expels aerosolized droplets containing the virus. Those droplets are either inhaled by a non-infected person nearby, or deposited on a surface that a non-infected person touches before touching his or her face. The data suggest that, in the absence of social distancing measures and other infection control interventions, each person sick with COVID-19 will on average infect between two and three other people. The data also suggest that people who exhibit no symptoms of COVID-19 can nevertheless spread SARS-CoV-2.

3. On March 19, 2020, the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health identified 112 cases of COVID-19 in the City of Los Angeles. The number of identified cases increased as follows: March 20 – 137; March 21 – 182; March 22 – 207; March 23 – 258; March 24 – 318; March 25 – 386; March 26 – 545; March 27 – 623; March 28 – 839; March 29 – 1,020; March 30 – 1,386; March 31 – 1,580; April 1 – 1,787.

4. Below is a graph that depicts this 10-fold increase in *identified* cases over the 11 days between March 19 and March 30. It is worth noting that the number of identified cases is necessarily lower than the number of actual cases.



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5. At the end of the day on April 2—that is, at midnight on April 3—the number of identified cases in the City was 2,047.

6. Of the cases identified in the City, 22 percent required hospitalization, of which 16 percent required admission to an intensive care unit and support on a ventilator.

7. The resources available to care for COVID-19 patients are allocated County-wide. As of March 29, there were 2,549 hospital beds in the County, including 540 beds on the USNS Mercy, which is presently at the Port of Los Angeles. That number includes 294 ICU beds—of which 80 are on the USNS Mercy—and 865 ventilators.

8. It is important to note that the beds on the USNS Mercy are not for COVID-19 patients, but having them available for other patients will free beds elsewhere for COVID-19 patients.

(Continued on next page.)

1 9. Because SARS-CoV-2 spreads among people in close proximity to one
2 another, any measure that discourages interpersonal contact helps to slow its spread—
3 which in turn increases the amount of time before the County’s hospital capacity is
4 overwhelmed. In short, action to enforce social distancing is imperative and will save
5 lives.

6 I swear under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States of America
7 and the State of California that the foregoing is true and correct.

8 Executed on April 3, 2020 at Los Angeles, California.

9
10 A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Paul Simon", is written above a solid horizontal line.

11 Paul Simon, M.D., M.P.H.
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