

1 C. D. Michel – SBN 144258  
Anna M. Barvir – SBN 268728  
2 Sean A. Brady – SBN 262007  
Tiffany D. Chevront – SBN 317144  
3 MICHEL & ASSOCIATES, P.C.  
180 East Ocean Blvd., Suite 200  
4 Long Beach, CA 90802  
Telephone: 562-216-4444  
5 Facsimile: 562-216-4445  
cmichel@michellawyers.com

6 Attorneys for Plaintiffs  
7

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

10 NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION OF  
AMERICA; JOHN DOE,

11 Plaintiffs,

12 vs.

13 CITY OF LOS ANGELES; ERIC  
14 GARCETTI, in his official capacity as  
Mayor of City of Los Angeles; HOLLY  
15 L. WOLCOTT, in her official capacity as  
City Clerk of City of Los Angeles; and  
16 DOES 1-10,

17 Defendants.  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25  
26  
27  
28

Case No.: 2:19-cv-03212 SVW (GJSx)

**SUPPLEMENTAL  
DECLARATION OF ANNA M.  
BARVIR IN SUPPORT OF  
PLAINTIFFS' MOTION FOR  
ATTORNEYS' FEES**

Hearing Date: June 15, 2020  
Hearing Time: 1:30 p.m.  
Judge: Stephen V. Wilson  
Courtroom: 10A

1                                   **SUPPLEMENTAL DECLARATION OF ANNA M. BARVIR**

2           I, Anna M. Barvir, declare as follows:

3           1.       I am an attorney licensed to practice law in the state of California and  
4 before the United States District Court for the Central District of California. I am a  
5 Partner and attorney at the law firm Michel & Associates, P.C. (“MAPC”), attorneys  
6 of record for Plaintiffs in this action. I have personal knowledge of the facts set forth  
7 herein and, if called and sworn as a witness, could and would testify competently  
8 thereto.

9                                   **Review of Billing Records to Prepare the Motion for Attorneys’ Fees**

10          2.       In preparing this fee motion, like all fee motions I have prepared, I  
11 began by directing Ms. Haydee Villegas, my firm’s office manager, to prepare a  
12 report generated from Timeslips of every single billing entry billed to this matter.  
13 From that report, I directed her to remove all “unbillable” time captured by attorneys  
14 or support staff members.

15          3.       From the report of “billable” time only, I reviewed all the individual  
16 billing slips to ensure that each included an internal reference to one of 7 phases of  
17 the litigation: (1) case management and litigation strategy; (2) preparing the case and  
18 complaint; (3) motion practice; (4) discovery; (5) settlement; (6) pretrial and trial  
19 preparation; and (7) motion for attorneys’ fees and application to tax costs. I also  
20 directed Ms. Villegas to create an internal reference within Timeslips for reasonably  
21 billable work for which Plaintiffs would not seek recovery via fee motion. These  
22 “reference” tags allow the billing department to create Timeslips reports categorized  
23 by reference or, here, phase of litigation.

24          4.       Once I was satisfied that all billing slips were assigned the appropriate  
25 litigation phase reference, I directed Ms. Villegas to generate a Timeslips report,  
26 broken down by timekeeper (or billing professional), then by litigation phase, then  
27 by activity. This computer-generated report, which calculated the total amount of  
28 time billed by each timekeeper during each litigation phase, was used by me and my

1 junior associate, Mr. Alexander A. Frank, to draft the details of my first declaration  
2 in support of the fee motion.

3 5. Once the final Timeslips report was generated and the declarations of  
4 each billing professional were complete, I reviewed the slips once more to determine  
5 whether they included privileged material (including attorney-client communications  
6 or attorney work product), whether that material should be redacted, and to what  
7 extent. I approach this task with an eye toward protecting my client's privileged  
8 communications, while trying to leave as much information as necessary to give the  
9 reader an idea of what the overall task was. Sometimes the resulting redaction,  
10 however, appears extensive because our firm has a practice of providing very  
11 detailed billing descriptions regarding the scope of team meetings and legal research  
12 and analysis so that our client has a good understanding of the value of the work  
13 reflected in those slips. Failure to redact those details, in my opinion, would  
14 improperly divulge privileged content.

15 6. This process of reviewing the billing slips and overhead reports,  
16 preparing the declarations describing those records, and redacting privileged material  
17 is quite time-consuming. It involves the detailed review of billing entries for  
18 thousands of hours of attorney work comprising hundreds of pages billing records. It  
19 often takes several rounds of back-and-forth with Ms. Villegas, generating and  
20 reviewing many reports to ensure that the billing records are complete and accurate.  
21 And I approach this task very seriously, doing this work with an eye toward ensuring  
22 that all time for which we seek recovery is reasonable, recoverable, and properly  
23 characterized in the memoranda and all attorney/paralegal declarations in support of  
24 the motion. I believe that all of this work is reasonably necessary to bring an  
25 appropriate fee motion that does not simply seek recovery of every single billing  
26 entry without regard to whether it is reasonably recoverable.

27 **Purpose of Intra-office Communications and Meetings**

28 7. Because this case involved complex and, in many ways, novel First

1 Amendment questions, I regularly involved junior attorneys to handle necessary  
2 legal research and writing projects. I do this not only to help them sharpen their  
3 litigation and advocacy skills, but because these tasks are usually best performed by  
4 junior attorneys at their lower billing rates.

5 8. In furtherance of these projects, I meet regularly with my junior  
6 associates to assign tasks, discuss the scope of the project, answer the attorney's  
7 questions, discuss research findings and if/how they will be presented in any motion  
8 or other filing, and brainstorm follow-up research (if necessary). Sometimes, I meet  
9 with junior associates to discuss litigation strategies and next steps--both in an effort  
10 to educate them on the "bigger picture" of the litigation they are working on and to  
11 get another attorney's perspective on the strategies I'm developing. I believe these  
12 meetings are necessary because the projects I delegate to junior attorneys often  
13 require a level of partnership with me so they can be accomplished efficiently and  
14 successfully.

15 9. My collaboration with my partner, Sean A. Brady, on settlement and  
16 pretrial efforts also necessitated significant intra-office meeting time. Our  
17 collaboration was reasonably necessary because, under the unusually abbreviated  
18 timeline, I could not reasonably handle both trial preparation and (what would  
19 become Herculean) settlement efforts on my own in less than two months. I relied  
20 heavily on Mr. Brady to help me manage communications with the clients and  
21 opposing counsel throughout settlement, to carry out our settlement strategies, and to  
22 work toward our settlement goals while I was focused on trial preparation efforts.  
23 Meeting with Mr. Brady regularly to discuss shifting litigation strategies and  
24 settlement goals was thus necessary to the successful handling of this lawsuit.

25 **Imran Khundkar**

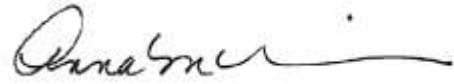
26 10. I hired Mr. Imran Khundkar as law clerk in April 2017 to serve on the  
27 firm's firearm litigation team. As one of his direct supervisors, I regularly assigned  
28 him legal research and writing assignments as part of our civil rights and

1 constitutional law litigation matters.

2 11. After passing the California Bar Exam and being promoted to the  
3 position of Staff Attorney at MAPC, Mr. Khundkar continued to do similar work for  
4 me on the same type of cases. By the time he contributed to this case, Mr. Khundkar  
5 thus had roughly two years of civil rights and constitutional law litigation  
6 experience.

7 12. Mr. Khundkar left MAPC in late November 2019.

8  
9 I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States that the  
10 foregoing is true and correct. Executed within the United States on June 1, 2020.

11 

12 \_\_\_\_\_  
13 Anna M. Barvir  
14 Declarant

15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25  
26  
27  
28

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25  
26  
27  
28

**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**  
IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

Case Name: *National Rifle Association, et al., v. City of Los Angeles, et al.*  
Case No.: 2:19-cv-03212 SVW (GJSx)

IT IS HEREBY CERTIFIED THAT:

I, the undersigned, am a citizen of the United States and am at least eighteen years of age. My business address is 180 East Ocean Boulevard, Suite 200, Long Beach, California 90802.

I am not a party to the above-entitled action. I have caused service of:

**SUPPLEMENTAL DECLARATION OF ANNA M. BARVIR IN SUPPORT  
OF PLAINTIFFS' MOTION FOR ATTORNEYS' FEES**

on the following party by electronically filing the foregoing with the Clerk of the District Court using its ECF System, which electronically notifies them.

Benjamin F. Chapman  
Los Angeles City Attorney  
200 N. Main St., Suite 675  
Los Angeles, CA 90012  
[benjamin.chapman@lacity.org](mailto:benjamin.chapman@lacity.org)  
*Attorneys for Defendants*

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed June 1, 2020.

*s/ Laura Palmerin*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Laura Palmerin