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Electronically FILED by
Superior Court of California,
County of Los Angeles
3/18/2026 5:29 PM
David W. Slayton,
Executive Officer/Clerk of Court,
By A. Simmons, Deputy Clerk

6 Attorneys for Petitioners Safari Club International;
California Rifle & Pistol Association, Incorporated;
7 California Bowmen Hunters/State Archery Association;
HOWL for Wildlife, Inc.; California Deer Association;
8 and Coalition to Save Catalina Island Deer

9
10 **SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA**
11 **FOR THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES**

12 SAFARI CLUB INTERNATIONAL;
CALIFORNIA RIFLE & PISTOL
13 ASSOCIATION, INCORPORATED;
CALIFORNIA BOWMEN
HUNTERS/STATE ARCHERY
14 ASSOCIATION; HOWL FOR WILDLIFE,
INC.; CALIFORNIA DEER
15 ASSOCIATION; and COALITION TO
SAVE CATALINA ISLAND DEER,

16 Plaintiffs-Petitioners,

17 v.

18 CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH
AND WILDLIFE; CALIFORNIA
19 DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND
WILDLIFE, SOUTH COAST REGION;
20 and DOES 1-10,

21 Defendants-Respondents.

22 CATALINA ISLAND CONSERVANCY,

23 Real Party in Interest.
24

Case No.: 26STCP00987

**DECLARATION OF HAYDEE VILLEGAS IN
SUPPORT OF PETITIONERS' NOTICE OF
MOTION AND MOTION TO CONFORM
FILING DATE TO ATTEMPTED
TRANSMISSION DATE OR OTHER
APPROPRIATE RELIEF**

Hearing Date: May 28, 2026
Hearing Time: 1:30 PM
Department: 86
Judge: Hon. Curtis A. Kin

1 **DECLARATION OF HAYDEE VILLEGAS**

2 I, Haydee Villegas, hereby declare as follows:

3 1. I am the Finance Manager at Michel & Associates, P.C. (the “Firm”), counsel for
4 Petitioners in the above-captioned matter.

5 2. I submit this declaration in support of Petitioners’ Verified Petition for Writ of Mandate
6 or Other Appropriate Relief (hereinafter the “Petition”) and as a request for relief from late filing due to
7 transmission failures with the online platform under Superior Court of Los Angeles County, First
8 Amended General Order, 7 (a)(ii), May 3, 2019, and the rules of court. I have personal knowledge of the
9 facts stated below and of the proceedings in the case. I am over the age of eighteen, and if I were to be
10 called as a witness, I could and would competently testify under oath as to the matters I have set forth
11 below.

12 3. The Firm assigned the preparation and filing of the petition in this matter to its primary
13 paralegal, who had been made familiar with the matter over the weeks of preparing the petition and who
14 was provided with instructions from the Firm’s counsel on all documents needed to be compiled and
15 included in the filing of the petition.

16 4. On March 9, 2026, the Firm’s primary paralegal was working to prepare documents in
17 this matter for filing, including collecting and preparing exhibits and verifications from petitioners. At
18 around 3:30 PM on March 9, 2026, however, she notified me that she was forced to abandon her work
19 preparing the matter for filing due to an unexpected medical emergency.

20 5. As a result, I reached out to the Firm’s counsel handling the matter to offer assistance in
21 picking up where the Firm’s primary paralegal had been forced to abruptly stop work on the filing. My
22 duties at the Firm do not usually involve legal filings, but I was the only person at the Firm with
23 experience handling the Firm’s filings who was available on such short notice.

24 6. I was completely unfamiliar with the nature of this matter, including what was being filed
25 or the instructions for filing matters in this court, before I received the message from the Firm’s primary
26 paralegal on March 9, 2026, at around 3:30 PM that she would be unable to complete the filing and sent
27 me some information about what needed to be done. As a result, I needed to get up to speed. To do so,
28 because the Firm’s primary paralegal was unavailable to communicate with me at the time, I had to

1 review her emails to determine not only the instructions for filing but also where she had left off in that
2 process, which took significant time. While I had begun working on the matter immediately upon
3 hearing about it, I had to pause work to drive my young daughters to a previously scheduled
4 appointment, as nobody else was available to tend to them. I immediately resumed work on this matter
5 at around 6:30 PM.

6 7. Compiling the Petition and supporting documents for filing included identifying,
7 assembling, and labeling the exhibits; identifying, assembling, and inserting the verification pages for
8 the Petitioners; and combining all documents into a format suitable for uploading into the court's online
9 filing system. During this process, due to my unfamiliarity with the matter, I had to exchange multiple
10 messages with the Firm's counsel assigned to the matter to confirm details of the filing instructions and
11 that I was doing what they needed correctly and completely. This took several hours to complete.

12 8. Immediately upon confirming with the Firm's counsel that I had correctly prepared the
13 materials for filing and had all the final documents, I worked to merge the documents (Petition,
14 verifications, and exhibits) into one to be filed. Once finished, I immediately attempted to upload the
15 filing at 11:18 PM on March 9, 2026. Attached as **Exhibit A** is a true and correct copy of a screenshot of
16 my computer screen at the time when I began the upload process on One Legal. While uploading the
17 Petition and supporting documents, the upload was slow, and the One Legal system abruptly logged me
18 out in the middle of the process. Attached as **Exhibit B** is a true and correct copy of a screenshot of my
19 computer screen at the time it froze. As a result, the filing session that I had spent time preparing for
20 upload was terminated.

21 9. I messaged Sean A. Brady, an attorney working on this matter for the Firm, alerting him
22 to the issues with being kicked out of the online filing system. He directed me to keep trying, but if the
23 problem persisted, to try to file the Petition alone without attachments, and we would work to get the
24 supporting documents to the Court with its guidance.

25 10. At 11:54 PM, minutes after being forcefully logged out of the system, I was able to log
26 back into the One Legal online filing system and was prompted to start the filing completely over,
27 including re-entering the case information. Once I completed that, I attempted to upload the Petition and
28 supporting documents again. Attached as **Exhibit C** is a true and correct copy of my computer screen

1 showing the time at which I had to restart the case-initiating process. The system still would not allow
2 me to proceed with the filing.

3 11. Believing that the exhibits attached to the Petition could be the source of the problem, I
4 removed them and was finally able to get the Petition (without the exhibits) uploaded and confirmed at
5 12:18 AM on March 10, 2026. Attached as **Exhibit D** is a true and correct copy of the One Legal filing
6 submission confirmation.

7 12. The filing that has now been accepted by the Court is the same document in every respect
8 as what I attempted to file on March 9, 2026. To my knowledge, the Firm has made no changes to
9 anything filed with the Court in this matter from what I attempted to file on March 9, 2026.

10 I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct. Executed this 18th day of
11 March 2026, in Long Beach, California.

12 
13 Haydee Villegas
14 Declarant

EXHIBIT A

Start a File & Serve Order

Subsequent Filing

Select to file on an active case with a court-assigned case number.

Case Initiation

Select to initiate a new case. The clerk will assign a case number once documents are accepted.

Select order type

File + Serve + File

- ✓ Filing
- ✓ Process Serving
- ✓ Proof of Service Filing

File + Serve

- ✓ Filing
- ✓ Process Serving

Filing

- ✓ Filing

Select court...

- Lake County, Superior Court of California
- Lassen County, Superior Court of California
- Los Angeles County, Superior Court of California**
- Madera County, Superior Court of California
- Marin County, Superior Court of California
- Mariposa County, Superior Court of California
- Mendocino County, Superior Court of California
- San Diego County, Superior Court of California
- San Francisco County, Superior Court of California
- San Joaquin County, Superior Court of California
- San Luis Obispo County, Superior Court of California
- San Mateo County, Superior Court of California
- Santa Clara County, Superior Court of California
- Santa Cruz County, Superior Court of California
- Stanislaus County, Superior Court of California
- Yuba County, Superior Court of California

are filing. Fields marked with an asterisk (*) are required.

* In which state would you like to file your document:

California

* Choose the court location:

Select court location...

CANCEL ORDER

CONTINUE



EXHIBIT B

Electronic court filing ✔ eFile

Documents

Order Info

Parties

Documents

Review

Add Lead Document

Fields marked with an asterisk (*) are required.

* Type:

Petition for Writ of Mandate

Attaching: 2026-02-25 Complaint _ Petition for Writ of Mandate re Catalina Deer(2350229.2).pdf (118.7 mb)

2

ATTACH A FILE

SAVE DRAFT

BACK

CONTINUE

Deadlines

The submission deadline is 11:59 PM PT for eFiling orders.

Please submit your filings 15 minutes prior to the deadline to allow time for processing.

Court Information

Los Angeles County Superior Court of California

Case Information

Safari Club International, et al., v. California Department of Fish & Wildlife, et al.

Case Category: Civil Unlimited
Case Type: Writ - Administrative Mandamus
Jurisdictional Amount: 025K



Search

11:49 PM
3/9/2026

EXHIBIT C

Start a File & Serve Order



Subsequent Filing

Select to file on an active case with a court-assigned case number.

Case Initiation

Select to initiate a new case. The clerk will assign a case number once documents are accepted.

Select order type

File + Serve + File

- ✓ Filing
- ✓ Process Serving
- ✓ Proof of Service Filing

File + Serve

- ✓ Filing
- ✓ Process Serving

Filing

- ✓ Filing

Select court...

- Kern County, Superior Court of California
- Kings County, Superior Court of California
- Lake County, Superior Court of California
- Lassen County, Superior Court of California
- Los Angeles County, Superior Court of California
- Madera County, Superior Court of California
- Marin County, Superior Court of California
- San Diego County, Superior Court of California
- Lake County, Superior Court of California

are filing. Fields marked with an asterisk (*) are required.

* In which state would you like to file your document:

California

* Choose the court location:

Select court location...

CANCEL ORDER

CONTINUE



Search



11:54 PM
3/9/2026

EXHIBIT D

Orders

Search

The orders page is filtered to the last month of orders - to see additional orders you can modify the search filter

Order / Case Information

Date Submitted Date Last Updated

Order Type

Status

Court

Party Served (for Process Serve orders)

Submitted By

[Fewer search options](#) ⬆️

SEARCH

1 order matches your search | [Export Spreadsheet](#) | [Export Documents](#) | [View Downloads](#)

Order			Case				Status	
Number	Submitted	Type	Number	Name	Court	Matter / Billing Code	Last Updated	Latest Status / Docs
27665821	3/10/2026 12:18 AM PT	eFiling court transaction: 26LA00507766		Safari Club International, et al., v. California Department of Fish & Wildlife, et al.	Los Angeles County, Superior Court of California	151	3/10/2026 12:19 AM PT	In Progress under court clerk review