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15	SUPERIOR COURT OF	THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA
16		Y OF ALAMEDA
17		<b>D</b> JURISDICTION
18		
19	DAVID ADELSON, et al., Plaintiffa	) Consolidated Case No.: 814461-0 ) [Consolidated with No. 831252-3
20	Plaintiffs, v.	) and No. 831286-0]
21	PACIFICA FOUNDATION, et al., Defendants.	) ) PLAINTIFFS AND CROSS- ) COMPLAINANTS' MEMORANDUM OF
22		) POINTS AND AUTHORITIES IN SUPPORT
23	PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA, ex rel. CAROL SPOONER, et al.,	) OF MOTION TO PROHIBIT ) ADVANCEMENT OF DIRECTORS' ) DEFENSE EXPENSES, OR, IN THE
24	Plaintiffs,	) ALTERNATIVE, TO ENFORCE THE ) COURT'S MAY 22, 2001 ORDER
25	V.	) REQUIRING AN UNDERTAKING BY
26	PACIFICA FOUNDATION, et al., Defendants.	) THE INDIVIDUAL DEFENDANTS )
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PLAINTIFFS' MEMORANDUM IN SUPPORT OF MOTION TO PROHIBIT ADVANCEMENT OF DIRECTORS' DEFENSE EXPENSES, OR, IN THE ALTERNATIVE, TO ENFORCE ORDER RE UNDERTAKING

1 2	ROBERT ROBINSON, et al., Plaintiffs, v.	<ul> <li>) Date: September 13, 2001</li> <li>) Time: 9:00 a.m.</li> <li>) Dept.: 22</li> <li>) Judge: Hon. Ronald M. Sabraw</li> </ul>
3 4	PACIFICA FOUNDATION, et al., Defendants.	
5 6 7	TOMAS MORAN, et al., Cross-Complainants, v.	
8	PACIFICA FOUNDATION, et al., Cross-Defendants.	
<ol> <li>9</li> <li>10</li> <li>11</li> <li>12</li> <li>13</li> <li>14</li> <li>15</li> <li>16</li> <li>17</li> <li>18</li> </ol>		
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20	PLAINTIFFS' MEMORANDUM IN SUPPORT OF	MOTION TO PROHIBIT ADVANCEMENT OF DIRECTORS'

#### **INTRODUCTION**

Directors' defense expenses can only be advanced by a corporation only if approved by a 2 majority of the non-interested directors. Otherwise, it would be self-dealing for such directors to 3 approve advancement of their own defense fees. Posting an undertaking would not cure the 4 situation, since posting an undertaking in effect turns the advancement of defense expenses into a 5 loan by the corporation for the benefit of the individual directors. Here, since there has been no vote 6 by the non-interested directors of Pacifica to authorize advancement of defense expenses for the 7 8 individual director defendants, no advancement is permitted.

Even were the Court to hold that a vote of the non-interested directors approving any 9 advancement of defense expenses is not required, the individual defendants still are required to post 10 an undertaking prior to any such advancements. On May 22, 2001, the Court ordered that "if the 11 representation of the individual defendants imposes any additional cost on Pacifica, then . . . the 12 individual defendants would need to post an undertaking for that additional cost." At the time of that 13 order, counsel for defendants had argued that there had been no additional costs incurred for the 14 individual defendants than was expended on behalf of the Foundation, and that the legal services 15 provided for the individual director defendants was coincident with the services provided to the 16 Foundation due to the fact that such counsel represented a majority of the Foundation's then-current 17 board of directors. 18

19 There have been changed circumstances since the May 22 Order, such that both of these 20 representations are no longer valid. Despite this, the individual defendants have not posted the required undertaking. These circumstances demonstrating that the Foundation is currently paying 21 for legal expenses that relate solely to the individual director defendants: (1) the Foundation has paid 22 counsel to prepare and file pleadings that are addressed solely to the defense of the individual 23 director defendants; (2) current defense counsel, purportedly representing both the Foundation and 24 the individual director defendants, no longer represent a majority of the Foundation's board of 25 directors; (3) currently, none of the work performed by the new law firms is being paid by the 26

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directors' insurance carrier; (4) the *People ex rel. Spooner* First Amended Complaint contains a cause of action for self-dealing pursuant to Corp. Code § 5233, and work performed in defense of this cause of action by definition is solely on behalf of the individual defendants, and by statute cannot be paid by insurance; and (5) since the individual director defendants have fired prior retained counsel and insurance defense counsel, there will be significant costs in paying new counsel that will not be paid by insurance.

Though the individual defendants have free legal representation provided by insurance, these defendants want the Foundation to pay for additional, high-priced legal talent to represent them. Aside from the fact that insurance-paid defense counsel should be sufficient to protect the individual defendants' interests, the Legislature has determined that if individual director defendants want additional retained counsel, a corporation can advance expenses incurred by such counsel only on the posting of an appropriate undertaking, in order to protect the corporation's funds. There is simply no reason why defendants should not provide such security to the Foundation.

Accordingly, an order should be entered prohibiting the advancement of defense expenses to the individual directors. In the alternative, the individual defendants are required to post an undertaking in the amount of the past legal services provided by Pacifica Foundation on their behalf, and in the amount of the anticipated legal services to be provided on their behalf in this litigation. Moreover, there must be an adequate mechanism instituted to ensure that any undertaking is adequate to cover anticipated advancements.

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## STATEMENT OF FACTS

### 1. <u>The prior motion to require posting of undertaking and the Court's Order</u>

On or about April 12, 2001, plaintiffs in the *People ex rel. Spooner* action filed a Motion Prohibiting Advance of Attorney's Fees and Costs on Behalf of Individually Named Defendants. Defendants, in opposition to this motion, submitted declaration testimony from the defense counsel paid by the insurance carrier that insurance counsel "did not incur any material costs or attorneys' fees in connection with the services rendered for the individual directors" and that there had been

"no increase in the attorneys' fees incurred in defending any of these cases by reason of the fact that 1 [insurance defense counsel was] representing the Foundation and the directors." Declaration of 2 Daniel Rapaport in Opposition to Plaintiffs' Motion For Undertaking, dated May 3, 2001, ¶ 3 (a copy 3 of this declaration is attached as Exhibit A to the Declaration to Terry Gross ("Gross Dec."), filed 4 herewith).<sup>1/</sup> At oral argument on this motion, defense counsel rested their argument that no 5 additional work was performed for the individual directors than was already performed for the 6 Foundation on the contention that defense counsel then represented a majority of the board. For 7 example, defense counsel Temchine stated: "The fact of the matter is we represent *the majority of* 8 the Board. The positions that have been espoused are the position of the majority of the Board. 9 They speak for the corporation. They are the corporation until that changes. And so all we have 10 done with the exception of the undertaking motion is represented by the interests of the Foundation 11 as expressed by the majority of the Board." Transcript of proceedings on May 21, 2001, related to 12 Plaintiffs' Motion For Undertaking, at 13:22-14:1 (Gross Dec. Ex. B). 13

On May 22, 2001, the Court issued an Order granting the prior motion regarding 14 advancement of defense fees and costs, holding that "Pacifica is required to comply with 15 Corporations Code 5238(f) and require an undertaking from the individual defendants before 16 advancing expenses to them for their defense of this consolidated action." The Court further stated 17 that "if counsel retained by Pacifica also represent individual defendants, then those individual 18 19 defendants do not need to post an undertaking if the representation of those individual defendants 20 does not impose any additional cost on Pacifica. If the representation of the individual defendants imposes any additional cost on Pacifica, then that additional cost is an advance by Pacifica for the 21 benefit of the individual defendant and the individual defendants would need to post an undertaking 22

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<sup>1/</sup> However, defense counsel Daley Temchine stated that his firm, Epstein, Becker & Green, a firm retained by Pacifica Foundation and not paid by insurance, had incurred expenses solely on behalf of the 24 individual directors in opposing the original motion to disqualify. Transcript of proceedings on May 21, 2001, related to Plaintiffs' Motion For Undertaking, at 13:17-20 (Gross Dec. Ex. B). 25

1 for that additional cost." The Court concluded: "In this case, counsel for Pacifica has submitted 2 declaration testimony that all the cost and expenses incurred to date (with the exception of 3 appearance fees for the individual defendants) would have been incurred in the defense of Pacifica 4 and that there has been no additional expense related to the defense of the individual defendants. 5 ... The undertaking required to the individual defendant is, therefore, limited to the amount of the appearance fees advanced on their behalf." Order Granting Motion of the People/Spooner Plaintiffs 6 7 For a Preliminary Injunction Regarding Advancement of Defense Fees and Costs, dated May 22, 8 2001 (Gross Dec. Ex. C).

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# individual defendants is imposing additional cost of Pacifica.

New circumstances demonstrate that the representation of the

11 Until late July 2001, the Pacifica Foundation and the Controlling Director Defendants were represented jointly by two law firms, one of which was paid by Pacifica Foundation (Epstein, Becker 12 13 & Green P.C. (the "Epstein firm")) and the other which was paid by a policy of insurance (Wendel, 14 Rosen, Black & Dean, LLP (the "Wendel firm")). On or about July 23, 2001, Bessie Wash, the 15 Executive Director of Pacifica, fired both the Epstein firm and the Wendel firm, and hired two new law firms to represent Pacifica, *i.e.*, Williams & Connolly, LLP (the "Williams firm") and Fulbright 16 & Jaworski LLP (the "Fulbright firm"). The Executive Director took these actions without 17 18 consultation with or direction from Pacifica's Board of Directors or the Executive Committee. 19 Declaration of Pete Bramson ("Bramson Dec.") ¶¶ 3-4.

- Pacifica's prior counsel estimated that it would cost in excess of \$100,000 for the two new
  law firms to come up to speed in this matter. Declaration of Terry Gross ("Gross Dec.") ¶ 5.
- Neither of the two current law firms are being paid under a policy of insurance. Current counsel has stated that neither firm was being paid by insurance, and that both firms were retained. Gross Dec. ¶ 6. In addition, in the *Robinson* action, there is *no* insurance coverage in any event, as Pacifica's insurance carrier has refused to provide any defense to Pacifica or any individual directors, stating that there is no coverage in a case in which one director sues other directors. Declaration of
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Timothy Fox ("Fox Dec.") ¶ 3. Further, it is unlikely that Pacifica's insurance carrier will agree to 1 retain either of Pacifica's two new firms, since with respect to the representation of some of the 2 individual director defendants in the People ex rel. Spooner action who at the time were not involved 3 in any other of these consolidated lawsuits, Pacifica's insurance carrier refused to select counsel that 4 had been hired by the individual directors, and instead selected a separate law firm as their insurance 5 defense firm. Fox Dec. ¶ 4. 6

The two new law firms, in addition to appearing on behalf of Pacifica Foundation, have also 7 8 entered appearances on behalf of some of the individual director defendants – in fact, on behalf of five out of eleven current directors. At present, there are eleven current directors of Pacifica 9 Foundation. Bramson Dec. ¶ 5. To date, the two new law firms each have submitted Substitution 10 of Counsel forms for Pacifica Foundation and only three individual director defendants (Murdock, 11 Johns and Chambers), but have filed pleadings on behalf of five of the current director defendants 12 (Murdock, Johns, Chambers, Ford and Lee). See Demurrer to First Amended Complaint, and 13 Motion to Strike, both filed on August 8, 2001 in the *People ex rel. Spooner* action.<sup>1/</sup> However, the 14 new law firms have not filed any pleadings on behalf of current director Robert Farrell. In fact, 15 Farrell has sent a letter to the executive director of Pacifica stating that he "do[es] not wish to be 16 represented by the new law firms retained by the Pacifica Foundation." Bramson Dec. ¶ 10 & Ex. 17 A 1/ 18

19 Thus, the new law firms represent at most five of eleven current directors: Murdock, Johns, Chambers, Lee and Ford. Bramson Dec. ¶ 5. Five current directors are plaintiffs or cross-20 complainants: Moran, Bramson, Cagan, Robinson and Kriegel. Farrell, who previously had been 21

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<sup>22</sup> 2/ The new firms have also filed pleadings on behalf of seven other individual defendants who were formerly, but are not currently, directors of Pacifica Foundation (Andrea Cisco, David Acosta, Michael Palmer, 23 Karolyn Van Putten, Mary Frances Berry, June Makela and Frank Millspaugh). 24

<sup>&</sup>lt;u>3</u>/ Farrell also stated in his letter: "I believe that initiatives to find common ground, lower the levels of 25 animosity and hostility that exist, and seek a peaceful resolution to the problems that have contributed to a divided board, staff and audience are necessary and imperative. To that end I am in conversations with my 26 own lawyer and board members with whom I share points of view." Bramson Dec. ¶ 10 & Ex. A.

r	epresented by the Epstein and Wendel firms, is currently unrepresented. <sup>1/</sup>
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	ARGUMENT
Ι	DIRECTOR DEFENDANTS, SINCE THIS TRANSACTION HAS NOT BEEN
	APPROVED BY A MAJORITY OF THE NON-INTERESTED DIRECTORS
	Corporations Code § 5233 requires that any transaction in which a director has a material
f	inancial interest is valid only if approved by the Attorney General or a court, or if the transaction
i	s approved by a vote of a majority of the non-interested directors. Here, there has been no vote by
t	he non-interested directors of Pacifica approving the advancement of defense expenses to the
i	ndividual director defendants.
	The fact that Corp. Code § 5238(f) provides that a corporation "may" advance defense
e	expenses does not override the provisions of Corp. Code § 5233. There is no explicit statement in
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<u>4</u> /	Last week, on August 17, 2001, an attorney from Williams & Connolly, counsel for Pacifica and five of the eleven directors, sent a notice that David Bramson will not be allowed to participate in the September
1	9, 2001 board meeting, stating that Bramson's term had expired. Gross Dec. $\P$ 7 & Ex. D. Such an action s improper and in violation of law, since (1) neither Pacifica nor the five individual defendant directors had
tl	he right to make such a determination by themselves; (2) under general corporation law, a director who has
	to been removed from his position continues to serve as a director until his or her replacement is elected; and 3) since Ford's term on the board has also expired and Farrell has been removed by the local advisory board
	hat elected him, it is irrational to disqualify Bramson from participating in any board meeting unless Ford and Farrell are also similarly disqualified. <i>See</i> Plaintiffs' Memorandum of Points and Authorities in Support of
N	Action for Preliminary Injunction Governing Conduct of September 2001 Meeting of the Pacifica National Board, filed concurrently.
L	Jourd, med concurrently.
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PLAINTIFFS' MEMORANDUM IN SUPPORT OF MOTION TO PROHIBIT ADVANCEMENT OF DIRECTORS' DEFENSE EXPENSES, OR, IN THE ALTERNATIVE, TO ENFORCE ORDER RE UNDERTAKING

Section 5238(f) of an intent to override the self-dealing provisions in Section 5233. Moreover, 1 Section 5238(f) applies not just to advancement of expenses for directors, but to officers, employees 2 and agents of the corporation. 3

Thus, any advancement by Pacifica of the defense expenses of the individual director 4 defenses is a self-dealing transaction in violation of Corp. Code § 5233. 5

## ASSUMING ADVANCEMENT OF EXPENSES IS NOT A SELF-DEALING TRANSACTION, THE INDIVIDUAL DIRECTOR DEFENDANTS ARE REQUIRED BY CORP. CODE § 5238(f) AND PRIOR COURT ORDER TO POST AN II. UNDERTAKING TO PROTECT THE FOUNDATION FOR LEGAL **EXPENSES ADVANCED FOR THE INDIVIDUAL DEFENDANTS' DEFENSE**

Pursuant to Corp. Code § 5238, a non profit corporation can indemnify its directors from 9 claims and expenses incurred by reason of said director's relationship with the corporation in two 10 different ways: (1) by purchasing insurance on behalf of such directors, Corp. Code 5238(i),<sup> $\frac{1}{2}$ </sup> or (2) 11 if certain criteria are met, by providing such indemnification from the corporation's funds. Corp. 12 Code § 5238(c), (d), (e).<sup>1/</sup> However, the Code clearly makes a distinction between *indemnification*, 13 *i.e.*, the corporation's agreement to reimburse a director for expenses incurred in defending an action, 14 and *advancement of expenses* for that action prior to completion or settlement of the action. Corp. 15 Code § 5238(i) explicitly provides that a corporation *cannot* advance expenses prior to the final 16 disposition of a proceeding *except* if the director posts an undertaking to repay the expenses if it is 17 determinated ultimately that the director is not entitled to indemnification. 18

19 In fact, the Court here has already held that the individual directors are required to post such 20 an undertaking for any expenses incurred in the individual directors' defense that were in excess of expenses incurred on behalf of the Foundation's defense, before the Foundation can advance any 21 expenses for their defense in this consolidated action. Order of May 22, 2001.<sup>1/</sup> At the time of the 22

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To further illustrate the difference between *indemnification* and *advancement of expenses*, it is

<sup>&</sup>lt;u>5</u>/ However, a corporation cannot provide insurance indemnification "to indemnify any agent of the 24 corporation for a violation of Section 5233 [self-dealing]." Corp. Code § 5238(i).

<sup>25</sup> 6/ Corp. Code § 5328(b) allows for indemnification for actions not relevant here, *i.e.*, actions that do not involve self-dealing, breach of charitable trust, or are not brought by the Attorney-General or a relator. 26

1	May 22 Order, the Court limited the amount of the undertaking to the filing fees paid on behalf of
2	the individual director defendants, based on declaration testimony by defense counsel that defense
3	counsel "did not incur any material costs or attorneys' fees in connection with the services rendered
4	for the individual directors" and that there had been "no increase in the attorneys' fees incurred in
5	defending any of these cases by reason of the fact that [defense counsel was] representing the
6	Foundation and the directors." Declaration of Daniel Rapaport in Opposition to Plaintiffs' Motion
7	For Undertaking, dated May 3, 2001, ¶ 3. At oral argument on this motion, defense counsel rested
8	their argument that no additional work was performed for the individual directors than was already
9	performed for the Foundation on the contention that defense counsel then represented a majority of
10	the board. For example, defense counsel stated: "The fact of the matter is we represent the majority
11	of the Board. The positions that have been espoused are the position of the majority of the Board.
12	They speak for the corporation. They are the corporation until that changes. And so all we have
13	done with the exception of the undertaking motion is represented by the interests of the Foundation
14	as expressed by the majority of the Board." Transcript of Proceedings related to Plaintiffs' Motion
15	For Undertaking hearing, at 13:22-14:1 (Gross Dec. Ex. B).
16	A. The Foundation Is Currently Paying for Legal Expenses That Relate Solely to the Individual Director Defendants, Though No Undertaking Has Been Posted
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18	significant that, under the circumstances here, there has not yet been any indemnification by Pacifica of its directors under Corp. Code § 5238(c)-(e). Corp. Code § 5238(d) provides for indemnification if a director is
19	successful in his or her defense, which obviously can only occur after a determination on the merits is made.
20	This has not yet occurred. Corp. Code § 5238(e) provides for indemnification in situations other than success on the merits only if "any indemnification under this section shall be made by the corporation only if
21	authorized <i>"in the specific case"</i> upon a determination that indemnification is proper by the court, a vote of directors who are not parties, or a vote of members of the corporation. No such authorization has yet occurred
22	in this specific case and, thus, at the present time there can be no claim that any director has an entitlement to indemnification from the Foundation's funds under Corp. Code § 5238(c)-(e).
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20	9 PLAINTIFFS' MEMORANDUM IN SUPPORT OF MOTION TO PROHIBIT ADVANCEMENT OF DIRECTORS'

Since the court's May 22, 2001 ruling, it is readily apparent that, due to new circumstances, these representations by defense counsel can no longer be accurate, that the Foundation has and is paying legal expenses to joint counsel that relate solely to the defense of the individual director defendants, and, moreover, that retained Foundation counsel no longer represent a majority of the board. Despite this, the individual director defendants have not complied with the May 22 order and posted the required undertaking.

The following facts demonstrate that the Foundation has incurred legal expenses for legal work performed solely on behalf of the individual director defendants:

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On August 8, 2001, Foundation-paid counsel filed a demurrer to the First Amended Complaint, and a Motion to Strike portions of the First Amended Complaint. Both of these pleadings, however, addressed causes of action that were filed against the individual director

The Foundation has paid counsel to prepare and file pleadings that are addressed solely to the defense of the individual director defendants

defendants, and were not filed against the Foundation.

The Demurrer addressed solely the Twelfth and Thirteen Causes of Action; the Motion to Strike addressed the Sixth, Twelfth and Thirteen Causes of Action. The Sixth Cause of Action is solely against the individual director defendants for self-dealing, in violation of Corp. Code § 5233. Similarly, the Thirteenth Cause of Action is directed solely against some of the individual director defendants (those currently members of the board) for usurpation of the corporate franchise through improper use of corporate funds, under CCP § 803. These two causes of action clearly do not and cannot be directed at the Foundation itself, but are for the benefit of the Foundation. The Twelfth Cause of Action again is directed solely against those individual director defendants currently on the board, for usurpation of corporate franchise by acting as directors though not properly elected.

Defense counsel filed both of these pleadings *on behalf of the Foundation* as well as some of the individual defendants, despite the fact that the causes of action addressed are solely against the individual director defendants and *not* against the Foundation.

1	Current defense counsel, purportedly representing both the Foundation and the individual director defendants, <i>no longer</i>
2	represent a majority of the Foundation's board of directors
3	The May 22 Order was based in part on an oral representation by defense counsel that since
4	the individual director defendants that counsel represented constituted a majority of the board, that
5	work performed for the defense of the individuals was coincident with the defense of the Foundation
6	However, this is no longer the case – defense counsel have asserted appearances for at most five out
7	of eleven current directors. Bramson Dec. ¶ 5.
8	Therefore, defense counsel can no longer argue that the work performed in defense of the
9 10	individual director defendants is identical to work performed on behalf of the Foundation. <sup>1/</sup> Currently, none of the work performed by the new law
10	firms is being paid by the directors' insurance carrier
	Defendants had argued, in opposition to the prior motion for an undertaking, that much of
12	the work performed on behalf of the individual defendants was being performed by counsel paid by
13	the directors' insurance carrier, the Wendel firm. However, at the present, neither of the two new
14	firms are being paid by the directors' insurance carrier. Gross Dec. ¶ 6; Fox Dec. ¶¶ 3-4. Even were
15	the insurance carrier to agree to pay one of the new firms, it is extremely unlikely that the carrier
16 17	would pay all of the fees of the firm, since insurance carriers usually pay significantly reduced rates
17 18 19 20 21	to defense counsel. The First Amended Complaint, in addition to numerous causes of action solely against the individual directors for diversion of assets to <i>ultra vires</i> activities contains a cause of action for self-dealing pursuant to Corp. Code § 5233, and work performed in defense of these causes of action by definition is solely on behalf of the individual defendants, and by statute work on the self-dealing cause of action cannot be paid by insurance
22	The Sixth Cause of Action of the First Amended Complaint alleges self-dealing by the
23 24 25 26	<sup>§</sup> Moreover, it is completely inappropriate that a <i>minority</i> of the board of directors can direct the Foundation to advance defense expenses on their behalf so they can retain high-priced counsel, rather than simply utilizing insurance-paid counsel, while at the same time denying any advancement of expenses to other directors who are involved in these consolidated lawsuits.

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individual director defendants, in violation of Corp. Code § 5233. Clearly, this cause of action is 1 asserted not against the Foundation, but for the benefit of the Foundation. Thus, any legal work 2 performed by defense counsel concerning this cause of action is necessarily performed solely on 3 behalf of the individual director defendants, and not on behalf of the Foundation. 4

Prior defense counsel conceded that in such a situation, an undertaking would be required. 5 During oral argument on the prior motion for an undertaking, defense counsel for the Foundation 6 and the individual defendants stated that he "could understand requiring the undertaking of the 7 8 individual Directors to the extent that fees are incurred for dealing with issues that are specific to their interests or to them." Gross Dec. Ex. B at 13:19-20; see also 13:27-14:1. 9

Moreover, defendants cannot credibly claim that insurance defense counsel will perform the 10 legal work for the individual director defendants to defend against this cause of action. Corp. Code 11 § 5238(i) explicitly states "that a corporation shall have no power to purchase and maintain such 12 insurance to indemnify any agent of the corporation for a violation of Section 5233." 13

Thus, in any situation involving a cause of action against directors for self-dealing under 14 Corp. Code § 5233, the directors must post an undertaking for defense expenses if the Foundation 15 is paying defense counsel on their behalf. 16

In addition, a review of the First Amended Complaint demonstrates that, of thirteen causes 17 of action, only three name the Foundation as a defendant, *i.e.*, three causes of action seeking 18 19 declaratory relief compelling the adoption of the Foundation's bylaws in accordance with the law. 20 First Amended Complaint, Causes of Action 8-10. The other ten causes of action name as defendants *solely* the individual director defendants, and address conduct by the individual directors, 21 such as self-dealing, breach of charitable trust, gross abuse of authority, improper use of corporate 22 funds, and refusal to vacate office at expiration of term or removal by members. These causes of 23 action seek damages against the individual director defendants on behalf of the Foundation in an 24 amount in excess of \$500,000, and also seek removal of these directors for gross abuse or fraud or 25 dishonest acts. None of these causes of action can properly be defended by the Foundation, as the 26

Foundation is in direct conflict with the directors on these causes of action. Thus, any legal work performed by defense counsel concerning these ten causes of action directed solely against the individual director defendants will by necessity be in excess of the legal work necessary for the defense of the Foundation, and the individual director defendants must be required to post an undertaking for all such legal work that is paid for by the Foundation.<sup>1/</sup>

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### Since the individual director defendants have fired prior retained counsel and insurance defense counsel, there will be significant costs in paying new counsel that will not be paid by insurance

8 In July 2001, the Foundation's executive director unilaterally fired prior privately retained 9 and insurance-retained counsel and, in their place, retained two new law firms. A number of the 10 individual director defendants have also terminated prior counsel, including insurance defense 11 counsel, and have retained the same two new law firms.

12 Clearly, given the complexity of this litigation, it is obvious that there will be a significant 13 expense in paying new counsel to become familiar with the facts of this case and its procedural 14 history. In fact, prior defense counsel stated that such cost would be in the six figures. Gross Dec. 15 ¶ 5.

This cost will have to be paid for by the Foundation. Even assuming that one of the new firms will be partially paid by the insurance carrier, it is extremely unlikely that the insurance carrier providing insurance defense counsel for the individual directors will be willing to pay such substantial sums for new counsel, when prior insurance counsel was performing adequately and was terminated solely at the whim of the individual directors.

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Moreover, prior defense counsel previously informed the Court that it had performed legal work solely for the defense of the individual directors in opposing the prior Motion Prohibiting Advancement of Attorney's Fees and Costs on Behalf of Individually Named Defendants. Transcript of May 21, 2001 hearing at 13:17-20 ("but for the motion expecting the undertaking, all the work that we have done would have been done anyway to defend the Foundation") (Gross Dec. Ex. 5). Thus, the individual directors should be required to post an undertaking that includes the expenses advanced by the Foundation opposing such motion and in opposing this motion.

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Moreover, insurance defense counsel traditionally is paid at a reduced rated negotiated with

the insurance carrier. Here, the two law firms currently representing the individual director defendants were not chosen by the insurance carrier. If the individual director defendants' insurer will reimburse one or both of these firms at a rate less than the rate charged by the firms, with the Foundation responsible for the difference, then the excess payment by the Foundation will be an advance for the benefit of the individual directors.

6 Thus, the individual directors should be required to post an undertaking that includes the 7 expenses of the new law firms to come up to speed in this litigation, and for any fees charged by the 8 firms in excess of that paid by the individual defendants' insurance carrier.<sup>1/</sup>

### B. An Adequate Mechanism Must Be Instituted To Ensure That Any <u>Undertaking is Adequate To Cover Anticipated Advancements</u>

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Though the Court's May 22 Order required the posting of an undertaking for any work performed by Foundation-retained counsel solely on behalf of the individual director defendants, there was no mechanism in the Order to ensure that such an undertaking would be posted concerning future such work. Thus, when defense counsel did perform such additional work and the Foundation paid such expenses, the defendants failed to post the required undertaking.

There are several solutions to this situation: (1) the individual director defendants can be represented solely by insurance defense counsel, and not by Foundation-retained counsel, and in such a situation the individual director defendants would have to post an undertaking only for prior

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10/</sup> The Foundation cannot properly authorize the advance of any expenses on behalf of the individual director defendants absent an undertaking, since this would be a self-dealing transaction subject to the procedures of Corp. Code § 5233.

expenses and for work to be performed on the self-dealing allegation;<sup>1/2</sup> or (2) if the individual director defendants insist on being jointly represented with Foundation by retained counsel,<sup>1/2</sup> then a meaningful undertaking must be posted that will cover any past and anticipated fees on behalf of the individual director defendants.

Plaintiffs conservatively estimate the defense costs for the litigation to be approximately \$300,000. Gross Dec. ¶ 8. Thus, if the individual director defendants are represented solely by insurance defense counsel, then an undertaking by all thirteen director defendants in the total amount of \$60,000 would be sufficient. However, if the individual defendants insist on being jointly represented by Foundation-retained counsel, then an undertaking in the total amount of \$300,000 should be required.

Further, whatever amount of an undertaking is ordered at the present time, the amount of the undertaking should be regularly reevaluated to ensure that the amount of the undertaking remains sufficient to protect the Foundation's assets.

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### **CONCLUSION**

Accordingly, the moving parties respectfully request that the Court enter an order prohibiting the advancement of defense expenses by Pacifica for the benefit of the individual director defendants; or, in the alternative, requiring the individual director defendants to post an undertaking

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 <sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> To date, such work would necessarily include legal services on the prior motion for an undertaking,
 the current demurrer and motion to strike, the opposition to this motion, and legal work analyzing the
 individual defendants' defense and liability under the First Amended Complaint. A reasonable estimate of
 these expenses, plus legal work to defend the self-dealing cause of action, would be approximately \$60,000.
 Gross Dec. ¶ 8.

 $<sup>\</sup>frac{12}{12}$ However, as argued in the concurrently-filed Motion to Disqualify Defendants' Law Firms, the individual director defendants cannot be represented by the same counsel as represents the Foundation.

in the total amount of \$300,000, and providing that the amount of the undertaking should be

2 reevaluated at regular intervals.

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	PLAINTIFFS' MEMORANDUM IN SUPPORT OF MOTION TO PROHIBIT ADVANCEMENT OF DIRECT