1	David W. Dow (#007377)	
2	Jennifer L. Levine (#033071) jlevine@ddowlaw.com	
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4	DOW LAW OFFICE 3104 E. Camelback #281	
5	Phoenix, Arizona 85016 Office: 480.776.5039	
6	Direct: 602-550-2951	
7	Attorneys for Plaintiff	
8	SUPERIOR COURT OF ARIZONA	
9	MARICOPA COUNTY	
10		
11	EDGAR CASTRO,	Case No.
12	Plaintiff,	Case 140.
13	v.	COMPLAINT
14		
15	JASON MCFADDEN, an individual, acting under the color of law; JEFFREY	
16	FARRIOR, an individual, acting under the color of law; RICHARD PINA, an	
17	individual, acting under the color of law; MICHAEL JOSHUA CARNICLE, an	
18	individual, acting under the color of law; CITY OF PHOENIX, a municipal entity;	
19	JOHN DOES I-V, an individual(s), acting	
20	V, an individual(s), acting under the color	
21	of law.	
22 23	Defendants.	
24	Plaintiff Edgar Castro for his Complaint against Defendants hereby alleges as	
25		
26	follows:	
27	1. Plaintiff Edgar Castro ("Plaintiff"), at all times relevant to this Complaint, was a	
28	resident of Maricopa County, Arizona.	

2. Defendant, Jason McFadden ("Defendant McFadden"), at all times relevant to this Complaint, was a resident of Maricopa County Arizona. He was a duly appointed and acting officer of the Phoenix Police Department ("PPD"), acting under the color of law and within the scope of employment pursuant to the statutes, ordinances, regulations, policies, customs, and usage of the City of Phoenix and PPD. He is sued in his individual capacity, acting under the color of law.

- 3. Defendant, Jeffrey Farrior ("Defendant Farrior"), at all times relevant to this Complaint, was a resident of Maricopa County Arizona. He was a duly appointed and acting lieutenant and/or sergeant of the Phoenix Police Department ("PPD"), acting under the color of law and within the scope of employment pursuant to the statutes, ordinances, regulations, policies, customs, and usage of the City of Phoenix and PPD. He is sued in his individual capacity, acting under the color of law.
- 4. Defendant, Richard Pina ("Defendant Pina"), at all times relevant to this Complaint, was a resident of Maricopa County Arizona. He was a duly appointed and acting officer of the Phoenix Police Department ("PPD"), acting under the color of law and within the scope of employment pursuant to the statutes, ordinances, regulations, policies, customs, and usage of the City of Phoenix and PPD. He is sued in his individual capacity, acting under the color of law.
- 5. Defendant, Joshua Michael Carnicle ("Defendant Carnicle"), at all times relevant to this Complaint, was a resident of Maricopa County Arizona. He was a duly appointed and acting officer of the Phoenix Police Department ("PPD"), acting under the color of

law and within the scope of employment pursuant to the statutes, ordinances, regulations, policies, customs, and usage of the City of Phoenix and PPD. He is sued in his individual capacity acting under the color of law.

- 6. Defendant City of Phoenix is a municipal and jural entity duly organized under the laws of the State of Arizona and was the employer of the individual Defendants McFadden, Farrior, Pina and Carnicle, and at all times relevant to this Complaint responsible for the policies, practices, customs and procedures of the PPD. PPD is a department of the City of Phoenix. Defendant City of Phoenix is further liable for the acts of the individual Defendants when acting under the scope of their employment for state law violations.
- 7. Defendant(s) John Doe(s) and or Jane Doe(s) are yet unknown police officers who at all times relevant to this Complaint, were acting under the color of law and within the scope of employment pursuant to the statutes, ordinances, regulations, policies, customs, and usage of the City of Phoenix and PPD, are being sued in an individual capacity and may be liable to Plaintiff.
- 8. Defendant(s) XYZ Corporations and ABC LLC's are yet unknown LLC's and/or corporations and may be liable to Plaintiff.

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

9. This Court has jurisdiction over the parties of this action. The amount of damages sought by Plaintiff exceeds the minimum jurisdictional amount established for filing in this Court pursuant to the Arizona Constitution and common law.

10. Venue is proper in this Court because the events that gave rise to this lawsuit occurred in Maricopa County.

11. A proper and timely Notice of Claim/Administrative Demand pursuant to the laws of the State of Arizona was served upon each named Defendant, and over sixty (60) days has passed since that service. A.R.S. §12-821.01.

DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL

12. Pursuant to the Seventh Amendment of the United States Constitution, the Arizona Constitution and Rule 38 of the Arizona Rules of Civil Procedure, Plaintiff requests a jury trial on all triable issues and claims set forth in this Complaint.

FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS

- 13. Upon information and belief, on September 13, 2016, Defendants McFadden and Carnicle, while working as on-duty Phoenix police officers, were riding together as a two-man unit within the confines of Phoenix, Arizona.
- 14. Upon information and belief, at approximately 3:58 a.m., near North 45th Avenue and West McDowell Road in Phoenix, Arizona, Defendants McFadden and Carnicle initiated a traffic stop of a BMW, which was being driven by Plaintiff. Inside the vehicle, the officers found marijuana, some of which was packaged in medical marijuana dispensary packaging.
- 15. Upon information and belief, shortly thereafter, Officer Kevin Harsch ("Harsch"), arrived on the scene and parked his patrol car behind McFadden and Carnicle. Harsch stated that Defendant Pina also arrived at the scene.

- 16. According to Harsch, upon his arrival, he witnessed Defendants McFadden and Carnicle speaking with Plaintiff about a Medical Marijuana Card.
- 17. According to Officer Harsch, Defendant McFadden was by the driver's window talking to Plaintiff and Defendant Carnicle was by the front passenger side window.
- Officer Harsch was standing towards the back of the vehicle, near the trunk. He believed Defendant Pina was also towards the back of the vehicle.
- 18. According to Defendant Carnicle, because Plaintiff was in possession of marijuana, Plaintiff was advised that he could be charged with a class 6 felony and that his vehicle would be towed because of alleged traffic violations. Plaintiff demanded to speak with a supervisor.
- 19. While on scene, Officer Harsch stated that he overheard Defendant McFadden say, "Oh, we should make him eat it or something along those lines."
- 20. According to Officer Harsch, he received a message from another squad mate and left to assist. Defendants McFadden, Carnicle and Pina were all still on scene.
- 21. Plaintiff was handcuffed and placed in the back of Defendants McFadden and Carnicle's City of Phoenix police car.
- 22. Defendants Carnicle and Pina searched the car, including Plaintiff's trunk.
- 23. At some point, Plaintiff was taken out of the police car and told to sit on the ground.
- 24. Upon information and belief, Defendant McFadden was with Plaintiff while Defendants Carnicle and Pina inventoried Plaintiff's vehicle.

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- 25. According to the Police Report, Defendant Carnicle went inside his police car to complete paper work while Defendant McFadden remained with Plaintiff.
- 26. According to the police report, Defendant McFadden was standing towards the front of his police car on the passenger side facing Plaintiff. Plaintiff was near Defendant McFadden, sitting down on the curb by the passenger side of the police car.
- 27. According to the police report, Defendant Pina was towards the back of the police car on the passenger side.
- 28. Defendant McFadden grabbed the marijuana that he earlier removed from Plaintiff's vehicle and placed it on top of Plaintiff's vehicle.
- 29. Defendant McFadden, an armed police officer, asked Plaintiff, "do you want to go to go home tonight?" Plaintiff responded "yeah."
- 30. Defendant McFadden then told Plaintiff to eat the marijuana or he would be going to jail.
- 31. Plaintiff asked Defendant Pina if he really had to eat the marijuana, to which Defendant Pina responded, "yeah! You need to eat it."
- 32. Plaintiff asked for his phone so that he could record the incident and McFadden stated that if he grabbed it he would be shot.
- 33. Defendant Carnicle confirmed that he also heard something to the effect of, "eat it, throw it away, do what you gotta do."
- 34. According to Defendant Carnicle, Plaintiff said: "well I don't wanna eat it, can you at least get my Gatorade or something, or either McFadden asked him if he wanted

some water or he asked if he could have his Gatorade, I don't know which one was said first."

- 35. According to Defendant Carnicle, when Plaintiff said that he did not want to eat the marijuana, Defendant Carnicle heard Defendant McFadden say, "you are gonna get the same high either way."
- 36. Defendant McFadden then searched the vehicle twice for the Gatorade, without success.
- 37. Plaintiff ate the marijuana while Defendant McFadden and Defendant Pina watched. It took Plaintiff approximately five minutes to get all of the marijuana out of his mouth.
- 38. After being forced to eat the marijuana, Plaintiff requested to speak with a supervisor.
- 39. Upon information and belief, thereafter, Sergeant Jordon arrived on the scene.

 According to Sergeant Jordan, he asked Defendant Carnicle if Plaintiff was going to be booked for possession of marijuana. Defendant Carnicle stated "no" and that they "already took care of that."
- 40. According to Defendant Carnicle, he said that it was taken care of because that was what he was told by Defendant McFadden. Upon Defendant Carnicle's own admission, "I should have taken a different action, but that's what I told my sergeant."
- 41. Sergeant Jordan spoke with Plaintiff. Plaintiff asked Sergeant Jordan "is it wrong for an officer to make you eat your weed?" Upon information and belief, Sergeant Jordan

said, "McFadden stated that it was against the law to have weed." Sergeant Jordan then left the scene.

- 42. Plaintiff was released and because his car was towed, he was forced to walk home.

 As Defendants McFadden and Carnicle drove away, Defendant McFadden threatened and/or intimidated Plaintiff when McFadden told Plaintiff, "don't get shot tonight."
- 43. As a result of being forced to eat the marijuana, Plaintiff became ill and vomited.
- 44. According to the police report, Sergeant Jordan received a formal complaint from Plaintiff and contacted Plaintiff via telephone. Sergeant Jordan asked Plaintiff about the marijuana statement that Plaintiff made earlier, to which Plaintiff stated, "they gave me two choices, eat the weed or go to jail."
- 45. According to the police report, on September 13, 2016, Sergeant Jordan notified his direct supervisor, Defendant Farrior of the Complaint and Sergeant Jordan was advised that they could take care of the matter on Saturday, September 17, 2016.
- 46. According to the police report, Sergeant Jordan felt "uneasy about the situation" and began reviewing and downloading videos recorded on the officers' cameras the night of the traffic stop.
- 47. According to the police report, Sergeant Jordan told Lieutenant Winchester about the complaint. According to the police report, Lieutenant Winchester explained the situation "needed to be reported, and assisted in making the necessary notifications."
- 48. Sergeant Jordan was advised that they would take care of it on Saturday.

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- 49. Lieutenant Farrior was ultimately demoted for failing to take the appropriate action and to immediately begin investigating the offense.
- 50. The foregoing acts or omissions of Defendants McFadden, Farrior, Pina and Carnicle were deliberate, reckless, wanton, and/or involved callous indifference to Plaintiff's state and federally protected rights.
- 51. At all times relevant to this action, the City of Phoenix was further responsible for the hiring, training, supervision, monitoring and disciplining police officers including Defendants McFadden, Farrior, Pina and Carnicle.
- 52. Upon information and belief, Defendant McFadden was disciplined while employed by a police department in Chicago, Illinois.
- 53. Upon information and belief, with full knowledge of Defendant McFadden's propensity to engage in improper and/or unlawful conduct, which includes but is not limited to neglect of duty/conduct unbecoming of an officer, the City of Phoenix still hired Defendant McFadden.
- 54. Defendants McFadden, Farrior, Pina and Carnicle had either not received any training or received inadequate training from PPD and/or the City of Phoenix regarding the appropriate use of force, detention, methods to conduct traffic stop, the disposal of marijuana, reporting and investigating constitutional violations and proper police officer conduct, which includes, but is not limited to how police officers should react to situations involving police officers' unconstitutional conduct.

55. At all times relevant to this action, the City of Phoenix had in effect and was responsible for the policies and procedures provided to Defendants McFadden, Farrior, Pina and Carnicle in the actions taken relating to the deprivation of Plaintiff's civil rights. These policies and/or training deficiencies amounted to deliberate indifference to the rights of Plaintiff.

56. As a result of the foregoing, Plaintiff was conspired against, assaulted, battered, harassed, and sustained other damages as more fully set forth herein.

Defendant McFadden

- 57. Plaintiff was informed by the Phoenix Police Department's investigator that Defendant McFadden was disciplined by Chicago Police Department when Defendant McFadden was employed as a police officer with Chicago Police Department.
- 58. Plaintiff was informed that Defendant McFadden had a "prior record" had "red flags" and "should never have been hired."
- 59. Upon information and belief, Defendant McFadden was named a defendant in a civil matter¹ regarding an incident that occurred on or about July 13, 2013 that involved constitutional violations, which were alleged to have been the result of "official misconduct" and "due process" violations by the police officers.
- 60. Upon information and belief, Defendant McFadden was a defendant in a civil matter² regarding an incident that occurred on or about March 5, 2015 while he acted as a Chicago Police Officer. Defendant McFadden was alleged to have engaged in

¹ Samuel Cintron Sr. v. Police Superintendent Garry McCarthy et al. 14-CV-4100.

² Deandre Hobson v. Officer Jason McFadden, et al Case No. 14-cv-10091

unconstitutional conduct, which involved physically and emotionally abusing a man who was detained by Defendant McFadden and other officers. This claim was settled.

61. Upon information and belief, Defendant McFadden has been disciplined for neglect of duty/conduct unbecoming-on duty.³

PLAINTIFF'S CLAIMS

Count I - Intentional Infliction of Emotional Distress – Plaintiff against Defendants McFadden, Pina, Carnicle, Farrior and City of Phoenix

- 62. Plaintiff hereby incorporates by reference the preceding paragraphs as though fully set forth herein.
- 63. At all relevant times, Defendants McFadden, Pina, Carnicle and Farrior were acting within the course and scope of employment with the Defendant City of Phoenix and the City of Phoenix is therefore vicariously liable for the acts and omissions of Defendants.
- 64. Defendants McFadden, Pina and Carnicle either directly or indirectly made the conscious decision to force Plaintiff to eat marijuana.
- 65. Defendant Farrior made the conscious decision to fail to act in a timely manner and conduct an investigation upon persons who violated Plaintiff's clear constitutional rights.
- 66. By forcing Plaintiff to eat marijuana, Defendants McFadden, Pina and Carnicle, through their conduct, either intended to inflict emotional distress or knew that severe emotional distress would result to Plaintiff.

³ https://cpdb.co/officer/jason-mcfadden/4802

- 67. Severe emotional distress indeed occurred as a result of Defendants' conduct, which resulted in Plaintiff leaving the state of Arizona because his fear and distrust of Phoenix Police Department.
- 68. Defendants McFadden, Pina and Carnicle either knew or should have known that forcing a young man to commit an illegal act while acting as armed police officers, a profession that is supposed to protect and serve this country's citizens, will obviously lead to severe fear and distrust for both Plaintiff and his young family.
- 69. Defendant Farrior, as a lieutenant with PPD, should have known that reckless disregard for a blatant violation of another's constitutional rights and failure to timely act and report said violation would lead to severe distrust and fear for both Plaintiff individually and his family.
- 70. Defendants McFadden, Farrior, Pina and Carnicle's conduct was extreme and outrageous as they abused their position as police officers when they forced a 19-year-old man to consume marijuana against his will or failed to timely investigate said unconstitutional acts.
- 71. Defendant City of Phoenix either knew or should have known of Defendant McFadden's propensity to engage in improper and/or unlawful conduct, which includes but is not limited to, his propensity to engage in neglect of duty/conduct unbecoming of an officer.
- 72. As a direct and proximate result of Defendants' acts and omissions, Plaintiff has been severely emotionally and physically damaged as more fully set forth herein.

COUNT II – Federal Civil Rights Claims Under 42 U.S.C. § 1983 (Violation of Fourteenth Amendment Substantive Due Process) – By Plaintiff against Defendants McFadden, Pina and Carnicle

- 73. Plaintiff hereby incorporates by reference the preceding paragraphs as though fully set forth herein.
- 74. Plaintiff had a liberty interest in his freedom from unreasonable restraint and freedom to refuse consuming marijuana without threats by police officers.
- 75. The circumstances surrounding the encounter with Plaintiff provided Defendants McFadden, Pina and Carnicle with an opportunity and time to deliberate regarding the proper methods of detention, force and conduct, none of which would have resulted in Plaintiff being forced to consume marijuana, which led to severe emotional distress and physical sickness.
- 76. The legitimate objective of Defendants McFadden, Pina and Carnicle's law enforcement encounter with Plaintiff was to stop him for a traffic infraction.
- 77. Defendants McFadden, Pina and Carnicle, acting with purpose to cause harm to Plaintiff unrelated to the object of their law enforcement encounter with Plaintiff, forced Plaintiff to eat marijuana.
- 78. Defendants McFadden, Pina and Carnicle acted with deliberate or reckless indifference towards Plaintiff's life when Defendants McFadden and Pina intimidated and forced Plaintiff to eat marijuana and Defendant Carnicle, who had full knowledge and was aware of Defendants Carnicle and Pina's demands, ratified the behavior through his conduct and failed to act.

- 79. As a direct and proximate result of Defendants McFadden, Pina and Carnicle's conduct, Plaintiff ate marijuana, which caused severe emotional distress and physical sickness.
- 80. Plaintiff's substantive due process rights were violated and Plaintiff sustained damages as fully set forth herein.

COUNT III – Federal Civil Rights Claims Under 42 U.S.C. § 1983 (Excessive and Unreasonable Force) – By Plaintiff against Defendants McFadden, Pina and Carnicle

- 81. Plaintiff hereby incorporates by reference the preceding paragraphs as though fully set forth herein.
- 82. The acts and conduct of Defendants McFadden, Pina and Carnicle constituted an illegal and unconstitutional use of force under the Fourth and Fourteenth Amendments, when while Plaintiff sat on the ground, Defendants forced Plaintiff to consume marijuana, go to jail or otherwise harmed.
- 83. As a direct and proximate result of the excessive and unreasonable force used upon Plaintiff and the acts and omissions of Defendants, Plaintiff sustained the damages more fully described herein.
- COUNT IV *Monell* Federal Civil Rights Claims Under 42 U.S.C. § 1983 (Excessive Force: Unconstitutional Policy and Custom; Failure to Supervise & Discipline; Failure to Train; Negligent Hiring) *By Plaintiff against Defendant City of Phoenix*
- 84. Plaintiff hereby incorporates by reference the preceding paragraphs as though fully set forth herein.

- 85. Prior to the September 13, 2016 incident, Phoenix police officers routinely interacted with citizens of Phoenix and the use and/or possession of marijuana.
- 86. Prior to the September 13, 2016 incident, PPD knew that if it did not have adequate policies and procedures applicable to all PPD officers handling encounters with citizens using and/or possessing marijuana that such would result in the deprivation of United States citizens' constitutional rights, specifically the right to be free from excessive and/or unreasonable force or restraint, assault, battery, negligence and the infliction of emotional distress by the hands of law enforcement officers.
- 87. Notwithstanding this knowledge, PPD final policymakers, including its Chief of Police, and therefore also Defendant City of Phoenix, made deliberate and conscious decisions to create inadequate policies and procedures, if any at all.
- 88. Notwithstanding this knowledge, PPD final policymakers, including its Chief of Police, and therefore also Defendant City of Phoenix, deliberately and consciously adopted unconstitutional policies and/or encouraged, tolerated, or ratified unconstitutional widespread PPD practices and customs, including but not limited to the following: (1) hiring persons with a propensity to engage in improper and/or unlawful behavior, including but not limited to neglect of duty/conduct unbecoming of an officer; (2) failing to train its employees and/or implement policies and/or procedures, if any, regarding the importance of proper reporting and investigations into constitutional violations committed by law enforcement; (3) failing to train or implement policies and/or procedures, if any, for its officers on how to react to officer's unconstitutional

actions and/or omissions and/or methods for police officers to use in order to prevent constitutional violations that are being committed by other officers to its citizens; (4) proper methods of detention and/or seizure for traffic offenses; and, (5) proper use of force for alleged traffic offenses.

- 89. The policies or customs/practices of Defendant City of Phoenix directly and proximately caused the violation of Plaintiff's constitutional rights and the damages as more fully set forth herein.
- 90. The Defendant City of Phoenix directly and proximately caused the violation of Plaintiff's constitutional rights and other damages as more fully set forth herein, with its encouragement, toleration, ratification, and deliberate indifference to the policies, or patterns, practices, and customs, as well as its deliberate indifference to the need for more or different hiring, training, supervision, investigation, or discipline.

COUNT V -Negligence (ordinary & gross) - By Plaintiff against all Defendants

- 91. Plaintiff hereby incorporates by reference the preceding paragraphs as though fully set forth herein.
- 92. At all relevant times, Defendants McFadden, Pina, Carnicle and Farrior were acting within the course and scope of employment with the Defendant City of Phoenix and the City of Phoenix is therefore vicariously liable for the acts and omissions of Defendants.
- 93. It was the duty of Defendants McFadden, Pina and Carnicle as Phoenix police officers to exercise reasonable care in their interactions with Plaintiff.

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- 94. Defendants McFadden, Pina and Carnicle breached that duty, and were ordinarily and grossly negligent, when they failed to act as reasonable and prudent police officers and with a conscious indifference towards Plaintiff's life, either directly or indirectly, forced Plaintiff to eat marijuana.
- 95. It was the duty of Defendant Farrior to properly supervise and train his employees, and to timely report, investigate and notify the appropriate persons regarding the blatant constitutional violations against Plaintiff and committed by the officers that were operating under his supervision.
- 96. Defendant Farrior breached his duty and was ordinarily and grossly negligent when with knowledge of the violations, failed to timely report, investigate and notify the appropriate persons in regards to the blatant constitutional violations committed against Plaintiff by the officers under his supervision.
- 97. As a direct and proximate result of Defendants acts and omissions, Plaintiff was injured and suffered damages more fully set forth herein.
- 98. Defendant City of Phoenix and PPD owed Plaintiff a duty of reasonable care.
- 99. Defendant City of Phoenix and PPD breached that duty, and were ordinarily and grossly negligent, when they failed to implement adequate policies and procedures and/or train its police officers concerning PPD officer encounters with citizens as more fully described herein; and, more specifically, when it either failed to train or to inadequately train Defendants McFadden, Carnicle, Pina regarding such encounters, including but not limited to the appropriate use of force, seizure and/or disposal of evidence, proper

procedures for detention, proper procedures regarding mandatory investigations and/or reporting regarding reports of constitutional violations committed by its officers, and proper procedures regarding an officer's obligation to intervene and prevent unconstitutional acts from occurring.

- 100. Defendant City of Phoenix and PPD also breached its duty and were ordinarily and grossly negligent when it failed to properly screen its employees, if at all, consider prior misconduct before employment and/or employing persons with a propensity to engage in improper and/or unlawful conduct, which includes but is not limited to, a propensity to engage in neglect of duty/conduct unbecoming of an officer.
- 101. As a direct and proximate result of Defendant City of Phoenix through PPD's conduct, Plaintiff sustained injuries including but not limited to fear, severe emotional distress, distrust for law enforcement and vomiting.

COUNT VI – Arizona Law Claims for Conspiracy, Assault and Battery- By Plaintiff against Defendants McFadden and Pina and City of Phoenix

- 102. Plaintiff hereby incorporates by refence the preceding paragraphs as though fully set forth herein.
- 103. Defendant McFadden intended to either cause harmful or offensive contact with Plaintiff's person when he handed marijuana to Plaintiff and through threats and/or intimidation, forced Plaintiff to eat marijuana.

104. Defendant Pina, who was standing with Defendant McFadden, also intended to cause a harmful or offensive contact with Plaintiff when he also told Plaintiff that Plaintiff had to eat the marijuana.

105. As fully explained herein, Defendant Pina and Defendant McFadden conspired to and committed an assault and battery when Defendant McFadden and Pina, through their conduct, agreed to unlawfully force Plaintiff to eat the marijuana, which caused Plaintiff severe emotional distress and physical illness.

106. Defendants either knew or should have known that eating marijuana would result in severe emotional distress and physical illness.

Damages

- 107. Plaintiff hereby incorporates by reference the preceding paragraphs as though fully set forth herein.
- 108. As a direct and proximate result of Defendants' acts and omissions, Plaintiff has incurred damages in the form of anguish, sorrow, stress, mental suffering, pain and shock, especially considering the manner in which phoenix police officers and PPD abused their position of power and failed to timely remedy their abusive power.
- 109. As a direct and proximate result of the conduct of Defendants, Plaintiff suffered physical injuries, including vomiting, all caused by the violation of his rights under the United States Constitution, State and Federal law.
- 110. The actions of the individual Defendants, and each of them, shock the conscience and were guided by an evil mind. Defendants intended to injure Plaintiff and/or although

3104 E. Camelback Road, Suite 281 Phoenix, AZ 85016 Counsel for Plaintiff