	Case 2:08-cv-01327-GHK-SS Documer	nt 140 Filed 09/23/2009 Page 1 of 18
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9	GEORGE S. CARDONA Acting United States Attorney LEON W. WEIDMAN Assistant United States Attorney Chief, Civil Division KATHERINE M. HIKIDA (State Bar # Assistant United States Attorney DEBORAH E. YIM (State Bar # 21740 Assistant United States Attorney 300 North Los Angeles Street Federal Building, Room 7516 Los Angeles, California 90012 Telephone: (213) 894-2879 Facsimile: (213) 894-7819 E-mail: deborah.yim@usdoj.gov Attorneys for Federal Defendants UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,	153268) 00)
10	JAMES T. HAYES, and PILAR GARCIA	
11	UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT	
12	CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA WESTERN DIVISION	
13 14	WESTERN PETER GUZMAN AND MARIA CARBAJAL	No. CV 08-1327-GHK(SSx)
15	Plaintiffs,	NO. CV 00-1527-GIR(55X)
16	v.	ANSWER OF FEDERAL DEFENDANT
17 18 19 20 21 22	UNITED STATES OF AMERICA; JAMES T. HAYES, Field Office Director, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement; PILAR GARCIA, Agent, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement; COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES; LEROY BACA, Sheriff of the County of Los Angeles; TIMOTHY CORNELL, Captain of Los Angeles County Inmate Reception Center; SANDRA FIGUERAS, Custodial Assistant,	MES T. HAYES, Field Office Sector, U.S. Immigration and stoms Enforcement; PILAR ACIA, Agent, U.S. Immigration a Customs Enforcement; UNTY OF LOS ANGELES; LEROY CA, Sheriff of the County of a Angeles; TIMOTHY CORNELL, otain of Los Angeles County mate Reception Center; SANDRA GUERAS, Custodial Assistant, a Angeles County Sheriff's partment; DOE ICE AGENTS 1-10;
23 24	Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department; DOE ICE AGENTS 1-10; and DOE LASD OFFICERS 1-10,	
25 26 27	Defendants.	
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Federal Defendant Pilar Garcia ("Defendant Garcia") hereby 1 answers the Second Amended Complaint ("SAC") of Plaintiffs Peter 2 Guzman ("Guzman") and Maria Carbajal ("Carbajal") (collectively, 3 "Plaintiffs"), as follows.<sup>1</sup> 4

Paragraph 1 consists of legal conclusions regarding 5 1. jurisdictional basis, and as such, no response is required. To б the extent a response is required, however, Defendant Garcia 7 lacks sufficient information or belief upon which to admit or 8 deny the allegations of this paragraph, and based thereon, 9 generally and specifically denies them. 10

2. Paragraph 2 consists of legal conclusions regarding 11 venue, and as such, no response is required. To the extent a 12 response is required, however, Defendant Garcia lacks sufficient 13 information or belief upon which to admit or deny the allegations 14 of this paragraph, and based thereon, generally and specifically 15 denies them. 16

Answering paragraph 3 of the SAC, Defendant Garcia 17 3. 18 admits only that the government does not have the authority to 19 knowingly deport a United States citizen. Defendant Garcia lacks sufficient information or belief upon which to admit or deny the 20 remaining allegations herein, and based thereon, generally and 21 22 specifically denies them.

23 4. Answering paragraph 4 of the SAC, Defendant Garcia 24 cannot respond to any allegations pertaining to Defendant Hayes,

<sup>26</sup> Based upon the pending interlocutory appeal filed by Defendant James T. Hayes ("Defendant Hayes") and the Court's Orders 27 herein, Defendant Garcia does not respond to any allegations which refer or are related to Defendant Hayes or his alleged acts or 28 omissions.

1 as the action against him is stayed, pending resolution of his
2 interlocutory appeal. With regard to the allegations that
3 pertain to Defendant Garcia specifically, Defendant Garcia
4 denies, generally and specifically, the allegations herein. With
5 regard to any remaining allegations, Defendant Garcia lacks
6 sufficient information or belief upon which to admit or deny, and
7 based thereon, generally and specifically denies them.

8 5. Answering paragraph 5 of the SAC, Defendant Garcia 9 lacks sufficient information or belief upon which to admit or 10 deny the allegations herein, and based thereon, generally and 11 specifically denies them.

Answering paragraph 6 of the SAC, Defendant Garcia б. 12 admits only that Guzman was put on a bus by Immigration and 13 Customs Enforcement ("ICE") agents and that Guzman subsequently 14 disembarked the bus. Defendant Garcia denies that Guzman was 15 forced to disembark and that he did so in Tijuana, Mexico. 16 Defendant Garcia lacks sufficient information or belief upon 17 18 which to admit or deny the remaining allegations herein, and 19 based thereon, generally and specifically denies them.

7. Answering paragraph 7 of the SAC, Defendant Garcia
denies that Guzman was unlawfully deported. Defendant Garcia
lacks sufficient information or belief upon which to admit or
deny the remaining allegations herein, and based thereon,
generally and specifically denies them.

8. Answering paragraph 8 of the SAC, Defendant Garcia
denies that Guzman was unlawfully deported. Defendant Garcia
lacks sufficient information or belief upon which to admit or
deny the remaining allegations herein, and based thereon,

1 generally and specifically denies them.

9. Answering paragraph 9 of the SAC, Defendant Garcia
 denies that Guzman was unlawfully deported. Defendant Garcia
 lacks sufficient information or belief upon which to admit or
 deny the remaining allegations herein, and based thereon,
 generally and specifically denies them.

10. Answering paragraph 10 of the SAC, Defendant Garcia
cannot respond to any allegations pertaining to Defendant Hayes,
as the action against him is stayed, pending resolution of his
interlocutory appeal. Defendant Garcia lacks sufficient
information or belief upon which to admit or deny the remaining
allegations herein, and based thereon, generally and specifically
denies them.

Answering paragraph 11 of the SAC, Defendant Garcia 14 11. 15 cannot respond to any allegations pertaining to Defendant Hayes, as the action against him is stayed, pending resolution of his 16 17 interlocutory appeal. With regard to the allegations that 18 pertain to Defendant Garcia specifically, Defendant Garcia 19 denies, generally and specifically, the allegations herein. Defendant Garcia lacks sufficient information or belief upon 20 21 which to admit or deny the remaining allegations herein, and based thereon, generally and specifically denies them. 22

12. Answering paragraph 12 of the SAC, Defendant Garcia
cannot respond to any allegations pertaining to Defendant Hayes,
as the action against him is stayed, pending resolution of his
interlocutory appeal. With regard to the allegations that
pertain to Defendant Garcia specifically, Defendant Garcia denies
that ICE illegally deported Guzman and that ICE ignored records

and/or did not undertake reasonable and diligent efforts to review them and appreciate their meaning. Defendant Garcia lacks sufficient information or belief upon which to admit or deny the remaining allegations herein, and based thereon, generally and specifically denies them.

Answering paragraph 13 of the SAC, Defendant Garcia б 13. cannot respond to any allegations pertaining to Defendant Hayes, 7 as the action against him is stayed, pending resolution of his 8 interlocutory appeal. With regard to the allegations that pertain 9 to Defendant Garcia specifically, Defendant Garcia denies, 10 generally and specifically, the allegations herein. Defendant 11 Garcia lacks sufficient information or belief upon which to admit 12 or deny the remaining allegations herein, and based thereon, 13 generally and specifically denies them. 14

14. Answering paragraph 14 of the SAC, Defendant Garcia
admits only that Guzman entered Mexico in May 2007. Defendant
Garcia denies that Guzman was illegally deported. Defendant
Garcia lacks sufficient information or belief upon which to admit
or deny the remaining allegations herein, and based thereon,
generally and specifically denies them.

21 15. Answering paragraph 15 of the SAC, Defendant Garcia 22 lacks sufficient information or belief upon which to admit or 23 deny the allegations herein, and based thereon, generally and 24 specifically denies them.

16. Answering paragraph 16 of the SAC, Defendant Garcia
cannot respond to any allegations pertaining to Defendant Hayes,
as the action against him is stayed, pending resolution of his
interlocutory appeal. With regard to the allegations that pertain

1 to Defendant Garcia specifically, Defendant Garcia denies that 2 she acted wrongfully with regard to Plaintiff, that the United 3 States violated any provision of the Federal Tort Claims Act, and 4 that her actions "implicated" the United States in this case.

17. Answering paragraph 17 of the SAC, Defendant Garcia
cannot respond to any allegations pertaining to Defendant Hayes,
as the action against him is stayed, pending resolution of his
interlocutory appeal.

9 18. Answering paragraph 18 of the SAC, Defendant Garcia 10 admits that, she is, and at all relevant times herein, was an 11 Immigration Enforcement Agent with ICE. Defendant Garcia lacks 12 sufficient information or belief upon which to admit or deny the 13 remaining allegations herein, and based thereon, generally and 14 specifically denies them.

15 19. There are no factual allegations in Paragraph 1916 requiring a response by Defendant Garcia.

20. Answering paragraphs 20 to 24 of the SAC, Defendant
Garcia lacks sufficient information or belief upon which to admit
or deny the allegations herein, and based thereon, generally and
specifically denies them.

21 21. There are no factual allegations in paragraphs 25 and
22 26 requiring a response by Defendant Garcia.

23 22. Answering paragraphs 27 to 29 of the SAC, Defendant
24 Garcia denies, generally and specifically, the allegations herein
25 as they pertain to her.

26 23. Answering paragraph 30 of the SAC, Defendant Garcia 27 lacks sufficient information or belief upon which to admit or 28 deny the allegations herein, and based thereon, generally and

specifically denies them. 1

24. Answering paragraphs 31 to 34 of the SAC, Defendant 2 Garcia lacks sufficient information or belief upon which to admit 3 or deny the allegations herein, and based thereon, generally and 4 specifically denies them. 5

Answering paragraph 35 of the SAC, Defendant Garcia 25. б lacks sufficient information or belief upon which to admit or 7 deny the allegations herein, and based thereon, generally and 8 specifically denies them. 9

Answering paragraphs 36 to 40 of the SAC, Defendant 26. 10 Garcia lacks sufficient information or belief upon which to admit 11 or deny the allegations herein, and based thereon, generally and 12 specifically denies them. 13

Answering paragraphs 41 and 42 of the SAC, Defendant 14 27. 15 Garcia cannot respond to any allegations pertaining to Defendant Hayes, as the action against him is stayed, pending resolution of 16 his interlocutory appeal. Defendant Garcia lacks sufficient 17 information or belief upon which to admit or deny the remaining 18 19 allegations herein, and based thereon, generally and specifically denies them. 20

Answering paragraph 43 of the SAC, Defendant Garcia 21 28. 22 cannot respond to any allegations pertaining to Defendant Hayes, 23 as the action against him is stayed, pending resolution of his 24 interlocutory appeal. With regard to the allegations that pertain 25 to Defendant Garcia specifically, Defendant Garcia denies, generally and specifically, the allegations of this paragraph. 26 Defendant Garcia lacks sufficient information or belief upon 27 28 which to admit or deny the remaining allegations herein, and

1 based thereon, generally and specifically denies them.

2 29. Answering paragraph 44 of the SAC, Defendant Garcia
3 specifically denies that no reasonable basis existed to suspect
4 or otherwise conclude that Guzman was not a United States
5 citizen. Defendant Garcia lacks sufficient information or belief
6 upon which to admit or deny the remaining allegations herein, and
7 based thereon, generally and specifically denies them.

8 30. Answering paragraphs 45 and 46 of the SAC, Defendant 9 Garcia lacks sufficient information or belief upon which to admit 10 or deny the allegations therein, and based thereon, generally and 11 specifically denies them.

12 31. Answering paragraphs 47 to 50 of the SAC, Defendant 13 Garcia lacks sufficient information or belief upon which to admit 14 or deny the allegations therein, and based thereon, generally and 15 specifically denies them.

32. Answering paragraph 51 of the SAC, Defendant Garcia 16 admits that Guzman signed the form at issue. Defendant Garcia 17 18 further admits that the form was written entirely in Spanish and 19 that it gave Guzman the option of waiving his legal rights to a removal deportation hearing. Additionally, the completed form 20 states that Guzman was a citizen of Mexico and that he agreed to 21 22 be voluntarily deported to Mexico. Except as otherwise admitted, 23 Defendant Garcia denies, generally and specifically, the 24 remaining allegations herein.

33. Answering paragraph 52 of the SAC, Defendant Garcia
denies generally and specifically the allegations herein.

34. Answering paragraphs 53 and 54 of the SAC, Defendant
Garcia lacks sufficient information or belief upon which to admit

or deny the allegations therein, and based thereon, generally and
 specifically denies them.

Answering paragraphs 55 to 59 of the SAC, Defendant 35. 3 Garcia cannot respond to any allegations pertaining to Defendant 4 Hayes, as the action against him is stayed, pending resolution of 5 his interlocutory appeal. With regard to the allegations that 6 pertain to Defendant Garcia specifically, Defendant Garcia 7 denies, generally and specifically, the allegations herein. 8 As to the remaining allegations, Defendant Garcia lacks sufficient 9 information or belief upon which to admit or deny the allegations 10 therein, and based thereon, generally and specifically denies 11 them. 12

Answering paragraph 60 of the SAC, Defendant Garcia 36. 13 cannot respond to any allegations pertaining to Defendant Hayes, 14 15 as the action against him is stayed, pending resolution of his interlocutory appeal. With regard to the allegations that pertain 16 to Defendant Garcia specifically, Defendant Garcia admits only 17 18 that Guzman was placed on a bus on May 11, 2007. Except as 19 otherwise admitted, Defendant Garcia denies, generally and specifically, the remaining allegations herein. 20

37. Answering paragraphs 61 to 78 of the SAC, Defendant Garcia lacks sufficient information or belief upon which to admit or deny the allegations herein, and based thereon, generally and specifically denies them.

38. Answering paragraphs 79 and 80 of the SAC, Defendant
Garcia cannot respond to any allegations pertaining to Defendant
Hayes, as the action against him is stayed, pending resolution of
his interlocutory appeal. With regard to the allegations that

pertain to Defendant Garcia specifically, Defendant Garcia 1 denies, generally and specifically, the allegations herein. 2 As to the remaining allegations, Defendant Garcia lacks sufficient 3 information or belief upon which to admit or deny the allegations 4 therein, and based thereon, generally and specifically denies 5 б them.

Answering paragraph 81 of the SAC, Defendant Garcia 7 39. cannot respond to any allegations pertaining to Defendant Hayes, 8 as the action against him is stayed, pending resolution of his 9 interlocutory appeal. With regard to the remaining allegations, 10 Defendant Garcia lacks sufficient information or belief upon 11 which to admit or deny the allegations herein, and based thereon, 12 generally and specifically denies them. 13

Answering paragraph 82 to 84 of the SAC, Defendant 14 40. Garcia lacks sufficient information or belief upon which to admit 15 or deny the allegations therein, and based thereon, generally and 16 17 specifically denies them.

Answering paragraphs 85 and 86 of the SAC, Defendant 18 41. 19 Garcia lacks sufficient information or belief upon which to admit or deny the allegations herein, and based thereon, generally and 20 21 specifically denies them.

Answering paragraph 87 of the SAC, Defendant Garcia 22 42. 23 specifically denies that Guzman was illegally deported and his 24 alleged damages were a direct and foreseeable consequence of such 25 deportation. Defendant Garcia lacks sufficient information or belief upon which to admit or deny the remaining allegations 26 herein, and based thereon, generally and specifically denies 27 28 them.

43. Answering paragraph 88 of the SAC, Defendant Garcia
cannot respond to any allegations pertaining to Defendant Hayes,
as the action against him is stayed, pending resolution of his
interlocutory appeal. With regard to the allegations that pertain
to Defendant Garcia specifically, Defendant Garcia denies,
generally and specifically, the allegations herein.

7 44. Answering paragraphs 89 and 90 of the SAC, Defendant
8 Garcia lacks sufficient information or belief upon which to admit
9 or deny the allegations herein, and based thereon, generally and
10 specifically denies them.

45. Answering paragraph 91 of the SAC, Defendant Garcia
incorporates, by reference, her responses to paragraphs 1 through
90 of the SAC, as if fully set forth herein.

46. Answering paragraph 92 of the SAC, Defendant
Garcia cannot respond to any allegations pertaining to Defendant
Hayes, as the action against him is stayed, pending resolution of
his interlocutory appeal. With regard to the allegations that
pertain to Defendant Garcia specifically, Defendant Garcia
denies, generally and specifically, the allegations herein.

Answering paragraph 93 of the SAC, Defendant Garcia 20 47. 21 cannot respond to any allegations pertaining to Defendant Hayes, 22 as the action against him is stayed, pending resolution of his 23 interlocutory appeal. With regard to the allegations that pertain 24 to Defendant Garcia specifically, Defendant Garcia admits only 25 that she acted under color of federal law and acted in the performance of official duties under federal laws, with regard to 26 Plaintiff Guzman. 27

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48. Answering paragraphs 94 to 96 of the SAC, Defendant

Garcia cannot respond to any allegations pertaining to Defendant Hayes, as the action against him is stayed, pending resolution of his interlocutory appeal. With regard to the allegations that pertain to Defendant Garcia specifically, Defendant Garcia denies, generally and specifically, the allegations herein.

49. Answering paragraph 97 of the SAC, Defendant Garcia
7 incorporates, by reference, her responses to paragraphs 1 through
8 90 of the SAC, as if fully set forth herein.

9 50. Answering paragraph 98 of the SAC, Defendant Garcia
10 cannot respond to any allegations pertaining to Defendant Hayes,
11 as the action against him is stayed, pending resolution of his
12 interlocutory appeal. With regard to the allegations that pertain
13 to Defendant Garcia specifically, Defendant Garcia denies,
14 generally and specifically, the allegations herein.

Answering paragraph 99 of the SAC, Defendant Garcia 15 51. 16 cannot respond to any allegations pertaining to Defendant Hayes, 17 as the action against him is stayed, pending resolution of his 18 interlocutory appeal. With regard to the allegations that pertain 19 to Defendant Garcia specifically, Defendant Garcia admits only that she acted under color of federal law and acted in the 20 performance of official duties under federal laws, with regard to 21 22 Plaintiff Guzman. However, Defendant Garcia denies that she 23 acted with the intent or purpose to discriminate against Plaintiff. 24

52. Answering paragraphs 100 to 102 of the SAC, Defendant Garcia cannot respond to any allegations pertaining to Defendant Hayes, as the action against him is stayed, pending resolution of his interlocutory appeal. With regard to the allegations that

pertain to Defendant Garcia specifically, Defendant Garcia
 denies, generally and specifically, the allegations herein.

3 53. Answering paragraph 103 of the SAC, Defendant Garcia
4 incorporates, by reference, her responses to paragraphs 1 through
5 90 of the SAC, as if fully set forth herein.

54. Answering paragraph 104 of the SAC, Defendant Garcia
cannot respond to any allegations pertaining to Defendant Hayes,
as the action against him is stayed, pending resolution of his
interlocutory appeal. With regard to the allegations that pertain
to Defendant Garcia specifically, Defendant Garcia denies,
generally and specifically, the allegations herein.

55. Answering paragraph 105 of the SAC, Defendant Garcia 12 cannot respond to any allegations pertaining to Defendant Hayes, 13 as the action against him is stayed, pending resolution of his 14 15 interlocutory appeal. With regard to the allegations that pertain to Defendant Garcia specifically, Defendant Garcia specifically 16 denies that she committed any reckless, intentional, and 17 18 deliberate acts and omissions with regard to Guzman and Carbajal. 19 Defendant Garcia lacks sufficient information or belief upon which to admit or deny the remaining allegations herein, and 20 21 based thereon, generally and specifically denies them.

56. Answering paragraphs 103 to 105 of the SAC, Defendant Garcia cannot respond to any allegations pertaining to Defendant Hayes, as the action against him is stayed, pending resolution of his interlocutory appeal. With regard to the allegations that pertain to Defendant Garcia specifically, Defendant Garcia denies, generally and specifically, the allegations herein.

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57. Answering paragraph 106 of the SAC, Defendant Garcia

cannot respond to any allegations pertaining to Defendant Hayes, as the action against him is stayed, pending resolution of his interlocutory appeal. With regard to the allegations that pertain to Defendant Garcia specifically, Defendant Garcia admits only that she acted under color of federal law and acted in the performance of official duties under federal laws, with regard to Plaintiff Guzman.

8 58. Answering paragraphs 107 to 109 of the SAC, Defendant 9 Garcia cannot respond to any allegations pertaining to Defendant 10 Hayes, as the action against him is stayed, pending resolution of 11 his interlocutory appeal. With regard to the allegations that 12 pertain to Defendant Garcia specifically, Defendant Garcia 13 denies, generally and specifically, the allegations herein.

14 59. Answering paragraph 110 of the SAC, Defendant Garcia
15 incorporates, by reference, her responses to paragraphs 1 through
16 90 of the SAC, as if fully set forth herein.

17 60. Answering paragraphs 111 to 115 of the SAC, Defendant 18 Garcia cannot respond to any allegations pertaining to Defendant 19 Hayes, as the action against him is stayed, pending resolution of his interlocutory appeal. With regard to the allegations that 20 pertain to Defendant Garcia specifically, Defendant Garcia admits 21 only that she acted under color of federal law and acted in the 22 23 performance of official duties under federal laws, with regard to 24 Plaintiff Guzman. Defendant Garcia denies, generally and 25 specifically, the remaining allegations herein.

61. Answering paragraph 116 of the SAC, Defendant Garcia
incorporates, by reference, her responses to paragraphs 1 through
90 of the SAC, as if fully set forth herein.

62. Answering paragraphs 117 to 119 of the SAC, Defendant 1 Garcia cannot respond to any allegations pertaining to Defendant 2 Hayes, as the action against him is stayed, pending resolution of 3 his interlocutory appeal. With regard to the allegations that 4 pertain to Defendant Garcia specifically, Defendant Garcia admits 5 only that ICE obtained custody of Guzman from LASD. Except as 6 otherwise admitted, Defendant Garcia denies, generally and 7 specifically, the remaining allegations herein. 8

9 63. Answering paragraph 120 of the SAC, Defendant Garcia 10 lacks sufficient information or belief upon which to admit or 11 deny the allegations herein, and based thereon, generally and 12 specifically denies them.

64. Answering paragraph 121 of the SAC, Defendant Garcia
incorporates, by reference, her responses to paragraphs 1 through
90 of the SAC, as if fully set forth herein.

65. Answering paragraphs 122 to 124 of the SAC, Defendant
Garcia cannot respond to any allegations pertaining to Defendant
Hayes, as the action against him is stayed, pending resolution of
his interlocutory appeal. With regard to the allegations that
pertain to Defendant Garcia specifically, Defendant Garcia
denies, generally and specifically, the allegations herein.

66. Answering paragraph 125 of the SAC, Defendant Garcia
lacks sufficient information or belief upon which to admit or
deny the allegations herein, and based thereon, generally and
specifically denies them.

67. Answering paragraph 126 of the SAC, Defendant Garcia
incorporates, by reference, her responses to paragraphs 1 through
90 of the SAC, as if fully set forth herein.

68. Answering paragraphs 127 to 130 of the SAC, Defendant Garcia cannot respond to any allegations pertaining to Defendant Hayes, as the action against him is stayed, pending resolution of his interlocutory appeal. With regard to the allegations that pertain to Defendant Garcia specifically, Defendant Garcia denies, generally and specifically, the allegations herein.

69. Answering paragraph 131 of the SAC, Defendant Garcia
8 lacks sufficient information or belief upon which to admit or
9 deny the allegations herein, and based thereon, generally and
10 specifically denies them.

11 70. The Eighth, Ninth, Tenth, Eleventh, Twelfth, and 12 Thirteenth Claims for Relief have only been asserted 13 against the LASD Defendant Garcia and the Doe LASD Defendant 14 Garcia. As such, no response to paragraphs 132 to 164 is 15 required. To the extent a response is required, however, 16 Defendant Garcia, generally and specifically, denies the 17 allegations herein.

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#### First Affirmative Defense

71. The SAC fails to state a claim upon which relief can begranted.

### Second Affirmative Defense

72. Should Plaintiffs prevail against Defendant Garcia,
her liability is several and limited to her own actionable
segment of fault, if any.

## Third Affirmative Defense

27 73. Defendant Garcia did not owe, let alone breach, any28 duty to Plaintiffs.

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## Fourth Affirmative Defense

74. To the extent Plaintiffs were injured, Defendant Garcia was not the actual or proximate cause of those injuries.

#### Fifth Affirmative Defense

75. The acts or omissions alleged in the SAC were justified.

#### Sixth Affirmative Defense

8 76. If Plaintiffs sustained or suffered any loss, injury, 9 damage or detriment, the same was directly and proximately caused 10 and contributed to by the conduct, acts, omissions, activities, 11 carelessness, recklessness, negligence and/or intentional 12 misconduct of Plaintiffs and/or others, and not by Defendant 13 Garcia.

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# Seventh Affirmative Defense

77. Plaintiffs have failed, in whole or in part, to mitigate their alleged damages.

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#### Eighth Affirmative Defense

78. As any injury, damages and/or loss allegedly suffered by Plaintiffs were caused by their own negligence, Plaintiffs' damages should be reduced by said percentage of fault.

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# Ninth Affirmative Defense

79. To the extent not already covered in this Answer,
Defendant Garcia denies any and all allegations of
wrongdoing pertaining to her alleged conduct at issue in this
action.

Defendant Garcia has insufficient knowledge or information on which to form a belief as to whether it may have additional, as yet unstated, affirmative defenses available. Defendant

Garcia therefore reserves the right to assert additional 1 affirmative defenses in the event discovery indicates that they 2 may be appropriate. 3 WHEREFORE, Defendant Garcia prays for judgment against 4 Plaintiffs, as follows: 5 1. That Plaintiffs' SAC and each cause of action contained б therein be dismissed with prejudice. 7 That Plaintiffs take nothing by their SAC; 8 2. 3. That Defendant Garcia be awarded costs incurred herein; 9 and 10 4. That the Court order such other and further relief for 11 Defendant Garcia as the Court may deem just and proper. 12 13 14 15 DATED: Sept. 23, 2009 GEORGE S. CARDONA Acting United States Attorney 16 LEON W. WEIDMAN Assistant United States Attorney 17 Chief, Civil Division 18 /s/ KATHERINE M. HIKIDA 19 DEBORAH E. YIM 20 Assistant United States Attorneys 21 Attorneys for Federal Defendants UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, 22 JAMES T. HAYES, and PILAR GARCIA 23 24 25 26 27 28 16