

NO FEE GOVT CODES SEC. 6183
AMOUNT RECOVERABLE PURSUANT
TO 6103.5 GC § 01435

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PLUS A ONE TIME ADMINISTRATIVE FEE UPON JUDGEMENT
IF THE PARTY BECOMES A JUDGEMENT CREDITOR

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FILED
Superior Court of California
County of Los Angeles

DEC 07 2015

Sherri R. Carter, Executive Officer/Clerk
By Ishayla Chambers, Deputy

**SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, CENTRAL DISTRICT**

ORIGINAL

11 THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF
12 CALIFORNIA,

13 Plaintiff,

14 vs.

15 SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA GAS
16 COMPANY, and DOES 1-50, inclusive,
17

18 Defendants.
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Case No.:

BC 6 0 2 9 7 3

**COMPLAINT FOR EQUITABLE
RELIEF AND CIVIL PENALTIES FOR:**

(1) PUBLIC NUISANCE; AND

**(2) VIOLATION OF THE CALIFORNIA
UNFAIR COMPETITION LAW (Bus. and
Prof. Code § 17200, et seq.)**

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1 Plaintiff, People of the State of California ("People"), allege on information and belief as
2 follows:

3 **NATURE OF THE CASE**

4 1. An ongoing public health emergency caused by an enormous leak in a gas well
5 has rendered a significant portion of the Porter Ranch community in the City of Los Angeles
6 unlivable. By this lawsuit, Plaintiff, the People of the State of California, seeks to put into effect
7 judicially enforceable steps: 1) to ensure the leak is repaired as quickly as possible; 2) to ensure
8 the causes of the leak, and the reasons for the inordinate delay in fixing it, are fully understood
9 and action plans put in place to prevent a reoccurrence of this type of event; 3) to ensure that any
10 systemic deficiencies in the operation of all wells and other infrastructure at the Aliso Canyon
11 and similar storage facilities are appropriately addressed; 4) to address the consequences of the
12 emission of a massive volume of greenhouse gas from this site into the environment; and 5) to
13 impose appropriate civil penalties as allowed by law for the conduct that caused this disaster.

14 2. On or about October 23, 2015, the Aliso Canyon underground gas storage
15 facility owned and operated by Southern California Gas Company ("So Cal Gas") in a location
16 adjacent to the Porter Ranch neighborhood of the City of Los Angeles suffered a well failure
17 resulting in a catastrophic gas leak. The leak continues, undiminished, to this day. The leak is
18 enormous; it has caused over a million metric tons (in excess of two billion pounds) of methane,
19 a highly flammable and toxic greenhouse gas, and other dangerous substances including toluene
20 and benzene, to be released into the atmosphere. Among the components of the escaping toxic
21 gas is mercaptan, which is also highly flammable and produces a nauseating and repulsive rotten
22 egg smell. Mercaptan now envelops the Porter Ranch neighborhood and beyond.

23 3. The failure of the well should never have happened. The incredible duration of
24 this crisis should have been avoided, and would have been avoided had So Cal Gas established
25 and promptly implemented appropriate contingency plans for such an event, and pre-placed
26 adequate mechanical and technical resources at the site to swiftly end the leak. Instead, So Cal
27 Gas engaged in unlawful and unfair business practices, creating the conditions which allowed the
28 well to fail, and exacerbating the effects of that failure by allowing the acute odor and health

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problems faced by the community to persist for more than one month, to say nothing about the indefinite time it will persist into the future.

4. As a result of the leak, City residents are currently subjected to a nuisance in the form of intolerably foul odors and the presence in their community of toxins causing nausea, dizziness, nosebleeds, headaches, and other ill health effects. These residents face potential significant risks to their long term health as well as potential contamination to the groundwater. As a result of this nuisance, hundreds of City residents, including children, the elderly, and persons with disabilities, have been forced to indefinitely leave their homes, with many having to pull their children out of local schools. There is no end in sight to the harms caused by this release. So Cal Gas has itself admitted that it will likely take at least several months to stop this mega leak.

5. The natural gas leak at So Cal Gas' Aliso Canyon storage well is an immediate threat to the health and well-being of City residents. The County of Los Angeles Department of Public Health has recently described this exposure as a "long-term event" and acknowledged that this event creates the prospect of significant long-term health effects. Families have had to flee from their homes in response to the high levels of mercaptan and other toxins constantly befouling the air in their community.

6. The harm caused to the residents of the City of Los Angeles, however, will not end when the leak is stopped and the odor is no longer detectable by City residents. Methane, which constitutes 80% of the escaping substances, is a potent greenhouse gas that contributes significantly to climate change.

7. Methane, on a molecule-for-molecule basis, has far more potent warming effect than carbon dioxide, the most abundant greenhouse gas. Alarmingly, the natural gas release from the Aliso Canyon well is spewing an estimated 100,000 pounds of methane every hour, adding some 25% to the rate of the State's daily total of methane emissions from all sources. These massive quantities of methane will have harmful consequences resulting in increased temperatures and extreme heat days for the City well into the future.

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PARTIES

8. Plaintiff, The People of the State of California, brings this action by and through Michael N. Feuer, City Attorney for the City of Los Angeles, on behalf of the People under the authority granted to him by California Civil Code sections 3479, 3480, 3490, 3491, 3494, and the California Code of Civil Procedure section 731, to abate a Public Nuisance. The Los Angeles City Attorney further brings this action in the name of the People pursuant to Business and Professions Code sections 17203, 17204, and 17206, to enjoin any person who violates, or proposes to violate, the Unfair Competition Law (Business and Profession Code sections 17200 et seq., "UCL"), and to obtain mandatory civil penalties for each act of unfair competition.

9. Defendant SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA GAS COMPANY ("So Cal Gas") is a California Corporation doing business in California. So Cal Gas stores and sells natural gas in California and transmits such through the City of Los Angeles.

10. The identities of DOES 1-25 are unknown to the People at this time. At such time as the identities of DOE defendants become known, the People will amend this Complaint accordingly. DOES 1-25 are, and at all times relevant to the claims in this Complaint were, legally responsible for compliance with Civil Code sections 3479 et seq., Health and Safety Code sections 41700 et seq., Health and Safety Code section 25510(a), and Health and Safety Code section 42402, or any other rule or regulation of the California Air Resources Board ("CARB") or any Air Pollution Control District issued pursuant thereto including but not limited to, South Coast Air Quality Management District Rule 402.

11. At all relevant times, DOES 26-50 were in a position of responsibility allowing them to influence corporate policies or activities with respect to So Cal Gas's compliance with California laws and regulations at its facilities and in the conduct of its business in the State of California, and had, by reason of their position in the corporation, responsibility and authority either to prevent in the first instance, or promptly correct, the violations complained of herein, but failed to do so. In addition to any direct personal liability of these individuals, DOES 26-50,

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1 also are personally liable under the “responsible corporate officer doctrine” for violations of law
2 committed by So Cal Gas as alleged herein.

3 **JURISDICTION AND VENUE**

4 12. Venue is proper in this county pursuant to Code of Civil Procedure section 731
5 and Business and Professions Code section 17204 in that the violations alleged in this Complaint
6 occurred in the City of Los Angeles and the nuisance exists in the City of Los Angeles. The
7 Court has jurisdiction pursuant to Article VI, section 10 of the California Constitution and
8 section 393 of the California Code of Civil Procedure.

9 **FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS**

10 13. So Cal Gas crews claim to have discovered a leak on October 23, 2015, at one
11 of its natural gas storage injection wells, namely the Standard Sesnon-25 well in defendant’s
12 Aliso Canyon storage field, in the unincorporated area of Los Angeles County adjacent to the
13 City of Los Angeles. The well is identified by the California Division of Oil, Gas, and
14 Geothermic Resources (“DOGGR”) as API: 03700776 (“The Well”).

15 14. It has not been determined when the leak at The Well began.

16 15. So Cal Gas did not report the leak immediately as required by law, and instead
17 waited days to inform the proper authorities, including the Certified Unified Program Agency.

18 16. The Well is used for injection and withdrawal of natural gas. It is one of more
19 than 100 such wells owned and operated by So Cal Gas in the Aliso Canyon storage field. So
20 Cal Gas has owned and operated the storage field, including The Well, at all relevant times.

21 17. The natural gas stored in the Aliso Canyon storage field is made up of mostly
22 methane. Methane and other components of naturally occurring natural gas are colorless and
23 odorless. To make the gas detectable to the human nose an odorant containing mercaptan is
24 added to the gas.

25 18. At all relevant times, the affected residential area was a public area in the City
26 of Los Angeles, California, and open to public travel and use.

27 19. At all relevant times, the City of Los Angeles was located in the County of Los
28 Angeles, California, and open to public travel and use.

1 20. As of the date of the filing of this action, So Cal Gas has not stopped the leak.
2 So Cal Gas was not prepared to stop the leak. In fact, much of the equipment necessary to enlist
3 in attempting to stop the leak was located in the Gulf of Mexico area and took days to be brought
4 to the location of The Well. So Cal Gas did not immediately initiate its contingency plan for
5 plugging The Well, which entails construction of a relief well. Rather, more than one month
6 passed from the time So Cal Gas crews state they discovered the leak and the date So Cal Gas
7 began the slow process of constructing the relief well on or about November 25, 2015.

Adjacent City Residents

8
9 21. The natural gas stored at the Aliso Canyon storage field, and emanating from
10 The Well, contains an odorant to make the natural gas detectable by the human nose. The
11 odorant used by So Cal Gas, mercaptan, contains the putrid sulfur compounds
12 tetrahydrothiophene and tertiary-butyl mercaptan. Mercaptan is known to cause short term
13 neurological, gastrointestinal, and respiratory symptoms. The human nose is incredibly sensitive
14 to mercaptan and can detect it at very low levels. This means that even at small concentrations,
15 people exposed to mercaptan can suffer health problems for the duration of the exposure, and
16 possibly beyond, in addition to the suffering caused when subjected to the indecent and offensive
17 smell.

18 22. Natural gas stored in The Well and at other wells located at the Aliso Canyon
19 storage field contains additional toxic gases, including toluene, benzene, hydrogen sulfides,
20 sulfur dioxide, ethylbenzene, and xylenes. Air sampling in the residential areas of the City
21 adjacent to the Aliso Canyon storage field has detected toluene and benzene. Exposure to
22 elevated levels of toluene can cause acute and chronic damage to the central nervous system;
23 symptoms include fatigue, sleepiness, headaches, and nausea. Benzene is categorized by the
24 Environmental Protection Agency as a carcinogen and exposure can cause drowsiness, dizziness,
25 and headaches, as well as eye, skin, and respiratory tract irritation with acute exposure, and
26 blood disorders can be caused by long term exposure.

27 23. Mercaptan is heavier than air and thus flows from the Aliso Canyon storage
28 field down into the residential areas of the City located approximately 1,200 feet below.

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1 24. According to 2008 data, the population in Porter Ranch is 30,571 residents with
2 a population density of 4,462 people per square mile. Residents include families with children
3 and senior citizens, as well as disabled persons.

4 25. The City residents who live adjacent to the Aliso Canyon storage field in Porter
5 Ranch have been continually subjected to the fetid odor of mercaptan since the release began.
6 This odor has been detected by residents in their homes and at their schools. The South Coast
7 Air Quality Management District has received over 870 complaints from City residents since the
8 leak began.

9 26. These City residents have suffered numerous adverse health effects, including
10 nausea, dizziness, headaches, and nosebleeds, all caused by the leak. The odor is pervasive,
11 intense, and inescapable. The odor and adverse health effects caused by the escaping gas has
12 made large portions of Porter Ranch unlivable. Hundreds of City residents have been forced to
13 leave their homes as a result; hundreds more are in the process of doing so.

14 27. Because the leak has prevented the comfortable enjoyment of their residences,
15 City residents have been forced to uproot from their homes and move into hotel rooms,
16 relocating their families and pets. This relocation causes significant disruption to their daily
17 lives, as the residents must still take their children to school and get to work, and are unable to
18 access the possessions they left behind in their homes. In addition to the disruption of
19 temporarily living in a hotel room (for what is expected to be months), these residents' homes
20 now sit vacant and pose an additional security risk.

21 28. As but one example: a resident family has been forced to relocate to two hotel
22 rooms at a hotel approximately 10 miles from their home because of the children's nosebleeds,
23 dizziness, and coughs since crews discovered the leak at The Well. Other residents have
24 reported their dogs have been vomiting since the leak began.

25 **Climate Change and the Impact of The Well's Methane Release on the City**

26 29. The earth's climate is changing at an extraordinary rate as a result of
27 anthropogenic emissions of greenhouse gases. By mid-century, Los Angeles will be 3°
28 Fahrenheit warmer. This means that Los Angeles will experience 73 to 91 days with hotter than

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1 average current temperatures. By 2050, the number of extreme heat days, days with
2 temperatures over 95° Fahrenheit, will more than triple from the average of 6 days experienced
3 from 1981-2000. If no changes are made, the number of extreme heat days are predicted to
4 double again by 2100 to 54 extreme heat days. Similar fates await communities across
5 California.

6 30. California has long been a leader in pollution reduction and set landmark
7 pollution reduction targets with California’s Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006 which
8 requires approximately a 15% reduction of expected emissions. In 2012, the City of Los
9 Angeles created the Los Angeles Regional Collaborative for Climate Change and Sustainability
10 (“LARC”). That institution published a series of assessments that detail how climate change will
11 directly affect the City of Los Angeles and study the impacts and necessary responses to the
12 impact of climate change.

13 31. Methane, when released into the air, absorbs the sun’s heat and traps it in the
14 earth’s atmosphere. Methane is very efficient at absorbing heat, and therefore is a far more
15 destructive greenhouse gas than others, such as carbon dioxide. CARB has estimated that
16 approximately 100,000 pounds per hour of methane is being released by the gas leak at The
17 Well. CARB, in its Aliso Canyon Natural Gas Leak Preliminary Estimate of Greenhouse Gas
18 Emissions to Date (as of November 20 2015), estimates that each day the leak exists it adds 25%
19 to the regular daily rate of California statewide emissions.

20 32. The release of methane from The Well will have a detrimental impact on the
21 City’s infrastructure and the health and well-being of the People. The increased extreme heat
22 days will have the greatest impact on the elderly and young children. The increase in warmer
23 days and extreme heat days increases the risk of injury or death caused by dehydration,
24 heatstroke, and heart attack. The longer summers and additional warmer days will place a
25 substantial burden on the City’s infrastructure, in particular on the City’s energy needs as more
26 power will be required to power air conditioning, and as more infrastructure repairs become
27 necessary due to heat damage. Similar burdens will be borne by communities across California.

28 ///

1 **FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION**

2 **(Public Nuisance – Adjacent Residents)**

3 33. The People hereby allege and incorporate each and every paragraph above.

4 34. Defendants, and each of them, are liable under California Civil Code sections
5 3479 et seq. and California Code of Civil Procedure section 731.

6 35. Under California Civil Code section 3479, a “nuisance” is “anything which is
7 injurious to health . . . or an obstruction to the free use of property, so as to interfere with the
8 comfortable enjoyment of life or property”

9 36. Under California Civil Code section 3480, “a public nuisance is one which
10 effects at the same time an entire community or neighborhood, or any considerable number of
11 persons, although the extent of the annoyance or damage inflicted upon individuals may be
12 unequal.”

13 37. Defendants have engaged and continue to engage in conduct that is injurious to
14 the health and interferes with the comfortable enjoyment of life and property in a manner that
15 impacts the City of Los Angeles, its residents, its environment, and its economy, and Defendants
16 are therefore liable under California Civil Code sections 3479 et seq.

17 38. Defendants’ emissions are not in the public interest.

18 39. Defendants’ emissions are a direct and proximate contributing cause of the
19 injuries and harms sustained by City residents causing them to suffer immediate ill health effects
20 due to the release into their neighborhood of mercaptans and other toxic chemicals.

21 40. Defendants, and each of them, by their emissions of Natural Gas containing
22 mercaptans and other toxic gases from their Aliso Canyon storage facility, DOGGR API
23 03700776, beginning on or about October 23, 2015, have created a public nuisance, injurious to
24 the City of Los Angeles, its citizens and residents.

25 **SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION**

26 **(California Business and Professions Code sections 17200 et seq. (“the UCL”))**

27 41. The People hereby allege and incorporate each and every paragraph above.
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1 42. Beginning on or about October 23, 2015, Defendants, and each of them,
2 violated the UCL by engaging in one or more of the following unlawful business acts and
3 practices:

- 4 a. Created a condition that is “injurious to health . . . or an obstruction to the
5 free use of property, so as to interfere with the comfortable enjoyment of
6 life or property . . .” in violation of California Civil Code section 3479, as
7 described in paragraphs 40 through 46.
- 8 b. Created a condition that is “injurious to health . . . or an obstruction to the
9 free use of property, so as to interfere with the comfortable enjoyment of
10 life or property . . .” in violation of California Civil Code section 3479,
11 through the emissions of methane gas that greatly increases greenhouse
12 gases in the atmosphere.
- 13 c. Discharged “quantities of air contaminants or other materials that cause
14 injury, detriment, nuisance, or annoyance to any considerable number of
15 persons or to the public, or that endanger the comfort, repose, health, or
16 safety of any of those persons or the public, or that cause, or have a natural
17 tendency to cause, injury or damage to business or property” in violation
18 of Health and Safety Code section 41700(a).
- 19 d. Created a condition that is “injurious to health . . . or an obstruction to the
20 free use of property, so as to interfere with the comfortable enjoyment of
21 life or property . . .” in violation of California Penal Code section 370.
- 22 e. Maintained or permitted the nuisance after “reasonable notice in writing
23 form a health officer or district attorney or city attorney or prosecuting
24 attorney to remove, discontinue or abate the same. . .” in violation of
25 California Penal Code section 373a. “The existence of such nuisance for
26 each and every day after the service of such notice” is a separate and
27 distinct offense Pursuant to California Penal Code section 373a.
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1 f. Failed to comply with South Coast Air Quality Management District Rule
2 402.

3 g. Failed to immediately report the release as required by Health and Safety
4 Code section 25510(a).

5 43. Beginning on a date unknown to the People, but within the four years preceding
6 the filing of this Complaint, Defendants, and each of them, violated the UCL by engaging in one
7 or more of the following unfair business acts and practices, among others:

8 a. Threatened incipient violations of public nuisance law as set forth above.

9 b. Failed to have appropriate contingency plans in place to mitigate any leak
10 that might emerge.

11 c. Failed to pre-position mechanical and technical resources needed in the
12 event of a leak.

13 d. Failed to immediately undertake the most effective means to fix the leak
14 upon its discovery.

15 e. Violated the established public policies of the State of California and City
16 of Los Angeles, which seek to reduce greenhouse gas emissions
17 throughout the State. Specifically, the reduction in methane emissions is
18 essential to this policy. Methane is the most potent greenhouse gas, and
19 reductions in methane emissions will have the most immediate impact on
20 near term reduction of climate change impacts.

21 f. The conduct of the Defendants as described in this Complaint has been
22 immoral, unethical, unscrupulous, and oppressive in that Defendants' (1)
23 operated in a manner that permitted the leak to occur; (2) did not have an
24 adequate contingency plan to appropriately and swiftly address the leak
25 once it occurred; (3) did not have the necessary equipment in place to stop
26 the leak once it occurred; and (4) the unwarranted methane emissions have
27 significantly impacted the State of California's methane emissions
28 targeted reductions for the year, and has placed additional burdens on the

1 rest of the citizens and businesses throughout the state by and through
2 these excessive methane emissions.

3 44. The acts and practices of Defendants, and each of them, as alleged in this
4 Complaint have a detrimental impact on the City of Los Angeles and its residents and the People
5 of the State of California. The increased emissions of methane, a potent greenhouse gas, from
6 Defendants' well will worsen the impact of climate change in the City of Los Angeles and the
7 health and well-being of its residents. This detrimental impact is not outweighed by any
8 countervailing reasons, justifications, or motives of Defendants, and each of them.

9 **PRAYER**

10 The People request that this Court:

- 11 1. Hold Defendants liable for creating, contributing to, and maintaining a public
12 nuisance;
- 13 2. Order Defendants to immediately abate the public nuisance;
- 14 3. Enter judgment for abatement, at the expense of Defendants, of the ongoing and
15 future nuisance to the City of Los Angeles and City residents due to the release of toxic and
16 harmful chemicals into the City;
- 17 4. Issue injunctive relief, pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 17203,
18 prohibiting Defendants, and each of them, that prohibits Defendants from engaging in the
19 activities that led to and created the public nuisance as set forth herein and in violation of Civil
20 Code sections 3479 et seq., and prohibiting all other business acts or practices which constitute
21 unfair competition within the meaning of Business and Professions Code section 17200;
- 22 5. Issue injunctive relief, pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 17203,
23 requiring Defendants, and each of them, at their expense, to mitigate the harmful impacts of the
24 methane emissions to the City and State as set forth herein;
- 25 6. Order that Defendants, and each of them, restore all persons any money or
26 property, plus interest, Defendants acquired by means of the unlawful business acts and practices
27 in this Complaint, pursuant to Business and Professions Code sections 17203 and 17204;
- 28

1 7. Award civil penalties against Defendants, and each of them, pursuant to Business
2 and Professions Code sections 17206 and 17206.1 for each act of unlawful, unfair, or fraudulent
3 competition engaged in by Defendants, and each of them, in an amount according to proof;

4 8. Award Plaintiff all costs and expenses; and

5 9. Award such other relief as this Court deems just and proper.

6
7 Dated: December 7, 2015

8 MICHAEL N. FEUER, City Attorney
9 THOMAS H. PETERS, Chief Assistant City Attorney
10 TINA L. HESS, Assistant City Attorney
11 JESSICA B. BROWN, Deputy City Attorney
12 NICK KARNO, Deputy City Attorney
13 OFFICE OF THE LOS ANGELES CITY ATTORNEY
14 CRIMINAL BRANCH
15 COMPLEX & SPECIAL LITIGATION SECTION

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By: 

JESSICA B. BROWN

Attorneys for Plaintiff,

The People of the State of California

FOR COURT USE ONLY

ATTORNEY OR PARTY WITHOUT ATTORNEY (Name, State Bar number, and address):

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ATTORNEY FOR (Name): Plaintiff

FILED
Superior Court of California
County of Los Angeles

DEC 07 2015

Sherril K. Carter, Executive Officer/Clerk
By Ishayla Chambers, Deputy

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF Los Angeles
STREET ADDRESS: 111 N. Hill Street
MAILING ADDRESS: 111 N. Hill Street
CITY AND ZIP CODE: Los Angeles, 90012
BRANCH NAME: Central

CASE NAME: Peo. v. Southern California Gas Company

CASE NUMBER: BC 602973

CIVIL CASE COVER SHEET
[X] Unlimited (Amount demanded exceeds \$25,000)
[] Limited (Amount demanded is \$25,000 or less)

Complex Case Designation
[] Counter [] Joinder
Filed with first appearance by defendant (Cal. Rules of Court, rule 3.402)

JUDGE:
DEPT:

Items 1-6 below must be completed (see instructions on page 2).

1. Check one box below for the case type that best describes this case:

Auto Tort

- [] Auto (22)
[] Uninsured motorist (46)

Other PI/PD/WD (Personal Injury/Property Damage/Wrongful Death) Tort

- [] Asbestos (04)
[] Product liability (24)
[] Medical malpractice (45)
[] Other PI/PD/WD (23)

Non-PI/PD/WD (Other) Tort

- [] Business tort/unfair business practice (07)
[] Civil rights (08)
[] Defamation (13)
[] Fraud (16)
[] Intellectual property (19)
[] Professional negligence (25)
[] Other non-PI/PD/WD tort (35)

Employment

- [] Wrongful termination (36)
[] Other employment (15)

Contract

- [] Breach of contract/warranty (06)
[] Rule 3.740 collections (09)
[] Other collections (09)
[] Insurance coverage (18)
[] Other contract (37)

Real Property

- [] Eminent domain/Inverse condemnation (14)
[] Wrongful eviction (33)
[] Other real property (26)

Unlawful Detainer

- [] Commercial (31)
[] Residential (32)
[] Drugs (38)

Judicial Review

- [] Asset forfeiture (05)
[] Petition re: arbitration award (11)
[] Writ of mandate (02)
[] Other judicial review (39)

Provisionally Complex Civil Litigation (Cal. Rules of Court, rules 3.400-3.403)

- [] Antitrust/Trade regulation (03)
[] Construction defect (10)
[] Mass tort (40)
[] Securities litigation (28)
[X] Environmental/Toxic tort (30)
[] Insurance coverage claims arising from the above listed provisionally complex case types (41)

Enforcement of Judgment

- [] Enforcement of judgment (20)

Miscellaneous Civil Complaint

- [] RICO (27)
[] Other complaint (not specified above) (42)

Miscellaneous Civil Petition

- [] Partnership and corporate governance (21)
[] Other petition (not specified above) (43)

2. This case [X] is [] is not complex under rule 3.400 of the California Rules of Court. If the case is complex, mark the factors requiring exceptional judicial management:

- a. [] Large number of separately represented parties d. [X] Large number of witnesses
b. [X] Extensive motion practice raising difficult or novel issues that will be time-consuming to resolve e. [] Coordination with related actions pending in one or more courts in other counties, states, or countries, or in a federal court
c. [X] Substantial amount of documentary evidence f. [] Substantial postjudgment judicial supervision

3. Remedies sought (check all that apply): a. [X] monetary b. [X] nonmonetary; declaratory or injunctive relief c. [X] punitive

4. Number of causes of action (specify):

5. This case [] is [X] is not a class action suit.

6. If there are any known related cases, file and serve a notice of related case. (You may use form CM-015.)

Date: December 7, 2015

Jessica B. Brown, Deputy City Attorney

(TYPE OR PRINT NAME)

(SIGNATURE OF PARTY OR ATTORNEY FOR PARTY)

NOTICE

- Plaintiff must file this cover sheet with the first paper filed in the action or proceeding (except small claims cases or cases filed under the Probate Code, Family Code, or Welfare and Institutions Code). (Cal. Rules of Court, rule 3.220.) Failure to file may result in sanctions.
• File this cover sheet in addition to any cover sheet required by local court rule.
• If this case is complex under rule 3.400 et seq. of the California Rules of Court, you must serve a copy of this cover sheet on all other parties to the action or proceeding.
• Unless this is a collections case under rule 3.740 or a complex case, this cover sheet will be used for statistical purposes only.

ORIGINAL

To Plaintiffs and Others Filing First Papers. If you are filing a first paper (for example, a complaint) in a civil case, you **must** complete and file, along with your first paper, the *Civil Case Cover Sheet* contained on page 1. This information will be used to compile statistics about the types and numbers of cases filed. You must complete items 1 through 6 on the sheet. In item 1, you must check **one** box for the case type that best describes the case. If the case fits both a general and a more specific type of case listed in item 1, check the more specific one. If the case has multiple causes of action, check the box that best indicates the **primary** cause of action. To assist you in completing the sheet, examples of the cases that belong under each case type in item 1 are provided below. A cover sheet must be filed only with your initial paper. Failure to file a cover sheet with the first paper filed in a civil case may subject a party, its counsel, or both to sanctions under rules 2.30 and 3.220 of the California Rules of Court.

To Parties in Rule 3.740 Collections Cases. A "collections case" under rule 3.740 is defined as an action for recovery of money owed in a sum stated to be certain that is not more than \$25,000, exclusive of interest and attorney's fees, arising from a transaction in which property, services, or money was acquired on credit. A collections case does not include an action seeking the following: (1) tort damages, (2) punitive damages, (3) recovery of real property, (4) recovery of personal property, or (5) a prejudgment writ of attachment. The identification of a case as a rule 3.740 collections case on this form means that it will be exempt from the general time-for-service requirements and case management rules, unless a defendant files a responsive pleading. A rule 3.740 collections case will be subject to the requirements for service and obtaining a judgment in rule 3.740.

To Parties in Complex Cases. In complex cases only, parties must also use the *Civil Case Cover Sheet* to designate whether the case is complex. If a plaintiff believes the case is complex under rule 3.400 of the California Rules of Court, this must be indicated by completing the appropriate boxes in items 1 and 2. If a plaintiff designates a case as complex, the cover sheet must be served with the complaint on all parties to the action. A defendant may file and serve no later than the time of its first appearance a joinder in the plaintiff's designation, a counter-designation that the case is not complex, or, if the plaintiff has made no designation, a designation that the case is complex.

CASE TYPES AND EXAMPLES

Auto Tort

- Auto (22)—Personal Injury/Property Damage/Wrongful Death
- Uninsured Motorist (46) (*if the case involves an uninsured motorist claim subject to arbitration, check this item instead of Auto*)

Other PI/PD/WD (Personal Injury/Property Damage/Wrongful Death) Tort

- Asbestos (04)
 - Asbestos Property Damage
 - Asbestos Personal Injury/Wrongful Death
- Product Liability (*not asbestos or toxic/environmental*) (24)
- Medical Malpractice (45)
 - Medical Malpractice—Physicians & Surgeons
 - Other Professional Health Care Malpractice
- Other PI/PD/WD (23)
 - Premises Liability (e.g., slip and fall)
 - Intentional Bodily Injury/PD/WD (e.g., assault, vandalism)
 - Intentional Infliction of Emotional Distress
 - Negligent Infliction of Emotional Distress
- Other PI/PD/WD

Non-PI/PD/WD (Other) Tort

- Business Tort/Unfair Business Practice (07)
- Civil Rights (e.g., discrimination, false arrest) (*not civil harassment*) (08)
- Defamation (e.g., slander, libel) (13)
- Fraud (16)
- Intellectual Property (19)
- Professional Negligence (25)
 - Legal Malpractice
 - Other Professional Malpractice (*not medical or legal*)
- Other Non-PI/PD/WD Tort (35)

Employment

- Wrongful Termination (36)
- Other Employment (15)

Contract

- Breach of Contract/Warranty (06)
 - Breach of Rental/Lease
 - Contract (*not unlawful detainer or wrongful eviction*)
 - Contract/Warranty Breach—Seller Plaintiff (*not fraud or negligence*)
 - Negligent Breach of Contract/Warranty
 - Other Breach of Contract/Warranty
- Collections (e.g., money owed, open book accounts) (09)
 - Collection Case—Seller Plaintiff
 - Other Promissory Note/Collections Case
- Insurance Coverage (*not provisionally complex*) (18)
 - Auto Subrogation
 - Other Coverage
- Other Contract (37)
 - Contractual Fraud
 - Other Contract Dispute

Real Property

- Eminent Domain/Inverse Condemnation (14)
- Wrongful Eviction (33)
 - Other Real Property (e.g., quiet title) (26)
 - Writ of Possession of Real Property
 - Mortgage Foreclosure
 - Quiet Title
 - Other Real Property (*not eminent domain, landlord/tenant, or foreclosure*)

Unlawful Detainer

- Commercial (31)
- Residential (32)
 - Drugs (38) (*if the case involves illegal drugs, check this item; otherwise, report as Commercial or Residential*)

Judicial Review

- Asset Forfeiture (05)
- Petition Re: Arbitration Award (11)
- Writ of Mandate (02)
 - Writ—Administrative Mandamus
 - Writ—Mandamus on Limited Court Case Matter
 - Writ—Other Limited Court Case Review
- Other Judicial Review (39)
 - Review of Health Officer Order
 - Notice of Appeal—Labor Commissioner Appeals

Provisionally Complex Civil Litigation (Cal. Rules of Court Rules 3.400–3.403)

- Antitrust/Trade Regulation (03)
- Construction Defect (10)
- Claims Involving Mass Tort (40)
- Securities Litigation (28)
- Environmental/Toxic Tort (30)
- Insurance Coverage Claims (*arising from provisionally complex case type listed above*) (41)

Enforcement of Judgment

- Enforcement of Judgment (20)
 - Abstract of Judgment (Out of County)
 - Confession of Judgment (*non-domestic relations*)
 - Sister State Judgment
 - Administrative Agency Award (*not unpaid taxes*)
 - Petition/Certification of Entry of Judgment on Unpaid Taxes
 - Other Enforcement of Judgment Case

Miscellaneous Civil Complaint

- RICO (27)
- Other Complaint (*not specified above*) (42)
 - Declaratory Relief Only
 - Injunctive Relief Only (*non-harassment*)
 - Mechanics Lien
 - Other Commercial Complaint Case (*non-tort/non-complex*)
 - Other Civil Complaint (*non-tort/non-complex*)

Miscellaneous Civil Petition

- Partnership and Corporate Governance (21)
- Other Petition (*not specified above*) (43)
 - Civil Harassment
 - Workplace Violence
 - Elder/Dependent Adult Abuse
 - Election Contest
 - Petition for Name Change
 - Petition for Relief from Late Claim
 - Other Civil Petition

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 Peo. v. Southern California Gas Company

CASE NUMBER
 BC 6 0 2 9 7 3

**CIVIL CASE COVER SHEET ADDENDUM AND STATEMENT OF LOCATION
 (CERTIFICATE OF GROUNDS FOR ASSIGNMENT TO COURTHOUSE LOCATION)**

This form is required pursuant to LASC Local Rule 2.0 in all new civil case filings in the Los Angeles Superior Court.

Item I. Check the types of hearing and fill in the estimated length of hearing expected for this case:

JURY TRIAL? YES CLASS ACTION? YES LIMITED CASE? YES TIME ESTIMATED FOR TRIAL ¹⁵ HOURS/ DAYS

Item II. Select the correct district and courthouse location (4 steps – If you checked "Limited Case", skip to Item III, Pg. 4):

Step 1: After first completing the Civil Case Cover Sheet Form, find the main civil case cover sheet heading for your case in the left margin below, and, to the right in Column **A**, the Civil Case Cover Sheet case type you selected.

Step 2: Check one Superior Court type of action in Column **B** below which best describes the nature of this case.

Step 3: In Column **C**, circle the reason for the court location choice that applies to the type of action you have checked. For any exception to the court location, see Los Angeles Superior Court Local Rule 2.0.

Applicable Reasons for Choosing Courthouse Location (see Column C below)

1. Class Actions must be filed in the County Courthouse, Central District.
2. May be filed in Central (Other county, or no Bodily Injury/Property Damage).
3. Location where cause of action arose.
4. Location where bodily injury, death or damage occurred.
5. Location where performance required or defendant resides.
6. Location of property or permanently garaged vehicle.
7. Location where petitioner resides.
8. Location wherein defendant/respondent functions wholly.
9. Location where one or more of the parties reside.
10. Location of Labor Commissioner Office.

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Step 4: Fill in the information requested on page 4 in Item III; complete Item IV. Sign the declaration.

	A Civil Case Cover Sheet Category No.	B Type of Action (Check only one)	C Applicable Reasons - See Step 3 Above
Auto Tort	Auto (22)	<input type="checkbox"/> A7100 Motor Vehicle - Personal Injury/Property Damage/Wrongful Death	1., 2., 4.
	Uninsured Motorist (46)	<input type="checkbox"/> A7110 Personal Injury/Property Damage/Wrongful Death – Uninsured Motorist	1., 2., 4.
Other Personal Injury/Property Damage/Wrongful Death Tort	Asbestos (04)	<input type="checkbox"/> A6070 Asbestos Property Damage	2.
		<input type="checkbox"/> A7221 Asbestos - Personal Injury/Wrongful Death	2.
	Product Liability (24)	<input type="checkbox"/> A7260 Product Liability (not asbestos or toxic/environmental)	1., 2., 3., 4., 8.
	Medical Malpractice (45)	<input type="checkbox"/> A7210 Medical Malpractice - Physicians & Surgeons	1., 2., 4.
		<input type="checkbox"/> A7240 Other Professional Health Care Malpractice	1., 2., 4.
Other Personal Injury Property Damage Wrongful Death (23)	<input type="checkbox"/> A7250 Premises Liability (e.g., slip and fall)	1., 2., 4.	
	<input type="checkbox"/> A7230 Intentional Bodily Injury/Property Damage/Wrongful Death (e.g., assault, vandalism, etc.)	1., 2., 4.	
	<input type="checkbox"/> A7270 Intentional Infliction of Emotional Distress	1., 2., 3.	
	<input type="checkbox"/> A7220 Other Personal Injury/Property Damage/Wrongful Death	1., 2., 4.	
Non-Personal Injury/Property Damage/Wrongful Death Tort	Business Tort (07)	<input type="checkbox"/> A6029 Other Commercial/Business Tort (not fraud/breach of contract)	1., 2., 3.
	Civil Rights (08)	<input type="checkbox"/> A6005 Civil Rights/Discrimination	1., 2., 3.
	Defamation (13)	<input type="checkbox"/> A6010 Defamation (slander/libel)	1., 2., 3.
	Fraud (16)	<input type="checkbox"/> A6013 Fraud (no contract)	1., 2., 3.

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A Civil Case Cover Sheet Category No.	B Type of Action (Check only one)	C Applicable Reasons -See Step 3 Above
Professional Negligence (25)	<input type="checkbox"/> A6017 Legal Malpractice <input type="checkbox"/> A6050 Other Professional Malpractice (not medical or legal)	1., 2., 3. 1., 2., 3.
Other (35)	<input type="checkbox"/> A6025 Other Non-Personal Injury/Property Damage tort	2.,3.
Wrongful Termination (36)	<input type="checkbox"/> A6037 Wrongful Termination	1., 2., 3.
Other Employment (15)	<input type="checkbox"/> A6024 Other Employment Complaint Case <input type="checkbox"/> A6109 Labor Commissioner Appeals	1., 2., 3. 10.
Breach of Contract/Warranty (06) (not insurance)	<input type="checkbox"/> A6004 Breach of Rental/Lease Contract (not Unlawful Detainer or wrongful eviction) <input type="checkbox"/> A6008 Contract/Warranty Breach -Seller Plaintiff (no fraud/negligence) <input type="checkbox"/> A6019 Negligent Breach of Contract/Warranty (no fraud) <input type="checkbox"/> A6028 Other Breach of Contract/Warranty (not fraud or negligence)	2., 5. 2., 5. 1., 2., 5. 1., 2., 5.
Collections (09)	<input type="checkbox"/> A6002 Collections Case-Seller Plaintiff <input type="checkbox"/> A6012 Other Promissory Note/Collections Case	2., 5., 6. 2., 5.
Insurance Coverage (18)	<input type="checkbox"/> A6015 Insurance Coverage (not complex)	1., 2., 5., 8.
Other Contract (37)	<input type="checkbox"/> A6009 Contractual Fraud <input type="checkbox"/> A6031 Tortious Interference <input type="checkbox"/> A6027 Other Contract Dispute(not breach/insurance/fraud/negligence)	1., 2., 3., 5. 1., 2., 3., 5. 1., 2., 3., 8.
Eminent Domain/Inverse Condemnation (14)	<input type="checkbox"/> A7300 Eminent Domain/Condemnation Number of parcels _____	2.
Wrongful Eviction (33)	<input type="checkbox"/> A6023 Wrongful Eviction Case	2., 6.
Other Real Property (26)	<input type="checkbox"/> A6018 Mortgage Foreclosure <input type="checkbox"/> A6032 Quiet Title <input type="checkbox"/> A6060 Other Real Property (not eminent domain, landlord/tenant, foreclosure)	2., 6. 2., 6. 2., 6.
Unlawful Detainer-Commercial (31)	<input type="checkbox"/> A6021 Unlawful Detainer-Commercial (not drugs or wrongful eviction)	2., 6.
Unlawful Detainer-Residential (32)	<input type="checkbox"/> A6020 Unlawful Detainer-Residential (not drugs or wrongful eviction)	2., 6.
Unlawful Detainer-Drugs (38)	<input type="checkbox"/> A6022 Unlawful Detainer-Drugs	2., 6.
Asset Forfeiture (05)	<input type="checkbox"/> A6108 Asset Forfeiture Case	2., 6.
Petition re Arbitration (11)	<input type="checkbox"/> A6115 Petition to Compel/Confirm/Vacate Arbitration	2., 5.

SHORT TITLE: Peo. v. Southern California Gas Company	CASE NUMBER
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Judicial Review (Cont'd.)

Provisionally Complex Litigation

Enforcement of Judgment

Miscellaneous Civil Complaints

Miscellaneous Civil Petitions

A Civil Case Cover Sheet Category No.	B Type of Action (Check only one)	C Applicable Reasons - See Step 3 Above
Writ of Mandate (02)	<input type="checkbox"/> A6151 Writ - Administrative Mandamus <input type="checkbox"/> A6152 Writ - Mandamus on Limited Court Case Matter <input type="checkbox"/> A6153 Writ - Other Limited Court Case Review	2., 8. 2. 2.
Other Judicial Review (39)	<input type="checkbox"/> A6150 Other Writ /Judicial Review	2., 8.
Antitrust/Trade Regulation (03)	<input type="checkbox"/> A6003 Antitrust/Trade Regulation	1., 2., 8.
Construction Defect (10)	<input type="checkbox"/> A6007 Construction defect	1., 2., 3.
Claims Involving Mass Tort (40)	<input type="checkbox"/> A6006 Claims Involving Mass Tort	1., 2., 8.
Securities Litigation (28)	<input type="checkbox"/> A6035 Securities Litigation Case	1., 2., 8.
Toxic Tort Environmental (30)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A6036 Toxic Tort/Environmental	1., 2., 3., 8.
Insurance Coverage Claims from Complex Case (41)	<input type="checkbox"/> A6014 Insurance Coverage/Subrogation (complex case only)	1., 2., 5., 8.
Enforcement of Judgment (20)	<input type="checkbox"/> A6141 Sister State Judgment <input type="checkbox"/> A6160 Abstract of Judgment <input type="checkbox"/> A6107 Confession of Judgment (non-domestic relations) <input type="checkbox"/> A6140 Administrative Agency Award (not unpaid taxes) <input type="checkbox"/> A6114 Petition/Certificate for Entry of Judgment on Unpaid Tax <input type="checkbox"/> A6112 Other Enforcement of Judgment Case	2., 9. 2., 6. 2., 9. 2., 8. 2., 8. 2., 8., 9.
RICO (27)	<input type="checkbox"/> A6033 Racketeering (RICO) Case	1., 2., 8.
Other Complaints (Not Specified Above) (42)	<input type="checkbox"/> A6030 Declaratory Relief Only <input type="checkbox"/> A6040 Injunctive Relief Only (not domestic/harassment) <input type="checkbox"/> A6011 Other Commercial Complaint Case (non-tort/non-complex) <input type="checkbox"/> A6000 Other Civil Complaint (non-tort/non-complex)	1., 2., 8. 2., 8. 1., 2., 8. 1., 2., 8.
Partnership Corporation Governance(21)	<input type="checkbox"/> A6113 Partnership and Corporate Governance Case	2., 8.
Other Petitions (Not Specified Above) (43)	<input type="checkbox"/> A6121 Civil Harassment <input type="checkbox"/> A6123 Workplace Harassment <input type="checkbox"/> A6124 Elder/Dependent Adult Abuse Case <input type="checkbox"/> A6190 Election Contest <input type="checkbox"/> A6110 Petition for Change of Name <input type="checkbox"/> A6170 Petition for Relief from Late Claim Law <input type="checkbox"/> A6100 Other Civil Petition	2., 3., 9. 2., 3., 9. 2., 3., 9. 2. 2., 7. 2., 3., 4., 8. 2., 9.

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SHORT TITLE: Peo. v. Southern California Gas Company	CASE NUMBER
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Item III. Statement of Location: Enter the address of the accident, party's residence or place of business, performance, or other circumstance indicated in Item II., Step 3 on Page 1, as the proper reason for filing in the court location you selected.

REASON: CHECK THE NUMBER UNDER COLUMN C WHICH APPLIES IN THIS CASE <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 2. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 3. <input type="checkbox"/> 4. <input type="checkbox"/> 5. <input type="checkbox"/> 6. <input type="checkbox"/> 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 8. <input type="checkbox"/> 9. <input type="checkbox"/> 10.		ADDRESS: Porter Ranch
CITY: Los Angeles	STATE: CA	ZIP CODE: 90012

Item IV. Declaration of Assignment: I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing is true and correct and that the above-entitled matter is properly filed for assignment to the Stanley Mosk courthouse in the Central District of the Los Angeles Superior Court (Code Civ. Proc., § 392 et seq., and LASC Local Rule 2.0, subds. (b), (c) and (d)).

Dated: 12/07/2015


(SIGNATURE OF ATTORNEY/FILING PARTY)

PLEASE HAVE THE FOLLOWING ITEMS COMPLETED AND READY TO BE FILED IN ORDER TO PROPERLY COMMENCE YOUR NEW COURT CASE:

1. Original Complaint or Petition.
2. If filing a Complaint, a completed Summons form for issuance by the Clerk.
3. Civil Case Cover Sheet form CM-010.
4. Complete Addendum to Civil Case Cover Sheet form LASC Approved CIV 109 03-04 (Rev. 03/06).
5. Payment in full of the filing fee, unless fees have been waived.
6. Signed order appointing the Guardian ad Litem, JC form 982(a)(27), if the plaintiff or petitioner is a minor under 18 years of age, or if required by Court.
7. Additional copies of documents to be conformed by the Clerk. Copies of the cover sheet and this addendum must be served along with the summons and complaint, or other initiating pleading in the case.

12/07/2015