1 2 3 4 5	BRUCE G. FAGEL, State Bar No.1036 Law Offices of Bruce G. Fagel & Associates 100 N. Crescent Drive, Suite 360 Beverly Hills, California 90210 Telephone: 310-281-8700 Facsimile: 310-281-5656 E-mail BruceFagel@Fagellaw.com	E-FILED 1/12/2017 3:25:13 PM FRESNO COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT By: S. Lopez, Deputy
6	Attorneys for Plaintiffs	
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9	SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA	
10	FOR THE COUNTY OF FRESNO	
11	, a minor, By	Case No.17CECG00123
12	and Through her Guardian Ad Litem CINDY GARCIA, CINDY	COMPLAINT FOR DAMAGES
13	GARCIA, Individually	1. Negligence (Plaintiff
14	Plaintiffs,	2. Intentional Infliction
15	vs.	of Emotional Distress (Plaintiff
16	FRESNO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT, DOES 1-200	3. Intentional Infliction
17	Defendants.	of Emotional Distress (Plaintiff Cindy Garcia)
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19	Plaintiffs, through counsel,	allege in their Complaint
20	for Damages as follows:	
21	1. The true names, identities or capacities, whether	
22	individual, associate, corporate or otherwise of Defendants	
23	DOES 1 through 200, inclusive, are unknown to Plaintiffs	
24	who, therefore, sue said Defendants by such fictitious	
25	names. When the true names, identities or capacities of	
26	such fictitiously-designated Defendants are ascertained,	
27	Plaintiffs will ask leave of Cour	t to amend the Complaint

- 2. Plaintiff is informed and believe and thereon alleges that each of the Defendants sued herein as a DOE is responsible in some manner for the events and happenings herein referred to, thereby legally causing the injuries and damages to the Plaintiffs as herein alleged.
- 3. All of the facts, acts, events and circumstances herein mentioned and described occurred in the County of FRESNO, State of California, and all Defendants are residents of the County of FRESNO, State of California, doing business in said County, State of California.
- 4. At all times herein mentioned, Defendants DOES 1 through 100, inclusive, were, and now are, teachers, educators, student aides, counselors, and students, holding themselves out as duly licensed to practice their profession under and by virtue of the laws of the State of California and were, and now are, engaged in the practice of their profession in the State of California.
- 5. At all times herein mentioned, Defendants FRESNO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICTS and DOES 101 through 150, and each of them, were school districts, governmental entities, corporations, partnerships, joint ventures, or other entities or governmental entities or districts, organized and existing under the laws of the State of California, with their principal place of business situated in the State of California.

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6. On October 6, 2016, Plaintiff 9 caused to be served a government claim on the FRESNO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT, its SUPERINTENDENT and its GOVERNING BOARD pursuant to Government Code section 910 et seq.

On October 10, 2016, Plaintiffs and CINDY GARCIA caused to be served upon the Defendants an Amended Claim pursuant to Government Code section 310 et seq. to include the claims of CINDY GARCIA, which were not included in the original claim for injuries and damages. On November 9, 2016 the Board of Education for the Fresno Unified School District rejected this claim.

- 7. Defendants FRESNO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT and DOES 151 through 200, and each of them, at all times herein mentioned were institutions or controlled institutions of learning and education including elementary schools and special education schools and special needs schools in the City of Fresno who supervised, controlled and managed the day-to-day activities of their students during school hours, including meal times, and at all times herein mentioned supervised, controlled, managed, maintained and owned cleaning supplies for use on their premises for usual purposes.
- Plaintiffs are informed and believe and upon such information and belief allege that at all times herein mentioned, Defendants and other Defendants named fictitiously, were the agents, servants, employees, jointventurers, and copartners of their said co-Defendants and, as such, were acting within the course and scope of such

agency, service, partnership, venture, and employment at 1 all times herein mentioned; that each and every Defendant, as aforesaid, when acting as a principal, was negligent in 3 the selection and hiring of each and every other Defendant, 4 as its agent, servant, employee, joint-venturer and 5 partner. Further, each and every Defendant ratified the 6 conduct of the other Defendants. 7 I. 8 PLAINTIFF ALLEGES FOR A CAUSE OF ACTION FOR NEGLIGENCE AGAINST DEFENDANTS AND EACH OF THEM AS 10 FOLLOWS: 11 Plaintiff 9. repeats and repleads 12 each and every allegation contained in all prior paragraphs 13 and incorporates the same herein by reference. 14 10. On or about the date of the filing of the within 15 complaint CINDY GARCIA was appointed the guardian ad litem 16 of Plaintiff a minor, who was born 17 September 30, 2006. 18 11. On or about September 19, 2016, Plaintiff | 19 attended IRWIN O. ADDICOTT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL as a 5th 20 grade special needs student. 21 / / / 22 / / / 23 111 24 / / / 25 /// 26 27 / / /

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12. On or about September 19, 2016, Plaintiff, during her attendance as a 5th grade special needs student at IRWIN O. ADDICOTT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, and during regular school hours, Plaintiff was negligently and unknowingly to Plaintiffs administered bleach through her gastrostomy tube.

- 13. Immediately following the administration of bleach through Plaintiff's gastrostomy tube, no attempt was made by Defendants to contact any medical authority, contact poison control, call 911, seek an ambulance, transport Plaintiff to the hospital, or ascertain any kind of medical care or treatment.
- 14. As a direct and legal result of being administered a bleach solution through her gastrostomy tube, Plaintiff

 subsequently suffered attendant aspiration pneumonia, as well as severe gastritis throughout the stomach with multiple aphthous lesions and nodularity in the antrum, an edematous espophogus, ulceration of the gastroesophageal junction, erythema of the proximal stomach and aphthous lesions and extensive nodularity of the antrum, such that she now has, and will suffer in the future, pain and physical and emotional injuries, with permanent impairment to her trachea, esophagus, stomach and lungs.

- duty and a greater duty to Plaintiff as a student beyond that which each person generally owes others under Civil Code section 1714, to supervise and protect Plaintiff against foreseeable risks, to guard against perils that were reasonably foreseeable, to enforce rules and regulations necessary to Plaintiff's protection, and said Defendants, and each of them, agreed to do all things necessary to supervise, protect and guard Plaintiff from harm, injury, danger and risk.
- 16. Said Defendants, and each of them, had a legal duty, and a greater duty to Plaintiff as a student beyond that which each person generally owes others under Civil Code section 1714, to warn Plaintiff CINDY GARCIA, as guardian of minor and incapacitated Plaintiff

to the benefit of Plaintiffs, of the peril of having administered bleach through Plaintiff's gastrostomy tube once said Defendants, and each of them, created the foreseeable danger not readily discoverable by the

endangered Plaintiff , nor readily discoverable by her parents and guardians, including Plaintiff CINDY GARCIA.

- 17. Defendants, and each of them, negligently and carelessly supervised, protected and guarded Plaintiff from foreseeable harm, risk, danger and injury and negligently failed to enforce rules and regulations necessary to Plaintiff's protection; Said Defendants, and each of them, negligently failed to do all things necessary to supervise, protect and guard Plaintiff from harm, injury, danger and risk by administering bleach, a poisonous substance to Plaintiff through her gastrostomy tube.
- and carelessly supervised, protected and guarded from foreseeable harm, risk, danger and injury by Defendants, and each of them, when Defendants, and each of them, failed to immediately contact any medical authority, contact poison control, call 911, seek an ambulance, transport Plaintiff to the hospital, or ascertain any kind of medical care or treatment for the administration of bleach through Plaintiff's gastrostomy tube.
- 19. Defendants, and each of them, including agents and employees of the FRESNO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT, were negligent in contacting the incapacitated minor Plaintiff's parent and guardian, Plaintiff CINDY GARCIA, once Plaintiff became ill following the administration of bleach through her gastrostomy tube, including but not limited to Plaintiff vomiting white chunks, turning purple and

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becoming otherwise and apparently ill, and affirmatively and deliberately failing to advise Plaintiff CINDY GARCIA that Plaintiff had been administered bleach through her gastrostomy tube.

20. Said Defendants, and each of them, including agents and employees of FRESNO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT, including "Jack", were negligent in contacting Plaintiff CINDY GARCIA and leaving her a voice mail message on her phone advising her that her minor and incapacitated daughter, Plaintiff , had begun vomiting white chunks, and was "looking kind of purple," but that "[h]er stats are good, her heart is good, but she is still looking a little peaked right now," yet not advising Plaintiff CINDY GARCIA that bleach had been administered to Plaintiff through her gastrostomy tube; Said Defendants, and each of them, including agents and employees of FRESNO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT, including "Jack", were negligent in taking no action to address the harm and potential foreseeable harm caused by Defendants, and each of them, to contact any medical authority, contact poison control, call 911, seek an ambulance, transport Plaintiff to the hospital, or ascertain any kind of medical care or treatment, rather, Defendants, and each of them, negligently told Plaintiff CINDY GARCIA, via voice mail message, simply that her daughter was ill; Plaintiff was given no knowledge of the actual peril or danger her minor and incapacitated daughter was in, she was simply told by Defendants, and each of them, "[J]ust give me a call and

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let me know what you want us to do."

- 21. Plaintiff CINDY GARCIA contacted IRWIN O. ADDICOTT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL immediately upon receiving the missed call from IRWIN O. ADDICOTT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, before the voice mail message from "Jack" had even registered on her phone. Plaintiff CINDY GARCIA's call was answered by Office Secretary FiFi who advised Plaintiff that she was unsure of who called her, but that she would find out. Before the call ended, Plaintiff's phone indicated a voice mail message had been left. Plaintiff immediately hung up with Office Secretary FiFi, advising her she would listen to the message.
- 22. Upon receiving the voice mail message from "Jack" indicating that Plaintiff had been vomiting white chunks, was "looking kind of purple," and that "she is still looking a little peaked right now," but not advising Plaintiff CINDY GARCIA that Plaintiff had been administered bleach through her gastrostomy tube. Plaintiff CINDY GARCIA immediately went to IRWIN O
- tube, Plaintiff CINDY GARCIA immediately went to IRWIN O.
 ADDICOTT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL to tend to her minor
 incapacitated daughter, to assess her and determine if
 medical attention was needed.
- 23. Upon arriving at IRWIN O. ADDICOTT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, Plaintiff was met in the parking lot by Principal Katrina Pleshe who stayed with Plaintiff while she took her young son out of her vehicle, and accompanied Plaintiff into the school. At no point during the time in the parking lot or while she accompanied Plaintiff into the

school did Principal Katrina Pleshe advise Plaintiff that bleach had been administered to Plaintiff through her gastrostomy tube. Defendants, and each of them, including agents and employees of the FRESNO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT, including Principal Katrina Pleshe, were negligent in failing to advise Plaintiff CINDY GARCIA during this time in the parking lot and while accompanying her into the school, that Defendants, and each of them, had administered bleach to Plaintiff through her gastrostomy tube.

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24. Upon entering the school, accompanied by Principal Katrina Pleshe, Plaintiff CINDY GARCIA was brought to her minor and incapacitated daughter Plaintiff who was in the front office of the school with Office Secretary FiFi, "Jack" who had left the aforementioned voice mail on Plaintiff's phone, School Nurse Jessica, Plaintiff's Classroom Teacher Faree and Teacher Aide Diane. "Jack" advised Plaintiff again that the minor Plaintiff had vomited white chunks. Teacher Aide Diane then said that the vomit smelled. This caused Plaintiff to approach her minor and incapacitated daughter, at which point she smelled a strong odor of bleach. Defendants, and each of them, had actual and constructive knowledge that the minor and incapacitated Plaintiff had been administered bleach through her gastrostomy tube, yet, no one in the room, including Defendants, and each of them, told Plaintiff CINDY GARCIA this information. This deliberate and affirmative failure to warn Plaintiff of the peril, harm

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- 25. Plaintiff CINDY GARCIA stated that she would take the minor Plaintiff to the hospital, and Principal Katrina Pleshe insisted Teacher Aide Diane accompany Plaintiffs to the hospital. Plaintiff then left the office and the school building with the minor and incapacitated Plaintiff and Teacher Aide Diane, and was accompanied out of the building by Principal Katrina Pleshe. It was at this time, once it had been decided that Plaintiff CINDY GARCIA would be bringing her minor Plaintiff daughter immediately to the hospital for medical attention, and that she would be accompanied by someone from the school, that Principal Katrina Pleshe finally advised Plaintiff CINDY GARCIA that an incident may have occurred wherein the minor Plaintiff may have been administered a bleach solution through her gastrostomy tube. No information was provided relating to which individual had administered the bleach solution, what the concentration of the bleach solution was, when the bleach solution had been administered, or how much of the bleach solution had been administered.
- 26. Plaintiff then rushed to secure her children in her vehicle for transport to the hospital. At this time, Defendants, and each of them, including agents and employees of FRESNO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT, including "Jack", exited the school building and approached Plaintiff

at her vehicle in the lot and advised Plaintiff that an incident may have occurred wherein the minor Plaintiff may have been administered a bleach solution through her gastrostomy tube, and asked if she wished for an ambulance to be called. No information was provided relating to which individual had administered the bleach solution, what the concentration of the bleach solution was, when the bleach solution had been administered, or how much of the bleach solution had been administered.

- 27. While Plaintiff was under the sole and exclusive care and control of the Defendants, and each of them, Defendants, and each of them negligently, carelessly and unskillfully handled and controlled the Plaintiff herein, thereby proximately causing injuries and damages to Plaintiff, including suffering attendant aspiration pneumonia, as well as severe gastritis throughout the stomach with multiple aphthous lesions and nodularity in the antrum, an edematous esophagus, ulceration of the gastroesophageal junction, erythema of the proximal stomach, aphthous lesions and extensive nodularity of the antrum, such that she now has, and will suffer in the future, pain and physical and emotional injuries.
- 28. Defendants, and each of them, negligently failed to and neglected to adequately select competent staff and to periodically review the competency of its staff, and failed to adequately monitor its staff such that the Plaintiffs were caused to, and did, suffer injuries and damages as alleged herein.

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- 29. Said Defendants were further negligent in the supervision of their employees in that the Defendant negligently trained and supervised the staff at IRWIN O. ADDICOTT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, such that severe injury was caused to Plaintiff during her school day;
- 30. Said Defendants were further negligent and failed to give and obtain informed consent from Plaintiff or her parents as it relates to being fed or administered water/fluids, including the risks and dangers involved in such activity.
- 31. Said Defendants and their employees and agents including were negligent in the storage of feeding supplies such that feeding supplies and apparent cleaning supplies allowing for the negligent switching of feeding supplies with cleaning supplies.
- 32. As a legal result of the negligence of the Defendants, and each of them, Plaintiff was injured in her health, strength and activity, sustaining severe shock, and injury to Plaintiff's body, including suffering attendant aspiration pneumonia, as well as severe gastritis throughout the stomach with multiple aphthous lesions and nodularity in the antrum, an edematous esophagus, ulceration of the gastroesophageal junction, erythema of the proximal stomach, aphthous lesions and extensive nodularity of the antrum, such that she now has, and will suffer in the future, pain and physical and emotional injuries, with permanent impairment to her trachea, esophagus, stomach and lungs, all of which said injuries

- 33. As a further legal result of the negligence of the Defendants, and each of them, and the resulting injuries to the Plaintiff, said Plaintiff was compelled to, and did, incur expenses for medical and surgical attention, hospitalization, nursing, medication and incidentals for said Plaintiff in an amount unknown to Plaintiff at present.
- 34. As a further legal result of the negligence of the Defendants, and each of them, and of the resulting injuries, Plaintiff will be obliged to incur expenses for medical care and hospitalization for an indefinite period in the future and to pay for these expenses in the treatment and relief of injuries for medical and surgical attention, hospitalization, nursing, medication, and incidentals for said Plaintiff in an amount unknown to Plaintiff at present.
- 35. As a further legal result of the negligence of the Defendants, and each of them, Plaintiff has suffered loss of earnings and will suffer a decreased earnings and earning capacity in the future and future earnings to Plaintiff's further damage in a sum unknown at present.

PLAINTIFF ALLEGES FOR A CAUSE OF ACTION FOR INTENTIONAL INFLICTION OF EMOTIONAL DISTRESS AGAINST DEFENDANTS AND EACH OF THEM AS FOLLOWS:

- and repleads each and every allegation contained in the previous cause of action and incorporates the same herein by reference.
- 37. Defendants, and each of them, were all in a position of authority and trust and knew that Plaintiff was in an extremely vulnerable position with respect to her relying entirely on Defendants, and each of them, for her security, safety and well-being during school hours, and for communicating to her mother, Plaintiff CINDY GARCIA, any harm, danger, peril or injury she may have endured during school hours.
- 38. Plaintiff was aware, though unable to communicate, that she had been administered a poison through her gastrostomy tube, rather than nutrients or water, as she is and was aware of her body's reaction thereto, despite her inability to communicate this.
- 39. Defendants, and each of them knew, as those who created the danger of administering bleach through Plaintiff gastrostomy tube, that Plaintiff was in need of immediate medical attention, yet they deliberately and intentionally did not contact any medical authority, call 911, contact poison control, seek an ambulance, transport Plaintiff to the hospital, or ascertain any kind of medical care or

42. The conduct of the Defendants, and each of them,

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COMPLAINT FOR DAMAGES

which said injuries Plaintiff is informed and believes, and

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PLAINTIFF CINDY GARCIA ALLEGES FOR A CAUSE OF ACTION
FOR INTENTIONAL INFLICTION OF EMOTIONAL DISTRESS
AGAINST DEFENDANTS AND EACH OF THEM AS FOLLOWS:

- 53. Plaintiff repeats and repleads each and every allegation contained in the previous causes of action and incorporates the same herein by reference.
- 54. Defendants, and each of them, were all in a position of authority and trust and knew that Plaintiff CINDY GARCIA was in an extremely vulnerable position with respect to her minor and incapacitated child being under the complete control of Defendants, and each of them, during school hours.
- 55. Defendants, and each of them, knew, as those who created the danger of administering bleach through Plaintiff gastrostomy tube, that intentionally and deliberately failing to advise Plaintiff CINDY GARCIA of the fact that Plaintiff had been administered bleach through her gastrostomy tube would result in a delay in Plaintiff receiving the care and treatment that she needed, and Defendants, and each of them, knew that delaying care and treatment of Plaintiff would result in harm to the Plaintiffs herein due to extreme and severe emotional distress.
- 56. Despite the extremely vulnerable position of Plaintiffs, said Defendants gave little or no thought to the probable effects of their conduct and were concerned

- 57. The conduct of the Defendants, and each of them, as herein alleged in knowingly and deliberately concealing the true facts from Plaintiff CINDY GARCIA and conspiring among themselves to conceal the true facts from Plaintiff and to make no attempt to contact any medical authority, call 911, contact poison control, seek an ambulance, transport Plaintiff to the hospital, or ascertain any kind of medical care or treatment, thereby substantially delaying care and was outrageous and was intended to cause, or the Defendants acted with reckless disregard of the probability that Plaintiff CINDY GARCIA would suffer, severe emotional distress as herein alleged.
- 58. The conduct of the Defendants, and each of them, as herein alleged in knowingly and deliberately concealing the true facts from Plaintiff CINDY GARCIA and conspiring among themselves to conceal such facts was so outrageous and extreme as to exceed all bounds of decency in a civilized community.
- 59. The above acts, including knowingly and deliberately concealing the true facts from Plaintiff CINDY

GARCIA were intended to cause and did cause such emotional distress in Plaintiff, and said Defendants, and each of them, acted with a reckless disregard of the probability that Plaintiff CINDY GARCIA would suffer emotional distress.

- 60. As a direct result of the conduct of said Defendants, and each of them, Plaintiff CINDY GARCIA suffered severe emotional distress, and such conduct was a substantial factor in causing the severe emotional distress as suffered by Plaintiff CINDY GARCIA.
- 61. That the conduct of the Defendants, and each of them, was outrageous and was conduct so extreme, oppressive, malicious, despicable and fraudulent, and carried on by the Defendants with a willful and conscious disregard of the rights and safety of others, that it went beyond all possible bounds of decency and such conduct is intolerable in a civilized community.
- 62. That Plaintiff CINDY GARCIA did in fact suffer severe emotional distress.
- 63. As a legal result of the acts of the Defendants, and each of them, Plaintiff CINDY GARCIA was caused to suffer severe emotional and nervous pain and suffering, and which said injuries Plaintiff is informed and believes, and thereon alleges, will result in loss of earnings, permanent disability, loss of enjoyment of life, and impairment of earning capacity all to Plaintiff's damage in a sum in excess of the jurisdiction of the Municipal Court.
 - 64. As a further legal result of the acts of the

- 65. As a further legal result of the acts of the Defendants, and each of them, and the resulting emotional distress, Plaintiff CINDY GARCIA will be obliged to incur expenses for medical care and hospitalization for an indefinite period in the future and to pay for these expenses in the treatment and relief of injuries for medical and surgical attention, hospitalization, nursing, medication and incidentals for said Plaintiff in an amount unknown to Plaintiff at present.
- 66. As a further legal result of the acts of the Defendants, and each of them, and the resulting emotional distress, Plaintiff CINDY GARCIA has suffered loss of earnings and will suffer a decreased earning capacity in the future, and future earnings to Plaintiff's further damage in a sum unknown at present.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff pray for damages against the Defendants, and each of them, as follows:

FOR THE CAUSE OF ACTION FOR NEGLIGENCE:

- 1. General Damages, according to proof;
- 2. For all special damages according to proof;
- 3. For costs of suit incurred herein;

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FOR