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12 **UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT**

13 **DISTRICT OF NEVADA**

14 ANGELA WILLIAMS; JANE DOE;

15 Plaintiffs,

16 v.

17 STEVE SISOLAK, Governor of Nevada, in  
his official capacity; AARON FORD,  
18 Attorney General of Nevada, in his official  
capacity; THE CITY OF LAS VEGAS;  
19 CLARK COUNTY; NYE COUNTY;  
CHICKEN RANCH; JAMAL RASHID;  
20 MALLY MALL MUSIC, LLC, FUTURE  
MUSIC, LLC, PF SOCIAL MEDIA  
21 MANAGEMENT, LLC, E.P. SANCTUARY  
BLU MAGIC MUSIC, LLC, EXCLUSIVE  
22 BEAUTY LOUNGE, LLC, FIRST

Case No:

**COMPLAINT FOR  
DECLARATORY AND  
INJUNCTIVE RELIEF**

**JURY TRIAL DEMANDED**

1 INVESTMENT PROPERTY LLC, V.I.P.  
2 ENTERTAINMENT, LLC, MP3  
3 PRODUCTIONS, INC., & MMM  
PRODUCTIONS, INC.

4 Defendants.

5 **COMPLAINT**

6 **INTRODUCTION**

7 1. It is axiomatic that the right to be free from slavery is among the most basic of  
8 human rights: uncontested in international law, and enshrined in the United States Constitution  
9 at significant cost.

10 2. Yet it is a right numerous women and girls are denied in Nevada, where they  
11 are bought and sold in a glamorized, lucrative monument to male sexual entitlement: the state's  
12 prostitution industrial complex.

13 3. Nevada has cooperated with the City of Las Vegas, Clark County, Nye County,  
14 the Chicken Ranch, Jamal Rashid; Mally Mall Music, LLC, Future Music, LLC, PF Social  
15 Media Management, LLC, E.P. Sanctuary, Blu Magic Music, LLC, Exclusive Beauty Lounge,  
16 LLC, First Investment Property LLC, V.I.P. Entertainment, LLC; MP3 Productions, Inc., and  
17 MMM Productions, Inc. to maintain and profit from a legalized system of prostitution –  
18 explicit in certain counties, and de facto elsewhere.

19 4. Plaintiffs Angela Williams and Jane Doe were sex trafficked due to that system  
20 of legalized prostitution, that is, they were induced to engage in commercial sex acts through  
21 force, fraud, and coercion – including psychological manipulation and debt bondage – in legal  
22 strip clubs, legal escort businesses, and a legal brothel operating in Nevada.

23 5. The collusion of the State of Nevada, its political subdivisions, and private  
24

1 businesses in the sex trade, which have in turn failed to enforce or violated state and federal  
2 laws against prostitution, prostitution advertising, debt bondage, and sex trafficking, has  
3 allowed sex traffickers to operate in Nevada with impunity.

4 6. As victims of sex trafficking, Plaintiffs were diminished to a status in which  
5 their sex traffickers and buyers exercised powers of ownership over them—that is, a condition  
6 of slavery.

7 7. Under the Thirteenth Amendment, states cannot create conditions that allow  
8 slavery or involuntary servitude to flourish, including in the form of sex trafficking. By  
9 providing legal cover for the sex trade, that is precisely what Nevada has done.

10 8. Additionally, neither states nor private parties may perpetrate or benefit from  
11 slavery under the Trafficking Victims Protection Act, yet the Defendants have done so –  
12 through direct revenues, taxes, and licensing fees.

13 9. Because Defendants have facilitated and profited from sex trafficking, violating  
14 the Thirteenth Amendment’s ban on slavery and involuntary servitude, and the Trafficking  
15 Victims Protection Act, Plaintiffs now seek to hold them accountable for these human rights  
16 violations.

17 **JURISDICTION AND VENUE**

18 10. This civil rights action raises federal questions under the Thirteenth  
19 Amendment to the United States Constitution, and the Trafficking Victims Protection  
20 Reauthorization Act, 18 U.S.C. §§ 1591–95.

21 11. This Court has original jurisdiction over these federal claims under 28 U.S.C.  
22 §§ 1331 and 1343.



1 will agree to reveal their identity to the Defendants for the limited purpose of investigating  
2 Plaintiff's claims once the parties are governed by a protective order. Plaintiff simply seeks  
3 redaction of Plaintiff's personal identifying information from the public docket and assurances  
4 that Defendants will not use or publish Plaintiff's identity in a manner that will compromise  
5 her personal life or future employment prospects.

6         20. Plaintiff's motion for a protective order and leave to proceed pseudonymously  
7 is forthcoming.

8         21. Defendant Steve Sisolak is the Governor of Nevada, ultimately responsible for  
9 enforcing Nevada's laws and regulations, and is sued in his official capacity.

10         22. Defendant Aaron Ford is the Attorney General of Nevada, who is authorized to  
11 enforce and prosecute violations of Nevada's laws and regulations, and is sued in his official  
12 capacity.

13         23. Defendants Sisolak and Ford will be referred to here as "State Defendants."

14         24. Defendant City of Las Vegas is a municipal corporation authorized under  
15 Nevada law with the power to sue and be sued, to issue licenses and otherwise regulate escort  
16 agencies and related businesses, and to enact and enforce certain ordinances challenged in this  
17 lawsuit.

18         25. Defendant Clark County is a municipal corporation authorized under Nevada  
19 law with the power to sue and be sued, to issue licenses and otherwise regulate escort agencies  
20 and related businesses, and to enact and enforce certain ordinances challenged in this lawsuit.

21         26. Defendant Nye County is a municipal corporation authorized under Nevada law  
22 with the power to sue and be sued, to issue licenses and otherwise regulate brothels within the  
23 county, and to enact and enforce certain ordinances challenged in this lawsuit.

24

1           27. Defendants City of Las Vegas, Clark County, and Nye County will be referred  
2 to here as “City Defendants.”

3           28. Defendant Jamal Rashid, also known as “Mally Mall,” is an individual currently  
4 residing at Federal Correctional Institution Sheridan, 27072 Ballston Road, Sheridan, OR  
5 97378.

6           29. Defendant Mally Mall Music, LLC is a company located at 2764 N Green  
7 Valley Pkwy #400, Henderson, NV, 89014, whose registered agent is Jennifer Paone. The  
8 managing member is Jamal Rashid, addressed at 2764 N Green Valley Pkwy #400, Henderson,  
9 NV, 89014.

10           30. Defendant Future Music, LLC is a company located at 2764 N Green Valley  
11 Pkwy #400, Henderson, NV, 89014, whose registered agent is Jennifer Paone. The managing  
12 member is Jamal Rashid, located at 2764 N Green Valley Pkwy #400, Henderson, NV, 89014.

13           31. Defendant PF Social Media Management, LLC is a company located at 2764 N  
14 Green Valley Pkwy #400, Henderson, NV, 89014, whose registered agent is Jamal Rashid.

15           32. Defendant Blu Magic Music, LLC is a company located at 2764 N Green Valley  
16 Pkwy #400, Henderson, NV, 89014, whose registered agent is Jennifer Paone. The managing  
17 member is Jamal Rashid, located at 2764 N Green Valley Pkwy #400, Henderson, NV, 89014.

18           33. Defendant Exclusive Beauty Lounge, LLC is a company located at 2764 N  
19 Green Valley Pkwy #400, Henderson, NV, 89014, whose managing members are Jamal Rashid  
20 and Tarnita Woodard.

21           34. Defendant First Investment Property LLC is a company located at 2764 N Green  
22 Valley Pkwy #400, Henderson, NV, 89014, whose registered agent is Jennifer Paone. The  
23 managing member is Jamal Rashid, located at 2764 N Green Valley Pkwy #400, Henderson,  
24

1 NV, 89014.

2 35. Defendant V.I.P. Entertainment, LLC is a company located at 2764 N Green  
3 Valley Pkwy #400, Henderson, NV, 89014, whose registered agent is Tarnita Woodard. The  
4 managing member is John Williams, addressed at 528 S. Casino Center Blvd #300, Las Vegas,  
5 NV, 89101.

6 36. Defendant MP3 Productions, Inc. is a company located at 4730 S. Fort Apache  
7 Rd., Suite 300, Las Vegas, NV, 89147, whose registered agent is Nevada Corporate  
8 Headquarters, Inc. The managing member is Tarnita Woodard, located at 1452 W Horizon  
9 Ridge Pkwy #121, Henderson, NV, 89012.

10 37. Defendant MMM Productions, Inc. is a company located at 2520 St. Rose Pkwy  
11 Ste 319, Henderson, NV, 89074, whose registered agent is United Corporate Headquarters, Inc.  
12 The managing member is Jamal Rashid, located at 420 Lexington Ave., Suite 1756, New York,  
13 NY, 10170.

14 38. Defendant E.P. Sanctuary is a non-profit located at 2764 N Green Valley Pkwy  
15 #400, Henderson, NV, 89014, whose registered agent is Jamal Rashid.

16 39. The corporations above are incorporated and/or licensed under Nevada law with  
17 the power to sue and be sued.<sup>1</sup>

18 40. On information and belief, while not all of the companies listed are Mr.  
19 Rashid's escort ventures, all of the companies received or currently receive revenue and  
20 engaged in profit sharing with the escort companies. They also raise concerns of commingling  
21 assets and self-dealing.

22 41. Defendants Mally Mall Music, LLC, Future Music, LLC, PF Social Media

23 \_\_\_\_\_  
24 <sup>1</sup> A revoked or dissolved company can still be sued. *See* NEV. REV. STAT. §§ 86-274(5), & 86-505.

1 Management, LLC, E.P. Sanctuary, Blu Magic Music, LLC, Exclusive Beauty Lounge, LLC,  
2 First Investment Property LLC, V.I.P. Entertainment, LLC, MP3 Productions, Inc., and MMM  
3 Productions, Inc. are legally affiliated with Defendant Jamal Rashid and will be referenced  
4 here with Rashid as “Escort Agency Defendants.”

5 42. Defendant Chicken Ranch is a legal brothel located at 10511 Homestead Rd,  
6 Pahrump, NV 89061. Defendant Chicken Ranch will be referenced here with the Escort  
7 Agency Defendants as “Sex Industry Defendants.”

## 8 BACKGROUND

### 9 *The US sex trade in historical context*

#### 10 *Sex trafficking and chattel slavery*

11 43. For over three hundred years, African people and their descendants were  
12 bought, sold, and used in chattel slavery in the Americas, that is, they were legally considered  
13 property, and were subjected to untold abuses, including torture, murder, family separation,  
14 coercion, and exploitation of their labor.

15 44. Sex slavery was a part of chattel slavery in the American South. White men  
16 subjected enslaved women and girls to rape and sexual abuse and harassment as a matter of  
17 course,<sup>2</sup> and women and girls were also sold specifically for prostitution in the  
18 euphemistically-named “fancy” trade.<sup>3</sup>

19 45. Ellen Brooks was one such woman, bought by Bruckner Payne, to be a  
20 seamstress (a euphemism), who abused her so badly that she died two weeks later.<sup>4</sup> Enslaved  
21

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22 <sup>2</sup> Neal Kumar Katyal, *Men Who Own Women: A Thirteenth Amendment Critique of Forced Prostitution*, 103 Yale  
L.J. 791, 796–803 (1993).

23 <sup>3</sup> Edward E. Baptist, “Cuffy,” “Fancy Maids,” and “One-Eyed Men”: *Rape, Commodification, and The Domestic  
Slave Trade in the United States*, 106 AM. HIST. REV. 1619, 1619–22 (2001).

24 <sup>4</sup> Walter Johnson, *Soul by Soul: Life Inside the Antebellum Slave Market* 115 (Harvard University Press, 1999).



1 women and girls were also forced to work in or manage brothels, and give their owners the  
2 fees they got from sex buyers.<sup>5</sup>

3 46. In Louisiana, some sisters were raised as free daughters of a white planter and  
4 his mixed-race mistress. Their father did not establish their legal status, as their mother warned  
5 him to do, before he died. His creditors insisted that the sisters were legally slaves and refused  
6 their uncle's attempt to buy their freedom; they were sold into the New Orleans sex slavery  
7 market to pay for their father's debts.<sup>6</sup>

8 47. In Alexandria, Virginia, Isaac Franklin and John Armfield had the largest,  
9 wealthiest slave trading firm in the United States in the 1820s and 1830s.<sup>7</sup> Franklin was one  
10 of the main pimps for the New Orleans sex trafficking market.<sup>8</sup> Both men joked in their letters  
11 to each other about the women they routinely raped.<sup>9</sup>

12 48. This pervasive, commercialized sexual violence was not only admitted by the  
13 perpetrators, but decried by several abolitionists. Harriet Jacobs, a formerly enslaved woman,  
14 wrote that as a 15-year-old, she was subjected to daily sexual abuse at the hands of her owner.<sup>10</sup>  
15 Frederick Douglass called slave owners legalized brothel keepers, and averred that at least a  
16 million enslaved women were "consigned to a life of revolting prostitution" in the South.<sup>11</sup>

17 \_\_\_\_\_  
18 <sup>5</sup> Judith Schafer, *Brothels, Depravity and Abandoned Women: Illegal Sex in Antebellum New Orleans* 11 LA. STATE  
UNIV. PRESS (2009).

<sup>6</sup> 2 Harriet Martineau, *Society in America* 115-16, (Julia Miller ed., Project Gutenberg 2016) (1837).

19 <sup>7</sup> Hannah Natanson, *They were Once America's Cruellest, Richest Slave Traders. Why Does No One Know Their*  
*Names?*, WASHINGTON POST (Sept. 14, 2019, 7:00 AM),  
20 <https://www.washingtonpost.com/history/2019/09/14/they-were-once-americas-cruellest-richest-slave-traders-why-does-no-one-know-their-names/>.

<sup>8</sup> Baptist, *supra* note 2, at 1619.

21 <sup>9</sup> Natanson, *supra* note 6.

<sup>10</sup> Cheryl Nelson Butler, *The Racial Roots of Human Trafficking*, 62 UCLA L. REV. 1464, 1473–75 (2015).

22 <sup>11</sup> Kataly, *supra* note 1, at 799 (quoting *Frederick Douglass Discusses Slavery, 1850, in A Documentary History*  
*of the Negro People in the United States* 309, 313 (Herbert Aptheker ed., 2d ed. 1969))("I hold myself ready to  
23 prove that more than a million of women, in the Southern States of this Union, are, by the laws of the land, and  
through no fault of their own, consigned to a life of revolting prostitution .... I am also prepared to prove that slave  
24 breeding is relied upon by Virginia as one of her chief sources of wealth. It has long been known that the best  
blood of old Virginia may now be found in the slave markets of New Orleans. It is also known that slave women

1           49.     One proslavery advocate confessed as much, writing: “The fact is, that, in the  
2 Southern States, the prostitutes of the communities are usually slaves, unless they are imported  
3 from the free states. The negro and the colored woman in the south, supply the place, which  
4 at the north is usually filled with factory and serving girls.”<sup>12</sup>

5           *The Thirteenth Amendment*

6           50.     The Thirteenth Amendment was ratified in 1865, following the Civil War, to  
7 abolish slavery and involuntary servitude, except as a punishment for a crime.

8           51.     After the Amendment was ratified, Southern states attempted to evade its  
9 implications, including through allowing debt bondage, that is, compelled or voluntary labor to  
10 repay a debt. Congress then passed the Peonage Act in 1867, banning debt bondage.<sup>13</sup>

11          52.     The United States Supreme Court also clarified the Amendment’s application  
12 was not limited to the enslavement of black people in the American South, but to all persons,  
13 and to any form of slavery or involuntary servitude.<sup>14</sup>

14          53.     Southern states then started enacting criminal fraud statutes. For example, a  
15 person who entered into a written contract for services in Alabama, received payment, and then  
16 failed to do the work or return the money could be charged with criminal fraud.<sup>15</sup>

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19 \_\_\_\_\_  
20 who are nearly white, are sold in those markets, at prices which proclaim, trumpet-tongued, the accursed purposes  
21 to which they are to be devoted. Youth and elegance, beauty and innocence, are exposed for sale upon the auction  
22 block; while villainous monsters stand around, with pockets lined with gold, gazing with lustful eyes upon their  
23 prospective victims[.]”.

21 <sup>12</sup> W. Gilmore Simms, *The Morals of Slavery*, 39-40; reprinted in THE PRO-SLAVERY ARGUMENT 175, 2230  
(Lippincott, Grambo, & Co. 1853), <https://archive.org/details/proslaveryargum00unkngoog/page/n239/mode/2up>.

22 <sup>13</sup> 42 U.S.C. § 1994. See also 42 U.S. Code § 1994-Peonage Abolished, CORNELL L. SCH.,  
<https://www.law.cornell.edu/uscode/text/42/1994> (last visited July 14, 2021).

23 <sup>14</sup> See, e.g., *The Slaughterhouse Cases*, 83 U.S. (16 Wall.) 36 (1873).

24 <sup>15</sup> *Bailey v. Alabama*, 219 U.S. 219, 227–28 (1911). There was an intent requirement: you had to intend to injure  
or defraud the employer, but with a significant caveat: simply failing to provide the services – for whatever reason  
– was considered evidence of intent to commit fraud.

1           54. The Supreme Court held that Alabama’s law violated the Thirteenth  
2 Amendment, because threatening criminal penalties for failure to perform a contract was a way  
3 to indirectly coerce labor through debt bondage.<sup>16</sup>

4           55. Alabama tried to argue that the law was merely a neutral fraud statute, but the  
5 Court reasoned that using apparently neutral statutes that had the effect – through the  
6 independent actions of third parties – of perpetuating slavery violated the Thirteenth  
7 Amendment.<sup>17</sup>

8 *Feminist activism and legal reforms*

9           56. Many abolitionists were also active in movements to secure women’s rights.  
10 Feminist activism in the late 1800s and early 1900s was concerned with preventing men’s  
11 violence against women, including statutory rape, domestic violence, and prostitution.<sup>18</sup>

12           57. In particular, activists focused on stopping what they called “white slavery” –  
13 that is, women and girls being forced, coerced, or defrauded into prostitution.

14           58. Despite the characterization of sex trafficking as a danger primarily to white  
15 women, which was often fueled by racism, women of color remained very vulnerable to  
16 commercial sexual exploitation after the Thirteenth Amendment was enacted.

17           59. During the Jim Crow era, red light districts were placed in black neighborhoods,  
18 and segregation did not stop white men from frequenting them.<sup>19</sup>

19  
20  
21 <sup>16</sup> *Bailey v. Alabama*, 219 U.S. 219, 238-242, 245 (1911).

22 <sup>17</sup> *Id.*

23 <sup>18</sup> See, e.g., Bonnie Shucha, *White Slavery in the Northwoods: Early U.S. Anti-Sex Trafficking*  
24 *and its Continuing Relevance to Trafficking Reform*, 23 Wm. & Mary J. Race, Gender, & Soc. Just. 75, 75–76  
(2016); Jane E. Larson, “*Even a Worm Will Turn at Last*”: *Rape Reform in Late Nineteenth-Century America*, 9  
YALE J. L. & HUMANS. 1, 2–4 (1997); Katyal, *supra* note 1, at 805–06.

<sup>19</sup> Vednita Nelson, *Prostitution: Where Racism & Sexism Intersect*, 1 MICH. J. GENDER & L. 81, 84 n.14 (1993).  
See also Anna Julia Cooper, *A Voice from the South* 12 (1891) (noting the need for a White Cross league – an  
anti-prostitution organization which focused its efforts on men – for black women and girls).

1           60.     A similar story played out in the North, with Southern black women being  
2 promised big city factory jobs and then forced into prostitution when they arrived.<sup>20</sup>

3           61.     Additionally, Chinese women were trafficked into the United States for purposes  
4 of prostitution,<sup>21</sup> into situations recognized as slavery by the Ninth Circuit in at least one case.<sup>22</sup>

5           62.     For many key feminist activists in the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries  
6 campaigning against prostitution as a form of men’s violence against women was central to  
7 their advocacy.

8           63.     One of these was the prominent physician and theologian Katharine Bushnell, a  
9 spokesperson for the Women’s Christian Temperance Union, who spent several years opposing  
10 the prostitution of Chinese women and girls in the San Francisco area, who were exploited by  
11 Chinese traffickers and white male buyers.<sup>23</sup>

12           64.     Some women and girls were auctioned off for prostitution at San Francisco’s  
13 wharf, well after slavery had been outlawed in the United States.<sup>24</sup>

14           65.     Women formed a mission house as a refuge for prostituted women and girls,  
15 facing down pressure from white city officials and Chinese organized crime.

16           66.     Bushnell similarly investigated and exposed the sex trafficking of women and  
17 girls into Wisconsin in the 1880s, where many brothels were attached to logging camps.<sup>25</sup>

18 \_\_\_\_\_  
19 <sup>20</sup> Butler, *supra* note 9, at 1490.

20 <sup>21</sup> See, e.g., *Id.* at 1480.

21 <sup>22</sup> The court found that this fact did not enable them to prevent enforcement of immigration laws. *United States*  
22 *v. Ah Sou*, 138 F. 775, 777–78 (9th Cir. 1905) (“The fact that the deportation of a Chinese slave girl illegally  
23 brought into this country for purposes of prostitution by her master, from whom she subsequently escaped, would  
24 result in remanding her to slavery and degradation, affords no ground upon which the courts can refuse to enforce  
the statute.”).

25 <sup>23</sup> Dana Hardwick, *San Francisco and ‘Social Hygiene,’* in *Oh Thou Woman that Bringest Good Tidings*, 73-75  
(2002).

<sup>24</sup> Anna Diamond, *The Women Who Waged War Against Sex Trafficking in San Francisco*, SMITHSONIAN  
MAGAZINE (May 8, 2019), <https://www.smithsonianmag.com/history/women-banded-together-fight-slavery-san-francisco-180972113/>.

<sup>25</sup> See, e.g., Bonnie Shucha, *White Slavery in the Northwoods: Early U.S. Anti-Sex Trafficking and Its Continuing*  
*Relevance to Trafficking Reform*, 23 Wm. & Mary J. Women & L. 75 (2016).

1           67.     Bushnell also worked with Josephine Butler, an abolitionist and women’s rights  
2 activist, to combat the exploitation of women and girls through prostitution in other countries  
3 as well, including China, India, and the United Kingdom.

4           68.     For example, in nineteenth century Britain, Josephine Butler’s campaign to  
5 eradicate the Contagious Diseases Act centered on the fact that the process was invasive,  
6 degrading, and stigmatizing. The testing of alleged prostituted women, and not male buyers,  
7 highlighted the disparity between the prostituted and those exploiting them. It not only  
8 neglected the harm of prostitution itself but compounded its harm by only protecting the male  
9 buyer. It was successfully repealed in 1886.<sup>26</sup>

10          69.     In 1910, Congress passed the Mann Act, which criminalized the interstate or  
11 foreign transport of women and girls for prostitution purposes.<sup>27</sup> Congressional reports from  
12 that time show that Congress considered what they termed “forced prostitution” to be a form  
13 of slavery.<sup>28</sup>

14          70.     Between 1904 and 1949, a number of international treaties also sought to  
15 address the sex trafficking of women and girls, assuming a direct connection between  
16 prostitution and exploitation.<sup>29</sup>

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18 <sup>26</sup> Josephine Butler, *Josephine Butler and the Prostitution Campaigns: Diseases of the Bodily Politic* (Jane  
Jordan & Ingrid Sharp eds., 2004), [https://www.routledgehistoricalresources.com/feminism/sets/josephine-  
butler-and-the-prostitution-campaigns](https://www.routledgehistoricalresources.com/feminism/sets/josephine-butler-and-the-prostitution-campaigns).

19 <sup>27</sup> *Mann Act*, CORNELL L. SCH., [https://www.law.cornell.edu/wex/mann\\_act](https://www.law.cornell.edu/wex/mann_act) (last visited Apr. 21, 2021).

20 <sup>28</sup> See also Katyal, *supra* note 1, at 806 (citing H.R. Rep. No. 47, 61st Cong., 2d Sess. 10 (1909); S. Rep. No.  
886, 61st Cong., 2d Sess. 11 (1909)).

21 <sup>29</sup> See Convention for the Suppression of the Traffic in Persons and of the Exploitation of the Prostitution of Others,  
July 25, 1951, 96 U.N.T.S. 271, <https://www.ohchr.org/en/professionalinterest/pages/trafficinpersons.aspx>.

(1) International Agreement of 18 May 1904 for the Suppression of the White Slave Traffic, as  
amended by the Protocol approved by the General Assembly of the United Nations on 3  
December 1948,

(2) International Convention of 4 May 1910 for the Suppression of the White Slave Traffic, as  
amended by the above-mentioned Protocol,

(3) International Convention of 30 September 1921 for the Suppression of the Traffic in Women  
and Children, as amended by the Protocol approved by the General Assembly of the United  
Nations on 20 October 1947,

1 *The Nevada sex trade in contemporary context*

2 *Federal and international laws on sex trafficking*

3 71. In 2000, Congress passed the Trafficking Victims Protection Act, the first  
4 comprehensive law in the United States to explicitly penalize the full range of human  
5 trafficking offenses, including sex trafficking.

6 72. Congress reauthorized the law in 2003 as the Trafficking Victims Protection  
7 Reauthorization Act (TVPRA) and created a civil cause of action. 18 U.S.C. § 1595.

8 73. Under the TVPRA, sex trafficking occurs if there is a commercial sex act  
9 involving a person under age 18 or a person induced by force, fraud, or coercion.<sup>30</sup> This is  
10 considered a severe form of trafficking in persons under federal law. 22 U.S. Code § 7102  
11 (11)(A). Anyone who “recruits, entices, harbors, transports, provides, obtains, advertises,  
12 maintains, patronizes, or solicits by any means” or “benefits, financially” from sex trafficking  
13 can be held liable.

14 74. Commercial sex act means “any sex act, on account of which anything of value  
15 is given to or received by any person.”<sup>31</sup>

16 75. Coercion includes “threats of serious harm to or physical restraint against any  
17 person; any scheme, plan, or pattern intended to cause a person to believe that failure to  
18 perform an act would result in serious harm to or physical restraint against any person; or the  
19 abuse or threatened abuse of law or the legal process.”<sup>32</sup>

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22 (4) International Convention of 11 October 1933 for the Suppression of the Traffic in Women  
of Full Age, as amended by the aforesaid Protocol . . . .

23 *Id.* pmb1.

<sup>30</sup> 18 U.S.C. § 1591.

<sup>31</sup> *Id.* at § 1591(e)(3).

24 <sup>32</sup> *Id.* at § 1591(e)(2).

1           76.     Serious harm refers to “any harm, whether physical or nonphysical, including  
2 psychological, financial, or reputational harm, that is sufficiently serious, under all the  
3 surrounding circumstances, to compel a reasonable person of the same background and in the  
4 same circumstances to perform or to continue performing commercial sexual activity in order  
5 to avoid incurring that harm.”<sup>33</sup>

6           77.     Section 1595 authorizes civil claims against sex trafficking perpetrators, as well  
7 as anyone who “knowingly benefits, financially or by receiving anything of value” from  
8 participating in what the person knew or should have known was a sex trafficking venture.<sup>34</sup>

9           78.     Prostitution continues to be against federal policy as a form of sexual  
10 exploitation that is linked to sex trafficking.<sup>35</sup>

11           79.     This is consistent with international law. The 1949 UN Convention for the  
12 Suppression of the Traffic in Persons and of the Exploitation of the Prostitution of Others states  
13 that, “prostitution and the accompanying evil of the traffic in persons for the purpose of  
14 prostitution are incompatible with the dignity and worth of the human person,” and forbids  
15 prostitution related activities, including exploiting “the prostitution of another person, even  
16 with the consent of that person.”<sup>36</sup>

17  
18 *Connections between prostitution and sex trafficking*  
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<sup>33</sup> *Id.* at § 1591(e)(5).

22 <sup>34</sup> 18 U.S.C. § 1595.

23 <sup>35</sup> *See, e.g.*, 22 U.S.C. § 7601 (“Prostitution and other sexual victimization are degrading to women and children  
and it should be the policy of the United States to eradicate such practices.”).

24 <sup>36</sup> Convention for the Suppression of the Traffic in Persons and of the Exploitation of the Prostitution of Others,  
pmbL., Art. 1, July 25, 1951, 96 U.N.T.S. 271,  
<https://www.ohchr.org/en/professionalinterest/pages/traffickingpersons.aspx>.

1 80. It is also borne out by experience. Prostitution is associated with a high risk of  
2 sexual assault and other violence, predominately from sex buyers.<sup>37</sup>

3 81. When prostitution is legal, it leads to increased sex trafficking to meet demand.  
4 This has occurred in Rhode Island and in the Netherlands.

5 82. In Rhode Island, indoor prostitution was decriminalized from 1980-2009 and  
6 during that period of time the illicit trade exploded, and it heavily involved organized crime.<sup>38</sup>

7 83. Brothels existed under the guise of spas and health services but were deeply  
8 intertwined with the international trafficking of Asian women.<sup>39</sup>

9 84. Men visited these spas from nearby states in droves and their reviews of these  
10 places increased by 200% reflecting the explosion of the sex trade, especially in Providence.<sup>40</sup>

11 85. The lack of regulations also meant that 16- and 17-year-olds were involved in  
12 these enterprises, police were unable to adequately investigate matters, and labor laws or code  
13 violations were insufficient ways to get at the more serious crimes.<sup>41</sup>

14 86. Legalization in the Netherlands has also been ineffective at curbing illegal  
15 activities. In fact, the illegal industry flourishes, and the criminals who run those operations  
16

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17 <sup>37</sup> For example, a study of 562 women exploited in prostitution in Miami, Florida (USA) found the lifetime  
18 prevalence of abuse was extremely elevated at 88%, and 34% reported violent encounters with “dates” or clients  
19 in the prior 90 days. Serious mental illness among this population of prostituted women was quite common, with  
20 74% reporting severe symptoms of depression, anxiety, or traumatic stress. Hilary L. Surratt et al., *HIV Risk  
21 Among Female Sex Workers in Miami: The Impact of Violent Victimization and Untreated Mental Illness*, 24 AIDS  
22 CARE, 553-561 (2012). Also, a study of homicide in the United States from 1970 to 2009 found that prostituted  
23 persons accounted for 32% of all cases of serial murder involving female victims only. The proportion of serial  
24 murders with female prostituted victims increased across the study period, from 16% during 1970-1979 to 69%  
during 2000-2009. Killers of prostituted women also amassed a greater average number of victims than do killers  
of other victim types and kill for slightly longer periods of time. Kenna Quinet, *Prostitutes as Victims of Serial  
Homicide: Trends and Case Characteristics, 1970-2009*, 15 HOMICIDE STUDIES 74-100 (2011).

<sup>38</sup> Melanie Shapiro & Donna M Hughes, *Decriminalized Prostitution: Impunity for Violence and Regulation*,  
52 WAKE FOREST L. REV. 534 (2017).

<sup>39</sup> *Id.* at 545. In fact, the largest mafia bust in FBI history resulted from infiltration of these brothels and led to the  
arrest of over 127 people from seven crime families including the Gambinos, with extortion efforts totaling up to  
1.5 million dollars. *Id.* at 547.

<sup>40</sup> *Id.* at 540.

<sup>41</sup> *Id.* at 552-555.



1 also participate in the legal industry, which further provides cover for their illicit activities.<sup>42</sup>  
2 Multiple studies out of the Netherlands indicate organized crime permeates it, and conclude  
3 that it is impossible to eliminate, or even reduce, the criminal aspects of the sex trade.<sup>43</sup> These  
4 conclusions have led legislators to consider new approaches and revamp their existing  
5 policies.<sup>44</sup>

6 87. In Nevada, the signs point to the same conclusion. In the United States, it is  
7 believed that illegal prostitution generates over 14 billion dollars of revenue.<sup>45</sup> Of that, 5 billion  
8 is generated in Vegas alone,<sup>46</sup> even though prostitution is not legal in Las Vegas. Legal brothels  
9 are reported to provide 75 million dollars of revenue for the state.<sup>47</sup> But they do so much more,  
10 they allow the sex trade to flourish all over the state and become a part of tourist expectations,  
11 which furthers growth of state revenue. In other words, the legal trade correlates with  
12 exponential increases in the illegal trade and state cash flow.

13 88. The legal trade also correlates with an increase in sex trafficking: two multi-  
14 country studies have concluded that wherever there is legal or decriminalized prostitution,  
15 human trafficking increases. One study compared 39 nations and the other was more  
16 expansive, assessing 150 countries, and both found a relationship between prostitution laws  
17 and sex trafficking.<sup>48</sup> Sex trafficking is greater in countries where prostitution is legal or  
18

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19 <sup>42</sup> Sheila Jeffreys, *Brothels Without Walls: The Escort Sector as a Problem for the Legalization of Prostitution*, 17  
SOC. POL.: INT'L STUD. GENDER, ST., SOC'Y 210 (2010).

20 <sup>43</sup> Karin Werkman, *Briefing on Legal Prostitution in The Netherlands: Policies, Evaluations, Normalisation*, June  
2016, [feminismandhumanrights.files.wordpress.com/2014/06/karin-werkman-2016-briefing-on-legal-  
prostitution-in-the-netherlands.pdf](https://feminismandhumanrights.files.wordpress.com/2014/06/karin-werkman-2016-briefing-on-legal-prostitution-in-the-netherlands.pdf) (last visited Sep. 9, 2021).

21 <sup>44</sup> Jeffreys, *supra* note 40, at 11.

22 <sup>45</sup> Prostitution Revenue by Country, HAVOCSCOPE, [https://www.havocscope.com/prostitution-revenue-by-  
country/3809085/](https://www.havocscope.com/prostitution-revenue-by-country/3809085/) (last visited July 14, 2021).

23 <sup>46</sup> Ronald B. Flowers, *Prostitution in the Digital Age: Selling Sex from the Suite to the Street* 42-46 (2011).

24 <sup>47</sup> *Id.*

<sup>48</sup> Niklas Jakobsson & Andreas Kotsadam, *The Law and Economics of International Sex Slavery: Prostitution  
Laws and Trafficking for Sexual Exploitation*, 35 EUR. J. L. AND ECON. 1 (2013); Seo-Young Cho, Axel Dreher,  
& Eric Neumayer, *Does Legalized Prostitution Increase Human Trafficking?*, WORLD DEV. 41 (2013).

1 decriminalized.<sup>49</sup>

2 *Nevada's legal norms and sex trafficking*

3 89. In the United States, Nevada stands alone in maintaining legalized prostitution,  
4 in apparent defiance of the legal and human rights norms and data described above.

5 90. While Nevada has allowed brothel operation since the nineteenth century, the  
6 first officially sanctioned brothel, Mustang Ranch, was licensed by Storey County in 1971.

7 91. Nevada then enacted Nev. Rev. Stat. § 244.345(8), legalizing prostitution in  
8 county-licensed brothels, for counties with fewer than 200,000 residents.

9 92. Prostitution is now permitted in counties that have fewer than 700,000  
10 residents, and Nevada currently has legal brothels in seven counties: Elko,<sup>50</sup> Lander,<sup>51</sup> Lyon,<sup>52</sup>  
11 Mineral,<sup>53</sup> Nye,<sup>54</sup> Storey,<sup>55</sup> and White Pine.<sup>56</sup>

12 93. State regulations force women in prostitution to get tested for sexually  
13 transmitted infections every week. Nev. Admin. Code § 441A.800.

14 94. Nevada does not require sex buyers to undergo any similar testing. Not unlike  
15 the Contagious Diseases Act in nineteenth-century Great Britain described above, the one-  
16 sided testing protects the sex buyer and compounds the harm and burden on the prostituted  
17 persons.

18 95. Nevada also permits cities and counties to license escorting, and what it terms  
19

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20 <sup>49</sup> *Id.*

<sup>50</sup> Elko, Nev., County Code, “Sexually Oriented Businesses and Employee Licensing Chapter,” §6-11 (2020).

21 <sup>51</sup> Lander, Nev., County Code, “Prostitution,” §5.16 (2020).

<sup>52</sup> Lyon, Nev., County Code, “Lyon County Brothel Ordinance,” §5.03 (2020).

22 <sup>53</sup> Mineral, Nev., County Code, “Prostitution,” §5.12 (2019).

<sup>54</sup> Nye, Nev., County Code, “Prostitution,” §9.20 (2020).

<sup>55</sup> Storey, Nev., County Code, “Brothels,” §5.16 (2015).

23 <sup>56</sup> White Pine, Nev., County Code, “Prostitution,” §10.36 (2021) (disallowing prostitution in unincorporated areas  
24 of White Pine, but allowing such activity within the incorporated areas). *See* City of Ely, Nev., City Ordinance,  
“Prostitution,” §3.6 (2020) (city within White Pine County explicitly authorizing prostitution).

1 “entertainment by referral service,” defined as follows:

2 (a) “Entertainer for an entertainment by referral service” means a natural person who  
3 is sent or referred for a fee to a hotel or motel room, home or other accommodation by  
4 an entertainment by referral service for the purpose of entertaining the person located  
5 in the hotel or motel room, home or other accommodation.

6  
7 (b) “Entertainment by referral service” means a person or group of persons who send  
8 or refer another person to a hotel or motel room, home or other accommodation for a  
9 fee in response to a telephone or other request for the purpose of entertaining the person  
10 located in the hotel or motel room, home or other accommodation.

11  
12 Nev. Rev. Stat. § 244.345(8).

13 96. Nevada permits counties to self-regulate as to prostitution. In Storey County,  
14 the local brothel owner is also a county commissioner who sits on the brothel board, the  
15 government entity that supposedly regulates the brothels.<sup>57</sup>

16 97. In the legal brothels, women are commonly subjected to a number of practices  
17 that amount to debt bondage, including:

- 18 • Being locked inside the brothels and not allowed to leave for weeks at a time;
- 19 • Having to give the brothel 50% of their earnings;
- 20 • Being required to follow the brothel’s rules or face fines; and
- 21 • Being forced to live on the premises and pay the brothels for room and board to  
22 do so.

23  
24 <sup>57</sup> See Storey, Nev., County Code, “Brothels,” § 5.16.

1 98. Most Nevada brothels are located in the middle of the desert – that is, in  
2 extremely remote locations, with few trees or spaces where a person would not be almost  
3 immediately visible, and often without meaningful access to public transportation. Some are  
4 also surrounded by high fences.

5 99. The practices described above are inherently coercive, particularly given the  
6 geographic context, and lead to women in prostitution owing the brothels money and being  
7 held in debt bondage in legal Nevada brothels.

8 100. Many women prostituted in Nevada brothels are controlled by outside pimps,  
9 in addition to brothels themselves, which also act as pimps.

10 101. One federal court acknowledged this problem recently, citing a study that found  
11 that pimps remained common and some assaults against prostituted women occurred within  
12 Nevada’s legal brothels. *Coyote Publishing, Inc. v. Miller*, 598 F. 3d 592, 596 n.2 (2010).

13 102. And in 2018, the Lyon County Sheriff’s Office conducted multiple brothel work  
14 card compliance checks, assisted by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement officials.  
15 They found numerous illegal practices, including immigration law violations, fraudulent  
16 statements, and sex trafficking indicators.<sup>58</sup>

17 103. Prostitution is legal in Nye County, which is just outside Las Vegas.

18 104. The Nye County Code states that solicitation is illegal unless it occurs within a  
19 legal brothel. Nye Co. Code § 9.20.160.

20 105. The Nye County Code defines solicitation as someone who offers to engage in  
21 prostitution, or who “[i]nduces, persuades, encourages, inveigles or compels” someone else to  
22 do so. Nye Co. Code § 9.20.020.

23  
24 <sup>58</sup> Lyon County Sheriff’s Office, *Internal Audit Report on Brothel Compliance Requirements* (2018).

1 106. The Nye County Code does not define “compel.”

2 107. By implication, Nye County does not ban compelling prostitution as long as the  
3 perpetrator does so in a legal brothel.

4 108. Compelling someone to engage in prostitution violates federal law, which bans  
5 sex trafficking, including coercing people into commercial sex acts.

6 109. The Nye County brothel licensing board *may* refuse to grant a brothel license  
7 to someone who has been convicted of a felony, has a financial interest in an illegal prostitution  
8 business, is under twenty-one years old, or who has had a previous brothel license revoked for  
9 cause, but *is not required* to do so. Nye Co. Code § 9.20.120.

10 110. Prostitution is officially illegal in Las Vegas, though this is more pretense than  
11 reality.

12 111. Las Vegas has legalized escorts and escort bureaus. Las Vegas, Nev., Mun.  
13 Code § 6.36.010 (2020).

14 112. Escorting is a common front for prostitution. Defendant City of Las Vegas is  
15 aware of this, noting in its own code the need to prevent prostitution without implicating “free  
16 expression.” Las Vegas, Nev., Mun. Code § 6.57.010.<sup>59</sup>

17 113. Escorts may not operate independently, but are forced by law to be managed by  
18 an escort agency, and only one at a time. *Id.* § 6.36.170, 6.36.190.

19 114. By city regulation, escorts must submit to medical testing and provide “written  
20 evidence” from a physician who has deemed them “free from any communicable diseases”  
21

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22  
23 <sup>59</sup> The Clark County ordinances are more explicit about this compromise: “The cover of the First Amendment has  
24 materially increased the burden of policing this business to decrease the incidence of prostitution and drug sales.”  
Las Vegas is located in Clark County. The ordinances for Clark apply to the unincorporated parts of the county.  
*See* Clark, Nev., County Code § 6.140 (2021).

1 twice a year to maintain work card status. *Id.* § 6.36.160.<sup>60</sup> No such requirement is imposed  
2 on the men who patronize the escorts.

3 115. Clark County, where Las Vegas is located, also has ordinances licensing escort  
4 businesses,<sup>61</sup> as well as regulations licensing outcall entertainment.<sup>62</sup>

5 116. Similar to the state statute, Clark County defines the latter as follows:

6 “Outcall” or “entertainment by referral” service means a person or group of  
7 persons who send or refer another person to a hotel or motel guest room for a  
8 fee in response to a telephone call or other request for the purpose of  
9 entertaining the person located in the hotel or motel guest room.<sup>63</sup>

10 117. Clark County criminalizes prostitution.<sup>64</sup>

11 118. Legalized prostitution increases the demand for commercial sex, and men travel  
12 to Nevada to buy sex because they incorrectly believe it is legal throughout the state.

13 119. The sex industry exploits this misconception with impunity, that is, by operating  
14 both legal and illegal entities that violate federal laws against debt bondage and sex trafficking,  
15 without facing any meaningful enforcement from Nevada.

16 120. Prostitution advertising, for both legal and illegal prostitution in Nevada, is  
17 pervasive online, and directed toward people outside the counties where prostitution is legal.

18 121. On information and belief, many men who buy women for sex come from out-  
19 of-state, many of them induced by online advertising and marketing.

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20 <sup>60</sup> See also City of Las Vegas Department of Planning Business Licensing Division, *Checklist/Instructions –  
Escort Bureau – Form PL056* (revised Apr. 11, 2016), [https://files.lasvegasnevada.gov/business-  
licensing/Escort-Bureau-Web-Instruction-Sheet.pdf](https://files.lasvegasnevada.gov/business-licensing/Escort-Bureau-Web-Instruction-Sheet.pdf).

21 <sup>61</sup> See Clark, Nev., County Code §§ 8.32.010-150 (2021). Clark County distinguishes between “service-  
oriented” and “sexually-oriented” escort businesses, *See* Clark, Nev., County Code §§ 8.32.160 and provides that  
22 licenses may be denied to participants in sexually oriented escorting, *id.* at §§ 8.32.80, 140, but does not actually  
require denial.

23 <sup>62</sup> See Clark, Nev., County Code §§ 6.140.030-140 (2021).

<sup>63</sup> See Clark, Nev., County Code § 6.140.020 (2021).

<sup>64</sup> See Clark, Nev., County Code § 6.140.150 (2021).

1 122. On information and belief, Nevada does not enforce the advertising regulations,  
2 Nev. Rev. Stat. §§ 201.430; 201.440, that outlaw prostitution advertisements outside the  
3 counties that permit brothels.

4 123. Nevada itself has acknowledged this problem, submitting a federal grant  
5 application for combating sex trafficking, admitting that the state is “a major national and even  
6 global destination, because Nevada is also synonymous with legalized gambling, legalized  
7 prostitution, clubbing, partying, bars, strip clubs, celebrities, glamour and gaudy excess – a  
8 grand spectacle of legitimized sin 24/7, 365 days per year!” The application also noted that  
9 prostitution is not “universally legal in Nevada,” despite visitors’ belief otherwise, and:

10 Nevada’s legal brothels complicate development of a consistent  
11 statewide response to sex trafficking . . . Nevada’s recognition as  
12 one of the top trafficking destinations by multiple government  
13 and non-profit advocacy agencies is earned by effectively  
14 marketing the state’s entertainment and fantasy fulfillment  
15 possibilities.<sup>65</sup>

14 124. Nevada criminalized sex trafficking in 2013.

15 125. Nevada had 4 new federal sex trafficking prosecutions in 2020, for a total of 9  
16 active cases (compared to 7 in the District of Columbia, 30 in Illinois, 44 in New York, and 61  
17 in Texas), and 0 sex trafficking convictions (out of more than 150 nationwide).<sup>66</sup>

18 126. While these numbers may seem reflective of Nevada’s relatively small  
19 population (3 million residents),<sup>67</sup> they are disproportionately low given Nevada’s extremely  
20 high tourism numbers: in 2018, Las Vegas had 42.1 million visitors (compared to 21.8 million  
21

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22 <sup>65</sup> OVC FY 2014 Services for Victims of Human Trafficking Grant Application Nevada Office of the Attorney  
General – Program Narrative.

23 <sup>66</sup> See Kyleigh Feehs & Alyssa Currier Wheeler, *2020 Federal Human Trafficking Report*,  
<https://www.traffickinginstitute.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/06/2020-Federal-Human-Trafficking-Report-Low-Res.pdf>.

24 <sup>67</sup> *Nevada Population*, POPULATIONU, [www.populationu.com/us/nevada-population](http://www.populationu.com/us/nevada-population) (last visited Aug. 9, 2021).

1 in Boston, 22.8 million in Washington, DC, 53 million in Atlanta, 57.6 million in Chicago, and  
2 65.2 million in New York City).<sup>68</sup>

3 127. On information and belief, Nevada’s economy relies heavily on tourism. The  
4 top 15 employers in Clark County in 2020 were all either departments run by city officials or  
5 casinos/resorts (with the exception of Nellis Air Force Base).<sup>69</sup>

6 128. Nevada has had significant problems with government corruption, ranking 46  
7 out of 50 states and receiving an “F” grade on the Center for Public Integrity’s State Integrity  
8 Investigation in 2015.<sup>70</sup>

9 129. Over the last several years, federal corruption probes have investigated  
10 Nevada’s then-governor,<sup>71</sup> and the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department – specifically  
11 for collaborating with the pimps/sex traffickers they were supposedly investigating.<sup>72</sup>

12 130. On information and belief, there is no state-reported data on sex trafficking  
13 investigations, prosecutions, or convictions under state law.

14 131. On information and belief, Nevada does not aggressively prosecute sex  
15 trafficking.

16  
17 <sup>68</sup> *America’s 30 Most Popular Cities for Tourists 2019*, BEST CHOICE REVIEWS,  
18 [www.populationu.com/us/nevada-population](http://www.populationu.com/us/nevada-population) (last visited Aug. 9, 2021).

19 <sup>69</sup> See *Comprehensive Area Financial Report*, NEV. LAB. MKT. INFO., <https://nevadaworkforce.com/CAFR> (last  
20 visited Sep. 7, 2021). With the exception of the University of Nevada, the top 15 employers for the whole state  
21 are exclusively state and local government entities, and casinos/resorts. *20 Largest Employers in Nevada*, NEV.  
22 DEP’T OF EMP’T, <https://www.nevadaresorts.org/benefits/largest-employers-full.php>.

23 <sup>70</sup> See Center for Public Integrity, *Nevada Gets F Grade in 2015 State Integrity Investigation* (Nov. 12, 2015,  
24 12:01 PM), <https://publicintegrity.org/politics/state-politics/state-integrity-investigation/nevada-gets-f-grade-in-2015-state-integrity-investigation/>.

<sup>71</sup> See *Attorney: Nevada Governor Cleared in FBI Probe* (Nov. 2, 2008, 5:25 PM),  
<https://www.nbcnews.com/id/wbna27507509>;

<sup>72</sup> See George Knapp and Matt Adams, *I-Team: Former cop, suspected pimp linked together in FBI investigation*,  
8 News Now (Nov. 11, 2016, 12:40pm), <https://www.8newsnow.com/news/i-team-former-cop-suspected-pimp-linked-together-in-fbi-investigation/607916728/>; George Knapp and Matt Adams, *I-Team: Explosive Testimony in Police Corruption Case*, 8 News Now (Nov. 17, 2018, 8:08 AM), <https://www.8newsnow.com/news/i-team-explosive-testimony-in-police-corruption-case/859451936/>; Dana Gentry, *Cops, pimps winners in FBI Probe*, Nevada Current (Oct. 31, 2019), <https://www.nevadacurrent.com/2019/10/31/cops-pimps-winners-in-fbi-probe/>.



1 132. Yet Nevada’s sex trade is disproportionately large; sex trafficking reports in  
2 Nevada are out of proportion with the state’s small population size.

3 133. Nevada’s legal brothels generate an estimated \$75 million dollars per year, a  
4 figure dwarfed by the \$5 billion a year Nevada’s illegal sex trade generates.<sup>73</sup>

5 134. The state government receives revenues from prostitution occurring through  
6 escort agencies, as it taxes escort agencies 9% of their fees under the state live entertainment  
7 tax, Nev. Rev. Stat. § 368A.010–368A.370.

8 135. Local governments with legal brothels receive revenues from brothel taxes and  
9 fees.

10 136. Nevada does not enforce its limited regulation of prostitution, permitting de  
11 facto prostitution to exist through escort bureaus and entertainment by referral service, failing  
12 to implement or enforce laws limiting prostitution advertising, and failing to prevent the  
13 resultant debt bondage in legal brothels.

14 137. Nevada allows not only prostitution within legal and rural brothels, but also  
15 escorting and “outcall entertainment” – effectively legalizing prostitution throughout the state  
16 – directly for small towns and counties, and through euphemism and inaction in the rest,  
17 without meaningful prevention or accountability for the severe forms of sex trafficking  
18 occurring in the Nevada sex trade.

19 ***Plaintiffs’ exploitation in the sex trade***

20 138. Plaintiffs Angela Williams and Jane Doe were both induced through force,  
21 fraud, and coercion into providing commercial sex acts in Nevada’s legal sex industry,  
22

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23 <sup>73</sup> Flowers, *supra* note 47.

1 including legal escort agencies, legal strip clubs, and a legal brothel.

2 *Plaintiff Angela Williams*

3 139. Plaintiff Angela Williams was sex trafficked in Nevada from 2006 to 2017.

4 140. Ms. Williams lived on her own as a seventeen year old in Houston. She came  
5 from an economically marginalized family and neighborhood, worked two jobs to support  
6 herself and was attending college.

7 141. During this vulnerable time in her life, Ms. Williams 's first trafficker, Andre  
8 McDaniels, introduced himself as a "friend," worked to gain her trust, and enticed her to go to  
9 his "modeling studio."

10 142. Ms. Williams later learned that McDaniels's studios<sup>74</sup> were illegal brothels  
11 disguised as lingerie modeling studios.

12 143. Ms. Williams did not know what a pimp was, and believed sex-trafficked  
13 women were streetwalkers only. She just thought Mr. McDaniels was a rich older man that had  
14 other girls from Ms. Williams's high school working for him who could afford to move away  
15 from their poor childhood neighborhoods.

16 144. The other high school peers that "worked" for Mr. McDaniels did not initially  
17 disclose to Ms. Williams what they were doing at the "modeling studios."

18 145. Ms. Williams later learned that some of the girls who worked for Mr.  
19 McDaniels, who was 36, were seventeen years old or younger.

20 \_\_\_\_\_  
21 <sup>74</sup> On Monday, January 7, 2013, McDaniels was ordered to serve 96 months in federal prison for his convictions  
22 of conspiracy to commit sex trafficking, one count of coercion and enticement, and two counts of transportation  
23 in relation to Operation Total Exposure, at the time, the largest domestic sex trafficking case in the Southern  
24 District of Texas. *Three Sentenced in Massive Domestic Sex Trafficking Case*, USAO S. D. TX (Jan. 7, 2013)  
<https://www.justice.gov/usao-sdtx/pr/three-sentenced-massive-domestic-sex-trafficking-case>. Mr. McDaniels  
was shortly thereafter convicted for witness tampering in connection to the same case. *Witness Tampering Lands  
Convicted Sex Trafficker More Prison Time*, USAO S.D. TX (June 26, 2013),  
[https://archives.fbi.gov/archives/houston/press-releases/2013/witness-tampering-lands-convicted-sex-trafficker-  
more-prison-time](https://archives.fbi.gov/archives/houston/press-releases/2013/witness-tampering-lands-convicted-sex-trafficker-more-prison-time).

1 146. Mr. McDaniels continued to groom Ms. Williams until she was eighteen, then  
2 increased his recruitment tactics.

3 147. He showered Ms. Williams with attention, supplied her with marijuana,  
4 spending thousands of dollars on lingerie for her, and convincing her to change her appearance,  
5 such as her hair color.

6 148. Mr. McDaniels completely isolated Ms. Williams from friends and family.

7 149. Eventually, through fraud and coercion, Mr. McDaniels brought Ms. Williams  
8 to his “modeling studio.”

9 150. The other women and girls who worked for Mr. McDaniels eventually  
10 manipulated Ms. Williams into believing that prostitution was glamorous and that “working”  
11 for Mr. McDaniels was not different than anything she would do for any other boyfriend,  
12 except she would get paid extremely well.

13 151. In the beginning, due to the systemized coercion and dehumanization, Ms.  
14 Williams minimized the trauma of performing sexual acts on sex buyers since she was  
15 surrounded by other young women sex trafficked by Mr. McDaniels and his brothers.

16 152. Ms. Williams was swiftly forced into performing hand jobs on sex buyers  
17 before she could make sense of the details.

18 153. Ms. Williams started out by performing hand jobs, and eventually the sex buyer  
19 would complain, and another girl would come in the room to finish the service the sex buyer  
20 desired, whether it was vaginal or anal sex.

21 154. Ms. Williams did not even know how to perform some of the sexual positions  
22 the sex buyers were demanding.

23 155. Mr. McDaniels continued to manipulate and groom Ms. Williams by giving her  
24

1 special treatment and hiding the fact that the sex buyers were unhappy with Ms. Williams being  
2 uncomfortable performing sexual acts such as vaginal or anal sex on sex buyers.

3 156. Ms. Williams was always the last one to come to the lineup, hoping that a sex  
4 buyer would see a different sex trafficked woman first, so she would not have to perform sexual  
5 acts.

6 157. Mr. McDaniels would tell some of the sex buyers that Ms. Williams was  
7 underage. One sex buyer actually paid Ms. Williams to dress like a cheerleader and meet him  
8 at the high school bleachers.

9 158. Despite her distress and unwillingness, Ms. Williams was eventually coerced  
10 into performing any sex act requested by the sex buyer.

11 159. Ms. Williams was confused and afraid.

12 160. As is common with grooming, suddenly, just like the rest of the girls working  
13 for Mr. McDaniels, Ms. Williams no longer received special treatment and was forced to give  
14 all the money she earned from sex buyers to Mr. McDaniels.

15 161. Ms. Williams was not permitted to leave the illegal brothels for periods as long  
16 as 24 hours.

17 162. Ms. Williams was only permitted to go “home” from the “modeling studio” to  
18 the shared living quarters where all the women and girls being sexually exploited by Mr.  
19 McDaniels were forced to live on Sundays, and sometimes not at all. The women and girls in  
20 the shared living quarters were permitted few personal items, except for lingerie.

21 163. Ms. Williams was able to break free from Mr. McDaniels, but then ended up  
22 stripping at a strip club chain in Houston, Texas.

23 164. The Houston strip club generally encouraged prostitution and sex trafficking  
24

1 within the clubs.

2 165. While Ms. Williams was at the Houston strip club, the club knew she was a  
3 victim of human trafficking and sold her for sex in the club.

4 166. Ms. Williams was introduced to a very violent trafficker through the Houston  
5 strip club.

6 167. While under the sexual servitude to the violent trafficker, Ms. Williams began  
7 browsing classified ads in an effort to escape.

8 168. In or around early 2006, Ms. Williams responded to an advertisement for a job  
9 posted by Tarnita Woodward, an employee of Jamal Rashid, also known as “Mally Mall.”

10 169. Mr. Rashid owned many escort businesses, some of them shell corporations to  
11 disguise his escort services, including Defendants Exclusive Beauty Lounge, LLC, E.P.  
12 Sanctuary, First Investment Property LLC, V.I.P. Entertainment, LLC, and listed Ms.  
13 Woodward as the registered owner of many of these companies.

14 170. Mr. Rashid’s other corporations received profits from his escort companies. On  
15 information and belief, Mr. Rashid’s other businesses that benefited from his sex trafficking  
16 business include Defendants PF Social Media Management, LLC, Mally Mall Music, LLC,  
17 Future Music, LLC, , Blu Magic Music, LLC,; MP3 Productions, Inc., and MMM Productions,  
18 Inc.

19 171. Ms. Williams was hired to work for one of Mr. Rashid’s companies, VIP  
20 Entertainment, which was a licensed escort business in Las Vegas.

21 172. Mr. Rashid had three offices in Nevada over a fifteen-year period, all registered  
22 to his various entertainment businesses.

23

24

1 173. Mr. Rashid, who has ties to organized crime, was on the City of Las Vegas's  
2 payroll as an informant, and also paid large sums of money to the City for protection.

3 174. In 2014, the FBI raided Mr. Rashid's home during the corruption investigation  
4 referenced above. In 2019, the FBI again raided Mr. Rashid's home, in an apparent sex  
5 trafficking and animal trafficking investigation.

6 175. The City of Las Vegas knew Mr. Rashid was an active sex trafficker.

7 176. Ms. Williams was required to obtain a work card from the Clark County  
8 Sheriff's Office by one of the escort agencies.

9 177. VIP Entertainment enticed Ms. Williams to travel across state lines from Texas  
10 to Las Vegas, Nevada to be sex trafficked, under the guise of upscale escorting, because the  
11 demand for prostitution was so high in Nevada.

12 178. Mr. Rashid used fraud to entice the women working for him into thinking that  
13 the work performed was glamorous, and that the women were like "Playboy Bunnies," and he  
14 was like Hugh Hefner.

15 179. In the beginning, Mr. Rashid allowed Ms. Williams to keep 30% of any monies  
16 earned from the escort services and required her to give him the remaining 70%.

17 180. Eventually, Mr. Rashid designated Ms. Williams as a "priority girl," and forced  
18 her to give him 100% of what she earned.

19 181. He claimed this was necessary to take care of Ms. Williams's living expenses.

20 182. Mr. Rashid was entering the music industry, and he was recognized as a major  
21 pimp in the illegal sex trade in Las Vegas, Nevada, where he began sending Ms. Williams in  
22 fall 2006.

23 183. Mr. Rashid and his employees began to control every aspect of Ms. Williams's  
24

1 money, from booking her rooms when she traveled and providing her a small allowance to cover  
2 food and a hotel while she was traveling for commercial sex acts outside Nevada, to controlling  
3 what she was allowed to wear.

4 184. Ms. Williams was required to go to whatever house or hotel Mr. Rashid  
5 provided and sleep. She had to be hair and make-up ready by 3:00pm.

6 185. Her shifts were 4:00pm-12:00am (swing) and 12:00-8:00am (grave). If sex  
7 buyers were on cocaine, Ms. Williams would be required to continue into the day. She would  
8 have to remain with the sex buyer until she was relieved.

9 186. Ms. Williams was not allowed to leave the sex buyer, even if she felt her life  
10 was in danger. She was not allowed to leave the room, until she was cleared by one of the  
11 managers/ assistant traffickers.

12 187. Ms. Williams was forced to service sex buyers who abused her in the past. In  
13 one case, Ms. Williams stated: "I don't want to see him; he is a pervert," and was not permitted  
14 to decline.

15 188. To be cleared to leave the sex buyer, Ms. Williams had to tell the manager, in  
16 front of the sex buyer, "I am leaving," and disclose the full amount of money she had received,  
17 which meant saying aloud if she had received a tip, which the manager would take as well.

18 189. Ms. Williams was sometimes kicked out of buildings by security personnel,  
19 who would require her to use a different entrance, even if that would jeopardize her safety.  
20 Ms. Williams was sometimes arrested for trespassing.

21 190. The managers would yell at Ms. Williams. If managers decided Ms. Williams  
22 and the other exploited women and girls were not being sufficiently subservient, they would  
23 not eat well.

24

1 191. Ms. Williams would often get home at 9:00am, and have six hours to sleep, eat,  
2 run errands, and then be hair and makeup-ready by 3:00pm.

3 192. The sex trafficking ring guised as a legal escort service was successfully and  
4 strategically planted in Las Vegas to intercept sex tourists planning to travel to the nearby cities  
5 of Pahrump or Crystal where the closest legal brothels were located.

6 193. The escort service trafficked Ms. Williams by plane from Las Vegas, Nevada  
7 to perform sex acts for money in large cities such as Dallas, Los Angeles, Chicago, and Boston.

8 194. Most of the Las Vegas sex buyers were under the misconception that  
9 prostitution was legal in all of Nevada, including Las Vegas, and the escort service took  
10 advantage of this misconception.

11 195. Ms. Williams most frequently interacted with sex buyers who traveled across  
12 state lines to Nevada for the sole purpose of purchasing sex, whether it was for a newly  
13 divorced party, a bachelor party, or a corporate CEO wishing to privately cheat on his wife.

14 196. Ms. Williams knew numerous women in the sex industry who were trafficked  
15 and sexually exploited in the legal brothels.

16 197. Ms. Williams was arrested as a result of being trafficked for purposes of  
17 prostitution.

18 198. When Ms. Williams was on probation for her prostitution charges, Mr. Rashid  
19 coerced her to violate her probation by continuing to sell sex, by assuring her that he had a  
20 “dream team” of lawyers that could get them out of anything.

21 199. Mr. Rashid used the money from sex trafficking the women to pay for his music  
22 production. Mr. Rashid has worked for Grammy award-winning artists, and lived in a multi-  
23 million-dollar home in Encino, California.

24



1           200. Mr. Rashid was sentenced to prison in May 2021 for unlawfully operating a  
2 prostitution business.

3           201. Eventually, Ms. Williams was arrested by Chicago police while being sex  
4 trafficked by Mr. Rashid's company. Ultimately, Ms. Williams served 13 months in jail.

5           202. After serving her time, Mr. Rashid tried to recruit Ms. Williams to return back  
6 to his escort business.

7           203. Ms. Williams moved to Los Angeles, California, where Mr. Rashid had  
8 multiple community apartments for the women and girls who worked for him to use while they  
9 were traveling to be bought for sex from sex buyers or for escort services.

10          204. While in Los Angeles, California, Mr. Rashid forced Ms. Williams to perform  
11 oral sex on him.

12          205. While working for Mr. Rashid, Ms. Williams understood that she belonged to  
13 "the Game" and/or the "Pimp and Ho" subculture. Ms. Williams was threatened and  
14 brainwashed into believing that if she were to prostitute as a "free agent" or without the  
15 representation of a trafficker that she would be opening herself up to be assaulted or robbed by  
16 sex buyers, or to worse treatment by another sex trafficker.

17          206. Mr. Rashid tore down Ms. Williams's identity and self-worth so much that he  
18 made her believe the only "job" she would ever be able to obtain was one where she sold sexual  
19 acts to sex buyers.

20          207. Eventually after going back and forth between being sex trafficked by Mr.  
21 Rashid and working in the strip clubs, Ms. Williams met her final trafficker through a contact  
22 from Moonshine and Candy Apple Girls escort agency. Her final trafficker trafficked Ms.  
23 Williams through the strip clubs again, including the Sapphire in Las Vegas.

24

1           208. Ms. Williams’s final sex trafficker came to her with empty promises of love,  
2 and of retiring her from being a sex trafficked woman.

3           209. Ms. Williams became frightened when she realized her final sex trafficker was  
4 extremely abusive.

5           210. When Ms. Williams would try to escape from him, he would severely  
6 physically assault her.

7           211. Ms. Williams escaped from her final sex trafficker in 2017.

8           212. After Ms. Williams escaped she moved to a condominium in Las Vegas,  
9 Nevada that lacked security. One morning Ms. Williams’s final sex trafficker came to her  
10 doorstep with a bouquet of roses and tried to kill her.

11           213. After almost losing her life, Ms. Williams was able to escape the grip of sex  
12 traffickers.<sup>75</sup>

13           214. Though Ms. Williams suffers from post-traumatic stress disorder from her near-  
14 death assault when her sex trafficker attempted to kill her, she suffers more from the flashbacks  
15 of her memories of being sold and exploited by sex buyers.

16           215. To this day, Ms. Williams still suffers from the trauma of being sex trafficked.  
17 She cannot enjoy the relaxation of a normal vacation with her family because of the violence  
18 she experienced in hotel rooms across this country, the majority of which occurred in Las  
19 Vegas.

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22 <sup>75</sup> On May 22, 2018, Tyree Wright was sentenced to serve nine and a half (9 ½) years in prison for his charges of  
23 sex-trafficking, second degree kidnapping, and battery with use of a deadly weapon resulting in substantial bodily  
24 harm. Brenda Yahm & Adam Herbets, *Valley victim confronts abusive pimp during his sentencing*, FOX 5 KVVU  
TV (May 22, 2018), [https://www.fox5vegas.com/news/valley-victim-confronts-abusive-pimp-during-](https://www.fox5vegas.com/news/valley-victim-confronts-abusive-pimp-during-hissentencing/article_ec3c3c29-9355-5664-b58d-3b50b1e5ed69.html)  
[hissentencing/article\\_ec3c3c29-9355-5664-b58d-3b50b1e5ed69.html](https://www.fox5vegas.com/news/valley-victim-confronts-abusive-pimp-during-hissentencing/article_ec3c3c29-9355-5664-b58d-3b50b1e5ed69.html).

1           216. Nevada was a regular location for Ms. Williams to be sex trafficked. No matter  
2 where her traffickers would take her, they would always return to Nevada to sell Ms. Williams,  
3 and others similarly situated to her, because Nevada is the state where there was and is the  
4 greatest demand for prostitution, whether legal or illegal.

5 *Plaintiff Jane Doe*

6           217. Plaintiff Jane Doe was sex trafficked in Nevada from 2013 to 2018.

7           218. Jane Doe experienced homelessness, being placed in the foster care system, and  
8 sexual abuse as a child, including statutory rape by a man 13 years older than her, who left her  
9 pregnant at the age of 15, while a ward of the court.

10           219. The abuser used pornography to groom Jane Doe from age 14, including the  
11 2005 film, “Boss’n up.” The abuser also created pornography of Jane Doe.

12           220. At 18, Jane Doe moved in with the abuser, and within six months had entered a  
13 domestic violence shelter with her child, pregnant with her second child. Thereafter, Jane Doe  
14 was chronically homeless, going from shelter to shelter and program to program while fighting  
15 her abuser for child custody.

16           221. Due to Jane Doe being sex trafficked and her absence at the family court date,  
17 the custody judgment went into default and the abuser gained full custody of their children.  
18 That abuser made false allegations against Jane Doe in family court, causing her to lose her  
19 welfare income, subsidized housing, and financial aid for college. He retains custody of their  
20 children.

21           222. Jane Doe was thereafter introduced to prostitution by a family member who  
22 induced her to travel to Las Vegas, promising that it would be a way to quickly make money  
23 for a lawyer and Jane Doe’s other emergency needs.

24

1           223. That family member was also being sex trafficked by multiple pimps, and  
2 married one of them.

3           224. Jane Doe was introduced to at least three other pimps in 24 hours, who all sex  
4 trafficked her.

5           225. Paying cash to multiple pimps/traffickers at once violates the “rules” of  
6 pimping, and when some of the pimp/traffickers found out, they brutally beat both Jane Doe  
7 and her aunt.

8           226. The sex trafficker that Jane Doe ended up with was a guerilla pimp, that is, one  
9 that uses extreme violence, including torture, to force persons under his control to engage in  
10 prostitution.

11           227. Jane Doe was sex trafficked by the guerilla pimp in Las Vegas street  
12 prostitution.

13           228. Jane Doe was subjected to extreme violence, as well as starvation and  
14 confinement – forms of torture – by the guerilla pimp, who was also a gang member, who was  
15 prostituting her.

16           229. Jane Doe escaped the guerilla pimp and was then sex trafficked by a “Romeo”  
17 pimp – an exploiter who coerces through romance, affection, instilling a sense of family  
18 obligation, and other forms of predominantly psychological manipulation.

19           230. Jane Doe was subjected to physical violence by the “Romeo” pimp, Khalieff  
20 “Leef” Wilson, on at least one occasion, for breaking one of his marijuana drug “rules.”

21           231. The “Romeo” pimp renamed Jane Doe and in addition to Nevada, required her  
22 to travel through the United States to prostitute for him in New York, New Jersey, Colorado,  
23 Oregon, Texas, New Mexico, California, Oklahoma, Arizona, Georgia– much of it with racial  
24

1 overtones.

2           232. Mr. Wilson required this travel to maximize his profits from Jane Doe's  
3 prostitution and to reduce the chances that they would be arrested.

4           233. Jane Doe was sex trafficked in multiple venues, including casinos, executive  
5 offices, truck stops, brothels, agencies, outcall/incall to sex buyers' preferred locations, hotels,  
6 underground business pubs, restaurants, and massage parlors.

7           234. Jane Doe frequently encountered violence from sex buyers, including a sex  
8 buyer who threatened her with a gun, a couple that decided they wanted their money back after  
9 Jane Doe performed sexual services on them, and a sex buyer who discussed a serial killer of  
10 prostituted women in Albuquerque, while Jane Doe was servicing him at the Albuquerque  
11 airport hotel.

12           235. Mr. Wilson was eventually arrested for sex trafficking a minor for prostitution,  
13 convicted, and sentenced to prison.

14           236. Jane Doe remained under Mr. Wilson's control even while Mr. Wilson was in  
15 prison, continuing to give him part of the money she made through prostitution, until 2015.

16           237. While Mr. Wilson was in prison, Jane Doe engaged in prostitution through  
17 escort agencies that would arrange her hotels and travel, screen her calls for sex buyer  
18 bookings, and give information on locations, in exchange for fees and splits of the money Jane  
19 Doe would make.

20           238. Jane Doe also fell under the control of additional madam pimp, Nicole Flowers.  
21 Ms. Flowers was associated with a travel agency that posted ads on craigslist to attract escorts.  
22 Ms. Flowers primarily relied on psychological means of coercion, including engaging in  
23 prostitution herself, and took portions of the money that Jane Doe was not giving to Mr.

24

1 Wilson.

2 239. If Ms. Flowers provided transportation, room, supplies, photos, call screening,  
3 and advertisements for two weeks, Jane Doe was required to work two weeks in the state of  
4 Ms. Flowers' choosing.

5 240. Jane Doe became engaged in legal brothel prostitution at the Chicken Ranch  
6 while being pimped by Mr. Wilson and Ms. Flowers.

7 241. Jane Doe was required to obtain a Sheriff's Work Card from the Nye County  
8 Sheriff's Office to be prostituted at the Chicken Ranch.

9 242. The Sheriff's office did not ask for a government ID or attempt to verify Jane  
10 Doe's age or consent, nor did it attempt to determine whether she was under the control of a  
11 pimp/trafficker.

12 243. Jane Doe did not have a government ID when she obtained her Sheriff's Work  
13 Card to work in the legal brothel. One of Jane Doe's earlier pimp/traffickers took away her  
14 identification as a scare tactic, and to keep her from leaving, threatening to locate and harm  
15 her children and family.

16 244. The Sheriff's Work Card did not display Jane Doe's age.

17 245. The brothel did not attempt to verify Jane Doe's age or consent, nor did it  
18 attempt to determine whether she was under the control of a pimp/trafficker.

19 246. The brothel was aware that many women being prostituted at the brothel were  
20 under the control of pimps/traffickers.

21 247. Jane Doe witnessed pimps/traffickers at the brothel. She also witnessed  
22 recruitment at the brothel.

23 248. The brothel was aware that many persons being prostituted at the brothel were  
24

1 under 21 years old.

2 249. Jane Doe witnessed minors being prostituted at the brothel, including minors  
3 who had not yet reached their teens.

4 250. Jane Doe was not permitted to have visitors at the brothel, unless they were sex  
5 buyers.

6 251. The brothel arranged and controlled arrival and departure times for the  
7 prostituted women.

8 252. Jane Doe was picked up by the brothel's transportation system in Las Vegas,  
9 and transported to Pahrump, Nevada.

10 253. Sex buyers at the brothel paid via the brothel's website, or the ATM/card reader  
11 at the brothel itself. The brothel then paid Jane Doe, after taking out various amounts, at the  
12 end of the two-week period.

13 254. Jane Doe was required to give the brothel 50% of what she earned.

14 255. Jane Doe was also required to pay the brothel for room and board, roughly \$250  
15 per week, as well as \$50 each way for any transportation to or from the brothel.

16 256. Jane Doe was required to pay the brothel around \$120 monthly for the weekly  
17 medical exams.

18 257. Jane Doe gave any remaining money to her two pimps, Khalieff Wilson and  
19 Nicole Flowers.

20 258. Jane Doe was not permitted to leave the brothel during her two-week shifts,  
21 even to run errands; women prostituted in the brothel were locked inside, and did not have  
22 keys, and had to sign out before leaving the brothel at the end of a two-week shift (unless  
23 extending her contract for another two weeks).

24





1 trafficked within legal brothels in Nevada jurisdictions which permit prostitution, and within  
2 legal escort agencies in Nevada jurisdictions that do not permit legal prostitution, as to the  
3 rights violations described below.

4       267. The Thirteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution guarantees  
5 Plaintiffs the freedom from enslavement and involuntary servitude, which prohibits  
6 Defendants both from directly subjecting Plaintiffs to slavery or involuntary servitude, and  
7 from providing legal cover to, or otherwise enabling, any system of slavery or involuntary  
8 servitude.

9       268. Sex Industry Defendants directly subjected Plaintiffs to slavery and involuntary  
10 servitude in the form of sex trafficking.

11       269. State and City Defendants provided legal cover for the Nevada sex trade,  
12 enabling the system through which the Plaintiffs were subjected to slavery and involuntary  
13 servitude in the form of sex trafficking.

14       270. Defendants' conduct has caused Plaintiffs serious harm, including physical,  
15 psychological, financial, and reputational harm.

16       271. Under 42 U.S.C. § 1983, Plaintiffs are entitled to a declaration that State and  
17 City Defendants violated their Thirteenth Amendment rights to be free from slavery and  
18 involuntary servitude, and an injunction against State and City Defendants' laws, policies, and  
19 actions.

20       272. Additionally, Plaintiffs are entitled to nominal damages from the State  
21 Defendants, and damages in an amount to be determined by the evidence and this Court from  
22 the City and Sex Industry Defendants.

23

24

1 **COUNT II**  
2 **VIOLATING 18 U.S.C. §§ 1591(A)(1) AND 1595 BY PERPETRATING SEX**  
3 **TRAFFICKING**

4 273. Plaintiffs reallege and incorporate by reference all prior paragraphs as if fully  
5 incorporated here.

6 274. Plaintiffs assert third party standing on behalf of people currently being sex  
7 trafficked within legal brothels in Nevada jurisdictions which permit prostitution, and within  
8 legal escort agencies in Nevada jurisdictions that do not permit prostitution, as to the rights  
9 violations described below.

10 275. State and City Defendants knowingly harbored and/or maintained Plaintiffs,  
11 knowing or in reckless disregard of the fact that force, fraud, and/or coercion were being used  
12 to induce Plaintiffs to engage in commercial sex acts.

13 276. Sex Industry Defendants knowingly recruited, enticed, harbored, transported,  
14 provided, obtained, advertised, maintained, patronized, and/or solicited Plaintiffs, knowing or  
15 in reckless disregard of the fact that force, fraud, and/or coercion were being used to induce  
16 Plaintiffs to engage in commercial sex acts.

17 277. Defendants knew that their conduct was in or affected interstate and/or foreign  
18 commerce.

19 278. Defendants' conduct has caused Plaintiffs serious harm, including physical,  
20 psychological, financial, and reputational harm.

21 279. Accordingly, Defendants violated 18 U.S.C. § 1591(a)(1), and Plaintiffs are  
22 entitled to sue them under § 1595(a).  
23  
24

1 **COUNT III**  
2 **VIOLATING 18 U.S.C. §§ 1591(A)(2) AND 1595 BY BENEFITING FROM SEX**  
3 **TRAFFICKING**

4 280. Plaintiffs reallege and incorporate by reference all prior paragraphs as if fully  
5 incorporated here.

6 281. Plaintiffs assert third party standing on behalf of people currently being sex  
7 trafficked within legal brothels in Nevada jurisdictions which permit prostitution, and within  
8 legal escort agencies in Nevada jurisdictions that do not permit prostitution, as to the rights  
9 violations described below.

10 282. Through the state entertainment tax and the general tourism revenue derived  
11 from Nevada's reputation as a legal haven for commercial sex, State Defendants knowingly  
12 benefit financially and by receiving something of value, knowing or in reckless disregard of  
13 the fact that they are participating in sex trafficking ventures.

14 283. Through the state entertainment tax and the general tourism revenue derived  
15 from Nevada's reputation as a commercial sex haven, State Defendants knowingly benefit  
16 financially and by receiving something of value, from what they know or should know are sex  
17 trafficking ventures.

18 284. Through local taxes, licensing fees, and the general tourism revenue derived  
19 from their reputations as legal havens for commercial sex, City Defendants knowingly benefit,  
20 financially and by receiving something of value, knowing or in reckless disregard of the fact  
21 that they are participating in sex trafficking ventures.

22 285. Through local taxes, licensing fees, and the general tourism revenue derived  
23 from their reputations as legal havens for commercial sex, City Defendants knowingly benefit,  
24 financially and by receiving something of value, from what they know or should know are sex

1 trafficking ventures.

2 286. Through revenues for commercial sex, Sex Industry Defendants knowingly  
3 benefit, financially and by receiving something of value, knowing or in reckless disregard of  
4 the fact that they are participating in sex trafficking ventures.

5 287. Through revenues for commercial sex, Sex Industry Defendants knowingly  
6 benefit, financially and by receiving something of value, from what they know or should know  
7 are sex trafficking ventures.

8 288. Defendants knew that their conduct was in or affected interstate and/or foreign  
9 commerce.

10 289. Defendants' conduct has caused Plaintiffs serious harm, including physical,  
11 psychological, financial, and reputational harm.

12 290. Accordingly, Defendants have violated 18 U.S.C. §§ 1591(a)(2) and 1595(a)  
13 and Plaintiffs are entitled to sue them under § 1595(a).

14 **PRAYER FOR RELIEF**

15 WHEREFORE, Plaintiffs respectfully request that this Court enter judgment against  
16 Defendants and provide Plaintiffs and people currently being sex trafficked within legal  
17 brothels in Nevada jurisdictions which permit prostitution, and within legal escort agencies in  
18 Nevada jurisdictions that do not permit prostitution, with the following relief:

- 19 A. A declaratory judgment as currently implemented and enforced by state and local  
20 practices and policies, the following statutes are unconstitutional: Nev. Rev. Stat. §  
21 244.345 (as to permitting prostitution in certain counties, escorting, and entertainment  
22 by referral service); Nev. Rev. Stat. § 244.335(2) (as to permitting prostitution in  
23 certain counties, escorting, and entertainment by referral service); § Nev. Admin. Code  
24

1 § 441A.800; and the brothel licensing ordinances of Elko, Lander, Lyon, Mineral, Nye,  
2 Storey, and White Pine Counties, to the extent that they permit prostitution: Elko, Nev.,  
3 County Code, "Sexually Oriented Businesses and Employee Licensing Chapter," §6-  
4 11 (2020); Lander, Nev., County Code, "Prostitution," §5.16 (2020); Lyon, Nev.,  
5 County Code, "Lyon County Brothel Ordinance," §5.03 (2020); Mineral, Nev., County  
6 Code, "Prostitution," §5.12 (2019); Nye, Nev., County Code, "Prostitution," §9.20  
7 (2020); Storey, Nev., County Code, "Brothels," §5.16 (2015); and White Pine, Nev.,  
8 County Code, "Prostitution," §10.36 (2021).

9 B. An injunction preventing all Defendants from implementing or enforcing: Nev. Rev.  
10 Stat. § 244.345 (as to permitting prostitution in certain counties, escorting, and  
11 entertainment by referral service); Nev. Rev. Stat. § 244.335(2) (as to permitting  
12 prostitution in certain counties, escorting, and entertainment by referral service); § Nev.  
13 Admin. Code § 441A.800; and the brothel licensing ordinances of Elko, Lander, Lyon,  
14 Mineral, Nye, Storey, and White Pine counties, to the extent that they permit  
15 prostitution; and from any form of perpetrating or financially benefiting from violations  
16 of federal anti-trafficking laws.

17 C. Nominal damages against the State Defendants;

18 D. Compensatory, consequential, general, and punitive damages against the City and Sex  
19 Industry Defendants in an amount to be determined at trial;

20 E. Restitution and disgorgement of all profits and unjust enrichment obtained as a result  
21 of Defendants' unlawful conduct;

22 F. Plaintiffs' reasonable attorneys' fees, costs, and other costs and disbursements in this  
23 action under 42 U.S.C. § 1988; and  
24

1 G. All other further relief to which Plaintiffs may be entitled.

2 DATED this 10th day of September, 2021.

3  
4 /s/ Jason D. Guinasso  
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