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ELECTRONICALLY FILED
by Superior Court of CA,
County of Yolo,
on 5/1/2026 9:01 AM
By: M. Narvaez, Deputy

5 Samuel D. Elswick, Esq. (FL SBN 0105108)
(Pro Hac Vice Application Pending)
6 **THE GORI LAW FIRM, P.C.**
7 37 N. Orange Ave., Ste. 226
8 Orlando, FL 32801
9 Phone (321) 430-0864 | Fax (321) 234-0336
10 Email: selswick@gorilaw.com
11 Attorneys for: PLAINTIFF

11 **SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA**
12 **FOR THE COUNTY OF YOLO**

<p>13 BRIAN M. SAMUELS, on behalf of himself 14 and others similarly situated,</p> <p>15 PLAINTIFF,</p> <p>16 v.</p> <p>17 JOHN DOE NOS. 1-25,</p> <p>18 Defendants.</p>	<p>YOLO CASE NO. CV2026-1200 <i>[Assigned to the Honorable Samuel McAdam]</i></p> <p>VERIFIED APPLICATION FOR ADMISSION PRO HAC VICE OF SAMUEL D. ELSWICK TO APPEAR AS CO-COUNSEL ON BEHALF OF PLAINTIFF; MEMORANDUM OF POINTS AND AUTHORITIES IN SUPPORT THEREOF; DECLARATION OF DIMITRI NICHOLS; DECLARATION OF SAMUEL D. ELSWICK</p> <p>Hearing Date: Time: Dept.: 6/10/2026</p> <p>Action Filed: April 7, 2026 Trial: Not Set</p>
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24 **TO THE COURT, ALL PARTIES HEREIN AND THEIR COUNSEL OF RECORD:**

25 Plaintiff Brian Samuels (“Plaintiff”) hereby move this Court, for an Order admitting Samel D.
26 Elswick (“Mr. Elswick”) *pro hac vice*, pursuant to California Rules of Court, Rule 9.40.

27 Pursuant to Local Rule 11.2, the court will issue a tentative ruling on the merits of the matter by

1 **MEMORANDUM OF POINTS AND AUTHORITIES IN SUPPORT OF**
2 **APPLICATION TO APPEAR AS COUNSEL *PRO HAC VICE***

3
4 **I. INTRODUCTION**

5 By this application, Samuel D. Elswick (“Mr. Elswick”) of The Gori Law Firm, P.C., seeks
6 admission *pro hac vice* to appear as counsel on behalf of Plaintiff Brian M. Samuels, in connection with
7 the instant lawsuit.

8 As set forth in the attached declarations, Mr. Elswick is an attorney with The Gori Law Firm, P.C.
9 located at 37 N. Orange Ave., Suite 226, Orlando, FL 32801, and he resides in [REDACTED].

10 He is a member admitted to practice in the following State Bars and Federal Courts:

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Court	Date Admitted	Bar/ID Number
State Bar of Florida	2013	0105108
State Bar of Kentucky	2009	93371
State Bar of New York	2012	5037312
State Bar of Ohio	2002	0074739
State Bar of Texas	2012	24081828
State Bar of West Virginia	2003	9271
United State District Court for the Southern District of Ohio	2003	N/A
United State District Court for the Northern District of Ohio	2005	N/A
United State District Court for the Southern District of West Virginia	2003	N/A
United State District Court for the Northern District of West Virginia	2006	N/A
United State District Court for Nebraska	2017	N/A

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Southern District of Florida		
United State District Court for the Northern District of Florida	2023	N/A

Mr. Elswick has been retained to appear in this action as co-counsel on behalf of Plaintiffs. Dimitri Nichols of The Gori Law Firm, P.C. is counsel of record. Mr. Elswick is not a resident of the State of California, not regularly employed in the State of California, not regularly engaged in substantial business, professional or other activities in the State of California.

This application is based upon this notice, the attached memorandum of points and authorities, the attached declarations of Dimitri Nichols and Samuel D. Elswick, all other pleadings and papers on file, deemed to be on file, or of which this Court may take Judicial notice at the time this application is heard, and all evidence adduced, and arguments made at the time of the application hearing. A copy of this Application and supporting Memorandum of Points and Authorities, the Declaration of Dimitri Nichols and Declaration of Samuel D. Elswick have been served upon the State Bar of California, along with a \$50 fee, made payable to the State Bar of California, as required by Rule 9.40(e) of the California Rules of Court.

DATED: April 29, 2026

THE GORI LAW FIRM, P.C.

By: 
Dimitri Nichols, Esq.
Attorney for Plaintiffs

1 **MEMORANDUM OF POINTS AND AUTHORITIES IN SUPPORT OF**
2 **APPLICATION TO APPEAR AS COUNSEL *PRO HAC VICE***

3
4 **I. INTRODUCTION**

5 By this application, Samuel D. Elswick (“Mr. Elswick”) of The Gori Law Firm, P.C., seeks
6 admission *pro hac vice* to appear as counsel on behalf of Plaintiff Brian M. Samuels, in connection with
7 the instant lawsuit.

8 As set forth in the attached declarations, Mr. Elswick is an attorney with The Gori Law Firm, P.C.
9 located at 37 N. Orange Ave., Suite 226, Orlando, FL 32801, and he resides in Ashland, Kentucky 41101.
10 He is a member admitted to practice in the following State Bars and Federal Courts:

11

Court	Date Admitted	Bar/ID Number
State Bar of Florida	2013	0105108
State Bar of Kentucky	2009	93371
State Bar of New York	2012	5037312
State Bar of Ohio	2002	0074739
State Bar of Texas	2012	24081828
State Bar of West Virginia	2003	9271
United State District Court for the Southern District of Ohio	2003	N/A
United State District Court for the Northern District of Ohio	2005	N/A
United State District Court for the Southern District of West Virginia	2003	N/A
United State District Court for the Northern District of West Virginia	2006	N/A
United State District Court for Nebraska	2017	N/A

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1	United State District Court for the Middle District of Florida	2019	N/A
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3	United State District Court for the Southern District of Florida	2019	N/A
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5	United State District Court for the Northern District of Florida	2023	N/A
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7 Mr. Elswick neither resides nor is regularly engaged in substantial business, professional, or other
8 activities in the State of California, and has not made repeated appearance in California courts, as
9 contemplated by Rule 9.40 of the California Rules of court. Furthermore, a copy of the instant Verified
10 Application has been submitted to the State Bar of California with the filing fee of \$50 through the
11 Admissions Information Management System (“AIMS”).

12
13 **II. MR. ELSWICK’S VERIFIED APPLICATION SATISFIED ALL THE *PRO HAC***
14 ***VICE ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS.***

15 Rule 9.40 authorizes admission *pro hac vice* unless the person seeking to appear is: (1) a resident
16 of the State of California; (2) regularly employed in the State of California; or (3) regularly engaged in
17 substantial business, professional, or other activities in the State of California.” (Ca. Rules of Court, rule
18 9.40(a).)

19 An application to appear *pro hac vice* must include the following:

- 20 (1) the applicant’s residence and office address;
- 21 (2) the courts to which the applicant has been admitted to practice and the date of admission;
- 22 (3) that the applicant is a member in good standing in those courts;
- 23 (4) that the applicant is not currently suspended or disbarred in any court;
- 24 (5) the title of court and cause in which the applicant has filed an application to appear as
25 counsel *pro hac vice* in this state in the preceding two years, the date of each application,
26 and whether or not it was granted; and
- 27 (6) the name, address, and telephone number of the active member of the State Bar of

1 California who is attorney of record.
2 (Cal. Rules of Court, rule 9.40(d).)

3 An applicant seeking *pro hac vice* admission is also required to pay “reasonable fee no exceeding
4 \$50.00 to the State Bar of California,” and serve a copy of their application upon the State bar of
5 California. (Cal. Rules of Court, rule 9.40(e).)

6 Mr. Elswick is an attorney duly licensed and practicing as such in the State of Florida and is a
7 member in good standing of the State bar of Florida. (*See* Decl. of Samuel D. Elswick [hereinafter
8 “Elswick Decl.”] at ¶ 4.) He neither resides nor is regularly employed in the State of California, is not
9 regularly engaged in substantial business, professional or other activities in this State, as contemplated
10 by California Rules of Court rule 9.40. (*Id.* at ¶¶ 2–3.) Furthermore, a copy of the instant Verified
11 Application has been served upon the State Bar of California with the filing fee of \$50.00 through AIMS.
12 (*Id.* at ¶ 9; *see also* Decl. of Dimitri Nichols at ¶ 2.)

13 As Mr. Elswick meets all of the eligibility requirements set forth in Rule 9.40(e), and his
14 application contains all of the information required by Rule 9.40(d), this Court is respectfully requested
15 to grant Mr. Elswick’s Application to Appear as Counsel *Pro Hac Vice* in this matter, in association with
16 local counsel from The Gori Law Firm, P.C.

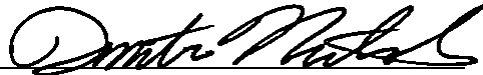
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18 **III. CONCLUSION**

19 Applicant meets the requirements of Cal. Rules of Court 9.40. Therefore, Plaintiff respectfully
20 requests that Mr. Elswick be permitted to appear as co-counsel of record for them in this matter.

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23 DATED: April 29, 2026

THE GORI LAW FIRM, P.C.

24
25 By:


Dimitri Nichols, Esq.
Attorneys for Plaintiffs

**DECLARATION OF ATTORNEY NAME IN SUPPORT OF
VERIFIED APPLICATION TO APPEAR AS COUNSEL PRO HAC VICE**

I, Samuel D. Elswick, declare as follows:

1. I make this declaration in support of my application to appear in this action *pro hac vice* on behalf of Plaintiffs. All of the matters stated herein are of my own personal knowledge and, if called as a witness, I would and could testify competently thereto.

2. I am currently a resident of the State of [REDACTED]. I reside at [REDACTED], [REDACTED] [REDACTED]. My business address is 37 N. Orange Ave., Suite 226, Orlando, FL 32801.

3. I am not a resident of the State of California. I am not regularly employed in the State of California, nor am I regularly engaged in substantial business, professional, or other activities in the State of California.

4. I am an attorney with the law firm of The Gori Law Firm, P.C., licensed and admitted to practice in the following State Bars and Federal Courts:

Court	Date Admitted	Bar/ID Number
Florida	2013	0105108
Kentucky	2009	93371
New York	2012	5037312
Ohio	2002	0074739
Texas	2012	24081828
West Virginia	2003	9271
S.D. Ohio	2003	N/A
N.D. Ohio	2005	N/A
S.D. West Virginia	2003	N/A
N.D. West Virginia	2006	N/A
D. Nebraska	2017	N/A
M.D. Florida	2019	N/A
S.D. Florida	2019	N/A
N.D. Florida	2023	N/A

Since the dates of admission, I have continued to practice in those courts and have, at all times, remained a member in good standing in the above-referenced Courts. Additionally, I am not currently, nor have I ever been, suspended or disbarred from any court.

5. During the two preceding years, I have applied and was granted admission *pro hac vice* in California state court matters for the following case:

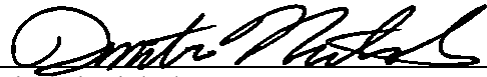
DECLARATION OF DIMITRI NICHOLS
IN SUPPORT OF APPLICATION TO APPEAR *PRO HAC VICE*

I, DIMITRI NICHOLS, declare:

1. I am an attorney at law duly licensed to practice in the State of California. I am an associate in the law firm of The Gori Law Firm, P.C., counsel of record for BRIAN SAMUELS (“Plaintiff”) in the above-captioned matter action. All of the matters stated herein are of my own personal knowledge and, if called as a witness, I would and could testify competently thereto.

2. On April 29, 2026, an online motion was completed at the following web address <https://admissions.calbar.ca.gov/s/pro-hac-vice-application> of the State Bar of California on behalf of attorney Samuel D. Elswick for the purposes of his gaining pro hac vice permission to act as co-counsel for Plaintiffs in this action. Attached as Exhibit “A” and incorporated herein by this reference is a true and correct copy of the Pro Hac Vice Application Acknowledgement Notice. Also attached as Exhibit “B”, is a true and correct copy that payment has been received by the State Bar of California in the sum of \$615.00.

I declare under penalty of perjury pursuant to the laws of the State of California that the foregoing is true and correct and that this declaration was executed April 29, 2026, at Torrance, California.



Dimitri Nichols,
Declarant

EXHIBIT A

From: [State Bar of California - Special Admissions](#)
To: [Sam D. Elswick](#); [Angela M. Red](#)
Subject: Pro Hac Vice Application Acknowledgement Notice
Date: Wednesday, April 29, 2026 3:11:30 PM

You don't often get email from special.admissions@calbar.ca.gov. [Learn why this is important](#)



PHV Application's Case Number: 01358680
Trial Case Name: Brian M. Samuels v. John Doe Nos. 1-25
Trial Case Number: CV2026-1200

Dear Angela Red,

Your Pro Hac Vice (PHV) application has been received.

Ensure that you have submitted the following in connection with your PHV application.

- A copy of the application to the court, which meets the requirements of [rule 9.40](#) of the California Rules of Court; and
- The notice of hearing, if applicable.

If you have not yet submitted the above documentation, please do so within 60 days of submission of your PHV application by responding to this email or uploading the documents in the Applicant Portal following the steps below.

- Log in to your [Applicant Portal](#).
- Click "Special Admissions" at the top of the home page.
- Select "Pro Hac Vice."
- Under "Upload documents to a previously submitted application," click "Next."
- Follow the instructions to search for the Application's Case Number listed in this email and upload the required documents.

Failure to provide the required supporting documents within 60 days will result in the abandonment of your PHV application. Please contact the [Special Admissions](#) unit if you need more than 60 days to provide the required documentation. If your PHV application is abandoned, you will not be entitled to a refund and must submit a new PHV application.

Sincerely,

Eligibility and Special Admissions, Office of Admissions
[The State Bar of California](#)

ref:!00Dt00TZax.!500cs01!XHT9:ref

EXHIBIT B

From: [State Bar of California - Admissions](#)
To: [Angela M. Red](#)
Subject: State Bar Of California* Payment Has Been Received
Date: Wednesday, April 29, 2026 12:21:06 PM

You don't often get email from admissions@calbar.ca.gov. [Learn why this is important](#)

Banner



Dear Angela Red,

Thank you for submitting your payment. It is currently being processed. Please allow 7 days for the bank to verify and process the payment. If there are any issues with your payment, you will be notified directly. A detailed breakdown of your transaction is below:

Application Type : Pro Hac Vice Application

Original Subtotal : \$ 600.00
Service Fee : \$ 15.00
Total Paid Amount : \$ 615.00
Payment Date : 04/29/2026

Sincerely,

State Bar Of California*
180 Howard St.
San Francisco, CA 94105
US

Please do not reply to this message. This email is not regularly monitored.

State Bar Of California*, 180 Howard St., San Francisco, CA 94105, US

