1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12		Electronically FILED by Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles 8/23/2024 10:04 AM David W. Slayton, Executive Officer/Clerk of Court, By L. Smith, Deputy Clerk HE STATE OF CALIFORNIA	
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15	YOUNES YOUNES, on behalf of himself and all others similarly situated,	Case No.: 24STCV12520	
16	Plaintiff,	FURTHER STATUS CONFERENCE STATEMENT	
17	V.	Assigned for All Purposes to:	
18	ELVIRA TAYLOR and DOES 1 through 200, inclusive, Defendants.	Judge: The Hon. Elihu Berle Date: August 28, 2024 Time: 8:30 a.m. Place: 312 N. Spring Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012	
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	FURTHER STATUS CONFERENCE STATEMENT #271218.1		

Pursuant to the August 6, 2024 Preliminary Injunction Order (the "Preliminary Injunction
Order"), Plaintiff Younes Younes ("Plaintiff") submits this Further Status Conference Statement
in advance of the Further Status Conference scheduled for August 28, 2024, at 8:30 a.m. The
parties are not filing a joint further status conference statement because, as explained further
below, after Plaintiff's counsel served Defendants all documents filed in this matter thus far,
Defendants have not made an appearance or otherwise contacted Plaintiff's counsel. Thus,
Plaintiff has not been able to meet and confer with Defendants.

On May 20, 2024, Plaintiff filed his Verified Complaint on behalf of himself and other
similarly situated victims of Defendants' "pig butchering" scheme. Plaintiff alleges Defendants,
whose identities are unknown, stole over \$400,000 of electronic cryptocurrency from Plaintiff,
and after exhaustive factual investigation, counsel for Plaintiff identified the electronic "wallets"
in which Defendants have placed these stolen proceeds.

On June 11, 2024, Plaintiff filed his *Ex Parte* Application for a Temporary Restraining
Order ("TRO") and OSC Re: Preliminary Injunction to temporarily seize these proceeds, provide
electronic notice to Defendants, and enable Defendants to challenge this seizure (if they wished)
at a hearing on a motion for a preliminary injunction.

On June 14, 2024, this Court ruled on the papers and initially denied the application
without prejudice to filing a noticed motion.

One June 18, 2024, Plaintiff filed his *Ex Parte* Application for Reconsideration of the
June 14, 2024 Minute Order. On June 26, 2024, Plaintiff's counsel appeared before this Court for
a hearing on this matter.

On June 27, 2024, this Court issued an Order Granting *Ex Parte* Application for
Reconsideration and Granting Order to Show Cause for Preliminary Injunction and Temporary
Restraining Order (the "TRO Order"). The TRO Order explained entry of the TRO without prior
notice to Defendants was appropriate given the nature of the cryptocurrency theft at issue, the
alleged use of fictitious identities by the Defendants, and the fact that the cryptocurrency assets
at issue may be instantly transferred to locations beyond the reach of this Court were Defendants
notified in advance of the potential seizure of this cryptocurrency.

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## FURTHER STATUS CONFERENCE STATEMENT

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1 Per the TRO Order, Plaintiff was required to serve a copy of the TRO Order, and all  $\mathbf{2}$ supporting documents filed in connection therewith, as well as the Verified Complaint, 3 summons, and all other orders of the Court in this matter, within five days of the issuance of the 4 TRO Order on Defendant Elvira Taylor and on the owners of each of the wallets identified in Appendix A of the TRO Order, Binance Holdings Ltd., and OK Group, and/or any of their  $\mathbf{5}$ 6 agents, servants, employees, attorneys, affiliates, partners, successors, assigns, subsidiaries, or 7 any other persons through which they act, or who act in active concert or participation with any 8 of them (collectively, the "Enjoined Parties"), through a special purpose token or similar device 9 delivered into each the wallets identified in Appendix A of the TRO Order. Each of these service 10 tokens was to contain a hyperlink to a website maintained by Plaintiff's counsel that included the 11 TRO Order and all papers upon which it is based, the Verified Complaint and summons, and a 12 hyperlink that includes a mechanism to track when a person clicks on the hyperlink. This process 13 was to constitute actual notice of the TRO Order and sufficient service of process on Defendants 14 and the person or persons controlling the corresponding wallet addresses identified in Appendix 15A of the TRO Order. Per the TRO Order, Plaintiff was to file proof of such service with the 16 Court no later than July 11, 2024.

The Court set a hearing for July 18, 2024<sup>1</sup> at 11:00 a.m. to show cause why a preliminary 1718 injunction should not be ordered restraining the Enjoined Parties. Any papers opposing the Order 19 to Show Cause or preliminary injunction were to be filed with the Court and served upon 20Plaintiff by the Enjoined Parties no later than July 11, 2024. Reply papers by Plaintiff, if any, 21were to be filed with the Court and served on the Enjoined Parties no later than July 15, 2024. 22On June 28, 2024, Plaintiff's counsel contacted OK Group and Binance Holdings Ltd. to 23 seek a voluntary freeze of the wallets and sent a courtesy copy of the TRO Order. After OK 24Group and Binance Holdings Ltd. confirmed the wallets were frozen, Plaintiff's counsel served 25the TRO Order, all supporting documents filed in connection therewith, the Verified Complaint, 26summons, all other orders of the Court in this matter, and all other documents filed in this matter 27thus far on OK Group on July 2, 2024 and on Binance Holdings Ltd. on July 4, 2024. Plaintiff's 28<sup>1</sup> As explained further below, the hearing was continued to August 6, 2024. FURTHER STATUS CONFERENCE STATEMENT

#271218.1

counsel followed the specific process outlined above and in the TRO Order. Per the TRO Order,
 completion of this process constituted actual notice of the TRO Order and sufficient service of
 process on Defendants and the person or persons controlling the corresponding wallet addresses
 identified in Appendix A of the TRO Order. Plaintiff filed a proof of service on July 11, 2024
 and a supplemental proof of service on July 15, 2024.

6 Due in part to technical issues the Court faced, the July 18, 2024 hearing to show cause 7 why a preliminary injunction should not be ordered restraining the Enjoined Parties was 8 continued to August 5, 2024 and then to August 6, 2024. During the August 6, 2024, the Court 9 issued the Preliminary Injunction Order. On the same day, as required by the court, Plaintiff 10 posted with the Court a cash undertaking of one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00). OK Group and 11 Binance Holdings Ltd. received the Preliminary Injunction Order on August 6, 2024 by email. 12 Plaintiff served the Preliminary Injunction Order on the Enjoined Parties on August 22, 2024. 13 To date, while OK Group and Binance Holdings Ltd. confirmed they froze the wallets 14 identified in Appendix A of the TRO Order, Defendants have not made an appearance or 15otherwise contacted Plaintiff's counsel. Consequently, Plaintiff has not been able to meet and 16 confer with Defendants regarding the topics outlined in the June 6, 2024 Minute Order and Initial 17Status Conference Order or any other issues in this case.

> 4 FURTHER STATUS CONFERENCE STATEMENT

19 Dated: August 23, 2024

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