FEE EXEMP Jimmy L. Gutierrez (SBN 59448) Arturo N. Fierro (SBN 141091) GUTIERREZ, FIÈRRO & ERÍCKSON, A.P.C. 12616 Central Avenue Chino, California 91710 Telephone: (909) 591-6336 (909) 628-9803 Facsimile: 4 Attorneys for Defendant, City of Chino 5 6 7 SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA 8 FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO - RANCHO CUCAMONGA DISTRICT 9 10 CASE NUMBER: RCV 51010 11 CHINO BASIN MUNICIPAL WATER [Assigned for All Purposes to the Honorable DISTRICT. 12 Stanford E. Reichert] 13 CITY OF CHINO'S REPLY TO Plaintiff, WATERMASTER'S OPPOSITION TO 14 CITY OF CHINO'S MOTION TO ٧. PERMIT CHINO TO CONDUCT 15 CITY OF CHINO, et al., DISCOVERY 16 Defendants. Date: February 26, 2016 17 Time: 1:30 p.m. Dept.: R6 18 (FEE-EXEMPT PURSUANT TO GOVERNMENT 19 CODE § 6103) 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28

CITY OF CHINO'S REPLY TO WATERMASTER'S OPPOSITION TO CITY OF CHINO'S MOTION TO PERMIT CHINO TO CONDUCT DISCOVERY

Document No. 25912

#### TABLE OF CONTENTS

1			
2	I.	. INTRODUCTION	
3	II.	DISCU	SSION2
4		1.	Watermaster's Opposition and the Attached Transcripts Confirm that
5			Watermaster has Sided with the Other Parties against Chino2
6		2.	Watermaster's Status as a Court-Created Entity does not Insulate it from
7			Discovery3
8		3.	Chino has had no Opportunity to Informally Obtain Information from
9			Watermaster's Expert about the Bases for the 2015 SYRA6
10		4.	Since Watermaster has Initiated Litigation to Change the Status Quo, the
11			Entry of the Judgment does not Prevent Chino from Using Discovery to
12			Challenge Watermaster's Evidence9
13		5.	Due Process Demands that Chino be Permitted to Perform Discovery and
14			Obtain the Evidence it Needs to Defend the Rights of Watermaster Seeks to
15			Take Away 10
16	III.	CONC	LUSION
17			
18			
19			
20			
21			
22			
23			
24			
25			
26			
27			
28		y	
			Document No. 25012

#### TABLE OF AUTHORITIES

2	<u>CASES</u> <u>PAGE(S)</u>					
3 4	Bonds v. Roy (1999) 20 Cal,4th 140					
5 6	City of Fairfield v. Superior Court (E.P. Anderson) [1975] 14 Cal.3d 768					
7 8	County of Santa Clara v. Superior Court (2010) 50 Cal.4th 3511					
9 10	De Los Santos v. Superior Court (1980) 27 Cal.3d 677					
11 12	Dozier v. Shapiro (2011) 199 Cal.App.4th 1509					
13 14	Gonzalez v. Toews (2003) 111 Cal.App.4th 977					
15 16	Harabedian v. Superior Court (1961) 195 Cal.App.2d 26					
17 18	Howard v. Drapkin (1990) 222 Cal.App.3d 843					
19 20	In re Aurora P. (2015) 241 Cal.App.4th 1142					
21 22	In re Marriage of Boblitt (2014) 223 Cal.App.4th 1004					
23 24	Jay v. Mahaffey (2013) 218 Cal.App.4th 1522					
25 26	(N.Y. Sup. Ct., Dec. 10, 2015) N.Y.S.3d					
27 28	Lafayette Morehouse, Inc. v. Chronicle Publishing Co. (1995) 37 Cal.App.4th 855					
	ii Document No. 25912 CITY OF CHINO'S REPLY TO WATERMASTER'S OPPOSITION TO CITY OF CHINO'S MOTION TO PERMIT CHINO TO CONDUCT DISCOVERY					

1	(1076) 424 I C 210		
2			
3	70010 204 Oct A 445 1024		
4			
5	Susan A. v. County of Sonoma		
6	(1991) 2 Cal.App.4th 886		
7	Today's Fresh Start, Inc. v. Los Angeles County Office of Educ.  (2013) 57 Cal.4th 19711		
8	(2013) 37 Califui 197		
9	United States v. Morgan (1941) 313 U.S. 409		
10			
11			
12	CALIFORNIA CONSTITUTIONAL PROVISIONS		
13	Article I, Section 7		
14	Article VI, Section 15		
15	Article VI, Section 215		
16			
17	UNITED STATE CONSTITUTION		
18	Fifth Amendment11		
19	Fourteenth Amendment		
20			
21	STATUTES AND CODES		
22	CODE OF CIVIL PROCEDURE		
23	Section 1094.55		
24	Section 2016.020(a)		
25	Section 2017.010		
26	Section 2024.050		
27	Section 2024.050(a)9		
28	Section 2031.230		
	iii Document No. 25912		

CHINO TO CONDUCT DISCOVERY

1	EVIDENCE CODE
2	Section 356 a.,
3	Section 732
4	FEDERAL RULES OF EVIDENCE
5	Section 706(b)(2)
6	
7	
8	
9	
10	
11	
12	
13	
14	
15	
16	
17	
18	
19	
20	
21	
22	
23	
24	
25	
26	
27	
28	

#### INTRODUCTION

Chino's motion explained that Watermaster, designed to be the neutral administrator of this Court's judgment, has abandoned that role. It has sided with the other parties to the judgment, and against Chino. The transcripts attached to Watermaster's opposition confirm that Watermaster has taken sides against Chino. Watermaster has moved for Court approval of the SYRA, which will benefit the other parties at Chino's expense. It is presenting evidence to support its position. Chino needs evidence to respond. The only way to obtain that evidence is discovery.

Watermaster argues that discovery is inappropriate, because Watermaster was formed by the Court and because discovery of quasi-judicial bodies is inappropriate. But Watermaster is not an adjudicative body. It is not acting in any judicial or quasi-judicial capacity by moving for approval of the SYRA. It is simply a moving party that is presenting evidence. Chino is entitled to pursue discovery into that evidence.

Watermaster further argues that because a judgment has been entered, no discovery is appropriate. Yet Watermaster has presented this Court with an equitable issue to adjudicate. It is seeking injunctive relief. That is good cause for this Court to allow Chino discovery.

Finally, Watermaster argues that discovery is not necessary because Chino had, and has, informal access to Watermaster's information. But Watermaster fails to explain how the information available to Chino addressed the specific issues Chino raises in its discovery motion. In particular, it fails to explain how Chino's and its consultant's access to Watermaster's expert *before* that expert rendered his current opinions can substitute for Chino's right to conduct discovery to explore the bases for those opinions.

Watermaster proposes to take substantial water rights away from Chino. Due process demands that Chino be permitted to seek information to challenge that taking. That is what Chino's motion seeks. Chino respectfully requests that the Court allow it to conduct discovery.

///

### 3

## 5

4

## 6

# 8

## 9 10

11

12

13 14

15

16

17 18

19

20 21

22

23 24

25

26

27

28

#### DISCUSSION

#### Watermaster's Opposition and the Attached Transcripts Confirm That 1. Watermaster Has Sided with the Other Parties against Chino

In its motion, Chino points out that Watermaster has acted as an advocate against Chino and the Jurupa Community Services District (JCSD).

In its Opposition, Watermaster acknowledges that its Motion seeks an amendment to the Judgment to reset the Safe Yield, supplemental orders pertaining to the Court's prior orders and further interpretations of those same orders pertaining to the "Court-Approved Management Agreements." (Opp., 2:9-12; 3:11-12; 4:14-15; 5:22-25; 6:14; 7:10; and 12:27 to 13:1.) Specifically, the Opposition states Watermaster "is...recommending interpretations of these same prior orders" (Opp. 2:11-12), "has recommended a judicial construction of the Court's prior orders and approval of Court-Approved Management Agreements" (Opp. 3:11-12), "requests that the Court . . . order Watermaster to comply with the provisions of the 2015 SYRA" (Opp. 4:14-15), "Watermaster has filed a motion to the Court regarding subject matter where it has no independent power itself to bind any Party or the Court. Court review and approval is required to amend the Judgment and to construe prior Court orders" (Opp. 5:22-24) and "the Court is requested to approve Watermaster's recommendations" (Opp. 6:14).

Like its Motion, Watermaster's Opposition does not describe the substance of its requests to interpret the Court's prior orders and Court-Approved Management Agreements (the Peace Agreements) and their adverse impacts to Chino and JCSD. Yet, the requested orders would direct Watermaster to take 36,757 acre-feet of CHINO'S fully vested stored water to take 20,000 acre-feet of water from the annual Safe Yield (and then from the annual unproduced Agricultural Pool amount), which will result in a corresponding reduction in the annual allocation of Basin Safe Yield water to Chino and JCSD for their land use conversion claims.

Likewise, the two transcripts of Watermaster Board Meetings that Watermaster attached to its opposition brief as exhibits confirm that Watermaster has assumed an

adversarial role against Chino. In Exhibit 1, a transcript of the May 28, 2015 meeting, Chino City Attorney Jimmy Gutierrez explains at length how the proposed plan in the Key Principles document will injure Chino. (Opp. Ex. 1, pp. 13-18.) Mr. Gutierrez also asked Watermaster to refrain from approving the Key Principles and not become a party to the unfairness against Chino. (Opp. Ex. 1, p. 15.) Watermaster's chairman responds with hostility: "Does the City of Chino actually contend that, as the arm of the Court, this Board should ignore what its consultant, after much, much, effort, determined . . . because the City of Chino just says so?" (Id., p. 18.) In Exhibit 2, a transcript of the September 24, 2015 meeting, Gutierrez again protested the plan in the Safe Yield Reset Agreement (SYRA), and its negative effect on Chino. (Opp. Ex. 2, pp. 16-17.) The chairman responded by "tak[ing] exception" to Chino "telling me what my job is and what it isn't" and stating that Chino's objections were not "really helpful to the process." (Id., p. 19.) The chairman dismissed Chino's objections as "pleas of woe is me without citations to authority . . . ." (Ibid.)

Watermaster is not acting as a mere neutral administrator of the judgment. It is taking sides. On one side are Chino and JCSD, which will bear the burden of the change. On the other are the other parties—who will reap the benefits—and Watermaster.

# 2. Watermaster's Status as a Court-Created Entity Does Not Insulate It from Discovery

In its Opposition, Watermaster contends that it is an extension of the Court, and therefore not subject to discovery. It asserts that in "recommending" approval of the 2015 SYRA, "Watermaster was functioning as an arm of this Court, and was acting as the preliminary finder of fact, much like a referee." (Opp., 8:13-14.) It argues it was making "quasi-judicial" decisions, which are not subject to discovery. (Opp., 8:11-12.)

Neither the law nor the facts support Watermater's position. Watermaster is not acting in a judicial or quasi-judicial capacity, and its connection with the Court does not insulate it from discovery.

To begin with, Watermaster acknowledges that it is taking a position against Chino and JCSD and that it filed its Motion to obtain the Court's approval of the SYRA and an order

directing Watermaster to comply with the SYRA. This is not a quasi-judicial act even if Watermaster had such authority. And, Watermaster does not have quasi-judicial authority. Nothing in the Judgment confers such authority to Watermaster and Watermaster does not argue otherwise. In fact, Paragraph 16 of the Judgment limits Watermaster's role to administering and enforcing the provisions of the Judgment and subsequent orders.

However, Watermaster attempts to support its argument by referring to two unrelated lines of authority.

One line holds that, just as parties cannot serve discovery upon a judge to find out what he or she considered in making a decision, parties cannot propound discovery upon public officials regarding those officials' quasi-judicial decisions. (City of Fairfield v. Superior Court (E.P. Anderson) (1975) 14 Cal.3d 768, 779 [A use permit applicant cannot depose city councilmembers who were decision makers in an administrative hearing on the permit application; and the councilmembers were performing quasi-judicial decision making]; United States v. Morgan (1941) 313 U.S. 409, 421-422 [after Secretary of Agriculture presides over administrative evidentiary hearing to set rates, he cannot be deposed about his decision].

The other line holds that "absolute quasi-judicial immunity" from civil lawsuits for damages applies to persons other than judges who are acting in a quasi-judicial capacity. (Howard v. Drapkin (1990) 222 Cal.App.3d 843, 852-853.) It also applies to people connected with the judicial process, such as receivers and persons appointed by the courts for their expertise; and persons involved in alternative methods of dispute resolution, such as mediators and neutral fact-finders. (Id. at pp. 855, 858-859.)

Watermaster relies on the two concepts by arguing that it has quasi-judicial immunity as a "fact-finder"; and, therefore, it is not subject to discovery into the bases for its recommendation of approval for the SYRA. (Opp., 8:6-25.)

Watermaster's conclusion is incorrect. There is no authority extending the quasi-judicial immunity from *suit* for those connected with court proceedings to immunity from *discovery*. Under *Howard*, there is immunity from suit where a party seeks to sue a neutral, court appointed evaluator. Here, there is no lawsuit against Watermaster.

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

Under Fairfield, discovery is improper only when it is directed to those acting in a quasi-judicial capacity—i.e., hearing evidence, applying the law, and making final decisions. (E.g., Fairfield, supra, 14 Cal.3d at pp. 772-773, 777-778; Morgan, supra, at pp. 413-415, 422.) In moving for approval of the SYRA, Watermaster is not acting in a quasi-judicial capacity.

Although Watermaster states that it is making the motion "in its role as an arm of the Court," (Opp., 8:6), its ability to exercise quasi-judicial powers as a Court creation is constitutionally prohibited. (Cal. Const., art. VI, §§ 1, 21.)

Clearly, Watermaster is not acting in a quasi-judicial role. It is not hearing evidence, applying the law, and making an administrative decision, subject to administrative-mandamus review by this Court under Code of Civil Procedure section 1094.5. (Compare Fairfield, supra, 14 Cal.3d at pp. 772-773.)

It is therefore no different from other court-appointed persons or entities, such as guardians ad litem, conservators, receivers, or court-appointed experts. No law insulates such entities from discovery. (See, e.g., De Los Santos v. Superior Court (1980) 27 Cal.3d 677, 681, 683-684 [deposition of guardian ad litem, an officer of the court]; Evid. Code, § 732 [permitting any party to call, examine, and cross-examine court-appointed expert]; Fed. R. Evid. 706(b)(2) [permitting party deposition of court-appointed experts in federal court]; K.C. v. J. C. (N.Y. Sup. Ct., Dec. 10, 2015) N.Y.S.3d [2015 N.Y. Slip Op. 25421] [neutral evaluator in family law case subject to pre-trial discovery].)

As the New York court noted in K.C., supra, "It is beyond cavil that this Court must have access to good science and the most reliable data" and giving counsel and the parties access to the underlying notes and raw data "is undoubtedly the surest means of uncovering any bias on the part of the evaluator and any deficiencies or errors in the report, particularly where such bias or deficiencies or errors may not be evident from the conclusions expressed in the report." (Ibid.) This Court needs good science and reliable data. The best way to test Watermaster's data is to permit Chino to conduct discovery into it.

4

10

11 12

13

14 15

16

17

18

19 20

21

22

23 24

25

26

27

28

Watermaster's position is further undermined by its role as an advocate against Chino. Even where the issue is immunity from lawsuit, "the focus is . . . on a nonadvocate vs. (Howard, supra, 222 Cal.App.3d at p. 859.) The psychologist in advocate analysis." Howard, who mediated a child custody dispute, was not an advocate for either parent. He was therefore entitled to the same quasi-judicial immunity from suit as neutrals who attempt to resolve other disputes. (Id. at pp. 859-860.) By contrast, evaluators retained by parties (even through a court-appointed attorney) are not subject to immunity, because they are advocates. (Susan A. v. County of Sonoma (1991) 2 Cal. App. 4th 88, 97-98.)

Watermaster cannot advocate for the other parties against Chino, and then claim that it is acting in a neutral, quasi-judicial capacity. Watermaster has presented evidence to the Court to support its recommendation that the Court enter a decision against Chino. Chino should be allowed to pursue discovery into the bases behind that evidence. Watermaster has failed to show otherwise.

#### Chino Has Had No Opportunity to Informally Obtain Information from 3. Watermaster's Expert About the Bases for the 2015 SYRA

Chino's motion outlined the specific factual issues underlying the 2015 SYRA motion on which Chino needs discovery. (Motion, 5:14-6:25; Gutierrez decl. in support of motion, paras. 13-15.) Watermaster responds by arguing that Chino has had "countless" opportunities to review expert reports, and interview staff and consultants on the subject matter of the motion; Chino's professional consultants had opportunities to interview Watermaster expert Mark Wildermuth; and the arithmetic calculations on the quantities of water in storage are available. (Opp., 3:25-4:8, 9:4-12:22; Kavounas decl., paras. 3-6; Herrema decl., paras. 2-4, 6.) But, Watermaster has failed to show that it has the exact information that Chino seeks. It has not. Watermaster also fails to show that Chino has been permitted to obtain the specific information it seeks—the information it needs to present evidence in opposition to the SYRA motion. It has not.

The evidence Watermaster presents to support its information-access arguments consists of the declarations of Watermaster General Manager Peter Kavounas and attorney

Bradley J. Herrema, along with the attachments to those declarations. None of that evidence indicates that Chino has had access to the specific information it seeks.

Paragraphs 3-6 of the Kavounas declaration talk generally about information being available to the parties, but none of them specifically state that Watermaster has maintained and made available information relevant to the issues specified in Chino's motion. Paragraphs 5 and 6 state that Chino had the opportunity to participate in processes, workshops, and model review sessions leading up to the SYRA motion; but they do not state that the bases for the changes to the status quo—the need to take Chino's water rights away—were provided in those proceedings. Kavounas does not state that he has searched Watermaster records for the data Chino requests, to determine whether that data exists—a task Watermaster staff would have to undertake if Chino is permitted to conduct discovery. (See, e.g., Code Civ. Proc., § 2031.230.)

Kavounas declares that under Watermaster Resolution No. 01-03, Watermaster documents and records are available on request; yet Chino did not file a request for information as to the SYRA motion. (Kavounas decl., para. 4 and Attachment 1.) But neither Kavounas's declaration, nor Watermaster's opposition, explains why Chino's motion for discovery is not a written "request" for information under the resolution.

Further, nothing in Resolution No. 01-03 requires Watermaster to provide any of the information Chino seeks. Under the "Guidelines in section III of the Resolution, Watermaster staff need only "consider" requests "on a case-by-case basis . . . ." And the Guidelines restrict the information that will be provided. In particular, section III.C. restricts access to records such as engineer records and recommendations, as well as discussions or references to pending litigation. By contrast, if Chino requests information through discovery, Watermaster has no discretion; it *must* produce the information Chino seeks, or else face court sanctions.

Herrema's declaration states that during the non-disclosure agreement ("FANDA") negotiations, Chino requested and was provided the opportunity to have its technical expert meet with Wildermuth. (Herrema decl., para. 3.) Watermaster appears to contend that this discussion serves as a substitute for formal discovery into Wildermuth's report in support of

13 14

16 17

15

18 19

20

21

22 23

24

25

26 27

28

the SYRA motion and the factual bases for Wildermuth's opinions. But it does not, for multiple reasons. First, the discussion between Chino's expert consultant Robert Shibatani's interview of Wildermuth took place in April 2015—before the 2015 SYRA was drafted. (Gutierrez decl., attached, para, 2.) Chino therefore has not had the chance to examine Wildermuth on the opinions he offers in support of the SYRA motion or the data and assumptions on which he bases those opinions. In litigation, effective expert discovery requires that a party know at the time of discovery the opinions the expert will offer in court, so that the party knows which opinions to probe and what questions must be asked. (See Bonds v. Roy (1999) 20 Cal.4th 140, 146-147; Dozier v. Shapiro (2011) 199 Cal.App.4th 1509, 1523-1524.)

Next, Herrema fails to state that both he and Mr. Kavounas attended the meeting between Mr. Wildermuth and Mr. Shibatani. This is significant, because they would know whether the information that Chino seeks was revealed at the meeting and could have identified that information. They have not. (Gutierrez decl., para. 4.)

Further, Watermaster does not explain how information Chino and its consultant obtained during the negotiation of FANDA would be admissible. The non-disclosure agreement would prevent Chino from disclosing that information. (Gutierrez decl., para. 3.) Watermaster argues that FANDA's preclusive effect "does not mean that specific facts are not independently demonstrable." (Opp., p. 10, fn. 4.) Exactly. One of the reasons Chino seeks discovery is so that it can put on proof independent of matters precluded by FANDA.

Moreover, Chino's consultant's ability to relate the information he received out-ofcourt from Watermaster's expert would be limited. (See People v. Baker (2012) 204 Cal.App.4th 1234, 1246 [expert may rely upon reliable hearsay, and testify as to source, but may not relate hearsay statements to prove the truth of the matters asserted].) Information elicited through discovery is not so limited.

<sup>1</sup> Chino should be permitted to respond to Watermaster's evidence by presenting reply evidence putting Watermaster's evidence into context. (See Jay v. Mahaffey (2013) 218 Cal.App.4th 1522, 1538 [while new evidence in motion reply generally frowned upon, parties have right to file reply declarations to fill gaps in the evidence created by the opposition to the motion]; Evid. Code, § 356 [rule of completeness].)

 Herrema further declares that in November 2015, Watermaster legal counsel "indicated" to Gutierrez that Chino was free to interview Wildermuth again on any question on the updated Basin model and the redetermination of the safe yield, "but that if Mr. Gutierrez wished to question Mr. Wildermuth under oath, he should seek the Court's authority to do so." (Herrema decl., para. 5.) Herrema fails to explain how an attorney's interview of an expert who is *not* under oath would provide Chino with admissible evidence. Admissible evidence requires eliciting information under penalty of perjury. Since Watermaster states that Chino must seek this Court's authority to do so, that is what Chino is doing.

Finally, Herrema declares that he does not know of any discovery that has ever been authorized against Watermaster. (Herrema decl., para. 7.) He does not state whether anyone has ever *asked* to pursue discovery before now, or the results of any such request. And he does not offer any reason why Watermaster would be immune from discovery.

Watermaster has presented evidence. Chino needs evidence to respond. It cannot obtain admissible responsive evidence without discovery. Watermaster has failed to show otherwise.

4. Since Watermaster Has Initiated Litigation to Change the Status Quo, The Entry of the Judgment Does Not Prevent Chino from Using Discovery to Challenge Watermaster's Evidence

Watermaster tries to argue that there is no basis for allowing post-judgment discovery against Chino. It concedes that there may be circumstances "in which discovery would be appropriate" given the Court's continuing jurisdiction and equitable authority. (Opp., 12:24-26.) But it contends that Code of Civil Procedure section 2024.050, subdivision (a) permits the Court to reopen discovery post-judgment only if a new trial has been set. It asserts that there is no new trial date here.

But In re Marriage of Boblitt (2014) 223 Cal.App.4th 1004—cited in both the motion and the opposition—construed section 2024.050 to apply not only when a literal new trial date has been set, but also in other situations where the parties need access to post judgment discovery on a post judgment matter. (Id. at p. 1024 [marital dissolution case].) Watermaster

attempts to confine *Boblitt* to marital dissolution cases, arguing that in such cases the Family Code could provide independent authority for post judgment discovery. (Opp., 4:26-5:14.) Watermaster ignores that in *Boblitt* the appellate court concluded that the Family Code provisions providing for limited post judgment discovery did not apply; and that the discovery provisions in the Code of Civil Procedure—specifically, section 2024.050—controlled. (*Boblitt*, at pp. 1022-1024.) *Boblitt* therefore establishes that section 2024.050 permits a court to grant leave for post-judgment discovery when it is needed. And it is needed here.

Watermaster also argues that the Judgment that creates Watermaster does not specifically provide for discovery. (Opp., 5:14-8:4.) But it does not need to. The Civil Discovery Act does. That Act applies to any civil action or special proceeding. (Code Civ. Proc., §§ 2016.020, subd. (a), 2017.010.) As explained above, Code of Civil Procedure section 2024.050, as interpreted by *Boblitt*, *supra*, permits discovery here. The Judgment gave this Court continuing jurisdiction over the Judgment's enforcement; and proceedings under that continuing jurisdiction are subject to the Civil Discovery Act.

Finally, the Court has inherent authority to permit discovery—an authority codified in the Civil Discovery Act. (See *Harabedian v. Superior Court* (1961) 195 Cal.App.2d 26, 31 [discussing authority to permit physical examination].) That authority should be exercised to permit discovery when due process demands it. As discussed next, due process demands it here.

# 5. Due Process Demands That Chino Be Permitted to Perform Discovery and Obtain the Evidence It Needs to Defend the Rights Watermaster Seeks to Take Away

Behind all of Watermaster's technical arguments, addressed above, is the underlying theme that Watermaster wants the Court to take away Chino's water rights without giving Chino the right to conduct discovery and obtain the evidence needed to oppose that taking. It wants the Court to take away Chino's rights without giving Chino an adequate opportunity to be heard. It therefore asks the Court to deny Chino its constitutional right to procedural due process.

Procedural due process imposes constraints on governmental decisions which deprive individuals of "liberty" or "property" interests within the meaning of the Due Process Clause of the Fifth or Fourteenth Amendment, or Article I, section 7 of the California Constitution. (Mathews v. Eldridge (1976) 424 U.S. 319, 332; Today's Fresh Start, Inc. v. Los Angeles County Office of Educ. (2013) 57 Cal.4th 197, 212.) The fundamental requirement of due process is the opportunity to be heard at a meaningful time and in a meaningful manner before a right is taken away. (Mathews, at p. 333; Today's Fresh Start, at p. 212.) The right to due process in court litigation includes the right to pursue discovery, if sought and if needed to preserve a party's interests in litigation. (See Lafayette Morehouse, Inc. v. Chronicle Publishing Co. (1995) 37 Cal.App.4th 855, 867-868.)

A public entity such as Chino, defending its interests, is entitled to the same procedural protections as any other litigant. (C.f., CACI 104 [public entity to be treated same as individual litigants]; County of Santa Clara v. Superior Court (2010) 50 Cal.4th 35, 54-55 [public entities protecting property rights against other entities have same rights as individual litigants as to employing counsel].)

Chino seeks discovery. And Chino needs that discovery to protect its interests. As Chino explained in its motion, by seeking a court order changing the status quo, Watermaster is initiating new litigation. "The burden of proof is to law what inertia is to physics—a built-in bias in favor of the status quo." (In re Aurora P. (2015) 241 Cal.App.4th 1142, 1159 [internal quotation marks omitted].) The party that wants the court to do something must present evidence sufficient to overcome the state of affairs if the court did nothing. (Ibid.) The party who seeks to overcome the status quo is assigned the role of "plaintiff". (Ibid.) The status quo here is Chino's existing water rights. Watermaster seeks to change those rights. It is therefore the "plaintiff". And as the party with rights at stake, "defendant" Chino is entitled to attack Watermaster's evidence. (See Gonzalez v. Toews (2003) 111 Cal.App.4th 977, 982 [where court gives credit to plaintiff's evidence, and denies defendant opportunity to offer contrary evidence and argument, defendant is denied a fair trial].) To do so, it needs discovery.

Watermaster should not be permitted to thwart that right by simply asserting that the information is out there, available to Chino, without the need for discovery. Theoretically, in any litigation, the information is "out there" somewhere, and might be developed without discovery. That does not diminish the importance of discovery in obtaining the information the other party has—in light of that party's specific contentions and the issues of the case—in a form that can be introduced into evidence.

Watermaster also tries to paint itself as a judicial entity that has reached its decision through an administrative process of which Chino was a part. But the elements of fairness a litigant enjoys in court were missing from Watermaster's process. Watermaster makes no showing of evidentiary hearings leading to its decision to deprive Chino of its rights. That right comes here, where Watermaster's recommendations are determined by this Court de novo. (See Watermaster Opp., 5:22-25.) Watermaster has the burden of proof in urging this Court to adopt those recommendations. Chino has the due process right to put Watermaster to its proof, and to challenge that proof, through discovery.

Due process entitles Chino to discovery. As explained above, Code of Civil Procedure section 2024.050, *Boblitt*, *supra*, 223 Cal.App.4th at p. 1024, and this Court's inherent authority permit this Court to allow that discovery.

#### III.

#### CONCLUSION

Watermaster' Motion seeks to take Chino's water rights away. It presents evidence to support its bid to do so. Watermaster's Opposition seeks to deprive Chino of its right to contest that taking. Fairness entitles Chino to challenge that evidence. The only way to allow Chino to do so is to grant it leave to pursue the discovery outlined in its motion. Chino respectfully asks the Court to permit that discovery.

Dated: February 1, 2016 GUTIERREZ, FIERRO & ERICKSON, A.P.C.

By:

Jimmy L. Gutierrez

Arturo N. Fierro

Attorneys for Defendant, City of Chino

Document No. 25912

# CHINO BASIN WATERMASTER Case No. RCV 51010 Chino Basin Municipal Water District v. The City of Chino

#### **PROOF OF SERVICE**

#### I declare that:

I am employed in the County of San Bernardino, California. I am over the age of 18 years and not a party to the within action. My business address is Chino Basin Watermaster, 9641 San Bernardino Road, Rancho Cucamonga, California 91730; telephone (909) 484-3888.

On February 1, 2016 I served the following:

1.	CITY OF CHINO'S REPLY TO WATERMASTER'S OPPOSTION TO CITY OF CHINO'S MOTION TO PERMIT CHINO TO CONDUCT DISCOVERT
/ <u>X</u> /	BY MAIL: in said cause, by placing a true copy thereof enclosed with postage thereon fully prepaid, for delivery by United States Postal Service mail at Rancho Cucamonga, California, addresses as follows:  See attached service list: Mailing List 1
<i>I1</i>	BY PERSONAL SERVICE: I caused such envelope to be delivered by hand to the addressee.
<i>II</i>	BY FACSIMILE: I transmitted said document by fax transmission from (909) 484-3890 to the fax number(s) indicated. The transmission was reported as complete on the transmission report, which was properly issued by the transmitting fax machine.
<u>/ X _</u> /	BY ELECTRONIC MAIL: I transmitted notice of availability of electronic documents by electronic transmission to the email address indicated. The transmission was reported as complete on the transmission report, which was properly issued by the transmitting electronic mail device.
I decla	re under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the above is true and

correct.

Executed on February 1, 2016 in Rancho Cucamonga, California.

By: Janine Wilson Chino Basin Watermaster BRIAN GEYE AUTO CLUB SPEEDWAY 9300 CHERRY AVE FONTANA, CA 92335

STEVE ELIE IEUA 3674 WHIRLAWAY LANE CHINO HILLS, CA 91709

DON GALLEANO WMWD 4220 WINEVILLE ROAD MIRA LOMA, CA 91752

JEFF PIERSON PO BOX 1440 LONG BEACH, CA 90801-1440 BOB KUHN THREE VALLEYS MWD 669 HUNTERS TRAIL GLENDORA, CA 91740

TOM THOMAS CITY OF UPLAND 353 EMERSON STREET UPLAND, CA 91784

JIM BOWMAN COUNCIL MEMBER, CITY OF ONTARIO 303 EAST B STREET ONTARIO, CA 91764

ALLEN HUBSCH HOGAN LOVELLS US LLP 1999 AVENUE OF THE STARS SUITE 100 LOS ANGELES, CA 90067 ROBERT BOWCOCK INTEGRATED RESOURCES MGMNT 405 N. INDIAN HILL BLVD CLAREMONT, CA 91711-4724

PAUL HOFER 11248 S TURNER AVE ONTARIO, CA 91761

JAMES CURATALO CUCAMONGA VALLEY WATER DIST PO BOX 638 RANCHO CUCAMONGA, CA 91729

BOB FEENSTRA 2720 SPRINGFIELD ST, ORANGE, CA 92867

#### Members:

Allen W. Hubsch
Andrew Gagen
Andrew Lazenby
Arthur Kidman
Catharine Irvine
Chris Swanberg
Dan McKinney
David Aladjem
Eddy Beltran
Fred Fudacz
Jean Cihigoyenetche
Jerry Eagans

Jill Willis Jim Markman jimmy@city-attorney.com

Joel Kuperberg
John Harper
John Schatz
Joseph S. Aklufi
Kimberly Hall Barlow
Mark D. Hensley
Martin Cihigoyenetche

Michelle Staples
Nick Jacobs
Paeter E. Garcia
Paige H. Gosney
Randy Visser
Robert E. Donlan
Rodney Baker
Steve Kennedy
Tarquin Preziosi
Timothy Ryan
Tom Bunn
Tom McPeters

Tracy J. Egoscue

William J Brunick

Trish Geren

allen.hubsch@hoganlovells.com agagen@kidmanlaw.com lazenbyag@bv.com akidman@kidmanlaw.com

cirvine@DowneyBrand.com chris.swanberg@corr.ca.gov dmckinney@douglascountylaw.com

daladjem@downeybrand.com ebeltran@kidmanlaw.com ffudacz@nossaman.com

Jean\_CGC@hotmail.com geagans@redwineandsherrill.com

jnwillis@bbklaw.com jmarkman@rwglaw.com jimmy@city-attorney.com jkuperberg@rutan.com jrharper@harperburns.com jschatz13@cox.net

AandWLaw@aol.com khb@jones-mayer.com

mhensley@hensleylawgroup.com

martinc@cgclaw.com
mstaples@jdtplaw.com
njacobs@somachlaw.com
paeter.garcia@bbklaw.com
pgosney@jdtplaw.com

RVisser@sheppardmullin.com

red@eslawfirm.com
rodbaker03@yahoo.com
skennedy@bmklawplc.com
tp@jones-mayer.com
tjryan@sgvwater.com
TomBunn@Lagerlof.com
THMcP@aol.com

tracy@egoscuelaw.com tgeren@sheppardmullin.com bbrunick@bmblawoffice.com

#### Members:

Al Lopez Alfonso Ruiz Jr. Andrew Silva Andy Campbell Andy Malone Anna Truong Annette Gonzales Anthony Beckham April Robitaille April Woodruff Arnold "AJ" Gerber Arnold Rodriguez Art Bennett Ashok Dhingra Ben Lewis Ben Peralta Bill Leever Bill Thompson

Bill Thompson
Bob Bowcock
Bob Feenstra
Bob Kuhn
Bob Page
Brad Herrema
Brandon Howard
Brenda Fowler
Brenda Trujillo
Brent Yamasaki
Brian Geye
Brian Hess

Carol Bennett
Carol Boyd
Carolina Sanchez
Casey Costa
Chad Blais

Charles Field
Charles Linder
Charles Moorrees

Chino Hills City Council

Chris Berch Chuck Hays Cindy Cisneros Cindy LaCamera

Cindy Li
Craig Miller
Craig Stewart
Cris Fealy
Curtis Paxton
Curtis Stubbings
Dan Arrighi
Dan Hostetler
Danielle Soto
Danni Maurizio
Darron Poulsen
Daryl Grigsby

Dave Argo
Dave Crosley
David D DeJesus
David De Jesus
David Huskey
David Lovell
David Penrice

lopezsixto@netzero.net Alfonso.Ruiz@gerdau.com

Andrew.Silva@cao.sbcounty.gov

acampbell@ieua.org amalone@weiwater.com ATruong@cbwm.org agonzales@ci.ontario.ca.us beckham@waterexchange.com

arobitaille@bhfs.com awoodruff@ieua.org

agerber@parks.sbcounty.gov jarodriguez@sarwc.com citycouncil@chinohills.org ash@akdconsulting.com benjamin.lewis@gswater.com

bperalta@tvmwd.com WLeever@ieua.org bthompson@ci.norco.ca.us bbowcock@irmwater.com bobfeenstra@gmail.com

bgkuhn@aol.com bkuhn@tvmwd.com bpage@cao.sbcounty.gov bherrema@bhfs.com

brahoward@niagarawater.com balee@fontanawater.com brendatrujillo@chinohills.org byamasaki@mwdh2o.com bgeye@autoclubspeedway.com bhess@niagarawater.com cbennett@tkeengineering.com Carol.Boyd@doj.ca.gov

Carol.Boyd@doj.ca.gov csanchez@weiwater.com ccosta@chinodesalter.org cblais@ci.norco.ca.us cdfield@att.net

Charles.Linder@nrgenergy.com cmoorrees@sawaterco.com

citycouncil@chinohills.org CBerch@ieua.org

chays@fontana.org cindyc@cvwdwater.com clacamera@mwdh2o.com Cindy.li@waterboards.ca.gov

CMiller@wmwd.com
Craig.Stewart@amec.com
cifealy@fontanawater.com
cpaxton@chinodesalter.org
Curtis\_Stubbings@praxair.com
darrighi@sgvwater.com

dghostetler@csupomona.edu

danielle\_soto@CI.POMONA.CA.US

DMaurizio@cbwm.org

darron\_poulsen@ci.pomona.ca.us daryl\_gribsby@ci.pomona.ca.us

argodg@bv.com

DCrosley@cityofchino.org tvmwddiv2rep@gmail.com ddejesus@tvmwd.com David.Huskey@cdcr.ca.gov dlovell@dpw.sbcounty.gov dpenrice@acmwater.com David Ringel **David Starnes** Dennis Dooley Dennis Mejia Dennis Poulsen Dennis Williams Diana Frederick Don Cutler Don Galleano Earl Elrod Ed Diggs Eric Fordham Eric Garner Eric Leuze Erika Clement Eunice Ulloa Frank Brommenschenkel

Frank LoGuidice Frank Yoo Gabby Garcia Gailyn Watson Gene Koopman Geoffrey Kamansky Geoffrey Vanden Heuvel

Gerald Yahr Giannina Espinoza Gloria Rivera Grace Cabrera Greg Woodside Gregory H. Morrison

Helen Arens Henry DeHaan James Curatalo James Jenkins James McKenzie Jane Anderson Janine Wilson Jasmin A. Hall Jason Marseilles Jason Pivovaroff Jean Perry

Jeanina M. Romero Jeannette Vagnozzi Jeffrey Bruny

Jeffrev L. Pierson Jesse White

Jesus Placentia Jill Willis Jim Bowman

Jim Taylor

Jo Lynne Russo-Pereyra

Joe Graziano Joe Grindstaff Joe Joswiak Joe P LeClaire John Abusham John Bosler John Huitsing

John Lopez and Nathan Cole

John V. Rossi Jon Lambeck Jose Alire Jose Galindo Josh Swift

david.i.ringel@us.mwhglobal.com david.starnes@mcmcnet.net ddoolev@angelica.com dmeija@ci.ontario.ca.us dpoulsen@californiasteel.com dwilliams@geoscience-water.com diana.frederick@cdcr.ca.gov

dcutler@jcsd.us donald@galleanowinery.com earl.elrod@verizon.net edd@cvwdwater.com

eric fordham@geopentech.com eric.garner@bbklaw.com Eric.Leuze@nrgenergy.com Erika.clement@sce.com

eulloa@cbwcd.org

frank.brommen@verizon.net faloguidice@sgvwater.com

FrankY@cbwm.org ggarcia@mvwd.org

gwatson@airports.sbcounty.gov

GTKoopman@aol.com

gkamansky@niagarawater.com

GeoffreyVH@juno.com

yahri@koll.com

gia.espinoza@gerdau.com gloriar@cvwdwater.com

grace cabrera@ci.pomona.ca.us

gwoodside@ocwd.com amorrison@bhfs.com Helen.Arens@doj.ca.gov hpdehaan@verizon.net iamesc@cvwdwater.com cnomgr@airports.sbcounty.gov imckenzie@dpw.sbcounty.gov janderson@jcsd.us

JWilson@cbwm.org jhall@jeua.org jmarseilles@ieua.org ipivovaroff@ieua.org JPerry@wmwd.com iromero@ci.ontario.ca.us

UplandCityClerk@ci.upland.ca.us

jeffrey.bruny@NOV.com ipierson@intexcorp.com iesse.white@gerdau.com iplasencia@cityofchino.org inwillis@bbklaw.com jbowman@ci.ontario.ca.us jim taylor@ci.pomona.ca.us jolynner@cvwdwater.com igraz4077@aol.com igrindstaff@ieua.org

JJoswiak@cbwm.org leclaireip@cdmsmith.com john.abusham@nrg.com JohnBo@cvwdwater.com johnhuitsing@gmail.com customerservice@sarwc.com

jrossi@wmwd.com ilambeck@mwdh2o.com jalire@cityofchino.org jose\_a\_galindo@praxair.com imswift@fontanawater.com

Julie Cavender
Julie Saba
Justin Brokaw
Justin Nakano
Justin Scott Coe
Karen Johnson
Kathleen Brundage
Kathy Kunysz
Kathy Tiegs

Keith Person
Kelly Berry
Ken Jeske
Ken Waring
Kevin Blakeslee
Kevin Sage
Kurt Berchtold
Kyle Snay
Landon Kern
Laura Mantilla
Lawrence Dimock

Lee Moore Linda Jadeski Linda Minky Lisa Hamilton Lisa Leabo Lisa Lemoine Marco Tule Maribel Sosa Mark Wiley Marsha Westropp

Martin Zvirbulis
Mathew C. Ballantyne
Matthew H. Litchfield
Michael Sigsbee
Michelle Lauffer
Mike Maestas

julie.cavender@cdcr.ca.gov

jsaba@jcsd.us

jbrokaw@hughes.net JNakano@cbwm.org jscottcoe@mvwd.org kejwater@aol.com

kathleen.brundage@californiasteel.com

kkunysz@mwdh2o.com Kathyt@cvwdwater.com

keith.person@waterboards.ca.gov

KBerry@sawpa.org kjeske1@gmail.com kwaring@jcsd.us

kblakeslee@dpw.sbcounty.gov

Ksage@IRMwater.com

kberchtold@waterboards.ca.gov

kylesnay@gswater.com lkern@cityofchino.org lmantilla@jeua.org

lawrence.dimock@cdcr.ca.gov Lee.Moore@nrgenergy.com

ljadeski@wvwd.org LMinky@BHFS.com lisa.hamilton@amecfw.com

lleabo@cbwm.org LLemoine@wmwd.com marco.tule@nrg.com

Maribel\_Sosa@ci.pomona.ca.us

mwiley@chinohills.org
MWestropp@ocwd.com
martinz@cvwdwater.com
mballantyne@cityofchino.org
mlitchfield@wvwd.org
msigsbee@ci.ontario.ca.us

mlauffer@jcsd.us

mikem@cvwdwater.com

#### Members:

Maria Flores

Maria Mendoza-Tellez

Marilyn Levin Mario Garcia Mark Kinsey

Mark Wildermuth, PE

Maria Doyle Martha Davis Martin Rauch Meg McWade Melanie Otero Melissa L. Walker Michael Adler Michael Camacho Michael P. Thornton Michael T Fife Michael Thompson Mike Sigsbee Monica Heredia Moore, Toby Nadeem Majaj Nathan deBoom Neetu Gupta

Noah Golden-Krasner

Pam Sharp Pam Wilson Pamela Anderson

Patty Jett
Paul Deutsch
Paul Hofer
Paul Hofer
Paul Leon
Paula Lantz
Peggy Asche

Penny Alexander-Kelley

Pete Hall
Peter Hettinga
Peter Kavounas
Peter Rogers
Rachel Avila
Ramsey Haddad
Randall McAlister
Raul Garibay
Ray Wilkings
Rene Salas
Rick Darnell
Rick Hansen
Rick Rees
Rick Zapien
Rita Pro

Rob Vanden Heuvel Robert C. Hawkins Robert Craig Robert DeLoach Robert F. Messinger Robert Neufeld Robert Tock Robert Wagner

Rogelio Matta Roger Florio Roger Han Ron Craig mflores@ieua.org

MMendoza@weiwater.com marilyn.levin@doj.ca.gov mgarcia@tvmwd.com mkinsey@mvwd.org

mwildermuth@weiwater.com marla\_doyle@ci.pomona.ca.us

mdavis@ieua.org martin@rauchcc.com

meg\_mcwade@ci.pomona.ca.us
melanie\_otero@ci.pomona.ca.us
mwalker@dpw.sbcounty.gov
michael.adler@mcmcnet.net
MCamacho@pacificaservices.com
mthornton@tkeengineering.com

MFife@bhfs.com

michael.thompson@cdcr.ca.gov msigsbee@ci.ontario.ca.us mheredia@chinohills.org TobyMoore@gswater.com nmajaj@chinohills.org n8deboom@gmail.com nqupta@ieua.org

Noah.goldenkrasner@doj.ca.gov

PSharp@chinohills.org pwilson@bhfs.com

panderson@niagarawater.com pjett@spacecenterinc.com paul.deutsch@amec.com farmwatchtoo@aol.com farmerhofer@aol.com pleon@ci.ontario.ca.us paula\_lantz@ci.pomona.ca.us

peggy@wvwd.org

Palexander-kelley@cc.sbcounty.gov

rpetehall@gmail.com peterhettinga@yahoo.com PKavounas@cbwm.org progers@chinohills.org R.Avila@MPGLAW.com

ramsey.haddad@californiasteel.com

randall.mcalister@ge.com
raul\_garibay@ci.pomona.ca.us
rwilkings@autoclubspeedway.com
Rene\_Salas@ci.pomona.ca.us
Richard.Darnell@nrgenergy.com

rhansen@tvmwd.com
Richard.Rees@amec.com
rzapien@cbwm.org
rpro@cityofchino.org
robert.t.van@gmail.com
RHawkins@earthlink.net

rcraig@jcsd.us

robertadeloach1@gmail.com rmessinger@cc.sbcounty.gov

robneu1@yahoo.com

rtock@jcsd.us

rwagner@wbecorp.com rmatta@fontana.org roger.florio@ge.com roger\_han@praxair.com ronc@mbakerintl.com Ron LaBrucherie, Jr. Rosemary Hoerning

Rosemary Hoerni Ryan Shaw Sandra S. Rose Sarah Kerr Sarah Schneider Scott Burton Scott Runyan Scott Slater Shaun Stone Sheri Rojo Sonya Barber Sonya Bloodwort

Sonya Barber Sonya Bloodworth Sophie Akins Stella Gasca Stephanie Riley Steve Nix Steve Riboli

Steven J. Elie Steven J. Elie Suki Chhokar Sylvie Lee Tara Rolfe, PG Taya Victorino Teri Layton Terry Catlin

Todd Corbin Todd Minten

Tom Crowley
Tom Cruikshank

Tom Harder Tom Haughey Tom O'Neill Tom Thomas

Toni Medel
Tracy Tracy
Van Jew
Vicki Hahn
Vicky Rodriguez

W. Č. "Bill" Kruger Willian Urena ronLaBrucherie@gmail.com rhoerning@ci.upland.ca.us rshaw@ci.ontario.ca.us directorrose@mvwd.org skerr@ci.ontario.ca.us sarah.schneider@amec.com sburton@ci.ontario.ca.us srunyan@cc.sbcounty.gov

sslater@bhfs.com sstone@ieua.org smrojo@aol.com

sbarber@ci.upland.ca.us sbloodworth@wmwd.com Sophie.Akins@cc.sbcounty.gov

sgasca@ci.ontario.ca.us

sriley@ieua.org snix@chinohills.org

steve.riboli@sanantoniowinery.com

selie@ieua.org s.elie@mpglaw.com schhokar@sdcwa.org slee@ieua.org

TRolfe@weiwater.com tayav@cvwdwater.com tlayton@sawaterco.com tlcatlin@wfajpa.org tcorbin@jcsd.us

tminten@chinodesalter.org

tcrowley@wvwd.org

tcruikshank@spacecenterinc.com tharder@thomashardercompany.com

tom@haugheyinsurance.com toneill@ci.ontario.ca.us tthomas@insuranceinc.com mmedel@rbf.com

ttracy@mvwd.org
vjew@mvwd.org
vhahn@tvmwd.com
vrodrigu@ci.ontario.ca.us
citycouncil@chinohills.org
WURENA@ANGELICA.COM