

1 Adrienne Lauby,
SONOMA APPLIED VILLAGE SERVICES
2 1275 4th Street, Suite #101, Box 196
3 Santa Rosa, CA 95404

4 *In Pro Per*

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8 **SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA**
9 **COUNTY OF SONOMA**
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11 FRIENDS OF NORTHWEST
12 SEBASTOPOL, a California nonprofit mutual
13 benefit corporation ,

14 Petitioner,

15 v.

16 CITY OF SEBASTOPOL, acting by and
through the Sebastopol City Council,

17 Respondent,

18 SONOMA APPLIED VILLAGES
19 SERVICES, a California nonprofit mutual
benefit corporation; and ST. VINCENT DE
20 PAUL DISTRICT COUNCIL OF SONOMA
COUNTY, INCORPORATED, a California
21 nonprofit mutual benefit corporation,

22 Real Parties in Interest.
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Case No. SCV270053

**DECLARATION OF ADRIENNE LAUBY
IN SUPPORT OF THE CITY'S
OPPOSITION TO PETITIONER
FRIENDS OF NORTHWEST
SEBASTOPOL'S EX PARTE
APPLICATION FOR AN ALTERNATIVE
WRIT**

Assigned for All Purposes to:
Hon. Arthur A. Wick, Dept. 17

Hearing Date:
Time:
Judge: Hon. Arthur A. Wick
Dept.: 17

Action Filed: January 21, 2022
Trial Date: None Set

1 I, ADRIENNE LAUBY, declare as follows:

2 1. I make this declaration based on my own personal knowledge, and if called upon as
3 a witness, could testify competently to the matters herein.

4 2. I am the President of the Board of Directors of the organization SONOMA
5 APPLIED VILLAGE SERVICES (“SAVS”), which would be impacted by the within action.

6 3. I have lived in Sonoma County for over twenty years. I have a Master’s Degree in
7 English. I am retired. I co-host a radio program on station KPFA that addresses issues for folks
8 with disabilities. I have worked as an advocate for disabled people for over 18 years.

9 4. In March of 2013, I helped found the Sonoma County grassroots unincorporated
10 association, Homeless Action! The organization was formed out of our concern for the plight of
11 the homeless in Sonoma County after a very cold and harsh winter.

12 5. I have received the Marijke Byke Spirit of Community Award from the Sonoma
13 County Task Force for the Homeless in 2016; received the Russ and Mary Jorgensen Courage of
14 Commitment Award from the Sonoma County Peace and Justice Center in 2015; and was installed
15 on the Sebastopol Peace Wall last summer. These honors were due to my homeless work.

16 6. As part of this work I helped establish Sonoma County’s first public homeless
17 encampment, Camp Michela, which served homeless people for nearly three years. I also helped
18 manage the private Safe Parking lot at McBride Ave in Santa Rosa which Homeless Action!
19 administered for two and a half years.

20 7. In October of 2018 I became a founding member of the Board of Directors of
21 SAVS, a 501c3 non-profit whose mission includes the creation of villages where formerly
22 unsheltered residents live with dignity and hope. I am currently the President of the Board.

23 8. SAVS has completed two outreach contracts for the Sonoma County Community
24 Development Commission and are midway through the third. In the course of these contracts, we
25 have brought tens of thousands of meals to unmanaged and unsanctioned camps of homeless
26 people. Our outreach workers have met and served many hundreds of individual homeless people
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1 in Sonoma County.

2 9. Through this work, we have witnessed the problems unmanaged homeless camps
3 bring to the areas where they are located. While we work to alleviate the suffering of homeless
4 people, we know first-hand the problems unmanaged camps bring problems to the surrounding
5 neighborhood.

6 10. In the spring of 2019, our outreach workers brought the homeless camp on Morris
7 Street to the attention of the SAVS Board of Directors. It was an unusual camp, because the City
8 of Sebastopol provided basic sanitation to the residents in the form of porta potties and trash pick-
9 up, and there was relative stability in this group of 12-25 people.

10 11. Feeling that we could provide structure for a “hand up” rather than a “hand out,”
11 we began a program to get to know the residents and help them get their vehicle/dwellings
12 registered and legalized.

13 12. Since then, our staff has been joined by 5-6 local volunteers and an outreach
14 worker from West County Community Services. Together, they have formed relationships with
15 the residents of Morris Street and helped them in a variety of ways. For instance, they set up a
16 long-delayed brain surgery for Mr. G. that improved his life dramatically. When we met Mr. D.
17 he was so sick from chronic alcoholism he literally couldn’t walk; now he is sober, happy and
18 living in a supportive housing situation.

19 13. When the City of Sebastopol became ready to take the next step for the Morris
20 Street residents, we signed a contract to manage a Safe Parking Village for them.

21 14. The majority of the funding for this village was contingent on approval by the city
22 which we have obtained. This funding is a ESG-CV grant of \$368,000 from the State of
23 California which comes with a strict spending deadline. If this project does not begin in early
24 February and continues to be uninterrupted, we will lose this grant which is 62% of our funding as
25 well as an additional \$20,000 in restricted donations. At that point, we will be forced to end the
26 project.
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1 15. A Safe Parking Village differs greatly from an unmanaged homeless camp.
2 Residents are not only provided with porta potties and trash pick-up, but with the structure and
3 support needed to put their lives back together.

4 16. Neighbors are offered a 24/7 phone number to call for problems. The Village,
5 which has been named “Horizon Shine Village,” has an 8 foot high fence, a locked gate, a security
6 presence and a curfew. A Community Advisory Committee meets at least monthly to address any
7 neighborhood complaints or problems.

8 17. Villagers are held accountable to Horizon Shine rules by their peers and the
9 professional staff. The rules include but are not limited to no drug dealing, no drug or alcohol use
10 in public, no loitering at nearby businesses, no parking outside the village . Significant or repeated
11 rule violations will result in expulsion from the Village. Villagers make a monthly work
12 commitment.

13 18. Sebastopol’s Horizon Shine Village is not a place to endure homelessness; it is a
14 place where residents have the peace, structure and support to get their lives back on track. The
15 residents will be supported by four highly trained social service staff members, an over-night
16 manager and a cadre of local volunteers.

17 19. Homeless residents must choose to enter the Horizon Shine Village and abide by
18 the rules. As we’ve seen at other villages, villagers quickly feel ownership and pride in their home
19 in response to the built-in calm and sense of community. SAVS does not offer services to those
20 outside the village – therefore, there is no buildup of people loitering for meals or social services –
21 it is a self-contained homeless village.

22 20. As a small non-profit, SAVS has invested considerable human and financial
23 resources in preparing for Horizon Shine Village. In addition to working individually with Morris
24 Street residents, our management staff has met with local volunteers twice a month since April.
25 We have dedicated staff hours to many efforts led by the City of Sebastopol, including a major
26 sweep of homeless campers in the nearby Laguna area.
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1 21. Beginning in October of 2021, SAVS has held a series of between 17-20 open
2 meetings about this project, both with neighborhood people and with the potential residents. We
3 have hired three staff members for the Village, set up insurance and business relationships, and
4 spent approximately \$5,000 of our small organizational budget. Our board members and other
5 volunteers have logged at least 1,000 hours in obtaining the funding, setting up accounting and
6 other record keeping, obtaining estimates, raising \$60,000 from individual community members,
7 working with the landlord and other tasks.

8 22. Currently, five homeless people live at Horizon Shine Village. Like many
9 homeless people, three are disabled with serious illnesses and four were in danger of losing the
10 trailers they live in due to registration problems. Paragraphs 24-26 detail the situation of four of
11 those individuals as reported by our staff and the volunteers.

12 23. Ms. M suffers from sciatica, hypertension, chronic depression, a heart murmur and
13 a collapsed lung that severely limits her ability to walk. She and her caretaker partner lost
14 everything in the August Complex fire. Her partner works two jobs and suffers from sleep
15 deprivation.

16 24. Three years ago, Mr. R. suffered a vehicle accident at work which cause massive
17 head trauma, brain damage, a broken back, shattered left leg and PTSD. He's also been diagnosed
18 with congestive heart failure and has seizures that have caused his heart to stop. He relies on the
19 Horizon Shine Community to track his medicine and other daily activates.
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21 25. Mr. C lives with chronic pain that is heightened by cold and heat.

22 26. Beginning February 15, 2022, Horizon Shine Village will allow 15 additional
23 inhabited vehicles and approximately 22 people to move from Morris Street to an environment
24 where they can find hope and no longer be a source of distress for the neighborhood. Many of
25 these homeless individuals have suffered childhood trauma and live with some form of mental or
26 physical illness. If the Horizon Shine were not allowed to go forward, it will take a huge
27 emotional toll on these individuals. It is not an exaggeration to say that many will lose years from
28 their live spans.

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I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing is true and correct. Executed this 1st date of February, 2022 at Cotati, California.

By: Adrienne Lauby
ADRIENNE LAUBY
President at Sonoma Applied Village Services

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PROOF OF SERVICE

Friends of Northwest Sebastopol v. City of Sebastopol, Sonoma Superior Court Case No. SCV270053

STATE OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF ALAMEDA

At the time of service, I was over 18 years of age and not a party to this action. I am employed in the County of Alameda, State of California. My business address is 1999 Harrison Street, 9th Floor, Oakland, CA 94612.

On February 1, 2022, I served true copies of the following document(s) described as **DECLARATION OF ADRIENNE LAUBY IN SUPPORT OF OPPOSITION TO EX PARTE APPLICATION FOR AN ALTERNATIVE WRIT** on the interested parties in this action as follows:

Tony Francois, Esq.
Peter Prows Esq.
Briscoe Ivester & Bazel LLP
235 Montgomery Street, Suite 935
San Francisco, CA 94104

Attorneys for Petitioner FRIENDS OF
NORTHWEST SEBASTOPOL

Telephone: (415) 402-2700
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Email: pprows@briscoelaw.net

BY ELECTRONIC SERVICE: I served the document(s) on the person listed in the Service List by submitting an electronic version of the document(s) to Odyssey eFileCA through the user interface at www.odysseyfileca.com.

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed on February 1, 2022, at Oakland, California.



Melissa Bender