

**AGREEMENT TO DEFEND PUBLIC OFFICER OR EMPLOYEE, RESERVATION OF RIGHTS
AND NON-WAIVER**

WHEREAS, the undersigned public officer or employee is a party defendant in the following action:

NAME OF CASE: Elisa Wheeler, et al. vs. Sara Ann Spane, Jeffrey Allen Kertson, et al.,

ACTION NO: 25CECG02378

COURT: Fresno County Superior
Court

WHEREAS, the undersigned officer or employee claims that the said action referenced above arose out of acts or omissions which, if they occurred at all, occurred within the course and scope of the officer's or employee's employment with the County of Fresno or of a Judicial District thereof and were not the result of fraud, corruption or malice; and

WHEREAS, the undersigned officer or employee has requested that the County of Fresno undertake his/her defense in said action pursuant to Article 4 (commencing with section 825), Chapter 1, Part 2, Division 2.6 of Title 1 of the Government Code and said County is willing to conduct said defense subject to a reservation of its rights/non-waiver agreement to the full extent permitted in said provision of the Government Code.

The County and the undersigned public officer or employee therefore agree as follows:

1. Under this Agreement to Defend Public Officer or Employee, Reservation of Rights, and Non-Waiver ("Agreement"), the County of Fresno will undertake your defense in the action identified above for:

- Ordinary negligence which occurred within the course and scope of your employment.

2. The following matters are NOT COVERED by the County of Fresno under this Agreement:

- Any actions outside the course and scope of your employment.
- Any actions within the course and scope of your employment that were/are reckless, grossly negligent, willful, wanton, fraudulent, oppressive, malicious, arbitrary or capricious.
- Punitive damages (which are not currently alleged in this case)

**AGREEMENT TO DEFEND PUBLIC OFFICER OR EMPLOYEE, RESERVATION OF RIGHTS
AND NON-WAIVER**

1 3. Pursuant to this Agreement, the County of Fresno may take the following actions if
2 the facts of this case warrant:

- 3 A. Seek a declaration of rights and duties regarding its defense and/or
4 indemnity obligations;
- 5 B. Withdraw our defense and seek reimbursement for defense fees incurred in
6 defending claims with no potential for coverage;
- 7 C. Seek reimbursement for any judgement or settlement paid by County of
8 Fresno on the ground that the sums were not paid in connection with
9 covered claims;
- 10 D. The right to have separate verdict form at trial for non-covered claims;
- 11 E. The right to amend this agreement at a later time.

12 *Please bear in mind that the County of Fresno is not in any way asserting the*
13 *allegations against you have merit. The County of Fresno is simply stating that the*
14 *claims, or a portion of them, may not be covered.*

15
16 4. PLEASE NOTE: The Public Officer or Employee signing this document has the
17 right to seek advice of outside counsel/independent counsel at any time.

18 I, **Jeffrey Allen Kertson** have read the above information and have had an
19 opportunity to ask questions. I am requesting that the County of Fresno undertake my defense in
20 the above-entitled action subject to a RESERVATION OF RIGHTS. I understand that I have the
21 continuing right to seek advice of outside/independent counsel at any time and will advise the
22 County of Fresno as soon as possible should I want to do so.

23 //

24 //

25 //

26 //

27 //

28 //

**AGREEMENT TO DEFEND PUBLIC OFFICER OR EMPLOYEE, RESERVATION OF RIGHTS
AND NON-WAIVER**

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have executed this Agreement on this
____ day of _____, 2026, in the County of Fresno, State of California.

COUNTY OF FRESNO

By: _____

Public Officer or Employee

Garry Bredefeld, Chairman of the Board of
Supervisors of the County of Fresno

ATTEST:

Bernice E. Seidel
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
County of Fresno, State of California

By: _____

Deputy