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23 **UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT**
24 **NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA**
25 **OAKLAND DIVISION**

26 COALITION ON HOMELESSNESS, et al.,

27 Plaintiffs,

28 v.

CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO,
et al.,

Defendants.

Case No. 4:22-cv-05502-DMR

**PLAINTIFFS' REPLY IN SUPPORT OF
PLAINTIFFS' MOTION TO ENFORCE**

Judge: The Hon. Donna M. Ryu

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1 **I. INTRODUCTION**

2 Ensuring that San Francisco complies with the Court’s preliminary injunction is of the
 3 utmost public importance. The injunction protects the civil rights of thousands of San Francisco’s
 4 most vulnerable residents, sparing them from further harm from their own City. It also requires
 5 the City to fulfill its commitments to operationalize existing policies designed to actually mitigate
 6 the City’s street homelessness crisis, as opposed to unconstitutionally punishing individuals simply
 7 for being homeless. But Plaintiffs do not have the sufficient tools or information to systematically
 8 monitor the City’s non-compliance at hundreds of unobserved and unrecorded enforcement
 9 interactions with unhoused individuals every month.

10 Despite the injunction, the City confesses that it has changed effectively nothing about its
 11 brutal and ineffective homelessness response operations. The City has dispatched police hundreds
 12 of times to enforce sit/lie laws and endorses the use of police move-along orders. The City
 13 concedes that it lacks sufficient shelter for the unhoused but continues to engage in formal HSOC
 14 encampment clearances anyway. In an attempt to justify scant bag and tag records, the City
 15 explains that employees simply discard personal belongings without sorting, storing, or
 16 documenting any property destruction. These admissions reflect brazen attempts to evade
 17 restrictions clearly set out in the injunction. The City’s unabashed conduct necessitates the
 18 appointment of a special master to ensure the City complies with the preliminary injunction.

19 The City’s opposition targets three unhoused individuals while largely ignoring the vast
 20 majority of Plaintiffs’ eyewitness evidence and the hundreds of unhoused residents the City has
 21 admitted it continues to subject to enforcement actions while shelters remain at capacity. In
 22 response, the City maintains Plaintiffs are premature in seeking relief even though the Court issued
 23 the injunction seven months ago. But the Court’s intervention is needed imminently to ensure that
 24 the City does not further delay taking the steps necessary to comply with the injunction. Given
 25 the City’s dubious record of compliance, the Court should grant Plaintiffs’ request for additional
 26 monitoring as necessary to provide timely assurance that the Court’s orders are being followed.

27 **II. STATEMENT OF UNDISPUTED FACTS**

28 **A. The City Concedes Hundreds of Sit/Lie Enforcement Interactions Continue.**

1 The City concedes that it continues to dispatch police—instead of outreach workers who
2 can offer services—more than 1,000 times to respond to calls for “919 Sit/Lie Enforcement”
3 despite the preliminary injunction. Opp’n at 7-8. Seventy percent of those deployments resulted
4 in police making contact with an unhoused person—meaning that in more than 700 instances,
5 police began a law enforcement interaction with an unhoused person as a result of a call for
6 prohibited sit/lie enforcement. Opp’n at 8:14-15. These numbers do not even include generic
7 police dispatches in response to homelessness complaints, which the City concedes has resulted in
8 thousands more interactions with unhoused individuals during the period of the injunction. Opp’n
9 at 6-12.

10 The City has also indicated that the officers dispatched to respond to these calls have
11 received no training specifically regarding enforcement of sit/lie laws or the Court’s injunction.
12 Young Decl. ¶ 4 (noting only officers assigned to *HSOC* operations have received any training);
13 Shroff Supp. Decl. ¶ 4. Contrary to the City’s policy on the use of body cameras, Young Decl.,
14 Ex. F, the City has represented that it will not record these interactions because it does not consider
15 them enforcement. May 25, 2023 Hearing Tr. 7:25-8:1-19. As a result, the City provides no way
16 to review hundreds of ongoing police interactions with unhoused individuals directly implicated
17 by the injunction. The City claims that its enforcement actions at police dispatches are limited to
18 only 30 citations or arrests that have been issued against unhoused individuals, ignoring that the
19 injunction and the City’s own updated Enforcement Bulletin also prohibit implicit and explicit
20 threats of enforcement and move along orders. Opp’n at 8:8; Dkt. No. 97-2 at 1. Meanwhile, the
21 City acknowledges that police officers direct unhoused people to move without clarifying that
22 those requests are temporary or voluntary—notwithstanding the Court’s stated concerns. Opp’n
23 at 13:7-8; Dkt. No. 91 at 30:15-23, 31:14-15. The City also admits it is criminally enforcing a
24 contrived 4-foot rule—which is not a criminal law—at many of these police-led enforcement
25 interactions. Opp’n at 10:10-11, 10:17 (failing to cite authority setting out bright line rule).

26 **B. The City Concedes HSOC Sweeps Continue Without Sufficient Shelter.**

27 The City does not contest that it lacks sufficient shelter to offer unhoused individuals even
28 at ongoing HSOC encampment resolutions. Dkt. No. 138 ¶ 133. The City admits that it does not

1 make a “literal offer of shelter” to most unhoused individuals, because the City does not know
 2 what limited amount of shelter may be available to offer when it engages unhoused residents—in
 3 violation of the City’s own ordinances. Opp’n at 14:20; *compare* O’Donnell Decl. ¶ 11 with San
 4 Francisco Police Code § 169(d). The City also lists individuals as having “refused” shelter before
 5 any offer has been made, even including individuals who need a specific kind of shelter that is
 6 unavailable. Opp’n at 14; Dkt. No. 138 ¶ 126. The result is an over-inflated account of shelter
 7 refusals to justify continuing HSOC operations before shelter availability is even known or
 8 communicated to unhoused individuals.¹ Such undisciplined reporting is consistent with Dr.
 9 Herring’s uncontested observation that resource constraints “pressure front-line workers to restrict
 10 and/or set aside shelter offers based on personal discretions and bias or to engage in other
 11 workarounds to accomplish supervisors’ goals and meet performance metrics.” Dkt. No. 9-1 ¶ 52.
 12 Meanwhile, the parties agree that voluntary, on-demand access to shelter is essentially nonexistent
 13 in San Francisco. Dkt. No. 138 ¶ 87.

14 **C. The City Concedes That It Does Not Bag and Tag Most Property.**

15 Despite the thousands of interactions with unhoused individuals both at formal HSOC
 16 operations and at informal DPW street cleanings, the City concedes that bagging and tagging of
 17 personal property occurs only “a few times a month.” Opp’n at 21:11-12. The City claims there
 18 is “no requirement that it occur more frequently.” Opp’n at 21:13. But this assertion ignores Dr.
 19 Herring’s uncontested inference from the dearth of bag and tag logs that the City is engaging in
 20 widespread property destruction. Dkt. No. 65 at 29-30. The City avers that most items are
 21 destroyed because they present an immediate health or safety risk, Opp’n at 7, but again fails to
 22 submit evidence to satisfy its burden to demonstrate that this is the case, Dkt. No. 65 at 44. In fact,
 23 no such health hazards were at issue in any of the Plaintiffs’ declarations which describe usable,
 24 _____

25 ¹ Many client log reports marked as “refusal” by the City actually indicate that individuals *were*
 26 interested in shelter, but that Defendants simply had no adequate shelter available. *See, e.g.*
 27 Piastunovich Decl., Ex. C. (listing entry 325 and 329 as “refused shelter offer” despite entry 325
 28 requesting a “couples bed,” and entry 329 requesting a “navigation bed”); Ex. E (listing lines 466
 and 468 as “refused shelter offer” despite Entry 466 requesting a “couples bed” and Entry 468
 requesting a “shelter bed”); Ex. G (listing Entry 564 and 566 as “refused shelter offer” despite both
 individuals requesting a “couples bed”); Ex. O (listing Entry 1065, 1068-1069, and 1074 as
 “refused shelter offer” despite record indicating all individuals expressed interest in shelter offer).

1 cherished belongings. *See* Mot. at 9-10 (listing items). The City’s bag and tag policy also
 2 contemplates a photographic record of disputed property, Dkt. No. 62-1 at Section 2(d), but it is
 3 unclear whether those records are comprehensively maintained to allow Plaintiffs to review the
 4 City’s decisions to discard personal property. Shroff Supp. Decl. ¶ 8.

5 **D. The City Does Not Rebut the Vast Majority of the Evidence on Violations.**

6 The City largely relies on conclusory recitations of their own policies and aspirational
 7 statements from City officials that do not rebut Plaintiffs’ substantial eyewitness evidence of non-
 8 compliance. Opp’n at 12:9-10-24:5-11; Peralta Decl. ¶¶ 11-12 (SFPD Officer has “never seen”
 9 violations); Dilworth Decl. ¶¶ 17, 36, 39 (DPW worker describing *intent* to ensure compliance
 10 with DPW policy and the injunction during HSOC resolutions); Shehadeh Decl. ¶¶ 15, 26
 11 (describing *intent* to ensure HOT team complies with the bag and tag policy at JFO resolutions);
 12 C. Berger Decl. ¶ 21 (explaining how he “make[s] an *effort* to let people know they can return to
 13 the space” after an HSOC resolution); C. Berger Decl. ¶ 26 (SFFD Paramedic describing that he
 14 *knows* “SFPD cannot enforce or threaten to enforce any of the laws the injunction prohibits”).
 15 Plaintiffs do not challenge the City’s ability to recount its own policies or its declarants’ intent to
 16 adhere to the preliminary injunction. But the City’s generic assertions of compliance do not
 17 contradict an extensive evidentiary record of specific instances of non-compliance.

18 1. **Continued Displacement of Unhoused Individuals Without Shelter.**

19 The City has not contested many of Plaintiffs’ specific examples of unhoused people being
 20 displaced since the injunction was entered. *See, e.g.*, Adams Decl. ¶ 9; Donohoe Supp. ¶¶ 4, 6;
 21 2nd Donohoe Supp. Decl. ¶ 4; Myers Decl. ¶¶ 7-8; Verner Crist Supp. Decl. ¶¶ 23, 30, 36, 54, 63,
 22 71, 79, 120, 127-128. The City does not dispute that specific declarants were never told commands
 23 to move were voluntary or temporary. A. Berger Decl. ¶ 8; Coalition Decl. ¶ 12; 2nd Donohoe
 24 Supp. Decl. ¶ 8; Melendez Decl. ¶ 5; Myers Decl. ¶ 15; Meyers Supp. Decl. ¶ 3; Erickson Decl.
 25 at ¶ 6; Harding Decl. ¶ 5; Hoffman Decl. ¶ 7; Dkt. No. 76-5; Dkt. No. 77 ¶¶ 5-6. Instead, the City
 26 claims it may force unhoused people to move as long as it does not explicitly reference the magic
 27 words “sit/lie” or say that removal is “permanent.” Opp’n at 6:14-20; 12; 13:17-19. This position
 28 defies the SFPD’s own bulletin in response to the injunction, which precludes “any conduct that

1 could be reasonably seen as forcing a particular action without an explicit threat. The
 2 circumstances of any such request must make it clear there is no possibility of enforcement of the
 3 enumerated laws if the individual declines to move.” Dkt. No. 97-2 at 1. The City now concedes
 4 it does the opposite.² Opp’n at 13:7-9; *see also, e.g.*, Murdock Decl. ¶ 6 (told “it’s time to go” by
 5 HOT employee); Harding Decl. ¶ 5 (told by SFPD to “get the hell out of there”); Jones Decl. ¶ 3;
 6 Martin Decl. ¶ 8; Melendez Decl. ¶ 5; Myers Decl. ¶¶ 7, 15-16 (told “if I did not move I would
 7 suffer the consequences”); Verner-Crist Decl. ¶¶ 9, 38, 41-43.³

8 Meanwhile, the City does not contest that it has posted signs across the City that continue
 9 to threaten enforcement for sitting or sleeping outside. Dkt. No. 138-9 ¶ 128; Dkt. No. 138-22;
 10 Verner-Crist 2nd Supp. Decl. ¶ 15. The City also concedes that some date-specific notices have
 11 been posted at HSOC operations that instruct unhoused individuals “not to return to this area.”
 12 The City has acknowledged that it has used these notices as recently as the past few weeks. Opp’n
 13 at 23:8-10.⁴ The City’s argument that these notices “do not threaten to enforce any of the enjoined
 14 code sections” directly contradicts the Court’s express concern that these notices violate the
 15 injunction. *Compare* Opp’n at 23:14 n. 17, *with* Dkt. No. 91 at 30:1-8 (“the same notice that’s
 16 being used now as was used before the preliminary injunction order That’s completely
 17 contrary to the order”).

18 The City also does not challenge Plaintiffs’ submissions providing detailed accounts of
 19 forced displacement where firm offers of shelter never materialized. *See* Mot. at 8:20-22, 26-28;
 20 *see, e.g.*, Barkley Decl. ¶¶ 4, 6, 15; A. Berger Decl. ¶ 9; Coalition Decl. ¶¶ 13-14; Draper Decl. ¶¶

21 _____
 22 ² The City argues that because Officer Govindbhai did not “reference[] the sit/lie laws in the
 23 presence of the individuals he asked to disperse there was no threat and therefore no violation.”
 24 Opp’n at 6:16-20. But the City does not dispute Mr. Calloway’s account that Officer Govindbhai
 25 was flashing his police car lights at unhoused people and commanding them to move, or that he
 26 expressly told Mr. Calloway the sit/lie laws provided the basis for his actions. *Compare*
 27 Govindbhai Decl. with Calloway Decl.

28 ³ Additionally, the City does not challenge evidence establishing that it uses direct threats of
 property destruction and warrant checks to force declarants to move along. Jones Decl. ¶ 3; Verner
 Crist Supp. Decl. ¶ 41; Wise. Decl. ¶ 3; Myers Decl. ¶¶ 3, 8; Dkt. No. 79 ¶ 9. Other times, the
 City told unhoused individuals that the Court’s order was gone or they do not care. Verner Crist
 Decl. ¶ 47-48; Jones Decl. ¶ 4; Melendez Decl. ¶ 6; Bagley-Adams Decl. ¶ 5.

⁴ Plaintiffs have asked Defendants how many times the notices were “inadvertently” used and
 whether they have fully investigated the use but Defendants have declined to answer that question.
 Shroff Supp. Decl. ¶ 12.

1 3, 4, 5, 7; Erickson Decl. ¶ 8; Martin Decl. ¶ 6; Myers Decl. ¶¶ 10,16; Verner Crist Supp. Decl. ¶¶
 2 8, 22, 39, 44-45, 96-98; Dkt. No. 78 ¶ 8; Dkt. No. 76 ¶¶ 7-8; Dkt. No. 77 ¶¶ 6-9; Dkt. No. 79 ¶¶
 3 7, 9; *compare* Myers Decl. ¶¶ 7-8, 14-15, 17 (detailing enforcement threats) *with* C. Berger Decl.
 4 ¶ 38 (“I do not recall” giving threats). Instead, the City admits to not making firm shelter offers
 5 before directing unhoused individuals to leave the area and erroneously characterizing individuals
 6 as having refused shelter without actually offering shelter. Opp’n at 14:14-25.⁵

7 The City’s declarations from two HSOC commanders and two HOT team outreach
 8 specialists do not demonstrate that firm and adequate shelter offers precede enforcement. These
 9 declarations describe the City ordering individuals to move along before they know the day’s
 10 shelter bed allocation. *See, e.g.* Delise Decl. ¶¶ 7, 16 (announcing at the beginning of an
 11 encampment resolution that individuals need to move and only “while packing and moving of
 12 belongings is taking place [does] the HOT team receive[] notice of the shelter bed allocations that
 13 are available that day”); Morales Decl. ¶¶ 3-5 (acknowledging that he assesses individuals for
 14 shelter prior to knowing what specific shelters are available). This improper sequence of
 15 enforcement before identifying available shelter has not changed since the injunction. Dkt. No.
 16 65 at 12.

17 The City does not rebut the overall lack of shelter at HSOC resolutions or the specific
 18 violations Plaintiffs recount. *See generally* Morales Decl., Rincon Decl. Regardless, the City does
 19 not contest that it has ordered individuals to move *without* the presence of the HOT team who can,
 20 in theory, offer shelter. *See* Mot. at 16; Myers Decl. ¶¶ 7-10; Martin Decl. ¶¶ 7-8; Barkley Decl.

21
 22 ⁵ The City suggests that a plaintiff rejected a shelter offer and is otherwise adverse to services.
 23 That is misleading. Castaño 2nd Supp. Decl. (explaining desire for shelter, past use of shelter, and
 24 the obstacles the City has put in place to securing shelter). Similarly, declarant A. Berger was
 25 never offered a specific offer of shelter. A. Berger Decl. ¶¶ 8-9. Yet the City marked him as a
 26 refusal. Rincon Decl. ¶ 15. The City implies that particular declarants were not at an HSOC
 27 operations or refused to engage. *See* Piastunovich Decl. ¶¶ 49, 63. But declarant Draper makes
 28 clear that he was not at his tent until later in the day and that no one offered him shelter. Draper
 Decl. ¶¶ 3, 4, 7. Similarly, declarant Martin makes clear he hurried out of the area after an early
 threat from “an SFPD officer [who] came by and told me that I had to move or he would arrest me
 . . . I hurriedly packed up, hurting my back, so that I would not get arrested. No one offered me
 shelter that day.” Martin Decl. ¶ 8. Finally, the City suggests that declarant Moran “declined offer
 of congregate shelter” (Opp’n at 6), but Moran’s concern was property destruction. In any event,
 Moran explained his reason to be wary of for his safety at congregate shelter. Moran Decl, ¶ 6
 (noting an assault).

¶ 8; Hawthorne Decl. ¶ 7; van Harin Decl. ¶ 5; Calloway Decl. ¶¶ 5-7; *see also* O’Donnell at ¶¶ 11, 13 (shelter allocations are unknown at the start and “the second operation . . . and sometimes the third operation, is conducted without the HOT team”). The City also does not refute that SFPD has directed people to move without any other City officials present who could make a shelter referral. Calloway Decl. ¶¶ 3, 5-6; Martin Decl. ¶¶ 7, 8.

For the first time, the City has produced nineteen “client log” reports allegedly pertaining to shelter information for HSOC encampment resolutions since the preliminary injunction was issued. *See* Piastunovich Decl., Exs. A-K, M, O-T. While these logs show that *some* individuals received shelter, the reports are riddled with inconsistencies that undermine the reliability of the City’s record-keeping.⁶ By the City’s logic, any individual who has accessibility or family needs is categorized as refusing shelter.⁷

2. Ongoing Property Destruction and Disregard of Bag and Tag Policy.

As described above, the City justifies its blatant failure to adhere to bag and tag protocols by broadly asserting that all destroyed property must be hazardous or soiled, reciting DPW procedures, and expressing employees’ generalized intent to comply. *See supra* Section II.C; Opp’n at 17-18.⁸ But the City barely attempts to justify the specific instances of property

⁶ For example, at a February 21, 2023 HSOC resolution, Defendants claim that three individuals “refused to provide information,” but the client log notes for those individuals indicated that they “must be placed in the same location.” *See* Piastunovich Decl., Exs. B, I. Likewise, at a January 17, 2023 HSOC resolution, Defendants claim an individual refused to provide information, but the client log notes that individual indicated that they were “interested in a couples bed.” *See* Piastunovich Decl., Ex A. As described above, these recorded shelter “refusals” obscure the reality that appropriate shelter is not made available to many unhoused individuals who seek it. *See supra* note 1 (detailing several other obviously erroneous shelter “refusals” in the City’s newly produced records); *see also* Dkt. No. 138 ¶¶ 108, 126 (admitting that shelter offers may “not align with an individual’s needs”).

⁷ Declarants Murdock and Hawthorne cannot stay in a group shelter for medical reasons but would be marked as having refused shelter. *See* Murdock Decl. ¶ 10; Hawthorne Decl. ¶ 8. The City claims that it “makes every effort to offer shelter that meets clients’ needs” but cites only one instance where a HOT worker attempted to offer shelter that accommodated an individual’s disabilities. Opp’n at 14:11-12, citing Rincon Decl. ¶ 11; Dkt. No. 138 ¶ 126 (shelters may “not align with an individual’s needs”). This one example does not absolve the City of its numerous violations and obviously mislabeled shelter “refusals.” *See* Mot. 8:17-28-9:1-13.

⁸ For instance, an SFFD paramedic provides that the City “does not intentionally destroy items,” and that he does “not want to throw out people’s belongings.” C. Berger Decl. ¶ 23. An aspirational desire to comply does not refute the numerous, specific instances where non-hazardous, recoverable personal items were thrown out. *See* Mot. at 9:15-28-10:1-12. Defendants’ single reference to bagging and tagging salvageable items does not controvert the

1 destruction raised in Plaintiffs' declarations. Opp'n at 20-21; Verner-Crist 2nd Supp. ¶¶ 21-23
 2 (questioning the accuracy of the City's sole specific rebuttal). In particular, the City does not rebut
 3 Plaintiffs' submitted testimony that the City has engaged in specific instances of unlawful property
 4 destruction even when items were valuable, attended, and expressly meant to be kept. *See* Mot. at
 5 9-11; *see, e.g.*, Barkley Decl. ¶ 18; Erickson Decl. ¶ 9; Garcia Decl. ¶ 5, Garrett Decl. ¶¶ 8-9;
 6 Harding Supp. Decl. ¶¶ 3-4 Jones Decl. ¶ 5; Martin Decl. ¶ 9; Moran Decl. ¶¶ 3-4; Murdock Supp.
 7 Decl. ¶¶ 8-9; Van Harin Decl. ¶ 6; Waltier Decl. ¶¶ 8-9; Wise Decl. ¶¶ 3-5; Verner Crist Supp.
 8 Decl. ¶¶ 46, 49, 50, 115; Dkt. No. 78 ¶¶ 10-11; *see also* Luz Decl.

9 Rather than bagging and tagging property, the City has repeatedly instructed declarants to
 10 either take their belongings or lose them. Barkley Decl. ¶ 17; Coalition Decl. ¶ 10; A. Berger Decl.
 11 ¶ 10; Van Harin Decl. ¶¶ 8, 12. Even when asked to bag and tag, the City declines to store property.
 12 Marin Decl. ¶ 9. In violation of its own policy, the City limits the amount of property any
 13 individual can take with them and throws away the rest. *Compare* Myers Decl. ¶ 9 *with* Dkt. No.
 14 62-1 at 2. Nor do Defendants disclaim that they failed to accommodate declarants who needed
 15 additional time or assistance to collect belongings. Hawthorne Decl. ¶ 9; Martin Decl. ¶ 3; Verner
 16 Crist Supp. Decl. ¶¶ 67, 123; *contra* Dkt. No. 62-1 at 2. The City also claims that it does not allow
 17 personal belongings to be retrieved from DPW trucks, even where the City cannot justify
 18 destroying the property. Opp'n at 22:1-15; *see, e.g.*, Barkley Decl. ¶ 18; Garrett Decl. ¶¶ 6-7;
 19 Harding Supp. Decl. ¶ 4; Van Harin Decl. ¶ 7; Verner Crist Supp. Decl. ¶ 105.

20 **E. The City's Noncompliance Continues to Evade This Court's Review.**

21 The City has been unable to give Plaintiffs any assurance that it is complying with the
 22 Court's injunction via the discovery process. The City has produced effectively no enforcement
 23 or shelter records in ordinary discovery for seven months, and its initial productions under the
 24 Court's stipulated preliminary injunction disclosure order provided far fewer incident reports and
 25 less compliance-related information than ordered, as well as incomplete notice of all enforcement
 26

27 _____
 28 overwhelming number of other accounts of violation of the Bag and Tag Policy and injunction.
 Opp'n at 20:28-21:1-5.

1 operations. Shroff Decl. ¶¶ 3-10.⁹ For example, the City maintains that it is not conducting *any*
 2 DPW planned property removals that require advance notice to Plaintiffs, announcing that it is not
 3 providing advance notice of “JFO Operations” to unhoused individuals who are subject to these
 4 operations almost daily, and has obstructed Plaintiffs’ monitoring efforts. Shroff Supp. Decl. ¶¶
 5 5-6; Verner-Crist Supp. Decl. ¶¶ 47-48 (City discouraging retaining of declaration of
 6 noncompliance); Verner-Crist 2nd Supp. Decl. ¶¶ 7-10 (threatening to deprive people shelter if
 7 monitor present). Had the City produced a more complete sampling of information as they were
 8 ordered, Plaintiffs would have had at least some basis to evaluate the City’s response to the
 9 injunction. But no amount of discovery can correct the City’s failure to take the requisite
 10 meaningful steps to comply with the injunction, its refusal to record hundreds of police interactions
 11 with unhoused individuals, its tolerance of officers making enforcement threats and issuing move
 12 along orders, its failure to create bag and tag records or to document property destruction, or its
 13 arbitrary determination that unhoused individuals have “refused” shelter before the City has even
 14 made a legitimate offer of appropriate shelter. These circumstances make it impossible for
 15 Plaintiffs or this Court to assess the extent of the City’s actual compliance with the preliminary
 16 injunction—discovery notwithstanding.

17 III. ARGUMENT

18 A. Plaintiffs Move to Enforce the Injunction, Not for Contempt.

19 Plaintiffs only seek additional compliance measures and monitoring under the All Writs
 20 Act to make sure that the City is abiding by the Court’s preliminary injunction—not to hold the
 21 City in contempt. Mot. at 13:23-14:11, 15:21-28. The distinction is clear as a matter of law. *See*
 22 *Flores v. Sessions*, No. 85-cv-04544, 2018 WL 6133665, at *2 (C.D. Cal. Nov. 11, 2018)
 23 (“Defendants entirely misapprehend the purpose of the Monitor’s appointment and the scope of
 24 the Court’s authority for doing so. Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 53 and the All Writs Act (*i.e.*,

25
 26
 27 ⁹ At the time Plaintiffs filed the Motion to Enforce, the City had produced a total of approximately
 28 71 SFPD Incident Reports. Shroff Decl. ¶ 7. Since then, the City produced an additional 45 SFPD
 Incident Reports, only three of which post-dated the Preliminary Injunction. Shroff Supp. Decl. ¶
 9.

1 28 U.S.C. § 1651(a)) authorize the appointment of a special master to *monitor* compliance with a
 2 court’s orders, and not to *coerce* that compliance or *punish* a defendant for non-compliance”).

3 Nonetheless, the City incorrectly contends that this Court cannot subject it to additional
 4 monitoring or a special master without a specific finding of contempt by clear and convincing
 5 evidence. Opp’n at 4:20-5:1. Although a history of non-compliance favors appointment of a
 6 special master, it is not a requirement. Mot. at 20:1-12; *Shenzhenshi Haitiecheng Sci. and Tech.*
 7 *Co., LTD. v. Rearden LCC*, No. 15-cv-00797, 2019 WL 1560449, at *6-7 (N.D. Cal. Apr. 10,
 8 2019) (“Though a history of noncompliance weighs in favor of reference to a special master, the
 9 Ninth Circuit has rejected a requirement that a court must find ‘intentional disregard of court orders
 10 before a special master may be appointed.’”).

11 The Central District of California recently rejected the City’s precise argument here. *See*
 12 *Flores*, 2018 WL 6133665, at *2 (rejecting defendants’ argument “that the Court may not . . .
 13 subject[] it to independent monitoring unless the Court finds by clear and convincing evidence that
 14 the agency breached the *Flores* Agreement . . .”). The City’s sole authority to the contrary is
 15 inapposite. *Xcentric Ventures, LLC v. Arden*, No. 10-cv-80058, 2011 WL 806629, at *3 (N.D.
 16 Cal. Mar. 2, 2011) (summary order noting that the appropriate place to enforce an Arizona court
 17 order is Arizona).

18 Consistent with Ninth Circuit law, this Court can exercise its inherent authority to enforce
 19 and monitor compliance with its orders even without making a finding of contempt based on clear
 20 and convincing evidence. *See, e.g., Nat’l Org. For the Reform of Marijuana Laws v. Mullen*, 828
 21 F.2d 536, 543 (9th Cir. 1987) (“There are no judicial decisions requiring a final determination of
 22 constitutional violation before an ‘exceptional condition’ justifying reference to a master can arise
 23 under Rule 53(b).”); Order Appointing Special Master, *Roman v. Wolf*, No. 20-cv-00768, 2020
 24 WL 1952656 (C.D. Cal. Apr. 13, 2020), ECF No. 726 (court appointing a special master to oversee
 25 a preliminary injunction *sua sponte* given “the Government’s inability to provide the Court with
 26 timely and accurate information”).¹⁰

27 _____
 28 ¹⁰ The City’s argument that it has undertaken “substantial efforts” to comply is inapplicable
 because this is not a contempt motion. Opp’n at 16:3-6.

1 **B. The City’s Evidentiary Objections are Irrelevant and Improper.**

2 In the context of Plaintiffs’ enforcement motion, the City’s arguments about the sufficiency
3 and admissibility of Plaintiffs’ evidence are irrelevant. *See* Opp’n at 12:7-12 (citing *Ceslik v.*
4 *Miller Ford*, 2006 WL 1582215, at *1 (C.D. Cal. July 9, 2020) (noting that the rules of evidence
5 apply in “contempt proceeding[s]”) and *Mardiros v. City of Hope*, 2020 WL 6106820, at * 1 (C.D.
6 Cal. July 9, 2020) (regarding unsworn statements, attorney hearsay, and hearsay about costs, not
7 underlying noncompliance). Plaintiffs need not make any evidentiary showing of non-compliance
8 to prevail on their motion. *Mullen*, 828 F.2d at 543.

9 Plaintiffs have nonetheless provided numerous sworn declarations from percipient
10 witnesses and non-hearsay evidence to support their motion to enforce. The witnesses provided
11 accounts of their own personal observations about the City’s conduct toward themselves or others,
12 which is not hearsay. *See, e.g.*, Dkt. Nos. 130-33 ¶¶ 3-4; 130-34 ¶¶ 3-5; 130-26 ¶¶ 4-8; 130-23 ¶¶
13 6-10; 130-36 ¶¶ 5-7; 130-24 ¶¶ 8-9; *see also* Fed. R. Evid. 801(d)(2) (party-opponent statements
14 are not hearsay).¹¹ The City does not explain why any particular declaration lacks “foundation”
15 or how any declaration contains “improper legal conclusions.” Opp’n at 5:14-16; *see also*
16 *Petrosyan v. Ali*, 2013 WL 5466572, at *5 (E.D. Cal. Sept. 30, 2013) (objection improper where
17 “fail[ure] to explain the rationale behind [the] objections”). In any event, at this pre-trial stage,
18 such evidentiary issues, at most, go to weight, not admissibility. *See Gateway City Church v.*
19 *Newsom*, 516 F. Supp. 3d 1004, 1009 n.3 (N.D. Cal. 2021); *Flynt Distrib. Co. v. Harvey*, 734 F.2d
20 1389, 1394 (9th Cir. 1984) (“The trial court may give even inadmissible evidence some weight,
21 when to do so serves the purpose of preventing irreparable harm before trial.”).

22 The City has also violated the Court’s rules by submitting “Objections to Evidence” as an
23 exhibit to a declaration, plainly an attempt to bypass page limits. Gradilla Decl., Ex. B; L. R. 7-
24 3(a) (“Any evidentiary and procedural objections to the motion must be contained within the brief
25 or memorandum.”); *Regis Metro Assocs., Inc. v. NBR Co., LLC*, 2022 WL 267443, at *9, n. 11
26 (N.D. Cal. Jan. 28, 2022) (“RMA’s fourteen-page statement of objections is procedurally improper

27 ¹¹ *Harding Supp. Decl.* ¶¶ 3-4, *Jones Decl.* ¶¶ 3-5, *Melendez Decl.* ¶¶ 4-8, *Murdock Decl.* ¶¶ 6-10,
28 *Barkley Decl.* ¶¶ 5-7, and *Adams Supp. Decl.* ¶¶ 8-9 address specific actions and statements by
the City itself.

1 because the objections are not contained within the opposition brief.”). The Court should therefore
 2 decline to consider these improper objections.¹²

3 The City’s miscellaneous objections also include a baseless assertion that the City should
 4 not have to “scour the record” to rebut Plaintiffs’ declaration evidence. Opp’n at 5:19-6:9. But the
 5 City’s own cited authority identifies that it is the non-moving party’s *duty* to identify and rebut
 6 relevant evidence. *Keenan v. Allan*, 91 F.3d 1275, 1279 (9th Cir. 1996) (“[The nonmoving party’s]
 7 burden to respond is really an opportunity to assist the court in understanding the facts. But if the
 8 nonmoving party fails to discharge that burden—for example, by remaining silent—its opportunity
 9 is waived and its case wagered.” (internal quotations and citations omitted)); *see also Faulkner v.*
 10 *Wausau Bus. Ins. Co.*, 571 F. App’x 566, 569 (9th Cir. 2014) (noting that parties must cite to
 11 relevant evidence in the record for it to be considered).

12 **C. The City’s Continued Enforcement Threats and Nonexistent Record at**
 13 **Thousands of Enforcement Interactions Necessitate a Special Master.**

14 It is binding Ninth Circuit law that a Special Master is appropriate where there are serious
 15 problems associated with compliance, a past history of non-compliance, or the inherent complexity
 16 of the litigation renders compliance difficult to monitor. *See* Opp’n at 19:14-28; *United States v.*
 17 *Suquamish Indian Tribe*, 901 F.2d 772, 775 (9th Cir. 1990) (“Masters may also be appointed
 18 because of the complexity of litigation and problems associated with compliance with the district
 19 court order”); *Hook v. Ariz.*, 120 F.3d 921, 926 (9th Cir. 1997) (finding district court did not abuse
 20 its discretion in appointing of special master where there was noncompliance and the court “lacked
 21 the resources to constantly monitor compliance”). The scope and nature of the City’s conduct
 22 establishes each of these requirements.

23 The Court expressly enjoined the City from actions short of citation and arrest, like
 24 *threatened* enforcement of ordinances that criminalize involuntary homelessness, recognizing that
 25 threatening to enforce proscribed laws and ordinances also results in irreparable injury. *See*

26 ¹² Dkt. No. 65 at 3:24-28. *See, e.g., Elliot v. Spherion Pac. Work, LLC*, 368 Fed. App’x 761, 763
 27 (9th Cir. 2010) (“The court did not abuse its discretion in following the local rules and refusing to
 28 consider the evidentiary objections. . . .”). Should the Court determine it will consider the exhibit,
 Plaintiffs respectfully ask that the Court provide an opportunity for Plaintiffs to separately respond
 to the arguments improperly contained therein.

1 *Petroleum Expl. v. Pub. Serv. Comm'n of Kentucky*, 304 U.S. 209, 218-19 (1938) (describing how
 2 the injury that flows from threatened unconstitutional enforcement of laws is irreparable and
 3 sufficient to justify an injunction). These thousands of unlawful “move along” orders formed the
 4 basis on which Plaintiffs’ sought a preliminary injunction against enforcement. Yet the City’s
 5 homelessness removal practices remain unchanged.¹³ The City does not deny that its officers
 6 regularly instruct unhoused individuals to move without telling them the move is voluntary or
 7 temporary. Opp’n at 13:7-9. Instead, the City posits, implausibly, that if unhoused individuals
 8 decide to move, they are doing so of their own accord. But unhoused individuals do not understand
 9 these requests to move as voluntary.¹⁴

10 These coercive interactions violate the City’s own enforcement bulletin on the injunction—
 11 a policy that dispatch officers have not been trained on. The City’s only response is to assert that
 12 no enforcement has taken place because citations and arrests have not been issued or particular
 13 code provisions expressly invoked—which is irrelevant to the injunction’s prohibition on threats
 14 of enforcement and a clear end run. Opp’n 13:17-19. Meanwhile, the City does not dispute that
 15 *hundreds* of law enforcement interactions with unhoused people are occurring without *any way*
 16 for Plaintiffs to meaningfully review and ensure compliance with injunction’s prohibition on

17
 18 ¹³ In a spate of separate instances, the City has ordered and forced individuals to move at formal
 19 HSOC resolutions, ad-hoc police dispatches, and single-department sweeps. *See* Mot. at 4-6. The
 20 City only contests a select few episodes described in Plaintiffs’ submitted declarations, leaving the
 21 rest unanswered. Even the City’s response to these few incidents raises serious questions. For
 22 example, the City purports that it displaced a man from U.N. plaza supposedly for his own benefit
 23 because he was “non-responsive,” when it is abundantly clear that police were ordered to clear the
 24 entire plaza of unhoused individuals in advance of a public appearance by the Mayor. *See* David
 25 Sjostedt, *What San Francisco Politicians Won’t See at Today’s Hearing in UN Plaza*, San
 26 Francisco Standard (May 23, 2023), <https://sfstandard.com/2023/05/23/un-plaza-heres-what-san-francisco-politicians-wont-see-at-rare-public-hearing/>; *see also* Dkt. No. 138 ¶ 223 (“San
 27 Francisco admits that Mayor Breed has expressly called for law enforcement to remove unhoused
 28 individuals from public property and that ...the City does not have enough affordable housing or
 shelter to meet its needs”).

¹⁴ Rather than suggesting that the City’s orders to move are optional or temporary, the evidence
 shows these orders are accompanied by threats of arrest, warrant checks, jailing, and property
 destruction. *See* Mot. at 6-7; *see, e.g.*, Murdock Supp. Decl. ¶ 8 (property destruction); Wise Decl.
 ¶ 3 (city using knife to shred tents); Jones Decl. ¶¶ 3, 5 (property search and seizure); Hoffman
 Decl. ¶ 6 (same); Martin Decl. ¶ 8 (explicit threat by SFPD to arrest); Adams Decl. ¶ 7 (threat by
 City worker to call SFPD); Harding Decl. ¶¶ 4-5 (threat by City worker to call SFPD); Myers Decl.
 ¶ 8 (threat of warrant check by SFPD); Calloway Decl. ¶ 5 (show of authority by SFPD intended
 to make unhoused people move); Dkt. No. 79 ¶ 9. This is contrary to the City’s representation that
 police “keep their distance” and do not ask people to move. Dkt. No. 83 at 1:8-18.

1 enforcement threats.¹⁵ These circumstances warrant the appointment of a special master to verify
 2 compliance. *See Suquamish Indian Tribe*, 901 F.2d at 775; *Mullen*, 828 F.2d at 543; *F.T.C. v. John*
 3 *Beck Amazing Profits, LLC*, No. 09-cv-04719, 2009 WL 7844076, at *16 (C.D. Cal. Nov. 17,
 4 2009).

5 The City’s primary argument against Plaintiffs’ request for additional compliance
 6 measures is that vague enforcement threats are lawful as long as they do not specifically invoke a
 7 proscribed statute, and so the City’s conduct does not need to be monitored. Opp’n at 20:10-14.
 8 But courts generally agree with this Court’s determination that even a question or request from a
 9 government official can constitute a coercive show of authority, and that compliance is not
 10 voluntary simply on the government’s say-so after the fact. *See* Dkt. No. 91 at 30:15-17, 31:14-
 11 15; *Florida v. Bostick*, 501 U.S. 429, 438 (1991) (“Citizens do not forfeit their constitutional rights
 12 when they are coerced to comply with a request they would prefer to refuse.”); *Benson v. City of*
 13 *San Jose*, 583 Fed. App’x 604, 605-606 (9th Cir. 2014) (describing how a government official’s
 14 telling an individual to stay put or get on a bus can constitute a non-consensual seizure when
 15 evaluated in context).

16 The City’s cited legal authority does not indicate otherwise. *See United States v. Drayton*,
 17 536 U.S. 194, 207 (2002) (noting that whether a law enforcement encounter was “voluntary” is
 18 governed by a “totality of the circumstances” test); *United States v. Vongxay*, 594 F.3d 1111, 1120
 19 n.6 (9th Cir. 2010) (noting that “inform[ing] the person being searched that he has a right to refuse
 20 consent . . . weighs in favor of finding consent”).¹⁶ In fact, courts reject “bright-line rule[s]” for

21 ¹⁵ The City’s report that dispatches for sit/lie enforcement have moderately decreased in recent
 22 years has no bearing on the question at hand: why these dispatches specifically to enforce sit/lie
 23 ordinances continue and whether enforcement threats persisted at hundreds of interactions after
 24 the injunction was issued. Opp’n at 7:20-22.

25 ¹⁶ No such advisement on voluntariness or temporariness occurs. Focusing on the “totality of
 26 circumstances” is a similar inquiry for California Penal Code Sec. 422, which the SFPD Bulletin
 27 on the Court’s injunction uses to illustrate what constitutes a threat. *See* Dkt. No. 97-2 at 1 (“any
 28 conduct that could be reasonably seen as forcing a particular action without an explicit threat”) (emphasis added). Penal Code Sec. 422 is California’s criminal threat statute and “even an
 ambiguous statement may be a basis for a violation of section 422.” *See People v. Culbert*, 218
 Cal. App. 4th 184, 190 (2013). Further, threats under section 422 are evaluated by “the
 circumstances under which the threat is made that give meaning to the actual words used.” *People*
v. Butler, 85 Cal. App. 4th 745, 753 (2000). Thus, even the law that the City uses to show police
 officers what constitutes a threat under the Injunction employs a “totality of the circumstances”
 standard.

1 evaluating whether an individual has been threatened with enforcement, as the City proposes. *See*,
 2 *e.g. Ohio v. Robinette*, 519 U.S. 33, 39 (1996); *Bostick*, 501 U.S. at 437.

3 Instead, courts have found government conduct coercive if a reasonable person would not
 4 feel free to “ignore the [government] and go about [their] business.” *Bostick*, 501 U.S. at 437
 5 (quoting *Michigan v. Chesternut*, 486 U.S. 567, 569 (1988)); *see also United States v. Faulkner*,
 6 450 F.3d 466, 469-70 (9th Cir. 2006) (describing how a reasonable person would not have felt free
 7 to leave given the presence of a uniformed, armed law enforcement officer standing next to their
 8 official government vehicle). The Court previously raised the same concern with how the presence
 9 and number of police may be threatening to unhoused individuals being ordered to move. Dkt.
 10 No. 91 at 30:15-23, 31:14-15 (questioning outsized police presence and whether “individuals
 11 understand that moving is voluntary”). The City’s own statements and the overwhelming record
 12 of unrecorded police dispatches to response to calls for “Sit/Lie” enforcement—still prevalent
 13 since the Court’s injunction—plainly suggest that these conveniently ambiguous “requests” are in
 14 fact enforcement threats the Court has proscribed. Opp’n at 7:17-23, 8: 1-28, 9:1-9. The Court
 15 should decline the City’s invitation to simply assume that the enjoined laws are not being enforced
 16 at thousands of recurring and unrecorded law enforcement interactions with the unhoused.¹⁷
 17 Alternatively, the City claims it is enforcing an arbitrary 4-foot rule, which does not come from
 18 any criminal law and that SFPD specifically noted as a way around the Court’s injunction. Mot.
 19 at 11:29, 12:1-20.¹⁸ At least dozens of unhoused individuals are being subjected to enforcement
 20
 21
 22

23 ¹⁷ The City’s opposition distracts by suggesting that there may be some legitimate law enforcement
 24 intervention in response to unhoused individuals at a given encampment. Opp’n at 18:22-28.
 25 Plaintiffs agree. That is irrelevant to the question of whether officers understand the limits of their
 authority and whether their compliance with the injunction at these interactions is able to be
 ascertained either by Plaintiffs or this Court.

26 ¹⁸ The City justifies its intransigence as protected First Amendment activity, but the Free Speech
 27 Clause applies to individuals, not governments. *Pleasant Grove City, Utah v. Summum*, 555 U.S.
 28 460, 467 (2009). In any event, that does not preclude this Court from issuing an order to enforce
 its injunction based on evidence that the City may not be complying as it pursues its appeal of the
 injunction in the Ninth Circuit. *See A&M Records Inc. v. Napster, Inc.*, 284 F.3d 1091, 1099 (9th
 Cir. 2002).

1 actions based on this arbitrary rule, and potentially many more at the City’s unrecorded and
2 undocumented ad hoc police interactions.¹⁹

3 It is undisputed that the police engage in thousands of these enforcement interactions
4 without even purporting to offer shelter because outreach workers are not present and the City’s
5 shelters are full. These enforcement operations, for which police dispatch officers have received
6 no training specific to compliance with the injunction, require additional monitoring. Even at
7 formal HSOC operations, where HOT team outreach workers are nominally presented, there is
8 insufficient shelter and the City’s records reveal inconsistencies and the use of misleading labels
9 making it difficult to assess whether individuals have access to shelter. That is precisely why a
10 special master is appropriate in this case. *Suquamish Indian Tribe*, 901 F.2d at 775.

11 **D. The City’s Failure to Bag & Tag and Document Destroyed Property at**
12 **Removal Operations Necessitates a Special Master.**

13 The City admits that it continues to seize and destroy property at dozens of monthly
14 encampment resolutions and daily street cleanings without bagging and tagging specific property
15 under the City’s bag and tag policy—as required by the Court’s injunction. Without adequate logs
16 or documentation identifying disputed property, the City’s response to unhoused individuals’
17 personal property is entirely unascertainable. The bag and tag logs that do exist reveal that little
18 property has been stored by the City since the injunction, while the City broadly purports that any
19 valuable belongings it destroys are mixed with hazardous materials and refuse. Opp’n at 20-21.
20 These bare assertions do nothing to undermine Dr. Herring’s findings regarding the City’s failure
21 to maintain bag and tag records, individual accounts of the City’s destruction of apparently
22

23 _____
24 ¹⁹ Plaintiffs and declarants have consistently maintained that the City can and should keep the
25 sidewalks clean and accessible without criminalizing unhoused people’s existence. That does not
26 excuse the City creating non-existent laws or artificial blockages to forcibly displace unhoused
27 individuals. A rule that contractors building a sidewalk in San Francisco must make sure that the
28 sidewalk has 4 feet of usable space does not make it a crime for the public to “obstruct” that space.
See Mot. at 12. Such an interpretation would be an end run the injunction and make huge swaths
of the City off limits. Castaño 2nd Supp. Decl. ¶¶ 17-19. Similarly, the City cannot claim a desire
for ADA compliance while also purposefully obstructing sidewalk space to strategically block
unhoused people from having enough public usable space to avoid enforcement. Verner-Crist 2nd
Supp. Decl. ¶¶ 5, 11 (setting up barricades); Meyers Supp. Decl. ¶ 5 (same).

1 valuable personal property included with this motion, and this Court’s determination the City’s
2 must demonstrate that any personal property it summarily destroys is not salvageable.²⁰

3 Because the City has failed to create any property logs that would meaningfully catalog
4 any discarded property, there are no records to substantiate the City’s compliance with its bag and
5 tag policy. Additionally, to the extent DPW chooses not to post property removal notices in
6 advance, Plaintiffs are unable to identify instances of non-compliance at DPW’s almost daily
7 operations where they remove the belongings of unhoused individuals across the City. These
8 circumstances justify a special master—particularly as discovery would not allow Plaintiffs to
9 identify whether and how the City is complying with the injunction. *See also Local 28 of Sheet*
10 *Metal Workers’ Int’l Ass’n v. E.E.O.C*, 478 U.S. at 482 (noting “the difficulties inherent in
11 monitoring compliance with the court’s orders” as a basis for the appointment of a special master).

12 **E. The City Conflates the Requirements for Trial Masters and Special Masters**
13 **Appointed to Ensure Compliance with a Court Order.**

14 The City’s principal argument in opposition to appointment of a special master is based on
15 outdated language from Fed. R. Civ. P. 53 and entirely inapposite rules that apply only to trial
16 masters. Opp’n at 25:1-26:18. It is true that prior to 2003, Rule 53(b) stated that reference “shall
17 be the exception and not the rule,” and, with limited exceptions, “shall be made only upon a
18 showing that some exceptional condition requires it.” *See Burlington N. R.R. Co. v. Dep’t of*
19 *Revenue of Sate of Wash.*, 934 F.2d 1064, 1071 (9th Circ. 1991). But in 2003 the rule was “revised
20 extensively to reflect changing practices in using masters.” Fed. R. Civ. P. 53 advisory committee
21 notes. The provisions of former Rule 53(b), including the “exceptional condition” language, are
22 now included in current Rule 53(a)(1)(B)(ii), which pertains solely to “trial masters”—masters
23 who exercise the “core functions of trial” such as fact-finding. *Id.* At the same time, subsection
24 (a)(1)(C) was added to “authorize[] appointment of a master to address pretrial and post-trial
25 matters . . . that cannot be addressed effectively and in a timely fashion by an available district
26 judge or magistrate judge of the district.” *Id.* The 2003 Committee Notes clarify that this broader

27 ²⁰ The City’s own policy also demonstrates the opposite presumption. In fact, all belongings are
28 to be assumed valuable, wanted, and subject to storage as a default matter. Dkt. No. 62-1 at Section
3(d).

1 role is no longer limited to “exceptional condition[s]”, and “may include matters that could be
2 addressed by a judge.” *Id.*

3 As Plaintiffs have established, even before 2003, appointment of a special master was
4 always appropriate when necessary “to aid a district court in the enforcement of its decree.”
5 *Suquamish Indian Tribe*, 901 F.2d at 774 (listing numerous references to masters during the course
6 of the litigation). Contrary to the City’s assertion (Opp. at 25:24-26), the complexity of the case
7 was only the *second* basis cited by the Ninth Circuit for the appointment of a master in *Suquamish*
8 *Indian Tribe*. *Id.* at 774-75. The City also does not address the many cases Plaintiffs cite
9 upholding references to special masters in like circumstances. *See* Mot. at 19:14-20:25. Rather,
10 the City relies on pre-1993 cases discussing “trial masters” and other inapposite cases. *See*
11 *Burlington N. R.R. Co.*, 934 F.2d at 1071; *Nkop v. City & Cnty. of San Francisco*, 956 F.2d 1167
12 (9th Cir. 1992); *Yeseta v. Baima*, 837 F.2d 380, 387 (9th Cir. 1988).²¹ The City even cites authority
13 affirming this distinction. *Thakur v. Cofiroute USA, LLC*, No. 19-cv-02233, 2020 WL 10731939,
14 at *4 (C.D. Cal. Aug. 5, 2020) (disapproving of a Rule 53(a)(1)(B) trial master while expressly
15 appointing a Rule 53(a)(1)(C) special pre-trial master on the same facts, and noting that
16 “Defendants are incorrect that the Court may only appoint a special master under Rule 53(a)(1)(C)
17 if exceptional circumstances exist”).

18 Nor does the City cite any authority for its assertion that appointment of a master must be
19 based on “specific subject matter expertise that the Court lacks.” Opp. at 26:1-2. Rule 53 does
20 not require that the party nominate a specific person for special master. Rule 53(b)(1) states that
21 *any party may suggest candidates for appointment*” (emphasis added), and Courts often make
22 nominations *sua sponte*. *See, e.g., In re Anthem, Inc. Data Breach Litig.*, No. 15-MD-02617, 2018
23 WL 3960068, at *1 (N.D. Cal., Aug. 17, 2018).²² The City’s even cites authority that contradicts

24 ²¹ The City’s assertion that there is “strong skepticism around appointing special masters” is
25 wrong. Opp’n at 25:11. Defendants even rely on a treatise that also states that “reference to a
26 master under Federal Rule 53 may be a useful device to assist the district court in many situations.”
27 9C Wright & Miller, Fed. Prac. & Proc. Civ. § 2603 (3d ed. 2023). The 2003 Committee Notes
28 also state that “appointment of masters to participate in pretrial proceedings has developed
extensively over the last two decades”

²² Defendants’ argument, based on the 2003 Committee Notes, that additional caution is necessary
in a case involving “important public issues” (Opp’n at 25:3-7) is inapplicable because Plaintiffs

1 this position. *Thakur*, 2020 WL 10731939, at *5 (“Rule 53(a)(1)(C) does not require that the
2 proposed special master have expertise in the specific subject matter of the action in question.”).

3 The City paradoxically argues that Plaintiffs’ request is “premature” (Opp. at 27:3-9) even
4 though Plaintiffs have amassed abundant evidence of repeated violations without receiving the
5 information in the City’s possession necessary to monitor compliance. Despite months of
6 sustained negotiations between the parties, the City has made it impossible to obtain discovery on
7 entirely unrecorded interactions implicated by the Court’s injunction. Unlike in *Richardson v.*
8 *Trump*, there is also ample evidence of the City’s failures to comply with Court orders. 496 F.
9 Supp. 3d 165, 190 (D.D.C. 2020).

10 **F. The City Alone Should Bear the Cost of a Special Master After Years of**
11 **Violating the Constitution In Contravention of Its Own Policies.**

12 The parties agree that allocation of the master’s costs must be based on the criteria set forth
13 in Fed. R. Civ. P. 53(g)(3). These factors each require allocating 100% of the costs to the City.
14 Regarding the “nature of the controversy” and “which party is more responsible ... for the
15 reference to a master,” the *only* basis for the reference is the City’s improper and insufficient
16 conduct with respect to the injunction and years of failing to comply with its own policies. Mot.
17 at 4-13. Comparing “the parties’ means,” between a small non-profit and destitute plaintiffs versus
18 the City with its \$14 billion annual budget,²³ there is no question the City should pay.²⁴
19 Defendants’ extraordinary argument that costs should be borne by Plaintiffs’ *pro bono* counsel is
20 unsupported by case law. The only case cited by Defendants, *In re Anthem, supra*, is entirely
21 distinguishable: (1) the master was appointed due to the court’s concerns regarding *plaintiffs’*
22 *counsels’ fee request* in a consumer class action; (2) payment could be made from a “fund . . .

23 seek a master only to monitor adherence to the injunction, not to exercise the “judicial function”
24 of determining whether an injunction is warranted. Contrary to Defendants’ straw man argument,
25 the basis for Plaintiffs’ request for a master is not “court congestion,” but rather the need to monitor
26 Defendants’ compliance with the Court’s injunction. Mot. at 15:3-17.

25 ²³ London Breed, *City and County of San Francisco, California, Proposed Budget, Fiscal Years*
26 *2023-2024 and 2024-25*, 11, [https://sf.gov/sites/default/files/2023-](https://sf.gov/sites/default/files/2023-05/CSF_Proposed_Budget_Book_June_2023_Master_Web.pdf)
26 [05/CSF_Proposed_Budget_Book_June_2023_Master_Web.pdf](https://sf.gov/sites/default/files/2023-05/CSF_Proposed_Budget_Book_June_2023_Master_Web.pdf)

27 ²⁴ Defendants are incorrect about the holding in *Wood v. Yordy*, No. 07-cv-00350, 2009 WL
28 10706017 (D. Idaho, June 2, 2009). There, the court’s declined to appoint *not* because of the
28 plaintiff’s inability to pay, but because the plaintiff had not shown “circumstances to justify such
an appointment.” *Id.* at *11.

1 within the court’s control,” the ultimate \$31 million fee award; and (3) plaintiffs’ counsel did not
 2 object to making such payment out of that fund; none of which remotely resemble the
 3 circumstances in this case. WL 3960068, at *32; *Morgan Hill Concerned Parents Ass’n v. Cal.*
 4 *Dep’t of Educ.*, No. 11-cv-03471, 2015 WL 10939711, at *2 (E.D. Cal. July 2, 2015) (“the court
 5 finds defendant should bear the responsibility for special master’s fees” when “plaintiffs’ counsel
 6 . . . are presently receiving no compensation for their time or reimbursement of costs”).

7 **G. Regular Compliance Reports Are Warranted, Routine Measures.**

8 The City concedes that this Court has broad discretion to require compliance reports.
 9 Opp’n at 30:5-8. Contrary to the City’s argument, the cases cited by Plaintiffs also establish that
 10 courts regularly exercise their power to order *multiple* compliance reports in light of compliance
 11 concerns. Opp’n at 30:5-6.²⁵ As explained above, the City is wrong that the discovery process
 12 would satisfy Plaintiffs’ need for information, as the City has determined to avoid recording any
 13 of its enforcement or property removal interactions with unhoused individuals, which is central to
 14 understanding compliance with the Court’s injunction. Shroff Supp. Decl. ¶ 10.

15 **IV. CONCLUSION**

16 For the foregoing reasons, Plaintiffs respectfully request the Court to grant Plaintiffs’
 17 Motion to Enforce the Preliminary Injunction by issuing an Order appointing a special master and
 18 requiring the City to submit regular compliance reports.

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 23 ²⁵See *Calvillo Manriquez v. Devos*, 411 F. Supp. 3d 535, 538 (N.D. Cal. 2019) (ordering
 24 defendants to file a status report regarding compliance with the injunction after the plaintiffs
 25 “notified the court that Defendants were in substantial noncompliance with the preliminary
 26 injunction”); *Hernandez v. Barr*, No. 16-cv-00620, 2019 WL 13019923, at *2 (C.D. Cal. March
 27 25, 2019) (requiring defendants to file a detailed status report describing the steps taken to identify
 28 each class member and the outcomes of any bond redeterminations); *SunEarth, Inc. v. Earth Solar
 Power Co.*, No. 11-cv-04991, 2012 WL 2344081, at *3 (N.D. Cal. June 20, 2012) (ordering
 defendant to file a detailed compliance report in a trademark dispute); *Newmark Realty Capital,
 Inc. v. BGC Partners, Inc.*, No. 16-cv-01702, 2018 WL 2416242, at *13 (N.D. Cal. May 29, 2018)
 (ordering defendants in a trademark case to file a compliance report “outlining . . . corrections” to
 their marketing materials after expressing concern that certain of defendants’ activities might
 “constitute a violation of the preliminary injunction order that warrants a finding of contempt.”).

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Dated: July 25, 2023

Respectfully submitted,

By: /s/ Alfred C. Pfeiffer, Jr.

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ATTESTATION

I, Alfred C. Pfeiffer, Jr., am the ECF user whose user ID and password authorized the filing of this document. Under Civil L.R. 5-1(h)(3), I attest that all signatories to this document have concurred in this filing.

Dated: July 25, 2023

/s/ Alfred C. Pfeiffer, Jr.