JOHN W. HOWARD (SBN 80200) 1 MICHELLE D. VOLK (SBN 217151) ANDREW G. Nagurney (SBN 301894) 2 JW Howard/ Attorneys, Ltd. 701 B Street Suite 1725 3 San Diego, CA 92101 Tel (619) 234-2842; Fax (619) 234-1716 4 Johnh@jwhowardattorneys.com michelle@jwhowardattorneys.com 5 SCOTT J. STREET (SBN 258962) 6 JW Howard/ Attorneys, Ltd. 777 S. Figueroa Street, Suite 3800 7 Los Angeles, CA 90017 Tel. (213) 205-2800 8 sstreet@jwhowardattorneys.com 9 Attorneys for Plaintiffs 10 SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA 11 **COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO - CENTRAL** 12 13 Case No.: PROTECTION FOR THE EDUCATIONAL RIGHTS OF KIDS, a California 501(c)(3) non-14 profit corporation; MANUEL DEL TORO, an COMPLAINT FOR DECLARATORY AND 15 individual; JONATHAN WIESE, an individual; INJUNCTIVE RELIEF and JUSTUS NORGORD, an individual, 16 Plaintiffs, 17 v. 18 CITY OF SAN DIEGO, a charter city and 19 municipal corporation; and DOES 1 through 20, inclusive. 20 Defendant. 21 22 Plaintiffs, Protection for the Educational Rights of Kids ("PERK"), Manuel Del Toro, 23 Jonathan Wiese, and Justus Norgord, allege as follows: 24 INTRODUCTION 25 1. The Covid-19 pandemic has lasted nearly two years. For much of that time, schools 26 were shut. Businesses were forced to close. Even government agencies operated remotely, meeting 27 by phone or videoconference to conduct the public's business. 28

- 2. But while others sheltered in place, firefighters and police officers stepped to the frontlines of the pandemic, selflessly protecting citizens of this City. Many City of San Diego ("City") firefighters and police officers have contracted the COVID-19 virus. They performed their duties before any of the COVID-19 vaccines were available. Then, when the vaccines became available at the end of 2020, the City firefighters and police officers continued working without a vaccine mandate. They did not cause any harm to anybody. The City has no evidence of any unvaccinated firefighter or police officer infecting a member of the public with COVID-19.
- 3. Nonetheless, during the summer of 2021, the firefighters and police officers, like others, became embroiled in a political controversy over President Joe Biden's plan to use universal vaccination as the way to end the COVID-19 pandemic. Thus, on November 29, 2021, the City Council adopted Ordinance No. O-21398, Mandatory COVID-19 Vaccination Policy (defined below), purportedly making vaccination against COVID-19 a condition of employment for all current and future city employees.
- 4. The City's Mandatory COVID-19 Vaccination Policy suffers from many flaws. By making the mandate a condition of employment, the City was acting in its capacity as an employer, not as the sovereign, when it adopted the mandate. An employer cannot unilaterally change unionized public employees' conditions of employment and it cannot use its police powers to circumvent the restrictions on its employment powers. The mandate also violates the privacy rights of city firefighters and police officers who do not wish to get the COVID-19 vaccine, a right explicitly protected by the California Constitution. And, in enforcing the Mandatory COVID-19 Vaccination Policy, the City has violated the Due Process Clause by cutting off pay, without a hearing, to firefighters and police officers who have not complied with the mandate.
- 5. Plaintiffs bring this action to vindicate the Constitution and to protect the careers of Plaintiffs who have risked their lives to protect the people of San Diego—and, in doing so, earned the right to be heard about these important issues.

THE PARTIES

6. Plaintiff PERK is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization formed under the laws of the

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

State of California that advocates for civil rights issues, bodily autonomy, medical freedom and other rights. PERK has dedicated considerable resources to advocating for individual rights during the COVID-19 pandemic, has hundreds of members who are First Responders and employees of the City of San Diego and thus has a beneficial interest in the relief sought in this action.

- 7. Plaintiff Manuel Del Toro ("Del Toro") is, and at all times relevant hereto was, an individual residing in the City and County of San Diego. Del Toro is a Captain in the San Diego Police Department with thirty-one (31) years of service. Del Toro opposes the City's Mandatory COVID-19 Vaccination Policy. He believes the mandate infringes upon the rights and freedoms City employees have over their own bodies and that the termination of non-compliant police officers will compromise his ability to provide the high level of service San Diego citizens have grown to expect from the San Diego Police Department.
- 8. Plaintiff Jonathan Wiese is, and at all times relevant hereto was, an individual residing in the City and County of San Diego. Wiese is a San Diego Police Officer assigned to the K-9 unit. Wiese has been with the San Diego Police Department for over twenty-three (23) years. Wiese previously contracted COVID-19, has natural, durable immunity, and does not want to be administered any of the currently available COVID-19 vaccines. Wiese submitted a religious exemption that is currently pending.
- 9. Plaintiff Justus Norgord is, and at all times relevant hereto was, an individual residing in the City and County of San Diego. Norgord is Captain/Paramedic and Battalion Medical Officer with the San Diego Fire-Rescue Department and has not demonstrated compliance with the City's Mandatory COVID-19 Vaccination Policy. Norgord has been a firefighter since he was twenty (20) years old and has now been a firefighter for approximately thirty (30) years. Norgord previously contracted COVID-19 and has submitted a request for a religious exemption.
 - 10. The City is a municipal corporation organized under the laws of this State.

FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS

11. Between late 2019 and early 2020, health officials discovered a novel coronavirus circulating in Wuhan, China. They named the virus "COVID-19."

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

- 12. During March 2020, California Governor Gavin Newsom issued a state of emergency related to COVID-19. Later that month, Governor Newsom issued a statewide "stay at home" order. Under this order, certain activities, deemed "essential," were allowed to continue while other activities, deemed "non-essential," were not.
- 13. Police, firefighters, and other emergency personnel were deemed essential under the Governor's stay at home order and related orders issued by local officials. Thus, San Diego police officers and firefighters did not shelter in place during the early stages of the pandemic. They did not work remotely. They served the public on the front lines during the initial emergency, as they always do.
- 14. During 2020, several pharmaceutical companies began developing shots to mitigate the spread of COVID-19. Then-president Donald Trump promised that the vaccines would be available within a year. Many people did not believe him, with several Democratic politicians including Governor Newsom—saying they did not trust Trump and would review the vaccines' effectiveness and safety independently.
- 15. Then Mr. Biden won the presidency and many tunes changed. By the summer of 2021, tens of millions of Americans had received the COVID-19 shot, including more than half of adults in California. But the virus had not disappeared. Therefore, some government officials decided that the only way to eliminate COVID-19, and end the pandemic, is for everybody to get one of the COVID-19 shots.
- 16. To that end, on November 29, 2021 the City Council adopted Ordinance O-21398, which it "declared to be an emergency measure required for the immediate preservation of the public peace, safety, health, and welfare pursuant to Charter section 295" that took immediate effect. It required current City employees, newly hired employees, and certain City contractors to "be fully vaccinated against COVID-19 and provide proof of their full vaccination" (the "City Vaccine Mandate"). A true and correct copy of the City's ordinance is attached as **Exhibit "A."**
- 17. The Council said it adopted the City Vaccine Mandate because "multiple COVID-19 vaccines, approved by the FDA or authorized for emergency use by the FDA or the WHO, are

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

currently available and have proven to be safe and highly effective in protecting individuals against serious illness, hospitalization, and death from COVID-19 infection" and because "the City of San Diego's workforce, residents, and visitors include individuals who are particularly vulnerable to serious COVID-19 infection and those who cannot receive a COVID-19 vaccine[.]" But, to date, the City has not turned over the information it relied on to make those findings. Moreover, the Department of Health and Human Services' Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services ("CMS") recently stated in the Federal Register that "the duration of vaccine effectiveness in preventing COVID-19, reducing disease severity, reducing the risk of death, and the effectiveness of the vaccine to prevent disease transmission by those vaccinated are not currently known."

- 18. The CMS issued that report last fall. Now we know more about the ineffectiveness of the COVID-19 vaccines. As the new year dawned, America averaged 486,000 new COVID-19 infections each day, the most ever. Roughly a quarter of people who tested in Los Angeles over the New Year's weekend were positive. This includes vaccinated and unvaccinated people. So have many City police officers. As of January 5th, at least 200 members of the San Diego Police Department ("SDPD"), including police officers were off-duty with COVID-19.1 The SDPD states that approximately seventy-three percent (73%) of the City's police officers are fully vaccinated. The firefighters' numbers are comparable with about 127 firefighters quarantining and around 88% of the City's firefighters being fully vaccinated. (*Ibid.*)
- 19. Thus, there is no evidence that receiving one of the COVID-19 shots makes an individual less likely to contract and transmit the novel coronavirus. The real-world evidence shows it does not. The companies that created the vaccines admit it. And it is becoming increasingly clear that the COVID-19 vaccines are not cures, like the polio or smallpox vaccines, which can eradicate a disease. They may reduce the severity of an infected individual's symptoms. They may not. Like the flu shot, they may work better against some variants than others.
- 20. If the City had engaged in a meaningful and open-minded review of this issue, it would have realized this. Instead, it simply decided to mandate the COVID-19 vaccines for all city

¹ https://www.sandiegouniontribune.com/news/public-safety/story/2022-01-05/almost-200-san-diego-police-employeesin-insolation-or-quarantine-because-of-covid-19 (Last visited January 27, 2022)

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

employees and directed City staff to find evidence to support the decision, a quintessentially arbitrary and capricious action and an arbitrary decision-making process that deserves no deference in this action.

- 21. This is not a trivial issue. Although the City describes compulsory vaccination as commonplace, it has never required that city employees get a shot to keep their jobs before now. This is even true for city employees who work in the most disease-ridden areas of San Diego. For example, on information and belief, the City regularly offered shots to employees who work directly with San Diego's homeless population to combat the various contagions they encounter. Nobody has ever been disciplined, much less fired, for declining one of the injections.
- 22. Similarly, in 2018, America suffered one of its worst flu seasons in recent memory. The Los Angeles Times described hospitals as "war zones." Patients were treated in hallways and outdoor tents. But no city employees were fired for declining the flu shot.
- 23. Compulsory vaccination constitutes a serious invasion of the Plaintiffs' right to bodily integrity. But, in issuing the City Vaccine Mandate, the City did not consider alternative measures that have a lesser impact on the firefighters' and police officers' privacy rights, as it was required to do under Article I, section 1 of the California Constitution (the state constitutional right to privacy) and the California Supreme Court's decision in Mathews v. Becerra. Many such measures exist.
- 24. Furthermore, city police officers and firefighters who have obtained permanent employment are not at-will employees but have a property interest in their employment. Thus, under Skelly v. State Personnel Board, they have a right to notice of their termination and an opportunity to be heard before a reasonably impartial hearing officer. They also have the right to conduct discovery before the hearing. They must be paid during that time and can challenge any adverse employment action as clearly excessive. That will cost an enormous amount of time and taxpayer money. In the meantime, social services will be cut. That is simply not warranted for vaccines that have proven to be ineffective in controlling the spread of COVID-19 and for a virus that is becoming endemic.
 - 25. This should not be a political issue. It is not 1905. Constitutional law has evolved

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

since then. And while the City cites the COVID-19 emergency as justification for its Vaccine Mandate, an emergency cannot last forever. The City has an ongoing obligation to review the facts and determine whether its Vaccine Mandate is necessary to protect the public health. It cannot bury its head in the sand and rely on old studies while ignoring the real-world data the Omicron variant has given us.

- 26. A substantial number of firefighters and police officers have not complied with the City Vaccine Mandate as of the filing of this action. Many of them bowed to the City's pressure tactics and got the COVID-19 shot. Yet other firefighters and police officers did not bow to the pressure and recently received an "Advance Notice of Termination – Failure to Comply with Mandatory COVID-19 Vaccination Policy". Some have returned to duty—all they had to do was request a religious or medical exemption and they could work, even if unvaccinated—but others have not.
- 27. The City accused these non-compliant firefighters of being an imminent threat to public health and workplace safety. But it does not have any evidence of unvaccinated firefighters infecting the public and thus has no basis for that statement or for the aggressive adverse employment actions it has taken against those firefighters who challenged the City Vaccine Mandate.

FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION

(Declaratory and Injunctive Relief re *Ultra Vires* Legislation)

- 28. Plaintiffs incorporate each of the preceding paragraphs as though set forth fully herein.
- 29. The City contends that it had the authority to adopt the City Vaccine Mandate under its police powers and that the mandate is reasonably related to promoting public health.
- 30. Plaintiff contends that, in making the COVID-19 vaccines a condition of employment, the City acted in its capacity as an employer, not the sovereign. The City does not have the authority, as their employer, to unilaterally change the conditions of employment for city firefighters and police officers, who are represented by a labor union and whose employment is

governed by a Memorandum of Understanding between the City and the union.

- 31. Plaintiff also contends that, even if the City does have the authority under its police power to adopt the Vaccine Mandate, the mandate is not reasonably related to promoting public health and that the means used is not reasonably appropriate under the circumstances. Indeed, the City Vaccine Mandate is arbitrary and irrational, as evidence developed during the spread of the Omicron variant shows the COVID-19 vaccines do not prevent people from contracting or transmitting COVID-19.
- 32. Plaintiff desires a judicial declaration that the City Vaccine Mandate exceeds the City's power as a public employer and that the mandate is arbitrary given the increasing evidence that the COVID-19 vaccines do not prevent people from contracting or spreading COVID-19.
- 33. A judicial determination of these issues is necessary and appropriate because such a declaration will clarify the parties' rights and obligations, permit them to have certainty regarding those rights and potential liability, and avoid a multiplicity of actions.
 - 34. The City's actions have harmed Plaintiff and those it represents, as alleged above.
- 35. Plaintiff and its members have no adequate remedy at law and will suffer irreparable harm if the Court does not enjoin the City from enforcing the vaccine mandate.
- 36. This action serves the public interest, justifying an award of attorneys' fees under section 1021.5 of the California Code of Civil Procedure.

SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION

(Declaratory and Injunctive Relief under Article I, section 1 of Cal. Constitution)

- 37. Plaintiffs incorporate each of the preceding paragraphs as though set forth fully herein.
- 38. Many police officers and firefighters, including JONATHAN WIESE and JUSTUS NORGORD have not taken the COVID-19 vaccines. Other firefighters and police officers, such as MANUEL DEL TORO who have chosen to be vaccinated, join those firefighters and police offers who have not been vaccinated in opposing the City's Vaccine Mandate, believing it to be a personal

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

choice that when mandated infringes upon their rights and freedoms. Together, they object to the forced medical treatment as a condition of their employment.

- 39. Individuals have a right to privacy under the California Constitution. This state law privacy right, which was added by voters in 1972, is far broader than the right to privacy that exists under the federal Constitution. It is the broadest privacy right in America and has been interpreted by the California Supreme Court to protect the right to bodily integrity.
- 40. City firefighters and police officers have a legally protected privacy interest in their bodily integrity, as the California Supreme Court recognized in *Hill v. NCAA*.
- 41. The firefighters' and police officers' expectation of privacy is reasonable under the circumstances, as the City has never had a vaccination requirement for public employment before now and the City has never disciplined, much less fired, a firefighter or police officer for declining an injection. The only compulsory vaccination laws adopted in California during the past century concerned certain vaccines that children need to attend school. Those laws do not undermine city firefighters' and police officers' expectation of privacy in their bodily integrity.
- 42. The City Vaccine Mandate constitutes a serious invasion of the firefighters' privacy rights, as alleged above.
- 43. Although the City may argue that the Vaccine Mandate serves a compelling interest in reducing the spread of COVID-19, there are feasible and effective alternatives to it that have a lesser impact on privacy interests. Furthermore, evidence now shows that the COVID-19 vaccines do *not* prevent people from contracting and transmitting COVID-19. Thus, the mandate does not serve its stated purpose.
- 44. On information and belief, the City contends that the Vaccine Mandate does not violate the privacy rights of city firefighters and police officers.
- 45. Plaintiffs desire a judicial declaration that the City Vaccine Mandate is unconstitutional because it violates city firefighters' and police officers' right to privacy under Article I, section 1 of the California Constitution.
 - 46. A judicial determination of these issues is necessary and appropriate because such a

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

declaration will clarify the parties' rights and obligations, permit them to have certainty regarding those rights and potential liability, and avoid a multiplicity of actions.

- 47. The City's actions have harmed Plaintiffs, as alleged above.
- 48. Plaintiffs have no adequate remedy at law and will suffer irreparable harm if the Court does not enjoin the City from enforcing the unconstitutional vaccine mandate.
- 49. This action serves the public interest, justifying an award of attorneys' fees under section 1021.5 of the California Code of Civil Procedure.

THIRD CAUSE OF ACTION

(Declaratory and Injunctive Relief under Due Process Clause/Skelly/Firefighter Bill of Rights)

- 50. Plaintiffs incorporate each of the preceding paragraphs as though set forth fully herein.
- 51. Plaintiffs contends that the City does not have the power to put city firefighters and police officers who do not follow the City Vaccine Mandate on unpaid leave pending termination proceedings. The City must provide the firefighters and police officers with notice and an opportunity to challenge the action before it stops paying them, pursuant to the Due Process Clause and the California Supreme Court's decision in Skelly.
- 52. Plaintiffs also contend that the City cannot take any adverse employment action against city firefighters and police officers without providing them with the rights they have under the state law Firefighters Procedural Bill of Rights Act and the Public Safety Officers Procedural Bill of Rights Act. These rights go beyond the minimum due process rights that all public employees have under Skelly.
- 53. On information and belief, the City contends that it does not have to comply with Skelly or the Firefighters Procedural Bill of Rights Act and the Public Safety Officers Procedural Bill of Rights Act before it stops paying city firefighters and police officers for not complying with the City Vaccine Mandate.
- Plaintiffs desire a judicial declaration that the City cannot stop paying a city 54. firefighters and police officers without providing that employee with due process under Skelly, the

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

Firefighter Procedural Bill of Rights Act, and the Public Safety Officers Procedural Bill of Rights Act.

- 55. A judicial determination of these issues is necessary and appropriate because such a declaration will clarify the parties' rights and obligations, permit them to have certainty regarding those rights and potential liability, and avoid a multiplicity of actions.
 - 56. The City's actions have harmed Plaintiffs, as alleged above.
- 57. Plaintiffs have no adequate remedy at law and will suffer irreparable harm if the Court does not enjoin the City from enforcing the City Vaccine Mandate without complying with Skelly, the Firefighter Procedural Bill of Rights Act, and the Public Safety Officers Procedural Bill of Rights Act
- 58. This action serves the public interest, justifying an award of attorneys' fees under section 1021.5 of the California Code of Civil Procedure.

PRAYER FOR RELIEF

Wherefore, Plaintiffs pray for relief as follows:

- 1. For an order declaring the City Vaccine Mandate void because the City did not have the power to issue it or, in the alternative, because the mandate is arbitrary;
- 2. For an order declaring the City Vaccine Mandate unconstitutional because it violates the privacy rights that city firefighters and police officers have under the California Constitution;
- 3. For an order declaring that the City cannot stop paying city firefighters and police officers without giving them a pre-deprivation Skelly hearing and without following the procedural requirements set forth in the Firefighter Procedural Bill of Rights Act and the Public Safety Officers Procedural Bill of Rights Act;
- 4. For injunctive relief enjoining the City from further enforcing the City Vaccine Mandate;
- 5. For costs and attorneys' fees under section 1021.5 of the Code of Civil Procedure; and

1	
2	
3	
4	
5	
6	
7	
8	
9	
10	
11	
12	
13	
14	
15	
16	
17	
18	
19	
20	
21	
22	
23	
24	
25	
26	
27	
28	

		41 C	
1	6. For such other relief that	the Cou	urt determines is just and proper.
2 3	Dated: January 28, 2022		JW HOWARD/ ATTORNEYS, LTD.
3 4			Jose Start
5		By:	J. O. O.
5		By.	Scott J. Street Attorneys for Plaintiffs
7			rationicy's for Flamains
3			
9			
) 			
1			
2			
3			
4			
5			
5			
7			
3			
, 			
, 			
2			
3			
4			
5			
5			
7			
3			



ORDINANCE NUMBER O- 21398 (NEW SERIES)

DATE OF FINAL PASSAGE NOV 2 9 2021

AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO PURSUANT TO CHARTER SECTION 295, ADOPTING A MANDATORY COVID-19 VACCINATION POLICY.

WHEREAS, the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) is an infectious respiratory disease caused by the SARS-CoV-2 virus; and

WHEREAS, on February 19, 2020, the Board of Supervisors of the County of San Diego ratified a declaration of local health emergency related to COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, on March 4, 2020, the Governor of the State of California declared a state of emergency due to the threat of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, on March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization (WHO) officially declared COVID-19 to be a global pandemic; and

WHEREAS, on March 12, 2020, the Mayor of the City of San Diego proclaimed the existence of a local emergency related to the COVID-19 threat, which was ratified by the San Diego City Council (Council) on March 17, 2020, by Resolution R-312895; and

WHEREAS, according to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the California Department of Public Health, and the San Diego County Health and Human Services Agency, COVID-19 continues to pose a substantial threat to public health and safety, especially to those who are not fully vaccinated against COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, on August 23, 2021, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) granted full approval of the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine (now brand-named Comirnaty) for individuals 16 years of age and older; and

WHEREAS, multiple COVID-19 vaccines, approved by the FDA or authorized for emergency use by the FDA or the WHO, are currently available and have proven to be safe and highly effective in protecting individuals against serious illness, hospitalization, and death from COVID-19 infection; and

WHEREAS, the City of San Diego's workforce, residents, and visitors include individuals who are particularly vulnerable to serious COVID-19 infection and those who cannot receive a COVID-19 vaccine; and

WHEREAS, to protect the City's workforce and the public it serves, the Mayor is recommending that the Council adopt a Mandatory COVID-19 Vaccination Policy that requires all current City of San Diego employees not represented by any of the City's six recognized employee organizations (REO), elected officials, members of boards and commissions, and authorized volunteers to be fully vaccinated against COVID-19 and provide proof of their full vaccination by December 1, 2021, as a condition of continued employment or service with the City; and requires all newly hired or appointed City employees, elected officials, members of boards and commissions, and authorized volunteers to be fully vaccinated against COVID-19 and provide proof of their full vaccination before their start date, as a minimum requirement for employment or service with the City, effective immediately; and

WHEREAS, the recommended Mandatory COVID-19 Vaccination Policy would require all current City employees represented by an REO to be fully vaccinated against COVID-19 and provide proof of their full vaccination by December 1, 2021, or upon completion of any process required under the Meyers-Milias-Brown Act (MMBA), as a condition of continued employment with the City; and

WHEREAS, the recommended Mandatory COVID-19 Vaccination Policy would require all City contractors, who interact in person with City employees while providing contracted services indoors in City facilities or while performing bargaining unit work as specified in the Policy, are required to be fully vaccinated against COVID-19, effective January 3, 2022, as a condition for provision or continued provision of contracted services; and

WHEREAS, after considering the Mayor's recommendation, the Council finds that pursuant to Charter section 295(e), it is necessary and appropriate to adopt a Mandatory COVID-19 Vaccination Policy to provide for the immediate preservation of the public peace, property, health, or safety; and

WHEREAS, under Charter section 295(e), a supermajority vote of the Council is required for passage of this ordinance; and

WHEREAS, under Charter section 280(a)(3), this ordinance is not subject to veto by the Mayor because it is an emergency ordinance; NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT ORDAINED, by the Council of the City of San Diego, as follows:

Section 1. That all current City employees not represented by an REO, elected officials, members of boards and commissions, and authorized volunteers are required to be fully vaccinated against COVID-19 and provide proof of their full vaccination by December 1, 2021, as a condition of continued employment or service with the City.

Section 2. That all current City employees represented by an REO are required to be fully vaccinated against COVID-19 and provide proof of their full vaccination by December 1, 2021, or upon completion of any process required under the MMBA, as a condition of continued employment with the City.

Section 3. That all newly hired or appointed City employees, elected officials, members of boards and commissions, and authorized volunteers are required to be fully vaccinated against COVID-19 and provide proof of their full vaccination before their start date, as a minimum requirement for employment or service with the City, effective immediately.

Section 4. That all City contractors, who interact in person with City employees while providing contracted services indoors in City facilities or while performing bargaining unit work while indoors, are required to be fully vaccinated against COVID-19, effective January 3, 2022, as a condition for provision or continued provision of contracted services.

Section 5. That "authorized volunteer" means a volunteer who has completed and signed a volunteer participation agreement accepted by a City department.

Section 6. That "City contractor" means a person who has contracted with the City of San Diego to provide public works, goods, services, franchise, or consultant services for or on behalf of the City, and includes a subcontractor, vendor, franchisee, consultant, or any of their respective officers, directors, shareholders, partners, managers, employees, or other individuals associated with the contractor, subcontractor, consultant, or vendor. "Person" means any natural person, firm, joint venture, joint stock company, partnership, association, club, company, corporation, business trust, or organization.

Section 7. That "fully vaccinated" means a person has received, at least 14 days prior, either the second dose in a two-dose COVID-19 vaccine series or a single-dose COVID-19 vaccine, or otherwise meets the criteria for full vaccination against COVID-19 as stated in applicable public health guidance, orders, or law. Acceptable COVID-19 vaccines must be approved by the FDA or authorized for emergency use by the FDA or the WHO.

(O-2022-53)

Section 8. That all current and newly hired or appointed City employees, elected officials,

members of boards and commissions, and authorized volunteers may submit a request to the City

for reasonable accommodation and medical or religious exemption from the COVID-19

vaccination requirement, which will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis as required by the

Americans with Disabilities Act, Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, and the California

Fair Employment and Housing Act.

Section 9. That the Mayor or designee is authorized to take all actions necessary to

administer the City's Mandatory COVID-19 Vaccination Policy.

Section 10. That a full reading of this ordinance is dispensed with prior to passage, a

written copy having been made available to the Council and the public prior to the day of its

passage.

Section 11. That this ordinance is declared to be an emergency measure required for the

immediate preservation of the public peace, safety, health, and welfare pursuant to Charter

section 295 and shall take effect immediately from the day of adoption by the affirmative vote of

at least six members of the Council.

APPROVED: MARA W. ELLIOTT, City Attorney

By

/s/Miguel Merrell

Miguel Merrell

Deputy City Attorney

MM:jvg

9/15/21

Or. Dept: Human Resources

Doc. No.: 2761011

-PAGE 5 OF 5-

Passed by the Council of The City of	San Diego oi	nNÓV	2 9 2021	, by the following vote			
Councilmembers \	′eas	Nays	Not Present	Recused			
Joe LaCava	Z						
Jennifer Campbell	\overline{Z}						
Stephen Whitburn	\mathbf{Z}						
Monica Montgomery Steppe	Ź						
Marni von Wilpert	\overline{Z}						
Chris Cate		\overline{Z}					
Raul A. Campillo	\overline{Z}						
Vivian Moreno	\overline{Z}						
Sean Elo-Rivera	\overline{Z}						
Date of final passage NOV 2 S	2021	_•					
ALITHENITICATED DV			•	GLORIA			
AUTHENTICATED BY:		мауог	or The City of Sa	n Diego, California.			
·		ELIZABETH S. MALAND					
(Seal)		City Clerl	of The City of S	an Diego, California.			
		Ву	/////s	, Deputy			
I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing ordinance was passed on the day of its introduction, to wit, on, said ordinance being of the kind and character authorized for passage on its introduction by Section 275 of the Charter.							
I FURTHER CERTIFY that said ordinance was read in full prior to passage or that such reading was dispensed with by a vote of five members of the Council, and that a written copy of the ordinance was made available to each member of the Council and the public prior to the day of its passage.							
			∦ ELIZABETH S.	MALAND			
(Seal)		City Cler	of The City of S	an Diego, California. , Deputy			
	Of	fice of the C	ity Clerk, San Di	ego, California			
	Ordinan	ce Number	o- 2	1398			