

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

CITY OF WHEATLAND,)	
California,)	
)	
Plaintiff,)	
)	
v.)	Case No. 1:13-cv-00054
)	(RMC-DST-RBW)
ERIC HOLDER,)	Three-Judge Court
Attorney General of the)	
United States of America, <i>et al.</i>)	
)	
Defendants.)	
_____)	

JOINT MOTION FOR ENTRY OF CONSENT JUDGMENT AND DECREE

Plaintiff City of Wheatland (“Wheatland”) and defendants Eric H. Holder, Jr., Attorney General of the United States, and Thomas E. Perez, Assistant Attorney General, Civil Rights Division, through counsel, respectfully move this three-judge Court for entry of the attached Consent Judgment and Decree. As grounds for this motion, the parties would show the following:

1. The complaint in this action was filed on January 14, 2013, by Wheatland, against the Attorney General and Assistant Attorney General, pursuant to Section 4(a) of the Voting Rights Act, 42 U.S.C. § 1973b(a). In this litigation, Wheatland seeks to demonstrate that it meets the statutory requirements of Section 4(a), to allow for bailout from coverage under Section 4(b) of the Act, 42 U.S.C. § 1973b(b). A declaratory judgment granting bailout exempts the covered jurisdiction from the preclearance requirement of Section 5 of the Act, 42 U.S.C. § 1973c.

2. As required by Section 4(a)(9) of the Act, 42 U.S.C. § 1973b(a)(9), the Attorney General has conducted an independent investigation of Wheatland to determine if it has satisfied the necessary requirements for a bailout under Section 4(a). As a result of that investigation, and also based on information provided to the Attorney General by Wheatland, the Attorney General

has determined that Wheatland meets all of the requirements of Section 4(a) and has determined that the Attorney General would consent to a declaratory judgment granting bailout to Wheatland under Section 4(a).

3. The parties have conferred concerning a resolution of this litigation and have agreed on the terms of the attached Consent Judgment and Decree, which if entered by this Court, will grant the requested bailout to Wheatland.

4. The enclosed Consent Judgment and Decree is similar to those that have been entered by three-judge courts in other declaratory judgment actions brought in this Court under Section 4 of the Voting Rights Act. *See, e.g., New Hampshire v. Holder*, No. 12-1854 (D.D.C. Mar. 1, 2013); *Browns Valley Irrigation Dist. v. Holder*, No. 12-1597 (D.D.C. Feb. 4, 2013); *Grayson County v. Holder*, No. 12-718 (D.D.C. July 20, 2012); *Wythe County v. Holder*, No. 12-719 (D.D.C. June 18, 2012); *City of Williamsburg v. Holder*, No. 11-1415 (D.D.C. Nov. 28, 2011); *James City County v. Holder*, No. 11-1425 (D.D.C. Nov. 9, 2011); *Culpeper County v. Holder*, No. 11-1477 (D.D.C. Oct. 3, 2011); *City of Bedford v. Holder*, No. 11-0473 (D.D.C. Aug. 31, 2011); *Bedford County v. Holder*, No. 11-0499 (D.D.C. Aug. 30, 2011); *Rappahannock County v. Holder*, No. 11-1123 (D.D.C. Aug. 9, 2011); *City of Manassas Park v. Holder*, No. 11-749 (D.D.C. Aug. 3, 2011); *Amherst County v. Mukasey*, No. 08-780 (D.D.C. Aug. 13, 2008); *Middlesex County v. Gonzales*, No. 07-1485 (D.D.C. Jan. 7, 2008).

5. The parties respectfully request that this Court delay entry of the enclosed Consent Judgment and Decree for 30 days after the filing of this Joint Motion, so that Wheatland can publish notice of the proposed settlement pursuant to Section 4(a)(4) of the Act, 42 U.S.C. §1973b(a)(4).

For the reasons above and as set forth in the attached Consent Judgment and Decree, the parties respectfully request that this Court grant the Joint Motion and enter the attached Consent Judgment and Decree.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ J. Gerald Hebert

J. GERALD HEBERT (DCB # 447676)
Attorney at Law
191 Somerville Street, # 405
Alexandria, VA 22304
Telephone: (703) 628-4673
Email: hebert@voterlaw.com

JOSHUA M. HOROWITZ
California State Bar No. 186866
Bartkiewicz, Kronick & Shanahan
1011 Twenty-Second Street
Sacramento, CA 958-4907
Telephone: (916) 446-4254
Email: jmh@bkslawfirm.com

*Counsel for Plaintiff
City of Wheatland,
Yuba County, California*

Dated: March 20, 2013

Respectfully submitted,

RONALD C. MACHEN JR.
United States Attorney
District of Columbia

THOMAS E. PEREZ
Assistant Attorney General
Civil Rights Division

/s/ Christy A. McCormick

T. CHRISTIAN HERREN, JR.
ROBERT D. POPPER
JENNIFER L. MARANZANO
CHRISTY MCCORMICK
(VAB# 44328)
ERIN M. VELANDY
ELIZABETH S. WESTFALL
Christy.mccormick@usdoj.gov
Voting Section
Civil Rights Division
United States Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Ave., N.W.
Room 7125 - NWB
Washington, D.C. 20530
Telephone: (202) 305-7766
Facsimile: (202) 307-3961

*Counsel for Defendants
Eric H. Holder, Jr.,
Attorney General of the United States, and
Thomas E. Perez,
Assistant Attorney General,
Civil Rights Division*

Dated: March 20, 2013