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WILLIAM D. HOSHIJO, Executive Director

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FIRST CIRCUIT
STATE OF HAWAI'I

DIANE CERVELLI and TAEKO BUFFORD,)
)
 Plaintiffs, and)
)
 WILLIAM D. HOSHIJO, as Executive Director)
 of the Hawai'i Civil Rights Commission,)
)
 Plaintiff-Intervenor,)
)
 vs.)
)
 ALOHA BED & BREAKFAST, a Hawai'i sole)
 proprietorship,)
)
 Defendant.)
)
 _____)

CIVIL NO. 11-1-3103-12 ECN
(Other Civil Action)
**DECLARATION OF TAEKO
BUFFORD**

DECLARATION OF TAEKO BUFFORD

I, TAEKO BUFFORD, do hereby declare:

1. I am one of the plaintiffs in the above titled action. I make this declaration based on my personal knowledge and am competent to testify to the matters stated in this declaration.

2. I am a lesbian woman in an intimate, committed relationship with Diane Cervelli. Diane and I met in December 2006, began dating thereafter, and were in an exclusive relationship by mid-2007.

3. In 2007, Diane and I, who live in California, began planning a trip for later that year to Hawai'i. On November 5, 2007, Diane called me and told me that she tried to book a room for us at Aloha Bed & Breakfast but that we were rejected because we were lesbians.

4. In disbelief, I called Ms. Young that same day and attempted to book a room for Diane and me but was also denied by Ms. Young. I asked, "Is it because we are lesbians that you will not rent to us?" to which Ms. Young replied, "Yes." Ms. Young stated that she felt uncomfortable renting a room to homosexuals, citing her personal religious views. I spoke by phone with Ms. Young again later that day, and she reiterated her personal religious views as the basis for refusing to let us book a room.

5. During this second conversation, Ms. Young also stated that, while she was unwilling to accept our business, she could provide the name of a friend with whom we could reserve a room. But due to the preceding interaction with Ms. Young—in which Ms. Young had made clear her strong discomfort of same-sex couples on religious grounds—I felt distrustful of Ms. Young and did not feel I could trust Ms. Young's friend. I later learned that Ms. Young and her friend attend the same church and previously participated in the same Bible study group.

I declare under penalty of perjury the foregoing statements are true and correct.

DATED: Long Beach, CA, February 4, 2013.



TAEKO BUFFORD