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1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9	John C. Eastman, No. 193726 Lead counsel Anthony T. Caso, No. 088561 CONSTITUTIONAL COUNSEL GROUP 174 W. Lincoln Ave, #620 Anaheim, CA 92805 Telephone: (909) 257-3869 Fax: (714) 844-4817 E-Mail: jeastman@ccg1776.com Alexander H. Haberbush, Esq., SBN LEX REX INSTITUTE 444 West Ocean Boulevard, Suite 1 Long Beach, CA 90802 Telephone No. (562) 435-9062 E-Mail: AHaberbush@LexRex.org Attorneys for Plaintiffs		368		
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11 12	UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA				
12	REPRESENTATIVE MATT GAETZ;) Case No.: 5:23-cv-1368 REPRESENTATIVE MARJORIE)				
14	TAYLOR-GREENE; PUT AMERI FIRST JOINT FUNDRAISING	CA))) COMPLAI	NT FOR INJ	UNCTIVE
15	COMMITTEE; FRIENDS OF MAT GAETZ; GREENE FOR CONGRE INC.; on behalf of themselves and t	SS,)) AND DAM	LARATORY AGES §\$1983, 1985)	
16	prospective attendees at their July 1	/	· · ·	FOR JURY T	
17	2021 scheduled political rally, Plaintiffs,))))		
18	i iunitiis,))		
19	V.))))		
20	CITY OF RIVERSIDE; RAINCRO HOSPITALITY MANAGEMENT))		
21	CORP., a California Corporation as agent for the City of Riverside; CIT)		
			1		

Ca	e 5:23-cv-01368-HDV-SHK Document 1 Filed 07/13/23 Page 2 of 25 Page ID #:2			
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10	OF ANAHEIM; CALIFORNIA) LULAC STATE ORGANIZATION;) NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR) THE ADVANCEMENT OF) COLORED PEOPLE; UNIDOS FOR) LA CAUSA, INC.; GREATER) RIVERSIDE HISPANIC CHAMBER) OF COMMERCE; THE LEAGUE OF) WOMEN VOTERS RIVERSIDE;) WOMEN'S MARCH ACTION;) RIVERSIDE COUNTY) DEMOCRATIC PARTY;) ANTIRACIST RIVERSIDE; OCCUPY) DEMOCRATS; and OCCUPY) DEMOCRATS ELECTION FUND) PAC,) Defendants.)			
11)			
12	JURISDICTION			
13	1. This Court has jurisdiction to hear this claim pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §			
14	1331 (federal question) since the claims asserted herein arise out of the laws of the			
15	United States (42 USC §§1983, 1985) and the Speech Clause of the First Amendment			
16	to the United States Constitution, as incorporated and made applicable to the states by			
17	the Fourteenth Amendment.			
18	<u>VENUE</u>			
19	2. Venue is proper in this district pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1391(c)(1)			
20	because all defendants are entities that are subject to this Court's personal jurisdiction.			
21	The CITIES OF RIVERSIDE and ANAHEIM are government bodies that are located 2			

within this district. RAINCROSS HOSPITALITY MANAGEMENT CORP. is a 1 California Corporation physically located in and doing business in this district. The 2 remaining Defendants are either physically located and doing business in this district, 3 or were involved in pressuring the government defendants to cancel the Put America 4 5 First rally, which was scheduled to take place in this district.

6

INTRODUCTION

This is civil rights claim pursuant to 42 U.S.C. §§ 1983 and 1985 for 7 3. 8 declaratory and injunctive relief and money damages. RAINCROSS, acting as agent for CITY OF RIVERSIDE, and The Grand Theater, acting under threat from CITY 9 OF ANAHEIM, each cancelled events that were to be held at their respective 10 11 properties because of the political viewpoints of the two event speakers, 12 Congresswoman Marjorie Taylor-Greene and Congressman Matt Gaetz.

13

RAINCROSS, which serves as the agent for CITY OF RIVERSIDE, 4. cancelled the event that had been scheduled and contracted for at the Riverside 14 15 Convention Center, which is owned by CITY OF RIVERSIDE.

The Grand Theater, which is a banquet facility in Anaheim, California, 16 5. cancelled the event for which PLAINTIFFS had contracted after a code enforcement 17 18 officer from CITY OF ANAHEIM threatened the owner and manager of the facility 19 that their conditional use permit would be in jeopardy if they did not cancel the event.

20 City officials from Defendants CITY OF RIVERSIDE and CITY OF 6. ANAHEIM indicated that the events were cancelled because of the speakers' 21

viewpoints. The cancellation of these events based on the speakers' viewpoints is a
 clear violation of well-settled law concerning the Freedom of Speech and Freedom of
 Association guaranteed by the First Amendment of the United States Constitution, as
 incorporated and made applicable to the States by the Fourteenth Amendment of the
 United States Constitution.

7. 6 Defendants CALIFORNIA LULAC STATE ORGANIZATION ("LULAC"); NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF 7 8 COLORED PEOPLE ("NAACP"); UNIDOS FOR LA CAUSA, INC., GREATER RIVERSIDE HISPANIC CHAMBER OF COMMERCE; THE LEAGUE OF 9 10 WOMEN VOTERS RIVERSIDE; WOMEN'S MARCH ACTION; RIVERSIDE 11 COUNTY DEMOCRATIC PARTY; ANTIRACIST RIVERSIDE; OCCUPY DEMOCRATS; and OCCUPY DEMOCRATS ELECTION FUND PAC, by force, 12 13 intimidation, or threat, conspired to pressure officials from Defendants CITY OF 14 RIVERSIDE and CITY OF ANAHEIM, DEFENDANT RAINCROSS, and the owner 15 and manager of The Grand Theater, to cancel Plaintiffs' events.

16 8. DEFENDANTS conspired to deprive PLAINTIFFS and their prospective
17 audience members of their civil rights to be free from viewpoint discrimination when
18 they cancelled or compelled the cancellation of the contracts for PLAINTIFFS to hold
19 their events.

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9. DEFENDANTS conspired to prevent PLAINTIFF audience members
 from giving their support or advocacy in a legal manner toward or in favor of the
 election of members of Congress.

4

PARTIES

5 10. Plaintiffs MATT GAETZ and MARJORIE TAYLOR GREENE are 6 members of the United States Congress, representing Florida's 1st congressional 7 district and Georgia's 14th congressional district, respectively. FRIENDS OF MATT GAETZ and GREENE FOR CONGRESS, INC. are their official campaign 8 committees. PUT AMERICA FIRST JOINT FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE ("PUT 9 AMERICA FIRST") is a joint fundraising committee of the Gaetz and Greene 10 11 campaign committees, organized and operating pursuant to federal election law and regulations of the Federal Election Commission in furtherance of the re-election 12 campaigns of GAETZ and GREENE (collectively, the "Plaintiffs"). The Plaintiffs 13 bring this action on their own behalf and also on behalf of the audience members who 14 had planned to attend the political rally scheduled for July 17, 2021 and who, as 15 citizens entitled to vote, lend their support to the re-election efforts of GAETZ and 16 GREENE. 17

18 11. Defendant CITY OF RIVERSIDE ("RIVERSIDE") is a city in the State
of California that exercises government powers within the city limits. RIVERSIDE
20 owns the Riverside Convention Center, which Plaintiffs contracted to rent for a
21 political rally scheduled for Saturday, July 17, 2021. RIVERSIDE officials with final

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decision-making authority pressured Defendant RAINCROSS to cancel the political
 rally.

3 12. Defendant RAINCROSS HOSPITALITY MANAGEMENT CORP.
4 ("RAINCROSS") is a California Corporation. It manages The Riverside Convention
5 Center as agent for RIVERSIDE.

6 13. Defendant CITY OF ANAHEIM ("ANAHEIM") is a city in the State of
7 California that exercises government powers within the city limits. ANAHEIM
8 officials with final decision-making authority threatened The Grand Theater's owner
9 and manager with adverse government action if it did not cancel the PUT AMERICA
10 FIRST event scheduled for July 17, 2021.

11 14. Defendants RIVERSIDE, RAINCROSS, and ANAHEIM, are
12 collectively referred to herein as the "GOVERNMENT DEFENDANTS."

LULAC 13 15. Defendant **CALIFORNIA STATE** ORGANIZATION ("LULAC") is the California chapter of the League of United Latin American 14 15 Citizens, which bills itself as the largest and oldest Hispanic organization in the It is a California Nonprofit Public Benefit Corporation based in 16 United States. Salinas, California. It threatened economic reprisal and statewide/national boycotts of 17 18 the Riverside Convention Center if officials of Defendant RIVERSIDE did not force 19 cancellation of the PUT AMERICA FIRST political rally.

20 16. Defendant NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT
21 OF COLORED PEOPLE, RIVERSIDE ("NAACP"), is the Riverside Chapter of the

National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, a Delaware 1 Corporation based in Baltimore, Maryland. On information and belief, it encouraged 2 its supporters to fraudulently register for tickets to the PUT AMERICA FIRST rally 3 with no intention of attending, in order to prevent others from attending and to depress 4 attendance, and conspired with one or more other Defendants to deprive Plaintiffs of 5 their constitutional rights and deprive Plaintiff prospective audience members from 6 lending support and advocacy toward the election of Plaintiffs GAETZ and GREENE, 7 candidates for federal office. 8

Defendant UNIDOS FOR LA CAUSA, INC., ("UNIDOS") is a 9 17. California non-profit public benefit corporation based in Riverside, California. It bills 10 11 itself as a "collective of many local and community focused organizations and engaged individuals, together serving the diverse spectrum of the Chicano Latino 12 13 community in Riverside." On information and belief, it was part of the effort to pressure elected officials of Defendant RIVERSIDE to cancel the PUT AMERICA 14 FIRST political rally and conspired with one or more other Defendants to deprive 15 Plaintiffs of their constitutional rights and deprive Plaintiff prospective audience 16 members from lending support and advocacy toward the election of Plaintiffs GAETZ 17 18 and GREENE, candidates for federal office.

19 18. Defendant GREATER RIVERSIDE HISPANIC CHAMBER OF
20 COMMERCE ("GRHCC") is a California Nonprofit Public Benefit Corporation based
21 in Riverside, California. It was part of the effort to pressure elected officials of

Defendant RIVERSIDE to cancel the PUT AMERICA FIRST political rally. On
 information and belief, it conspired with one or more other Defendants to deprive
 Plaintiffs of their constitutional rights and deprive Plaintiff prospective audience
 members from lending support and advocacy toward the election of Plaintiffs GAETZ
 and GREENE, candidates for federal office.

19. 6 Defendant LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF RIVERSIDE is a California Nonprofit Public Benefit Corporation based in Riverside, California. It was 7 8 part of the effort to pressure elected officials of Defendant RIVERSIDE to cancel the PUT AMERICA FIRST political rally. On information and belief, it conspired with 9 one or more other Defendants to deprive Plaintiffs of their constitutional rights and 10 11 deprive Plaintiff prospective audience members from lending support and advocacy 12 toward the election of Plaintiffs GAETZ and GREENE, candidates for federal office. 20. Defendant WOMEN'S MARCH ACTION is a 501(c)(4) political 13 organization based in Los Angeles, California. It bills itself as the political arm of 14 15 Women's March Foundation, a 501(c)(3) organization also based in Los Angeles, 16 California. It was part of the effort to pressure elected officials of Defendant RIVERSIDE to cancel the PUT AMERICA FIRST political rally. On information 17 18 and belief, it conspired with one or more other Defendants to deprive Plaintiffs of their constitutional rights and deprive Plaintiff prospective audience members from 19 20 lending support and advocacy toward the election of Plaintiffs GAETZ and GREENE, candidates for federal office. 21

21. Defendant RIVERSIDE COUNTY DEMOCRATIC PARTY is the 1 official governing body of the Democratic Party in Riverside County, California. Its 2 Chair, Tisa Rodriquez, urged supporters to call the Riverside Convention Center and 3 pressure it to cancel the PUT AMERICA FIRST political rally. On information and 4 belief, it conspired with one or more other Defendants to deprive Plaintiffs of their 5 6 constitutional rights and deprive Plaintiff prospective audience members from lending support and advocacy toward the election of Plaintiffs GAETZ and GREENE, 7 candidates for federal office. 8

9 22. Defendant ANTIRACIST RIVERSIDE is, on information and belief, an unincorporated association of individuals in Riverside, California, the leadership of 10 11 which was part of the effort to pressure elected officials of Defendant RIVERSIDE to cancel the PUT AMERICA FIRST political rally. On information and belief, it 12 conspired with one or more other Defendants to deprive Plaintiffs of their 13 constitutional rights and deprive Plaintiff prospective audience members from lending 14 support and advocacy toward the election of Plaintiffs GAETZ and GREENE, 15 candidates for federal office. 16

17 23. Defendant OCCUPY DEMOCRATS was founded by Omar and Rafael
18 Rivero. It claims to be "the largest Democratic organizing group on the Internet, with
19 over ten million members on Facebook alone." Defendant OCCUPY DEMOCRATS
20 ELECTION FUND PAC is its affiliated political action committee. After Defendants
21 RIVERSIDE and RAINCROSS cancelled Plaintiffs' event in Riverside, they issued a

tweet urging their supporters to "RT IF EVERY CITY IN THE REST OF [Plaintiffs']
 TOUR SHOULD DO THE SAME!" On information and belief, they conspired with
 one or more other Defendants to deprive Plaintiffs of their constitutional rights and
 deprive Plaintiff prospective audience members from lending support and advocacy
 toward the election of Plaintiffs GAETZ and GREENE, candidates for federal office.

24. 6 Defendants LULAC, NAACP, UNIDOS, GRHCC, LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF RIVERSIDE, WOMEN'S MARCH ACTION, RIVERSIDE 7 8 COUNTY PARTY, ANTIRACIST DEMOCRATIC RIVERSIDE, OCCUPY DEMOCRATS, and OCCUPY DEMOCRATS ELECTION FUND PAC are 9 collectively referred to herein as "THIRD PARTY DEFENDANTS." On information 10 11 and belief, they are private organizations that conspired with or sought to influence the GOVERNMENT DEFENDANTS to deprive Plaintiffs of their First Amendment 12 Rights and, through force, intimidation, or threats, sought to deprive individual 13 Plaintiffs from giving their support or advocacy in a legal manner toward or in favor 14 15 of the election of Plaintiffs GAETZ and GREENE, candidates for the U.S. House of 16 Representatives.

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PACIFIC HILLS EVENT CENTER AND CITY OF LAGUNA HILLS

FACTS

19 25. On or about July 8, 2021, Plaintiff PUT AMERICA FIRST entered into a
20 contract with Pacific Hills Banquet and Catering ("Pacific Hills") to host a political
21 rally at the Pacific Hills facility on July 17, 2021.

1	26. On July 9, 2021, Rod Yacko, representing Pacific Hills, advised Plaintiff
2	PUT AMERICA FIRST that it was cancelling the contract after the owners of Pacific
3	Hills "receiv[ed] a barrage of phone calls and emails regarding the event."
4	RIVERSIDE CONVENTION CENTER AND CITY OF RIVERSIDE
5	27. Plaintiff PUT AMERICA FIRST subsequently entered into a contract on
6	July 14, 2021, with Defendant RAINCROSS, the agent of Defendant RIVERSIDE, to
7	rent the Riverside Convention Center, which is owned by Defendant RIVERSIDE, as
8	the venue for its July 17, 2021, political rally.
9	28. On July 15, 2021, Plaintiff PUT AMERICA FIRST entered into an
10	additional contract with the Police Department of Defendant RIVERSIDE for the
11	provision of extra-duty police personnel to provide security for the July 17, 2021,
12	political rally.
13	29. Following requests and threats from some members of the public and
14	THIRD PARTY DEFENDANTS that Defendant RIVERSIDE's City Council "call an
15	emergency meeting and overturn[] the booking" on the ground that the political views
16	expressed by Plaintiffs GREENE and GAETZ "aren't welcome in Riverside," and
17	other demands that Defendant RIVERSIDE cancel the event, Defendant RAINCROSS
18	notified Plaintiffs at 6:49 pm on Friday, July 16, 2021—less than 24 hours before the
19	event was scheduled to begin-that it would be not "proceed with the event."
20	30. Defendant RAINCROSS asserted that it was cancelling the event because
21	the Certificate of Insurance was in the name of the Plaintiff GREENE FOR
	11

CONGRESS, INC. rather than Plaintiff PUT AMERICA FIRST. RAINCROSS
 continued in this position even after being provided federal election filings and a legal
 opinion confirming coverage and even after the public information officer of
 RIVERSIDE had acknowledged that there was nothing in the contract that would
 allow for cancellation of the event.

- 31. On information and belief, Defendant RAINCROSS's assertion about the
 Certificate of Insurance was pretext; the true reason for the cancellation was because
 of hostility toward Plaintiffs' viewpoints by officials of Defendant RIVERSIDE and
 various THIRD PARTY DEFENDANTS.
- 10 32. RIVERSIDE Mayor Lock Dawson noted the event was a "divisive issue"
 11 in the City.

33. RIVERSIDE Mayor Pro Tem Gaby Plascencia noted that she had "been
pushing to get [the event] cancelled" and that "these speakers are the antithesis of
everything Riverside stands for."

15 34. RIVERSIDE City Council Member Ronaldo Flores asserted that he
16 "voiced [his] opposition to the holding of [the] event" because of what he described as
17 the "hateful and white supremacist rhetoric" by what he called "two well-known
18 extremists," rhetoric which he asserted "has absolutely no place in our City."

19 35. Local residents urged RIVERSIDE's Mayor and City Council "to bring
20 all possible pressure to bear on" Defendant RAINCROSS to "cancel this event,"
21 threatened economic reprisal and even violence if the event was not cancelled, and

urged elected officials not to renew the RAINCROSS contract for management of the
 Riverside Convention Center.

3 36. Defendant LULAC threatened a "statewide/national boycott of the
4 Riverside Convention Center and threatened to contact all organizations scheduled to
5 hold events at the Center and request that they cancel their events if Defendants CITY
6 OF RIVERSIDE and RAINCROSS did not cancel the Put America First event.

7 37. Defendant NAACP encouraged people to fraudulently reserve multiple tickets for the rally and then not attend, in order, upon information and belief, to 8 deprive others of the opportunity to attend. 9 Janice Rooths, of Defendant ANTIRACIST RIVERSIDE, urged "friends and allies" to act on the NAACP's 10 11 suggestion and forwarded the NAACP suggestion to Gaby Plascentia, member of the City Council of Defendant RIVERSIDE, who thanked her for her advocacy in getting 12 the event cancelled. 13

14 38. Defendant LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS RIVERSIDE asked that
15 the Mayor and City Council of Defendant RIVERSIDE "demand that the Riverside
16 Convention Center cancel its agreement to facilitate" the America First rally,
17 threatened "repercussions," and asked that City Officials "make the Convention
18 Center staff fully aware of the price to be paid for hosting" the event.

19

THE GRAND THEATER AND CITY OF ANAHEIM

20 39. Plaintiff PUT AMERICA FIRST then contracted to host the event at The
21 Grand Theater, a private venue located in Anaheim, California.

40. The contract between The Grand Theater and PUT AMERICA FIRST
 was signed by Jason Boles on behalf of PUT AMERICA FIRST at 11:49 p.m. on July
 16, 2021.

4 41. At 8:05 a.m. on July 17, 2021, Mike Lyster, spokesman for Defendant
5 ANAHEIM, announced at @City_of_Anaheim, Defendant CITY OF ANAHEIM's
6 official Twitter account, that the decision by The Grand Theater to serve as the venue
7 for the PUT AMERICA FIRST political rally was "not a decision by or supported by
8 the City of Anaheim," and that the City was "looking into this matter," noting: "As a
9 city we respect free speech but also have a duty to call out speech that does not reflect
10 our city and its values."

42. At 9:13 a.m. on July 17, 2021, Mr. Lyster announced on Defendant
ANAHEIM's official Twitter feed that "We continue to address this matter."

43. Following public comments and threats urging city officials to find a way
to force cancellation of the event, such as utilizing city codes or denying a permit,
Oscar Ochoa, a code enforcement officer for Defendant ANAHEIM, placed a
telephone call on the morning of July 17, 2021, to The Grand Theater, during which
he threatened Daniel Untalan and Musa Madain, the owner and manager of The Grand
Theater, respectively, that The Grand Theater's conditional use permit would be "in
jeopardy" if they did not cancel the event.

44. Following Ochoa's threat, The Grand Theater cancelled the event at its
facility, which had been scheduled to begin at 6:00 p.m. on July 17, 2021.

- 45. Ochoa then, by email, thanked Mr. Untalan and Mr. Madain "for taking
 the request of [his] office to prevent this unpermitted event."
- 3 46. No permit was required for The Grand Theater to rent its facility for the
 4 PUT AMERICA FIRST political rally.
- 5 47. Ochoa was praised by Jose Moreno, an elected member of the City 6 Council of ANAHEIM, which has policy-making authority for ANAHEIM, for his 7 diligence in "communicating with the owner" of The Grand Theater and "helping the 8 venue avert a nightmare for them, the surrounding neighborhood and our city."
- 9 48. Mike Lyster, spokesman for Defendant ANAHEIM, confirmed that
 10 ANAHEIM officials pushed for the event to be cancelled because of the viewpoints of
 11 Congressmen Gaetz and Greene: "As a city we respect free speech but also have a
 12 duty to call out speech that does not reflect our city and its values," he noted at 10:48
 13 am on July 17, 2021, in a post published at @City_of_Anaheim, the official Twitter
 14 page of Defendant ANAHEIM.
- 49. Plaintiffs were unable to find an alternate location to hold their political
 rally in the short time remaining before the scheduled start time, so instead held a
 small protest outside Riverside City Hall to protest the unconstitutional cancellation of
 their political rally in that City.
- 19 50. Plaintiffs are prepared to, and will, hold a political rally at a venue in
 20 Orange County or Riverside, should local officials be enjoined from discriminating
 21 against them on the basis of their viewpoints.

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1	FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION			
2	Viewpoint Discrimination by Defendants CITY OF RIVERSIDE and			
3	RAINCROSS HOSPITALITY MANAGEMENT CORP. in violation of the First Amendment and 42 U.S.C. § 1983			
4	51. Plaintiffs restate the allegations of paragraphs 1-50, inclusive, as if fully			
5	restated in this Cause of Action.			
6	52. The Riverside Convention Center is a government-owned property,			
7	managed by Defendant RAINCROSS as "agent" for Defendant RIVERSIDE.			
8	Defendants RAINCROSS and RIVERSIDE are "state actors" for purposes of the			
9	United States Constitution and 42 U.S.C. § 1983.			
10	53. Policy-making authority for Defendant RIVERSIDE is vested in the			
11	Mayor and City Council of RIVERSIDE and, to some extent related to the			
12	management of the RIVERSIDE-owned Riverside Convention Center, delegated to			
13	Defendant RAINCROSS.			
14	54. Public property opened for lease by community groups must be available			
15	without regard to the viewpoint of the organization or the speaker.			
16	55. Other political and advocacy organizations, including Defendant			
17	LULAC, and elected officials such as U.S. Senator Dianne Feinstein and former			
18	Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger, have held events at the Riverside Convention			
19	Center.			
20	///			
21	///			
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56. Plaintiffs had a right under the First Amendment to use the Riverside Convention Center on the same basis as other organizations and political figures without regard to their viewpoint or the viewpoint of the speakers at their event.

4 57. RAINCROSS and RIVERSIDE, through its officials, discriminated
5 against Plaintiffs based on the viewpoint of the speakers and organizers of the event,
6 thereby denying Plaintiffs their rights under the First Amendment.

7 58. RAINCROSS and RIVERSIDE violated the rights of Plaintiffs under 42
8 U.S.C. §1983.

9 59. As a consequence of the event cancellation by Defendants RAINCROSS
10 and RIVERSIDE, Plaintiffs suffered damages in non-refundable costs, lost revenues,
11 lost support, and emotional distress in an amount to be determined, but at least
12 \$50,000.

60. RAINCROSS and RIVERSIDE acted with malice, oppression, and
wanton and intentional disregard of the rights of Plaintiffs when it cancelled the event
contract based on the political viewpoints of the scheduled speakers.

Wherefore, Plaintiffs pray for judgment as set out below.

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SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION

Viewpoint Discrimination by Defendant CITY OF ANAHEIM in violation of the First Amendment and 42 U.S.C. §1983

20 61. Plaintiffs restate the allegations of paragraphs 1-50, inclusive, as if fully
21 restated in this Cause of Action.

- Defendant ANAHEIM and its officials are "state actors" for purposes of
 the United States Constitution and 42 U.S.C. § 1983.
- 3 63. Defendant ANAHEIM, through its officials, threatened to put The Grand
 4 Theater's conditional use permit "in jeopardy" if The Grand Theater did not cancel the
 5 event at The Grand Theater venue which Plaintiffs had contracted to rent.
- 6 64. Plaintiffs had a First Amendment right to hold the political rally and to
 7 lease a private venue in furtherance thereof.
- 8 65. Government officials may not threaten enforcement actions against a
 9 private venue because of the viewpoints expressed by lessees of the private venue.
- 10 66. Plaintiffs had a right under the First Amendment not to have officials of
 11 Defendant ANAHEIM coerce the private venue with which they had contracted to
 12 cancel the contract because of Plaintiffs' viewpoints.
- 13 67. Defendant CITY OF ANAHEIM and its officials discriminated against
 14 Plaintiffs based on the viewpoint of the speakers and organizers of the event, thereby
 15 denying Plaintiffs their rights under the First Amendment.

16 68. ANAHEIM and its officials violated the rights of Plaintiffs under 42
17 U.S.C. § 1983.

69. As a consequence of the event cancellation forced by threats by
Defendant ANAHEIM and its officials, Plaintiffs suffered damages in non-refundable
costs, lost revenues, lost support, and emotional distress in an amount to be
determined, but at least \$50,000.

70. ANAHEIM and its officials acted with malice, oppression, and wanton
 and intentional disregard of the rights of Plaintiffs when it coerced The Grand Theater
 to cancel the event contract based on the political viewpoints of the scheduled
 speakers.

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Wherefore, Plaintiffs pray for judgment as set out below.

THIRD CAUSE OF ACTION

Conspiracy to Deny Civil Rights to Freedom from Political Viewpoint Discrimination pursuant to 42 U.S.C. §1985(3)

9 71. Plaintiffs restate the allegations of paragraphs 1-70, inclusive, as if fully
10 restated in this Cause of Action.

11 72. THIRD PARTY DEFENDANTS conspired with and/or aimed to
12 influence Defendants RIVERSIDE, RAINCROSS, and ANAHEIM to deprive
13 Plaintiffs of civil rights – specifically their rights to Freedom of Speech and Freedom
14 of Association recognized by the First Amendment and as made applicable to the
15 States by the Fourteenth Amendment.

16 73. THIRD PARTY DEFENDANTS, either in collaboration with or aiming
17 to influence the Government Defendants, had a plan to prevent Plaintiffs from
18 conducting their political rallies in Riverside and Anaheim.

19 74. Defendants shared in the conspiratorial objective to deprive Plaintiffs of20 their constitutional rights to Freedom of Speech and Freedom of Association.

21

75. One or more of the Defendants committed an overt act in furtherance of
 the conspiracy, including but not limited to: a) Defendant RAINSCROSS's
 cancellation of the contract with Plaintiff PUT AMERICA FIRST; b) Defendant
 ANAHEIM's (through its code enforcement officer) threat to put the Grand Theatre's
 conditional use permit "in jeopardy" if the event was not cancelled; and c) threats by
 numerous THIRD PARTY DEFENDANTS at economic or political reprisal if the
 events in Riverside and Anaheim were not cancelled.

8 76. The overt acts taken by Defendants in furtherance of the conspiracy
9 caused injury to Plaintiffs, including the deprivation of First Amendment rights, the
10 loss of financial and political support from individuals who planned to attend the
11 rallies, and emotional distress.

12 77. One or more of the Defendants were stimulated to force cancellation of
13 the rallies by racial, ethnic, or religious motives, namely, their perceived view that
14 Plaintiffs' GAETZ and GREENE espouse views that "put[] the Latino Community in
15 harm's way," that would be a "stain on our multi-racial diverse city," that "spread[]
16 hate against the Jewish faithful," that appeal to a "racist, angry, extremist group of
17 radical, right-wing zealots," and that constitute "racist rhetoric."

18 78. One or more of Plaintiffs' anticipated audience members are members of
19 a protected class who strongly objected to Defendants' efforts to bar them from
20 hearing alternative viewpoints of interest to them and to their protected-class
21 community.

1	79. By taking the actions alleged herein, THIRD PARTY DEFENDANTS		
2	conspired with the GOVERNMENT DEFENDANTS in violation of 42 U.S.C.		
3	§1985(3) to deny civil rights guaranteed by the First and Fourteenth Amendments to		
4	the United States Constitution to Plaintiffs and their audience members.		
5	80. As a consequence of the event cancellations that Defendants compelled,		
6	Plaintiffs suffered damages in non-refundable costs, lost revenues, lost support, and		
7	emotional distress in an amount to be determined, but at least \$50,000.		
8	Wherefore, Plaintiffs pray for judgment as set out below.		
9	FOURTH CAUSE OF ACTION		
10			
11	Discrimination pursuant to 42 U.S.C. §1985(3)		
12	81. Plaintiffs restate the allegations of paragraphs 1-80, inclusive, as if fully		
13	restated in this Cause of Action.		
14	82. Among the prospective attendees at Plaintiffs" Put America First rally		
15	are citizens lawfully entitled to vote in federal elections.		
16	83. Defendants conspired to prevent by force, intimidation, or threat, Plaintiff		
17	prospective attendees from giving their support or advocacy in a legal manner, toward		
18	or in favor of the election of Plaintiffs GAETZ and GREENE, lawfully qualified		
19	candidates for the office of Member of Congress of the United States, in violation of		
20	42 U.S.C. §1985(3).		
21	///		
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1	84. As a consequence of the event cancellations that Defendants compelled,
2	Plaintiffs suffered damages in non-refundable costs, lost revenues, lost support, and
3	emotional distress in an amount to be determined, but at least \$50,000.
4	Wherefore, Plaintiffs pray for judgment as set out below.
5	PRAYER FOR RELIEF
6	WHEREFORE, Plaintiffs pray for relief as follows:
7	1. A declaration that Defendants RIVERSIDE and RAINCROSS, and each
8	of them, violated the rights of Plaintiffs and their prospective audience members to
9	Freedom of Speech and Freedom of Association under the First and Fourteenth
10	Amendments and 42 U.S.C. §1983 when they cancelled the contract for the rental of
11	the event facility at the Riverside Convention Center based on viewpoints expressed
12	by Plaintiffs.
13	2. A declaration that Defendant ANAHEIM violated the rights of Plaintiffs
14	and their prospective audience members to Freedom of Speech and Freedom of
15	Association under the First and Fourteenth Amendments and 42 U.S.C. §1983 when
16	they coerced the cancellation of the contract for the rental of the event facility at The
17	Grand Theater based on viewpoints expressed by Plaintiffs.
18	3. A declaration that THIRD PARTY DEFENDANTS conspired with or
19	aimed to influence the GOVERNMENT DEFENDANTS to violate Plaintiffs' rights
20	to Freedom of Speech and Freedom of Association based on their political viewpoints,
21	and to prevent, by force, threat, or intimidation, Plaintiff audience members from 22

lending their support to the re-election of members of Congress, in violation of 42
 U.S.C. § 1985.

4. A declaration that Defendants, and each of them, acted with malice,
oppression, and wanton and intentional disregard for the law when they cancelled,
coerced the cancellation of, or conspired to force the cancellation of, facility use
contracts negotiated by Plaintiffs based on Plaintiffs' viewpoints.

5. An injunction prohibiting Defendants RIVERSIDE and RAINCROSS
from denying a facilities use contract to Plaintiffs for future political rallies because of
Plaintiffs' viewpoints.

10 6. An injunction prohibiting Defendant ANAHEIM from coercing private
11 venues from entering into facilities use contracts with Plaintiffs for future political
12 rallies because of Plaintiffs' viewpoints.

7. An injunction prohibiting THIRD PARTY DEFENDANTS from
conspiring with any state actor to deprive Plaintiffs of their constitutional rights to
Freedom of Speech and Association and from conspiring to prevent by force,
intimidation, or threat any citizen who is lawfully entitled to vote from giving his
support or advocacy in any legal manner toward or in favor of the re-election of
GAETZ and GREENE, who are lawfully qualified for election as members of
Congress.

20 8. For damages according to proof, including damages for emotional
21 distress suffered by Plaintiffs.

1	9. For punitive damages against Defendants, and each of them, for acting			
2	with malice, oppression, and wanton disregard for the law in engaging in political			
3	viewpoint discrimination and conspiracy to deprive Plaintiffs of their civil rights.			
4	10. For costs of suit including attorneys' fees.			
5	11. For such other relief as is just and proper.			
6				
7	DATED: J	uly 13, 2023 CONSTITUTIONAL COUNSEL GROUP		
8		CONSTITUTIONAL COUNSEL GROUP		
9		/s/ Alexander H. Haberbush By Alexander H. Haberbush		
10		Attorneys for Plaintiffs		
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1	JURY TRIAL DEMAND)			
2	Plaintiff demands a	a trial by jury	on the on all is	sues triable by j	jury in this
3	complaint.				
4	DATED: July 13, 2023				
5			CONSTITU	FIONAL COU	NSEL GROUP
6				H. Haberbush DER H. HABERB	USH
7			Attorneys for		
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