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**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA**

DARWIN BOGGS,
Plaintiff,
vs.

ZDAS LLC; and DOES 1 to 10,
Defendants.

Case No.:

COMPLAINT FOR INJUNCTIVE
RELIEF AND DAMAGES FOR DENIAL
OF CIVIL RIGHTS OF A DISABLED
PERSON IN VIOLATIONS OF

1. AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT, 42 U.S.C. §12131 et seq.;
2. CALIFORNIA’S UNRUH CIVIL RIGHTS ACT;
3. CALIFORNIA’S DISABLED PERSONS ACT;
4. CALIFORNIA HEALTH & SAFETY CODE;
5. NEGLIGENCE

Plaintiff DARWIN BOGGS (“Plaintiff”) complains of Defendants ZDAS LLC; and DOES 1 to 10 (“Defendants”) and alleges as follows:

PARTIES

1. Plaintiff is a California resident with a physical disability. Plaintiff suffers from paraplegia and is substantially limited in his ability to walk. Plaintiff requires the use of a wheelchair at all times when traveling in public.

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1 d. Defendants failed to comply with the federal and state standards for
2 the parking space designated for persons with disabilities. Defendants
3 failed to provide an access aisle with level surface slope, as there was
4 a permanent ramp installed on the van access aisle.

5 14. These barriers and conditions denied Plaintiff full and equal access to the
6 Business and caused Plaintiff difficulty and frustration. Plaintiff wishes to return and
7 patronize the Business; however, Plaintiff is deterred from visiting the Business because
8 his knowledge of these violations prevents him from returning until the barriers are
9 removed.

10 15. Based on the violations, Plaintiff alleges, on information and belief, that
11 there are additional barriers to accessibility at the Business after further site inspection.
12 Plaintiff seeks to have all barriers related to his disability remedied. *See Doran v. 7-*
13 *Eleven, Inc.* 524 F.3d 1034 (9th Cir. 2008).

14 16. In addition, Plaintiff alleges, on information and belief, that Defendants
15 knew that particular barriers render the Business inaccessible, violate state and federal
16 law, and interfere with access for the physically disabled.

17 17. At all relevant times, Defendants had and still have control and dominion
18 over the conditions at this location and had and still have the financial resources to
19 remove these barriers without much difficulty or expenses to make the Business
20 accessible to the physically disabled in compliance with ADDAG and Title 24
21 regulations. Defendants have not removed such barriers and have not modified the
22 Business to conform to accessibility regulations.

23 **FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION**

24 **VIOLATION OF THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT OF 1990**

25 18. Plaintiff incorporates by reference each of the allegations in all prior
26 paragraphs in this complaint.

27 19. Under the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (“ADA”), no individual
28 shall be discriminated against on the basis of disability in the full and equal enjoyment of

1 the goods, services, facilities, privileges, advantages, or accommodations of any place of
2 public accommodation by any person who owns, leases, or leases to, or operates a place
3 of public accommodation. *See* 42 U.S.C. § 12182(a).

4 20. Discrimination, *inter alia*, includes:

- 5 a. A failure to make reasonable modification in policies, practices, or
6 procedures, when such modifications are necessary to afford such
7 goods, services, facilities, privileges, advantages, or accommodations
8 to individuals with disabilities, unless the entity can demonstrate that
9 making such modifications would fundamentally alter the nature of
10 such goods, services, facilities, privileges, advantages, or
11 accommodations. 42 U.S.C. § 12182(b)(2)(A)(ii).
- 12 b. A failure to take such steps as may be necessary to ensure that no
13 individual with a disability is excluded, denied services, segregated or
14 otherwise treated differently than other individuals because of the
15 absence of auxiliary aids and services, unless the entity can
16 demonstrate that taking such steps would fundamentally alter the
17 nature of the good, service, facility, privilege, advantage, or
18 accommodation being offered or would result in an undue burden. 42
19 U.S.C. § 12182(b)(2)(A)(iii).
- 20 c. A failure to remove architectural barriers, and communication barriers
21 that are structural in nature, in existing facilities, and transportation
22 barriers in existing vehicles and rail passenger cars used by an
23 establishment for transporting individuals (not including barriers that
24 can only be removed through the retrofitting of vehicles or rail
25 passenger cars by the installation of a hydraulic or other lift), where
26 such removal is readily achievable. 42 U.S.C. § 12182(b)(2)(A)(iv).
- 27 d. A failure to make alterations in such a manner that, to the maximum
28 extent feasible, the altered portions of the facility are readily

1 accessible to and usable by individuals with disabilities, including
2 individuals who use wheelchairs or to ensure that, to the maximum
3 extent feasible, the path of travel to the altered area and the
4 bathrooms, telephones, and drinking fountains serving the altered
5 area, are readily accessible to and usable by individuals with
6 disabilities where such alterations to the path or travel or the
7 bathrooms, telephones, and drinking fountains serving the altered area
8 are not disproportionate to the overall alterations in terms of cost and
9 scope. 42 U.S.C. § 12183(a)(2).

10 21. Where parking spaces are provided, accessible parking spaces shall be
11 provided. 1991 ADA Standards § 4.1.2(5); 2010 ADA Standards § 208. One in every
12 eight accessible spaces, but not less than one, shall be served by an access aisle 96 in
13 (2440 mm) wide minimum and shall be designated “van accessible.” 1991 ADA
14 Standards § 4.1.2(5)(b). For every six or fraction of six parking spaces, at least one shall
15 be a van accessible parking space. 2010 ADA Standards § 208.2.4.

16 22. Under the ADA, the method and color of marking are to be addressed by
17 State or local laws or regulations. See 36 C.F.R., Part 1191. Under the California
18 Building Code (“CBC”), the parking space identification signs shall include the
19 International Symbol of Accessibility. Parking identification signs shall be reflectorized
20 with a minimum area of 70 square inches. Additional language or an additional sign
21 below the International Symbol of Accessibility shall state “Minimum Fine \$250.” A
22 parking space identification sign shall be permanently posted immediately adjacent and
23 visible from each parking space, shall be located with its centerline a maximum of 12
24 inches from the centerline of the parking space and may be posted on a wall at the
25 interior end of the parking space. See CBC § 11B-502.6, et seq.

26 23. Moreover, an additional sign shall be posted either in a conspicuous place at
27 each entrance to an off-street parking facility or immediately adjacent to on-site
28 accessible parking and visible from each parking space. The additional sign shall not be

1 less than 17 inches wide by 22 inches high. The additional sign shall clearly state in
2 letters with a minimum height of 1 inch the following: “Unauthorized vehicles parked in
3 designated accessible spaces not displaying distinguishing placards or special license
4 plates issued for persons with disabilities will be towed away at the owner’s expense...”
5 See CBC § 11B-502.8, et seq.

6 24. Here, Defendants failed to provide the sign with the specific language
7 stating “Unauthorized vehicles parked in designated accessible spaces not displaying
8 distinguishing placards or special license plates issued for persons with disabilities will
9 be towed away at the owner’s expense...”

10 25. For the parking spaces, access aisles shall be marked with a blue painted
11 borderline around their perimeter. The area within the blue borderlines shall be marked
12 with hatched lines a maximum of 36 inches (914 mm) on center in a color contrasting
13 with that of the aisle surface, preferably blue or white. The words "NO PARKING" shall
14 be painted on the surface within each access aisle in white letters a minimum of 12 inches
15 (305 mm) in height and located to be visible from the adjacent vehicular way. CBC §
16 11B-502.3.3.

17 26. Here, Defendants failed to provide a proper access aisle as the “NO
18 PARKING” markings, blue borderlines, and blue hatched lines painted on the parking
19 surface were poorly maintained, resulting in the markings becoming severely
20 deteriorated, hindering visibility.

21 27. The surface of each accessible car and van space shall have surface
22 identification complying with either of the following options: The outline of a profile
23 view of a wheelchair with occupant in white on a blue background a minimum 36” wide
24 by 36” high (914 mm x 914 mm). The centerline of the profile view shall be a maximum
25 of 6 inches (152 mm) from the centerline of the parking space, its sides parallel to the
26 length of the parking space and its lower side or corner aligned with the end of the
27 parking space length or by outlining or painting the parking space in blue and outlining
28

1 on the ground in white or a suitable contrasting color a profile view of a wheel chair with
2 occupant. See CBC § 11B-502.6.4, et seq.

3 28. Here, Defendants failed to maintain the International Symbol of
4 Accessibility painted on the surface as required, resulting in the markings becoming
5 severely deteriorated, hindering visibility.

6 29. Under the 1991 Standards, parking spaces and access aisles must be level
7 with surface slopes not exceeding 1:50 (2%) in all directions. 1991 Standards § 4.6.2.
8 Accessible parking spaces shall be at least 96 in (2440 mm) wide. Parking access aisles
9 shall be part of an accessible route to the building or facility entrance and shall comply
10 with 4.3. Two accessible parking spaces may share a common access aisle. Parked
11 vehicle overhangs shall not reduce the clear width of an accessible route. Parking spaces
12 and access aisles shall be level with surface slopes not exceeding 1:50 (2%) in all
13 directions. 1991 Standards § 4.6.3.

14 30. Here, the access aisle is not level with the parking spaces, as there was a
15 permanent ramp installed on the van accessible aisle. Under the 2010 Standards, access
16 aisles shall be at the same level as the parking spaces they serve. Changes in level are not
17 permitted. 2010 Standards § 502.4. “Access aisles are required to be nearly level in all
18 directions to provide a surface for transfer to and from vehicles.” 2010 Standards § 502.4
19 Advisory. Id. No more than a 1:48 slope is permitted.

20 31. A public accommodation shall maintain in operable working condition those
21 features of facilities and equipment that are required to be readily accessible to and usable
22 by persons with disabilities by the Act or this part. 28 C.F.R. 35.211(a).

23 32. By failing to maintain the facility to be readily accessible and usable by
24 Plaintiff, Defendants are in violation of Plaintiff’s rights under the ADA and its related
25 regulations.

26 33. The Business has denied and continues to deny full and equal access to
27 Plaintiff and to other people with disabilities. Plaintiff has been and will continue to be
28 discriminated against due to the lack of accessible facilities, and therefore, seeks

1 injunctive relief to alter facilities to make such facilities readily accessible to and usable
2 by individuals with disabilities.

3 **SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION**

4 **VIOLATION OF THE UNRUH CIVIL RIGHTS ACT**

5 34. Plaintiff incorporates by reference each of the allegations in all prior
6 paragraphs in this complaint.

7 35. California Civil Code § 51 states, “All persons within the jurisdiction of this
8 state are free and equal, and no matter what their sex, race, color, religion, ancestry,
9 national origin, disability, medical condition, genetic information, marital status, sexual
10 orientation, citizenship, primary language, or immigration status are entitled to the full
11 and equal accommodations, advantages, facilities, privileges, or services in all business
12 establishments of every kind whatsoever.”

13 36. California Civil Code § 52 states, “Whoever denies, aids or incites a denial,
14 or make any discrimination or distinction contrary to Section 51, 51.5, or 51.6, is liable
15 for each and every offense for the actual damages, and any amount that may be
16 determined by a jury, or a court sitting without a jury, up to a maximum of three times the
17 amount of actual damage but in no case less than four thousand dollars (\$4,000) and any
18 attorney’s fees that may be determined by the court in addition thereto, suffered by any
19 person denied the rights provided in Section 51, 51.5, or 51.6.

20 37. California Civil Code § 51(f) specifies, “a violation of the right of any
21 individual under federal Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (Public Law 101-336)
22 shall also constitute a violation of this section.”

23 38. The actions and omissions of Defendants alleged herein constitute a denial
24 of full and equal accommodation, advantages, facilities, privileges, or services by
25 physically disabled persons within the meaning of California Civil Code §§ 51 and 52.
26 Defendants have discriminated against Plaintiff in violation of California Civil Code §§
27 51 and 52.

1 constitute a violation of this section, and nothing in this section shall be construed to limit
2 the access of any person in violation of that act.

3 44. The actions and omissions of Defendants alleged herein constitute a denial
4 of full and equal accommodation, advantages, and facilities by physically disabled
5 persons within the meaning of California Civil Code § 54. Defendants have
6 discriminated against Plaintiff in violation of California Civil Code § 54.

7 45. The violations of the California Disabled Persons Act caused Plaintiff to
8 experience difficulty, discomfort, and embarrassment. The Defendants are also liable for
9 statutory damages as specified in California Civil Code §55.56(a)-(c).

10 **FOURTH CAUSE OF ACTION**

11 **CALIFORNIA HEALTH & SAFETY CODE § 19955, et seq.**

12 46. Plaintiff incorporates by reference each of the allegations in all prior
13 paragraphs in this complaint.

14 47. Plaintiff and other similar physically disabled persons who require the use of
15 a wheelchair are unable to use public facilities on a “full and equal” basis unless each
16 such facility is in compliance with the provisions of California Health & Safety Code §
17 19955 et seq. Plaintiff is a member of the public whose rights are protected by the
18 provisions of California Health & Safety Code § 19955 et seq.

19 48. The purpose of California Health & Safety Code § 1995 et seq. is to ensure
20 that public accommodations or facilities constructed in this state with private funds
21 adhere to the provisions of Chapter 7 (commencing with Section 4450) of Division 5 of
22 Title 1 of the Government Code. The code relating to such public accommodations also
23 require that “when sanitary facilities are made available for the public, clients, or
24 employees in these stations, centers, or buildings, they shall be made available for
25 persons with disabilities.

26 49. Title II of the ADA holds as a “general rule” that no individual shall be
27 discriminated against on the basis of disability in the full and equal enjoyment of goods
28 (or use), services, facilities, privileges, and accommodations offered by any person who

owns, operates, or leases a place of public accommodation. 42 U.S.C. § 12182(a). Further, each and every violation of the ADA also constitutes a separate and distinct violation of California Civil Code §§ 54(c) and 54.1(d), thus independently justifying an award of damages and injunctive relief pursuant to California law, including but not limited to Civil Code § 54.3 and Business and Professions Code § 17200, et seq.

FIFTH CAUSE OF ACTION

NEGLIGENCE

50. Plaintiff incorporates by reference each of the allegations in all prior paragraphs in this complaint.

51. Defendants have a general duty and a duty under the ADA, Unruh Civil Rights Act and California Disabled Persons Act to provide safe and accessible facilities to the Plaintiff.

52. Defendants breached their duty of care by violating the provisions of ADA, Unruh Civil Rights Act and California Disabled Persons Act.

53. As a direct and proximate result of Defendants' negligent conduct, Plaintiff has suffered damages.

PRAAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff respectfully prays for relief and judgment against Defendants as follows:

1. For preliminary and permanent injunction directing Defendants to comply with the Americans with Disability Act and the Unruh Civil Rights Act;
2. Award of all appropriate damages, including but not limited to statutory damages, general damages and treble damages in amounts, according to proof;
3. Award of all reasonable restitution for Defendants' unfair competition practices;
4. Reasonable attorney's fees, litigation expenses, and costs of suit in this action;
5. Prejudgment interest pursuant to California Civil Code § 3291; and

