CLERK OF THE SUPERIOR COURT
FILED
MAY 1 6 2025 3133 p.m.

J. Zinkowich, Deputy

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14	IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF ARIZONA					
15	IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF MARICOPA					
16						
17	STATE OF ARIZONA, ex rel. KRISTIN K.	Case No.: CV2024-000410				
18	MAYES, the Attorney General, and the CIVIL RIGHTS DIVISON OF THE ARIZONA					
19	DEPARTMENT OF LAW,	CONSENT DECREE				
20	Plaintiff,	(Hon. Randall Warner)				
21	VS.					
22		·				
23	SHIRLEY ANN ENTERPRISES, LLC, an Arizona Limited Liability Company					
5 4 I						
24	Defendant.					
24	Defendant.	·				

Civil Rights Division of the Arizona Department of Law ("the State"), and Defendant Shirley Ann Enterprises, LLC ("Defendant") (collectively, the "Parties"), come before this Court with the desire to resolve the issues raised in this Complaint and therefore stipulate to the entry of this Consent Decree,

BACKGROUND

- 1. On January 5, 2024, the State filed this public enforcement action against Defendant under the Arizona Fair Housing Act, A.R.S. §§ 41-1491, et seq. ("AFHA"). The State alleged in its Complaint that Defendant discriminated against Aggrieved Persons ("") and her daughter (""") ("the Aggrieved Persons"), based on disability by refusing to renew and lease, in violation of A.R.S. § 41-1491.19(A)(1), and by retaliating against and interfering with and housing rights, in violation of A.R.S. § 41-1491.18. Defendant denies the allegations.
- 2. Defendant was served a copy of the Complaint, has been advised of its right to a trial in this matter, and has waived the same. Defendant stipulates to jurisdiction of this Court over the subject matter and the Parties, stipulates that this Court may enter the following Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Judgment, and acknowledges that this Court will retain jurisdiction for the purpose of enforcing this Consent Decree.
- 3. The Parties desire to resolve the issues raised in the Complaint in order to avoid the time, expense, and uncertainty of further contested litigation. There has been no adjudication of any claim or finding of any liability, or lack thereof, on the part of Defendant.
- 4. The Parties agree to be bound by this Consent Decree and to not contest whether it was validly entered into in any subsequent proceeding to implement or enforce its terms.

PARTIES

5. The Civil Rights Division (the "Division") of the Arizona Department of Law is an administrative agency of the State of Arizona established by A.R.S. § 41-1401 to administer and

1	and the right to housing of their choice due to disability and failed to provide				
2	with a reasonable accommodation to allow her to reside at the Subject Property with her				
3	assistance animal.				
4	36. exercised a right under the AFHA when she requested a reasonable				
5	accommodation to allow her emotional support animal to reside in the Subject Property, a reques				
6	that was necessary to afford her an equal opportunity to use and enjoy a dwelling, under A.R.S				
7	§ 41-1491.19(E)(2).				
8	37. Defendant, through its agent, engaged in unlawful interference in				
9	housing rights because and exercised protected activity under the AFHA				
10	A.R.S. § 41-1491.18.				
11	ORDER				
1.2	Upon stipulation of the Parties, and it appearing to the Court that entry of this Consent				
13	Decree will fairly resolve the Complaint, IT IS SO ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND				
14	DECREED as follows:				
15	38. This Consent Decree and the relief set forth in this Consent Decree is final and				
16	binding upon Defendant and its subsidiaries; its officers, agents, servants, and employees; and				
17	those persons in active concert or participation with Defendant or any of Defendant's officers,				
18	agents, servants, or employees.				
19	39. Defendant agrees to comply fully with the provisions of the ACRA and agrees that				
20	Defendant's housing practices, including rental application processes; lease entering, renewing,				
21	and terminating; and disability-related accommodation request handling, will be conducted and				
22	maintained in a manner that does not discriminate on the basis of disability, sex (including sexual				
23	orientation and gender identity), religion, pregnancy, race, national origin, color, genetic testing				
24	or age. Defendant has a duty to comply fully, as required by law, with the AFHA. Defendant's				
25	duty to comply with housing anti-discrimination laws continues after the conclusion of this				
26	Consent Decree. Defendant shall not retaliate, harass, or intimidate against any individual who				

engaged in protected activity under the AFHA, including any alleged victim of harassment, discrimination, or retaliation and anyone who participates in an investigation by making a complaint or being a witness.

II. TERM

40. The Court will retain jurisdiction over the subject matter of this Consent Decree, the State, and the Defendant, to effectuate and enforce this Consent Decree and to resolve any compliance disputes that arise, for three (3) years from the date of entry of this Consent Decree (hereinafter referred to as the "Monitoring Period").

III. MONETARY RELIEF

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- 41. Defendant shall pay and and a total monetary settlement of thirty-five thousand dollars (\$35,000) in compensatory damages ("Monetary Payment").
- Paragraph. All payments shall be made via cashier's check made payable to and delivered to the Arizona Attorney General's Office, Division of Civil Rights Section, to the attention of Julie Blumenreich or her successor, 2005 N. Central Ave., Phoenix, AZ 85004 by the deadlines referenced below.
 - a. An initial payment of five thousand dollars (\$5,000) shall be delivered by May 15, 2025.

The Monetary Payment will be paid in thirteen (13) payments as set forth in this

- b. Thereafter, Defendant shall deliver twelve (12) consecutive payments of two thousand five hundred dollars (\$2,500) by the 15th day of each month beginning on June 15, 2025. If the 15th day of a month falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or State or Federal Holiday, the payment shall be due on the next business day.
- c. Failure to make any payment on the date due is noncompliance with this Consent Decree, governed by the procedures provided in Paragraph 61.

43. The State makes no representation concerning the tax consequences, if any, of the Monetary Payment included in this Consent Decree. Defendant acknowledges that it had the opportunity to consult a tax advisor about the consequences of the monetary payment if it wished to do so.

V. INJUNCTIVE RELIEF

A. Compliance with the Arizona Fair Housing Act

- 44. Pursuant to A.R.S. § 41-1491.34, Defendant, its officers, agents, employees, and all others in active concert or participation with it, will not discriminate on the basis of disability as prohibited by the AFHA, and is enjoined from engaging in any housing practice which discriminates against applicants or residents on the basis of disability, including but not limited to:
 - a. Discriminating in the sale or rental, or otherwise making housing unavailable, or denying a dwelling to any buyer or renter, because of a disability, or because of the disability of someone associated with the buyer or renter, in violation of A.R.S. § 14-1491.19(A);
 - b. Discriminating against any person in the terms, conditions, or privileges of sale or rental of a dwelling or in the provision of services or facilities in connection with the dwelling because of disability, in violation of A.R.S. § 14-1491.19(B);
 - c. Refusing to make reasonable accommodations in rules, policies, practices, or services when such accommodations may be necessary to afford an equal opportunity to use and enjoy a dwelling, in violation of A.R.S. § 14-1491.19(E)(2); and
 - d. Coercing, intimidating, threatening or interfering with any person in the exercise or enjoyment of, or having exercised or enjoyed, or on account of his having aided or encouraged any other person in the exercise or

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enjoyment of, any right granted or protected by the AFHA, in violation of A.R.S. § 41-1491.18.

B. Nondiscrimination Policies and Practices

- 45. Within thirty (30) days of entry of this Consent Decree, Defendant shall create and maintain a written Anti-Discrimination Policy that will contain, at a minimum, the following statements: (a) Defendant prohibits discrimination based on disability, race, color, religion, sex, familial status, and national origin; and (b) all units are available for sale, lease, or rental, as applicable, on a nondiscriminatory basis.
- Within thirty (30) days of entry of this Consent Decree, Defendant shall create and 46. maintain a Reasonable Accommodation Policy that applies to all Arizona properties owned, operated, or managed by Defendant, its employees, or agents. The Reasonable Accommodation Policy must, at a minimum, contain the following: (a) a statement that the Arizona Fair Housing Act and the federal Fair Housing Act require Defendant and its agents, employees, and managers to provide reasonable accommodations for any applicants, tenants, and residents who have a disability as defined under the AFHA; (b) a statement that Defendant is committed to granting reasonable accommodations when necessary to afford persons with disabilities the equal opportunity to use and enjoy a dwelling at any and all of its rental units; (c) a statement that reasonable accommodations may include waiving or modifying rules or policies to allow an applicant or resident with a disability to keep an assistance animal, meaning an animal that does work or performs tasks for the benefit of a person with a disability or provides emotional support or other assistance that may be necessary to afford the person an equal opportunity to use and enjoy housing; (d) a specific procedure through which an applicant or tenant may request a reasonable accommodation or modification orally or in writing; (e) a statement that all reasonable accommodation requests will be reviewed and Defendant will provide a written response to the requesting individual before or within fourteen days; (f) a statement that if a person with a disability believes that his/her request for a reasonable accommodation has been unlawfully

denied or that Defendant's response was unreasonably delayed, the person may file a complaint with the Arizona Civil Rights Division of the Arizona Attorney General's Office at 2005 North Central Avenue, Phoenix, Arizona 85004, Telephone (602) 542-5263, TDD (602) 542-5002 or 400 W. Congress Street, Tucson, Arizona 85701, Telephone (520) 628-6500, TDD (520) 628-6872, or https://www.azag.gov/complaints/civil-rights.

- 47. Within ten (10) days of creating the policies identified in paragraphs 45-46 of this Consent Decree (collectively, the "Policies"), Defendant shall produce to the State copies of the Policies for the State's review. Within ten (10) business days from receipt of Defendant's Policies, the State will review to confirm that the minimum requirements set forth in paragraphs 45-46 of this Consent Decree are included in the Policies. The State will submit all comments, if any, by email to Defendant's attorney of record. Within seven (7) days from receipt of the State's email, Defendant will incorporate the State's revisions to meet the minimum requirements in paragraphs 45-46 of this Consent Decree and will produce to the State a copy of Defendant's revised policies.
- 48. Within sixty (60) days of entry of this Consent Decree, Defendant shall adopt the Policies and provide a copy of the Policies to all of Defendant's employees and/or agents who have management or administrative duties with respect to the sale, leasing, or rental of housing in Arizona. Defendant shall also provide the Policies to all new agents and/or employees who have management or administrative duties with respect to the sale, leasing, or rental of housing in Arizona within thirty (30) days of hire, or during training and orientation, whichever occurs first. Defendant will obtain and maintain a signed acknowledgement from each employee and agent confirming that the employee or agent has read and fully understands his/her obligations and duties under the policies and this Consent Decree. Defendant shall retain copies of the executed employee acknowledgement forms in the personnel file of the employee or agent.
- 49. Within ninety (90) days of entry of this Consent Decree, Defendant shall provide a copy of the Policies to all current and/or prospective tenants of its Arizona properties.

C. Training

- 50. Within ninety (90) days of entry of this Consent Decree, Defendant's owners, employees, and/or agents who have management or administrative duties with respect to the sale, leasing, or rental of housing owned by Defendant shall attend training of not less than four (4) hours by a qualified trainer regarding the Arizona Fair Housing Act and the federal Fair Housing Act, including in particular their prohibitions against disability discrimination, and the Policies referenced in paragraphs 45-46 of this Consent Decree. The training may be conducted virtually, provided that the virtual training meets the minimum requirements included in this paragraph and its subparts. At a minimum, the training, whether conducted virtually or in person, shall include:
 - a. A presentation section and a question and answer section;
 - b. Identification and discussion of the disability discrimination protections under the Arizona Fair Housing Act and the federal Fair Housing Act;
 - c. The Department of Justice Frequently Asked Questions on Service Animals;
 - d. The Department of Justice and U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's ("HUD") Joint Statement on Reasonable Accommodations under the Fair Housing Act;
 - e. HUD's Guidance FHEO-2020-01;
 - f. A copy of the Division's Civil Rights pamphlet, available online or through request to the State; and
 - g. A copy of this Consent Decree.
- 51. For purposes of this Agreement, a qualified trainer is a person or agency that is knowledgeable about the legal requirements under state and federal fair housing laws and was not one of Defendant's employees or agents involved in the acts alleged as discriminatory by the State. If there are costs associated with such training, Defendant shall pay for those costs.
 - 52. Defendant shall provide the training referenced in paragraph 50 of this Consent

Decree to all of Defendant's new or promoted employees and/or agents who have management or administrative duties with respect to the sale, leasing, or rental of housing in Arizona, at Defendant's expense, within thirty (30) days of hire or promotion.

- 53. The resume or CV of the qualified trainer, all materials to be used in the trainings, and the agenda for the trainings must be provided to the State for review no later than fifteen (15) business days before the trainings are scheduled to occur. Within ten (10) business days of receipt, the Division shall confirm whether the trainer and training meet the minimum requirements for compliance with this Consent Decree or submit necessary modifications for compliance. Defendant agrees that any State proposed modifications must be incorporated into the training to meet the minimum requirements of this Consent Decree.
- 54. Defendant shall maintain attendance logs for the trainings. Such logs shall contain at a minimum: (a) the date, time, and location of the training; (b) a list of names and positions of all attendees; and (c) the name of the agency or individual presenting the training. Defendant may satisfy the requirement of identifying the attendees by attaching a copy of a registration list that includes the printed name and position of each attendee and his/her signature or other notation affirming that the attendee completed the required training.
- 55. Within ten (10) days of the completion of each training, Defendant shall provide a copy of the training materials and attendance log to Arizona Attorney General's Office, Division of Civil Rights Section, c/o Maura Hilser or her successor, 400 W. Congress St., South Bldg., Suite S-315, Tucson, Arizona 85701 or maura.hilser@azag.gov.

D. Poster

Defendant shall keep posted at all times in a conspicuous, well-lighted place at Defendant's Arizona dwellings, readily visible to residents, tenants, and prospective residents/tenants of its Arizona properties, a poster which expressly provides that discrimination in housing based on disability, race, color, religion, sex, familial status, or national origin is prohibited by law. Within ten (10) days from entry of this Consent Decree, Defendant shall

provide the State with a photograph confirming the poster is posted and include a description of the location of the poster.

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Record Keeping and Monitoring

- Defendant shall maintain all records concerning its implementation of the obligations under this Consent Decree and its compliance with this Consent Decree throughout the Monitoring Period, as defined in paragraph 40 of this Consent Decree. During the Monitoring Period of this Consent Decree, Defendant shall maintain and keep available for inspection and copying of the State, all records relating to all requests for reasonable accommodations and related deliberations and communication for any applicant, tenant, and/or resident interested in or residing at Defendant's Arizona properties.
- 58. Within one hundred eighty (180) days of the date of this Consent Decree, Defendant shall make a written report to the State outlining its compliance with the Consent Decree, including supplying documentation that demonstrates compliance, such as training records and copies of check(s). After the initial report, Defendant shall report every one hundred eighty (180) days thereafter for the remainder of the Monitoring Period. The Report shall include, for the period covered by the Report:
 - A specific acknowledgment that Defendant has, for the instant reporting a. period, complied with the requirements of the Consent Decree;
 - b. An attestation that all current and new employees and agents who have management or administrative duties with respect to the sale, leasing, or rental of housing related to Shirley Ann Enterprises, for the reporting period, have received the policies referenced in this Consent Decree;
 - Copies of the attendance logs maintained for the training(s), for the instant c. reporting period, as required in this Consent Decree;

- d. A copy of the written Policies and Procedures in the initial report and amendments, updates, or revisions to the Policies and Procedures, if any, made in all subsequent reporting periods to date;
- e. A copy of the employee acknowledgement forms for receiving the Policies and Procedures referenced in this Consent Decree and a specific acknowledgement that the forms have been returned from all the current employees (in the first report) and have been returned by new hires (in subsequent reports); and
- f. Production of any and all internal or external complaints and grievances, lawsuits, written complaints and/or charges pertaining to Shirley Ann Enterprises, LLC regarding Defendant's noncompliance with the Arizona Fair Housing Act or the federal Fair Housing Act, or alleging that Defendant violated the ACRA and/or AFHA. The initial report shall include all such internal or external complaints and grievances, lawsuits, written complaints and/or charges received between May 1, 2022 and the date of the initial report. All subsequent reports shall include all such internal or external complaints and grievances, lawsuits, written complaints and/or charges received during the period covered by that Report. For each complaint, Defendant shall provide the date the internal or external complaint was made; the name of the complainant; the tenant or applicant, if any, that was identified in the complaint; the basis for the complaint; the resolution of the complaint; and the date of resolution. If no internal or external complaints or grievances were made during the reporting period, Defendant shall include an attestation that it has reviewed its files and can confirm that no internal or external fair housing complaints or grievances were made during the reporting period.

59. All letters or reports, copies of checks, notices, revised Policies and Procedures, and other such documents required by this Consent Decree shall be delivered via mail, electronic transmission, or fax (with original letters or reports) to Maura Hilser or her successor, 400 W. Congress St., South Bldg., Suite S-315, Tucson, Arizona 85701 or maura.hilser@azag.gov.

VI. PROCEDURES FOR NON-COMPLIANCE

- 60. The Parties agree that the State reserves the right to review compliance with this Consent Decree at any time.
- Ouring the Monitoring Period, if the State believes that Defendant failed to comply with any portion of this Consent Decree, including timely delivery of the monetary payments, the State shall notify Defendant in writing of the alleged failure to comply with the terms of the Consent Decree ("Deficiency Notice"). Defendant shall have five (5) business days from the mailing date of Deficiency Notice to cure any monetary payment deficiency. Defendant shall have fourteen (14) business days from the mailing date of Deficiency Notice to cure all other deficiencies and to come into compliance with the Consent Decree. The State may initiate an enforcement action if Defendant: (a) fails to timely respond to the State's Deficiency Notice; or (b) fails to cure all deficiencies and come into compliance with this Consent Decree within the required timeframe.
- 62. The State has the right to enforce the Consent Decree through all available means, including but not limited to, litigation in any court with jurisdiction, should Defendant fail to comply with any of the terms of this Consent Decree.
- 63. The State may file for enforcement of this Consent Decree against Defendant at any time in the future for compliance with provisions in this Consent Decree that last beyond the Monitoring Period for this Court.
- 64. If the Court determines that Defendant violated this Consent Decree, the Court may order appropriate relief, including but not limited to, extension of the Monitoring Period of this Consent Decree for such time as may be necessary for Defendant to remedy Defendant's

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25 26 noncompliance, an award of attorney's fees and costs to the State, civil penalties, fines for contempt of court, and other remedies as permitted by law.

GENERAL PROVISIONS VII.

- 65. Any and all letters, reports, copies of checks, notices, revised Policies and Procedures, proof of payments, and other such documents required by this Consent Decree shall be delivered via mail, electronic transmission, or fax (with original letters or reports) to Maura Hilser or her successor, 400 W. Congress St., South Bldg., Suite S-315, Tucson, Arizona 85701 or maura.hilser@azag.gov, unless otherwise specified.
- 66. Any and all documents, notifications, or other correspondence to Defendant shall be made by U.S. mail and electronic mail to Jim Berthoud, and
- 67. By entering into this Consent Decree, the State does not waive or in any manner limit its right to process and investigate any other complaint of discrimination or complaint against Defendant, pending or future; to seek relief from Defendant in response to any other complaint of discrimination, investigation, or litigation that may be pending or arise in the future, including but not limited to a Divisional complaint; to file a Divisional complaint against Defendant pertaining to any matters except for the matters alleged in the State's Complaint and the underlying complaint of discrimination (CRD-2022-0480); and to seek enforcement of this Consent Decree. The Parties do not intend to resolve any complaints of discrimination currently pending before the State and the State does not waive or in any manner limit its right to process or seek relief from Defendant in relation to any other complaint or investigation that may exist or arise in the future. Defendant waives its rights to file a petition for Special Action review or any other civil appeal related to this Court's Order of March 5, 2025 or the question designated therein.
- 68. Unless the provision in this Consent Decree contains a specific term for the termination of Defendant's compliance, Defendant's duty to comply with the provision and the

State's remedies for any such violation survive the Monitoring Period. The State reserves the right to enforce any and all alleged violations of law, during and after the Monitoring Period, through all available means, including but not limited to, litigation in any court with jurisdiction should Defendant fail to comply.

- 69. There will be no modification of this Consent Decree without the written consent of all the Parties and the further order of the Court. In the event of a material change of circumstances, Defendant and the State agree to make a good faith effort to resolve this matter. If the Parties are unable to reach agreement, either party may ask the Court to make such modifications as are appropriate.
- 70. Nothing in this Consent Decree shall be construed as an approval by the Attorney General, the State of Arizona, or any agency thereof of Defendant's past, present, or future conduct.
- 71. This Consent Decree does not limit the rights of any private party to pursue any remedies allowed by law except as otherwise specified in this Decree.
- 72. This Consent Decree is final and binding on the present and future officers, Board of Directors, directors, managers, supervisors, agents, heirs, assigns, successors, successors-in interest, receivers, trustees in bankruptcy, and personal representatives of Defendant. Defendant has a duty to inform any successor in interest of the obligations of this Consent Decree during its duration. During the term of this Consent Decree, the Defendant, and any successors of the Defendant, shall provide a copy of this Consent Decree to any organization or person who proposes to acquire or merge with the Defendant during the term of this Consent Decree, or any successor of the Defendant, prior to the effectiveness of any such asset sale, acquisition, or merger. This paragraph shall not be deemed to limit any remedies available in the event of any finding by the Court regarding violation of this Consent Decree.

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- 73. Nothing in this Consent Decree shall be construed to limit the State from bringing a lawsuit to enforce this Consent Decree in the event that Defendant fails to perform any promises contained herein.
- 74. If any term of this Consent Decree is determined by any court to be unenforceable, the other terms of this Consent Decree shall nonetheless remain in full force and effect.
- 75. Failure by any party to seek enforcement of this Consent Decree pursuant to its terms with respect to any provision or instance shall not be construed as a waiver to such enforcement with regard to other instances or provisions.
- 76. Defendant represents that it has read this Consent Decree in its entirety, has had an opportunity to consult with counsel of its own choice, is satisfied that it understands and agrees to all of its provisions, and has freely stipulated to entry of this Consent Decree and signed the Consent to Decree without coercion.
- 77. A signatory to the Consent to Decree in a representative capacity for Defendant represents that he or she is authorized to bind Defendant to this Consent Decree.
- 78. This Consent Decree constitutes the entire agreement between the State and Defendant on the matters raised in the Complaint and no other statement, promise or agreement, either written or oral, made by any party or agents of any party, that is not contained in this Consent Decree, shall be enforceable.
- 79. Defendant and the Aggrieved Persons have also entered into a separate Mutual Release ("Mutual Release") to which the State is not a party. Defendant agrees that the State is not responsible for enforcement of the Mutual Release. The Aggrieved Persons' release of Defendant is contingent on Defendant's full compliance with the Monetary Payment in this Consent Decree.
- 80. This Consent Decree is not intended to remedy any other potential violations of the AFHA, the Arizona Civil Rights Act, or any other law that is not specifically addressed in this Consent Decree.

- 81. This Consent Decree does not limit Defendant's continuing responsibility to comply with all aspects of the AFHA.
- 82. This Consent Decree will be governed in all respects by the laws of the State of Arizona.
- 83. The State and Defendant will bear their respective attorneys' fees and costs incurred in this action up to the date of entry of this Decree. In any action brought to assess or enforce Defendant's compliance with the terms of this Consent Decree, the Court may in its discretion award reasonable costs and attorneys' fees to the State in addition to all remedies necessary to ensure Defendant's compliance with this Consent Decree.
- 84. This Consent Decree resolves all outstanding claims expressly identified in the Complaint as to Defendant. As no further matters remain pending, this is a final judgment entered pursuant to Ariz. R. Civ. P. 54(c).

VIII. EFFECTUATING CONSENT DECREE

85. The Parties agree to the entry of this Consent Decree upon final approval by the Court. The effective date of this Consent Decree will be the date that it is entered by this Court. ENTERED AND ORDERED this _______ day of ________ 2025.

HONORABLE RANDALL WARNER