[Counsel identified on signature pages] 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT 9 FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA SAN JOSE DIVISION 10 NATIONAL URBAN LEAGUE, et al., CASE NO. 5:20-cv-05799-LHK 11 Plaintiffs, JOINT CASE MANAGEMENT 12 **STATEMENT** v. 13 WILBUR L. ROSS, JR., et al., Date: November 13, 2020 14 Time: 1:30 p.m. Place: Courtroom 8 Defendants. 15 Judge: Hon. Lucy H. Koh 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28

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Pursuant to Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 26(f), Civil Local Rule 16-9, and the Standing Order For All Judges of the Northern District of California, the parties to this action, by their respective counsel, respectfully submit the following Joint Case Management Statement in anticipation of the Case Management Conference scheduled for November 13, 2020.

I. JURISDICTION AND SERVICE

This case is a civil action seeking declaratory and injunctive relief for claims under the U.S. Constitution and the Administrative Procedures Act. Accordingly, this Court has subject matter jurisdiction pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1331, 1346(a), 1361, 2201, and 2202. Defendants challenge the Court's subject matter jurisdiction (see Dkt. 354), but do not challenge personal jurisdiction or venue. Plaintiffs believe that Defendants' jurisdictional challenges have already been resolved by the orders of this Court and the Ninth Circuit to date. No party remains unserved.

II. FACTS AND PROCEDURAL HISTORY

The relevant facts and procedural history regarding this matter have been detailed in this Court's TRO and Preliminary Injunction orders (Dkts. 84, 208); the parties provide only a brief summary here.

As with previous censuses, the Census Bureau spent numerous years planning for the 2020 Census, culminating in the 2018 Operational Plan for the 2020 Census, released on December 31, 2018. On March 10, 2020, pursuant to that Operational Plan, the Bureau began to accept selfresponses on its website. But in light of the COVID-19 pandemic, on March 18 the Bureau announced it would suspend all field operations for two weeks, and subsequently extended the suspension. On April 13, 2020, the Bureau amended the 2018 Operational Plan and adopted the COVID-19 Plan. Under the COVID-19 Plan, among other things, the deadlines for field operations, data processing, and delivery of apportionment and redistricting numbers were all pushed out.

Then, on August 3, 2020, the Bureau announced a Replan that shortened the time for field operations and cut field operations short by a month compared to the COVID-19 Plan, and shortened the time to perform data processing by several months, in order to deliver apportionment data to the President by December 31, 2020.

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Plaintiffs challenged Defendants' actions in the Court. The Court entered a TRO (Dkt. 84), and then entered a preliminary injunction (Dkt. 208) staying the Bureau's September 30, 2020 deadline for the completion of data collection and December 31, 2020 deadline for reporting the tabulation of the total population to the President.

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Defendants appealed the Court's preliminary injunction order and sought a stay of the injunction pending the appeal. The Ninth Circuit granted in part and denied in part Defendants' motion to stay the injunction. Specifically, the Ninth Circuit denied Defendants' motion as to the September 30 deadline, but granted Defendants' motion as to the December 31 deadline. Subsequently, the Supreme Court stayed the preliminary injunction in its entirety. Defendants' appeal of the preliminary injunction remains pending.

Subsequent to the Supreme Court's order, the Bureau stated that it completed field operations on October 15, 2020. The Bureau has publicly stated that it is working to deliver the Census results as close to the December 31, 2020, statutory deadline as possible.

III. LEGAL ISSUES

The parties reserve the right to raise additional issues that may arise through the course of this action. At present, the following legal issues are disputed:

- 1. Whether Defendants have violated the Enumeration Clause and the Fourteenth Amendment of the U.S. Constitution.
 - 2. Whether Defendants have violated Section 706 of the Administrative Procedures Act.
- 3. Whether Plaintiffs have standing to bring and the Court has jurisdiction to hear and resolve Plaintiffs' claims.

IV. MOTIONS

The Court has already ruled on numerous motions in this action. Accordingly, the parties focus this section on the pending and expected motions.

Currently, the Court's preliminary injunction order (Dkt. 208, clarified in Dkt. 288) is on appeal at the Ninth Circuit. Defendants responded to Plaintiffs' Second Amended Complaint on November 10, 2020 by filing a motion to dismiss, set for a December 17, 2020 hearing date. (Dkt. 354.) The same day, Defendants also filed a motion to stay these proceedings until the Bureau

completes the 2020 Census and the President reports the apportionment results, or until Defendants' appeal of the Court's preliminary injunction is fully resolved, whichever is later. (Dkt. 355.) Defendants' stay motion is also currently set for hearing on December 17.

Plaintiffs' position is that Defendants' motion to dismiss is in actuality a motion to reconsider various threshold standing/jurisdictional arguments previously raised by Defendants and already resolved against Defendants by this Court; moreover, the same arguments have already been raised at the appellate level and either rejected (at the Ninth Circuit) or left unaddressed (at the Supreme Court). Because Defendants raise nothing new, Plaintiffs believe that Defendants' motion to dismiss should be denied with no further briefing and that the Court should order Defendants to file their Answer forthwith. Plaintiffs similarly believe Defendants' motion to stay is a delay tactic. This is shown, in no small part, by how untimely the motion is—as Defendants could and should have filed a motion to "stay" the merits phase of this proceeding weeks ago if they felt that was the right course. The motion also has no merit. As explained previously, the Ninth Circuit appeal is effectively moot. If any proceeding should be stayed (or held in abeyance), it is the appeal of a preliminary injunction order that is stayed past the point of effectiveness.

Plaintiffs' Second Amended Complaint sets forth numerous new and troubling allegations about Defendants' conduct—allegations directly related to Defendants' improper efforts to further rush the census data collections in a deliberate effort to circumvent the Court's preliminary injunction in this case and have it overturned, and which thus speak directly to Defendants' violation of their constitutional obligations. Plaintiffs anticipate filing a motion for summary judgment on an expedited schedule, as described further below, as to both their Enumeration Clause and APA claims. Defendants, of course, are free to file a cross-motion for summary judgment at that time should they have new, appropriate arguments to bring to bear.

<u>Defendants' position</u> is that Plaintiffs' claims suffer from numerous jurisdictional defects, and the Supreme Court's issuance of the stay is a basis for the Court to revisit its prior assessment of Defendants' jurisdictional defenses. Defendants' stay motion explains how resolution of those issues is likely to be simplified if the Court stays this matter for a few short months. To the extent

Plaintiffs do not believe that having likely appellate guidance or an actual census result will benefit the Court in assessing Plaintiffs' claims, they are free to articulate that in their opposition to Defendants' stay motion. But Plaintiffs cannot plausibly claim prejudice from Defendants not seeking a stay earlier when the focus of litigation in this matter for the past month has been in appellate tribunals, and when nothing of substance has transpired in this Court. Nor, given the Supreme Court's stay of the preliminary injunction, can Plaintiffs claim any injury or hardship from district court proceedings in this case being stayed until after the 2020 Census is completed. Indeed, Plaintiffs note below that the final census results are so critical to this case that Plaintiffs must obtain those results within six hours; that itself suggests that there is little need for burdensome and intrusive discovery before that time. By contrast, Plaintiffs' proposed efforts to burden the parties and the Court with expedited discovery and merits proceedings at this late stage would prove extraordinarily burdensome and prejudicial for Defendants, and should not be countenanced. Plaintiffs in any event agree, in this very filing, that post-census relief, if warranted, is available, and that is the course the Supreme Court has repeatedly followed in its census cases. Given the lack of disagreement between the parties on this question, there is no reason to again rush matters in this Court.

The allegations Plaintiffs make in their Second Amended Complaint do not change this analysis. As Defendants explained in their motion to dismiss, the new allegations Plaintiffs presented do not alter the legal framework of the case, do not expand the scope of relief Plaintiffs are seeking, and do not change the issues that the Court will have to resolve when it considers Defendants' motion. Further, many of those new allegations have previously been rebutted by Defendants' declarants in materials Defendants have submitted to the Court.

V. AMENDMENT OF PLEADINGS

While Defendants still need to file an Answer to the Second Amended Complaint, the parties do not otherwise currently anticipate further amendment of the pleadings. In light of their motion to dismiss, Defendants disagree that they "need" to file an Answer to the Second Amended Complaint.

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VI. **EVIDENCE PRESERVATION** The parties have reviewed the ESI Guidelines, and are meeting and conferring pursuant to Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 26(f) regarding reasonable and proportionate steps taken to preserve evidence relevant to the issues reasonably evident in this action. VII. **DISCLOSURES** 6 Plaintiffs believe that the deadline for serving initial disclosures should be November 18, 2020.

Defendants state that no initial disclosures are necessary until the Court resolves the motion to stay or the motion to dismiss.

VIII. DISCOVERY

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Discovery Taken to Date A.

Plaintiffs' position: Because this case proceeded to preliminary relief on an expedited schedule, there has been an administrative record but no documents or materials produced pursuant to formal discovery requests thus far.

Defendants' position: To the extent this case survives Defendants' motion to dismiss, and to the extent there is final agency action and there "has been an administrative record," the merits of this case can and should be resolved on that "administrative record" and not on the basis of any discovery.

B. **Scope of Anticipated Discovery**

Plaintiffs intend to serve tailored written discovery immediately following the November 13, 2020 case management conference in this matter, pursuant to the Court's direction and preferences regarding the case schedule, and intend to seek limited depositions of the Defendants and Bureau employees in order to support Plaintiffs' forthcoming motion for summary judgment.

C. **Stipulated E-Discovery Order**

The parties are considering whether a stipulated E-Discovery Order should be entered into.

Proposed Discovery Plan & Schedule D.

Plaintiffs' position:

Initial Disclosures – Initial disclosures should be exchanged by November 18, 2020. (A)

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- (B) Discovery Subjects and Timing Discovery is necessary on Defendants' data collection and data processing operations, and given the timing of impending events, should be finalized on an expedited schedule and largely completed by December 11, 2020. As part of that expedited schedule, Plaintiffs believe that the Court should establish the following parameters:
 - (1) 3-day turnarounds on any objections to written discovery;
 - (2) an expedited discovery dispute process before a Magistrate Judge, with binding discovery determinations;
 - (3) 10-day turnarounds on providing substantially complete document productions and written responses to interrogatories and requests for admission; and
 - (4) a limited deposition period, to occur from December 1 through December 11, depending on timely production of written discovery responses and documents.
 - (C) Issues About Disclosure, Discovery, or ESI No current issues to raise.
 - (D) Issues About Privilege No current issues to raise.
- (E) Changes to Discovery Limits Plaintiffs do not believe that discovery limitations need to be modified at this point.

Defendants' position:

Defendants assert that no discovery is necessary or proper in this matter, and that Plaintiffs' proposed schedule is both unrealistic and extraordinarily burdensome. The case schedule Plaintiffs propose below is based on an appropriate understanding that the Court need not enter a final judgment in this case before the completion of the 2020 Census and the report of the apportionment numbers by the President. In light of that schedule, there is no reason to engage in expedited discovery, particularly when the threshold jurisdictional defects of Plaintiffs' claims may render all such effort unnecessary. As explained in Defendants' motion to stay, there is no basis to adjudicate this matter before appellate tribunals have provided legal guidance and until the completion of the census provides some basis to assess the veracity of Plaintiffs' speculation about injury. And waiting just two months for the report of the apportionment numbers would likely obviate the need for much, if not all, of the discovery Plaintiffs apparently wish to pursue. Having already litigated this matter on an accelerated timeframe once, Defendants respectfully submit that

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1	it would be improper to do so again to the detriment of the census's completion. Further, Plaintiff
2	have impliedly conceded that there is no urgency to their discovery given that they forecast the
3	need for discovery in their filing on October 23, 2020, but have not served any discovery in the
4	interim.
5	As noted above, Defendants do not believe that discovery is necessary or appropriate at thi
6	time. If this Court disagrees, however, there is no need for the extremely expedited discovery
7	timelines that Plaintiffs propose. Instead, and as set forth in Part XVII, any discovery should
8	proceed by applying the normal timelines set forth in the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, and

In the event discovery is permitted and the Court chooses to refer discovery disputes to a Magistrate Judge, Defendants would reserve their right to appeal any adverse discovery ruling to the district judge, and do not agree to a binding discovery determination by a Magistrate Judge.

IX. CLASS ACTIONS

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This case is not a class action.

Defendants do not waive their right to seek discovery.

X. RELATED CASES

There are no formally related cases. The parties are aware of *La Unión del Pueblo Entero* v. *Trump*, No. 8:19-cv-02710-PX-PAH-ELH (D. Md.), where similar issues, among others, have been raised.

XI. RELIEF

Plaintiffs ask the Court to issue the following relief:

- Declare that Plaintiffs' promulgation of the Replan, and corresponding revocation of the COVID-19 Plan is unconstitutional under the Enumeration Clause, and unlawful under the Administrative Procedure Act.
- 2. Vacate the Replan, thereby reinstating the COVID-19 Plan.
- Enjoin Defendants from implementing or effectuating the Replan or its constituent parts
 and enjoin Defendants from unlawfully interfering with the implementation or
 effectuation of the COVID-19 Plan or its constituent parts.
- 4. Award Plaintiffs costs, expenses, and reasonable attorneys' fees.

5. Award any other relief the Court deems just and proper. 1 2 XII. **SETTLEMENT AND ADR** 3 The parties agree that the case will not be resolved through an ADR process. Nonetheless, the parties are willing to discuss ADR processes with the Court, but believe the Court should 4 5 relieve the parties of the ADR Multi-Option Program. XIII. CONSENT TO MAGISTRATE FOR ALL PURPOSES 6 7 The parties have declined to consent to a Magistrate Judge for all purposes. 8 XIV. **OTHER REFERENCES** 9 The parties agree that this case is not suitable for reference to binding arbitration or a special master. The parties also agree that this case is inappropriate for the Judicial Panel on 10 11 Multidistrict Litigation. 12 XV. **NARROWING OF ISSUES** 13 Not applicable at this juncture. 14 XVI. **EXPEDITED TRIAL PROCEDURE** 15 Because of the nature and timing of events in this action, the parties submit that the Expedited Trial Procedure of General Order No. 64 is not appropriate for this case. Plaintiffs, 16 17 however, do seek expedited permanent relief and believe certain of the procedures for expedited trial may be appropriate. 18 19 XVII. SCHEDULING 20 <u>Plaintiffs' position</u>: 21 As set forth in Plaintiffs' Statement Re: United States Supreme Court's Stay Pending 22 Appeal (Dkt. 344), the Supreme Court's October 13, 2020 order effectively resolves the question of preliminary relief regarding Plaintiffs' Administrative Procedure Act claims. And although the 23 24 Ninth Circuit appeal on the Court's preliminary injunction order (Dkt. 208) remains pending, that 25 is effectively moot for the same reasons, and should have no impact on further proceedings on the merits in this Court. 26 27 With the preliminary relief phase over, Plaintiffs believe that the case should move toward

an expedited and final judgment. Defendants previously and repeatedly took the position that they

had to provide state population counts to the President by the December 31 statutory deadline. But Defendants' most recent statements indicate that they have shifted, once again, from their previous statements to the courts; that they do not view the December 31, 2020 date as a drop-dead deadline; and that they are in fact planning to provide census information to the President at some point after December 31, 2020. Defendants have also repeatedly told this Court, as well as the Ninth Circuit and the Supreme Court, that the courts can issue any and all appropriate relief even *after* Defendants provide the state population counts to the President. *See, e.g.*, Dkt. 355. Those admissions are significant, and provide the parties and the Court with some (albeit minor) additional breathing room for an expedited merits proceeding in this case. That said, for practical purposes, the sooner this Court enters final judgment the better, given the nature of the census and the proximity of the data collections and processing periods.

In light of Defendants' statements, Plaintiffs believe a schedule that moves forward as quickly as possible, while still providing for ultimate resolution by very early January, is the appropriate course. To that end, Plaintiffs propose the following schedule, focused on seeking an order from the Court on a motion for summary judgment (or, if necessary, after a bench trial) just prior, or as close as possible, to the time when the Secretary will be in a position to provide flawed census counts to the President:

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EVENT	DEADLINE
Primary Discovery Period	November 13 – December 11, 2020
Answer ¹	November 20, 2020
Expert Disclosures	December 4, 2020
Cross-Motions for Summary Judgment	December 16, 2020
Cross-Oppositions to Motions for Summary Judgment	December 28, 2020

would allow Plaintiffs to do so.

¹ As noted, Plaintiffs believe that the arguments raised in Defendants' motion to dismiss have already been raised and resolved through extensive briefing in various courts, and that Defendants' recent motion to dismiss (Dkt. 354) raises arguments identical to those raised in their Opposition to Plaintiffs' Motion for Stay or Preliminary Injunction (Dkt. 81). Defendants should now file their Answer. To the extent Defendants want to raise any further legal arguments, without fear of waiver, an expeditious schedule for motions for summary judgment

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Supplemental Discovery: Census counts/information transmitted to the President

Cross-Replies

Hearing on Motions for Summary Judgment

Trial

Provided to plaintiffs within 6 hours of any transmission

Provided to plaintiffs within 6 hours of any transmission

January 4, 2020

January 7, 2020

January 7, 2020

Defendants' position:

As set forth in their motion to stay, Defendants believe that the proceedings in this Court should be stayed until the Bureau completes the 2020 Census and the President reports the apportionment results, or until Defendants' appeal of the Court's preliminary injunction is fully resolved, whichever is later. (Dkt. 355.). Given Plaintiffs' concession that judgment can be entered after the President's report of apportionment results, there is no reason to undertake the kind of schedule Plaintiffs propose. Further, Plaintiffs' schedule does not provide sufficient time for both sides to undertake adequate discovery, such as, for example, expert depositions and rebuttal reports.

If Defendants' motion to dismiss is denied, Defendants anticipate that the Court would need to resolve whether any discovery is appropriate. And to the extent any discovery is permitted in this action, it should proceed under the normal timetables as set forth by the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure:

EVENT	DEADLINE
Discovery Period	3 months following expiration of stay (if Defendants' motion to stay granted) or denial of motion to stay
Expert Disclosures	1 month after commencement of discovery period
Expert Rebuttal Disclosures	1 month after initial expert disclosures
Plaintiffs' Cross-Motion for Summary Judgment	1 month following expiration of discovery period
Defendants' Cross-Motion for Summary Judgment and Opposition to Plaintiffs' Motion	3 weeks following Plaintiffs' filing

1		Plaintiffs' Reply and Opposition to Defendants' Cross-Motion	3 weeks following Defendants' filing
2		Defendants' Reply	2 weeks following Plaintiffs' filing
3		Hearing on Cross-Motions	At court's convenience
5		Trial (if necessary)	Parties to submit proposed trial dates within one week of decision on parties' cross-motions
6 7 8	XVIII	I.TRIAL Plaintiffs believe that, should a trial be	necessary, this case can and should be tried to the
9	Court	over a 4-5 day period.	
10	XIX.	DISCLOSURE OF NON-PARTY IN	TERESTED ENTITIES OR PERSONS
11		Civil Local Rule 3-15 "does not apply t	o any governmental entity or its agencies." Civil
12	L.R. 3-15(a).		
	XX. PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT		
14	All attorneys of record for the parties have reviewed the Guidelines for Professional		
15	Conduct for the Northern District of California.		
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1 **Branch Director** 2 DIANE KELLEHER BRAD P. ROSENBERG 3 **Assistant Branch Directors** 4 /s/ Alexander V. Sverdlov 5 ALEXANDER V. SVERDLOV (New York Bar No. 4918793) 6 STEPHEN EHRLICH M. ANDREW ZEE 7 **Trial Attorneys** U.S. Department of Justice 8 Civil Division - Federal Programs Branch 9 1100 L Street, NW Washington, D.C. 20005 10 Telephone: (202) 305-0550 11 Attorneys for Defendants 12 13 14 **ATTESTATION** 15 I, Sadik Huseny, am the ECF user whose user ID and password authorized the filing of this 16 document. Under Civil L.R. 5-1(i)(3), I attest that all signatories to this document have concurred 17 in this filing. 18 Dated: November 12, 2020 LATHAM & WATKINS LLP 19 20 By: /s/ Sadik Huseny Sadik Huseny 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28