

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

Jesus Garcia v. Mr. Hose Inc.

No. 2:25-cv-05836-JLS-AGR, United States District Court for the Central District of California (July 10, 2025)

SUMMARY

The United States District Court for the Central District of California ordered the plaintiff to show cause why the court should not decline supplemental jurisdiction over claims under California's Unruh Act and other state laws. The order also requires the plaintiff to identify the statutory damages sought and provide declarations addressing whether the plaintiff and counsel are high-frequency litigants, warning that failure to respond may result in dismissal.

CASE DETAILS

COURT	United States District Court for the Central District of California
WRITING FOR THE COURT	Josephine L. Staton
JURISDICTION	United States District Court for the Central District of California
DECIDED	July 10, 2025
DOCKET	2:25-cv-05836-JLS-AGR
DISPOSITION	other
PROCEDURAL POSTURE	The district court issued an order to show cause in an action asserting a federal Americans with Disabilities Act claim and California Unruh Act and other state-law claims, requiring plaintiff to explain why the court should retain supplemental jurisdiction over the state-law claims.
STANDARD OF REVIEW	A district court has discretion under 28 U.S.C. § 1367(c) to decline to exercise supplemental jurisdiction, considering factors including the circumstances of the case, the nature and character of the state-law claims, and the relationship between the state and federal claims.
PRECEDENTIAL VALUE	nonprecedential district court order

TOPICS

- subject matter jurisdiction
- civil procedure
- ada / disability
- public accommodations discrimination

PRACTICE AREAS

QUESTIONS PRESENTED

1. Whether the court should require plaintiff to show cause why it should not decline to exercise supplemental jurisdiction over the Unruh Act and other state-law claims.
2. What information plaintiff must provide to permit the court to evaluate the amount of statutory damages sought and whether plaintiff and plaintiff's counsel qualify as high-frequency litigants under California law.

HOLDINGS

1. The court may require plaintiff to show cause why it should not decline to exercise supplemental jurisdiction over the Unruh Act and other state-law claims under 28 U.S.C. § 1367(c).
2. Plaintiff must respond within ten days and must identify the statutory damages sought and provide sworn declarations from plaintiff and plaintiff's counsel containing facts necessary to determine whether either is a California statutory high-frequency litigant.

KEY QUOTATIONS

“Even if supplemental jurisdiction exists, however, district courts have discretion to decline to exercise supplemental jurisdiction.”

“Failure to respond may, without further warning, result in dismissal of the entire action without prejudice.”

FACTUAL BACKGROUND

The complaint alleged a violation of the federal Americans with Disabilities Act and sought injunctive relief. It also sought damages under California's Unruh Act and asserted other state-law claims involving alleged construction-related accessibility violations. The order focused on California's heightened pleading, filing-fee, and disclosure requirements for construction-related accessibility claims and high-frequency litigants.

PROCEDURAL HISTORY

Plaintiff filed a federal ADA claim for injunctive relief together with a claim for damages under California's Unruh Act and other state-law claims. The district court had not yet decided whether to exercise supplemental jurisdiction and ordered plaintiff to respond within ten days, including by identifying the statutory damages sought and providing declarations concerning high-frequency-litigant status.

DISPOSITION

other

CASES CITED

- *Velez v. Il Fornaio (America) Corp.*, CV 3:18-1840 CAB (MDD), 2018 WL 6446169, at *6 (S.D. Cal. Dec. 10, 2018)

- City of Chicago v. International College of Surgeons, 522 U.S. 156, 173 (1997)
- Link v. Wabash Railroad Co., 370 U.S. 626, 629-33 (1962)
- Hells Canyon Preservation Council v. United States Forest Service, 403 F.3d 683, 689 (9th Cir. 2005)

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