

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE CENTRAL DISTRICT OF  
CALIFORNIA

Raul Uriarte-Limon v. Castaneda Brake Motors Inc., et al.

Uriarte-Limon · No. CV 25-6539-MWF(MARx) · Decided July 25, 2025

SUMMARY

The court ordered the plaintiff to show cause why it should exercise supplemental jurisdiction over claims under California's Unruh Civil Rights Act and other state laws arising from an alleged ADA violation. The response must address the statutory damages sought and provide sworn facts concerning whether the plaintiff or counsel qualifies as a high-frequency litigant under California law. The court warned that failure to respond could result in dismissal of the action or declination of supplemental jurisdiction.

CASE DETAILS

|                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
|-----------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| COURT                 | United States District Court for the Central District of California                                                                                                                                                  |
| WRITING FOR THE COURT | Michael W. Fitzgerald                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| JURISDICTION          | United States District Court for the Central District of California                                                                                                                                                  |
| DECIDED               | July 25, 2025                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| DOCKET                | CV 25-6539-MWF(MARx)                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| DISPOSITION           | other                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| PROCEDURAL POSTURE    | The district court sua sponte issued an order to show cause directing Plaintiff to explain why the court should exercise supplemental jurisdiction over the Unruh Civil Rights Act claim and other state-law claims. |
| PRECEDENTIAL VALUE    | Unknown; civil minutes order to show cause with no reporter citation.                                                                                                                                                |

TOPICS

- subject matter jurisdiction
- civil procedure
- ada / disability
- damages

PRACTICE AREAS

- Civil procedure
- Federal jurisdiction
- Americans with Disabilities Act
- California civil rights law

QUESTIONS PRESENTED

1. Whether the district court should exercise supplemental jurisdiction over the Unruh Civil Rights Act claim and the other state-law claims.
2. Whether Plaintiff must provide the amount of Unruh Act statutory damages sought and facts addressing whether Plaintiff or Plaintiff's counsel qualifies as a high-frequency litigant under California law.

#### **HOLDINGS**

1. A district court may decline to exercise supplemental jurisdiction for the reasons identified in 28 U.S.C. § 1367(c), including substantial concerns about federal-state comity in ADA-based Unruh Act litigation.
2. A federal court may raise the issue of subject matter jurisdiction sua sponte at any time during the pendency of an action.

#### **KEY QUOTATIONS**

*“a court may raise the question of subject matter jurisdiction, sua sponte, at any time during the pendency of the action”*

*“Failure to timely or adequately respond to this Order to Show Cause may, without further warning, result in the dismissal of the entire action without prejudice”*

#### **FACTUAL BACKGROUND**

The complaint alleges a violation of the Americans with Disabilities Act and seeks injunctive relief. It also asserts a claim for damages under California's Unruh Civil Rights Act and other state-law claims, with supplemental jurisdiction asserted as the jurisdictional basis for the Unruh Act claim.

#### **PROCEDURAL HISTORY**

Plaintiff filed a complaint asserting an ADA claim for injunctive relief, an Unruh Civil Rights Act damages claim, and other state-law claims. The court identified supplemental jurisdiction under 28 U.S.C. § 1367(a) as the sole asserted basis for jurisdiction over the Unruh Act claim and ordered Plaintiff to show cause why supplemental jurisdiction should be exercised.

#### **DISPOSITION**

other

#### **CASES CITED**

- Arroyo v. Rosas, 19 F.4th 1202, 1211–14 (9th Cir. 2021)
- Nevada v. Bank of Am. Corp., 672 F.3d 661, 673 (9th Cir. 2012)
- Snell v. Cleveland, Inc., 316 F.3d 822, 826 (9th Cir. 2002)

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