1 2 3 4 5	Ellen Bronchetti ( <i>Pro Hac Vice</i> ) Guissu N. Raafat ( <i>Pro Hac Vice</i> ) LITTLER MENDELSON, PC 650 California Street, 20th Floor San Francisco, CA 94108-2693 Telephone: 415.433.1940 Facsimile: 415.399.8490 nepritikin@littler.com ebronchetti@littler.com graafat@littler.com	
6   7 8 9	Gary Shapiro ( <i>Pro Hac Vice</i> ) LITTLER MENDELSON, PC 900 Third Avenue New York, NY 10022-3298 Telephone: 212.583.9600 Facsimile: 212.832.2719 gshapiro@littler.com	
10 11 12 13 14	Laurent R.G. Badoux; AZ Bar No. 020753 LITTLER MENDELSON. A Professional Corporation 2425 East Camelback Road, Suite 900 Phoenix, AZ 85016 Telephone: 602.474.3600 Facsimile: 602.957.1801 lbadoux@littler.com	
15	Attorneys for Defendants	
16	UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT	
17 18	FOR THE DISTRICT OF ARIZONA	
19 20	Virginia Van Dusen; John Doe 1; and Joseph Sheer, individually and on behalf of all other similarly situated persons,	CV: 10-899-PHX-JWS
21	Plaintiffs,	
22	v.	DECLARATION OF ELIZABETH PARRISH IN OPPOSITION TO
23	Swift Transportation Co., Inc.; Interstate	PLAINTIFFS' MOTION FOR A PRELIMINARY INJUNCTION
24	Equipment Leasing, Inc.; Chad Killebrew; and Jerry Moyes,	
25	Defendants.	
26		
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LITTLER MENDELSON A PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION 2425 East Camelback Road Suite 900 Phoenix, AZ 85016 602 474 3600		

I, Elizabeth Parrish, declare as follows:

- 1. I am over the age of 18 years. I make this Declaration based on my personal knowledge and recollection, and, if called, could testify competently to the matters herein.
- 2. I currently am employed by Interstate Equipment Leasing, Inc. ("IEL") as Director of Accounting. I have worked in this capacity since approximately May 2006. As Director of Accounting, my duties and responsibilities include, among other things, the management of lease terminations, buy-outs, and defaults. These responsibilities include coordination of lease paperwork with lessees, administration of lease buy-outs, and, when necessary, referral of defaulted accounts to collections. In addition, I manage IEL's records and files, including those related to truck leases. I am familiar with the provisions of IEL leases and the laws and regulations governing them.
- 3. IEL is a truck leasing company that leases and sells trucks to commercial truck drivers who operate the equipment in connection with contracts with trucking companies, including Swift Transportation ("Swift"). IEL does not itself employ any individuals to haul loads or to perform any other trucking duties or tasks. The trucking industry is a competitive business, and there are several other companies that provide truck leasing services similar to IEL. Similarly, there are many trucking companies that contract with independent drivers to haul loads using trucks owned or leased by the drivers.
- 4. In order to lawfully operate a truck leased from IEL, a lessee must be contracted to drive for an entity or individual with operating authority issued by one or more states and/or the U.S. Department of Transportation, or obtain their own operating authority. Therefore, having such a contract is a material term of each IEL lease. Specifically, each IEL lease requires that the lessee contract to drive with an entity approved by IEL, including Swift.
- 5. IEL deems a lessee to be in "default" on his or her lease when IEL becomes aware that the lessee has breached a material term of the lease agreement, including failure to make required lease payments or failure to be contracted with the authorized trucking company identified in the lease.

- 6. When IEL is notified by Swift that Swift's contract with an IEL lessee has been terminated, the lessee is placed in "default" on his IEL lease. When a lessee is placed in default under these circumstances, IEL immediately sends a letter to the lessee notifying him of the default and asking the lessee to contact IEL with any question regarding resolution of the lease obligation.
- 7. IEL offers a lessee in default on a lease several options for resolving the lease obligation. A lessee may, for example, secure financing from another source and buy out the lease, in which case the truck would not be repossessed by IEL. In the alternative, a lessee may find another qualified individual to assume his lease, in which case all of the original lessee's lease obligations would be transferred to the substitute lessee. A lessee terminating a contract with Swift also may have the option to contract with a different trucking company authorized by IEL to fulfill his lease obligation. In my experience, lessees have taken advantage of each of these alternatives when leaving an IEL lease before its completion.
- 8. Prior to August 2009, if a defaulted lessee did not contact IEL or make arrangements to resolve the lease obligation within 14 days of default, IEL would repossess the truck and the lease obligation was turned over to a collections agency. IEL contracted with several collection agencies over time, including AR Systems, which it used from March 2008 until August 2009. Since August 2009, however, it has been IEL's policy not to take any steps to collect remaining lease amounts from defaulting lessees (unless they subsequently seek another lease from IEL). IEL will, however, repossess the truck subject to the default and attempt to re-lease it. IEL has not referred any accounts to collection agencies since August 2009.
- 9. When an account was sent to a collection agency, the amount identified as owed to IEL included all payments remaining on the lease. However, if IEL was able to release the truck returned by that lessee, the lessee would only be responsible for costs incurred by IEL in preparing to re-lease the truck, and any lease payments missed prior to default or due during any period prior to the truck's re-lease. In almost all cases, IEL is able to re-lease the truck, terminating any obligation of the lessee to make additional lease payments. As a

result, the collections agency was authorized by IEL to settle with a defaulting lessee for only a small fraction, generally less than 10%, of the total amount owing at the time of the default.

- 10. Most lessees successfully meet their lease obligations without default and remain in good standing with IEL. Some lessees even pay off their lease or buy-out terms early.
- 11. IEL records reflect that Joseph Sheer signed a truck lease on August 7, 2006. IEL placed Mr. Sheer in default on that lease on April 7, 2009, when his contract to drive for Swift was terminated. Mr. Sheer's account was referred to a collection agency and IEL repossessed his truck for re-lease. In accordance with its current policy, IEL has not pursued collection efforts against Mr. Sheer.
- 12. IEL records reflect that Virginia Van Dusen and her husband signed a truck lease on March 3, 2009. On January 21, 2010, Ms. Van Dusen and her husband executed a lease amendment removing him from the lease and leaving Ms. Van Dusen fully responsible for the lease obligations. IEL placed Ms. Van Dusen in default on her lease on February 15, 2010, after she voluntarily surrendered her truck. Ms. Van Dusen's account was not referred to a collection agency, and the company has not otherwise pursued collection against Ms. Van Dusen.
- 13. IEL records reflect that Jose Motolinia signed a truck lease on January 28, 2009. Mr. Motolinia's contract with Swift was terminated on January 4, 2010, at which point he owed only \$2,580 under his IEL lease. IEL repossessed Mr. Motolinia's truck for re-lease. IEL has not taken steps to collect that remaining balance.
- 14. IEL records reflect that Brian Sykes signed a truck lease on December 30, 2009, and was placed in default less then three months later on March 17, 2010. IEL repossessed Mr. Sykes' truck for re-lease. Mr. Sykes' account was not referred to a collection agency. The company has not pursued collection against Mr. Sykes and does not intend to do so.
  - 15. IEL records reflect that Jeffrey Hoffman assumed an existing truck lease from

a prior lessee on March 7, 2007. At the time he assumed the lease, Mr. Hoffman signed an

acknowledgement that the lease was behind in payments of approximately \$1500, which he would make up. He was also required to put down a deposit on the truck, of which he paid 20% in cash, financing the remaining 80% through IEL. Mr. Hoffman defaulted on his lease on September 26, 2007, and his account was sent to an outside agency for collections. His truck was repossessed for re-lease. IEL's records reflect, however, that the collections agency was not able to locate Mr. Hoffman or contact him regarding the outstanding obligation. In accordance with its current policy, IEL is not pursuing collection efforts against Mr. Hoffman and does not intend to do so.

- 16. IEL records reflect that Jason Palmer and Lori Palmer jointly signed a truck lease on January 17, 2008, and were placed in default on that lease on June 6, 2008. The Palmers' truck was repossessed for re-lease, and their account was referred by IEL to AR Systems for collection. The Palmers requested and received an accounting of expenses totaling \$5,117 that IEL required them to pay to settle the account. The Palmers made payments totaling approximately \$1400 towards that settlement, but have made no additional payments since April 30, 2009. In accordance with its current policy, IEL is not pursuing collection efforts against the Palmers and does not intend to do so.
- 17. IEL records reflect that Derrick Grogan signed a truck lease on August 14, 2007. Mr. Grogan was placed in default on his lease on October 7, 2008. IEL repossessed Mr. Grogan's truck for re-lease and referred his account to AR Systems for collection. In accordance with its current policy, IEL is not pursuing collection efforts against Mr. Grogan and does not intend to do so.
- 18. IEL records reflect that Marcus Fairley signed a truck lease on January 26, 2004, which he successfully completed by purchasing the truck on February 9, 2007. IEL provided the financing when he purchased the truck, and he completed payments on August 6, 2009, at which point he owned his truck outright. Mr. Fairley never has been in default on any lease or repayment obligation to IEL, and no collection action ever has been taken against him.

- 19. IEL records reflect that Robert Carpenter signed a truck lease on August 2, 2007, with a substantial down payment that significantly reduced his recurring payments. Mr. Carpenter was placed in default on his lease on January 26, 2009. Mr. Carpenter's truck was repossessed for re-lease. His account was referred by IEL to AR Systems for collection. IEL removed his account from collections, however, upon reaching a settlement agreement directly with Mr. Carpenter..
- 20. At no time since 2005 has IEL engaged in any collection activities on its own behalf, other than repossessing and re-leasing trucks subject to default, and it does not initiate calls or other contact with lessees in an attempt to collect any amounts due. From 2005 to August 2009, IEL sent its collections to independently owned and operated collection agencies.
- 21. Since 2005, IEL has not reported lease defaults to credit reporting agencies, although it is my understanding that collection agencies, including AR Systems, may have done so.
- 22. It is not IEL's practice, nor is it permissible under the terms of the IEL lease, for IEL to modify the terms of an existing lease without the lessee's agreement.
- 23. IEL can not cancel, place restrictions on, or otherwise impact any driver's commercial drivers' license ("CDL").

Elizabeth Parrish

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