

THE HONORABLE THOMAS S. ZILLY

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON

HUNTERS CAPITAL, LLC, a Washington limited liability company, NORTHWEST LIQUOR AND WINE LLC, a Washington limited liability company, SRJ ENTERPRISES, d/b/a CAR TENDER, a Washington corporation, THE RICHMARK COMPANY d/b/a RICHMARK LABEL, a Washington company, SAGE PHYSICAL THERAPY PLLC, a Washington professional limited liability company, KATHLEEN CAPLES, an individual, ONYX HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION, a Washington registered homeowners association, WADE BILLER, an individual, MADRONA REAL ESTATE SERVICES LLC, a Washington limited liability company, MADRONA REAL ESTATE INVESTORS IV LLC, a Washington limited liability company, MADRONA REAL ESTATE INVESTORS VI LLC, a Washington limited liability company, 12TH AND PIKE ASSOCIATES LLC, a Washington limited liability company, REDSIDE PARTNERS LLC, a Washington limited liability company, MAGDALENA SKY, an individual, OLIVE ST APARTMENTS LLC, a Washington limited liability corporation, BERGMAN'S LOCK AND KEY SERVICES LLC, a Washington limited liability company, MATTHEW PLOSZAJ, an individual, ARGENTO LLC, a Washington limited liability company, RANCHO BRAVO, INC., a Washington

Case No. 2:20-cv-00983 TSZ

FIRST AMENDED CLASS ACTION
COMPLAINT

JURY DEMAND

1 corporation, SWAY AND CAKE LLC, a
2 Washington limited liability company,
3 SHUFFLE LLC d/b/a Cure Cocktail, a
4 Washington limited liability company, on
5 behalf of themselves and others similarly
6 situated,

7 Plaintiffs,

8 vs.

9 CITY OF SEATTLE,

10 Defendant.

11 Plaintiffs hereby allege as follows:

12 **I. OVERVIEW**

13 1. The rights of free speech and to peaceably assemble are enshrined in our
14 constitutional tradition. Plaintiffs support free-speech rights and support the efforts of those like
15 Black Lives Matter who, by exercising such rights, are bringing issues such as systemic racism
16 and unfair violence against African Americans by police to the forefront of the national
17 consciousness. Specifically, Plaintiffs support the free-speech rights of many of those who
18 gathered on Capitol Hill to form what has been called “CHAZ,” standing for the “Capitol Hill
19 Autonomous Zone,” or “CHOP” for “Capitol Hill Organized Protest” or “Capitol Hill Occupying
20 Protest.”¹

21 2. This lawsuit does **not** seek to undermine CHOP participants’ message or present a
22 counter-message. Rather, this lawsuit is about the constitutional and other legal rights of
23 Plaintiffs—businesses, employees, and residents in and around CHOP—which were overrun by
24 the City of Seattle’s unprecedented decision to abandon and close off an entire city neighborhood,
25 leaving it unchecked by the police, unserved by fire and emergency health services, and
inaccessible to the public at large. The City’s decision subjected businesses, employees, and

¹ This complaint primarily refers to the area as “CHOP,” and the people who participated in CHOP who are not businesses, employees, or residents of the area as “CHOP participants.”

1 residents of that neighborhood to extensive property damage, public safety dangers, and an
2 inability to use and access their properties.

3 3. On June 8, 2020, the City of Seattle (“the City”) abruptly deserted the Seattle Police
4 Department’s East Precinct on the corner of Twelfth Avenue and E. Pine Street in Seattle’s Capitol
5 Hill neighborhood, leaving behind numerous barriers that had previously been used as a line
6 between police and protesters.

7 4. When the City abandoned the precinct and the nearby barriers, a number of
8 individuals who had been in the area took control of the barriers and used them to block off streets
9 in an area around the East Precinct.

10 5. In the days and weeks after the City abandoned the East Precinct, CHOP
11 participants occupied the public streets, sidewalks, and parks in the area at all hours of the day and
12 night. Rather than seeking to restore order and protect the residents and property owners within
13 CHOP, the City instead chose to actively endorse, enable, and participate in the occupation of
14 CHOP.

15 6. The City provided Cal Anderson Park, a public park located at the center of CHOP,
16 to CHOP for use as the staging ground supporting CHOP’s occupation of the surrounding area.
17 Supported by the City, countless CHOP participants resided in the park at all times of day and
18 night, having turned it into a tent city. At any given time, hundreds of CHOP participants camped
19 out in the park. Violence, vandalism, excessive noise, public drug use, and other crimes were
20 rampant within the park.

21 7. The City’s conduct resulted in CHOP being blocked off from public access. Among
22 other conduct detailed below, the City provided the participants with concrete barriers to use to
23 block the streets, which CHOP participants indeed used to barricade the streets and create borders.
24 These borders, at times, were guarded by armed CHOP participants who oversaw who could or
25 could not enter CHOP. As a result, the streets were barred to most all vehicular traffic, making it

1 virtually impossible for residents and businesses to access their buildings, receive deliveries, and
2 provide goods and services to the few customers willing to enter CHOP.

3 8. The City's conduct also resulted in the elimination of basic public safety within
4 CHOP and nearby areas. For example, the City enacted a policy under which police would not
5 enter the CHOP area except during life-and-death emergencies, and, even in those situations, the
6 response was, at best, muted and late. After a fatal shooting in the early morning of June 20, 2020,
7 for example, officers did not even approach the area of the shooting until approximately 20 minutes
8 after the shooting, and no professional medical response was available for at least 15 minutes. At
9 other times, even during life-and-death emergencies, the police acquiesced to demands from
10 CHOP participants that they abandon the area. The City acknowledged the serious safety issues it
11 created, in particular noting that there were "dangerous conditions" at night, but the City
12 nonetheless chose to maintain its policy of providing resources and support to the CHOP occupiers.

13 9. The City's conduct enabled the widespread destruction and vandalism of private
14 property. Graffiti was and is pervasive throughout the area—it is not only on barriers, streets,
15 sidewalks, but also on nearly every private building within CHOP. Graffiti that was painted over
16 almost immediately returned, and property owners were told by CHOP participants that if they
17 dared to paint over graffiti, their buildings would be more severely vandalized or even burned to
18 the ground. The City did nothing to prevent this conduct from June 8, 2020 to July 1, 2020, but,
19 instead, actively endorsed and supported the ongoing occupation of the CHOP area and the
20 destruction of property that accompanied it. As a result, property owners and their tenants were
21 not able to fully use their properties. Property owners and tenants, for instance, had to lock and
22 barricade their garages and loading areas at risk of having CHOP participants entering and
23 vandalizing them.

24 10. The property owners, businesses, and residents in the area suffered ever-increasing
25 property damage and economic loss every day that CHOP existed in their neighborhood, all

1 because of the City’s active support, encouragement, and endorsement of the occupation. In
2 particular, Seattle Mayor Jenny Durkan provided the CHOP participants with not just tangible
3 resources but also a de facto stamp of approval. Her tweets, interviews, and other statements made
4 it clear that the City was fully aware of what is happening, had no plan or timeline for remedying
5 the ongoing harm, and in fact viewed the occupation of Capitol Hill as something akin to a
6 perpetual block party, which the City wanted to support because of the viewpoints of CHOP
7 participants.

8 11. Plaintiffs and others repeatedly pleaded with Mayor Durkan and others to cease
9 enabling the destruction of their property and the imminent dangers posed to them and their
10 neighborhood. But the City did not listen, or did not care, and it was only after Plaintiffs had to
11 resort to litigation to make themselves heard that the City finally took action to disband CHOP

12 12. Again, this case is not about Plaintiffs’ agreement or disagreement with the
13 inspiration for CHOP, or the viewpoints expressed by the people occupying that area. Instead, it
14 is about the City’s active, knowing endorsement and support of a destructive occupation of a
15 neighborhood to the detriment of the well-being of those who live and work in that neighborhood.

16 **II. PARTIES**

17 13. Plaintiffs are residents, tenants, property owners, and small businesses in Seattle’s
18 Capitol Hill neighborhood that have been harmed by CHOP.

19 14. Plaintiff Hunters Capital LLC (“Hunters Capital”) is a Washington limited liability
20 company with its principal place of business in King County, Washington. Hunters Capital is a
21 real-estate development, investment, and management company, headquartered near Cal Anderson
22 Park in the Capitol Hill neighborhood with offices in the zone occupied by CHOP at 1620
23 Broadway Seattle, Washington. Hunters Capital owns and manages a portfolio of commercial,
24 multi-family residential, and mixed-use properties in the Capitol Hill neighborhood within and
25 around CHOP, including 500 E. Pike Street, 1517 12th Avenue, 401 E. Pine Street, 1000 E. Pike

1 Street, 900 E. Pine Street, 426 15th Avenue East, 415 18th Avenue South, 523 15th Avenue East,
2 1641 Nagle Place, and 501 E. Pike Street, in addition to other properties in the area it manages.
3 Hunters Capital has suffered economic loss from CHOP. Additionally, its property was damaged
4 and its tenants and employees were harassed.

5 15. Plaintiff SRJ Enterprises, Inc. d/b/a Car Tender (“Car Tender”) is a Washington
6 corporation with its principal place of business in King County, Washington. Car Tender is an
7 automotive repair business. Car Tender’s shop is located at 1706 12th Avenue in Seattle,
8 Washington, in the heart of Seattle’s Capitol Hill neighborhood and directly borders the zone
9 occupied by CHOP. Car Tender has been a small business since 1971 and currently has 10
10 employees. Car Tender’s shop was vandalized and broken into by CHOP participants and its
11 employees were assaulted. With access for customers cut off by CHOP, it suffered a loss of
12 business.

13 16. Plaintiff The Richmark Company d/b/a Richmark Label (“Richmark Label”) is a
14 family-owned Washington company with its principal place of business in King County,
15 Washington. Richmark Label is a label printing and manufacturing business located at 1110 E.
16 Pine Street, Seattle, Washington. Richmark Label is one of the largest manufacturing employers
17 on Capitol Hill, with over 70 employees working at its facilities on Pine Street. Due to street
18 blockages and barricades, and drivers’ fear for safety, trucks and delivery vehicles were unable on
19 multiple occasions to access Richmark Label’s manufacturing facility. In addition to its
20 manufacturing facility, Richmark Label also owns property, portions of which it leases to other
21 tenants, in or near CHOP.

22 17. Plaintiff Northwest Liquor and Wine LLC (“Northwest Liquor and Wine”) is a
23 Washington limited liability company with its principal place of business in King County,
24 Washington. Northwest Liquor and Wine operates a specialty liquor, beer, and wine store in the
25 Capitol Hill neighborhood, located on the corner of 12th Avenue and Pine Street at 1605 12th

1 Avenue, Seattle, Washington, directly across from the East Precinct and wholly within CHOP.
2 Customers could access Northwest Liquor and Wine because of CHOP and after the occupation
3 began in early June, the company's sales were down approximately 70%.

4 18. Sage Physical Therapy PLLC ("Sage Physical Therapy") is a Washington
5 professional limited liability company with its principal place of business in King County,
6 Washington. Sage Physical Therapy provides rehabilitative and therapeutic physical therapy to
7 patients from its sole offices on Capitol Hill located at 1125 E. Olive Street, near CHOP. With
8 access for clients cut off by CHOP, it suffered a loss of business, in addition to other injuries.
9 Plaintiff Kathleen Caples is the owner of Sage Physical Therapy.

10 19. The Onyx Homeowners Association ("Onyx HOA") is a Washington registered
11 homeowners association in King County, Washington. Onyx HOA is an association of, and
12 represents, the residents of the Onyx Condominiums located at 1125 E. Olive Street, Seattle,
13 Washington. Onyx Condominiums, located near the area occupied by CHOP participants on
14 Capitol Hill, has 65 units. The building suffered property damage and theft because of CHOP, the
15 value of the owners' property has been greatly reduced, and the owners were harassed and
16 threatened.

17 20. Plaintiff Wade Biller is the president of Onyx HOA. He is also a condominium
18 owner in the Onyx building. In addition to the injuries he has suffered as a resident and property
19 owner in CHOP, Mr. Biller was physically assaulted by a CHOP participant while attempting to
20 negotiate with CHOP participants in his capacity as President of the HOA.

21 21. Plaintiff Madrona Real Estate Services LLC ("Madrona Real Estate Services") is a
22 Washington limited liability company with its principal place of business in King County,
23 Washington. Madrona Real Estate Services is a real-estate development and full-service real-estate
24 management company for both commercial and residential properties. Madrona Real Estate
25 Services owns or manages over 250,000 square feet of real estate in Capitol Hill, including

1 property on Pine street and properties in and around CHOP. Madrona Real Estate Services suffered
2 economic loss from CHOP, among other injuries.

3 22. Plaintiff Madrona Real Estate Investors IV LLC (“Madrona Real Estate Investors
4 IV”) is a Washington limited liability company with its principal place of business in King County,
5 Washington. Madrona Real Estate Investors IV is a real-estate investment company, whose
6 holdings include properties located in the Capitol Hill neighborhood, including in or near CHOP
7 on Pike and Pine streets. Madrona Real Estate Investors IV suffered economic loss from CHOP,
8 among other injuries.

9 23. Plaintiff Madrona Real Estate Investors VI LLC (“Madrona Real Estate Investors
10 VI”) is a Washington limited liability company with its principal place of business in King County,
11 Washington. Madrona Real Estate Investors VI is a real-estate investment company, whose
12 holdings include properties located in the Capitol Hill neighborhood, including in or near CHOP
13 on Pike and Pine streets. Madrona Real Estate Investors VI suffered economic loss from CHOP,
14 among other injuries.

15 24. 12th and Pike Associates LLC (“12th and Pike Associates”) is a Washington limited
16 liability company with its principal place of business in King County, Washington. 12th and Pike
17 Associates is a real-estate investment company, whose holdings include properties located in the
18 Capitol Hill neighborhood, including in or near CHOP on Pike and Pine streets. 12th and Pike
19 Associates suffered economic loss from CHOP, among other injuries.

20 25. Plaintiff Redside Partners LLC (“Redside Partners”) is a Washington limited
21 liability company with its principal place of business in King County, Washington. Redside
22 Partners is a real-estate investment and management company, with headquarters in CHOP at 1620
23 Broadway, Seattle, Washington. Redside Partners holds investments in and manages numerous
24 properties in the Capitol Hill neighborhood, including properties in or near CHOP such as 915 E
25 Pine Street. Redside Partners suffered economic loss from CHOP, among other injuries.

1 26. Plaintiff Magdalena Sky is a small business owner who owns and operates Tattoos
2 and Fortune. Tattoos and Fortune is a tattoo parlor and Tarot studio with a sole location at 1605
3 12th Avenue Seattle, Washington, within CHOP. Ms. Sky is the sole proprietor of Tattoos and
4 Fortune. With access for clients cut off by CHOP, Ms. Sky, through her business, suffered a loss
5 of business, in addition to other injuries.

6 27. Plaintiff Olive ST Apartments LLC (“Olive ST Apartments”) is a Washington
7 limited liability company with its principal place of business in King County, Washington. Olive
8 ST Apartments owns two apartment complexes within and right on the boarder of CHOP, located
9 near Cal Anderson Park at 1703 12th Avenue and 1114 East Olive Street, Seattle, Washington.
10 Olive ST Apartments suffered economic loss from the CHOP, among other injuries.

11 28. Plaintiff Bergman’s Lock and Key Services LLC (“Bergman’s Lock and Key”) is
12 a Washington limited liability corporation with its principal place of business in King County,
13 Washington. Bergman’s Lock and Key’s offices are located at 1714 12th Avenue, Seattle,
14 Washington, in the immediate vicinity of CHOP. Bergman’s Lock and Key provides lock and key
15 services for residential and commercial properties, normally attracting customers from around the
16 Puget Sound area to its Capitol Hill locations. Like other small business, Bergman’s Lock and Key
17 suffered economic loss from CHOP, among other injuries.

18 29. Plaintiff Matthew Ploszaj is a Seattle resident who resides in an apartment at 1210
19 E. Pine Street. He was often blocked from accessing his apartment because of CHOP and the
20 actions of CHOP participants and was forced to live elsewhere at various times during CHOP’s
21 existence.

22 30. Plaintiff Argento LLC (“Argento”) is a Washington limited liability company with
23 its principal place of business in King County. Argento owns and operates Café Argento at 1125
24 Olive Street. Argento has suffered economic loss from CHOP, among other injuries.
25

1 38. Without any police presence, the CHOP participants organized themselves,
2 declared the area “Free Capitol Hill,” and stationed guards by the barriers that the City had
3 abandoned, thereby creating borders for the occupied area. The area later expanded, was referred
4 to as CHAZ for several days, and eventually became known as CHOP.

5 39. CHOP’s unofficial boundaries stretched north to East Denny Way, east to 13th
6 Avenue, south to East Pike Street, and west to Broadway. It encompassed the entirety of Cal
7 Anderson Park and sixteen city blocks in all.

8 **B. The Activities of CHOP Participants**

9 40. After the SPD vacated Capitol Hill, the CHOP participants claimed the area as their
10 own with a physical presence and a loose form of governance and justice.

11 41. CHOP participants have maintained borders with barriers and people patrolling the
12 perimeter, as well as vehicles parked in the middle of rights-of-way.

13 42. Many CHOP participants lived on the streets and sidewalks and in Cal Anderson
14 Park, in tents such as the following:



22
23 43. They painted graffiti on most available surfaces, and if a property owner painted
24 over the graffiti, the graffiti was typically replaced within a few hours. CHOP participants even
25

1 threatened business owners with retaliation if they painted over graffiti. Examples of this pervasive
2 graffiti include the following:



1 44. CHOP participants created various unpermitted, ad hoc food dispensaries and
2 stores on public property in front of and near private residences and businesses.

3 45. CHOP participants created a “medical tent” at the Rancho Bravo restaurant under
4 a festival tent.

5 46. On occasion, CHOP participants acted as a replacement police force, including by
6 demanding that business owners release individuals who were caught committing crimes and by
7 attempting to perform their own crime investigations.

8 47. CHOP participants occupied the streets and sidewalks 24 hours a day, and had
9 speeches, debates, movies, music, and various other activities—including, in some instances,
10 illegal fireworks shows—on the streets and sidewalks. Disturbances and noise pollution extended
11 well past 10 p.m. and typically into the early morning of the next day.

12 48. CHOP participants were observed carrying guns in the public streets and parks in
13 broad daylight.

14 49. Cal Anderson Park was one of the focal points of CHOP. The approximately 7-acre
15 park, which was ostensibly owned by the City, was entirely handed over to the CHOP participants.
16 The City supported and enabled CHOP’s occupation of the park through providing
17 washing/sanitation facilities, portable toilets, nighttime lighting, and other material support.

18 50. As a result of the City’s actions, Cal Anderson Park was transformed into a massive
19 tent city for CHOP participants, as shown here:



1 51. Members of the public could not use Cal Anderson Park. CHOP's control of the
2 park continued unabated until July 1, 2020. Local residents attempting to take pictures too close
3 to Cal Anderson Park were threatened by CHOP participants, who have said they would steal their
4 smartphones.



12
13 52. CHOP participants even built makeshift gardens on the park's lawn to grow food
14 for CHOP. The City handed over public property in the park for this use, as shown here:



22 53. CHOP's control of Cal Anderson Park was a central nuisance to local residents and
23 businesses. Many of the Plaintiffs' properties overlook, border, or are adjacent to the park. Not
24 only were those residents deprived of their use of the park, but problems from CHOP's
25 encampments in the park spilled over into the entire neighborhood. The hundreds of CHOP

1 participants in the park created excessive noise, even late into the night, in violation of the City's
 2 ordinances. Participants set off fireworks at all hours of the day and night. Trash, feces, and other
 3 refuse built up in the park, affecting the whole area. Worst of all, Cal Anderson Park was one of
 4 the most violent areas of CHOP. Local residents saw individuals in Cal Anderson Park carrying
 5 firearms.

6 C. The Effects of CHOP on Plaintiffs and the Class

7 54. The impacts on Plaintiffs and the Class were extensive. The experiences of each
 8 Plaintiff are described in detail below. However, all Plaintiffs and Class members have in common
 9 at least the following harms: a lack of public safety assistance and substantially impaired access to
 10 and use of their properties. **Lack of public-safety assistance even in life-threatening**
 11 **circumstances.**

12 55. The City's endorsement and recognition of CHOP went so far that the SPD adopted
 13 a policy and practice of not entering the area except in the case of life-threatening crimes, and even
 14 then, the SPD response was weak and delayed.

15 56. On information and belief, the SPD considered the area from Denny Way to Union
 16 Street and Thirteenth Avenue to Broadway to be a "no response" zone where the SPD would not
 17 respond to anything but the most serious crimes.

18 57. And even in the most serious situations, the SPD's response was unconscionably
 19 delayed. As SPD Chief Carmen Best explained on June 11, 2020, as she stood next to Mayor
 20 Durkan:

21 SPD has a responsibility to provide public safety services to the
 22 entire East precinct and the City. The actions of a small group cannot
 23 and should not deprive an entire segment of our community from
 24 public-safety services. In the first day of the SPD not having access
 25 to the precinct, response times for crimes in progress were over
 fifteen minutes, about three times as long as the average If that
 is your mother, or your sister, your cousin, your neighbor's kid that
 is being raped, robbed, assaulted, and otherwise victimized, you're
 not going to want to have to report that it took the police three times

1 longer to get there to provide services to them. The difference in the
2 amount of time could protect someone's life and prevent a violent
3 attack.

4 58. Recent events in CHOP demonstrate that if anything, Chief Best was being
5 conservative in her description of the public-safety emergency in CHOP.

6 59. At approximately 2:20 a.m. on June 20, 2020, there were two people shot in CHOP.
7 At least one of the shootings happened at or near the intersection of Tenth Avenue and Pine Street,
8 around the corner from the abandoned East Precinct. One of the victims died before reaching the
9 hospital. The second was admitted with life-threatening injuries. No suspects have been identified
10 or taken into custody.

11 60. Raw video streamed from the area shortly after that shooting demonstrates the
12 enormity of the risk created by the City for anyone who lives or works in CHOP. That video clearly
13 captured the following:²

14 a. The video appears to start a couple of minutes after the shooting.

15 b. One shooting victim was taken to the CHOP "medic tent" located in a
16 parking lot under a festival tent.

17 c. No professional medics arrived until approximately 15 minutes into the
18 video to tend to the first shooting victim.

19 d. No police were in the area until approximately 18 minutes into the video,
20 when cars and lights and can be seen several blocks away, and police can be heard on
21 megaphones demanding that barriers be moved to allow the police to enter.

22 e. Approximately 19 minutes into the video, a small phalanx of approximately
23 8 police officers entered the area on foot and arrived in the area of the medical tent,
24 apparently for the purpose of trying to locate and extract the first shooting victim.
25

² <https://www.facebook.com/WWConverge/videos/297548387941384/?v=297548387941384>

1 f. The phalanx of officers was immediately surrounded, yelled at, and
2 pursued by CHOP participants.

3 g. One police car finally entered the area approximately 20 minutes into the
4 video.

5 h. The police did not engage with the crowd and promptly left the area, after
6 which CHOP participants created a human chain across the street to bar any further
7 entry.

8 i. There was a second shooting victim in CHOP located a couple of blocks
9 away. It appears that no medics or police responded at all to the location of the second
10 victim.

11 j. Approximately 35 minutes into the livestream video, the second victim was
12 placed into a plain white cargo van and presumably taken to the hospital. A voice can
13 be heard explaining that Medic One drove by but did not come to the assistance of the
14 person who ended up in the white van.

15 k. Shortly after the second victim was driven away, private citizens began
16 looking for bullet casings. No police were on the scene to perform any investigation in
17 the immediate aftermath of the shooting.

18 61. On June 21, 2020, another shooting occurred in the area at approximately 11:00 at
19 night. There was no police or medic response, and the shooting victim was transported to the
20 emergency room by private vehicle.

21 62. In a press conference with Mayor Durkan on June 22, 2020, Chief Best reiterated
22 the seriousness of the public-safety situation, stating:

23 there are countless individuals who are in the CHOP that are
24 there to engage, as the Mayor said earlier, in peaceful
25 demonstrations. But there are also groups of individuals
engaging in shootings, a rape, assaults, burglary, arson, and
property destruction, and I have their police reports right

1 here. [*Holding up a stack of papers*] I'm not making it up.
2 These things have happened. We cannot walk away from the
3 truth of what is happening there. This is not about politics
4 and I'm not a politician. This isn't a debate about First
5 Amendment rights. This is about life or death. So we need a
6 plan.

7 63. In the early hours of June 29, yet another shooting occurred in the area. This
8 shooting, at 12th and Pike, left a 16-year-old dead and a 14-year-old in critical condition.

9 64. According to reports, the shooting began when "CHOP security" opened fire on a
10 white Jeep that had crashed into the CHOP barricades. Reports indicate that over a dozen shots
11 were fired.

12 65. The City did not provide emergency medical services at the scene of the shooting
13 in the CHOP area. Instead, one of the victims was transported by private vehicle out of the CHOP
14 area and to a hospital. The other had to be taken "to a meeting point with Seattle Fire Department
15 Personnel, who then transported the victim to Harborview Medical Center."

16 66. By the time the police reached the scene of the shooting at 12th and Pike to begin
17 an investigation, much of the key evidence had already been tampered with or lost. As the SPD
18 blotter put it, when police arrived on the scene to inspect the Jeep, "it was clear the crime scene
19 had been disturbed." No suspects have been identified or placed into custody.

20 67. That same night, and possibly in connection with the same incident, bullets were
21 shot into the Onyx Condominium building, with at least one bullet coming within a foot of a
22 resident asleep in bed.

23 68. Over the course of nine days, there were two homicides in CHOP. There had been
24 no homicides in Capitol Hill in 2020 before CHOP started, and in all of 2019, there were only
25 three homicides in the entire Capitol Hill neighborhood.

1 **2. Impeded access to and use of property**

2 69. All Plaintiffs and Class members did not have the ability to use public rights of
3 way, including streets and sidewalks, to access their homes, businesses, and properties.

4 70. CHOP participants regularly moved the City-provided barriers and other large
5 objects wherever they wished to block traffic, sidewalks, and all other manner of ingress and
6 egress.

7 71. In many cases, this meant people could not use public streets and rights-of-way to
8 enter or exit their homes or businesses, clients cannot visit businesses, and businesses could not
9 get deliveries. The difficulties were magnified for the elderly and the disabled.

10 72. The barriers and the constant presence of CHOP participants also meant that
11 residents, property owners, and businesses did not have full use of their property. If they could
12 access their property, safety necessitated that many of them keep their doors locked. Many portions
13 of property that were normally freely accessible—such as garages—had to be shut at all hours or
14 else CHOP participants would vandalize them.

15 73. Garbage and recycling services could not enter the area due to the myriad of
16 barricades and CHOP border guards, forcing residents and businesses to pile up refuse without any
17 idea when they might be able to discard it.

18 74. Residents and businesses in the area were unable to receive deliveries at their homes
19 because delivery companies could not or would not enter CHOP and the surrounding area because
20 of barriers and safety concerns.

21 75. Residents in and near CHOP were forced to endure loud noises, music, and even
22 fireworks at all times of the day and night.

23 76. Residents in and near CHOP did not have free and safe access in or out of their
24 homes.

1 77. Businesses were unable to operate normally, or even open, because of blocked
2 access and concerns for the safety of their suppliers, employees, and customers.

3 78. All of this is caused extensive economic and other harm to Plaintiffs and all other
4 members of the Class.

5 79. As Chief Best stated during a joint press conference with Mayor Durkan on the
6 afternoon of July 1, 2020:

7 If you have watched the news footage, you have seen how absolutely
8 devastating the damage to this neighborhood is. I can tell you
9 personally, after walking through the area, we walked the full perimeter,
10 I was just stunned by the amount of graffiti, garbage, and property
11 destruction. As we walked around the neighborhood, many people were
12 coming out of their apartments and homes and thanking the officers
13 profusely for being there and for helping to clean out the area. So, we
14 don't even know how much trauma people were experiencing because
15 of what was happening in that area.

16 **3. Plaintiffs' individual stories**

17 80. The impact of CHOP on residents, businesses, and property owners is best seen
18 through the stories of Plaintiffs, who are suffering from the City's policies every day.

19 81. Each Plaintiff and the Class has suffered—and continues to suffer irreparable
20 economic and non-economic injury as a direct result of CHOP participants' presence on Capitol
21 Hill and its aftereffects. The City's support for CHOP enabled, aided, and abetted the ongoing
22 harm to each of the Plaintiffs and members of the Class.

23 82. Although the City cleared CHOP on the morning of July 1, 2020, Plaintiffs and the
24 Class have continued to suffer harm due to restrictions in the area resulting from the existence of
25 CHOP, the continued public perception of the area as dangerous and unstable, and lost business
that may never return. Plaintiffs expressly reserve the right to seek recovery for such ongoing
harm.

1 83. *Plaintiff Car Tender.* Plaintiff Car Tender—a local small business with one
2 location—has suffered a dramatic drop off in its auto-repair business since the establishment of
3 CHOP. Since early June 2020, business revenues declined around 40% from the prior months of
4 April and May 2020. This drop-in sales actually understates Car Tender’s losses, however, as April
5 and May’s revenues were already lower due to the height of the COVID-19 pandemic. In late May
6 2020, Car Tender’s revenues began an upswing coming out of the shutdown, which was suddenly
7 interrupted by the sharp drop in customers caused by CHOP.

8 84. Car Tender’s loss of business revenue is a direct result of CHOP. Access to the
9 shop has at times been substantially impeded due to barricaded streets. Further, customers told Car
10 Tender that they would not bring their cars into the shop, out of fear of CHOP’s location just down
11 the street from Car Tender. Customers even came to the shop only to immediately turn around and
12 leave, because they were fearful to leave their cars at Car Tender’s location. Because of the City’s
13 enablement of CHOP, Car Tender is struggling to make ends meet.

14 85. Car Tender’s premises were also vandalized by CHOP participants. CHOP
15 participants tore down the fence around Car Tender’s car lot, permanently damaging the cement
16 post such that an entire new fence will need to be constructed. They painted and vandalized with
17 graffiti the side of Car Tender’s building. Car Tender was fearful that if the company tried to cover
18 up the graffiti they would face reprisals from CHOP participants, as CHOP participants threatened
19 to burn down other properties in the area when owners attempted to cover or clean up graffiti.

20 86. Car Tender’s customers were understandably concerned for their safety, and with
21 good reason. Indeed, Car Tender’s shop was recently broken into by a man who assaulted the son
22 of one of Car Tender’s owners with a knife. The details of the incident demonstrate the extreme
23 risk of harm to which the City has exposed Plaintiffs and the Class.

24 87. On June 14th at around 9:30 p.m., a person broke into Car Tender’s building, armed
25 himself with a knife and a spike that he found inside the building, and lit a fire in the shop. After

1 receiving a call from a neighbor alerting them to the break-in, Car Tender's owner and son called
2 9-1-1 and then went to the premises themselves, where they found the shop's garage had been
3 broken into. They found that the property had also been vandalized with Purell hand sanitizer,
4 which the intruder had dumped everywhere to use as fuel for the fire he had started. That fire was
5 still burning when the owner and his son arrived, but they were able to extinguish it. The intruder
6 was still on the premises, however, and he accosted the owner's son with the knife and spike and
7 abruptly assaulted him by hitting him in the chest.

8 88. Although blindsided by the intruder's sudden unprovoked attack, the owner and his
9 son were able to wrestle the intruder to the floor in a scuffle. The intruder meanwhile tried to cut
10 the son's femoral artery and landed two large cuts to his clothing on the side of his leg. He also
11 repeatedly attempted to stab the son with the spike.

12 89. After subduing the intruder, Car Tender's owner called 9-1-1 again, reporting the
13 arson, burglary, and assault, requesting police assistance at the scene. Other neighbors also called
14 9-1-1. But, despite the multiple 9-1-1 calls, the police never responded to the scene that evening.

15 90. Several CHOP participants on the street who witnessed the incident approached the
16 shop and demanded the release of the apprehended intruder. Car Tender's owner at first insisted
17 that he was waiting for the police to come to the scene. An angry mob of CHOP participants,
18 perhaps as many as 500 although possibly more, gathered around Car Tender's fence and broke it
19 down, insisting on the release of the intruder. Members of CHOP mob insisted that the police
20 would never dare respond. Faced with a threat of mob violence, Car Tender's owner and son
21 handed the intruder over to CHOP participants.

22 91. Because the police refused to protect Car Tender's property from burglary and
23 arson, Car Tender's owner was forced to sleep at the shop in an effort to protect it. Car Tender's
24 owner tried to contact Mayor Durkan's office to report his concerns as a resident and small
25 business owner but received no response.

1 92. Car Tender's experience was not unique. Other local businesses also suffered from
2 the City's actions.

3 93. *Plaintiff Richmark Label*. Plaintiff Richmark Label is a local family-owned
4 business on Capitol Hill that runs label-printing operations out of a manufacturing facility on Pine
5 Street, directly adjacent to CHOP. Richmark Label's business has been negatively affected as a
6 direct consequence of CHOP.

7 94. CHOP frequently blocked access to the 11th Avenue side of Richmark Label's
8 building, where Richmark Label maintains a loading dock for receiving deliveries and shipping.
9 Richmark Label must receive deliveries on an ongoing basis in order to maintain its business as
10 well as make shipment of its products. Richmark Label's ability to use its loading dock was
11 substantially impeded, as the 11th Avenue access was frequently blocked by barricades, or because
12 CHOP participants engaged in intimidation tactics, or because of other CHOP activities. Some
13 delivery drivers reported to Richmark Label that they would not even attempt delivery to their
14 building, because it is unsafe. Several delivery drivers who attempted delivery were stopped and
15 accosted by CHOP participants. Richmark Label's usual shippers refused to deliver and UPS
16 recently elected not to come and pick up a pallet of wine labels for shipment, one of Richmark
17 Label's largest sources of business. On other occasions, labels shipped late, incurring costs and
18 straining Richmark Label's business relationships with its customers.

19 95. The City's support of CHOP put Richmark Label's business at risk, as well as the
20 livelihood of its over 70 employees.

21 96. This loss to business is not the only harm Richmark Label is suffering due to CHOP.
22 Richmark Label owns its facilities, a historic building from 1927, on which the company paid to
23 have an artistic mural painted as a gift to the whole Capitol Hill community. That mural was
24 vandalized by CHOP participants beyond repair, whereas before CHOP's occupation there had
25

1 only been minor instances of occasional graffiti. Now the wall will have to be repaired and
2 repainted.

3 97. Richmark Label also owns a parking lot on the 11th Avenue side of the building. It
4 rents the parking spaces during non-business hours. Richmark Label was forced by CHOP to shut
5 the parking lot down because the roads for accessing the parking lot were blocked and customers
6 are and were afraid of entering the area. The company is receiving none of the usual rental income
7 it typically receives from the parking spaces. The parking lot also typically serves as customer
8 parking for Richmark Label and several of its tenants who rent space in the company's building.
9 But, due to CHOP and its aftereffects, both Richmark Label and its tenants are being deprived of
10 customer parking.

11 98. Unauthorized cars also parked in Richmark Label's lot. Richmark Label contacted
12 towing companies, but all refused to tow the cars because CHOP made the area unsafe. Richmark
13 Label called the police on multiple occasions regarding the unauthorized cars parked on their
14 property, but the police would not act. Richmark Label called 9-1-1 regarding the unauthorized
15 cars trespassing on their property, only to be told at least twice that SPD was not responding to
16 calls in the area.

17 99. Like Plaintiff Car Tender, Richmark Label was threatened with violence by CHOP
18 participants. When CHOP first arose, Richmark Label allowed a local news crew to access its roof
19 to film the protests and CHOP. SPD officers then also accessed Richmark Label's roof to assess
20 the situation, where they were photographed by CHOP participants. Those photographs were then
21 posted online, leading to a social media frenzy against the company. Subsequently, Richmark
22 Label's employees reported that they did not feel safe coming to work, because of the threat of
23 harassment and violence from CHOP participants. CHOP participants set up cones across 11th
24 Avenue, which must be crossed to access Richmark Label's building. CHOP participants stopped
25 people and required them to answer questions about who they are and what they were doing in the

1 area before letting them pass. The result is that customers, shippers, and employees were scared to
2 even enter the area.

3 100. Richmark Label was in contact with the Mayor’s office, but the office did not return
4 the company’s calls, offer any assistance, or provide any opportunity to challenge the City’s
5 decision to authorize the ongoing occupation of the CHOP area. The City’s support of CHOP
6 through encouragement and material support enabled CHOP’s threat to Richmark Label’s
7 business.

8 101. *Plaintiff Northwest Liquor and Wine.* Northwest Liquor and Wine—a one-location
9 store specializing in high-end wine, beer, and spirits—is yet another local small business that
10 suffered as a result of the CHOP occupation. After record sales in May 2020, the store had its
11 worst month in June 2020 since opening at that location in 2012. In June 2020, the company’s
12 sales were down approximately 70% from average.

13 102. Customers are unable to visit the store because the surrounding streets have been
14 blocked off to traffic. Northwest Liquor and Wine has access to an adjacent parking garage, but
15 they have been forced to close it to prevent CHOP participants from camping out in it and even
16 starting fires. CHOP barricades also meant that suppliers were unable to make deliveries.

17 103. The owners and employees did not feel safe, as there were disturbances in the store
18 and people on the streets nearby carrying guns. Northwest Liquor and Wine normally maintains
19 around 4 to 6 employees. Due to CHOP, its employees were understandably too scared to come to
20 work out of concern for their safety.

21 104. *Plaintiff Sage Physical Therapy.* Plaintiff Sage Physical Therapy (“Sage”) is
22 another small business that suffered losses because of CHOP. When CHOP started in early June,
23 clients immediately stopped coming, saying that they are scared to come near CHOP. Additionally,
24 the few clients willing to venture near CHOP found Sage’s offices to be inaccessible, as many of
25 the nearby streets have been blocked, and even on the few streets in the area that were not been

1 blocked, the City ceased enforcing parking restrictions, allowing vehicles to remain parked
2 indefinitely. As a result, there was no parking and Sage's offices were therefore not accessible to
3 its clients. The lack of access is especially hard on Sage's clientele, as many are seeking therapy
4 for injury and are unable to walk far. Sage's clients cancelled appointments because of CHOP.

5 105. Even one of Sage's patients who resides within walking distance of Sage's offices
6 was unable to access Sage's building due to CHOP. Sage has a patient who resides in an apartment
7 building inside CHOP. The patient is on crutches from traumatic leg injury. She resides only a
8 short distance from Sage, but the City enabled CHOP to place barriers across sidewalks, and
9 different barricades popped up near Sage every day. Sage's injured patient was not able to navigate
10 around the barriers and the patient reported to Sage that she was upset about not being able to get
11 to her much-needed therapy appointments.

12 106. Sage's owner also feared violence from the presence of CHOP. After CHOP arose,
13 she observed a van parked outside Sage's office with an automatic weapon in the front seat and a
14 plywood barrier and padlock so that the back of the van was not visible. Sage's owner is aware
15 that CHOP participants nearby reportedly highjacked vehicles. Sage's owner is also aware of an
16 incident involving another local business owner known to Sage's owner. After that business
17 owner's store was closed for the day, a CHOP participant demanded to use the store's restroom,
18 exposed himself to the female owner, and then attempted to assault the business owner, who
19 fortunately was able to flee the scene. These incidents of violence against local businesses,
20 compounded with a loss of business revenue, caused Sage's owner physical stress, forced her to
21 keep the office door locked at all time making business impossible, and acerbated her
22 hypertension.

23 107. One of Sage's clients reported that he was scared to come to his appointment
24 because of CHOP, but decided that because he was in so much physical pain, he needed his therapy
25 treatment. He parked near 11th Avenue for his appointment. He ended his appointment early,

1 however, because he was concerned about a passing protest of CHOP participants. Upon returning
2 to his car, he found that all four tires had been slashed by CHOP participants. He reported to Sage
3 that, even though he suffers from pain and needs treatment, he would not attempt to come to future
4 appointments because of CHOP.

5 108. Adding to Sage’s difficulties, Sage’s internet cable was cut, and Sage was unable
6 to schedule an appointment for a Wave Cable technician to come fix the internet access because
7 of the presence of CHOP. This put Sage at imminent risk, as Sage’s security cameras—much
8 needed under the current circumstances—require internet access and were therefore inoperable.

9 109. To date, Sage has lost considerable revenue from patient cancellations due to
10 CHOP, which places considerable strain on a small business like Sage. Around 60% of patients
11 canceled their appointments.

12 110. Sage employs three physical therapists and one personal trainer. Their livelihoods
13 were threatened by CHOP. Sage’s company motto is: “Unapologetically fighting for good.” All
14 of its employees are supporters of Black Lives Matter and pride themselves on providing a place
15 of inclusivity and respect. The City did not listen to their concerns.

16 111. Sage’s owner wrote to Mayor Durkan to complain about the current situation, as
17 well as the difficulties CHOP caused for many of Sage’s disabled clients. That letter reads: “My
18 business Sage Physical Therapy is located at the corner of 12th Ave & E. Olive St within the
19 CHAZ footprint. I have patients that live in the CHAZ neighborhood that are on crutches due to
20 their injuries. They need physical therapy but they can’t get to my office because they can’t
21 navigate the barricades. The sidewalks are blocked with heavy barricades. My patients aren’t able
22 to access the disabled parking and loading zones because non-disabled people are parking there.
23 People aren’t able to receive the care they deserve. The roads and sidewalks need to be cleared. I
24 would like to remind you about the Americans with Disabilities Act. Blocking the road and
25 sidewalk is against the ADA. This current environment on Capitol Hill is unacceptable!!! Let’s

1 not forget about people with disabilities. As a business owner, I feel abandoned by the city. This
2 is unacceptable. The City of Seattle is violating ADA regulations.” The Mayor did not respond.

3 112. *Plaintiff Magdalena Sky (Tattoos and Fortune)*. Plaintiff Magdalena Sky is an
4 activist and supporter of Black Lives Matter. Ms. Sky is the sole proprietor of Tattoos and Fortune.
5 Ms. Sky is autistic and has worked tirelessly for years using her unique artistic skills to support
6 and grow her business. Her business is her own safety net and primary source of income. CHOP
7 ripped that business out from under her feet.

8 113. Like many other local businesses, Tattoos and Fortune is sinking because of the
9 City’s support of CHOP. Ms. Sky’s tattoo and fortune telling services depend on regular client
10 access to its Capitol Hill studio. Tattoo and Fortune’s studio is within CHOP, which made client
11 access impossible. The barricades and encampments blocked both vehicle and foot access to the
12 studio, as well as delivery of vital business supplies, just as they blocked the roads, parking,
13 doorways, and driveways of many local businesses. As a result, Ms. Sky was forced to close
14 Tattoos and Fortune’s doors. Without clients, Tattoos and Fortune cannot generate any revenue.
15 In addition, Tattoos and Fortune suffered from the lack of trash service, access for emergency
16 services, and police protection. Even if Ms. Sky’s clients had access to the studio, many were
17 fearful to come because of CHOP. To reach her business, her clients would have had to cross
18 barricades that CHOP participants set up, where they might be stopped, questioned, and/or
19 harassed by CHOP participants, as others were.

20 114. Ms. Sky herself witnessed theft and looting from other local businesses and feared
21 CHOP participants might steal and loot from her business, should she even try to open her studio’s
22 doors. On one occasion, Ms. Sky was followed and harassed, like so many others have been due
23 to the rise in harassment and sexual assault in the area since CHOP began. The fear of violence
24 caused Ms. Sky stress, exacerbated by her autism. The City ignored her concerns, as with the
25 mental health of many local residents and business owners. Her business—her primary means of

1 livelihood—is losing all its revenue. Some of her clients may never return, as they canceled
2 appointments and began seeking tattoo and fortune services elsewhere.

3 115. Capitol Hill is a diverse neighborhood, known for its minority presence and as a
4 center for Seattle’ LGBTQ residents. Many small business owners in the area are minority-owned
5 and suffering loss of property and business from CHOP, just as Tattoos and Fortune is. The City
6 and CHOP did not respond to concerns of small businesses like Ms. Sky’s Tattoos and Fortune.
7 Ms. Sky, along with other local business owners, had no forum in which to voice her concerns and
8 try to stem her businesses losses accruing each day CHOP and its aftereffects continue.

9 116. *Plaintiff Bergman’s Lock and Key.* Plaintiff Bergman’s Lock and Key is a small
10 business that has operated on Capitol Hill since 1956.

11 117. Bergman’s Lock and Key’s employees were not safe to come to work due to CHOP.
12 Several on their way to or from work were followed by CHOP participants wielding baseball bats,
13 who threatened them not to come into the area. To protect its property from CHOP participants,
14 Bergman’s Lock and Key was forced to board up its premises. Its building was tagged with graffiti
15 and vandalized. Because CHOP became more dangerous as the days progressed, the company
16 closed around 3:00 p.m., two and half hours before its normal 5:30 p.m. closing time.

17 118. Bergman’s Lock and Key is suffering financially. Its customers cannot access the
18 store due to roadblocks, barricades, and lack of parking caused by the City’s support of CHOP.
19 Other customers are simply too scared to come, because of Bergman’s Lock and Key’s proximity
20 to the CHOP zone. Customers called citing their fears and the company was forced to refer them
21 to competitor businesses outside of the CHOP area. Bergman’s Lock and Key’s revenues declined
22 in June 2020 by 60% due to CHOP. Bergman’s Lock and Key was able to continue working as an
23 essential business during the COVID-19 shutdown, but CHOP stopped nearly all customers from
24 coming in. Business deliveries and shipments were also routinely delayed.

1 119. The City actively supported CHOP participants near Bergman’s Lock and Key. The
2 City provided cleaning stations for CHOP participants, large stainless-steel sinks, and portable
3 toilets.

4 120. Bergman’s Lock and Key tried to complain to the City, but received no response.

5 121. *Plaintiff Matthew Ploszaj.* Plaintiff Matthew Ploszaj has lived for approximately 8
6 years in an apartment he leases at 1210 E. Pine Street. His residence was within CHOP, next to
7 the Seattle Police Department’s East Precinct.

8 122. During the existence of CHOP, there were several times that Mr. Ploszaj was unable
9 to access his apartment because of obstructions created by CHOP and CHOP participants. Those
10 obstructions included people, physical barriers, camping tents, festival tents, makeshift
11 “storefronts,” and other structures on the streets and sidewalks around his apartment building.

12 123. Because of these obstructions and because he feared for his safety, Mr. Ploszaj was
13 forced on several occasions during the existence of CHOP to leave the area and stay elsewhere in
14 Seattle.

15 124. Mr. Ploszaj’s apartment building was broken into four times during the existence
16 of CHOP, even though it had never been broken into at any other time during his previous 8 years
17 at that address. The Seattle police were contacted each time the apartment was broken into, but
18 the police did not respond on any of those occasions.

19 125. On the evening of June 29, 2020, an apartment in Mr. Ploszaj’s building was
20 burglarized. Mr. Ploszaj and his neighbor contacted the police after the burglary, at approximately
21 10:30 p.m. Police told them that they would not respond to the building because of its location
22 within CHOP and requested that Mr. Ploszaj and his neighbor meet them at 20th and Madison
23 (more than 8 blocks away) to make a report. One of the residents reported to that location. After
24 an hour had passed since their initial phone call, no police had responded, and Mr. Ploszaj and his
25

1 neighbor called police again. They were able to make a report on the phone during this second
2 phone call, but no officers responded to investigate.

3 126. On June 25, 2020, a CHOP participant climbed atop Mr. Ploszaj's building and
4 threatened to kill himself. Mr. Ploszaj called 9-1-1 numerous times to seek assistance. He was
5 asked whether he wanted to meet an officer somewhere outside CHOP because police would not
6 respond to his address. Mr. Ploszaj declined and continued to call 9-1-1 several times during the
7 90 minutes that the individual was threatening suicide. The 9-1-1 operators thanked him for the
8 updates but police never responded to assist.

9 127. *Plaintiff Argento LLC.* Plaintiff Argento owns and operates Café Argento. Argento
10 suffered lost income and business because of CHOP. During the existence of CHOP, the presence
11 of numerous CHOP participants wielding guns forced Argento to open later and close earlier
12 because of concerns for the safety of Argento employees and customers.

13 128. Argento customers were also unable to access the café, or were reluctant to come
14 to the café, during the existence of CHOP, because of the numerous blockades and other obstacles
15 on the public streets and sidewalks outside the café. Customers and employees were also harassed
16 on public streets and sidewalks by CHOP participants, and employees were often too afraid to
17 come to work.

18 129. Access to the café for the disabled was especially difficult because of the numerous
19 blockades and other obstacles placed and created by CHOP participants. Argento's owner, Faizel
20 Khan, contacted the Seattle Department of Transportation about the inaccessibility for disabled
21 persons, but the Department of Transportation did nothing to help improve the access.

22 130. CHOP participants frequently came into the café in order to pressure Mr. Kahn and
23 his employees to support the political views of CHOP and CHOP participants.

24 131. CHOP participants regularly demanded to use the café restrooms and often refused
25 to leave, and on occasion left behind used needles in the bathroom.

1 132. Mr. Kahn called 9-1-1 four times regarding incidents at the café during the
2 existence of CHOP, but he was told that police would not respond to his area unless there was a
3 violent incident.

4 133. CHOP participants regularly deposited human waste and other waste on and in the
5 streets, sidewalks, buses, patios, doorways, and other areas around Café Argentó.

6 134. During the existence of CHOP, Argentó was unable to use City services for trash
7 and recycling, and could not receive package deliveries from UPS, Federal Express, or Amazon.

8 135. *Plaintiff Onyx HOA*. Plaintiff Onyx HOA is an association of Capitol Hill residents
9 and condo owners in the Onyx Condominium building. The HOA and its residents suffered harm
10 from CHOP. The Onyx Condominium's residents felt unsafe and were constantly barraged by
11 excessive noise, fireworks, and other nuisances. The building was subject to graffiti and other acts
12 of vandalism at the hands of CHOP participants. The HOA and its residents called 9-1-1, but
13 received no response or direction from the City. The HOA's insurer threatened to raise rates and
14 premiums if CHOP was not disbanded. Tenants made plans to leave, threatening the funding of
15 the HOA. All tenants have lost value in terms of property values as a direct result of the City's
16 support of CHOP.

17 136. The Onyx Condominiums are on the border of CHOP. As a result, Onyx
18 Condominium residents' access to their own homes was impeded, due to barricades on the public
19 streets. For example, the president of Onyx HOA, individual Plaintiff Wade Biller, was stopped
20 by CHOP participants at the barricades and told he was not allowed to drive through. He was
21 stopped by a CHOP participant while trying to drive down 12th Avenue to access his home. At
22 other times, so-called "security" for CHOP came to the barricades and offered to escort him into
23 the area to access his home so that CHOP participants would not vandalize his car.

24 137. CHOP participants stole an expensive compact dumpster bin belonging to Onyx
25 HOA. Onyx HOA's president, Mr. Biller, demanded the bin back, but CHOP participants refused

1 to return it. During negotiations for return of the bin, Mr. Biller was assaulted by a CHOP
2 participant who violently kicked him in the back as he tried to leave the scene. The HOA president
3 called the police, but the police did not respond to the incident of battery and assault for more than
4 90 minutes, by which point the perpetrator was long gone. Eventually, when CHOP participants
5 had access to City-owned barricades to encircle CHOP, the compactor bin was returned.

6 138. Onyx HOA was forced to hire additional security to protect the property and its
7 residents from the CHOP participants. At any time, two to four armed guards had to be present, as
8 some CHOP participants in the area were violent and armed with guns. The HOA's residents lived
9 under constant fear and threat to their wellbeing and property.

10 139. Mr. Biller, in his capacity as Onyx HOA's president, wrote to Mayor Durkan on
11 June 11, 2020, about the plight of the building's residents. He wrote: "We are fending for ourselves
12 as residents and businesses in the Capitol Hill neighborhood. We have had to hire private security
13 to help keep tabs on the escalating issues I ask that you take a strong stance and allow the
14 police to reclaim our streets for the residents who live here and don't [want] to become part of this
15 anti-police and anti-government movement." Mayor Durkan did not respond or provide any
16 opportunity to challenge the City's policies supporting the occupation of the CHOP area.

17 140. In the early morning hours of June 29, bullets were shot into the Onyx building,
18 with at least one coming within a foot of a resident asleep in bed.

19 141. *Madrona Real Estate Plaintiffs*. Plaintiffs Madrona Real Estate Services, Madrona
20 Real Estate Investors IV, Madrona Real Estate Investors VI, and 12th and Pike Associates LLC
21 (collectively "Madrona Real Estate") suffered economic loss from CHOP, including in the form
22 of reduced rents, property damage, and a decline in property values. Their tenants—Capitol Hill's
23 local residents and businesses—were also harmed and harassed.

24 142. Madrona Real Estate owns and/or manages multiple residential and commercial
25 buildings on Capitol Hill in and around CHOP. The presence of CHOP greatly reduced the value

1 or property in what was, until recently, one of the most popular and expensive neighborhoods in
2 Seattle.

3 143. A resident in a building managed by Madrona Real Estate recently called 9-1-1 to
4 respond to an incident of violence near Madrona Real Estate's building at 1414 12th Avenue. The
5 resident had witnessed from her condo's patio a fight in the street occurring at or near the
6 intersection of 12th Avenue and Union. The resident saw what appeared to be a man and a woman
7 fighting over a child, causing the woman to run into a nearby building and barricading the door to
8 block the assaulting man. The resident called 9-1-1, who took her name and number. She waited
9 for hours, but police never responded to the incident or called her back. This is just one example
10 of the lawlessness the City enabled in the area. The same resident normally walked her dog in the
11 neighborhood, but was hesitant to leave her residence. She witnessed CHOP participants openly
12 doing hard drugs on the street around her building with impunity due to the lack of any SPD
13 presence.

14 144. The same building at 1414 12th Avenue managed and owned by Madrona Real
15 Estate was broken into. It was vandalized in various ways, including by pulling out pipes. In one
16 instance, the fire alarm was activated, which set off the sprinkler system (causing evacuation of
17 the building's over 100 residents and causing flooding in the building garage). Residents also
18 reported that boxes and other items were stolen. During the CHOP occupation, an individual
19 trespassed on the property and defecated in building's lobby.

20 145. At other locations in the area, Madrona Real Estate's residents reported that their
21 condos were broken into or burglarized by CHOP participants. CHOP participants harassed
22 residents, vandalized the Madrona Real Estate's property, and left human feces on multiple
23 premises.

24 146. SPD refused to help Madrona Real Estate protect private property or otherwise to
25 help address these problems. At considerable expense, Madrona Real had to hire increased private

1 security to protect its residents and property. At the building where the fire system was vandalized,
2 Madrona Real Estate incurred considerable expense in fixing the damage to property and had to
3 pay for a fire watch to be instituted.

4 147. On the morning of June 23, 2020, one of Madrona Real Estate's commercial
5 tenants, a restaurant located at 12th Avenue and Pike Street, near but not directly in the CHOP
6 blockaded area, was attempting to access its location in an effort to try to reopen. However, the
7 entrances and stoop area in front of the restaurant were entirely blocked by an encampment erected
8 by a CHOP participant. The tenant called the police, asking for assistance in removing trespassers
9 from its private property, so that it could access and open the property. The police said that they
10 would not respond because they "are not allowed to come within two blocks of CHOP".



24 148. Clearly, the City's refusal to even respond to assaults in the neighborhood, let alone
25 take any measures to ensure public order and access, detracted from the area's desirability for

1 current and potential residents and businesses. At a new property Madrona Real Estate has opened
2 in the area with 45 residential units, only 3 have been leased. Up until the emergence of CHOP the
3 area was among the trendiest location for residents, but, since the emergence of CHOP, Madrona
4 Real Estate has suddenly had no interest in the 42 unleased units, because no one is interested in
5 moving to the area.

6 149. Madrona Real Estate's residents and tenants face other hardships as well. Many of
7 the area's millennial residents regularly shop online, but, according to Madrona Real Estate's
8 residents and tenants, Amazon would not deliver packages in area, due the barricaded streets and
9 presence of CHOP participants. The inability to purchase or ship through Amazon is even more
10 acutely felt in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic, when many people rely on deliveries to safely
11 deliver food, medicine, and other essential items.

12 150. Most of Madrona Real Estate's commercial tenants wanted to open but were unable
13 to do so, because they were fearful of CHOP, had no way of attracting customers, and/or could not
14 be accessed due to blocked streets. Unable to generate revenue, many of these tenants asked
15 Madrona Real Estate for rent relief. Many are small, locally owned stores. Madrona Real Estate
16 has been giving concessions in the form of free rent, resulting in economic loss, but even so many
17 of the small commercial tenants are still facing bankruptcy.

18 151. The City's policies with respect to CHOP have resulted in other sources of
19 economic loss to Madrona Real Estate. For example, Madrona Real Estate operates a parking
20 garage near CHOP. But, since the occupation of the CHOP area started, nearly no one is coming
21 to the area to shop or dine. Parking revenue in June 2020 was only a small fraction of the average.

22 152. Madrona Real Estate complained to the City and even sent a letter to Mayor
23 Durkan. Mayor Durkan did not respond or acknowledge the plight of the many residents of
24 Madrona Real Estate services, let alone provide any recourse to challenge the City's policies and
25 conduct.

1 153. *Plaintiff Hunters Capital.* Plaintiff Hunters Capital is a real-estate company that
2 owns or manages multiple residential, commercial, and mixed-use buildings on Capitol Hill in and
3 around CHOP. Like Madrona Real Estate, the presence of CHOP is causing economic injury to
4 Hunters Capital, including loss of revenue, damage to property, and decline in property value.
5 Hunters Capital has recently had investors back out of Capitol Hill development projects, citing
6 CHOP as the reason to withdraw. Every day the City supported the ongoing occupation of CHOP,
7 Hunters Capital incurred further irreparable harm.

8 154. Hunters Capital property and employees were also threatened by CHOP
9 participants. For example, a Hunters Capital maintenance employee was recently attempting to
10 clean up CHOP graffiti at a Hunters Capital building located near 10th Avenue and Pike Street at
11 around 7:00 am in the morning. As he started to paint over the graffiti, the worker was accosted
12 by a group of CHOP participants. The participants ordered him to stop removing the graffiti and
13 threatened to burn the building down if he did not comply. Because of the threats, the maintenance
14 worker left without painting over the graffiti, emotionally distraught due to the threats of violence
15 and arson.

16 155. Hunters Capital's residential tenants found that the area around CHOP was
17 unlivable. For example, they reported numerous noise and safety concerns. Although the City has
18 a noise ordinance, it was not enforced in and around CHOP. CHOP participants violated the
19 ordinance late into every night, even setting off fireworks into the early hours of the morning.
20 Hunters Capital's residential tenants simply could not sleep and were deprived of their right to
21 quiet enjoyment of their homes. Hunters Capital wrote to the City repeatedly, but the City did not
22 respond to the concerns or provide any recourse or ability to challenge the City's policies or
23 conduct with respect to CHOP.

24 156. Hunters Capital's residential tenants also reported concern for their physical safety.
25 Many who used the local Cal Anderson Park for recreation or to walk their pets could not do so

1 because of safety concerns and rampant public drug use. Incidents of assault and harassment
2 occurred in the area. Hunters Capital's residents recently witnessed a peaceful individual forcefully
3 removed from the area by CHOP mobs. Female renters in particular had reported concerns about
4 their personal safety, in light of numerous reported instances of sexual assault within CHOP. Some
5 residential tenants have threatened to break their leases at properties owned by Hunters Capital
6 because of the extensive problems created by CHOP.

7 157. Hunters Capital's commercial tenants are also suffering. Many reported that they
8 could not open, because they feared doing so would expose them to looting and arson. Many
9 tenants witnessed assault, theft, and looting. These commercial tenants were forced by CHOP to
10 close and board up their stores in order to protect them. Some commercial tenants physically could
11 not open under any circumstances, as CHOP participants blocked store entrances, including by
12 setting up residential areas for CHOP participants on public streets and sidewalks with tents.
13 Hunters Capital's commercial tenants are struggling. Many are small businesses and storefronts
14 that depend on visitors coming to Capitol Hill. Many currently cannot pay their rent as a direct
15 consequence of CHOP and its aftereffects.

16 158. Other Hunters Capital commercial tenants with office space in the area reported
17 that they are and were unable to come to work at their office space, because of blocked access and
18 fear of CHOP participants. Additionally, the commercial office tenants reported that the noise
19 issues were so serious that they and their employees were unable to use their office space for work.
20 Loud speeches and chanting at all hours of the day made normal working conditions impossible.
21 The vast majority of Hunters Capital commercial-office tenants report that they and their
22 employees were simply unable to come to work at all.

23 159. Hunters Capital's tenants have already begun to leave because of CHOP, and others
24 cannot pay rent. Every day that passes more of the company's tenants leave the area, at
25 considerable loss to Hunters Capital. Further, there has been no interest from prospective tenants.

1 As long as CHOP and its aftereffects remain, nearly no one is interested in relocating to the Capitol
2 Hill neighborhood.

3 160. *Plaintiff Olive ST Apartments.* Olive ST Apartments is another small business on
4 Capitol Hill that struggled because of CHOP. Olive ST Apartments owns two apartment buildings
5 close to Cal Anderson Park. Previously a desirable location for renters, life for Olive ST
6 Apartments' tenants became unlivable. The tenants were terrified by CHOP participants carrying
7 guns, in addition to the rampant violence, harassment, and vandalism within CHOP. Olive ST
8 Apartments' owner was videotaped and harassed while trying to move a garbage dumpster several
9 blocks outside of CHOP just so the garbage could get picked up.

10 161. Due to safety concerns, Olive ST Apartments was forced to hire private security.
11 Nevertheless, Olive ST Apartments' buildings were covered with graffiti multiple times. The
12 company tried cleaning the graffiti off, only for its buildings to be vandalized again. On several
13 occasions, CHOP participants attempted to break into its buildings, once breaking the lock box for
14 mail. Olive ST Apartments called the police, but the police told Olive ST Apartments' security
15 guard that they would not send anyone to the area.

16 162. The noise, including from Cal Anderson Park, also made conditions for Olive ST
17 Apartments' tenants unlivable. The company received constant complaints about the noise at all
18 times of day and night, including gun shots. Tenants left to avoid the noise.

19 163. In addition to ceding the nearby Cal Anderson Park to CHOP, the City supported
20 the CHOP participants near Olive ST Apartments by providing them with barricades, lights, toilets,
21 handwashing stations, and fire extinguishers. The City allowed CHOP participants to use bright
22 lights at Cal Anderson Park to facilitate CHOP activities there, causing a nuisance to Olive ST
23 Apartments' tenants.

24 164. Given the unlivable conditions, it was impossible for the company to rent its
25 apartments. Tenants moved out because of the nearby presence of CHOP. No new renters have

1 interest in moving to the area. Each day CHOP and its aftereffects continue, Olive ST Apartments
2 incurs further harm and economic loss.

3 165. *Plaintiff Redside Partners.* Plaintiff Redside Partners performs real-estate
4 management services to buildings near CHOP. Its business has also been hurt by CHOP and its
5 aftereffects. Redside Partners employees reported that they do not feel safe coming to work, as the
6 company's offices are near Cal Anderson Park. The company's employees report widespread
7 lawlessness, including vandalism, graffiti, and public drug use affecting the buildings the company
8 manages. CHOP participants trespassed on Redside Partners's properties, including climbing up
9 fire escapes to get on building roof tops. Redside Partners complained to the City but received no
10 response.

11 166. Capitol Hill's real-estate companies like Plaintiffs Madrona Real Estate, Hunters
12 Capital, and Redside Partners have invested millions of dollars over the years to turn Capitol Hill
13 into a desirable location, with modern condos, restaurants, and shops. They have made investments
14 in new, state-of-the-art buildings and the restoration of many historic buildings. Over the last
15 several decades, they have helped transform Capitol Hill into one of the nation's most vibrant and
16 architecturally attractive neighborhoods, a diverse melting pot for both local residents as well as
17 tourists, with the City's best boutique shopping, dining, socializing, and urban living. It has
18 fostered a livable community for many new residents and a superstructure for many thriving small
19 businesses, which employ thousands of employees from a diverse set of backgrounds. The
20 immense value and wealth this has created, for Plaintiffs, the Capitol Hill community, and Seattle
21 more generally is actively being destroyed by the City's actions.

22 167. *Plaintiff Rancho Bravo.* Rancho Bravo is a restaurant well-known for providing
23 quality Mexican food at affordable prices. Its location on Capitol Hill is on 11th and Pine Street, in
24 the center of what became CHOP. In the days following the SPD's abandonment of the East
25 Precinct, Rancho Bravo's owner and others met with city officials, including the Fire Chief, and

1 urged them to remove the barricades that had been left behind. They pointed out that, without the
2 barricades, the CHOP participants could continue their protest activities but would not obstruct
3 streets or hamper businesses. The next day, the City not only failed to remove the existing
4 barricades which had been used by police during the protests, but the City also provided additional
5 concrete barriers to CHOP participants to set up their “autonomous zone” to keep police and others
6 out.

7 168. Also, after the City’s decision to abandon the East Precinct, CHOP participants,
8 without asking Rancho Bravo, set up a makeshift medical center in the outside seating areas in
9 front of the restaurant. This “medic station” was in operation for weeks and obstructed customer
10 access to seating.

11 169. At one point during the occupancy, CHOP participants set up a vehicle and trailer
12 blocking the northeast access point to the Rancho Bravo parking lot. The participants involved in
13 placing these obstructions set up a food stand on the street near Rancho Bravo serving tacos,
14 burritos, fruit, and other concessions. Rancho Bravo’s owner met with the owners of this food
15 stand and asked if they had a permit. He was told that they had no permit but that the CHOP leaders
16 had approved their activities.

17 170. During the CHOP occupancy, Rancho Bravo stayed open, believing that its
18 property would be in greater danger had it abandoned the restaurant. Having seen the damage to
19 other buildings in the area, Rancho Bravo was concerned that CHOP participants would vandalize
20 or perhaps even burn down the Rancho Bravo building if it were abandoned. As it was, CHOP
21 participants left extensive graffiti on and around the restaurant building. Rancho Bravo’s business
22 dropped precipitously during the occupancy, leading to significant economic losses.

23 171. *Plaintiff Sway and Cake.* Sway and Cake is a clothing store located on 12th Street
24 and Pike Street. Its storefront looked out on barricades placed by CHOP participants at the entrance
25 to CHOP at that intersection. Sway and Cake had been closed due to the public health crisis and

1 was preparing to re-open at the time the protests began. However, once SPD abandoned the East
2 Precinct, and the City discontinued providing police and emergency services to the area, Sway and
3 Cake had to board up its storefront and remain closed despite State orders permitting re-opening.
4 The store feared the possibility of vandalism, arson, or other crimes. Also, the environment in the
5 CHOP, according to the store's owner, was not conducive to her clientele; rather, it was completely
6 lawless and dangerous. Sway and Cake's owner visited the store while CHOP was being occupied
7 and, when approaching the barricades, would be asked by those guarding the barriers why she was
8 entering the area.

9 172. *Plaintiff Shuffle LLC/Cure Cocktail.* Cure Cocktail is a restaurant and bar with
10 windows and a patio overlooking Cal Anderson Park from its location on Nagle Place. Cure
11 Cocktail's business suffered dramatically once the CHOP occupation began. Access to Nagle Place
12 was blocked by barricades, and the patio, rather than looking over the normally pleasant Cal
13 Anderson Park, now provided a view of, among other things, armed CHOP participants and a tent
14 city. Because of the notoriety of CHOP and the barricades, deliveries of inventory to Cure Cocktail
15 were cancelled. Without police presence, the area was dangerous, and escalated in danger as crime,
16 including shootings, became common. Potential customers no longer wanted to be near the
17 restaurant or the area. A once vibrant business, even during the health crisis through online orders,
18 Cure Cocktail's revenues declined dramatically. When interacting with Cure Cocktail personnel,
19 CHOP participants would ask questions such as, "Are you for the CHOP or are you for the police?"
20 Even though Cure Cocktail supports Black Lives Matter and other causes, it became fearful in its
21 communications with the protestors over what might happen if they offended CHOP participants.
22 In some communications, they were threatened with "exposure" over Instagram or other social
23 media sites if they did not express support for specific causes.

24 **D. The City Actively Supported and Encouraged CHOP and CHOP Participants.**
25

1 173. In the face of all this destruction, City leaders, including Mayor Durkan, embraced
2 the existence, message, and methods of CHOP and CHOP Participants. They did this with physical
3 support and extensive verbal support and encouragement that has expressly endorsed the
4 barricading and occupation of City streets and parks.

5 174. Since the day that the City abandoned the East Precinct, the City had full knowledge
6 of the problems created for businesses and residents in and around CHOP, including property
7 damage, lack of police response, the inability for workers and residents to enter and leave the area,
8 the inability for businesses to receive deliveries, and other adverse impacts on residents,
9 businesses, and property owners in the area. The City nevertheless adopted a policy supporting the
10 CHOP occupation, acting with deliberate indifference toward those suffering harms from it.
11 Evidence of the City's knowledge includes the following:

12 a. At a June 11, 2020 press conference with Mayor Durkan, Chief Best made
13 it clear that the City was fully aware that its 9-1-1 response times had tripled and that
14 there was a serious public-safety crisis for anyone who lives or works in CHOP.

15 b. On June 16, 2020, the City stated, via a press release from the Mayor's
16 office:

17 Beginning last Tuesday, City officials have been on site on Capitol
18 Hill to work [to] meet community needs including
19 hygiene, sanitation and safety. Utilities including Puget Sound
20 Energy and SPU have been able to respond to the area for service.
21 Seattle Police Chief Carmen Best has visited the site multiple
22 times. Over the past week, conversations continued between City
23 officials, organizers onsite for the CHOP, residents and
24 businesses. ... Every day, Seattle Fire Chief Harold Scoggins,
25 Seattle Department of Transportation Director Sam Zimbabwe,
and Seattle Public Utilities General Manager Mami Hara have
been on site. On Sunday, they held a meeting with onsite
organizers, small businesses, and residents to discuss proposed
changes to the protest zone.

c. On information and belief, Mayor Durkan and the SPD have been inundated
with complaints about CHOP that describe in detail the extensive property damage,

1 restricted access, and economic loss that residents, businesses, and property owners are
2 suffering.

3 d. In response to at least some requests from desperate businesses and
4 residents for her to cease her support of CHOP, Mayor Durkan’s office has provided a
5 stock response acknowledging that the City is “maintaining” a space for CHOP,
6 including by, for example, providing a “sturdier concrete barrier” to help CHOP block
7 a public street. The stock response states in part as follows:

8 Thank you for reaching out.

9 The Capitol Hill Organized Protest has emerged as a gathering
10 place where community members can demand change of their
11 local, state, and federal government. Capitol Hill and Cal
12 Anderson Park have long been a gathering place for justice. While
13 there have been inaccurate and misleading depictions of the CHOP
14 from the President and some national media, the City believes first
15 amendment activities can continue while also maintaining public
16 safety and allowing access for residents and businesses who
17 operate in the area. Mayor Durkan believes these changes can help
18 ensure any focus of the CHOP and Cal Anderson will allow for
19 peaceful demonstrations to continue.

20 Beginning last Tuesday, City officials have been on site on Capitol
21 Hill to work [to] meet community needs including hygiene,
22 sanitation and safety. Utilities including Puget Sound Energy and
23 SPU have been able to respond to the area for service. Seattle
24 Police Chief Carmen Best has visited the site multiple times. Over
25 the past week, conversations continued between City officials,
organizers onsite for the CHOP, residents and businesses. The
City is committed to maintaining space for community to come to
together, protest and exercise their first amendment rights. Minor
changes to the protest zone will implement safer and sturdier
barriers to protect individuals in this area, allow traffic to move
throughout the Capitol Hill neighborhood, ease access for
residents of apartment building in the surrounding areas, and help
local businesses manage deliveries and logistics. Additionally all
plans have been crafted with the goal of allowing access for
emergency personnel including fire trucks.

Every day, Seattle Fire Chief Harold Scoggins, Seattle
Department of Transportation Director Sam Zimbabwe, and

1 Seattle Public Utilities General Manager Marni Hara have been on
 2 site. On Sunday, they held a meeting with onsite organizers, small
 3 businesses, and residents to discuss proposed changes to the
 4 protest zone. In coordination with protesters onsite, work began at
 5 6:30 a.m. on Tuesday to remove a tent barrier at 10th and Pine and
 6 replace it with a sturdier concrete barrier to improve public safety.
 7 The City has successfully worked with protesters onsite to
 8 reconfigure the CHOP to allow for public safety and better access
 9 for the local community. That has involved rerouting traffic,
 10 freeing up alley access, opened streets, and replacing makeshift
 11 barriers with heavy concrete barriers that can be painted.

12 e. In addition to the numerous City officers listed above, Mayor Durkan
 13 herself has personally visited CHOP and has seen what is happening. In an interview given
 14 in her City offices on Facebook Live on June 12, 2020, Mayor Durkan made clear that she
 15 had seen the barriers and talked to CHOP participants and apparently approved of them
 16 using an individual with behavioral health issues to enforce the perimeter: “It’s interesting,
 17 when I was at the CHAZ, walking around, similar kind of philosophy, because there’s this
 18 one guy, some behavioral health issues, and it was like, look, he has some hard times, and
 19 he helps on that barricade over there, and then when he starts having a hard time, we just
 20 bring him over here, take care of him, feed him. And that’s what you gotta do, right?”³

21 f. On June 22, 2020, Mayor Durkan stated at a press conference:

22 Over the days, tens of thousands of people have peacefully gathered
 23 or visited Capitol Hill. During the day, there have been no major
 24 incidents. But we know it is very different at night, particularly in
 25 recent nights. The cumulative impacts of the gatherings and protests

³ [https://www.facebook.com/WWConverge/videos/250593506242797/?_tn_=-kC-R&eid=ARBT9Zl4Zd0BnqFUyG1bgaapWelo6meLrp9YI7QgilK36tLAFfNcpj4zHFTEwP0wNzoVQK7O1LPtpa8&hc_ref=ARTEZJ-MVhRABE0ZxnSxzApxaaAJVsmqCzhgB7vaP0wwkcuhf0CtwXnjqpqvqfAIKLOk&xts__\[0\]=68.ARDhXBScmD_P9GnI4X2NL4z0eUgRkuV8hj_BUWpBgtqyg133nAdZz00w2pqmYlrfVrVanpZgUlgY2rw9hbGAwTWLjcxp1fAPAVjYhDHPvEOpeSmJavdPNPPIK_wodfv_idPwOeVfsbgsB04YjUKfXfnUZvddSThmUspA_o5oqETWWFluP2oYh-IP64swtkdKoXl374Vd0zqTxRoapQChSzCt5dXTToGIW6ESVGiUVQznk42YXs8U2lpzAwJmp99RXyrNW3fSYzUcPopUKTNN-KP7EBDNdje9UibYcP84111ipRk31bjlk5XrSRcU2rjmqsdkjoOwrpoHYKssQd5Vnwe6OvBXCsgw_4ctaQKXmwUemaTA](https://www.facebook.com/WWConverge/videos/250593506242797/?_tn_=-kC-R&eid=ARBT9Zl4Zd0BnqFUyG1bgaapWelo6meLrp9YI7QgilK36tLAFfNcpj4zHFTEwP0wNzoVQK7O1LPtpa8&hc_ref=ARTEZJ-MVhRABE0ZxnSxzApxaaAJVsmqCzhgB7vaP0wwkcuhf0CtwXnjqpqvqfAIKLOk&xts__[0]=68.ARDhXBScmD_P9GnI4X2NL4z0eUgRkuV8hj_BUWpBgtqyg133nAdZz00w2pqmYlrfVrVanpZgUlgY2rw9hbGAwTWLjcxp1fAPAVjYhDHPvEOpeSmJavdPNPPIK_wodfv_idPwOeVfsbgsB04YjUKfXfnUZvddSThmUspA_o5oqETWWFluP2oYh-IP64swtkdKoXl374Vd0zqTxRoapQChSzCt5dXTToGIW6ESVGiUVQznk42YXs8U2lpzAwJmp99RXyrNW3fSYzUcPopUKTNN-KP7EBDNdje9UibYcP84111ipRk31bjlk5XrSRcU2rjmqsdkjoOwrpoHYKssQd5Vnwe6OvBXCsgw_4ctaQKXmwUemaTA)

1 and the nighttime atmosphere and violence has led to increasingly
2 difficult circumstances for our businesses and residents. Most of
3 them supported protesters' right to gather at the outset. They stand
4 with them in solidarity. But the impacts have increased, and the
5 safety has decreased. Both on Saturday morning and last night there
6 were incidents of gun violence. And that escalating violence
7 concerns me, Chief Best, residents, businesses, and the greater
8 community. All of Capitol Hill has been impacted.

9 g. At the same June 22, 2020 press conference, Chief Best stated that reports
10 to the police demonstrate that some CHOP participants are "engaging in shootings, a rape,
11 assaults, burglary, arson, and property destruction, and I have their police reports right here.
12 I'm not making it up. These things have happened."

13 h. At a press conference on June 29, 2020, the morning after yet another fatal
14 shooting in the CHOP area, Chief Best repeatedly emphasized how dangerous the situation
15 is within CHOP, stating:

16 [I]t's very unfortunate that we have yet another murder in this area
17 identified as the CHOP. Two African American men dead at a place
18 where they claim to be working for Black Lives Matter. But they're
19 gone. They're dead now. And we've had multiple other incidents –
20 assaults, rape, robbery, and shootings. And so, you know, this is
21 something that is going to need to change. We're asking people to
22 remove themselves from this area for the safety of the people. If they
23 care about people, they're gonna have to try to help us to make it
24 safe. Not opposed to anybody's issue or concern. They certainly can
25 demonstrate, you know, and peacefully any place, but they can't
hostilely take over a neighborhood and cause the crime levels to go
up like this. Two men are dead. Two men are dead. And a child, a
14-year-old, is hospitalized and we don't know what is gonna
happen to that kid.

...

You know, at this point, the East Precinct, while important to us,
what's much more important is that this neighborhood is not under
siege and that there are not people being victimized. You know, the
precinct is a building. The precinct is a building. But people dying,
rapes, robbery, assault – that is what we need to deal with. *That's*
what we need to deal with.

1 ...

2 I have said this multiple times, it is taking us three and a half times
3 longer to get here. We have a fire station that is less than two blocks
4 from here, they cannot go into this area. We have had so many issues
5 and problems. And, you know, I have the police reports, people have
6 identified as victims... we need to make sure that we are able to
7 provide public safety. *That* is what needs to happen.

8 ...

9 As an African American woman, with uncles and brothers and stuff,
10 I wouldn't want them to be in this area. We've had two men killed.
11 And we have a child that's injured from gunfire. So this is a real
12 problem. And I would question why we would continue to allow this
13 to happen.

14 ...

15 I think everybody in city government has been talking about what
16 we can do to have a reasonable response, that limits any issue or
17 danger, but we also recognize that a place where we have seen now
18 two murders, multiple people injured, there needs to be some more
19 action for public safety. I think everybody can agree on that.

20 ...

21 [T]his situation as you reporters are walking around, you can see
22 that it can be dangerous and unacceptable, and so we're gonna have
23 to work through this. This is not safe for anybody. Not anybody.
24 Multiple cases. Two murders. And it's not right. So, thank you for
25 your time. I think there will be other times we will get a chance to
talk and go over it. But, as you can see, this is not an acceptable
situation. Thank you.

21 i. At one point during this same press conference, in response to a question
22 about whether the City-provided barriers had saved lives by preventing a Jeep from
23 entering the CHOP area, Chief Best responded:

24 CHIEF BEST: Yeah, I don't agree. I absolutely do not agree with
25 that. I think that is absolutely ludicrous. I'm not gonna let the
detractors and the naysayers and the agitators be the ones who are

1 the voice here. There are people who live here, there are multiple
2 people who are being injured and hurt, and we need to do something
about it. It is absolutely irresponsible for this to continue.

3 j. On July 1, 2020, Chief Best stated in a press conference, “This order and
4 our police response comes after weeks of violence in and around the Capitol Hill Occupied
5 Protest zone, including multiple shootings resulting in many injuries and two deaths. ...
6 Our job is to support peaceful demonstrations. But what has happened here on these streets
7 over the last two weeks – few weeks, that is – is lawless and it’s brutal and bottom line it
8 is simply unacceptable.”

9 175. The extent of the City’s knowledge of what was going on in CHOP is demonstrated
10 by the following from Mayor Durkan’s emergency order that went into effect on July 1, 2020:

1 WHEREAS, after significant national attention, many protestors have left the area but the conditions
2 in the Cal Anderson Park Area have deteriorated to the point where public health, life, and safety are
3 threatened by activities in and around this area, as supported by the following facts:

- 4 • On June 20, 2020, the first of three incidents of firearms violent with multiple victims occurred;
5 one individual was shot and killed, and another was shot and seriously injured.
- 6 • First responders from the Seattle Fire Department and Seattle Police Department were denied
7 safe access to the area by hostile crowds, including armed individuals, and obstructions.
- 8 • On June 22, 2020, a second incident involving firearms violence injured two addition
9 individuals. On June 26, 2020, SDOT employees attempted to remove a limited number of
10 barriers, but unarmed employees were met with hostility and weapons. SDOT could not
11 conduct operations.
- 12 • Access by first responders to emergencies have been impeded further. On the morning of June
13 28, demonstrators moved the concrete barriers to completely restrict access of fire and
14 medics on multiple roads. Demonstrators had previously agreed to open these areas to access
15 for residents, businesses, city services, and fire.
- 16 • On June 29, 2020, a juvenile was shot and killed, and another juvenile was seriously injured in
17 the immediate vicinity of this area. Evidence indicates that this murder may have been
18 committed by individual(s) "occupying" the area.
- 19 • On June 30, 2020, SDOT removed a limited number of barriers with SPD, but was quickly met
20 with agitated opposition to the removal.
- 21 • In addition, SPD has received numerous reports of narcotics use and violent crime, including
22 rape, robbery, assault, and increased gang activity. An increase of 525%, 22 additional
23 incidents, in person-related crime in the area, to include two additional homicides, 6
24 additional robberies, and 16 additional aggravated assaults (to include 2 additional non-fatal
25 shootings) between June 2nd and June 30th, 2020, compared to the same period of time in
2019.
- Residential and businesses in the area have documented incidents of harassment, graffiti,
noise disturbances, and obstruction of vehicular traffic to residences and places of business,
and multiple lawsuits and claims have been filed against the City by residents and businesses
impacted by the activities in this area.
- Significant damage has been caused by those remaining unlawfully in the area to City
property, including Cal Anderson Park and the East Precinct facility. The full extent of damage
to the East Precinct remains an open question until city employees are allowed access to the
site in order to make that assessment.
- Open fires and vehicles on the reservoir are placing important regional water infrastructure
located within Cal Anderson at risk.
- An alarming recent rise in COVID-19 numbers across the region, coupled with a lack of social
distancing in this area, and the daily attraction to this area of outside individuals place the
neighborhood at opening businesses at increased risk for outbreaks.
- A pervasive presence of firearms and other weapons has been well-documented.
- Ongoing violations of the Seattle Parks and Recreation's Code of Conduct have been observed,
including camping and parking in the park, conduct that unreasonably deprives others of the
use of parks, disrupting Seattle Parks and Recreation business, dumping trash and/or creating
unsanitary conditions or health hazards that violate public health rules; behaviors that impede
restroom use; urinating or defecating, except in designated restroom fixtures, blocking
entrances, exits, fire exits, disabled access areas, public walkways; conduct that creates an
unreasonable and substantial risk of harm to any person or property; and abusive and
harassing behavior; and

1 176. Despite having knowledge of exactly what was happening at CHOP by being there
2 every day and in apparently constant contact with area residents and business owners, the City
3 acted with deliberate indifference toward the safety and property interests of those residents and
4 businesses.

5 177. The City also enabled the blocking of ingress and egress for businesses and
6 residents in the area, without providing plaintiffs any notice of this deprivation or opportunity to
7 be heard on the matter. Reportedly, the City reached an informal agreement with CHOP
8 participants to allow limited one-way access on Eleventh and Twelfth Avenues starting on June
9 16, 2020 (Plaintiffs were not invited to participate in these negotiations). However, as part of that
10 agreement, the City actually fortified the rest of CHOP with new barriers (again without providing
11 Plaintiffs notice or an opportunity to be heard on the matter). And even the planned limited access
12 for some streets almost immediately broke down when CHOP participants reestablished
13 impediments. The City's response to this was apparently to do nothing.

14 178. At the same time that the City has acted with deliberate indifference to property
15 owners and people who live and work in and near CHOP, the City physically aided, endorsed, and
16 actively encouraged CHOP participants to continue their occupation of public spaces.

17 179. The City physically aided CHOP participants in their occupation of the area in at
18 least the following ways:

19 a. When the City abandoned the East Precinct on June 8, 2020, it left behind
20 the barriers that had previously blocked street access and protected the East Precinct from
21 protesters. These barriers foreseeably served as the raw materials that allowed CHOP
22 participants to block streets and create CHOP within a very short time.

1 b. On June 16, 2020, the City provided even more concrete barriers to CHOP
2 participants so that CHOP participants could replace wooden barriers and fortify their
3 blockages of streets.⁴

4 c. The City provided portable toilets and wash stations for CHOP participants.

5 d. The City has provided medical equipment, including beds and other
6 supplies, to the CHOP “medical tent.”

7 e. The City provided nighttime lighting at Cal Anderson Park.

8 180. As the City admitted in Mayor Durkan’s July 1, 2020 emergency order, the City
9 “facilitated” CHOP by:

10 “* Providing basic hygiene, water, litter, and garbage removal.

11 * Temporarily allowing obstructions of public parks, streets, and sidewalks

12 * Modifying SPD and SFD response protocols....

13 * Modifying streets and pedestrian access routes.

14 * Providing social services outreach and engagement....

15 * Facilitating modified city services delivery to local residents and businesses
16 impacted by events in this area.”

17 181. The City’s policies effectively authorized the actions of the CHOP participants. The
18 City communicated clearly to CHOP participants that they may indefinitely continue occupying
19 the streets in the area, maintaining their barricades, and blocking traffic, all without interference
20 from the City. The City has communicated this message in at least the following ways:

21 a. On June 11, 2020, during a joint press conference with the Chief of Police,
22 Mayor Durkan stated: “There’s not a specific date ... because we are trying to do things
23 that are responsible.”

24
25

⁴ <https://durkan.seattle.gov/2020/06/city-of-seattle-responds-to-the-capitol-hill-organized-protest/>

1 b. On June 12, 2020, in response to a direct question from CNN’s Chris
2 Cuomo about how long the City would allow CHOP participants to continue to occupy the
3 neighborhood, Mayor Durkan responded, “I don’t know. We could have the Summer of
4 Love.”

5 c. On June 16, 2020, the City announced through an official statement from
6 Mayor Durkan that it had negotiated with CHOP participants to adjust some but not all
7 their barriers to allow one-way traffic on Twelfth Avenue.⁵ This agreement was an
8 endorsement of CHOP participants’ other barriers and its overall occupation of the
9 neighborhood.

10 d. In announcing the supposed opening of a one-way corridor, the City made
11 clear in a statement from the Mayor that it was an active participant in maintaining and
12 solidifying CHOP barriers and boundaries:

13 The City is committed to maintaining space for community to come
14 together, protest and exercise their first amendment rights. Minor
15 changes to the protest zone will implement safer and sturdier
16 barriers to protect individuals in this area, allow traffic to move
17 throughout the Capitol Hill neighborhood, ease access for residents
18 of apartment building in the surrounding areas, and help local
19 businesses manage deliveries and logistics. [emphasis added]⁶

20 e. Also on June 16, 2020, Mayor Durkan suggested that the City agreed that
21 police officers will only enter the occupied area for “significant life-safety issues.”⁷

22 f. On June 22, 2020, Mayor Durkan and Chief Best held a joint press
23 conference in which they expressed concern about the impacts of CHOP but also indicated
24 at that time there was no specific timeline or plan for lessening those impacts or removing
25 the blockades, barriers, and tents from CHOP.

⁵ <https://durkan.seattle.gov/2020/06/city-of-seattle-responds-to-the-capitol-hill-organized-protest/>

⁶ <https://durkan.seattle.gov/2020/06/city-of-seattle-responds-to-the-capitol-hill-organized-protest/>

⁷ <https://durkan.seattle.gov/2020/06/city-of-seattle-responds-to-the-capitol-hill-organized-protest/>

1 182. The City also made numerous statements indicating that it endorsed and would
2 continue to support what CHOP participants were doing in the area, thereby ensuring the continued
3 and indefinite occupation and blockading of the neighborhood, and all the damage it has caused
4 and will cause. The City’s statements include at least the following:

5 a. On June 11, 2020, Mayor Durkan posted following on her Twitter page:
6 “The Capitol Hill Autonomous Zone #CHAZ is not a lawless wasteland of anarchist
7 insurrection – it is a peaceful expression of our community’s collective grief and their
8 desire to build a better world.”

9 b. On June 11, 2020, Mayor Durkan also posted on her Twitter page: “For the
10 thousands of individuals who have been on Capitol Hill, I think you’ve seen what I’ve
11 seen: the painting of Black Lives Matter along Pine Street, food trucks, spaghetti potlucks,
12 teach-ins, and movies.”

13 c. On June 11, 2020, Mayor Durkan stated during a joint press conference with
14 the Chief of Police:

15 Lawfully gathering and expressing first Amendment rights, and
16 demanding we do better as a society, and providing true equity for
17 communities of color, is not terrorism. It is patriotism. The right to
18 challenge government and authority is fundamental to who we are
19 as Americans. . . . And for the thousands of individuals who’ve been
20 on Capitol Hill, many of them, what you’ll see is a painting of
21 Black Lives Matter along Pine Street. Food trucks, spaghetti
22 potlucks, teach-ins, movies, free granola bars

23 d. During the same press conference on June 11, 2020, Mayor Durkan also
24 stated:

25 The Capitol Hill area—in fact, some of my family is up there right
now—... it is not an armed ANTIFA militia no-go zone. It is, a
number of people are there, we’ve had ongoing communications
with them, with the businesses, with the residents, and we will
make sure that we find some way for people to continue to protest
peacefully while also getting ingress and egress. We’ve had blocks
of Seattle in Capitol Hill shut down every summer for everything
from Block Party to Pride. This is not really that much of an

1 operational challenge. But we want to make sure that the businesses
2 and residents feel safe and we'll continue to move that forward.

3 e. During her Facebook Live interview, Mayor Durkan also stated "I was up
4 there today, walking around, talking to people, and I think we just have to continue to
5 listen to people and figure out a way that there's still a way for people to have that kind
6 of free expression, but we need to open up the streets, too, at least 12th so we can get
7 fire through, and like that, so we're going to keep talking to people and listening to
8 them. But I heard a lot of great ideas and I heard a lot of community strength there.
9 That was cool."

10 f. Also on June 12, 2020, during her interview with CNN's Chris Cuomo,
11 Mayor Durkan said, "We've got four blocks in Seattle that just saw pictures of that is
12 more like a block party atmosphere. It's not an armed takeover. It's not a military junta.
13 We will – we will make sure that we can restore this. But we have block parties and
14 the like in this part of Seattle all the time. It's known for that."

15 g. On June 12, 2020, Mayor Durkan endorsed the gardens being planted in Cal
16 Anderson Park on Twitter: "Earlier today I visited the #CHAZ and met Marcus
17 Henderson, the person behind the new community garden popping up in Cal Anderson
18 Park. Read more about Marcus and the work that's gone into creating the gardens:
19 thestanger.com/slog/2020/06/1."

20 h. Mayor Durkan also tweeted on June 12, 2020: "For as long as I can
21 remember, Capitol Hill has been autonomous – it's been a place where people go to
22 express themselves freely. Today at the #CHAZ, I spoke with organizers and
23 community about how we can move forward and keep our communities safe, together."
24
25

1 i. Mayor Durkan tweeted on June 16, 2020: “The #CHOP has emerged as a
2 gathering place for community to demand change of their local, state, and federal
3 government.”

4 j. On June 19, 2020, Mayor Durkan officially declared that there was no
5 longer a state of emergency in the City because “demonstrations since that day have
6 been and continue be largely peaceful.”

7 k. On June 21, 2020, after two people were shot in CHOP and one of them
8 died, Mayor Durkan issued a statement indicating that the City still had no plans to
9 cease supporting CHOP and that the City was instead acting to work with and preserve
10 CHOP.

11 183. The City changed its tone after it learned that this lawsuit would be filed, and
12 especially after Plaintiffs filed their first complaint. This included finally clearing CHOP of
13 barricades and CHOP participants on July 1, 2020, in the face of an impending motion for a
14 temporary restraining order. But the City’s earlier assistance and endorsement of CHOP and
15 CHOP participants caused, and continue to cause, harm to Plaintiffs and the Class that would not
16 have occurred absent the City’s actions.

17 184. The clearing of the area on July 1, 2020, was easily and accomplished without
18 violence on either side, demonstrating that the City could have and should have cleared the area
19 far earlier.

20 **V. CLASS ALLEGATIONS**

21 185. Plaintiffs seek to certify a class of similarly situated persons pursuant to Fed. R.
22 Civ. Proc. 23(b)(2) and/or 23(b)(3).

23 186. The Class is hereby defined as follows: All persons or entities who own property
24 in, have a business in, or reside in the area in the City of Seattle bounded by the following streets:
25 Denny Way, Union Street, Thirteenth Avenue, and East Broadway. This definition excludes the

1 City of Seattle and any departments or agencies of the City of Seattle, including the Seattle Police
2 Department.

3 187. The definition of the Class is unambiguous. Plaintiffs are members of the Class,
4 and all members of the Class can be identified through public records and notified by mail or other
5 means of notification.

6 188. The number of Class members makes joinder impractical. Plaintiffs do not know
7 the exact number of members in the Class, but believe the total number of businesses, residents,
8 and property owners in the Class to be in the thousands.

9 189. There are numerous questions of law and fact common to the Class that
10 predominate over any individual issues. These issues include the following:

- 11 a. Whether the City has participated in, endorsed, or encouraged the creation,
12 maintenance, and continued existence of CHOP.
- 13 b. All facts regarding the existence and maintenance of CHOP including at least
14 the following:
- 15 i. The boundaries and nature of the SPD's "no-go" zone in and
16 around CHOP.
 - 17 ii. All facts and circumstances surrounding the City's
18 participation in, endorsement of, or encouragement of the
19 creation, maintenance, and continued existence of CHOP.
 - 20 iii. The nature and scope of activities of CHOP participants.
- 21 c. Whether Plaintiffs and the Class have legally protected constitutional property
22 rights.
- 23 d. Whether the City has infringed on those property rights by its actions with
24 regard to CHOP.
- 25

- e. Whether the City was required to provide notice and a hearing to Class members before infringing on those property rights.
- f. Whether CHOP and CHOP participants are a nuisance within the meaning of RCW 7.48.010, et seq.
- g. Whether the City has participated in the maintenance of that nuisance.
- h. Whether the City has acted with deliberate indifference toward Plaintiffs and the Class.
- i. Whether the harm suffered by Plaintiffs and the Class was foreseeable and obvious.
- j. Whether the City's actions constitute an unlawful gift within the meaning of the Washington Constitution.
- k. Whether Plaintiffs and the Class have suffered a taking without just compensation.
- l. Whether the City has treated the Class differently from others similarly situated in violation of the Equal Protection Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution.
- m. Whether the City's actions were pursuant to a City policy.
- n. Whether the City's actions were ratified by a City policymaker.
- o. Whether Plaintiffs and the Class are entitled to injunctive relief.

190. The claims of the Plaintiffs are typical of the members of the Class. All Plaintiffs reside in the Class and have been subject to the same course of conduct by the City.

191. The Plaintiffs will fairly and adequately represent the Class. Plaintiffs are all members of the Class and there are no conflicts between Plaintiffs and other Class members. Plaintiffs are well-informed as to the nature of this case and the claims against the City and have retained competent and experienced counsel that intend to prosecute this action vigorously.

1 195. Plaintiffs incorporate all other allegations in this complaint as if set forth herein.

2 196. Plaintiffs and the Class have constitutionally protected property interests, as
3 defined by Washington state law, to exclude others from their property, to the use and quiet
4 enjoyment of their property, and to access their property via public rights-of-way.

5 197. The City has infringed on those constitutionally protected interests, including by
6 (1) creating, assisting, endorsing, and encouraging an indefinite, unpermitted occupation and
7 blockade of the public streets, sidewalks, and parks in and around CHOP, thereby denying
8 Plaintiffs access to their properties, and (2) creating, assisting, endorsing, and encouraging the
9 pervasive vandalism and trespasses against Plaintiffs' properties, thereby denying Plaintiffs the
10 ability to use their properties and exclude others from them.

11 198. Plaintiffs and the Class also have constitutionally protected liberty interests in the
12 fundamental right of free movement and the right to remain in a public place of one's choosing.

13 199. The City has infringed on those constitutionally protected liberty interests through
14 its CHOP policies, including by, among other conduct as alleged throughout this Complaint,
15 granting *de facto* autonomy over the CHOP area to the CHOP participants and allowing them to
16 determine who could and could not travel through and within the CHOP area.

17 200. The City has infringed on Plaintiffs' constitutionally protected interests without
18 providing Plaintiffs with any due process before depriving them of these interests, or providing
19 any recourse following the deprivation of the interests. In particular, the City provided Plaintiffs
20 with no notice or opportunity to be heard before or after depriving Plaintiffs of the freedom of
21 movement, the right to access their properties, the right to use their properties, and the right to
22 exclude others from their properties,

23 201. The City has done so pursuant to City policy as created, ratified, and authorized by
24 City policymakers, including Mayor Durkan, without any notice to Plaintiffs or opportunity for
25 them to be heard.

1 202. As a direct result of the City's actions, Plaintiffs and the Class have been denied
2 regular and customary use of, access to, and enjoyment of their property, including the ability to
3 drive or park in CHOP, the ability to walk to their homes or business without obstruction, the
4 ability to accept deliveries to their homes or business, the ability to prevent and remedy vandalism,
5 the ability to prevent trespasses and theft against their properties, the ability to freely move about,
6 and the ability to remain in a public place of one's choosing.

7 203. Plaintiffs and the Class have been harmed by this deprivation, including through
8 loss of revenue, loss of property value, damages to property, and other damages.

9 **SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION – SUBSTANTIVE DUE PROCESS**

10 42 U.S.C. § 1983

11 U.S. Const. amend XIV § 1

12 On behalf of Plaintiffs and the Class

13 204. Plaintiffs incorporate all other allegations in this complaint as if set forth fully
14 herein.

15 205. Plaintiffs have a right pursuant to substantive due process to be protected from
16 state-created dangers.

17 206. The City's actions, assistance, endorsements, and encouragements of CHOP and
18 CHOP participants greatly increased the likelihood of property damage, loss of business revenue
19 and rental income, personal injury, loss of use of property, and other damages to Plaintiffs. This
20 subjected Plaintiffs and the Class to harm that they not would have suffered absent the City's
21 actions.

22 207. All damages suffered, and still to be suffered, by Plaintiffs were and are
23 foreseeable, known, and obvious.

24 208. The City acted with deliberate indifference to the known and obvious harm that
25 would be suffered by Plaintiffs.

1 **FIFTH CAUSE OF ACTION – EQUAL PROTECTION**

2 42 U.S.C. § 1983

3 U.S. Const. amend. XIV § 1

4 On behalf of Plaintiffs and the Class

5 216. Plaintiffs incorporate all other allegations in this complaint.

6 217. The City repeatedly expressed support for and endorsed the political message of
7 the CHOP participants, which includes calls for autonomy from City services like the police.

8 218. To further promote the political viewpoints of the CHOP participants, the City
9 endorsed the actions of the CHOP participants and provided support for the CHOP participants to
10 occupy the streets, sidewalks, and other public and private spaces throughout the CHOP area, even
11 though the CHOP participants lacked the permit that the City’s Municipal Code requires for events
12 of this type. *See* Seattle Municipal Code Chapter 15.52. Moreover, the City entirely ignored the
13 provisions of the Seattle Municipal Code that *require* the City to “designate an alternate proposal”
14 where, as here, a demonstration “would unreasonably disrupt the orderly or safe circulation of
15 traffic; would present an unreasonable danger to the health or safety, or present an unreasonable
16 risk of injury, to the public, the participants, or City employees; or would present an unreasonable
17 risk of damage to property.” *See* Seattle Municipal Code 15.52.060 (providing that the City “*shall*
18 designate an alternate proposal” (emphasis added)).

19 219. Moreover, in addition to providing material support and encouragement to the
20 CHOP participants, the City supported the CHOP participants by declining to provide police
21 protection in areas occupied by CHOP participants; declining to enforce criminal laws against
22 CHOP participants; declining to enforce zoning and nuisance laws against CHOP participants; and
23 refusing to respond to 9-1-1 calls or otherwise provide emergency services to areas occupied by
24 CHOP participants.

1 220. Meanwhile, the City continued to provide police protection to areas not occupied
2 by CHOP participants; continued to enforce criminal laws outside of the CHOP area; continued to
3 enforce zoning and nuisance laws outside of the CHOP area; and continued to enforce protest-
4 permit requirements and other time, place, and manner restrictions outside of the CHOP area.

5 221. This difference between how the City treated areas occupied by CHOP versus other
6 areas of the City amounted to preferential treatment for the CHOP participants based on the
7 political viewpoints they were expressing.

8 222. In other words, because the City favored the CHOP participants' viewpoints, the
9 City granted the CHOP participants *de facto* autonomy over the CHOP area and *de facto* immunity
10 from law enforcement, all while continuing to exercise governmental authority elsewhere in the
11 City and continuing to enforce the law against everyone else.

12 223. The City's policy of granting the CHOP participants *de facto* autonomy and *de*
13 *facto* immunity from law enforcement amounts to discrimination on the basis of political speech,
14 and was not narrowly tailored to serve any substantial, legitimate government objective.

15 224. As a result of the City's awarding the CHOP participants *de facto* autonomy over
16 the CHOP area, Plaintiffs' rights to freely express their own viewpoints, including any viewpoints
17 contrary to those of the CHOP participants, were severely restricted. CHOP participants regularly
18 threatened, bullied, and even assaulted individuals whom they suspected might hold viewpoints
19 contrary to their own, and the City's policies allowed them to do so with impunity. CHOP
20 participants even threatened violence against individuals taking pictures in public places and
21 property owners painting over graffiti on their own buildings.

22 225. Even if the City's conduct and policies were not discriminatory on the basis of
23 political speech, the City's policies and conduct were irrational and arbitrary.

24 226. For instance, the City's policy of refusing to respond to 9-1-1 calls from the CHOP
25 area, while continuing to respond to 9-1-1 calls and provide emergency services elsewhere in the

1 City, was irrational because any obstructions or dangers to providing services within CHOP were
2 created and maintained by the City's own policy of supporting and endorsing the actions of the
3 CHOP participants.

4 227. Moreover, the policy was arbitrary because City continued to respond to 9-1-1 calls
5 and provide emergency services outside of the CHOP area, including in similarly dangerous
6 situations. For example, while CHOP was still ongoing, the City provided emergency response
7 services in the following dangerous situations, among many others:

- 8 a. In North Seattle on June 29, police reportedly responded to “[a] 911 call with
9 yelling in the background and a report of a man with a gun.”⁸ Medics
10 responded to the scene as well.
- 11 b. In Wallingford on June 24, Seattle Police Department officers responded to
12 reports of a man in crisis and armed with a knife and took the suspect into
13 custody.⁹
- 14 c. On June 24, the Seattle Fire Department responded to reports of a gas leak near
15 the 5000 block of 14th Avenue NW.¹⁰
- 16 d. On June 22, the Seattle Fire Department responded to reports of toxic fumes
17 in a building at the 10300 block of Meridian Ave N.¹¹

18 228. Through the above-alleged conduct, the City has violated the Equal Protection
19 Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution.

20 229. The City did so pursuant to City policy as created and ratified by City policymakers,
21 including Mayor Durkan.

22 230. Plaintiffs and the Class have been harmed by this denial of equal protection,
23 including through loss of revenue, loss of property value, damages to property, and other damages.

24 _____
25 ⁸ <https://spdblotter.seattle.gov/2020/06/29/man-kills-woman-in-domestic-violence-incident-in-north-seattle/>

⁹ <https://twitter.com/SeattlePD/status/1275883690229329920>

¹⁰ <https://twitter.com/SeattleFire/status/1275842278821523456>

¹¹ <https://twitter.com/SeattleFire/status/1275122174630608897>

1 **VII. JURY DEMAND**

2 Plaintiffs demand a trial by jury.

3 **VIII. PRAYER FOR RELIEF**

4 WHEREFORE, Plaintiffs request the following relief:

- 5 A. Judgment in favor of Plaintiffs and against Defendant for actual damages in an
6 amount to be proven at trial;
- 7 B. Prejudgment interest at the maximum rate allowed by law;
- 8 C. Plaintiffs' costs of investigation, costs of suit, and reasonable attorneys' fees; and
- 9 D. All such other and further monetary, injunctive, and declaratory relief as the Court
10 may deem just and proper.

11 DATED this 10th day of July, 2020.

12 CALFO EAKES LLP

13 By /s/ Patty A. Eakes

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