Case 4:16-cv-03362 Document 1 Filed in TXSD on 04/04/13 Page 1 of 11 Marc E. Angelucci, Esq. (SBN 211291) ì LAW OFFICE OF MARC E. ANGLEUCCI 2 11734 Wilshire Blvd., Stc. C903 3 Los Angeles, CA 90025 Telephone: (626) 319-3081 4 Facsimile: (626) 236-4127 Email: marc.angelucci@yahoo.com 5 6 Attorney for Plaintiffs the National Coalition for Men and James Lesmeister 7 8 9 IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT 10 11 FOR THE CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA NATIONAL COALITION FOR MENC MALES ON 239 1 TSF (MANX 12 JAMES LESMEISTER, Individually and on 13 behalf of others similarly situated. FOR INJUNCTIVE AND DECLARATORY 14 RELIEF PLAINTIFFS. 15 ٧. JURY TRIAL DEMANDED 16 SELECTIVE SERVICE SYSTEM: LAWRENCE 17 ROMO, as Director of SELECTIVE SERVICE SYSTEM; and DOES 1 through 10, 18 Inclusive, 19 DEFENDANTS. 20 21 Plaintiffs National Coalition For Men (hereinafter "NCFM") and James Lesmeister 22 (hereinafter "Lesmeister"), both collectively hereinafter "Plaintiffs," bring this complaint against 23 Defendants Selective Service System (hereinafter "SSS") and its Director Lawrence G. Romo. 24 collectively hereinafter ("Defendants"). Plaintiffs request injunctive and declaratory relief for 25 26 Defendants to treat women and men equally by requiring both women and men to register for the U.S. 27 military draft. Secretary of Defense Leon Panetta's announcement in January of 2013, lifting the ban 28

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on women serving in combat for the U.S. military, will remove the only legal impediment to requiring women to register for the draft. Plaintiffs' allegations are based upon information and belief and upon investigation of Plaintiffs' counsel.

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

- 1. Plaintiffs bring this action under the Fifth and Fourteenth Amendments of the United States Constitution, and United States Code, Title 28, Section 1983 to challenge Defendants' sex discrimination against males in Defendants' Selective Service System, which requires only males register for the draft into the branches of the U.S. military.
- 2. This Court has jurisdiction pursuant to the following statutes:

- a. 28 U.S.C. § 1331, which gives district courts original jurisdiction over civil actions arising under the Constitution, laws, or treaties of the United States.
- b. 28 U.S.C. § 1343 (3) and (4), which give district courts original jurisdiction over actions to secure civil rights extended by the United States government.
- 3. Venue is appropriate in this judicial district under 28 U.S.C. § 1391(b) because the events giving rise to this Complaint occurred in this District, or a substantial part of property that is the subject of the action is situated in this District.
- 4. No other forum would be more convenient for the parties and witnesses to litigate this action.

PARTIES

- Plaintiff NCFM is a non-profit, 501(c)(3) educational and civil rights corporation organized under the laws of the State of California and of the United States.
- 6. NCFM is registered with the Combined Federal Campaign for non-profit organizations.
- 7. NCFM is the oldest organization in the world that advocates for equal rights for men and women.

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- NCFM was established in 1976 to examine how sex discrimination adversely affects males in military conscription, child custody laws, parenting rights, domestic violence services, family law, paternity laws, criminal sentencing, public benefits, education, occupations that are not traditionally male (nursing, school teachers, etc.), and other areas. NCFM assisted the California Legislature in enacting legislation to protect men from paternity fraud, and helped overturn unconstitutional laws that discriminated against male victims of domestic violence in California in Woods v. Horton (2008) 167 Cal.App.4th 658. NCFM members were the prevailing appellants and attorney in the landmark California Supreme Court case of Angelucci v. Century Supper Club (2007) 41 Cal.4th 160, which held that women, people of color, gays and lesbians, and other groups that California businesses discriminated against based on protected personal characteristics did not have to first assert their right to equal treatment to an offending business in order to have standing to sue for unlawful discrimination under California's Unruh Civil Rights Act.
- 9. NCFM has organizational standing because NCFM members would otherwise have standing to sue in their own right, the interests NCFM seeks to protect are germane to NCFM's purpose and neither the claim asserted, nor the relief requested, requires the participation of individual NCFM members in this lawsuit. NCFM's membership is comprised mostly of males, many of them ages 18-25 or who will be age 18-25 at some time relative to this lawsuit and the relief it seeks, and many of whom have children or other loved ones who are male and are ages 18-25, and all of whom are members of NCFM because they support equal treatment of males and females.
- 10. Plaintiff Lesmeister is an 18-year-old male resident and U.S. citizen residing near Houston, Texas.
 Lesmeister is in the age group required by Defendants to register for the military draft and has recently registered for the military draft as is required of him as a male.

11. Defendant SSS is an independent agency within the Executive Branch of the Federal Government of the United States of America. The SSS collects and maintains information on men potentially subject to military conscription. Male U.S. citizens and male immigrant non-citizens between the ages of 18 and 25, are all required by law to register with the SSS within thirty days of their 18th birthdays and must notify the SSS within ten days of any changes to any of the information they provided on their registration cards, such as a change of address. A 2010 report by the General Accounting Office estimated the SSS's registration rate at 92%, with the names and addresses of over 16.2 million men on file. The SSS provides the names of all registrants to the Joint Advertising Marketing Research & Studies ("JAMRS") program for inclusion in the JAMRS Consolidated Recruitment Database. The names are distributed to various government agencies for recruiting purposes on a quarterly basis.

- 12. Defendant, Lawrence G. Romo, is Director of the SSS. The Director of SSS is appointed by the President of the United States of America and confirmed by the Senate.
- 13. Defendants DOES 1 through 50 are sued as fictitious entities at this time and will be added to this Complaint by amendment when their true names are ascertained.
- 14. Plaintiffs are informed and believe and thereon allege that each of the Defendants is responsible and liable for the illegal and unconstitutional acts alleged herein.
- 15. There is no other civil action between these parties arising out of the same transaction or occurrence as alleged in this Complaint pending in this Court, nor has any such action been previously filed and dismissed or transferred after having been assigned to a judge.

GENERAL ALLEGATIONS

16. Plaintiffs re-allege each allegation set forth above.

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- 17. Within the past three years, Defendants have been and are enacting, implementing, and/or administering laws, rules, and public policies, which discriminate against males by requiring only males to register for the draft under the SSS program.
- 18. The above-referenced discriminatory laws and policies violate the rights of Plaintiffs and other qualifying men in the United States under the 5TH and 14th Amendments of the United States Constitution and United States Code, Title 28, Section 1983. Men failing to register with SSS can be fined \$250,000, sentenced to five years in prison, and be disqualified from a number of federal and state benefits including: jobs, financial aid, citizenship, and job training.
- 19. In the 1981 U.S. Supreme Court decision of Rostker v. Goldberg, 453 U.S. 57 (1981), the Court held that women did not have to register with the SSS for the military draft because women were excluded from combat, therefore, men and women were not similarly situated,. However, in January of 2013, U.S. Secretary of Defense Leon Panetta announced that women will be allowed to enter all combat positions in all branches of the U.S. military.
- 20. Therefore, the sole legal basis for requiring only males to register with the SSS for the military draft no longer applies, and Defendants should now treat men and women equally.
- 21. A USA Today article on Secretary Panetta's announcement ending the military's ban on women in combat read, "Women currently serve in a number of combat positions, including piloting warplanes or serving on ships in combat areas. Since the start of the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq, 292,000 women have served in those combat zones out of a total of almost 2.5 million, Pentagon records show. In both wars, 152 women have died from combat or noncombat causes, records show, and 958 have been wounded in action."
- 22. The U.S. Supreme Court, in Frontiero v. Richardson, 411 U.S. 677 (1973), ruled that the Equal Protection Clause of the United States Constitution requires the U.S. military to provide its female

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members with the same housing and medical benefits as it provides its male members. Frontiero discusses America's long and unfortunate history of sex discrimination, Id. at 684 - 687, which NCFM and many other equal rights organizations seek to end. Justice William J. Brennan Jr., in announcing the judgment of the Court, compared the military's unequal treatment of men and women regarding housing and medical benefits to be another example of this country's unfortunate tradition of treating people unequally based on their sex, finding that "Traditionally, such discrimination was rationalized by an attitude of "romantic paternalism" which, in practical effect, put women, not on a pedestal, but in a cage." Id. at 684.

DECLARATORY RELIEF

23. Plaintiffs re-allege each allegation set forth above.

- 24. There exists an actual, present, and justiciable controversy between Plaintiffs and Defendants concerning the rights of Plaintiffs and the duties of Defendants concerning the conduct described herein.
- 25. This controversy is ripe for judicial decision, and declaratory relief is necessary and appropriate so the parties may know the legal obligations that govern their present and future conduct.

COUNT ONE: VIOLATION OF FIFTH AMENDMENT OF THE UNITED STATES

CONSTITUTION

- 26. Plaintiffs re-allege each allegation set forth above.
- 27. The above-mentioned conduct by Defendants violates the rights of Plaintiffs to equal treatment based on sex under the Fifth Amendment of the United States Constitution.

COUNT TWO: VIOLATION OF FOURTEENTH AMENDMENT OF THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION

28. Plaintiffs re-allege each allegation set forth above.

Marc E. Angelucci, Esq. Attorney for Plaintiffs,

National Coalition For Men, and James Lesmeister

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AO 440 (Rev. 06/12) Summons in a Civil Action

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

for the

Central District of California

NATIONAL COALITION FOR MEN and JAMES LESMEISTER, Individually and on behalf of others similarly situated,	CV13-02391DSF (MAN.x)
Plaintiff(s)) COM PX
v,	Civil Action No.
SELECTIVE SERVICE SYSTEM; LAWRENCE G. ROMO, as Director of SELECTIVE SERVICE SYSTEM; and DOES 1 through \$0, Inclusive.)))
Defendant(s)	j i
SUMMONS IN	A CIVIL ACTION

To: (Defendant's name and address)

A lawsuit has been filed against you.

Within 21 days after service of this summons on you (not counting the day you received it) — or 60 days if you are the United States or a United States agency, or an officer or employee of the United States described in Fed. R. Civ. P. 12 (a)(2) or (3) — you must serve on the plaintiff an answer to the attached complaint or a motion under Rule 12 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure. The answer or motion must be served on the plaintiff or plaintiff's attorney, whose name and address are:

If you fail to respond, judgment by default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the complaint. You also must file your answer or motion with the court.

	33222 O. 3332A
APR - 4 2013	$\lambda \sim 1$
Date:	Signature of Clerk or Deputy Clerk
	Signature of Lerk or Deputy Clerk

CLERK OF COURT

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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

NOTICE OF ASSIGNMENT TO UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE FOR DISCOVERY

This case has been assigned to District Judge Dale S. Fischer and the assigned discovery Magistrate Judge is Margaret A. Nagle.

The case number on all documents filed with the Court should read as follows:

CV13- 2391 DSF (MANx)

Pursuant to General Order 05-07 of the United States District Court for the Central District of California, the Magistrate Judge has been designated to hear discovery related

	notions.	.oue	ne range has been designated	io ii	oar discovery related
A	all discovery related motions s	hou	ald be noticed on the calendar	of th	e Magistrate Judge
=	:======================================	=	NOTICE TO COUNSEL	==	.======:
A co	py of this notice must be served with a copy of this notice must be serve	h the	∍ summons and complaint on all defi n all plaintiffs).	endai	nts (if a removal action is
Subs	sequent documents must be filed at	the	following location:		
И	Western Division 312 N. Spring St., Rm. G-8 Los Angeles, CA 90012		Southern Division 411 West Fourth St., Rm. 1-053 Santa Ana, CA 92701-4516		Eastern Division 3470 Twelfth St., Rm. 134 Riverside, CA 92501

Fallure to file at the proper location will result in your documents being returned to you.

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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT, CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

J.,	٠.		CIVIL	COVER SHEET						
I. (a) PLAINTIFFS (Ch	eck box if you are repr	esenting yourself 🔲)	DEFENDANTS	(Check box if you a	re rep	resenting your	self 🛄)
NATIONAL COALITION FOR others similarly situated.	MEN; and JIMMY ZINN, it	ndividually and on behalf	of	SELECTIVE SERVICE SYSTEM; LAWRENCE G. ROMO, as Director of SELECTIVE SERVICE SYSTEM; and DOES 1 through 10, Inclusive.						
(b) Attorneys (Firm Name are representing yourself Marc E. Angelucci, Esq. (SBN Law Office of Marc E. Angel 11734 Wilshire Bivd., Ste. CS Los Angeles, CA 90025		(b) Attorneys (Firm Name, Address and Telephone Number. If you are representing yourself, provide same.)								
II. BASIS OF JURISDICTION (Place an X in one box only.) III. CITIZENSHIP OF PRINCIPAL PARTIES-For Diversity Cases Only										
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i igiji (di)	governmen	(Nota Party)	Citizen	of Another State] 2			l Principal Place	_ 5	□ 5
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IV. ORIGIN (Place an X	In one box only.)			5. Tr	ansfe	rred from Another	- 6. N	Nülti-		
1. Original 2. Removed from 3. Remanded from Proceeding State Court Appellate Court Appellate Court District (Specify) District										
V. REQUESTED IN CO.	MPLAINT: JURY DE	MAND: Yes	_ No	(Check "Yes" o	пly	if demanded in o	ompl	aint.)		
CLASS ACTION under	F.R.Cv.P. 23: 🔀	Yes 🔲 No	Г	MONEY DEMA	ND	ED IN COMPLAI	NT:\$			
VI. CAUSE OF ACTION (Cite the U.S. Civil Statute under which you are filing and write a brief statement of cause. Do not cite jurisdictional statutes unless diversity.) Violation of the Firth and Fourteenth Amendments to the United States Constitution, and of United States Code, Title 28, Section 1983, by requiring only males to register for the Selective Service.										
VII. NATURE OF SUIT	(Place an X in one bo	ox only).								
OTHER STATUTES	CONTRACT	REAL PROPERTY CON	ir.J	IMMIGRATION	Т	PRISONER PETITION	S	PROPERT	Y RIGHT	5
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All claims for retirement (old age) and survivors benefits under Title 2 of the Social Security Act, as amended. (42 U.S.C. 405 (g))