1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13	Anna Y. Park, CA SBN 164242 Derek W. Li, CA SBN 150122 Dana C. Johnson, CA SBN 187341 Peter Laura, CA SBN 116426 EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY CO 255 East Temple Street, 4th Floor Los Angeles, CA 90012 Telephone: (213) 894-1079 Facsimile: (213) 894-1301 lado.legal@eeoc.gov Attorneys for Plaintiff EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY CO Norman Kirshman, SBN 002733 PEEL BRIMLEY LLP 3333 E. Serene Ave., Ste 200 Henderson, NV 89074-6571 Telephone: (702) 990-7272 Facsimile: (702) 990-7273 nkirshman@peelbrimlev.com Attorneys for Defendant GOLD RIVER OPERATING CORPORATI	MMISSION
15	(Recitation of Counsel continued on next page) UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT DISTRICT OF NEVADA	
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18	U.S. EQUAL EMPLOYMENT) DOCKET NO. 2:04-ev-01349-LRL-LRI
19	OPPORTUNITY COMMISSION,))
20	Plaintiff.) [PROPOSED] CONSENT DECREE
21	V.)
22	GOLD RIVER OPERATING CORPORATION, d/b/a RIVER PALMS))
23	RESORT and CASINO, COLUMBIA SUSSEX CORPORATION d/b/a BIVER BALMS BESORT and)
24	RIVER PALMS RESORT and CASINO, and DOES 1-10, Inclusive,) }
25	Defendants.	<u>)</u>
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Los Angeles, CA 90071
3 Telephone: (213) 239-9800
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Plaintiff U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission ("EEOC") and Defendants Gold River Operating Corporation d/b/a River Palms Resort & Casino ("Gold River") and Columbia Sussex Corporation d/b/a River Palms Resort & Casino ("Columbia Sussex") (collectively "River Palms"), hereby stipulate and agree to entry of this Consent Decree to resolve the EEOC's Complaint, filed under Sections 706(f)(1) and (3) of Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended, 42 U.S.C. § 2000c-5(f)(1) and (3); Section 102 of the Civil Rights Act of 1991, 42 U.S.C. § 1981a; and Section 7(b) of the Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 1967, as amended 29 U.S.C. Section 626(b). The EEOC's Complaint alleges that River Palms (1) discriminated against a group of employees in terms and conditions of employment because of age and/or sex, (2) subjected them to a hostile environment because of age and/or sex, and (3) retaliated against those who engaged in protected activity in violation of Title VII and/or the ADEA. River Palms denies liability.

JURISDICTION I.

The Court has jurisdiction over the parties and the subject matter of this lawsuit, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. Sections 451, 1331, 1337, 1343, 1345, 1367 and 42 U.S.C. 2000e-5(f). The Court shall retain jurisdiction of this action during the duration of the Decree for the purposes of entering all orders, judgments and decrees which may be necessary to implement and/or enforce the relief provided herein or to otherwise effectuate the purposes of the Decree.

PURPOSES AND SCOPE OF THE CONSENT DECREE Π.

- The parties to this Consent Decree ("Decree") are the EEOC, Gold River and À. Columbia Sussex (collectively the "Parties"). This Decree shall be binding on and enforceable against the EEOC, Gold River, Columbia Sussex, and either of their officers, directors, agents, successors and assigns.
- В. As a result of having engaged in comprehensive settlement negotiations the Parties have agreed that this action should be finally resolved by entry of this Decree for the following purposes:

- 1, To avoid expensive and protracted costs incident to litigation;
- 2. To provide a final and binding settlement upon the Parties as to all claims alleged in the Complaint;
 - 3. To provide monetary and injunctive relief:
- 4. To ensure that Columbia Sussex's employment policies and procedures at the River Palms comply with Title VII and the ADEA;
- 5. To ensure training for River Palms' employees with respect to their obligations under Title VII and the ADEA; and
- 6. To provide effective responses to harassment, retaliation and discrimination complaints.

111. EFFECTIVE DATE AND DURATION OF DECREE

- The provisions and agreements contained herein are effective immediately upon Λ. the date on which this Decree is entered by the Court ("the Effective Date").
- Except as otherwise provided herein, the Decree shall remain in effect for three В. (3) years after the Effective Date.

IV. FINDINGS

Having examined the terms and provisions of this Decree and based on the pleadings, record and stipulation of the Parties, the Court finds the following:

- The Court has jurisdiction over the Parties and the subject matter of this action. À. The Complaint asserts claims that, if proven, would authorize the Court to grant the relief set forth in this Decree.
- В. The terms and provisions of this Decree are adequate, fair, reasonable, equitable and just. The rights of the Parties and the public interest for which the EEOC seeks redress are protected adequately by this Decree.
- C. This Decree conforms with the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure and Title VII and the ADEA and is not in derogation of the rights and privileges of any person. The entry of

this Decree will further the objectives of Title VII and the ADEA and will be in the best interest of the Parties.

V. RESOLUTION OF CLAIMS

- A. The Parties agree that this Decree constitutes a complete resolution of EEOC Charge Nos. 340-2003-10738 (Barnes), 34B-2002-01700 and 34B-2003-01217 (Bowers-Hughes), 34B-2002-01575 (Karsgor), 34B-2003-00184 (LaFond), 34B-2002-01674 (Lancaster), 34B-2002-01675 (Marshall). 34B201669 and 340-2003-0933 (Purdy) and the Complaint filed in this action. The Decree does not, however, resolve any charges of discrimination that may be pending with or brought in the future before the EEOC other than the charges specifically referred to in this paragraph.
- B. Nothing in this Decree shall be construed to limit or reduce River Palms's obligation to comply fully with Title VII, the ADEA or any other federal employment statute.
- C. This Decree in no way affects the EEOC's right to bring, process, investigate or litigate other charges that may be in existence or may later arise against River Palms in accordance with standard EEOC procedures.

VI. MONETARY RELIEF

Defendants shall pay a total of \$200,000.00 in settlement of all monetary claims of Plaintiff-in-Intervention Toni Purdy and the identified claimants (i.e., Christina Barnes, Barbara Bowers-Hughes, Carl Karsgor, Brenda LaFond, Laura Lancaster and Penelope Marshall (collectively "Claimants")). This monetary settlement shall be allocated as follows: \$5,000.00 to Toni Purdy and \$195,000.00 to be divided amongst the Claimants as directed by the EEOC and at the EEOC's sole discretion. Monetary settlements are for compensatory damages for emotional distress sustained by Purdy and each of the Claimants as a result of the conduct complained-of in the Complaint. Accordingly, no FICA/FUTA or other employment-related withholdings shall be made from any of the above payments. Defendants shall issue checks made payable to Toni Purdy and each of the Claimants by: (a) ten (10) days from the date that

the EEOC provides River Palms with settlement allocation amounts for the Claimants and the 1 2 Claimants' addresses, or (b) March 7, 2008, whichever is later. Defendants shall submit a copy 3 4 5 б 7 8 9 Temple Street, 4th Floor, Los Angeles, CA 90012, within three (3) days of issuing the 1099

of each check and related correspondence to the Regional Attorney, United States Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, 255 East Temple Street, 4th Floor, Los Angeles, CA 90012, within three (3) days of issuing the checks. At the end of 2008, Defendants shall issue 1099 forms to Toni Purdy and each of the claimants reflecting payment of the settlement amounts. Defendants shall submit a copy of each 1099 form and related correspondence to the Regional Attorney, United States Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, 255 Fast

VII. INJUNCTIVE RELIEF

A. Non-Discrimination

Columbia Sussex, its officers, agents, management, successors, assigns, and all those in active concert or participation with any of them, hereby agree (1) not to engage in sexual harassment or other forms of sex discrimination; (2) not to engage in age harassment or other forms of age discrimination; and (3) to prevent and correct any harassment or other discrimination on the basis of sex or age.

В. Anti-Retaliation

Columbia Sussex, its officers, agents, management, successors, assigns, and all those in active concert or participation with them, or any of them, hereby agree not to retaliate against any current or former employee of River Palms for: (a) engaging in protected activity under Title VII and/or the ADEA; (b) participating in any manner in any investigation (including any internal investigation undertaken by River Palms) or proceeding relating to any alleged Title VII or ADEA violation; (c) being identified as a possible witness or claimant pertaining to any alleged Title VII or ADEA violation; (d) asserting any rights under this Decree; or (c) receiving any relief under this Decree.

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C. Training

- 1. Within forty-five days of the Effective Date, Columbia Sussex shall submit its policies, procedures and training materials on discrimination, harassment and retaliation at River Palms to the EEOC.
- 2. For the Term of the Decree, Columbia Sussex shall continue to require its managerial and non-managerial employees at River Palms to attend annual live training on their obligations and responsibilities under Title VII and the ADEA. All River Palms' employees' training shall include coverage of the subjects of equal employment opportunity rights and responsibilities, harassment, discrimination, retaliation, and Columbia Sussex's policies and procedures for reporting and handling complaints of harassment and discrimination.
 - D. Record Keeping and Reporting
 - 1. Record Keeping

Culumbia Sussex shall establish a record keeping procedure at River Palms that provides for the centralized tracking of complaints of discrimination and the monitoring of such complaints to prevent retaliation. The records to be maintained during the Term of this Consent Decree shall include:

- 4. All documents generated in connection with any complaint of discrimination or retaliation for the duration of the Decree, including documents related to the investigation into and resolution of each complaint;
- b, The identities of the parties involved in each such complaint:
- c. All forms acknowledging River Palms' employees' receipt of Columbia Sussex's discrimination and anti-retaliation policy, including any revisions thereto. Where the relevant policy is distributed or made known to employees electronically. Columbia Sussex will maintain a sample notice to employees of the availability of the policy in electronic format;

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- All documents verifying the occurrence of all training sessions and names đ. and positions of all attendees for each session as required under this Decree; and
- Documents tracking and analyzing complaints failed against the same €. employee.

2. Reporting

Columbia Sussex shall provide, without assertion of the attorney-client privilege or attorney work product, the following reports to the EEOC in writing, by mail or facsimile:

- Within forty-five (45) days after the Effective Date, Columbia Sussex â. shall submit its policies, procedures and training materials on discrimination, harassment and retaliation at River Palms, pursuant to Paragraph VII(C)(1). In the event that Columbia Sussex modifies its policies, procedures or training materials at River Palms during the term of the Decree, it will within forty-five (45) days of the modification. submit the new material to the EEOC;
- Within twelve (12) months of the Effective Date, and annually thereafter b. during the term of the Decree, Columbia Sussex shall report the dates of trainings to non-managerial and managerial employees at River Palms undertaken pursuant to Paragraph VII(C)(2) and provide a statement that attendance records and employee lists are available for inspection;
- Within six (6) months of the Effective date, and semi-annually thereafter c. during the term of the Decree, Columbia Sussex shall report any and all internal complaints of discrimination, harassment or retaliation at River Palms for the applicable reporting period. For each internal complaint, the semi-annual reports shall
 - ì. Summarize the nature of the complaint;

- íi. List the date the complaint was received;
- iii. List the date the complaint was resolved:
- Ĭν. Summarize Columbia Sussex's findings, and
- ٧. Summarize any corrective action and/or discipline taken in response to the complaint.

The semi-annual reports shall enable the tracking of multiple complaints by or against a single employee. In conjunction with each semi-annual report, an Employee Relations representative at the Director level or higher shall audit each internal complaint investigation to ensure that such complaints were handled in accordance with Columbia Sussex's internal policy for handling complaints of harassment, discrimination and retaliation, especially with respect to multiple complaints received regarding the same individual. The semi-annual report shall include information on the results of the audit. Dana Johnson, Peter Laura, Derek Li or, in the event of their unavailability, another member of the EFOC's legal unit, shall review the semi-annual reports on behalf of the EEOC. If, after reviewing any semi-annual report, the EEOC has concerns that Columbia Sussex may have failed to appropriately investigate or respond to an internal complaint, then it may request and review particular documents related to such internal complaint. If Columbia Sussex objects to all or part of any such documents request, then the parties shall utilize the dispute resolution process set forth in Paragraph IX, below.

VIII. MODIFICATION AND SEVERABILITY

A. This Decree constitutes the complete understanding of the Parties with respect to the matters contained herein. No waiver, modification or amendment of any provision of this Decree will be effective unless made in writing and signed by an authorized representative of

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each of the Parties effected by the waiver, modification or amendment.

- В. If one or more provisions of the Decree are rendered unlawful or unenforceable, the Parties shall make good faith efforts to agree upon appropriate amendments to this Decree in order to effectuate the purposes of the Decree. In any event, the remaining provisions will remain in full force and effect unless the purposes of the Decree cannot, despite the Parties' best efforts, be achieved.
- C. By mutual agreement of the Parties, this Decree may be amended or modified in the interests of justice and fairness in order to effectuate the provisions of this Decree.

IX. COMPLIANCE AND DISPUTE RESOLUTION

- A. The Parties expressly agree that any party may bring an action before this Court to enforce the Decree if it has reason to believe that the other party has failed to comply with any provision of this Decree. Prior to initiating such petition, such party will notify the other party and/or its legal counsel of record, in writing, of the nature of the dispute. This notice shall specify the particular provision(s) that the party believes has/have been breached.
- Β. The Parties agree to cooperate with each other and use their best efforts to resolve any dispute referenced in the above notice.
- C. After forty-live days have passed with no resolution or agreement to extend the time further, either party may petition this Court for resolution of the dispute, seeking all available relief, including, but not limited to, the imposition of attorneys' fees and costs and an extension of the term of the Decree for such period of time as such party is shown to be in breach of the Decree.
- X. COSTS OF ADMINISTRATION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF CONSENT DECREE Gold River and Columbia Sussex shall bear all costs associated with their obligations under this Consent Decree.

XI. COSTS AND ATTORNEYS' FEES

Each Party shall bear its own costs of suit and attorneys' fees.

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COUNTERPARTS AND FACSIMILE SIGNATURES XII. This Decree may be signed in counterparts. A facsimile signature shall have the same 2 3 force and effect of an original signature or copy thereof. 4 IT IS SO ORDERED. 5 6 Hon. Lawrence R. Leavitt United States Magistrate Judge 7 4422456088 Dated: 8 9 Respectfully Submitted, 10 EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY COMMISSION 11 Anna Y. Park Dana C. Johnson 12 13 Date: 3/27 /08 Anna Y. Park 14 15 Attorneys for Plaintiff EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY COMMISSION 16 17 PEEL BRIMLEY LLP Norman H. Kirshman 18 Date: 3/20/08 19 Norman H. Kirshman 20 Attorneys for Defendant GOLD RIVER OPERATING CORP. 21 22 OGLETREE DEAKINS NASH SMOAK & STEWART, P.C. 23 Linda Claxton 24 Date: 3/25/08 25 By: inda Claxton

Attorneys for Defendant COLUMBIA SUSSEX CORP.

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PROOF OF SERVICE VIA ELECTRONIC FILING SYSTEM

I am, and was at the time the herein mentioned mailing took place, a citizen of the United States, over the age of eighteen (18) years and not a party to the above-entitled cause.

I am employed in the Legal Unit of the Los Angeles District Office of the United States Equal Employment Opportunity Commission.

My business address is Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, Los Angeles District Office, 255 East Temple Street, Fourth Floor, Los Angeles, CA 90012.

On the date that this declaration was executed, as shown below, I served the foregoing [PROPOSED] CONSENT DECREE via the Case

Management/Electronic Case Filing (CM/ECF) system at Los Angeles, County of Los Angeles, California to:

> Norman H. Kirshman PEEL BRIMLEY LLP 3333 E. Serene Avenue, Suite 200 Henderson, Nevada 89074-6571

OGLETREE, DEAKINS, NASH, SMOAK & STEWART, P.C. Linda Claxton 633 West 5th Street, Suite 5300 Los Angeles, CA 90071

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed on March 28, 2008, at Los Angeles, California.

LINA G. WILLIAMS