## 1 2 3 4 5 6 IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT 7 FOR THE DISTRICT OF ARIZONA 8 9 Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, CIV 04-2063 PHX DGC 10 Plaintiff. 11 **CONSENT DECREE** VS. 12 Federal Cleaning Contractors, Inc., d/b/a Federal Building Services, Inc., 13 an Illinois corporation. 14 Defendant. 15 16 This Action was commenced on October 18, 2004, when the Equal 17 Employment Opportunity Commission ("EEOC"), an agency of the United 18 States, filed a Complaint alleging that Federal Cleaning Contractors, Inc. 19 ("Defendant"), had committed violations of Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 20 ("Title VII"). The Title VII violations were based upon Defendant's alleged 21 discrimination against Carmen Morales Cruz, Liveth Romero, and a class of 22 females because of their sex by subjecting them to sexual harassment and 23 creating a hostile work environment. In addition, the EEOC alleged that 24 Defendant constructively discharged Carmen Morales Cruz and a class of female 25 employees because of sexual harassment and hostile work environment.

Defendant expressly denies the allegations of discrimination against the named individuals and the other unidentified females. The parties have now conferred and resolved their differences and agree that this case should be

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disposed of by a Consent Decree. The parties desire to resolve the instant controversy without the burden, expense and delay of further litigation and by separate Motion seek final approval of this Decree by the Court.

It is, therefore, the finding of this Court, made on the pleadings and the record as a whole, as follows:

Nothing contained in this Consent Decree shall be construed as an admission by Defendant that it has violated Title VII.

This Court has jurisdiction over the parties and the subject matter of this action pursuant to Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended, 42 U.S. Code § 2000e - et seq.

The provisions of Title VII will be carried out by the implementation of the following Decree; and

This Decree is intended to and does resolve all matters in controversy between the parties.

It is therefore ORDERED, ADJUDGED and DECREED as follows:

### MONETARY RELIEF

- 1. Defendant shall pay \$77,000 in resolution of the claims in this litigation as back pay and compensatory damages.
- 2. The names of the class members and their respective monetary awards are set forth in Attachment A, attached hereto. Within the latter of thirty-five days from the entry of the decree or January 6, 2006, the Company shall pay one-half of the aggregate settlement amount, divided proportionately among the class members as set forth in Attachment A and the Notice of Settlement, by cashier's checks payable to each class member at the addresses provided by the EEOC. The EEOC shall immediately, upon the entry of the Consent Decree, provide the Company with the mailing addresses of the class members in writing. No later than 45 days after the date of mailing the first payments, the Company shall pay the remaining one-half of the aggregate

settlement amount, divided proportionately among the class members as set forth in Attachment A and the Notice of Settlement, by cashier's checks payable to each class member at the addresses provided by the EEOC. At the time of mailing, a copy of the checks mailed, reflecting the monetary compensation to the persons named on Exhibit A, shall be mailed to the Regional Attorney, United States Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, 3300 North Central Avenue, Suite 690, Phoenix, Arizona 85012.

The class members and the EEOC represent that only Carmen Morales-Cruz now seeks back pay damages and that no other class member seeks or shall seek back pay damages. As such, only the back pay amount identified in Attachment A for Morales-Cruz will be subject to federal, state and local withholding. The Company will issue I.R.S. Form 1099 to each class member for the amounts identified as compensatory damages in Attachment A.

3. Defendant will not condition the receipt of individual relief on a charging party or class member's agreement to (a) maintain as confidential the terms of this decree, (b) waive her statutory right to file a charge with any federal or state anti-discrimination agency for any prospective conduct, or (c) waive the right to apply for a position with the Defendant.

### NON-MONETARY RELIEF

- 4. Federal Cleaning Contractors, Inc., its officers, agents, employees, and successors, is enjoined from discriminating against employees working in the State of Arizona because of their sex.
- 5. Federal Cleaning Contractors, its officers, agents, employees, and successors, is enjoined from retaliating against any current or former employees at its facility located at 400 E. Van Buren, Phoenix, Arizona 85004 because such employee has opposed any practice made unlawful by Title VII or has filed a charge or has testified, assisted, or participated in any investigation, proceeding,

or hearing relating to such a charge.

- 6. Federal Cleaning Contractors, Inc. shall retain Seyfarth Shaw, LLP or similarly qualified professionals to train its employees located in the State of Arizona concerning sexual harassment and retaliation. The training shall take place within 120 days of the entry of this decree. Within 60 days of the entry of the decree, Defendant shall submit to the Commission for approval the curriculum for this training. The training shall last at least three hours and, if necessary, a Spanish translator shall be available.
- 7. Federal Cleaning Contractors, Inc. shall immediately adopt a policy which expresses its commitment to a work environment free of discrimination, prohibits unlawful harassment, defines harassment and the consequences of such conduct. See Attachment C. The Policy shall be distributed in English and Spanish to Arizona based employees and posted within all Arizona facilities during the term of this Decree in such a place where the Company currently posts employment related notices required by federal, state and local government. Defendant has provided the Commission an example of the policy contemplated. See Attachment C.
- 8. Within the latter of thirty-five days from the entry of this Decree or January 6, 2006, the Company shall expunge from the personnel files of each class member who was mailed a cashier's check, if any, all documents containing: (a) references to charges of discrimination filed against the Company; (b) references to any class member's participation in this action; (c) derogatory remarks relating to complaints or investigation of complaints of sexual harassment; and (d) references to the termination of any class member.
- 9. Federal Cleaning shall post within thirty (30) days of the entry of this Decree, for the duration of this Decree, in such a place where the Company currently posts employment related notices required by federal, state and local government at the facility located at 400 E. Van Buren, Phoenix, AZ 85004, the

Notice attached as Attachment B, in both English and Spanish. The Notice shall be the same type, style and size as set forth in Attachment B to this Decree, along with a copy of the Company's Policies and Procedures discussed below. Both shall be posted in English, Spanish, and the first language of any Company employee who is not fluent in English.

- 10. In addition to any other reports required by this Decree, the Defendant shall submit the following in writing and in affidavit form to the Commission's Regional Attorney at the address provided above, beginning six months from the date of this Decree, and thereafter every six months for the duration of the Decree:
- A. A copy of both the policies and procedures required above, in all required languages (see paragraphs 8 and 9);
- B. The name, address, position, social security number, and telephone number of every Defendant employee at 400 E. Van Buren, Phoenix, AZ 85004 who complained about sexual harassment or retaliation during the period preceding the report to the EEOC. The first report shall cover the first six months from the date of the Decree. The nature of the complaint, the Defendant's investigatory efforts, and corrective action taken, if any, also shall be specified;
- C. Confirmation that (i) the Notice required above was posted in all required languages, and the locations where it was posted; (ii) the policies required above were distributed to each current and new Company employee in all required languages, and posted; and (iii) that at the required time, there was expungement from the class members' personnel files as required above, including the date of expungement, and the documents expunged.
- D. Confirmation that training required by the terms of this Decree has in fact occurred and information as to when and where such training took place and the identity of the attendees and presenters.

- 11. Neither party shall make any claims for attorney's fees or costs against the other party.
- 12. Both parties have represented to the Court that this Consent Decree is fair, just, reasonable, and equitable for all parties and does not violate the law or public policy. The parties have agreed to entry of this Decree and judgment subject to final approval by the Court.

### **COMPLIANCE**

- 13. For the term of the Decree, the EEOC may seek enforcement of the provisions of the Decree only after advance notice to Defendant specifying possible problems which may exist regarding compliance with this Decree, and only after mutual efforts to resolve whatever problems may exist. Specifically, the EEOC shall provide the Company with written notice of any alleged failure to comply with the terms of this Decree. Such written notice shall be provided to Keith A. Anderson, Chief Executive Officer, Federal Building Services, Inc., 1641 Barclay Boulevard, Buffalo Grove, IL 60089. The Company shall have ten days to cure its alleged non-compliance. In the event the Company fails to cure non-compliance with the monetary provisions of this Decree after EEOC written notice, the EEOC may petition the Court seeking a penalty in the amount of \$50.00/day per class member for whom the Company has not made payment until the Company is in compliance with the Decree again. The Court shall have discretion whether to impose the penalty.
- 14. The Commission, upon reasonable notice and agreement, shall have the right to enter and inspect the Company's premises to ensure compliance with this Decree.

### TERM AND SCOPE OF THE DECREE

- 15. Unless otherwise stated, the geographic scope of this Decree includes all of Defendant's facilities within the state of Arizona.
  - 16. The term of this Decree shall be for twenty four (24) months.

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3	ADDDOVED AND CONCENTED TO	
4	APPROVED AND CONSENTED TO:	JAMES L. LEE
5		Deputy General Counsel
6	/a AAGHi arra E. Durana	GWENDOLYN YOUNG REAMS
7	<u>/s/William F. Dugan</u> Sandra P. Zemm	Associate General Counsel
8	William F. Dugan	EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY COMMISSION
9	SEYFARTH SHAW LLP 55 E. Monroe Street Suite 4200	1801 L Street, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20507
10	Chicago, Illinois 60603	s/ Mary Jo O'Neill
11 12	(312) 346-8000	Mary Jo O'Neill Regional Attorney
	Attorneys for Defendant	s/C, Emanuel Smith
13		C. Emanuel Smith Supervisory Trial Attorney
14		s/P. David Lopez
15 16		P. David Lopez Trial Attorney
17		s/Lucila G. Rosas
18		Lucila G. Rosas
19		Trial Attorney
20		EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY COMMISSION
21		Phoenix District Office 3300 N. Central Ave., Suite 690 Phoenix, Arizona 85012
22		Attorneys for Plaintiff
23		Audineys for Framuli
24		
25	Dated this 10 <sup>th</sup> day of January, 2006.	
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27	λ,	und G. Campbell
28		Desired Comments

David G. Campbell United States District Judge

# **ATTACHMENT A**

PAYEE NAME	ВАСКРАУ	COMPENSATORY	TOTAL
1. Carmen Morales-Cruz	\$16,000	\$34,000	\$50,000
2. Liveth Romero	\$ 0	\$14,000	\$14,000
3. Elvia Meras Silva, a.k.a Maria E. Pacheco Barragan	\$ 0	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000
4. Manuela Torres	\$ 0	\$ 4,000	\$ 4,000
5. Carmen Santos Cabrera	\$ 0	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000
6. Emparatriz Angeles Rojas	\$ 0	\$ 2,000	\$ 2,000
7. Maria Lourdes Chacon	\$ 0	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000
TOTAL			\$77,000

#### 1 **ATTACHMENT B** 2 NOTICE TO ALL EMPLOYEES OF 3 FEDERAL CLEANING CONTRACTORS, INC. 4 This Notice is posted pursuant to a Consent Decree entered into between Federal Cleaning Contractors, Inc. and the Equal Employment Opportunity 5 Commission (EEOC). 6 It is unlawful under federal law, Title VII of the Civil Rights Act and state law to 7 discriminate against an employee on the basis of sex, including sexual harassment, in the recruitment, hiring, firing, compensation, assignment, or 8 other terms, and conditions or privileges of employment. Sexual harassment includes unwelcome or offensive sexual advances or touching, requests for 9 sexual favors, or other verbal or physical conduct directed at a person because of her/his sex. It is also unlawful to retaliate against any person because the 10 person protested discriminatory practices or contacted the EEOC or the Arizona Civil Rights Division (ACRD). 11 12 Federal Cleaning Contractors shall not discriminate against any employee on the basis of sex, including sexual harassment, and shall not retaliate against any 13 employee for complaining about sexual harassment. 14 If you believe you have been discriminated against or sexually harassed, you have the right to seek assistance from: 15 (1) **EEOC** 16 3300 North Central Ave., Suite 690 Phoenix, Arizona 85012 17 Telephone: (602) 640-5000 TTY: (602) 640-5072 18 Website (national): www.eeoc.gov; or 19 (2) Arizona Civil Rights Division (ACRD) 20 Attorney General's Office 1275 W. Washington 21 Phoenix, Arizona, 85007 (602) 255-5263. 22 23

You have the right to file a charge with the EEOC or ACRD if you believe you are being discriminated against, retaliated against or sexually harassed.

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No Retaliation Clause. It is against the law for any action to be taken against you by any supervisory or management official of Federal Cleaning Contractors for: (1) opposing sexual harassment or other discriminatory practices made unlawful by federal or state law; (2) filing a charge or assisting or participating in the filing of a charge of discrimination; or (3) assisting or participating in an investigation or proceeding brought under Title VII. Should any such retaliatory actions be taken against you, you should immediately contact the EEOC or the ACRD at the addresses or telephone numbers listed above.

### 1 AVISO A TODOS LOS EMPLEADOS DEL FEDERAL CLEANING CONTRACTORS, INC. 2 Este aviso esta siendo desplegado como resultado de un Decreto entre Federal 3 Cleaning Contractors, Inc., y la Comisión Federal de Igualdad de Oportunidad en el Empleo (EEOC). 4 Está prohibido por el Título VII de la ley de Derechos Civiles y por la ley estatal, 5 el discriminar a empleados basado en el sexo, inclusive acosamiento sexual. Acosamiento sexual incluye advances sexuales inoportunos u ofensivos o tocar o 6 invitaciones para favores sexuales u otra conducta verbal o física dirigida a la persona por su sexo. También está prohibido el tomar represalia en contra de 7 empleados por haber protestado prácticas discriminatorias o por haberse 8 comunicado con el EEOC o ACRD. 9 Federal Cleaning no discriminará contra un empleado basado en su sexo, inclusive acosamiento sexual, y no tomará represalia. 10 Si usted piensa que ha sido discriminado por el Federal Cleaning, Inc., usted tiene 11 el derecho de pedir ayuda o poner una queja con las siguientes agencias 12 gubernamentales: 13 (1) EEOC, 3300 North Central Avenue, Suite 690, Phoenix, Arizona 85012; teléfono (602) 640-5000, TTY (6020 640-5072, Website: www.eeoc.gov; o 14 de 15 (2) ACRD (División de Derechos Civiles del Estado de Arizona), 1275 West Washington, Phoenix, Arizona 85007; teléfono (602) 255-5263. 16 Claúsula de no represalia. Ninguna acción puede ser tomada contra usted por 17 cualquier supervisor u oficial del Federal Cleaning Contractors, Inc., por (1) oponer practicas discriminatorias prohibidas por la ley Federal; (2) poner una queja, asistir o participar en poner una queja; o (3) asistir o participar en una investigación bajo 18 19 el Título VII. Si este tipo de represalia es tomada contra usted, comuniquese inmediatamente con el EEOC o ACRD a la dirección/teléfono arriba 20 mencionados. 21 ESTE AVISO SERA DESPLEGADO HASTA 22 23 24 **FECHA** Presidente, Federal Cleaning Contractors, Inc. 25 26 27

# **ATTACHMENT C**

## SEXUAL HARASSMENT AND ANTI-HARASSMENT POLICY

FCC is committed to maintaining a work environment that is free of discrimination. In keeping with this commitment, we will not tolerate harassment of FCC employees by anyone, including any supervisor, co-worker, vendor, client, or customer of FCC or any third party.

Harassment consists of unwelcome conduct, whether verbal, physical, or visual, that is based upon a person's protected status, such as sex, color, race, religion, national origin, age, physical or mental disability or other protected group status. FCC will not tolerate harassing conduct that affects tangible job benefits, that interferes unreasonably with an individual's work performance, or that creates an intimidating, hostile, or offensive working environment. Such harassment may include, for example, jokes about another person's protected status, kidding, teasing or practical jokes directed at a person based on his or her protected status.

Sexual harassment deserves special mention. Unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, and other physical, verbal, or visual conduct based on sex constitute sexual harassment when (1) submission to the conduct is an explicit or implicit term or condition of employment, (2) submission to or rejection of the conduct is used as the basis for an employment decision, or (3) the conduct has the purpose or effect of unreasonably interfering with an individual's work performance or creating an intimidating, hostile, or offensive working environment. Sexual harassment is conduct based on sex, whether directed towards a person of the opposite or same sex, and may include explicit sexual propositions, sexual innuendo, suggestive comments, sexually oriented "kidding" or "teasing," "practical jokes," jokes about obscene printed or visual material, and physical contact such as patting, pinching, or brushing against another person's body.

All FCC employees are responsible to help assure that we avoid harassment. If you feel that you have experienced or witnessed harassment, you are to notify the Human Resources department at 800-982-9234. FCC forbids retaliation against anyone for reporting harassment, assisting in making a harassment complaint, or cooperating in a harassment investigation. If you feel you have been retaliated against, you are to notify the Human Resources department at 800-982-9234.

FCC' policy is to investigate all such complaints thoroughly and promptly. To the fullest extent practicable, FCC will keep complaints and the terms of their resolution confidential. If an investigation confirms that a violation of the policy has occurred, FCC will take corrective action, including discipline, up to and including immediate termination of employment.