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OCT 2 5 2023 T. Sachse, Deputy

THE LAW OFFICE OF JOSHUA A. LOPEZ, LLC

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Attorney for Defendant

IN THE MARICOPA COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT

IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF MARICOPA, STATE OF ARIZONA

LAURA OWENS,

**Plaintiff** 

VS.

CLAYTON ECHARD,

Defendant

Case Number: FC2023-052771

MOTION REQUESTING LAURA OWENS ATTEND VIRTUALLY OR TELEPHONICALLY FOR HEARING **SCHEDULED OCTOBER 25, 2023** 

Laura Owens, by and through undersigned counsel, requests that Laura be able to appear virtually or telephonically for the Order of Protection Hearing scheduled for October 25, 2023. Both the relationship between Laura Owens and the Clayton Echard, and this upcoming hearing, have received a lot of media coverage. News media outlets covering their relationship and court filings include People, Us! Magazine, Page Six, The Daily Mail, Life & Style, The Sun, and more. Laura is concerned that Clayton's fans will show up and harass her or become violent. Laura received hate messages and death threats online from Clayton's fans. Clayton's fans have told Laura she should kill herself. Laura's abusive ex, Gregory Gillespie, who Laura has an order of protection against, reached out to Clayton and has subsequently harassed Laura. Laura is afraid that Gregory will show up to the hearing.

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In addition, Laura is four and a half months pregnant with twins. The whole pregnancy has been difficult given that Clayton refuses to believe he is the father. Clayton turned the media and his fans against Laura, and Clayton refuses to act as a father should to their unborn children and their mother. This has created a great deal of stress for Laura and the pregnancy. Laura cannot go a day without reading harassing messages either in her emails or online. Laura has remained inside as much as possible to avoid being harassed or attacked. This is not how anyone should have to live. Laura will certainly endure added stress and anxiety if she is required to appear in person. Not only does Laura worry about herself, but Laura worries about her unborn children as well. For all of those reasons, we request that Laura be able to attend the scheduled hearing either virtually or telephonically.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED THIS October 20-2023.

Joshua A. Lopez, Esq. Attorney for Laura Owens