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8 BEFORE THE FAIR POLITICAL PRACTICES COMMISSION
9 STATE OF CALIFORNIA

10 In re the Matter of

11
12 FAIR POLITICAL PRACTICES
13 COMMISSION
14 CASE NUMBER 18/336.

DECLARATION OF CONRAD J. BRAUN

15
16 I, Conrad J. Braun, declare as follows:

- 17 1. I was the owner of HomeyTel Network from 2004 until 2017. My wife, Eunice Verdugo,
18 is the current owner. My current role is a consultant for HomeyTel and I manage the day
19 to day operations. Our company specializes in “voice broadcasting,” including reverse
20 polling, telephone town hall meetings, and live and recorded political robo-calls.
- 21 2. HomeyTel is not responsible for any derogatory political robo-calls about candidate
22 Phillip Graham.
- 23 3. On or about May 30, 2018, I began receiving numerous voicemails from parties who had
24 received derogatory political robo-calls. Some of these voicemails made reference to
25 “Phil Graham” and/or “Jennifer Jones” indicating to me that they were responding to a
26 derogatory political robo-calls about California Assembly candidate Phillip Graham and
27 calling our main business number 619-223-1022. The caller identification for the incident
28 involving Philip Graham read: “619-223-1022 HomeyTel Conrad Braun.”

- 1 4. On May 31, 2018 I emailed the Phil Graham campaign on their website outlining the
2 situation and indicating we did not make the calls and offered to assist in any way
3 possible. Shortly after I was also contacted by Mr. Grahams attorney, Brian Hildreth, and
4 provided with a "Cease and Desist" letter alleging that HomeyTel had engaged in "an
5 adverse, widespread and illegal robocall program" involving State Assembly candidate
6 Philip Graham. **(Exhibit A)** I immediately emailed Mr. Hildreth and informed him we
7 did not make the calls but someone was using our main business as the caller ID. Mr.
8 Hildreth was very understanding. He asked that I file a criminal complaint with the San
9 Diego District Attorney's Office. That office transferred me to the FTC where I filed
10 complaint number 96279373.
- 11 5. The main telephone line for HomeyTel is not used to make recorded political robo-calls. I
12 only use the main HomeyTel phone number when I am trying to solicit new business. My
13 business practice is to use caller IDs such as "Vote California" or "Vote USA" when
14 making political robo-calls. I have provided a list of the caller ID numbers and names
15 HomeyTel has used in the past when making robo-calls. **(Exhibit B)**
- 16 6. I was previously a victim to a similar scheme. In November 2016, there was an incident
17 where an unidentified person or persons falsified the caller identification for a robo-call
18 to appear as if the origin was HomeyTel Network. During that incident, I received
19 voicemails related to those calls. The "spoofed" robo-calls were regarding the November
20 2016 Mayor's race for Encinitas involving candidates Paul Gaspar and Catherine
21 Blakespear.
- 22 7. For the period of May 30, 2018 through May 31, 2018, HomeyTel only made calls on
23 behalf our client named "Baker." The 3000+ robo-calls made during this timeframe were
24 related to business insurance and were not political in nature. HomeyTel did not make
25 any robo-calls on May 29, 2018.
- 26 8. I have also filed a report with the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) regarding the
27 "spoofing" of HomeyTel's business phone number to make the Philip Graham political
28 robo-calls. The FTC case number is 96279373.

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I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing
is true and correct. Executed on June 13, 20¹⁸ at San Ysidro, California.



Conrad J. Braun