DECLARATION OF MARIE BONHOMME-DICKS

- 1. My name is Marie Bonhomme-Dicks, and I reside in Wake County, North Carolina. I am competent to give this Declaration and I have personal knowledge of the facts contained herein.
- 2. I have four children, three of whom are adults. I currently support my fifteen year-old son, and for the summer, I am supporting two young grandsons.
- 3. I am currently employed by American Airlines as a Reservation Agent. My work hours are sporadic and unreliable. I mostly work part-time, and try to pick up additional hours when I can. I do not make enough money to cover my monthly bills and currently am thousands of dollars in debt. To supplement my income, I drove for Uber and Lyft. However, I had to stop those jobs because my driver's license was temporarily revoked from September 2017 until July 2018 for a "Failure to Appear" in traffic court.
- 4. I have been donating plasma to have enough money to meet my son and grandsons' basic needs.
- 5. My driver's license was revoked once before, and it took me several years to pay off the fines, penalties, and court costs.
- 6. I currently hold a valid North Carolina driver's license. I rely on my license to go to work and take my son to school, sports practices, and games. I also drive my three-year old grandson to daycare and the family to church multiple days a week. Additionally, I need my license to access basic necessities, such as groceries and medical care. There is no public transit available near my home, and I rely solely on my car for transportation.
- 7. I received a traffic citation on April 26, 2017 for speeding in Wake County. The ticket stated I could admit guilt and pay the fine and court costs associated with the charge. However, I decided to go to court instead of paying the money because I could not afford to pay the fine and costs.
- 8. I appeared in Wake County District Court on July 27, 2018 and pleaded guilty to a lesser speeding charge that was reduced by the prosecutor. The court accepted my guilty plea, waived the fine, and sentenced me to court costs in the amount of \$388.00. The court provided no option other than to pay the amount in full either in the clerk's office or online. I explained my financial circumstances to the court and asked the Magistrate Judge to waive or reduce my court costs. The Magistrate Judge told me in open court that he used to be able to waive fines and costs due to financial hardship, but that the legislature now prevented him from doing so.

- 9. The courtroom clerk informed me that the full amount owed is due within 40 days of my conviction. However, I cannot afford to pay this amount.
- 10. On August 2, 2018 a clerk in the criminal court clerk's office told me that the only way to avoid a license revocation is to pay my fines, penalties, and court costs in full.
- 11. Without a substantial increase in income, I will not be able to pay the court costs by that date, and I fear I will lose my driver's license. If my driver's license is revoked, I will not be able to supplement my small income by driving for Uber and Lyft. Without a driver's license I will not be able to drive to work, drive my son and grandson to school and daycare, or take my family to church.
- 12. I have not yet received any notices from the DMV regarding how my inability to pay the court costs will affect my driver's license.
- 13. I am participating in this lawsuit because I cannot afford to pay my tickets. When I was married, I was in a better position to pay. However, now that I am living off of one income, I am not able to pay as I could in the past. I also want to help others who are also in a bad financial position get their licenses back.

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

EXECUTED this 6 day of Ay, 2018.

Marie Bonhomme-Dicks