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**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
 CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA, WESTERN DIVISION**

VANESSA BRYANT,
 Plaintiff,
 v.
 COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, et al.,
 Defendants.

CASE NO. 2:20-cv-09582-JFW-E
JOINT STATEMENT OF THE CASE
 Pretrial Conf.: February 4, 2022
 Time: 8:00 a.m.
 Trial Date: February 22, 2022
 Time: 8:30 a.m.
 Assigned to Hon. John F. Walter and
 Magistrate Judge Charles F. Eick

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1 Pursuant to the Court’s Amended Scheduling and Case Management Order,
2 entered in this case on June 4, 2021 (Dkt. 86), Plaintiff Vanessa Bryant and
3 Defendants County of Los Angeles, Los Angeles County Sheriff’s Department, Los
4 Angeles County Fire Department, Joey Cruz, Rafael Mejia, Michael Russell, and
5 Raul Versales hereby submit the following joint statement of the case to be read to
6 the jury prior to the commencement of voir dire:

7 **STATEMENT OF THE CASE**

8 On the morning of Sunday, January 26, 2020, Plaintiff Vanessa Bryant’s
9 husband, Kobe Bryant, and thirteen-year-old-daughter, Gianna Bryant, were flying
10 by helicopter to Thousand Oaks, California, where Gianna Bryant was set to play in
11 a youth basketball tournament. At approximately 9:45 a.m., the helicopter crashed
12 into a hillside in Calabasas, California, killing Kobe, Gianna, and everyone else
13 onboard. Defendants were not responsible for the crash itself. Employees of the
14 Los Angeles County Sheriff’s Department and Los Angeles County Fire Department
15 responded to the crash scene.

16 In this lawsuit, Plaintiff Vanessa Bryant alleges that, following the crash,
17 employees of the Los Angeles County Sheriff’s Department and Los Angeles
18 County Fire Department took photos of Kobe and Gianna Bryant’s bodies without
19 any legitimate purpose. Plaintiff further alleges that employees of the Sheriff’s and
20 Fire Departments sent and displayed photos of Kobe and Gianna Bryant’s bodies to
21 other individuals who had no legitimate purpose for seeing or having them,
22 including members of the public. Mrs. Bryant alleges that, as a result of
23 Defendants’ conduct, she suffered emotional distress and is entitled to damages.

24 Defendants contend this case is not about the tragic helicopter crash that
25 killed Kobe Bryant and Gianna Bryant, and seven other individuals on board.
26 Defendants contend this case is about first responders who responded to the
27 helicopter crash, worked to control fires, and setup a perimeter to keep media,
28 hikers, bikers and fans from the crash site. Defendants further contend that the first

