Michael R. Yellin, Esq. – Attorney ID# 014712008 Michael C. Klauder, Esq. – Attorney ID# 086632014 **COLE SCHOTZ P.C.** Court Plaza North 25 Main Street P.O. Box 800 Hackensack, New Jersey 07602-0800 201-489-3000 201-489-1536 Facsimile *Attorneys for Intervenor, Holy Name Medical Center, Inc.* 

MICHAEL AKERMAN, GEORGINA B. ASANTE, YAW ASANTE, DANIEL BELLIN, RENA DONIN SCHLUSSEL, YARON HIRSCHKORN, RACHEL KAYE, ASHIRA LOIKE, ALAN RUBENSTEIN, DAVID SCHLUSSEL, MARC SCHLUSSEL, AND SHORANA SCHLUSSEL,

Plaintiffs,

v.

TOWNSHIP OF TEANECK AND TOWNSHIP OF TEANECK PLANNING BOARD,

Defendants.

## SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY LAW DIVISION: BERGEN COUNTY DOCKET NO. BER-L-002234-22

**Civil Action** 

INTERVENOR HOLY NAME MEDICAL CENTER, INC.'S ANSWER AND AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSES TO COMPLAINT IN LIEU OF PREROGATIVE WRITS

Intervenor, Holy Name Medical Center, Inc. ("<u>HNH</u>"), by and through its counsel, Cole Schotz P.C., hereby answers the Complaint in Lieu of Prerogative Writs filed by plaintiffs Michael Akerman, Georgina B. Asante, Yaw Asante, Daniel Bellin, Rena Donin Schlussel, Yaron Hirschkorn, Rachel Kaye, Ashira Loike, Alan Rubinstein, David Schlussel, Marc Schlussel, and Shorana Schlussel (collectively, "<u>Plaintiffs</u>") that was originally filed against defendants Township of Teaneck (the "<u>Township</u>") and Township of Teaneck Planning Board (the "<u>Board</u>") (collectively, "Defendants"), and states as follows:

#### **NATURE OF ACTION**

1. In response to Paragraph 1, HNH refers to the Complaint in Lieu of Prerogative Writs (the "<u>Complaint</u>") and denies the allegations in Paragraph 1 to the extent they are inconsistent with the Complaint. To the extent the allegations in Paragraph 1 are not intended to merely recite the nature of Plaintiffs' claims, but rather to assert any substantive allegations, the allegations are denied.

2. In response to Paragraph 2 of the Complaint, HNH refers to the referenced Ordinance No. 9-2022 (the "<u>Ordinance</u>") and denies the allegations in Paragraph 2 to the extent they are inconsistent with the Ordinance.

3. HNH admits the allegations in Paragraph 3 of the Complaint.

4. In response to Paragraph 4 of the Complaint, HNH refers to the Complaint and denies the allegations in Paragraph 4 to the extent they are inconsistent with the Complaint. To the extent the allegations in Paragraph 4 are not intended to merely recite the nature of Plaintiffs' claims, but rather to assert any substantive allegations, the allegations are denied.

5. In response to Paragraph 5 of the Complaint, HNH refers to the Complaint and denies the allegations in Paragraph 5 to the extent they are inconsistent with the Complaint. To the extent the allegations in Paragraph 5 are not intended to merely recite the nature of Plaintiffs' claims, but rather to assert any substantive allegations, the allegations are denied.

6. HNH denies the allegations in Paragraph 6 of the Complaint.

7. In response to Paragraph 7 of the Complaint, HNH refers to the Complaint and denies the allegation in Paragraph 7 to the extent they are inconsistent with the Complaint. To the extent the allegations in Paragraph 7 are not intended to merely recite the nature of Plaintiffs' claims, but rather to assert any substantive allegations, those allegations are denied.

8. HNH admits that this Court has jurisdiction over the subject matter of the Complaint.

#### THE PARTIES

9. HNH admits the allegations in Paragraph 9 of the Complaint.

10. HNH admits the allegations in Paragraph 10 of the Complaint.

11. HNH lacks sufficient knowledge or information to form a belief regarding the allegations in Paragraph 11 of the Complaint and leaves Plaintiffs to their proofs.

12. HNH lacks sufficient knowledge or information to form a belief regarding the allegations in Paragraph 12 of the Complaint and leaves Plaintiffs to their proofs.

13. HNH lacks sufficient knowledge or information to form a belief regarding the allegations in Paragraph 13 of the Complaint and leaves Plaintiffs to their proofs.

14. HNH lacks sufficient knowledge or information to form a belief regarding the allegations in Paragraph 14 of the Complaint and leaves Plaintiffs to their proofs.

15. HNH lacks sufficient knowledge or information to form a belief regarding the allegations in Paragraph 15 of the Complaint and leaves Plaintiffs to their proofs.

16. HNH lacks sufficient knowledge or information to form a belief regarding the allegations in Paragraph 16 of the Complaint and leaves Plaintiffs to their proofs.

17. HNH lacks sufficient knowledge or information to form a belief regarding the allegations in Paragraph 17 of the Complaint and leaves Plaintiffs to their proofs.

#### **RELEVANT FACTS**

18. HNH admits that at certain points in time during its existence and operation it has sought to expand its buildings, structures, and facilities including, if necessary, through redevelopment. HNH denies the remaining allegations in Paragraph 18 of the Complaint.

## BER-L-002234-22 08/04/2022 3:19:44 PM Pg 4 of 24 Trans ID: LCV20222830059

19. HNH admits that it has, directly or indirectly, purchased the properties that currently comprise the HNH Property (as that term is defined in the Complaint). HNH denies the remaining allegations in Paragraph 19 of the Complaint.

20. HNH admits that on certain occasions between 2019 and 2022, it informed Defendants' representatives that HNH desired to expand its operations. HNH denies the remaining allegations in Paragraph 20 of the Complaint.

21. HNH lacks sufficient knowledge or information to form a belief regarding the allegations in Paragraph 21 of the Complaint and leaves Plaintiffs to their proofs.

22. HNH admits that Katz is the First Deputy Mayor of the Township and a Member of the Council, but lacks sufficient knowledge or information to form a belief regarding the remaining allegations in Paragraph 22 of the Complaint and leaves Plaintiffs to their proofs.

23. HNH denies the allegations in Paragraph 23 of the Complaint.

24. HNH admits that Schwartz is the Second Deputy Mayor of the Township and a Member of the Council, but lacks sufficient knowledge or information to form a belief regarding the remaining allegations in Paragraph 24 of the Complaint and leaves Plaintiffs to their proofs.

25. HNH lacks sufficient knowledge or information to form a belief regarding the allegations in Paragraph 25 of the Complaint and leaves Plaintiffs to their proofs.

26. HNH admits that it previously purchased advertising in the Jewish Link. HNH denies the remaining allegations in Paragraph 26 of the Complaint.

27. HNH lacks sufficient knowledge or information to form a belief regarding the allegations in Paragraph 27 of the Complaint and leaves Plaintiffs to their proofs.

## BER-L-002234-22 08/04/2022 3:19:44 PM Pg 5 of 24 Trans ID: LCV20222830059

28. HNH admits that Orgen is a Member of the Council, but lacks sufficient knowledge or information to form a belief regarding the remaining allegations in Paragraph 28 of the Complaint and leaves Plaintiffs to their proofs.

29. HNH lacks sufficient knowledge or information to form a belief regarding the allegations in Paragraph 29 of the Complaint and leaves Plaintiffs to their proofs.

30. HNH admits that it hired one of Orgen's children, which, to the best of HNH's knowledge and belief is the reason that Orgen recused herself from the vote.

31. HNH admits the allegations in Paragraph 31 of the Complaint.

32. HNH denies the allegations in Paragraph 32 of the Complaint.

33. HNH denies the allegations in Paragraph 33 of the Complaint.

34. HNH lacks sufficient knowledge or information to form a belief regarding the allegations in Paragraph 34 of the Complaint and leaves Plaintiffs to their proofs.

35. HNH denies the allegations in Paragraph 35 of the Complaint.

36. HNH denies the allegations in Paragraph 36 of the Complaint.

37. HNH denies the allegations in Paragraph 37 of the Complaint.

38. Paragraph 38 contains a legal conclusion to which no response is required, and Plaintiffs are left to their proofs with respect to same.

39. HNH denies the allegations in Paragraph 39 of the Complaint.

40. HNH denies the allegations in Paragraph 40 of the Complaint.

41. HNH denies the allegations in Paragraph 41 of the Complaint.

42. HNH lacks sufficient knowledge or information to form a belief regarding the allegations in Paragraph 42 of the Complaint and leaves Plaintiffs to their proofs.

#### BER-L-002234-22 08/04/2022 3:19:44 PM Pg 6 of 24 Trans ID: LCV20222830059

43. HNH admits that it entered into a contract to purchase certain properly located at Block 3002, Lot 6 in Teaneck and refers to that purchase contract for a true and accurate account of its contents. To the extent the allegations in Paragraph 43 of the Complaint are inconsistent with the purchase contract, those allegations are denied.

44. HNH lacks sufficient knowledge or information to form a belief regarding the allegations in Paragraph 44 of the Complaint and leaves Plaintiffs to their proofs.

45. HNH admits that it closed on the purchase of the referenced property on or about July 20, 2020. HNH denies the remaining allegations in Paragraph 45 of the Complaint.

46. HNH admits that Schwartz introduced HNH to Yavneh leadership. HNH denies the remaining allegations in Paragraph 46 of the Complaint.

47. HNH refers to the referenced Resolution 159-2020 for a true and accurate account of its contents. To the extent the allegations in Paragraph 47 of the Complaint are inconsistent with Resolution 159-2020, those allegations are denied.

48. HNH refers to the referenced Resolution 159-2020 for a true and accurate account of its contents. To the extent the allegations in Paragraph 48 of the Complaint are inconsistent with Resolution 159-2020, those allegations are denied.

49. HNH refers to the referenced Resolution 160-2020 for a true and accurate account of its contents. To the extent the allegations in Paragraph 49 of the Complaint are inconsistent with Resolution 160-2020, those allegations are denied.

50. HNH admits the allegations in Paragraph 50 of the Complaint.

51. HNH denies the allegations in Paragraph 51 of the Complaint.

52. HNH neither admits nor denies the allegations in Paragraph 52 of the Complaint, but relies upon the unofficial record of the referenced Township Council meeting.

#### BER-L-002234-22 08/04/2022 3:19:44 PM Pg 7 of 24 Trans ID: LCV20222830059

53. HNH refers to the referenced Special Emergency Directive No. 03-2020 for a true and accurate accounts of its contents. To the extent the allegations in Paragraph 53 of the Complaint are inconsistent with the referenced Special Emergency Directive No. 03-2020, those allegations are denied.

54. HNH refers to the referenced Special Emergency Directive No. 03-2020 for a true and accurate accounts of its contents. To the extent the allegations in Paragraph 54 of the Complaint are inconsistent with the referenced Special Emergency Directive No. 03-2020, those allegations are denied.

55. HNH refers to the referenced Special Emergency Directive No. 03-2020 for a true and accurate accounts of its contents. To the extent the allegations in Paragraph 55 of the Complaint are inconsistent with the referenced Special Emergency Directive No. 03-2020, those allegations are denied.

56. HNH refers to the referenced Special Emergency Directive No. 03-2020 for a true and accurate accounts of its contents. To the extent the allegations in Paragraph 56 of the Complaint are inconsistent with the referenced Special Emergency Directive No. 03-2020, those allegations are denied.

57. HNH refers to: (i) the referenced Special Emergency Directive No. 03-2020 for a true and accurate accounts of its contents, and (ii) the referenced property for a true and accurate account of its boundaries. To the extent the allegations in Paragraph 57 of the Complaint are inconsistent with the referenced Special Emergency Directive and/or the boundaries of the referenced property, those allegations are denied.

58. HNH neither admits nor denies the allegations in Paragraph 58 of the Complaint, but relies upon the unofficial record of the referenced Board meeting.

#### BER-L-002234-22 08/04/2022 3:19:44 PM Pg 8 of 24 Trans ID: LCV20222830059

59. HNH neither admits nor denies the allegations in paragraph 59 of the Complaint, but relies upon the unofficial record of the referenced Board meeting.

60. HNH refers to the referenced Special Emergency Directive No. 03-2020 for a true and accurate accounts of its contents. To the extent the allegations in Paragraph 60 of the Complaint are inconsistent with the referenced Special Emergency Directive No. 03-2020, those allegations are denied.

61. HNH refers to the referenced Special Emergency Directive No. 03-2020 for a true and accurate accounts of its contents. To the extent the allegations in Paragraph 61 of the Complaint are inconsistent with the referenced Special Emergency Directive No. 03-2020, those allegations are denied.

62. HNH denies the allegations in Paragraph 62 of the Complaint.

63. HNH denies the allegations in Paragraph 63 of the Complaint.

64. HNH refers to the referenced Zoning Permits for a true and accurate accounts of their contents. To the extent the allegations in Paragraph 64 of the Complaint are inconsistent with the referenced Zoning Permits, those allegations are denied.

65. HNH refers to the referenced Special Emergency Directive No. 03-2020 for a true and accurate accounts of its contents. To the extent the allegations in Paragraph 65 of the Complaint are inconsistent with the referenced Special Emergency Directive No. 03-2020, those allegations are denied.

66. HNH denies the allegations in Paragraph 66 of the Complaint.

67. HNH refers to the referenced Zoning Permits for a true and accurate accounts of their contents. To the extent the allegations in Paragraph 67 of the Complaint are inconsistent with the referenced Zoning Permits, those allegations are denied.

#### BER-L-002234-22 08/04/2022 3:19:44 PM Pg 9 of 24 Trans ID: LCV20222830059

68. HNH refers to the referenced Zoning Permits for a true and accurate accounts of their contents. To the extent the allegations in Paragraph 68 of the Complaint are inconsistent with the referenced Zoning Permits, those allegations are denied.

69. HNH refers to the referenced Special Emergency Directive No. 03-2020 for a true and accurate accounts of its contents. To the extent the allegations in Paragraph 69 of the Complaint are inconsistent with the referenced Special Emergency Directive No. 03-2020, those allegations are denied.

70. HNH refers to the referenced Assembly Bill 5820 and Executive Order No. 244 for a true and accurate accounts of their contents. To the extent the allegations in Paragraph 70 of the Complaint are inconsistent with the referenced Assembly Bill 5820 and/or Executive Order No. 244, those allegations are denied.

71. HNH refers to the referenced Assembly Bill 5820 and Executive Order No. 244 for a true and accurate accounts of their contents. To the extent the allegations in Paragraph 71 of the Complaint are inconsistent with the referenced Assembly Bill 5820 and/or Executive Order No. 244, those allegations are denied. By way of further response, HNH states that Paragraph 71 of the Complaint contains a legal conclusion to which no response is required. To the extent a response is required, the remaining allegations in Paragraph 71 are denied.

72. HNH states that Paragraph 72 of the Complaint contains a legal conclusion to which no response is required. To the extent a response is required, the allegations in Paragraph 72 of the Complaint are denied.

73. HNH refers to the referenced Special Emergency Directive No. 01-2021 for a true and accurate accounts of its contents. To the extent the allegations in Paragraph 73 of the

## BER-L-002234-22 08/04/2022 3:19:44 PM Pg 10 of 24 Trans ID: LCV20222830059

Complaint are inconsistent with the referenced Special Emergency Directive No. 01-2021, those allegations are denied.

74. HNH states that Paragraph 74 of the Complaint contains a legal conclusion to which no response is required. To the extent a response is required, the allegations in Paragraph 74 of the Complaint are denied.

75. HNH admits the allegations in Paragraph 75 of the Complaint.

76. HNH admits the allegations in Paragraph 76 of the Complaint.

77. HNH admits the allegations in Paragraph 77 of the Complaint.

78. HNH admits the allegations in Paragraph 78 of the Complaint.

79. HNH refers to the referenced Ord. 9-2022 for a true and accurate accounts of its contents. To the extent the allegations in Paragraph 79 of the Complaint are inconsistent with the referenced Ord. 9-2022, those allegations are denied.

80. HNH lacks sufficient knowledge or information to form a belief regarding the allegations in Paragraph 80 of the Complaint and leaves Plaintiffs to their proofs.

81. HNH lacks sufficient knowledge or information to form a belief regarding the allegations in Paragraph 81 of the Complaint and leaves Plaintiffs to their proofs.

82. HNH lacks sufficient knowledge or information to form a belief regarding the allegations in Paragraph 82 of the Complaint and leaves Plaintiffs to their proofs.

83. HNH states that Paragraph 83 of the Complaint contains a legal conclusion to which no response is required. To the extent a response is required, the allegations in Paragraph 83 of the Complaint are denied.

84. HNH lacks sufficient knowledge or information to form a belief regarding the allegations in Paragraph 84 of the Complaint and leaves Plaintiffs to their proofs.

#### BER-L-002234-22 08/04/2022 3:19:44 PM Pg 11 of 24 Trans ID: LCV20222830059

85. HNH states that Paragraph 85 of the Complaint contains a legal conclusion to which no response is required. To the extent a response is required, the allegations in Paragraph 85 of the Complaint are denied.

86. HNH states that Paragraph 86 of the Complaint contains a legal conclusion to which no response is required. To the extent a response is required, the allegations in Paragraph 86 of the Complaint are denied.

87. HNH lacks sufficient knowledge or information to form a belief regarding the allegations in Paragraph 87 of the Complaint and leaves Plaintiffs to their proofs.

88. HNH denies the allegations in Paragraph 88 of the Complaint.

89. HNH admits the allegations in Paragraph 89 of the Complaint.

90. HNH refers to the referenced March 14, 2022 letter for a true and accurate accounts of its contents. To the extent the allegations in Paragraph 90 of the Complaint are inconsistent with the referenced March 14, 2022 letter, those allegations are denied.

91. HNH refers to the referenced March 14, 2022 letter for a true and accurate accounts of its contents. To the extent the allegations in Paragraph 91 of the Complaint are inconsistent with the referenced March 14, 2022 letter, those allegations are denied.

92. HNH refers to the referenced March 14, 2022 letter for a true and accurate accounts of its contents. To the extent the allegations in Paragraph 92 of the Complaint are inconsistent with the referenced March 14, 2022 letter, those allegations are denied.

93. HNH admits the allegations in Paragraph 93 of the Complaint.

94. HNH admits the allegations in Paragraph 94 of the Complaint.

95. HNH admits the allegations in Paragraph 95 of the Complaint.

#### BER-L-002234-22 08/04/2022 3:19:44 PM Pg 12 of 24 Trans ID: LCV20222830059

96. HNH states that Paragraph 96 of the Complaint contains a legal conclusion to which no response is required. To the extent a response is required, the allegations in Paragraph 96 of the Complaint are denied.

97. HNH states that Paragraph 97 of the Complaint contains a legal conclusion to which no response is required. To the extent a response is required, the allegations in Paragraph 97 of the Complaint are denied. By way of further response, HNH refers to the referenced litigation dockets for a true and accurate account of their contents.

98. HNH states that Paragraph 98 of the Complaint contains a legal conclusion to which no response is required. To the extent a response is required, the allegations in Paragraph 98 of the Complaint are denied.

99. HNH states that Paragraph 99 of the Complaint contains a legal conclusion to which no response is required. To the extent a response is required, the allegations in Paragraph 99 of the Complaint are denied.

100. HNH denies the allegations in Paragraph 100 of the Complaint.

101. HNH admits that attendees were given the opportunity to speak directly and/or through counsel. HNH denies the remaining allegations in Paragraph 101 of the Complaint.

102. HNH neither admits nor denies the allegations contain in Paragraph 102 of the Complaint, but instead refers to the official record of the referenced meeting, which speaks for itself.

103. HNH neither admits nor denies the allegations contain in Paragraph 103 of the Complaint, but instead refers to the official record of the referenced meeting, which speaks for itself.

## BER-L-002234-22 08/04/2022 3:19:44 PM Pg 13 of 24 Trans ID: LCV20222830059

104. HNH neither admits nor denies the allegations contain in Paragraph 104 of the Complaint, but instead refers to the official record of the referenced meeting, which speaks for itself.

105. HNH neither admits nor denies the allegations contain in Paragraph 105 of the Complaint, but instead refers to the official record of the referenced meeting, which speaks for itself.

106. HNH admits the allegations in Paragraph 106 of the Complaint.

#### <u>COUNT I</u>

107. HNH repeats and realleges its responses to each and every allegation made in the preceding paragraphs as if set forth at length herein.

108. HNH denies the allegations in Paragraph 108 of the Complaint.

109. HNH denies the allegations in Paragraph 109 of the Complaint.

110. HNH denies the allegations in Paragraph 110 of the Complaint.

111. HNH denies the allegations in Paragraph 111 of the Complaint.

112. HNH denies the allegations in Paragraph 112 of the Complaint.

113. HNH denies the allegations in Paragraph 113 of the Complaint.

114. HNH denies the allegations in Paragraph 114 of the Complaint.

115. HNH denies the allegations in Paragraph 115 of the Complaint.

116. HNH denies the allegations in Paragraph 116 of the Complaint.

117. HNH denies the allegations in Paragraph 117 of the Complaint.

118. HNH denies the allegations in Paragraph 118 of the Complaint.

119. HNH denies the allegations in Paragraph 119 of the Complaint.

120. HNH denies the allegations in Paragraph 120 of the Complaint.

121. HNH denies the allegations in Paragraph 121 of the Complaint.

WHEREFORE, Intervenor, Holy Name Medical Center, Inc., hereby demands judgment against plaintiffs Michael Akerman, Georgina B. Asante, Yaw Asante, Daniel Bellin, Rena Donin Schlussel, Yaron Hirschkorn, Rachel Kaye, Ashira Loike, Alan Rubinstein, David Schlussel, Marc Schlussel, and Shorana Schlussel, dismissing the Complaint with prejudice and awarding costs of suit and attorneys' fees, as well as awarding such other and further relief as the Court deems equitable and just.

#### COUNT II

122. HNH repeats and realleges its responses to each and every allegation made in the preceding paragraphs as if set forth at length herein.

- 123. HNH denies the allegations in Paragraph 123 of the Complaint.
- 124. HNH denies the allegations in Paragraph 124 of the Complaint.
- 125. HNH denies the allegations in Paragraph 125 of the Complaint.
- 126. HNH denies the allegations in Paragraph 126 of the Complaint.
- 127. HNH denies the allegations in Paragraph 127 of the Complaint.
- 128. HNH denies the allegations in Paragraph 128 of the Complaint.
- 129. HNH denies the allegations in Paragraph 129 of the Complaint.
- 130. HNH denies the allegations in Paragraph 130 of the Complaint.
- 131. HNH denies the allegations in Paragraph 131 of the Complaint.
- 132. HNH denies the allegations in Paragraph 132 of the Complaint.
- 133. HNH denies the allegations in Paragraph 133 of the Complaint.
- 134. HNH denies the allegations in Paragraph 134 of the Complaint.
- 135. HNH denies the allegations in Paragraph 135 of the Complaint.

136. HNH denies the allegations in Paragraph 136 of the Complaint.

- 137. HNH denies the allegations in Paragraph 137 of the Complaint.
- 138. HNH denies the allegations in Paragraph 138 of the Complaint.
- 139. HNH denies the allegations in Paragraph 139 of the Complaint.
- 140. HNH denies the allegations in Paragraph 140 of the Complaint.
- 141. HNH denies the allegations in Paragraph 141 of the Complaint.
- 142. HNH denies the allegations in Paragraph 142 of the Complaint.
- 143. HNH denies the allegations in Paragraph 143 of the Complaint.

WHEREFORE, Intervenor, Holy Name Medical Center, Inc., hereby demands judgment against plaintiffs Michael Akerman, Georgina B. Asante, Yaw Asante, Daniel Bellin, Rena Donin Schlussel, Yaron Hirschkorn, Rachel Kaye, Ashira Loike, Alan Rubinstein, David Schlussel, Marc Schlussel, and Shorana Schlussel, dismissing the Complaint with prejudice and awarding costs of suit and attorneys' fees, as well as awarding such other and further relief as the Court deems equitable and just.

#### <u>COUNT III</u>

144. HNH repeats and realleges its responses to each and every allegation made in the preceding paragraphs as if set forth at length herein.

- 145. HNH denies the allegations in Paragraph 145 of the Complaint.
- 146. HNH denies the allegations in Paragraph 146 of the Complaint.
- 147. HNH denies the allegations in Paragraph 147 of the Complaint.

WHEREFORE, Intervenor, Holy Name Medical Center, Inc., hereby demands judgment against plaintiffs Michael Akerman, Georgina B. Asante, Yaw Asante, Daniel Bellin, Rena Donin Schlussel, Yaron Hirschkorn, Rachel Kaye, Ashira Loike, Alan Rubinstein, David Schlussel, Marc Schlussel, and Shorana Schlussel, dismissing the Complaint with prejudice and awarding costs of suit and attorneys' fees, as well as awarding such other and further relief as the Court deems equitable and just.

#### COUNT IV

148. HNH repeats and realleges its responses to each and every allegation made in the preceding paragraphs as if set forth at length herein.

149. HNH denies the allegations in Paragraph 149 of the Complaint.

150. HNH denies the allegations in Paragraph 150 of the Complaint.

151. HNH denies the allegations in Paragraph 151 of the Complaint.

152. HNH denies the allegations in Paragraph 152 of the Complaint.

WHEREFORE, Intervenor, Holy Name Medical Center, Inc., hereby demands judgment against plaintiffs Michael Akerman, Georgina B. Asante, Yaw Asante, Daniel Bellin, Rena Donin Schlussel, Yaron Hirschkorn, Rachel Kaye, Ashira Loike, Alan Rubinstein, David Schlussel, Marc Schlussel, and Shorana Schlussel, dismissing the Complaint with prejudice and awarding costs of suit and attorneys' fees, as well as awarding such other and further relief as the Court deems equitable and just.

#### COUNT V

153. HNH repeats and realleges its responses to each and every allegation made in the preceding paragraphs as if set forth at length herein.

154. HNH denies the allegations in Paragraph 154 of the Complaint.

155. HNH denies the allegations in Paragraph 155 of the Complaint.

WHEREFORE, Intervenor, Holy Name Medical Center, Inc., hereby demands judgment against plaintiffs Michael Akerman, Georgina B. Asante, Yaw Asante, Daniel Bellin, Rena Donin Schlussel, Yaron Hirschkorn, Rachel Kaye, Ashira Loike, Alan Rubinstein, David Schlussel, Marc Schlussel, and Shorana Schlussel, dismissing the Complaint with prejudice and awarding costs of suit and attorneys' fees, as well as awarding such other and further relief as the Court deems equitable and just.

#### COUNT VI

156. HNH repeats and realleges its responses to each and every allegation made in the preceding paragraphs as if set forth at length herein.

157. HNH denies the allegations in Paragraph 157 of the Complaint.

- 158. HNH denies the allegations in Paragraph 158 of the Complaint.
- 159. HNH denies the allegations in Paragraph 159 of the Complaint.
- 160. HNH denies the allegations in Paragraph 160 of the Complaint.
- 161. HNH denies the allegations in Paragraph 161 of the Complaint.

WHEREFORE, Intervenor, Holy Name Medical Center, Inc., hereby demands judgment against plaintiffs Michael Akerman, Georgina B. Asante, Yaw Asante, Daniel Bellin, Rena Donin Schlussel, Yaron Hirschkorn, Rachel Kaye, Ashira Loike, Alan Rubinstein, David Schlussel, Marc Schlussel, and Shorana Schlussel, dismissing the Complaint with prejudice and awarding costs of suit and attorneys' fees, as well as awarding such other and further relief as the Court deems equitable and just.

#### COUNT VII

162. HNH repeats and realleges its responses to each and every allegation made in the preceding paragraphs as if set forth at length herein.

163. HNH lacks knowledge and information sufficient to respond to the allegations in Paragraph 163 of the Complaint and leaves Plaintiffs to their proofs.

164.	HNH denies the allegations in Paragraph 164 of the Complaint.
165.	HNH denies the allegations in Paragraph 165 of the Complaint.
166.	HNH denies the allegations in Paragraph 166 of the Complaint.
167.	HNH denies the allegations in Paragraph 167 of the Complaint.
168.	HNH denies the allegations in Paragraph 168 of the Complaint.
169.	HNH denies the allegations in Paragraph 169 of the Complaint.
170.	HNH denies the allegations in Paragraph 170 of the Complaint.
171.	HNH denies the allegations in Paragraph 171 of the Complaint.
172.	HNH denies the allegations in Paragraph 172 of the Complaint.
173.	HNH denies the allegations in Paragraph 173 of the Complaint.
174.	HNH denies the allegations in Paragraph 174 of the Complaint.
175.	HNH denies the allegations in Paragraph 175 of the Complaint.
176.	HNH denies the allegations in Paragraph 176 of the Complaint.
177.	HNH denies the allegations in Paragraph 177 of the Complaint.
178.	HNH denies the allegations in Paragraph 178 of the Complaint.
179.	HNH denies the allegations in Paragraph 179 of the Complaint.
180.	HNH denies the allegations in Paragraph 180 of the Complaint.
181.	HNH denies the allegations in Paragraph 181 of the Complaint.
182.	HNH denies the allegations in Paragraph 182 of the Complaint.
183.	HNH denies the allegations in Paragraph 183 of the Complaint.
184.	HNH denies the allegations in Paragraph 184 of the Complaint.

WHEREFORE, Intervenor, Holy Name Medical Center, Inc., hereby demands judgment against plaintiffs Michael Akerman, Georgina B. Asante, Yaw Asante, Daniel Bellin, Rena Donin Schlussel, Yaron Hirschkorn, Rachel Kaye, Ashira Loike, Alan Rubinstein, David Schlussel, Marc Schlussel, and Shorana Schlussel, dismissing the Complaint with prejudice and awarding costs of suit and attorneys' fees, as well as awarding such other and further relief as the Court deems equitable and just.

#### COUNT VIII

185. HNH repeats and realleges its responses to each and every allegation made in the preceding paragraphs as if set forth at length herein.

186. HNH admits the allegations in Paragraph 186 of the Complaint.

187. HNH denies the allegations in Paragraph 187 of the Complaint.

188. HNH denies the allegations in Paragraph 188 of the Complaint.

189. HNH denies the allegations in Paragraph 189 of the Complaint.

190. HNH denies the allegations in Paragraph 190 of the Complaint.

191. HNH denies the allegations in Paragraph 191 of the Complaint.

192. HNH denies the allegations in Paragraph 192 of the Complaint.

193. HNH denies the allegations in Paragraph 193 of the Complaint.

194. HNH denies the allegations in Paragraph 194 of the Complaint.

195. HNH denies the allegations in Paragraph 195 of the Complaint.

196. HNH denies the allegations in Paragraph 196 of the Complaint.

197. HNH denies the allegations in Paragraph 197 of the Complaint.

198. HNH denies the allegations in Paragraph 198 of the Complaint.

199. HNH denies the allegations in Paragraph 199 of the Complaint.

200. HNH denies the allegations in Paragraph 200 of the Complaint.

201. HNH denies the allegations in Paragraph 201 of the Complaint.

202.	HNH denies the allegations in Paragraph 202 of the Complaint.
203.	HNH denies the allegations in Paragraph 203 of the Complaint.
204.	HNH denies the allegations in Paragraph 204 of the Complaint.
205.	HNH denies the allegations in Paragraph 205 of the Complaint.
206.	HNH denies the allegations in Paragraph 206 of the Complaint.
207.	HNH denies the allegations in Paragraph 207 of the Complaint.
208.	HNH denies the allegations in Paragraph 208 of the Complaint.
209.	HNH denies the allegations in Paragraph 209 of the Complaint.
210.	HNH denies the allegations in Paragraph 210 of the Complaint.
211.	HNH denies the allegations in Paragraph 211 of the Complaint.

212. HNH denies the allegations in Paragraph 212 of the Complaint.

WHEREFORE, Intervenor, Holy Name Medical Center, Inc., hereby demands judgment against plaintiffs Michael Akerman, Georgina B. Asante, Yaw Asante, Daniel Bellin, Rena Donin Schlussel, Yaron Hirschkorn, Rachel Kaye, Ashira Loike, Alan Rubinstein, David Schlussel, Marc Schlussel, and Shorana Schlussel, dismissing the Complaint with prejudice and awarding costs of suit and attorneys' fees, as well as awarding such other and further relief as the Court deems equitable and just.

## AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSES

## FIRST SEPARATE DEFENSE

The Complaint fails to state a claim upon which relief may be granted.

## SECOND SEPARATE DEFENSE

Plaintiffs' claims are barred, in whole or in part, by the doctrine of waiver.

## THIRD SEPARATE DEFENSE

Plaintiffs' claims are barred, in whole or in part, by the doctrine of estoppel.

BER-L-002234-22 08/04/2022 3:19:44 PM Pg 21 of 24 Trans ID: LCV20222830059

#### FOURTH SEPARATE DEFENSE

Plaintiffs' claims are barred, in whole or in part, by the doctrine of laches.

#### FIFTH SEPARATE DEFENSE

Plaintiffs' claims are barred, in whole or in part, by the applicable statute of limitations.

## SIXTH SEPARATE DEFENSE

Plaintiffs' claims are barred, in whole or in part, because the claims are not ripe.

#### SEVENTH SEPARATE DEFENSE

Plaintiffs' claims are barred, in whole or in part, by the doctrines of res judicata and/or collateral estoppel.

#### <u>EIGHTH SEPARATE DEFENSE</u>

Plaintiffs' claims are barred because they lack standing.

## NINTH SEPARATE DEFENSE

Plaintiffs' claims are barred by the doctrine of unclean hands.

#### <u>TENTH SEPARATE DEFENSE</u>

Plaintiffs' claims are barred by the doctrine of necessity.

### **RESERVATION OF RIGHTS**

HNH reserves the right to amend this Answer and to assert additional defenses and/or supplement, alter, or change this Answer upon the revelation of additional facts during and/or upon the completion of further discovery and investigation.

WHEREFORE, Intervenor, Holy Name Medical Center, Inc., hereby demands judgment against plaintiffs Michael Akerman, Georgina B. Asante, Yaw Asante, Daniel Bellin, Rena Donin Schlussel, Yaron Hirschkorn, Rachel Kaye, Ashira Loike, Alan Rubinstein, David Schlussel, Marc Schlussel, and Shorana Schlussel, dismissing the Complaint with prejudice and awarding costs of suit and attorneys' fees.

COLE SCHOTZ P.C. Attorneys for Intervenor, Holy Name Medical Center, Inc.

By: <u>/s/ Michael R. Yellin</u> Michael R. Yellin

DATED: August 4, 2022

BER-L-002234-22 08/04/2022 3:19:44 PM Pg 23 of 24 Trans ID: LCV20222830059

## **DESIGNATION OF TRIAL COUNSEL**

Pursuant to the provisions of <u>Rule</u> 4:25-4, this court is hereby advised that Michael R.

Yellin is designated as trial counsel for Intervenor, Holy Name Medical Center, Inc.

COLE SCHOTZ P.C. Attorneys for Intervenor, Holy Name Medical Center, Inc.

By: <u>/s/ Michael R. Yellin</u> Michael R. Yellin

DATED: August 4, 2022

### **CERTIFICATION**

I certify that there are no related matters currently pending in any Court of competent jurisdiction. I further certify that, to the best of my knowledge, no other parties need be joined in this matter.

I certify that confidential personal identifiers have been redacted from documents now submitted to the court, and will be redacted from all documents submitted in the future in accordance with <u>Rule</u> 1:38-7(b).

I certify that the foregoing statements made by me are true. I am aware that if any of the foregoing statements made by me are willfully false, I am subject to punishment.

/s/ Michael R. Yellin Michael R. Yellin

DATED: August 4, 2022

# **Civil Case Information Statement**

## Case Details: BERGEN | Civil Part Docket# L-002234-22

Case Caption: AKERMAN MICHAEL VS TOWNSHIP OF	Case Type: ACTIONS IN LIEU OF PREROGATIVE WRITS
TEANECK	Document Type: Answer
Case Initiation Date: 04/21/2022	Jury Demand: NONE
Attorney Name: MICHAEL R YELLIN	Is this a professional malpractice case? NO
Firm Name: COLE SCHOTZ PC	Related cases pending: NO
Address: COURT PLAZA NORTH 25 MAIN ST	If yes, list docket numbers:
HACKENSACK NJ 076017015	Do you anticipate adding any parties (arising out of same
Phone: 2014893000	transaction or occurrence)? NO
Name of Party: DEFENDANT : HOLY NAME MEDICAL	Does this case involve claims related to COVID-19? NO
CENTER INC.	
Name of Defendant's Primary Insurance Company	Are sexual abuse claims alleged by: MARC SCHLUSSEL? NO
(if known): None	
	Are sexual abuse claims alleged by: SHORANA SCHLUSSEL? NO
	Are sexual abuse claims alleged by: MICHAEL AKERMAN? NO
	Are sexual abuse claims alleged by: GEORGINA B ASANTE? NO
	Are sexual abuse claims alleged by: YAW ASANTE? NO
	Are sexual abuse claims alleged by: DANIEL BELLIN? NO
	Are served shugs claims alloged by DENA, DONIN SCHLUSSEL2
	Are sexual abuse claims alleged by: RENA DONIN SCHLUSSEL? NO
	Are sexual abuse claims alleged by: YARON HIRSCHKORN? NO
	Are sexual abuse claims alleged by: RACHEL KAYE? NO
	Ale sexual abuse claims aneged by. NACHEL NATE: NO
	Are assured above allowed by ARUPA LOWER NO
	Are sexual abuse claims alleged by: ASHIRA LOIKE? NO
	Are sexual abuse claims alleged by: ALAN RUBINSTEIN? NO
	Are sexual abuse claims alleged by: DAVID SCHLUSSEL? NO

#### THE INFORMATION PROVIDED ON THIS FORM CANNOT BE INTRODUCED INTO EVIDENCE CASE CHARACTERISTICS FOR PURPOSES OF DETERMINING IF CASE IS APPROPRIATE FOR MEDIATION

Do parties have a current, past, or recurrent relationship? YES

If yes, is that relationship: Business

Does the statute governing this case provide for payment of fees by the losing party? NO

Use this space to alert the court to any special case characteristics that may warrant individual management or accelerated disposition:

Do you or your client need any disability accommodations? NO If yes, please identify the requested accommodation:

Will an interpreter be needed? NO If yes, for what language:

Please check off each applicable category: Putative Class Action? NO Title 59? NO Consumer Fraud? NO

I certify that confidential personal identifiers have been redacted from documents now submitted to the court, and will be redacted from all documents submitted in the future in accordance with *Rule* 1:38-7(b)

08/04/2022 Dated /s/ MICHAEL R YELLIN Signed