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9	IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF ARIZONA	
10	IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF MARICOPA	
11		
12	AMERICAN OVERSIGHT,	Case No.: CV2021-008265 LC2021-000180-001
13	Plaintiff,	(Consolidated)
14	vs.	CYBER NINJAS INC.'S ANSWER
15	KAREN FANN, ET AL,	TO PLAINTIFF'S SECOND AMENDED COMPLAINT
16 17	Defendants.	
18	PHOENIX NEWSPAPERS, INC., ET AL,	
19	Plaintiffs,	(Assigned to the Hon. Michael W. Kemp)
20	vs.	
21	ARIZONA STATE SENATE, ET AL.,	
22		
23	Defendants, and	
24	CYBER NINJAS, INC.,	
25	<b>Real Party in Interest.</b>	
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Pursuant to Arizona Rules of Civil Procedure 8 and 12(a)(2)(A), Real Party in Interest
 Cyber Ninjas, Inc.("CNI"), by and through undersigned counsel, hereby answer the Plaintiff
 American Oversight's Second Amended Special Action Complaint (the "Complaint") as follows:

The first six paragraphs of the Complaint are prolix and not numbered in violation of Ariz.
R. Civ. P. 8 and 10. Although no response is necessary, to the extent one is required, CNI denies
the allegations in the first six paragraphs of the Complaint.

7 1. CNI lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the
8 allegations of Paragraph 1 of the Complaint and therefore denies the same.

9 2. CNI lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the
10 allegations of Paragraph 2 of the Complaint and therefore denies the same.

3. CNI admits that it has a contractual agreement with Arizona Senate regarding a
 certain audit. Defendant lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth
 of the remaining allegations of Paragraph 3 of the Complaint and therefore denies the same.

4. CNI lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the
allegations of Paragraph 4 of the Complaint and therefore denies the same.

16 5. CNI lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the
17 allegations of Paragraph 5 of the Complaint and therefore denies the same.

18 6. CNI lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the
19 allegations of Paragraph 6 of the Complaint and therefore denies the same.

20 7. CNI lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the
21 allegations of Paragraph 7 of the Complaint and therefore denies the same.

8. CNI lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the
allegations of Paragraph 8 of the Complaint and therefore denies the same.

9. CNI admits that on July 15, 2021, the Court entered a Minute Entry which stated,
"CNI [Cyber Ninjas] and the subvendors are clearly agents of the Senate Defendants." CNI denies
the remaining allegations in Paragraph 9 of the Complaint.

10. CNI denies the allegations in Paragraph 10 of the Complaint.

11. CNI admits the allegations in Paragraph 11 of the Complaint.

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12. CNI admits the allegations in Paragraph 12 of the Complaint.

13. Paragraph 13 of the Complaint states a legal conclusion to which no response is
required. To the extent a response is deemed necessary, CNI answer that the Court already "set a
speedy return date" in its order granting the Plaintiff's Second Application for an Order to Show
Cause. CNI deny any remaining allegations in Paragraph 13 of the Complaint.

14. CNI admits the allegations in Paragraph 14 of the Complaint.

7 15. The allegations in Paragraph 15 of the Complaint are not relevant to any claims or
8 defenses in this matter. Subject to the foregoing, CNI admits the allegations in Paragraph 15 of
9 the Complaint.

10 16. The allegations in Paragraph 16 of the Complaint are not relevant to any claims or
11 defenses in this matter. Subject to the foregoing, lacks knowledge or information sufficient to
12 form a belief as to the truth of the allegations of Paragraph 16 of the Complaint and therefore
13 denies the same.

14 17. CNI admits that the hand count in Maricopa County of less than a quarter of a
15 percentage—24%—of the total ballots cast in the county did not show any discrepancies from the
16 certified election results. CNI denies the claim that the "audits" of the tabulation machines and
17 software, confirmed the election results were accurate. These "audits" did not review any election
18 results. CNI states that any "audits" allegedly conducted by non-party Maricopa County are not
19 relevant to any claim or defense in this proceeding, which arises solely under the Arizona Public
20 Records Act ("PRL"). CNI deny any remaining allegations in paragraph 17 of the Complaint.

18. The allegations in Paragraph 18 are not relevant to any claims or defenses in this
matter. Subject to the foregoing, CNI lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief
as to the truth of the allegations of Paragraph 18 of the Complaint and therefore denies the same.

19. The allegations in Paragraph 19 are not relevant to any claims or defenses in this
matter and are prolix. Subject to the foregoing, CNI lacks knowledge or information sufficient to
form a belief as to the truth of the allegations of Paragraph 19 of the Complaint and therefore
denies the same.

20. The allegations in Paragraph 20 are prolix and not relevant to any claims or defenses
 in this matter. Subject to the foregoing, CNI lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a
 belief as to the truth of the allegations of Paragraph 20 of the Complaint and therefore denies the
 same.

5 21. CNI lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the
6 allegations of Paragraph 21 of the Complaint and therefore denies the same.

7 22. CNI lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the
8 allegations of Paragraph 22 of the Complaint and therefore denies the same.

9 23. CNI lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the
10 allegations of Paragraph 23 of the Complaint and therefore denies the same.

24. CNI lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the
allegations of Paragraph 24 of the Complaint and therefore denies the same.

13 25. CNI lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the
14 allegations of Paragraph 25 of the Complaint and therefore denies the same.

CNI lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the
allegations of Paragraph 26 of the Complaint and therefore denies the same.

17 27. CNI lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the18 allegations of Paragraph 27 of the Complaint and therefore denies the same.

28. CNI lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of theallegations of Paragraph 28 of the Complaint and therefore denies the same.

21 29. CNI lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the
22 allegations of Paragraph 29 of the Complaint and therefore denies the same.

30. CNI admits that it is an out-of-state private company, and it was selected to conduct
an audit. CNI lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the
remaining allegations of Paragraph 30 of the Complaint and therefore denies the same.

26 31. CNI admits its CEO, Doug Logan, tweeted statements highlighting anomalies that
27 could indicate problems with the 2020 election. This included retweeting one statement by
28 Republican Party Chair Kelly Ward suggesting that those ballots that went through adjudication

should be reviewed. CNI denies any other public statements. However, the allegations of
 Paragraph 31 are irrelevant to the claims and defenses of this matter.

3 32. CNI admits its CEO, Doug Logan, created a document for U.S. Senators who 4 wished to put data in the Congressional record during the certification hearings that suggested 5 issues in the 2020 election. CNI denies that this document contained disproven or baseless 6 conspiracy theories. The document itself included copies of primary source material of which the 7 claims were based on, including such items as SEC filings and affidavits. However, the allegations 8 of Paragraph 32 of the Complaint are irrelevant to the claims and defenses of this matter.

33. CNI admits its CEO, Doug Logan, tweeted statements highlighting anomalies that
could indicate problems with the 2020 election. This included retweeting one statement by
Republican Party Chair Kelly Ward suggesting that those ballots that went through adjudication
should be reviewed. CNI denies any other public statements. However, the allegations of
Paragraph 33 of the Complaint are irrelevant to the claims and defenses of this matter.

14 34. CNI admits that Paragraph 34 of the Complaint appears to accurately recite a
15 "tweet" by non-party Doug Logan. However, the allegations of Paragraph 34 are irrelevant to
16 claims and defenses in this matter.

17 35. CNI admits that President Fann retained CNI to conduct the audit. CNI lacks
18 knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the remaining allegations
19 of Paragraph 35 of the Complaint and therefore denies the same.

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36. CNI admits to the allegations in Paragraph 36.

21 37. CNI admits to the allegations in Paragraph 37. However, the Senate has refused to
22 pay CNI the remaining balance owed under the contract.

38. CNI admits Paragraph 38 of the Complaint accurately reproduces parts of the
Master Service Agreement ("MSA"). CNI denies that the quoted section is in Section 12.3 of
Exhibit 8 attached to the Complaint.

26 39. CNI admits Paragraph 39 of the Complaint accurately reproduces parts of the MSA.
27 CNI denies that the quoted section is in Section 15.4. of Exhibit 8 attached to the Complaint.

40. CNI admits that the \$150,000 of public funds did not cover the entire costs of the
 audit and donations by third parties have assisted in the cost of the audit. CNI denies the remaining
 allegations in Paragraph 40.

4 41. CNI admits that Paragraph 41 accurately reproduces a portion of the Lin Wood's
5 telegram. However, the Paragraph 41 is irrelevant to any claims and defenses regarding the subject
6 matter of this action. Further, CNI lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as
7 to the truth of the remaining allegations of Paragraph 41 of the Complaint and therefore denies
8 the same.

9 42. CNI admits that paragraph 42 of the Complaint accurately recites a "tweet" by a
10 non-party named Christina Bobb. However, the Paragraph 42 of the Complaint is irrelevant to any
11 claims and defenses regarding the subject matter of this action. Further, CNI lacks knowledge or
12 information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the remaining allegations of Paragraph 42
13 of the Complaint and therefore denies the same.

CNI admits that paragraph 43 accurately relays the substance of the cited CBS News
story but it is without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the
CBS News story's statements, and therefore denies the same. CNI denies any remaining
allegations in Paragraph 43 of the Complaint.

18 44. CNI lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the19 allegations of Paragraph 44 of the Complaint and therefore denies the same.

20 45. CNI lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the
21 allegations of Paragraph 45 of the Complaint and therefore denies the same.

46. CNI admits that Paragraph 46 of the Complaint accurately reproduces certain parts
of a July 28, 2021, press release. CNI further answers that certain non-privileged documents have
already been produced. CNI denies the remaining allegations in Paragraph 46 of the Complaint.

47. CNI admits that that Paragraph 47 of the Complaint accurately reproduces certain
parts of a July 28, 2021 press release. CNI further answers that certain non-privileged documents
have already been produced. CNI denies the remaining allegations in Paragraph 47 of the
Complaint.

48. CNI admits the allegations in Paragraph 48 of the Complaint.

49. CNI admits that the Arizona Democratic Party and Maricopa County Supervisor
Steve Gallardo brought the lawsuit described in Paragraph 49 of the Complaint but denies the
claims brought in such lawsuit were factually or legally valid. CNI denies any remaining
allegations in paragraph 49 of the Complaint.

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

51. CNI admits the allegations in Paragraph 51 of the Complaint.

52. CNI admits the allegations in Paragraph 52 of the Complaint.

53. CNI admits the allegations in Paragraph 53 of the Complaint.

10 54. CNI denies the allegations in Paragraph 54 that the documents that were released
 11 pursuant to the *ADP* litigation were "public records" within the meaning of the PRL. ADP did not
 12 assert the documents were public records, nor did the court consider whether the documents were
 13 public records.

14 55. CNI admits that Paragraph 55 of the Complaint accurately reproduces one sentence
15 from Exhibit 11 attached to the Complaint. CNI lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form
16 a belief as to the truth of any remaining allegations of Paragraph 55 of the Complaint and therefore
17 denies the same.

18 56. CNI admits that Paragraph 56 of the Complaint accurately reproduces one sentence
19 from Exhibit 11 attached to the Complaint. CNI lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form
20 a belief as to the truth of any remaining allegations of Paragraph 56 of the Complaint and therefore
21 denies the same.

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57. CNI admits the allegations in Paragraph 57 of the Complaint.

58. CNI admits that there is a "compelling public interest" in the audit but denies that
any alleged "public interest" is material to any to the subject matter of this action. CNI denies any
remaining allegations in Paragraph 58 of the Complaint.

26 59. CNI lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the
27 allegations of Paragraph 59 of the Complaint and therefore denies the same.

60. CNI admits the allegations in Paragraph 60.

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CNI lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the
 allegations of Paragraph 61 of the Complaint and therefore denies the same.

3 62. CNI lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the
4 allegations of Paragraph 62 of the Complaint and therefore denies the same.

63. CNI lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the
allegations of Paragraph 63 of the Complaint and therefore denies the same.

64. CNI lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the
8 allegations of Paragraph 64 of the Complaint and therefore denies the same.

9 65. CNI lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the
10 allegations of Paragraph 65 of the Complaint and therefore denies the same.

66. CNI lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the
allegations of Paragraph 66 of the Complaint and therefore denies the same.

13 67. CNI lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the
14 allegations of Paragraph 67 the Complaint and therefore denies the same.

68. CNI lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the
allegations of Paragraph 68 of the Complaint and therefore denies the same.

69. CNI lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of theallegations of Paragraph 69 of the Complaint and therefore denies the same.

19 70. CNI lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the
20 allegations of Paragraph 70 of the Complaint and therefore denies the same.

21 71. CNI lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the
22 allegations of Paragraph 71 of the Complaint and therefore denies the same.

23 72. CNI lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the
24 allegations of Paragraph 72 of the Complaint and therefore denies the same.

73. CNI lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the
allegations of Paragraph 73 of the Complaint and therefore denies the same.

27 74. CNI lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the
28 allegations of Paragraph 74 of the Complaint and therefore denies the same.

175. CNI lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the2allegations of Paragraph 75 of the Complaint and therefore denies the same.

3 76. CNI lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the
4 allegations of Paragraph 76 of the Complaint and therefore denies the same.

5 77. CNI lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the
6 allegations of Paragraph 77 of the Complaint and therefore denies the same.

7 78. CNI lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the
8 allegations of Paragraph 78 of the Complaint and therefore denies the same.

9 79. CNI lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the
10 allegations of Paragraph 79 of the Complaint and therefore denies the same.

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## Failure to Promptly Produce Records

80. CNI lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the
allegations of Paragraph 80 of the Complaint and therefore denies the same.

14 81. CNI lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the
15 allegations of Paragraph 81 of the Complaint and therefore denies the same.

16 82. CNI lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the
17 allegations of Paragraph 82 of the Complaint and therefore denies the same.

18 83. CNI lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the
19 allegations of Paragraph 83 of the Complaint and therefore denies the same.

20 84. CNI lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the
21 allegations of Paragraph 84 of the Complaint and therefore denies the same.

22 85. CNI lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the
23 allegations of Paragraph 85 of the Complaint and therefore denies the same.

24 86. CNI lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the
25 allegations of Paragraph 86 of the Complaint and therefore denies the same.

26 87. CNI lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the
27 allegations of Paragraph 87 of the Complaint and therefore denies the same.

88. CNI lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the
 allegations of Paragraph 88 of the Complaint and therefore denies the same.

3 89. CNI lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the
4 allegations of Paragraph 89 of the Complaint and therefore denies the same.

5 90. CNI lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the
6 allegations of Paragraph 90 of the Complaint and therefore denies the same.

7 91. CNI lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the
8 allegations of Paragraph 91 of the Complaint and therefore denies the same.

9 92. CNI lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the
10 allegations of Paragraph 92 of the Complaint and therefore denies the same.

93. CNI lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the
allegations of Paragraph 93 of the Complaint and therefore denies the same.

13 94. CNI lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the
14 allegations of Paragraph 94 of the Complaint and therefore denies the same.

15 95. CNI lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the
16 allegations of Paragraph 95 of the Complaint and therefore denies the same.

17 96. CNI lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the
18 allegations of Paragraph 96 of the Complaint and therefore denies the same.

19 97. CNI lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the20 allegations of Paragraph 97 of the Complaint and therefore denies the same.

21 98. CNI lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the
22 allegations of Paragraph 98 of the Complaint and therefore denies the same.

23 99. CNI lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the
24 allegations of Paragraph 99 of the Complaint and therefore denies the same.

25 100. CNI lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the
26 allegations of Paragraph 100 of the Complaint and therefore denies the same.

27 101. CNI lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the
28 allegations of Paragraph 101 of the Complaint and therefore denies the same.

1 102. CNI lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the
 2 allegations of Paragraph 102 of the Complaint and therefore denies the same.

#### Joinder of Cyber Ninjas

4 103. CNI admits that Paragraph 103 of the Complaint accurately reproduces certain parts
5 of the Court's Minute Entry dated July 15, 2021.

6 104. CNI admits that Paragraph 104 of the Complaint accurately reproduces certain parts
7 of the Court's Minute Entry dated August 2, 2021.

105. Cyber Ninjas denies the allegations in Paragraph 105 of the Complaint.

9 106. CNI admits the Paragraph 106 of the Complaint of the Complaint accurately
10 reproduces a certain portion of CNI's Response to Appl. For OSC filed on July 27, 2021.

11 107. CNI admits that the Petition for Special Action filed with the Arizona Court of
 12 Appeal that it possessed around sixty thousand (60,000) documents. CNI denies any remaining
 13 allegations in Paragraph 107 of the Complaint.

108. CNI admits the allegations in Paragraph 108 of the Complaint.

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

110. CNI denies the allegations in Paragraph 110 of the Complaint?

17 111. Paragraph 111 of the Complaint accurately reproduces a certain portion of Exhibit
18 32 of the Complaint. CNI denies any remaining allegations in Paragraph 111 of the Complaint.

19 112. CNI admits that it provided documents to the Senate. In addition to the documents,
20 CNI provided over 120,000 images to the Senate. CNI lacks knowledge or information sufficient
21 to form a belief as to the truth of any remaining allegations of Paragraph 112 of the Complaint
22 and therefore denies the same.

113. CNI admits the allegations in Paragraph 113 of the Complaint.

24 114. CNI denies the allegation that it has refused to produce additional public records.
25 CNI admits the remaining allegations in Paragraph 114 of the Complaint.

26 115. CNI admits Paragraph 115 accurately reproduces a certain part of Mr. Logan's letter
27 dated October 28, 2021. CNI denies the remaining allegations in Paragraph 115 of the Complaint.

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1 116. Paragraph 116 of the Complaint does not accurately represent the transcript attached
 as Exhibit 35 of the Complaint. Cyber Ninjas stated that it had 60,000 documents for relevant time
 period and its references to 10,000, tens of thousands, and 60,000 were only estimates. CNI denies
 any remaining allegations in Paragraph 116 of the Complaint.

117. CNI admits the allegations in Paragraph 117 of the Complaint.

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

7 119. CNI admits that as of November 30, 2021, it had not produced certain emails with
8 subcontractors. Pages 13-14 of Exhibit 37 do not reference invoices, and contracts, Therefore,
9 CNI denies the remaining allegations in Paragraph 119.

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120. CNI admits the allegations Paragraph 120.

121. CNI denies the allegations in Paragraph 121.

12 122. CNI admits that it is in possession of documents related to the audit. CNI denies that
13 the documents are subject to disclosure under PRL and CNI denies any remaining allegations in
14 Paragraph 122 of the Complaint.

15 123. CNI lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the
16 allegations of Paragraph 123 of the Complaint and therefore denies the same.

17 124. CNI admits that public statements were made about the progress. CNI denies the18 remaining allegations of Paragraph 124.

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# COUNT 1

### (Violation of Arizona Public Records Law – Failure to Produce or Provide Access)

21 125. CNI incorporates by reference their answers to the foregoing paragraphs of the
22 Complaint as if fully set forth herein.

23 126. CNI admits that Paragraph 126 of the Complaint accurately reproduces selected
24 excerpts from A.R.S. § 39-121.01(B) but denies that Plaintiff is entitled to any relief pursuant to
25 that statute, and denies any remaining allegations in Paragraph 126 of the Complaint.

26 127. Paragraph 127 of the Complaint states a legal conclusion to which no response is
27 required. To the extent a response is deemed necessary, CNI admits that the PRL defines the term
28 "officer" to include "any person elected or appointed to hold any elective or appointive office of

1 any public body," but denies any remaining allegations in paragraph 127 of the Complaint.

128. Paragraph 128 of the Complaint states a legal conclusion to which no response is
required. To the extent a response is deemed necessary, CNI admits that the PRL defines the term
"public body" to include the "legislature," but denies any remaining allegations in paragraph 128
of the Complaint.

6 129. CNI admits that Paragraph 129 of the Complaint accurately reproduces selected
7 excerpts from A.R.S. § 39-121 but denies that the Plaintiff is entitled to any relief pursuant to that
8 statute. CNI denies any remaining allegations in Paragraph 129 of the Complaint.

9 130. CNI admits that Paragraph 130 of the Complaint accurately reproduces selected
10 excerpts from *Scottsdale Unified Sch. Dist. No. 48 of Maricopa Cnty. v. KPNX Broad.*, 191 Ariz.
11 297 (1998), but denies that that case entitles Plaintiff to any relief or otherwise supports its claims.
12 CNI denies any remaining allegations in paragraph 130 of the Complaint.

13 131. CNI admits that Paragraph 131 of the Complaint accurately reproduces a selected
14 excerpt from *Carlson v. Pima Cnty.*, 141 Ariz. 487 (1984), but denies that that case entitles
15 Plaintiff to any relief or otherwise supports its claims. CNI denies any remaining allegations in
16 Paragraph 131 of the Complaint.

17 132. CNI lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the18 allegations of Paragraph 132 of the Complaint and therefore denies the same.

19 133. CNI lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the20 allegations of Paragraph 133 of the Complaint and therefore denies the same.

21 134. CNI admits the allegations in the first sentence of Paragraph 134 of the Complaint
22 but denies the remaining allegations in Paragraph 134 of the Complaint.

135. CNI denies the allegations of Paragraph 135 of the Complaint.

136. Paragraph 136 of the Complaint states legal arguments and conclusions to which no
response is required. To the extent a response is deemed necessary, the CNI denies the allegations
in Paragraph 136 of the Complaint.

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1 137. CNI denies the allegations in paragraph 137 of the Complaint, and further answers
 2 that only "public records" that are in the "custody" of a "public body" or "officer" are subject to
 3 a presumption of disclosure under the PRL.

4 138. Paragraph 138 of the Complaint states legal arguments and conclusions to which no
5 response is required. To the extent a response is deemed necessary, CNI denies the allegations in
6 paragraph 138 of the Complaint.

7 139. CNIs admits that Paragraph 139 of the Complaint accurately reproduces a selected
8 excerpt from *Phoenix Newspapers, Inc. v. Keegan*, 201 Ariz. 344 (App. 2001), but denies that
9 case entitles Plaintiff to any relief or otherwise supports its claims. CNI denies any remaining
10 allegations in Paragraph 139 of the Complaint.

11 140. CNI denies the allegations in Paragraph 140 of the Complaint and further answering
12 states that the alleged "broad and intense public interest" in any given alleged document is
13 immaterial to the claims or defenses in this proceeding.

14 141. Paragraph 141 of the Complaint states a legal conclusion to which no response is
15 required. To the extent a response is deemed necessary, CNI denies the allegations in Paragraph
16 141 of the Complaint.

17 142. CNI admits that Paragraph 142 accurately reproduces a selected excerpt from
18 *Phoenix New Times, LLC v. Arpaio*, 217 Ariz. 533 (App. 2008), but denies the remaining
19 allegations in paragraph 142 of the Complaint.

20 143. CNI denies the allegations in first sentence of Paragraph 143 of the Complaint. CNI
21 lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of any remaining
22 allegations of Paragraph 143 of the Complaint, and therefore denies the same.

144. CNI denies the allegations in Paragraph 144.

24 145. CNI denies the allegation in Paragraph 145. Further answering, CNI states that
25 A.R.S. § 39-121.01(D)(2) requires only that agencies produce an index of withheld records, and
26 CNI, as a private corporation does not fall under the term "agency."

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### **AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSES**

1. Plaintiff has failed to state a claim that grants relief.

2. Documents in CNI's possession related to the audit are not public records. 1 2 3. CNI are not required to produce, and Plaintiff is not entitled to receive, any record 3 that contains confidential personal or associational information protected by statute, common law, 4 or the federal or Arizona constitutions, irrespective of whether such record constitutes a "public 5 record." 6 4. CNI alleged agency relationship, if any, is limited to the scope within the MSA. 7 5. CNI is not an officer or an agency under the PRL. 8 PRAYER FOR RELIEF 9 WHEREFORE CNI respectfully requests that this Court order the following relief on 10 an expedited basis: 11 Plaintiff takes nothing by way of its Complaint; A. 12 B. Dismissing Plaintiff's Complaint with prejudice; WILENCHIK & BARTNESS 13 C. Awarding CNI its attorneys' fees and costs; and 14 D. Granting CNI such other relief as the Court deems just and appropriate. 15 **RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED** on March 24, 2022. 16 WILENCHIK & BARTNESS, P.C. 17 /s/ Jordan C. Wolff 18 Dennis I. Wilenchik, Esq. John "Jack" D. Wilenchik, Esq. 19 Jordan C. Wolff, Esq. 20The Wilenchik & Bartness Building 2810 North Third Street 21 Phoenix, Arizona 85004 22 admin@wb-law.com Attorneys for Defendant Cyber Ninjas, Inc. 23 24 25 26 27 28

**ELECTRONICALLY** filed March 24, 2022, via AZTurboCourt.com 2 **COPY** electronically transmitted by the Clerk 3 of the Court via AZTurboCourt.com to the Honorable Michael Kemp 4 **ELECTRONICALLY** served March 24, 2022 via 5 AZTurboCourt.com upon: 6 Kory Langhofer, Esq. 7 Chris Kleminich kory@statecraftlaw.com ckleminich@azleg.gov 8 Thomas Basile, Esq. Arizona State Senate tom@statecraftlaw.com **Rules** Attorney 9 1700 W. Washington St., Room 202 C STATECRAFT PLLC Phoenix, AZ 85007 10 649 North Fourth Avenue, First Floor Phoenix, AZ 85003 Attorneys for Arizona State Senate, Sen. Pres. 11 Attorneys for Arizona State Senate, Sen. Pres. Karen Fann, Sen. Judiciary Committee Karen Fann, Sen. Judiciary Committee Chairman Warren Petersen and Secretary of 12 Chairman Warren Petersen and Secretary of the Arizona State Senate Susan Aceves 13 the Arizona State Senate Susan Aceves 14 Keith Beauchamp, Esq. David J. Bodney, Esq. kbeauchamp@cblawyers.com bodneyd@ballardspahr.com 15 Roopali H. Desai, Esq. Craig C. Hoffman, Esq. 16 rdesai@cblawyers.com hoffmanc@ballardspahr.com D. Andrew Gaona, Esq. Matthew E. Kelley, Esq. 17 agaona@cblawyers.com kelleym@ballardspahr.com 18 **BALLARD SPAHR LLP COPPERSMITH BROCKELMAN PLC** 2800 North Central Avenue, Suite 1900 1 East Washington Street, Suite 2300 19 Phoenix, Arizona 85004 Phoenix, AZ 85004 Attorneys for Phoenix Newspapers, Inc. Attorneys for American Oversight 20and Kathy Tulumello 21 22 <u>/s/ Christine M. Ferreira</u> 23 24 25 26 27 28

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