From: Albert Seeno III <<u>albert@discoverybuilders.com</u>> Sent: Thursday, January 5, 2023, 3:31 PM To: Birsan, Edi <<u>Edi.Birsan@cityofconcord.org</u>>; Hoffmeister, Laura <<u>Laura.Hoffmeister@cityofconcord.org</u>>; Aliano, Dominic <<u>Dominic.Aliano@cityofconcord.org</u>>; Nakamura, Laura <<u>Laura.Nakamura@cityofconcord.org</u>>; Obringer, Carlyn <<u>Carlyn.Obringer@cityofconcord.org</u>> Subject: Statement Regarding 1/5/23 Editorial

Dear Mayor and Members of the Concord City Council,

As we approach Saturday's critical hearing with the Concord City Council on whether to advance to the next negotiating stage of the housing job generating project at the Concord Naval Weapons Station (CNWS), today's editorial in the East Bay Times has attempted to tie a familial legal dispute to this critical development.

Two years ago, after successfully managing the Seeno group of companies (owned by various Seeno family members) for many years, I was formally named the CEO of several companies via an employment agreement. This succession plan had been in the works for years and was approved by the Board of Directors and shareholders of the various Seeno companies. About a year after the agreement was approved, despite a track record of successful operation and execution on the long-term vision, my father, Albert Seeno Jr., decided he no longer wanted me to run the companies, and he sued to invalidate the employment agreement.

I categorically deny all my father's allegations. My primary concern is, and always has been, to manage the Seeno companies in the best interests of all owners, employees, and its homebuyers. Nevertheless, due to the outstanding performance of Discovery Builders and Seeno companies' staff, the companies remain successful and are moving forward. Together we are executing on the vision for the future.

The timing of this editorial is part of a persistent campaign to attack my family and its members. If accepted and used as intended, it will only deny Concord and the region this much needed and exciting housing and job generating project. The dispute and its subsequent media coverage is not material to the project, and its multitude of benefits. The editorial does nothing to advance the work required to entitle, process, or deliver the CNWS housing and job generating project as envisioned. It is just an attempt to revisit the selection process, a decision that was made by Concord 18+ months ago.

This whole dispute is unfortunate and embarrassing for myself, my father Albert D. Seeno Jr., and the rest of the Seeno family. Everyone that has worked with me closely knows I operate with the highest integrity, and I am proud of my family name, I am proud of the companies I manage, and I am proud to be building in the communities where our companies operate and invest. But most importantly I am proud of the Discovery/Seeno team members, which make all of it happen. The past, current and ongoing success of these companies is due to the hard work and commitment by the Discovery and Seeno team members. There is no reason for my father Albert D. Seeno Jr. to have filed the lawsuit, nor any reason for much of his recent behavior, nor any reason for his making outlandish, baseless claims; unfortunately, that is just sometimes the way it goes in family businesses. This will all be resolved in court eventually.

Thank you,

Albert D. Seeno III