THOMAS W. SNEDDON, JR., DISTRICT ATTORNEY 1 County of Santa Barbara 2 By: RONALD J. ZONEN (State Bar No. 85094) Senior Deputy District Attorney
GORDON AUCHINCLOSS (State Bar No. 150251) MAR 17 2005 3 Senior Deputy District Attorney GERALD McC. FRANKLIN (State Bar No. 40171) GARY M. BLAIR, Executive Officer 4 BY Carrie & Wagner Senior Deputy District Attorney 1105 Santa Barbara Street CARRIE L. WAGNER, Debuty Clerk 5 Santa Barbara, CA 93101 Telephone: (805) 568-2300 FAX: (805) 568-2398 6 7 8 SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA 9 FOR THE COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA SANTA MARIA DIVISION 10 REDACTED PURUSUANT TO CRC 2073 11 (EXHIBIT A) 12 No. 1133603 THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA 13 STATUS REPORT ON 14 Plaintiff. AGREEMENT BETWEEN PARTIES REGARDING 15 **DEFENDANT'S FINANCES** 16 MICHAEL JOE JACKSON DATE: March 17, 2005 17 Defendant. **TIME:** 9:30 AM 18 DEPT.: SM2 (Melville) 19 20 INTRODUCTION 21 To explain the devastating impact of the television show, Living with Michael 22 Jackson on defendant's current and future finances, the People seek to introduce the fact that 23. Jackson was already facing an enormous financial crisis at the time. This evidence serves two 24 relevant purposes. First it will show that defendant had a unique financial motive to control 25 the damage created by Gavin Arivizo's appearance on the Bashir program by manipulating and 26 controlling the entire Arvizo family. Second, it will show the enormity of the financial 27 28

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problem facing defendant by showing that 100s of millions of dollars were at stake. Because defendant's assets had been almost completely collateralized to cover his enormous debt, he faced a delicate balancing act to avoid falling into bankruptcy when these debts became due. If this were to happen, defendant could lose everything. Only in the context of this evidence can the jury fully understand the level of panic that had engulfed defendant and his employees which drove them to commit the offense charged in count one of the indictment.

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THE PEOPLE HAVE MADE GOOD FAITH EFFORTS TO MEET AND CONFER WITH DEFENDANT REGARDING EVIDENCE ON DEFENDANT'S FINANCIAL CONDITION

Pursuant to the court's order that parties meet and confer regarding the admission of financial evidence, the people prepared exhibit "A" from information provided by forensic accountants. This document was e-mailed to defense counsel Robert Sanger at 6:28 AM, Monday, March 15, 2005 and a hard copy was provided the later that day. After several attempts to confer with Mr. Sanger the next day, Mr. Sanger indicated he was too busy to deal with this issue and attorney Brian Oxman would be in charge of meeting and conferring on this matter. In fairness to Mr. Sanger, it is worth noting that he was handling cross examination of several witnesses that day and was preoccupied with that task. On Wednesday, March 16, 2003, defense counsel Brian Oxman was contacted concerning the proposal provided to him and he indicated that the defense had conferred on the subject and would not agree on any statement of Mr. Jackson's financial condition because of the scope of defendant's finances. It was explained to Mr. Oxman that the People would be happy to adjust the figures in Exhibit "A" provided the defense could justify such changes with trustworthy documentation. Mr. Oxman declined this offer.

Exhibit "A" identifies defendant's primary assets to be two catalogues of music copy writes. The first is known as the Sony/ATV catalogue and includes copy writes to the Beatles' and Elvis Pressley's music. The second catalogue is known as the MIJAC catalogue and is primarily a collection of copy writes to defendant's own music. Based upon financial

records provided by the defense and other sources, it is an established fact that in February of 2003, defendant's spending had been outstripping his earnings by millions of dollars for years. The result of this was that defendant had accrued an enormous amount of debt approaching 300 million dollar. Defendant's financial crisis will climax on December 20, 2005 when virtually all of this debt comes due and payable. Based upon records provided to the prosecution, defendant's financial liabilities exceed his assets by a considerable margin. If defendant is unable to service this enormous debt at that time he will lose all of his major assets and be forced into bankruptcy. At the time of the charged conspiracy, it was absolutely critical for defendant to maintain a positive public image in order to tip the financial scales in his favor.

CONCLUSION

The People have no choice but to ask the court to deny defendant's motion to quash and to proceed with the financial analysis of defendant's assets by a forensic expert. As promised, the People will commit to the court that this expert testimony will require less than one hour of direct testimony.

DATED: March 17, 2005

THOMAS W. SNEDDON, JR. District Attorney

By: 🔀

Gordon Auchincloss,

Senior Deputy District Attorney

- 1. I am a lawyer admitted to practice in the State of California. I am a Senior Deputy of the District Attorney of Santa Barbara County. I am one of the lawyers of record for the People, Plaintiff in this action.
- 2. Pursuant to the court's order that parties meet and confer regarding the admission of financial evidence, the people prepared attached exhibit "A" from information provided by Ben Sheffield of ALIX PARTNERS forensic accountants.
- 3. On Monday, March 14, 2005 I e-mailed this document to defense counsel, Robert Sanger and provided him with a hard copy the following day. After several attempts to confer with Mr. Sanger the next day, Mr. Sanger indicated he was too busy and attorney Brian Oxman would be in charge of meeting and conferring. In fairness to Mr. Sanger, it is worth noting that he was handling cross examination of several witnesses that day and was preoccupied with that task.
- 4. On Wednesday, March 16, 2003, I contacted defense counsel, Brian Oxman concerning the proposal I provided to him and he indicated that the defense had conferred on the subject and would not be able to agree on any statement of Mr. Jackson's financial condition because of the scope of defendant's finances. I explained to Mr. Oxman that the People would be happy to adjust the figures in Exhibit "A" provided the defense could justify such changes with trustworthy documentation. Mr. Oxman declined my offer.

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of California that the foregoing is true and correct, except as to matters stated upon my information and belief, and as to such matters I believe it to be true. I execute this declaration at Santa Barbara, California on March 17, 2005.

Gordon Auchincloss

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PROOF OF SERVICE

STATE OF CALIFORNIA **COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA**

I am a citizen of the United States and a resident of the County aforesaid; I am over the age of eighteen years and I am not a party to the within-entitled action. My business address is: District Attorney's Office; Courthouse; 1105 Santa Barbara Street, Santa Barbara, California 93101.

On March 17, 2005, I served the within STATUS REPORT ON AGREEMENT BETWEEN PARTIES REGARDING DEFENDANT'S FINANCES; on Defendant, by THOMAS A. MESEREAU, JR., ROBERT SANGER and BRIAN OXMAN by personal service in court.

> I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct. Executed at Santa Barbara, California on this 17th day of March, 2005.

> > Gordon Auchincloss















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