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FILED
SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA
COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA

JUN 06 2005

GARY M. BLAIR, Executive Officer
BY *Carrie L. Wagner*
CARRIE L. WAGNER, Deputy Clerk

5 Attorneys for NBC Universal, Inc.; CBS
Broadcasting Inc.; Fox News Network L.L.C.;
6 ABC, Inc.; Cable News Network LP, LLLP;
The Associated Press; *Los Angeles Times*; The
7 New York Times Company; The Washington
Post; and *USA Today*

8
9 SUPERIOR COURT, STATE OF CALIFORNIA
10 FOR THE COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA

11
12 THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF
CALIFORNIA,

13 Plaintiff,

14 vs.

15 MICHAEL JOE JACKSON,

16 Defendant.

Case No.: 1133603

**ACCESS PROPONENTS' REQUEST FOR
IMMEDIATE RELEASE OF BLANK
VERDICT FORM**

Date: Not set
Time: Not set
Place: Department SM-8,
Judge Rodney S. Melville

[VIA FACSIMILE]

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19 Access Proponents¹ respectfully ask the Court to immediately release the blank verdict form
20 it has provided the jury. The verdict form is a judicial record subject to the presumption of access
21 afforded by the First Amendment, the California Constitution, Rule 243.1 and the common law.
22 *NBC Subsidiary (KNBC-TV), Inc. v. Superior Court*, 20 Cal. 4th 1178 (1999). This form establishes
23 the framework for any verdict by the jury, and public access to the form now will enable the press to
24 better understand and accurately report and explain the verdict when it is read in open court. It will
25

26
27 ¹ NBC Universal, Inc.; CBS Broadcasting Inc.; Fox News Network L.L.C.; ABC, Inc.; Cable News
28 Network LP, LLLP; The Associated Press; *Los Angeles Times*; The New York Times Company;
The Washington Post; and *USA Today*.

1 also reduce the possibility the verdict will be misunderstood and misconstrued by the public. On the
2 other hand, it is hard to conceive of any harm that could result from providing the press with a copy
3 of the blank verdict form at this time and thus the presumption of openness cannot be defeated.

4 For the foregoing reasons, this Court should grant Access Proponents' request for the
5 immediate release of the blank verdict form in this case.

6 DATED: June 6, 2005

7 Respectfully submitted,

8 GIBSON, DUNN & CRUTCHER LLP
9 Theodore J. Boutros, Jr.
10 Michael H. Dore

11 By: *Theodore J. Boutros, Jr.*
12 Theodore J. Boutros, Jr.

13 Attorneys for NBC Universal, Inc.; CBS
14 Broadcasting Inc.; Fox News Network
15 L.L.C.; ABC, Inc.; Cable News Network
16 LP, LLLP; The Associated Press;
17 *Los Angeles Times*; The New York Times
18 Company; The Washington Post; and
19 *USA Today*

**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE
BY FAX AND REGULAR MAIL**

I, Jess Fernandez, hereby certify as follows:

I am employed in the County of Los Angeles, State of California; I am over the age of eighteen years and am not a party to this action; my business address is Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher LLP, 333 South Grand Avenue, Los Angeles, California 90071, in said County and State; I am employed in the office of Michael H. Dore, a member of the bar of this Court, and on June 6, 2005, I served the following:

ACCESS PROPONENTS' REQUEST FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE OF BLANK VERDICT FORM

on the interested parties in this action, by the following means of service:

BY MAIL: I placed a true copy in a sealed envelope addressed as indicated below, on the above-mentioned date. I am familiar with the firm's practice of collection and processing correspondence for mailing. It is deposited with the U.S. Postal Service on that same day in the ordinary course of business. I am aware that on motion of party served, service is presumed invalid if postal cancellation date or postage meter date is more than one day after date of deposit for mailing in affidavit.

16 17 18 19	Thomas W. Sneddon District Attorney Santa Barbara County 1105 Santa Barbara Street Santa Barbara, CA 93101-2007 Attorneys for Plaintiffs	Tel.: (805) 568-2300 Fax: (805) 568-2398
20 21 22	Thomas A. Mescreau, Jr. Collins, Mescreau, Reddock & Yu LLP 1875 Century Park East, 7th Floor Los Angeles, CA 90067 Attorneys for Defendant Michael Jackson	Tel.: (310) 284-3120 Fax:
23 24 25 26	Robert Sanger Sanger & Swysen, Lawyers 233 E. Carrillo Street, Suite C Santa Barbara, CA 93101 Co-Counsel for Defendant Michael Jackson	Tel.: (805) 962-4887 Fax: (805) 963-7311

1 **BY FACSIMILE:** From facsimile number (213) 229-7520, I caused each such document to be
2 transmitted by facsimile machine, to the parties and numbers indicated below, pursuant to
3 Rule 2008. The facsimile machine I used complied with Rule 2003(3) and no error was reported
4 by the machine. Pursuant to Rule 2008(e)(4), I caused the machine to print a transmission record
5 of the transmission, a copy of which is attached to the original of this declaration.

6 Thomas W. Sneddon 7 District Attorney 8 Santa Barbara County 9 1105 Santa Barbara Street 10 Santa Barbara, CA 93101-2007 11 Attorneys for Plaintiffs	Tel.: (805) 568-2300 Fax: (805) 568-2398
12 Thomas A. Mesereau, Jr. 13 Collins, Mesereau, Reddock & Yu LLP 14 1875 Century Park East, 7th Floor 15 Los Angeles, CA 90067 16 Attorneys for Defendant Michael Jackson	Tel.: (310) 284-3120 Fax:
17 Robert Sanger 18 Sanger & Swysen, Lawyers 19 233 E. Carrillo Street, Suite C 20 Santa Barbara, CA 93101 21 Co-Counsel for Defendant Michael 22 Jackson	Tel.: (805) 962-4887 Fax: (805) 963-7311

23 I certify under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing is
24 true and correct, that the foregoing document(s), and all copies made from same, were printed on
25 recycled paper, and that this Certificate of Service was executed by me on June 6, 2005, at
26 Los Angeles, California.

27 
28 Jess Fernandez

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