1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9	BRYAN M. GARRIE (SBN 131738) BRYAN M. GARRIE, APC Post Office Box 2731 La Jolla, California 92038 Telephone: (858) 459-0020 Facsimile: (858) 459-0777 MATTHEW P. TYSON (SBN 178427) LAW OFFICE OF MATTHEW P. TYSON 5580 La Jolla Blvd. #170 La Jolla, California 92037 Telephone: (619) 787-0614 Attorneys for Plaintiffs Maricela Javier, Uriel Jav SUPERIOR COURT OF THE	E STATE OF CALIFORNIA
11 12 13	MARICELA JAVIER; URIEL JAVIER; and DANIEL JAVIER, Plaintiffs,	Case No. 22STCV23403 Unlimited Jurisdiction Jury Trial Demanded
14 15 16 17	PROVIDENCE SAINT JOHN'S HEALTH CENTER; HOSSEIN NICK PIRASTEHFAR, MD; SCOTT PETER LAYNE, MD; ABIGAIL ELIZABETH BEGGS, MD; and DOE 1 through DOE 25, inclusive,	FIRST AMENDED COMPLAINT FOR SURVIVAL ACTION AND WRONGFUL DEATH SOUNDING IN: 1. CONSTRUCTIVE FRAUD; 2. MEDICAL BATTERY; AND
18 19 20	Defendants.	3. MEDICAL NEGLIGENCE; AND DECLARATION AS SUCCESSORS IN INTEREST TO VICTOR MANUEL JAVIER RUIZ
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Plaintiffs Maricela Javier (Maricela), Uriel Javier (Uriel), and Daniel Javier (Daniel) each alleges:

GENERAL ALLEGATIONS

Introduction

- 1. Maricela's husband of 27 years, Victor Manuel Javier Ruiz (Victor), was a healthy 54-year-old man who went to Providence Saint John's Health Center to receive diagnosis and treatment for persistent hiccups.
- 2. Victor did not receive a diagnosis or treatment for his hiccups and instead was diagnosed with COVID-19. Even if Victor was properly diagnosed with COVID-19, he faced a very low risk (less than 1% chance) of dying from COVID-19. But, Victor's risk of death dramatically changed for the worse (by 3,000%) when he was given high-risk and contraindicated drugs Remdesivir and Dexamethasone without the knowledge, or informed consent of Victor or Maricela.
- 3. Victor suffered a slow, painful death because his physicians failed to disclose the availability of a safe outpatient multi-drug early treatment for COVID-19, and instead gave high-risk and contraindicated drugs Remdesivir and Dexamethasone.
- 4. The Remdesivir and related treatment caused Victor to suffer kidney failure, severe and enduring pain and suffering including multiple organ failure, blindness, the amputation of both legs, and death, and it caused Maricela to suffer the loss of her husband.

Parties, Jurisdiction, and Venue

- 5. Maricela is an individual residing in Los Angeles County and the wife of, and a successor in interest to, her deceased husband, Victor.
- 6. Uriel in an individual residing in Los Angeles County and the son of, and a successor in interest to, his deceased father, Victor.

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- 7. Daniel in an individual residing in Los Angeles County and the son of, and a successor in interest to, his deceased father, Victor.
- 8. Plaintiffs have executed and filed with this complaint a sworn successor-ininterest declaration.
- 9. Plaintiffs, as successors in interest, seek survivor action general damages pursuant to Code of Civil Procedure Section 377.30, *et seq.*, including 377.34, subdivision (b).
- 10. Plaintiffs also seek wrongful death general and special damages pursuant to Code of Civil Procedure Section 377.60, *et seq*.
- 11. Defendant Providence Saint John's Health Center (Providence) is a California nonprofit corporation with its principal place of business in Los Angeles County and holds itself out as a "266-bed hospital with physicians, nurses, volunteers and support staff who work as a team to provide the best possible medical care to its patients and the community. . . . Providence Saint John's reputation for academically-based care guided by research and evidence-based medicine is due to the commitment to excellence by our physicians, nurses and caregivers. . . . Nearly every core service line at Providence Saint John's participates in research or clinical trials."
- 12. Defendants Hossein Nick Pirastehfah, MD, Scott Peter Layne, MD, and Abigail Elizabeth Beggs, MD (the Physicians) are California licensed physicians of unknown domicile who had privileges to provide medical care to patients at Providence.
- 13. The Physicians and DOE 1 through DOE 15, inclusive, were apparent and/or ostensible agents of Providence.
- 14. The true name and capacity and/or bases of liability of DOE 1 through DOE 25, inclusive, is unknown, and Plaintiff will seek leave to amend this complaint to identify their true names and capacities when known.

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- 15. On information and belief, each of the fictitiously named DOE defendants is responsible for, or has contributed to, the loss and damages alleged herein and the matters giving rise to the relief sought.
- 16. The conduct giving rise to the causes of action alleged herein occurred within Los Angeles County and within the City of Santa Monica.
 - 17. Maricela seeks a damages award of more than the \$25,000 jurisdictional limit.

Hiccups

- 18. During respiration, the lungs take in oxygen when the diaphragm contracts, and then release carbon dioxide when the diaphragm relaxes.
- 19. Hiccups are the product of CO₂ retention. This condition causes the diaphragm to contract out of rhythm and is paired with a "hic" sound as the spasm causes the larynx and vocal cords to close suddenly.
- 20. Hiccups, even when persistent, are simply, reliably, and completely resolved without pain in less than 10 minutes through use of the Bucci Method which induces sufficient hypercapnia to increase the level of InspCO₂ at the same level as EtCO₂ and to approximately 50 mm Hg.

Safe Outpatient Multi-Drug Early Treatment for COVID-19

- 21. Safe outpatient multi-drug early treatment (SOMDET) for COVID-19 patients using well-studied and low risk medications has been the community standard of care for physicians in Southern California and nationwide since the beginning of the pandemic.
- 22. SOMDET for COVID-19 has proven to be highly effective. For instance, local Southern California physicians George Fareed, MD and Brian Tyson, MD have treated more than 10,000 COVID-19 patients and had zero (0) patient deaths when SOMDET began within 7 days of the onset of symptoms.
 - 23. SOMDET presents a very low risk to the patient, and a very high rate of success.

Remdesivir

- 24. Remdesivir is a failed Ebola drug that was found to be terminally toxic to the kidneys. It was pulled from an Ebola study because more than fifty-three-percent (53%) of the Remdesivir recipients died.
- 25. In COVID-19 healthcare circles across the country, Remdesivir has carried the nickname "Run, death is near."
- 26. According to Peter McCullough, MD: "Remdesivir has two problems: First, it doesn't work. Second, it is toxic and kills people."
- 27. Remdesivir is medically unnecessary for treatment of COVID-19. An extensive study sponsored by the World Health Organization, conducted in 405 hospitals across 30 countries on more than 10,000 patients, found that Remdesivir does not help patients with COVID-19 survive, and that it does not shorten the recovery time for those COVID-19 patients who do survive.
- 28. On November 19, 2020 the World Health Organization's Guideline Development Group, a panel of international experts who provide advice to the agency, published their conclusion that there is no evidence that Remdesivir has meaningful effect on mortality or on other important outcomes for COVID-19 patients, such as the need for mechanical ventilation or time for clinical improvement.
- 29. On November 20, 2020 the World Health Organization published its conditional recommendation that physicians do **not** treat COVID-19 patients with Remdesivir. The conditional recommendation meant that there was not enough evidence to support its use.
- 30. Remdesivir presents risk of serious injury and death. Remdesivir presents a roughly three-thousand-percent (3,000%) increase in the rate of acute renal failure as compared to other drugs prescribed in comparable situations. Roughly one (1) out of every five (5) hospitalized COVID-19 patients who receives Remdesivir suffers acute renal failure.

Dexamethasone

- 31. Dexamethasone is a corticosteroid with a black box warning label due to its risk.
- 32. Dexamethasone is not FDA approved for treatment of COVID-19.
- 33. Dexamethasone presents a safety risk of worsening hyperglycemia in patients with diabetes mellitus and should not be administered for more than 10 days to treat COVID-19.
 - 34. Dexamethasone also presents a risk of worsening CO₂ retention and hiccups.

Fiduciary Duty and Constructive Fraud

- 35. A fiduciary must tell its principal of all information it possesses that is material to the principal's interests. A fiduciary's failure to share material information with the principal is constructive fraud.
- 36. A person of adult years and in sound mind has the right, in the exercise of control over his or her own body, to determine whether or not to submit to lawful medical treatment.
- 37. A physician is under a fiduciary duty to disclose all available choices regarding any prescribed course of therapy and of the potential risks of each choice. All information material to a patient's decision to receive or decline a particular medical treatment must be disclosed.
 - 38. A physician is under a fiduciary duty to disclose medical errors to a patient.
- 39. A physician must disclose personal interests unrelated to a patient's health, whether research or economic, that may affect the physician's professional judgment.
 - 40. It is medically unethical to administer an unnecessary medical treatment.
- 41. It is medically unethical, and a violation of California, federal, and International laws, to administer a medical treatment without informed consent.
- 42. Constructive fraud occurs when a physician breaches his or her fiduciary duty to disclose material information to their patient. No fraudulent intent is required, and reasonable reliance on the nondisclosure is presumed.

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Admission to Providence

- 51. On July 18, 2021 Victor and Maricela went to Providence.
- 52. Providence and the Physicians recognized Maricela as Victor's wife and an authorized decision-maker for Victor.
- 53. On arrival, Victor and Maricela only requested and authorized Providence and its Physicians to diagnose and treat Victor for his hiccups, and nothing else.
- 54. When Victor walked into the Providence emergency department at 10:06 am, he was not in acute distress, did not appear ill or diaphoretic, and he was alert and oriented.
- 55. Victor did not have any weakness, muscle aches, edema, or any other issues with his limbs, shoulders, thighs, or lower back, and he did not have a sore abdomen.
- 56. Victor did not have any discolored urine or decreased urination, and his creatine kinase level was normal. He eyes were aligned functioning normally.
 - 57. Victor did not come into the hospital with rhabdomyolysis.
- 58. Upon examination in the Providence emergency department, Victor did not have a cough, congestion, sore throat, rhinorrhea, vomiting, diarrhea, fever, chills, or loss of taste or smell. His chest x-ray was clear, and it was noted by Providence staff that "[n]o active disease is seen in the chest." Victor's temperature at 11:29 am was normal at 97.9 °F.
 - 59. Victor was given a PCR test for COVID-19 which returned a positive result.
- 60. A PCR test result does not measure infectiousness, and a positive result does not determine the presence of a viable SARS-CoV-2 virus or active infection.
- 61. In general, the cycle threshold value of a positive PCR test result is inversely related to the SARS-CoV-2 viral load, if any.
- 62. Before Victor submitted to the PCR test, each of the Physicians who had interacted with, or provided consultation for, Victor on July 18, 2021 failed to disclose to Victor or Plaintiffs that the test had not been approved by the FDA, that it would not measure

infectiousness or determine the presence of a viable SARS-CoV-2 virus or active infection, or that it presented a risk of a false positive result.

- 63. After Victor's PCR test result was returned, each of the Physicians who had interacted with, or provided consultation for, Victor on July 18, 2021 failed to disclose to Victor or Plaintiffs the cycle threshold value of the positive test result, or that the result may be a false positive, or that SOMDET was an available choice of treatment for SARS-CoV-2 and the risk of such treatment was extremely low.
- 64. Each of the Physicians who had interacted with, or provided consultation for, Victor also failed to disclose to Victor or Plaintiffs that his hiccups could be treated and completely resolved in less than 10 minutes without pain by use of the Bucci Method, and they failed to treat the hiccups.
- 65. Instead, Providence and each of the Physicians who had interacted with, or provided consultation for, Victor on July 18, 2021 prevented Victor and Plaintiffs from having physical contact.
- 66. Victor was admitted, denied visitation, and provided treatment on July 18, 2021 other than the requested and authorized care for hiccups, and did not receive SOMDET or referral to a SOMDET specialist.

High Risk Contraindicated Treatment Without Informed Consent

- 67. Victor was placed on forced oxygen while he still had CO₂ retention and hiccups.
- 68. Beginning on July 18, 2021, Victor was given Remdesivir for 5 days without the knowledge, consent, or informed consent of Victor or Plaintiffs. Each of the Physicians ordered or instructed the use of Remdesivir.
- 69. Beginning on July 18, 2021 Victor was given Dexamethasone for 12 days without the knowledge, consent, or informed consent of Victor or Plaintiffs. Each of the Physicians ordered or instructed the use of Dexamethasone.

- 70. The Remdesivir and Dexamethasone caused Victor's kidneys to fail and caused his diabetes mellitus to worsen.
 - 71. The Dexamethasone caused Victor's CO₂ retention and hiccups to worsen.
- 72. After three days of Remdesivir and Dexamethasone, Victor became agitated and could no longer tolerate the treatment at Providence.
- 73. Victor was prevented from having physical contact with Plaintiffs, but he was able to speak to Maricella by phone and told her that the hospital was injecting him with insulin and that he had gone blind as a result. Victor also said that he was afraid the hospital would not allow him to come home.
- 74. Instead of allowing Victor to receive visitation and physical contact from his wife and sons, discontinuing the forced oxygen, discontinuing Remdesivir, discontinuing Dexamethasone, and treating Victor's hiccups using the Bucci Method, Victor was loaded up with propofol and placed on a ventilator on July 21, just 3 days after walking to Providence with hiccups. This was the last time Maricela and Victor were able to speak to one another.
- 75. Victor's kidney failure and diabetes continued to worsen. Victor suffered acute kidney failure, became massively edematous, and he developed rhabdomyolysis and other life-threatening conditions.
- 76. The August 2, 2021 written evaluation from Providence's consulting nephrologist attempted to cover-up the cause of Victor's injuries, falsely stating that "the patient is noted to have come into the hospital with rhabdomyolysis."
- 77. Maricela and her sons were able see Victor through a window on only 2 occasions. During a viewing, they observed that Victor's eyeballs were looking in two different directions, away from each other. Victor's son, Uriel, asked a nurse what happened to Victor's eyes, and she said that Victor came into the hospital that way. Uriel immediately disputed the nurse's statement.

- 91. Plaintiffs were harmed. They suffered loss of love, affection, society, service, relationship, comfort, care, support, right of support, expectations of future support and counseling, companionship, solace and mental support, training, guidance, as well as other benefits and assistance, from Victor, economic loss, as well as funeral and related expenses. Maricela also suffered loss of intimacy.
- 92. The conduct of the Physicians and DOE Defendants to this cause of action were a substantial factor in causing Plaintiffs' harm.
- 93. Defendant Providence is directly and/or vicariously liable for the conduct of the Physicians and DOE defendants to this cause of action.
- 94. An officer, director, and/or managing agent of Defendant Providence authorized, approved and/or ratified the conduct of the Physicians and DOE Defendants to this cause of action.

SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION Survival Action and Wrongful Death Sounding in Medical Battery

By Plaintiffs Maricela Javier, Uriel Javier, and Daniel Javier Against:

Providence Saint John's Health Center, Hossein Nick Pirastehfar, MD, Scott Peter Layne, MD, Abigail Elizabeth Beggs, MD, And DOE 1 through DOE 25, Inclusive

- 95. Paragraphs 1-85 and 87-88 are re-alleged.
- 96. The Physicians and DOE Defendants to this cause of action performed a medical procedure without the consent of Victor or Plaintiffs. Alternatively, Victor or Plaintiffs consented to one medical procedure but the Physicians and DOE Defendants to this cause of action performed a substantially different medical procedure.
- 97. Victor was harmed. He suffered pre-death physical injuries, acute kidney failure, severe pain and suffering, and ultimately death.

1 PRAYER FOR RELIEF 2 Maricela Javier, Uriel Javier, and Daniel Javier each prays for entry of judgment in their 3 favor and against Providence Saint John's Health Center, Hossein Nick Pirastehfah, MD, Scott 4 Peter Layne, MD, Abigail Elizabeth Beggs, MD, and DOE 1 through DOE 25, for survivor pre-5 death pain and suffering general damages, wrongful death general and special damages, statutory 6 damages, costs of suit, and for such other and further relief as the court deems just. 7 8 Respectfully, 9 BRYAN M. GARRIE, APC 10 LAW OFFICE OF MATTHEW P. TYSON 11 12 Dated: October 10, 2022 By: BRYAN M. GARRIE 13 MATTHEW P. TYSON Attorneys for Plaintiffs Maricela Javier, 14 Uriel Javier, and Daniel Javier 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 /// 23 /// 24 /// 25 ///

DECLARATION AS SUCCESSORS IN INTEREST TO VICTOR MANUEL JAVIER RUIZ

We, Maricela Javier (Maricela), Uriel Javier (Uriel), and Daniel Javier (Daniel), declare:

- 1. We are the plaintiffs in above complaint for a survival action and wrongful death sounding in (1) constructive fraud, (2) medical battery, and (3) medical negligence.
- 2. The decedent in the complaint, Victor Manuel Javier Ruiz, was Maricela's husband of 27 years and the father of Uriel, Daniel, and Giovanni Javier (Giovanni).
- 3. Giovanni has elected to abandon and waive all of his rights, claims and any recovery of damages arising out of this wrongful death and survival action. A true and correct copy of his executed abandonment and waiver statement is attached as EXHIBIT 1.
- 4. No proceeding is now pending in California for administration of the decedent's estate.
- 5. We are the decedent's successors in interest (as defined in Section 377.11 of the California Code of Civil Procedure) and succeed to the decedent's interest in the action or proceeding.
- 6. No other person has a superior right to commence the action or proceeding or to be substituted for the decedent in the pending action or proceeding.
- 7. A true and correct certified copy of the decedent's death certificate is attached as EXHIBIT 2.
- 8. We declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of California that the foregoing is true and correct.
 - 9. This declaration was executed on October 10, 2022 in Los Angeles County.

By:	By:	By:
Maricela Javier	Uriel Javier	Daniel Javier

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We, Maricela Javier (Maricela), Uriel Javier (Uriel), and Daniel Javier (Daniel), declare:

- 1. We are the plaintiffs in above complaint for a survival action and wrongful death sounding in (1) constructive fraud, (2) medical battery, and (3) medical negligence.
- 2. The decedent in the complaint, Victor Manuel Javier Ruiz, was Maricela's husband of 27 years and the father of Uriel, Daniel, and Giovanni Javier (Giovanni).
- 3. Giovanni has elected to abandon and waive all of his rights, claims and any recovery of damages arising out of this wrongful death and survival action. A true and correct copy of his executed abandonment and waiver statement is attached as EXHIBIT 1.
- 4. No proceeding is now pending in California for administration of the decedent's estate.
- 5. We are the decedent's successors in interest (as defined in Section 377.11 of the California Code of Civil Procedure) and succeed to the decedent's interest in the action or proceeding.
- 6. No other person has a superior right to commence the action or proceeding or to be substituted for the decedent in the pending action or proceeding.
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 - 9. This declaration was executed on October 10, 2022 in Los Angeles County.

By: Maricela Javier By: Will Javier

Uriel Javier

3y: _

Daniel Javier



Abandonment and Waiver of all Rights, Claims and

Recovery of Damages Arising out of Wrongful death and/or Survival Action

I, Giovanni Javier, am a known heir to Victor Manuel Javier Ruiz (the Deceased), and am fully aware of my standing to assert a wrongful death and/or survival action against potential parties that may have been responsible for the death of the Deceased.

I have been informed that as a legal heir to the decedent, I am a necessary party for any wrongful death and/or survival action relating to the Deceased that may be prosecuted against potential parties that may have been responsible for the predeath injuries and/or the death of the Deceased.

I have also been informed that unless I consent to be named as a plaintiff in any wrongful death and/or survival action, I must be named as a nominal defendant in any such action pursuant to Code of Civil Procedure section 382. However, after careful consideration, I have decided that I do not want to be a plaintiff, nor do I want to be named as a nominal defendant in any wrongful death and/or survival action.

Based on the foregoing, I am fully and freely abandoning and waiving all rights, claims and recovery of damages associated with any wrongful death and/or survival action relating to the Deceased.

Upon abandoning and waiving all of my rights, claims and recovery of damages associated with any wrongful death and/or survival action relating to the Deceased, I acknowledge and understand that if any recovery of damages is obtained from any party as a result of any such wrongful death and/or survival action by way of any judgment, arbitration award and/or settlement, I am forever barred from participating in any financial recovery or pursuing any claims or rights against any anyone for any sums of money or other compensation.

If a wrongful death and/or survival action relating to the Deceased is commenced in court or arbitration, I hereby instruct counsel for the plaintiff(s) to not include me as a plaintiff or nominal defendant, and instead I instruct counsel to provide the Court and any and all defendants with this Abandonment and Waiver of all Rights, Claims and Recovery of Damages Arising out of Wrongful death and/or Survival Action.

I acknowledge that I have had the right and sufficient time to retain legal counsel to advise me regarding my decision to abandon and waive my rights as set forth herein and understand the nature of this document before signing below.

I declare that all of the foregoing is true and correct and do so under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California.

Executed this 10th day of October, 2022, in the county of Los Angeles, California.

Printed Name:	
Signature:	
Address:	
Telephone:	

I acknowledge that I have had the right and sufficient time to retain legal counsel to advise me regarding my decision to abandon and waive my rights as set forth herein and understand the nature of this document before signing below.

I declare that all of the foregoing is true and correct and do so under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California.

Executed this 10th day of October, 2022, in the county of Los Angeles, California.

Printed Name: Giovanni Javich-Lopez

Signature: <u>Yiovanni Janzo</u>

Address: 430 Pico 31 vd.

Mit 209

Telephone: 310) 946-8077



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH 3202119050014 CERTIFICATE OF DEATH 3052021208294 STATE FR. E. PAUMAGER JAVIER RUIZ MANUEL VICTOR 01/06/1967 08/17/2021 1859 THE X NO DEE MARRIED MEXICO 612-54-1019 MEXICAN HS GRADUATE X MEXICAN 24 FOOD 1827 19TH ST APT 2 CA LOS ANGELES SANTA MONICA 1827 19TH ST APT 2, SANTA MONICA, CA 90404 MARICELA JAVIER, WIFE 29. MIDDLE LOPEZ MARICELA 32. MIDDLE MEXICO **JAVIER** DANIEL 35 NAME OF M MEXICO RUIZ ESTER 48 PRACE OF FINAL DISPOSITION SANTA MONICA WOODLAWN CEMETERY 1847 14TH ST, SANTA MONICA, CA 90404 08/27/2021 题 EMB9426 BRITTANY TAYLOR HOLTSON BU 题 MUNTU DAVIS MD PROVIDENCE SAINT JOHN'S HEALTH CENTER SANTA MONICA 2121 SANTA MONICA BLVD LOS ANGELES XX M COVID 19 X X 112. OTHER SIGNAFICANT CONDITIONS CONTINUATION TO BEATH SUT NOT RESIGNED IN THE URIDERSYND CAUSE GIVEN THE URIDERSYND CAUSE GIVEN THROMBOSIS, ACUTE RENAL FAILURE DRY GANGRENE OF BILATERAL LOWER EXTREMITIES, DEEP VEIN THROMBOSIS, ACUTE RENAL FAILURE Y 08/24/2021 A135857 SEAN - DOOLEY, MD 118 THE ATTENDED PAYSCIAN'S HAME, MALING ADDRESS, 29 COOR SEAN DOOLEY, M.D. 2121 SANTA MONICA BLVD, SANTA MONICA, CA 90404 08/17/2021 SCRIBE HOW INJURY OCCUPRED (Events w 125. LOCATION OF INJURY (Street and number, or location, and city, and pro-126. SIGNATURE OF CORONER / DEPUTY CORONER CENSUS TRACT CERTIFIED COPY OF VITAL RECORD STATE OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES This is a true certified copy of the record filed in the County of Los Angeles Department of Public Health if it bears the Registrar's signature in purple ink. 003066343 AUG 26 | 2021 Health Office DO 22 an engraved border, displaying the date, seal and signature of the Registra ALIFORNI ANY ALTERATION OR ERASURE VOIDS THIS CERTIFICATE