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IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA
SAN FRANCISCO DIVISION

GAVIN NEWSOM, in his official capacity as
Governor of the State of California, et al.,

Plaintiffs,

v.

DONALD J. TRUMP, in his official capacity as
President of the United States of America, et al.,

Defendants.

Case No. 3:25-cv-04870-CRB

**DEFENDANTS' CORRECTED
OPPOSITION TO PLAINTIFFS' MOTION
FOR A TEMPORARY RESTRAINING
ORDER¹**

¹ Consistent with the Court's order, Defendants filed this brief within 24 hours of Plaintiffs' brief. Defendants encountered technical difficulties while finalizing their brief that prevented them from generating tables and adding the formatting required by Local Rules. This Opposition is corrected only as follows: (1) updated formatting to conform to the Court's Rules, *see* Loc. Civ. R. 3-4(c); (2) inclusion of a table of contents; and (3) inclusion of a table of authorities. No changes have been made in the substance of Defendants' Opposition. Defendants have conferred with counsel for Plaintiffs regarding these corrections and Plaintiffs have no objection to the filing of this Corrected Opposition.

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2 **Legislative Materials**

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6 **Other Authorities**

7 *Emergency Power and the Militia Acts*, Stephen I. Vladeck,
8 114 Yale L.J. 149 (2004) 4

9 Rebellion, *Black's Law Dictionary* (12th ed. 2024) 12, 13

INTRODUCTION

In a crass political stunt endangering American lives, the Governor of California seeks to use this Court to stop the President of the United States from exercising his lawful statutory and constitutional power to ensure that federal personnel and facilities are protected. But, under the Constitution, the President is the Commander in Chief of the armed forces, and the President is responsible for ensuring the protection of federal personnel and federal facilities. Over the past several days, violent rioters who object to enforcement of federal immigration laws have targeted and damaged federal buildings, injured federal personnel, and impeded federal functions. The L.A. Police Department (“LAPD”) and other local and state law enforcement have been unable to bring order to the city. Indeed, in a press conference, the LAPD Chief of Police lamented that “things have gotten out of control” and warned that “somebody could easily be killed.”² Evaluating the unrest and threats to the enforcement of federal law that local and state authorities were unable or unwilling to control, the President responded by using the authority vested in him by statute and the Constitution to federalize and deploy the California National Guard to protect federal personnel and property, quell the mobs, and restore order. When the situation escalated further, the Secretary of Defense deployed a group of U.S. Marines to further assist.

There is no rioters’ veto to enforcement of federal law. And the President has every right under the Constitution and by statute to call forth the National Guard and Marines to quell lawless violence directed against enforcement of federal law. Yet instead of working to bring order to Los Angeles, California and its Governor filed a lawsuit in San Francisco seeking a court order limiting the federal government’s ability to protect its property and officials. The extraordinary relief Plaintiffs request would judicially countermand the Commander in Chief’s military directives—and would do so in the posture of a temporary restraining order, no less. That would be unprecedented. It would be constitutionally anathema. And it would be dangerous.

² Michele McPhee, “LAPD Chief Jim McDonnell Says, ‘Violence I Have Seen is Disgusting,’ Recounting Attacks on Cops” (June 8, 2025), *Los Angeles Magazine*, <https://lamag.com/news/lapd-chief-jim-mcdonnell-says-violence-i-have-seen-is-disgusting-recounting-attacks-on-cops>.

1 On the merits, Plaintiffs' claims are baseless. The President properly invoked his statutory
2 authority to federalize the California National Guard under 10 U.S.C. § 12406. Plaintiffs admit
3 that Los Angeles has experienced "unrest," but ask this Court to second-guess the President's
4 judgment that federal reinforcements were necessary. That is precisely the type of sensitive
5 judgment that is committed to the President's discretion by law, and to which courts owe the
6 highest deference. The statute empowers *the President* to determine what forces "*he* considers
7 necessary" to "suppress" a "rebellion" or to "execute" federal "laws"—not the Governor, and not
8 a federal court. Plaintiffs also object that the President did not consult with, or obtain the consent
9 of, the Governor, but the statute imposes no such requirement. It merely directs, as a procedural
10 matter, that the *President's* orders be conveyed "through" the Governor. They were.

11 Plaintiffs' objection based on the Posse Comitatus Act is equally misdirected. Neither the
12 National Guard nor the Marines are engaged in law enforcement. Rather, they are *protecting* law
13 enforcement, consistent with longstanding practice and the inherent protective power to provide
14 for the safety of federal property and personnel. Plaintiffs offer no contrary evidence, only a
15 speculative assertion that the National Guard and Marines will be used for unlawful purposes in
16 the future. That speculation cannot justify the extraordinary remedy they seek.

17 The balance of equities likewise cuts decisively against any judicial intervention in the
18 President's military judgments and deployments. Particularly in the realms of law enforcement
19 and national security, the separation of powers counsels against such interference. And, if the
20 Court were to grant the relief that Plaintiffs seek, that could cripple the federal government's law
21 enforcement operations and, as the local Police Chief explained, even lead to a loss of life.

22 Courts did not interfere when President Eisenhower deployed the military to protect school
23 desegregation. Courts did not interfere when President Nixon deployed the military to deliver the
24 mail in the midst of a postal strike. And courts should not interfere here either.
25
26
27
28

BACKGROUND

I. The National Guard System

The Constitution authorizes Congress both to raise and support a national Army and to organize “the Militia.” *See* U.S. Const. art. I, § 8, cl. 15 (granting Congress the power to “call[] forth the Militia to execute the Laws of the Union, suppress Insurrections and repel Invasions”). The “Militia” of old is now the modern-day National Guard.³ The National Guard consists of “two overlapping, but legally distinct, organizations. Congress, under its constitutional authority to ‘raise and support armies’ has created the National Guard of the United States, a federal organization comprised of state national guard units and their members.” *Perpich v. Dep’t of Def.*, 496 U.S. 334, 338 (1990) (quoting *Perpich v. U.S. Dep’t of Def.*, 666 F. Supp. 1319, 1320 (D. Minn. 1987)). It is composed of both the State National Guard, under the command of the several States, and the National Guard of the United States, a federal entity enmeshed in the federal chain of command.

The Guard wears two hats: “Since 1933 all persons who have enlisted in a State National Guard unit have simultaneously enlisted in the National Guard of the United States. In the latter capacity they became a part of the Enlisted Reserve Corps of the Army, but unless and until ordered to active duty in the Army, they retain[] their status as members of a separate State Guard unit.” *Perpich*, 496 U.S. at 345. While ordered into federal service, “members of the National Guard . . . lose their status as members of the state militia,” *id.* at 347, and become federal soldiers with the President as the Commander in Chief of those forces. *See* U.S. Const. art. II § 2.

II. 10 U.S.C. § 12406

Congress has granted the President several authorities under which he may call forth the National Guard, including the Insurrection Act (which is not at issue in this case), as well as other

³ The composition and classes of the militia are defined in 10 U.S.C. § 246, which provides that the National Guard is part of the “organized militia.”

1 authorities such as 10 U.S.C. § 12406 (which the President invoked here).

2 The statutory lineage of Section 12406 begins with the First Militia Act of 1792, which,
 3 among other things, was used by George Washington to respond to the Whiskey Rebellion.⁴ *See*
 4 *Note: Emergency Power and the Militia Acts*, Stephen I. Vladeck, 114 Yale L.J. 149 at 160 (2004).
 5 Today, in its entirety, Section 12406 provides:

6 Whenever-

7 (1) the United States, or any of the Commonwealths or possessions, is invaded or
 8 is in danger of invasion by a foreign nation;

9 (2) there is a rebellion or danger of a rebellion against the authority of the
 Government of the United States; or

10 (3) the President is unable with the regular forces to execute the laws of the United
 States;

11 the President may call into Federal service members and units of the National Guard
 of any State in such numbers as he considers necessary to repel the invasion,
 12 suppress the rebellion, or execute those laws. Orders for these purposes shall be
 issued through the governors of the States or, in the case of the District of Columbia,
 13 through the commanding general of the National Guard of the District of Columbia.

14 10 U.S.C. § 12406.

15 **III. The Riots and Violence in Los Angeles**

16
 17 On Friday, June 6, 2025, officers from the Department of Homeland Security's
 18 Immigration and Customs Enforcement ("ICE") Enforcement and Removal Operations ("ERO")
 19 conducted federally authorized operations in Los Angeles, California. *See* Decl. of Ernesto
 20 Santacruz Jr., ¶ 7 ("Santacruz Decl."), Ex. 1. A crowd gathered at an enforcement site and tried to
 21 prevent ICE officials from operating by throwing objects at ICE vehicles. *Id.* Several individuals
 22 were arrested in the operation and brought to ERO's federal facility in downtown Los Angeles. *Id.*

23 Around 5:00 pm PT that night, a crowd began to gather at the ERO facility. *Id.* ¶ 9. The
 24 protests quickly turned violent. *Id.* They spread across the downtown area, threatening federal
 25 facilities and other public buildings. *Id.* ¶ 10. Protesters pinned down Federal Protective Services
 26 ("FPS") officers who were left severely outnumbered while trying to defend a parking garage
 27

28 ⁴ The Act was amended by the Militia Act of 1795, which was invoked by President Madison, as discussed below.

connected to several federal buildings. *Id.* ¶ 11. Protesters threw concrete chunks, bottles of liquid, and other objects at the officers. *Id.* Protesters also attempted to use a large rolling commercial dumpster as a battering ram to breach the parking garage, causing damage to federal property. *Id.*

Officers feared for their safety. *Id.* ¶ 13. ICE and Homeland Security Investigations (“HSI”) officers responded to support the FPS officers under siege and attempted to use non-lethal force to disperse the crowd. *Id.* The federal officers managed to prevent a breach of the facility, but it took Los Angeles Police Department (“LAPD”) officers nearly an hour and a half to arrive and assist the federal officers in pushing the crowd back from the parking garage gate. *Id.* Meanwhile, the protests turned extremely violent, with news reports showing demonstrators using chairs, dumpsters, and other weapons. *Id.* ¶ 14. Once on scene, LAPD declared an “unlawful assembly” around 7:00 pm and ordered protesters to disperse. *Id.* ¶ 16. Many did not and instead began attacking LAPD officers. *Id.* The scene was not clear until around 11:00 p.m., leaving extensive damage to multiple federal buildings. *Id.* ¶ 17.

At approximately 10:23pm PT that night, President Trump called Governor Newsom. The President informed Governor Newsom of the dangers that federal personnel and property were being subjected to and directed him to take action to stop the violence.⁵ But the violence only intensified the next day. On Saturday morning, large crowds congregated around an HSI office in the Paramount neighborhood of LA as federal officers prepared for another enforcement operation. *Id.* ¶ 18. The crowd blocked traffic and began to attack ERO and Customs and Border Patrol (“CBP”) officers. *Id.* ¶ 20. Seven hours of non-stop fighting between federal officials and protesters ensued. *Id.* The crowd boxed in federal officers, surrounded an ERO officer’s vehicle that they pummeled with stones, launched mortar-style fireworks, set at least one vehicle on fire, and threw objects of all nature, which caused a CBP officer to suffer a shattered wrist. *Id.* The perimeter fence of the federal building was breached, vehicles were damaged, and mortar-style

⁵<https://www.foxnews.com/politics/trump-brings-receipts-he-called-newsom-amid-la-riots-california-gov-claims-wasnt-even-voicemail.amp>; see also <https://www.gov.ca.gov/2025/06/09/watch-governor-newsom-discusses-donald-trumps-mess-in-los-angeles/> (Governor Newsom concurring that the call took place)

1 fireworks with multiple explosions were thrown at the federal officers. *Id.* ¶ 21. Leaders in both
 2 political parties have described the violence in the strongest terms. Democrat Senator John
 3 Fetterman called it “anarchy and true chaos.”⁶

4 Protests continued Sunday and through the moment. *Id.* ¶ 24. Protesters have blocked the
 5 101 Freeway. *Id.* ¶ 25. Dumpsters have been lit on fire and commercial-grade fireworks were set
 6 off toward federal officers. *Id.* ¶ 26. Federal and state buildings have been damaged, and the
 7 federal building security checkpoint has been in ruins. *Id.* ¶¶ 26-27. Officers have been injured.
 8 *Id.* ¶ 27. The federal complex in Downtown LA has been closed due to the unrest, *id.* ¶ 29, and
 9 has been severely damaged and vandalized, *id.* ¶¶ 26-27.

10 **IV. President Trump Deploys the California National Guard**

11
 12 In response to these events, on June 7, the President signed a memorandum calling into
 13 federal service at least 2,000 members of the California National Guard to protect federal personnel
 14 and property. The White House, *Dep’t of Defense Security for the Protection of Dep’t of Homeland*
 15 *Security Functions*, (Jun. 7, 2025) (“Presidential Memo”), ECF No. 8-1 at 44–45. Specifically, the
 16 President invoked Section 12406 to “temporarily protect ICE and other United State Government
 17 personnel who are performing [f]ederal functions, including the enforcement of Federal law, and
 18 to protect [f]ederal property[.]” *Id.* at 44. That same night, Governor Newsom issued a statement
 19 acknowledging that “[t]he federal government is moving to take over the California National
 20 Guard and deploy 2,000 soldiers” while criticizing the decision as “the wrong mission.”⁷

21
 22 Later that evening, based on the President’s invocation of Section 12406, the Secretary of
 23 Defense issued directed the California Adjutant General to effectuate the call into federal service
 24 of the National Guard. Sec’y of Def., *Calling Members of the Cal. Nat’l Guard into Federal*
 25 *Service* (Jun. 7, 2025) (“June 7 DoD Memo”), Ex. 2. By the early morning of June 8, the Adjutant
 26 General had responded that his orders had been received and acknowledged that his forces were

27 ⁶ <https://x.com/SenFettermanPA/status/1932234335425323417>

28 ⁷ Governor Gavin Newsom (@CAgovernor), X (Jun. 7, 2025 8:13 PM),
<https://x.com/CAgovernor/status/1931504803487879617>

1 mobilized. On June 9, the Secretary of Defense issued a second memorandum to the Adjutant
 2 General requesting an additional 2,000 federalized National Guards. Sec’y of Def., *Calling*
 3 *Additional Members of the Cal. Nat’l Guard into Federal Service* (Jun. 9, 2025) (“June 9 DoD
 4 Memo”), Ex. 3. The Secretary also ordered the mobilization of 700 active-duty marines from
 5 Camp Pendleton to Los Angeles. *See* Declaration of Paul S. Eck, ECF No. 8-3 ¶ 18.

6 Since those calls to federal action, Guardsmen have been charged with conducting safety
 7 and protection of Federal personnel, property, and functions at designated locations by providing
 8 security patrols, observation posts, and outer cordon security perimeter of buildings. This includes
 9 National Guardsmen providing protection activities at several federal sites throughout the Los
 10 Angeles area, as well as to federal agents conducting their duties.

11 PROCEDURAL HISTORY

12
 13 Plaintiffs, the State of California and Governor Gavin Newsom, filed their Complaint on
 14 June 9, 2024. Compl. ECF No. 1 (“Compl.”). Plaintiffs principally allege that Defendants took
 15 *ultra vires* action—that is, official acts exceeding their statutory bounds. Compl. ¶¶ 79–92 (“Count
 16 I”). Plaintiffs also allege Defendants violated the Tenth Amendment by “unlawful[ly]” mobilizing
 17 the California National Guard and thereby depriving the Governor of command and availability of
 18 those mobilized units. *Id.* ¶¶ 93–101 (Count II). The second count is thus derivative of the first.
 19 Finally, though they do not raise it as a basis for the pending motion, Plaintiffs allege Secretary
 20 Hegseth and the DoD have taken agency action in excess of statutory authority in violation of the
 21 Administrative Procedure Act (“APA”), 5 U.S.C. § 706. Compl. ¶¶ 102–06 (Count III).

22
 23 On June 10, 2025, Plaintiffs filed their Motion for a Temporary Restraining Order. Pls.’
 24 Mot. for a TRO, ECF No. 8 (“TRO Mot.”). Through their TRO Motion, Plaintiffs seek a court
 25 order enjoining the DoD from deploying federal troops in aid of federal agents carrying out their
 26 duties to enforce federal law in the field. Proposed Order, ECF No. 8-4 at 5.

LEGAL STANDARD

Rule 65 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure empowers district courts to issue TROs. *See* Fed. R. Civ. P. 65(b). Like a preliminary injunction, a TRO is “an extraordinary remedy never awarded as of right.” *Winter v. Nat. Res. Def. Council, Inc.*, 555 U.S. 7, 24 (2008); *see also* *Washington v. Trump*, 847 F.3d 1151, 1159 n.3 (9th Cir. 2017) (standards applicable to TROs and preliminary injunctions “substantially identical” (quoting *Stuhlbarg Int’l Sales Co. Inc. v. John D. Brush & Co.*, 240 F.3d 832, 839 n.7 (9th Cir. 2001))). “The purpose of . . . interim equitable relief is not to conclusively determine the rights of the parties, but to balance the equities as the litigation moves forward.” *Trump v. Wilcox*, 145 S. Ct. 1415, 1415 (2025) (quoting *Trump v. Int’l Refugee Assistance Proj.*, 582 U.S. 571, 580 (2017)). Thus, a court should not “mechanically” grant an injunction for every violation of law. *Weinberger v. Romero-Barcelo*, 456 U.S. 305, 313 (1982).

Instead, plaintiffs must establish that (1) they are “likely to succeed on the merits,” (2) they are “likely to suffer irreparable harm in the absence of preliminary relief,” (3) “the balance of equities tips in [their] favor,” and (4) “an injunction is in the public interest.” *Winter*, 555 U.S. at 20. A court may convert a TRO motion into a preliminary injunction motion, Fed. R. Civ. P. 65, and doing so may be appropriate in order to ensure that consequential rulings are subject to immediate appeal.

ARGUMENT

I. PLAINTIFFS’ CLAIMS ARE LEGALLY AND FACTUALLY MERITLESS.

The thrust of Plaintiffs’ motion is that the President lacks authority to federalize the State National Guard and to deploy those forces, along with U.S. Marines, to protect federal assets in Los Angeles. That is flatly wrong. Section 12406 expressly empowers the President to call the California National Guard into federal service when he considers it necessary either to quell a “rebellion against the authority of the Government of the United States” or when he determines that “regular forces” are “unable” to execute federal law. The President reasonably made both of those determinations here, and they are not subject to judicial second-guessing under foundational

precedent dating back nearly two centuries. Nor does the President need the consent (or even the input) of the State Governor to give these orders; Plaintiffs blatantly mischaracterize the statute in suggesting otherwise. Finally, Plaintiffs offer no evidentiary support for their claim that military forces are engaged in ordinary law-enforcement activities. The President and Secretary of Defense have directed those forces to protect federal property and federal officials, including to ensure the safety and security of federal law-enforcement operations—but the military itself is not executing federal law. Plaintiffs’ objection under the Posse Comitatus Act is therefore meritless too.

A. The President Lawfully Federalized the National Guard.

The President is the Commander in Chief of the armed forces including “the Militia of the several States, when called into the actual Service of the United States[.]” U.S. Const. art. II, § 2. And Congress has authorized the President to call the National Guard into federal service. 10 U.S.C. § 12406. Plaintiffs challenge the federalization of the National Guard on two grounds. First, they dispute that the necessary conditions were present when the President issued his Saturday memorandum. Second, they object to the process through which Guardsmen were activated. Both arguments lack merit, especially in light of the President’s inherent authority to protect federal personnel and property.

1. The Court cannot second-guess the President’s determinations that the necessary conditions existed.

Most fundamentally, Plaintiffs’ challenge to the conditions in California at the time of the presidential memorandum is unreviewable because it is a statutorily authorized discretionary judgment of the President. When courts are confronted with a claim alleging that the President has “violated the terms of” a statute, “longstanding authority holds that such review is not available when the statute in question commits the decision to the discretion of the President.” *Dalton v. Spector*, 511 U.S. 462, 474 (1994). Section 12406 commits the decision of whether the conditions are ripe to call forth the National Guard to the President’s discretion. The statute authorizes “the President” to activate Guardsmen “in such numbers *as he considers necessary* to repel the invasion, suppress the rebellion, or execute those laws.” 10 U.S.C. § 12406 (emphasis added).

1 There is no textual basis in the statute for either the Court or Plaintiffs to second-guess the
 2 President's determination that the conditions to call forth the Guard are met.

3 Indeed, nearly two centuries ago, the Supreme Court squarely rejected Plaintiffs' position
 4 that courts had authority to decide whether a sufficient exigency supported the President's decision.
 5 In *Martin v Mott*, the Supreme Court held that a challenge to the legality of President Madison's
 6 decision to call out the militia in response to a national emergency was beyond judicial scrutiny
 7 and second-guessing. *See* 25 U.S. (12 Wheat.) 19 (1827). As noted in the background, today's
 8 Section 12406 vests the President with statutory authority to call forth the National Guard "as he
 9 considers necessary to repel the invasion, suppress the rebellion, or execute [the] laws" of the
 10 United States. 10 U.S.C. § 12406. Much like that statute, the law at issue in *Martin* provided
 11 "that whenever the United States shall be invaded, or be in imminent danger of invasion ... it shall
 12 be lawful for the President of the United States to call forth such number of the militia of the State
 13 or States most convenient to the place of danger, or scene of action, as he may judge necessary to
 14 repel such invasion, and to issue his order for that purpose to such officer or officers of the militia
 15 as he shall think proper." *Martin*, 25 U.S. at 29 (quoting Act of Feb. 28, 1795, ch. 36, 1 Stat. 424)
 16 (concerning the first calling out statute that was invoked in the Whiskey Rebellion and by President
 17 Madison in the War of 1812 and the predecessor to Section 12406).

18 The Court explained that "the authority to decide whether the exigency has arisen, belongs
 19 exclusively to the President, and that his decision is conclusive upon all other persons." *Id.* at 30.
 20 Such authority "necessarily results from the nature of the power itself, and from the manifest object
 21 contemplated by the act of Congress." *Id.* This was so because "[w]henver a statute gives a
 22 discretionary power to any person, to be exercised by him upon his own opinion of certain facts,
 23 ... the statute constitutes him the sole and exclusive judge of the existence of those facts." *Id.* at
 24 31–32. Exercise of such authority is nonreviewable because "[t]he remedy for this, as well as for
 25 all other official misconduct" resided in "the frequency of elections, and the watchfulness of the
 26
 27
 28

representatives of the nation, [which] carry with them all the checks which can be useful to guard against usurpation or wanton tyranny.” *Id.* at 32.

Modern precedent points in the same direction. Under *Dalton*, where claims “concern[] not a want of Presidential power, but a mere excess or abuse of discretion in exerting a power given,” they are not subject to judicial review. 511 U.S. at 474 (quoting *Dakota Cent. Tel. Co. v. S.D. ex rel. Payne*, 250 U.S. 163, 184 (1919)).⁸ When a statute “commits decisionmaking to the discretion of the President, judicial review of the President’s decision is not available.” *Id.* at 477. That principle forecloses Plaintiffs’ claims here. They do not dispute that the President has the power to federalize the National Guard—only that he exceeded that authority because the conditions were not satisfied. But Congress vested such matters in the President’s discretion. “How the President chooses to exercise the discretion Congress has granted him is not a matter for [judicial] review.” *Id.* at 476.

While a court should “always be ready to meet any question confided to it by the Constitution, it is equally its duty not to pass beyond its appropriate sphere of action.” *Luther v. Borden*, 48 U.S. (7 How.) 1, 47 (1849). Certain “[q]uestions, in their nature political, or which are, by the constitution and laws, submitted to the executive, can never be made in this court.” *Marbury v. Madison*, 5 U.S. (1 Cranch) 137, 170 (1803). Thus, if the act of an official is one in which the “executive possesses a constitutional or legal discretion, nothing can be more perfectly clear . . . that their acts are only politically examinable.” *Id.* at 166; *see also Baker v. Carr*, 369 U.S. 186, 217 (1962) (setting forth the test for political question doctrine).

That is the case here. The statutory conditions (determination of an invasion, rebellion, or inability to execute the laws of the United States) are “of a kind clearly for nonjudicial discretion.” *Baker*, 369 U.S. at 217. They operate against a backdrop of constitutional powers, including that “[t]he President shall be Commander in Chief of the Army and Navy of the United States, and

⁸ In *Dakota Central Telephone Co.*, the Supreme Court rejected the same type of claim that the State asserts here, namely that the President “exceeded the authority given him” pursuant to a statute by taking action when “there was nothing in the conditions at the time the power was exercised which justified the calling into play of the authority.” 250 U.S. at 184.

of the Militia of the several States, when called into the actual Service of the United States.” U.S. Const. art. II, § 2, cl. 1. They implicate national security, a subject that is broadly committed to the discretion of the political branches. *See El-Shifa Pharm. Indus. Co. v. United States*, 607 F.3d 836, 842 (D.C. Cir. 2010). And there are no “judicially discoverable and manageable standards for resolving” whether riots rise to the level of rebellion, or whether the regular forces are adequate to execute federal law. *Cf. California v. United States*, 104 F.3d 1086, 1091 (9th Cir. 1997) (collecting cases for proposition that determination of an “invasion,” the first of the Section 12406 conditions, presents a political question).

In short, while Plaintiffs repeatedly acknowledge the unchecked violence in Los Angeles, they ask the Court to supersede the President’s judgment that the violence has risen to a level sufficient to trigger the statute—even though the statute empowers the President to mobilize the National Guard in “such numbers as *he* considers necessary.” 10 U.S.C. § 12406 (emphasis added). Indulging that request would fail to display “the respect due coordinate branches of government.” *Baker*, 369 U.S. at 217.

2. The necessary conditions existed for the President’s order.

Even if some form of deferential judicial review were permissible, the President had more than ample grounds for invoking Section 12406. As his memorandum explained, it arose out of “[n]umerous incidents of violence and disorder” that threaten federal property and federal officials who are supporting the faithful execution of federal laws. Presidential Memo at 1. Indeed, the dangerous conditions in Los Angeles doubly satisfied Section 12406.

First, “there [was] a rebellion or danger of a rebellion against the authority of the Government of the United States.” 10 U.S.C. § 12406(2). Plaintiffs cite one legal authority—Black’s Law Dictionary—in their rebellion argument, and quote selectively from it. TRO Mot. at 9. Black’s Law Dictionary’s definition of the term “rebellion” provides three definitions of the term, each embracing something less than “an organized attempt to change the government or leader of a country.” TRO Mot. at 9 (quoting Rebellion, *Black’s Law Dictionary* (12th ed. 2024)). “Rebellion” means:

1. Open, organized, and armed resistance to an established government or ruler; esp., an organized attempt to change the government or leader of a country, usu. through violence. Cf. civil war under war (1). 2. Open resistance or opposition to an authority or tradition. 3. Hist. Disobedience of a legal command or summons.

Rebellion, *Black's Law Dictionary* (12th ed. 2024). Consistent with this understanding of the term, the presidential memorandum notes that “[n]umerous incidents of violence and disorder have recently occurred and threaten to continue in response to the enforcement of Federal law by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) and other United States Government personnel who are performing Federal functions and supporting the faithful execution of Federal immigration laws.” Presidential Memo. Presidential Memo at 1. It concludes that “[t]o the extent that protests or acts of violence directly inhibit the execution of the laws, they constitute a form of rebellion against the authority of the Government of the United States.” *Id.*

Plaintiffs do not dispute that substantial violence had occurred in Los Angeles by the time the presidential memorandum was signed and that it has continued through the weekend (and to this day), or that the violence was in opposition to federal immigration enforcement. While characterizing the protest activity as “[p]rimarily peaceful,” Plaintiffs admit that Los Angeles witnessed “some level of civil disturbance” and that the situation required local authorities to “mak[e] dozens of arrests.” TRO Mot. at 9. That is a severe understatement. Their own submission to the Court substantiates the President’s judgment many times over. One of Plaintiffs’ declarants highlights the severity of the situation: “[S]ome protesters unfortunately began to engage in dangerous behavior such as throwing rocks and other objects, including a Molotov Cocktail at deputies damaging vehicles, burning a vehicle, looting a gas station, and vandalizing property.” Declaration of Brian Olmstead ¶ 9, ECF No. 8-2. “Two deputies were injured during the incident.” *Id.*

The articles submitted by Plaintiffs also describe the dangerous conditions in Los Angeles, with mobs resisting federal authority in a manner that rises to the level of rebellion. Plaintiffs’ submission to the Court contains five images of burning or burnt cars. ECF No. 8-1, at 47, 93, 102, 121, 123. It contains a sixth image of an unidentified burning object. ECF No. 8-1, at 104.

1 And they have also submitted images of (in their sources' words) demonstrators "blocking traffic
 2 on [a] busy thoroughfare" and a "massive crowd" pushing to a wall barrier. ECF No. 8-1, at 120,
 3 122. Plaintiffs' articles say that "[d]emonstrators blocked entrances and exits to [the Federal
 4 Building in downtown Los Angeles]." ECF No. 8-1 at 54. They also "spray-painted anti-ICE
 5 slogans on [a] building's exterior walls" and "attempted to physically stop ICE vehicles." *Id.*
 6 "Dozens of buildings were tagged with graffiti, including the LAPD Headquarters, the U.S.
 7 Courthouse and the old Los Angeles Times building." ECF No. 8-1, at 121.

8 Plaintiffs' submission also reflects the crowd's refusal to comply with local authorities'
 9 orders. "The crowd of demonstrators . . . moved through the city despite the area-wide dispersal
 10 order, again lighting fireworks and throwing projectiles at police vehicles driving by." ECF No.
 11 8-1 at 121. "Several fires were set in dumpsters and trash bins and at least one store had windows
 12 shattered by alleged looters." *Id.* It also reflects local authorities' inability to adequately respond.
 13 An article submitted by Plaintiffs reports that "[a] federal law enforcement official with knowledge
 14 of the operations told CBS News that ICE requested assistance from LAPD multiple times over
 15 the course of Friday night." ECF No. 8-1, at 123. "[A] senior city official in L.A. told CBS News
 16 that it took LAPD 55 minutes to respond." *Id.*

17 At minimum, on Plaintiffs' own record, the conditions in Los Angeles qualify as a "*danger*
 18 of a rebellion" against federal authority. 10 U.S.C. § 12406(2) (emphasis added). Plaintiffs argue
 19 that a rebellion was not present, but they never contend that there was no *danger* of a rebellion.
 20 Section 12406's "danger of a rebellion" language appears nowhere in their brief outside their block
 21 quotation of the statute. That alone is sufficient grounds to invoke the statute—and thus to deny
 22 Plaintiffs' motion.

23 *Second*, "the President [was] unable with the regular forces to execute the laws of the
 24 United States," *id.* § 12406(3), an independently sufficient basis for federalizing the Guard. The
 25 same record establishes this. Mr. Santacruz's declaration details the substantial threats to the safety
 26 of federal law enforcement personnel in the field and at federal buildings. Demonstrators began
 27 to organize on Friday at sites where ICE ERO was enforcing alien removal laws, i.e., "execut[ing]
 28

1 the laws of the United States.” 10 U.S.C. § 12406(3). And local authorities were unable to allow
 2 that activity to occur safely. Plaintiffs’ short argument on this prong of the statute contends that
 3 because ICE ERO succeeded in arresting 44 individuals on Friday, the President was able to
 4 execute the laws of the United States. TRO Mot. at 10. But that limited success came with the
 5 risk of danger—risk that the President could reasonably have determined was intolerable. Plus,
 6 Plaintiffs’ argument ignores that ICE ERO would have been able to carry out additional execution-
 7 of-the-laws activity in the absence of a riot. And absent the use of additional law enforcement
 8 resources to protect ICE agents from the violent assaults of protestors, it would be perilous for ICE
 9 officials to carry out further immigration-enforcement operations.

10 Plaintiffs also argue this prong is inapplicable because President Nixon used the same
 11 authority to respond to a nationwide crisis while last weekend’s crisis centered only on the Nation’s
 12 second largest city. They never connect that argument to the statute’s text, however, and nothing
 13 in Section 12406 supports the distinction.
 14

15 On this prong, Plaintiffs’ argument amounts to a request to second-guess the President’s
 16 judgment about the adequacy of state and local law enforcement to protect federal property and
 17 federal personnel. That is inappropriate. The President cannot be hamstrung by the Governor’s
 18 insistence that state and local authorities are up to the task, particularly when the evidence on the
 19 ground shows otherwise. And, respectfully, the Court is not positioned to countermand this
 20 judgment either, particularly in a highly expedited proceeding with a limited record.

21 **3. Section 12406 does not require a governor’s consent or input.**

22 Defendants also acted lawfully in the processes they used to federalize Guardsmen.
 23 Section 12406’s first sentence establishes the President’s unilateral authority to federalize
 24 Guardsmen. Again, it reads: “[T]he President may call into Federal service members and units of
 25 the National Guard of any State” The next sentence adds that “[o]rders for these purposes
 26 shall be issued through the governors of the States.” 10 U.S.C. § 12406. The statute is thus clear
 27 that the orders are issued *by* the President, and they are conveyed *through* State officials. Nothing
 28 in the statute entitles a Governor to veto or impede a valid presidential order.

1 The President complied with this procedural provision. Secretary Hegseth's
 2 memorandum was issued to California's Adjutant General, a state cabinet-level official who is
 3 required under California law to perform "duties consistent with the regulations and customs of
 4 the United States Army, United States Air Force, and the United States Navy[,]” including
 5 “issu[ing] all orders *in the name of the Governor*.” Cal. Mil & Vet Code § 163 (emphasis added).
 6 The memorandum bore the label “THROUGH: THE GOVERNOR OF CALIFORNIA.” ECF No.
 7 8-1, at 107. And Secretary Hegseth sent a second memorandum federalizing an additional 2,000
 8 Guardsmen on Monday with the same label. ECF No. 8-1, at 111. There is no dispute that the
 9 Governor had actual and contemporaneous knowledge of the order—indeed, he acknowledged that
 10 it was forthcoming before it even issued. This procedural objection is thus meritless, and certainly
 11 not a basis to issue an unprecedented injunction against the deployment of military forces.

12
 13 Plaintiffs, however, interpret the statute to “require[] orders under § 12406 be issued *by*
 14 the Governor.” TRO Mot. at 11 (emphasis added). But Section 12406 does not use the word “by.”
 15 And there is a fundamental difference between orders issued “by” a person (making them the
 16 decisionmaker) and orders issued “through” that person (making them a mere conduit for a
 17 decision already made). The latter better aligns with the purpose of this procedural requirement,
 18 as the federalization of the California National Guard requires a careful handover of command and
 19 control from the State Commander in Chief (the Adjutant General) to the Federal Commander-in-
 20 Chief. Orders going “through” the Governor, in particular the Governor's Adjutant General,
 21 provides proper notice and avoids command confusion which is critical in an emergency.

22
 23 Meanwhile, when Congress has wanted to give the Governor veto power, it has done so
 24 expressly. For example, the Secretary of Defense may “order a member of a reserve component
 25 under his jurisdiction to active duty” except that members “may not be ordered to active duty . . .
 26 without the *consent* of the governor or other appropriate authority of the State concerned.” 10
 27 U.S.C. § 12301(d) (emphasis added). Likewise, the Secretary may order a member of the Army,
 28 Navy, Marine, or Air Force Reserves to active duty to provide assistance in response to a major
 disaster or emergency, but only after receiving a request from a Governor. 10 U.S.C. § 12304a(a).

1 Yet Section 12406 omits any language even hinting that Governor could withhold his consent.

2 In short, Section 12406 affords no veto to Governor Newsom over the President’s decision
3 to call forth the guard, just as it afforded no veto to Governor Faubus when President Eisenhower
4 last invoked the predecessor to Section 12406 to ensure that the enforcement of federal law was
5 not obstructed.

6 Plaintiffs also suggest that the statute imposes a gubernatorial consultation requirement.
7 TRO Mot. at 11. They complain that Defendants “violate[d] the letter of the law” by “depriving
8 the Governor of the opportunity to consult with the President.” *Id.* That too is wrong both legally
9 and factually. Nothing in the statute requires consultation. Anyway, as explained, President Trump
10 spoke with Governor Newsom about the situation in Los Angeles the day before he federalized
11 guardsmen. In that discussion, the President directed the Governor to take control of riots in Los
12 Angeles. *Id.* Lines of communication between the President and Governor Newsom were open.
13 The next day, the President signed a memorandum that directed to the Secretary of Defense to
14 federalize the Guardsmen. ECF No. 8-1, Ex. E. Governor Newsom acknowledged that act in a
15 public statement. *See supra.*
16

17 Finally, even if Plaintiffs’ interpretation of the statute were correct, the only party acting
18 unlawfully would be Governor Newsom—not President Trump or Secretary Hegseth. Section
19 12406 uses the mandatory “shall,” depriving the Governor of any possible discretion in whether
20 to issue an order. So if the order was not issued “through” the Governor via the Adjutant General
21 who acts in his name, then the Governor should have issued the order himself, rather than drafting
22 a press release objecting to the presidential memorandum. His failure to comply with President
23 Trump’s lawful order to federalize California’s guardsmen cannot somehow support an injunction
24 against the federal government.

25 **B. The Federalization of Guardsmen Does Not Intrude on State Police Powers.**

26 Plaintiffs press a four-sentence argument suggesting a Tenth Amendment defect in the
27 President’s memorandum federalizing Guardsmen. They make the conclusory assertion that
28 Defendants acted unlawfully in activating the National Guard “to quell a protest or prevent future

1 protests despite the lack of evidence that local law enforcement was incapable of asserting
 2 control.” TRO Mot. at 12. As explained, Plaintiffs’ own record submissions show that local law
 3 enforcement was unable to bring rioters under control last weekend. But more importantly,
 4 Plaintiffs’ argument misstates the mission for Guardsmen in Los Angeles: They have been
 5 deployed to protect federal personnel and facilities and not to “prevent future protests.” *Id.*

6 In all events, Plaintiffs’ Tenth Amendment claim is wholly derivative of their statutory
 7 claim that the presidential memorandum itself did not comply with Section 12406. The
 8 Constitution authorizes Congress “[t]o provide for calling for the Militia to execute the Laws of
 9 the Union, suppress Insurrections and repel Invasions.” U.S. Const. art. I, § 8. Congress is also
 10 empowered to “provide for organizing, arming, and discipling, the Militia, and for governing such
 11 Part of them as may be employed in the Service of the United States, reserving to the States
 12 respectively, the Appointment of the Officers, and the Authority of training the militia according
 13 to the discipline prescribed by Congress.” *Id.* Congress acted under this authority in enacting
 14 Section 12406, which the President validity invoked. This claim therefore adds nothing.

15 **C. Defendants Have Not Violated the Posse Comitatus Act**

16 The presidential memorandum, Secretary Hegseth’s memoranda, and the military
 17 personnel’s protection of federal property and employees are consistent with the Posse Comitatus
 18 Act. That Act states in full: “Whoever, except in cases and under circumstances expressly
 19 authorized by the Constitution or Act of Congress, willfully uses any part of the Army, the Navy,
 20 the Marine Corps, the Air Force, or the Space Force as a posse comitatus or otherwise to execute
 21 the laws shall be fined under this title or imprisoned not more than two years, or both.” 18 U.S.C.
 22 § 1385. The Act “was originally enacted in 1878 for the purpose of preventing United States
 23 Marshals, on their own initiative, from calling upon troops to assist them in performing their
 24 duties.” Mem. Op., *Authority to Use Troops to Prevent Interference With Federal Employees by*
 25 *Mayday Demonstrations and Consequent Impairment of Government Functions*, U.S. Dep’t of
 26 Justice, Off. of Legal Counsel, at 344 (April 29, 1971), <https://www.justice.gov/file/147726/dl>.
 27 “The Act was designed to prevent use of troops in direct law enforcement under command of minor
 28

1 civilian officials.” *Id.*

2 It is well established, however, that when the President lawfully federalizes the national
3 guard pursuant to statutory authority designed to authorize the use of the militia to restore order,
4 the Posse Comitatus Act does not apply. One such exception is contained in the Insurrection Act.
5 *See* Office of Att’y Gen., *President’s Power to Use Federal Troops to Suppress Resistance to*
6 *Enforcement of Federal Court Orders* (Nov. 7, 1957). But 10 U.S.C. § 12406, which is worded
7 quite similarly to the Insurrection Act, represents another. After all, national guard could properly
8 be used to suppress invasions and rebellions, and execute the laws where the regular forces have
9 failed to do so, without engaging in activities the Posse Comitatus Act would otherwise prohibit.
10 The Constitution, in addition, obligates the President to “take care that the laws be faithfully
11 executed.” U.S. Const. art. III, § 3. The President thus has an inherent constitutional authority to
12 protect the federal government, and the Posse Comitatus Act does not change that.

13 As William Rehnquist concluded as the head of the Department of Justice’s Office of Legal
14 Counsel, “the Posse Comitatus Act does not impair the President’s inherent authority to use troops
15 for the protection of federal property and federal functions.” Mem. Op., *Authority to Use Troops*
16 *to Prevent Interference With Federal Employees by Mayday Demonstrations and Consequent*
17 *Impairment of Government Functions*, U.S. Dep’t of Justice, Off. of Legal Counsel, at 343 (April
18 29, 1971), <https://www.justice.gov/file/147726/dl>. Nor does it “prevent the use of troops to protect
19 the functioning of the government by assuring the availability of federal employees to carry out
20 their assigned duties.” *Id.* Thus, in 1971, Mr. Rehnquist held that the President could use troops
21 to respond to demonstrators who threatened to “prevent[] federal employees from reaching their
22 agencies.” *Id.* Likewise, the Supreme Court recognized in *In re Neagle*, 135 U.S. 1, 65 (1890),
23 that troops could be used to prevent an obstruction to the U.S. mail:

24
25 if the president or the postmaster general is advised that the mails of the United
26 States, possibly carrying treasure, are liable to be robbed, and the mail carriers
27 assaulted and murdered, in any particular region of country, who can doubt the
28 authority of the president, or of one of the executive departments under him, to
make an order for the protection of the mail, and of the persons and lives of its
carriers, by doing exactly what was done in the case of Mr. Justice FIELD, namely,
providing a sufficient guard, whether it be by soldiers of the army or by marshals

1 of the United States, with a posse comitatus properly armed and equipped, to secure
 2 the safe performance of the duty of carrying the mail wherever it may be intended
 to go?

3 *Id.* Earlier, in *In re Debs*, 158 U.S. 564, 582 (1895), the Supreme Court upheld President
 4 Cleveland’s order to troops to protect federal property and to remove obstructions to the U.S. mail.
 5 “The strong arm of the national government may be put forth to brush away all obstructions to the
 6 freedom of interstate commerce or the transportation of the mails.” *Id.* “If the emergency arises,
 7 the army of the Nation, and all its militia, are at the service of the Nation to compel obedience to
 8 its laws.” *Id.*

9 As with that order, President Trump’s order to military personnel to protect federal
 10 employees and buildings is a lawful exercise of his inherent protective power. By its terms, the
 11 presidential memorandum “call[s] into Federal service members and units of the National Guard .
 12 . . to temporarily protect ICE and other United States Government personnel who are performing
 13 Federal functions, including the enforcement of Federal law, and to protect Federal property.”
 14 Presidential Memo. The National Guard has been acting within the scope of that mission.
 15 Federalized California National Guard personnel have been conducting safety and protection of
 16 Federal personnel, property, and functions at designated locations by providing security patrols,
 17 observation posts, and outer cordon security perimeter of buildings.

18 Plaintiffs have not provided any factual basis to conclude that Defendants have or will
 19 violate the Posse Comitatus Act. The most they muster is the shaky assertion that “[t]he evidence
 20 strongly indicates that the federalized National Guard and active-duty Marines deployed in Los
 21 Angeles will engage in quintessential law enforcement activity in violation of the PCA.” TRO
 22 Mot. at 14. That allegation does not rise to the level needed to obtain a temporary restraining order
 23 affecting the President’s command of military forces in the face of riotous and rebellious
 24 conditions. Plaintiffs suggest it would be unlawful for Defendants to “hold[] a secure perimeter
 25 in communities around areas where immigration enforcement activities would take place, and
 26 securing routes over public streets where immigration enforcement officers would travel.” TRO
 27
 28

1 Mot. at 15. Those actions plainly describe conduct to protect ICE ERO employees enforcing the
 2 laws that Congress has provided they must carry out. Military service members’ protection of
 3 those federal employees while they perform their work is distinct from the military members’ own
 4 engagement in ordinary law enforcement. The former is entirely lawful, and that is all that the
 5 record supports.

6 * * *

7 The groundless nature of Plaintiffs’ claims is further exposed by the mismatch between
 8 those claims and the relief they seek. They argue that the President improperly federalized the
 9 California National Guard—but their proposed injunction restricts only how those Guardsmen may
 10 be *deployed*. Specifically, they ask for an order that restricts the Guardsmen to protecting federal
 11 property, and federal personnel on such property, but not federal personnel outside federal property.
 12 There is no reading of Section 12406 that could justify *that* relief. Nor does that relief make any
 13 sense in view of the Posse Comitatus Act—if military forces may permissibly be used to protect
 14 federal officials and to ensure their safety (as they can), it should not matter whether those federal
 15 officials are inside a federal building or on a street a few blocks away.
 16

17 Plaintiffs’ proposed order reveals the true aim of their motion. It is not to return National
 18 Guardsmen to California’s control, or to vindicate the (misguided) rights they claim, but instead
 19 to prevent the federal government from protecting federal officers who are carrying out law-
 20 enforcement operations in Los Angeles. That interference is impermissible and groundless, and
 21 further underscores why the Court should deny their motion.

22 **II. THE BALANCE OF EQUITIES CUTS AGAINST ANY INJUNCTION.**

23 The balance of equities and the public interest cut squarely against the extraordinary
 24 remedy of a temporary restraining order or preliminary injunction. The Court “must balance the
 25 competing claims of injury and must consider the effect on each party of the granting or
 26 withholding of the requested relief.” *Winter*, 555 U.S. at 24. “In exercising their sound discretion,
 27 courts of equity should pay particular regard for the public consequences in employing the
 28

1 extraordinary remedy of injunction.” *Id.* (quoting *Weinberger*, 456 U.S. at 312).

2 Here, an injunction would not only hinder federal law enforcement but also expose federal
 3 employees and property to violence and vandalism by the rioters in Los Angeles. The federal
 4 government has an “uncontested interest in protecting federal agents and property.” *Index*
 5 *Newspapers LLC v. U.S. Marshals Serv.*, 977 F.3d 817, 838 (9th Cir. 2020). The President and
 6 Secretary of Defense’s memorandum calling up the National Guard expressly invoked this interest.
 7 *See Ex. 2* (“to temporarily protect U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement and other U.S.
 8 Government personnel... and to protect Federal property.”). These are indisputably “very
 9 important public interest[s].” *Index Newspapers LLC*, 977 F.3d at 838.

10 The President’s reference to these interests was not mere words on a piece of paper. The
 11 Order arose from documented instances of violence against federal officials that were happening
 12 at the time of the Order and which continue today. On Friday June 6, 2025, protestors threw
 13 “bottles, concrete chunks, and other objects at the FPS officers,” and attempt[ed] to use large
 14 rolling commercial dumpsters as a battering ram to breach the parking garage gate” of a federal
 15 building complex. Santacruz Dec. ¶ 11. All available federal officers were called to defend the
 16 complex, needing to resort to riot control devices to prevent the breach of federal property,
 17 all while it took more than one- and one-half hours for the LAPD to arrive. *Id.* ¶ 13. While
 18 California chalks this up as a peaceful protest, Compl. ¶ 29, the rioters were “using chairs, pepper
 19 balls, and other items as weapons” to “heavily vandalize” a federal building and clash with law
 20 enforcement. Santacruz Decl. ¶¶ 14–15, 17. The next day, the crowd once again became violent
 21 and attacked ERO and CBP officers, for seven continuous hours. *Id.* ¶ 20. Once officer was
 22 trapped inside her law enforcement vehicle, which the crowd surrounded and violently pummeled
 23 with stones, and the DHS office perimeter fence was cut, vehicles were damaged, and incendiary
 24 devices were thrown at federal officers. *Id.* ¶¶ 21–22. By the next day, despite LAPD declaring
 25 the downtown area an unlawful assembly, protestors set off fireworks, threw objects at law
 26 enforcement, lit fires in dumpsters and trans bins, looted stores, and vandalized the Federal
 27 Courthouse and even LAPD’s own headquarters. *Id.* ¶ 26. At end of the day, the Federal building’s
 28

1 security checkpoint was in ruins. *Id.* ¶ 27.

2 The vandalization of a Federal Courthouse hardly fits the description of “civil unrest that
3 is no different from episodes that regularly occur in communities throughout the country.” TRO
4 Mot. at 1. Nor were these conditions where California’s local authorities “have been responding
5 promptly, professionally, and effectively.” Compl. ¶ 32; *see also* TRO Mot. at 1. In cases of
6 violent uprising, as Plaintiffs allege, the National Guard is “vital” in acting “to protect people and
7 property” and the “State relies on the National Guard to be ready to intervene in emergent
8 situations to help.” Compl. ¶ 70. That is exactly what the President ordered the National Guard
9 to do when the events in opposition to ICE’s operation in Los Angeles occurred. Given Plaintiff’s
10 acknowledgement of the National Guard playing such an important role in protecting people and
11 property, there should be no opposition to the National Guard providing help during the events at
12 issue in this case.

13 Further, the Federal government would suffer more widespread irreparable harm were an
14 injunction to issue. The City of Los Angeles “has made a longstanding decision” not “participat[e]
15 in federal civil immigration enforcement.” *City of L.A. v. Barr*, 929 F.3d 1163, 1173 (9th Cir.
16 2019). Federal ICE personnel are attempting to enforce federal civil immigration laws in the City
17 of Los Angeles, but have suffered violence in response to carrying out lawful alien removal
18 operations. Local and state law enforcement were not able to prevent that violence, and their
19 responses to exigent circumstances were delayed. State and local inaction has already resulted in
20 threats to federal personnel, which has hindered the federal government’s ability to safely carry
21 out its mandates. If an injunction is entered and the National Guard cannot accompany and protect
22 ICE personnel, the federal government will continue to be hindered in its ability to safely carry out
23 its mandates. Consequently, the government has shown exactly what it needs to prevail on the
24 third and fourth injunction factors: an uncontested interest in protecting federal agents and
25 property, combined with active threats against both. *Cf. Index Newspapers LLC*, 977 F.3d at 838.
26

27 Against all this, the State claims only speculative harms and unsubstantiated harms. First,
28 it cites a risk of civil unrest caused by demonstrators’ opposition to the federalization of

guardsmen. But as Plaintiffs’ brief concedes and Defendants’ brief has explained, *see supra* § Background III, the significant civil unrest began days *before* the National Guard was mobilized. The civil unrest stemmed from rioters’ violent uprising. The National Guard’s presence, by contrast, ensured that the rioters were not successful in completely overrunning federal property and harming those ICE officers. Regardless, Plaintiff’s invocation of the hypothetical or possible “risk of” harms is not enough and does not meet the “stringent” standard set forth by the Supreme Court. *E.g., Doran v. Salem Inn, Inc.*, 422 U.S. 922, 931 (1975); *Caribbean Marine Servs. Co. v. Baldrige*, 844 F.2d 668, 674 (9th Cir. 1988) (“Speculative injury does not constitute irreparable injury”); *Titaness Light Shop, LLC v. Sunlight Supply, Inc.*, 585 F. App’x 390, 391 (9th Cir. 2014).

Plaintiffs also complain that the federalization of Guardsmen subtracts from resources available to the California National Guard. But Plaintiffs do not identify any type of exigency that they would direct these resources that approaches the seriousness of the situation in Los Angeles. Plaintiffs worry that the activation of Guardsmen “jeopardizes vital resources on which the State depends to protect itself from emergencies”—while ignoring that these resources have been deployed to deal with a present emergency in the State. TRO Mot. at 18.

An injunction is particularly inappropriate inasmuch as Plaintiffs largely invoke *procedural* harm: namely, that the Order to mobilize the National Guard was not issued by the Governor or that the Governor was not consulted. In *Winter*, the Supreme Court found an injunction was not appropriate in the context of Plaintiff’s claim that the Navy violated the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 and other federal laws when it failed to undertake statutorily required studies. *Winter*, 555 U.S. at 12, 26. The Court held that “forcing the Navy to deploy an inadequately trained antisubmarine force jeopardizes the safety of the fleet,” which was an interest that “plainly outweigh[ed]” the plaintiffs’ downstream interest in watching marine mammals. *Id.* at 26. An injunction should be denied here for similar reasons. Like *Winter*, this suit involves an allegation that the military failed to comply with a procedural directive. Further, like *Winter*, the federal government has articulated an immediate and direct harm if an injunction were to issue, but

1 Plaintiffs have only communicated a second-hand and speculative harm.

2 In balancing the equities and the public's interest, California's desire to keep the National
3 Guard at bay must give way to the undisputed immediate threats to the life of federal officers and
4 the security of federal property that the President is responsible for protecting.

5 **III. ANY INJUNCTIVE RELIEF SHOULD BE STAYED PENDING APPEAL AND**
6 **ACCOMPANY A BOND.**

7 To the extent the Court issues any injunctive relief, Defendants respectfully request that
8 such relief be stayed pending the disposition of any appeal that is authorized, or at a minimum,
9 administratively stayed for a period of seven days to allow the United States to seek an emergency,
10 expedited stay from the Court of Appeals or Supreme Court if an appeal is authorized. For the
11 reasons explained above, Defendants have, at a minimum, satisfied the requirements for a stay of
12 any injunction pending appeal. *See Nken v. Holden*, 556 U.S. 418, 434 (2009) (describing the
13 standard for obtaining such a stay and noting the "substantial overlap" between that standard and
14 "the factors governing preliminary injunctions").

15 The Defendants also respectfully request that any injunctive relief be accompanied by a
16 bond under Fed. R. Civ. P. 65(c), which provides that "[t]he court may issue a preliminary
17 injunction or a temporary restraining order only if the movant gives security in an amount that the
18 court considers proper to pay the costs and damages sustained by any party found to have been
19 wrongfully enjoined or restrained."
20

21 **CONCLUSION**

22 For these reasons, this Court should deny Plaintiffs' motion for a temporary restraining
23 order or preliminary injunction.
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