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1 **I. Introduction**

2 The Supreme Court's recent decision in *Clapper v. Amnesty International USA*, \_\_ U.S.  
3 \_\_\_\_, 2013 WL 673253 (Feb. 26, 2013), addressing the circumstances in which a plaintiff who has  
4 suffered no present injury might have standing for potential *future* harms, has no bearing here.  
5 Plaintiffs' lawsuit is not based on potential future harms, but on concrete and particularized injuries  
6 that have already occurred and which are continuing. Indeed, the Ninth Circuit has already  
7 distinguished the *Clapper* litigation from plaintiffs' lawsuit on this very basis. *Jewel v. NSA*, 673  
8 F.3d 902, 906, 911 (9th Cir. 2011).

9 The *Clapper* plaintiffs brought a facial challenge to a newly-enacted statutory provision not  
10 at issue here, 50 U.S.C. § 1881a, which authorizes surveillance targeted at foreigners outside the  
11 United States. They alleged that in the future they were likely to communicate with foreigners  
12 targeted for surveillance, making it possible that their future communications with those persons  
13 would be intercepted. The Supreme Court in *Clapper* held two things: (1) There is no Article III  
14 standing for *future* injuries unless the future injury is "certainly impending," not merely possible.  
15 *Clapper*, 2013 WL 673253 at \*7-\*8, \*11, \*15. (2) Actions a plaintiff has taken to avoid merely  
16 possible, but not certainly impending, future injuries do not count as present injuries-in-fact for  
17 purposes of standing. *Id.* at \*11, \*15. Neither holding affects the *Jewel* plaintiffs' standing.  
18 *Clapper* did not, and had no reason to, address the well-established body of standing law applicable  
19 to plaintiffs' claims here that holds that *past* or *present* harms inflicted on the plaintiff by the  
20 defendant are actual injuries-in-fact for purposes of standing.

21 The Supreme Court's dictum in footnote four of *Clapper* also has no bearing on this case,  
22 contrary to the government's assertion in its supplemental brief (Dkt. # 139). Footnote four  
23 speculates about a "hypothetical disclosure proceeding" in which the government might disclose  
24 who it is targeting for surveillance in a case where such information is an element of the plaintiff's  
25 standing. *Clapper*, 2013 WL 673253 at \*9 n.4. Footnote four has no application here because it  
26 does not address the statutory procedures mandated by Congress for this case—18 U.S.C.  
27 § 2712(b)(4) and 50 U.S.C. § 1806(f)—that protect national security information while requiring  
28 the Court to use that information *in camera* to decide the merits of plaintiffs' claims. Those

1 provisions were not at issue in *Clapper*. Footnote four also has no application here because  
 2 information about who the government is targeting for surveillance is not at issue in plaintiffs'  
 3 claims, which arise out of the *untargeted*, dragnet acquisition of their communications and  
 4 communication records. Unlike the *Clapper* plaintiffs, the *Jewel* plaintiffs' standing is not based  
 5 on the theory that they are communicating with someone targeted for surveillance, and litigating  
 6 this case will not require disclosure of who the government has targeted for surveillance.

7 **II. *Clapper* Has No Application Here Because It Addressed Only The Question Of**  
 8 **Standing For Future Injuries, Not Standing For Past Or Present Injuries**

9 Plaintiffs' complaint alleges past and ongoing interception, acquisition, disclosure, and use  
 10 by defendants of plaintiffs' electronic communications and communications records. *See, e.g.*,  
 11 Complaint (Dkt. #1) at ¶¶ 9, 10, 11, 13, 73, 75, 90, 110, 120, 129, 148, 151, 161, 164, 173, 174,  
 12 175, 189, 190, 191, 203, 204, 205, 214, 223, 230, 237, 246, 253, 260, 264. Moreover, plaintiffs'  
 13 allegations are supported by the witness declarations and other evidence they have submitted,  
 14 including statements by government officials. *See* Dkt. # 35, # 85, # 86, # 87, # 88, # 89, # 113,  
 15 # 116.

16 As noted above, in the prior appeal, the Ninth Circuit held that plaintiffs have standing  
 17 because these past and ongoing acts allegedly committed by defendants were concrete and  
 18 particularized injuries to plaintiffs that have already occurred. *Jewel*, 673 F.3d at 906, 908-11.

19 The Ninth Circuit noted:

20 Jewel's allegations are highly specific and lay out concrete harms arising from the  
 21 warrantless searches. Jewel described these actions as a 'dragnet' and alleged that  
 22 '[t]his network of Surveillance Configurations'—'the technical means used to  
 23 receive the diverted communications'—'indiscriminately acquired domestic  
 24 communications as well as international and foreign communications.' Specifically,  
 25 Jewel alleged that '[t]hrough this network of Surveillance Configurations and/or  
 26 other means, Defendants have acquired and continue to acquire the contents of  
 27 domestic and international wire and/or electronic communications sent and/or  
 received by Plaintiffs and class members.' In addition to capturing internet traffic,  
 'Defendants and AT&T acquire all or most long-distance domestic and international  
 phone calls to or from AT&T long distance customers, including both the content of  
 those calls and dialing, routing, addressing and/or signaling information pertaining  
 to those calls.' [¶] . . . [¶] Significantly, Jewel alleged with particularity that *her*  
 communications were part of the dragnet.

28 *Id.* at 910 (italics original).

1 In *Clapper*, by contrast, the Supreme Court addressed a facial constitutional challenge to a  
2 provision of FISA not at issue here, namely 50 U.S.C. § 1881a, which authorizes surveillance  
3 targeting foreigners outside of the United States. Unlike plaintiffs in this lawsuit, the *Clapper*  
4 plaintiffs did not allege any past or ongoing interception of their communications, only the  
5 possibility of *future* interception. At issue in *Clapper* was whether the possibility of future  
6 interception from future targeted surveillance was an injury-in-fact that was “imminent” and  
7 whether the burden and expense of actions the plaintiffs had taken to avoid possible future  
8 interceptions was an injury-in-fact that was “actual.”<sup>1</sup> *Clapper*, 2013 WL 673253 at \*3, \*7-\*8,  
9 \*11.

10 *Clapper* has no application here because the *Jewel* plaintiffs do not base their standing on  
11 either theory at issue in *Clapper*: they do not allege they have not yet been surveilled but only face  
12 the threat of possible future surveillance, and they do not allege that their standing arises from  
13 expenses incurred to avoid possible future surveillance. Instead, plaintiffs’ claims are based on  
14 past and ongoing interception of their own communications and records.

15 The Ninth Circuit recognized this crucial distinction between *Clapper* and this lawsuit in its  
16 decision. Discussing the Second Circuit’s decision in *Clapper*, the Ninth Circuit distinguished the  
17 standing allegations of *Clapper* (which it referred to as *Amnesty International*) from the standing  
18 allegations of plaintiffs here: “*Jewel* has much stronger allegations of concrete and particularized  
19 injury than did the plaintiffs in *Amnesty International*. Whereas they anticipated or projected  
20 future government conduct, *Jewel*’s complaint alleges past incidents of *actual* government  
21 interception of her electronic communications, a claim we accept as true.” *Jewel*, 673 F.3d at 911  
22 (*italics original*).

23 \_\_\_\_\_  
24 <sup>1</sup> Moreover, the *Clapper* plaintiffs could not have alleged past or present harms from the  
25 government’s implementation of 50 U.S.C. § 1881a because they filed suit the day after section  
26 1881a was signed into law. Because the *Clapper* plaintiffs were mounting a facial constitutional  
27 challenge to a newly-enacted statute, the *Clapper* Court found the plaintiffs’ allegations about how  
28 the statute might be implemented to be speculative and conjectural. *Clapper*, 2013 WL 673253 at  
\*8 to \*11. Here, by contrast, the *Jewel* plaintiffs do not rely on conjectures about possible future  
conduct by the government or third parties to establish standing, but on defendants’ past and  
ongoing conduct in violation of long-established statutory and constitutional prohibitions.

1 Likewise, the four justices in dissent in *Clapper*, in a statement the majority did not dispute,  
2 noted: “No one here denies that the Government’s interception of a private telephone or e-mail  
3 conversation amounts to an injury that is ‘concrete and particularized.’ ” *Clapper*, 2013 WL  
4 673253 at \*15.

5 **III. The Ninth Circuit’s Ruling That The Jewel Plaintiffs Have Standing Remains The**  
6 **Law Of The Case And Is Binding On This Court**

7 Because *Clapper* did not address, much less alter, the law establishing that a past or present  
8 harm inflicted by the defendant on the plaintiff is an actual injury-in-fact sufficient to confer  
9 standing, and because the Ninth Circuit has already distinguished *Clapper* from plaintiffs’ lawsuit,  
10 the doctrine of law of the case requires this Court to adhere to the Ninth Circuit’s holding that  
11 plaintiffs have demonstrated standing by alleging actual injuries-in-fact. The recent Ninth Circuit  
12 decision in *Barnes-Wallace v. City of San Diego*, 704 F.3d 1067, 2012 U.S. App. LEXIS 26016  
13 (9th Cir. Dec. 20, 2012) illustrates the point. In an earlier appeal in that litigation, the Ninth Circuit  
14 had found that the plaintiffs had standing. *Barnes-Wallace v. City of San Diego*, 530 F.3d 776,  
15 785-86 (9th Cir. 2008). The defendants, however, again challenged the plaintiffs’ standing in the  
16 subsequent appeal, relying on an intervening Supreme Court decision. The Ninth Circuit held that  
17 its prior standing decision remained law of the case and law of the circuit because the intervening  
18 Supreme Court decision had not changed the legal standard the Ninth Circuit had applied in its  
19 earlier determination of standing. *Barnes-Wallace v. City of San Diego*, 2012 U.S. App. LEXIS  
20 26016 at \*18 to \*21.

21 **IV. The Dictum Of Footnote Four On Which The Government Relies Has No Application**  
22 **Here, Where Congress Has Directed *In Camera* Proceedings**

23 The government defendants direct the Court’s attention to footnote four in *Clapper*, but that  
24 footnote has no bearing on this case. Responding to a suggestion made at the *Clapper* oral  
25 argument, the *Clapper* Court in footnote four addresses a hypothetical: whether the *Clapper*  
26 plaintiffs might be able to cure the deficiencies of their standing allegations if the government were  
27 to disclose, perhaps in an *in camera* proceeding, facts that would show whether or not the  
28 plaintiffs’ communications were actually intercepted and who the government is targeting.  
*Clapper*, 2013 WL 673253 at \*9 n.4 (hypothesizing government disclosure of “(1) whether it is

1 intercepting respondents' communications and (2) what targeting or minimization procedures it is  
2 using"). The footnote further speculated that a terrorist could use such a procedure to discover  
3 whether he was under surveillance.

4 Footnote four has no application here for multiple independent reasons. Initially, footnote  
5 four is dictum. Footnote four is unnecessary to the Supreme Court's holding that the plaintiffs'  
6 allegations of possible future harm are insufficient to create standing; because the allegations were  
7 deficient, there was no need to proceed further to consider "hypothetical disclosure proceedings"  
8 (*Clapper*, 2013 WL 673253 at \*9 n.4) that might reveal facts that would support *different* standing  
9 allegations—allegations of actual, not potential future, surveillance. Indeed, once the Court  
10 decided that the plaintiffs' allegations of standing were constitutionally insufficient, it had no  
11 jurisdiction to proceed further. *Steel Co. v. Citizens for a Better Environment*, 523 U.S. 83, 94-95  
12 (1998).

13 In any event, the dictum of footnote four has no application here because Congress has  
14 provided expressly for *in camera* review by this Court for the claims made by plaintiffs. 18 U.S.C.  
15 § 2712(b)(4); 50 U.S.C. § 1806(f). These congressionally-mandated procedures are not  
16 "hypothetical disclosure proceedings." *Clapper*, 2013 WL 673253 at \*9 n.4. Footnote four does  
17 not address either section 2712(b)(4) or section 1806(f), each of which independently applies here.

18 **First**, plaintiffs bring claims under 18 U.S.C. § 2712. Complaint (Dkt. #1), Counts IX, XII,  
19 XV. Section 2712 creates damages claims for *any* willful violation of the Wiretap Act or the  
20 Stored Communications Act ("SCA"). 18 U.S.C. § 2712(a) (providing a cause of action against  
21 the United States for "any willful violation of this chapter [i.e., chapter 121, the SCA] or chapter  
22 119 of this title [i.e., the Wiretap Act]").

23 Congress has provided that for claims under section 2712, the *in camera* review procedures  
24 of 50 U.S.C. § 1806(f) shall apply to "materials governed by" section 1806(f). 18 U.S.C.  
25 § 2712(b)(4). The materials governed by section 1806(f) are "materials relating to electronic  
26 surveillance" whose "disclosure . . . would harm the national security." 50 U.S.C. § 1806(f). Thus,  
27 Congress has directed that this Court decide the lawfulness of the surveillance alleged by plaintiffs,  
28 using section 1806(f)'s procedures to protect national security evidence.

1 In deciding plaintiffs' section 2712 claims, the Court will reach all of the unlawful conduct  
2 alleged by plaintiffs, since plaintiffs' section 2712 claims arise from the same facts that underlie  
3 plaintiffs' other claims. Moreover, because the Wiretap Act and the SCA prohibit the interception  
4 of communications and acquisition of communication records unless specifically authorized by the  
5 Wiretap Act, the SCA, or FISA, *any* interceptions and acquisitions contrary to the Wiretap Act, the  
6 SCA, or FISA are also Wiretap Act or SCA violations actionable under section 2712.<sup>2</sup> *See, e.g.*, 18  
7 U.S.C. § 2511(2)(e) (exempting from the Wiretap Act's prohibitions any electronic surveillance  
8 conducted by a government officer, employee, or agent if the surveillance has been "authorized by  
9 [the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance] Act"). So in deciding plaintiffs' section 2712 claims, the  
10 Court will also be deciding whether the surveillance was authorized under the Wiretap Act, the  
11 SCA, or FISA.<sup>3</sup>

12 <sup>2</sup> In more detail, the laws protecting electronic communications and communications records are  
13 framed as general prohibitions found in, respectively, the Wiretap Act and the SCA. The Wiretap  
14 Act, in 18 U.S.C. § 2511(1), generally prohibits the interception, disclosure, and use of the contents  
15 of communications; the SCA, in 18 U.S.C. § 2702(a)(3), prohibits any disclosure of  
16 communication records to the government. These general prohibitions of the Wiretap Act and the  
17 SCA are then subject to detailed exceptions set forth in the Wiretap Act (*see* 18 U.S.C. §§ 2511(2),  
18 2518), the SCA (*see* 18 U.S.C. § 2703(c)), and in FISA (*see* 50 U.S.C. §§ 1804, 1805). For  
19 example, the Wiretap Act, the SCA, and FISA authorize court orders for obtaining communications  
20 and records otherwise protected by the Wiretap Act or the SCA. Finally, the Wiretap Act and  
21 FISA each contain parallel catch-all provisions additionally prohibiting any interception of  
22 electronic communications or "electronic surveillance" (which includes acquisition of  
23 communication records) not affirmatively authorized by the Wiretap Act, the SCA, or FISA.  
24 18 U.S.C. § 2511(f); 50 U.S.C. § 1812. Thus, any government interception of domestic electronic  
25 communications or acquisition of communications records, or disclosure or use of that information,  
26 that is not authorized by one of the express exceptions found in FISA, the Wiretap Act, or the SCA  
27 violates the general prohibitions found in the Wiretap Act and the SCA and is therefore actionable  
28 under section 2712 as a Wiretap Act or SCA violation.

<sup>3</sup> Previously, the government has argued that, contrary to its plain language, section 2712 does not  
include "any willful violation" of the Wiretap Act or the SCA, but extends only to those violations  
involving the use or disclosure of information. The government's rewriting of section 2712 would  
exclude violations involving the interception or acquisition of information. Dkt. #102 at 8-9. As  
plaintiffs explained at the hearing, the government's contention not only contradicts section 2712's  
plain language but is based on its fundamental misreading of the Patriot Act's legislative history,  
which in fact does not address section 2712.

In particular, the government is wrong in its claim that Rep. Barney Frank proposed section 2712  
and intended it to reach only the use and disclosure of intercepted communications and records.  
Dkt. #102 at 8-9. Rep. Frank did *not* propose the language that became section 2712; instead, he  
*(footnote continued on following page)*

1            *Second*, the plain language of section 1806(f) itself reaches plaintiffs' claims even apart  
2 from section 2712(b)(4). As explained in detail in plaintiff's briefs, the *in camera* procedure of  
3 section 1806(f) applies whenever the government asserts that disclosure of information relating to  
4 electronic surveillance might harm national security, regardless of the nature of the underlying  
5 claims at issue. *See* Dkt. # 83 at 12-22; Dkt. # 112 at 3-13.

6            Because the *Clapper* dictum in footnote four does not, and had no reason to, address claims  
7 or procedures under section 2712 or section 1806(f), that footnote has no relevance here.

8            *Clapper's* failure to address section 2712 and section 1806(f) is unsurprising, as the *Clapper*  
9 plaintiffs brought no claim under section 2712 and those provisions were beyond the scope of the  
10 question presented in the certiorari petition and were not briefed by the parties.

11  
12  

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13            (*footnote continued from previous page*)

14 proposed a quite different amendment that would not only have created new prohibitions against  
15 the unlawful use or disclosure of information but also would have waived sovereign immunity for  
16 claims against the United States—including interception claims—under the pre-existing civil  
17 liability provisions of 18 U.S.C. § 2520 (the Wiretap Act), 18 U.S.C. § 2707 (the SCA), and 50  
18 U.S.C. § 1810 (FISA). *See* H. Rep. 107-236 at pp. 10-13, 42, 95-96, 100-101, 304-307  
(reproduced as Ex. B to Dkt. # 131).

19            The version of the Patriot Act that the House Judiciary Committee considered and debated was a  
20 bill known as H.R. 2975. Rep. Frank's amendment was included in the version of H.R. 2975 that  
21 the House Judiciary Committee approved and that was the subject of H. Rep. 107-236, an item of  
22 legislative history upon which the government relies. *See* H. Rep. 107-236 at pp. 10-13  
(reproduced as Ex. B to Dkt. # 131). However, the Judiciary Committee version of H.R. 2975 that  
23 included Rep. Frank's amendment had nothing similar to section 2712 in it. (Because H.R. 2975  
24 did not include section 2712, the Judiciary Committee report (H. Rep. 107-236) said nothing about  
25 section 2712.)

26            The Judiciary Committee version of H.R. 2975 was never enacted. Instead, on the House floor, it  
27 was gutted and the text of H.R. 3108, a different bill that did include the language of section 2712,  
28 was substituted for the Judiciary Committee's version of H.R. 2975 in its entirety. 147 Cong. Rec.  
19635-19636, 19649 (2001). Rep. Frank objected to the substitution and voted against it.  
147 Cong. Rec. 19634, 19649 (2001) (at 19634: "[I]t turned out we were engaged in a game of  
bait and switch, because once the committee bill came forward, it was dumped; and we have today  
an outrageous procedure: a bill drafted by a handful of people in secret, subjected to no committee  
process, comes before us immune from amendment.") Ultimately, it was yet another House bill,  
H.R. 3162, which also included the language of section 2712, that was enacted as the Patriot Act,  
Pub. L. No. 107-56, 115 Stat. 272.

1           The government’s unfounded assertion, Dkt. # 139 at 4, that the *Clapper* Court in footnote  
2 four “rejected” section 1806(f) is wholly fanciful. Nor, contrary to the government’s suggestion,  
3 Dkt. # 139 at 5, does footnote four “confirm” that the common-law state secrets privilege  
4 supersedes section 1806(f). *Clapper* says nothing about section 1806(f) or the state secrets  
5 privilege. In section 2712(b)(4) and section 1806(f), Congress unequivocally mandated that courts  
6 use *in camera* proceedings in electronic surveillance cases to protect evidence whose disclosure  
7 might harm national security, while using that evidence to decide those cases on the merits. The  
8 *Clapper* dictum cannot, and was not intended to, override the will of Congress expressed in these  
9 statutes.

10           The government’s argument that plaintiffs will never be able to prove up their standing  
11 allegations ignores not only section 2712(b)(4) and section 1806(f) but also plaintiffs’ non-secret  
12 evidence establishing the interceptions, including the Klein and Marcus declarations and  
13 accompanying documents. For seven years, counsel for the government has been dismissively  
14 disparaging plaintiffs’ evidence, particularly the Klein and Marcus declarations. Aspersions are  
15 not evidence, however, and lawyers are not witnesses. The government has never come forward  
16 with any *evidence* rebutting the detailed and specific facts set forth in those declarations. The  
17 government defendants likewise ignore in their supplemental brief plaintiffs’ Rule 56(d)  
18 declaration (Dkt. # 114) and the fact that plaintiffs have not yet had the opportunity to take any  
19 discovery.

20           Finally, the *Clapper* dictum is inapplicable here for yet another reason. The *Clapper* Court  
21 hypothesized in footnote four that if, in a case like *Clapper* where standing depends on whether the  
22 plaintiff or someone they communicate with is a target of surveillance, the government had the  
23 burden of disclosing who it was targeting in order to resolve the issue of standing, then a terrorist  
24 could determine whether he is a target of surveillance simply by bringing suit. Plaintiffs’ claims  
25 raise no such concerns and fall outside the hypothetical addressed in the *Clapper* dictum because  
26 they are claims alleging *untargeted* surveillance that do not require any proof that anyone was  
27 targeted or any proof of whose communications the government may have later selected out of the  
28

1 millions caught in the dragnet. Unlike the *Clapper* plaintiffs, the *Jewel* plaintiffs' standing is not  
 2 based on the theory that they are communicating with someone targeted for surveillance.

3 As explained in plaintiffs' briefs and at the hearing, plaintiffs do not need to and do not  
 4 seek to prove who is a target. The violations plaintiffs allege are complete upon the government's  
 5 initial, *untargeted* mass acquisition of the communications and records of plaintiffs and millions of  
 6 others of Americans. What the government does with those communications and records *after*  
 7 acquisition is not an element of plaintiffs' claims, and a ruling on the merits in plaintiffs' favor  
 8 would reveal nothing about who the government is targeting or require the government to "reveal[]"  
 9 details of its surveillance priorities." *Clapper*, 2013 WL 673253 at \*9 n.4. This fact also explains  
 10 why the government's state secrets declarations are irrelevant to the extent they assert the privilege  
 11 over evidence that would reveal the identities of the targets of government surveillance and then  
 12 seek to justify dismissal on the basis of potential harms that might occur from that revelation. No  
 13 such information is at issue in this lawsuit. Quite simply, a terrorist could not use a lawsuit like  
 14 plaintiffs'—alleging only untargeted surveillance—to discover whether he was the target of  
 15 surveillance.

## 16 **V. Conclusion**

17 Plaintiffs' motion for partial summary judgment should be granted and the government  
 18 defendants' motion to dismiss and for summary judgment should be denied.

19  
 20 DATE: March 13, 2013

Respectfully submitted,

21 *s/ Richard R. Wiebe*  
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