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9 UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT  
 10 EASTERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA  
 11 SACRAMENTO DIVISION  
 12

13 In re:  
 14 CITY OF STOCKTON, CALIFORNIA,  
 15 Debtor.

Case No. 2012-32118  
 D.C. No. JD-1  
 Chapter 9

**DECLARATION OF DOUGLASS W.  
 WILHOIT, JR., IN SUPPORT OF CITY  
 OF STOCKTON'S OPPOSITION TO  
 FRANKLIN'S MOTION FOR STAY  
 PENDING APPEAL OF  
 CONFIRMATION ORDER**

Date: December 10, 2014  
 Time: 11:00 a.m.  
 Dept: C, Courtroom 35  
 Judge: Hon. Christopher M. Klein

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1 I, Douglass W. Wilhoit, Jr., hereby declare:

2 1. I am the Chief Executive Officer of the 113-year-old Greater Stockton Chamber of  
3 Commerce, a group that represents over 1000 member organizations. I make this declaration in  
4 support of the City of Stockton, California's (the "City's") Opposition To Franklin's Motion For  
5 Stay Pending Appeal Of Confirmation Order.

6 2. I am proud to be a fifth-generation Stocktonian. I have seen all the wonderful and  
7 positive sides of Stockton, as well as the negative sides, and foremost amongst the negative sides  
8 is the dark cloud of the Stockton bankruptcy case.

9 3. My background, not only as a native son, but also as a member of the Stockton  
10 Police Department (1967-1979), a member of the San Joaquin County Board of Supervisors  
11 (1979-1995), a member and Chair of the State of California Youthful Offender Parole Board  
12 (appointed by Governor Wilson 1995-1999) and CEO of the Greater Stockton Chamber of  
13 Commerce (1999 to present), has allowed me the privilege, for over 70 years, of interacting with  
14 scores of fellow Stockton business leaders and Stocktonians from each of our diverse  
15 neighborhoods.

16 4. Because of my role as the CEO of the Chamber of Commerce and my otherwise  
17 prominent role in the Stockton business community, I am in frequent contact with Stockton  
18 business executives. I have had many discussions with them about the state of the Stockton  
19 business climate and their plans for expansion or contraction, and as a result, I believe I have an  
20 accurate sense of the pulse of the Stockton business community.

21 5. Both the citizens and the business community of Stockton have endured almost  
22 two and a half years of bankruptcy. They stepped up to the plate to pass Measure A for the 3/4-  
23 cent sales tax increase, not only to provide the City with the means of successfully exiting its  
24 bankruptcy case, but more importantly, to provide funding to the Stockton Police Department in  
25 recruiting and hiring qualified men and women to better provide an increased level of public  
26 safety to which each of our citizens is entitled and which is the number one issue in Stockton  
27 today.

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