

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
EASTERN DISTRICT OF LOUISIANA

WOODWARD HARBOR L.L.C. ET AL.

CIVIL ACTION

VERSUS

NO. 23-5824

CITY OF MANDEVILLE, ET AL.

SECTION "O"

**DECLARATION PURSUANT TO 28 U.S.C. § 1746 OF THOMAS H. HUVAL**

Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1746, I, Thomas H. Huval, make the following Declaration and were I called to testify as a witness I would testify as follows:

1. My name is Thomas H. Huval.
2. I am an attorney licensed in the State of Louisiana and am a partner at the Jones Fussell, LLP law firm located in Covington, Louisiana.
3. I have practiced for 33 years and am admitted to the Bars of the State of Louisiana and Mississippi.
4. I am enrolled as co-counsel for plaintiff LSU Health Foundation New Orleans in the above-captioned matter.
5. I submit this Declaration pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1746 in connection with and in response to this Court's *Order to Show Cause* [R. Doc. 103] entered on February 5, 2026 in the above-captioned matter.
6. I have read the Declaration pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1746 submitted by my law partner John R. Walker in response to this Court's *Order to Show Cause* and believe it accurately reflects the circumstances that led to the filing of the *Joint Opposition to Second Motion to Dismiss Filed by the City of Mandeville* [R. Doc. 97], filed with the Court on June 3, 2025.
7. When defendant the City of Mandeville filed its Rule 12(b)(6) *Motion to Dismiss*

[R. Doc 90] the equal protection claims of plaintiffs Woodward Harbor LLC and LSU Health Foundation New Orleans, Mr. Walker offered to prepare a *Joint Opposition* to be filed on behalf of Woodward Harbor LLC (represented by attorneys Michael R.C. Reiss and Johanna Lambert) and LSU Health Foundation New Orleans.

8. It was understood and agreed by counsel for Woodward, Mr. Walker, and me that Mr. Walker would conduct the necessary research and draft the *Joint Opposition* to oppose The City of Mandeville's motion.

9. Consistent with that agreement and understanding, Mr. Walker researched and drafted the *Joint Opposition*.

10. Mr. Walker circulated a draft of the *Joint Opposition* to Woodward's counsel on June 2, 2025, for review and comment. I was copied on the email circulating the initial draft, but there was no expectation that I would see the email or that I could or would review and comment on the draft because I was out of the office from May 28, 2025, through June 3, 2025, with no cell or internet service from mid-morning on Thursday, May 29, 2025, until the afternoon of Tuesday, June 3, 2025.

11. As I result, I had no opportunity to review a draft of the *Joint Opposition* before it was filed, played no role in the research conducted to prepare the *Joint Opposition*, and did not write any part of the *Joint Opposition*.

12. I did not sign, file, submit, or later advocate the *Joint Opposition*.

13. I did not know until I received the Court's *Order and Reasons* [R. Doc. 101] and the *Order to Show Cause* [R. Doc. 103] on February 5, 2026 (and then immediately spoke with my partner, Mr. Walker) that generative AI had been used to prepare the *Joint Opposition*, nor that Mr. Walker had not verified the case citations the *Joint Opposition* contained.

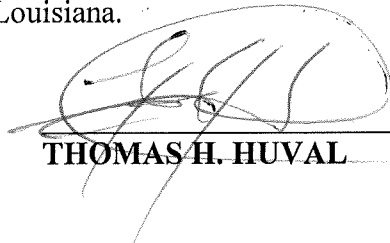
14. I have no reason to believe that Woodward's counsel Michael Reiss and Johanna Lambert knew that Mr. Walker used generative AI to prepare the *Joint Opposition* until they received the Court's *Order and Reasons* [R. Doc. 101] and the *Order to Show Cause* [R. Doc. 103] on February 5, 2026.

15. If I had any idea whatsoever that generative AI had been used to prepare the *Joint Opposition* and that, as a result, the *Joint Opposition* contained inaccurate case cites, non-existent cases, and inaccurate descriptions, I would have immediately filed a sur-reply, sent a letter, sent an email, or done whatever was necessary to alert the Court and all counsel of the mistakes. I had no idea that occurred in this case, or that it was even a possibility, because I did not know, and it never occurred to me, that generative AI was used.

16. Since the Court's *Order to Show Cause* brought this issue to my attention, I have carefully read the ABA's Formal Opinion 512 (July 29, 2024), regarding an attorney's use of "Generative Artificial Intelligence Tools," and our law firm is in the process of instituting guidelines for using generative AI tools.

17. On behalf of myself and our law firm, I want to express my regret to the Court and to all parties in this case for the errors the *Joint Opposition* contained and assure the Court that such regrettable mistakes will not happen again.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct. Executed on the 12<sup>th</sup> day of February 2026 at Covington, Louisiana.

  
THOMAS H. HUVAL