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ATLAS DATA PRIVACY CORPORATION, as assignee of individuals who are Covered Persons, JANE DOE-1, a law enforcement officer, JANE DOE-2, a law enforcement officer, EDWIN MALDONADO, SCOTT MALONEY, JUSTYNA MALONEY, and WILLIAM SULLIVAN,

Plaintiffs,

v.

BABEL STREET, INC., RICHARD ROES 1-10, *fictitious names of unknown individuals* and ABC COMPANIES 1-10, *fictitious names of unknown entities*,

Defendants.

SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY LAW DIVISION, ESSEX COUNTY DOCKET NO.: ESX-L- -24

CIVIL ACTION

COMPLAINT

Plaintiffs Atlas Data Privacy Corporation ("Atlas"), as the assignee of individuals who are Covered Persons under Daniel's Law, along with Jane Doe-1 (a law enforcement officer), Jane Doe-2 (a law enforcement officer), Edwin Maldonado, Scott Maloney, Justyna Maloney, and William Sullivan (collectively, "Plaintiffs"), by and through their undersigned counsel, hereby submit this Complaint against Defendants and state as follows:

INTRODUCTION

1. In these tumultuous times, it is critical that the most sensitive personal information of current and former public servants be protected from unwarranted disclosure. As set forth below, Daniel's Law was passed unanimously by our Legislature to provide judges, law enforcement officers, and prosecutors—and their families—with the right to prevent the disclosure of their home addresses and unpublished home telephone numbers, and to enforce those rights against uncooperative profit-seeking data brokers.

2. This complaint seeks to protect those important rights against companies brokering data and choosing profit and commercial gain over a critical public interest and the unequivocal mandate of the law. Companies in the business of disclosing this protected information have avoided accountability for far too long, proffering such information, including home addresses and unpublished home telephone numbers, without sufficient regard for the risks and consequences imposed upon individuals who serve (and have served) critical judicial and law enforcement roles.

3. The Legislature and Governor unanimously agree that the basic safety of those who serve—and their families—must be assured. Here, not only do the data brokers wantonly and repeatedly disregard the law, but they also demonstrate a callousness towards the well-being of these public servants. Our judges, law enforcement officers, and prosecutors should receive the full measure of protection afforded to them under the same laws they enforce for the safety of all citizens.

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4. With this action, Plaintiffs seek to enforce the important rights granted to judges, law enforcement officers, and prosecutors under Daniel's Law. Consistent with the statutory scheme, Atlas brings this action as an assignee for certain individuals, including many family members of law enforcement officers and prosecutors. Plaintiffs seek all available injunctive relief and statutory damages, including to prevent any further disclosure by Defendants of information in violation of Daniel's Law.

BACKGROUND

Passage of Daniel's Law in New Jersey

5. In July 2020, Daniel Anderl, the son of a New Jersey federal Judge, was murdered by a gunman posing as a FedEx delivery man at the front door of the family's New Jersey home. Daniel, who was just 20 years old and a rising junior in college, and who aspired to practice law like his parents, took a bullet to his chest trying to protect his parents. By the time his mother, a Judge, came to the door to check on what happened, the killer had fled. But her husband was critically wounded, and Daniel tragically died from the gunshot.

6. During the investigation, the perpetrator was found to have certain political and personal grievances against the Judge, and he went to their home that day intending to kill her. Investigators eventually connected this attack with the same perpetrator's shooting of an attorney in California, who was similarly mortally gunned down answering the door to his residence to pick up a supposed package from the same disguised gunman. Authorities concluded that the shooter was disgruntled over certain legal cases with similar political and legal issues to the case that was pending before Daniel's mother.

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7. Critically, the gunman was able to find the home addresses of his murder victims through the various people finder resources available on the Internet,¹ the same kind of data broker services at issue in this case.

New Jersey Passes Daniel's Law in 2020

8. In response to Daniel's murder, New Jersey swiftly enacted Daniel's Law in November 2020. P.L. 2020, c. 125 *codified in* N.J.S.A. 47:1A-1, et seq. and N.J.S.A. 56:8-166.1. Daniel's Law allows current and former public servants—including judges, law enforcement officers, and prosecutors—and their eligible family members (*i.e.*, "covered persons") to send written nondisclosure requests to data brokers. Once a 10-business day period following such a request has passed, the data broker is prohibited from disclosing or otherwise making available the name and home address or unpublished home telephone number of the covered person. Law enforcement personnel are expressly covered by the statute, in full recognition that the public service they provide is no less dangerous or important than those of judges and prosecutors.

9. Any such covered person may request that a data broker not "disclose or re-disclose on the Internet or otherwise make available" their home addresses or unpublished home telephone numbers. Disclosure is defined to mean to "solicit, sell, manufacture, give, provide, lend, trade, mail, deliver, transfer, post, publish, distribute, circulate, disseminate, present, exhibit, advertise, or offer, and shall include making available or viewable within a searchable list or database, regardless of whether a search of such list or database is actually performed."

10. Data brokers must cease disclosure of this protected information within 10 business days of receiving a written nondisclosure request from a covered person.

¹ <u>https://www.cbsnews.com/news/esther-salas-son-murder-roy-den-hollander-48-hours/.</u>

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11. To facilitate the enforcement of Daniel's Law, the New Jersey Legislature expressly provided that an enforcement action could be brought by a covered person or by the covered person's assignee. <u>N.J.S.A.</u> 56:8-166.1(b).

Congress Passes Daniel Anderl Judicial Security and Privacy Act in 2022

12. Similar to the actions taken by the State of New Jersey, federal judges such as U.S. Supreme Court Chief Justice John G. Roberts Jr. proposed and supported a federal version of Daniel's Law. The Chief Justice was quoted stating, "[t]he law requires every judge to swear an oath to perform his or her work without fear or favor, but we must support judges by ensuring their safety . . . [a] judicial system cannot and should not live in fear."²

13. The federal bill, which had broad bipartisan support in both the House and Senate, protected the personally identifiable information of judges and their immediate family from disclosure by data brokers. It also allowed federal judges to redact their personal information displayed on federal government websites.

14. In December 2022, the U.S. Senate voted 83-11 to pass the annual defense authorization bill, with the Daniel Anderl Judicial Security and Privacy Act attached,³ and it was signed by President Biden.⁴

Violence Against Police Officers and Judges Has Not Stopped

15. Despite these efforts, violence against judges, law enforcement officers, and prosecutors remains a continuing and serious threat. These public servants put their lives on the line every day, which is clearly exhibited by the numerous horrific stories of violence beyond the

² https://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/2022/12/31/supreme-court-roberts-leak-report/.

³ <u>https://www.uscourts.gov/news/2022/12/16/congress-passes-daniel-anderl-judicial-security-and-privacy-act</u>.

⁴ <u>https://www.nj.com/politics/2022/12/biden-signs-defense-policy-bill-that-remembers-3-new-jerseyans.html</u>.

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murder of Daniel Anderl. For example, in 2020, three shooters openly fired upon the Camden home of two New Jersey police officers while they were inside with their 10-day old infant. That the officers were constantly involved in the community doing good afforded them no safety from the perpetrators.⁵ On the contrary, the officers were targeted specifically because they chose to go into public service and protect their community.

16. More recently, a disgruntled litigant hunted down and killed a Maryland Judge at his home, after an adverse child custody ruling.⁶ This killing followed a similar tragedy in Wisconsin in 2022, where the perpetrator killed a retired Wisconsin Circuit Court Judge out of spite for his handling of a criminal case in 2005.⁷

17. These violent incidents demonstrate the risk to public servants and their families resulting from the open sale and dissemination of their most personal information, including their home addresses and/or unpublished home telephone numbers. These incidents also demonstrate the risk to the broader community should public officials be denied their statutory privacy rights. The risk that one might be violently targeted at their home may disincentivize individuals from pursuing a career in public service. This undermines the public interest—as the State and federal governments have recognized in passing Daniel's Law and its federal counterpart.

THE PARTIES

The Individual Plaintiffs

18. Plaintiff JANE DOE-1, whose name has been anonymized for safety reasons, is a

⁵ <u>Shooters Open Fire On Home Of New Jersey Police Officers In 'Targeted Attack,' Chief Says</u> (forbes.com).

⁶ Judge Andrew Wilkinson: Suspect still on the run after killing a judge at his home in a 'targeted attack' following a child custody ruling, sheriff says | CNN.

⁷ Former Judge John Roemer was killed in his Wisconsin home in a targeted attack, officials say <u>CNN</u>.

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decorated veteran police officer from Northern New Jersey. Between 2021 and 2022, Officer Doe-1 participated in a task force that targeted a major criminal organization operating in the state. Her efforts ultimately led to the arrest and prosecution of a member of the organization's leadership, an individual with an extensive criminal history including threats of violence. In the subsequent investigation, digital devices recovered from the organization's leadership were analyzed and photographs of Officer Doe-1's personal residence were identified. Officer Doe-1 lives in the home with her spouse and their young child. Evidence recovered in the investigation included night-time photography of the young child's bedroom and playroom windows, with the light on while the child was playing inside. Further investigation revealed that the criminal organization's leadership had hired a private investigator who searched online data broker websites to obtain the officer's home address. Having identified her home address, text messages confirmed that members of the criminal organization had initiated surveillance and were tracking Officer Doe-1's movements to and from her home, immediately prior to the task force initiating arrests.

19. Plaintiff JANE DOE-2, whose name has been anonymized for safety reasons, is a veteran correctional police officer who lives in Northern New Jersey with her husband and two young children. Earlier in her career, Officer Doe-2 was the subject of a death threat from a hostile inmate. The inmate stated that they intended to kill Officer Doe-2, and further implied that they would rely upon a particular private investigator to track down Officer Doe-2's home address to facilitate the murder. This death threat was investigated and considered credible enough to result in a successful criminal prosecution. Part of Officer Doe-2's current duties include working in her correctional facility's law library, where inmates have access to the Internet including online data broker websites and services. Recently Officer Doe-2 and her coworkers discovered a note left behind by an inmate which included the full name and home address of a young female member

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of the jail's administrative staff. The most effective ways to safeguard the security and privacy of their home addresses - for their own safety and that of their family members - is a frequent topic of discussion and concern among the correctional police officers working at Officer Doe-2's facility.

20. Plaintiff Officer EDWIN MALDONADO joined the Plainfield, New Jersey police department as a patrol officer in 2000. After a few months on the job, he was assigned to street crimes, where he excelled at field work. In 2005, he became a Detective with Plainfield's major crimes unit and joined a Federal task force targeting the Mara Salvatrucha-13 (MS-13) gang in New Jersey. He worked with the task force for the next two years. During that time period, he received multiple credible death threats from MS-13 members. Detective Maldonado did not believe he would be able to safeguard his home address while living in Plainfield and relocated his family to a remote location from which he commuted to work. In 2009, because his relocation effort had been successful and MS-13 could not locate his new home address, gang members targeted Detective Maldonado's mother instead. They intended to burn down her building with her inside, but set fire to an adjacent building by mistake. Phone calls between MS-13 members discussing the premeditated murder of Detective Maldonado and his family, and the premeditated murder of Detective Maldonado's mother, were intercepted by jail wiretaps. Later in multiple criminal trials, evidence was entered into the record regarding these intercepted conversations and premeditated murders, contributing to numerous successful prosecutions.

21. Plaintiffs Sergeant SCOTT MALONEY ("Sergeant Maloney") and Officer JUSTYNA MALONEY ("Officer Maloney") are husband and wife, both veteran police officers currently serving with the Rahway, New Jersey Police Department. They live together in New Jersey with their two young children. In April 2023, Officer Maloney responded to a routine call

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of a suspicious individual outside the Motor Vehicle Commission in Rahway. The individual was an online content creator who often solicits police contact and then films himself debating constitutional rights with the responding officers. A subset of the content creator's audience is vocally anti-police and videos posted to his social media channel have historically been the source of harassment and intimidation campaigns directed at the officers involved. In this case, Officer Maloney and several other responding officers were filmed discussing a number of legal issues with the content creator, including whether or not the content creator was required to take his hands out of his pockets to show that he was unarmed. Overall, the encounter was routine and ended uneventfully.

22. The resulting video footage was selectively edited and posted to YouTube and TikTok. Almost immediately upon the video being posted, Officer Maloney was targeted by followers of the channel and other individuals who viewed the video. Sergeant Maloney was quickly identified by viewers as Officer Maloney's husband, and became a target himself, due to their relationship as a married couple and his own status as a police officer. Web links to data broker websites publicly disclosing the Maloney family's home address and unpublished home telephone numbers were posted along with explicit death threats and calls for violence, resulting in dozens of threatening phone calls and text messages.

23. One of the text messages sent to Sergeant Maloney demanded money and stated that if Sergeant Maloney did not comply then his family would "pay in blood." The unknown messenger went on to state that they knew where the Maloneys lived and sent the full name and home address of one of the Maloneys' nearby relatives as proof of the messenger's ability to gather sensitive personal information. Sergeant Maloney refused to comply with any demands. He then received a video of three individuals in ski masks armed with handguns and assault rifles repeating

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the extortion demand. In the video, a masked individual points a rifle at the camera and tells Sergeant Maloney that his family is "going to get [their] heads cut off."

24. Several weeks later, one of the Maloneys' neighbors observed two suspicious looking individuals in ski masks parked one block away from the home and alerted police. Responding officers arrested two men—who were armed—for unlawful possession of a firearm. Video surveillance captured by nearby houses showed the two men circling the Maloneys' house immediately prior to their arrest. Officer Maloney and her two young children were home at the time.

25. Plaintiff Officer WILLIAM SULLIVAN is a 19-year veteran of the New Jersey Department of Corrections. Since 2020, Officer Sullivan has served as the President of New Jersey PBA Local 105, the labor union representing thousands of correctional police officers from the New Jersey Department of Corrections, the Juvenile Justice Commission, and State Parole. During the course of his law enforcement career, he has received numerous threats of violence directed at him and his family as a result of his public service. Inmates incarcerated within New Jersey's state prisons frequently attempt to discover the protected information of correctional officers working in their facilities. These attempts and the risks posed by such information being accessible on the Internet is a frequent topic of discussion and concern among correctional officers and their family members. Officer Sullivan has counseled many officers whose protected information has been discovered and has responded to specific incidents where protected information was used by exinmates to threaten, harass, or intimidate fellow officers.

Plaintiff Atlas and its Assignors

26. Plaintiff ATLAS DATA PRIVACY CORPORATION is a Delaware corporation, with offices at 201 Montgomery Street, Suite 263, Jersey City, New Jersey 07302.

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27. As permitted under Daniel's Law, Atlas asserts claims against Defendants as the assignee of the claims of approximately 19,695 individuals who are all "Covered Persons" under Daniel's Law (together, the "Covered Persons" and each a "Covered Person"), including a significant number of individuals who are family members of judges, law enforcement officers, and prosecutors.

28. Each Covered Person is an (a) active, formerly active, or retired judicial officer, law enforcement officer, or child protective investigator in the Division of Child Protection and Permanency, or prosecutor, as those terms are defined in <u>N.J.S.A.</u> 47:1A-1.1; or (b) immediate family member residing in the same household as such judicial officer, law enforcement officer, child protective investigator in the Division of Child Protection and Permanency, or prosecutor. Thus, each individual meets the definition of "covered person" set forth in Daniel's Law, <u>N.J.S.A.</u> 56:8-166.1.

29. Each Covered Person resides, works, previously resided or worked in New Jersey, or is a family member residing at the same address as such as a person, and has a claim or claims against Defendants for failing to comply with Daniel's Law.

30. As set forth in more detail below, the Covered Persons (as well as the Individual Plaintiffs) each exercised their rights under Daniel's Law by sending Defendants a written notice requesting that Defendants cease disclosing or re-disclosing on the Internet or otherwise making available their protected information on one or more of Defendants' websites or through other methods of disclosure.

31. Defendants have not complied with the law by ceasing the disclosure or redisclosure on the Internet or the otherwise making available of protected information as required

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under Daniel's Law for each of the Covered Persons (as well as each of the Individual Plaintiffs) as required by the law.

32. In accordance with Daniel's Law, each of the Covered Persons has assigned their rights for claims thereunder against Defendants to Atlas, in writing, as permitted under the statute. Such assignments expressly and "irrevocably assign to Atlas or a designated affiliate of Atlas (the 'Assignee') the exclusive right to civil enforcement of all claims" under Daniel's Law.

33. Atlas provides an online platform, including an email service named AtlasMail, to law enforcement officers, prosecutors, judges, and other Covered Persons. Atlas works with and provides access to its platform to members of the New Jersey State Policemen's Benevolent Association, the Metropolitan Transportation Authority Police Benevolent Association, New Jersey PBA Local 105, and the New Jersey State Troopers Fraternal Association, among others. The goal of these unions and associations, since the first passage of Daniel's Law in November 2020, has been to increase the safety and well-being of their members and their members' families by helping those members understand and assert the rights provided to them by the law.

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34. Upon signing up for Atlas, a Covered Person is asked a series of questions to collect required personal information and qualify his or her eligibility under Daniel's Law. Once eligibility is confirmed, the Covered Person is shown a page explaining how the Atlas platform works:

How Atlas Works

Daniel's Law allows you to send takedown notices to data brokers requesting that they not disclose or redisclose your home address or phone number. Atlas provides you with tools and services to help make the process more efficient.

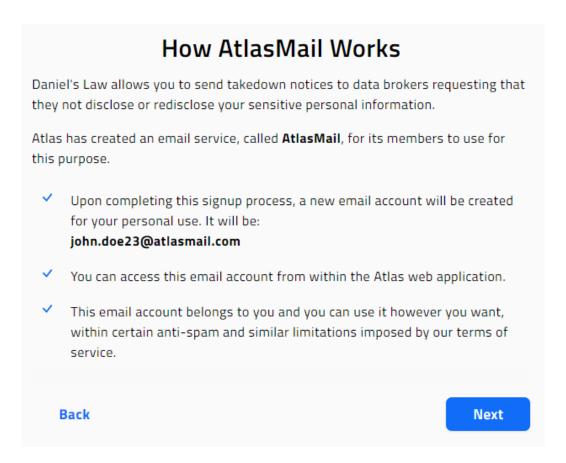
- We identify data brokers that may be disclosing your personal information. As of January 2024, our system tracks over 1,000 data brokers who operate in the United States.
- You select the data brokers to whom you want to send takedown notices. We have lists of data brokers that we recommend, in order to make the selection process easier and more efficient. Alternatively, you can select recipients individually.
- 3 You review takedown notice templates. AtlasMail provides you with templates for takedown notice emails.
- 4 You send takedown notices. Your Atlas service includes an AtlasMail email address. You can use this email address to send takedown notices. More information about AtlasMail will be on the next screen.

Next

Back

35. AtlasMail is an email service operated by Atlas. Upon signing up with Atlas, each Covered Person receives his or her own AtlasMail account, with a unique inbox address (*e.g.*,

john.doe23@atlasmail.com) for personal use. A description of AtlasMail and more information about how the email service works are provided on a page during the signup process:



36. Having provided personal information, confirmed their eligibility for Daniel's Law, and progressed through several pages explaining the functions of Atlas as a platform and AtlasMail as an email service, the Covered Person is then presented with a page on which he or she can review his or her home addresses and unpublished home telephone numbers, a takedown notice template, and a recommended list of data brokers to be served with notices. On this page the Covered Person can choose whether or not to send takedown notices. If the Covered Person chooses not to send takedown notices to the recommended list, they can select individual recipients at a later page (as shown in the example copied below). Here, each of the Individual Plaintiffs and Covered Persons sent Defendants a takedown notice.

Data Bro	okers Included 5	Select All
PEO	People Data Labs (peopledatalabs.com)	
PEO	People Finder Free (Peoplefinderfree.com)	
PEO	People Finders (peoplefinders.com)	
PEO	People Looker (peoplelooker.com)	
PEO	People Search (peoplesearch.com)	
PEO	People.ai (people.ai)	
PEO	Peoplebackgroundcheck (people-background-check.com)	Z
	By selecting the personal information and data brokers above and clicking " Takedowns" below, you will be sending a large volume of takedown notices AtlasMail email address john.doe23@atlasmail.com	ve
	Send Takedowns	

[Remainder of page intentionally left blank]

37. Any reply or response back from a data broker to the Covered Person is received and displayed in their AtlasMail inbox. AtlasMail is a fully-featured email service provider, and its users can reply, forward, or use their AtlasMail account as they would any other email account:

AtlasMail			🖍 Compose
Q Search in	Mail		
	INBOX	SENT ASSIGNMENT CONFIRMATIONS	
John Doe		Data Subject Request - Redaction/nondisclosure Request	11:40 PM
John Doe		Data Subject Request - Redaction/nondisclosure Request	11:39 PM
John Doe		Data Subject Request - Redaction/nondisclosure Request	11:39 PM
John Doe		Data Subject Request - Redaction/nondisclosure Request	8:29 PM
John Doe		Data Subject Request - Redaction/nondisclosure Request	8:29 PM
John Doe		Data Subject Request - Redaction/nondisclosure Request	8:29 PM
John Doe		Data Subject Request - Redaction/nondisclosure Request	Jan 3
John Doe		Data Subject Request - Redaction/nondisclosure Request	Jan 3
John Doe		Data Subject Request - Redaction/nondisclosure Request	Jan 3
John Doe		Data Subject Request - Redaction/nondisclosure Request	Jan 3
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Redaction	n/Nondisclosure Request Confirmation
То	john.doe23@atlasmail.com
From	privacy@exampledatabroker.com
Date	Fri, Jan 26, 2024 8:14 PM
Dear John,	
amended, the	your redaction/nondisclosure request pursuant New Jersey law P.L. 2023, c.113, P.L.2021, c.371 (as "Act") and Section 3 of New Jersey P.L.2015, c.226 (C.56:8-166.1) (as amended, "Chapter 226"). We confirm that Example Data Broker Inc. will honor your request as required by the Act and Chapter
Sincerely,	
Example Data	Broker Inc.
	Reply Forward

38. With this lawsuit, Atlas seeks to enforce compliance with Daniel's Law for those Covered Persons.

39. Because this lawsuit seeks to protect their privacy without unnecessarily putting those individuals in the spotlight, Atlas has not included the Covered Persons' personal information in this public filing. However, Atlas will work with the Court and Defendants to implement an appropriate protective order and then provide Defendants with the written assignments and relevant information for each of the Covered Persons. Our courts have already approved this privacy-protecting approach.⁸

⁸ For example, the Court recently held in another Daniel's Law action that allegations similar to those asserted here pleaded "sufficient facts to show that the assignors are covered persons under

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40. In order to facilitate the provision of the Covered Persons' relevant information to Defendants pursuant to an appropriate protective order, Plaintiffs have provided Defendants a proposed Protective Order with service of this Complaint.

Defendants

41. Defendant BABEL STREET, INC. ("Babel Street") is a Delaware corporation that has a principal place of business at 1818 Library Street, Suite 500, Reston, Virginia, and transacts business within the State of New Jersey. Babel Street discloses or re-discloses on the Internet or otherwise makes available the home addresses and/or unpublished home telephone numbers of Covered Persons.

42. Defendants Richard Roes 1-10 and ABC Companies 1-10 (collectively with the defendants identified above referred to as the "Defendants") are fictitious names of currently unknown individuals/entities that were also involved with the violations described in this Complaint who have not yet been identified in part due to what appears to be intentional efforts by data brokers to conceal the specific entities involved and responsible for the disclosure of data and information, and individuals responsible for Defendants failures to comply with the law.

43. Defendants offer and engage in the disclosure of data and information through one or more websites or applications, or otherwise in New Jersey, and to businesses and individuals who operate or reside in New Jersey. These websites include babelstreet.com.

44. In accordance with Defendants' business model, visitors, users, or customers may obtain a name and home address and/or a name and unpublished home telephone number

Daniel's Law," and "in fact have standing," noting the anticipated production of Covered Persons' information pursuant to an appropriate protective order. *Atlas Data Privacy Corp., v. Attom Data Solutions, LLC, et al.*, Docket No.: MER-L-273-24 (Law Div., June 20, 2024) (denying motion to dismiss).

(including the name and address and/or unpublished home telephone number of the Individual Plaintiffs and Covered Persons). The following is a redacted example of the detailed information provided by Defendants,⁹ in violation of Daniel's Law:

years old Possible birth date between	
Male	
Names	
Usernames No Data Available	
Emails No Data Available	
Phones Valid Since	
Languages	
Ethnicities No Data Available	
Origin Countries	
Places	
Valid Since	
Valid Since .	
Relationships	

⁹ Consistent with the mandate of Daniel's Law and the public policy considerations underpinning <u>Rule</u> 1:38-7, personal information in the search results has been redacted from the exemplar screenshots included herein.

45. Daniel's Law was passed to protect public servants and their families from the disclosure of this protected information by such services, which disclose such information of the Individual Plaintiffs and Covered Persons for their own commercial interests, without sufficient regard to the risks and consequences imposed on individuals.

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

46. This Court has jurisdiction because the parties reside and/or conduct business in New Jersey, along with the Covered Persons, and the unlawful actions complained of herein occurred in New Jersey.

47. Venue is proper pursuant to \underline{R} . 4:3-2, in that Essex County is the county in which one or more of the parties and/or Covered Persons reside and/or conduct business. In addition, many of the events giving rise to this action occurred in this County.

FACTS COMMON TO ALL COUNTS

48. As set forth above, New Jersey enacted Daniel's Law in November 2020 (P.L.
2020, c. 125 *codified as* <u>N.J.S.A.</u> 47:1A-1, <u>et seq.</u> and <u>N.J.S.A.</u> 56:8-166.1).

49. Daniel's Law prohibits data brokers from disclosing or re-disclosing on the Internet or otherwise making available the home addresses or unpublished home telephone numbers of covered persons as defined in the law, upon a written request by those individuals.

50. Upon notification, and no later than 10 business days after receipt, a data broker must not disclose or re-disclose on the Internet or otherwise make available the home addresses or unpublished home telephone numbers of the covered person.

51. This includes a mandate that within 10 business days of receiving a nondisclosure request, the data broker shall not disclose the protected information of the covered person. Disclosure is defined to mean to "solicit, sell, manufacture, give, provide, lend, trade, mail, deliver,

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transfer, post, publish, distribute, circulate, disseminate, present, exhibit, advertise, or offer, and shall include making available or viewable within a searchable list or database, regardless of whether a search of such list or database is actually performed."

52. Daniel's Law was amended in 2023, as P.L. 2023, c. 113. The amendment was

passed unanimously by the Assembly on May 25, 2023, by the Senate on June 20, 2023, and was

thereafter signed by the Governor on July 20, 2023.

53. Certain provisions of the amended law, including changes to <u>N.J.S.A.</u> 56:8-166.1, went into effect immediately.

54. As of July 20, 2023, Daniel's Law as codified in <u>N.J.S.A.</u> 56:8-166.1 provided:¹⁰

3.a. (1) Upon notification pursuant to paragraph (2) of this subsection, and not later than 10 business days following receipt thereof, a person, business, or association shall not disclose or redisclose on the Internet or otherwise make available, the home address or unpublished home telephone number of any covered person, as defined in subsection d. of this section.

b. A person, business, or association that violates subsection a. of this section shall be liable to the covered person, or the covered person's assignee, who may bring a civil action in the Superior Court.

c. The court shall award:

(1) actual damages, but not less than liquidated damages computed at the rate of \$1,000 for each violation of this act;

(2) punitive damages upon proof of willful or reckless disregard of the law;

(3) reasonable attorney's fees and other litigation costs reasonably incurred; and

(4) any other preliminary and equitable relief as the court determines to be appropriate.

d. For the purposes of this section:

... "Disclose" shall mean to solicit, sell, manufacture, give, provide, lend, trade, mail, deliver, transfer, post, publish, distribute, circulate, disseminate, present, exhibit, advertise or offer, and shall include

¹⁰ <u>https://pub.njleg.state.nj.us/Bills/2022/PL23/113_PDF</u>

making available or viewable within a searchable list or database, regardless of whether a search of such list or database is actually performed."

55. Starting on or about January 14, 2024, each of the Individual Plaintiffs and all of

the Covered Persons (who assigned claims to Atlas) sent Defendants written nondisclosure

requests (via email) in accordance with Daniel's Law, using AtlasMail.

56. For example, a true and correct copy of the email directly from Plaintiff Sullivan

(with personal information redacted) is pasted here:

Data Subject Request - Redaction/nondisclosure Request

From	William Sullivan
То	privacy@babelstreet.com
Date	Tue, Jan 23, 2024 4:15 PM UTC-0500

Babel Street January 23, 2024

To Whom It May Concern:

I am a "Covered Person" as defined by New Jersey Iaw P.L. 2023, c.113, P.L.2021, c.371 (as amended, the "Act"). Pursuant to the Act and Section 3 of New Jersey P.L.2015, c.226 (C.56:8-166.1) (as amended), I hereby request that you not disclose or re-disclose on the Internet or otherwise make available, the following protected information:

Name: William Sullivan

Home Address:

Sincerely, William Sullivan

57. Defendants failed to cease the disclosure or re-disclosure on the Internet or the otherwise making available of the protected information of the Individual Plaintiffs and Covered Persons within the time period required by Daniel's Law. Thus, Defendants' disclosure or

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redisclosure of protected information of the Individual Plaintiffs and Covered Persons following the statutory takedown period of ten (10) business days violates Daniel's Law.

58. Upon information and belief, even as of the date of this filing, Defendants still refuse to fully comply with Daniel's Law and protected information (including home addresses and/or unpublished home telephone numbers) of the Individual Plaintiffs and Covered Persons continues to be disclosed, re-disclosed or otherwise made available, despite Defendants' receipt of requests for nondisclosure more than ten business days ago.

59. All of the Covered Persons who sent their nondisclosure requests to Defendants (not including the Individual Plaintiffs, who assert their claims directly in this action) have assigned in writing their claims against Defendants to Atlas. All of the assignments were completed in writing before the date of the filing of the initial Complaint.

60. Following the entry of a protective order filed in this Court, Plaintiffs will provide under a confidential designation a full and complete list of the following:

- a. Names of each of the 19,695 assignors referenced in paragraph 27; and
- b. The factual basis for the person to be considered a "Covered Person" as defined in <u>N.J.S.A.</u> 56:8-166.1(d), that is, a judicial officer, law enforcement officer, child protective investigator in the Division of Child Protection and Permanency, as those terms are identified in <u>N.J.S.A.</u> 47:1A-1.1 or prosecutor and any immediate family member residing in the household of individuals in these categories.

61. The Individual Plaintiffs and Atlas hereby assert claims against Defendants based on their violation of Daniel's Law and continuing refusal to comply with that law.

COUNT ONE

(Daniel's Law)

62. The allegations of the Complaint set forth above are incorporated herein as if set forth at length.

63. The Individual Plaintiffs and Covered Persons transmitted notice in writing to Defendants requesting that Defendants cease disclosure of their home address and/or unpublished home telephone number and cease its disclosure or re-disclosure on the Internet or wherever Defendants otherwise made it available.

64. Defendants had an obligation under Daniel's Law to comply with the request within ten (10) business days.

65. Upon information and belief, even as of the date of this filing, Defendants still refuse to fully comply with Daniel's Law and protected information (including home addresses and/or unpublished home telephone numbers) of the Individual Plaintiffs and Covered Persons continues to be disclosed, re-disclosed or otherwise made available, despite Defendants' receipt of requests for nondisclosure more than ten business days ago.

66. Defendants did not cease the disclosure or re-disclosure on the Internet or the otherwise making available of information as required under Daniel's Law, and their failure in doing so each constitutes a separate violation under the law.

67. Defendants' continued disclosure in violation of Daniel's Law, despite having received notice as required under the statute, constitutes willful or reckless disregard of the law.

68. As a result of Defendants' failures to comply with Daniel's Law, Plaintiffs have suffered damages, and request that the Court enter all available and appropriate legal and equitable relief.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiffs request that Judgment be entered against Defendants as follows:

- A. Ordering that Defendants immediately comply with Daniel's Law, and cease the disclosure of the Individual Plaintiffs' and the Covered Persons' names, home addresses, and unpublished home telephone numbers wherever disclosed or re-disclosed on the Internet or otherwise made available;
- B. Awarding actual damages, not less than liquidated damages under Daniel's Law, at "\$1,000 for each violation";
- C. Awarding an additional amount in punitive damages, to be determined by the Court, for "willful noncompliance" as allowed under Daniel's Law;
- D. Awarding reasonable attorneys' fees, interest (pre and post judgment) and litigation costs incurred;
- E. Ordering injunctive relief requiring that Defendants comply with Daniel's Law, and remove the Individual Plaintiffs' and the Covered Persons' protected information wherever disclosed;
- F. Entering equitable or other permanent injunctive relief requiring Defendants to comply with Daniel's Law, including the appointment of a qualified independent expert to ensure that Defendants prospectively maintain compliance with Daniel's Law; and
- G. Awarding such other and further relief against Defendants as the Court deems equitable and just.

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Respectfully Submitted,

Dated: October 18, 2024

FRIEDMAN KAPLAN SEILER ADELMAN & ROBBINS LLP

By: /s/ Rahul Agarwal

Rahul Agarwal (365832024) Sofia Syed (*pro hac vice* to be filed) 1 Gateway Center Newark, NJ 07102-5311 Tel.: (973) 877-6400 ragarwal@fklaw.com ssyed@fklaw.com

PEM LAW LLP

Rajiv D. Parikh (032462005) Kathleen Barnett Einhorn (040161992) Jessica A. Merejo (288592020) 1 Boland Drive, Suite 101 West Orange, NJ 07052 Tel: (973) 577-5500 rparikh@pemlawfirm.com keinhorn@pemlawfirm.com jmerejo@pemlawfirm.com

Counsel for Plaintiffs

MORGAN & MORGAN

John A. Yanchunis (*pro hac vice* to be filed) Ryan J. McGee (*pro hac vice* to be filed) 201 North Franklin Street, 7th Floor Tampa, FL 33602 Tel.: (813) 223-5505 jyanchunis@forthepeople.com rmcgee@forthepeople.com

DESIGNATION OF TRIAL COUNSEL

The Court is advised that pursuant to New Jersey Court Rules 4:5-1(c) and 4:25-4, Rahul Agarwal, Esq. is hereby designated as trial counsel for Plaintiffs in this matter.

FRIEDMAN KAPLAN SEILER ADELMAN & ROBBINS LLP

Dated: October 18, 2024

By: /s/ Rahul Agarwal Rahul Agarwal, Esq.

CERTIFICATION PURSUANT TO RULE 4:5-1

Pursuant to \underline{R} . 4:5-1, it is hereby stated that the matter in controversy between the parties hereto is not the subject of any other action pending in any other Court or of a pending arbitration proceeding to the best of my knowledge and belief. Also, to the best of my knowledge and belief, no other action or arbitration proceeding between the parties hereto is contemplated. Further, other than the parties set forth in this pleading and the previous pleadings, if any, at the present time we know of no other parties that should be joined in the within action.

FRIEDMAN KAPLAN SEILER ADELMAN & ROBBINS LLP

Dated: October 18, 2024

By: /s/ Rahul Agarwal

Rahul Agarwal, Esq.

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CERTIFICATION PURSUANT TO RULE 1:38-7(b)

Pursuant to <u>Rule</u> 1:38-7(b), it is hereby stated that all confidential personal identifiers have been redacted from documents now submitted to the Court and will be redacted from all documents submitted in the future.

FRIEDMAN KAPLAN SEILER ADELMAN & ROBBINS LLP

Dated: October 18, 2024

By: /s/ Rahul Agarwal Rahul Agarwal, Esq.

PEM Law LLP Rajiv D. Parikh, Esq. (032462005) Kathleen Barnett Einhorn, Esq. (040161992) Jessica A. Merejo, Esq. (288592020) 1 Boland Drive, Suite 101 West Orange, NJ 07502 Telephone: (973) 577-550 rparikh@pemlawfirm.com keinhorn @pemlawfirm.com jmerejo@pemlawfirm.com	FRIEDMAN KAPLAN SEILER ADELMAN & ROBBINS LLP Rahul Agarwal (365832024) Sofia Syed (<i>pro hac vice</i> to be filed) 1 Gateway Center Newark, NJ 07102-5311 Tel.: (973) 877-6400 ragarwal@fklaw.com ssyed@fklaw.com
Attorneys for Plaintiffs	John A. Yanchunis (<i>pro hac vice</i> to be filed) Ryan J. McGee (<i>pro hac vice</i> to be filed) 201 N. Franklin Street, 7th Floor Tampa, FL 33602 Tel.: (813) 223-5505 jyanchunis@forthepeople.com rmcgee@forthepeople.com
ATLAS DATA PRIVACY CORPORATION, as assignee of individuals who are Covered Persons, et al.,	SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY LAW DIVISION, ESSEX COUNTY DOCKET NO.:
Plaintiffs, v.	CIVIL ACTION
BABEL STREET, INC., RICHARD ROES 1- 10, fictitious names of unknown individuals and ABC COMPANIES 1-10, fictitious names of unknown entities,	SUMMONS
Defendants.	

FROM THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY TO:

To the Defendants Named Above:

The plaintiffs named above (and identified in the enclosed Complaint) have filed a lawsuit against you in the Superior Court of New Jersey. The complaint attached to this summons states the basis for this lawsuit. If you dispute this complaint, you or your attorney must file a written answer or motion and proof of service with the deputy clerk of the Superior Court in the county listed above within 35 days from the date you received this summons, not counting the date you received it. (A directory of the addresses of each deputy clerk of the Superior Court is available in the Civil Division Management Office in the county listed above and online at http://www.njcourts.gov.) If the

Babel Street Inc. October 18, 2024 Page 2

complaint is one in foreclosure, then you must file your written answer or motion and proof of service with the Clerk of the Superior Court, Hughes Justice Complex, P.O. Box 971, Trenton, NJ 08625-0971. A filing fee payable to the Treasurer, State of New Jersey and a completed Case Information Statement (available from the deputy clerk of the Superior Court) must accompany your answer or motion when it is filed. You must also send a copy of your answer or motion to plaintiff's attorney whose name and address appear above, or to plaintiff, if no attorney is named above. A telephone call will not protect your rights; you must file and serve a written answer or motion (with fee of \$175.00 and completed Case Information Statement) if you want the court to hear your defense.

If you do not file and serve a written answer or motion within 35 days, the court may enter a judgment against you for the relief plaintiff demands, plus interest and costs of suit. If judgment is entered against you, the Sheriff may seize your money, wages, or property to pay all or part of the judgment.

If you cannot afford an attorney, you may call the Legal Services office in the county where you live or the Legal Services of New Jersey Statewide Hotline at 1-888-LSNJ-LAW (1-888-576-5529). If you do not have an attorney and are not eligible for free legal assistance, you may obtain a referral to an attorney by calling one of the Lawyer Referral Services. A directory with contact information for local Legal services Offices and Lawyer Referral services is available in the Civil Division Management Office in the county listed above and online at <u>http://www.njcourts.gov</u>.

/s/ Michelle M. Smith MICHELLE M. SMITH, ESQ. Clerk of the Superior Court

Dated: October 18, 2024

Name and Address of Defendants to be Served:

Babel Street Inc. 1818 Library Street, Suite 500 Reston, Virginia 20190



New Jersey Judiciary Civil Practice Division **Civil Case Information Statement (CIS)**

Use for initial Law Division Civil Part pleadings (not motions) under Rule 4:5-1. Pleading will be rejected for filing, under Rule 1:5-6(c), if information above the black bar is not completed, or attorney's signature is not affixed.

			<u> </u>			
For Use by Clerk's Office Only						
Payment type Check Charge/Check Num	Charge/Check Number Amount		Overpayment		Batch Number	
□ charge		\$	\$			
□ cash		Ψ	Ψ			
Attorney/Pro Se Name		phone Num			County of Venue	
Rahul Agarwal	(973)) 877-6400	ext.	F	Essex	
Firm Name (if applicable)			Docket Number (when available)			
Friedman Kaplan Seiler Adelman & Robbins						
Office Address - Street	City	T		1	State	Zip
One Gateway Center, 25th Floor	New	vark			NJ	07102
Document Type				Jury I	Demand	1
Complaint				□ Ye	s	□ No
Name of Party (e.g., John Doe, Plaintiff)	ption			CODE		
Atlas Data Privacy (Corporation		DATA PR		CORF	ORAT	TON V.
Case Type Number (See page 3 for listing) 999						
Are sexual abuse claims alleged?□ Yes			No			
Does this case involve claims related to COVID-19?				Yes		No
Is this a professional malpractice case?			Yes		No	
If "Yes," see N.J.S.A. 2A:53A-27 and applicable case law regarding your obligation to file an affidavit of merit.						
Related Cases Pending?				Yes		No
If "Yes," list docket numbers						
Do you anticipate adding any parties (arising out of same				Yes		No
transaction or occurrence)?						
Name of defendant's primary insurance company (if known)				None		Unknown

The Information Provided on This Form Cannot be Introduced into Evidence.			
Case Characteristics for Purposes of Determining if Case is Appropriate for Mediation			
Do parties have a current, past or recurrent relationship? If "Yes," is that relationship:	□ Yes	■ No	
□ Employer/Employee □ Friend/Neighbor □ Fami □ Other (explain)	lial	□ Business	
Does the statute governing this case provide for payment of fees by the losing party?	□ Yes	■ No	
Use this space to alert the court to any special case characteristics the management or accelerated disposition.	hat may w	varrant individual	
Do you or your client need any disability accommodations? If yes, please identify the requested accommodation:	□ Yes	■ No	
Will an interpreter be needed? If yes, for what language?	□ Yes	■ No	
I certify that confidential personal identifiers have been redacted from documents now submitted to the court and will be redacted from all documents submitted in the future in accordance with Rule 1:38-7(b).			
Attorney/Self-Represented Litigant Signature: /s/ Rahul Agary	val, Esq.		

Civil Case Information Statement (CIS)

Use for initial pleadings (not motions) under Rule 4:5-1

CASE TYPES

(Choose one and enter number of case type in appropriate space on page 1.)

Track I - 150 days discovery

- 151 Name Change
- 175 Forfeiture
- 302 Tenancy
- 399 Real Property (other than Tenancy, Contract, Condemnation, Complex Commercial or Construction)
- 502 Book Account (debt collection matters only)
- 505 Other Insurance Claim (including declaratory judgment actions)
- 506 PIP Coverage
- 510 UM or UIM Claim (coverage issues only)
- 511 Action on Negotiable Instrument
- 512 Lemon Law
- 801 Summary Action
- 802 Open Public Records Act (summary action)
- 999 Other (briefly describe nature of action)
 - Daniel's Law

Track II - 300 days discovery

- 305 Construction
- 509 Employment (other than Conscientious Employees Protection Act (CEPA) or Law Against Discrimination (LAD))
- 599 Contract/Commercial Transaction
- 603N Auto Negligence Personal Injury (non-verbal threshold)
- 603Y Auto Negligence Personal Injury (verbal threshold)
- 605 Personal Injury
- 610 Auto Negligence Property Damage
- 621 UM or UIM Claim (includes bodily injury)
- 699 Tort Other

Track III - 450 days discovery

- 005 Civil Rights
- 301 Condemnation
- 602 Assault and Battery
- 604 Medical Malpractice
- 606 Product Liability
- 607 Professional Malpractice
- 608 Toxic Tort
- 609 Defamation
- 616 Whistleblower / Conscientious Employee Protection Act (CEPA) Cases
- 617 Inverse Condemnation
- 618 Law Against Discrimination (LAD) Cases

Track IV - Active Case Manag	gement by Individual Judge / 450 days discovery		
156 Environmental/Environmenta			
303 Mt. Laurel			
508 Complex Commercial			
513 Complex Construction			
514 Insurance Fraud			
620 False Claims Act			
701 Actions in Lieu of Prerogativ	e Writs		
Multicounty Litigation (Track	IV)		
282 Fosamax			
291 Pelvic Mesh/Gynecare			
292 Pelvic Mesh/Bard			
293 DePuy ASR Hip Implant Liti	gation		
296 Stryker Rejuvenate/ABG II M	Aodular Hip Stem Components		
300 Talc-Based Body Powders			
601 Asbestos			
624 Stryker LFIT CoCr V40 Fem	oral Heads		
626 Abilify			
627 Physiomesh Flexible Compos	site Mesh		
628 Taxotere/Docetaxel			
629 Zostavax			
630 Proceed Mesh/Patch			
631 Proton-Pump Inhibitors	•		
633 Prolene Hernia System Mesh	•		
634 Allergan Biocell Textured Br	Allergan Biocell Textured Breast Implants		
635 Tasigna			
636 Strattice Hernia Mesh			
637 Singulair			
638 Elmiron			
639 Pinnacle Metal-on-Metal (Me	oM) Hip Implants		
If you believe this case requires a track other than that provided above, please indicate the reason on page 1, in the space under "Case Characteristics".			
Please check off each applicab	le category		
□ Putative Class Action □ Title 59 □ Consumer Fraud			
□ Medical Debt Claim			

Civil Case Information Statement

Case Details: ESSEX | Civil Part Docket# L-007260-24

Case Caption: ATLAS DATA PRIVACY C ORPORATIO VS BABEL STREET, Case Initiation Date: 10/18/2024 Attorney Name: RAHUL AGARWAL Firm Name: FRIEDMAN KAPLAN SEILER ADELMAN & ROBBINS LLP Address: ONE GATEWAY CTR 25TH FL NEWARK NJ 071025311 Phone: 9738776400 Name of Party: PLAINTIFF : ATLAS DATA PRIVACY CORPORATION Name of Defendant's Primary Insurance Company (if known): None Case Type: OTHER Daniel's Law Document Type: Complaint Jury Demand: NONE Is this a professional malpractice case? NO Related cases pending: NO If yes, list docket numbers: Do you anticipate adding any parties (arising out of same transaction or occurrence)? NO Does this case involve claims related to COVID-19? NO Are sexual abuse claims alleged by: ATLAS DATA PRIVACY CORPORATION? NO Are sexual abuse claims alleged by: JANE DOE-1? NO Are sexual abuse claims alleged by: JANE DOE-2? NO Are sexual abuse claims alleged by: EDWIN MALDONADO? NO Are sexual abuse claims alleged by: SCOTT MALONEY? NO

Are sexual abuse claims alleged by: JUSTYNA MALONEY? NO

Are sexual abuse claims alleged by: WILLIAM SULLIVAN? NO

THE INFORMATION PROVIDED ON THIS FORM CANNOT BE INTRODUCED INTO EVIDENCE CASE CHARACTERISTICS FOR PURPOSES OF DETERMINING IF CASE IS APPROPRIATE FOR MEDIATION

Do parties have a current, past, or recurrent relationship? NO

If yes, is that relationship:

Does the statute governing this case provide for payment of fees by the losing party? NO

Use this space to alert the court to any special case characteristics that may warrant individual management or accelerated disposition:

Do you or your client need any disability accommodations? NO If yes, please identify the requested accommodation:

Will an interpreter be needed? NO If yes, for what language:

Please check off each applicable category: Putative Class Action? NO Title 59? NO Consumer Fraud? NO Medical Debt Claim? NO

I certify that confidential personal identifiers have been redacted from documents now submitted to the court, and will be redacted from all documents submitted in the future in accordance with *Rule* 1:38-7(b)

10/18/2024 Dated /s/ RAHUL AGARWAL Signed