**Liability of Private Actors Under 42 U.S.C. § 1983: State Compulsion**

[Name of defendant] is not a state official. However, [name of plaintiff] alleges that [name of defendant] acted under color of state law by doing an act that was compelled or significantly encouraged by [state actor(s)].

A person who is not a state official acts under color of state law when [he/she] does some act that the State requires to be done or significantly encourages. To find that [name of defendant] acted under color of law in this case, you must find that [name of plaintiff] has proved that by a preponderance of the evidence that [state actor(s)] coerced or at least significantly encouraged [name of defendant] to do an act that deprived [name of plaintiff] of [describe federal right].

Showing that [state actor(s)] approved of, acquiesced in, or were indifferent to [name of defendant]’s conduct is not enough to prove compulsion. [Name of plaintiff] must instead prove that [state actor(s)] assumed an active role in forcing or significantly encouraging [name of defendant] to commit the act that deprived [name of plaintiff] of [describe federal right].

The coercion or encouragement can be either express or implied. In other words, you need not find that [state actor(s)] explicitly threatened or made promises to [name of defendant]. It is enough if you find that [state actor(s)] entered into [name of defendant]’s decision-making process in a way that materially changed [name of defendant]’s incentives to commit the act that violated [name of plaintiff]’s rights.