UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

BEFORE THE PATENT TRIAL AND APPEAL BOARD

MERCK SHARP & DOHME LLC,
Petitioner,

v.

SURROZEN OPERATING, INC.,
Patent Owner.

Case No. PGR2026-00027

U.S. PATENT NO. 12,297,278

DECLARATION OF ASHLEY ROSS IN SUPPORT OF PATENT OWNER'S UNOPPOSED MOTION FOR *PRO HAC VICE* ADMISSION OF ASHLEY ROSS

I, Ashley Ross, do hereby declare as follows:

1. I am an intellectual property litigation attorney at Kirkland & Ellis LLP and have been a practicing intellectual property litigation attorney for over 10 years representing clients in patent litigation matters in various United States Federal District Courts, the United States Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit, and the United States International Trade Commission. Among my experience in patent litigation matters, I have been counsel at trial, Markman hearings, patent summary judgment proceedings, and other patent-related hearings and pleadings concerning, inter alia, patent validity and infringement issues. Several of these matters involved technologies relevant to U.S. Patent No. 12,297,278 ("the '278 Patent").

2. I am a member in good standing of the bar of the State of New York.

3. My New York Bar membership number is 5303706.

4. I am also admitted to practice before the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York.

5. I am familiar with the subject matter of the '278 Patent and its prosecution history and the prior art at issue in this proceeding. I participated in the preparation of Patent Owner's forthcoming pleadings and have reviewed all of the Papers and Exhibits in this proceeding. I am also familiar with the subject matter at

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issue in this proceeding through my litigation experience involving technologies relevant to the '278 Patent.

6. Given my familiarity with the underlying facts and my patent litigation experience, I have experience and expertise important to representing Surrozen Operating, Inc.'s interest in this matter.

7. I have never been suspended or disbarred from practice before any court or administrative body.

8. I have never been sanctioned or cited for contempt by any court or administrative body.

9. I have read and will comply with the Office Patent Trial Practice Guide and the Board's Rules of Practice for Trial set forth in 37 C.F.R. part 42.

10. I agree to be subject to the United States Patent and Trademark Office Code of Professional Conduct set forth in 37 C.F.R. §§ 11.101 *et seq.* and disciplinary jurisdiction under 37 C.F.R. § 11.19(a).

11. In the past three years, I have not applied *pro hac vice* in any USPTO proceedings.

12. I have never had an application for admission to practice before any court or administrative body denied.

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true;

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and further that these statements are made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like are punishable by fine, imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code.

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Date: April 23, 2026

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Ashley Ross

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