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| 10 | UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA | |
| 11 | FOR THE CENTRAL | DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA |
| 12 | MICHAEL TUBBS, EBONY |) CASE NO.: 2:17-cv-4454-PSG-AJW |
| 13 | BAKER, |) CLASS ACTION |
| 14 | Plaintiffs, |) THIRD AMENDED COMPLAINT FOR) DAMAGES AND EQUITABLE RELIEF |
| 15 | V. |) 1. Unlawful, Unfair and Fraudulent |
| 16 | ADVOCARE INTERNATIONAL, LP & DOES 1-10, | Practices (Cal. Bus. & Prof. Code § 17200 et seq.); |
| 17 | Defendants. | 2. Unfair, Deceptive, and Misleading Advertising (Cal. Bus. & Prof. |
| 18 | |) Code) § 17500 et. seq.); |
| 19 | | 3. Breach of Implied Warranty (CAL.) U. COMM. CODE §§ 2314, 2315); |
| 20 | | U. COMM. CODE §§ 2314, 2315); 4. Breach of Express Warranty (CAL.) U. COM. CODE § 2313); 5. Violation of the Consumer Legal Remedies Act (CAL. CIV. CODE § 1750 et |
| 21 | | Remedies Act (CAL. CIV. CODE § 1750 et |
| 22 | |) seq.).) Plaintiffs Demand a Trial By Jury |
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THIRD AMENDED CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT

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Plaintiffs Michael Tubbs and Ebony Baker ("Plaintiffs"), individually and on behalf of all others similarly situated, bring this putative consumer Class action against Defendants AdvoCare International, LP ("Advocare") and DOES 1-10, inclusive (hereinafter collectively referred to as "Defendants"), and allege as follows:

SUMMARY OF THE THIRD AMENDED COMPLAINT

- This action arises from actions and inactions perpetrated by 1. Defendants in the manufacturing, marketing, sales, and distribution of its product line, the "24-Day Challenge," which Defendants have sold and continue to sell as "a comprehensive supplementation and nutrition program designed to give your body the jumpstart it needs to help you reach your goals." It is marketed as a "weight management, energy, overall body composition or overall wellness" product. In fact, it is none of these and Defendants' representations are actually false.
- 2. In the course of manufacturing, marketing, selling, and distributing the 24-Day Challenge, and AdvoCare Spark, a product Defendants market as a standalone product and as a component of the 24-Day Challenge, Defendants have committed and continue to commit illicit business practices, in violation of California's Consumer Legal Remedies Act ("CLRA," Civil Code §§ 1750-1784), California's False Advertising Law ("FAL," Business and Professional Code § 17500-17536), California's Unfair Competition Act ("UCL," Business and Professions Code § 17200 et seq.), California's Sherman Food, Drug, & Cosmetic Act (the "Sherman Law," Health & Safety Code §§ 108975-111915), and California's warranty laws, by making unlawful claims regarding the 24-Day Challenge, through package labeling and mass media marketing, that are actually false.
- 3. Defendants made the following false representations through mass media advertising: that "AdvoCare Spark" as a "unique multi-nutrient system that

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was developed as a nutritional source of energy and enhanced mental focus," it "enhances mental energy and focus," it contains "more than 20 vitamins, minerals and nutrients that work synergistically to provide a healthy, balanced and effective source of energy that won't overburden or over stimulate your body," it is a "source of long-lasting energy and heightened mental focus and performance," and it contains "neuroactive amino acids that help increase your mental focus and alertness by supporting your brain's ability to receive and messages."www.advocare.com, Accessed on 8/8/2016. It in fact does none of this as it does not increase mental focus or alertness, the minerals and nutrients do not add anything to an otherwise healthy and balanced meal plan, and do in fact burden and over stimulate one's body.

- 4. Advocare also markets a 24-day Challenge encompassing additional products, including "AdvoCare Spark", (hereinafter "Spark") which they represent, when consumed in conjunction with a healthy diet and exercise, will help to rid your body of waste and prepare your body to better absorb nutrients.
- 5. Defendants further fail to honor their warranty obligations by providing a product that: (1) fails to pass without objection in the trade under the description provided; (2) is not fit for the ordinary purpose for which such goods are used and marketed; (3) is not fit for the particular purpose for which it was sold; (4) is not adequately contained, packaged, and labeled; (5) does not conform to the promises or affirmations of fact made on the container or label; (6) fails to provide the 100% risk free money back guarantee; (7) fails to provide the free trial period; and/or (8) violates the warranties contained in the California *Uniform Commercial Code*, §§ 2313, 2314, and 2315.

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

6. This Court has found it has jurisdiction over this matter for the reasons stated in its Order denying remand, Doc. 41.

7. Jurisdiction over Defendants is also proper because Advocare has purposely availed itself of the privilege of conducting business activities in California and because Advocare currently maintain systematic and continuous business contacts with this State and have many consumers of its products in this State. Defendants have significant contact or aggregation of contacts to the claims at issue herein. Defendants regularly do business in California through direct advertising and through its multi-level marketing program. Defendants regularly transacted business with Plaintiffs and Class members in California by communicating with them, accepting their payments from California, and by shipping directly to the California based Plaintiffs and Class members.

PARTIES

- 9. Individual and representative Plaintiff Michael Tubbs is a citizen of Los Angeles County, California.
- 10. Individual and representative Plaintiff Ebony Baker is currently a citizen of Harris County, Texas but at all times relevant was a citizen of San Diego County, California.
- 11. Defendant AdvoCare International, LP is a foreign corporation doing business in the State of California and can be served at its corporate headquarters located at 2801 Summit Avenue, Plano, TX 75074.
- 12. The true names and capacities, whether individual, corporate, association or otherwise of defendants named herein as DOES I THROUGH 10, inclusive, are unknown to Plaintiffs and therefore Plaintiffs sue such DOES by fictitious names. Plaintiffs are informed, believe, and on that basis allege that these DOE defendants are California residents or corporations or entities doing business in the State of California, and that each is the agent of the other Defendants and that each is responsible for some or all of the acts and omissions alleged herein. Plaintiffs will amend this complaint to show the true names and capacities of these DOE defendants when they have been determined.

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CLASS ACTION ALLEGATIONS

- 13. Plaintiffs bring this action as a Class action on behalf of all those similarly situated and propose the following Class and sub Classes.
 - a. All individuals in California who purchased the 24-Day Challenge products within four (4) years of filing this lawsuit.
 - b. A sub Class of all individuals in California who purchased Spark within four (4) years of filing this lawsuit.
- 14. Plaintiffs maintain the right to amend or modify the class description with greater specificity by further division into subclasses or by limitation to particular issues and to create additional subclasses or classes, if necessary, and to revise these definitions to maintain a cohesive Class that does not require individual inquiry to determine liability.
- 15. Excluded from the proposed classes are Defendants, any entity in which any Defendant has a controlling interest, any agents, employees, officers and directors of Defendants, any entities or persons currently in bankruptcy, any entity or person whose obligations have been discharged in bankruptcy, and any governmental agency, entity, or judicial officer which presides over this case.
- Each Plaintiff is a member of the Class and Plaintiffs' claims are 16. typical of the claims of the Class. The exact number of Class members is unknown to Plaintiffs at this time, but is more than sixty for each, and such information can be ascertained through appropriate discovery. All information necessary to identify Class members and the damages suffered by each Class member can be found in records maintained by Advocare and its agents.

I. **Common Questions of Law and Fact Predominate**

There are questions of law and fact common and of general interest to 17. These common questions of law and fact predominate over any questions affecting only individual members of the Class. Said common questions include, but are not limited to, the following:

- a. Whether Defendants omitted material information from its marketing of the 24-Day Challenge Products (which include Spark);
- b. Whether Defendants provided inaccurate material information in its marketing of the 24-Day Challenge Products (which include Spark);
- c. Whether Defendants falsely advertised the 24-Day Challenge Products;
- d. Whether Defendants' mass media advertising and/or the packaging for the 24-Day Challenge Products is misleading and deceptive;
- e. Whether Defendants falsely claim that the 24-Day Challenge Products, individually and/or collectively, are "clinically tested" and/or "medically approved;"
- f. Whether Defendants' labeling and/or packaging for the 24-Day Challenge Products is misleading, false, and/or illegal;
- g. Whether Defendants represent to consumers that the 24-Day Challenge Products, individually and/or collectively, have, whether used singly or in conjunction, a characteristic, use, benefit, or quality that the product does not have;
- h. Whether Defendants knew or should have known the 24-Day Challenge Products, individually and/or collectively, have, whether used singly or in conjunction, do not have the characteristics, uses, benefits, or qualities for which Defendants advertised and marketed the product;
- i. Whether Defendants engaged in unfair, unlawful, and/or fraudulent business practices in marketing and distributing the 24-Day Challenge Products;
- j. Whether Defendants engaged in false advertising with respect to the 24-Day Challenge Products;
- k. Whether Defendants have violated express and/or implied warranty statutes;

- 1. Whether Defendants have been unjustly enriched;
- The nature and extent of damages and other remedies to which m. the wrongful conduct of Defendants entitle the Plaintiffs and Class members:
- Whether members of the Class are likely to be deceived by n. Defendants' representations, concealments, and non-disclosures concerning the 24-Day Challenge Products;
- Whether Defendants' representations, concealments, and nondisclosures concerning the 24-Day Challenge Products violate the CLRA, FAL, and/or the UCL;
- Whether the Class is entitled to injunctive relief prohibiting the p. challenged wrongful practices and enjoining such practices in the future;
 - q. Whether the Class is entitled to punitive damages; and,
- Whether Plaintiffs and the Class are entitled to attorney's fees r. and expenses; and, in what amount.

II. **Typicality and Numerosity**

18. The claims of the named Plaintiffs are typical of the claims of the putative classes and Defendants' defenses to Plaintiffs' claims are typical of its defenses to the claims of the putative Class. The number of members in each of the putative Class exceeds sixty (60) members.

Adequate Representation III.

19. Plaintiffs will fairly and adequately protect the interests of the members of the Classes and have no interest antagonistic to those of other Class Plaintiffs have retained Class counsel competent to prosecute Class members. actions and such Class counsel are financially able to represent the classes.

Superiority IV.

The class action is superior to other available methods for the fair and 20. efficient adjudication of this controversy since individual joinder of all members of the Class is impracticable. The interests of judicial economy favor adjudicating the

claims for the Plaintiffs' Class rather than on an individual basis. The class action mechanism provides the benefit of unitary adjudication, economies of scale, and comprehensive supervision by a single court.

FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS

I. General Facts

- 21. In today's world, members of the general public need and/or perceive themselves as being in need of, products that provide boosts of energy to cope with the demands and stresses of daily jobs, family, and social life. While a simple cup of coffee, or other source of caffeine, has for generations been seen as a way to begin the day, stimulate energy, or provide relief from fatigue, in recent years a new category of beverages, commonly referred to as "energy drinks," has come to the market and battled for market share by marketing and promoting such drinks as superior sources of energy and a way to enhance mental and physical performance via unique blends of ingredients, or additional ingredients beyond caffeine. AdvoCare's Spark energy supplement is one such product. However, it is now coming to light that such products actually do not provide any superior benefits over just ingesting caffeine, and they certainly do not justify their premium prices.
- 22. AdvoCare promises consumers that Spark "sharpens mental focus" and that the 24-day challenge, "in conjunction with a healthy diet and exercise, help to rid your body of waste and prepare your body to better absorb nutrients" by providing a mixture of ingredients that, when ingested, significantly improve a consumer's physiological and mental performance.
- 23. AdvoCare's Spark further promises that, Spark is a unique blend of 20 vitamins, minerals and nutrients that work synergistically to provide a healthy and balanced source of energy. Spark contains an effective amount of caffeine to give you a quick boost, B vitamins to enhance your body's natural ability to produce and sustain its own energy, and neuroactive amino acids that help increase your mental focus and alertness.

- 24. Spark's ingredients include caffeine and taurine, an ingredient alleged to provide extra stimulation, although scientific research strongly questions taurine's benefits.
- 25. AdvoCare bases its claims upon and touts "scientific knowledge" it claims demonstrates the superior nature of AdvoCare branded products.
- 26. Indeed, AdvoCare state on its website that, "AdvoCare relies on the latest scientific knowledge and highest quality ingredients to create safe and effective products. The AdvoCare Science team includes Doctors dedicated to product research & development as well as training and education for AdvoCare Independent Distributors. The science behind AdvoCare products helps improve lives through superior nutrition and wellness."
- 27. The Plaintiffs who purchased and consumed these products found them to be unsafe and ineffective and instead caused them to be sick and not get the promised benefits. As is explained below, Plaintiffs found Defendants' representations and statements regarding their products to be actually false, not merely unsubstantiated.
- 28. As background, and not an allegation that Defendants' claims were merely unsubstantiated, Plaintiffs provide the following facts.
- 29. Although Defendants point to purported scientific studies and research to back up their claims that the unique blend of ingredients is responsible for the claimed superior benefits of using AdvoCare products, the well-regarded scientific journal *Nutrition Reviews* published an evaluation of various studies of energy drink ingredients and their efficacy and found that:

With the exception of some weak evidence for glucose and guarana extract, there is an overwhelming lack of evidence to substantiate claims that components of [energy drinks], **other than caffeine**, contribute to the enhancement of physical or cognitive performance.

Tom M. McLellan, et al., "Do Energy Drinks Contain Active Components Other Than Caffeine?, *Nutrition Reviews*, Vol. 70, pp. 730-44 (2012) (emphasis added).

- 30. In 2012, the well-respected International Journal of Sport Nutrition and Exercise Metabolism published a study that confirmed that "acute ingestion of AdvoCare Spark, a low-calorie caffeine-taurine energy drink, did not improve repeated sprint times or anaerobic power...[and] the interaction effect between caffeine habituation and the beverage [Advocare Spark] was significant, suggesting that caffeine-naïve participants received more of an ergogenic benefit from the energy drink than those who were accustomed to caffeine." Exh. A. Acute Effects of a Caffeine-Taurine Energy Drink on Repeated Spring Performance of American College Football Players, Nnamdi Gwacham et. al., Int. J. of Sport Nutrition and Exercise Metabolism: 2012, 22, 109-116. Thus, it is the caffeine alone, not the additional ingredients in AdvoCare Spark that provided the energy benefits. This study shows the promised benefits made to Plaintiffs below are false.
- 31. Dr. Randall Tackett, a pharmacologist and toxicologist with over 35 years of experience in pharmacology, toxicology, medical research, and public health confirmed the results of the above cited Gwacham study as they relate to Plaintiffs. Exh. B. He reviewed the ingredients in Advocare Spark, Advocare advertisements on Advocare's website, relevant scientific literature, the Third Amended Complaint including the benefits promised by Advocare, and concluded that the promised "mental alertness" is most likely related to the intake of caffeine and not any other ingredient in Advocare Spark. *Id.* Finally, he concludes that the "benefit:risk of using Spark [is] unfavorable." *Id.*
- 32. Specifically, he concluded that although touted by Advocare Spark as an ingredient that raises mental alertness, taurine is maintained at stable levels in the brain and that "an increase in blood taurine levels secondary to dietary supplementation would unlikely result in a sudden influx of taurine to the brain." *Id.* He further concludes that the additional ingredients in Spark are water soluble and that a normal balanced diet would provide the necessary nutrients and that the additional nutrients contained within Advocare Spark "would be excreted through

the urine" providing "no benefit to the body." *Id.* Specifically, he concludes that the "excess [ingredients] provides no benefit to the body." *Id.* Finally, he concludes that "Sparks actions are attributed to the caffeine in the product" and that "Spark does not have any benefit that would be more so than ingesting the approximate amount of caffeine in a typical cup of coffee." *Id.* Accordingly, Advocare Spark provides none of the promised benefits, its promised benefits are false, and Spark is merely another source of caffeine which can be consumed in other far less expensive forms.

- 33. The New York Times published an article titled "Energy Drinks Promise Edge, but Experts Say Proof is Scant" (Barry Meier, January 1, 2013), citing widespread scientific and governmental criticism of the notion that energy drinks provide any more benefit than the average dose of caffeine consumed from a cup of coffee. The article notes that Massachusetts congressman Edward J. Markey has called for a U.S. government investigation into the energy drink industry's marketing claims.
- 34. The European Food Safety Authority concluded in 2011 that there is a lack of scientific support for the claimed benefits of taurine, a key ingredient of AdvoCare's Spark energy supplement, stating it could find no cause and effect relationship between taurine and its purported benefits. European Food Safety Authority, EFSA Journal 2011; 9(4):2035.
- 35. Laura Zavadil, RD, LDN (Registered Dietitian and Licensed Dietitian/Nutritionist) has studied the 24-Day Challenge products concluding that they are "Bad For You." "Beware of AdvoCare Weight-Loss Supplements," http://wellness.nifs.org/blog/bid/88985/NIFS-Nutrition-News-Beware-of-

AdvoCare-Weight-Loss-Supplements (accessed on 10/17/2017). After analyzing the promised benefits from Defendants' advertising, as identified herein, she concludes that the supplements for the "cleanse" phase are "glorified laxatives." Thus, Defendants' advertisements of superior benefits are false.

- After studying the ingredients of Spark, registered nurse Katy 36. Haldiman, MS (Masters of Science), RN, has stated that Spark is not healthy. "Why Sparked Up' With Advocare Not 'Getting Is Healthy," http://thepaleonurse.com/why-getting-sparked-up-with-advocare-is-not-healthy/. It "contains toxic, low quality ingredients that ignore the bio individuality of people's nutrient needs and fails to address the underlying root causes of a lack of energy and fatigue." She further states that Spark contains low quality ingredients, potentially toxic ingredients, as well more than 2,000% of some daily suggested doses of some ingredients.
- 37. Such deceptive conduct and practices take Defendants' advertising and marketing beyond mere "puffery" and to an actionable level for deceptive practices and fraud.
- 38. Upon information and belief, AdvoCare spends millions of dollars misleading consumers about the superiority of its products and its products' abilities.
- 39. Defendants' prodigious advertising, marketing, and promotional spending has misled customers into believing that AdvoCare's Spark and other products are superior products, worthy of a premium price, and have the ability to "sharpen[] mental focus" and provide energy and vitality.
- 40. The New York Times article pointed out that energy drinks are really just "caffeine delivery systems" and manufacturers of energy drinks do not want to claim their products are the equivalent of a cup of coffee or a "NoDoz" tablet "because that is not a very sexy sales message."
- 41. Defendants take advantage of numerous marketing platforms in order to ensure their false and deceptive marketing message permeates the general consumer consciousness. Defendants use television advertising, internet marketing, and social media, as well as celebrity sports figure endorsements, and glossy print brochures. Defendants sponsor events such as NCAA College Football games,

NASCAR's Sprint Cup and Nationwide Series, Major League Soccer, and NCAA College Basketball invitational tournaments. Regardless of which marketing avenue reaches a consumer, Defendants drive home the false and deceptive claims of superior results from using AdvoCare's products through each of its advertising platforms.

- 42. AdvoCare's marketing promises that "We Build Champions," that Spark "delivers energy and enhanced mental focus with 20 vitamins, minerals and nutrients," and its website states, "The science behind AdvoCare products helps improve lives through superior nutrition and wellness."
- 43. These statements and AdvoCare's marketing materials all promote the false message that the products improve performance and/or mental acuity, such that a reasonable consumer would be led to believe that AdvoCare branded products are a superior way for a consumer to gain energy, obtain and maintain wellness, and/or enhance performance, thereby misleading consumers that these are superior products, of a superior nature, and worthy of a premium price.
- 44. Plaintiffs were lured into becoming consumers of AdvoCare products by its marketing message, delivered via its packaging, website, advertisements, and promotional events. Plaintiffs have regularly purchased and consumed AdvoCare products and, specifically, its Spark energy supplement because of Defendants' marketing message and themes.
- 45. Despite the medium that AdvoCare has used to deliver its marketing message, the theme has been the same, such that any one of these marketing and promotional mediums has influence over the consumer, including Plaintiffs and Class Members, such that a consumer would make the decision to buy the products in the first place, or to pay a premium for the products over less expenses sources of "energy" due to the products' purported superior nature.
- 46. AdvoCare delivers the same or substantially similar marketing and advertising claims and themes across each of its product divisions sold in the

United States. AdvoCare's Spark energy supplement is marketed the same for all variations of it, with only slight editing of the marketing materials to account for flavor varieties. Thus, consumers such as Plaintiff(s) and Class Members have been misled and deceived in the same manner no matter which variety or size product he or she bought.

- 47. AdvoCare's products, including specifically its Spark energy supplement, do not provide any more benefit to a consumer than a cup of coffee.
- 48. Given the ingredients of Spark, AdvoCare knows or should have known that these claims are false because no ingredient provides benefits in addition to what a simple cup of coffee provides.
- 49. Advocare persistently and pervasively markets its products as a superior source of "energy" worthy of a premium price over a cup of coffee or other sources of caffeine.
- 50. A single "pouch" of AdvoCare's Spark, which is mixed with eight ounces of water for drinking, costs approximately \$1.64 and contains 120 mg of caffeine, whereas a regular strength tablet of NoDoz costs approximately \$.15 and contains 200 mg of caffeine. A seven ounce cup of drip coffee contains approximately 115 to 175 mg of caffeine, depending on the blend. Even a twelve ounce serving of Starbuck's coffee costs \$1.85 and contains approximately 235 mg of caffeine, far more than AdvoCare's Spark.
- 51. Thus, AdvoCare's Spark delivers less of the ingredient (caffeine) scientific studies maintain provides the benefits claimed by AdvoCare for a substantially higher price than consumers could spend on alternative sources of caffeine.
- 52. As a result of the foregoing, Defendants' claims regarding AdvoCare's Spark and other products are deceptive and misleading. Had Plaintiffs and other members of the proposed Classes been aware of the truth about Defendants'

products, they would not have purchased the same, or would not have paid a premium price for the products.

- Indeed, Defendants were in a superior position to know, and did know, 53. that its claims and advertisements were deceptive and false and they failed to inform consumers that their Spark branded energy drinks and other products cannot and do not perform as advertised and promised.
- Instead, Defendants allow their deceptive and misleading marketing to permeate the consumer advertising consciousness and perpetuate Defendants' false claims and promises.
- 55. Because of such deceptive practices and conduct, Defendants command a substantial premium for their products over readily available and much lower priced sources of caffeine that provide the same or substantially similar results. Thus, Defendants reap profits on products where consumers are induced to pay an unwarranted, substantial premium.
- All conditions precedent necessary for the filing of this Complaint have been satisfied and/or such conditions have been waived by the conduct of Defendants.

II. **Plaintiffs' Specific Facts**

57. As is explained below, Plaintiffs' personal experiences demonstrate that Defendants' advertising was actually false, not merely unsubstantiated.

Plaintiff Michael Tubbs

In late April 2015 Plaintiff Michael Tubbs purchased from Defendants 58. the 24 Day Challenge "bundle." The "24-Day Challenge" is a package that contains the exact same products for each and every purchaser. Doc. 38-1. The 24-Day Challenge Bundle Tubbs purchased contains the following: 24-Day Challenge Daily Guide, One box of Herbal Cleanse; One box of Advocare Fiber, One bottle of OmegaPlex, Two boxes of AdvoCare Spark, One box of MNS 3, C and E, and One box of Meal Replacement Shake. Id.

- 59. Plaintiff Tubbs paid Defendants at least three hundred dollars (likely far more) for these products and made multiple orders.
- 60. Plaintiff Tubbs ingested caffeine in a normal manner and recommended doses from products other than Advocare.
- 61. After consuming the products as directed, he experienced none of the advertised and promised benefits, rendering each of Advocare's claims actually false.
- In the months leading up to April 2015, Defendants advertised to 62. Plaintiff Tubbs through its website (www.advocare.com), its printed literature, its product packaging, and emails, that if he purchased and consumed the 24-Day Challenge products they would "restart his metabolism" and that they were a "magical solution that would kick start his body to where it was when he was younger and healthier."
- Plaintiff Tubbs was influenced to buy these products by the promise 63. that the 24-Day Challenge products would "restart his metabolism" and would "kick start his body."
- 64. Plaintiff Tubbs, after consuming the products as directed by Defendants, did not experience a restarting of his metabolism nor did his body get "kick start[ed] to where it was when he was younger and healthier." In fact, after consuming these products as directed his metabolism decreased and he gained weight (2-5 pounds per week), did not feel younger but rather felt older and more sluggish, felt less healthy because his heart raced unexpectedly and at times when he should have been resting, and his pulse rate and blood pressure increased within a few minutes after consuming the products.
- 65. The weight gain continued until Plaintiff Tubbs gained more than 8 pounds and it was lost only after Plaintiff Tubbs stopped using Defendants' products. Similarly, the feeling of sluggishness combined with racing heart, increased pulse rate and blood pressure began within minutes after Plaintiff Tubbs

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first consumed Defendants' products. When Plaintiff Tubbs stopped using Defendants' products, his racing heart, increased pulse rate and blood pressure began to retreat to normal healthy adult levels within two days of stopping. After consuming Defendants' products, the above described adverse events lasted on each occasion for approximately 60-90 minutes. During this time, Plaintiff Tubbs personally experienced increasing tightness in his chest, neck and throat. Based on prior experience measuring his pulse rate, Plaintiff Tubbs estimates that his normal resting pulse rate of 80-90 bpm increased to approximately 110-120 bpm while taking Defendants' products. Based on his prior experience with caffeinated beverages, Plaintiff Tubbs believes the ingredient that was responsible for these phenomena was high levels of caffeine.

- In the months leading up to April 2015, Defendants also advertised to 66. Plaintiff Tubbs through email and promotional paper brochures that after purchasing and consuming the 24 Day Challenge products, "he was going to feel wonderful and have a new outlook on life."
- 67. Plaintiff Tubbs was influenced to buy these products by the promise that the 24-Day Challenge products would make him "feel wonderful and have a new outlook on life."
- Plaintiff Tubbs, after consuming the products as directed by 68. Defendants, did not experience the promised benefit, the claims of which were actually false. In fact, he felt worse, became sullen, felt sick to his stomach, and lost work because of consuming the products. These feelings began within minutes after Plaintiff Tubbs first consumed Defendants' products and continued for approximately three weeks, ebbing and flowing in direct correlation with his consumption of Defendants' products. When Plaintiff Tubbs stopped using Defendants' products, it took him two days for his stomach to feel normal and to return to his normal cheerful self. During this time Plaintiff Tubbs lost work, approximately two days, because he was unable to focus on his job. Based on his

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prior experience with caffeinated beverages, Plaintiff Tubbs believes the ingredient that was responsible for these phenomena was high levels of caffeine.

- Specifically with respect to Spark, one of the 24-Day Challenge products Plaintiff Tubbs purchased and consumed, in the months leading up to April 2015, Defendants advertised to him through its website (www.advocare.com) and the product's label that purchasing and consuming it would: "sharpen mental focus" and provide "long lasting energy."
- After purchasing Spark and ingesting it as directed by Defendants, Plaintiff Tubbs's mental focus was not sharpened and he did not have long lasting energy. In fact, after consuming Spark, Tubbs was jittery and could not focus feeling as if he was too "wired" and unable to focus. This is the opposite of what he was promised. Furthermore, he experienced a quick burst of energy after consuming Spark but was quickly left without energy feeling tired, contrary to the advertisements from Defendants. This feeling began within minutes of consuming Defendants' product and lasted on each occasion for approximately 60 minutes, after which Plaintiff Tubbs remained unable to focus on simple tasks for between 45-90 minutes. Approximately 45-90 minutes after ingestion, he was able to focus Plaintiff Tubbs' experienced this ebb and flow of focus consistently more. throughout his approximate three week regular ingestion of Advocare Spark. After stopping the ingestion of Advocare Spark, Plaintiff Tubbs, within 45-90 minutes, returned to his normal self and was able to focus more and since stopping the ingestion of Advocare Spark has been able to focus normally. During this approximately three week prolonged regular ingestion of Advocare Spark Plaintiff Tubbs consumed no non-Advocare supplements nor changed his habits leading to the conclusion that the ill effects were the result of Advocare Spark. Based on his prior experience with caffeinated beverages, Plaintiff Tubbs believes the ingredient that was responsible for these phenomena was high levels of caffeine.

- 71. Specifically with respect to the Meal Replacement Shakes, one of the 24-Day Challenge products Plaintiff Tubbs purchased and consumed, in the months leading up to April 2015, Defendants advertised to him through its website (www.advocare.com) and its product labelling that it was a "quick and complete great tasting nutrition."
- 72. Plaintiff Tubbs consumed the Meal Replacement Shakes as directed but did found the Shakes to not taste good and not a complete source of nutrition. In fact, Defendants own directions for use of the 24-Day Challenge state that all the products must be used together, contrary to the promise that the Shakes were "complete...nutrition."
- 73. Plaintiff Tubbs also purchased from Defendants a product called Advocare Slam, a product similar to an energy drink. In the months leading up to April 2015, Defendants advertised to him through its website (www.advocare.com) and its printed promotional literature that it was a "high powered portable energy source that sharpens mental focus." This influenced his decision to purchase Advocare Slam.
- 74. After consuming Advocare Slam as directed, Plaintiff Tubbs did not experience a sharpening of mental focus and instead experienced a jittery feeling and lack of mental focus because he felt too "hyped up." This is contrary to the advertised benefit. This feeling began within minutes of consuming Defendants' product and lasted on each occasion for approximately 60 minutes, after which Plaintiff Tubbs remained unable to focus on simple tasks for between 45-90 minutes. When not taking Advocare Slam, Plaintiff Tubbs was able to concentrate on simple tasks. After stopping the ingestion of Advocare Slam, Plaintiff Tubbs, within 45-90 minutes, returned to his normal self and was able to be more calm and focused and since stopping the ingestion of Advocare Slam has been able to focus normally. Based on his prior experience with caffeinated beverages, Plaintiff Tubbs

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believes the ingredient that was responsible for these phenomena was high levels of caffeine.

- 75. Plaintiff Tubbs also purchased and consumed "catalyst pills" from Defendants. In the months leading up to April 2015, Defendants advertised them on their website (www.advocare.com) as supporting "muscle tone" and "enhancing strength and energy." This influenced his decision to buy the catalyst pills.
- Plaintiff Tubbs did not experience any increased "muscle tone" nor 76. "enhance[ed] strength and energy." In fact, after consuming the pills, he became lethargic, catatonic, and lost strength and tone. Specifically, Plaintiff Tubbs was unable to exercise on at least two several occasions after taking Defendants' "catalyst pills" due to feelings of lethargy and weakness, he was unable to complete weight and cardio exercises at their normal intensity and duration, and noticeably lost muscle tone. His bench pressing and cardiovascular exercises decreased in total weight and duration and did not increase as advertised. This is consistent with the findings of the Gwacham study results. These feelings and effects began shortly after Plaintiff began consuming the "catalyst pills" and lasted until Plaintiff stopped taking Defendants' products. Thus, the advertisements were false.
- None of the Defendants' products purchased and consumed by 77. Plaintiff Tubbs provided him the promised benefits.
- 78. Unless Defendants are estopped from continuing their illegal actions, Plaintiff Tubbs may be harmed in the future if he were to decide to purchase additional 24-Day Challenge products based on false and deceptive advertising and marketing.

b. **Plaintiff Ebony Baker**

79. In approximately April 2015, Plaintiff Ebony Baker purchased from Defendants the 24 Day Challenge "bundle." The "24-Day Challenge" is a package that contains the exact same products for each and every purchaser. Doc. 38-1. The 24-Day Challenge Bundle Baker purchased contains the following: 24-Day

Challenge Daily Guide, One box of Herbal Cleanse; One box of Advocare Fiber, One bottle of OmegaPlex, Two boxes of AdvoCare Spark, One box of MNS 3, C and E, and One box of Meal Replacement Shake. *Id*.

- 80. Plaintiff Ebony Baker spent over two hundred dollars on the products.
- 81. Plaintiff Baker ingested caffeine in a normal manner and in the recommended doses from products other than Advocare.
- 82. Plaintiff Baker followed Defendants' instructions and consumed the 24-Day Challenge Products, including Spark, as directed for 20 days. She was unable to complete the last four days because she because physically and mentally ill as a result of consuming the products. She consumed no other products at the same time that were not previously in her diet leading to the conclusion that the adverse results she experienced were the result of the only change in her life: the addition of the products.
- 83. While consuming the 24-Day Challenge products she attempted to work out, build muscle, tone her body, and improve her outlook on life, all promises by Defendants, but she received none of those benefits. Instead, she lost energy to work out, was unable to build muscle tone, and became so ill that she had to tell her trainer that she was unable to continue to work out while taking the 24-Day Challenge products. Specifically, Plaintiff Ebony Baker typically worked out 2-3 times per week before taking Defendants' products, but could not exercise at all after she began taking Defendants' products. This lasted until two days after Plaintiff Ebony Baker stopped taking Defendants' 24-Day Challenge products on day 20. This is consistent with the findings of the Gwacham study results. After day 20 and when she was no longer consuming Defendants' products, she was able to restart her normal workout routine within 2 days of stopping the ingestion of Defendants' products.
- 84. Specifically with respect to Spark, one of the 24-Day Challenge products Plaintiff Baker purchased and consumed, in the weeks leading up to April

- 2015, Defendants advertised to her through their website (www.advocare.com) and printer promotional literature that purchasing and consuming it would: "sharpen mental focus" and provide "long lasting energy."
- 85. After purchasing Spark and ingesting it as directed by Defendants, Plaintiff Baker's mental focus was not sharpened and she did not have long lasting energy. In fact, after consuming Spark, she was jittery, was unable to complete her normal workout routine due feeling ill, could not focus feeling as if she was scatter-brained, and her heart beat uncontrollably fast requiring her to sit down for extended periods of time. This is the opposite of what she was promised.
- 86. Within minutes of consuming Spark, she experienced a quick burst of energy, which lasted for approximately 20 minutes, after which she remained unable to focus on simple tasks for between 45-90 minutes. She was quickly left without energy feeling tired, contrary to the advertisements from Defendants. The feeling of no energy lasted until the next morning when she felt normal energy.
- 87. Approximately 45-90 minutes after ingestion, she was able to focus more. Plaintiff Baker experienced this ebb and flow of focus consistently throughout her approximate two-three week regular ingestion of Advocare Spark. After stopping the ingestion of Advocare Spark, Plaintiff Baker, within 45-90 minutes, returned to her normal self and was able to focus more and since stopping the ingestion of Advocare Spark has been able to focus normally.
- 88. During this approximately two-three week prolonged regular ingestion of Advocare Spark Plaintiff Baker consumed no non-Advocare supplements nor changed her other habits leading to the conclusion that the ill effects were the result of Advocare Spark.
- 89. Unless Defendants are estopped from continuing their illegal actions, Plaintiff Baker may be harmed in the future if she were to decide to purchase additional 24-Day Challenge products based on false and deceptive advertising and marketing.

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FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION

UNLAWFUL, UNFAIR AND FRAUDULENT BUSINESS PRACTICES

(Cal. Bus. & Prof. § 17200, et seq.)

- 90. Plaintiffs adopt, re-allege and incorporate herein each and every allegation in the Complaint, as though fully set forth herein.
- 91. Plaintiffs bring this claim individually, on behalf of the Classes and on behalf of the general public.
- Through the conduct and scheme described herein, and particularly 92. through the marketing and selling of 24-Day Challenge Products to Plaintiffs and members of the public, Defendants engaged in unlawful, deceptive, and unfair business acts within the meaning of California Business and Professions Code § 17200et seq. Defendants' acts and practices offend an established public policy, and Defendants engage in immoral, un-ethical, oppressive, and unscrupulous activities that are substantially injurious to consumers including Plaintiffs.
- Plaintiffs and the Class members were misled into purchasing 24-Day 93. Challenge Products by Defendants' deceptive conduct as alleged herein. Plaintiffs and the Class members were subject to Defendants' mass media advertising which included but was not limited to statements that the 24-Day Challenge Products would enhance mental energy and focus, were healthy, would not overburden or overstimulate their body, and would provide a consistent energy source that would not burn out. Plaintiffs relied upon such advertising in agreeing to pay for the products, thereby suffering economic damage.
- 94. Defendants have unlawfully manufactured, packaged, labeled and/or distributed the 24-Day Challenge Products in violation of California Health & *Safety Code*, in that:
 - Defendants have disseminated false advertisements of the 24-Day Challenge Products in that the product advertising and packaging

contain false and/or misleading statements as to the purported ability of these products to do what Defendants claim they do, in violation of California Health & Safety Code §§ 110290 and 110390 et seg.

- The 24-Day Challenge Products are misbranded because their b. labeling does not conform with the requirements for nutrition labeling as required by California Health & Safety Code §§ 110665 and 110705;
- The 24-Day Challenge Products are misbranded because their labeling does not conform with the requirements for nutrient content or health claims as required by California Health & Safety Code § 110670;
- d. The 24-Day Challenge Products are unlawfully labeled in violation of California Health & Safety Code § 114089;
- The 24-Day Challenge Products are unlawfully labeled in e. violation of California law as the labeling is false and/or misleading in claiming that the product is recommended and approved by a scientific and medical advisory board; and
- f. The 24-Day Challenge Products are unlawfully labeled in violation of California law as the labeling and marketing suggests that the product is safe and effective for its intended use when such evidence has not been established.
- 95. Plaintiffs and other Class members were misled and, because misrepresentations and omission were uniform and material, believed the Defendants' statements.
- 96. Plaintiffs request that this Court enter such orders or judgments as may be necessary to restore to any person money and interest which may have been acquired by means of such unfair practices as provide in Bus. & Prof. Code § 17203, and for such other relief as set forth below.
- Plaintiffs reserve the right to allege other violations which constitute 97. other unlawful business acts or practices. Upon information and belief, Defendants'

wrongful conduct in violation of § 17200, et seq. is ongoing and continues to this date.

- 98. There were reasonably available alternatives to further Defendants' legitimate business interests, other than the conduct described herein.
- 99. Defendants' actions, claims, nondisclosures, and misleading statements, as alleged in this Complaint, likely to deceive Plaintiffs and the public, and were intended to deceive Plaintiffs and members of the public. Plaintiffs and Class members have in fact been deceived and have relied on Defendants' representations and omissions. This reliance has caused harm to Plaintiffs and Class members. Plaintiffs and Class members have suffered injury in fact and lost money as a result of Defendants' unlawful, unfair, and fraudulent practices.
- 100. As a result of its deception, Defendants have reaped unjust revenue and profit. Restitution is, therefore, appropriate and the Plaintiffs ask that this Court order restitution. Further, upon information and belief, unless restrained and enjoined, Defendants will continue to engage in the above-described conduct. Accordingly, injunctive relief is appropriate.
- 101. Plaintiff and Class Members have suffered injury in fact and lost money and/or property as a result of Defendants' and Does 1 through 10's unlawful business acts and practices by engaging in the above-described conduct.
- 102. Plaintiffs engaged counsel to prosecute this action and are entitled to recover costs and reasonable attorneys' fees according to proof at trial.

SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION UNFAIR, DECEPTIVE AND MISLEADING ADVERTISING

(Cal. Bus. & Prof. § 17500, et seq.)

103. Plaintiffs adopt, re-allege and incorporate herein each and every allegation in the Complaint, as though fully set forth herein.

- 104. Plaintiffs bring this claim individually, on behalf of the Class and on behalf of the general public.
- 105. Through the conduct and scheme described herein, and particularly through the marketing of 24-Day Challenge Products to Plaintiffs and members of the public, Defendants engaged in unlawful, deceptive, and unfair business acts within the meaning of California *Business and Professions Code* § 17500 *et seq.* Defendants' acts and practices offend an established public policy, and Defendants engage in immoral, unethical, oppressive, and unscrupulous activities that are substantially injurious to consumers including Plaintiffs.
- 106. Defendants engaged in the deceptive conduct alleged herein, which included deceptive and untrue advertisements regarding the 24-Day Challenge products and representations made to induce the public to purchase the products.
- 107. Defendants' advertisements claimed that the 24-Day Challenge Products would enhance mental energy and focus, were healthy, would not overburden or overstimulate their body, and would provide a consistent energy source that would not burn out. Plaintiffs relied upon such advertising in agreeing to pay for the products, thereby suffering economic damage.
- 108. Defendants made and disseminated false and misleading statements to Plaintiffs and members of the public regarding the nature, purpose, and effect of the 24-Day Challenge Products. Defendants created false impressions which it failed to correct, and concealed material information regarding the products.
- 109. Defendants were aware or should have been aware by the exercise of reasonable care that the representations were untrue and/or misleading.
- 110. Plaintiffs reserve the right to allege other violations which constitute other unlawful business acts or practices. Upon information and belief, Defendants' wrongful conduct in violation of § 17500. *et seq.* is ongoing and continues to this date.

- 111. There were reasonably available alternatives to further Defendants' legitimate business interests, other than the conduct described herein.
- 112. Defendants' actions, claims, nondisclosures, and misleading statements, as alleged in this Complaint, likely to deceive Plaintiffs and the public, and were intended to deceive Plaintiffs and members of the public. Plaintiffs and Class members have in fact been deceived and have relied on Defendants' representations and omissions. This reliance has caused harm to Plaintiffs and Class members. Plaintiffs and Class members have suffered injury in fact and lost money as a result of Defendants' unlawful, unfair, and fraudulent practices.
- 113. Defendants' actions, claims, nondisclosures, and misleading statements, as alleged in this Complaint, are likely to deceive Plaintiffs and the public, and were intended to deceive Plaintiffs and members of the public. Plaintiffs have in fact been deceived and have relied on Defendants' representations and omissions. This reliance has caused harm to Plaintiffs and Plaintiffs have suffered injury in fact and lost money as a result of Defendants unlawful, unfair, and fraudulent practices.
- 114. Plaintiff and Class Members have suffered injury in fact and lost money and/or property as a result of Defendants' and Does 1 through 10's unfair, deceptive, and misleading advertising by engaging in the above-described conduct.
- 115. As a result of its deception, Defendants have been able to reap unjust revenue and profit. Restitution is therefore appropriate and the Plaintiffs asks that Court order restitution. Further, upon information and belief, unless restrained and enjoined, Defendants will continue to engage in the above-described conduct. Accordingly, injunctive relief is appropriate.

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THIRD CAUSE OF ACTION BREACH OF IMPLIED WARRANTY

(CAL. U. COMM. CODE §§ 2314, 2315 and Common Law)

- 116. Plaintiffs adopt, re-allege and incorporate herein each and every allegation in the Complaint, as though fully set forth herein.
- 117. Plaintiffs bring this claim individually, on behalf of the Class and on behalf of the general public.
- 118. The 24-Day Challenge Products were sold with the implied warranty of merchantability that the product would pass without objection in the trade, is fit for the ordinary purpose for which it is used, is adequately contained, packaged, and labeled, and conforms to the promises or affirmations of fact made on the container and label. The 24-Day Challenge Products do not meet with foregoing criteria.
- 119. The 24-Day Challenge Products were sold with the implied warranty of fitness in that Defendants had reason to know of the particular purpose for which the product was required (i.e., as a nutrient to make one healthier and more mentally focused) and Plaintiffs and the Class members relied upon Defendants' advertised skill and judgment to furnish suitable goods. It is not suitable for the purpose for which it was required and sold.
- 120. The defects in the 24-Day Challenge Products existed prior to the delivery of the product to Plaintiffs and the Class members.
- 121. Plaintiffs and the Class members have incurred damages as described herein as a direct and proximate result of the defective product and Defendants' and Does 1 through 10's breach of the implied warranties, in that Plaintiffs and the Class members paid the purchase price for the defective product. Plaintiffs, on behalf of themselves and the Class members, have demanded that Defendants correct the defect and Defendants have failed and/or refused. Plaintiffs and the Class members are entitled to a refund of the purchase price of the products,

consequential and incidental damages, costs and expenses, including attorney's fees.

FOURTH CAUSE OF ACTION

BREACH OF EXPRESS WARRANTY

(CAL. U. COM. CODE § 2313)

- 122. Plaintiffs adopt, re-allege and incorporate herein each and every allegation in the Complaint, as though fully set forth herein.
- 123. Plaintiffs bring this claim individually, on behalf of the Class and on behalf of the general public.
- 124. The 24-Day Challenge Products were sold with an express warranty as Defendants made express affirmations of fact and promises regarding the health benefits of the products.
- 125. Defendants guaranteed the health benefits and especially the mental benefits of using the products.
- 126. They were sold with an express warranty because Defendants' express description of the product on the packaging and in mass media advertising was intended to become part of the basis of the bargain. The 24-Day Challenge Products are not suitable for the purpose for which they were required and sold as the products do not in fact benefit one's health as described.
- 127. The defect in the products existed prior to delivery of the product to Plaintiffs and the Class members.
- 128. Plaintiffs and Class members have incurred damages as described herein as a direct and proximate result of the defective products and Defendants' and Does 1 through 10's breach of the express warranties, in that the Plaintiffs and the Class have paid the purchase price for the defective products. Plaintiffs, on behalf of themselves and the Class members, have demanded that Defendants correct the defect and Defendants have failed and/or refused. Plaintiffs and the

Class members are entitled to a refund of the purchase price of the product, consequential and incidental damages, costs and expense, including attorneys' fees.

FIFTH CAUSE OF ACTION

VIOLATION OF THE CONSUMERS LEGAL REMEDIES ACT

(CAL. CIV. CODE § 1750 et seq.)

- 129. Plaintiffs adopt, re-allege and incorporate herein each and every allegation in the Complaint, as though fully set forth herein.
- 130. Plaintiffs bring this claim individually, on behalf of the Class and on behalf of the general public.
- 131. Plaintiffs and the Class are individuals who purchased goods (i.e., 24-Day Challenge Products) for personal use.
- 132. Defendants have represented that the 24-Day Challenge Products have characteristics, uses, benefits, and/or qualities that the products do not have.
- 133. Plaintiffs and the Class have each been directly and proximately injured by the conduct of the Defendants, and such injury includes payment for the 24-Day Challenge Products they purchased.
- 134. Plaintiffs, contemporaneously with the filing of the initial Complaint in this action, provided Defendants notice of their Consumer Legal Remedies Act claims, on behalf of themselves and the Class members, through a Notice as required by California Consumer Legal Remedies Act. On March 22, 2017, more than thirty (30) days prior to the filing of this Amended Complaint Defendant received notice from the Plaintiffs of the particular alleged violations of Section 1750 et seq.
- 135. The Court should enjoin Defendants and Does 1 through 10 from any further sales, marketing, or advertisement of the 24-Day Challenge Products which contain the misrepresentations detailed herein as to the standards, characteristics, uses, benefits, and/or qualities of the products. Plaintiffs request that this Court

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enter a permanent injunction enjoining Defendants, and their agents, servants, employees, and all persons acting under or in concert with them, to cease and desist from the following acts: (a) selling, marketing, or advertising the 24-Day Challenge Products in the illegal manner they are now doing; (b) selling, marketing, or advertising the 24-Day Challenge Products in the illegal manner they are now doing without any adequate and reliable scientific basis for such claims; (c) selling, marketing, or advertising the 24-Day Challenge Products as a supplement or drug that has specific medicinal benefits; (d) selling, marketing, or advertising the 24-Day Challenge Products with any representation or suggestion that a scientific and medical review board has approved or recommended the products for use; (e) concealing information regarding the true nature and origin of the herbal nutrients contained in the 24-Day Challenge Products; (f) selling, marketing, or advertising that the 24-Day Challenge Products are guaranteed in any way; (g) engaging in any of the illegal, fraudulent, misleading, unlawful, unfair and/or deceptive conduct described herein; and (h) engaging in any other conduct found by the Court to be illegal, fraudulent, misleading, unlawful, unfair and/or deceptive conduct.

136. Plaintiffs and Class members have incurred damages as described herein as a direct and proximate result of the defective products and Defendants' and Does 1 through 10's violations of the Consumer Legal Remedies Act. Plaintiff and Class members demand actual damages, restitution, punitive damages, and any other relief the Court deems proper. Plaintiffs, on behalf of themselves and the Class members, have demanded that Defendants correct the defect and Defendants have failed and/or refused. Plaintiffs and the Class members are entitled to a refund of the purchase price of the product, consequential and incidental damages, costs and expense, including attorneys' fees, and any other relief the Court deems proper.

137.

REQUEST FOR JUDGMENT

Plaintiffs asks for judgment against Defendants and each of them, in its and the putative Class's favor as follows:

- 1. For an order certifying this action as a Class action;
- 2 For actual and compensatory damages in such amount as the Court or jury deems just and proper;
- 3. For attorney's fees and costs for all causes of action alleged herein for which such amounts are permissible under applicable law, including <u>California</u> <u>Code of Civil Procedure</u> § 1021.5, in such amount as the Court or jury deems just and proper;
 - 4. For prejudgment interest;
- 5. For an order requiring Defendants to provide notice to the Class and to pay for such notice;
- 6. For imposition of a constructive trust, recessionary relief, injunctive relief, including prohibition of Defendants' unfair, illegal and fraudulent business practices set forth herein, and including restitution and disgorgement of ill-gotten profits; and
 - 7. All other relief which the Court and/or jury deems equitable and just.

1 **DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL** 2 Plaintiffs on his own behalf and on behalf of the putative Class, demands a 3 jury trial in the above captioned matter. 4 DATED: January 19, 2018 /s/ Steven W. Ritcheson Steven W. Ritcheson (SBN 5 6 174062) INSIGHT, PLC 9800 D Topanga Canyon Blvd., 7 Chatsworth, California 91311 Phone: 818.882.1030 8 swritcheson@insightplc.com 9 W. Lewis Garrison, Jr.* 10 Taylor C. Bartlett HENINGER GARRISON 11 DAVIS, LLC 2224 First Avenue North 12 Birmingham, Alabama 35203 Phone: 205.326.3336 lewis@hgdlawfirm.com 13 14 taylor@hgdlawfirm.com 15 Attorneys for Plaintiffs 16 * Pro Hac Vice Motion to be 17 Filed 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28