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**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA**

CALLEY FAUSETT and LEIGH
GOOD, individually and on behalf of
all others similarly situated,

Plaintiffs,

v.

KOI CBD, LLC, a California Limited
Liability Company,

Defendant.

Civil Action

No.: _____

CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT

JURY TRIAL DEMANDED

CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT

Plaintiffs Calley Fausett and Leigh Good (collectively, “Plaintiffs”), through their undersigned attorneys, Barbat, Mansour & Suci PLLC, Kohn, Swift & Graf, P.C. and Greg Coleman Law PC, brings this Class Action Complaint against Defendant CV Sciences, Inc. (“Defendant”), individually and on behalf of all

1 others similarly situated, and complain and allege upon personal knowledge as to
2 themselves and their own acts and experiences and, as to all other matters, upon
3 information and belief, including investigation conducted by their attorneys:
4

5 **NATURE OF THE ACTION**

6 1. This is a civil class action brought individually by Plaintiffs on behalf
7 of consumers who purchased Defendant’s “CBD Healing Balm”, “CBD Vape Oil”,
8 “Full Spectrum CBD Tincture”, “KOI Lotion”, “KOI CBD Gummies”, “KOI CBD
9 Infused Shot”, “KOI Naturals CBD Spray for Pets”, and “KOI CBD soft chews”
10 (the “Products” or “CBD Products”).¹ All of the Products are promoted as
11 products containing cannabidiol (CBD), for personal use and not for resale.
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14 2. Defendant’s Products, however, are illegal to sell.

15 3. Defendant formulates, manufactures, advertises, and sells the CBD
16 Products throughout the United States, including in the State of California and
17 Arizona.
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19 4. The CBD (cannabidiol) Product market is a multibillion-dollar business
20 enterprise that is lucrative for its market participants and is expected to further
21 expand into a \$16 billion-dollar industry by 2025.²
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26 ¹ The Products contain numerous different flavors and dosages.

27 ² <https://www.forbes.com/sites/irisdorbian/2019/03/12/cbd-market-could-pull-in-16-blm-by-2025-says-study/#69e764bb3efd> Last Visited November 30, 2019
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1 \$5,000,000, exclusive of interest and costs, and there are numerous Class members
2 who are citizens of states other than Defendant's state of citizenship.

3 11. This Court has personal jurisdiction over Defendant in this matter. The
4 acts and omissions giving rise to this action occurred in the state of California.
5 Defendant has been afforded due process because it has, at all times relevant to this
6 matter, individually or through its agents, subsidiaries, officers and/or
7 representatives, operated, conducted, engaged in and carried on a business venture
8 in this state and/or maintained an office or agency in this state, and/or marketed,
9 advertised, distributed and/or sold products, committed a statutory violation within
10 this state related to the allegations made herein, and caused injuries to Plaintiff and
11 putative Class Members, which arose out of the acts and omissions that occurred in
12 the state of California, during the relevant time period, at which time Defendant was
13 engaged in business activities in the state of California.
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18 12. Venue is proper in this District pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1391(b)(2) and
19 (c) because a substantial part of the events or omissions giving rise to Plaintiff's
20 claims occurred in this District and because Defendant transacts business and/or has
21 agents within this District and has intentionally availed itself of the laws and markets
22 within this district.
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PARTIES

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2 13. Plaintiff Calley Fausett is a citizen of Arizona who resides in Phoenix,
3 Arizona. In or around June 2019, Plaintiff Fausett purchased Defendant’s 1000mg
4 CBD vape oil product from a retailer shop in Scottsdale, Arizona. Plaintiff Fausett
5 has purchased approximately \$1,000 worth of Defendant’s various CBD products in
6 the past year. If Plaintiff Fausett knew the Products were not legally sold in the
7 United States, Plaintiff Good would have not purchased them.
8
9

10 14. Plaintiff Leigh Good is a citizen of California who resides in
11 Coarsegold, California. In July 2019, Plaintiff Good purchased two bottles of
12 Defendant’s CBD vape oil product from Twisted Pipes Smoke Shop for a total of
13 \$145.45, including tax. If Plaintiff Good knew the Products were not legally sold in
14 the United States, Plaintiff Good would have not purchased them.
15
16

17 15. Defendant Koi Cbd, LLC is a California limited liability company with
18 its principal place of business and registered agent located at 14631 Best Avenue,
19 Norwalk, CA 90650. Furthermore, Defendant’s individual members all reside in
20 Norwalk, CA. See Secretary of State Statement of Information at 2, filed by
21 Defendant on June 20, 2019, attached hereto as **Exhibit A**.
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1 **FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS**

2 16. At all relevant times, Defendant has marketed its Products in a
3 consistent and uniform manner. Defendant sells the Products in all 50 states on its
4 website and through various distributors and sales channels.
5

6 **DEFENDANT'S ILLEGAL PRODUCTS**

7 17. On November 22, 2019, the United States Food & Drug Administration
8 sent Defendant a Warning Letter discussing numerous violations of the Products,
9 including but not limited to; Unapproved New Drugs, Misbranded Drugs,
10 Adulterated Human Foods, Unapproved New Animal Drugs, and Adulterated Animal
11 Foods. All of these violations of the Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act make the Products
12 illegal to sell. All of the allegations listed below regarding the regulatory violations
13 are explained more explicitly in the FDA Warning Letter attached hereto as **Exhibit**
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17 **B.**

18 **Dietary Supplement Labeling**

19 18. The FDA has stated that CBD may not be labeled as a dietary
20 ingredient or legally be contained within a dietary supplement³:
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25 ³ See <https://www.fda.gov/consumers/consumer-updates/what-you-need-know-and-what-were-working-find-out-about-products-containing-cannabis-or-cannabis> Last Visited November 27,
26 2019.
27

- The FDA has approved only one CBD product, a prescription drug product to treat two rare, severe forms of epilepsy.
- It is currently illegal to market CBD by adding it to a food or labeling it as a dietary supplement.
- The FDA has seen only limited data about CBD safety and these data point to real risks that need to be considered before taking CBD for any reason.

19. Defendant’s KOI CBD Infused Shot Product cannot be a dietary supplement because it does not meet the definition of a dietary supplement under section 201(ff) of the FD&C Act, 21 U.S.C. 321(ff). The FDA has concluded, based on available evidence, that CBD products are excluded from the dietary supplement definition under sections 201(ff)(3)(B)(i) and (ii) of the FD&C Act, 21 U.S.C. 321(ff)(3)(B)(i) and (ii). Under those provisions, if an article (such as CBD) is an active ingredient in a drug product that has been approved under section 505 of the FD&C Act, 21 U.S.C. 355, or has been authorized for investigation as a new drug for which substantial clinical investigations have been instituted and for which the existence of such investigations has been made public, then products containing that substance are outside the definition of a dietary supplement.⁴ There is an exception if the substance was “marketed as” a dietary

⁴ CBD is the active ingredient in the approved drug product Epidiolex. Furthermore, the existence of substantial clinical investigations regarding CBD has been made public. For example, two such substantial clinical investigations include GW Pharmaceuticals’ investigations regarding Sativex and Epidiolex. (See [Sativex Commences US Phase II/III Clinical Trial in Cancer Pain](#) External Link Disclaimer and [GW Pharmaceuticals Receives Investigational New Drug \(IND\) from FDA for Phase 2/3 Clinical Trial of Epidiolex in the](#)

1 supplement or as a conventional food before the new drug investigations were
2 authorized; however, based on the evidence available to the FDA, the FDA has
3 concluded that this is not the case for CBD. The FDA is not aware of any evidence
4 that would call into question its current conclusion that CBD products are excluded
5 from the dietary supplement definition under sections 201(ff)(3)(B)(i) and (ii) of
6 the FD&C Act. *See Exhibit B.*

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9 **Unapproved New Drugs**

10 20. Defendant’s “CBD Healing Balm”, “CBD Vape Oil”, “Full Spectrum
11 CBD Tincture”, “KOI Lotion”, “KOI CBD Gummies”, and “KOI CBD Infused
12 Shot” products are drugs under section 201(g)(1) of the FD&C Act, 21 U.S.C.
13 321(g)(1), because they are intended for use in the diagnosis, cure, mitigation,
14 treatment, or prevention of disease and/or intended to affect the structure or any
15 function of the body.
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18 21. The FDA cites numerous representations on Defendant’s website
19 <https://koicbd.com> to support the agency’s position:
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24 [Treatment of Dravet Syndrome](#)External Link Disclaimer). FDA considers a substance to be
25 “authorized for investigation as a new drug” if it is the subject of an Investigational New Drug
26 application (IND) that has gone into effect. Under 21 CFR 312.2, unless a clinical investigation
27 meets the limited criteria in that regulation, an IND is required for all clinical investigations of
28 products that are subject to section 505 of the FD&C Act.

1 On your webpage titled “8 Proven Benefits of CBD”:

- 2 • “CBD RELIEVES PAIN AND INFLAMMATION”
- 3 • “studies show that CBD prevents human experimental psychosis and is
4 effective in open case reports and clinical trials in patients with
5 schizophrenia, with a remarkable safety profile.”
- 6 • “Not only does the research show that CBD benefits including being
7 effective in fighting breast cancer cells, data also suggest that it can be used
8 to inhibit the invasion of lung and colon cancer, plus it possesses anti-tumor
9 properties in gliomas and has been used to treat leukemia.”
- 10 • “CBD LOWERS INCIDENCE OF DIABETES”

11 On your webpage titled “IS CBD RIGHT FOR YOU?”:

- 12 • “several pre-clinical reports showing anti-tumor effects of CBD...have
13 found reduced [cancer] [sic] cell viability, increased cancer cell death,
14 decreased tumor growth, and inhibition of metastasis.”

15 On your webpage titled “CBD AND OPIOID ADDICTION”:

- 16 • “CBD FOR OPIOID ADDICTION”
- 17 • “A potential new treatment for opioid addiction has been found in a new
18 review of previous research of cannabidiol (CBD).”

19 On your webpage titled “10 LITTLE KNOWN USES FOR CBD”:

- 20 • “PTSD”
- 21 • “Fibromyalgia”
- 22 • “Schizophrenia”
- 23 • “Diabetes”
- 24 • “MS”
- 25 • “Crohn’s Disease”
- 26 • “Opioid Addiction”
- 27 • “The advantage of cannabidiol as a potential treatment for opioid addiction
28 is that it doesn’t give users a high and thus doesn’t involve a risk of misuse.”

See **Exhibit B.**

1 22. Defendant’s “CBD Healing Balm”, “CBD Vape Oil”, “Full Spectrum
2 CBD Tincture”, “KOI Lotion”, “KOI CBD Gummies”, and “KOI CBD Infused
3 Shot” Products are not generally recognized as safe and effective for their above
4 referenced uses and, therefore, these products are “new drugs” under section
5 201(p) of the FD&C Act, 21 U.S.C. 321(p). New drugs may not be legally
6 introduced or delivered for introduction into interstate commerce without prior
7 approval from the FDA, as described in sections 301(d) and 505(a) of the FD&C
8 Act, 21 U.S.C. 331(d) and 355(a). *See Exhibit B.*

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11 **Misbranded Drugs**

12 23. Defendant’s “CBD Healing Balm”, “CBD Vape Oil”, “Full Spectrum
13 CBD Tincture”, “KOI Lotion”, “KOI CBD Gummies”, and “KOI CBD Infused
14 Shot” products are also misbranded within the meaning of section 502(f)(1) of the
15 FD&C Act, 21 U.S.C. 352(f)(1), in that their labeling fails to bear adequate
16 directions for use. “Adequate directions for use” means directions under which a
17 layperson can use a drug safely and for the purposes for which it is intended. *See*
18 21 CFR 201.5. The aforementioned products are offered for conditions that are not
19 amenable to self-diagnosis and treatment by individuals who are not medical
20 practitioners; therefore, adequate directions for use cannot be written so that a
21 layperson can use these drugs safely for their intended purposes. FDA approved
22 prescription drugs that bear their FDA-approved labeling are exempt from the
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1 requirements that they bear adequate directions for use by a layperson. However,
2 Defendant's Products are not exempt from the requirement that their labeling bear
3 adequate directions for use, under 21 CFR 201.100(c)(2) and 201.115, because no
4 FDA approved applications are in effect for them. The introduction or delivery for
5 introduction into interstate commerce of these misbranded drugs violates section
6 301(a) of the FD&C Act, 21 U.S.C. 331(a). *See Exhibit B.*

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9 **310(l) and Adulterated Human Foods**

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11 24. Defendant's "KOI CBD Gummies" products appear to be promoted as
12 conventional human food. For example, the labeling describes the products,
13 variously, as "delicious, edible CBD snacks".

14
15 25. It is a prohibited act under section 301(l) of the FD&C Act, 21 U.S.C.
16 331(l), to introduce or deliver for introduction into interstate commerce any food
17 to which has been added a drug approved under section 505 of the FD&C Act or
18 for which substantial clinical investigations have been instituted and for which the
19 existence of such investigations has been made public. The FDA has concluded
20 that the prohibition in section 301(l) applies to CBD. There is an exception if the
21 substance was marketed in food before the drug was approved or before the
22 substantial clinical investigations involving the drug had been instituted. However,
23 based on available evidence, the FDA has concluded that this is not the case for
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1 CBD. The FDA is not aware of any evidence that would call into question its
2 current conclusion that section 301(II) of the FD&C Act, 21 U.S.C. 331(II),
3 prohibits the introduction into interstate commerce of any food to which CBD has
4 been added.
5

6 26. As defined in section 201(s) of the FD&C Act (21 U.S.C. 321(s)), the
7 term "food additive" refers to any substance the intended use of which results in its
8 becoming a component of any food, unless the substance is generally recognized as
9 safe (GRAS) among qualified experts under the conditions of its intended use, or
10 unless the substance meets a listed exception.
11

12 27. Food additives require premarket approval based on data
13 demonstrating safety. Any food additive that has not been approved for its intended
14 use in food is deemed to be unsafe under section 409(a) of the FD&C Act (21
15 U.S.C. 348(a)), and causes the food to be adulterated under section 402(a)(2)(C)(i)
16 of the FD&C Act, 21 U.S.C. 342(a)(2)(C)(i). Introduction of an adulterated food
17 into interstate commerce is prohibited under section 301(a) of the FD&C Act, 21
18 U.S.C. 331(a).
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22 28. There is no food additive regulation which authorizes the use of CBD.
23 The FDA is not aware of any information to indicate that CBD is the subject of a
24 prior sanction. *See* 21 CFR Part 181. Furthermore, the FDA is not aware of any
25 basis to conclude that CBD is GRAS for use in conventional foods. The FDA's
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1 regulations in 21 CFR 170.30(a)-(c) describe the criteria for eligibility for
2 classification of a food ingredient as GRAS. The use of a food substance may be
3 GRAS based on either scientific procedures or, for a substance used in food before
4 1958, through experience based on common use in food. *See* 21 CFR 170.30).

5
6 29. There is no basis for general recognition of safety for CBD based
7 either on scientific procedures or common use in food prior to January 1, 1958.
8 Based on the FDA's review of published, scientific literature, existing data and
9 information do not provide an adequate basis to conclude that the use of CBD in
10 food meets the criteria for GRAS status. Many unanswered questions and data
11 gaps about CBD toxicity exist, and some of the available data raise serious
12 concerns about potential harm from CBD. The FDA's review of publicly available
13 data associated with the one FDA-approved CBD drug, as well as the FDA's
14 review of published scientific literature, identified potential for liver injury from
15 CBD and potentially harmful interactions with certain drugs. In addition, studies in
16 animals have shown that CBD can interfere with the development and function of
17 testes and sperm, decrease testosterone levels, and impair sexual behavior in males.
18 Therefore, based on the FDA's review, the use of CBD in conventional food
19 products does not satisfy the criteria for GRAS status under 21 CFR 170.30.
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22 30. The FDA is not aware of any other exception to the food additive
23 definition that would apply to CBD for use as an ingredient in a conventional food.
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1 Therefore, CBD added to a conventional food is a food additive under section
2 201(s) of the FD&C Act and is subject to the provisions of section 409 of the
3 FD&C Act. Under section 409, a food additive is deemed unsafe unless it is
4 approved by the FDA for its intended use prior to marketing. CBD is not approved
5 for use in any conventional food. Food containing an unsafe food additive within
6 the meaning of section 409 is adulterated within the meaning of section
7 402(a)(2)(C)(i) of the FD&C Act. Introduction of an adulterated food into
8 interstate commerce is prohibited under section 301(a) of the FD&C Act, 21
9 U.S.C. 331(a). *See Exhibit B.*

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13 **Unapproved New Animal Drugs**

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15 31. The FDA determined that Defendant is marketing the unapproved
16 new animal drugs “KOI Naturals CBD Spray for Pets”, and “KOI CBD soft
17 chews”. Based on their review of Defendant’s website, “KOI Naturals CBD Spray
18 for Pets”, and “KOI CBD soft chews” products are drugs under section 201(g)(1)
19 of the FD&C Act, 21 U.S.C. 321(g)(1), because they are intended for use in the
20 diagnosis, cure, mitigation, treatment, or prevention of disease in animals and/or
21 intended to affect the structure or any function of the body of animals. Further, as
22 discussed below, these products are unapproved new animal drugs and marketing
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1 them violates the FD&C Act. The Warning Letter cites numerous claims made on
2 Defendant’s website supporting this position. See **Exhibit B.**

3 **301(ll) and Adulterated Animal Foods**
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5 32. Defendant’s use of CBD in animal foods is a prohibited act under
6 section 301(ll) of the FD&C Act, 21 U.S.C. 331(ll), to introduce or deliver for
7 introduction into interstate commerce any animal food to which has been added a
8 drug approved under section 505 of the FD&C Act or for which substantial clinical
9 investigations have been instituted and for which the existence of such
10 investigations has been made public. Based on available evidence, the FDA has
11 concluded that the prohibition in section 301(ll) applies to CBD, as described
12 above.
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16 33. As defined in section 201(s) of the FD&C Act (21 U.S.C. 321(s)), the
17 term “food additive” refers to any substance the intended use of which results in its
18 becoming a component of any animal food, unless the substance is generally
19 recognized as safe (GRAS) among qualified experts under the conditions of its
20 intended use, or unless the substance meets a listed exception.
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23 34. There is no animal food additive regulation that authorizes the use of
24 CBD. The FDA is not aware of any information to indicate that CBD is the subject
25 of a prior sanction (i.e., a sanction or approval granted prior to the enactment of the
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1 Food Additives Amendment of 1958 under the FD&C Act, the Poultry Products
2 Inspection Act, or the Meat Inspection Act). There is no basis to conclude that
3 CBD is GRAS for use in animal foods. The FDA's regulations in 21 CFR
4 570.30(a)-(c) describe the criteria for eligibility for classification of an animal food
5 ingredient as GRAS. The use of an animal food substance may be GRAS based on
6 either scientific procedures or, for a substance used in animal food before 1958,
7 through experience based on common use in animal food. *See* 21 CFR 570.30).

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9
10 There is no basis for general recognition of safety for CBD based either on
11 scientific procedures or common use in animal food prior to January 1, 1958.

12
13 Based on the FDA's review of the publicly available literature, the data and
14 information necessary to support the safe use of CBD in animal foods are lacking.

15 In fact, literature reports have raised safety concerns for animals consuming CBD,
16 including, but not limited to, male reproductive toxicity and liver toxicity.

17
18 Therefore, based on the FDA's review, the use of CBD in animal products does not
19 satisfy the criteria for GRAS status under 21 CFR 570.30.

20
21 35. Under section 409, an animal food additive is deemed unsafe unless it
22 is approved by FDA for its intended use prior to marketing. CBD is not approved
23 for use in any animal food. Animal food containing an unsafe food additive within
24 the meaning of section 409 is adulterated within the meaning of section
25 402(a)(2)(C)(i) of the FD&C Act. Introduction of an adulterated animal food into
26

1 interstate commerce is prohibited under section 301(a) of the FD&C Act, 21
2 U.S.C. 331(a). *See Exhibit B.*

3 36. Defendant's conduct is also deceptive, unfair, and unlawful in that it
4 violates the prohibition against the sale of adulterated and misbranded products
5 under California's Sherman Laws, which adopt the federal labeling regulations as
6 the food labeling requirements of the state. Cal. Health & Safety Code § 110100.
7

8 37. The introduction of adulterated and misbranded food into interstate
9 commerce is prohibited under the FDCA and the parallel state statute cited in this
10 Class Action Complaint.
11

12 38. Plaintiffs and Class Members would not have purchased the Products
13 or would have paid less for the Products if they were aware of the misleading
14 labeling of the Products by Defendant.
15

16 39. Defendant intended for Plaintiffs and the Class members to be deceived
17 or misled.
18

19 40. Defendant's deceptive and misleading practices proximately caused
20 harm to the Plaintiffs and the Class.
21

22 41. Plaintiffs and Class members would not have purchased the Products,
23 or would have not paid as much for the Products, had they known the truth about the
24 mislabeled and falsely advertised Products.
25

CLASS ACTION ALLEGATIONS

1
2 42. Plaintiffs seek to represent a class defined as all persons in the United
3 States who purchased the Products during the class period (the “Class”). Excluded
4 from the Class are Defendant, and its affiliates, employees, officers and directors,
5 persons or entities that purchased the Products for resale, and the Judge(s) assigned
6 to this case. Plaintiffs reserve the right to seek narrower multi-state subclasses as
7 appropriate.
8
9

10 43. Plaintiff Good also seeks to represent a Subclass of all persons in
11 California who purchased the Products during the class period (the “California
12 Subclass”). Excluded from the California Subclass are Defendant, its affiliates,
13 employees, officers and directors, persons or entities that purchased the Products for
14 resale, and the Judge(s) assigned to this case.
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17 44. Plaintiff Fausett also seeks to represent a Subclass of all persons in
18 Arizona who purchased the Products during the class period (the “Arizona
19 Subclass”). Excluded from the Arizona Subclass are Defendant, its affiliates,
20 employees, officers and directors, persons or entities that purchased the Products for
21 resale, and the Judge(s) assigned to this case.
22

23 45. Plaintiffs further reserve the right to redefine the Class(es), and/or
24 requests for relief.
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1 46. Certification of Plaintiffs' claims for class-wide treatment is
2 appropriate because Plaintiffs can prove the elements of their claims on a class-wide
3 basis using the same evidence as would be used to prove those elements in individual
4 actions alleging the same claims.
5

6 47. The members of the proposed Class(es) are so numerous that joinder of
7 all members is impracticable.
8

9 48. The exact number of Class members is unknown. Due to the nature of
10 the trade and commerce involved, as well as the number of online and direct
11 complaints, Plaintiffs believe the Class consists of thousands of consumers.
12

13 49. Common questions of law and fact affect the right of each Class
14 member, and a common relief by way of damages is sought for Plaintiffs and Class
15 members.
16

17 50. Common questions of law and fact that affect Class members include,
18 but are not limited to:

- 19 a. Whether the Products, when used by consumers in a normal and
20 customary manner and/or in accordance with Defendant's suggested
21 use, works as advertised, marketed, and conveyed to consumers;
- 22 b. Whether, in the course of business, Defendant represented that the
23 Products have characteristics, uses, benefits, or qualities that they do
24 not have when used by consumers in a normal and customary manner
25 and/or in accordance with Defendant's suggested use;
- 26 c. Whether the claims Defendant made and is making regarding the
27 Products are unfair or deceptive; specifically, whether the Products
28

1 were illegally labeled as dietary supplements with illegal delivery
2 instructions;

- 3 d. Whether Defendant knew at the time the consumer transactions took
4 place that consumers would not receive the promised benefits of the
5 Products that Defendant was claiming they would receive;
- 6 e. Whether Defendant knowingly made misleading statements in
7 connection with consumer transactions that reasonable consumers were
8 likely to rely upon to their detriment;
- 9 f. Whether Defendant knew or should have known that the
10 representations and advertisements regarding the Products were
11 unsubstantiated, false, and misleading;
- 12 g. Whether Defendant has breached express and implied warranties in the
13 sale and marketing of the Products;
- 14 h. Whether Defendant's conduct violates public policy;
- 15 i. Whether Defendant's acts and omissions violate California law;
- 16 j. Whether Defendant's act and omissions violate the Arizona consumer
17 protection law;
- 18 k. Whether Defendant has been unjustly enriched by the sale of the
19 Products to the Plaintiffs and the Class Members;
- 20 l. Whether Plaintiffs and the Class Members did not receive the benefit
21 of their bargain when purchasing the Products;
- 22 m. Whether the Plaintiffs and the Class Members suffered monetary
23 damages, and, if so, what is the measure of those damages;
- 24 n. Whether Plaintiffs and the Class Members are entitled to an injunction,
25 damages, restitution, equitable relief, and other relief deemed
26 appropriate, and, if so, the amount and nature of such relief.

1 51. Defendant engaged in a common course of conduct giving rise to the
2 legal rights sought to be enforced by Plaintiffs, on behalf of themselves and the other
3 Class members. Similar or identical statutory and common law violations, business
4 practices, and injuries are involved. Individual questions, if any, are pale by
5 comparison, in both quality and quantity, to the numerous common questions that
6 dominate this action.
7

8
9 52. Additionally, the factual basis of Defendant's conduct is common to all
10 Class members and represents a common thread of misconduct resulting in injury
11 and damages to all members of the Class.
12

13 53. The named Plaintiffs will fairly and adequately assert and protect the
14 interests of the Class. Specifically, they have hired attorneys who are experienced
15 in prosecuting class action claims and will adequately represent the interests of the
16 Class; and they have no conflict of interests that will interfere with the maintenance
17 of this class action.
18

- 19 a. The common questions of law and fact set forth herein predominate
20 over any questions affecting only individual Class members;
21
22 b. The Class is so numerous as to make joinder impracticable but not so
23 numerous as to create manageability problems;
24
25 c. There are no unusual legal or factual issues which would create
26 manageability problems, and depending on discovery, manageability
27 will not be an issue as much information is solely in Defendant's
28 possession;

- d. Prosecution of separate actions by individual members of the Class would create a risk of inconsistent and varying adjudications against Defendant when confronted with incompatible standards of conduct;
- e. Adjudications with respect to individual members of the Class could, as a practical matter, be dispositive of any interest of other members not parties to such adjudications, or substantially impair their ability to protect their interests; and
- f. The claims of the individual Class members are small in relation to the expenses of litigation, making a Class action the only procedure in which Class members can, as a practical matter, recover. However, the claims of individual Class members are collectively large enough to justify the expense and effort in maintaining a class action.

CAUSES OF ACTION

COUNT I

**California’s Unfair Competition Law
Cal. Bus. & Prof. Code § 17200 et seq. (“UCL”)
(On Behalf of the California Subclass)**

54. Plaintiffs re-allege and incorporate by reference the allegations contained in Paragraphs 1 through 53, as though set forth fully herein.

55. Plaintiff Good brings this claim individually and on behalf of the members of the proposed California Subclass against Defendant.

56. The UCL prohibits any “unlawful, unfair or fraudulent business act or practice.” Cal. Bus. & Prof. Code § 17200.

57. The acts, omissions, misrepresentations, practices, and non-disclosures of Defendant as alleged herein constitute business acts and practices.

1 58. Unlawful: The acts alleged herein are “unlawful” under the UCL in
2 that they violate at least the following laws:

3 a. The False Advertising Law, Cal. Bus. & Prof. Code §§ 17500 et seq.;

4 b. The Consumers Legal Remedies Act, Cal. Civ. Code §§ 1750 et seq.;

5 c. The Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act, 21 U.S.C. §§ 301 et seq.;

6 and

7
8 d. The California Sherman Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Law, Cal. Health &
9 Safety Code §§ 110100 et seq.

10 59. Unfair: Defendant’s conduct with respect to the labeling, advertising,
11 and sale of the Products was “unfair” because Defendant’s conduct was immoral,
12 unethical, unscrupulous, or substantially injurious to consumers and the utility of
13 their conduct, if any, does not outweigh the gravity of the harm to their victims.

14
15 60. Defendant’s conduct with respect to the labeling, advertising, and sale
16 of the Products was and is also unfair because it violates public policy as declared
17 by specific constitutional, statutory or regulatory provisions, including but not
18 limited to the applicable sections of: the Consumers Legal Remedies Act, the False
19 Advertising Law, the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act, and the California
20 Sherman Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Law.

21
22 61. Defendant’s conduct with respect to the labeling, advertising, and sale
23 of the Products was and is unfair because the consumer injury was substantial, not
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1 outweighed by benefits to consumers or competition, and not one consumer
2 themselves could reasonably have avoided.

3 62. Fraudulent: A statement or practice is “fraudulent” under the UCL if it
4 is likely to mislead or deceive the public, applying an objective reasonable consumer
5 test.
6

7 63. As set forth herein, Defendant’s claims relating the ingredients stated
8 on the Products’ labeling and moreover that the Products were labeled as illegal
9 dietary supplements with illegal delivery instruction is likely to mislead reasonable
10 consumers to believe the product is legal to purchase.
11

12 64. Defendant profited from its sale of the falsely, deceptively, and
13 unlawfully advertised and packaged Products to unwary consumers.
14

15 65. Plaintiff and California Subclass Members are likely to continue to be
16 damaged by Defendant’s deceptive trade practices, because Defendant continues to
17 disseminate misleading information on the Products’ packaging. Thus, injunctive
18 relief enjoining Defendant’s deceptive practices is proper.
19

20 66. Defendant’s conduct caused and continues to cause substantial injury
21 to Plaintiff and the other California Subclass Members. Plaintiff has suffered injury
22 in fact as a result of Defendant’s unlawful conduct.
23

24 67. In accordance with Bus. & Prof. Code § 17203, Plaintiff seeks an order
25 enjoining Defendant from continuing to conduct business through unlawful, unfair,
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1 and/or fraudulent acts and practices, and to commence a corrective advertising
2 campaign.

3 68. Plaintiff and the California Subclass also seek an order for and
4 restitution of all monies from the sale of the Products, which were unjustly acquired
5 through acts of unlawful competition.
6

7 **COUNT II**
8 **California’s False Advertising Law**
9 **Cal. Bus. & Prof. Code § 17500 (“FAL”)**
10 **(On Behalf of the California Subclass)**

11 69. Plaintiffs reallege and incorporate by reference paragraphs 1 through
12 53 as if fully set forth herein.

13 70. Plaintiff Good brings this claim individually and on behalf of the
14 members of the proposed California Subclass against Defendant.
15

16 71. The FAL provides that “[i]t is unlawful for any person, firm,
17 corporation or association, or any employee thereof with intent directly or indirectly
18 to dispose of real or personal property or to perform services” to disseminate any
19 statement “which is untrue or misleading, and which is known, or which by the
20 exercise of reasonable care should be known, to be untrue or misleading.” Cal. Bus.
21 & Prof. Code § 17500.
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1 72. It is also unlawful under the FAL to disseminate statements concerning
2 property or services that are “untrue or misleading, and which is known, or which
3 by the exercise of reasonable care should be known, to be untrue or misleading.” Id.
4

5 73. As alleged herein, the advertisements, labeling, policies, acts, and
6 practices of Defendant relating to the Products misled consumers acting reasonably
7 as to the ingredients and effectiveness of the Products.
8

9 74. Plaintiff suffered injury in fact as a result of Defendant’s actions as set
10 forth herein because she purchased the Products in reliance on Defendant’s false and
11 misleading labeling claims that the Products, among other things, that the Products
12 contained the ingredients stated on the Products’ labeling and moreover that the
13 Products were labeled as legal dietary supplements with legal delivery instruction as
14 claimed on the Products’ labeling and Defendant’s website.
15
16

17 75. Defendant’s business practices as alleged herein constitute deceptive,
18 untrue, and misleading advertising pursuant to the FAL because Defendant has
19 advertised the Products in a manner that is untrue and misleading, which Defendant
20 knew or reasonably should have known, and omitted material information from its
21 advertising.
22

23 76. Defendant profited from its sale of the falsely and deceptively
24 advertised Products to unwary consumers.
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1 77. As a result, Plaintiff, the California Subclass, and the general public are
2 entitled to injunctive and equitable relief, restitution, and an order for the
3 disgorgement of the funds by which Defendant was unjustly enriched.

4
5 78. Pursuant to Cal. Bus. & Prof. Code § 17535, Plaintiff, on behalf of
6 himself and the California Subclass, seeks an order enjoining Defendant from
7 continuing to engage in deceptive business practices, false advertising, and any other
8 act prohibited by law, including those set forth in this Complaint.
9

10 **COUNT III**
11 **California’s Consumer Legal Remedies Act**
12 **Cal. Civ. Code § 1750 et seq. (“CLRA”)**
13 **(On Behalf of the California Subclass)**

14 79. Plaintiffs reallege and incorporate by reference paragraphs 1 through
15 53 as if fully set forth herein.

16 80. Plaintiff Good brings this claim individually and on behalf of the
17 members of the proposed California Subclass against Defendant.

18
19 81. The CLRA prohibits deceptive practices in connection with the conduct
20 of a business that provides goods, property, or services primarily for personal,
21 family, or household purposes.
22

23 82. Defendant’s false and misleading labeling and other policies, acts, and
24 practices were designed to, and did, induce the purchase and use of the Products for
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1 personal, family, or household purposes by Plaintiff and California Subclass
2 Members, and violated and continue to violate the following sections of the CLRA:

- 3 a. § 1770(a)(5): representing that goods have characteristics, uses, or
4 benefits which they do not have;
- 5 b. § 1770(a)(7): representing that goods are of a particular standard,
6 quality, or grade if they are of another;
- 7 c. § 1770(a)(9): advertising goods with intent not to sell them as
8 advertised; and
- 9 d. § 1770(a)(16): representing the subject of a transaction has been
10 supplied in accordance with a previous representation when it has not.

11 83. Defendant profited from the sale of the falsely, deceptively, and
12 unlawfully advertised Products to unwary consumers.

14 84. Defendant’s wrongful business practices constituted, and constitute, a
15 continuing course of conduct in violation of the CLRA.

17 85. Pursuant to the provisions of Cal. Civ. Code § 1782(a), Plaintiff will
18 provide a letter to Defendant concurrently with the filing of this Class Action
19 Complaint or shortly thereafter with notice of its alleged violations of the CLRA,
20 demanding that Defendant correct such violations, and providing it with the
21 opportunity to correct its business practices. If Defendant does not thereafter correct
22 its business practices, Plaintiff will amend (or seek leave to amend) the complaint to
23 add claims for monetary relief, including restitution and actual damages under the
24 Consumers Legal Remedies Act.
25
26

1 86. Pursuant to California Civil Code § 1780, Plaintiff seeks injunctive
2 relief, his reasonable attorney fees and costs, and any other relief that the Court
3 deems proper.
4

5 **COUNT IV**
6 **Breach of Express Warranties**
7 **Cal. Com. Code § 2313(1)**
8 **(On Behalf of the California Subclass)**

9 87. Plaintiffs reallege and incorporate by reference paragraphs 1 through
10 53 as if fully set forth herein.

11 88. Plaintiff Good brings this claim individually and on behalf of the
12 members of the proposed California Subclass against Defendant.

13 89. Through the Products' labels and advertising, Defendant made
14 affirmations of fact or promises, or description of goods, described above, which
15 were "part of the basis of the bargain," in that Plaintiff and the California Subclass
16 purchased the Products in reasonable reliance on those statements. Cal. Com. Code
17 § 2313(1).
18

19 90. Defendant breached the express warranties by selling Products that do
20 not and cannot provide the promised benefits and moreover by selling Products that
21 are illegally labeled as dietary supplements with illegal delivery instructions.
22

23 91. Plaintiff and the California Subclass Members would not have
24 purchased the Products had they known the true nature of the Products' ingredients
25
26

1 and what the Products contained and moreover that the Products were illegally
2 labeled with illegal delivery instructions.

3 92. That breach actually and proximately caused injury in the form of the
4 lost purchase price that Plaintiff and California Subclass members paid for the
5 Products.
6

7 93. Furthermore, Defendant had actual knowledge of the defect in the
8 Products purchased by Plaintiff, as well as the Products purchased by other members
9 of the Class, because it had actual knowledge of the nature, ingredients and qualities
10 of the ingredients in its Products by virtue of its own Products’ testing and it knows
11 that the affirmations and representations it makes concerning the nature, benefits,
12 ingredients and quantities on the Products’ labeling and Defendant’s website and
13 advertising is false. Defendant also has actual knowledge of the defect because it
14 received the FDA’s warning letter.
15
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17

18 94. As a result of Defendant’s breach of warranty, Plaintiff and California
19 Subclass Members have been damaged in the amount of the purchase price of the
20 Products and any consequential damages resulting from the purchases.
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COUNT V
Breach of Implied Warranty of Merchantability
Cal. Com. Code § 2314
(On Behalf of the California Subclass)

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4 95. Plaintiffs reallege and incorporate by reference paragraphs 1-53 as if
5 fully set forth herein.

6
7 96. Plaintiff Good brings this claim individually and on behalf of the
8 members of the proposed California Subclass against Defendant.

9
10 97. Defendant, through its acts and omissions set forth herein, in the sale,
11 marketing, and promotion of the Products, made representations to Plaintiff and the
12 California Subclass that, among other things, the Products were labeled as legal
13 dietary supplements with legal delivery instructions.

14
15 98. Plaintiff and the California Subclass bought the Products manufactured,
16 advertised, and sold by Defendant, as described herein.

17
18 99. Defendant is a merchant with respect to the goods of this kind which
19 were sold to Plaintiff and the California Subclass Members, and there was, in the
20 sale to Plaintiff and other consumers, an implied warranty that those goods were
21 merchantable.

22
23 100. However, Defendant breached that implied warranty in that the
24 Products provide no benefits, as set forth in detail herein.

1 106. Defendant breached the express warranties by selling Products that do
2 not and cannot provide the promised benefits and moreover by selling Products that
3 are illegally labeled as dietary supplements with illegal delivery instructions.
4

5 107. Plaintiff and the Arizona Subclass Members would not have purchased
6 the Products had they known the true nature of the Products' ingredients and what
7 the Products contained and moreover that the Products were illegally labeled with
8 illegal delivery instructions.
9

10 108. That breach actually and proximately caused injury in the form of the
11 lost purchase price that Plaintiff and Arizona Subclass members paid for the
12 Products.
13

14 109. Furthermore, Defendant had actual knowledge of the defect in the
15 Products purchased by Plaintiff, as well as the Products purchased by other members
16 of the Arizona Subclass, because it had actual knowledge of the nature, ingredients
17 and qualities of the ingredients in its Products by virtue of its own Products' testing
18 and it knows that the affirmations and representations it makes concerning the
19 nature, benefits, ingredients and quantities on the Products' labeling and Defendant's
20 website and advertising is false. Defendant also has actual knowledge of the defect
21 because it received the FDA's warning letter.
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1 110. As a result of Defendant’s breach of warranty, Plaintiff and Arizona
2 Subclass Members have been damaged in the amount of the purchase price of the
3 Products and any consequential damages resulting from the purchases.
4

5 **COUNT VII**
6 **Breach of Implied Warranty of Merchantability**
7 **Ariz. Rev. Stat. § 47-2314, et seq.**
8 **(On Behalf of the Arizona Subclass)**

9 111. Plaintiffs reallege and incorporate by reference paragraphs 1-53 as if
10 fully set forth herein.

11 112. Plaintiff Fausett brings this claim individually and on behalf of the
12 members of the proposed Arizona Subclass against Defendant.

13 113. Defendant, through its acts and omissions set forth herein, in the sale,
14 marketing, and promotion of the Products, made representations to Plaintiff and the
15 Arizona Subclass that, among other things, that the Products were labeled as legal
16 dietary supplements with legal delivery instructions.
17

18 114. Plaintiff and the Arizona Subclass bought the Products manufactured,
19 advertised, and sold by Defendant, as described herein.
20

21 115. Defendant is a merchant with respect to the goods of this kind which
22 were sold to Plaintiff and the Arizona Subclass, and there was, in the sale to Plaintiff
23 and other consumers, an implied warranty that those goods were merchantable.
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1 116. However, Defendant breached that implied warranty in that the
2 Products provide no benefits, as set forth in detail herein, and more the Products are
3 actually labeled as illegal dietary supplements with illegal delivery instructions.
4

5 117. As an actual and proximate result of Defendant’s conduct, Plaintiff and
6 the Arizona Subclass did not receive goods as impliedly warranted by Defendant to
7 be merchantable in that they did not conform to promises and affirmations made on
8 the container or label of the goods nor are they fit for their ordinary purpose of
9 providing the benefits as promised.
10

11 118. Plaintiff and the Arizona Subclass have sustained damages as a
12 proximate result of the foregoing breach of implied warranty in the amount of the
13 Products’ purchase prices.
14

15 **COUNT VIII**
16 **Violation of Arizona Consumer Fraud Act,**
17 **Ariz. Rev. Stat. § 44-1521, *et seq.***
18 **(On behalf of the Arizona Subclass)**

19 119. Plaintiffs reallege and incorporate by reference paragraphs 1-53 as if
20 fully set forth herein.
21

22 120. Plaintiff Fausett brings this claim individually and on behalf of the
23 members of the proposed Arizona Subclass against Defendant.
24
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1 121. The Arizona Consumer Fraud Act (“ACFA”), Ariz. Rev. Stat. § 44-
2 1521, *et seq.* was in full force and effect during the relevant time period applicable
3 to this Complaint.

4
5 122. Plaintiff and the Arizona Subclass are consumers within the meaning
6 of the ACFA given that Defendant’s business activities involve trade or commerce,
7 are addressed to the market generally, and otherwise implicate consumer protection
8 concerns.

9
10 123. Defendant’s CBD Products are merchandise within the meaning of the
11 Act, and Defendant is engaged in trade or commerce within the meaning of the
12 ACFA.

13
14 124. The ACFA states, in relevant part, as follows:

15 The act, use or employment by any person of any deception,
16 deceptive act or practice, fraud, false pretense, false promise,
17 misrepresentation, or concealment, suppression or omission of
18 any material fact with intent that others rely upon such
19 concealment, suppression or omission, in connection with the
20 sale or advertisement of any merchandise whether or not any
21 person has in fact been misled, deceived or damaged thereby,
22 is declared to be an unlawful practice.

23 125. When Defendant developed, manufactured, marketed, and sold the
24 CBD Products, it was involved in the conduct of trade and commerce under the
25 ACFA.

1 126. As alleged herein, the advertisements, labeling, policies, acts, and
2 practices of Defendant relating to the CBD Products misled consumers acting
3 reasonably as to the nature, ingredients and effectiveness of the CBD Products, and
4 moreover, that the CBD Products were legal dietary supplements with legal delivery
5 instructions when, in fact, they were not.
6

7 127. Defendant concealed its knowledge of the true nature, ingredients and
8 effectiveness from consumers like Plaintiff and the Arizona Subclass Members and
9 instead sold the misrepresented CBD Products as legal dietary supplements with
10 legal delivery instructions for normal use.
11

12 128. Defendant's intentional misrepresentations, omissions and
13 concealments of material fact constitute unfair and/or deceptive practices in
14 violation of the ACFA. Specifically, Defendant violated the ACFA when it sold the
15 misrepresented CBD Products as illegal dietary supplements with illegal delivery
16 instructions.
17

18 129. Defendant's deceptive practices including, but not limited to, the
19 marketing of the CBD Products, were designed to induce Plaintiff and the Arizona
20 Subclass members to purchase the CBD Products.
21

22 130. Plaintiff suffered injury in fact as a result of Defendant's actions as set
23 forth herein because she purchased the Products in reliance on Defendant's false and
24 misleading labeling claims that the Products, among other things, contained the
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1 ingredients stated on the Products' labeling and moreover that the Products were
2 legal dietary supplements with legal delivery instructions as claimed on the
3 Products' labeling and Defendant's website.
4

5 131. Defendant's business practices as alleged herein constitute deceptive,
6 untrue, and misleading advertising pursuant to the ACFA because Defendant has
7 advertised the Products in a manner that is untrue and misleading, which Defendant
8 knew or reasonably should have known, and omitted material information from its
9 advertising.
10

11 132. Defendant profited from its sale of the falsely and deceptively
12 advertised the CBD Products to unwary consumers.
13

14 133. Had Defendant disclosed the true nature and quality of the CBD
15 Products, Plaintiff and the Arizona Subclass Members would not have purchased the
16 CBD Products.
17

18 134. Defendant continues to violate the ACFA through its repeated and
19 continued misrepresentations.
20

21 135. As a direct and proximate result of Defendant's unfair acts or practices
22 alleged herein, Plaintiff and Arizona Subclass members were damaged in the amount
23 of the purchase price of the Products and any consequential damages resulting from
24 the purchases.
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COUNT IX

**Declaratory Relief Under the Declaratory Judgment Act
(On Behalf of the Nationwide Class or,
Alternatively, the California Subclass and/or Arizona Subclass)**

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2
3
4 136. Plaintiffs reallege and incorporate by reference paragraphs 1-53 as if
5 fully set forth herein.

6
7 137. Plaintiffs Good and Fausett bring this cause of action on behalf of the
8 Nationwide Class and/or the California Subclass and/or Arizona Subclass.

9
10 138. Declaratory relief is intended to minimize “the danger of avoidable loss
11 and unnecessary accrual of damages.” 10B Charles Alan Wright, Arthur R. Miller
12 & Mary Kay Kane, Federal Practice and Procedure § 2751 (3d ed. 1998).

13
14 139. Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 2201, *et seq.*, there is an actual controversy
15 between Defendant and Plaintiffs concerning whether:

- 16 a. Defendant has misrepresented the nature, ingredients and effectiveness
17 of the Products; and
18 b. Defendant knew or should have known of the misrepresentations
19 regarding the efficacy of the Products.

20 140. Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 2201, the Court may “declare the rights and
21 legal relations of any interested party seeking such declaration, whether or not
22 further relief is or could be sought.”
23

24 141. Despite findings which have proven Defendant’s representations false,
25 Defendant continues to represent the nature, ingredients and effectiveness of the
26

1 Products, specifically labeling the Products as illegal “dietary supplements” with
2 illegal delivery instructions and has otherwise failed to correct those
3 misrepresentations.

4
5 142. Accordingly, based on Defendant’s repeated and continued
6 misrepresentations, Plaintiffs seek a declaration that Defendant has misrepresented
7 the nature, ingredients and effectiveness of the Products and that its actions are
8 unlawful.

9
10 143. The declaratory relief requested herein will generate common answers
11 that will settle the controversy related to the misrepresented labeling of the Products.
12 There is an economy to resolving these issues as they have the potential to eliminate
13 the need for continued and repeated litigation.

14
15 **PRAYER FOR RELIEF**

16
17 WHEREFORE, Plaintiffs pray that this case be certified and maintained as a
18 class action and for judgment to be entered against Defendant as follows:

- 19
20 A. Enter an order certifying the proposed Class (and subclasses, if
21 applicable), designating Plaintiffs as the class representatives, and
designating the undersigned as class counsel;
- 22
23 B. Enter an order awarding Plaintiffs and the class members their actual
24 damages, treble damages, and/or any other form of monetary relief
25 provided by law, except that no monetary relief is presently sought for
26 violations of the Consumers Legal Remedies Act;
- 27
28 C. Declare that Defendant is financially responsible for notifying all Class
members of the problems with the Products;

- D. Declare that Defendant must disgorge, for the benefit of the Class, all or part of the ill-gotten profits it received from the sale of the Products, or order Defendant to make full restitution to Plaintiffs and the members of the Class, except that no monetary relief is presently sought for violations of the Consumers Legal Remedies Act;
- E. Defendant shall audit and reassess all prior customer claims regarding the Products, including claims previously denied in whole or in part;
- F. An order awarding Plaintiffs and the classes pre-judgment and post-judgment interest as allowed under the law;
- G. For reasonable attorneys’ fees and reimbursement of all costs for the prosecution of this action, including expert witness fees; and
- H. For such other and further relief as this Court deems just and appropriate.

JURY DEMAND

Plaintiffs hereby demand a trial by jury on all issues so triable.

Dated: December 5, 2019

Respectfully Submitted,

By: /s/ Jonathan Shub
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*Pro Hac Vice Application
Forthcoming

*Counsel For Plaintiff
And The Class*