Case 3:14-cv-00359-DMS-WVG Docume	ent 1 Filed 02/14/14 Page 1 of 25			
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Attorneys for Plaintiffs				
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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT				
FOR THE SOUTHERN	DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA			
GUSTAVO GALVAN, individually	CASE NO.: 14CV0359 DMS WVG			
and on behalf of all others similarly situated,	CLASS ACTION			
Plaintiff,	COMPLAINT FOR VIOLATION OF:			
v.	1) CAL. BUS. & PROF. CODE § 17200, et			
RIDDELL, INC.; ALL AMERICAN	seq. ("Unfair" Business Acts and Practices); 2) CAL. BUS. & PROF. CODE § 17200, et			
RIDDELL/ALL AMERICAN:	seq. ("Deceptive" Business Acts & Practices);			
EASTON-BELL SPORTS, INC.;	3) CAL. BUS. & PROF. CODE § 17200, et seq. ("Unlawful" Business Practices);			
SPORTS CORPORATION; RBG	4) CAL. BUS. & PROF. CODE § 17500, et seq. (Misleading Advertising);			
DOES 1-10, inclusive,	5) CAL. CIV. CODE § 1750, et seq. (Consumers Legal Remedies Act)			
Defendants.	6) COMMON COUNTS – ASSUMPSIT AND QUASI-CONTRACT;			
	7) DECLARATORY RELIEF			
	DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL			
CLASS ACT	-1- TION COMPLAINT			
	WHATLEY KALLAS, LLP Alan M. Mansfield (Of Counsel) (SBN 125998) amansfield@ whatleykallas.com 10200 Willow Creek Rd., Ste 160 San Diego, CA 92131 Tel: (619) 308-5034 Fax: (855) 274-1888 WIGGINS CHILDS QUINN & PANT LLC D. G. Pantazis, Jr. (To Apply Pro Hac dpantazisjr@ wcqp.com 301 19 th Street North Birmingham, AL 35203 Tel: (205) 314-0557 Fax: (205) 314-0757 Attorneys for Plaintiffs [Additional counsel listed on signature page] UNITED STATE FOR THE SOUTHERN GUSTAVO GALVAN, individually and on behalf of all others similarly situated, Plaintiff, V. RIDDELL, INC.; ALL AMERICAN SPORTS CORPORATION db/a RIDDELL/ALL AMERICAN; RIDDELL/ALL AMERICAN; RIDDELL SPORTS GROUP; EASTON-BELL SPORTS, INC.; EASTON-BELL SPORTS, LLC; EB SPORTS CORPORATION; RBG HOLDINGS CORPORATION; and DOES 1-10, inclusive, Defendants.			

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COMES NOW the Plaintiff, GUSTAVO GALVAN ("Plaintiff"), on behalf of himself and all others similarly situated, by and through his undersigned counsel, and hereby files his Class Action Complaint against Defendants RIDDELL, INC., ALL AMERICAN SPORTS CORPORATION d/b/a Riddell/All American, RIDDELL SPORTS GROUP, EASTON-BELL SPORTS, INC., SPORTS, LLC, EB**SPORTS** EASTON-BELL CORPORATION, RBG DOES HOLDINGS CORPORATION, and 1-10, inclusive (collectively "Defendants"), and alleges as follows all on information and belief (except where specifically identified as being based on personal knowledge), which facts will likely have evidentiary support after a reasonable opportunity for further investigation and discovery:

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

- 1. This Court has subject matter jurisdiction pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1332(d) because the amount in controversy exceeds \$5,000,000 exclusive of interest and costs, there are more than one hundred Class members, and minimal diversity exists because Plaintiff and numerous members of the Class are citizens of different states than at least one of the primary Defendants.
- 2. This Court has personal jurisdiction over Defendants because Defendants have sufficient minimum contacts with California, and/or Defendants have otherwise purposely availed themselves of the markets in California through the promotion, marketing, and sale of their products and services in California and/or being based here to render the exercise of jurisdiction by this Court permissible under traditional notions of fair play and substantial justice.
- 3. Venue is proper under 28 U.S.C. § 1391(a) because (1) Defendants are subject to personal jurisdiction in this District, and (2) a not insubstantial part of the events or omissions giving rise to Class members claims occurred in this District, and Defendants engaged in the extensive promotion, marketing, distribution, and sales of the products at issue in this District.

NATURE OF THE ACTION

- 4. This is a class action brought on behalf of California consumers who purchased Riddell Revolution brand football helmets ("Revolution helmet" or "the helmet"). The Revolution helmet was marketed based on Defendants' uniform false or misleading representations that the helmet would prevent or substantially reduce the incidence of concussion compared to traditional and lower-cost football helmets.
- 5. Each Defendant engaged in a scheme to mislead California consumers about the benefits of their premium-priced helmet by misleadingly advertising to California consumers that the Revolution helmet is manufactured with "concussion reduction technology" that reduces the incidence of concussion, and does so by 31%, according to their marketing materials. Defendants' marketing of the Revolution helmet was intended to create the perception among football helmet purchasers that the Revolution helmet reduces the chance of concussion better than a traditional lower-priced football helmet.
- 6. Each Defendant was involved in the creation and dissemination of the misleading marketing campaign regarding the Revolution helmet and/or was involved in or profited from the sales of such helmets. Further, under California law, a duty to disclose arises in four relevant circumstances: (1) when the facts at issue involve an issue of safety; (2) when the defendant has superior or exclusive knowledge of material facts not known to the plaintiff; (3) when the defendant actively conceals a material fact from the plaintiff; and (4) when the defendant makes partial representations but also suppresses other material facts. Each Defendant either alone or in combination made partial representations or concealed material facts within their possession concerning the actual safety of the helmet and its alleged ability to reduce the incidence of concussion to any degree as compared to other helmets. Indeed, scientific studies and other data of which Defendants are aware indicate that the Revolution helmet makes no difference in a

player's risk for concussion as compared to other traditional football helmets. Thus, reasonable California consumers were subjected to Defendants' marketing scheme and paid a premium price for helmets, even though they had no material difference in concussion reduction than traditional lower-priced football helmets. Plaintiff and the Class he seeks to represent suffered damage. As such, this is an action for injunctive and equitable monetary relief, attorneys' fees and costs, and other statutory relief brought pursuant to, *inter alia*, the laws set forth herein.

PARTIES

- 7. On personal knowledge, Plaintiff Gustavo Galvan is a citizen of California. Plaintiff was exposed to the material representations at issue, and a substantial factor in his decision to purchase a Riddell Revolution football helmet in California for his son in or about June, 2011 from Dick's Sporting Goods was based on such claims. He paid a premium for this helmet as compared to other football helmets available at the time.
- 8. Defendant Riddell, Inc. is a corporation organized and existing under the laws of the State of Illinois and whose principal place of business is in the State of Illinois. Riddell, Inc. is engaged in the business of designing, manufacturing, selling and distributing football equipment, including Revolution brand helmets. Defendant ships its products, including Revolution helmets, to direct purchasers and distributors in California, maintains a direct sales force in California, sells its products in retail stores in California, and advertises its products in California. Riddell, Inc. operates as a subsidiary of Riddell Sports Group, Inc.
- 9. Defendant All American Sports Corporation, doing business under fictitious name as Riddell/All American, is a corporation organized and existing under the laws of the State of Delaware and is engaged in the business of designing, manufacturing, selling and distributing football equipment, including Revolution brand helmets. Defendant ships its products, including Revolution helmets, to direct purchasers and distributors in California, maintains a direct sales

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force in California, sells its products in retail stores in California, and advertises its products in California.

- 10. Defendant Riddell Sports Group, Inc. is a Delaware corporation with its principal place of business at 6255 N. State Highway, Suite 300, Irving, Texas 76038. Defendant ships its products, including Revolution helmets, to direct purchasers and distributors in California, maintains a direct sales force in California, sells its products in retail stores in California, and advertises its products in California.
- 11. Defendant Easton-Bell Sports, Inc. is a Delaware Corporation with a principal place of business at 7855 Haskell Avenue, Suite 200, Van Nuys, California 91406 and is a parent corporation of Riddell Sports Group, Inc. Easton-Bell Sports, Inc. designs, develops, and markets branded athletic equipment and accessories, including marketing and licensing products under the Riddell brand. Defendant ships its products, including Revolution helmets, to direct purchasers and distributors in California, maintains a direct sales force in California, sells its products in retail stores in California, and advertises its products in California.
- 12. Defendant Easton-Bell Sports, LLC is the parent corporation of Easton-Bell Sports, Inc. and is incorporated in Delaware, with a principal place of business at 152 West 57th Street, New York, New York 10019. Defendant ships its products, including Revolution helmets, to direct purchasers and distributors in California, maintains a direct sales force in California, sells its products in retail stores in California, and advertises its products in California.
- 13. Defendant EB Sports Corporation is a Delaware corporation with its principal place of business at 7855 Haskell Avenue, Van Nuys, California 91406. Defendant ships its products, including Revolution helmets, to direct purchasers and distributors in California, maintains a direct sales force in California, sells its products in retail stores in California, and advertises its products in California.

- 14. Defendant RBG Holdings Corp. is a Delaware corporation with its principal place of business at 7855 Haskell Avenue, Suite 350, Van Nuys, California 91406. RBG operates as a holding company which, through its subsidiaries and affiliates, designs, develops and markets sports equipment, including Revolution brand helmets. Defendant, through its wholly owned subsidiaries and affiliates, ships its products, including Revolution helmets, to direct purchasers and distributors in California, maintains a direct sales force in California, sells its products in retail stores in California, and advertises its products in California.
- 15. DOES 1-10 are individuals, associations or corporations that are affiliated or related to the other Defendants, and will be specifically identified and named as discovery progresses and their roles in the wrongdoing at issue is revealed.
- 16. At all times mentioned in the Causes of Action alleged herein, each and every defendant was an agent, representative, affiliate, or employee of each and every other defendant, and in doing the things alleged in the Causes of Action stated herein, each and every defendant was acting within the course and scope of such agency, representation, affiliation, or employment and was acting with the consent, permission and authorization of the other defendants. During the relevant time period, defendants agreed to misrepresent to the Class members the material facts at issue herein and/or not to notify Class members about the scope and nature of the illegal business practices as detailed herein, thus engaging in a conspiracy that resulted in injury in fact to members of the Class, which conspiracy is still ongoing. All actions of each defendant, as alleged in the Causes of Action stated herein, were ratified and approved by the other defendants or their respective directors, officers and/or managing agents, as appropriate for the particular time period alleged herein.

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17. Whenever this Complaint refers to any act or acts of Defendants, the reference also is to mean that the directors, officers, employees, affiliates, or agents of the responsible defendant authorized such act while actively engaged in the management, direction or control of the affairs of Defendants and/or by persons who either control or who are the alter egos of Defendants, or to the extent this Complaint refers to the actions of individuals, while such persons were acting within the scope of their agency, affiliation, or employment. Whenever this Complaint refers to any act of Defendants, the reference shall be deemed to be the act of each Defendant, jointly and severally.

FACTS

- 18. Defendants, either individually or collectively, have all operated as a business through designing, developing, manufacturing, selling, and/or distributing football equipment, including helmets, in one entity form or another, since 1922.
- 19. In approximately 2000, while Defendants were designing and developing the Revolution helmet, Biokenetics, a biomechanics firm hired by the NFL and later retained by Defendants, sent Defendants a report showing that no football helmet, no matter how revolutionary, could prevent concussions.
- 20. Beginning in 2002, Defendants released for sale, manufactured, sold, and/or distributed the Riddell Revolution helmet that they uniformly claimed was designed with the intent of reducing the risk of concussion.
- 21. In 2006, Defendants provided a research grant to the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center (hereinafter "UPMC") for head injury research. The study compared rates of concussions among high school athletes who wore the Revolution helmet with those who wore traditional helmets.
- 22. Defendants used this study to support their material claim that the Revolution helmet reduced concussions by 31%, despite UPMC's internal suggestion that Defendants not make such claims, as well as peer reviewed comments stating concerns that the study suffers "serious, if not fatal,

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methodological flaws." Furthermore, as published in the *Journal of Neurosurgery*, leaders in the concussion field revealed the study by UPMC was flawed in that it discounted low impact hits and in turn actually proved that the Revolution did not reduce the risk of concussions. Moreover, Defendants failed to disclose to the public that there were serious conflict of interest concerns in the development of the original UPMC study: namely, that Defendants funded the UPMC study and that Riddell's vice president of research and development was one the authors of the study.

- Despite the evidence in Defendants' possession showing that the 23. Revolution helmet could not reduce the overall risk of concussion any better than traditional helmets, and despite the continuing and mounting criticism by industry leaders, as well as Congress, relating to Defendants' promises of concussion reduction, the Defendants continued the sale, marketing, and distribution of the Revolution helmets to youth football players, high school players, college players, and schools, with the promise of "concussion reduction."
- 24. Particularly troubling is the fact that the Defendants represent the Revolution helmet as markedly safer for youth players, when in fact, they never even tested the helmet on youth players.
- 25. Throughout the Class Period and continuing to date, Defendants have marketed, advertised, sold, and disseminated the Revolution helmet as a helmet that significantly reduces concussions. More specifically, Defendants directly on their product packaging and related marketing materials, through their direct sales force, and through their retailers make the following form representations to market the Revolution helmet to which class members are exposed:
 - "Shown to reduce incidence of concussion by 31% compared to a. traditional helmets, the [helmet] utilizes an exclusive Revolution Concussion Reduction Technology that provides superior protection for players on the field."

- b. "Riddell's exclusive Concussion Reduction Technology protects young athletes against concussions and impact."
- c. "The most advanced piece of modern concussion prevention in the game today!"
- d. "Safer, more protective, and advanced frontal helmet protection designed to reduce concussions."
- e. "All Riddell Concussion Reduction technologies specifically designed to cushion to head, absorb impact, and reduce the risk of concussions by 31%, when compared to a traditional helmet."
- f. "Riddell Revolution CRT (Concussion Reduction Technology):
 Research shows a 31% reduction in concussions when used versus a traditionally designed helmet."
- g. "Riddell CRT (Concussion Reduction Technology) to keep young players safe on the field."
- h. "Riddell's Concussion Reduction Technology provides increased protection against concussions and impact."
- 26. Despite Defendants' representations and advertisements to the contrary, there is no material difference in the Revolution and other football helmets in regard to concussion prevention, and specifically not a 31% reduction as claimed. In fact, scientific studies show that the brand of football helmet makes no difference in a player's risk of concussion, and that more expensive helmets like the Revolution do not reduce concussion risk for players any more effectively than low-cost helmets. In sum, scientists have concluded (and Defendants are aware of) the realities of both physics and human anatomy, which make it unlikely that any football helmet can better reduce the chances of concussion than another helmet.
- 27. Because Defendants' claims were included in advertisements, marketing, and sales presentations, a reasonable consumer would likely be misled into believing that the Revolution helmet will reduce concussions, and may do so

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- 28. As a result of the Defendants' deceptive marketing scheme, Class members were exposed to Defendants' misleading representations and purchased Revolution helmets at the prices that they did. These Class members paid significantly higher prices for the helmet but received no meaningful benefits for that higher price.
 - 29. The Revolution helmets sell at a premium of at least an additional \$50.00 per comparable helmet. Class members who purchased a Revolution helmet have been injured in fact by Defendants' wrongful conduct.
 - 30. Plaintiff, and each Class member, has been injured in fact and suffered damage and a loss of money or property by paying more for the Revolution helmet than they would have absent Defendants' deceptive, unfair and misleading practices.
 - 31. Defendants have engaged in a conspiracy to not reveal the true facts to consumers, which conspiracy continues to this date in its operation and performance.

CLASS ACTION ALLEGATIONS

32. Plaintiff brings this class action on behalf of himself and all others similarly situated in California as members of a proposed Class defined as follows:

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All persons and entities residing in the State of California who purchased, other than for purposes of resale or distribution, a Riddell Revolution football helmet at retail in the State of California for at least the four years prior to the filing of this action through the date of class certification (the "Class Period").

Excluded from the Class are the following:

- a. All judicial officers in the United States and their families through the third degree of relationship;
- b. Defendants and any of their officers, directors, and employees, and any person or entities who has already settled or otherwise compromised similar claims against the defendant;
- c. Plaintiff's counsel, anyone working at the direction of Plaintiff's counsel, and/or any of their immediate family members;
- d. Anyone who has pending against a named defendant on the date of the Court's final certification order any individual action wherein the recovery sought is based in whole or in part on the type of claims asserted herein; and
- e. Any claims for personal injury or bodily harm.
- 33. This action is brought and may properly be maintained as a class action pursuant to Federal Rules of Civil Procedure 23(b)(2) and 23(b)(3). This action satisfies the numerosity, commonality, typicality, adequacy, predominance, manageability and superiority requirements of these rules.
- 34. The Class is so numerous that the individual joinder of all members is impracticable. While the exact number of Class members is currently unknown and can only be ascertained through appropriate discovery, Plaintiff alleges that the Class includes tens of thousands of individuals.
- 35. Common legal and factual questions exist and predominate over any questions affecting only individual Class members. These common questions, which do not vary among Class members and which may be determined without

reference to any Class member's individual circumstances, include, but are not

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suffer economic losses. Likewise, Plaintiff and other Class members must prove the same general operative set of facts in order to establish the same claims.

- Plaintiff is an adequate Class representative because he is a member 37. of the Class he seeks to represent and his interests do not materially or irreconcilably conflict with other Class members' interests. Plaintiff has retained counsel competent and experienced in consumer protection class actions, and Plaintiff and his counsel intend to prosecute this action vigorously for the Class's benefit. Plaintiff and his counsel will fairly and adequately protect the Class's interests.
- 38. The Class may also be properly maintained under Rule 23(b)(2). Defendants have acted or refused to act, with respect to some or all issues presented in this Complaint, on grounds generally applicable to the Class, thereby making appropriate final injunctive relief with respect to the Class as a whole.
- 39. The Class can be properly maintained under Rule 23(b)(3). A class action is superior to other available methods for the fair and efficient adjudication of this litigation because individual litigation of each Class member's claim is impracticable. Even if each Class member could afford to bring individual actions, the court system could not, as it would be unduly burdensome for thousands of individual cases to proceed. Individual litigation also presents the potential for inconsistent or contradictory judgments, and the risk of an inequitable allocation of recovery among those with equally meritorious claims. Individual litigation would increase the expense and delay to all parties and the courts because it requires individual resolution of common legal and factual questions. By contrast, the class action device presents far fewer management difficulties and provides the benefit of a single adjudication, economies of scale, and comprehensive supervision by a single court.

FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION

(Violation of Cal. Bus. & Prof. Code § 17200, et seq. – "Unfair" Business Acts and Practices)

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Plaintiff, individually and on behalf of the Class, incorporates by 40. reference all of the allegations contained in the preceding paragraphs of this Complaint.

- 41. Plaintiff has standing to pursue this claim on behalf of all affected persons as Plaintiff has suffered injury in fact and has lost money or property as a result of Defendants' actions, as set forth above.
- 42. Defendants' actions as alleged in this Complaint constitute "unfair" business practices within the meaning of California Business and Professions Code § 17200, et seq.
- Defendants' business practices, as alleged herein, are "unfair" because 43. they offend established public policy and/or are immoral, unethical, oppressive, unscrupulous, and/or substantially injurious to their customers. Additionally, Defendants' conduct is "unfair" because Defendants' conduct violated the legislatively declared policies not to engage in such practices based on California's False Advertising Law (Bus. & Prof. Code § 17500, et seq.) and the Consumers Legal Remedies Act (Civ. Code § 1750, et seq.). Defendants misled consumers into believing that their Revolution helmets reduced concussions by 31% when, in fact, there was no material difference in concussion protection between the Revolution brand helmets and other lower-priced helmets. Defendants concealed this material fact from consumers.
- As a result of Defendants' "unfair" conduct, Plaintiff and members of 44. the Class spent money on premium-priced Revolution helmets that they would not otherwise have spent and did not receive the increased concussion protection promised by Defendants.

- 45. Defendants' unfair business practices alleged herein constitute a continuing course of unfair competition because Defendants market and sell their products in a manner that offends public policy and/or in a fashion that is immoral, unethical, oppressive, unscrupulous, and/or substantially injurious to their customers.
- 46. Plaintiff and the Class seek an order for injunctive and equitable relief, including requiring Defendants to make full restitution and disgorgement of all monies they have wrongfully obtained from Plaintiff and the Class, along with all other relief permitted under Bus. & Prof. Code § 17200, *et seq*.

SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION

(Violation of Cal. Bus. & Prof. Code § 17200, et seq. – "Deceptive" Acts and Practices)

- 47. Plaintiff, individually and on behalf of the Class, incorporates by reference all of the allegations contained in the preceding paragraphs of this Complaint.
- 48. Plaintiff has standing to pursue this claim as Plaintiff has suffered injury in fact and has lost money or property as a result of Defendants' actions, as set forth above.
- 49. Defendants' actions as alleged in this Complaint constitute "deceptive" or "fraudulent" business practices within the meaning of California Business and Professions Code § 17200, *et seq.*, although no intent is alleged or required to establish Defendants' violation of this prong of the UCL.
- 50. Defendants' business practices, as alleged herein, are "deceptive" or "fraudulent" because they are likely to deceive consumers, including Plaintiff and members of the Class.
- 51. Defendants made material misrepresentations as stated above, failed to disclose all material information to purchasers of their Revolution helmets concerning the lack of concussion protection offered by the Revolution helmets as

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compared to less expensive helmets and affirmatively concealed the fact that there is no material difference between Revolution helmets and other lower-priced helmets in terms of concussion protection.

- As a result of Defendants' "deceptive" or "fraudulent" conduct, 52. Plaintiff and members of the Class spent money on premium-priced Revolution helmets that they would not otherwise have spent and did not receive the increased concussion protection represented by Defendants.
- 53. Defendants' business practices alleged herein constitute a continuing course of unfair competition since Defendants market and sell their products in a manner that was likely to deceive Class members.
- 54. Plaintiff and the Class seek an order for injunctive and equitable relief, including requiring Defendants to make full restitution and disgorgement of all monies they have wrongfully obtained from Plaintiff and the Class, along with all other relief permitted under Bus. & Prof. Code § 17200, et seq.

THIRD CAUSE OF ACTION

(Violation of Cal. Bus. & Prof. Code § 17200, et seq. -- "Unlawful" Business Practices)

- 55. Plaintiff, individually and on behalf of the Class, incorporates by reference all of the allegations contained in the preceding paragraphs of this Complaint.
- 56. Plaintiff has standing to pursue this claim as Plaintiff has suffered injury in fact and has lost money or property as a result of Defendants' actions as set forth above.
- 57. Defendants' actions as alleged in this Complaint constitute an "unlawful" business practice within the meaning of California Business and Professions Code § 17200, et seq., because Defendants' actions violated, inter alia, California Business and Professions Code § 17500, et seq., which proscribes

misleading advertising, and because they violated Civil Code § 1750, et seq., and the Consumers Legal Remedies Act, as alleged in this Complaint.

- 58. As a result of Defendants' "unlawful" conduct, Plaintiff and members of the Class spent money on premium-priced Revolution helmets that they would not otherwise have spent and did not receive the increased concussion protection represented by Defendants.
- 59. Defendants' business practices alleged herein constitute a continuing course of unfair competition since Defendants market and sell their products in a manner that was likely to deceive Class members and was unlawful.
- 60. Plaintiff and the Class seek an order for injunctive and equitable relief, including requiring Defendants to make full restitution and disgorgement of all monies they have wrongfully obtained from Plaintiff and the Class, along with all other relief permitted under Bus. & Prof. Code § 17200, et seq.

FOURTH CAUSE OF ACTION

(Violation of Cal. Bus. & Prof. Code § 17500, et seq. -- Misleading Advertising)

- 61. Plaintiff, individually and on behalf of the Class, incorporates by reference all of the allegations contained in the preceding paragraphs of this Complaint.
- 62. Plaintiff has standing to pursue this claim as Plaintiff has suffered injury in fact and has lost money or property as a result of Defendants' actions as set forth above.
- 63. Defendants engaged in the advertising and marketing alleged herein to the public and offered for sale Revolution helmets in California with the intent to directly or indirectly induce the sale of their Revolution helmets to consumers like Plaintiff in California.
- 64. Defendants' advertising and marketing representations regarding the superior concussion protection of their Revolution helmets were false, misleading, and deceptive as set forth in detail above. Defendants also concealed material

information from consumers about the actual level of concussion protection of their Revolution helmets as compared to less expensive helmets in their product packaging and other advertising and marketing materials.

- 65. Defendants' misrepresentations and omissions of material fact alleged herein deceived, or have the tendency to deceive, the general public regarding the benefits of purchasing the Revolution helmets.
- 66. Defendants' misrepresentations and omissions alleged herein were the type of misrepresentations that are objectively material, in that a reasonable person would attach importance to them and were intended by Defendants to induce such persons to act on such information in making their purchase decisions.
- 67. At the time they made the misrepresentations and omissions alleged herein, Defendants reasonably should have known that they were untrue or misleading and thus in violation of Bus. & Prof. Code § 17500, *et seq*.
- 68. Defendants' business practices alleged herein constitute a continuing course of unfair competition since Defendants market and sell their products in a manner that was likely to deceive Class members.
- 69. Unless restrained by this Court, Defendants will continue to engage in untrue and misleading advertising, as alleged above, in violation of Cal. Bus. & Prof. Code § 17500, *et. seq.*
- 70. As a result, Plaintiff and the Class seek injunctive and equitable relief, including full restitution and disgorgement, and all other relief permitted under Bus. & Prof. Code § 17500, *et seq*.

FIFTH CAUSE OF ACTION

(Violation of Cal. Civ. Code § 1750, et seq. -- Consumers Legal Remedies Act)

- 71. Plaintiff, individually and on behalf of the Class, incorporates by reference all of the allegations contained in the preceding paragraphs of this Complaint.
 - 72. Defendants are "persons" as defined in Cal. Civ. Code § 1761(c).

- 73. Plaintiff and members of the Class who purchased the Revolution helmet primarily for personal, family or household purposes are "consumers" as defined in Cal. Civ. Code § 1761(d).
- 74. The Revolution helmets that Plaintiff and the Class purchased from Defendants are "goods" within the meaning of Cal. Civ. Code § 1761(a).
- 75. The purchases by Plaintiff and members of the Class as set forth above of the goods sold by Defendants, alleged herein, constitute "transactions" within the meaning of Cal Civ. Code § 1761(e).
- 76. In connection with their sale of the goods in question, Defendants violated the CLRA by:
 - a. Misrepresenting to Plaintiff and members of the Class that Defendants' Revolution helmets offered 31% more concussion protection when compared to traditional helmets, when they in fact do not, in violation of Cal Civ. Code §§ 1770(a)(5), (7), (14), and (16);
 - b. Misrepresenting to Plaintiff and members of the Class that Defendants' goods had characteristics, uses and benefits they did not have, in violation of Cal. Civ. Code § 1770(a)(5);
 - c. Representing to Plaintiff and members of the Class that Defendants' goods were of a particular standard, quality, or grade, when they were of another, in violation of Cal. Civ. Code § 1770(a)(7);
 - d. Misrepresenting that their transactions with Plaintiff and members of the Class conferred benefits and rights on Plaintiff and the Class, and obligations on Defendants, which were not, in fact, conferred, in violation of Cal. Civ. Code § 1770(a)(14); and
 - e. Misrepresenting to Plaintiff and members of the Class that the subject of a transaction has been supplied in accordance with a previous representation when it had not, in violation of Cal. Civ. Code § 1770(a)(16).

- 77. In addition, under California law, Defendants had a duty to disclose to Plaintiff the actual amount of concussion protection offered by their Revolution helmets, as such material facts related to issues of safety; Defendants had superior, if not exclusive, knowledge of this information at the time of sale as compared to Plaintiff and Class members; Defendants actively concealed from Plaintiff and Class members the true amount of concussion protection offered by their Revolution helmets, which was material to customers; and Defendants made partial representations to Plaintiff and the Class that did not fully disclose the lack of additional concussion protection offered by their Revolution helmets as compared to less expensive helmets. Defendants thus also violated the CLRA by concealing material information from Plaintiff and Class members regarding the lack of additional concussion protection offered by the Revolution helmets.
- 78. Defendants' misrepresentations and omissions of material fact as alleged herein were material in that a reasonable person would attach importance to the information and Defendants intended consumers such as Plaintiff to act upon the information in making purchase decisions.
- 79. Defendants' misrepresentations and omissions of material fact were likely to mislead consumers. Plaintiff and Class members reasonably acted in response to Defendants' material representations and omissions of fact that Defendants' Revolution helmets offered 31% protection against concussions than other helmets by purchasing such helmets at a premium price, and suffered damage as a result thereof.
- 80. Plaintiff, on behalf of himself and the Class, demands judgment against Defendants under the CLRA for injunctive relief and restitution to Plaintiff and the Class, as well as an award of attorneys' fees and costs.
- 81. Pursuant to Cal. Civ. Code § 1782(a), Plaintiff has previously served Defendants with notice of their alleged violations of the CLRA by certified mail return receipt requested. If, within thirty days after the date of such notification,

Defendants fail to provide appropriate relief for their violation of the CLRA as requested in that letter, Plaintiff will amend this Complaint without leave of Court to seek both actual, compensatory, special and exemplary damages under the CLRA. Notwithstanding any other allegations in this Complaint, Plaintiff does not seek such damages in conjunction with his CLRA claim and will not do so unless Defendants do not offer full and complete relief as set forth in that notice.

SIXTH CAUSE OF ACTION

(Common Counts - Assumpsit and Quasi-Contract)

- 82. Plaintiff, individually and on behalf of the Class, incorporates by reference all of the allegations contained in the preceding paragraphs of this Complaint.
- 83. As Plaintiff and the Class show just grounds for recovering money to pay for benefits Defendants received from them, they have a right to restitution at law through an action derived from the common-law writ of assumpsit by implying a contract at law, or a quasi-contract as an alternative to a claim for breach of contract.
- 84. By virtue of the purchase and sale of the Revolution helmets, Defendants entered into a series of implied-at-law contracts that resulted in money being had and received by Defendants, either directly or indirectly, at the expense of Plaintiff and Class members under agreements in assumpsit and quasi-contract. Plaintiff and other Class members conferred a benefit upon Defendants by purchasing one of the Revolution helmets. Defendants had knowledge of the general receipt of such benefits, which Defendants received, accepted and retained.
- 85. Defendants, having received such benefits, are required to make restitution as the circumstances here are such that, as between the two, it is unjust for Defendants to retain such monies based on the illegal conduct described above. Such money or property belongs in good conscience to the Plaintiff and the Class members and can be traced to funds or property in Defendants'

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possession. Plaintiff and Class members have unjustly enriched Defendants through payments and the resulting profits enjoyed by Defendants as a direct result of such payments. Plaintiff's detriment and Defendants' enrichment were related to and flowed from the conduct challenged in this Complaint.

- An entity who has been unjustly enriched at the expense of another is 86. required to make restitution to the other. Under common law principles recognized in claims of common counts, assumpsit, and quasi-contract, as well as principles of unjust enrichment, under the circumstances alleged herein it would be inequitable for Defendants to retain such benefits without paying restitution or damages therefor. Defendants should not be permitted to retain the benefits conferred via payments by Plaintiff and Class members, and other remedies and claims may not permit them to obtain such relief, leaving them without an adequate remedy at law.
- 87. Plaintiff and Class members seek, inter alia, restitutionary disgorgement of all profits resulting from such payments. In addition, pursuant to Cal. Civ. Code § 2224, "[o]ne who gains a thing by fraud, accident, mistake, undue influence, the violation of a trust, or other wrongful act, is, unless he or she has some other and better right thereto, an involuntary trustee of the thing gained, for the benefit of the person who would otherwise have had it." Thus, based on the facts and circumstances set forth above, in order to prevent unjust enrichment and to prevent Defendants from taking advantage of its own wrongdoing, Plaintiff and the Class are further entitled to the establishment of a constructive trust of all monies charged and collected or retained by Defendants from which Plaintiff and Class members may seek equitable and legal restitution.

SEVENTH CAUSE OF ACTION

(Declaratory Relief)

88. Plaintiff, individually and on behalf of the Class, incorporates by reference all of the allegations contained in the preceding paragraphs of this Complaint.

- 89. There currently exists between the parties an actual and on-going controversy regarding the respective rights and liabilities of the parties regarding, *inter alia*, the need for Defendants to accurately disclose or correct disclosure of the actual lack of additional concussion protection offered by the Revolution helmets in question as detailed above and/or the need of Defendants to restore some or all amounts that should not have been paid by Class members based on these misrepresentations and omissions of material facts, as alleged in detail above.
- 90. Plaintiffs, members of the Class and the general public may be without adequate remedy at law, rendering declaratory relief appropriate in that:
 - a. Damages may not adequately compensate the Class members for the injuries suffered, nor may other claims permit such relief;
 - b. The relief sought herein in terms of ceasing such practices, providing full and complete corrective disclosure and/or declaring there is an obligation of Defendants to pay such monies to Class members may not be fully accomplished by awarding damages; and
 - c. If the conduct complained of is not enjoined, harm will result to Class members because Defendants' wrongful conduct is continuing, claims are unresolved, persons (primarily minors) are wearing helmets that do not provide the promised protection, and persons are entitled to the direct monies taken from them.
- 91. Class members may suffer irreparable harm if a determination of the parties' rights and obligations is not ordered.
- 92. Accordingly, Plaintiff requests the Court issue an order granting the following declaratory relief:
 - a. That a judicial determination and declaration be made of the rights of Class members and the corresponding responsibilities of Defendants;
 - b. That Defendants be ordered to provide notice in clear and conspicuous language to Class members and the public of the actual lack of

JURY TRIAL DEMAND 1 Plaintiff demands a trial of this action by a jury on all causes of action so 2 triable. 3 Dated: February 14, 2014 WHATLEY KALLAS, LLP 4 5 By: S/Alan M. Mansfield ALAN M. MANSFIELD (Of Counsel) (SBN: 125998) 6 amansfield@whatleykallas.com 10200 Willow Creek Road, Suite 160 San Diego, CA 92131 7 Tel: (619) 308-5034 8 Fax: (855) 274-1888 9 WIGGINS CHILDS QUINN & PANTAIS, 10 D. G. Pantazis, Jr. (To Apply *Pro Hac Vice*) dpantazisjr@wcqp.com 301 19th Street North 11 Birmingham, AL 35203 12 Tel: (205) Fax: (205) 314-0757 13 14 WOOD LAW FIRM, LLC E. Kirk Wood (To Apply *Pro Hac Vice*) ekirkwood1@cs.com 15 2001 Park Place North, Suite 1000 Birmingham, AL 35203 Tel: (205) 612-0243 Fax: (866) 747-3905 16 17 Attorneys for Plaintiff 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28

DECLARATION OF VENUE

designing, manufacturing, selling and distributing football equipment, including Revolution brand helmets. Riddell, Inc. ships its products, including Revolution helmets, to direct purchasers and distributors in California, maintains a direct sales force in California, sells its products in retail stores in California, and advertises its products in California.

- 2. Defendant ALL AMERICAN SPORTS CORPORATION d/b/a RIDDELL/ALL AMERICAN is a corporation organized and existing under the laws of the State of Delaware and is engaged in the business of designing, manufacturing, selling and distributing football equipment, including Revolution brand helmets. All American Sports Corporation ships its products, including Revolution helmets, to direct purchasers and distributors in California, maintains a direct sales force in California, sells its products in retail stores in California, and advertises its products in California.
- 3. Defendant EASTON-BELL SPORTS, INC. is a Delaware corporation, with a principal place of business at 7855 Haskell Avenue, Suite 200, Van Nuys, California 91406, and is a parent corporation of Riddell Sports Group, Inc. Easton-Bell Sports, Inc. designs, develops and markets branded athletic equipment and accessories, including marketing and licensing products under the Riddell brand. Easton-Bell Sports, Inc. ships its products, including Revolution brand helmets, to direct purchasers and distributors in California, maintains a direct sales force in California, sells its products in retail stores in California, and advertises its products in California.
- 4. Defendant EASTON-BELL SPORTS, LLC is the parent corporation of Easton-Bell Sports, Inc. and is incorporated in Delaware, with a principal place of business at 152 West 57th Street, New York, New York 10019. Defendant ships its products, including Revolution brand helmets, to direct purchasers and distributors in California, maintains a direct sales force in California, sells its products in retail stores in California, and advertises its products in California.

- 5. Defendant EB SPORTS CORPORATION is a Delaware corporation with its principal place of business at 7855 Haskell Avenue, Van Nuys, California 91406. Defendant ships its products, including Revolution brand helmets, to direct purchasers and distributors in California, maintains a direct sales force in California, sells its products in retail stores in California, and advertises its products in California.
- 6. Defendant RBG HOLDINGS CORP. is a Delaware corporation with its principal place of business at 7855 Haskell Avenue, Van Nuys, California 91406. Defendant RBG operates a holding company which, through its subsidiaries and affiliates, designs, develops and markets sports equipment, including Revolution brand helmets. Defendant, through its wholly owned subsidiaries and affiliates, ships its products, including Revolution brand helmets, to direct purchasers and distributors in California, maintains a direct sales force in California, sells its products in retail stores in California, and advertises its products in California.
- 7. The transactions which form the basis of this action, or a not insubstantial portion thereof, occurred in the County of San Diego insofar as the advertisement and sale of the Revolution football helmets at issue here. Plaintiff's Complaint filed in this matter contains a cause of action for violation of the Consumers Legal Remedies Act as against Defendants Riddell, Inc., All American Sports Corporation d/b/a Riddell/All American; Riddell Sports Group; Easton-Bell Sports, Inc.; Easton-Bell Sports, LLC; EB Sports Corporation and RBG Holdings Corporation.
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DECLARATION OF VENUE

JS 44 (Rev. 12/12)

CIVIL COVER SHEET

The JS 44 civil cover sheet and the information contained herein neither replace nor supplement the filing and service of pleadings or other papers as required by law, except as provided by local rules of court. This form, approved by the Judicial Conference of the United States in September 1974, is required for the use of the Clerk of Court for the purpose of initiating the civil docket sheet. (SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON NEXT PAGE OF THIS FORM.)

I. (a) PLAINTIFFS GUSTAVO GALVA	AN		DEFENDANTS RIDDELL, INC.; ALL AMERICAN SPORTS CORPORATION d/b/a RIDDELL/ALL AMERICAN; RIDDELL SPORTS GROUP; (Cont'd)		
(b) County of Residence of First Listed Plaintiff Los Angeles County (EXCEPT IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES)		NOTE: IN LAND CO	County of Residence of First Listed Defendant (IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES ONLY) NOTE: IN LAND CONDEMNATION CASES, USE THE LOCATION OF THE TRACT OF LAND INVOLVED.		
(c) Attorneys (Firm Name, Address, and Telephone Number) WHATLEY KALLAS, LLP/Alan M. Mansfield (SBN 125998) 10200 Willow Creek Road, Ste. 160, San Diego, CA 92131 Tel: (619) 308-5034		Attorneys Af Known)	Attorneys (If Known) 14 CV0359 DMS WVG		
II. BASIS OF JURISDI	CTION (Place an "X" in One Box Only)	I. CITIZENSHIP OF P	RINCIPAL PARTIES	Place an "X" in One Box for Plaintiff	
☐ 1 U.S. Government Plaintiff	X 3 Federal Question (U.S. Government Not a Party)	(For Diversity Cases Only) P Citizen of This State	TF DEF 1 Incorporated or Pri of Business In T		
☐ 2 U.S. Government Defendant	# 4 Diversity (Indicate Citizenship of Parties in Item III)	Citizen of Another State	2	Another State	
		Citizen or Subject of a Foreign Country	3 🗇 3 Foreign Nation		
IV. NATURE OF SUIT		PROPERTY OF THE PROPERTY OF TH	T DANIE/DATION/SE	OTHER STATUTES	
☐ 110 Insurance	TORTS PERSONAL INJURY PERSONAL INJURY	FORFEITURE/PENALTY ☐ 625 Drug Related Seizure	BANKRUPTCY 3 422 Appeal 28 USC 158	☐ 375 False Claims Act	
☐ 120 Marine ☐ 130 Miller Act ☐ 140 Negotiable Instrument	□ 310 Airplane □ 365 Personal Injury - □ 315 Airplane Product Liability □ 367 Health Care/	of Property 21 USC 881	☐ 423 Withdrawal 28 USC 157	☐ 400 State Reapportionment ☐ 410 Antitrust ☐ 430 Banks and Banking	
☐ 150 Recovery of Overpayment	☐ 320 Assault. Libel & Pharmaceutical		PROPERTY RIGHTS	☐ 450 Commerce ☐ 460 Deportation	
& Enforcement of Judgment 151 Medicare Act	Slander Personal Injury 330 Federal Employers' Product Liability		☐ 820 Copyrights ☐ 830 Patent	470 Racketeer Influenced and	
☐ 152 Recovery of Defaulted	Liability		☐ 840 Trademark	Corrupt Organizations 480 Consumer Credit	
Student Loans (Excludes Veterans)	☐ 345 Marine Product Liability	LABOR	SOCIAL SECURITY	☐ 490 Cable/Sat TV	
153 Recovery of Overpayment of Veteran's Benefits	Liability PERSONAL PROPERT	Y 710 Fair Labor Standards Act	☐ 861 HIA (1395ff) ☐ 862 Black Lung (923)	☐ 850 Securities/Commodities/ Exchange	
160 Stockholders' Suits	☐ 355 Motor Vehicle ☐ 371 Truth in Lending	☐ 720 Labor/Management	□ 863 DIWC/DIWW (405(g))	■ 890 Other Statutory Actions	
190 Other Contract	Product Liability	Relations	864 SSID Title XVI	☐ 891 Agricultural Acts ☐ 893 Environmental Matters	
 ☐ 195 Contract Product Liability ☐ 196 Franchise 	☐ 360 Other Personal Property Damage Injury ☐ 385 Property Damage	☐ 740 Railway Labor Act ☐ 751 Family and Medical	□ 865 RSI (405(g))	☐ 895 Freedom of Information	
	☐ 362 Personal Injury - Product Liability	Leave Act		Act	
REAL PROPERTY	Medical Malpractice CIVIL RIGHTS PRISONER PETITIONS	790 Other Labor Litigation 791 Employee Retirement	FEDERAL TAX SUITS	☐ 896 Arbitration☐ 899 Administrative Procedure	
☐ 210 Land Condemnation	☐ 440 Other Civil Rights Habeas Corpus:	Income Security Act	☐ 870 Taxes (U.S. Plaintiff	Act/Review or Appeal of	
☐ 220 Foreclosure	☐ 441 Voting ☐ 463 Alien Detainee		or Defendant) ☐ 871 IRS—Third Party	Agency Decision 950 Constitutionality of	
 □ 230 Rent Lease & Ejectment □ 240 Torts to Land 	☐ 442 Employment ☐ 510 Motions to Vacate ☐ 443 Housing/ Sentence		26 USC 7609	State Statutes	
☐ 245 Tort Product Liability	Accommodations 3 530 General		_		
290 All Other Real Property	☐ 445 Amer, w/Disabilities - ☐ 535 Death Penalty Employment Other:	IMMIGRATION ☐ 462 Naturalization Application	1		
	☐ 446 Amer. w/Disabilities - ☐ 540 Mandamus & Other		`		
	Other 550 Civil Rights 448 Education 555 Prison Condition	Actions			
	☐ 560 Civil Detainee -		i		
	Conditions of Confinement				
	in One Box Onlyj		er District Litigation		
	Cite the U.S. Civil Statute under which you are	(specify filing (Do not cite jurisdictional sta	tutes unless diversity):		
VI. CAUSE OF ACTION	I CAFA 28 U.S.C. Section 1332(d) • 2	8:1331 - Federal	Question		
VII. REQUESTED IN COMPLAINT:		DEMANDS In excess of \$5 m	CHECK YES only Illion JURY DEMAND	r if demanded in complaint:	
VIII. RELATED CAS	E(S) (See instructions): JUDGE		DOCKET NUMBER		
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2/19/14		Rel del			
FOR OFFICE USE ONLY					
DECEIPT # A	MOUNT APPLYING IEP	HIDGE	MAG. III	IDGE	

ATTACHMENT TO CIVIL COVER SHEET

I. (a) DEFENDANTS (Cont'd):

EASTON-BELL SPORTS, INC.; EASTON-BELL SPORTS, LLC; EB SPORTS CORPORATION; RBG HOLDINGS CORPORATION; and DOES 1-10, inclusive

I. (c) Attorney's (Firm name, etc.) Cont'd:

WIGGINS CHILDS QUINN & PANTAZIS, LLC D. G. Pantazis, Jr., Esq. (To Apply *Pro Hac Vice*) dpantazisjr@wcqp.com 301 19th Street North Birmingham, AL 35203 Tel: (205) 314-0557

Fax: (205) 314-0557

WOOD LAW FIRM, LLC E. Kirk Wood, Esq. (To Apply *Pro Hac Vice*) ekirkwood1@cs.com 2001 Park Place North, Suite 1000 Birmingham, AL 35203 Tel: (205) 612-0243

Fax: (866) 747-3905

VI. CAUSE OF ACTION:

Consumer Class Action for injunctive and monetary relief against company for false advertising and sale of Revolution football helmets.