| 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 | Nelson L. Atkins, Esq. (SBN 36752) Nelson atkins@gshllp.com Agnes Sullivan, Esq. (SBN 240388) Agnes sullivan@gshllp.com GONZALEZ SAGGIO & HARLAN L 3699 Wilshire Boulevard, Suite 890 Los Angeles, California 90010 Phone: (213) 487-1400 Fax: (213) 487-1402 Steven A. Zalesin, Esq. Travis J. Tu, Esq. PATTERSON BELKNAP WEBB & T 1133 Avenue of the Americas New York, New York 10036 Phone: (212) 336-2000 Fax: (212) 336-2222 | |
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| 9 | Fax: (212) 336-2222 | |
| 10 | Attorneys for Defendant The Coca-Cola | Сотрапу |
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| Attorneys for Defendant The Coca-Cola Company IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA GWEN PHELPS, individually and all similarly situated Plaintiffs, Case No | | |
| 14 | FOR THE CENTRAL DIS | STRICT OF CALIFORNIA |
| 15 | | |
| 16 | GWEN PHELPS, individually and all similarly situated Plaintiffs, | |
| 17 18 | Plaintiffs, v. | Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles Case No. BC547592 |
| 19 | THE COCA-COLA COMPANY, a Delaware Corporation, and DOES 1 through 100, Inclusive, | NOTICE OF REMOVAL |
| 20 | Defendants. | |
| 21 | Defendants. | |
| 22 | | |
| 23 | | |
| 24 | TO THE CLERK OF THIS COURT, T | ΓΟ PLAINTIFF AND HER |
| 25 | ATTORNEYS OF RECORD: | |
| 26 | Defendant The Coca-Cola Compar | ny ("Coca-Cola"), through undersigned |
| 27 | counsel and pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 133 | 32, 1441, 1446, and 1453, files this Notice |
| 28 | | |
| | | 1 |

Case 4:14-cv-00645-FJG Document 1 Filed 07/03/14 Page 1 of 9

| of Removal of the captioned action, Phelps v. The Coca-Cola Company, Case No |
|--|
| BC547592, on the docket of the Superior Court of California, County of Los |
| Angeles. The grounds for removal are set forth below: |

- 1. On or about June 3, 2014, Plaintiff Gwen Phelps commenced this action by filing a Summons and Class Action Complaint in the Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles captioned *Gwen Phelps v. The Coca-Cola Company*, Case No. BC547592.
- 2. Coca-Cola was served on June 6, 2014 by process server through an agent CT Corporation System located at 818 West Seventh Street, Los Angeles, California.
- 3. A true and correct copy of the Summons and Complaint is attached hereto as Exhibit "A".
- 4. This Notice of Removal is timely because it is filed within thirty days after service of the initial pleading on Coca-Cola. *See* 28 U.S.C. § 1446(b); *Murphy Bros., Inc. v. Michetti Pipe Stringing, Inc.*, 526 U.S. 344, 347-349 (1999).
- 5. This Court has jurisdiction under the Class Action Fairness Act of 2005 ("CAFA"), 28 U.S.C. § 1332(d), and federal diversity jurisdiction under 28 U.S.C. § 1332(a), for the reasons set forth more fully below.

PARTIES

- 6. Plaintiff Gwen Phelps alleges that she is a resident of the State of California. Compl. ¶ 4.
- 7. Defendant Coca-Cola is a Delaware corporation and has its principal offices in Atlanta, Georgia. Compl. ¶ 5.

PLAINTIFF'S ALLEGATIONS

- 8. Phelps brings this case as a purported class action under California Code of Civil Procedure section 382. Compl. ¶ 25.
 - 9. Coca-Cola produces and sells 100% orange juice under its well-known

Simply Orange brand. Coca-Cola does not admit the underlying facts as alleged by Phelps or as summarized herein and expressly denies any liability to Phelps and the putative class.

- 10. Phelps alleges that Coca-Cola's labeling and advertising for Simply Orange 100% orange juice products are false and misleading in multiple respects.
- 11. First, Phelps alleges that Coca-Cola unlawfully labels and markets its Simply Orange 100% orange juice products as "100% Pure Squeezed," "Fresh Taste Guaranteed," "100% Orange Juice," "No Water or Preservative Added," and "Honestly Simple." Compl. ¶ 11.
- 12. Second, Phelps alleges that Coca-Cola's labeling and marketing are misleading because its orange juice undergoes a "highly-engineered and unnatural process," including blending multiple batches of juice together and storing juice in silos. Compl. ¶¶ 12-14.
- 13. Third, Phelps alleges that Coca-Cola's labeling and advertising for its Simply Orange 100% orange juice products are misleading because Coca-Cola allegedly flavors these products with "flavor packs" but does not disclose the use of "flavor packs." Compl. ¶ 15.
- 14. Phelps asserts common law claims of intentional misrepresentation (Compl. ¶¶ 32-41), negligent misrepresentation (Compl. ¶¶ 42-51), and fraud (Compl. ¶¶ 52-58).
- 15. Phelps also asserts claims under the California False Advertising Act, Business and Professions Code §§17500 et seq. (Compl. ¶¶ 59-65), the California Business and Professions Code §§17200 et seq. (Compl. ¶¶ 66-79), and the California Consumer Legal Remedies Act Civ. Code §§1750 et seq. (Compl. ¶¶ 80-86).
- 16. Phelps seeks to recover on behalf of herself and a purported class of consumers consisting of "[a]ll California residents who purchased for consumption

the subject Simply Orange Products in the State of California at any time during the period of 10 years preceding the filing of the Complaint to class certification (the 'Class')." Compl. ¶ 26.

- 17. As relief, Phelps seeks compensatory and general damages, restitution and/or disgorgement, injunctive relief, payment made by Coca-Cola to a *cy pres* fund, corrective advertising, and an apology. Compl. Prayer for Relief ¶¶ 4-9.
 - 18. Phelps seeks punitive damages. Compl. Prayer for Relief ¶ 10.
- 19. Phelps seeks pre- and post-judgment interest. Compl. Prayer for Relief ¶ 11.
- 20. Phelps seeks attorneys' fees and costs and expert witness fees. Compl. Prayer for Relief ¶ 11.
- 21. Phelps seeks "all such other and further relief as the Court deems just and proper." Compl. Prayer for Relief ¶ 12.

BASIS FOR JURISDICTION UNDER CAFA

- 22. This action is removable to this Court because federal diversity jurisdiction exists over Phelps's claims pursuant to CAFA, codified in various sections of Title 28 of the United States Code including 28 U.S.C. §§ 1332(d) and 1453.
- 23. CAFA was enacted in 2005 "to enable more class actions to be removed to federal court." S. Rep. No. 109-14, at 29 (2005). Specifically, CAFA was intended to "curb perceived abuses of the class action device." *Visendi v. Bank of America, N.A.*, 733 F.3d 863, 867 (9th Cir. 2013).
- 24. This case is a putative "class action" under CAFA because it was brought under a state statute or rule, namely Cal. Code Civ. Pro. § 382, authorizing an action to be brought by one or more representative persons as a class action. *See* 28 U.S.C. §§ 1332(d)(1)(B).
 - 25. CAFA provides that a class action against a non-governmental entity

may be removed to federal court if: (a) the number of proposed class members is not less than 100; (b) any member of the proposed class is a citizen of a state different from any defendant; and (c) the aggregate amount in controversy exceeds \$5 million, exclusive of interest and costs. *See* 28 U.S.C. §§ 1332(d)(2), 1332(d)(5) & 1453(b). As set forth below, all of the requirements for removal are satisfied.

Class Size

- 26. CAFA's first requirement that the proposed class contain at least 100 members, 28 U.S.C. § 1332(d)(5), is satisfied.
- 27. Phelps's proposed class contains "[a]ll California residents who purchased for consumption the subject Simply Orange Products in the State of California at any time during the period of 10 years preceding the filing of the Complaint to class certification (the 'Class')." Compl. ¶ 26.
- 28. Phelps's Complaint acknowledges that the purported class includes "hundreds of thousands of individuals in the State of California who purchased Simply Orange Products during the relevant period." Compl. ¶ 28.
- 29. Coca-Cola's Simply Orange 100% orange juice products are mass marketed products sold in retail and food service establishments throughout the State of California.
- 30. Since June 2004, Coca-Cola has shipped well in excess of \$5 million of bottles of Simply Orange 100% orange juice to major retailers' distribution centers located in California. Declaration of Richard Villanueva ("Villanueva Declaration"), at ¶ 7 (attached hereto as Exhibit "B").
- 31. Given the volume of Simply Orange 100% orange juice products shipped to major retailers in California since June 2004 and their widespread availability throughout the state, Phelps is undoubtedly correct that hundreds of thousands of California residents have purchased Simply Orange 100% orange juice products labeled as "100% pure squeezed orange juice."

32. The size of Phelps's proposed class therefore is well in excess of 100 members and easily meets the threshold for CAFA jurisdiction.

Minimal Diversity of Citizenship

- 33. CAFA's second requirement, that any one member of the proposed class be a citizen of a state different from any defendant, 28 U.S.C. § 1332(d)(2), is satisfied.
- 34. Phelps alleges that she is a resident of California and purports to represent a class of California citizens. Compl. ¶¶ 4, 26.
- 35. Coca-Cola is not a citizen of California. Coca-Cola is a Delaware corporation and has its principal place of business in Atlanta, Georgia. Compl. ¶ 5.
- 36. The complete diversity of citizenship between Phelps and Coca-Cola not only satisfies CAFA's minimal diversity-of-citizenship requirement, but also precludes application of the "local controversy" or "home state" exceptions of 28 U.S.C. §§ 1332(d)(3) and (d)(4).

Amount in Controversy

- 37. CAFA's third requirement that the aggregate amount in controversy exceed \$5 million exclusive of interest and costs, 28 U.S.C. § 1332(d)(2), is satisfied.
- 38. Although Coca-Cola disputes liability and damages, Phelps's claims on behalf of herself and her proposed classes for monetary relief, if granted, would exceed \$5 million.
- 39. Phelps seeks money damages, disgorgement, restitution, punitive damages, and "other and further" relief at law and equity. Compl. Prayer for Relief ¶¶ 4-12.
- 40. Even if the court looks only to Phelps's claim for disgorgement, the \$5 million amount in controversy threshold is satisfied. Compl. Prayer for Relief ¶ 5.
 - 41. Coca-Cola's revenues from the sale of Simply Orange 100% orange

juice products in California since June 2004 are well in excess of \$5 million. Villanueva Declaration, at ¶ 7.

42. Phelps also alleges that putative class members are entitled to restitution, which can be calculated by looking at what putative class members have spent out-of-pocket for Simply Orange 100% orange juice. Compl. Prayer for Relief ¶ 5. Putative class members' out-of-pocket expenses for Simply Orange 100% orange juice have been well in excess of Coca-Cola's revenues because Coca-Cola's revenues are based on the wholesale price of the product and consumers typically pay the higher retail price. Villanueva Declaration, at ¶ 4.

BASIS FOR JURISDICTION UNDER 28 U.S.C. § 1332(a)

- 43. This action is also removable to this Court because federal diversity jurisdiction, 28 U.S.C. § 1332, exists over Phelps's claims against Coca-Cola brought in her individual capacity.
- 44. As discussed above, Phelps and Coca-Cola are citizens of different states. Phelps alleges that she is a resident of California (Compl. ¶ 4), and Coca-Cola is a Delaware corporation and has its principal place of business is in Atlanta, Georgia (Compl. ¶ 5).
- 45. The amount in controversy between Phelps, individually, and Coca-Cola is in excess of \$75,000. First, Phelps's request for injunctive relief places the amount in controversy in excess of \$75,000. Compl. Prayer for Relief ¶ 6. The potential costs to Coca-Cola to implement an injunction which might require Coca-Cola to design and implement new labeling and advertising for all of its Simply Orange 100% orange juice products but would certainly and easily exceed \$75,000.
- 46. Further, Phelps seeks attorneys' fees. Compl. Prayer for Relief ¶ 11; see Cal. Code Civ. P. § 1021.5 ("a court may award attorneys' fees to a successful party against one or more opposing parties in any action which has resulted in the enforcement of an important right affecting the public interest"). The potential

| 1 | availability of attorneys' fees to plaintiff further increases the amount in |
|----|---|
| 2 | controversy past the \$5 million threshold further places the amount in controversy |
| 3 | in excess of \$75,000. |
| 4 | REMOVAL PROCEDURE |
| 5 | 47. A copy of this Notice of Removal is being served upon all known |
| 6 | counsel of record, along with a copy of the Notice to the Clerk of Court for the |
| 7 | Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles, which is being filed |
| 8 | simultaneously in that Court. |
| 9 | 48. The only document that has been served upon Coca-Cola in the state |
| 10 | court action are the summons and complaint, copies of which are attached as |
| 11 | Exhibit "A". Thus, a copy of all process, pleadings, and orders served upon Coca- |
| 12 | Cola in the state court action are attached as hereto. |
| 13 | WHEREFORE, Coca-Cola respectfully removes this action from the |
| 14 | Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles (Case No. BC547592), to this |
| 15 | Court pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1332, 1441, and 1446, and 1453. |
| 16 | |
| 17 | Dated: July 3, 2014 |
| 18 | Respectfully submitted, |
| 19 | GONZALEZ SAGGIO & HARLAN LLP |
| 20 | 1 1 1 1 |
| 21 | $M_{\bullet}M_{\bullet}M_{\bullet}$ |
| 22 | By: / /////// / /////// |
| 23 | Nelson L. Atkins, Esq. Attorneys for Defendant |
| 24 | THE COCA-COLA COMPANY |
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PROOF OF SERVICE 1 [CCP 1013a; Fed. R. Civ. P. 6] 2 STATE OF CALIFORNIA SS. 3 COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES 4 I am employed in the County of Los Angeles, State of California. I am over the age of 18 and not a party to the within action; my business address is: 3699 Wilshire Boulevard, 5 Suite 890, Los Angeles, California 90010. 6 On July 3, 2014, I served the foregoing document, described as NOTICE OF REMOVAL OF ACTION UNDER 28 U.S.C. §1332(a) and 1441(b); CERTIFICATE OF INTERESTED PARTIES; CIVIL COVER SHEET in this action by placing [] the original [X]a true copy thereof enclosed in a sealed envelope with 7 8 postage thereon fully prepaid, in the United States mail at Los Angeles, California addressed as follows: Oliver A. Taillieu, Esq. Attorneys for Plaintiff 10 Gilbert Perez, III, Esq. GWEN PHELPS NATIONAL INJURY LAW FIRM LLP 11 450 North Roxbury Drive, #700 Beverly Hills, CA 90210 12 (310) 651-2441 (310) 651-2439 - Fax13 otaillieu@nationalinjurylf.com gperez@nationalinjurylf.com 14 15 [X][BY MAIL] I am "readily familiar" with the business' practice for collection and processing of correspondence for mailing with the United States Postal Service. I know 16 that the correspondence is deposited with the United State Postal Service on the same day this declaration was executed in the ordinary course of business. I know that the 17 envelope was sealed and, with postage thereon fully prepaid, placed for collection and mailing on this date, following ordinary business practices, in the United States mail at 18 Los Angeles, California. 19 [BY PERSONAL SERVICE] I delivered such envelope by hand to the offices of the П addressee. 20 [BY FEDERAL EXPRESS] I caused the above-referenced document(s) to be delivered 21 to an overnight courier service for delivery to the above address(es). 22 I declare that I am employed in the office of a member of the bar of this court at whose 23 direction the service was made. 24 DATED: July 3, 2014

K. Cockrum

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EXHIBIT "A"



DRIGINAL

SUMMONS (CITACION JUDICIAL)

NOTICE TO DEFENDANT: (AVISO AL DEMANDADO):

THE COCA-COLA COMPANY, a Delaware Corporation, and DOES 1 through 100, Inclusive

YOU ARE BEING SUED BY PLAINTIFF: (LO ESTÁ DEMANDANDO EL DEMANDANTE):

GWEN PHELPS/individually and 911 Similarly Situated Plaintiffs, FOR COURT USE ONLY (SOLO PARA USO DE LA CORTE)

FILED

Superior Court of California County of Los Angeles

JUN 03 2014

| Sherri R. Carter, Expensive Officer/Cle | rl |
|---|----|
| By Deputy | |
| Shaunya Bolden | |

NOTICE! You have been sued. The court may decide against you without your being heard unless you respond within 30 days. Read the information below.

You have 30 CALENDAR DAYS after this summons and legal papers are served on you to file a written response at this court and have a copy served on the plaintiff. A letter or phone call will not protect you. Your written response must be in proper legal form if you want the court to hear your case. There may be a court form that you can use for your response. You can find these court forms and more information at the California Courts Online Self-Help Center (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp), your county law library, or the courthouse nearest you. If you cannot pay the filing fee, ask the court clerk for a fee waiver form. If you do not file your response on time, you may lose the case by default, and your wages, money, and property may be taken without further warning from the court.

There are other legal requirements. You may want to call an attorney right away. If you do not know an attorney, you may want to call an attorney referral service. If you cannot afford an attorney, you may be eligible for free legal services from a nonprofit legal services program. You can locate these nonprofit groups at the California Legal Services Web site (www.lawhelpcalifornia.org), the California Courts Online Self-Help Center (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp), or by contacting your local court or county bar association. NOTE: The court has a statutory lien for waived fees and costs on any settlement or arbitration award of \$10,000 or more in a civil case. The court's lien must be paid before the court will dismiss the case. [AVISOI Lo han demandado. Si no responde dentro de 30 dias, la corte puede decidir en su contra sin escuchar su versión. Lea la información a continuación.

Tiene 30 DIAS DE CALENDARIO después de que le entreguen esta citación y papeles legales para presentar una respuesta por escrito en esta corte y hacer que se entregue una copia al demandante. Una carta o una llamada telefónica no lo protegen. Su respuesta por escrito tiene que estar en formato legal correcto si desea que procesen su caso en la corte. Es posible que haya un formulario que usted pueda usar para su respuesta. Puede encontrar estos formularios de la corte y más información en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California (www.sucorte.ca.gov), en la biblioteca de leyes de su condado o en la corte que le quede más cerca. Si no puede pagar la cuota de presentación, pida al secretario de la corte que le dé un formulario de exención de pago de cuotas. Si no presenta su respuesta a tiempo, puede perder el caso por incumplimiento y la corte le podrá quitar su sueldo, dinero y bienes sin más advertencia.

Hay otros requisitos legales. Es recomendable que llame a un abogado inmediatamente. Si no conoce a un abogado, puede llamar a un servicio de remisión a abogados. Si no puede pagar a un abogado, es posible que cumpla con los requisitos para obtener servicios legales gratuitos de un programa de servicios legales sin fines de lucro. Puede encontrar estos grupos sin fines de lucro en el sitio web de California Legal Services, (www.lawhelpcalifornia.org), en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California, (www.sucorte.ca.gov) o poniéndose en contacto con la corte o el colegio de abogados locales. AVISO: Por ley, la corte tiene derecho a reclamar las cuotas y los costos exentos por imponer un gravamen sobre cualquier recuperación de \$10,000 ó más de valor recibida mediante un acuerdo o una concesión de arbitraje en un caso de derecho civil. Tiene que pagar el gravamen de la corte antes de que la corte pueda desechar el caso.

| CCP 416.40 (association or partnership) CCP 416.90 (authorized person) | page of grantening as to conte | arrive de que la certe pueda dese | CITE CI CESO. | | |
|---|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------|
| The name, address, and telephone number of plaintiff's attorney, or plaintiff without an attorney, is: (El nambre, la dirección y el número de teléfono del abogado del demandante, o del demandante que no tiene abogado, es): Olivier Taillieu, 450 N. Roxbury Dr., Ste. 700, Beverly Hills, CA 90210; (310,651-2440) DATE: June 3, 2014 (For proof of service of this summons, use Proof of Service of Summons (form POS-010).) (Para prueba de entrega de esta citatión use el formulario Proof of Service of Summons, (POS-010)). NOTICE TO THE PERSON SERVED: You are served 1. as an individual defendant. 2. as the person sued under the fictitious name of (specify): under: CCP 416.10 (corporation) CCP 416.60 (minor) CCP 416.00 (authorized person) other (specify): 4. by personal delivery on (date): | | | perior Court | (Número del Ceso): | 0.0 |
| The name, address, and telephone number of plaintiffs attorney, or plaintiff without an attorney, is: (El nambre, la dirección y el número de teléfono del abogado del demandante, o del demandagte que no tiene abogado, es): Olivier Taillieu, 450 N. Roxbury Dr., Ste. 700, Beverly Hills, CA 90210; (310,651-2440) DATE: June 3, 2014 (For proof of service of this summons, use Proof of Service of Summons (form POS-010).) (Para prueba de entrega de esta citatión use el formulario Proof of Service of Summons, (POS-010)). NOTICE TO THE PERSON SERVED: You are served 1 as an individual defendant. 2 as the person sued under the fictitious name of (specify): under: CCP 416.10 (corporation) CCP 416.60 (minor) CCP 416.70 (conservatee) CCP 416.40 (association or partnership) CCP 416.90 (authorized person) other (specify): by personal delivery on (date): | Central District | | | BC3475 | 92 |
| (El nombre, la dirección y el número de teléfono del abogado del demandante, o del demandante que no tiene abogado, es): Olivier Taillieu, 450 N. Roxbury Dr., Ste. 700, Beverly Hills, CA 90210; (310,651-2440) DATE: June 3, 2014 (For proof of service of this summons, use Proof of Service of Summons (form POS-010).) (Para prueba de entrega de esta citatión use el formulario Proof of Service of Summons, (POS-010)). NOTICE TO THE PERSON SERVED: You are served 1 as an individual defendant. 2 as the person sued under the fictitious name of (specify): under: CCP 416.10 (corporation) CCP 416.60 (minor) CCP 416.20 (defunct corporation) CCP 416.70 (conservatee) CCP 416.40 (association or partnership) CCP 416.90 (authorized person) other (specify): 4 by personal delivery on (date): | 111 N. Hill Street, Los | Angeles, CA 90012 | | | 8 |
| DATE: June 3, 2014 (Fecha) (For proof of service of this summons, use Proof of Service of Summons (form POS-010).) (Para prueba de entrega de esta citatión use el formulario Proof of Service of Summons, (POS-010)). NOTICE TO THE PERSON SERVED: You are perved 1. | (El nombre, la dirección y el | número de teléfono del aboga | ndo del demandante, o del der | mandente que no tiene abogado, e | es): |
| (For proof of service of this summons, use Proof of Service of Summons (for POS-010).) (Para prueba de entrega de esta citatión use el formulario Proof of Service of Summons, (POS-010)). NOTICE TO THE PERSON SERVED: You are served 1. | Olivier Taillieu, 450 N. | | Beverly Hills, CA 90210 |); (31 0) ,651-2440 | |
| (For proof of service of this summons, use Proof of Service of Summons (for POS-010).) (Para prueba de entrega de esta citatión use el formulario Proof of Service of Summons, (POS-010)). NOTICE TO THE PERSON SERVED: You are served 1. | DATE: June 3, 2014 (Fecha) | JUN 032014 | (Segetario) | ARBO, | |
| NOTICE TO THE PERSON SERVED: You are served 1. as an individual defendant. 2. as the person sued under the fictitious name of (specify): 3. on behalf of (specify): under: CCP 416.10 (corporation) CCP 416.60 (minor) CCP 416.20 (defunct corporation) CCP 416.70 (conservatee) CCP 416.40 (association or partnership) CCP 416.90 (authorized person) other (specify): 4. by personal delivery on (date): | (For proof of service of this se | ummons, use Proof of Service | of Summons (form POS-010 |).) | |
| 1. as an individual defendant. 2. as the person sued under the fictitious name of (specify): 3. on behalf of (specify): under: CCP 416.10 (corporation) CCP 416.60 (minor) CCP 416.20 (defunct corporation) CCP 416.70 (conservatee) CCP 416.40 (association or partnership) CCP 416.90 (authorized person) other (specify): 4. by personal delivery on (date): | (Para prueba de entrega de e | | | (POS-010)). V | |
| under: CCP 416.10 (corporation) CCP 416.60 (minor) CCP 416.20 (defunct corporation) CCP 416.70 (conservatee) CCP 416.40 (association or partnership) CCP 416.90 (authorized person) other (specify): 4. by personal delivery on (date): | SEAL LOS AVE | 1. as an individual | defendant. | of (specify): | |
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| | N'c N | other (s | pecify): | | |
| | S. LOKHA | 4. L by personal deliv | very on (date): | | Page 1 of 1 |

Form Adopted for Mandatory Use Judicial Council of California SUM-100 [Rev. July 1, 2009]

SUMMONS

Code of Civil Procedure §§ 412.20, 465

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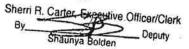
OLIVIER A. TAILLIEU (SBN 206546) otaillieu@ nationalinjurylf.com GILBERT PEREZ, III (SBN 293480) gperez@nationalinjurylf.com

NATIONAL INJURY LAW FIRM LLP

450 N. Roxbury Drive, Suite 700 Beverly Hills, California 90210 Telephone: (310) 651-2441 Facsimile: (310) 651-2439

Superior Court of California County of Los Angeles

JUN 03 2014



Attorneys for Plaintiff Gwen Phelps, individually, and all similarly situated Plaintiffs

SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, CENTRAL DISTRICT

GWEN PHELPS, individually and all similarly situated Plaintiffs,

Plaintiffs,

THE COCA-COLA COMPANY, a Delaware Corporation, and DOES 1 through 100, Inclusive,

Defendants.

BC547592

CASE NO.

CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT:

(1)INTENTIONAL MISREPRESENTATION:

(2) NEGLIGENT MISREPRESENTATION;

(3) FRAUD;

(4) VIOLATION OF THE CALIFORNIA FALSE ADVERTISING ACT, BUS. AND PROFESSIONS CODE §§17500, ET SEQ.;

(5) VIOLATION OF CAL. BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONS CODE §§17200, ET SEQ.;

(6) VIOLATION OF THE CALIFORNIA CONSUMER REMEDIES ACT, CAL. CIVIL CODE §§1750, ET SEQ.

DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL

INTRODUCTION

PLAINTIFF, GWEN PHELPS, individually, and in a representative capacity on behalf of all those similarly situated, (hereinafter "Plaintiff" and/or "Plaintiff Phelps against defendant, THE COCA-COLA COMPANY ("COCA-COLA" or "Defendant") 1 through 100, inclusive, and alleges as follows:

CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

- 1. This is an unlimited case, over which this Court has jurisdiction. The total amount of damages sought by the Plaintiffs exceeds \$25,000.
- 2. This Court has personal jurisdiction over Defendant, because at all times mentioned herein, Defendant resided in, was organized or existed in, or conducted business in the Counties of the State of California, including, but not limited to in/around the County of Los Angeles, State of California. Defendant has sufficient minimum contacts in California, or otherwise intentionally avails itself of the California market so as to render the exercise of jurisdiction over Defendant by the California courts consistent with traditional notions of fair play and substantial justice.

Moreover, this Court has jurisdiction over this action pursuant to the California Constitution, Article VI, Section 10, which grants the superior court "original jurisdiction in all other causes" except those given by statute to other courts.

3. Venue is proper in this Court because, upon information and belief, Defendant operates, has agents, and transacts business in the County of Los Angeles. Plaintiff resides in the State of California and the acts and omissions alleged herein took place in the State of California.

PARTIES

- 4. Plaintiff is, at all times referenced herein, a resident of the State of California.
- 5. Defendant, COCA-COLA, a corporation duly organized and existing under the General Corporation Law of the State of Delaware is, at all times referenced herein, a Delaware Corporation, and maintains its corporate headquarters in Atlanta, Georgia, is authorized to, and is doing business in the State of California; and Does 1 through 100, inclusive, (hereinafter collectively known as "COCA-COLA" or "Defendants."
- 6. Plaintiff brings this action individually, and on behalf of a class (as further alleged and described below) consisting of similarly situated current and former purchasers for consumption ("consumers") of the COCA-COLA product, Simply Orange.
- 7. The true names and capacities of Defendants, Does 1 through 100, inclusive, are presently unknown to Plaintiff, who therefore sues said Defendants by such fictitious names.

 Plaintiff will seek leave of court to amend this Complaint to insert the true names and capacities of

said fictitiously named Defendants when the same have been ascertained. COCA-COLA and Does 1 through 100 are collectively known herein as "Defendants".

- 8. Plaintiff is informed and believes, and thereon alleges, that each of the Defendants designated herein is contractually, vicariously or legally responsible in some manner for the events and happenings hereinafter alleged, either through said Defendant's own conduct or through the conduct of their agents, servants, consultants, joint ventures, and employees, and each of them, or in some other manner.
- 9. Plaintiff is informed and believes, and thereon alleges, that at all relevant times herein mentioned, each of the Defendants was/were the agent, representative, principal, servant, employee, partner, alter ego, joint venturer, successor-in-interest, assistant, and/or consultant of each and every remaining Defendant, and as such, was at all times acting within the course, scope, purpose and authority of said agency, partnership and/or employment, and with the express or implied knowledge, permission, authority, approval, ratification and consent of the remaining Defendants, and each Defendant was responsible for the acts alleged herein, and also negligent and reckless in the selection, hiring, and supervision of each and every other Defendant as an agent, representative, principal, servant, employee, partner, alter ego, joint venturer, successor-in-interest, assistant, and/or consultant.

BACKGROUND

- 10. Defendant, COCA-COLA is a corporation engaged in the business of, among other things, selling beverages. In connection with providing such services and products, Plaintiff is informed and believes, and thereon alleges, that COCA-COLA has marketed and sold the subject juice product(s), Simply Orange to California Consumers.
- In addition to the name, Simply Orange, COCA-COLA describes Simply Orange by such terms as: "100% Pure Squeezed," "Fresh Taste Guaranteed," "100% Orange Juice," and "No Water or Preservatives Added." Although it is anything but, it is described on the Simply

Orange website as "Honestly Simple." Moreover, the Simply Orange website states, "since the launch of Simply Orange® in 2001, we have been making orange juice simple, the way nature intended."

- 12. At all times mentioned in this Complaint, as part of an extensive and long-term advertising campaign, including, among other things, the Defendant's representations and omissions of Simply Orange Products, appear on the products themselves, on television, and the internet. Defendant has suppressed and concealed, and continues to suppress and conceal, the fact that the Simply Orange products are actually concocted via a highly-engineered and unnatural process anything but simple or natural. COCA-COLA utilizes a process known as "Black Book." Black Book is not a natural growing process, but rather, an algorithm that includes data about consumer preferences and approximately 600 flavors that make up an orange.
- 13. COCA-COLA matches flavor data to a profile detailing many of the characteristics of an orange, including orange type, acidity, sweetness, etc. COCA-COLA blends various batches to replicate the same taste and consistency.³ Incidentally, these "batches" consist of a tank full of raw juice that may be as much as eight months to a year old. Portions from multiple batches are mixed together, some newer and some older, for a "fresh" taste according to Black Book algorithms.
- 14. The original fresh-squeezed orange juice is stored in silos in Brazil and transported via a 1.2 mile underground pipeline to COCA-COLA's packaging plant, where it is flash-pasteurized. The flash-pasteurized product is then again transported via pipeline to storage tanks

http://simplyorangejuice.com/

² http://simplyorangejuice.com/our-story.jsp

http://chicagoist.com/2013/02/10/simply_orange_is_anything_but.php

⁴ Id.; Flash pasteurization treats foods and liquids at high temperatures for a short amount of time to slow microbial growth.

where it is slowly agitated and covered with a nitrogen gas blanket in effort to keep oxygen out of the product, which oxygen has been extracted to prolong spoiling.

- 15. When the juice product undergoes flash-pasteurization and oxygen extraction, the juice product is stripped of its color and flavor. Blend technicians follow Black Book specifications, by adding back into the juice natural flavors and fragrances captured during squeezing, to make up for the flavor lost in processing. COCA-COLA employs flavor and fragrance companies to engineer "flavor packs" to inject back into the juice product to make it taste fresh the same fragrance companies that formulate perfumes for such names as Dior and Calvin Klein.⁵
- 16. Merriam Webster defines "pure" as "unmixed with any other matter." It defines "fresh" as "having its original qualities unimpaired." These are two descriptions COCA-COLA uses in advertising and representing the Simply Orange products. They are blatant misrepresentations meant to mislead the consuming public. It is inconceivable that Consumers are aware that in purchasing Simply Orange for consumption, they are actually purchasing older batches of mixed product, engineered with algorithms and flavor packs, concocted via an unnatural process.
- 17. Plaintiff Phelps, and other similarly situated consumers, have, or have had in their refrigerators for consumption, a tasteless and colorless substance, that has been brought back to life via the Black Book process. The juice product is unnaturally brought back to life by being infused with fragrance and flavor concoctions. The so-called "fresh-squeezed" juice product may be in excess of eight months to a year old, in many cases. COCA-COLA does not state the true nature of Simply Orange anywhere on their web site, does not provide this engineering process in

⁵http://chicagoist.com/2013/02/10/simply_orange_is_anything_but.php

nutritional information on the products, nor in their advertisements that the Simply Orange products are anything but pure or fresh and/or engineered with Black Book technology.

- 18. During at least the last 10 years from the date of filing this complaint to now,
 Plaintiff Phelps purchased and consumed Defendant's Simply Orange Products believing and
 having been led to believe that the Simply Orange Products were pure and fresh and not created by
 a complicated and highly-technical engineering process.
- 19. During at least the last 10 years from the date of filing this complaint to approximately May 2, 2014, Plaintiff Phelps lived in California and purchased Simply Orange products in the County of Los Angeles and in the County of Alameda. Plaintiff Phelps has since stopped consuming all "100% Pure Squeezed," "Fresh Taste Guaranteed," "100% Orange Juice," and "simple, the way nature intended," Simply Orange Products after learning about Defendant's concealment and misrepresentations about the Simply Orange Products.
- 20. Plaintiff Phelps, having been exposed to Defendant's extensive and long-term advertising campaign, including Defendant's representations about the Simply Orange Products on the products themselves, on television, and the internet, purchased and consumed the subject Simply Orange Products in reliance on Coca-Cola's descriptions of the Simply Orange Products and pictorial representations of the Simply Orange Products, which led her to believe that the subject Simply Orange Products were "100% Pure Squeezed," "Fresh Taste Guaranteed," "100% Orange Juice," and "simple, the way nature intended," and not engineered from multiple batches eight months to a year old with algorithms and flavor packs, concocted via an unnatural process.
- 21. When Plaintiff Phelps purchased the Simply Orange Products, she lost money, because as a result of Defendant's misrepresentations and omissions, the subject Simply Orange Products were not of the quality or type Plaintiff reasonably believed them to be, and had she known that the subject Simply Orange Products were not what they purport to be, she would not

have consumed them, she would not have purchased them, but rather, she would have used her money to purchase truly pure and fresh orange juice products.

- Defendant's extensive and long-term advertising campaign concealed the fact that the subject Simply Orange Products are engineered from multiple batches of oranges and orange products eight months to a year old with algorithms and flavor packs, concocted via an unnatural process, led Plaintiff and members of the putative class to believe that the subject Simply Orange Products were "Honestly Simple," "100% Pure Squeezed," "Fresh Taste Guaranteed," "100% Orange Juice," and "simple, the way nature intended," and was the immediate cause of Plaintiff and members of the putative class having consumed such juice products.
- 23. In light of Defendant's representations and omissions, as alleged herein, regarding the subject Simply Orange Products, Plaintiff and members of the putative class reasonably assumed that Defendant's Simply Orange Products were "Honestly Simple," "100% Pure Squeezed," "Fresh Taste Guaranteed," "100% Orange Juice," and "simple, the way nature intended."
- 24. As a result of Defendant's false and misleading representations, in connection with Defendant's extensive and long-term advertising campaign, as alleged herein, Plaintiff and members of the putative class have suffered damages including, but not limited to, monetary loss and emotional distress caused by the fact that they were misled into consuming juice products engineered from multiple batches of oranges and orange products eight months to a year old, using algorithms and flavor packs, concocted via an unnatural and convoluted process, which were not "Honestly Simple," "100% Pure Squeezed," "Fresh Taste Guaranteed," "100% Orange Juice," and "simple, the way nature intended," even though they were represented as such.

CLASS ALLEGATIONS

25. Plaintiff brings this lawsuit as a class action on behalf of herself and all others

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similarly situated, as members of proposed subclasses pursuant to California Code of Civil

Procedure section 382. The subclasses satisfy the numerosity, commonality, typicality, adequacy,
predominance, and superiority requirements under those provisions.

- 26. The proposed class is defined as follows: All California residents who purchased for consumption the subject Simply Orange Products in the State of California at any time during the period of 10 years preceding the filing of the Complaint to class certification (the "Class"). Members of this class are referred to as "class members."
 - 27. Plaintiff reserves the right to establish subclasses as appropriate.

NUMEROSITY

28. The class is so numerous that joinder of all members is impracticable. There are hundreds of thousands of individuals in the State of California who purchased Simply Orange Products during the relevant period.

COMMON QUESTIONS OF LAW AND FACT

- 29. There are questions of law and fact common to the members of the classes, which questions predominate over any questions affecting only individual class members. Common questions include, but are not limited to the following:
- (a) Whether Defendant engaged in a pattern or practice of concealing, suppressing and/or misrepresenting the fact that the subject Simply Orange Products were engineered from multiple batches of oranges and orange products eight months to a year old, using algorithms and flavor packs, concocted via an unnatural and convoluted process, which were not "Honestly Simple," "100% Pure Squeezed," "Fresh Taste Guaranteed," "100% Orange Juice," and "simple, the way nature intended," even though they were represented as such;
- (b) Whether Defendant engaged in intentional misrepresentation of the true nature of the Simply Orange products;

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| | (c) | Whether Defendant engaged in negligent misrepresentation of the true nature of the |
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| | | |
| Simpl | y Orang | e products; |

- (d) Whether Defendant engaged in unlawful, unfair, misleading or deceptive business acts or practices;
- (e) Whether Defendant engaged in consumer fraud, deceptive trade practices, or other unlawful acts;
- (f) Whether Defendant engaged in false or misleading statements in its advertising in violation of California False Advertising Act, Business & Professions Code §§17500 et seq.;
- (g) Whether Defendant engaged in unfair business practices in violation of California Business & Professions Code §§17200, et seq.;
- (h) Whether Defendant's practice of concealing, suppressing and/or misrepresenting the fact that the subject Simply Orange Products were engineered from multiple batches of oranges and orange products eight months to a year old, using algorithms and flavor packs. concocted via an unnatural and convoluted process, which were not "Honestly Simple," "100% Pure Squeezed," "Fresh Taste Guaranteed," "100% Orange Juice," and "simple, the way nature intended," violated the California Consumer Legal Remedies Act, §§1750, et seq.; and,
- (i) Whether class members are entitled to damages including punitive damages, restitution, disgorgement of profits, and injunctive relief, and the proper measure, nature and extent of such relief.

TYPICALITY

- 30. The claims of the named Plaintiff is typical of the claims of the members of the class in that:
 - (a) Plaintiff is a member of the class.
- (b) Plaintiff's claims stem from the same practice, acts, omissions, or course of conduct that forms the basis of the class.

CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT

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- 35. Defendant knew that the representations were false when Defendant made them, or that the Defendant made the representations recklessly and without regard for their truth.
- 36. Defendant intended that Plaintiff, and other similarly situated class members, rely on the representations.
- 37. Plaintiff and the other class members reasonably relied on Defendant's representations.
- 38. Plaintiff and the other class members were financially harmed and suffered other damages including, but not limited to, emotional distress.
- 39. Plaintiff's and the other class members' reliance on Defendant's representations were the immediate cause of the financial loss and emotional distress sustained by Plaintiff and the other class members.
- 40. Defendant's misrepresentations and/or nondisclosures were the immediate cause of Plaintiff and the other class members purchasing one or more of the subject Simply Orange Products.
- 41. In the absence of Defendant's misrepresentations and/or nondisclosures, as described above, Plaintiff and the other class members, in all reasonable probability, would not have consumed the subject Simply Orange Products.

SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION

NEGLIGENT MISREPRESENTATION

(Against Defendant, and Does 1-100)

- 42. Plaintiff realleges each preceding paragraph as though fully set forth herein.
- 43. Plaintiff alleges for a Second Cause of Action against Defendant and Does 1-100, and each of them, as follows:
- 44. Defendant represented to Plaintiff and other similarly situated class members that important facts were true.

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- Defendant's representations were not true. 45.
- 46. Defendant had no reasonable grounds for believing the representations were true when Defendant made them.
- 47. Defendant intended that Plaintiff and the other class members rely on the representations.
- 48. Plaintiff and the other class members reasonably relied on Defendant's representations.
- 49. Plaintiff's and the other class members' reliance on Defendant's representations were a substantial factor in causing the financial loss and emotional distress sustained by Plaintiff and the other class members.
- 50. Defendant's negligent misrepresentations and/or nondisclosures were the immediate cause of Plaintiff and the other class members purchasing the subject Simply Orange Products they believed were "Honestly Simple," "100% Pure Squeezed," "Fresh Taste Guaranteed," "100% Orange Juice," and "simple, the way nature intended," and was the immediate cause of Plaintiff and members of the putative class having consumed such juice products, thereby sustaining monetary loss and emotional distress.
- 51. In absence of Defendant's negligent misrepresentations and/or nondisclosures, as described above, Plaintiff and the other class members, in all reasonable probability, would not have consumed the subject Simply Orange Products.

THIRD CAUSE OF ACTION

FRAUD

(Against Defendant, and Does 1-100)

- 52. Plaintiff realleges each preceding paragraph as though fully set forth herein.
- Plaintiff alleges for a Third Cause of Action against Defendant and Does 1-100, 53. and each of them as follows:

12 CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT

- 54. The misrepresentations, nondisclosures and/or concealment of material facts made by Defendant to Plaintiff and other similarly situated class members, as set forth above, were known by Defendant to be false and material and were intended by Defendant to mislead Plaintiff and the other class members.
- 55. Plaintiff and the other class members were actually misled and deceived and were induced by Defendant to purchase the subject Simply Orange Products.
- 56. Defendant's misrepresentations and/or nondisclosures were the immediate cause of Plaintiff and the other class members purchasing the subject Simply Orange Products.
- 57. In absence of Defendant's misrepresentations and/or nondisclosures, as described above, Plaintiff and the other class members, in all reasonable probability, would not have consumed the subject Simply Orange Products.
- As a result of Defendant's conduct, Plaintiff and the other class members have been damaged financially and have suffered other damages, including but not limited to, emotional distress. In addition to such damages, Plaintiff and the other class members seek punitive or exemplary damages pursuant to California Civil Code §3294 in that Defendant engaged in "an intentional misrepresentation, deceit, or concealment of a material fact known to the defendant[s] with the intention on the part of the defendant[s] of thereby depriving a person of property or legal rights or otherwise causing injury."

FOURTH CAUSE OF ACTION

VIOLATION OF THE CALIFORNIA FALSE ADVERTISING ACT, BUS. & PROFESSIONS CODE §§17500, ET SEQ.

(Against Defendant, and Does 1-100)

- 59. Plaintiff realleges each preceding paragraph as though fully set forth herein.
- 60. Plaintiff alleges for a Fourth Cause of Action against Defendant and Does 1-100, and each of them, as follows:

- 61. Defendant engaged in unfair and deceptive acts and practices, in violation of Business and Professions Code §§17500, et seq., by marketing and/or selling the subject Simply Orange Products without disclosure of the material fact that they were engineered from multiple batches of oranges and orange products eight months to a year old, using algorithms and flavor packs, concocted via an unnatural and convoluted process.
- 62. These acts and practices, as described above, have deceived Plaintiff and other class members, causing them to lose money and suffer emotional distress as herein alleged, and have deceived and are likely to deceive the consuming public, in violation of those sections.

 Accordingly, Defendant's business acts and practices, as alleged herein, have caused injury to Plaintiff and the other class members.
- 63. Defendant's misrepresentations and/or nondisclosures of the fact that the subject Simply Orange Products were engineered from multiple batches of oranges and orange products eight months to a year old, using algorithms and flavor packs, concocted via an unnatural and convoluted process, they believed were "Honestly Simple," "100% Pure Squeezed," "Fresh Taste Guaranteed," "100% Orange Juice," and "simple, the way nature intended," was the immediate cause of Plaintiff and the other class members consuming one or more of the Simply Orange Products.
- 64. In absence of Defendant's misrepresentations and/or nondisclosures, as described above, Plaintiff and the other class members would not have consumed one or more of the subject Simply Orange Products.
- 65. Plaintiff and the other class members are entitled to relief, including full restitution and/or disgorgement of all revenues, earnings, profits, compensation, and benefits which may have been obtained by Defendant as a result of such business acts or practices, and enjoining Defendant to cease and desist from engaging in the practices described herein.

FIFTH CAUSE OF ACTION

VIOLATION OF CAL. BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONS CODE §§17200, ET SEQ. (Against Defendant, and Does 1-100)

- 66. Plaintiff realleges each preceding paragraph as though fully set forth herein.
- 67. Plaintiff alleges for a Fifth Cause of Action against Defendant and Does 1-100, and each of them, as follows:
- 68. California Business and Professions Code §§17200, et seq. prohibits any "unfair deceptive, untrue or misleading advertising." For the reasons discussed above, Defendant has engaged in unfair, deceptive, untrue and misleading advertising in violation of California Business & Professions Code §§17200, et seq.
- 69. California Business & Professions Code §17200 also prohibits any "unlawful... business act or practice." Defendant has violated §§17200, et seq.'s prohibition against engaging in unlawful acts and practices by, among other things, making the representations and omissions of material facts, as set forth herein, and violating, among other things, Cal. Civ. Code §1770 of the Consumers Legal Remedies Act.
- 70. Plaintiff and the Class reserve the right to allege other violations of law which constitute other unlawful business acts or practices. Such conduct is ongoing and continues to this date.
- 71. California Business & Professions Code §§17200, et seq. also prohibits any "unfair... business act or practice." Defendant's acts, omissions, misrepresentations, practices and non-disclosures as alleged herein also constitute "unfair" business acts and practices within the meaning of Business & Professions Code §17200 in that Defendant's conduct is substantially injurious to consumers, offends public policy, and is immoral, unethical, oppressive, and unscrupulous, as the gravity of the conduct outweighs any alleged benefits attributable to such conduct. Plaintiff asserts violations of the public policy of engaging in false and misleading

advertising, unfair competition, and deceptive conduct towards consumers. There were reasonably available alternatives to further Defendant's legitimate business interests, other than the conduct described herein. This conduct constitutes violations of the unfair prong of California Business & Professions Code §§17200, et seq.

- Defendant's claims, nondisclosures, and misleading statements, as set forth above, were false, misleading, and/or likely to deceive the consuming public within the meaning of Business & Professions Code §§17200, et seq. Defendant's business acts and practices are fraudulent because they are likely to, and in fact, did deceive consumers, including Plaintiff and class members, into believing they were purchasing "Honestly Simple," "100% Pure Squeezed," "Fresh Taste Guaranteed," "100% Orange Juice," and "simple, the way nature intended," Simply Orange Products.
- 73. Defendant's misrepresentations and/or nondisclosures of the fact that the subject Simply Orange Products were originally colorless and flavorless, engineered from multiple batches eight months to a year old with algorithms and flavor packs, concocted via an unnatural process, was the immediate cause of Plaintiff and class members consuming one or more of the subject Simply Orange Products.
- As a result of Defendants' misrepresentations and omissions, Plaintiff and members of the putative class lost money or property because the subject Simply Orange Products were not of the quality Plaintiff and putative class members reasonably believed them to be, and had she known that the subject Simply Orange Products were originally colorless and flavorless, and engineered from multiple batches of oranges and orange products eight months to a year old, with algorithms and flavor packs, she would not have consumed them, she would not have purchased

them from Defendant, but rather, she would have used her money to purchase alternate items from another provider.

- 75. Defendant's conduct caused and continues to cause substantial injury to Plaintiff and the other Class members. Plaintiff has suffered injury in-fact and has lost money as a result of Defendant's wrongful conduct.
- 76. Pursuant to Business & Professions Code §§17203, Plaintiff seeks an order requiring Defendant to immediately cease such acts of unlawful, unfair, and fraudulent business practices and requiring Defendant to engage in a corrective advertising campaign.
- 77. Unless Defendant is enjoined from continuing to engage in these unfair, unlawful and fraudulent business practices, Plaintiff and the class members will continue to be injured by Defendant's actions and conduct.
- 78. Defendant has thus engaged in unlawful, unfair, and fraudulent business acts and practices, entitling Plaintiff to judgment and equitable relief against Defendant, as set forth in the Prayer for Relief, including full restitution and/or disgorgement of all revenues, earnings, profits, compensation, and benefits which may have been obtained by Defendant as a result of such business acts or practices, and enjoining Defendant to cease and desist from engaging in the practices described herein.
- 79. Plaintiff, representative of the class herein, takes upon herself enforcement of these laws and lawful claims. There is a financial burden involved in pursuing this action, the action is seeking to vindicate a public right, and it would be against the interests of justice to penalize Plaintiff by forcing her to pay attorneys' fees from the recovery in this action. Attorneys' fees are appropriate pursuant to Code of Civil Procedure §1021.5, and otherwise.

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SIXTH CAUSE OF ACTION

VIOLATION OF CAL. CONSUMER LEGAL REMEDIES ACT CIV. CODE §§1750, ET SEQ.

(Against Defendant, and Does 1-100)

- 80. Plaintiff realleges each preceding paragraph as though fully set forth herein.
- 81. Plaintiff alleges for a Sixth Cause of Action against Defendant and Does 1-100, and each of them, as follows:
- 82. Defendant, through its agents and employees, engaged in the following violations of California Civil Code §1770: Using deceptive representations in connection with goods (California Civil Code § 1770(a)(4)); Representing that goods have a characteristic that they do not have (California Civil Code § 1770(a)(5)).
- 83. The above-mentioned misrepresentations resulted in purchases by Plaintiff and the other class members.
- 84. As a result of the California Civil Code §1770 violations described herein, Plaintiff and the other class members have suffered specific and general damages.
- 85. Defendant continues to engage in the above-described deceptive practices and unless enjoined from doing so by this Court, will continue to damage consumers who will purchase its goods on the basis of its misrepresentations as herein alleged.
- 86. Defendant acted with fraud in engaging in the California Civil Code §1770 violations described herein. As a result, Plaintiff and the other class members are entitled to punitive damages.

PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff, individually and on behalf of all other members of the general public similarly situated, prays for relief and judgment against Defendant and Does 1 through 100, and each of them, jointly and severally, as follows:

(1) That this action be certified as a class action;

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CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT

That Plaintiff be appointed as the class representative;

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(2)

DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL Plaintiff hereby Demands a Trial by Jury. Dated: June 3, 2014 By:

Respectfully submitted:

NATIONAL INJURY LAW FIRM, LLP OLIVIER A. TAILLIEU

GILBERT PEREZ, III

Attorneys for GWEN PHELPS individually, and all similarly situated Plaintiffs

PHELPS v. THE COCA-COLA COMPANY

CASE NUMBER

BC547592

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CIVIL CASE COVER SHEET ADDENDUM AND STATEMENT OF LOCATION (CERTIFICATE OF GROUNDS FOR ASSIGNMENT TO COURTHOUSE LOCATION)

| This form is required pursuant to Local Rule 2.0 in all new civil case filings in the Los Angeles Superior Court. | | | | |
|--|--|--|--|--|
| Item I. Check the types of hearing and fill in the estimated length of hearing expected for this case: JURY TRIAL? ☐ YES CLASS ACTION? ☑ YES LIMITED CASE? ☐ YES TIME ESTIMATED FOR TRIAL 5-7 ☐ HOURS/ ☑ DAY | | | | |
| Item II. Indicate the correct district and courthouse location (4 steps – If you checked "Limited Case", skip to Item III, Pg. 4) | | | | |
| Step 1: After first completing the Civil Case Cover Sheet form, find the main Civil Case Cover Sheet heading for your case in the left margin below, and, to the right in Column A , the Civil Case Cover Sheet case type you selected. | | | | |
| Step 2: Check one Superior Court type of action in Column B below which best describes the nature of this case. | | | | |
| Step 3: In Column C , circle the reason for the court location choice that applies to the type of action you have checked. For any exception to the court location, see Local Rule 2.0. | | | | |
| Applicable Reasons for Choosing Courthouse Location (see Column C below) | | | | |
| Class actions must be filed in the Stanley Mosk Courthouse, central district. May be filed in central (other county, or no bodily injury/property damage). Location where cause of action arose. Location where bodily injury, death or damage occurred. Location where performance required or defendant resides. Location where one or more of the parties reside. Location of Labor Commissioner Office | | | | |

Step 4: Fill in the information requested on page 4 in Item III; complete Item IV. Sign the declaration.

| Civil Case Cover Sheet Category No. | Type of Action (Check only one) | C Applicable Reasons - See Step 3 Above |
|---|--|---|
| Auto (22) | □ A7100 Motor Vehicle - Personal Injury/Property Damage/Wrongful Death | 1., 2., 4. |
| Uninsured Motorist (46) | ☐ A7110 Personal Injury/Property Damage/Wrongful Death ~ Uninsured Motorist | 1., 2., 4. |
| Asbestos (04) | □ A6070 Asbestos Property Damage □ A7221 Asbestos - Personal Injury/Wrongful Death | 2. |
| Product Liability (24) | ☐ A7260 Product Liability (not asbestos or toxic/environmental) | 1., 2., 3., 4., 8. |
| Medical Malpractice (45) | □ A7210 Medical Malpractice - Physicians & Surgeons □ A7240 Other Professional Health Care Malpractice | 1,, 4. 1,, 4. |
| Other Personal Injury Property Damage Wrongful Death (23) | □ A7250 Premises Liability (e.g., slip and fall) □ A7230 Intentional Bodily Injury/Property Damage/Wrongful Death (e.g., assault, vandalism, etc.) □ A7270 Intentional Infliction of Emotional Distress □ A7220 Other Personal Injury/Property Damage/Wrongful Death | 1., 4. 1., 4. 1., 3. 1., 4. |

LACIV 109 (Rev. 03/11) LASC Approved 03-04

Auto

Other Personal Injury/ Property Damage/ Wrongful Death Tort

CIVIL CASE COVER SHEET ADDENDUM AND STATEMENT OF LOCATION

Local Rule 2.0 Page 1 of 4

SHORT TITLE: PHELPS v. THE COCA-COLA COMPANY

CASE NUMBER

| | A Civil Case Cover Sheet Category No. | B Type of Action (Check only one) | C Applicable Reasons - See Step 3 Above |
|--|---|---|--|
| > t | Business Tort (07) | ☐ A6029 Other Commercial/Business Tort (not fraud/breach of contract) | 1., 3. |
| ropert | Civil Rights (08) | ☐ A6005 Civil Rights/Discrimination | 1., 2., 3. |
| ury/ Pr ul Dea | Defamation (13) | ☐ A6010 Defamation (slander/libel) | 1., 2., 3. |
| nal Inj /rongf | Fraud (16) | ☑ A6013 Fraud (no contract) | 1., 2., 3. |
| Non-Personal Injury/ Property Damage/ Wrongful Death Tort | Professional Negligence (25) | ☐ A6017 Legal Malpractice ☐ A6050 Other Professional Malpractice (not medical or legal) | 1., 2., 3. 1., 2., 3. |
| | Other (35) | ☐ A6025 Other Non-Personal Injury/Property Damage tort | 2.,3. |
| ment | Wrongful Termination (36) | □ A6037 Wrongful Termination | 1., 2., 3. |
| Employment | Other Employment (15) | □ A6024 Other Employment Complaint Case □ A6109 Labor Commissioner Appeals | 1., 2., 3. 10. |
| | Breach of Contract/ Warranty (06) (not insurance) | □ A6004 Breach of Rental/Lease Contract (not unlawful detainer or wrongful eviction) □ A6008 Contract/Warranty Breach -Seller Plaintiff (no fraud/negligence) □ A6019 Negligent Breach of Contract/Warranty (no fraud) □ A6028 Other Breach of Contract/Warranty (not fraud or negligence) | 2., 5. 2., 5. 1., 2., 5. 1., 2., 5. |
| Contract | Collections (09) | □ A6002 Collections Case-Seller Plaintiff □ A6012 Other Promissory Note/Collections Case | 2., 5., 6. 2., 5. |
| | Insurance Coverage (18) | ☐ A6015 Insurance Coverage (not complex) | 1., 2., 5., 8. |
| 340 | Other Contract (37) | □ A6009 Contractual Fraud □ A6031 Tortious Interference □ A6027 Other Contract Dispute(not breach/insurance/fraud/negligence) | 1., 2., 3., 5. 1., 2., 3., 5. 1., 2., 3., 8. |
| | Eminent Domain/Inverse Condemnation (14) | □ A7300 Eminent Domain/Condemnation Number of parcels | 2. |
| operty | Wrongful Eviction (33) | □ A6023 Wrongful Eviction Case | 2., 6. |
| ⁄ ⊜ © Real Pr | Other Real Property (26) | □ A6018 Mortgage Foreclosure □ A6032 Quiet Title □ A6060 Other Real Property (not eminent domain, landlord/tenant, foreclosure) | 2., 6. 2., 6. 2., 6. |
| ⊕ 3 5 | Unlawful Detainer-Commercial (31) | ☐ A6021 Unlawful Detainer-Commercial (not drugs or wrongful eviction) | 2., 6. |
| ₹ / ul Detain | Unlawful Detainer-Residential (32) | ☐ A6020 Unlawful Detainer-Residential (not drugs or wrongful eviction) | 2., 6. |
| $\mathbb{T} \odot \mathbb{C} 	imes \mathbb{Z}$ Unlawful Detainer | Unlawful Detainer- Post-Foreclosure (34) | ☐ A6020F Unlawful Detainer-Post-Foreclosure | 2., 6.: |
| n 4 | Unlawful Detainer-Drugs (38) | □ A6022 Unlawful Detainer-Drugs | 2., 6. |

LACIV 109 (Rev. 03/11) LASC Approved 03-04

CIVIL CASE COVER SHEET ADDENDUM AND STATEMENT OF LOCATION

Local Rule 2.0 Page 2 of 4 SHORT TITLE: PHELPS v. THE COCA-COLA COMPANY

CASE NUMBER

| | A Civil Case Cover Sheet Category No. | B Type of Action (Check only one) | C Applicable Reasons - See Step 3 Above |
|-----------------------------------|---|--|--|
| | Asset Forfeiture (05) | ☐ A6108 Asset Forfeiture Case | 2., 6. |
| view | Petition re_Arbitration (11) | □ A6115 Petition to Compel/Confirm/Vacate Arbitration | 2., 5. |
| Judiciał Review | Writ of Mandate (02) | □ A6151 Writ - Administrative Mandamus □ A6152 Writ - Mandamus on Limited Court Case Matter □ A6153 Writ - Other Limited Court Case Review | 2., 8. |
| · | Other Judicial Review (39) | □ A6150 Other Writ /Judicial Review | 2., 8. |
| io | Antitrust/Trade Regulation (03) | □ A6003 Antitrust/Trade Regulation | 1., 2., 8, |
| Litigat | Construction Defect (10) | □ A6007 Construction Defect | 1., 2., 3. |
| Provisionally Complex Litigation | Claims Involving Mass Tort (40) | □ A6006 Claims Involving Mass Tort | 1., 2., 8. |
| Illy Co | Securities Litigation (28) | □ A6035 Securities Litigation Case | 1., 2., 8. |
| visiona | Toxic Tort Environmental (30) | ☐ A6036 Toxic Tort/Environmental | 1., 2., 3., 8. |
| Pro | Insurance Coverage Claims from Complex Case (41) | ☐ A6014 Insurance Coverage/Subrogation (complex case only) | 1., 2., 5., 8. |
| Enforcement of Judgment | Enforcement of Judgment (20) | □ A6141 Sister State Judgment □ A6160 Abstract of Judgment □ A6107 Confession of Judgment (non-domestic relations) □ A6140 Administrative Agency Award (not unpaid taxes) □ A6114 Petition/Certificate for Entry of Judgment on Unpaid Tax □ A6112 Other Enforcement of Judgment Case | 2., 9. 2., 6. 2., 9. 2., 8. 2., 8. 2., 8., 9. |
| s | RICO (27) | □ A6033 Racketeering (RICO) Case | 1., 2., 8. |
| Miscellaneous Civil Complaints | Other Complaints (Not Specified Above) (42) | □ A6030 Declaratory Relief Only □ A6040 Injunctive Relief Only (not domestic/harassment) □ A6011 Other Commercial Complaint Case (non-tort/non-complex) □ A6000 Other Civil Complaint (non-tort/non-complex) | 1., 2., 8. 2., 8. 1., 2., 8. 1., 2., 8. |
| o | Partnership Corporation Governance (21) | ☐ A6113 Partnership and Corporate Governance Case | 2., 8. |
| Miscellaneous' | Other Petitions (Not Specified Above) (43) | □ A6121 Civil Harassment □ A6123 Workplace Harassment □ A6124 Elder/Dependent Adult Abuse Case □ A6190 Election Contest □ A6110 Petition for Change of Name | 2., 3., 9. 2., 3., 9. 2., 3., 9. 2. |
| | 11. | □ A6170 Petition for Relief from Late Claim Law □ A6100 Other Civil Petition | 2., 3., 4., 8. 2., 9. |

LACIV 109 (Rev. 03/11) LASC Approved 03-04 CIVIL CASE COVER SHEET ADDENDUM AND STATEMENT OF LOCATION

Local Rule 2.0 Page 3 of 4

| SHORT TITLE: PHELPS v. THE COCA-COLA COMPANY | CASE NUMBER |
|--|-------------|

Item III. Statement of Location: Enter the address of the accident, party's residence or place of business, performance, or other circumstance indicated in Item II., Step 3 on Page 1, as the proper reason for filing in the court location you selected.

| REASON: Check the appropriate boxes for the numbers shown under Column C for the type of action that you have selected for this case. | | | ADDRESS: 818 West Seventh Street 2nd Floor |
|---|---|------------------|---|
| CITY: | STATE: | ZIP CODE: | |
| Los Angeles | CA | 90017 | 8 |
| and correct and that the | above-entitled matter District of the Superior (| is properly file | erjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing is true of for assignment to the Stanley Mosk courthouse in the nia, County of Los Angeles [Code Civ. Proc., § 392 et seq., and Local |
| | | | |

PLEASE HAVE THE FOLLOWING ITEMS COMPLETED AND READY TO BE FILED IN ORDER TO PROPERLY COMMENCE YOUR NEW COURT CASE:

- 1. Original Complaint or Petition.
- 2. If filing a Complaint, a completed Summons form for issuance by the Clerk.
- 3. Civil Case Cover Sheet, Judicial Council form CM-010.
- Civil Case Cover Sheet Addendum and Statement of Location form, LACIV 109, LASC Approved 03-04 (Rev. 03/11).
- 5. Payment in full of the filing fee, unless fees have been waived.
- A signed order appointing the Guardian ad Litem, Judicial Council form CIV-010, if the plaintiff or petitioner is a minor under 18 years of age will be required by Court in order to issue a summons.
- 7. Additional copies of documents to be conformed by the Clerk. Copies of the cover sheet and this addendum must be served along with the summons and complaint, or other initiating pleading in the case.

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LACIV 109 (Rev. 03/11) LASC Approved 03-04 CIVIL CASE COVER SHEET ADDENDUM AND STATEMENT OF LOCATION

Local Rule 2.0

Page 4 of 4

| | | | CM-010 | |
|--|--|---|--|--|
| ATTORNEY OR PARTY WITHOUT ATTORNEY (Name, State Bar number, and address): Olivier A. Taillieu (SBN 206546) / Gilbert Perez, III (SBN 293480) NATIONAL INJURY LAW FIRM LLP | | | FOR COURT USE ONLY | |
| 450 N. Roxbury Drive, Suite 700 | | | | |
| Beverly Hills, ČA 90210 TELEPHONE NO.: (310) 651-2440 FAX NO.: (310) 651-2439 | | | FILED | |
| ATTORNEY FOR (Name): Plaintiff GWEN PHELPS | | Superior Court of California County of Los Angeles | | |
| SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES STREET ADDRESS: 111 N. Hill Street MAILING ADDRESS: | | | JUN 9 3 2014 | |
| CITY AND ZIP CODE: Los Angeles, CA 90012 | | Sherri R. Carter, Expensive Officer/Clerk | | |
| BRANCH NAME: Central District - Stanley Mosk Courthouse | | | By Deputy | |
| CASE NAME: GWEN PHELPS v. THE COCA-COLA COMPANY | | Shaunya Bolden | | |
| CIVIL CASE COVER SHEET | Complex Case Designation | | CASE NUMBER: | |
| Unlimited Limited | Counter Joinder | - | BC547592 | |
| (Amount (Amount demanded is | Filed with first appearance by defen | ndant | JUDGE: | |
| exceeds \$25,000) \$25,000 or less) | (Cal. Rules of Court, rule 3.402 | | DEPT: | |
| Items 1–6 below must be completed (see instructions on page 2). | | | | |
| 1. Check one box below for the case type that | | | | |
| Auto Tort | Contract Breach of contract/warranty (06) | | ionally Complex Civil Litigation | |
| Auto (22) Uninsured motorist (46) | Rule 3.740 collections (09) | | Antitrust/Trade regulation (03) | |
| Other PI/PD/WD (Personal Injury/Property | Other collections (09) | | Construction defect (10) | |
| Damage/Wrongful Death) Tort | Insurance coverage (18) | | Mass tort (40) | |
| Asbestos (04) | Other contract (37) | | Securities litigation (28) | |
| Product liability (24) | Real Property | | Environmental/Toxic tort (30) | |
| Medical malpractice (45) | Eminent domain/Inverse | | Insurance coverage claims arising from the | |
| Other PI/PD/WD (23) | condemnation (14) | | above listed provisionally complex case types (41) | |
| Non-PI/PD/WD (Other) Tort | Wrongful eviction (33) | | | |
| Business tort/unfair business practice (07 | • | | rement of Judgment | |
| Civil rights (08) | Unlawful Detainer | | Enforcement of judgment (20) | |
| Defamation (13) Fraud (16) | Commercial (31) Residential (32) | | laneous Civil Complaint | |
| Intellectual property (19) | Drugs (38) | | RICO (27) | |
| Professional negligence (25) | Judicial Review | | Other complaint (not specified above) (42) | |
| Other non-PI/PD/WD (ort (35) | Asset forfeiture (05) | | laneous Civil Petition | |
| Employment | Petition re: arbitration award (11) | _ | Partnership and corporate governance (21) Other petition (not specified above) (43) | |
| Wrongful termination (36) | Writ of mandate (02) | | Other peddon (not specified above) (43) | |
| Other employment (15) | Other judicial review (39) | | | |
| 2. This case is complex under rule 3.400 of the California Rules of Court. If the case is complex, mark the factors requiring exceptional judicial management: | | | | |
| a. Large number of separately represented parties d. Large number of witnesses | | | | |
| b. Extensive motion practice raising difficult or novel e. Coordination with related actions pending in one or more courts | | | | |
| issues that will be time-consuming to resolve in other counties, states, or countries, or in a federal court | | | | |
| c. Substantial amount of documentary evidence f. Substantial postjudgment judicial supervision | | | | |
| Remedies sought (check all that apply): a. monetary b. nonmonetary; declaratory or injunctive relief c. punitive when the sought (check all that apply): a. when the sought (check all that apply | | | | |
| 5. This case is is not a cla | | ion or | CA Bus. & Prof. Codes | |
| 6. If there are any known related cases, file | | may us | se form CM-015) | |
| Date: June 3, 2014 | 7 | , i | | |
| Gilbert Perez, III | • | / | ストール | |
| (SIGNATURE OF PARTY OR ATTORNOY FOR PARTY) | | | | |
| NOTICE NOTICE | | | | |
| • Plaintiff must file this cover sheet with the first paper filed in the action or proceeding (except small claims cases or cases filed under the Probate Code, Family Code, or Welfare and Institutions Code). (Cal. Rules of Court, rule 3.220.) Failure to file may result in sanctions. | | | | |
| File this cover sheet in addition to any cover sheet required by local court rule. | | | | |
| • If this case is complex under rule 3.400 et seq. of the California Rules of Court, you must serve a copy of this cover sheet on all | | | | |
| other parties to the action or proceeding. • Unless this is a collections case under rule 3.740 or a complex case, this cover sheet will be used for statistical purposes only. Page 1 of 2 | | | | |
| Page 1 of 2 | | | | |

Form Adopted for Mandatory Use Judicial Council of California CM-010 [Rev. July 1, 2007]

CIVIL CASE COVER SHEET

Cel. Rules of Court, rules 2.30, 3.220, 3.400–3.403, 3.740,
Cal. Standards of Judicial Administration, sld. 3.10
www.courtinfo.ca.gov

EXHIBIT "B"

| IN THE UNITED STAT | TES DISTRICT COURT | | | |
|--|---|--|--|--|
| FOR THE CENTRAL DIS | STRICT OF CALIFORNIA | | | |
| | | | | |
| GWEN PHELPS, individually and all similarly situated Plaintiffs. | Case No. | | | |
| Plaintiffs, | Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles Case No. BC547592 | | | |
| | Declaration in Commont of | | | |
| Corporation, and DOES 1 through 100, | Declaration in Support of Notice of Removal | | | |
| | * | | | |
| Defendants. | | | | |
| DECLARATION OF DE | CHARD VIII I AMURYA | | | |
| IN SUPPORT OF COCA-COL | A'S NOTICE OF REMOVAL | | | |
| I, Richard Villanueva, declare under penalty of pe | erjury as follows. | | | |
| I am Finance Director for the Minute Mai | d Rusiness Unit of The Coca-Cola Company | | | |
| ("Coca-Cola"), which sells the Simply Orange brand of 100% orange juice products. I submit | | | | |
| | | | | |
| | | | | |
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| | | | | |
| | | | | |
| | | | | |
| | | | | |
| | receding the filing of the complaint, that is, | | | |
| since June 3, 2004. | | | | |
| 3. I was asked by counsel for Coca-Cola to a | scertain whether Coca-Cola's revenues from th | | | |
| | GWEN PHELPS, individually and all similarly situated Plaintiffs, Plaintiffs, V. THE COCA-COLA COMPANY, a Delaware Corporation, and DOES 1 through 100, Inclusive, Defendants. DECLARATION OF RIIN SUPPORT OF COCA-COL I, Richard Villanueva, declare under penalty of performing the model of the Minute Main ("Coca-Cola"), which sells the Simply Orange be this declaration based upon my personal knowledge of Removal. 2. I understand that the plaintiff alleges, among Squeezed Orange Juice" on labels and in advertise products is false and misleading in violation of street seeking to recover on behalf of herself and a purpurchased Simply Orange juice products, labeled Orange Juice," at any time during the ten years pusince June 3, 2004. | | | |

sale of Simply Orange 100% orange juice in California from June 2004 to present have exceeded \$5 million.

- 4. Coca-Cola's revenue from the sale of Simply Orange 100% orange juice products comes primarily from sales to retailers such as grocery, convenience, and "big box" stores, which pay Coca-Cola a wholesale price to carry these products. Typically, retailers then apply a "mark up" and sell the products to consumers at a higher retail price.
- 5. Coca-Cola does not maintain records of every individual consumer who purchases Simply Orange 100% orange juice. Nor does Coca-Cola maintain records that enable it to know with certainty whether a consumer who purchases Simply Orange juice is a citizen of California or any other state. Nevertheless, Coca-Cola does keep records of how much Simply Orange 100% orange juice is shipped to major retailers in each state and the wholesale prices paid by those retailers.
- 6. Using these records, I am able to determine the quantity of Simply Orange 100% orange juice products shipped to major retailers in California between June 2004 and June 2014, as well as the revenue that Coca-Cola received from those sales.
- 7. From June 3, 2004 through June 3, 2014, Coca-Cola shipped well in excess of \$5 million of bottles of Simply Orange 100% orange juice to major retailers' distribution centers in California. Coca-Cola's revenue from the sale of Simply Orange 100% orange juice products to these key California retailers was also well in excess of \$5 million.
- 8. I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed this 2nd day of July 2014 in Sugar Land, Texas.

Richard Villanueva