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| 9 | UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT | |
| 10 | WOODSON WOOD IR on behalf Case No.: | |
| 11 | WOODSON WOOD, JR., on behalf | CV1.3 - 6591 () |
| 12 | of himself, all others similarly | CLASS ACTION |
| 13 | situated and the general public, | COMPLAINT FOR: |
| 14 | Plaintiff, | 1. VIOLATION OF CALIFORNIA |
| 15 | V. | CONSUMERS LEGAL REMEDIES ACT [CIV. CODE §§ 1750, et seq.] |
| 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 | NATURE'S WAY PRODUCTS, INC., a Utah corporation; NATURE'S WAY PRODUCTS, LLC, a Wisconsin limited liability company; SCHWABE, NORTH AMERICA, INC., a Wisconsin corporation, and NATURE'S WAY HOLDING COMPANY, LLC, a Utah limited liability company, | VIOLATION OF CALIFORNIA UNFAIR COMPETITION LAW [BUS. & PROF. CODE §§ 17200, et seq.] VIOLATION OF CALIFORNIA FALSE ADVERTISING LAW [BUS & PROF. CODE §§ 17500, et seq] BREACH OF EXPRESS WARRANTY |
| 23 | Defendants. | 5. BREACH OF IMPLIED WARARANTY OF MERCHANTABILITY |
| 25 | | 6. VIOLATION OF THE MAGNUSON-MOSS WARRANTY ACT [15 U.S.C. §§ 2301, et. seq.] |
| 26 27 | | DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL |
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| | | Way Products, Inc. ON COMPLAINT |

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Plaintiff, on behalf of himself, all others similarly situated, and the general public ("Plaintiff"), alleges against Defendants Nature's Way Products, Inc., Nature's Way Products LLC, Schwabe North America Inc., Nature's Way Holding Company, LLC and (collectively "Defendants") the following upon his own knowledge, or where there is no personal knowledge, upon information and belief and the investigation of counsel:

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

- 1. This Court has original jurisdiction pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1332(d)(2)(A), as amended by the Class Action Fairness Act of 2005, because the matter in controversy, exclusive of interest and costs, exceeds the sum or value of \$5,000,000.00 and is a class action where Plaintiff, members of the class, are from a different state than Defendants. Further, all other members of the class are citizens of a state different from the Defendants.
- 2. This Court also has subject matter jurisdiction pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1332(a)(1) because Plaintiff and the putative class are citizens of the State of California, Defendants are residents of the States of Utah and Wisconsin, and the amount in controversy exceeds the sum or value of \$75,000, exclusive of interest and costs.
- 3. Personal jurisdiction is derived from the fact that Defendants conduct business within the State of California and within this judicial district.
- 4. Venue is proper within this district pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1391(b)(2) because many of the acts and transactions, occurred in this district and because Defendants:
 - (i) are authorized to conduct business in this district and have intentionally availed themselves of the laws and markets within this district through the promotion, marketing, distribution and sale of their products in this district;

- (ii) do substantial business in this district;
- (iii) advertise to consumers residing in this district; and,
- (iv) are subject to personal jurisdiction in this district.

THE PARTIES

- 5. At all times relevant to this matter, Plaintiff Wood was a resident of Sacramento, California.
- 6. On information and belief, at all times relevant to this matter, Defendant Nature's Way Products, Inc. was a Wisconsin corporation and the "Labeler" of the products at issue in this action, as listed on the National Drug Code Directory.
- 7. On information and belief, at all times relevant to this matter, Defendant Nature's Way Holding Company, LLC was a Utah limited liability company and the "Labeler" of the products at issue in this action, as listed on the National Drug Code Directory.
- 8. On information and belief, at all times relevant to this matter, Defendant Nature's Way Products, LLC was a Wisconsin limited liability company that maintains its principal place of business, corporate headquarters, and residence in Green Bay, Wisconsin. (The Nature's Way Defendants listed above are hereafter collectively referred to as "Nature's Way.")
- 9. On information and belief, at all times relevant to this matter, Nature's Way was the wholly owned subsidiary of Defendant Schwabe, North America, Inc. ("Schwabe").
- 10. On information and belief, at all times relevant to this matter, Defendant Schwabe was a Wisconsin corporation, with its principal place of business in Green Bay, Wisconsin.
 - 11. Members of the putative class are citizens of California.

- 12. Defendants are the manufacturers and sellers of products under the ("B&T") name brand.
- 13. Defendants produce, market, and sell the B&T brand products throughout the United States, including California. Until 2004, B&T's headquarters were in Santa Rosa, California.
- 14. Plaintiff is informed and believes and thereon alleges that at all times herein mentioned the Defendants and Defendants' employees were the agents, servants and employees of the Defendants, acting within the purpose and scope of that agency and employment.
- 15. Defendants advertise, market, distribute and sell homeopathic products throughout California and the United States. This complaint concerns Defendants' sales of B&T homeopathic products known as Cough & Bronchial Daytime Syrup and Children's Cough & Bronchial Syrup (collectively, the "Products"). Exhibit 1 to this Complaint has a more through description of the Products, including pictures.
- 16. During the class period, Defendants regularly and continually targeted California consumers for sales of its Products, and derived substantial sales revenue from doing business within the forum and throughout this state. For example, the Products are available for sale to California consumers through their significant on-the-shelf presence in numerous stores in this forum and throughout this state.
- 17. Defendants' website is also aimed at a California audience, and offers consumers who input their zip code direct links to stores within this State that sell the Products, with the goal of exploiting California's substantial customer base for purposes of financial gain. *See* www.naturesway.com/Products/Our-Brands/Boericke-Tafel.aspx (last visited July 16, 2013).

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- 18. Defendants' packaging and labeling of the B&T Products are uniform throughout the United States.
- 19. Based on all facts available to Plaintiff at this time, personal jurisdiction is present over Defendants in this forum. See Snowey v. Harrah's Entm't, 35 Cal. 4th 1054, 1065-66 (2005) (defendants' purposeful and successful solicitation of business within California, including their extensive promotional efforts to advertise Nevada hotels in California through billboards, newspapers, mailings and radio and television stations located in California, coupled with defendants' web site that specifically targeted California residents, was sufficient to establish purposeful availment); see also Coremetrics, Inc. v. Atomic Park.com, LLC, 370 F. Supp. 2d 1013, 1017 (N.D. Cal. 2005) (economic reality of defendant's conduct within forum state should be focus of analysis for general jurisdiction, which includes consideration of factors such as defendant's solicitation of business aimed at forum state, the percentage of revenue the nonresident defendant derived from sales within the forum, the number of sales made by the non-resident defendant in the forum, and whether the solicitation is regularly conducted and specifically targeted the forum market).

BACKGROUND FACTS

- 20. Homeopathy seeks to stimulate the body's ability to heal itself by giving very small doses of highly diluted substances. However, there is "little evidence" that homeopathy is effective, much less that people understand homeopathic dilution principles. *See* nccam.nih.gov/sites/nccam.nih.gov/files/homeopathy.pdf.
- 21. Homeopathy is premised on two main principles; the principle of similars and the principle of dilutions. Under the "principle of similars" a disease can be cured by a substance that produces similar symptoms in healthy people. *Id.* Thus, homeopathic drugs are intended to work by causing "aggravation," or a

temporary worsening of symptoms initially, a fact that is not communicated to consumers. *See id*.

- 22. Under the "principle of dilutions" the more diluted an ingredient is, the more effective it becomes. *Id.* This is paradoxical, however, and contrary to scientific principles, notably chemistry and physics. *Id.*
- 23. Further, in highly diluted remedies, there is a very low probability that even a single molecule of the original substance is present in the product. For example, the potency of the "active ingredients" in the Products, or dilution levels, are marked by "X". The dilution ratio of 1X is one part of the original mother tincture to one million parts of the diluting material or 1 to 1,000. Accordingly, 6X is three parts to 1,000,000. "C" potencies are even more diluted than "X" potencies.
- 24. Homeopathic remedies are not marketed and sold in the United States in the same manner as when they first originated, approximately 200 years ago. When homeopathic drugs first originated, people would typically consult with a licensed homeopathic practitioner, who would compound his or her own homeopathic remedy, or provide a prescription to the patient. Food and Drug Administration ("FDA") Compliance Policy Guide ("CPG") § 400.400.
- 25. Also, historically, homeopathic drugs were not labeled and there was no direct-to-consumer advertising. *Id.* Instead, homeopathic remedies were primarily marketed to licensed homeopathic practitioners. *Id.*
- 26. There was good reason for this historical practice: Homeopathic drugs are intended to be "individualized" or tailored to each person—it is not uncommon for different people with the same condition to receive different treatments." nccam.nih.gov/sites/nccam.nih.gov/files/ homeopathy.pdf.

- 27. Now, however, a one-size-fits-all combination homeopathic remedies are marketed directly to consumers in the over-the-counter ("OTC") aisles of major retail stores. CPG § 400.400.
- 28. "Today the homeopathic drug market has grown to become a multimillion dollar industry in the United States, with a significant increase shown in the importation and domestic marketing of homeopathic drug products." *Id*.
- 29. Health care costs in the United States reached almost \$2.6 trillion in 2010, with 10% of that amount spent on retail and prescription drugs. www.kaiseredu.org/issue-modules/us-health-care-costs/background-brief.aspx.

But unless drug manufacturers disclose the complete truth to consumers, consumers are unable to make informed decisions about where to spend their limited healthcare dollars. *See id.*

- 30. Most consumers who purchase homeopathic drugs in the OTC aisles of retail stores are unaware of homeopathic dilution principles, and are merely seeking a natural alternative to prescription or other OTC non-homeopathic (i.e., allopathic) drugs.
- 31. Accordingly, the homeopathic drug industry, including Defendants, strives to market its wares as natural, safe, and effective alternatives to prescription and non-homeopathic OTC drugs. But this latter category of drugs, which are all allopathic, have undergone rigorous scrutiny by the FDA and its appointed scientific committees.
- 32. In contrast, homeopathic drugs, including the Products, undergo no FDA approval of efficacy or labeling claims, a material fact that is not communicated to the Products' purchasers. *See* labels.fda.gov/.
- 33. Indeed, the FDA, itself, has publicly stated it is aware of no scientific evidence that homeopathy is effective, another material fact that is not disclosed to purchasers of Defendants' Products. *See id*

Defendants have sought to capitalize on consumer confusion of the

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- true nature of homeopathic drugs, by not mentioning how hyper-diluted their drugs are, and attempting to portray the products as science backed products similar to the OTC allopathic drugs next to which they are now marketed in chain retail stores. *See* Ex. 1 (March 4, 2002 Chain Drug Review article, *Key to Driving Sales: Location, Location, Location*, quoting B&T executive, marketing director Susan Backer, stating "We find the most effective way to reach people is not by getting into the cumbersome ins and outs of how homeopathy functions, but by conveying the message that it truly works -- that they are getting effective medications backed by science.").
- 35. Defendants' changed marketing strategy of downplaying the true nature of homeopathy is in direct contrast to how B&T formerly marketed its drugs by using an insert with each drug package that explained the principles of dilution and Law of Similars observed by homeopathy and homeopathic drugs. *See id.* (June 7, 1999 Chain Drug Review article, *Boericke & Tafel Goes Mass*, quoting President and CEO, Phil Maez, stating that first line of B&T products for the mass drug market would "come with a brochure explaining homeopathy and how it can work in conjunction with allopathic (traditional) medications"). Defendants abandoned use of this informational brochure once they determined it was negatively impacting sales and heightened consumer awareness of the difference between homeopathic drugs and allopathic drugs, something Defendants admittedly no longer wanted. *See id.* (March 4, 2002 Chain Drug Review Article).
- 36. Homeopathic drugs must comply with minimal labeling requirements set forth in the CPG. But, the FDA has cautioned that compliance with the CPG, "the HPUS, USP, or NF does not establish that [a homeopathic drug] has been shown by appropriate means to be safe, effective, and not misbranded for its intended use." CPG § 400.400.

- 37. On August 26, 2011, the non-profit group, Center for Public Inquiry, petitioned the FDA to require homeopathic drug manufacturers to undergo the same efficacy requirements as other OTC products, and to label their drugs with a disclaimer that states: "The FDA has not determined that this product is safe, effective, and not misbranded for its intended use." *See Gallucci v. Boiron, Inc.*, Case No. 3:11-CV-2039 JAH (S.D. Cal.), Dkt. No. 93-1 at p. 18.
- 38. As a result of other class action litigation, such as the *Gallucci* case, *supra*, other homeopathic drug manufacturers have voluntarily agreed to implement a FDA disclaimer similar to the one noted above, along with additional injunctive relief, such as a dilution disclaimer and explanation of homeopathic dilution for consumers. *See*, *e.g.*, *Gallucci*, Dkt. No. 105 at pp. 13-15; Dkt. No. 125 at pp. 9-10. Thus, even those in the industry recognize a need to more truthfully label homeopathic drugs for the average consumer. *See id*.

FACTS

- 39. This is a consumer protection class action lawsuit on behalf of purchasers of Defendants' "homeopathic" B&T products, which include products within Defendants' B&T Cough & Bronchial product line.
- 40. Defendants' B&T Cough & Bronchial line comes in five (5) variants: Cough & Bronchial Syrup Daytime, Cough & Bronchial Syrup Nighttime, Children's Cough & Bronchial Syrup, Cough & Bronchial Syrup Zinc Formula, and Cough & Bronchial Syrup 99% Alcohol Free (collectively "Products" or "B&T Cough & Bronchial").
- 41. Defendants manufacture, advertise, distribute and sell their Products in over-the-counter ("OTC") aisles in major retail stores throughout California and the United States.
- 42. Defendants primarily advertise and promote their Products through uniform labeling claims on the front of the Products' package. Label descriptions

on the Products' packaging, taken as a whole, represent there are various benefits and characteristics to the Products. *See* Ex. 2-4.

- 43. Defendants' Products are also the subject of an extensive and comprehensive advertising and marketing campaign in various media including the Internet. *See* www.naturesway.com/Products/Our-Brands/Boericke-Tafel.aspx (last visited June 12, 2013).
- 44. All Products share several purported "active ingredients" (Antimonium sulphuratum and Bryonia alba); claim to be "natural" and "homeopathic;" use the same "X" homeopathic dilution designation that is not understandable to the average consumer; are sold in the OTC aisles with other non-homeopathic OTC products that are subject to other regulations; use efficacy statements that are entirely within the Defendants' discretion; and bear the same or substantially similar advertising claims. *See* Exs. 2-4.
- 45. During the class period, Plaintiff and putative Class members were exposed to and saw Defendants' claims about B&T Cough & Bronchial, which claimed, *inter alia*, that the Products were a natural remedy for colds and/or colds and flus.

B&T Cough & Bronchial Daytime Syrup



- 46. In or around January or February 2012, Plaintiff Wood purchased Defendants' Cough & Bronchial Daytime Syrup at Walgreens, located at 1401 Broadway in Sacramento, California for approximately \$13.49. Plaintiff is a consumer as described herein.
- 47. In purchasing Defendants' Cough & Bronchial Daytime Syrup, Plaintiff relied upon various representations Defendants made on the Product's label, including but not limited to: "Cough & Bronchial," "Natural," "Cough Suppressant/Expectorant," "Maximum Strength," "Fast Relief," "Homeopathic," "Relieves coughs," "Helps clear bronchial congestion," "Clears bronchial congestion," "Fast, Natural Relief," "Effective," "Relieves coughs due to colds or inhaled irritants," "Helps clear bronchial congestion," "clinically proven," "Relieves Coughs & Congestion," "Temporarily relieves cough due to minor throat and bronchial irritation as may occur with a cold," "Helps loosen phlegm (mucus)

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and thin bronchial secretions to drain bronchial tubes," "Helps to loosen phlegm (mucus) and thin bronchial secretions to rid the bronchial passageways of bothersome mucus & drain bronchial tubes" and "Soothes the throat," among other representations. See Ex. 4 (Product Labels). The Product was not as represented, however.

- 48. The purportedly "active ingredients" in Cough & Bronchial Daytime Syrup include: Aconitum napellus, Bryonia alba, Hepar sulphuris calcareum, Spongia tosta and Stannum metallicum.
- The "active ingredients", however, even if they were otherwise effective, are so greatly diluted as to be effectively non-existent in Cough & Bronchial Daytime Syrup.
- 50. Defendants know, or reasonably should know, there are no or just trace amounts of "active ingredients" present in Cough & Bronchial Daytime Syrup and that consumers are unaware of this high level of dilution. Defendants further know that Plaintiff and similarly situated reasonable consumers are unaware of the true nature of homeopathic drugs.
- 51. Further, the "active ingredients" used in Cough & Bronchial Daytime Syrup provide no health benefits. At the stupendously high dilutions used to prepare the product, the odds are astronomically high that even a single molecule derived from the original "extract" of the "active ingredients" could be present in the Product sold to consumers.
- 52. Cough & Bronchial Daytime Syrup is nothing more than a placebo, with trace amounts of the claimed "active ingredients", and consumers are not made aware of this fact. It is sold in 8 oz. bottles and is priced at approximately \$10.00-\$15.00 per unit, well beyond the cost of an actual placebo. Thus, Defendants' unfair and deceptive practices have enriched them by hundreds of thousands of dollars, at the expense of Plaintiff and unsuspecting consumers.

- 53. Defendants' Product also contains synthetic ingredients, and therefore does not provide "Natural" relief. For example, Sodium Benzoate is a synthetic chemical preservative, and man-made chemical. As an inactive ingredient of Cough & Bronchial Daytime Syrup, its presence means this Product is not "Natural." As such, because the packaging and labeling of Cough & Bronchial Daytime Syrup represents it is "Natural," in bold type splashed in white eyecatching lettering across the top of the Product package, it is falsely and/or deceptively advertised to consumers.
- 54. Cough & Bronchial Daytime Syrup also contains contain *Hepar sulphuris calcareum* and *Stannum metallicum* as ingredients, which were not recognized by the official HPUS until 2010, more than one year into the Class Period. *See* Ex. 3. By containing even one non-HPUS ingredient, the Products are not official homeopathic drugs, CPG § 400.400, but are unapproved new drugs and are accordingly misbranded under the California Sherman Law. *See* CPG §400.400 ("Drug products containing homeopathic ingredients in combination with non-homeopathic active ingredients are not homeopathic drug products"); Cal. Health & Safety Code §§ 110100, 110105, 110110, 110111. Thus, Defendants advertising that Cough is "homeopathic" during this timeframe is false, deceptive and unlawful.
- 55. This Product did not provide the characteristics, benefits, endorsements, and proof of efficacy to Plaintiff and consumers as advertised.
- 56. Plaintiff and consumers paid more for this Product than they would have absent the package and labeling misrepresentations described herein.
- 57. Absent the misrepresentations and omissions described herein, which are material to an average consumer, Plaintiff and other consumers would not have purchased this Product.

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Plaintiff seeks justice for himself and similarly-situated consumers of 58. Cough & Bronchial Daytime Syrup by means of this action to enjoin the ongoing deceptive practices described herein.

Cough & Bronchial Nighttime Syrup



- In or around January or February 2012, Plaintiff Wood purchased 59. Defendants' Cough & Bronchial Nighttime Syrup at Walgreens, located at 1401 Broadway in Sacramento, California for approximately \$13.49. Plaintiff is a consumer as described herein.
- 60. In purchasing Defendants' Cough & Bronchial Nighttime Syrup, Plaintiff relied upon various representations Defendants made on the Product's label, including but not limited to: "Cough & Bronchial," "Maximum Strength," "Cough Suppressant & Expectorant," "Fast, Natural Relief," "Fast relief," "Helps clear bronchial congestion," "Temporarily relieves cough due to minor throat and bronchial irritations as may occur with a cold," "Helps loosen phlegm (mucus) and

thin bronchial secretions to drain bronchial tubes," "Helps loosen phlegm (mucus) and thin bronchial secretions to rid the bronchial passageways of bothersome mucus & drain bronchial tubes," "Relieves difficulty sleeping associated with cough & bronchial conditions," "Promotes Sleep," "Relieves coughs," "Clears bronchial congestion," "Promotes restful sleep," "Effective," "Natural," and "Homeopathic" among other representations. *See also* Exs. 2-4. The Product was not as represented, however.

- 61. The purportedly "active ingredients" in Cough & Bronchial Nighttime Syrup include: *Aconitum napellus*, *Alfalfa*, *Coffea cruda*, *Avena sativa*, *Bryonia alba*, *Hepar sulphuris calcareum*, *Spongia tosta* and *Stannum metallicum*.
- 62. The "active ingredients", however, even if they were otherwise effective, are so greatly diluted as to be effectively non-existent in Cough & Bronchial Nighttime Syrup such that the Product is ineffective for its intended uses.
- 63. Defendants know, or reasonably should know, there are no or just trace amounts of "active ingredients" present in Cough & Bronchial Nighttime Syrup and therefore must be aware that it cannot relieve any symptoms for which Defendants advertise them. Defendants further know that Plaintiff and similarly situated reasonable consumers are unaware of the true nature of homeopathic drugs.
- 64. Further, the "active ingredients" used in Cough & Bronchial Nighttime Syrup provide no health benefits. Moreover, at the stupendously high dilutions used to prepare the product, the odds are astronomically high that even a single molecule derived from the original "extract" of the "active ingredients" could be present in the Product sold to consumers.
- 65. Cough & Bronchial Nighttime Syrup is nothing more than a placebo, with trace amounts of the claimed "active ingredients". It is sold in 8 oz. bottles

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and is priced at approximately \$10.00-\$15.00 per unit. Thus, Defendants' unfair and deceptive practices have enriched them by hundreds of thousands of dollars, at the expense of unsuspecting consumers.

- 66. Defendants' Product also contains synthetic ingredients, and therefore does not provide "Natural" relief, as advertised twice on the front of the Products' packaging and elsewhere on the label. For example, Sodium Benzoate is a manmade synthetic chemical preservative. As a constituent of Cough & Bronchial Nighttime Syrup, its presence means this Product is not "Natural." As such, because the packaging and labeling of Cough & Bronchial Nighttime Syrup represents it is "Natural," it is falsely and/or deceptively advertised to consumers.
- Cough & Bronchial Nighttime Syrup also contains contain Alfalfa, Avena sativa, Hepar sulphuris calcareum and Stannum metallicum as ingredients, which were not recognized by the official HPUS until 2010, more than one year into the Class Period. See Ex. 3. By containing even one non-HPUS ingredient, the Products are not official homeopathic drugs, CPG § 400.400, but are unapproved new drugs and are accordingly misbranded under the California Sherman Law. See CPG §400.400 ("Drug products containing homeopathic" ingredients in combination with non-homeopathic active ingredients are not homeopathic drug products"); Cal. Health & Safety Code §§ 110100, 110105, 110110, 110111. Thus, Defendants' advertising that Cough is "homeopathic" during this timeframe is false, deceptive and unlawful.
- 68. This Product did not provide the characteristics, benefits. endorsements, and proof of efficacy to Plaintiff and consumers as advertised.
- 69. Plaintiff and consumers paid more for this Product than they would have absent the package and labeling misrepresentations described herein.

Absent the misrepresentations and omissions described herein, which 70. are material to an average consumer, Plaintiff and other consumers would not have purchased this Product.

71. Plaintiff seeks justice for himself and similarly-situated consumers of Cough & Bronchial Nighttime Syrup by means of this action to enjoin the ongoing deceptive practices described herein.

Children's Cough & Bronchial Syrup



- 72. In or around October or November 2012, Plaintiff Wood purchased Defendants' Children's Cough & Bronchial Syrup at Walgreens, located at 1401 Broadway in Sacramento, California for approximately \$13.49. Plaintiff is a consumer as described herein.
- In purchasing Defendants' Children's Cough & Bronchial Syrup, 73. Plaintiff relied upon various representations Defendants made on the Product's

- 74. The purportedly "active ingredients" in Children's Cough & Bronchial Syrup include: *Antimonium sulphuratum aureum*, *Bryonia alba*, *Drosera rotundifolia*, *Eucalyptus globulus*, *Illicium anisatum* and *Ipecauanha*.
- 75. The "active ingredients", however, even if they were otherwise effective, are so greatly diluted as to be effectively non-existent in Children's Cough & Bronchial Syrup such that the Product is ineffective for its intended uses.
- 76. Defendants know, or reasonably should know, there are no or just trace amounts of "active ingredients" present in Children's Cough & Bronchial Syrup and therefore must be aware that it cannot relieve any symptoms for which Defendants advertise them. Defendants further know that Plaintiff and similarly situated reasonable consumers are unaware of the true nature of homeopathic drugs.
- 77. Further "active ingredients" used in Children's Cough & Bronchial Syrup provide no health benefits. Moreover, at the stupendously high dilutions used to prepare the product, the odds are astronomically high that even a single molecule derived from the original "extract" of the "active ingredients" could be present in the Product sold to consumers.

- 78. Children's Cough & Bronchial Syrup is nothing more than a placebo, with trace amounts of the claimed "active ingredients". It is sold in 8 oz. bottles and is priced at approximately \$10.00-\$15.00 per unit. Thus, Defendants' unfair and deceptive practices have enriched them by hundreds of thousands of dollars, at the expense of Plaintiff and unsuspecting consumers.
- 79. Defendants' Product also contains synthetic ingredients, and therefore does not provide "Natural" relief. For example, it contains citric acid and Potassium sorbate as inactive ingredients. Citric acid is chemically reduced, and Potassium sorbate, is a synthetic preservative. As constituents of Children's Cough & Bronchial Syrup, their presence means this Product is not "Natural." *See* Ex. 3. As such, because the packaging and labeling of Children's Cough & Bronchial Syrup represents it is "Natural," it is falsely and/or deceptively advertised to consumers.
- 80. This Product did not provide the characteristics, benefits, endorsements, and proof of efficacy to Plaintiff and consumers as advertised.
- 81. Plaintiff and consumers paid more for this Product than they would have absent the package and labeling misrepresentations described herein.
- 82. Absent the misrepresentations and omissions described herein, which are material to an average consumer, Plaintiff and other consumers would not have purchased this Product.
- 83. Plaintiff seeks justice for himself and similarly-situated consumers of Children's Cough & Bronchial Syrup by means of this action to enjoin the ongoing deceptive practices described herein.

Cough & Bronchial Syrup—Zinc Formula



- 84. In or around January or February 2012, Plaintiff Wood purchased Defendants' Cough & Bronchial Syrup—Zinc Formula at Walgreens, located at 1401 Broadway in Sacramento, California for approximately \$13.49. Plaintiff is a consumer as described herein.
- 85. In purchasing Defendants' Cough & Bronchial Syrup—Zinc Formula, Plaintiff relied upon various representations Defendants made on the Product's label, including but not limited to: "Maximum Strength," "Cough Suppressant & Expectorant," "Fast, Natural Relief," "Soothes the throat," "Helps clear bronchial congestion," "Temporarily relieves cough due to minor throat and bronchial irritations as may occur with a cold," "Helps to loosen phlegm (mucus) and thin bronchial secretions to drain bronchial tubes," "Soothe[s] the throat," "Effective," "Natural," and "Homeopathic," among other representations. *See* Ex. 4. The Product was not as represented, however.

- 86. The purportedly "active ingredients" in Cough & Bronchial Syrup—Zinc Formula are: *Antimonium sulphuratum aureum*, *Bryonia alba*, *Drosera rotundifolia*, *Eucalyptus globulus*, *Ipecauanha* and *Spongia tosta*.
- 87. The "active ingredients", however, even if they were otherwise effective, are so greatly diluted as to be effectively non-existent in Cough & Bronchial Syrup—Zinc Formula such that the Product is ineffective for its intended uses.
- 88. Defendants know, or reasonably should know, there are no or just trace amounts of "active ingredients" present in Cough & Bronchial Syrup—Zinc Formula and therefore must be aware that it cannot relieve any symptoms for which Defendants advertise them. Defendants further know that Plaintiff and similarly situated reasonable consumers are unaware of the true nature of homeopathic drugs.
- 89. Further, the "active ingredients" used in Cough & Bronchial Syrup—Zinc Formula provide no health benefits. Moreover, at the stupendously high dilutions used to prepare the product, the odds are astronomically high that even a single molecule derived from the original "extract" of the "active ingredients" could be present in the Product sold to consumers.
- 90. Cough & Bronchial Syrup—Zinc Formula is nothing more than a placebo, with trace amounts of the claimed "active ingredients". It is sold in 8 oz. bottles and is priced at approximately \$10.00-\$15.00 per unit. Thus, Defendants' unfair and deceptive practices have enriched them by hundreds of thousands of dollars, at the expense of unsuspecting consumers.
- 91. This Product did not provide the characteristics, benefits, endorsements, and proof of efficacy to Plaintiff and consumers as advertised.
- 92. Plaintiff and consumers paid more for this Product than they would have absent the package and labeling misrepresentations described herein.

Absent the misrepresentations and omissions described herein, which 93. are material to an average consumer, Plaintiff and other consumers would not have purchased this Product.

94. Plaintiff seeks justice for himself and similarly-situated consumers of Cough & Bronchial Syrup—Zinc Formula by means of this action to enjoin the ongoing deceptive practices described herein.

Cough & Bronchial Syrup—99% Alcohol Free



95. Through its packaging, Defendants advertise that Cough & Bronchial Syrup—99% Alcohol Free is a "Cough & Bronchial" "Maximum Strength" "Cough Suppressant & Expectorant" that provides "Fast, Natural Relief," "Helps clear bronchial congestion," "Temporarily relieves cough due to minor throat and

bronchial irritations as may occur with a cold," "Helps loosen phlegm (mucus) and thin bronchial secretions to rid the bronchial passageways of bothersome mucus & drain bronchial tubes," "Temporarily relieves cough due to minor throat and bronchial irritations occurring with a cold or inhaled irritants," "Helps to loosen phlegm (mucus) and thin bronchial secretions to rid the bronchial passageways of bothersome mucus & drain bronchial tubes," "Soothes the throat," and is "Effective," "Natural," and "Homeopathic," among other representations. *See* Ex. 4. The Product is not as represented, however.

- 96. In purchasing Cough & Bronchial Syrup—99% Alcohol Free, consumers reasonably relied upon the various representations Defendants makes on the Product's packaging label and its prevalent advertising campaign.
- 97. The purportedly "active ingredients" in Cough & Bronchial Syrup—99% Alcohol Free include: *Antimonium sulphuratum aureum*, *Bryonia alba*, *Drosera rotundifolia*, *Eucalyptus globulus*, *Ipecauanha* and *Spongia tosta*.
- 98. The "active ingredients", however, even if they were otherwise effective, are so greatly diluted as to be effectively non-existent in Cough & Bronchial Syrup—99% Alcohol Free such that the Product is ineffective for its intended uses.
- 99. Defendants know, or reasonably should know, there are no or just trace amounts of "active ingredients" present in Cough & Bronchial Syrup—99% Alcohol Free and therefore must be aware that it cannot relieve any symptoms for which Defendants advertise them. Defendants further know that Plaintiff and similarly situated reasonable consumers are unaware of the true nature of homeopathic drugs.
- 100. Further, the "active ingredients" used in Cough & Bronchial Syrup—99% Alcohol Free provide no health benefits. Moreover, at the stupendously high dilutions used to prepare the product, the odds are astronomically high that even a

single molecule derived from the original "extract" of the "active ingredients" could be present in the Product sold to consumers.

- 101. Cough & Bronchial Syrup—99% Alcohol Free is nothing more than a placebo, with trace amounts of the claimed "active ingredients". It is sold in 8 oz. bottles and is priced at approximately \$10.00-\$15.00 per unit. Thus, Defendants' unfair and deceptive practices have enriched them by hundreds of thousands of dollars, at the expense of unsuspecting consumers.
- 102. This Product did not provide the characteristics, benefits, endorsements, and proof of efficacy to consumers as advertised.
- 103. Purchasers of Cough & Bronchial Syrup—99% Alcohol Free paid more for this Product than they would have absent the package and labeling misrepresentations described herein.
- 104. Absent the misrepresentations and omissions described herein, which are material to an average consumer, purchasers of Cough & Bronchial Syrup—99% Alcohol Free would not have purchased this Product.
- 105. Plaintiff seeks justice for himself and similarly-situated consumers of Cough & Bronchial Syrup—99% Alcohol Free by means of this action to enjoin the ongoing deceptive practices described herein.

MISREPRESENTATIONS AND OMISSION AS TO ALL COUGH & BRONCHIAL PRODUCTS

106. The Federal Trade Commission ("FTC") enforces OTC drug advertising and applies the same "reasonable consumer" standard for any consumer product. The FTC requires OTC drug advertising to be truthful, non-deceptive, fair, and for manufacturers to contain evidence that backs up their claims. See 15 U.S.C. § 45(a)(1) ("Unfair methods of competition in commerce, and unfair or deceptive acts or practices in commerce, are declared unlawful"); see

corporation to disseminate, or cause to be disseminated, any false advertisement").

107. Defendants primarily advertise and promote the Products through the labeling claims and images on the front of the Products' packages. Among other

also 15 U.S.C. § 52(a) et seq. ("It shall be unlawful for any person, partnership, or

labeling claims and images on the front of the Products' packages. Among other things, the Products' names clearly state what ailments and symptoms the Products are designed for. Label descriptions on the Products' packaging, taken as a whole and in context, further clarify what each Product is supposed to do. As would any reasonable consumer, Plaintiff and the Class relied on the Products' packaging claims, taken as a whole and in context, in purchasing the Products.

108. Defendants' marketing and promotion of the Products was supported by false and misleading claims containing material omissions and misrepresentations, which Plaintiff and Class members relied upon in making their decision to purchase the Products.

109. The "active ingredients" used in the Products provide no health benefits. Moreover, at the stupendously high dilutions used to prepare the Products, the odds are astronomically high that even a single molecule derived from the original "extract" of the active ingredient could be present in the Products sold to consumers.

- 110. Defendants know, or reasonably should know, there are no or just trace amounts of "active ingredients" present in their Cough & Bronchial Products, and therefore must be aware the Products cannot relieve the symptoms for which the Defendants advertise them.
- 111. Defendants' misleading and deceptive business activity also includes encouraging retailers to sell the Products in the OTC aisle of retail chain drug stores next to allopathic, FDA monograph-approved OTC drugs, thus enhancing consumer confusion as to the true nature of the Products.

- 112. Defendants also do not explain the "homeopathic" principle of dilutions to consumers, such as by informing consumers what the dilution levels of X on the Products' packaging means, in a language understandable to an average consumer.
- 113. Defendants are free to label Indications of Use, meaning what the Products are "effective" for, without any regulatory oversight, a material fact that is not disclosed to consumers.
- 114. Defendants are required to observe Good Manufacturing Practices (GMPs) under section 501(a)(2)(B) of the federal Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act, and its implementing regulation located at 21 C.F.R. § 211. This standard is mirrored under the California Sherman Law. Cal. Health & Safety Code § 110105. On information and belief, Defendants did not observe GMPs in manufacturing the Products.
- 115. When purchasing the Products, Plaintiff and Class members were seeking cough and cold or flu remedies that would provide the benefits and had the endorsements, proof of efficacy, and characteristics that Defendants marketed, promised, represented and warranted.
- 116. Plaintiff and Class members purchased the Products believing they had the qualities represented on the Products' labeling, but the Products were actually unacceptable to them, as they did not possess the characteristics, benefits, endorsements, and proof of efficacy to consumers as advertised.
- 117. Moreover, like all reasonable consumers and members of the Class, Plaintiff considers a label's compliance with federal law a material factor in his purchasing decisions. Plaintiff is generally aware the federal government carefully regulates OTC products and therefore has come to trust that information conveyed on packaged OTC product labels is truthful, accurate, complete, and fully in accordance and compliance with the law. As a result, Plaintiff trusts he can

compare competing products on the basis of their labeling claims, to make a purchasing decision.

- 118. Like all reasonable consumers and members of the Class, Plaintiff would not purchase an OTC product he knew was misbranded under federal law, *see* 21 U.S.C. § 352, which the federal government prohibits selling, *id.* § 331, and which carries with its sale criminal penalties, *id.* § 333. *See also* Cal. Health & Safety Code §§ 110100, 110105, 110110, 110111. Plaintiff could not trust that the label of a product misbranded under federal law is truthful, accurate and complete.
- 119. In light of the foregoing, reasonable consumers, including Plaintiff and other Class members, were and are likely to be deceived by Defendants' advertising and marketing practices as detailed herein.
- 120. Instead of receiving a product that had the benefits, advantages, endorsements, proof, and characteristics as advertised, Plaintiff and Class members received a product worth much less, or which was worthless, since the Products do not work; cause no effect or effects reverse of that advertised; and did not possess the characteristics, benefits, endorsements, and proof of efficacy, as advertised by Defendants.
- 121. At all times relevant herein, Defendants had a duty to disclose additional information to purchasing consumers, to correct all misunderstandings their omissions and misrepresentations created in the minds of those consumers; and had a duty to disclose because the omissions constituted information within Defendants' knowledge alone.
- 122. Plaintiff and the Class purchased the Products instead of competing products based on the false statements and misrepresentations described herein, suffering economic injury.
- 123. The Products did not provide the characteristics, benefits, endorsements, and proof of efficacy to Plaintiff and consumers as advertised.

- 124. Absent the misrepresentations and omissions described herein, which are material to an average consumer, Plaintiff and consumers would not have purchased this Product.
- 125. Absent the misrepresentations and omissions described herein, which were and are material to an average consumer, Plaintiff and other consumers would not have paid the amount they did for the Products.
- 126. In purchasing Defendants' Products that were falsely or deceptively advertised, Plaintiff and other consumers suffered injury in fact in the form of the lost purchase price of the Products.
- 127. Plaintiff and the Class lost money as a result of Defendants' deception in that Plaintiff and the Class did not receive what they had paid for.
- 128. Plaintiff and the Class altered their position to their detriment and suffered damages in an amount equal to the amount they paid for the Products over the class period.
- 129. Plaintiff seeks justice for himself and similarly-situated consumers of the Products by means of this action to enjoin the ongoing deceptive practices described herein.
- 130. Defendants' conduct caused and continues to cause substantial injury to Plaintiff and the other members of the Class. Plaintiff and class members will continue to be exposed to Defendants' false and/or misleading advertising every time they shop for a cold remedy and see Defendants' false or deceptive advertising on store shelves. Defendants' continued business conduct as described herein violates Plaintiff's substantive right to be free from false advertising in the marketplace. Defendants' continued business conduct as described herein interferes with Plaintiff's ability to compare only truthful product labeling in the marketplace, and also discourages Plaintiff from believing that any cough or cold or flu product in the OTC aisles of major retail stores is effective, when some are

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effective as advertised. Defendants' competitors will also continue to suffer from Defendants' unfair or deceptive business conduct if injunctive relief is not afforded. Moreover, backward-reaching injunctive relief is necessary to remedy the past effects of Defendants' conduct, such as a recall and restitution program, or imposition of a constructive trust onto funds that may have been unlawfully, unfairly, or fraudulently obtained by Defendants.

CLASS ACTION ALLEGATIONS

131. Pursuant to Rules 23(a), (b)(3) and/or (b)(2) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, Plaintiff brings this action on behalf of themselves and a California consumer class, initially defined as follows:

All purchasers of Defendants' B&T Cough & Bronchial products, including Cough & Bronchial Syrup Daytime, Cough & Bronchial Syrup Nighttime, Children's Cough & Bronchial Syrup, Cough & Bronchial Syrup Zinc Formula, and Cough & Bronchial Syrup 99% Alcohol Free (collectively "Products"), and all iterations/variations of the aforementioned Products, for personal or household use and not for resale, in California from September 6, 2009 to the present (the "Class Period"). Excluded from the consumer class are governmental entities, the Defendants, any entity in which the Defendants have a controlling interest, their employees, officers, directors, legal representatives, heirs, successors and wholly or partly owned subsidiaries or affiliated companies, including parent corporations, class counsel and their employees; and the judicial officers and their immediate family members and associated court staff assigned to this case.

132. The proposed Class is so numerous that individual joinder of all its members is impracticable. Due to the nature of the trade and commerce involved, however, Plaintiff believes the total number of Class members is at least in the tens of thousands of persons in the State of California. While the exact number and

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identities of the Class members are unknown at this time, such information can be ascertained through appropriate investigation, discovery or Class definition. The disposition of the claims of the Class members in a single class action will provide substantial benefits to all parties and to the Court.

- 133. Pursuant to Rule 23(b)(2), Defendants have acted or refused to act on grounds generally applicable to the Class, thereby making final injunctive relief or corresponding declaratory relief and damages as to their Products appropriate with respect to the Class as a whole. In particular, Defendants have misrepresented or failed to disclose the true nature of the Products being marketed and distributed, as detailed herein.
- 134. There is a well-defined community of interest in the questions of law and fact involved affecting Plaintiff and the Class and these common questions of fact and law include, but are not limited to, the following:
 - a. Whether the claims discussed above are true, misleading, or reasonably likely to deceive an average consumer;
 - b. Whether Defendants' alleged conduct violates public policy;
 - c. Whether the alleged conduct constitutes violations of the laws asserted herein;
 - d. Whether Defendants engaged in false or misleading advertising;
 - e. Whether Plaintiff and Class members are entitled to declaratory and injunctive relief; and
 - f. The method of calculation and amount of restitution or damages to the Class.
- 135. Plaintiff's claims are typical of the claims of the members of the Class. Plaintiff and all members of the Class have been similarly affected by the Defendants' common course of conduct because they all relied on Defendants'

representations concerning their Products and purchased the Products based on those representations.

136. Plaintiff will fairly and adequately represent and protect the interests of the Class. Plaintiff has retained counsel with substantial experience in handling complex class action litigation in general and scientific claims, including for homeopathic drugs, in particular. Plaintiff and his counsel are committed to vigorously prosecuting this action on behalf of the Class and have the financial resources to do so.

137. Plaintiff and the members of the Class suffered and will continue to suffer harm as a result of the Defendants' unlawful and wrongful conduct. A class action is superior to other available methods for the fair and efficient adjudication of the present controversy. Individual joinder of all members of the Class is impracticable. Even if individual Class members had the resources to pursue individual litigation, it would be unduly burdensome to the courts in which the individual litigation would proceed. Individual litigation magnifies the delay and expense to all parties in the court system of resolving the controversies engendered by Defendants' course of conduct. The class action device allows a single court to provide the benefits of unitary adjudication, judicial economy, and the fair and efficient handling of all Class members' claims in a single forum. The conduct of this action as a class action conserves the resources of the parties and of the judicial system and protects the rights of Class members. Furthermore, for many, if not most, a class action is the only feasible mechanism that allows an opportunity for legal redress and justice.

138. Adjudication of individual Class members' claims with respect to the Defendants would, as a practical matter, be dispositive of the interests of other members not parties to the adjudication, and could substantially impair or impede the ability of other class members to protect their interests.

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FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION

VIOLATION OF CALIFORNIA'S CONSUMERS LEGAL REMEDIES

ACT

California Civil Code §§ 1750, et seq.

(On Behalf of Plaintiff and the Class, as Against All Defendants)

- 139. Plaintiff repeats, realleges and incorporates by reference each and every allegation contained above as if fully set forth herein.
- 140. This cause of action is brought pursuant to the Consumers Legal Remedies Act, California Civil Code § 1750, *et seq.* (the "Act"). Plaintiff and the members of the Class are consumers as defined by California Civil Code § 1761(d). The Products are goods within the meaning of the Act.
- 141. Defendants violated and continue to violate the Act by engaging in the following practices proscribed by California Civil Code §1770(a) in transactions with Plaintiff and the Class which were intended to result in, and did result in, the sale of the Products:
- Representing that [the Products have]...characteristics, ingredients, uses, benefits or quantities which [the Products] do not have. (Civ. Code, § 1770, subd. (a) (5).)
- Representing that [the Products] are of a particular standard, quality or grade... if they are of another. (Civ. Code, § 1770, subd. (a) (7).)
- Advertising [Products] ...with intent not to sell them as advertised. (Civ. Code, § 1770, subd. (a) (9).)
- Representing that [the Products] have been supplied in accordance with a previous representation when it has not. (Civ. Code, § 1770, subd. (a) (16).)
- 142. Defendants violated the Act by representing through advertising of the Products as described above, when they knew, or should have known, the representations and advertisements were false or misleading.

- 143. Plaintiff and members of the Class reasonably relied upon the Defendants' representations as to the quality and attributes of the Products.
- 144. Plaintiff and other members of the Class were deceived by Defendants' representations about the quality and attributes of the Products, including but not limited to the purported benefits of the Products, taken as a whole, that their Products are effective in relieving various symptoms and ailments. *See also* Exs. 1-3. Plaintiff and other Class members would not have purchased the Products had they known the Defendants' claims were untrue, and had they known the true nature of the Products.
- 145. Pursuant to section 1782 *et seq.* of the CLRA, Plaintiff notified the Defendants in writing by certified mail of the particular violations of § 1770 of the CLRA as to their Products and demanded the Defendants rectify the problems associated with the actions detailed above and give notice to all affected consumers of their intent to so act. Defendants' wrongful business practices regarding the Products constituted, and constitute, a continuing course of conduct in violation of the California's Consumers Legal Remedies Act because Defendants are still representing that the Products have characteristics, uses, benefits, endorsements, proof and abilities which are false and misleading, and have injured Plaintiff and the Class. A copy of Plaintiff's letter is attached as Exhibit 5 hereto.
- 146. Defendants have refused or failed to timely respond to Plaintiff's CLRA demand notice.
- 147. Pursuant to California Civil Code § 1780(a), Plaintiff and the Class seek an order of this Court enjoining the Defendants from continuing to engage in unlawful, unfair, or deceptive business practices and any other act prohibited by law.

- 148. Pursuant to California Civil Code § 1782(d), Plaintiff and the Class seek a Court order enjoining the above-described wrongful acts and practices of the Defendants with respect to all of the Products.
- 149. Plaintiff and the Class also seek a backward-reaching injunction, to remedy in order to remedy the past effects of Defendants' improper activities and practices as described herein.
- 150. Pursuant to California Civil Code §§ 1780 and 1782(b), Plaintiff and the Class are entitled to recover and hereby seek actual damages, punitive damages, attorney's fees and costs, and any other relief the Court deems proper.

SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION

VIOLATION OF CALIFORNIA UNFAIR COMPETITION LAW

California Business and Professions Code §§ 17200, et seq.

(On Behalf of Plaintiff and the Class, as Against All Defendants)

- 151. Plaintiff repeats, realleges and incorporates by reference each and every allegation contained above as if fully set forth herein.
- 152. Plaintiff has standing to pursue this claim as Plaintiff has suffered injury in fact as a result of Defendants' actions as set forth herein. Specifically, prior to the filing of this action, Plaintiff purchased the Products in reliance upon Defendants' marketing claims. Plaintiff used the Products as directed, but the Products did not work as advertised, nor provided any of the promised benefits.
- 153. California's Unfair Competition Law, Business and Professions Code § 17200 (the "UCL") prohibits any "unfair, deceptive, untrue or misleading advertising." For the reasons discussed above, Defendants have engaged in unfair, deceptive, untrue and misleading advertising in violation of the UCL.
- 154. The UCL also prohibits any "unlawful... business act or practice." Defendants violated the UCL's prohibition against engaging in unlawful acts and practices by, *inter alia*, making the representations and omissions of material facts,

as set forth more fully herein, and by violating among others, California Civil Code §§ 1572, 1573, 1709, 1710, 1711, 1770, California Health and Safety Code §§ 109875, et seq. ("Sherman Law"), including but not limited to Cal. Health & Safety Code §§ 110100, 110290, 110390; Cal. Bus. & Prof. Code §§ 12601, et seq. ("Fair Packaging and Labeling Act"), California Commercial Code § 2313(1), and the common law; see also Cal. Health & Safety Code § 110105 (incorporating all FDCA laws and implementing regulations as the laws of this State). Such conduct is ongoing and continues to this date. See also Ex. 1.

- 155. Plaintiff and the Class reserve the right to allege other violations of law which constitute other unlawful business acts or practices.
- 156. California Business and Professions Code § 17200 also prohibits any "unfair... business act or practice."
- 157. Defendants' acts, omissions, misrepresentations, practices and nondisclosures as alleged herein also constitute "unfair" business acts and practices within the meaning of the UCL in that their 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. *See also id.* Such conduct is ongoing and continues to this date.
- 158. Plaintiff alleges violations of consumer protection, unfair competition and truth in advertising laws in California and other states resulting in harm to consumers. Plaintiff asserts violation of the public policy of engaging in false and misleading advertising, unfair competition and deceptive conduct towards consumers. *See also id.* This conduct constitutes violations of the unfair prong of the UCL. Such conduct is ongoing and continues to this date.
- 159. There were reasonably available alternatives to further Defendants' legitimate business interests, other than the conduct described herein.

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- 160. The UCL also prohibits any "fraudulent business act or practice."
- 161. Defendants' claims, nondisclosures (i.e., omissions), and misleading statements, as more fully set forth above, were false, misleading and/or likely to deceive the consuming public within the meaning of the UCL. Such conduct is ongoing and continues to this date.
- 162. Defendants' conduct caused and continues to cause substantial injury to Plaintiff and the other members of the Class. Plaintiff has suffered injury in fact as a result of Defendants' unfair conduct.
- 163. Defendants have thus engaged in unlawful, unfair and fraudulent business acts and practices and false advertising, entitling Plaintiff to injunctive relief against Defendants, as set forth in the Prayer for Relief.
- 164. Pursuant to Business and Professions Code § 17203, Plaintiff seeks an order requiring Defendants to immediately cease such acts of unlawful, unfair and fraudulent business practices and requiring Defendants to engage in a corrective advertising campaign.
- 165. Plaintiff and the Class also seek a backward-reaching injunction, to remedy in order to remedy the past effects of Defendants' improper activities and practices as described herein.
- 166. Plaintiff also seeks an order for the disgorgement and restitution of all monies from the sale of Defendants' Products, which were unjustly acquired through acts of unlawful, unfair, and/or fraudulent competition.

THIRD CAUSE OF ACTION

VIOLATION OF CALIFORNIA FALSE ADVERTISING LAW

California Business and Professions Code §§ 17500, et seq.

(On Behalf of Plaintiff and the Class, as Against All Defendants)

- 167. Plaintiff repeats, realleges and incorporates by reference each and every allegation contained above as if fully set forth herein.
- 168. Plaintiff has standing to pursue this claim as Plaintiff has suffered injury in fact as a result of Defendants' actions as set forth herein. Specifically, prior to the filing of this action, Plaintiff purchased the Products in reliance upon Defendants' marketing claims. Plaintiff used the Products as directed, but the Products did not work as advertised, nor provided any of the promised benefits.
- 169. Defendants' business practices as alleged herein constitute unfair, deceptive, untrue, and misleading advertising pursuant to California Business and Professions Code §§ 17500, *et seq.* because Defendants have advertised their Products in a manner they know is untrue or misleading, or that reasonably should have been known to Defendants to be untrue or misleading.
- 170. Defendants' wrongful business practices have caused injury to Plaintiff and the Class.
- 171. Pursuant to section 17535 of the California Business and Professions Code, Plaintiff and the Class seek an order of this court enjoining the Defendants from continuing to engage in deceptive business practices, false advertising, and any other act prohibited by law, including those set forth in the complaint.
- 172. Plaintiff and the Class also seek a backward-reaching injunction, to remedy in order to remedy the past effects of Defendants' improper activities and practices as described herein.
- 173. Plaintiff and the Class also seek an order for the disgorgement and restitution of all monies from the sale of Defendants' Products, which were

competition.

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unjustly acquired through acts of unlawful, unfair, deceptive and/or fraudulent

FOURTH CAUSE OF ACTION

BREACH OF EXPRESS WARRANTY

(On Behalf of Plaintiff and all Class Members, as Against All Defendants)

- 174. Plaintiff repeats, realleges and incorporates by reference each and every allegation contained above as if fully set forth herein.
- 175. On the Products' labels and through their marketing campaign as described above, Defendants made affirmations of fact or promises about the Products' effectiveness, or description of goods, which formed "part of the basis of the bargain" at the time of purchase. See Ex. 2 (containing statements alleged to be warranties).
- 176. The warranties were breached because the Products did not live up to their warranties, and that breach caused injury in the form of the lost purchase price for the Products. See Cal. Com. Code § 2313(1); see also Zwart v. Hewlett-Packard Co., 2011 WL 3740805 (N.D. Cal., Aug. 23, 2011) (holding that online assertions can create warranties).
- 177. As a result of Defendants' breach of their warranties, Plaintiff and the Class have been damaged in the amount of the purchase price of the Products they purchased.

FIFTH CAUSE OF ACTION

BREACH OF IMPLIED WARRANTY OF MERCHANTABILITY

(On Behalf of Plaintiff and the Class, as Against All Defendants)

- 178. Plaintiff repeats, realleges and incorporates by reference each and every allegation contained above as if fully set forth herein.
- 179. Defendants, through their acts and omissions as set forth herein, in their sale, marketing and promotion of their Products, made affirmations of fact or

promises to Plaintiff and the members of the Class that their Products provide the claimed health benefits as discussed herein. *See also* Ex. 2.

- 180. Plaintiff and the Class bought the Products manufactured, advertised and sold by Defendants.
- 181. Defendants are merchants with respect to the goods of this kind which were sold to Plaintiff and the Class, and there was in the sale to Plaintiff and other members of the Class an implied warranty that those goods were merchantable for their intended use.
- 182. Defendants, however, breached that warranty implied in the sale of goods in that their Products do not provide the claimed health benefits, as set forth in detail herein.
- 183. As a result of Defendants' conduct, Plaintiff and the Class did not receive goods as impliedly warranted by Defendants to be merchantable in that they did not conform to the promises and affirmations made on the container or label of the goods.
- 184. Plaintiff and the Class have sustained damages as a proximate result of the foregoing breach of implied warranty in an amount to be determined at trial.

SIXTH CAUSE OF ACTION

VIOLATION OF THE MAGNUSON-MOSS WARRANTY ACT, 15 U.S.C. §§ 2301, et. seq.

(On Behalf of Plaintiff and the Class, as Against All Defendants)

- 185. Plaintiff repeats, realleges and incorporates by reference each and every allegation contained above as if fully set forth herein.
- 186. Plaintiff brings his claim individually and on behalf of the members of the Class.
- 187. Plaintiff alleges implied warranties under the common and statutory laws of California, and Defendants' breach of those warranties as set forth herein.

See Fourth and Fifth Causes of Action, *supra*. Plaintiff brings this suit on those claims under the MMWA as expressly allowed by federal law. See 15 U.S.C. § 2301(7).

PRAYER FOR RELIEF

- 188. Wherefore, Plaintiff, on behalf of himself, all others similarly situated and the general public, pray for judgment against the Defendants as to each and every cause of action, including:
 - A. For all of the claims for relief, an order certifying this action as a proper Class Action, that Plaintiff be appointed Class Representative and his counsel Class Counsel, and requiring Defendants to bear the costs of Class notice;
 - B. For the CLRA and breach of warranty claims, a judgment awarding Plaintiff and the proposed Class members actual damages and punitive damages in amounts to be determined at trial;
 - C. For the UCL, FAL and CLRA, an order awarding declaratory and injunctive relief as permitted by law or equity, including enjoining Defendants from continuing the unlawful practices as set forth herein;
 - D. For all of the claims for relief, a judgment awarding restitution of the full purchase price of the Products to Plaintiff and the proposed Class members;
 - E. For the CLRA, UCL and FAL, an order for backward-reaching injunctive relief, to remedy the past effects of Defendants' activities and practices as complained of herein;

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- For the CLRA, UCL and FAL, an order compelling Defendants to F. engage in a corrective advertising campaign to inform the public concerning the true nature of their Products;
- For all the claims for relief, an order awarding reasonable G. attorneys' fees and costs to Plaintiff and the Class, as allowed by California Civil Code § 1780(d), Code of Civil Procedure § 1021.5 and as otherwise permitted by statute or law, and pre- and post-judgment interest;
- H. For all the claims for relief, an order providing for all other such equitable relief as may be just and proper.

JURY DEMAND

Plaintiff hereby demands a trial by jury on all issues so triable.

| Dated: | September 6, 2013 | /s/ Ronald A. Marron |
|--------|-------------------|--|
| | | Ronald A. Marron |
| | | ron@consumersadvocates.com |
| | | LAW OFFICES OF RONALD A. |
| | | MARRON, APLC |
| | | RONALD A. MARRON |
| | | SKYE RESENDES |
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| | | Telephone: (619) 696-9006 |
| | | Facsimile: (619) 564-6665 |
| | | Attorneys for Plaintiff and the Proposed Class |
| | | |
| | | |
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I, Woodson Wood, Jr., declare as follows:

- 1. I am the Plaintiff in this action. I make this affidavit as required by California Civil Code Section 1780(d).
- 2. The Complaint in this action is filed in a proper place for the trial of this action because Defendant is doing business in this county.

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States that the foregoing is true and correct.

Dated: 09-03, 2013

Woodson Wood, Jr.

Table of Exhibits

| EXHIBIT NUMBER | EXHIBIT DESCRIPTION | PAGE NUMBERS |
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EXHIBIT 1

THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF HOMEOPATHIC PHARMACISTS



MEMBER COMPANIES

Boericke & Tafel

2381 Circadian Way Santa Rosa, CA 95407 Contact: Andy Bormeth P: 707-571-8202

F: 707-571-8237

Boericke & Tafel's roots go back to 1835 when Constantine Hering, the father of American homeopathy, persuaded Francis Boericke and Adolph Tafel to manufacture and sell homeopathic medicines. B&T established itself as the primary publisher of homeopathic books as well, issuing over 100 titles in the U.S. Dr. William Boericke's Materia Medica is still the standard reference book for homeopaths and an integral part of most homeopathic computer repertory programs.

In 1987, B&T was acquired by a leading German pharmaceutical company, Dr. Willmar Schwabe, which has manufactured homeopathic and herbal medicines since 1866. With a \$100 million Research and Development budget, and six research centers worldwide, Schwabe has completed over 2,000 clinical studies in natural products.

As a strong supporter of science-backed medicines, B&T has introduced many products that are clinically proven effective. These include Florasone™ Cream for Eczema, Allergiemittel AllerAide™ for Allergies, and Alpha CF™ for Colds & Flu.

B&T offers America's best selling line of creams and gels, including Arniflora® Arnica Gel for muscle pain and stiffness, Triflora® Arthritis Gel, Ssssting Stop®Insect Gel, and Psoriaflora™ Cream for Psoriasis. The company also offers the most complete line of natural cold, flu and cough remedies, such as Alpha CF for Colds and Flu, EchinaSpray™ Throat Spray, and five varieties of top-selling Cough & Bronchial Syrups.

Innovative new products and indication/benefit driven packaging are a trademark of B&T. Natural Relief Chewable tablets for Insomnia, Headache and Indigestion, pleasant orange flavored tablets packaged in a handy tin, are examples of top-selling products with unique characteristics.

Boericke & Tafel manufactures homeopathic medicines in strict accordance with the FDA's current Good Manufacturing Practices (GMPs), and is a major supplier to private label brands. We are proud of our reputation of excellence as we maintain the highest standards of quality control in achieving our goal of providing people with a better way to heal themselves.

* Back to member list



1 of 10 DOCUMENTS

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Copyright 1999 Racher Press, Inc.
Chain Drug Review

June 7, 1999

SECTION: Pg. 306 Vol. 21 No. 10 ISSN: 0164-9914

ACC-NO: 54982656

LENGTH: 718 words

HEADLINE: Boericke & Tafel goes mass.

BODY:

SANTA ROSA, Calif. -- With the popularity of alternative medicine steadily increasing among consumers in the United States, executives at Boericke & Tafel, a 164-year-old manufacturer of homeopathic remedies, feel that now is the time to bring their products to the mass market.

"Through the years homeopathy has been a back-and-forth business, losing popularity and gaining it back again," comments president and chief executive officer Phil Maez. "Today it is rapidly gaining popularity as more people are turning to self-medication."

In 1998 homeopathic medicines were the second-fastest-growing category of over-the-counter health care products, expanding 47.7% over the 1997 level.

At the National Association of Chain Drug Stores Marketplace Conference Boericke & Tafel will introduce its first products for the chain drug industry -- the five-item Boericke & Tafel Natural Relief lineof chewable homeopathic remedies. Maez says the products target the most common conditions for which people turn to self-medication.

The items in the line, which are formulated from a mixture of herbs, plants and minerals, and packaged in small tins containing 24 doses apiece, are aimed at treating insomnia colds and flu, coughs, indigestion, and headaches.

As with all of the company's products, the items in the new line come with a brochure explaining homeopathy and how it can work in conjunction with allopathic (traditional) medications.

"Evidence indicates they are effective medicines," Maez says aboutBoericke & Tafel's offerings and homeopathic remedies in general. "Homeopathic medicines have no known side effects or contraindications. They are among the safest preparations known to medical science."

Homeopathy, which was created in the late 18th century by the German physician and pharmacist Samuel Hahnemann, works on the principle that like cures like. In other words, Maez explains, substances that cause certain symptoms in a healthy person can be used in small dosesto relieve those same symptoms in a sick person.

Boericke & Tafel got its start in 1835 when Frances Boericke and Rudolph Tafel began manufacturing and selling homeopathic medicines inNew York City and Philadelphia. Over the years the two opened homeopathic pharmacies in those two cities as well as in New Orleans, San Francisco, Pittsburgh, Washington, D.C., Minneapolis, Chicago and Cincinnati.

Boericke & Tafel goes mass. Chain Drug Review June 7, 1999

As Americans began to lose interest in homeopathy in the early part of the 20th century Boericke and Tafel stepped up their exporting business around the world, supplying doctors in Europe and Asia, wherehomeopathy remained popular. The company continues to be a major exporter of homeopathic products around the globe.

As homeopathy began to prosper again in the late 1970s and early 1980s, Boericke & Tafel's Philadelphia facility, where the supplier had been operating since its inception, was purchased by the homeopathycompany owned by the family of Willmar Schwabe, a German physician, and its headquarters were moved to California. That same year, the company became part of Hom-Int, or Homeopathy International, a federation of homeopathic firms doing business throughout the world.

Because of homeopathy's growing popularity Maez says that now is the time for drug chains to start thinking seriously about adding suchproducts to their assortments.

"Homeopathy is probably the fastest-growing area of O-T-C medication," he notes. "These medicines are natural, holistic, safe and effective. When a retailer stocks them, it performs a valuable service for its customers who are interested in natural products and taps an additional source of income for the store."

And, he adds, the typical homeopathy user is the kind of person drug stores are trying to attract.

"There are actually two typical homeopathic customers," says Maez. "The first is a married woman with children. The second is an older woman. Both attended college and are above average in income. They are health-conscious, interested in natural foods and medicines, environmentally concerned, and wary of a medicine's possible side effects. They are ideal drug store customers."

Boericke & Tafel

2381 Circadian Way Santa Rosa; Calif. 95407

Key contact: Phil Maez President and chief executive officer

E-mail: Phil@Boericke.com

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Fax: (707) 571-8237

LOAD-DATE: April 2, 2008



2 of 100 DOCUMENTS

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Chain Drug Review

March 4, 2002

SECTION: Pg. 45(1) Vol. 24 No. 5 ISSN: 0164-9914

ACC-NO: 83521131

LENGTH: 613 words

HEADLINE: Key to driving sales: Location, location, location.;

Homeopathy:

homeopathic remedies need to be displayed with other products in drug stores, not in separate section;

Brief Article

BODY:

NEW YORK -- Location is the key to the successful merchandising ofhomeopathic remedies in chain drug stores, according to the leading suppliers in the category.

"The more savvy retailers slot homeopathic items next to their regular allopathic products in the sets and soon discover that they are garnering incremental sales," comments Jay Borneman, president of Hyland's Inc.

Homeopathic medications are reasonable alternatives to their allopathic counterparts, he asserts, and need to be considered on the basis of the condition they treat.

"For example, the main competition for our Hyland's teething tablets are other teething preparations -- not other homeopathic preparations," says Borneman.

Executives at other leading suppliers in the category, including Boericke & Tafel Inc.'s (B&T's) director of marketing, Susan Backer, concur.

"It is wrong to make homeopathy a separate section, because that is not the way people shop," she notes. If they have a cold or flu, they will visit the cough/cold section."

Retail pharmacies that lump homeopathic products in a "natural" section are missing out on substantial profits, according to Backer.

To counter that, buyers must not look at the homeopathic consumer as monolithic, Borneman says. "What we need to be talking to buyers about is which products can be integrated into specific O-T-C sections to boost the chances of their customers finding a truly useful product," he remarks.

A number of Hyland's products are among the leaders in their respective product segments. For example, Hyland's teething tablets is the No. 2 brand in unit sales, while Hyland's Leg Cramps with Quinine, aproduct that has proven effective in alleviating leg pain, tops the category with a 70% market share.

Another popular homeopathic product in drug stores is B&T's Arniflora amica gel, a natural botanical remedy widely used to relieve pain, muscle ache and stiffness, bruising and swelling.

Page 2

Key to driving sales: Location, location, location.; Homeopathy; homeopathic remedies need to be displayed with other products in drug stores, not in separate section; Brief Article Chain Drug Review

In addition, the company recently launched Allergiemittel AllerAide, a natural homeopathic remedy for allergy relief.

The cough/cold/allergy category is a natural for homeopathic medications. One product designed to give fast multi-symptom relief for the common cold and influenza is BioRight International Inc.'s Arizona Sun natural cold medicine.

Parents are particularly interested in finding remedies to treat their children's ailments without creating other problems, and homeopathic remedies often provide a welcome answer, according to suppliers.

For example, Hyland's earache tablets have been clinically shown to reduce earache symptoms in the first 48 hours of each episode, and they work without side effects. In addition, each package contains a reference booklet written by a physician and a pharmacist.

Young mothers and other consumers in chain drug outlets are different than shoppers in natural food stores, notes Dale Nepsa, Hyland's vice president.

"The chain drug channel is basically a self-service environment," he observes, "and consumers are generally not as conversant in the category. What they seek is a product that will truly help their or their child's affliction, one that's not invasive and won't contraindicate with other medications."

Backer agrees. "We find the most effective way to reach people is not by getting into the cumbersome ins and outs of how homeopathy functions, but by conveying the message that it truly works -- that they are getting effective medications backed by science."

Suppliers in the category agree that chain drug stores have a built-in advantage in the homeopathy business because of the trade class'reputation as a health care provider as well as the presence and availability of knowledgable pharmacists.

LOAD-DATE: February 20, 2008

EXHIBIT 2

| Product | Challenged Statements |
|-------------------|---|
| Cough & Bronchial | "Cough & Bronchial" |
| Syrup - Daytime | "Natural" |
| | "Cough Suppressant/Expectorant," "Maximum Strength" |
| | "Fast Relief" |
| | "Homeopathic" |
| | "Relieves coughs" |
| | "Helps clear bronchial congestion" |
| | "Clears bronchial congestion" |
| | "Fast, Natural Relief" "Effective" |
| | "Relieves coughs due to colds or inhaled irritants" |
| | "Helps clear bronchial congestion" |
| | "Clinically Proven" |
| | "Relieves Coughs & Congestion" |
| | "Temporarily relieves cough due to minor throat and bronchial irritation as may occur with a cold" |
| | "Helps loosen phlegm (mucus) and thin bronchial secretions to drain bronchial tubes" |
| | "Helps to loosen phlegm (mucus) and thin bronchial secretions to rid the bronchial passageways of bothersome mucus & drain bronchial tubes" |
| | "Soothes the throat" |

| Product | Challenged Statements |
|--|--|
| Cough & Bronchial | "Cough & Bronchial" |
| Syrup - Nighttime | "Maximum Strength" "Cough Suppressant & Expectorant" |
| | "Fast, Natural Relief" |
| | "Fast relief" |
| | "Helps clear bronchial congestion" |
| | "Temporarily relieves cough due to minor throat and bronchial irritations as may occur with a cold" |
| | "Helps loosen phlegm (mucus) and thin bronchial secretions to drain bronchial tubes" |
| | "Helps loosen phlegm (mucus) and thin bronchial secretions to rid the bronchial passageways of bothersome mucus & drain bronchial tubes" |
| | "Relieves difficulty sleeping associated with cough & bronchial conditions" |
| | "Promotes Sleep" "Relieves coughs" |
| | "Clears bronchial congestion" |
| | "Promotes restful sleep" |
| | "Effective" |
| | "Natural" |
| | "Homeopathic" |
| Cough & Bronchial Syrup – 99% Alcohol | "Cough & Bronchial" |

| Product | Challenged Statements |
|----------------------|---|
| Free | "Maximum Strength" |
| | "Cough Suppressant & Expectorant" |
| | "Fast, Natural Relief" |
| | "Helps clear bronchial congestion" |
| | "Temporarily relieves cough due to minor throat and bronchial irritations as may occur with a cold" |
| | "Helps loosen phlegm (mucus) and thin bronchial secretions to rid the bronchial passageways of bothersome mucus & drain bronchial tubes" |
| | "Temporarily relieves cough due to minor throat and bronchial irritations occurring with a cold or inhaled irritants" |
| | "Helps to loosen phlegm (mucus) and thin bronchial secretions to rid the bronchial passageways of bothersome mucus & drain bronchial tubes" |
| | "Soothes the throat" |
| | "Effective" |
| | "Natural" |
| | "Homeopathic" |
| Cough & Bronchial | "Maximum Strength" |
| Syrup (Zinc Formula) | "Cough Suppressant & Expectorant" |
| | "Fast, Natural Relief" |

| Product | Challenged Statements | | |
|--------------------|---|--|--|
| | "Soothes the throat" | | |
| | "Helps clear bronchial congestion" | | |
| | "Temporarily relieves cough due to minor throat and bronchial irritations as may occur with a cold" | | |
| | "Helps to loosen phlegm (mucus) and thin bronchial secretions to drain bronchial tubes" | | |
| | "Soothe[s] the throat" | | |
| | "Effective" | | |
| | "Natural" | | |
| | "Homeopathic" | | |
| Children's Cough & | "Cough & Bronchial" | | |
| Bronchial Syrup | "Natural" | | |
| | "Cough Suppressant/Expectorant" | | |
| | "Maximum Strength" | | |
| | "Fast Relief" | | |
| | "Homeopathic" | | |
| | "Effective" | | |
| | "Relieves Coughs & Congestion" | | |
| | "Soothes irritated throat membranes" | | |

| Product | Challenged Statements | |
|---------|--|--|
| | "Relieves coughs due to colds and inhaled irritants (air pollution)" | |
| | "Helps clear congested bronchial tubes of stubborn mucus" | |
| | "Helps clear bronchial congestion" | |
| | "Temporarily relieves cough due to minor throat and bronchial irritation as may occur with a cold" | |
| | "Helps to loosen phlegm (mucus) and thin bronchial secretions to drain bronchial tubes" | |
| | "Soothes the throat" | |

EXHIBIT 3

| Nature's Way Boericke & Tafel Product | "Active" Ingredient | Date Ingredient Added to HPUS | Dilution | Inactive Ingredients |
|--|---------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Cough & Bronchial | Aconitum napellus | 2004 | 3X (= 1/1,000 dilution) | Citric acid Gum arabic |
| Syrup - Daytime | Bryonia | 8/2008 | 3X (= 1/1,000 dilution) | Malt extract Water |
| | Hepar sulphuris calcareum | 8/2010 | 6C (1/1,000,000,000,000 dilution) | Sodium benzoate 0.1% Sucrose |
| | Spongia tosta | 9/2008 | 3X (= 1/1,000 dilution) | |
| | Stannum metallicum | 6/2010 | 6C (1/1,000,000,000,000 dilution) | |
| Cough & Bronchial | Aconitum napellus | 2004 | 3X (= 1/1,000 dilution) | Citric acid Malt extract |
| Syrup - Nighttime | Alfalfa | 6/2010 | 1X (= 1/10 dilution) | Water Sodium benzoate |
| | Coffea cruda | 2006 | 6X (= 1/1,000,000 dilution) | Sucrose |
| | Avena sativa | 11/2010 | 1X (= 1/10 dilution) | |
| | Bryonia alba | 8/2008 | 3X (= 1/1,000 dilution) | |
| | Hepar sulphuris calcareum | 8/2010 | 6C (1/1,000,000,000,000 dilution) | |
| | Spongia tosta | 9/2008 | 3X (= 1/1,000 dilution) | |
| | Stannum metallicum | 6/2010 | 6C (1/1,000,000,000,000 dilution) | |

| Cough & | Antimonium sulphuratum | 1991 | 8X | |
|--------------|------------------------|---------|---------------------------|---------------|
| Bronchial | aureum | | (=1/100,000,000 dilution) | |
| Syrup – 99% | Bryonia alba | 8/2008 | 3X | |
| Alcohol Free | - | | (= 1/1,000 dilution) | |
| | Drosera rotundifolia | 7/2008 | 3X | |
| | | | (= 1/1,000 dilution) | |
| | Eucalyptus globulus | 12/2006 | 3X | |
| | | | (= 1/1,000 dilution) | |
| | Ipecauanha | 9/2004 | 4X | |
| | | | (=1/10,000 dilution) | |
| | Spongia tosta | 9/2008 | 3X | |
| | | | (= 1/1,000 dilution) | |
| Cough & | Antimonium sulphuratum | 12/1991 | 8X | Fructose |
| Bronchial | aureum | | (=1/100,000,000 dilution) | Glycerin |
| Syrup (Zinc | Bryonia alba | 8/2008 | 3X | Water |
| Formula) | | | (= 1/1,000 dilution) | |
| | Drosera rotundifolia | 7/2008 | 3X | |
| | | | (= 1/1,000 dilution) | |
| | Eucalyptus globulus | 12/2006 | 3X | |
| | | | (= 1/1,000 dilution) | |
| | Ipecauanha | 9/2004 | 4X | |
| | | | (=1/10,000 dilution) | |
| | Spongia tosta | 9/2008 | 3X | |
| | | | (= 1/1,000 dilution) | |
| | Zincum gluconicum | 6/2010 | 1X | |
| | | | (= 1/10 dilution) | |
| Children's | Antimonium sulphuratum | 12/1991 | 6X | Aronia juice |
| Cough & | aureum | | (=1/100,000,000 dilution) | Cherry flavor |
| Bronchial | Bryonia alba | 8/2008 | 3X | Citric acid |
| Syrup | | | (= 1/1,000 dilution) | Fructose |

| Dro | osera rotundifolia | 7/2008 | 3X | Water |
|-------|--------------------|---------|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| | | | (= 1/1,000 dilution) | Potassium sorbate 0.135% |
| Euc | calyptus globulus | 12/2006 | 3X | |
| | | | (= 1/1,000 dilution) | |
| Illio | cium anisatum | 12/1991 | 3X | |
| | | | (= 1/1,000 dilution) | |
| Iped | ecauanha | 9/2004 | 4X | |
| | | | (=1/10,000 dilution) | |

EXHIBIT 4

B&T Cough & Bronchial Daytime Syrup





Cough & Bronchial Nighttime Syrup





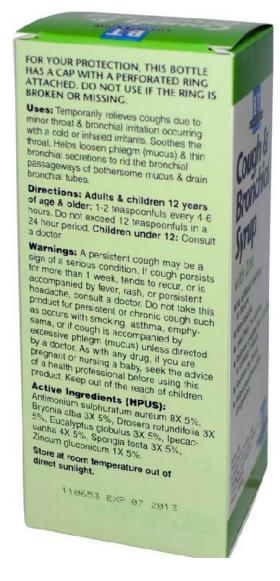
Children's Cough & Bronchial Syrup





Cough & Bronchial Syrup—Zinc Formula





Cough & Bronchial Syrup—99% Alcohol Free





EXHIBIT 5

Law Offices of

Ronald A. Marron

651 Arroyo Drive San Diego, CA 92103

A Professional Law Corporation

Tel: 619.696.9006 Fax: 619.564.6665

July 18, 2013

Via: Certified Mail, (receipt acknowledgment with signature requested)

Nature's Way Products, LLC ATTN: Legal Department 825 Challenger Drive Green Bay, Wisconsin 54311

Nature's Way Products, Inc. ATTN: Legal Department 3051 West Maple Loop Drive, Suite 125 Lehi, Utah 84043 Nature's Way Holding Company, LLC ATTN: Legal Department 825 Challenger Drive Greenbay, Wisconsin 54311-8312

Schwabe, North America, Inc. ATTN: Legal Department 825 Challenger Drive Green Bay, Wisconsin 54311

RE: NOTICE: Violations of the California Consumers Legal Remedies Act and Duty to Preserve Evidence

Dear Sir or Madam,

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that this letter constitutes notice under the California Consumers Legal Remedies Act, ("CLRA"), California Civil Code Section 1750, et seq., (the "ACT") — pursuant to Civil Code Section 1782 — notifying NATURE'S WAY PRODUCTS, LLC, SCHWABE, NORTH AMERICA, INC., NATURE'S WAY HOLDING COMPANY, LLC, and NATURE'S WAY PRODUCTS, INC. (collectively, "YOU" and "YOUR") of violations of the Act and of our demand that YOU remedy such violations within thirty (30) days from your receipt of this letter.

This firm represents Woodson Wood, Jr., who purchased YOUR homeopathic B&T Cough and Bronchial Daytime Syrup, Cough & Bronchial Nighttime Syrup, Children's Cough and Bronchial Syrup, and Cough & Bronchial Syrup Zinc Formula from Walgreens, located in Sacramento, California. Mr. Wood and other consumers similarly situated were exposed to and saw YOUR claims about the B&T Cough & Bronchial products, purchased the products in reliance on those claims, and suffered injury in fact as a result of YOUR false and misleading advertising.

July 18, 2013

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As you know, YOUR homeopathic B&T Cough & Bronchial product line comes in five (5) varieties: Cough & Bronchial Daytime Syrup, Cough & Bronchial Nighttime Syrup, Cough & Bronchial Syrup 99% Alcohol Free, Cough & Bronchial Syrup Zinc Formula, and Children's Cough & Bronchial Syrup (collectively "PRODUCTS"). In purchasing YOUR PRODUCTS, Mr. Wood and other consumers similarly situated relied upon various representations and omissions YOU made on the PRODUCTS' labels and elsewhere. Examples of such representations and omissions are, including but not limited to, the following.

<u>First</u>, YOU falsely market YOUR PRODUCTS by putting false and misleading claims on the labels. For example, YOU market YOUR PRODUCTS as "Cough & Bronchial" syrups that are "Natural," "Cough Suppressant/Expectorant[s]," "Homeopathic," "Effective," "clinically proven," "Maximum Strength," and provide "Fast Relief," "Fast, Natural Relief."

Other misleading representations on the PRODUCTS' labels and packaging include: "Relieves coughs," "Relieves Coughs & Congestion," "Helps clear bronchial congestion," "Clears bronchial congestion," "Relieves coughs due to colds or inhaled irritants," "Relieves coughs due to colds and inhaled irritants (air pollution)," "Helps clear bronchial congestion," "Relieves Coughs & Congestion," "Temporarily relieves cough due to minor throat and bronchial irritation as may occur with a cold," "Temporarily relieves cough due to minor throat and bronchial irritations occurring with a cold or inhaled irritants," "Helps loosen phlegm (mucus) and thin bronchial secretions to drain bronchial tubes," "Helps to loosen phlegm (mucus) and thin bronchial secretions to rid the bronchial passageways of bothersome mucus & drain bronchial tubes," "Helps clear congested bronchial tubes of stubborn mucus," "Relieves difficulty sleeping associated with cough & bronchial conditions," "Promotes Sleep," "Promotes restful sleep," "Soothes irritated throat membranes," and "Soothes the throat," among other representations.

<u>Second</u>, In addition, PRODUCTS within the B&T Cough & Bronchial line (including, Cough & Bronchial Daytime Syrup, Cough & Bronchial Nighttime Syrup, Children's Cough & Bronchial Syrup, Cough & Bronchial Syrup Zinc Formula, and Cough & Bronchial Syrup 99% Alcohol Free) provide a clear representation to consumers that the PRODUCTS are designed to alleviate the symptoms identified in their respective names. Label descriptions on the PRODUCTS' packaging, taken as a whole, further clarify the purported benefits of YOUR PRODUCTS. Moreover, YOU falsely advertise YOUR PRODUCTS online.

Third, YOUR advertising that YOUR homeopathic PRODUCTS contain 1X, 2X, etc. of active ingredients is false and deceptive because the average consumer is unaware

July 18, 2013

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that these quantity designations indicate dilution of the mother tincture by 1,000 times, 10,000 times, etc. YOU also encourage the sale of YOUR PRODUCTS next to other, non-homeopathic over-the-counter ("OTC") drugs in retail stores, adding to consumer deception that YOUR homeopathic PRODUCTS are similar to allopathic, FDA approved OTC drugs.

Fourth, the purported active ingredients in B&T Cough & Bronchial PRODUCTS are Aconitum napellus, Alfalfa, Antimonium sulphuratum aureum, Avena sativa, Bryonia alba, Coffea cruda, Drosera rotundifolia, Eucalyptus globulus, Hepar sulphuris calcareum, Illicium anisatum, Ipecauanha, Spongia tosta, Stannum metallicum and Zincum gluconicum. The dilution levels of these ingredients, however, is undisclosed to Plaintiff and other unsuspecting consumers.

<u>Fifth</u>, YOU also advertise YOUR PRODUCTS as being "Natural." Average consumers, however, understand this to mean all-natural, which YOUR products are not, as they contain synthetic and/or chemically reduced ingredients.

Sixth, several of YOUR PRODUCTS were improperly marketed as homeopathic drugs between 2009 and 2013, as not all of their respective ingredients were recognized by the Homeopathic Pharmacopeia of the United States ("HPUS") during that timeframe. By containing even *one* non-HPUS ingredient, the Products are not official homeopathic drugs, CPG § 400.400, but are unapproved new drugs and are accordingly misbranded under the California Sherman Law. *See* CPG §400.400 ("Drug products containing homeopathic ingredients in combination with non-homeopathic active ingredients are not homeopathic drug products"); Cal. Health & Safety Code §§ 110100, 110105, 110110, 110111. Thus, Defendants advertising its PRODUCTS are "homeopathic" is false, deceptive and unlawful.

<u>Seventh</u>, any clinical proof YOU have for YOUR PRODUCTS does not meet the standard required for a new drug under the Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act; therefore, the phrase "Clinically Proven," on any of YOUR PRODUCTS so labeled, is false and misleading.

A reasonable consumer would have relied on the deceptive and false claims made in YOUR advertisements and through the exercise of reasonable diligence would not have discovered the violations alleged herein because YOU actively and purposefully concealed the truth regarding YOUR PRODUCTS or services.

In conclusion, YOUR material misrepresentations are deceiving customers into purchasing YOUR PRODUCTS under the representation that they provide significant health benefits, when in fact they do not. YOUR PRODUCTS did not live up to their warranties, and that breach caused injury in the form of the lost purchase price of the PRODUCTS.

July 18, 2013

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Based upon the above, a demand is hereby made that YOU cure this breach, conduct a corrective advertising campaign and destroy all misleading and deceptive advertising materials and PRODUCTS.

Further, on behalf of our client, Mr. Wood, and all other similarly-situated U.S. consumers of YOUR B&T Cough & Bronchial PRODUCTS, we demand:

- (1) The actual damages suffered;
- (2) A stipulation enjoining YOU for such methods, acts or practices;
- (3) Restitution of monies paid;
- (4) Punitive damages;
- (5) Any other relief which the court deems proper; and
- (6) Court costs and attorneys' fees.

Additionally, I remind YOU of YOUR legal duty to preserve all records relevant to such litigation. See, e.g., *Convolve, Inc. v. Compaq Computer Corp.*, 223 F.R.D 162, 175 (S.D.N.Y 2004); *Computer Ass'n Int'l v. American Fundware, Inc.*, 133 F.R.D. 166, 168-69 (D. Colo. 1990). This firm anticipates that all e-mails, letters, reports, internal corporate instant messages, and laboratory records that related to the formulation and marketing of YOUR PRODUCTS will be sought in the forthcoming discovery process. YOU therefore must inform any employees, contractors, and third-party agents (for example PRODUCT consultants and advertising agencies handling YOUR PRODUCT account(s)) to preserve all such relevant information.

I look forward to YOU taking corrective action. Thank you for your time and consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,

THE LAW OFFICES OF RONALD A. MARRON APLC

/s/ Ronald A. Marron
Ronald A. Marron
Attorney for Woodson Wood, Jr.,
and all others similarly situated

cc: Amy Lally, Esq.

| 8707 | U.S. Postal S CERTIFIED (Domestic Mail Or | MAIL REC nly: No Insurance C | EIPT overage Provided) at www.usps.come |
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| | Restricted Delivery Fee (Endorsement Required) | | |
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| | City, State, ZIP+4 | William | 5°4311 |
| | PS Form 3800, August | 2006 | See Reverse for Instructions |

| 15.4 | | | |
|---|--|--|--|
| SENDER: COMPLETE THIS SECTION | COMPLETE THIS SECTION ON DELIVERY | | |
| Complete items 1_2, and 3. Also complete item 4 if Restricted Delivery is desired. Print your name and address on the reverse so that we can return the card to you. Attach this card to the back of the mailpiece, or on the front if space permits. | A. Signature Agent Addressee B. Received by (Printed/Name) C. Date of Delivery | | |
| 1. Article Addressed to: Nature's way Products, LLC Attn legal Department 8-5 Challenger Drive | D. Is delivery address different from item 1? ☐ Yes If YES, enter delivery address below: ☐ No | | |
| Green Buy, Wiscons in 54311 | 3. Service Type Certified Mail Registered Return Receipt for Merchandise C.O.D. | | |
| | 4. Restricted Delivery? (Extra Fee) ☐ Yes | | |
| 2. Article Number 7009 1480 00 | D1 2316 8707 | | |
| PS Form 3811, February 2004 Domestic Reti | urn Receipt 102595-02-M-1540 | | |

| 5088 | U.S. Postal S CERTIFIED (Domestic Mail Or For delivery Informa | MAIL REC | CEIPT coverage Provided) at www.usps.com |
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| | PS Form 3800, August | | See Reverse for Instructions |

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|---|---|
| ■ Complete items 1, 2, and 3. Also complete item 4 if Restricted Delivery is desired. ■ Print your name and address on the reverse so that we can return the card to you. ■ Attach this card to the back of the mailpiece, or on the front if space permits. 1. Article Addressed to: Nature's Way Holding Company Luck Attach Leyol Department | A. Signature X And Manager Agent Addressee B. Received by (Printed Name) C. Date of Delivery D. Is delivery address different from item 1? Yes |
| Green Bay, Wisconsin 54311-9312 | 3. Service Type Certified Mail |
| 2. Article Number 7012 2920 0 | 001 0982 5088 |
| PS Form 3811, February 2004 Domestic Reti | urn Receipt 102595-02-M-1540 |

| בינות בינות | For calivery inform | D MAIL _{TM} RE Only; No Insurance lation visit our websit | Coverage Provided) e at www.usps.com⊚ |
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| LT LLI | | \$ 4 | 3,000,000 |
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| 700 | Street, Apt. No.; | Egal Dagarla | rest ve |
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| | | | See Reverse for Instructions |

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| Complete items 1, 2, and 3. Also complete item 4 if Restricted Delivery is desired. Print your name and address on the reverse so that we can return the card to you. Attach this card to the back of the mailpiece, or on the front if space permits. | A. Signature X Agent D Addressee B. Received by (Printed Name) C Date of Delivery | | |
| 1. Article Addressed to: Schwibe Morth America, ha- Aft n. Legal Department | D. Is delivery address different from item 1? ☐ Yes for the YES, enter delivery address below: ☐ No | | |
| breen Bay Wisconsin 54711 | 3. Service Type Certified Mail Registered Return Receipt for Merchandise Insured Mail C.O.D. | | |
| | 4. Restricted Delivery? (Extra Fee) ☐ Yes | | |
| 2. Article Ni 7009 1680 0001 236 | 1 3320 | | |
| PS Form 3811 February 2004 Domestic Bety | rn Receipt 102595-02-M-1540 | | |

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| 2920 0001 | Gertified Fee Return Receipt Fee (Endorsement Required) Restricted Delivery Fee (Endorsement Required) Total Postage & Fees | \$ | 205 | Postmark Here |
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| Complete items 1, 2, item 4 if Restricted De Print your name and a so that we can return Attach this card to the or on the front 1 space 1. Article Addressed 16. Nufve's way factor of the card of t | elivery is desired. address on the reverse the card to you. back of the mailpiece, e permits. | If YES, enter delivery address below: |
| Soy (West maple Leh., Which & | | ☐ Registered ☐ Return Receipt for Merchandise ☐ Insured Mail ☐ C.O.D. |
| Article Number (Transfer from service lab.) | 7012 2920 | 4. Restricted Delivery? (Extra Fee) Yes |
| PS Form 3811 February | 2004 Domestic | Return Receipt 102505.02 M 1540 |

| ካካΕΕ | (Domestic Mail C | D MAIL RE(inly: No Insurance (ation visit our website | |
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| | City, State, ZIP+4 | ca 90013 |) |
| | PS Form 3800, August 2 | THE RESIDENCE OF THE PARTY OF T | See Reverse for Instructions |
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| Land and Market and Comment of the C | · Yearlin |
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| SENDER: COMPLETE THIS SECTION | COMPLETE THIS SECTION ON DELIVERY |
| Complete items 1, 2, and 3. Also complete item 4 if Restricted Delivery is desired. Print your name and address on the reverse so that we can return the card to you. Attach this card to the back of the mailpiece, or on the front if space permits. Article Addressed to: | A. Signature X |
| Sidley Autin CLP 555 West Fifth Street Los Angeles, CA 90013 | 3. Service Type Certified Mail Express Mail Registered Receipt for Merchandise Insured Mail C.O.D. |
| | 4. Restricted Delivery? (Extra Fee) |
| 2. Article Number 7009 1680 | 0007 5367 3344 |
| PS Form 3811, February 2004 Domestic Ret | urn Receipt 102595-02-M-1540 |

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

NOTICE OF ASSIGNMENT TO UNITED STATES JUDGES

| This case has been assigned to Γ | District Judge | Ronald S.W | . Lew | and the assigned |
|--|--|------------------|---|------------------|
| Magistrate Judge is Margare | t A. Nagle . | | | |
| The case number on al | l documents filed with | the Court shou | ıld read as follo | ws: |
| | CV13-6591-RSWL | (MANx) | | |
| Pursuant to General Order 05-0 California, the Magistrate Judge has bee | | | | District of |
| All discovery related motions sh | ould be noticed on the | calendar of the | e Magistrate Jud | lge. |
| | | Clerk, U. S. D | istrict Court | |
| September 9, 2013 | | By C. Sawyer | | |
| Date | | Deputy Cl | erk | |
| | | | | |
| | NOTICE TO COU | NSEL | | |
| A copy of this notice must be served with | the summons and com | plaint on all de | fendants (if a re | moval action is |
| filed, a copy of this notice must be served | on all plaintiffs). | | | |
| Subsequent documents must be filed a | t the following locatio | n: | | |
| Western Division 312 N. Spring Street, G-8 Los Angeles, CA 90012 | Southern Division 411 West Fourth St., Ste Santa Ana, CA 92701 | □ 1053 | Eastern Division 3470 Twelfth S Riverside, CA S | treet, Room 134 |
| Failure to file at the proper location wi | ll result in your docur | nents being re | turned to you. | |

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT, CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA CIVIL COVER SHEET

| I. (a) PLAINTIFFS (Ch | eck box if you are rep | resenting yourself 🔲) | DEFENDANTS | (Check box if you are re | epresenting yourself [] | | |
|--|---|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| WOODSON WOOD, JR., on general public | behalf of himself, all othe | ers similarly situated and th | LLC, a Wisconsin lin | NATURE'S WAY PRODUCTS, INC., a Utah corporation; NATURE'S WAY PRODUCTS, LLC, a Wisconsin limited liability company; SCHWABE, NORTH AMERICA, INC., a Wisconsin corporation, and NATURE'S WAY HOLDING COMPANY, LLC, a Utah limited liability company | | | |
| (b) Attorneys (Firm Nam are representing yoursel Law Offices of Ronald A. Ma 651 Arroyo Drive San Diego, CA 92103 Telephone: (619) 696-9006 | f, provide same.) | one Number. If you | | n Name, Address and Telep rourself, provide same.) | ohone Number. If you | | |
| II. BASIS OF JURISDI | CTION (Place an X in | one box only.) | | RINCIPAL PARTIES-For D | | | |
| | | | | ox for plaintiff and one for o | DTE DEE | | |
| 1. U.S. Government Plaintiff | L | Question (U.S. nt Not a Party) | Citizen of This State | 1 1 1 Incorporated of Business in t | r Principal Place | | |
| Figitifii | dovernmen | | Citizen of Another State | 2 2 Incorporated a | nd Principal Place 5 🗷 5 | | |
| 2. U.S. Government | 4. Diversity | (Indicate Citizenship | | of Business in A | notner State — — | | |
| ☐ Defendant | of Parties in | | oreign Country | 3 3 Foreign Nation | □ 6 □ 6 | | |
| IV OPICIN (Place as V | in one how only | | | ansferred from Another 6 | . Multi- | | |
| IV. ORIGIN (Place an X | Removed from | 3. Remanded from | • 1 | strict (Specify) | District | | |
| Proceeding 2 | State Court | Appellate Court | Reopened | | itigation | | |
| - | | | , | | | | |
| V. REQUESTED IN CO | MPLAINT: JURY DE | MAND: X Yes | No (Check "Yes" o | nly if demanded in com | plaint.) | | |
| CLASS ACTION under | F.R.Cv.P. 23: | Yes No | MONEY DEMA | NDED IN COMPLAINT: | over \$5,000,000.00 | | |
| | | | | | | | |
| VI. CAUSE OF ACTION Violation of CLRA, UCL, FAL, | (Cite the U.S. Civil Statu Breaches of Express War | te under which you are filin ranties, implied Merchanta | ig and write a brief statemer bility, and Magnuson-Moss | nt of cause. Do not cite jurisdi Warranty | ctional statutes unless diversity.) | | |
| | ,, | , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , | , , , | , | | | |
| VII. NATURE OF SUIT | Place an X in one b | ox only). | | | | | |
| | | | | DDISCOULD OFFICE ONE | DEADERTO DICTOR | | |
| OTHER STATUTES | CONTRACT 110 Insurance | REAL PROPERTY CONT 240 Torts to Land | . IMMIGRATION 462 Naturalization | PRISONER PETITIONS Habeas Corpus: | PROPERTY RIGHTS 820 Copyrights | | |
| 375 False Claims Act | Tromsurance | 245 Tort Product | Application | 463 Alien Detainee | | | |
| ☐ 400 State Reapportionment | 120 Marine | Liability | 465 Other Immigration Actions | 510 Motions to Vacate | 830 Patent | | |
| 410 Antitrust | 130 Miller Act | 290 All Other Real | | Sentence 530 General | 840 Trademark | | |
| 430 Banks and Banking | ☐ 140 Negotiable Instrument | TORTS | PERSONAL PROPERTY | 535 Death Penalty | SOCIAL SECURITY 861 HIA (1395ff) | | |
| A50 Commerce/ICC | 150 Recovery of | PERSONAL INJURY | 370 Other Fraud | Other: | 862 Black Lung (923) | | |
| 460 Deportation | Overpayment & Enforcement of | 310 Airplane | 371 Truth in Lending | 540 Mandamus/Other | 863 DIWC/DIWW (405 (g)) | | |
| 470 Racketeer Influ- | Judgment | 315 Airplane Product Liability | 380 Other Personal | 550 Civil Rights | 864 SSID Title XVI | | |
| enced & Corrupt Org. | ☐ 151 Medicare Act | 320 Assault, Libel & | Property Damage | 555 Prison Condition 560 Civil Detainee | 865 RSI (405 (g)) | | |
| 480 Consumer Credit | 152 Recovery of | Slander 330 Fed. Employers' | 385 Property Damage | Conditions of | | | |
| ☐ 490 Cable/Sat TV | Defaulted Student Loan (Excl. Vet.) | Liability | □ Product Liability BANKRUPTCY | Confinement FORFEITURE/PENALTY | FEDERAL TAX SUITS 870 Taxes (U.S. Plaintiff or | | |
| 850 Securities/Com- | 153 Recovery of | 340 Marine | 422 Appeal 28 | 625 Drug Related | Defendant) | | |
| modities/Exchange | Overpayment of | 345 Marine Product | 423 Withdrawal 28 | Seizure of Property 21 USC 881 | 871 IRS-Third Party 26 USC | | |
| ☐ 890 Other Statutory Actions | Vet. Benefits 160 Stockholders' | 350 Motor Vehicle | ☐ USC 157 | 030 881 | 7609 | | |
| 891 Agricultural Acts | Suits | 355 Motor Vehicle | CIVIL RIGHTS 440 Other Civil Rights | 690 Other | | | |
| 893 Environmental | 190 Other | Product Liability 360 Other Personal | | LABOR | | | |
| Matters 895 Freedom of Info. | Contract | ☐ Injury | 441 Voting | 710 Fair Labor Standards | | | |
| Act Act | 195 Contract Product Liability | 362 Personal Injury- Med Malpratice | 442 Employment | 720 Labor/Mgmt. | | | |
| 896 Arbitration | 196 Franchise | 365 Personal Injury- | ☐ 443 Housing/ Accomodations | Relations | | | |
| 899 Admin. Procedures | REAL PROPERTY | Product Liability 367 Health Care/ | 445 American with | 740 Railway Labor Act | | | |
| Act/Review of Appeal of | 210 Land | Pharmaceutical | Disabilities- | 751 Family and Medical Leave Act | | | |
| Agency Decision | Condemnation 220 Foreclosure | □ Personal Injury Product Liability | Employment 446 American with | 790 Other Labor | | | |
| 950 Constitutionality of | 230 Rent Lease & | 368 Asbestos | Disabilities-Other | ☐ Litigation ☐ 791 Employee Ret. Inc. | | | |
| ☐ State Statutes | Ejectment | Personal Injury Product Liability | 448 Education | Security Act | | | |
| FOR OFFICE USE ONLY: C | ase Number: | Marie I | P 1011 4 7 | 4 E O 4 | | | |
| | | | LVI). | - 0771 | | | |
| ΔFTER | COMPLETING PAGE | 1 OF FORM CV-71 C | OMPLETE THE INFORM | IATION REQUESTED ON | PAGE 2 | | |
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CV-71 (02/13)

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT, CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA CIVIL COVER SHEET

| VIII(a). IDENTICAL C | ASES: Has this a | action been previously filed in this c | ourt and dismissed, remanded or closed? | ⊠ NO | | YES |
|---|--|--|---|--------------------------|-----------------|----------------|
| If yes, list case num | ber(s): | | | | | |
| VIII(b). RELATED CAS | SES: Have any ca | ases been previously filed in this cou | urt that are related to the present case? | ĭ NO | | YES |
| If yes, list case num | ber(s): | | | | | |
| Civil cases are deemed | related if a previo | usly filed case and the present case: | | | | |
| (Check all boxes that app | oly) 🔲 A. Arise | from the same or closely related transac | tions, happenings, or events; or | | | |
| | B. Call fo | or determination of the same or substant | tially related or similar questions of law and fact; | ; or | | |
| | C. For ot | her reasons would entail substantial du | plication of labor if heard by different judges; or | | | |
| | D. Involv | ve the same patent, trademark or copyri | ght <u>, and one</u> of the factors identified above in a, | b or c also is pres | sent. | |
| IX. VENUE: (When comp | leting the followin | g information, use an additional sheet if | necessary.) | | | |
| (a) List the County in thi plaintiff resides. | s District; Califori | nia County outside of this District; St | tate if other than California; or Foreign Cou | ntry, in which E | EACH na | med |
| Check here if the go | vernment, its age | encies or employees is a named plai | ntiff. If this box is checked, go to item (b). | | | |
| County in this District:* | | | California County outside of this District; State, Country Sacramento | if other than Cali | fornia; or | Foreign |
| | | | | | | |
| (b) List the County in thi defendant resides. | s District; Califori | nia County outside of this District; St | tate if other than California; or Foreign Cou | intry, in which E | E ACH na | med |
| Check here if the go | vernment, its age | encies or employees is a named defe | endant. If this box is checked, go to item (c | <u>:</u>). | | |
| County in this District:* | | | California County outside of this District; State, Country | if other than Cali | fornia; or | Foreign |
| | | | Utah Wisconsin | | | |
| (c) List the County in thi NOTE: In land condemn | s District; Califorr a tion cases, use | nia County outside of this District; St the location of the tract of land i | l tate if other than California; or Foreign Cou nvolved. | ıntry, in which F | EACH cla | aim arose. |
| County in this District:* | | | California County outside of this District; State, Country | if other than Cali | fornia; or | Foreign |
| | | | Sacramento | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| | | rside, Ventura, Santa Barbara, or San ation of the tract of land involved | Luis Obispo Counties | | | |
| X. SIGNATURE OF ATTORN | | | | 9/06/2013 | | |
| other papers as required by but is used by the Clerk of th | law. This form, app ne Court for the pur | proved by the Judicial Conference of the pose of statistics, venue and initiating t | ntained herein neither replace nor supplement • United States in September 1974, is required p he civil docket sheet. (For more detailed instruct | ursuant to Local I | Rule 3-1 is | s not filed |
| Key to Statistical codes relat Nature of Suit Code | 2 | ty Cases: Substantive Statement of | f Cause of Action | | | |
| 861 | HIA | | s (Medicare) under Title 18, Part A, of the Social rsing facilities, etc., for certification as providers | | | |
| 862 | BL | All claims for "Black Lung" benefits un 923) | All claims for "Black Lung" benefits under Title 4, Part B, of the Federal Coal Mine Health and Safety Act of 1969. (30 U.S.C. | | | |
| 863 | DIWC | | disability insurance benefits under Title 2 of the nefits based on disability. (42 U.S.C. 405 (g)) | Social Security A | ct, as am | ended; plus |
| 863 | DIWW | All claims filed for widows or widower amended. (42 U.S.C. 405 (g)) | rs insurance benefits based on disability under T | ītle 2 of the Socia | al Security | / Act, as |
| 864 | SSID | All claims for supplemental security in amended. | come payments based upon disability filed unc | ler Title 16 of the | Social Se | curity Act, as |
| 865 | RSI | | survivors benefits under Title 2 of the Social Sec | curity Act, as ame | ended. | |

CV-71 (02/13) CIVIL COVER SHEET Page 2 of 2