1	TO THE CLERK OF THE ABOVE-ENTITLED COURT AND TO PLAINTIFF			
2	AND HIS ATTORNEYS OF RECORD:			
3	PLEASE TAKE NOTICE THAT pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1446, defendants			
4	Nature's Bounty, Inc. and NBTY Inc. (collectively "NBTY") remove the above-			
5	captioned action from the Superior Court of the State of California for the County			
6	of Los Angeles to the United States District Court for the Central District of			
7	California. In support of its Notice of Removal, NBTY states:			
8	1. On October 22, 2014, plaintiff Alison Wilson ("Plaintiff") filed a			
9	Complaint in the Superior Court of the State of California for the County of Los			
10	Angeles, Docket No. BC561527, captioned Alison Wilson, individually and on			
11	behalf of all others similarly situated, v. Nature's Bounty, Inc., a New York			
12	Corporation, NBTY, Inc., a Delaware Corporation, and Does 1 through 100,			
13	Inclusive.			
14	2. On October 27, 2014, Plaintiff served the Summons and Complaint o			
15	NBTY. NBTY's Notice of Removal is timely filed within 30 days of October 27.			
16	2014.			
17	3. True and correct copies of the Summons, Complaint, and Notice of			
18	Court Order, which constitute "all process, pleadings, and orders served upon"			
19	NBTY, see 28 U.S.C. § 1446(a), are attached as Exhibits A-H, respectively.			
20	4. A copy of this Notice of Removal is being filed with the Clerk of the			
21	Superior Court of the State of California for the County of Los Angeles, and is			
22	being served on counsel of record under 28 U.S.C. § 1446(d).			
23	5. Plaintiff alleges NBTY manufactures, markets and sells four Ginkgo			
24	Biloba products (specifically described as "Ginkgo Biloba 120mg (100 capsules),			
25	"Ginkgo Biloba 60mg (200 capsules)," "Ginkgo Biloba 400mg plus 60mg			
26	Standardized Extract (120 Tablets)," and "Ginkgo Biloba 60 mg (60 Tablets)")			
27	(collectively, the "Products") that are falsely advertised. Complaint, $\P$ 16.			
28	6. Plaintiff alleges NBTY's actions violate California's Unfair			

- 1 Competition Law, Cal. Bus. & Prof. Code § 17200, et seq. (Counts I, II, III),
- 2 California's False Advertising Law, Cal. Bus. & Prof. Code § 17500, et seq.
- 3 (Count IV), and the California Consumers Legal Remedies Act, Cal. Civ. Code 4 § 1750, *et seq.* (Count V). Complaint, ¶¶ 46-91.
- 7. Plaintiff seeks to litigate her claims on behalf of herself and a putative class: "All persons who purchased Nature's Bounty Ginkgo Biloba for personal use and not for resale, in the State of California during the applicable liability period for their personal use, rather than for resale or distribution."

  Complaint ¶ 36.
  - 8. Plaintiff alleges members of the putative class number "at least in the tens of thousands." Complaint ¶ 38.
  - 9. Plaintiff seeks, *inter alia*: (1) restitution, (2) injunctive relief, (3) penalties of up to \$5,000 for each class member under California Civil Code section 1780(b), (4) pre-judgment interest, (5) costs, (6) attorneys' fees, and (7) any other award that the Court deems just. Complaint at pp. 19-20, Prayer for Relief.
  - 10. As demonstrated below, this Court has jurisdiction over Plaintiff's action, and it is properly removed to this Court.

# BASIS OF FEDERAL JURISDICTION UNDER <u>CLASS ACTION FAIRNESS ACT</u>

- 11. This action is removable to this Court because federal diversity jurisdiction under 28 U.S.C. § 1332 exists over Plaintiff's claims under the Class Action Fairness Act of 2005, Pub. L. 109-2, 119 Stat. 4 (2005) ("CAFA"), codified in various sections of Title 28 of the United States Code including 28 U.S.C. §§ 1332(d) & 1453.
- 12. Congress enacted CAFA to enlarge federal jurisdiction over proposed class actions. CAFA provides that a class action against a non-governmental entity may be removed to federal court if: (1) the aggregate amount in controversy

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1	exceeds \$5 million, exclusive of interest and costs; (2) any member of the			
2	proposed plaintiff class is a citizen of a state different from any defendant; and (3)			
3	the number of proposed class members is not less than 100. See 28 U.S.C.			
4	§§ 1332(d)(2), (d)(5), (d)(6) & 1453(b). As set forth below, all the requirements			
5	for removal are met here.			
6	Amount-In-Controversy Requirement			
7	13. CAFA's first requirement, that the aggregate amount in controversy			
8	exceeds \$5 million, exclusive of interest and costs, 28 U.S.C. § 1332(d)(2), is met			
9	here.			
10	14. First, Plaintiff alleges that the number of putative class members is "a			
11	least in the tens of thousands." Complaint ¶ 38. Plaintiff seeks penalties "up to			
12	\$5,000" for "each" class member. Complaint ¶ 90. Plaintiff thus has alleged at			
13	least \$50,000,000 in controversy, even assuming only 10,000 putative class			
14	members. <sup>1</sup>			
15	15. Second, Plaintiff seeks restitution on behalf of all putative class			
16	members, including specifically "any money paid for the Products as a result of th			
17	wrongful conduct of the Defendants." Complaint, ¶ 56.			
18	16. It is NBTY's regular practice to create and maintain, in the ordinary			
19	course of its business, records of sales of its various products to distributors,			
20	retailers, and consumers, where applicable. Declaration of Joseph Looney			
21	("Looney Decl.") ¶ 3.			
22	17. NBTY's business records reflect that from October 22, 2010-October			
23	22, 2014, NBTY sold more than 322,000 units of the Products in California			
24	totaling more than \$2,500,000 in sales (Looney Decl. ¶ 4), all of which Plaintiff			
25	seeks to recover by restitution – i.e., "any money paid for the Products" by putativ			
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28	Nothing herein shall be construed as an admission by Defendants that Plaintiffs			

are entitled to any relief requested.

class members (Complaint ¶ 56).<sup>2</sup>

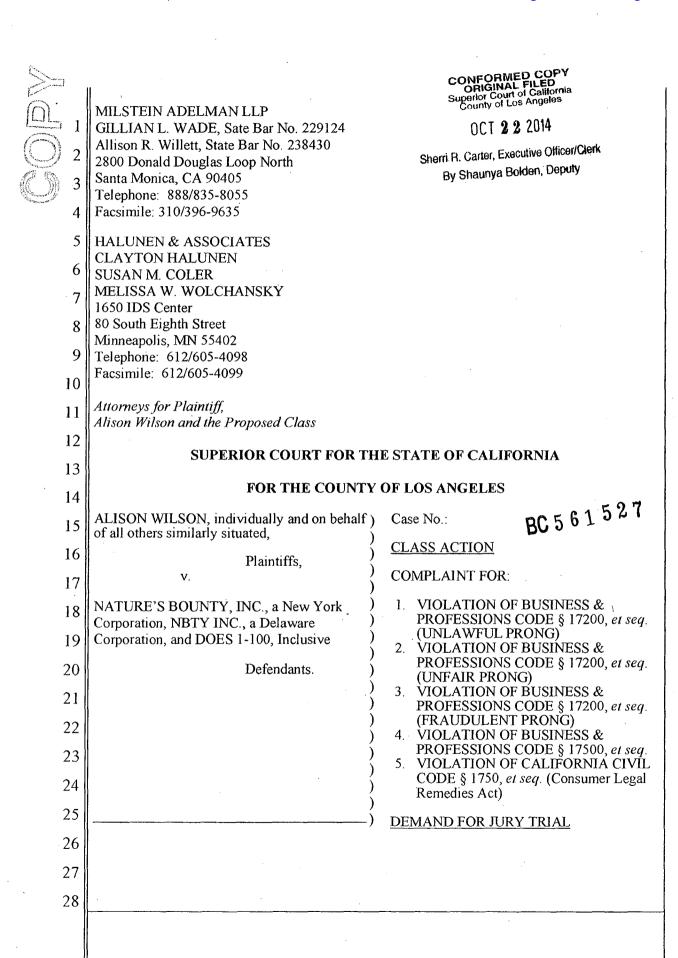
- 18. Third, Plaintiff seeks attorneys' fees. Complaint p. 20, Prayer for Relief. Attorneys' fees may be included in calculating the amount in controversy. *Galt G/S v. JSS Scandinavia*, 142 F.3d 1150, 1156 (9th Cir. 1998); *see also Guglielmino v. McKee Foods Corp.*, 506 F.3d 696, 700 (9th Cir. 2007).
- 19. In the Ninth Circuit, 25% of compensatory damages is a common estimate of attorneys' fees in a class action. *Molnar v. 1-800-Flowers.com, Inc.*, No. CV08-0542CAS (JCX), 2009 WL 481618, at \*5 (C.D. Cal. Feb. 23, 2009) (citing *Staton v. Boeing Co.*, 327 F.3d 938, 967 (9th Cir. 2003)). Calculating attorney's fees as 25% of the restitution sought by Plaintiff yields \$625,000.
- 20. Plaintiff also seeks both prohibitory and mandatory injunctive relief: (a) "an order of this Court enjoining Defendants from continuing to engage, use, or employ their practice of advertising the sale and use of the Products," and (b) "an order requiring Defendants to disclose such misrepresentations." Complaint ¶¶ 80-81. "The cost of . . . the injunction against defendant must be included when determining the amount in controversy." *Lyon v. W.W. Grainger Inc.*, No. C 10-00884 WHA, 2010 WL 1753194, at \*2 (N.D. Cal. Apr. 29, 2010) (citing *In re Ford Motor Co.*, 264 F.3d 952, 959 (9th Cir. 2001)).
- 21. If the cost of an injunction to NBTY is included, the amount in controversy would be even higher. Based on a previous experience in providing notice to class participants and its experiences with product recalls, NBTY estimates the costs of providing notice to a purported class and providing the requested injunctive relief would exceed \$1 million. Looney Decl. ¶ 5.
  - 22. NBTY has therefore established CAFA's minimum amount in

Defendants consider the exact amount of units sold and revenue generated to be confidential. As this is a public filing, Defendants are using conservative round numbers. If the Court has a question regarding Defendant's filing, Defendant is willing to submit precise numbers under seal.

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1 controversy of more than \$5 million, exclusive of interest and costs, is satisfied. 2 **Minimal Diversity of Citizenship** 3 23. CAFA's second requirement, that any one member of the proposed 4 class be a citizen of a state different from any defendant, 28 U.S.C. § 1332(d)(2), is 5 also met here. Plaintiff alleges she is a citizen of California. Complaint. ¶ 1. 6 24. Plaintiff alleges Nature's Bounty, Inc. is a "New York based 7 corporation," and NBTY, Inc. "is a corporation organized under the laws of 8 Delaware." Complaint ¶¶ 2, 3. 9 25. NBTY, Inc. is a corporation organized under the laws of the State of 10 Delaware with its principal place of business at Ronkonkoma, New York. Looney 11 Decl. ¶ 2. Accordingly, diversity of citizenship exists between at least one 12 proposed class member and Defendant, satisfying 28 U.S.C. § 1332(d)(2). 13 26. The complete diversity between the named Plaintiff and NBTY, Inc. 14 not only satisfies the minimal diversity-of-citizenship requirement under CAFA, 15 but also precludes the "local controversy" or "home state" exceptions in 28 U.S.C. 16 § 1332(d)(3) and § 1332(d)(4). 17 **Proposed Class Size** 18 27. CAFA's third requirement, that the proposed class contain at least 100 19 members, 28 U.S.C. § 1332(d)(5), is met here as well. 20 28. Plaintiff alleges that the number of putative class members is "at least 21 in the tens of thousands." Complaint ¶ 38. Plaintiff thus alleges a potential class 22 with at least 100 members. 23 24 25 26 27 28

## EXHIBIT A



### JURISDICTION AND VENUE

1. This Court has subject matter jurisdiction over this class action pursuant to California Constitution, Article VI, § 10, because this case is a cause not given by statute to other trial courts. Plaintiff has standing to bring this action pursuant to California Business & Professions Code § 17200 et seq., Business & Professions Code §17500 et seq., and California Civil Code § 1750 et seq.

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- 2. Venue is proper in this Court because Plaintiff purchased Nature's Bounty Ginkgo Biloba at a Whole Foods store located in Los Angeles, California. Further, Defendants conduct substantial business in Los Angeles County. Defendants receive substantial compensation from sales in Los Angeles County and Defendants make numerous 18 misrepresentations which have a substantial effect in Los Angeles County, including, but not limited to, point of purchase, internet, and mass media advertisements.
  - 3. Other out of state participants can be brought before this Court pursuant to the provisions of Code of Civil Procedure Section 395.5.

#### **PARTIES**

1. Plaintiff Alison Wilson ("Plaintiff") is, and at all times relevant hereto was, an 24 individual residing in Los Angeles, California. Plaintiff purchased Nature's Bounty Ginkgo 25|| Biloba in or about 2013 in Los Angeles, California at a Whole Foods retail store. In doing so, 26 Plaintiff relied upon advertising and other promotional materials, including information on the Products' packaging, containing the misrepresentations alleged herein, including the claims the Products (defined below) will cause or assist in improved memory and brain functioning.

- 2. Defendant Nature's Bounty, Inc. ("Nature's Bounty") is a New York based corporation with its principal place of business at 2100 Smithtown Avenue, Ronkonkoma, New York. Nature's Bounty is the manufacturer of the Products. Nature's Bounty created and/or authorized the false, misleading and deceptive advertisements and packaging of the Products. Nature's Bounty, directly and through its agents, has substantial contacts with and receives substantial benefits and income from and through the State of California. On information and belief, Nature's Bounty is wholly owned by Defendant NBTY, Inc.
- Defendant NBTY, Inc. is a corporation organized under the laws of Delaware 12 with its principal place of business at 2100 Smithtown Avenue, Ronkonkoma, New York. 13|| NBTY is a large manufacturer of vitamins and dietary supplements, including the Products, and markets its products under various name brands. NBTY created and/or authorized the false, 15 misleading and deceptive advertisements and packaging of the Products. NBTY directly and 16 through its agents, has substantial contacts with and receives substantial benefits and income from and through the State of California.

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The true names and capacities, whether individual, corporate, associate or otherwise of certain manufacturers, distributors and/or their alter egos sued herein as DOES 1 through 250 inclusive are presently unknown to Plaintiff who therefore sues these Defendants by fictitious names. Plaintiff will seek leave of this Court to amend the Complaint to show the true names and capacities of said Doe Defendants when the same have been ascertained. Plaintiff is informed and believes and based thereon alleges that DOES 1 through 250 were authorized to do and did business in the State of California, including, but not limited to, Los Angeles County. Plaintiffs are further informed and believe and based thereon allege that DOES 1 through 250 were and/or are, in some manner or way, responsible for and liable to Plaintiff for the events, happenings and damages hereinafter set forth below.

## **FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS**

## **Background**

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- Few things are more unnerving than memory lapses experienced as people grow 6. 10 older. Younger people forget things all the time, but for elders, memory lapses (the mislaid 11 word, name, key) calls up the threat of permanent memory loss, as in Alzheimer's disease.
- According to a survey by the Marist Institute for Public Opinion, Alzheimer's is 7. 13 the most feared disease – more than cancer, stroke, heart disease or diabetes.
- 8. A growing trend in the supplement industry is single ingredient dietary 15 supplement products claiming to improve memory loss. Sales of these products have exploded 16 in recent years due in large part to media reports of "miracle" memory loss and brain enhancing 17 supplements.
  - 9. Not surprisingly, this lucrative market has attracted a variety of hucksters seeking to "cash in" on America's fear of memory loss by hawking an array of products and services, many promising miraculous results.
  - Ginkgo biloba fossils date back 250 million years, and the use of ginkgo biloba leaf extract as a folk medicine dates back centuries to traditional Chinese medicine. Today, ginkgo biloba leaf extract is marketed in the United States as a dietary supplement, thereby escaping the United States Food and Drug Administration's ("FDA") requirement for manufacturers to test the effectiveness of their products prior to their marketing and sale.

Marist Poll, Alzheimer's Most Feed Disease (Nov. 15, 2012), available at http://maristpoll.marist.edu/1114alzheimers-most-feared-disease/.

- 11. Defendants seek to take advantage of the public's desire for these "miracle" supplements promising to elevate mental capacities and prevent dementia.
  - 12. Defendants manufacture, market and sell:
    - a. Ginkgo Biloba 120mg (100 Capsules)
    - b. Ginkgo Biloba 60mg (200 Capsules)
    - c. Ginkgo Biloba 400mg plus 60mg Standardized Extract (120 Tablets)
    - d. Ginkgo Biloba 60mg (60 Tablets)

(the "Products").

- 13. Defendants specifically target the elderly by claiming: "Ginkgo helps support memory, especially occasional mild memory problems associated with aging." *See* Ex. A.
- 11 Unfortunately, the promise of enhanced mental acuity and prevention of memory loss is nothing but a sham.
- 13 Unbiased, randomized, double blind clinical human studies conclude ginkgo biloba supplements to be ineffective in improving memory or cognitive function.
- 15 16. Throughout the Class Period, Defendants have engaged in advertising and marketing campaigns that utilize claims of improved memory and cognitive ability, conveying the message to consumers the Products will provide health benefits, irrespective of whether the claims are factually and scientifically accurate.
- 19 17. As a result of these deceptive claims, Defendants sell thousands of units of the 20 Products nationally per month through stores such as Albertsons, Safeway, CVS Pharmacy, 21 Walgreens, Whole Foods, and many other retail and on-line stores.
- 22 18. This action seeks to halt Defendants' deceptive advertising and marketing of the 23 Products.

### 24 Defendants' Advertising and Marketing of the Products

In the now ultra-competitive market for supplements, companies make advertising claims for their respective products, which based off extensive consumer research, they know will differentiate their products from others in the marketplace.

- 20. Upon information and belief, Defendants have expert knowledge of the consumer 2 market for supplements and have designed coordinated, uniform advertising and marketing for the Products, using a variety of deceptive claims.
  - 21. Defendants advertise their Products will cause or assist in improved memory and cognitive ability. Specifically, Defendants claim their Products "support brain function and can help improve memory, especially the occasional mild memory problems associated with aging."<sup>2</sup>
  - Further, Defendants claim their Products' "capsules provide Ginkgo at the 22. clinically studied dose for brain function."<sup>3</sup>
- Moreover, on the Products' labels, Defendants state: "Supports Healthy Brain 23. 10 Function & Circulation" and "Helps Support Mental Alertness." See Ex. A.
- 24. The label on the bottle for Ginkgo Biloba 120mg (100 Capsules) lists the sole 12 active ingredient as "Ginkgo Biloba Extract (Ginkgo biloba) (leaf) (Standardized to contain 24% 13 Ginkgo Flavone Glycosides, 28mg)." See Ex. A.
- 25. The label on the bottle for Ginkgo Biloba 60mg (200 Capsules) lists the sole 15 active ingredient as "Ginkgo Biloba Extract (Ginkgo biloba) (leaf) (Standardized to contain 24% 16 Ginkgo Flavone Glycosides, 14.4mg)." See Ex. B.
- 26. The label on the bottle for Ginkgo Biloba 60mg (60 Tablets) lists the sole active 18 ingredient as "Ginkgo Biloba Extract (Ginkgo biloba) (leaf) (Standardized to contain 24% Ginkgo Flavone Glycosides, 14.4mg)." See Ex. C.
  - 27. The label on the bottle for Ginkgo Biloba 400mg plus 60mg Standardized Extract (120 Tablets) lists the active ingredients as "Ginkgo Biloba Extract (Ginkgo biloba) (leaf) (Standardized to contain 24% Ginkgo Flavone Glycosides, 14.4mg)" and "Ginkgo Biloba (Ginkgo Biloba)(leaf)." See Ex. D.
- 28. Upon information and belief, the Products' labels have always contained the 25 following representations:

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Nature's Bounty, http://www.naturesbounty.com/product/004544 (last visited Aug. 21, 2014).

Id. 28

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- "Supports Healthy Brain Function & Circulation;"
- "Helps Support Mental Alertness;"
- "Ginkgo helps support memory especially occasional mild memory problems associated with aging."
- 29. Unfortunately for consumers, Defendants' advertising claims, in their entirety, are false and deceptive.

## Defendants' Advertising Claims For Products Are False and Deceptive

- 30. Despite Defendants' advertising claims for the Products, ginkgo biloba is not effective for improved memory or mental acuity. In reality, the Products provide zero benefits to consumers.
- 31. Competent and reliable scientific evidence has repeatedly demonstrated ginkgo biloba supplements fail to show any improvement in mental cognition.
- 32. Three separate meta-studies on gingko biloba published in 2002, 14|| 2007 and 2012 evaluated all known published credible human scientific studies. The studies 15 uniformly conclude ginkgo biloba supplements have no positive effect on cognitive functions in 16 healthy individuals.<sup>5</sup>
  - a. In 2002, PH Canter and E. Ernst published "Ginkgo biloba: a smart drug? A systematic review of controlled trials of the cognitive effects of ginkgo biloba extracts in healthy people" in the University of Exeter Psychopharmacology Bulletin.<sup>6</sup> The meta-study evaluates data in six computerized databases for placebo-controlled, double-blind trials of the effect of standardized Ginkgo

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> A meta-analysis contrasts and combines results from different studies in an attempt to identify patterns among study results, sources of disagreement, and other relationships between the studies.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> K. R. Laws et al., UK, *Is Ginkgo biloba a cognitive enhancer in healthy individuals? A meta-analysis*, 27 Human Psychopharmacology 527, (2012), available at <a href="http://dx.doi.org/10.1002/hup.2259">http://dx.doi.org/10.1002/hup.2259</a>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> PH Canter & E. Ernst, Ginkgo biloba: a smart drug? A systematic review of controlled trials of the cognitive effects of ginkgo biloba extracts in healthy people, 36 Psychopharmacol Bulletin 108, (2002), available at http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/12473969.

biloba extracts on cognitive function in healthy subjects. The study concludes "[t]he use of Ginkgo biloba as a "smart" drug cannot be recommended on the basis of the evidence available to date, and there is a particular need for further long-term trials with healthy subjects."

- b. In 2007, PH Canter and E. Ernst published an update to their 2002 study titled, "Ginkgo biloba is not a smart drug: an updated systematic review of randomized clinical trials testing the nootropic effects of G. biloba extracts in healthy people." The 2007 meta-study reviews available research added to the then-existing data set from the previous 2002 meta-study. Canter and Ernst conclude; "[t]he collated evidence from 15 randomized clinical trials provides no convincing evidence that G. biloba extracts ingested either as a single dose or over a longer period has a positive effect on any aspect of cognitive performance in healthy people under the age of 60 years." 9
- c. In 2012, K. Laws, H. Sweetnam and T. Kondel published a meta-study titled "Is Ginkgo biloba a cognitive enhancer in healthy individuals? A meta-analysis" in the journal of Human Psychopharmacology at the University of Hertfordshire, UK. 10 This meta-study, similar to the aforementioned meta-studies of 2002 and 2007, gathered data from all relevant credible studies on Ginkgo biloba's effect as a cognitive enhancer. Here, the authors emphasize, "[g]iven that G. biloba is marketed worldwide as a memory enhancer or touted to at least 'maintain memory', it is crucial to establish the validity for

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> *Id*.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup>PH Canter & E. Ernst, Ginkgo biloba is not a smart drug: an updated systematic review of randomized clinical trials testing the nootropic effects of G. biloba extracts in healthy people, 22 Human Psychopharmacology 265, (2007), available at <a href="http://dx.doi.org/10.1002/hup.843">http://dx.doi.org/10.1002/hup.843</a>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> *Id.* at 277.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> Laws, et al., supra note 6.

- 33. Overwhelmingly, the consensus of reliable scientific studies concludes ginkgo biloba supplements do nothing to enhance memory or cognitive abilities in healthy adults.
  - a. A 2002 study conducted by P. Solomon, PhD and published in the Journal of the American Medical Association titled "Ginkgo for Memory Enhancement," studies the effects of over-the-counter Ginkgo biloba products in 203 subjects in a six-week randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled, parallel group trial.<sup>14</sup> Solomon and co-researchers conclude "[t]he results of this 6-week study indicate that ginkgo did not facilitate performance on standard neuropsychological tests of learning, memory, attention and concentration or naming and verbal fluency in elderly adults without cognitive impairment."15 The authors found, "[t]he ginkgo group also did not differ from the control group in terms of self-reported memory function or global rating by spouses, friends, and relatives. These data suggest that when taken following the manufacturer's instructions, ginkgo provides no measurable benefit in memory or related cognitive function to adults with healthy cogitative

<sup>11</sup> Id. 23

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 $^{12}Id$ . 24

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<sup>14</sup>P. R. Solomon et al., Ginkgo for Memory Enhancement 288 JAMA 835, (2002), available at http://jama.jamanetwork.com/article.aspx?articleid=195207.

<sup>15</sup> Id.

function." Solomon notes, "[d]espite the manufacturer's claims of improved memory in healthy adults, we were unable to identify any well-controlled studies that document this claim." Solomon further concludes "this study does not support the manufacture's claims of the benefits of ginkgo on learning and memory."18

b. In a 2002 article on the Cleveland Clinic Center for Continuing Education Pharmacotherapy Update, titled "Ginkgo Biloba and Memory," the Department of Pharmacy observe, "[d]espite the lack of well-controlled studies to support the use of Ginkgo biloba leaf extract for prevention and treatment of memory impairment, ginkgo products continue to be heavily marketed and widely used."19 The article concludes "[t]he use of ginkgo biloba leaf extract for memory impairments marketed and targeted at the healthy adult that experiences forgetfulness. Currently, the claims that Ginkgo biloba has beneficial effects on learning and memory are not supported by the literature.",20

34. The widespread popularity of ginkgo biloba is simply a testament to the power of 17 marketing rather than to any measurable brain benefits.<sup>21</sup>

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<sup>16</sup> *Id*.

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<sup>18</sup> *Id*. 22

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<sup>19</sup> A. Popa, Pharmacology Update, Ginkgo Biloba and Memory, available at

http://www.clevelandclinicmeded.com/medicalpubs/pharmacy/sepoct02/ginkgo.htm (last visited Nov. 8, 2012).

<sup>20</sup> *Id*.

<sup>21</sup> Kirk R. Daffner (ed.), Harvard Medical School, *Improving Memory – Understanding age-related memory loss*" (2012) ("Harvard Report"), at 46, available at http://www.health.harvard.edu/special health reports/improvingmemory?utm\_source=promo&utm\_medium=email&utm\_content=body1b&utm\_campaign=PA111812&j=2979281 6&e=wolchansky@halunenlaw.com&l=16223912 HTML&u=347687378&mid=148797&jb=0 (last visited Nov. 19, 2012).

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35. Accordingly, Defendants' marketing is deceptive and misleading as the claims are specifically refuted by competent and reliable scientific evidence as set forth above.

#### CLASS ACTION ALLEGATIONS

36. Plaintiff brings this action for injunctive and related equitable relief on behalf of herself, and as a class action pursuant to Code of Civil Procedure § 382, on behalf of the following putative class (hereafter "Class"):

All persons who purchased Nature's Bounty Ginkgo Biloba for personal use and not for resale, in the State of California during the applicable liability period for their personal use, rather than for resale or distribution. Excluded from the Class are Defendants' officers, directors, employees; counsel for Plaintiff and Defendants; and the judicial officer to whom this lawsuit is assigned.

- 37. Plaintiff reserves the right to amend the Class definition if further investigation and discovery indicates that the Class definitions should be narrowed, expanded, or otherwise modified.
- 38. Numerosity: Plaintiff does not know the exact number of Class members. Due to the nature of the trade and commerce involved. However, Plaintiff is informed and believes that the total number of Class members is at least in the tens of thousands, and that members of the Class are numerous and geographically dispersed throughout California. While the exact number and identities of the Class members are unknown at this time, such information can be ascertained through appropriate investigation and discovery. 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.
- 39. <u>Well-defined Community of Interest</u>: there is a well-defined community of interest in the questions of law and fact involved affecting the plaintiff Class and these common questions predominate over any questions that may affect individual Class members. Common questions of fact and law include, but are not limited to, the following:
  - a. Whether Defendants falsely advertise and misrepresent the benefits of the Products;

- b. Whether Defendants' mass media advertising and/or the packaging for the Products is misleading and deceptive;
- c. Whether Defendants' labeling and/or packaging for the Products is misleading, false and/or illegal;
- d. Whether Defendants represent to consumers that the Products have characteristics, uses, benefits or qualities that the Products does not have;
- e. Whether Defendants knew or should have known that the Products do not have the characteristics, uses, benefits or qualities for which Defendants advertised the Products:
- f. Whether Defendants represented that the Products are of a particular standard, quality, or grade, when they are of another;
- g. Whether Defendants advertised the Products with intent to sell them not as advertised:
- h. Whether Defendants engaged in unfair, unlawful and/or fraudulent business practices in marketing and distributing the Products;
- i. Whether Defendants engaged in false advertising with respect to the Products;
- j. The nature and extent of damages and other remedies to which the wrongful conduct of Defendants entitles the Class members;
- k. Whether Defendants' representations, concealments and non-disclosures concerning the Products violate the CLRA, FAL and/or the UCL;
- Whether the Class is entitled to injunctive relief prohibiting the challenged wrongful practices and enjoining such practices in the future;
- m. Whether the Class is entitled to restitution; and,
- n. Whether Plaintiff and the Class are entitled to attorneys' fees and expenses, and in what amount.
- 40. <u>Typicality</u>: Plaintiff's claims are typical of the claims of the members of the Class 27 in that Plaintiff and the putative class members each purchased the Products during the Class

41. Adequacy of Representation: Plaintiff will fairly and adequately represent and protect the interests of the Class in that Plaintiff is a typical purchaser of the Products and has no conflicts of interest with any member of the proposed Class. Additionally, Plaintiff has retained 6 counsel with experience in handling complex class action litigation who will fairly and adequately protect the interests of the putative class. Plaintiff and her counsel are committed to vigorously prosecuting this action on behalf of the Class and Plaintiff's Counsel has the financial resources to do so.

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- 42. Superiority: Plaintiff and the members of the Class suffered, and will continue to 11 suffer, harm as a result of Defendants' unlawful and wrongful conduct. This class action is 12 superior to the alternatives, if any, for the fair and efficient adjudication of this controversy. The 13 relief sought per individual member of the putative class is small given the burden and expense 14 of individual prosecution of the potentially extensive litigation necessitated by the conduct of 15|| Defendants. Furthermore, it would be virtually impossible for the putative class members to 16 seek redress on an individual basis. Even if the putative class members themselves could afford 17 such individual litigation, the court system could not. Individual litigation magnifies the delay 18 and expense to all parties in the court system of resolving the controversies engendered by Defendants' common course of conduct. The class action device allows a single court to provide 20 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 22 the resources of the parties and of the judicial system and protects the rights of the class 23 members. Furthermore, for many, if not most, a class action is the only feasible mechanism that allows an opportunity for legal redress and justice.
- 43. Adjudication of individual class members' claims with respect to Defendants 26 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 28 protect their interests.

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- 44. If necessary, notice of this action may be affected to the proposed class through publication and through contact information maintained by Defendants.
- 45. Unless a classwide injunction is issued, Defendants will continue to commit the violations alleged, and the members of the Class will continue to be misled.

## FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION VIOLATION OF UNFAIR COMPETITION LAW (CAL. BUS. & PROF. CODE § 17200, et seq). **Unlawful Business Acts and Practices**

- 46. Plaintiff incorporates by reference and realleges all allegations set forth in the preceding paragraphs.
- 47. Plaintiff brings this claim individually and on behalf of the proposed Class against Defendants.
- 48. As alleged herein, Plaintiff has standing to pursue this claim as Plaintiff has suffered injury in fact and has lost money or property as a result of Defendants' actions. Specifically, Plaintiff purchased the Products for her own personal use. In so doing, Plaintiff 15 relied upon the false representations that the Products will cause or assist in improved memory 16 and brain function as referenced above. Plaintiff used the Products as directed and did not 17 receive any of the advertised benefits. Plaintiff would not have purchased the Products had she known Defendants' advertising claims were false.
  - 49. The actions of Defendants, as alleged herein, constitute illegal and unlawful practices committed in violation of the Business & Professions Code §17200.
  - 50. Defendants have unlawfully marketed and advertised Products because Defendants: (1) violate sections 1770(a)(5), 1770(a)(7) and 1770(a)(9) of the CLRA, Civil Code § 1750, et seq.; (2) violate sections 17200 et seq. and 17500 et seq. of the Business & Professions Code; and (3) violate sections 111330 and 111445 of the California Health & Safety Code.
- Moreover, Defendants' manufacturing, marketing, advertising, packaging, 51. 26 labeling, distributing, and selling of the Products violates California's Sherman Act, Cal. Health & Safety Code §109875, et seq. The Sherman Act defines a "person" as "any individual, firm, 28 partnership, trust, corporation, limited liability company, company, estate, public or private

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institution, association, organization, group, city, county, city and county, political subdivision of this state, other governmental agency within the state, and any representative, agent, or agency of any of the foregoing." Cal. Health & Safety Code, §109995. Defendants are a corporation and, therefore, a "person" within the meaning of the Sherman Act.

- In relevant part, a drug is misbranded if its labeling is false or misleading in any 52. particular way. Cal. Health & Safety Code §§111330, 111445.
- 53. Plaintiff and other putative class members were mislead and, because the misrepresentations were uniform and material, presumably believed that Products would provide cognitive benefits as advertised.
- There were reasonably available alternatives to further Defendants legitimate business interests, other than the conduct described herein.
- 55. Plaintiff and the Class reserve the right to allege other violations of law which 13 constitute other unlawful business acts or practices. Such conduct is ongoing and continues to 14 this date.
- 56. As a result of the business practices described above, Plaintiff and the other 16 members of the Class, pursuant to Business & Professions Code §17203, are entitled to an order 17 enjoining such future conduct on the part of the Defendants' ill-gotten gains and to restore to any 18 person in interest any money paid for the Products as a result of the wrongful conduct of the Defendants.

## SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION VIOLATION OF UNFAIR COMPETITION LAW (CAL. BUS. & PROF. CODE § 17200, et seq.) **Unfair Business Acts and Practices**

- 57. Plaintiff incorporates by reference and realleges all allegations set forth in the preceding paragraphs.
- Plaintiff brings this claim individually and on behalf of the proposed Class against 58. Defendants.
- 59. As alleged herein, Plaintiff has standing to pursue this claim as Plaintiff has 28 suffered injury in fact and has lost money or property as a result of Defendants' actions.

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Specifically, Plaintiff purchased the Products for her own personal use. In so doing, Plaintiff 2 relied upon the false representations that the Products will cause or assist in improved memory 3 and brain function as referenced above. Plaintiff used the Products as directed and did not 4 receive any of the advertised benefits. Plaintiff would not have purchased the Products had she known Defendants' advertising claims were false.

- 60. California Business & Professions Code § 17200 also prohibits any "unfair ... business act or practice."
- Defendants' acts, misrepresentations and practices as alleged herein also 61. constitute "unfair" business acts and practices within the meaning of Business & Professions Code § 17200 et seq. in that its conduct is substantially injurious to consumers, offends public policy, and is immoral, unethical, oppressive, and unscrupulous as the gravity of the conduct 12 outweighs any alleged benefits attributable to such conduct.
- There were reasonably available alternatives to further Defendants' legitimate 62. 14 business interests, other than the conduct described herein.
- 63. As a result of the business acts and practices described above, Plaintiff and the 16 other members of the Class, pursuant to Business & Professions Code §17203, are entitled to an 17 order enjoining such future conduct on the part of Defendants, and such other orders and 18 judgments which may be necessary to disgorge Defendants' ill-gotten gains and to restore to any 19 person in interest any money paid for the Products as a result of the wrongful conduct of Defendants.

## THIRD CAUSE OF ACTION VIOLATION OF UNFAIR COMPETITION LAW (CAL. BUS. & PROF. CODE § 17200, et seq.) Fraudulent Business Acts and Practices

- 64. Plaintiff incorporates by reference and realleges all allegations as set forth in the 25 preceding paragraphs.
- 65. Plaintiff brings this claim individually and on behalf of the proposed Class against 27 Defendants.

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- 66. As alleged herein, Plaintiff has standing to pursue this claim as Plaintiff has 2 suffered injury in fact and has lost money or property as a result of Defendants' actions. Specifically, Plaintiff purchased the Products for her own personal use. In so doing, Plaintiff relied upon the false representations that the Products will cause or assist in improved memory 5 and brain function as referenced above. Plaintiff used the Products as directed and did not receive any of the advertised benefits. Plaintiff would not have purchased the Products had she known Defendants' advertising claims were false.
  - California Business & Professions Code § 17200 also prohibits any "fraudulent 67. business act or practice."
- 68. Defendants' claims, nondisclosures and misleading statements with respect to the 11 Products, as more fully set forth above, were false, misleading and/or likely to deceive the 12 consuming public within the meaning of Business & Professions Code § 17200.
  - 69. Defendants' conduct caused and continues to cause injury to Plaintiff and the other Class members. Plaintiff has suffered injury in fact and has lost money as a result of Defendants' deceptive conduct.
- 70. As a result of the business acts and practices described above, Plaintiff and the 17 other members of the Class, pursuant to Business & Professions Code §17203, are entitled to an 18 order enjoining such future conduct on the part of Defendants, and such other orders and 19 judgments which may be necessary to disgorge Defendants' ill-gotten gains and to restore to any person in interest any money paid for the Products as a result of the wrongful conduct of Defendants.

## FOURTH CAUSE OF ACTION FALSE AND MISLEADING ADVERTISING (CAL. BUS. & PROF. CODE § 17500, et seq.)

- 71. Plaintiff incorporates by reference and realleges all allegations set forth in the preceding paragraphs.
- 72. Plaintiff brings this claim individually and on behalf of the proposed Class against Defendants.

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- 73. As alleged herein, Plaintiff has standing to pursue this claim as Plaintiff has suffered injury in fact and has lost money or property as a result of Defendants' actions. Specifically, Plaintiff purchased the Products for her own personal use. In so doing, Plaintiff relied upon the false representations that the Products will cause or assist in improved memory and brain function as referenced above. Plaintiff used the Products as directed and did not receive any of the advertised benefits. Plaintiff would not have purchased the Products had she known Defendants' advertising claims were false.
- 74. Defendants violated Business & Professions Code § 17500 by publicly disseminating false, misleading, and unsubstantiated advertisements regarding the Products.
- 75. Defendants' false, misleading and unsubstantiated advertisements were disseminated to increase the sales of the Products.
- 76. Defendants knew or should have known their advertisements for the Products 13 were false and misleading.
  - Furthermore, Defendants publicly disseminated the false and misleading. 77.
- 78. Plaintiff and the members of the Class have suffered harm as a result of these 16 violations of the FAL because they have incurred charges and/or paid monies for the Products 17 that they otherwise would not have incurred or paid.
  - 79. Defendants are aware, or by the exercise of reasonable care should have been aware, that the representations were untrue or misleading.
- 80. Plaintiff and the members of the Class have suffered injury in fact and have lost 21 money as a result of Defendants' false representations and false advertising.
- 81. Pursuant to Business & Professions Code § 17535, Plaintiffs and the members of 23|| the putative Class seek an order of this Court enjoining Defendants from continuing to engage, use, or employ their practice of advertising the sale and use of the Products.
- 82. Likewise, Plaintiff and the members of the putative Class seek an order requiring 26 Defendants to disclose such misrepresentations, and additionally request an order awarding Plaintiff and other members of the putative class restitution of the money wrongfully acquired by

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Defendants by means of responsibility attached to Defendants' failure to disclose the existence 2 and significance of said misrepresentations.

## FIFTH CAUSE OF ACTION VIOLATION OF CALIFORNIA LEGAL REMEDIES ACT (CAL. CIV. CODE § 1750, et seq.)

- 83. Plaintiff incorporates by reference and realleges all allegations set forth in the preceding paragraphs as if fully set forth herein.
- Plaintiff brings this claim individually and on behalf of the proposed Class against 84. Defendants.
- 85. As alleged herein, Plaintiff has standing to pursue this claim as Plaintiff has suffered injury in fact and has lost money or property as a result of Defendants' actions. Specifically, Plaintiff purchased the Products for her own personal use. In so doing, Plaintiff relied upon the material, false representations that the Products will cause or assist in improved memory and brain functioning, as set forth above. Plaintiff used the Products as directed and did not receive any of the advertised benefits. Plaintiff would not have purchased the Products had she known Defendants' advertising claims were false.
- 86. Plaintiff has concurrently filed the declaration of venue required by Civil Code §1780(d) with this complaint.
- Defendants have violated and continue to violate the CLRA by engaging in the 87. 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:
  - §1770(a) (5) Representing that [The Products have] ... characteristics, ... uses [or] benefits ... which [it does] not have ....
  - §1770(a) (7) Representing that [The Products are] of a particular standard, quality or grade ... if [it is] of another.
  - §1770(a) (9) Advertising goods or services with intent not to sell them as advertised.

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- 88. On or about December 23, 2013, Plaintiff's counsel sent to Defendants a written notice letter via certified mail as required by Civil Code Section 1782(a).
- 89. Defendants' wrongful business practices constituted, and constitute, a continuing course of conduct in violation of the CLRA. Pursuant to Civil Code § 1782(d), Plaintiff and the Class seek a Court order enjoining the above-described wrongful acts and practices of Defendants along with any other conduct found by the Court to be illegal, fraudulent, misleading, unlawful, unfair and/or deceptive conduct.
- 90. In addition, the CLRA has enhanced penalties for acts perpetrated against senior citizens and disabled persons. If the Defendant's conduct is directed at a class of persons who 10 are senior citizens and/or disabled, a \$5,000.00 civil penalty may be awarded to "each class member." Civ. Code § 1780(b). A "disabled person" is someone who has a "physical or mental impairment which substantially limits one or more major life activities." Civ. Code §1761(f), (g). Under California law, individuals suffering from Alzheimer's are "disabled." Defendant's 14 conduct is clearly directed at senior citizens and the disabled (i.e. those with Alzheimer's), as the 15 Products are intended to treat and/or prevent memory loss. Accordingly, the Court may award a 16 civil penalty of up to \$5,000 for each class member.
- 91. Plaintiff engaged counsel to prosecute this action and is entitled to recover costs 18 and reasonable attorney's fees according to proof at trial.

#### PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff, on behalf of herself and all others similarly situated, prays for judgment as requested above against Defendants and further prays for:

- 1. An order certifying that the action may be maintained as a Class Action;
- 2. An order enjoining Defendants from pursuing the policies, acts, and practices complained of herein.
- 3. An order requiring Defendants to pay restitution to Plaintiff and all members of the Class;

1	4.	For pre-judgment interest from the date of filing this suit;		
2	· 5.	For reasonable attorneys' fees;		
3	6.	Costs of this suit; and,		
4	7.	Such other and further relief as the Court may deem necessary and appropriate.		
5				
6				
7	Dated: Octob	per 22, 2014  MILSTEIN ADELMAN LLP		
8		GILLIAN L. WADE		
		ALLISON R. WILLETT		
9		2800 Donald Douglas Loop North		
10		Santa Monica, CA 90405 Telephone: 888/835-8055		
1 1		Facsimile: 310/396-9635		
11				
12		HALUNEN & ASSOCIATES		
13		CLAYTON HALUNEN		
13		MELISSA W. WOLCHANSKY CHARLES D. MOORE		
14		1650 IDS Center		
1.5		80 South Eighth Street		
15		Minneapolis, MN 55402		
16		Telephone: 612/605-4098		
ľ		Facsimile: 612/605-4099		
17				
18				
19	DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL			
20	Plaintiff hereby demands a trial by jury as to all claims for which the right to jury trial is			
21				
22	provided.			
23		$\bigwedge$		
24	Dated: Octob	er 22, 2014		
		MILSTEIN ADELMAN DEP		
25		GILLIAN L. WADE		
26		ALLISON R. WILLETT 2800 Donald Douglas Loop North		
		Santa Monica, CA 90405		
27		Telephone: 888/835-8055		
28		Facsimile: 310/396-9635		
		20		
·	20 CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT			
11				

Exhibit A

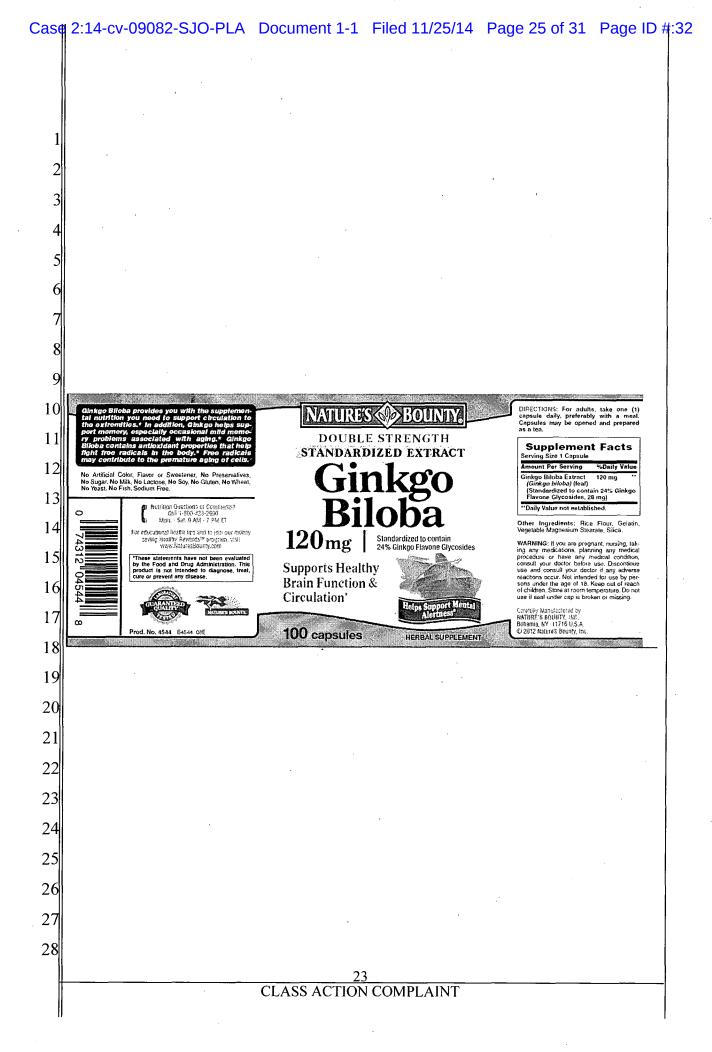


Exhibit B

CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT

## Exhibit C

CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT

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# EXHIBIT B

Case 2:14-cv-09082-SJO-PLA Document 1-2 Filed 11/25/14 Page 2 of 3 Page ID #:40

		CM-010
ATTORNEY OR PARTY WITHOUT ATTORNEY (Name, State Ba	number, and address):	FOR COURT USE ONLY
Gillian L. Wade, State Bar No. 229124; A	llison R. Willett, State Bar No. 238430	-
2800 Donald Douglas Loop North		CONFORMED COPY ORIGINAL FILED
Santa Monica, California 90405 TELEPHONE NO.: (310) 396-9600	FAX NO.: (310) 396-9635	Superior Court of California County of Los Angeles
ATTORNEY FOR (Name): Plaintiff, ALISON W	ILSON	
SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF L		OCT <b>2 2</b> 2014
STREET ADDRESS: 111 North Hill Street		
MAILING ADDRESS: 111 North Hill Street		Sherri H. Carter, Executive Unicer/Clerk
CITY AND ZIP CODE: Los Angeles 90012		By Shaunya Bolden Deput
BRANCH NAME: Stanley Mosk Courth	ouse	
CASE NAME:		
ALISON WILSON v. NATURE'S	BOUNTY, INC., ET AL.	
CIVIL CASE COVER SHEET	Complex Case Designation	CASE NUMBER:
Unlimited Limited	Counter Joinder	BC 5 6 1 5 2 7
(Amount (Amount		NIDGE:
demanded demanded is exceeds \$25,000) \$25,000 or less)	Filed with first appearance by defend (Cal. Rules of Court, rule 3.402)	JEPT:
	low must be completed (see instructions	
1. Check one box below for the case type that		on page 2).
Auto Tort		Provisionally Complex Civil Litigation
Auto (22)		(Cal. Rules of Court, rules 3.400-3.403)
Uninsured motorist (46)	Rule 3.740 collections (09)	Antitrust/Trade regulation (03)
Other PI/PD/WD (Personal Injury/Property	Other collections (09)	Construction defect (10)
Damage/Wrongful Death) Tort	Insurance coverage (18)	Mass tort (40)
Asbestos (04)	Other contract (37)	Securities litigation (28)
Product liability (24)	Real Property	Environmental/Toxic tort (30)
Medical malpractice (45)	Eminent domain/Inverse	Insurance coverage claims arising from the
Other PI/PD/WD (23)	condemnation (14)	above listed provisionally complex case types (41)
Non-PI/PD/WD (Other) Tort	Wrongful eviction (33)	
Business tort/unfair business practice (07	,	Enforcement of Judgment
Civil rights (08)	Unlawful Detainer	Enforcement of judgment (20)
Defamation (13)	[]	Miscellaneous Civil Complaint
Fraud (16)	Residential (32)	RICO (27)
Intellectual property (19)	Drugs (38)	Other complaint (not specified above) (42)
Professional negligence (25)		Miscellaneous Civil Petition
Other non-PI/PD/WD tort (35)	Asset forfeiture (05)	Partnership and corporate governance (21)
Employment	Petition re: arbitration award (11)	Other petition (not specified above) (43)
Wrongful termination (36) Other employment (15)	Writ of mandate (02)	
	Other judicial review (39)	Jan of Court 16 the ages is semular, more than
2. This case  is is not comfactors requiring exceptional judicial mana		les of Court. If the case is complex, mark the
a. Large number of separately repre		r of witnesses
b. Extensive motion practice raising	·	with related actions pending in one or more courts
issues that will be time-consuming	•	ies, states, or countries, or in a federal court
c. Substantial amount of documenta		estjudgment judicial supervision
<del></del>	<u></u>	
3. Remedies sought (check all that apply): a.	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	eclaratory or injunctive relief c. 🕡 punitive
4. Number of causes of action (specify): Fix	/e (5)	
5. This case 📝 is Lis not a class	ss action suit.	
6. If there are any known related cases, file a	ind serve a notice of related case. (Υομπ	nay use form CM-015.)
Date: October 22, 2014	/ i	1
Allison R. Willett	<b>)</b> / <i>(</i> )	$1 \times 10^{-3}$
(TYPE OR PRINT NAME)		CNATURE OF PARTY OR ATTORNEY FOR PARTY)
	NOTICE	, A II ala'
Plaintiff must file this cover sheet with the tunder the Probets Code, Family Code, as a second	rist paper filed in the action or proceeding	g (except small claims cases or cases filed
in sanctions.	vvenare and institutions code). (Car. Rule	es of Court, rule 3.220.) Failure to file may result
File this cover sheet in addition to any cover sheet any cover sheet in addition to any cover sheet and the addition to a sheet and	er sheet required by local court rule.	
If this case is complex under rule 3.400 et	seq. of the California Rules of Court, you	must serve a copy of this cover sheet on all
other parties to the action or proceeding.	2740	at will be used for statistical assessments
Unless this is a collections case under rule	3.740 or a complex case, this cover she	et will be used for statistical purposes only.

CM-010

#### INSTRUCTIONS ON HOW TO COMPLETE THE COVER SHEET

To Plaintiffs and Others Filing First Papers. If you are filing a first paper (for example, a complaint) in a civil case, you must complete and file, along with your first paper, the Civil Case Cover Sheet contained on page 1. This information will be used to compile statistics about the types and numbers of cases filed. You must complete items 1 through 6 on the sheet. In item 1, you must check one box for the case type that best describes the case. If the case fits both a general and a more specific type of case listed in item 1. check the more specific one. If the case has multiple causes of action, check the box that best indicates the primary cause of action. To assist you in completing the sheet, examples of the cases that belong under each case type in item 1 are provided below. A cover sheet must be filed only with your initial paper. Failure to file a cover sheet with the first paper filed in a civil case may subject a party, its counsel, or both to sanctions under rules 2.30 and 3.220 of the California Rules of Court.

To Parties in Rule 3.740 Collections Cases. A "collections case" under rule 3.740 is defined as an action for recovery of money owed in a sum stated to be certain that is not more than \$25,000, exclusive of interest and attorney's fees, arising from a transaction in which property, services, or money was acquired on credit. A collections case does not include an action seeking the following: (1) tort damages, (2) punitive damages, (3) recovery of real property, (4) recovery of personal property, or (5) a prejudgment writ of attachment. The identification of a case as a rule 3.740 collections case on this form means that it will be exempt from the general time-for-service requirements and case management rules, unless a defendant files a responsive pleading. A rule 3.740 collections case will be subject to the requirements for service and obtaining a judgment in rule 3.740.

To Parties in Complex Cases. In complex cases only, parties must also use the Civil Case Cover Sheet to designate whether the case is complex. If a plaintiff believes the case is complex under rule 3.400 of the California Rules of Court, this must be indicated by completing the appropriate boxes in items 1 and 2. If a plaintiff designates a case as complex, the cover sheet must be served with the complaint on all parties to the action. A defendant may file and serve no later than the time of its first appearance a joinder in the plaintiffs designation, a counter-designation that the case is not complex, or, if the plaintiff has made no designation, a designation that the case is complex.

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Auto Tort
```

Auto (22)-Personal Injury/Property Damage/Wrongful Death Uninsured Motorist (46) (if the case involves an uninsured motorist claim subject to arbitration, check this item instead of Auto)

Other PI/PD/WD (Personal Injury/ Property Damage/Wrongful Death)

Asbestos (04)

Asbestos Property Damage Asbestos Personal Injury/ Wrongful Death

Product Liability (not asbestos or toxic/environmental) (24)

Medical Malpractice (45) Medical Malpractice-

Physicians & Surgeons

Other Professional Health Care Malpractice

Other PI/PD/WD (23)

Premises Liability (e.g., slip

and fall)

Intentional Bodily Injury/PD/WD

(e.g., assault, vandalism) Intentional Infliction of

**Emotional Distress** Negligent Infliction of

**Emotional Distress** 

Other PI/PD/WD

Non-PI/PD/WD (Other) Tort

**Business Tort/Unfair Business** 

Practice (07)

Civil Rights (e.g., discrimination,

false arrest) (not civil harassment) (08)

Defamation (e.g., slander, libel)

(13)

Fraud (16)

Intellectual Property (19)

Professional Negligence (25)

Legal Malpractice

Other Professional Malpractice (not medical or legal)

Other Non-PI/PD/WD Tort (35)

**Employment** 

Wrongful Termination (36) Other Employment (15)

### CASE TYPES AND EXAMPLES

Contract Breach of Contract/Warranty (06)

Breach of Rental/Lease

Contract (not unlawful detainer or wrongful eviction)

Contract/Warranty Breach-Seller

Plaintiff (not fraud or negligence)

Negligent Breach of Contract/

Warranty

Other Breach of Contract/Warranty

Collections (e.g., money owed, open

book accounts) (09)

Collection Case-Seller Plaintiff

Other Promissory Note/Collections

Case
Insurance Coverage (not provisionally

complex) (18)

**Auto Subrogation** 

Other Coverage

Other Contract (37)

Contractual Fraud

Other Contract Dispute

Real Property

Eminent Domain/Inverse

Condemnation (14)

Wrongful Eviction (33)

Other Real Property (e.g., quiet title) (26)

Writ of Possession of Real Property

Mortgage Foreclosure

Quiet Title

Other Real Property (not eminent

domain, landlord/tenant, or

foreclosure)

**Unlawful Detainer** 

Commercial (31)

Residential (32)

Drugs (38) (if the case involves illegal drugs, check this item; otherwise,

report as Commercial or Residential)

Judicial Review

Asset Forfeiture (05)

Petition Re: Arbitration Award (11)

Writ of Mandate (02)

Writ-Administrative Mandamus

Writ-Mandamus on Limited Court

Case Matter

Writ-Other Limited Court Case

Review

Other Judicial Review (39)

Review of Health Officer Order

Notice of Appeal-Labor

Commissioner Appeals

#### Provisionally Complex Civil Litigation (Cal. Rules of Court Rules 3.400-3.403)

Antitrust/Trade Regulation (03)

Construction Defect (10)

Claims Involving Mass Tort (40)

Securities Litigation (28)

Environmental/Toxic Tort (30)

Insurance Coverage Claims

(arising from provisionally complex

case type listed above) (41)

**Enforcement of Judgment** 

Enforcement of Judgment (20)

Abstract of Judgment (Out of County)

Confession of Judgment (non-

domestic relations)

Sister State Judgment

Administrative Agency Award

(not unpaid taxes)

Petition/Certification of Entry of Judgment on Unpaid Taxes

Other Enforcement of Judgment Case

Miscellaneous Civil Complaint RICO (27)

Other Complaint (not specified

above) (42)

Declaratory Relief Only

Injunctive Relief Only (non-

harassment)

Mechanics Lien

Other Commercial Complaint Case (non-tort/non-complex)

Other Civil Complaint

(non-tort/non-complex)

Miscellaneous Civil Petition

Partnership and Corporate Governance (21)

Other Petition (not specified

above) (43)

Civil Harassment

Workplace Violence

Elder/Dependent Adult

Abuse **Election Contest** 

Petition for Name Change Petition for Relief From Late

Claim

Other Civil Petition

# EXHIBIT C



SHORT TITLE:

ALISON WILSON v. NATURE'S BOUNTY, INC., ET AL.

CASE NUMBER

BC 5 6 1 5 2 7

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

This form is required pursuant to Local Rule 2.0 in all new civil case filings in the Los Angeles Superior Court.

Item I. Check the types of hearing and fill in the estimated length of hearing expected for this case:  JURY TRIAL? YES CLASS ACTION? YES LIMITED CASE? YES TIME ESTIMATED FOR TRIAL 10 HOURS/ DAYS
Item II. Indicate the correct district and courthouse location (4 steps – If you checked "Limited Case", skip to Item III, Pg. 4):
<b>Step 1:</b> After first completing the Civil Case Cover Sheet form, find the main Civil Case Cover Sheet heading for your case in the left margin below, and, to the right in Column <b>A</b> , the Civil Case Cover Sheet case type you selected.
Step 2: Check one Superior Court type of action in Column B below which best describes the nature of this case.
<b>Step 3:</b> In Column <b>C</b> , circle the reason for the court location choice that applies to the type of action you have checked. For any exception to the court location, see Local Rule 2.0.
Applicable Reasons for Choosing Courthouse Location (see Column C below)
<ol> <li>Class actions must be filed in the Stanley Mosk Courthouse, central district.</li> <li>May be filed in central (other county, or no bodily injury/property damage).</li> <li>Location where cause of action arose.</li> <li>Location where bodily injury, death or damage occurred.</li> <li>Location where performance required or defendant resides.</li> <li>Location of property or permanently garaged vehicle.</li> <li>Location where petitioner resides.</li> <li>Location where petitioner resides.</li> <li>Location where one or more of the parties reside.</li> <li>Location of Labor Commissioner Office</li> </ol>

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

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

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

CIVIL CASE COVER SHEET ADDENDUM AND STATEMENT OF LOCATION

SHORT TITLE:
ALISON WILSON v. NATURE'S BOUNTY, INC., ET AL.

CASE NUMBER

Non-Personal Injury/ Property Damage/ Wrongful Death Tort

Employment

ontract

Property

Wfu! Defainer

<del> </del>		<del></del>
A Civil Case Cover Sheet Category No.	B Type of Action (Check only one)	C Applicable Reasons - See Step 3 Above
Business Tort (07)	☑ A6029 Other Commercial/Business Tort (not fraud/breach of contract)	1., 3.
Civil Rights (08)	☐ A6005 Civil Rights/Discrimination	1., 2., 3.
Defamation (13)	☐ A6010 Defamation (slander/libel)	1., 2., 3.
Fraud (16)	☐ A6013 Fraud (no contract)	1., 2., 3.
Professional Negligence (25)	☐ A6017 Legal Malpractice ☐ A6050 Other Professional Malpractice (not medical or legal)	1., 2., 3. 1., 2., 3.
Other (35)	☐ A6025 Other Non-Personal Injury/Property Damage tort	2.,3.
Wrongful Termination (36)	☐ A6037 Wrongful Termination	1., 2., 3.
Other Employment (15)	☐ A6024 Other Employment Complaint Case ☐ A6109 Labor Commissioner Appeals	1., 2., 3. 10.
Breach of Contract/ Warranty (06) (not insurance)	<ul> <li>□ A6004 Breach of Rental/Lease Contract (not unlawful detainer or wrongful eviction)</li> <li>□ A6008 Contract/Warranty Breach -Seller Plaintiff (no fraud/negligence)</li> <li>□ A6019 Negligent Breach of Contract/Warranty (no fraud)</li> <li>□ A6028 Other Breach of Contract/Warranty (not fraud or negligence)</li> </ul>	2., 5. 2., 5. 1., 2., 5. 1., 2., 5.
Collections (09)	☐ A6002 Collections Case-Seller Plaintiff ☐ A6012 Other Promissory Note/Collections Case	2., 5., 6. 2., 5.
Insurance Coverage (18)	☐ A6015 Insurance Coverage (not complex)	1., 2., 5., 8.
Other Contract (37)	□ A6009 Contractual Fraud □ A6031 Tortious Interference □ A6027 Other Contract Dispute(not breach/insurance/fraud/negligence)	1, 2, 3, 5. 1, 2, 3, 5. 1, 2, 3, 8.
Eminent Domain/Inverse Condemnation (14)	☐ A7300 Eminent Domain/Condemnation Number of parcels	2.
Wrongful Eviction (33)	☐ A6023 Wrongful Eviction Case	2., 6.
Other Real Property (26)	<ul> <li>□ A6018 Mortgage Foreclosure</li> <li>□ A6032 Quiet Title</li> <li>□ A6060 Other Real Property (not eminent domain, landlord/tenant, foreclosure)</li> </ul>	2, 6. 2, 6. 2, 6.
Unlawful Detainer-Commercial (31)	☐ A6021 Unlawful Detainer-Commercial (not drugs or wrongful eviction)	2., 6.
Unlawful Detainer-Residential (32)	☐ A6020 Unlawful Detainer-Residential (not drugs or wrongful eviction)	2., 6.
Unlawful Detainer- Post-Foreclosure (34)	□ A6020FUnlawful Detainer-Post-Foreclosure	2., 6.
Unlawful Detainer-Drugs (38)	☐ A6022 Unlawful Detainer-Drugs	2,6

ALISON WILSON v. NATURE'S BOUNTY, INC., ET AL.

CASE NUMBER

	A Civil Case Cover Sheet Category No.	<b>B</b> Type of Action (Check only one)	C Applicable Reasons - See Step 3 Above
	Asset Forfeiture (05)	☐ A6108 Asset Forfeiture Case	2., 6.
riew	Petition re Arbitration (11)	☐ A6115 Petition to Compel/Confirm/Vacate Arbitration	2., 5.
Judicial Review		□ A6151 Writ - Administrative Mandamus	2., 8.
Judic	Writ of Mandate (02)	□ A6152 Writ - Mandamus on Limited Court Case Matter □ A6153 Writ - Other Limited Court Case Review	2.
	Other Judicial Review (39)	A6150 Other Writ /Judicial Review	2., 8.
ion	Antitrust/Trade Regulation (03)	☐ A6003 Antitrust/Trade Regulation	1., 2., 8.
Litigat	Construction Defect (10)	☐ A6007 Construction Defect	1., 2., 3.
nplex	Claims Involving Mass Tort (40)	☐ A6006 Claims Involving Mass Tort	1., 2., 8.
lly Cor	Securities Litigation (28)	☐ A6035 Securities Litigation Case	1., 2., 8.
Provisionally Complex Litigation	Toxic Tort Environmental (30)	☐ A6036 Toxic Tort/Environmental	1., 2., 3., 8.
Prov	Insurance Coverage Claims from Complex Case (41)	☐ A6014 Insurance Coverage/Subrogation (complex case only)	1., 2., 5., 8.
		□ A6141 Sister State Judgment	2., 9.
ent		☐ A6160 Abstract of Judgment	2., 6.
Enforcement of Judgment	Enforcement of Judgment (20)	☐ A6107 Confession of Judgment (non-domestic relations)	2., 9.
		☐ A6140 Administrative Agency Award (not unpaid taxes)	2., 8.
шо		☐ A6114 Petition/Certificate for Entry of Judgment on Unpaid Tax	2., 8.
		☐ A6112 Other Enforcement of Judgment Case	2., 8., 9.
is .	RICO (27)	☐ A6033 Racketeering (RICO) Case	1., 2., 8.
Miscellaneous Civil Complaints		☐ A6030 Declaratory Relief Only	1., 2., 8.
ella Com	Other Complaints	☐ A6040 Injunctive Relief Only (not domestic/harassment)	2., 8.
Wiso ivil (	(Not Specified Above) (42)	☐ A6011 Other Commercial Complaint Case (non-tort/non-complex)	1., 2., 8.
_ 0		☐ A6000 Other Civil Complaint (non-tort/non-complex)	1., 2., 8.
	Partnership Corporation Governance (21)	□ A6113 Partnership and Corporate Governance Case	2., 8.
		☐ A6121 Civil Harassment	2., 3., 9.
Miscellaneous Civil Petitions		☐ A6123 Workplace Harassment	2., 3., 9.
lane	Other Petitions (Not Specified Above)	☐ A6124 Elder/Dependent Adult Abuse Case	2., 3., 9.
scel vii P		☐ A6190 Election Contest	2.
Ē Ö	(43)	☐ A6110 Petition for Change of Name	2.,7.
		☐ A6170 Petition for Relief from Late Claim Law	2., 3., 4., 8.
		☐ A6100 Other Civil Petition	2., 9.
1			L

SHORT TITLE: ALISON WILSON v. NATURE'S BOUNTY, INC.,	, ET AL.
	cident, party's residence or place of business, performance, or other the proper reason for filing in the court location you selected.
REASON: Check the appropriate boxes for the numbers shown	ADDRESS: 11737 San Vicente Blyd

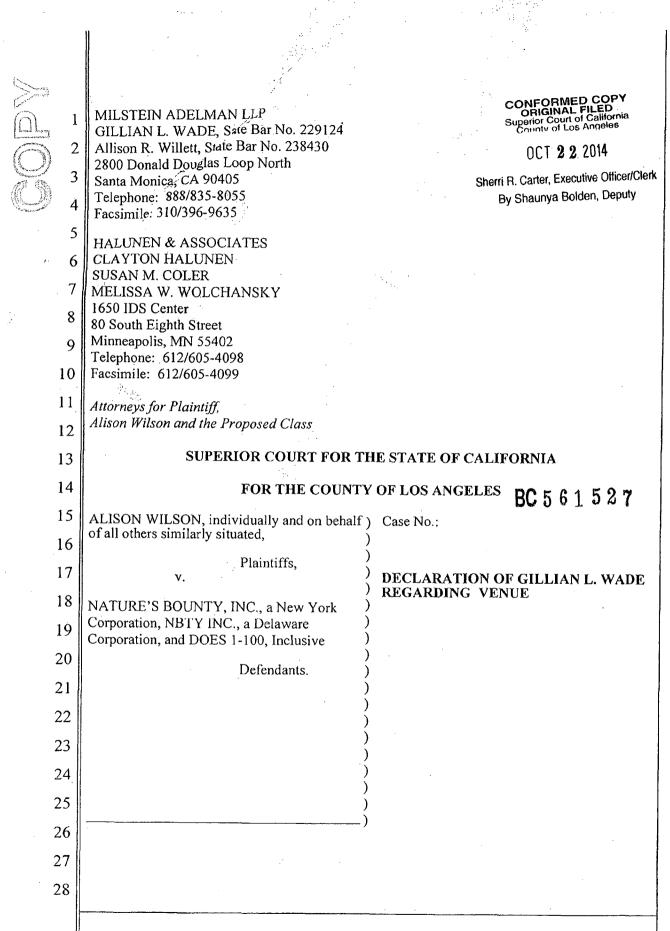
this case.		ive selected for	•
☑1. □2. □3	3. □4. □5. □6. □7. □8.	□9. □10.	
CITY:	STATE:	ZIP CODE:	
Los Angeles	CA	90049	
and correct and the Central			for assignment to the Stanley Mosk courthouse in the ia, County of Los Angeles [Code Civ. Proc., § 392 et seq., and Local
Rule 2.0, subds. (b)	), (c) and (d)].		
	0.0044		
Dated October 22, 2014			

(SIGNATURE OF ATTORNEY/FILING PARTY)

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

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

# EXHIBIT D



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## **DECLARATION OF GILLIAN L. WADE**

I, Gillian L. Wade, do hereby declare and state as follows:

- 1. I am a Partner at the Law Offices of Milstein Adelman, LLP, counsel of record for Plaintiff Alison Wilson, and am licensed to practice before all courts in the State of California. I have personal knowledge of all of the facts stated herein, and if called to testify as a witness, I could and would competently testify to them.
- 2. This Court is proper for trial of this action because Defendants are doing business in Los Angeles County and the transaction at issue occurred in Los Angeles County.

I declare and state under the penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing is true and correct. Executed on October 22, 2014 at Santa Monica, California.

Gillian L. Wade, Declarant

-

# **EXHIBIT E**

## GOPY SUM-100

### SUMMONS (CITACION JUDICIAL)

NOTICE TO DEFENDANT: (AVISO AL DEMANDADO):

NATURE'S BOUNTY, INC., a New York Corporation, NBTY INC., a Delaware Corporation, and DOES 1-250, Inclusive

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

ALISON WILSON, individually and on behalf of all others similarly situated,

CONFORTMETS SORV OHIGHEAUSO BEEF CORFE Superior Court of California County of Los Angeles

OCT 2 2 2014

Sherri R. Carter, Executive Officer/Clerk By Shaunya Bolden, Deputy

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

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

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

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

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

	000 ó más de valor recibida mediante un acuerdo o una co intes de que la corte pueda desechar el caso.	ncesión de arbitraje en un caso de derecho civil. Tiene que
The name and address of the (El nombre y dirección de la c	court is: Stanley Mosk Courthouse	CASE NUMBER: (Número del Caso): BC 5 6 1 5 2 7
111 North Hill Street,		BC 3 0 1 .
Los Angeles, CA 90012		
(El nombre, la dirección y el n	phone number of plaintiff's attorney, or plaintiff without where de teléfono del abogado del demandante, o de R. Willett 2800 Donald Douglas Loop N.	at an attorney, is: del demandante que no tiene abogado, es): , Santa Monica, CA 90405 T: 310-396-9600 , Deputy
(Fecha)	(Se <b>ksyl</b> ario) _	(Adjunto)
(Para prueba de entrega de es	mmons, use Proof of Service of Summons (folia PC) sta citatión use el formulario Proof of Service o	Agons, (POS-010)).
	3. on behalf of (specify):	
-	under: CCP 416.10 (corporation)  CCP 416.20 (defunct corporation)  CCP 416.40 (association or particular corporation)  other (specify):  4. by personal delivery on (date):	

# **EXHIBIT F**

## SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES NOTICE OF CASE ASSIGNMENT – CLASS ACTION CASES

Case Number

THIS FORM IS TO BE SERVED WITH THE SUMMONS AND COMPLAINT

Your case is assigned for all purposes to the judicial of	officer indicated below	v (Local Rule 3.3(c)
ASSIGNED JUDGE	DEPT	ROOM
Judge Elihu M. Berle	323	1707
Judge William F. Highberger	322	1702
Judge John Shepard Wiley, Jr.	311	1408
Judge Kenneth Freeman	310 .	1412
Judge Jane Johnson	308	1415
Judge Amy D. Hogue	307	1402
OTHER		

BC 5 6 1 5 2 7

### **Instructions for handling Class Action Civil Cases**

The following critical provisions of the Chapter Three Rules, as applicable in the Central District, are summarized for your assistance.

#### **APPLICATION**

The Chapter Three Rules were effective January 1, 1994. They apply to all general civil cases.

#### PRIORITY OVER OTHER RULES

The Chapter Three Rules shall have priority over all other Local Rules to the extent the others are inconsistent.

### CHALLENGE TO ASSIGNED JUDGE

A challenge under Code of Civil Procedure section 170.6 must be made within 15 days after notice of assignment for all purposes to a judge, or if a party has not yet appeared, within 15 days of the first appearance.

#### TIME STANDARDS

Cases assigned to the Individual Calendaring Court will be subject to processing under the following time standards:

COMPLAINTS: All complaints shall be served within 60 days of filing and proof of service shall be filed within 90 days of filing.

CROSS-COMPLAINTS: Without leave of court first being obtained, no cross-complaint may be filed by any party after their answer is filed. Cross-complaints shall be served within 30 days of the filing date and a proof of service filed within 60 days of the filing date.

A Status Conference will be scheduled by the assigned Independent Calendar Judge no later than 270 days after the filing of the complaint. Counsel must be fully prepared to discuss the following issues: alternative dispute resolution, bifurcation, settlement, trial date, and expert witnesses.

#### **FINAL STATUS CONFERENCE**

The Court will require the parties at a status conference not more than 10 days before the trial to have timely filed and served all motions in limine, bifurcation motions, statements of major evidentiary issues, dispositive motions, requested jury instructions, and special jury instructions and special jury verdicts. These matters may be heard and resolved at this conference. At least 5 days before this conference, counsel must also have exchanged lists of exhibits and witnesses and have submitted to the court a brief statement of the case to be read to the jury panel as required by Chapter Eight of the Los Angeles Superior Court Rules.

#### **SANCTIONS**

The court will impose appropriate sanctions for the failure or refusal to comply with Chapter Three Rules, orders made by the Court, and time standards or deadlines established by the Court or by the Chapter Three Rules. Such sanctions may be on a party or if appropriate on counsel for the party.

This is not a complete delineation of the Chapter Three Rules, and adherence only to the above provisions is therefore not a guarantee against the imposition of sanctions under Trial Court Delay Reduction. Careful reading and compliance with the actual Chapter Rules is absolutely imperative.

Given to the Plaintiff/Cross-Complainant/Attorney of Record on _	SHERRI R. CARTER, Executive Officer/Clerk
LACIV CCW 190 (Rev09/13)	14 PO.
LASC Approved 05-06	By, Deputy Clerk
For Ontical Lice	

# EXHIBIT G

## **VOLUNTARY EFFICIENT LITIGATION STIPULATIONS**



Superior Court of California County of Los Angeles



Los Angeles County Bar Association Litigation Section

Los Angeles County Bar Association Labor and Employment Law Section





Southern California Defense Counsel





California Employment Lawyers Association

The Early Organizational Meeting Stipulation, Discovery Resolution Stipulation, and Motions in Limine Stipulation are voluntary stipulations entered into by the parties. The parties may enter into one, two, or all three of the stipulations; however, they may not alter the stipulations as written, because the Court wants to ensure uniformity of application. These stipulations are meant to encourage cooperation between the parties and to assist in resolving issues in a manner that promotes economic case resolution and judicial efficiency.

The following organizations endorse the goal of promoting efficiency in litigation and ask that counsel consider using these stipulations as a voluntary way to promote communications and procedures among counsel and with the court to fairly resolve issues in their cases.

- **♦Los Angeles County Bar Association Litigation Section** 
  - **♦** Los Angeles County Bar Association

    Labor and Employment Law Section◆
  - **♦**Consumer Attorneys Association of Los Angeles**♦** 
    - ♦ Southern California Defense Counsel ♦
    - ◆Association of Business Trial Lawyers◆
    - **♦**California Employment Lawyers Association**♦**

NAME AND ADDRESS OF ATTORNEY OR PARTY WITHOUT AT	ITORNEY:	STATE BAR MAISER	Planezved for Clerk's File Stamp
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TELEPHONE NO.: E-MAIL ADDRESS (Optional): "ATTORNEY FOR (Name):	FAX NO. (O <sub>f</sub>	otional):	
SUPERIOR COURT OF CA	ALIFORNIA, COU	NTY OF LOS ANGELES	]
COURTHOUSE ADDRESS:			
PLAINTIFF:			
DEFENDANT:			
STIPULATION - EA	ARLY ORGANIZAT		CASE NUMBER:

This stipulation is intended to encourage cooperation among the parties at an early stage in the litigation and to assist the parties in efficient case resolution.

### The parties agree that:

- 1. The parties commit to conduct an initial conference (in-person or via teleconference or via videoconference) within 15 days from the date this stipulation is signed, to discuss and consider whether there can be agreement on the following:
  - a. Are motions to challenge the pleadings necessary? If the issue can be resolved by amendment as of right, or if the Court would allow leave to amend, could an amended complaint resolve most or all of the issues a demurrer might otherwise raise? If so, the parties agree to work through pleading issues so that a demurrer need only raise issues they cannot resolve. Is the issue that the defendant seeks to raise amenable to resolution on demurrer, or would some other type of motion be preferable? Could a voluntary targeted exchange of documents or information by any party cure an uncertainty in the pleadings?
  - b. Initial mutual exchanges of documents at the "core" of the litigation. (For example, in an
    employment case, the employment records, personnel file and documents relating to the
    conduct in question could be considered "core." in a personal injury case, an incident or
    police report, medical records, and repair or maintenance records could be considered
    "core.");
  - c. Exchange of names and contact information of witnesses;
  - d. Any insurance agreement that may be available to satisfy part or all of a judgment, or to indemnify or reimburse for payments made to satisfy a judgment;
  - e. Exchange of any other information that might be helpful to facilitate understanding, handling, or resolution of the case in a manner that preserves objections or privileges by agreement;
  - f. Controlling Issues of law that, if resolved early, will promote efficiency and economy in other phases of the case. Also, when and how such I ssues can be presented to the Court;
  - g. Whether or when the case should be scheduled with a settlement officer, what discovery or court ruling on legal issues is reasonably required to make settlement discussions meaningful, and whether the parties wish to use a sitting judge or a private mediator or other options as

SHORT TITLE:		CASE NAMER
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		<u> </u>
	discussed in the "Alternative Dispute Recomplaint;	esolution (ADR) Information Package" served with the
	Computation of damages, including doc which such computation is based;	cuments not privileged or protected from disclosure, on
		Expedited Jury Trial procedures (see information at and then under "General Information").
2.	to for the con	ond to a complaint or cross-complaint will be extended nplaint, and (INSERT DATE)
	and the 30 days permitted by Code of	(INSERT DATE)  O days to respond under Government Code § 68616(b), of Civil Procedure section 1054(a), good cause having days due to the case management benefits provided by
3.	and Early Organizational Meeting Stip results of their meet and confer and a efficient conduct or resolution of the co	itled "Joint Status Report Pursuant to Initial Conference pulation, and if desired, a proposed order summarizing advising the Court of any way it may assist the parties ase. The parties shall attach the Joint Status Report to statement, and file the documents when the CMC
4.		lays, unless otherwise noted. If the date for performing s on a Saturday, Sunday or Court holiday, then the time ed to the next Court day
The fo	ollowing parties stipulate:	
Date:		
Date:	(TYPE OR PRINT NAME)	(ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF)
Date:	(TYPE OR PRINT NAME)	(ATTORNEY FOR DEFENDANT)
Date:	(TYPE OR PRINT NAME)	(ATTORNEY FOR DEFENDANT)
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COURTHOUSE ADDRESS:				•
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DEFENDANT:			·	
STIPULATION	I – DISCOVERY R	ESOLUTION		CASE NUMBER:

This stipulation is intended to provide a fast and informal resolution of discovery issues through limited paperwork and an informal conference with the Court to aid in the resolution of the issues.

### The parties agree that:

- 1. Prior to the discovery cut-off in this action, no discovery motion shall be filed or heard unless the moving party first makes a written request for an Informal Discovery Conference pursuant to the terms of this stipulation.
- At the Informal Discovery Conference the Court will consider the dispute presented by parties
  and determine whether it can be resolved informally. Nothing set forth herein will preclude a
  party from making a record at the conclusion of an informal Discovery Conference, either
  orally or in writing.
- 3. Following a reasonable and good faith attempt at an informal resolution of each issue to be presented, a party may request an Informal Discovery Conference pursuant to the following procedures:
  - a. The party requesting the Informal Discovery Conference will:
    - File a Request for Informal Discovery Conference with the clerk's office on the approved form (copy attached) and deliver a courtesy, conformed copy to the assigned department;
    - ii. Include a brief summary of the dispute and specify the relief requested; and
  - iii. Serve the opposing party pursuant to any authorized or agreed method of service that ensures that the opposing party receives the Request for Informal Discovery Conference no later than the next court day following the filing.
  - b. Any Answer to a Request for Informal Discovery Conference must:
    - i. Also be filed on the approved form (copy attached);
    - ii. Include a brief summary of why the requested relief should be denied;

					 	·
1	SHORT TITLE:				 CASE NUMBER:	
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- iii. Be filed within two (2) court days of receipt of the Request; and
- iv. Be served on the opposing party pursuant to any authorized or agreed upon method of service that ensures that the opposing party receives the Answer no later than the next court day following the filing.
- c. No other pleadings, including but not limited to exhibits, declarations, or attachments, will be accepted.
- d. If the Court has not granted or denied the Request for Informal Discovery Conference within ten (10) days following the filing of the Request, then it shall be deemed to have been denied. If the Court acts on the Request, the parties will be notified whether the Request for Informal Discovery Conference has been granted or denied and, if granted, the date and time of the Informal Discovery Conference, which must be within twenty (20) days of the filing of the Request for Informal Discovery Conference.
- e. If the conference is not held within twenty (20) days of the filing of the Request for Informal Discovery Conference, unless extended by agreement of the parties and the Court, then the Request for the Informal Discovery Conference shall be deemed to have been denied at that time.
- 4. If (a) the Court has denied a conference or (b) one of the time deadlines above has expired without the Court having acted or (c) the Informal Discovery Conference is concluded without resolving the dispute, then a party may file a discovery motion to address unresolved issues.
- 5. The parties hereby further agree that the time for making a motion to compel or other discovery motion is tolled from the date of filing of the Request for Informal Discovery Conference until (a) the request is denied or deemed denied or (b) twenty (20) days after the filing of the Request for Informal Discovery Conference, whichever is earlier, unless extended by Order of the Court.
  - It is the understanding and intent of the parties that this stipulation shall, for each discovery dispute to which it applies, constitute a writing memorializing a "specific later date to which the propounding [or demanding or requesting] party and the responding party have agreed in writing," within the meaning of Code Civil Procedure sections 2030.300(c), 2031.320(c), and 2033.290(c).
- 6. Nothing herein will preclude any party from applying ex parte for appropriate relief, including an order shortening time for a motion to be heard concerning discovery.
- 7. Any party may terminate this stipulation by giving twenty-one (21) days notice of intent to terminate the stipulation.
- 8. References to "days" mean calendar days, unless otherwise noted. If the date for performing any act pursuant to this stipulation falls on a Saturday, Sunday or Court holiday, then the time for performing that act shall be extended to the next Court day.

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The follo	wing parties stipulate:			
Date:			>	
Date:	(TYPE OR PRINT NAME)		_	(ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF)
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Date:	(TYPE OR PRINT NAME)		» <u> </u>	(ATTORNEY FOR DEFENDANT)
Date:	(TYPE OR PRINT NAME)	: 14,	<b>&gt;</b>	(ATTORNEY FOR)
Date:	(TYPE OR PRINT NAME)		` _ >	(ATTORNEY FOR)
<u> </u>	(TYPE OR PRINT NAME)		-	(ATTORNEY FOR)

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COURTHOUSE ADDRESS:		
		j.
PLAINTIFF:		·
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DEFENDANT:		·
	. •	
INFORMAL DISCOVERY CON	EEDENCE	CASE NUMBER:
		i ·
(pursuant to the Discovery Resolution Stipul	ation of the parties)	<u> </u>
1. This document relates to:	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	
Request for Informal Discovery	/ Conference	•
Answer to Request for Information	I Discovery Conference	
2. Deadline for Court to decide on Request		ate 10 calendar days following filing of
the Request).	, (Albert U	ate to calculate days tollowing timing or
3. Deadline for Court to hold Informal Disco	very Conference	(insert date 20 calendar
days following filing of the Request).		(Missil agia to amount
4. For a Request for Informal Discove	ry Conference, briefly de	scribe the nature of the
discovery dispute, including the fact		
Request for Informal Discovery Conf		
the requested discovery, including the	facts and legal arguments	at issue.

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PLAINTIFF:		
DEFENDANT:		
STIPULATION AND O	RDER - MOTIONS IN LIMINE	CASE MUMBER:

This stipulation is intended to provide fast and informal resolution of evidentiary issues through diligent efforts to define and discuss such issues and limit paperwork.

### The parties agree that:

- 1. At least \_\_\_\_ days before the final status conference, each party will provide all other parties with a list containing a one paragraph explanation of each proposed motion in limine. Each one paragraph explanation must identify the substance of a single proposed motion in limine and the grounds for the proposed motion.
- 2. The parties thereafter will meet and confer, either in person or via teleconference or videoconference, concerning all proposed motions in limine. In that meet and confer, the parties will determine:
  - a. Whether the parties can stipulate to any of the proposed motions. If the parties so stipulate, they may file a stipulation and proposed order with the Court.
  - b. Whether any of the proposed motions can be briefed and submitted by means of a short joint statement of issues. For each motion which can be addressed by a short joint statement of issues, a short joint statement of issues must be filed with the Court 10 days prior to the final status conference. Each side's portion of the short joint statement of issues may not exceed three pages. The parties will meet and confer to agree on a date and manner for exchanging the parties' respective portions of the short joint statement of issues and the process for filing the short joint statement of issues.
- 3. All proposed motions in limine that are not either the subject of a stipulation or briefed via a short joint statement of issues will be briefed and filed in accordance with the California Rules of Court and the Los Angeles Superior Court Rules.

SHORT TITLE:			<del></del> ;	CASE MUMBER
•				
The foil	owing parties stipulate:		•	
Date:		•	<b>&gt;</b>	
Date:	(TYPE OR PRINT NAME)	<del>**</del> **	<b>b</b>	(ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF)
Date:	(TYPE OR PRINT NAME)	<del></del>	· .	(ATTORNEY FOR DEFENDANT)
Date:	(TYPE OR PRINT NAME)	<del>- 1-</del> · .	>	(ATTORNEY FOR DEFENDANT)
Date:	(TYPE OR PRINT NAME)	<del></del>		(ATTORNEY FOR DEFENDANT)
Date:	(TYPE OR PRINT NAME)	<del></del>	Α.	(ATTORNEY FOR)
Date:	(TYPE OR PRINT NAME)	<del></del>		(ATTORNEY FOR)
	(TYPE OR PRINT NAME)		>	(ATTORNEY FOR)
THE C	OURT SO ORDERS.	·		
Date:		<del></del>		
	, · · , <del></del>			JUDICIAL OFFICER

# EXHIBIT H

1 2 3 4	MILSTEIN ADELMAN LLP GILLIAN L. WADE, Sate Bar No. 229124 Allison R. Willett, State Bar No. 238430 2800 Donald Douglas Loop North Santa Monica, CA 90405 Telephone: 888/835-8055 Facsimile: 310/396-9635	
5	HALUNEN & ASSOCIATES	
6	CLAYTON HALUNEN SUSAN M. COLER	
7	MELISSA W. WOLCHANSKY	
8	1650 IDS Center 80 South Eighth Street	
9	Minneapolis, MN 55402 Telephone: 612/605-4098	
10	Facsimile: 612/605-4099	
11	Attorneys for Plaintiff,	
12	Alison Wilson and the Proposed Class	
13	SUPERIOR COURT FOR TH	IE STATE OF CALIFORNIA
14	FOR THE COUNTY	OF LOS ANGELES
15	ALISON WILSON, individually and on behalf)	Case No.: BC561527
16	of all others similarly situated,	(Assigned for all purposes to the Honorable
17	Plaintiffs, v.	Amy D. Hogue, Dept. 307)
18	NATURE'S BOUNTY, INC., a New York	<u>CLASS ACTION</u>
19	Corporation, NBTY INC., a Delaware Corporation, and DOES 1-100, Inclusive	NOTICE OF COURT ORDER ON
20	Defendants.	COMPLEX DESIGNATION AND INITIAL STATUS CONFERENCE ORDER
21	)	·
22	)	
23	,	
24	)	
25		
26		
27		
28	,	
-	NOTICE OF COURT ORDER ( AND INITIAL STATUS	ON COMPLEX DESIGNATION CONFERENCE ORDER
ł	I	

1 TO THE COURT, ALL PARTIES AND THEIR ATTORNEYS OF RECORD: PLEASE TAKE NOTICE THAT on November 7, 2014, the Honorable Amy D. Hogue in 3 Department 307 of the above-referenced Court made its determination that the case Alison 4 Wilson v. Nature's Bounty, Inc. et al. (Case No. BC561527) is designated complex. Attached hereto as Exhibit A is a true and correct copy of the November 7, 2014 Court 6 Order. Attached hereto also as Exhibit B is a true and correct copy the Court's Initial Status Conference Order. Plaintiff is ordered to give notice. 9 Dated: November 14, 2014 Respectfully submitted, 11 12 13 MILSTEIN ADELMAN LLP 14 GILLIAN L. WADE ALLISON R. WILLETT 15 2800 Donald Douglas Loop North Santa Monica, CA 90405 16 Telephone: 888/835-8055 17 Facsimile: 310/396-9635 18 HALUNEN & ASSOCIATES CLAYTON HALUNEN 19 SUSAN M. COLER MELISSA W. WOLCHANSKY 20 1650 IDS Center 21 80 South Eighth Street Minneapolis, MN 55402 22 Telephone: 612/605-4098 Facsimile: 612/605-4099 23 24 25 26 27 28

NOTICE OF COURT ORDER ON COMPLEX DESIGNATION AND INITIAL STATUS CONFERENCE ORDER

## **EXHIBIT A**

### SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

DATE: 11/07/14

il .

**DEPT.** 307

HONORABLE AMY D. HOGUE

JUDGE M. CERVANTES

DEPUTY CLERK

HONORABLE 16

JUDGE PRO TEM

ELECTRONIC RECORDING MONITOR

T. MASSAROTTI, C.A.

Deputy Sheriff NONE

Reporter

BC561527

Plaintiff Counsel

ALISON WILSON

Defendant

Counsel

NATURES BOUNTY INC ET AL

VS

NO APPEARANCES

#### NATURE OF PROCEEDINGS:

COURT ORDER REGARDING NEWLY FILED CLASS ACTION

By this order, the Court determines this case to be Complex according to Rule 3.400 of the California Rules of Court. The Clerk's Office has randomly assigned this case to this department for all purposes.

By this order, the Court stays the case, except for service of the Summons and Complaint. The stay continues at least until the Initial Status Conference. Initial Status Conference is set for January 12, 2015, at 3:00 p.m. in Department 307. At least 10 days prior to the Initial Status Conference, counsel for all parties must discuss the issues set forth in the Initial Status Conference Order issued this date. The Initial Status Conference Order is to help the Court and the parties manage this complex case by developing an orderly schedule for briefing, discovery, and court hearings. The parties are informally encouraged to exchange documents and information as may be useful for case evaluation.

Responsive pleadings shall not be filed until further Order of the Court. Parties must file a Notice of Appearance in lieu of an Answer or other responsive pleading. The filing of a Notice of Appearance shall not constitute a waiver of any substantive or procedural challenge to the Complaint. Nothing in this order stays the time for filing an Affidavit of

Page 1 of 3 DEPT. 307

MINUTES ENTERED 11/07/14 COUNTY CLERK

### SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

DATE: 11/07/14

HONORABLE AMY D. HOGUE

**DEPT.** 307

JUDGE

M. CERVANTES

DEPUTY CLERK

HONORABLE

JUDGE PRO TEM

ELECTRONIC RECORDING MONITOR

16

T. MASSAROTTI, C.A.

Deputy Sheriff

NONE

Reporter

BC561527

Plaintiff Counsel

ALISON WILSON

Defendant

Counsel

NATURES BOUNTY INC ET AL

NO APPEARANCES

#### NATURE OF PROCEEDINGS:

Prejudice pursuant to Code of Civil Procedure Section 170.6.

Counsel are directed to access the following link for information on procedures in the Complex Litigation Program courtrooms:

http://courtnet/internet/civil/UI/ ToolsForLitigators2.aspx

VS

According to Government Code Section 70616 subdivisions (a) and (b), each party shall pay a fee of \$1,000.00 to the Los Angeles Superior Court within 10 calendar days from this date.

The plaintiff must serve a copy of this minute order and the attached Initial Status Conference Order on all parties forthwith and file a Proof of Service in this department within seven days of service.

CLERK'S CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I, the below-named Executive Officer/Clerk of the above-entitled court, do hereby certify that I am not a party to the cause herein, and that on this date I served the Minute Order and Initial Status Conference Order Complex Cases and Class Actions upon each party or counsel named below by placing the document for collection and mailing so as to cause it to be deposited in the United States mail

> Page 2 of 3 DEPT. 307

MINUTES ENTERED 11/07/14 COUNTY CLERK

### SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

DATE: 11/07/14				•		<b>DEPT.</b> 307		
HONORABLE AMY D. HOGUE			CERVA	NTES	DI	EPUTY CLERK		
HONORABLE	JUDGE PRO TEM				ELECT	TRONIC RECORDING	MONITOR	
10	T. MASSAROTTI, C.A. Deputy Sheriff	NO	NE			Reporter		
	BC561527	Plair						
	ALISON WILSON							
	VS NATURES BOUNTY INC ET AL	Cour		O APPEA	RANCES			
	NATURE OF PROCEEDINGS:							
	at the courthouse in Los Angel California, one copy of the or herein in a separate sealed en as shown below with the postag in accordance with standard co	igin velo e th	pe to ereon	each adfully p	ldress			
	Dated: November 7, 2014						*	

MILSTEIN ADELMAN LLP Gillian L. Wade 2800 Donald Douglas Loop North Santa Monica, CA 90405

By:

Sherri R. Carter, Executive Officer/Clerk

M. Cervantes, Deputy Clerk

Page 3 of 3 DEPT. 307

MINUTES ENTERED 11/07/14 COUNTY CLERK

## EXHIBIT B

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NOV	07	2014	

Sherri R. Carrer, Executive Officer/Clerk Sy: Madha Cervantes, Deputy

## SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

7.7

ALISON WILSON,	) Case No.: BC561527		
Plaintiff,	INITIAL STATUS CONFERENCE ORDER COMPLEX CASES AND CLASS ACTIONS		
VS.	)		
NATURE'S BOUNTY, INC., et al.,	) 		
Defendant	Dept. 307 Central Civil West Judge Amy D. Hogue,		
	E-service provider:		

This case has been assigned, for all purposes, to the Complex Litigation

Program, Department 307, Central Civil West Courthouse (600 S. Commonwealth Ave.,

Los Angeles, CA 90005), Judge Amy D. Hogue, presiding. Extensive information about

Department 307 is posted on the Court's website, <a href="www.lacourt.org">www.lacourt.org</a> ("information about courtroom").

## I. Immediate Stay in Proceedings to Facilitate Case Management

The Court entirely stays all proceedings, including motions and discovery, pending further order of the Court. The stay precludes defendants from filing answers,

demurrers, motions to strike, and motions challenging the jurisdiction of the Court. It also stays all parties' obligations to respond to any discovery promulgated in the case to date.

The Court orders each as yet non-appearing defendant to file a Notice of Appearance (identifying counsel by name, firm name, address, email address, telephone number and fax number). The filing of a Notice of Appearance is without prejudice to (a) any jurisdictional, substantive or procedural challenge to the Complaint, (b) any affirmative defense, and (c) the filing of any cross-complaint in this action.

The Court further orders that future stays imposed in this action for purposes of managing the case, including stays of discovery, do not affect the five year period in which cases shall be brought to trial under Code of Civil Procedure Section 583.310 unless and until the parties otherwise so stipulate in accordance with Section 583.330.

Notwithstanding the stay order, the Court encourages the parties to make informal disclosures to facilitate early evaluation of the case. The Court's stay order does not preclude informal exchanges of documents and information among counsel.

## II. Initial Status Conference

The Court orders counsel for all parties to appear in Department 307 for an Initial Status Conference ("ISC") on January 12, 2015, at 3:00 p.m. At the ISC, the Court will discuss case management and invite the parties to propose procedures to enhance efficiency and avoid duplicative or unnecessary expenditures of time. The Court is

particularly interested in making early decisions on any threshold or potentially dispositive issues as a means of enhancing the parties' ability to assess the case.

.16

### A. Counsel Must Meet and Confer and File Joint ISC Statement

At least 15 days prior to the ISC, all counsel must meet together, IN PERSON, to discuss case management.<sup>1</sup> The Court orders Plaintiff's counsel to take the lead in preparing a joint ISC Statement and ensuring that it is filed with the court at least five Court days prior to the ISC. The ISC Statement should begin with a brief description of the case and attach a service list (identifying all counsel, email addresses, telephone numbers, and fax numbers). It should also jointly address the matters listed below. To the extent the parties are unable to agree on a joint submission, each party may separately present a brief statement of its position.

- 1. Any basis for the Court's recusal or disqualification.
- 2. Whether the action incorrectly identifies the name of any party and whether Plaintiff(s) intend to add parties.
- 3. Counsels' joint recommendation for an e-service provider for inclusion in the Court's order for initiation of e-service. All parties appearing in Department 307 must employ an e-service provider. Please note that to file a document in court, a party must physically deliver a copy to the courtroom (or fax file); the Court has no e-filing technology. The parties shall identify the appointed

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> If the travel time for an in-person meeting exceeds 90 minutes, counsel may participate by telephone provided that they use any reasonably available technology allowing face-to-face communication.

- e-service provider in the caption of each filing as indicated in the caption of this Order.
- 4. Any issues of jurisdiction, venue, contractual arbitration/judicial reference that any party intends to raise.
- A brief description of any related cases pending in other courts or anticipated for future filing.
- 6. Whether or not there is insurance coverage for this dispute and the extent of coverage for liability and/or defense costs.
- 7. A succinct description of key factual and legal issues in the case to alert the Court to likely proceedings and disputes, e.g., important contractual provisions, statutes, regulations, and affirmative defenses. In class actions, counsel should address issues such as an agreement to share the cost of class notice/opt out procedures, the adequacy of class representatives, conflicts of interest among class representatives, and contractual arbitration provisions affecting the Court's jurisdiction.
- 8. Any grounds for challenging the pleadings or the court's jurisdiction (demurrers, motions for judgment on the pleadings, motions to strike, etc.) and the outcome of the parties' efforts to resolve the dispute informally by, for example, voluntary amendment of the pleadings, stipulation to binding arbitration, etc.
- 9. A plan to preserve evidence, to deploy a uniform system for identification of documents, and to protect confidentiality by, for example, executing a protective order using the form posted on the Court's website.

- 10. A detailed and optimally efficient discovery plan reflecting the parties' consideration of phased discovery, e.g., limiting initial discovery to a significant or dispositive issue as a predicate to an important early ruling or meaningful participation in an early mediation. In class actions, the parties should address whether the Court should initially limit discovery to class certification issues.
- 11. A plan for electronic discovery. Where appropriate, the parties should outline a process for managing discovery of electronically stored information by, for example, scheduling a meeting among counsel and the parties' IT consultants in order to address (1) the information management systems employed by the parties; (2) the location and custodians of information that is likely to be subject to production (including the identification of network and email servers and hard drives maintained by target custodians); (3) the format in which electronically stored information will be produced; (4) the type of ESI that will be produced, i.e., data files, emails, etc.; and (5) appropriate search criteria for focused requests.
- 12. A stipulation to resolve discovery disputes by:
  - i) Agreeing to meet and confer IN PERSON (after exchanging correspondence articulating each side's position) in an effort to narrow the issues in dispute;
  - ii. ii) Extending deadlines for filing motions to compel in favor of jointly scheduling an informal discovery conference with the Court in an effort to achieve a mediated solution;<sup>2</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>The Court is readily available to confer with the parties on short notice to resolve discovery disputes and otherwise facilitate progress in the case. The Court's preferred method of participating is described in the information about Department 307 posted on the Court's website, www.lacourt.org.

III.

- iii. iii) Structuring discovery motions as joint statements presenting each side's position on jointly identified issues.
- 13. An ADR plan that identifies the mechanism and the timing of mediation and/or mandatory settlement conferences.
- 14. Recommended dates and times for trial, filing of motions for class certification,
  ADR, and deadlines (and proposed briefing schedules) for filing other anticipated motions.
- 15. A recommended date for the next Status Conference. At least five days prior to each status conference, the parties must submit a joint Status

  Conference Report recounting the nature of the case and describing the parties' progress to date.

## Reminders for Class Actions

The dismissal of a class action or of any party or cause of action in a class action requires Court approval. Counsel must submit a declaration setting forth, among other things, the reasons why a party seeks a dismissal in a class action and identify any and all consideration given in exchange for the dismissal. California Rules of Court, Rule 3.770(a)

To obtain approval of a class action settlement, the parties should adhere to the Guidelines for Motions for Preliminary and Final Approval posted on the Court's website under Tools for Litigators. The Court requires counsel to address any fee splitting arrangement(s) and to demonstrate compliance with California Rules of Court, Rule 3.

769 and the Rules of Professional Conduct 2-200(a). *Mark v. Spencer* (2008) 166 Cal.App.4<sup>th</sup> 219.

## IV. <u>Notice of the ISC Order</u>

The Court orders Plaintiff's counsel is to serve this Initial Status Conference

Order on all defense counsel, or if counsel is not known, on each defendant within five

(5) days of the date of this Order. If the Complaint has not been served as of the date

of this Order, Plaintiff(s) must serve the Complaint, along with a copy of this

Order, within five (5) days of the date of this Order.

Dated this 7<sup>th</sup> day of November AMY D. HOGUE, JUDGE

Amy D. Hogue Judge of the Superior Court

#### 1 PROOF OF SERVICE 2 STATE OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES 3 I am employed in the County of LOS ANGELES, State of CALIFORNIA. I am over the age of 18 and not a party to within action; my business address is 2800 Donald Douglas Loop North, 4 Santa Monica, CA 90405. 5 On November 14, 2014, I served the foregoing documents described as: 6 NOTICE OF COURT ORDER ON COMPLEX DESIGNATION AND INITIAL STATUS CONFERENCE ORDER 7 On interested parties in this action by sending a true copy of the document to the following parties 8 as follows: 9 10 NATURE'S BOUNTY, INC. NBTY, INC. c/o Corporation Service Company c/o Corporation Service Company 11 80 State Street 2711 Centerville Rd Albany, New York 12207 Suite 400 12 Wilmington, DE 19808 13 Registered Agent for Defendant, NATURE'S BOUNTY. INC. Registered Agent for Defendant, 14 NBTY, INC. 15 16 Clayton Halunen Susan M. Coler 17 Melissa W. Wolchansky **HALUNEN & ASSOCIATES** 18 1650 IDS Center 80 South Eighth Street 19 Minneapolis, MN 55402 20 Attorneys for Plaintiff, 21 Alison Wilson and the Proposed Class 22 (BY ELECTRONIC MAIL) I caused the document(s) to be successfully transmitted via 23 electronic mail to the offices of the addressees. 24 (BY ELECTRONIC SERVICE) I caused the document(s) to be sent to the offices of the addressees via Online Filing Service. 25 (BY FACSIMILE) I transmitted pursuant Rule 2.306, the above-described document by 26 facsimile machine (which complied with Rule 2003(3)), to the attached listed fax number(s). The transmission originated from facsimile phone number (310) 396-9635 and was reported as 27 complete and without error. 28

1		(BY OVER NIGHT DELIVERY) I caused such envelope(s) thereon fully prepaid to be placed in the Norco Overnite Express box at Santa Monica, California.					
2		(BY PERSONAL SERVICE) I caused such envelope(s) to be hand delivered to the offices of the addressees.					
3 4	XXXX	(BY US MAIL) I caused such envelope(s) with postage thereon fully prepaid, with return receipt requested, to be placed in the United States mail at Santa Monica, California, pursuant					
5		to California Code of Civil Procedure § 415.40. I am readily familiar with this business' practice for collecting and processing correspondence for mailing. On the same day that correspondence is placed for collection and mailing, it is deposited in the ordinary course of					
6		business with the United States Postal Service.					
7	Execu	ted on November 14, 2014, at Santa Monica, California					
8	XXXX	(STATE) I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the above is true and correct.					
9	whose	(FEDERAL) I declare that I am employed in the office of a member of the bar of this court at direction the service was made.					
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13		David Marin					
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