	11						
1	CERA LLP SOLOMON B. CERA (State Bar No. 99467)						
2	C. ANDREW DIRKSEN (State Bar No. 197378) 595 Market Street, Suite 2300						
3	San Francisco, CA 94105 Telephone: (415) 777-2230 Facsimile (415) 777-5189 scera@cerallp.com						
4							
5	cdirksen@cerallp.com						
6	Attorneys for Plaintiff and the Proposed Class and New Jersey Sub-Class						
7							
8	[Additional counsel listed on signature page]						
9							
10	UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT						
11	NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA						
12							
13	BRUCE GUEST, on behalf of himself and all) Case No. others similarly situated,						
14	}						
15	Plaintiff, COMPLAINT						
16	v.)						
17	LUMBER LIQUIDATORS INC.; LUMBER) JURY TRIAL DEMAND	ED					
18	LIQUIDATORS LEASING, LLC; LUMBER) LIQUIDATORS HOLDINGS, INC.; and						
19	LUMBER LIQUIDATORS SERVICES,) LLC,						
20	 						
21	Defendants)						
22							
23							
24							
25							
26							
27 28							
20							

Plaintiff Bruce Guest ("plaintiff"), for his Complaint against the defendants named in this Complaint, alleges as follows, on the basis of his own personal knowledge as to the allegations relating to himself, and on the basis of information and belief as to all other allegations:

I. INTRODUCTION

1. This is a proposed class action brought against Lumber Liquidators by plaintiff Bruce Guest, on behalf of himself and the Class and the New Jersey Sub-Class defined below, to obtain damages and injunctive relief arising from and relating to their purchases and installation of Lumber Liquidators' laminate wood flooring products, which widely reported professional sampling revealed high levels of formaldehyde, a known carcinogen and other health-threatening substances.

II. PARTIES

- 2. Plaintiff Bruce Guest is a citizen and resident of the State of New Jersey. During the period of time relevant to this action, plaintiff purchased laminated flooring product, from Lumber Liquidators, for personal use in his home, that plaintiff avers, on the basis of information and belief, was manufactured in China, and that was one of the styles of Lumber Liquidators laminate wood flooring products that was shown by independent testing (described in paragraph 19 of this Complaint) to contain and emit formaldehyde significantly above the legal limits that Lumber Liquidators warranted.
- 3. Defendant Lumber Liquidators Inc. is a Delaware corporation with its headquarters and principal place of business located in Toano, Virginia. Lumber Liquidators, Inc. reportedly has over 350 locations in North America, and 38 retail stores located throughout the State of California. Lumber Liquidators, Inc. distributes, markets and/or sells laminate wood flooring products nationally, including in the State of California.
- 4. Defendant Lumber Liquidators Leasing, LLC is a Delaware Limited Liability Corporation with its principal place of business at 3000 John Deere Road, Toano, Virginia 23168.
- 5. Defendant Lumber Liquidators Holding, Inc. is a Delaware corporation with its principal place of business at 3000 John Deere Road, Toano, Virginia 23168.

- 6. Defendant Lumber Liquidators Services, LLC is a Delaware Limited Liability Corporation with its principal place of business at 3000 John Deere Road, Toano, Virginia 23168.
- 7. The aforementioned Lumber Liquidator entities are hereinafter collectively referred to as "Lumber Liquidators," the "Company," or "defendants."

III. JURISDICTION AND VENUE

- 8. This Court has original jurisdiction over the claims asserted in Count I of this Complaint, which arises under the federal Magnuson-Moss Warranty Act, 15 U.S.C. § 2301, *et seq*, by virtue of federal question jurisdiction under 28 U.S.C. § 1331. The Court has jurisdiction over the state law claims (asserted in Counts II, III and IV of this Complaint) under the doctrines of supplemental and pendent jurisdiction pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1367(a) in that the facts underlying the claims asserted in such Counts are so related to the facts underlying the Magnuson-Moss Warranty Act claims asserted in Count I that they form part of the same case or controversy under Article III of the United States Constitution. In addition, with respect to all claims asserted in this action, the Court has jurisdiction under 28 U.S.C. § 28 U.S.C. §§ 1332(d)(2), and the provisions of the Class Action Fairness Act.
- 9. This Court has personal jurisdiction over the parties in this action by virtue of the fact that defendants actively conduct business in the State of California and sold substantial quantities of laminate floor products to members of the Class within the State of California.
- 10. Venue is proper in this Court pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1391(b) because unlawful practices complained of in this Complaint took place in the State of California and in this District, because defendant regularly conducts business within the State of California and in this District, and sold laminated wood flooring products to many members of the Class within the State of California and within this District, and because acts and transactions relevant to the claims asserted in this litigation occurred within this District. In addition, there are several other lawsuits pending in this District that relate to, and arise out of the same facts and occurrences, as those at issue in this litigation, and the regulatory limits applicable to Lumber Liquidators'

warranties arise under and are established by California law, regardless of where in the United States the laminate wood flooring products are sold.

IV. FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS

- 11. This case seeks redress on behalf of those consumers who have been victimized by Lumber Liquidators' marketing and sale of laminate wood flooring products, that are intended for use in homes and businesses, that contain and emit unsafe levels of formaldehyde, a health-threatening compound. Not only did Lumber Liquidators market and sell such products, it specifically warranted its products against such defects even though Lumber Liquidators knew, or recklessly disregarded, that its bullish representations and warranties were false and misleading, as alleged more specifically in this Complaint.
- 12. Many of the laminate wood flooring products that Lumber Liquidators markets and sells to consumers in the United States are manufactured in China including the laminate wood flooring product purchased by the plaintiff.
- 13. Lumber Liquidators has consistently emphasized and boasted about the safety of its laminate wood flooring products. Lumber Liquidators also represents, in substance, that it carefully supervises and monitors the manufacture of its laminate wood flooring products in China so as to ensure that the products comply with applicable formaldehyde emissions standards. On that basis, plaintiff avers that Lumber Liquidators' laminate wood flooring products that are manufactured in China are manufactured using common formulae, designs and processes relating to the susceptibility of such products to the emission of formaldehyde.
- 14. Indeed, Lumber Liquidators consistently and pervasively represented and warranted that its laminate wood flooring products complied with the emissions limits (including the limits for formaldehyde emissions) set by the California Air Resources Board ("CARB") in January of 2009, which are reported to be the most stringent in the nation. These standards have become the *de facto* laminate wood flooring industry standard in the United States.
- 15. For example, on its internet website as it existed in early March of 2015, Lumber Liquidators made the following representations:

<u>Is Lumber Liquidators Compliant with the California law?</u>

Laminate and engineered flooring products sold by Lumber Liquidators are purchased from mills whose production method has been certified by a Third Party Certifier approved by the State of California to meet the CARB standards. The scope of the certification by the Third Party Certifier includes the confirmation that the manufacturer has implemented the quality systems, process controls, and testing procedures outlined by CARB and that their products conform to the specified regulation limits. The Third Party Certifier also provides ongoing oversight to validate the manufacturers' compliance and manufacturers must be periodically re-certified.

Does CARB only apply to California?

Though it currently applies only to products sold in California, Lumber Liquidators made a decision to require all of our vendors to comply with the California Air Resources Board regulations regardless of whether we intended to sell the products in California or any other state/country.

What extra steps does Lumber Liquidators take to ensure compliance?

In addition to the California Air Resources Board requirements, Lumber Liquidators regularly selects one or more finished products from each of its suppliers and submits them for independent third-party lab testing. This is done as a monitoring activity to validate ongoing quality control.

16. Lumber Liquidators clearly represents on its product labels, on its website, and on its warranties that the flooring products it sells to consumers comply with strict CARB, and the even more stringent European, formaldehyde standards. Indeed, during the relevant time period, Lumber Liquidators' internet website represented as follows:

Regulations and Lumber Liquidators' Compliance

The California Air Reform Bill (CARB) requires that products containing Hardwood Plywood Veneer Core (HWP-VC), Hardwood Plywood Composite Core (HWP-CC), Particleboard and MDF be tested for emissions and products not meeting the strict standards for emissions may not be sold in California.

1

2

3

4

The Environmental Protection Agency has drafted national standards for formaldehyde emissions in composite wood products that are similar to those of California. Those standards have not yet been enacted.

All laminates and engineered flooring products sold by Lumber Liquidators are purchased from mills whose production method has been certified by a Third Party Certifier approved by the State of California to meet the CARB standards. The scope of the certification by the Third Party Certifier includes the confirmation that the manufacturer has implemented the quality systems, process controls, and testing procedures outlined by CARB and that their products conform to the specified formaldehyde emission limits. The Third Party Certifier also provides ongoing oversight to validate the manufacturers' compliance and manufacturers must be periodically re-certified. Though it currently applies only to products sold in California, Lumber Liquidators made a decision to require all of our suppliers to comply with CARB regardless of whether we intended to sell the products in California or any other state/county. In addition to the CARB requirements, Lumber Liquidators regularly selects one or more products from each of its suppliers and submits them for independent third-party lab testing. This is done as a monitoring activity to validate ongoing compliance.

Formaldehyde – What is it? Lumberliquidators.com, http://www.lumberliquidators.com/ll/flooring/Flooring101-formaldehyde-what-is-it (last visited on December 10, 2014.)

- 17. Moreover, Lumber Liquidators' website, as it existed in early March of 2015, stated that, "we not only comply with laws-we exceed them." "Highest Quality Flooring.

 GUARANTEED." . This statement, which appeared on Lumber Liquidators' Website at least until March 2, 2015 (the day after the 60 Minutes expose that exposed the fact that impermissibly high levels of formaldehyde had been found in Lumber Liquidators' laminate wood flooring products) no longer appears on the website.
- 18. Lumber Liquidators' purchase orders, as they were posted and appeared on the Company's internet website at least through early March of 2015, contained the following warranty:

SELLER'S WARRANTIES: Seller expressly warrants that all goods covered by this Purchase Order will: (a) strictly conform to Seller's

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

specifications, drawings, samples and other written materials and descriptions, or, to the extent the goods were purchased to Lumber Liquidators' specifications and drawings as set forth or referred to in this Purchase Order, that the goods strictly conform with those specifications and drawings; (b) be free from defects in design, material and workmanship; (c) be of merchantable quality and suitable for the particular purposes intended, whether express or reasonably implied; and (d) bear all warnings, labels, and markings required by applicable laws and regulations. In addition, Seller warrants that: (e) none of the goods covered hereby, to the extent they are subject to laws prohibiting adulteration or misbranding, is adulterated or misbranded within the meaning of such laws as of the date of delivery to Lumber Liquidators; (f) all goods covered hereby may be introduced into the stream of commerce without violation of applicable laws and regulations; and (g) all goods furnished or supplied pursuant to this Purchase Order have been sourced, produced, sold, delivered, declared, packaged, labeled, manufactured, and/or rendered to Lumber Liquidators in compliance with all applicable laws, codes and regulations.

See http://www.lumberliquidators.com/ll/customer-care/potc800201 (as it existed in early March of 2015).

- 19. On March 1, 2015, the show "60 Minutes" featured a segment reporting that samplings of Lumber Liquidators' laminate wood flooring products that were manufactured in China had been tested by independent testing laboratories, and the testing determined that these products contain levels of formaldehyde that far exceed CARB limits and that pose dangers to human health. The 60 Minutes segment also aired footage of employees of certain of the Chinese mills where Lumber Liquidators' flooring is manufactured, wherein the employees made the shocking admissions that Lumber Liquidators' flooring was not CARB2 compliant.
- 20. After the alarming "60 Minutes" segment, Lumber Liquidators doubled down on its previous assurances concerning the safety of its products by posting a letter from its Chairman on its website stating:

Let me make one thing very clear – our laminate products, all of our products, are 100% safe.

• • •

27

28

We comply with applicable regulations regarding our products, including California standards for formaldehyde emissions for

composite wood products – the most stringent rules in the country. We take our commitment to safety even further by employing compliance personnel around the world and utilizing the latest in cutting- edge technology to provide our customers with top quality and high value flooring.

http://www.lumberliquidators.com/sustainability/60-minutes-letter-from-tom/ (last visited March 12, 2015).

- 21. Lumber Liquidators continues to market and sell laminate wood flooring products to customers in New Jersey and throughout the nation on the basis of warranties, representations and assurances that such products are CARB compliant, notwithstanding the substantial questions that have been raised concerning the truth of these assurances.
- 22. Because of defendants' repeated assurances, representations and warranties, the recent substantial safety concerns that have been raised concerning Lumber Liquidators' laminate flooring products have raised a substantial concern about the safety of such products and safety and advisability of allowing such products to remain in their homes.
- 23. Plaintiff and members of the class would have never paid what they did for Lumber Liquidators' laminate flooring had they been told of the substantial safety concerns that existed with respect to Lumber Liquidators' products. Indeed, had Lumber Liquidators disclosed the substantial safety concerns that existed, plaintiff and members of the Class and the New Jersey Sub-Class would not have purchased Lumber Liquidators' laminate flooring products.
- 24. Lumber Liquidators' senior-most executives, armed as they were with inside knowledge about the true state of affairs at Lumber Liquidators, were not so unfortunate.
- 25. Indeed, while Lumber Liquidators was widely touting the safety of its laminate wood flooring products and while its stock was trading at or near record highs on the New York Stock Exchange, but before the truth was revealed to the public, two of Lumber Liquidators' executives sold over \$22 million of their stock, on certain occasions simultaneously exercising stock options to purchase shares at prices significantly below the then current market price and then immediately selling those shares at the then current market price. The fortuitous timing of these insider stock sales allowed these corporate insiders to avoid the massive drop in the price of Lumber Liquidators' stock that occurred when the truth was revealed. On March 16, 2015,

the market price of Lumber Liquidators' stock closed at \$29.63 per share on the New York Stock Exchange.

26. The details of these stock sales, insofar as they are publicly available, are as follows:

Robert Lynch: President and Chief Executive Officer of Lumber Liquidators Holdings, Inc., Lumber Liquidators, Inc., responsible for Lumber Liquidators' merchandising, supply chain and store operations:

Date Sold	Number of Shares	Price Per Share	Total Proceeds
07/24/2013	10,000	95.75	\$957,500.00
07/24/2013	10,000	94.99	\$949,900.00
07/31/2013	10,000	97.9	\$979,000.00
07/31/2013	10,000	97.25	\$972,500.00
07/31/2013	10,000	96.5	\$965,000.00
02/21/2014	67,491	103.05	\$6,954,947.55
02/21/2014	7,630	103.1141	\$786,760.58
		TOTAL	\$12,565,608.13

Thomas D. Sullivan: Chairman of the Board of Directors of Lumber Liquidator Holdings, Inc.:

Date Sold	Number of Shares	Price Per Share	Total Proceeds
08/22/2013	30,000	100.4908	\$3,014,724.00
08/22/2013	25,000	101.524	\$2,538,100.00
08/22/2013	45,000	102.3688	\$4,606,596
			.00
		TOTAL	\$10,159,420.00
		GRAND	
		TOTAL	\$22,725,028.13

5

6 7 8

9

11

12

13

10

14 15

16 17

18 19

20

21 22

23 24

25

26

27 28

27. These unprecedented and suspiciously timed insider stock sales give rise to the reasonable, if not compelling, inference that the senior-most officers of Lumber Liquidators, armed as they were with inside information that was not available to the public (including plaintiff and members of the Class and New Jersey Sub-Class), were aware that the Company was selling massive quantities of defective and potentially illegal products that the public was not yet aware of, and acted to sell their shares before the truth was known and the stock price was predictably devastated as a result.

V. CLASS ACTION ALLEGATIONS

- 28. Plaintiff incorporates by reference the allegations of paragraphs 1-27 of the Complaint.
- 29. Plaintiff brings this action under Rule 23 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, on behalf of themselves and a plaintiff Class consisting of all persons who purchased from Lumber Liquidators one or more laminate wood flooring products that were for their personal use rather than for resale or distribution, that were manufactured in China, and that were warranted and advertised by Lumber Liquidators as being CARB compliant, and a Sub-Class (the "New Jersey Sub-Class") consisting of all members of the Class who reside in and/or purchased their laminated flooring within the State of New Jersey. Excluded from the Class and the New Jersey Sub-Class are (1) governmental entities, (2) any Judge or Magistrate Judge presiding over this action as well as their immediate family members, and (3) the defendant, its affiliates, subsidiaries, defendants' current or former employees, officers, directors, agents, representatives, and their family members.
- 30. The Class and the New Jersey Sub-Class satisfy the requirements of Rules 23(a) and (b)(3) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure in that:
- 31. The proposed Class and New Jersey Sub-Class are so numerous that joinder of all members thereof is impracticable, as required by Fed.R.Civ.P. 23(a)(1). While plaintiff does not know the exact size or identities of the members of the proposed Class, plaintiff believes, and avers on the basis of information and belief, that the Class and New Jersey Sub-Class number in

the thousands. The identities of Class and New Jersey Sub-Class members can be ascertained from Lumber Liquidators' records.

- 32. There are questions of law and fact that are common to members of the Class and the New Jersey Sub-Class and such questions predominate over questions affecting only individual members of the Class and New Jersey Sub-Class, as required by Rules 23(a)(2) and (b)(3) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure. These predominant common questions include, without limitation:
 - a. Whether the laminate wood flooring products manufactured and sold by Lumber Liquidators to plaintiff and members of the Class and the New Jersey Sub-Class complied with the representations and warranties that defendants made with respect to these products.
 - b. Whether defendants' representations regarding their laminate wood flooring products were made knowingly and willfully;
 - Whether Lumber Liquidators concealed and omitted material facts from
 its communications with and disclosure to members of the Class and New
 Jersey Sub-Class concerning the safety of its laminate wood flooring
 products;
 - d. Whether Lumber Liquidators breached express and implied warranties to
 Class members regarding its laminate wood flooring products;
 - e. Whether, with respect to New Jersey Sub-Class members, Lumber
 Liquidators violated New Jersey law, including the New Jersey Consumer
 Fraud Act;
 - f. Whether the actions of Lumber Liquidators caused members of the Class and the New Jersey Sub-Class to suffer damages; and
 - g. The proper measure of damages to which members of the Class and the
 New Jersey Sub-Class are entitled.
- 33. Plaintiff's claims are typical of the claims of the Class and the New Jersey Sub-Class, as required by Rule 23(a)(3) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, in that plaintiff's

claims arise from the same nucleus of operative facts and course of conduct that give rise to the claims of all members of the Class and the New Jersey Sub-Class.

- 34. As required by Rule 23(a)(4) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, plaintiff will adequately represent the interests of the Class and the New Jersey Sub-Class and has retained attorneys who have the ability and the experience to prosecute this litigation.
- 35. As additionally required by Rule 23(b)(3) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, a class action is superior to other available methods for the fair and efficient adjudication of this controversy because the damages suffered by individual members of the Class and New Jersey Sub-Class may be too small, relatively speaking, to justify the prosecution of these claims on an individual, non-class action basis, and therefore, absent certification of this action as a class action, claims that are otherwise meritorious may go unredressed. Plaintiff anticipates no insurmountable obstacles to the management of this action as a class action.

COUNT I

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

- 36. Plaintiff incorporates by reference the allegations of paragraphs 1-35 of this Complaint.
- 37. Plaintiff and the other members of the Class and New Jersey Sub-Class are "consumers" within the meaning of the Magnuson-Moss Warranty Act, 15 U.S.C. § 2301(3).
- 38. Lumber Liquidators is a "supplier" and "warrantor" within the meaning of 15 U.S.C. §§ 2301(4)-(5).
- 39. The flooring that forms the basis of this action was purchased separate from the initial construction of the structure into which it was to be installed and therefore constitutes a "consumer product" within the meaning of 15 U.S.C. § 2301(1).
- 40. Lumber Liquidators' representations regarding the compliance of these flooring products with CARB and other applicable safety and environmental standards, as alleged in this Complaint, constitute written warranties within the meaning of 15 U.S.C. § 2301(6).

- 41. Lumber Liquidators has breached these warranties by selling and marketing flooring products that suffer the defects alleged in this Complaint, thereby depriving plaintiff and members of the Class and the New Jersey Sub-Class of the benefit of these bargains.
- 42. The value of plaintiff's individual claims exceeds \$25, and all claims at issue in this action exceed \$50,000 (exclusive of interest and costs).
- 43. Defendants are on notice of their breaches, and have not cured or remediated those breaches, resulting in damages and other losses to plaintiff and members of the Class and New Jersey Sub-Class.

COUNT II

BREACH OF EXPRESS WARRANTY

- 44. Plaintiff incorporates by reference the allegations of paragraphs 1-43 of this Complaint.
- 45. During the period of time relevant to this Complaint, Lumber Liquidators expressly warranted that its manufactured laminate wood flooring products comply with CARB formaldehyde standards and all other applicable laws and regulations, as alleged in greater detail in this Complaint.
- 46. Lumber Liquidators' warranties became part of the basis of the bargain between defendants and members of the Class and New Jersey Sub-Class.
- 47. Lumber Liquidators' sale and distribution of manufactured laminate wood flooring products as alleged in this Complaint, constitute a breach of its express warranties.
- 48. By reason of defendants' breach of these express warranties, plaintiff and the members of the Class and New Jersey Sub-Class suffered damages that are properly compensable by defendants.

COUNT III

BREACH OF IMPLIED WARRANTY OF MERCHANTABILITY

49. Plaintiff incorporates by reference the allegations of paragraphs 1-48 of this Complaint.

- 50. Implied in the purchase of the manufactured laminate flooring products by Plaintiff and the Class is the warranty. By operation of law, defendants implicitly warranted that the laminated flooring products they sold to plaintiff and members of the Class and New Jersey Sub-Class were safe, merchantable, suitable and appropriate to use for their stated purpose.
- 51. Defendants knew or reasonably should have known that their laminate flooring products were not safe, suitable and appropriate to use for their stated purpose.
- 52. Defendants' laminate wood flooring products are unfit for the ordinary purpose for which they were intended.
- 53. Plaintiff and members of the Class and New Jersey Sub-Class were injured by reason of their purchase of defendants' laminate wood flooring products.

COUNT IV

VIOLATION OF THE NEW JERSEY CONSUMER FRAUD ACT, N.J.S.A. § 56:8-1 et seq.

- 54. Plaintiff incorporates by reference the allegations of paragraphs 1-53 of this Complaint.
- 55. This Count is asserted by plaintiff and members of the New Jersey Sub-Class, and is brought pursuant to the New Jersey Consumer Fraud Act, N.J.S.A. § 56:8-1, *et seq*.
- 56. To the extent that the conduct described in this Complaint took place within the State of New Jersey, such conduct constitutes unfair business practices in violation of the New Jersey Consumer Fraud Act (N.J.S.A. § 56:8-1 *et seq.*), which applies and provides a remedy to plaintiff and members of the New Jersey Sub-Class.
- 57. Lumber Liquidators is a "person" engaged in the sale of manufactured laminate flooring products in the State of New Jersey within the meaning the New Jersey Consumer Fraud Act.
- 58. Lumber Liquidators engaged in the concealment, suppression, or omission within the meaning of N.J.S.A. § 56:8-1 by selling, marketing and distributing defective manufactured laminate flooring products as alleged in this Complaint.

- 59. Defendants intended, knew and/or recklessly disregarded the fact that plaintiff and members of the New Jersey Sub-Class would rely upon defendants' concealment, suppression, or omission of such material facts in connection with their purchases of manufactured laminate flooring products from Lumber Liquidators.
- 60. Plaintiff and members of the New Jersey Sub-Class would not have purchased the manufactured laminate flooring products if they were aware of the defects alleged in this Complaint.
- 61. Defendants' actions, as alleged in this Complaint, constitute unfair, deceptive and fraudulent business practices within the meaning of N.J.S.A. § 56:8-1 *et seq.*
- 62. Lumber Liquidators either knew, should have known, or recklessly disregarded that its laminate flooring products were defectively designed and manufactured, in the manner alleged in this Complaint, and such defects existed at the time of their sale to plaintiff and members of the New Jersey Sub-Class.
- 63. By reason of defendants' violations of N.J.S.A. § 56:8-1 as alleged in this Complaint, plaintiff and members of the New Jersey Sub-Class have suffered injury in an amount to be determined at trial. Such injuries include, without limitation: (a) the difference between the prices paid for the product and the value of such products, if any, with such defects, (b) the cost to repair or replace such products and to otherwise remediate the damage they have suffered.
- 64. Lumber Liquidators used unfair methods of competition and unfair or deceptive acts or practices, and engaged in fraud, in conducting their businesses, within the meaning of N.J.S.A. § 56:8-1 *et seq.*

VI. PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, plaintiff respectfully requests that the Court grant the following relief:

A. An Order certifying this action as a class action under Fed.R.Civ.P. 23, on behalf of the Class and New Jersey Sub-Class defined in this Complaint, and designating the plaintiff as the representative of the Class and New Jersey Sub-Class;

1	B.	Damages, restitution and	d other monetary and punitive relief, to the fullest extent				
2	allowed under any of the causes of action alleged in this Complaint;						
3	C.	An Order directing defendants to reimburse plaintiff and members of the Class					
4	and New Jers	and New Jersey Sub-Class for the amounts they paid for defendants' laminate wood flooring					
5	products, as well as the costs incurred in installing and now removing such products;						
6	D.	An Order enjoining and restraining defendants from continuing to market,					
7	distribute and	l sell laminate wood floori	ing until the defects alleged in this Complaint are				
8	corrected and	I rectified, and until defend	dants institute and implement appropriate safeguards to				
9	prevent the continuation of such defects in their laminate wood products;						
10	E.	Reasonable costs and at	torneys' fees, to the fullest extent allowed under any of				
11	the causes of	the causes of action alleged in this Complaint; and					
12	F.	Such other and further re	elief as this Court may deem just and appropriate.				
13		VII. <u>DE</u> I	MAND FOR JURY TRIAL				
14	Plaint	iff hereby demands trial b	y jury on all issues so triable.				
15							
16	DATED: Ma	arch 24, 2015	CERA LLP				
17							
18			By: <u>/s/Solomon B. Cera</u> Solomon B. Cera (State Bar No. 99467)				
19			C. Andrew Dirksen (State Bar No. 197378)				
20			595 Market Street, Suite 2300 San Francisco, CA 94105				
21			Telephone: 415-777-2230				
			Facsimile: 415-777-5189 scera@cerallp.com				
22			cdirksen@cerallp.com				
23			BOLOGNESE & ASSOCIATES, LLC				
24			Anthony J. Bolognese				
25			Two Penn Center 1500 John F. Kennedy Blvd., Suite 320				
26			Philadelphia, PA 19102 Telephone: (215) 814-6750				
27			Facsimile: (215) 814-6764				
28			ABolognese@bolognese-law.com				

1	THE GUILIANO LAW FIRM, P.C.
2	Nicholas J. Guiliano 230 South Broad Street, Suite 601
3	Philadelphia, PA 19102
4	Telephone: (215) 413-9223 Facsimile: (215) 413-8225
	Attorneys for Plaintiff and the Proposed Class and
5	New Jersey Sub-Class
6	
7	
8	
9	
10	
11	
12	
13	
14	
15	
16	
17	
18	
19	
20	
21	
22	
23	
24	
25	
26	
27	
28	
20	

JS 44 (Rev. 12/12) Cand rev (1/15/13)

Case3:15-cv-01363 $\sqrt{\text{Pocure nt}_{1}^{2}}$ $\sqrt{\text{Spite Pos}_{2}^{2}}$ /24/15 Page1 of 3

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

purpose of initiating the civil de	ocket sheet. (SEE INSTRUCTI	ONS ON NEXT PAG	E OF TH	IIS FORM.)				
I. (a) PLAINTIFFS BRUCE GUEST, on behalf of himself and all others similarly situated				DEFENDANTS LUMBER LIQUIDATORS INC.; LUMBER LIQUIDATORS LEASING, LLC; LUMBER LIQUIDATORS HOLDINGS, INC.; and LUMBER LIQUIDATORS SERVICES, LLC,				
	OCI	EAN COUNTY, N	EW/					
(b) County of Residence	of First Listed Plaintiff JER	SEY	E W	(County of Residence	of First Liste	d Defendant	JAMES CITY COUNTY
(EZ	XCEPT IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CAS	ES)		(IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES ONLY) NOTE: IN LAND CONDEMNATION CASES, USE THE LOCATION THE TRACT OF LAND INVOLVED.			ASES, USE THE LOCATION OF	
(c) Attorneys (Firm Name, A	Address, and Telephone Number)				Attorneys (If Known)			
Solomon B. Cera (SBI C. Andrew Dirksen (S	N 99467)							
595 Market Street, Sui	BN 197378) ite 2300, San Francisco, CA 9 2230 Facsimile (415) 777-5	94105 189						
II. BASIS OF JURISD	ICTION (Place an "X" in O	ne Box Only)	III. (CITIZE	NSHIP OF PRI	NCIPAL	PARTIES (Pla	ace an "X" in One Box for Plaintiff
		• *			Diversity Cases Only)			and One Box for Defendant)
U.S. Government Plaintiff	3 Federal Question (U.S. Government Not a	l Question . Government Not a Party)		Citizen of This State PTF DEF PTF DEF				
2 U.S. Government Defendant	☐ 4 Diversity (Indicate Citizenship of	sity cate Citizenship of Parties in Item III)		Citizen of Another State 🔲 2 🔲 2 Incorporated and Principal Place of Business In Another State				
				Citizen or Foreign	Subject of a Country	3 🔲 3	Foreign Nation	□ 6 □ 6
IV. NATURE OF SUIT	(Place an "X" in One Box On	ly)						
CONTRACT	TOR				ITURE/PENALTY		KRUPTCY	OTHER STATUTES
☐ 110 Insurance ☐ 120 Marine	PERSONAL INJURY ☐ 310 Airplane	PERSONAL INJ 365 Personal Injur			g Related Seizure Property 21 USC 881	☐ 422 Appe	al 28 USC 158 Irawal	☐ 375 False Claims Act ☐ 400 State Reapportionment
130 Miller Act	315 Airplane Product	Product Liab		☐ 690 Oth		_	SC 157	410 Antitrust
☐ 140 Negotiable Instrument ☐ 150 Recovery of Overpayment	Liability ☐ 320 Assault, Libel &	☐ 367 Health Care/ Pharmaceutica	-1			DDODED	TY RIGHTS	☐ 430 Banks and Banking ☐ 450 Commerce
& Enforcement of Judgment		Personal Injur				820 Copy		460 Deportation
151 Medicare Act	330 Federal Employers'	Product Liabil		ity		830 Patent		470 Racketeer Influenced and
☐ 152 Recovery of Defaulted Student Loans	Liability ☐ 340 Marine	☐ 368 Asbestos Pers Injury Produc				840 Trade	mark	Corrupt Organizations 480 Consumer Credit
(Excludes Veterans)	☐ 345 Marine Product	Liability			LABOR		SECURITY	490 Cable/Sat TV
☐ 153 Recovery of Overpayment of Veteran's Benefits	Liability ☐ 350 Motor Vehicle	PERSONAL PROI	PERTY	□710 Fai Ac	r Labor Standards	☐ 861 HIA (☐ 862 Black		850 Securities/Commodities/ Exchange
☐ 160 Stockholders' Suits		370 Other Fraud 371 Truth in Lend	ing		oor/Management		C/DIWW (405(g))	☐ 890 Other Statutory Actions
☐ 190 Other Contract ☐ 195 Contract Product Liability	Product Liability 360 Other Personal	380 Other Persona			lations lway Labor Act	□ 864 SSID □ 865 RSI (4		891 Agricultural Acts 893 Environmental Matters
196 Franchise		Property Dam 385 Property Dam			nily and Medical	□ 903 K31 (4	+03(g))	895 Freedom of Information
	☐ 362 Personal Injury - Medical Malpractice	Product Liabil	lity		ave Act er Labor Litigation			Act ☐ 896 Arbitration
REAL PROPERTY	CIVIL RIGHTS	PRISONER PETIT	IONS	4	ployee Retirement	FEDERA	L TAX SUITS	899 Administrative Procedure
210 Land Condemnation	440 Other Civil Rights	Habeas Corpus:		Inc	ome Security Act	_	(U.S. Plaintiff	Act/Review or Appeal of
☐ 220 Foreclosure ☐ 230 Rent Lease & Ejectment	☐ 441 Voting ☐ 442 Employment	☐ 463 Alien Detaine☐ 510 Motions to Va				or De ☐ 871 IRS—	fendant) Third Party	Agency Decision 950 Constitutionality of
240 Torts to Land	443 Housing/	Sentence	icute				SC 7609	State Statutes
☐ 245 Tort Product Liability ☐ 290 All Other Real Property		530 General		IM	MIGRATION	l		
290 All Other Real Property	Employment	535 Death Penalty Other:			uralization Application			
	446 Amer. w/Disabilities	☐ 540 Mandamus &	Other		er Immigration			
	Other 448 Education		ion	Actions				
		560 Civil Detained	e -					
		Conditions of Confinement						
V. ORIGIN (Place an "X" in One Box Only) △ 1 Original								
Proceeding State Court Appellate Court Reopened Another District (specify) Cite the U.S. Civil Statute under which you are filing (Do not cite jurisdictional statutes unless diversity):								
VI. CAUSE OF	Magnuson-Moss Warrant							3-1. et sea.
ACTION	Brief description of cause	•	2001 00	504., 20	3 1001, 20 0 1	3.0.31002(0	,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,	1, 0, 509.
	Class action complaint fo	r violations of fede	ral and	state cons	umer protection laws			
VII. REQUESTED IN COMPLAINT: □ CHECK IF THIS IS A CLASS ACTIO UNDER RULE 23, F.R.Cv.P.		N	DEMA	AND \$		HECK YES only: URY DEMAND:	if demanded in complaint: ☐ Yes ☐ No	
VIII. RELATED CASI	E(S)							
IF ANY	(See instructions):	JUDGE Jon S.	Tigar			DOCKE	ΓNUMBER <u>15</u>	-cv-01005-JST (See attached)
IX. DIVISIONAL ASS	IGNMENT (Civil L.R	*						
(Place an "X" in One Box On					SCO/OAKLAN	D ()	SAN JOSE	() EUREKA
DATE		SIGNATURE OF AT		Y OF REC	ORD			
March 24, 2015		/s/Solomon B. C	era					

Case3:15-cv-01363 Document1-1 Filed03/24/15 Page2 of 3

INSTRUCTIONS FOR ATTORNEYS COMPLETING CIVIL COVER SHEET FORM JS 44

Authority For Civil Cover Sheet

The JS 44 civil cover sheet and the information contained herein neither replaces nor supplements the filings and service of pleading or other papers as required by law, except as provided by local rules of court. This form, approved by the Judicial Conference of the United States in September 1974, is required for the use of the Clerk of Court for the purpose of initiating the civil docket sheet. Consequently, a civil cover sheet is submitted to the Clerk of Court for each civil complaint filed. The attorney filing a case should complete the form as follows:

- **I. (a) Plaintiffs-Defendants.** Enter names (last, first, middle initial) of plaintiff and defendant. If the plaintiff or defendant is a government agency, use only the full name or standard abbreviations. If the plaintiff or defendant is an official within a government agency, identify first the agency and then the official, giving both name and title.
 - (b) County of Residence. For each civil case filed, except U.S. plaintiff cases, enter the name of the county where the first listed plaintiff resides at the time of filing. In U.S. plaintiff cases, enter the name of the county in which the first listed defendant resides at the time of filing. (NOTE: In land condemnation cases, the county of residence of the "defendant" is the location of the tract of land involved.)
 - (c) Attorneys. Enter the firm name, address, telephone number, and attorney of record. If there are several attorneys, list them on an attachment, noting in this section "(see attachment)".
- **II. Jurisdiction.** The basis of jurisdiction is set forth under Rule 8(a), F.R.Cv.P., which requires that jurisdictions be shown in pleadings. Place an "X" in one of the boxes. If there is more than one basis of jurisdiction, precedence is given in the order shown below.

 United States plaintiff. (1) Jurisdiction based on 28 U.S.C. 1345 and 1348. Suits by agencies and officers of the United States are included here.

United States defendant. (2) When the plaintiff is suing the United States, its officers or agencies, place an "X" in this box.

Federal question. (3) This refers to suits under 28 U.S.C. 1331, where jurisdiction arises under the Constitution of the United States, an amendment to the Constitution, an act of Congress or a treaty of the United States. In cases where the U.S. is a party, the U.S. plaintiff or defendant code takes precedence, and box 1 or 2 should be marked.

Diversity of citizenship. (4) This refers to suits under 28 U.S.C. 1332, where parties are citizens of different states. When Box 4 is checked, the citizenship of the different parties must be checked. (See Section III below; **NOTE: federal question actions take precedence over diversity cases.**)

- **III. Residence (citizenship) of Principal Parties.** This section of the JS 44 is to be completed if diversity of citizenship was indicated above. Mark this section for each principal party.
- IV. Nature of Suit. Place an "X" in the appropriate box. If the nature of suit cannot be determined, be sure the cause of action, in Section VI below, is sufficient to enable the deputy clerk or the statistical clerk(s) in the Administrative Office to determine the nature of suit. If the cause fits more than one nature of suit, select the most definitive.
- V. Origin. Place an "X" in one of the six boxes.

Original Proceedings. (1) Cases which originate in the United States district courts.

Removed from State Court. (2) Proceedings initiated in state courts may be removed to the district courts under Title 28 U.S.C., Section 1441. When the petition for removal is granted, check this box.

Remanded from Appellate Court. (3) Check this box for cases remanded to the district court for further action. Use the date of remand as the filing date

Reinstated or Reopened. (4) Check this box for cases reinstated or reopened in the district court. Use the reopening date as the filing date.

Transferred from Another District. (5) For cases transferred under Title 28 U.S.C. Section 1404(a). Do not use this for within district transfers or multidistrict litigation transfers.

Multidistrict Litigation. (6) Check this box when a multidistrict case is transferred into the district under authority of Title 28 U.S.C. Section 1407. When this box is checked, do not check (5) above.

- VI. Cause of Action. Report the civil statute directly related to the cause of action and give a brief description of the cause. **Do not cite jurisdictional statutes unless diversity.** Example: U.S. Civil Statute: 47 USC 553 Brief Description: Unauthorized reception of cable service
- VII. Requested in Complaint. Class Action. Place an "X" in this box if you are filing a class action under Rule 23, F.R.Cv.P.

 Demand. In this space enter the actual dollar amount being demanded or indicate other demand, such as a preliminary injunction.

 Jury Demand. Check the appropriate box to indicate whether or not a jury is being demanded.
- **VIII. Related Cases.** This section of the JS 44 is used to reference related pending cases, if any. If there are related pending cases, insert the docket numbers and the corresponding judge names for such cases.

Date and Attorney Signature. Date and sign the civil cover sheet.

Civil Cover Sheet Attachment

VIII. Related Cases:

<u>Judge</u> :	Docket Number:	<u>Case Name</u> :
Hon. Jon S. Tigar	15-cv-01005-JST	Balero, et al. v. Lumber Liquidators, Inc., et al.
Hon. Jon S. Tigar	15-cv-01012-JST	Conte, et al v. Lumber Liquidators, Inc., et al.
Hon. Jon S. Tigar	15-cv-01074-JST	Ezovski, et al. v. Lumber Liquidators, Inc., et al.