1 LAW OFFICES OF RONALD A. MARRON RONALD A. MARRON (SBN 175650) 651 Arroyo Drive 4 San Diego, California 92103 Telephone: (619) 696-9006 Facsimile: (619) 564-6665 6 7 Attorney for Plaintiffs and the Proposed Class 8 9 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT 10 SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA 11 Case No.: '15CV2056 BTM NLS CYNTHIA HAMMOCK, SHERRY 12 BENTLEY and LINDA LOVE, on behalf of themselves, all others 13 similarly situated, and the general **CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT** 14 public. 15 Plaintiffs, 16 17 **JURY TRIAL DEMANDED** 18 NUTRAMARKS, INC.; 19 NUTRAPURE, INC., and 20 NUTRACEUTICAL CORPORATION, 21 22 Defendants. 23 24 25 26 27 28

4

5 6

10

11

12

13 14

15

16 17

18

19

20 21

22 23

24

25

26 27

28

Plaintiffs Cynthia Hammock, Sherry Bentley, and Linda Love ("Plaintiffs") by and through their attorneys of record, bring this action on behalf of themselves, all others similarly situated, and the general public, against Defendants NutraMarks, Inc., NutraPure, Inc., and the Nutraceutical Corporation. (collectively "Defendants").

INTRODUCTION

- 1. Defendants are the manufacturers and distributors of NatraBio® homeopathic products that are falsely and deceptively labeled in that the products do not work as advertised. This complaint concerns Defendants' NatraBio® homeopathic products known as "Smoking Withdrawal," "Leg Cramps," "Restless Legs," "Cold and Sinus Nasal Spray," "Allergy and Sinus," "Children's Cold and Flu," and "Flu Relief Spray." (collectively the "NatraBio® Products").
- Defendants deceptively market the NatraBio® homeopathic products by claiming that the products can provide relief from a variety of ailments— everything from colds, flus, allergies, pain, tobacco cravings, and leg cramps. However, Defendants do not disclose to consumers that the purported "active ingredients" in the NatraBio® products are so diluted that they are virtually non-existent. As a matter of established scientific principle, the NatraBio® products cannot possibly be inherently effective at providing relief for any type of symptoms in any human being. Indeed, the NatraBio® products are essentially just hyper-diluted "sugar pills." They work no better than a placebo.
- Additionally, Defendants market the NatraBio® Products as "Natural Homeopathic Medicine" made from "all natural" ingredients. However, several of the NatraBio® Products contain one or more artificial or synthetic ingredients.

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

4. This Court has original jurisdiction pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §1332(d)(2), as amended by the Class Action Fairness Act of 2005, because the matter in controversy, exclusive of interest and costs, exceeds the sum or value of \$5,000,000 and is a class action in which some members of the Class of Plaintiffs are citizens of states different

8

9 10

11 12

13

14 15

17

16

18 19

20 21

22

23 24

25 26

27 28 than Defendants. Further, greater than two-thirds of the Class members reside in states other than the state in which Defendants are incorporated or have their principal places of business.

- 5. This Court has original jurisdiction pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1332(a) because Plaintiff Hammock and Plaintiff Bentley are residents of California, Plaintiff Love is a resident of Florida, Defendants maintain their principal places of business in Utah, and the matter in controversy exceeds the sum or value of \$75,000, exclusive of interest and costs.
- 6. In addition, this Court has original jurisdiction over the federal claim under the Magnuson-Moss Warranty Act pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1331.
- 7. This Court has supplemental jurisdiction over the state law claims pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §1367.
- Venue is proper in this Court pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1391(b)(2) because 8. many of the acts and transactions, including some of the purchases and sales giving rise to this action, occurred in this district and because Defendants (i) are authorized to conduct business in this district, (ii) have intentionally availed themselves of the laws and markets within this district through the promotion, marketing, distribution and sale of their products in this district; (iii) do substantial business in this district; (iv) advertise to consumers residing in this district, and (v) are subject to personal jurisdiction in this district.

THE PARTIES

- 9. Plaintiff Cynthia Hammock is a resident of Lemon Grove, California who purchased Defendants' NatraBio® "Smoking Withdrawal" Product.
- Plaintiff Sherry Bentley is a resident of Sacramento, California who 10. purchased Defendants' NatraBio® "Leg Cramps" and "Restless Legs" Products.
- 11. Plaintiff Linda Love is a resident of Middleburg, Florida who purchased Defendants' NatraBio® "Cold and Sinus Nasal Spray," "Allergy and Sinus," "Children's Cold and Flu Relief," and "Flu Relief" Products.

11

12

13 14

15

16 17

18

19

20 21

22 23

24 25

¹ http://www.nutraceutical.com/collections/natures-cures/

26 27

28

² See NatraBio.com/terms-condition/ ("This website, and the various content, features and services offered on this website (collectively, the 'Site'), is owned and/or operated by and/or used under license from NutraMarks, Inc."). ³ See Complaint, Dkt. No. 2, Nutraceutical Corp. v. Provide Nutrition, LC, No. 2:15-

cv-00579-BCW (D. Utah Aug. 7, 2015).

Defendant Nutraceutical Corporation is a Delaware corporation that maintains its principal place of business at 1400 Kearns Blvd. 2nd Floor, Park City, Utah 84060. Defendant Nutraceutical corporation is a manufacturer and distributor of the NatraBio® products. According to its website, Nutraceutical Corporation acquired the NatraBio® brand in 2007. The NatraBio® product line is part of Nutraceutical Corporation's "Nature's Cures Collection" of products.¹

13. Defendant NutraMarks, Inc. is a Delaware corporation that maintains its principal place of business in Park City, Utah. Defendant NutraMarks, Inc. is a manufacturer and distributer of the NatraBio® products and is the owner of the NatraBio® trademark. According to trademark records, Defendant NutraMark, Inc. maintains its principal place of business at 1500 Kearns Boulevard, Suite B-200, Park City, Utah 84060. The NatraBio® website is owned and operated by Defendant NutraMarks, Inc.² Moreover, Defendant NutraMarks, Inc. has admitted in a recent court pleading that it is a "wholly-owned subsidiary of Nutraceutical Corporation and owns the trademark rights and assets used by Nutraceutical Corporation."³

Defendant NutraPure, Inc. is a Delaware corporation that maintains its 14. principal place of business at 1500 Kerns Boulevard, Ste. B-200, Park City, Utah 84060. Defendants NutraPure, Inc. and NutraMarks, Inc. share the same address. Based on information and belief, Defendant NutraPure, Inc. is involved in the advertising, marketing, distribution, and sales of the NatraBio® products. According

to an SEC filing made by Defendant Nutraceutical Corporation, Defendant NutraPure, Inc. is a subsidiary of Nutraceutical Corporation.⁴

Agency

3

4

5

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

2.1

22

23

24

25

28

15. At all times herein mentioned, Defendants, and each of them, were an agent or joint venturer of each of the other Defendants, and in doing the acts alleged herein, were acting within the course and scope of such agency. Each Defendant had actual and/or constructive knowledge of the acts of each of the other Defendants, and ratified, approved, joined in, acquiesced and/or authorized the wrongful acts of each co-Defendant, and/or retained the benefits of said wrongful acts.

Aiding and Abetting

16. Defendants and each of them, aided and abetted, encouraged and rendered substantial assistance to the other Defendants in breaching their obligations to Plaintiffs and the Classes, as alleged herein. In taking action, as particularized herein, to aid and abet and substantially assist the commissions of these wrongful acts and other wrongdoings complained of, each of the Defendants acted with an awareness of its primary wrongdoing and realized that its conduct would substantially assist the accomplishment of the wrongful conduct, wrongful goals, and wrongdoing.

Alter Ego Liability

17. Defendants and each of them, are alter egos of the others to the extent that there is such a unity of interest and ownership that the individuality, or separateness, of the defendants has ceased and adherence to the fiction of the separate existence of Defendants would sanction a fraud or promote an injustice. In addition to the fact that Defendant Nutramarks and Defendant Nutrapure share an office location, all Defendants use the corporate form as a mere shell, instrumentality, or conduit for a single venture of the business.

 $\frac{26}{27} \Big|_{4}^{-}$

⁴ See Nutraceutical SEC Form 10-K For the Fiscal Year Ended September 30, 2014, available at

 $www.sec.gov/Archives/edgar/data/1050007/000104746914009431/a2222200zex21_1.htm$

FACTUAL BACKGROUND

The NatraBio® Products

18. The NatraBio® brand was first launched in 1979 and was acquired by Defendant Nutraceutical Corporation and its named Defendant subsidiaries in or around 2007. Defendants claim that "the NatraBio® brand believes that homeopathic medicines provide one of the most natural and effective for the treatment of illness, the relief of symptoms and the maintenance of good health."⁵



19. When NatraBio first started, the company sold homeopathic remedies in tincture jars that were designed to "stimulate the body's healing mechanism."



Natra-Bio Advertisement in Mother Jones Magazine, April 1982.

⁵ http://www.natrabio.com/about-us/

20. Through clever marketing efforts of Defendants, the NatraBio® line is now deceptively designed to mimic conventional over-the-counter medicines. NatraBio® now has an entire range of products "from fully medicated compressed tablets that melt in the mouth to liquids, cough syrups, throat and nasal sprays, and topical creams." Defendants contend that all of the NatraBio® homeopathic products "are formulated to provide fast acting symptom relief and to be a natural alternative for every medicine cabinet."

21. Defendants' advertising of the NatraBio® products is also more suggestive and claims that the products can alleviate a variety of symptoms from ailments like colds, flus and allergies. For example, Defendants' website claims that NatraBio® makes "natural products for all of your cold and flu needs."



Cough Syrup

Children's Cold a Flu

Water Average of March March

Allercy

Screenshots from Natrabio.com

Defendants' comprehensive marketing scheme makes NatraBio a well-

5

6

7

8

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

credible scientific evidence shows that homeopathy is ineffective. Defendants have only one goal in mind—reaping enormous profits from unwary consumers.

History of Homeopathy

Homeopathy was invented in the late 18th Century by a German Physician named Samuel Hahnemann.⁷ Homeopathy seeks to stimulate the body's ability to heal itself by giving very small doses of highly diluted substances. However, there is "little evidence" that homeopathy is effective, much less that people understand homeopathic dilution principles.⁸

Products cannot live up to the promised advertising and are aware of the fact that all

- 24. Homeopathy is premised on two main principles; the principle of similars and the principle of dilutions. Under the "principle of similars" a disease can be cured by a substance that produces similar symptoms in healthy people. Thus, homeopathic drugs are intended to work by causing "aggravation," or a temporary worsening of symptoms initially, a fact that is not communicated to consumers.
- Under the "principle of dilutions" the more diluted an ingredient is, the more effective it becomes.9 However, there is a very low probability that even a single molecule of the original substance is present in the Products. For example, a typical homeopathic treatment is diluted to a level of around 30x. This means there is one molecule of the substance in a million trillion (10 ^30) molecules of water. At that dilution level, one would need to drink 8,000 gallons of water to get one molecule of the substance. Some homeopathic solutions contain a dilution level of 30c

⁷ See Samuel Hahnemann: German physician, ENCYCLOPEDIA BRITANNICA ONLINE, available at http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/251691/Samuel-Hahnemann.

⁸ See Homeopathy: An Introduction, NATIONAL CENTER FOR COMPLEMENTARY AND INTEGRATIVE HEALTH, available at nccam.nih.gov/sites/nccam.nih.gov/files/ homeopathy.pdf.

⁹ *Id*.

3

7

10 11

12

14

13

15 16

17

18

19 20

22 23

21

24 25

26 27

28

(100³0). But there is not enough water in the solar system to accommodate that dilution level.¹⁰

- 26. Homeopathy was invented before modern knowledge of molecular science, which is completely inconsistent with the homeopathic principal of dilutions. To overcome this flaw, some modern homeopaths suggest that homeopathy is effective because of "water memory." These homeopaths believe that water somehow "remembers" the shape of the original substance. 11
- Historically, homeopathic remedies were thought to be effective through the method of "provings." Using this method, healthy individual would ingest or otherwise be exposed to a substance and keep a diary for days or weeks afterwards listing every physical and emotional experience they had. These diaries were then evaluated for patters of similar symptoms.
- Modern homeopathic products are actually still based on early "provings" 28. that were conducted by Samuel Hahneman himself and published in his *Materia* However, subsequent efforts to demonstrate consistency or Medica Pura. reproducibility of homeopathic provings have been unsuccessful.¹²

¹⁰ See Christopher Wanjek, Homeopathy and the Folly of Water Memory, LIVE SCIENCE (Aug. 6, 2007), available at http://www.livescience.com/1738-homeopathyfolly-watery-memory.html

¹¹ Id. ("Confronted with pesky laws of chemistry, homeopaths turned to skirting the laws of physics, The water, they reason, must remember the shape of the medicine and somehow etch this onto a pill.").

See Overview of Homeopathy, Science Based Medicine, available at https://www.sciencebasedmedicine.org/reference/homeopathy/ ("Homeopathic "provings" are a method of establishing what a homeopathic remedy contains and how diluted it should be. It is a sort of "in-house" scientific method, and a poor one: provings contains no controls for bias or any method for separating the ordinary experiences of daily life from true symptoms caused by the substance being tested. Many of the provings used to guide homeopathic treatment today were conducted by Samuel Hahneman himself. Subsequent efforts to demonstrate consistency or reproducibility of homeopathic provings have been unsuccessful.")

Basic Science Proves that Homeopathy Is Ineffective

- 29. Because the ingredients in homeopathic products are so hyper-diluted, science and commonsense proves that homeopathy is ineffective at curing any type of ailment in any human being.
- 30. An overwhelming majority of experts in the scientific community agree that the homeopathic theory of dilutions is inconsistent with basic science. Recently, Australia's National Health and Medical Research Council conducted "an extensive analysis of 225 controlled studies and some 1,800 papers—ranging from evidence provided by homeopathy interest groups to government guidelines." The evidence in the study was also assessed by an independent contractor to avoid bias. The report concluded that "No good-quality, well-designed studies with enough participants for a meaningful result reported either that homeopathy caused greater health improvements than placebo, or caused health improvements equal to those of another treatment." ¹³
- 31. Likewise, a UK House of Commons report that was released in 2010 similarly found that homeopathic treatments were ineffective. ¹⁴ The report concluded, "that the principle of like-cures-like is theoretically weak. It fails to provide a credible physiological mode of action for homeopathic products. We note that this is the settled view of medical science.... Even if water could retain memory of previously dissolved substances we know of no explanation for why the sugar-based homeopathic pills routinely dispensed would retain such a memory. We consider the notion that ultradilutions can maintain an imprint of substances previously dissolved in them to be scientifically implausible."

¹³ http://www.iflscience.com/health-and-medicine/homeopathy-ineffective-study-concludes

¹⁴ See Science and Technology Committee- Fourth Report Evidence Check 2:

Homeopathy, U.K. HOUSE OF COMMONS (2009), *available at* http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200910/cmselect/cmsctech/45/4502.htm

32. Many medical experts even believe that the practice of homeopathy is unethical.¹⁵ Dr. David M. Shaw of the University of Glasgow has noted that homeopathy "can involve deceiving the patient; indeed, if the only effect is placebo, it is possible that deception is essential to the practice of homeopathy."¹⁶

33. A publication by the *American Veterinary Medical Association* has likewise stated the following:

The principal that a therapeutic substance becomes more potent the lower the dose, and that it can still be active even when it contains only the diluent (water), is inconsistent with the fundamental principals of chemistry and physiology underlying all of scientific medicine. A revolution in basic science would need to take place for this idea to have any possibility of being correct, and the inconsistent and low-quality studies that have attempted to validate homeopathic theory do not justify such a revolution.¹⁷

Regulation of Homeopathic Drugs in the United States

34. Homeopathic drugs sold in the United States must comply with the minimal requirements set forth in the Food and Drug Administration's Compliance Policy Guide ("CPG") § 400.400. However, the FDA has cautioned that compliance with the CPG "does not establish that [a homeopathic drug] has been shown by appropriate means to be safe, effective, and not misbranded for its intended use." CPG § 400.400. The United States FDA has also publically stated that it "is not aware of scientific evidence to support homeopathy as effective." ¹⁸

¹⁵ See, e.g., Kevin Smith, Homeopathy is Unscientific and Unethical, BIOETHICS, ISSN 0269-9702, available at http://www.dcscience.net/Smith-response.pdf

¹⁶ See Dr. David M. Shaw, Editorial, Homeopathy is where the harm is: five unethical effects of funding unscientific 'remedies,' JOURNAL OF MEDICAL ETHICS VOL. 36, ISSUE 3 (2010), available at http://jme.bmj.com/content/36/3/130.full.

¹⁷ White Paper: The Case Against Homeopathy, AMERICAN VETERINARY MEDICAL ASSOCIATION, available at

https://www.avma.org/About/Governance/Documents/2014W_2013W_Resolution3_ Attch1.pdf

¹⁸ See FDA Online Label Repository, available at http://labels.fda.gov/.

On August 21, 2015, the Federal Trade Commission Bureau of Consumer

1 Protection ("FTC") recommended that the FDA reconsider its regulatory framework for homeopathic medicines. Significantly, the FTC stated that "evidence suggests that a significant percentage of consumers do not understand homeopathic drugs, how the 4 5 FDA regulates homeopathic drugs or the level of scientific evidence supporting homeopathic claims." The FTC's comments were also based on consumer perception research clearly indicating that reasonable consumers are misled by homeopathic products bearing similar labeling claims as those found on the 8

10

11

12

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

35.

NatraBio® Product labels.

Class Action Lawsuits Bring Truth to Homeopathy

On August 26, 2011, the non-profit group, Center for Public Inquiry, petitioned the FDA to require homeopathic drug manufacturers to undergo the same efficacy requirements as other OTC products, and to label their drugs with a disclaimer that states: "The FDA has not determined that this product is safe, effective, and not misbranded for its intended use." See Gallucci v. Boiron, Inc., Case No. 3:11-CV-2039 JAH (S.D. Cal.), Dkt. No. 93-1 at p. 18.

37. As a result of class action litigation, such as the Gallucci case, supra, other homeopathic drug manufacturers have voluntarily agreed to implement a FDA disclaimer similar to the one noted above, along with additional injunctive relief, such as a dilution disclaimer and explanation of homeopathic dilution for consumers. See, e.g., Gallucci, Dkt. No. 105 at pp. 13-15; Dkt. No. 125 at pp. 9-10. Thus, even those in the industry recognize a need to more truthfully label homeopathic drugs for the average consumer. See id.

24 25

26

27

28

21, 2015.

¹⁹See Comments of the Staff of the Federal Trade Commission, In Response to a Request for Comments Related to its Public Hearing on Homeopathic Product Regulation: Evaluating the Food and Drug Administration's Regulatory Framework After a Quarter-Century, 80 Fed. Reg. 16327 (Mar. 27, 2015), Submitted on August

38. Several class action lawsuits have been filed against homeopathic manufactures and many courts have overwhelmingly found that the classes are easily certifiable. *See, e.g., Allen v. Similasan Corp.*, ---F.R.D.---, 2015 WL 1534005 (S.D. Cal. 2015); *Allen v. Hylands*, 300 F.R.D. 643 (C.D. Cal. 2014); *Forcellati v. Hylands*, No. 12-cv-1983, 2014 WL 1410264 (C.D. Cal. April 9, 2014).

- 39. A recent SEC filing even shows that Defendant Nutraceutical Corporation is aware of recent lawsuits against other homeopathic manufactures. Defendant boldly brushes off these allegations and states to investors that "plaintiff's actions under state consumer protection laws for lack of substantiation have been allowed to proceed. Ignoring the unique character of homeopathic drug products, plaintiff's claims in these actions have been based on the evidence standard applied to conventional drugs."²⁰ However, Defendant Nutraceutical Corporation does not acknowledge that (a) the NatraBio® products are intentionally marketed and sold like conventional OTC drugs, and (b) many lawsuits against homeopathic drug manufacturers allege that the labels on the products are actually false rather than just unsubstantiated.
- 40. Likewise, this class action seeks to expose the truth about the NatraBio® Products and provide redress to consumers by showing that the advertised labeling claims on the NatraBio® Products described below can be proven false and misleading by basic scientific principles.

SPECIFIC MISREPRESENTATIONS

41. Despite the overwhelming amount of evidence showing that homeopathy is ineffective at curing any type of ailment in any human being, Defendants continue to manufacture and sell a variety of NatraBio® homeopathic products that make false

²⁰ See Nutraceutical SEC Form 10-K For the Fiscal Year Ended September 30, 2014, available at

www.sec.gov/Archives/edgar/data/1050007/000104746914009431/a2222200z10k. htm#de40201_item_1b._unresolved_staff_comments

9 10

11 12

13 14

15

16 17

18

19 20

21 22

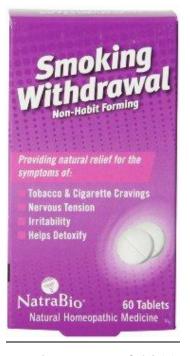
23 24

25 26

27 28 and deceptive statements on their labels about their abilities to alleviate certain symptoms.

42. Each of Defendants' false labeling claims are detailed below:

NatraBio® Smoking Withdrawal Α.



- Beginning on or around January of 2011, Plaintiff Hammock purchased 43. the NatraBio® Smoking Withdrawal Product on multiple occasions from Sprouts and other natural food stores in or near La Jolla, California. Plaintiff Hammock paid approximately \$6.00 for each product that she purchased.
- Defendants advertise NatraBio® "Smoking Withdrawal" Product by 44. putting false and misleading claims on the label, stating or suggesting that the Product provides "natural relief for the symptoms of: Tobacco & Cigarette Cravings, Nervous Tension, Irritability," and that the Product "helps detoxify." Defendants further claim that the NatraBio® Smoking Withdrawal Product is an "advanced formulation" that is "non-habit forming" and provides "fast, effective symptom relief." Moreover, Defendants claim that the Product is "Natural Homeopathic Medicine" made from "all

natural ingredients" and that the Product is an "innovative natural health product formulated and manufactured to pharmaceutical standards."

- 45. On the Smoking Withdrawal Product's label, Defendants additionally make the following misleading claims about the ingredients in the Product:
- "Abies nigra 10x"...." "respiratory symptoms."
- "Lobelia inflate 10x"..... "reduces ill effects of nicotine."
- "Nicovap 10x, 14x, 24x, 30x"....."tobacco product detoxification."
- "Nux vomica 10x"...."reduces tobacco cravings."
- "Ignatia amara 14x"..."reduces nervous tension."
- 46. Plaintiff Hammock read and relied on each of the quoted statements above in paragraphs 40 through 41 that are found on the NatraBio® "Smoking Withdrawal" packaging.
- 47. The Product did not provide the benefits, uses and qualities for Plaintiff Hammock, as advertised by Defendants because the Product cannot provide the advertised relief to any human being as a matter of sound scientific principles.
- 48. Plaintiff Hammock would consider buying the Product again in future if it was effective as advertised.
- 49. Plaintiff Hammock seeks justice for herself and for similarly-situated consumers of NatraBio® "Smoking Withdrawal."

B. NatraBio® Leg Cramps



- 50. In or around July of 2013, Plaintiff Bentley purchased the NatraBio® "Leg Cramps" Product on at least one occasion form a Wal-Mart store in or near Sacramento, California. Plaintiff Bentley paid approximately \$5.00 for the product.
- 51. Defendants falsely advertise and market the NatraBio® Leg Cramps Product by putting false and misleading claims on the label, stating or suggesting that the Product provides "natural relief for the symptoms of: Leg Cramps, Muscle Pain & Spasms, Cramps in the Calves and Feet, [and] Night Cramps and Pain." Defendants further claim that the NatraBio® Leg Cramps Product is an "advanced formulation" that is "non-habit forming" and provides "fast, effective symptom relief." Moreover, Defendants claim that the Product is "Natural Homeopathic Medicine" made from "all natural ingredients" and that the Product is an "innovative natural health product formulated and manufactured to pharmaceutical standards."
- 52. On the NatraBio® Leg Cramps product label, Defendants additionally make the following misleading claims about the ingredients in the Product:
- "Chininum Sulphuricum 4x...."neuralgia, tearing leg pains."
- "Colocynthis 4x".... "contaction of muscles, leg cramps"
- "Gnaphalium polycephalum 4x"..... "frequent cramps in legs and feet"
- "Calcarea Carbonica 6x, 12x, 30x....." "cramps in calves at night"
- "Lycopodium clavatum 6x"..... "cramps in calves, sciatica"
- "Magnesia Phosphorica 6x"..... "severe cramps in calves"
- "Rhus toxicodendron 6x, 12x, 30x"..... "cramps in calves, tearing pains"
- "Cuprum Metallicum 12x"..... "cramps in legs and feet"
- 53. Plaintiff Bentley read and relied on each of the quoted statements above in paragraphs 45 through 46 that are found on the NatraBio® "Leg Cramps" packaging.
- 54. The Product did not provide the benefits, uses and qualities for Plaintiff Bentley, as advertised by Defendants because the Product cannot provide the advertised relief to any human being as a matter of sound scientific principles.
- 55. Plaintiff Bentley would consider buying the Product again in future if it was effective as advertised.

56. Plaintiff Bentley seeks justice for herself and for similarly-situated consumers of NatraBio® Leg Cramps.

C. <u>NatraBio® Restless Legs</u>

Restless
Legs

Providing natural relief for the symptoms of:

Restlessness
Jerking & Twitching
Constant Urge to Move
Tingling

NatraBio
Natural Homeopathic Medicine

57. In or around July of 2013, Plaintiff Bentley purchased the NatraBio® "Restless Legs" Product on at least one occasion from a Wal-Mart store in or near Sacramento, California. Plaintiff Bentley paid approximately \$6.00 for the Product.

58. Defendants falsely advertise and market the NatraBio® "Restless Legs" Product by putting false and misleading claims on the label, stating or suggesting that the Product provides "natural relief for the symptoms of: Restlessness, Jerking & Twitching, Constant Urge to Move, [and] Tingling." Defendants further claim that the NatraBio® "Restless Legs" Product is an "advanced formulation" that is "non-habit forming" and provides "fast, effective symptom relief." Moreover, Defendants claim that the Product is "Natural Homeopathic Medicine" made from "all natural

1	ingredients" and that the Product is an "innovative natural health product formulated
2	and manufactured to pharmaceutical standards."
3	59. On the NatraBio® "Restless Legs" product label, Defendants additionally
4	make the following misleading claims about the ingredients in the Product:
5	"Arsenicum Album 12x""desire to move feet constantly"
6	• "Chamomile 6x"""urge to get up and walk around"
7	• "Causticum 12x""restless legs at night"
8	• "Lycopodium clavatum 6x""weakness, numbness, leg cramps"
9	• "Palladium 12x" "heavy limbs, darting pains, restlessness"
10	• "Platina 12x""restlessness, tingling legs"
l 1 l 2	• "Zincum Metalicum 12x""twitching and jerking of legs"
13	60. Plaintiff Hammock read and relied on each of the quoted statements
4	above in paragraphs 54 through 55 that are found on the NatraBio® "Restless Legs"
15	packaging.
16	61. The Product did not provide the benefits, uses and qualities for Plaintif
17	Bentley, as advertised by Defendants because the Product cannot provide the
18	advertised relief to any human being as a matter of scientific principles.
19	62. Plaintiff Bentley would consider buying the Product again in future if i
20	was effective as advertised.
21	63. Plaintiff Bentley seeks justice for herself and for similarly-situated
22	consumers of NatraBio® Restless Legs.
23	
24	
25	
26	
27	
28	

D. NatraBio® Cold and Sinus Nasal Spray

NatraBio
Cold &
Sinus

NASAL SPRAY

Non-Addictive
Continuous Use Formula

Nasal Congestion
Sinus Pressure
Headache
Sneezing
Runny Nose

NatraBio
Cold &
Sinus
NatraBio
NatraBio
NatraBio
Nasal Congestion
Natural Homeopathic Medicine
Natural Homeopath

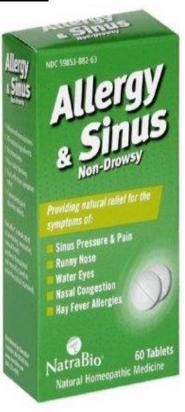
64. Plaintiff Love purchased the NatraBio® "Cold and Sinus Nasal Spray Product" on several occasions from a Wal-Mart, Sam's, and various health food stores in or near Middleburg, Florida beginning on or around 2012. Plaintiff Love paid approximately \$8.00 for each purchase of the product.

65. Defendants falsely advertise and market the NatraBio® "Cold and Sinus Nasal Spray" Product by putting false and misleading claims on the label, stating or suggesting that the Product provides relief for the symptoms of: "Nasal Congestion, Sinus Pressure, Headache, Sneezing, [and] Runny Nose." Defendants further claim that the NatraBio® "Cold and Sinus Nasal Spray" Product is a "continuous use formula." Moreover, Defendants claim that the Product is "Natural Homeopathic Medicine" that is "formulated and manufactured utilizing natural ingredients in accordance with strict FDA pharmaceutical standards to ensure safety and purity."

1	66. On the NatraBio® "Cold and Sinus Nasal Spray" product label
2	Defendants additionally make the following misleading claims about the ingredients
3	in the Product:
4	• "Aconitum napellus 6x"" "sudden onset of cold symptoms"
5	• "Adrenalinum 6x"" "decongestant"
6	• "Allium cepa 6x"" "runny nose, sinus congestion"
7	• "Echinacea angustifolia 6x" "cold and sinus symptoms"
8	• "Euphorbium officinarum 6x" "sinus congestion and pain"
9	• "Hydrastis canadensis 6x" "sinus congestion, runny nose"
10	"Kali bichromicum""cold symptoms, congestion"
11	• "Phytolacca decondra 6x"" "cold, cough, sore throat"
12 13	• "Sticta pulmonaria 6x""cold, cough, headache"
14	67. Plaintiff Hammock read and relied on each of the quoted statements
15	above in paragraphs 61 through 62 that are found on the NatraBio® "Cold and Sinus
16	Nasal Spray" packaging.
17	68. The Product did not provide the benefits, uses and qualities for Plaintiff
18	Love, as advertised by Defendants because the Product cannot provide the advertised
19	relief to any human being as a matter of scientific principles.
20	69. Plaintiff Love would consider buying the Product again in future if it was
21	effective as advertised.
22	70. Plaintiff Love seeks justice for herself and for similarly-situated
23	consumers of NatraBio® Cold and Sinus Nasal Spray.
24	
25	
26	
27	
28	

E. NatraBio® Allergy and Sinus

\$6.00 for each purchase of the product.



71. Ms. Love purchased the NatraBio® Allergy and Sinus Product on several occasions from a Wal-Mart, Sam's, and various health food stores in or near Middleburg, Florida beginning on or around 2012. Plaintiff Love paid approximately

72. Defendants falsely advertise and market the NatraBio® "Allergy and Sinus" Product by putting false and misleading claims on the label, stating or suggesting that the Product provides "natural relief for the symptoms of: Sinus Pressure & Pain, Runny Nose, Water Eyes, Nasal Congestion, [and] Hay Fever Allergies." Defendants further claim that the NatraBio® "Allergy and Sinus" Product is an "advanced formulation" that is "non-habit forming" and provides "fast, effective symptom relief." Moreover, Defendants claim that the Product is "Natural Homeopathic Medicine" made from "all natural ingredients" and that the Product is an

1	"innovative natural health product formulated and manufactured to pharmaceutica
2	standards."
3	73. On the "Allergy and Sinus" Product's label, Defendants additionally make
4	the following misleading claims about the ingredients in the Product:
5	• "Chamomilla 1x" "allergies, headache, runny nose, cough"
6	"Echinacea angustifolia" "allergic reactions, allergies"
7	• "Allium cepa 6x"" " sneezing, runny nose, hay fever, water eyes'
8	"Ambrosia artemisiaefolia" "hay fever, stuffy head and nose"
9	• "Euphorbium officinarum 6x""sinus congestion and pain"
10	• "Gelsemium sempervirens 6x" "headache, sneezing, runny nose"
11	• "Sanguinaria canadensis 6x" "hay fever, runny nose, burning eyes, cough"
12	• "Sticta pumonaria 6x" "headache, stuffiness, hay fever"
13	• "Kali lodatum 9x" "sinus headache, runny nose, sneezing, and stuffiness"
14	74 Division 1 1 1 1 1 1 0 1 0 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1
15	74. Plaintiff Love read and relied on each of the quoted statements above in
16	paragraphs 68 through 69 that are found on the NatraBio® "Allergy and Sinus"
17	packaging.
18	75. The Product did not provide the benefits, uses and qualities for Plaintif
19	Love, as advertised by Defendants because the Product cannot provide the advertised relief to any human being as a matter of scientific principles.
21	76. Plaintiff Love would consider buying the Product again in future if it was
22	effective as advertised.
23	77. Plaintiff Love seeks justice for herself and for similarly-situated
24	consumers of NatraBio® "Allergy and Sinus."
25	consumers of reactable of rinergy and sinus.
26	
27	
28	

NatraBio® Children's Cold and Flu Relief



78. Plaintiff Love purchased the NatraBio® Children's Cold and Flu Product on at least two occasions from a Wal-Mart, Sam's, and various health food stores in or near Middleburg, Florida beginning on or around 2012. Ms. Love paid approximately \$5.00 for each purchase of the product.

- Defendants falsely advertise and market the NatraBio® Children's Cold and Flu Product by putting false and misleading claims on the label, stating or suggesting that the Product provides "relief for: Congestion, Sore Throat, Nausea and Vomiting, Sneezing and Runny Nose, [and] Headache and Body Aches." Moreover, Defendants claim that the Product is "Natural Homeopathic Medicine" and is of a "quality parents can trust."
- Plaintiff Love read and relied on each of the quoted statements above in paragraph 75 that are found on the NatraBio® "Children's Cold and Flu Relief" packaging.

81. The Product did not provide the benefits, uses and qualities for Plaintiff Love, as advertised by Defendants because the Product cannot provide the advertised relief to any human being as a matter of sound scientific principles.

- 82. Plaintiff Love would consider buying the Product again in future if it was effective as advertised.
- 83. Plaintiff Love seeks justice for herself and for similarly-situated consumers of NatraBio® Children's Cold and Flu.

G. NatraBio® Flu Relief Spray



- 84. Plaintiff Love purchased the NatraBio® "Flu Relief" Spray on multiple occasions from a Wal-Mart, Sam's, and various health food stores in or near Middleburg, Florida beginning on or around 2012. Ms. Love paid approximately \$7.00 for each purchase of the product.
- 85. Defendants falsely advertise and market the NatraBio® "Flu Relief" Spray Product by putting false and misleading claims on the label, stating or

1	suggesting that the Product provides "Fast Flu Symptom Relief" and "Relives &
2	Reduces symptoms of: Body Aches, Congestion, Fever, Headaches, [and] Sore
3	Throat." Defendants further claim that the NatraBio® "Flu Relief" Product is "non
4	addicting."
5	86. On the Flu Relief Product's label, Defendants additionally make the
6	following misleading claims about the ingredients in the Product:
7	• "Influenzinum 12x, 30x"" "relieves flu symptoms"
8	"Adrenalinum 6x"""decongestant"
9	"Aconitum napellus 6x"" "relieves flu symptoms"
10	"Baptisia tinctoria"" "relieves flu symptoms"
11	• "Eupatorium perfoliatum 6x" "relieves flu symptoms"
12	• "Euphrasia officinalis 6x""relieves sinus symptoms"
13	• "Euphorbium officinarum 6x""decongestant"
14	"Gelsemium sempervirens 6x" "relieves body aches"
15	"Sticta pulmonaria 6x" "decongestant"
16	"Rhus toxicodendron 12x" "relieves body aches"
17	
18	87. Plaintiff Love read and relied on each of the quoted statements above in
19	paragraphs 81 through 82 that are found on the NatraBio® "Flu Relief" packaging.
20	88. The Product did not provide the benefits, uses and qualities for Plaintiff
21	Love, as advertised by Defendants because the Product cannot provide the advertised
22	relief to any human being as a matter of sound scientific principles.
23	89. Plaintiff Love would consider buying the Product again in future if it was
24	effective as advertised.
25	90. Plaintiff Love seeks justice for herself and for similarly-situated
26	consumers of NatraBio® Flu Relief.
27	
28	

2

4 5

6

7 8

9

11 12

13 14

15

16

17 18

19

20 21

22 23

24

25 26

27

²¹ See Takeoka et al., *Identification of benzalkonium chloride in commercial* grapefruit seed extracts, J. AGRIC. FOOD CHEM. (Sept. 21, 2005).

² http://www.ewg.org/skindeep/ingredient/700674/BENZALKONIUM_CHLORIDE/

ARTIFICIAL INGREDIENTS IN THE PRODUCTS

- 91. The NatraBio® Smoking Withdrawal, Leg Cramps, Restless Legs, Cold and Sinus Nasal Spray, and Allergy and Sinus each state on the label in a uniform manner that the products are "Natural Homeopathic Medicine" made from "all natural" ingredients and the Products are "innovative natural health product[s] formulated and manufactured to pharmaceutical standards."
- Plaintiff and the class reasonably believed that the NatraBio® Products contained only natural ingredients.
- However, the NatraBio® Smoking Withdrawal, Leg Cramps, Restless 93. 10 | Legs, Cold and Sinus Nasal Spray, and Allergy and Sinus Products each contain one or more artificial and/or synthetic ingredient.
 - 94. The NatraBio® Smoking Withdrawal, Leg Cramps, Restless Legs, and Allergy and Sinus Products each contain magnesium sterate as an ingredient. Magnesium sterate is an artificial and/or synthetic ingredient that does not occur naturally. Magnesium sterate "is produced as a white precipitate by the addition of an aqueous solution of magnesium chloride to an aqueous solution of sodium sterate derived from stearic acid." See 21 C.F.R. 184.1440.
 - 95. The NatraBio® Cold and Sinus Nasal Spray Product contains "benzylkonium chloride" as an ingredient. Benzalkonium chloride is an artificial and/or synthetic ingredient that does not occur naturally. Bezalkonium chloride is "a widely used synthetic antimicrobial agent used in cleaning and disinfection."21 The ingredient is known to cause "severe skin, eye, and respiratory irritation."²²

RELIANCE AND INJURY

- 96. All of Defendants' false and/or misleading claims challenged herein relate to matters that are material and important to a consumer's purchasing decision, as they concern the effectiveness of the NatraBio® Products, the qualities and/or composition of the Products and the reason for which they are sold.
- 97. Defendants' uniform claims in its marketing and promotional materials are intended to, and did, induce Plaintiffs and members of the Classes defined herein to rely upon those representations that Defendants' Products were effective and scientifically tested and/or proven to alleviate the advertised symptoms. These representations were a substantial factor in causing Plaintiffs and members of the Class to purchase Defendants' Products.
- 98. At the time members of the Classes purchased the Products, they were unaware of the fact that the Products were not proven effective for their intended use, nor is it generally recognized among qualified experts as effective, nor that the ingredients in the products are so hyper-diluted that they cannot possibly be effective at curing any ailment in any human being.
- 99. If members of the Classes had been aware of the true facts concerning the efficacy of the NatraBio® Products, they would not have purchased the Products.
- 100. Plaintiffs and members of the Classes have been injured in fact and have suffered out of pocket losses. Plaintiffs and members of the Classes therefore seek a full refund and/or rescission of the transaction and all further equitable and injunctive relief as provided by applicable law.

EXCEPTIONS TO THE STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS

101. **Delayed discovery.** Plaintiffs are laypersons, lacked the knowledge and experience to understand how the Products' labels were deceptive or false, and information regarding the false or deceptive advertising was solely within Defendants' possession and control. Thus, the delayed discovery exception postpones accrual of the limitations period for all members of the putative classes.

102. **Fraudulent concealment.** Additionally, or in the alternative, Defendants were both constructively and actually aware that the Products were ineffective for their advertised use. Nevertheless, Defendants continued to sell the NatraBio® Products commencing in at least 2007. Therefore, at all relevant times Defendants had a duty to inform consumers that the Products were not effective at providing relief for the advertised symptoms, but Defendants knowingly concealed that fact from members of the putative classes herein. Accordingly, the fraudulent concealment exception tolls the statute of limitations on all claims herein.

Defendants' misrepresentations and deception continues up to the present, the continuing violation exception tolls all applicable statues of limitations for all members of the putative classes until Defendants' unlawful advertising and labeling is corrected.

CLASS ACTION ALLEGATIONS

104. Pursuant to Rules 23(a), (b)(3) and/or (b)(2) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, all Plaintiffs bring this action on behalf of themselves and a consumer class initially defined below.

The Nationwide Class

All purchasers of NatraBio® homeopathic Products in the United States labeled Smoking Withdrawal, Leg Cramps, Restless Legs, Cold and Sinus Nasal Spray, Allergy and Sinus, Children's Cold and Flu, and Flu Relief Spray for personal or household use and not for resale, during the applicable statute of limitations period. Excluded from the Class are governmental entities, Defendants, any entity in which Defendants have a controlling interest, Defendants' employees, officers, directors, legal representatives, heirs, successors and wholly or partly owned subsidiaries or affiliated companies, including all parent companies, and their employees; and the

3

5

4

6

7 8

9 10

11 12

13 14

15

16

17

18 19

20

21 22

23

24

25

26 27

28

judicial officers, their immediate family members and court staff assigned to this case.

105. Pursuant to Rules 23(a), (b)(3) and/or (b)(2) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, Plaintiffs Hammock and Bentley bring this action on behalf of themselves and a consumer class initially defined below.

The California Class

All purchasers of NatraBio® homeopathic Products in California— and states with laws similar to the California laws alleged to have been violated herein— labeled Smoking Withdrawal, Leg Cramps, and Restless Legs for personal or household use and not for resale, during the applicable statute of limitations period. Excluded from the Class are governmental entities, Defendants, any entity in which Defendants have a controlling interest, Defendants' employees, officers, directors, legal representatives, heirs, successors and wholly or partly owned subsidiaries or affiliated companies, including all parent companies, and their employees; and the judicial officers, their immediate family members and court staff assigned to this case.

106. Pursuant to Rules 23(a), (b)(3) and/or (b)(2) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, Plaintiff Love brings this action on behalf of herself and a consumer class initially defined below.

The Florida Class

All purchasers of NatraBio® homeopathic Products in Florida— and states with laws similar to the Florida laws alleged to have been violated herein labeled Cold and Sinus Nasal Spray, Allergy and Sinus, Children's Cold and Flu, and Flu Relief Spray for personal or household use and not for resale, during the applicable statute of limitations period. Excluded from the Class are governmental entities, Defendants, any entity in which Defendants have a controlling interest, Defendants' employees, officers, directors, legal

representatives, heirs, successors and wholly or partly owned subsidiaries or affiliated companies, including all parent companies, and their employees; and the judicial officers, their immediate family members and court staff assigned to this case.

- 107. The proposed Classes are so numerous that individual joinder of all the members is impracticable. Due to the nature of the trade and commerce involved, however, Plaintiffs believe the total number of Class members is at least in the hundreds of thousands and members of the Classes are numerous. 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.
- 108. Pursuant to Rule 23(b)(2), Defendants have acted or refused to act on grounds generally applicable to the Classes, thereby making final injunctive relief or corresponding declaratory relief and damages as to the Products appropriate with respect to the Classes as a whole. In particular, Defendants have failed to disclose the true nature of the Products being marketed as described herein.
- 109. There is a well-defined community of interest in the questions of law and fact involved, affecting the Plaintiffs and the Classes and these common questions of fact and law include, but are not limited to, the following:
 - a. Whether the claims discussed above are true, misleading, or reasonably likely to deceive;
 - b. Whether Defendants' alleged conduct violates public policy;
 - c. Whether the alleged conduct constitutes violations of the laws asserted herein;
 - d. Whether Defendants engaged in false or misleading advertising;
 - e. Whether Plaintiffs and Class members have sustained monetary loss and the proper measure of that loss;

- f. Whether Plaintiffs and Class members are entitled to an award of punitive damages; and;
- g. Whether Plaintiffs and Class members are entitled to declaratory and injunctive relief.
- 110. Plaintiffs' claims are typical of the claims of the members of the Classes. Plaintiffs and all members of the Classes have been similarly affected by Defendants' common course of conduct since they all relied on Defendants' representations concerning the homeopathic Products and purchased the Products based on those representations.
- 111. Plaintiffs will fairly and adequately represent and protect the interests of the Classes. Plaintiffs have retained counsel with substantial experience in handling complex class action litigation in general and scientific claims, including for homeopathic drugs, in particular. Plaintiffs and their counsel are committed to vigorously prosecuting this action on behalf of the Classes and have the financial resources to do so.
- 112. Plaintiffs and the members of the Classes suffered, and will continue to suffer harm as a result of the Defendants' unlawful and wrongful conduct. A class action is superior to other available methods for the fair and efficient adjudication of the present controversy. Individual joinder of all members of the Classes is impracticable. Even if individual Class members had the resources to pursue individual litigation, it would be unduly burdensome to the courts in which the individual litigation would proceed. Individual litigation magnifies the delay and expense to all parties in the court system of resolving the controversies engendered by Defendants' common course of conduct. The class action device allows a single court to provide the benefits of unitary adjudication, judicial economy, and the fair and efficient handling of all Class members' claims in a single forum. The conduct of this action as a class action conserves the resources of the parties and of the judicial

7 8

6

9 10

1112

13

14

1516

1718

19 20

212223

2425

26

2728

system and protects the rights of the class members. Furthermore, for many, if not most, a class action is the only feasible mechanism that allows an opportunity for legal redress and justice.

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

A. THE FRAUD CLAIMS

COUNT I

INTENTIONAL MISREPRESENTATION

(By the Nationwide Class, the California Class, and the Florida Class)

- 114. Plaintiffs and the Class members incorporate by reference and re-allege each and every allegation set forth above as though fully set forth herein.
- 115. Plaintiffs bring this first cause of action individually and on behalf of the members of the Nationwide Class against Defendants. Alternatively, Plaintiffs Hammock and Bentley bring this first cause of action individually and on behalf of the California Class and Plaintiff Love brings this first cause of action individually and on behalf of the Florida Class.
- 116. "[T]he fundamental elements of fraud are substantially similar from state to state. Virtually every state requires that there be a misrepresentation made by the defendant, that the defendant had knowledge that it was false, that the defendant intended to induce the reliance of the plaintiff, the plaintiff relied on the statement, and the plaintiff was injured as a result." *Spencer v. Hartford Financial Services Group, Inc.*, 256 F.R.D. 284, 301 (D. Conn. 2009).
- 117. The elements for a claim of intentional misrepresentation in California are: "(1) a misrepresentation (false representation, concealment, or nondisclosure); (2) knowledge of falsity (or scienter); (3) intent to defraud, i.e., to induce reliance; (4)

7

8

9 10

11 12

13

14 15

16 17

18

19

20 21

22

23 24

25

26

27 28 justifiable reliance; and (5) resulting damage." Cortina v. Goya Foods, Inc., ---F.Supp.3d.---, 2015 WL 1411336, at *14 (S.D. Cal. Mar. 19, 2015).

118. Similarly, the elements of fraud under Florida law are: "(1) a false statement concerning a specific material fact; (2) the maker's knowledge that the representation is false; (3) an intention that the representation induces another's reliance; and (4) consequent injury by the other party acting in reliance on the representation." Hepp v. Paul Revere Life Ins. Co., ---F.Supp.3d---, 2015 WL 4623733, at *17 (M.D. Fla. July 31, 2015).

False Statements of Material Facts

- 119. Defendants represented to Plaintiffs and the class members that the NatraBio® Products are effective at providing the advertised symptom relief. However, the NatraBio® products are not effective at providing the advertised symptom relief because the ingredients in the NatraBio® products are so highly diluted that they cannot possibly provide any symptom relieving effects on any person as a matter of established scientific principles.
- 120. Defendants represented to Plaintiffs and the class members that the NatraBio® Products contain "all natural" ingredients when the products actually contain one or more artificial or synthetic ingredients.

Fraudulent Concealment

121. Defendants represented to Plaintiffs and the class members that the NatraBio® Products are effective at providing the advertised symptom relief. However, Defendants failed to disclose and actively concealed from Plaintiffs and the class members the truth about the NatraBio® because the products cannot possibly provide the advertised symptom relief.

Knowledge of Falsities

122. Defendants, at all times mentioned herein, had knowledge that that their representations concerning the NatraBio® Products are false and misleading because the Products are ineffective at providing the advertised symptom relief. Defendants, at all times mentioned herein, had knowledge that the homeopathic method used to

3 4 5

8 9

10 11

12

13 14

15 16

17

18

19

20

21 22

23

24

25 26

27

28

manufacture the NatraBio® Products makes the ingredients in the products so diluted that they cannot possibly provide the advertised symptom relief for any person.

123. In Defendants' SEC Form 10-k, they admit that the homeopathic properties of the NatraBio® Products prevent the Products from having the same efficacy as conventional medicine. Defendants are also aware that there are no reliable scientific studies showing that the NatraBio® Products, or homeopathy in general, can provide the advertised symptom relief. However, Defendants continue to sell the products next to conventional OTC medicines in an effort to intentionally misrepresent that the Products are as effective as conventional medicine.

Intent to Defraud

- 124. Defendants made the misrepresentations alleged herein with the intention of inducing and persuading Plaintiffs and the class to purchase the NatraBio® Products because the Defendants sought to reap enormous profits from the sale of the falsely labeled NatraBio® Products.
- 125. Defendants further withheld and omitted material information about the NatraBio® Products with the intention of inducing and persuading Plaintiffs and the class to purchase the products.

Justifiable Reliance

126. Plaintiffs and the class, by purchasing the NatraBio® products, justifiably relied on Defendants' false and misleading statements and misrepresentations, and on the absence of the material information that Defendants omitted. If Plaintiff's and the class would have known the truth concerning the false representations and omissions, they would not have purchased the products at all.

Injury

127. As a direct and proximate result of Defendants' intentional misrepresentations and deceptive omissions, Plaintiffs and the class were induced to pay for worthless products.

128. Plaintiffs and the Class were damaged through their purchase and use of the NatraBio® Products.

129. Plaintiffs' and the Class' reliance on Defendants' statements and representations of the nature and characteristics of the NatraBio® Products was reasonable. As a result, Defendants are guilty of malice, oppression, and fraud, and Plaintiffs and the Class are therefore entitled to recover exemplary or punitive damages. Plaintiffs are also seeking actual damages and attorneys' fees and costs as allowed by statute.

COUNT II

NEGLIGENT MISREPRESENTATION

(By the Nationwide Class, the California Class, and the Florida Class)

- 130. Plaintiffs and the Class members incorporate by reference and re-allege each and every allegation set forth above as though fully set forth herein.
- 131. Plaintiffs bring this second cause of action individually and on behalf of the members of the Nationwide Class against Defendants. Alternatively, Plaintiffs Hammock and Bentley bring this first cause of action individually and on behalf of the California Class and Plaintiff Love brings this first cause of action individually and on behalf of the Florida Class.
- 132. "[N]egligent misrepresentation is narrower than fraud, as it lacks the element of intent to deceive." *Cortina*, 2015 WL 1411336, at *14. "Therefore, where the defendant makes false statements, honestly believing that they are true, but without reasonable ground for such belief, he may be liable for negligent misrepresentation, a form of deceit." *Id.* (citing *Intieri v. Superior Court*, 117 Cal.App.4th 72, 86 (2004).
- 133. In marketing, advertising and promoting the NatraBio® Products, Defendants carelessly and negligently made representations regarding the products that Defendants knew or should reasonably have known or reasonably foreseen misrepresented material facts and omitted to state material facts.

- 134. As described herein, all reliable and credible scientific evidence demonstrates that the NatraBio® Products cannot be effective at providing the advertised symptom relief because the homeopathically prepared ingredients in the products are so hyper-dilluted that they cannot possibly have any effect on any human being.
- 135. Defendants acted negligently and/or recklessly by representing to consumers that the NatraBio® Products can provide the advertised symptom relief when all reliable scientific evidence shows that the Products are ineffective.
- 136. Defendants have a pecuniary interest in the marketing, advertising and promotion of the NatraBio® Products and in making the careless, unreasonable and negligent misrepresentations and omissions alleged herein, including to Plaintiffs and members of the Class.
- 137. In their marketing, advertising and promoting of the NatraBio® Products and in making the careless, unreasonable and negligent misrepresentations and omissions alleged herein, including the representations made to Plaintiffs and the members of the Class, Defendants were in a superior position than Plaintiffs and the members of the Class to know the material facts.
- 138. In their marketing, advertising and promoting of the NatraBio® Products and in making the careless, unreasonable and negligent misrepresentations and omissions alleged herein, including the representations made to Plaintiffs and the members of the Class, Defendants should have reasonably foreseen that Plaintiffs and members of the Class were likely to rely upon the misrepresentations.
- 139. Defendants' careless, unreasonable and negligent misrepresentations and omissions, as set forth in this complaint, are material in that they relate to matters to which reasonable persons, including Plaintiffs and the members of the Class, would attach importance in their purchasing decisions or conduct regarding the purchase of NatraBio® Products.

- 140. Under the circumstances, Defendants had a duty to disclose material, truthful information that they omitted in their careless, unreasonable and negligent misrepresentations and omissions, as set forth in this complaint.
- 141. As alleged in this complaint, Plaintiffs and the members of the Class uniformly relied on Defendants' careless, unreasonable and negligent misrepresentations and omissions, and under the circumstances described above such reliance was reasonable and justifiable.
- 142. As a result of Defendants' careless, unreasonable and negligent statements and omissions as described herein, Plaintiffs and the members of the Class have been injured and have suffered loss of money and property, and they are entitled to recover actual damages from Defendants. In addition, Plaintiffs and the class members are seeking attorneys' fees and costs as allowed by statute.

B. <u>BREACH OF WARRANTY CLAIMS</u>

COUNT III

VIOLATION OF MAGNUSON-MOSS WARRANTY ACT

15 U.S.C. §§ 2301, et seq.

(By the Nationwide Class, the California Class, and the Florida Class)

- 143. Plaintiffs and Class members reallege and incorporate by reference each allegation set forth above and further allege as follows.
- 144. Plaintiffs bring this third cause of action individually and on behalf of the members of the Nationwide Class against Defendants. Alternatively, Plaintiffs Hammock and Bentley bring this third cause of action individually and on behalf of the California Class and Plaintiff Love brings this first cause of action individually and on behalf of the Florida Class.
- 145. The NatraBio® Products are consumer products as defined in 15 U.S.C. § 2301(1).
 - 146. The NatraBio® Products sell at retail for more than five dollars.

- 147. Each Plaintiff purchased the Products on multiple occasions and each paid twenty-five dollars or more for their total purchases.
- 148. Defendants are suppliers and warrantors as defined in 15 U.S.C. § 2301 (4) and (5).
- 149. In connection with the sale of the NatraBio® Products, Defendants issued written warranties as defined in 15 U.S.C. § 2301 (6), which warranted that the Products are effective at providing symptom relief.
- 150. In connection with the sale of the NatraBio® Products, Defendants impliedly warranted as defined in 15 U.S.C. §2301(7), that the products were of merchantable quality, such that the products were of the same average grade, quality, and value as similar goods sold under similar circumstances.
- 151. Defendants breached these warranties because the NatraBio® Products are not effective for their intended use because the products contain hyper-diluted ingredients that are scientifically incapable of curing any ailment in any human being.
- 152. By reason of Defendants' breach of the express written warranties, Defendants violated the statutory rights owed to Plaintiffs and Class members pursuant to the Magnuson-Moss Warranty Act, 15 U.S.C. § 2301 *et seq.*, thereby damaging Plaintiffs and Class members.
- 153. Plaintiffs and the Class members were injured as a direct and proximate result of Defendants' breach because they would not have purchased the NatraBio® products if the true facts had been known.
- 154. Prior to filing this action, Plaintiffs, by and through their counsel, provided Defendants with written notice of their claims pursuant to 15 U.S.C. § 2310(e) and also notified Defendants that they are acting on behalf of a Class defined as all persons in the United States who purchased the NatraBio® Products. *See Ex.* 1.

1	<u>COUNT IV</u>
2	BREACH OF EXPRESS WARRANTY
3	(CAL. COM. CODE § 2313)
4	(By the California Class)
5	155. Plaintiffs and the Class members reallege and incorporate by reference
6	each allegation set forth above and further allege as follows.
7	156. Plaintiffs bring this fourth cause of action individually and on behalf o
8	the members of the California Class against Defendants for violation of California
9	Commercial Code § 2313 and similar laws in other states.
10	157. Defendants, as manufactures, marketers, distributors, or sellers, expressly
11	warranted that the NatraBio® Products are effective at alleviating the advertised
12	symptoms. Specifically, Defendants made the following unequivocal expres
13	warranties in the quoted language below with respect to each of the following
14	products:
15	NatraBio® Smoking Withdrawal
16	"Smoking Withdrawal"
17	• "natural relief for the symptoms of: Tobacco & Cigarette Cravings, Nervou
18	Tension, Irritability"
19	"helps detoxify"
20	"advanced formulation"
21	• "non-habit forming"
22	"fast, effective symptom relief"
23	"Natural Homeopathic Medicine"
24	"all natural ingredients"
25	• "innovative natural health product formulated and manufactured to
26	pharmaceutical standards"
27	• "Abies nigra 10x" "respiratory symptoms"
28	• "Lobelia inflate 10x" "reduces ill effects of nicotine"
- 1	

1	• "Nicovap 10x, 14x, 24x, 30x""tobacco product detoxification"
2	• "Nux vomica 10x""reduces tobacco cravings"
3	• "Ignatia amara 14x""reduces nervous tension"
4	NatraBio® Leg Cramps
5	• "Leg Cramps"
6	• "natural relief for the symptoms of: Leg Cramps, Muscle Pain & Spasms
7	Cramps in the Calves and Feet, [and] Night Cramps and Pain."
8	"advanced formulation"
9	• "non-habit forming"
0	"fast, effective symptom relief"
1	"Natural Homeopathic Medicine"
12	"all natural ingredients"
13	• "innovative natural health product formulated and manufactured to
4	pharmaceutical standards"
15	"Chininum Sulphuricum 4x"neuralgia, tearing leg pains."
16	• "Colocynthis 4x" "contaction of muscles, leg cramps"
ا 17	• "Gnaphalium polycephalum 4x" "frequent cramps in legs and feet"
18	• "Calcarea Carbonica 6x, 12x, 30x "cramps in calves at night"
19	• "Lycopodium clavatum 6x" "cramps in calves, sciatica"
20	"Magnesia Phosphorica 6x"" "severe cramps in calves"
21	• "Rhus toxicodendron 6x, 12x, 30x" "cramps in calves, tearing pains"
22	"Cuprum Metallicum 12x" "cramps in legs and feet"
23	NatraBio® Restless Legs
24	• "Restless Legs"
25	• "natural relief for the symptoms of: Restlessness, Jerking & Twitching
26	Constant Urge to Move, [and] Tingling"
27	• "Restless Legs"
28	"Advanced formulation"

1	"Non-habit forming"
2	"Fast, effective symptom relief"
3	"Natural Homeopathic Medicine"
4	"All natural ingredients"
5	• "Innovative natural health product formulated and manufactured to
6	pharmaceutical standards"
7	• "Arsenicum Album 12x""desire to move feet constantly"
8	• "Chamomile 6x""'urge to get up and walk around"
9	• "Causticum 12x""restless legs at night"
10	"Lycopodium clavatum 6x""weakness, numbness, leg cramps"
11	• "Palladium 12x" "heavy limbs, darting pains, restlessness"
12	• "Platina 12x""restlessness, tingling legs"
13	• "Zincum Metalicum 12x""twitching and jerking of legs"
4	NatraBio® Cold and Sinus Nasal Spray
15	"Cold and Sinus Nasal Spray"
16	"Nasal Congestion, Sinus Pressure, Headache, Sneezing, [and] Runny Nose."
17	"Continuous use formula"
l8 l9	"Natural Homeopathic Medicine"
20	"Formulated and manufactured utilizing natural ingredients in accordance with
21	strict FDA pharmaceutical standards to ensure safety and purity"
22	• "Aconitum napellus 6x"" "sudden onset of cold symptoms"
23	"Adrenalinum 6x"""decongestant"
24	• "Allium cepa 6x" "runny nose, sinus congestion"
25	• "Echinacea angustifolia 6x" "cold and sinus symptoms"
26	• "Euphorbium officinarum 6x" "sinus congestion and pain"
27	• "Hydrastis canadensis 6x" "sinus congestion, runny nose"
28	"Kali bichromicum""cold symptoms, congestion"

• "Quality parents can trust" 1 NatraBio® Flu Relief 2 • "Flu Relief" 3 • "Fast Flu Symptom Relief" 4 • "Relives & Reduces symptoms of: Body Aches, Congestion, Fever, 5 Headaches, [and] Sore Throat" 6 7 "non addicting" "Influenzinum 12x, 30x"....." "relieves flu symptoms" 8 9 "Adrenalinum 6x"..." "decongestant" 10 "Aconitum napellus 6x"...." "relieves flu symptoms" 11 "Baptisia tinctoria"....." "relieves flu symptoms" 12 "Eupatorium perfoliatum 6x"...." "relieves flu symptoms" 13 "Euphrasia officinalis 6x"...."relieves sinus symptoms" 14 "Euphorbium officinarum 6x"...."decongestant" 15 "Gelsemium sempervirens 6x"..... "relieves body aches" 16 "Sticta pulmonaria 6x"...." "decongestant" 17 "Rhus toxicodendron 12x"... "relieves body aches" 18 19 158. Defendants breached each of the warranties in the above-quoted language 20 because the NatraBio® Products are not effective for their intended use and the 21 Products have never been proven effective by competent and reliable scientific 22 evidence to alleviate any symptom in any human being. Additionally, the Products 23 contain one or more artificial and/or synthetic ingredients despite the fact that

Defendants represent the Products as being "all natural."

bargain" in the sales transactions.

24

25

27

28

159. Plaintiffs and the Class members were exposed to the above-quoted

express written warranties, relied on the express written warranties when purchasing

the products, and the above-quoted written warranties were part of the "basis of the

- 160. Plaintiffs and the Class members were injured as a direct and proximate result of Defendants' breach because they would not have purchased the NatraBio® products if the true facts had been known.
- 161. Defendants breached their express warranty by selling products that are not effective for their intended use because homeopathic products have never been proven effective by competent and reliable scientific evidence.
- 162. Plaintiffs and the Class Members, as consumers of the NatraBio® Products, are third-party beneficiaries of agreements between the Defendants and retailers who sell the NatraBio® Products.
- 163. Prior to filing this action, Plaintiffs, by and through their counsel, provided Defendants with written notice of their claims and also notified Defendants that they are acting on behalf of a Class defined as all persons in the United States who purchased the NatraBio® Products. *See Ex.* 1.
- 164. Plaintiffs, on behalf of themselves and the class, seek actual damages and attorneys' fees and costs as allowed by statute for Defendants' breach of warranty.

COUNT V

VIOLATION OF SONG-BEVERLY CONSUMER WARRANTY ACT FOR BREACH OF EXPRESS WARRANTIES

(CAL CIV. CODE §§ 1791, et seq.)

- 165. Plaintiffs and the Class members reallege and incorporate by reference each allegation set forth above and further allege as follows.
- 166. Plaintiffs bring this fifth cause of action individually and on behalf of the members of the California Class against Defendants for violation of California Civil Code §§ 1791, *et seq*.
- 167. Plaintiffs and the other Class members who purchased the NatraBio® Products in California are "buyers" within the meaning of Cal. Civ. Code § 1791(b).
- 168. The NatraBio® Products are "consumer goods" within the meaning of Cal. Civ. Code § 1791(a).

- 169. Defendants are "manufacturers" of the NatraBio® Products within the meaning of Cal. Civ. Code § 1791(j).
- 170. Plaintiffs and the other Class members who purchased the NatraBio® Products in California are "buyers" within the meaning of Cal. Civ. Code § 1791(b).
- 171. Defendants made express warranties to Plaintiffs and the other Class members within the meaning of Cal. Civ. Code §§ 1791.2 and 1793.2, as described in Count IV and incorporated by reference herein.
- 172. Defendants breached each of the warranties described in Count IV and incorporated by reference herein because the NatraBio® Products are not effective for their intended use and the Products have never been proven effective by competent and reliable scientific evidence to alleviate any symptom in any human being. Additionally, the Products contain one or more artificial and/or synthetic ingredients despite the fact that Defendants represent the Products as being "all natural."
- 173. Plaintiffs and the Class members were exposed to the above-quoted express written warranties, relied on the express written warranties when purchasing the products, and the above-quoted written warranties were part of the "basis of the bargain" in the sales transactions.
- 174. Plaintiffs and the Class members were injured as a direct and proximate result of Defendants' breach because they would not have purchased the NatraBio® products if the true facts had been known.
- 175. Defendants breached their express warranty by selling products that are not effective for their intended use because homeopathic products have never been proven effective by competent and reliable scientific evidence.
- 176. Prior to filing this action, Plaintiffs, by and through their counsel, provided Defendants with written notice of their claims and also notified Defendants that they are acting on behalf of a Class defined as all persons in the United States who purchased the NatraBio® Products. *See Ex.* 1.

177. Plaintiffs, on behalf of themselves and the class, seek actual damages and attorneys' fees and costs as allowed by statute for Defendants' breach of warranty.

COUNT VI

BREACH OF IMPLIED WARRANTY OF MERCHANTABILITY (CAL. COM. CODE § 2314)

(By the California Class)

- 178. Plaintiffs and the Class members reallege and incorporate by reference each allegation set forth above and further allege as follows.
- 179. Plaintiffs bring this sixth cause of action individually and on behalf of the members of the California Class against Defendants for violations of California Commercial Code § 2314 and similar laws in other states.
- 180. Defendants were at all relevant times merchants with respect to the NatraBio® products under Cal. Com. Code § 2104.
- 181. A warranty that the NatraBio® Products were in merchantable condition was implied by law in the instant transaction, pursuant to Cal. Com. Code § 2314.
- 182. Defendants, as the designers, manufacturers, marketers, distributors, and sellers impliedly warranted that the NatraBio® products were fit for their intended purpose in that the Products would be effective at alleviating the advertised symptoms. Defendants did so with the intent to induce Plaintiffs and members of the Class to purchase the Products.
- 183. Defendants breached their implied warranties in the contract for the sale of the NatraBio® products because the Products are ineffective at providing relief from any symptom in any human being and are therefore the Products are not fit for their ordinary purpose.
- 184. Additionally, the Products contain one or more artificial and/or synthetic ingredients despite the fact that Defendants represent the Products as being "all natural."

185.	In reliance	e upon	Defendan	ts's	kill	and	judgment	and	the	imp	lied
warranties	discussed	above,	Plaintiffs	and	the	Cla	ss membe	rs p	urcha	sed	the
NatraBio® Products to help alleviate the advertised symptoms.											

- 186. Plaintiffs and the Class Members, as consumers of the NatraBio® Products, are third-party beneficiaries of agreements between the Defendants and retailers who sell the NatraBio® Products.
- 187. The NatraBio® products were not altered by Plaintiffs or the Class Members.
- 188. Prior to filing this action, Plaintiffs, by and through their counsel, provided Defendants with written notice of their claims and also notified Defendants that they are acting on behalf of a Class defined as all persons in the United States who purchased the NatraBio® Products. *See Ex.* 1.
- 189. Plaintiffs, on behalf of themselves and the class, seek actual damages, equitable relief, and attorneys' fees and costs as allowed by statute for Defendants' breach of warranty.

COUNT VII

VIOLATION OF SONG-BEVERLY CONSUMER WARRANTY ACT FOR BREACH OF IMPLIED WARRANTY OF MERCHANTABILITY (CAL. CIV. CODE §§ 1791.1 & 1792)

(By the California Class)

- 190. Plaintiffs and the Class members reallege and incorporate by reference each allegation set forth above and further allege as follows.
- 191. Plaintiffs bring this seventh cause of action individually and on behalf of the members of the California Class against Defendants.
- 192. Plaintiffs and the other Class members who purchased the NatraBio® Products in California are "buyers" within the meaning of Cal. Civ. Code § 1791(b).
- 193. The NatraBio® Products are "consumer goods" within the meaning of Cal. Civ. Code § 1791(a).

- 194. Defendants are "manufacturers" of the NatraBio® Products within the meaning of Cal. Civ. Code § 1791(j).
- 195. Plaintiffs and the other Class members who purchased the NatraBio® Products in California are "buyers" within the meaning of Cal. Civ. Code § 1791(b).
- 196. Defendants impliedly warranted to Plaintiffs and the other Class members that the NatraBio® Products were "merchantable" within the meaning of Cal. Civ. Code §§ 1791.1(a) & 1792, however, the Products do not have the quality that a buyer would reasonably expect.
 - 197. 402. Cal. Civ. Code § 1791.1(a) states:
 - "Implied warranty of merchantability" or "implied warranty that goods are merchantable" means that the consumer goods meet each of the following:
 - (1) Pass without objection in the trade under the contract description.
 - (2) Are fit for the ordinary purposes for which such goods are used.
 - (3) Are adequately contained, packaged, and labeled.
 - (4) Conform to the promises or affirmations of fact made on the container or label.
- 198. The Products would not pass without objection because they are ineffective at providing the advertised symptom relief and therefore are worthless products.
- 199. The Products are not fit for the ordinary purpose in which OTC drug products are used because the Products provide no symptom relief whatsoever.
- 200. The Products are not adequately labeled because the labeling fails to disclose the true nature of the homeopathic preparation of the products that renders the products to be wholly ineffective for their advertised use.
- 201. The NatraBio® Products also fail to conform to the promises or affirmations of fact made on the container or label because they are ineffective at providing relief from any symptom in any human being. Additionally, the Products

and incorporated by reference herein because the NatraBio® Products are not

effective for their intended use and the Products have never been proven effective by competent and reliable scientific evidence to alleviate any symptom in any human being. Additionally, the Products contain one or more artificial and/or synthetic ingredients despite the fact that Defendants represent the Products as being "all natural."

- 210. Defendants express warranties regarding the NatraBio® Products formed the basis of the bargain that was reached when Plaintiff Love and the other Class members purchased the products.
- 211. Plaintiffs and the Class members were exposed to the above-quoted express written warranties, relied on the express written warranties when purchasing the products, and the above-quoted written warranties were part of the "basis of the bargain" in the sales transactions.
- 212. Plaintiffs and the Class members were injured as a direct and proximate result of Defendants' breach because they would not have purchased the NatraBio® products if the true facts had been known.
- 213. Defendants breached their express warranty by selling products that are not effective for their intended use because homeopathic products have never been proven effective by competent and reliable scientific evidence.
- 214. Plaintiff, on behalf of herself and the Florida class, seek all remedies as allowed by law including but not limited to actual damages, attorneys' fees, and costs as allowed by statute for Defendants' breach of warranty.
- 215. In addition, at the time Defendants warranted and sold the NatraBio® Products it knew that the Products did not conform to the warranties and were inherently ineffective at providing the advertised symptom relief, and Defendants wrongfully and fraudulently misrepresented and/or concealed material facts regarding the NatraBio® Products. Plaintiff and the other Class members were therefore induced to purchase the NatraBio® Products under false and/or fraudulent pretenses.

216. Plaintiff and the other Class members assert as an additional and/or alternative remedy, as set forth in Fla. Stat. § 672.608, for a revocation of acceptance of the goods, and for a return to Plaintiff and to the other Class members of the purchase price of all NatraBio® Products purchased and for such other incidental and consequential damages as allowed under Fla. Stat. §§ 672.711 and 672.608.

217. Prior to filing this action, Plaintiffs, by and through their counsel, provided Defendants with written notice of their claims and also notified Defendants that they are acting on behalf of a Class defined as all persons in the United States who purchased the NatraBio® Products. *See Ex.* 1.

COUNT IX

BREACH OF IMPLIED WARRANTY OF MERCHANTABILITY

(FLA. STAT. § 672.314)

(By the Florida Class)

- 218. Plaintiffs and the Class members reallege and incorporate by reference each allegation set forth above and further allege as follows.
- 219. Plaintiff Love bring this ninth cause of action individually and on behalf of the members of the Florida Class against Defendants for violations of Florida Statute Annotated § 672.314 and similar laws in other states.
- 220. Defendants were at all relevant times merchants with respect to the NatraBio® products.
- 221. A warranty that the NatraBio® Products were in merchantable condition was implied by law in the instant transaction.
- 222. Defendants, as the designers, manufacturers, marketers, distributors, and sellers impliedly warranted that the NatraBio® products were fit for their intended purpose and were not fit for the ordinary purpose in which they are used in that the Products would be effective at alleviating the advertised symptoms. Defendants did so with the intent to induce Plaintiffs and members of the Class to purchase the Products.

- 223. Defendants breached their implied warranties in the contract for the sale of the NatraBio® products because the Products are ineffective at providing relief from any symptom in any human being and are therefore the Products are not fit for their ordinary purpose.
- 224. Additionally, the Products contain one or more artificial and/or synthetic ingredients despite the fact that Defendants represent the Products as being "all natural."
- 225. In reliance upon Defendants' skill and judgment and the implied warranties discussed above, Plaintiffs and the Class members purchased the NatraBio® Products to help alleviate the advertised symptoms.
- 226. Plaintiffs and the Class Members, as consumers of the NatraBio® Products, are third-party beneficiaries of agreements between the Defendants and retailers who sell the NatraBio® Products.
- 227. The NatraBio® products were not altered by Plaintiffs or the Class Members.
- 228. Prior to filing this action, Plaintiffs, by and through their counsel, provided Defendants with written notice of their claims and also notified Defendants that they are acting on behalf of a Class defined as all persons in the United States who purchased the NatraBio® Products. *See Ex.* 1.
- 229. Plaintiffs, on behalf of themselves and the class, seek all available remedies by law including but not limited to actual damages, equitable relief, and attorneys' fees and costs as allowed by statute for Defendants' breach of warranty.

COUNT X

BREACH OF CONTRACT/ COMMON LAW WARRANTY

(By the Nationwide Class, the California Class, and the Florida Class)

230. Plaintiffs and the Class members reallege and incorporate by reference each allegation set forth above and further allege as follows.

- 231. Plaintiffs bring this tenth cause of action individually and on behalf of the members of all Classes against Defendants. Alternatively, Plaintiffs Bentley and Hammock bring this tenth cause of action individually and on behalf of the California class and Plaintiff Love brings this tenth cause of action individually and on behalf of the Florida class.
- 232. To the extent Defendants' representations are deemed not to be warranties under California's Commercial Code or Florida's Commercial Code, Plaintiffs, individually and on behalf of the other Class members, plead in the alternative under common law warranty and contract law.
- 233. Defendants breached each of the warranties detailed in Count IV and incorporated by reference herein because the NatraBio® Products are not effective for their intended use and the Products have never been proven effective by competent and reliable scientific evidence to alleviate any symptom in any human being. Additionally, the Products contain one or more artificial and/or synthetic ingredients despite the fact that Defendants represent the Products as being "all natural."
- 234. Plaintiffs and the Class members were exposed to the above-quoted express written warranties, relied on the express written warranties when purchasing the products, and the above-quoted written warranties were part of the "basis of the bargain" in the sales transactions.
- 235. Plaintiffs and the Class Members, as consumers of the NatraBio® Products, are third-party beneficiaries of agreements between the Defendants and retailers who sell the NatraBio® Products.
- 236. Plaintiffs and the Class members were injured as a direct and proximate result of Defendants' breach because they would not have purchased the NatraBio® products if the true facts had been known.
- 237. Defendants breached their express warranty by selling products that are not effective for their intended use because homeopathic products have never been proven effective by competent and reliable scientific evidence.

238. Prior to filing this action, Plaintiffs, by and through their counsel, provided Defendants with written notice of their claims and also notified Defendants that they are acting on behalf of a Class defined as all persons in the United States who purchased the NatraBio® Products. *See Ex.* 1.

239. Plaintiffs, on behalf of themselves and the class seek all available remedies allowed by law including but not limited to actual damages, recession/restitution, and attorneys' fees and costs as allowed by statute for Defendants' breach of warranties.

C. CLAIM FOR RESTITUTION

COUNT XI

QUASI-CONTRACT/ UNJUST ENRICHMENT

(By the Nationwide Class, the California Class, and the Florida Class)

- 240. Plaintiffs and the Class members incorporate by reference and re-allege each and every allegation set forth above as though fully set forth herein.
- 241. Plaintiffs bring this eleventh cause of action individually and on behalf of the members of the Nationwide Class against Defendants. Alternatively, Plaintiffs Hammock and Bentley bring this eleventh cause of action individually and on behalf of the California Class and Plaintiff Love brings this eleventh cause of action individually and on behalf of the Florida Class.
- 242. Plaintiffs and the Class members conferred a benefit on Defendants by purchasing the NatraBio® Products.
- 243. Defendants have been unjustly enriched in retaining the revenues derived from Class members' purchases of the NatraBio® Products, which retention under these circumstances is unjust and inequitable because Defendants misrepresented the facts concerning the efficacy of the Products and caused Plaintiffs and the Class to lose money as a result thereof.
- 244. Plaintiffs and the Class members were injured as a direct and proximate result of Defendants' breach because they would not have purchased the NatraBio®

Products if the true facts had been known. Because Defendants' retention of the non-gratuitous benefit conferred on it by Plaintiffs and Class members is unjust and inequitable, Defendants must pay restitution to Plaintiffs and Class members for their unjust enrichment, as ordered by the Court.

D. <u>VIOLATIONS OF CONSUMER PROTECTION STATUTES</u> COUNT XII

VIOLATION OF CALIFORNIA'S UNFAIR COMPETITION LAW (CAL. BUS. & PROF. CODE §§ 17200, ET SEQ.)

(By the California Class)

- 245. Plaintiffs and the Class members incorporate by reference and re-allege each and every allegation set forth above as though fully set forth herein.
- 246. Plaintiffs Hammock and Bentley bring this twelfth cause of action individually and on behalf of the members of the California Class against Defendants.
- 247. California's Unfair Competition Law, Business and Professions Code §17200 (the "UCL") prohibits any "unfair, deceptive, untrue or misleading advertising." For the reasons discussed above, Defendants have engaged in unfair, deceptive, untrue and misleading advertising, and continue to engage in such business conduct, in violation of the UCL.
- 248. California's Unfair Competition Law ("UCL"), Cal. Bus. & Prof. Code §§ 17200, *et seq.*, proscribes acts of unfair competition, including "any unlawful, unfair or fraudulent business act or practice and unfair, deceptive, untrue or misleading advertising."

Unlawful

- 249. Defendants have violated the UCL unlawful prong in at least the following ways:
 - i. By knowingly and intentionally concealing from Plaintiffs and the other California Class members that the NatraBio® Products cannot provide the advertised symptom relief while obtaining money from Plaintiffs;

- ii. By misrepresenting the nature of the NatraBio® Products and the Products' effectiveness at providing the advertised symptom relief.
- iii. By falsely advertising the Products as being "all natural" despite the fact that the Products contain one or more artificial or synthetic ingredients.
- iv. By violating federal laws, including the Magnuson-Moss Warranty Act, 15 U.S.C. § 2301; and
- v. By violating other California laws, including Cal. Civ. Code §§ 1709, 1710, and 1750, et seq., and Cal. Comm. Code § 2313.
- 250. Such conduct is ongoing and continues to this date.
- 251. Plaintiffs and the Class reserve the right to allege other violations of law which constitute other unlawful business acts or practices.

Unfair

- 252. The UCL also prohibits any "unfair"... business act or practice."
- 253. Defendants' acts, omissions, misrepresentations, practices and nondisclosures as alleged herein also constitute "unfair" business acts and practices within the meaning of the UCL in that their conduct is substantially injurious to consumers, offends public policy, and is immoral, unethical, oppressive, and unscrupulous as the gravity of the conduct outweighs any alleged benefits attributable to such conduct. In the alternative, Defendants' business conduct as described herein violates relevant laws designed to protect consumers and business from unfair competition in the marketplace. Such conduct is ongoing and continues to date.
- 254. Plaintiffs also allege violations of consumer protection, unfair competition and truth in advertising laws in California and other states resulting in harm to consumers. Plaintiffs assert violation of the public policy of engaging in false and misleading advertising, unfair competition and deceptive conduct towards consumers. This conduct constitutes violations of the unfair prong of the UCL. Such conduct is ongoing and continues to this date.

255. There were reasonably available alternatives to further Defendants' legitimate business interests, other than the conduct described herein.

Fraudulent

- 256. The UCL also prohibits any "fraudulent business act or practice."
- 257. Defendants' claims, nondisclosures (i.e., omissions) and misleading statements, as more fully set forth above, were false, misleading and/or likely to deceive a reasonable consumer within the meaning of the UCL. Such conduct is ongoing and continues to this date.
- 258. Defendants' conduct caused and continues to cause substantial injury to Plaintiffs and the other Class members. Plaintiffs Hammock and Bentley have suffered injury in fact as a result of Defendants' unfair conduct.
- 259. Defendants have thus engaged in unlawful, unfair and fraudulent business acts and practices and false advertising, entitling Plaintiffs Hammock, Bentley, and the Class to injunctive relief against Defendants, as set forth in the Prayer for Relief.
- 260. Pursuant to Business and Professions Code §17203, Plaintiffs Hammock, Bentley, and the Class seek an order requiring Defendants to immediately cease such acts of unlawful, unfair and fraudulent business practices and requiring Defendants to engage in a corrective advertising campaign.
- 261. Plaintiffs Hammock and Bentley, on behalf of the Class, also seek an order for the disgorgement and restitution of all monies from the sale of the Products they purchased, which was unjustly acquired through acts of unlawful, unfair, and/or fraudulent competition and attorneys' fees and costs.

COUNT XIII

VIOLATION OF CALIFORNIA'S CONSUMERS LEGAL REMEDIES ACT (CAL. CIV. CODE §§ 1750, ET SEQ.)

(By the California Class)

262. Plaintiffs and the Class members incorporate by reference and re-allege each and every allegation set forth above as though fully set forth herein.

263. Plaintiffs Hammock and Bentley bring this thirteenth cause of action individually and on behalf of the members of the California Class against Defendants.

264. This cause of action is brought pursuant to the Consumers Legal Remedies Act, California Civil Code §1750, *et seq.* (the "Act"), and similar consumer fraud laws in other states. Plaintiffs are consumers as defined by California Civil Code §1761(d). The Products are goods within the meaning of the Act.

265. Defendants violated and continue to violate the Act by engaging in the following practices proscribed by California Civil Code §1770(a) in transactions with Plaintiffs and the Class which were intended to result in, and did result in, the sale of the NatraBio® Products:

- (5) Representing that [the Products have] ... characteristics ... uses [or] benefits ... which it does not have ... ***
- (7) Representing that [the Products are] of a particular standard, quality or grade... if [they are] of another. ***
- (9) Advertising a good... with intent not to sell it as advertised. ***
- (16) Representing that [the Products have] been supplied in accordance with a previous representation when [it have] not.

266. Defendants violated the Act by representing false or deceptive information in the labeling of the Products as described above, when they knew, or should have known, that the representations and advertisements were false or misleading.

267. Plaintiffs and other members of the Class reasonably relied upon the Defendants' representations as to the quality and attributes of the NatraBio® Products.

268. Plaintiffs and other members of the Class were likely to be deceived by Defendants' representations about the quality and attributes of their Products, including but not limited to the purported uses, benefits and characteristics of their Products, taken as a whole, as described herein. Plaintiffs and other Class members

3 4

7

5

10

11 12

13

14 15

16

17

18

19 20

21

22 23

24

25

26 27

28

would not have purchased the Products had they known the Defendants' claims were untrue, and had they known the true nature of the Products.

- 269. Pursuant to § 1782 et seq. of the Act, Plaintiffs notified Defendants in writing by certified mail of the particular violations of § 1770 of the Act as to the Products they purchased and demanded that Defendant rectify the problems associated with the actions detailed above and give notice to all affected consumers of their intent to so act. See Ex. 1. Defendants' wrongful business practices constituted, and constitute, a continuing course of conduct in violation of the California's Consumers Legal Remedies Act since Defendants are still representing that the Products have characteristics, uses, benefits, and abilities which are false and misleading, and have injured Plaintiffs and the Class.
- 270. Pursuant to California Civil Code § 1780(d), Plaintiffs Hammock and Bentley have attached to this complaint their "venue affidavits." See Ex. 2.
- 271. Pursuant to California Civil Code §§ 1780(a) and 1782(d), Plaintiff Hammock, Plaintiff Bentley, and the California Class seek an order of this Court awarding Plaintiff Hammock, Plaintiff Bentley and the Class prospective and retrospective injunctive relief, restitution, disgorgement, damages, punitive damages and attorneys' fees and costs.

COUNT XIV

VIOLATION OF CALIFORNIA'S FALSE ADVERTISING LAW (CAL. BUS. & PROF. CODE §§ 17500, ET SEQ.)

- 272. Plaintiffs and the Class members incorporate by reference and re-allege each and every allegation set forth above as though fully set forth herein.
- 273. Plaintiffs Hammock and Bentley bring this fourteenth cause of action individually and on behalf of the members of the California Class against Defendants for Defendants' violation of California False Advertising Law and similar laws in other states.

274. Plaintiffs Hammock and Bentley have standing to pursue this claim as Plaintiffs have suffered injury in fact as a result of Defendants' actions as set forth herein. Specifically, prior to the filing of this action, Plaintiffs purchased the Products in reliance upon Defendant's marketing claims. Plaintiffs used the Products as directed, but the Products have not worked as advertised, nor provided any of the promised benefits.

275. Defendants' business practices as alleged herein constitute unfair, deceptive, untrue, and misleading advertising pursuant to California Business and Professions Code section 17500, et seq. because Defendants advertised the Products Hammock and Bentley purchased in a manner that is untrue and misleading, and that is known or reasonably should have been known to Defendants to be untrue or misleading.

276. Defendants' wrongful business practices have caused injury to Plaintiffs and the Class.

277. Pursuant to section 17535 of the California Business and Professions Code, Plaintiff s Hammock and Bentley as well as the California Class seek an order of this court enjoining Defendants from continuing to engage in deceptive business practices, false advertising, and any other act prohibited by law, including those set forth in the complaint.

278. Plaintiffs Hammock and Bentley also seek an order for the disgorgement and restitution of all monies from the sale of the Products which were unjustly acquired through acts of unlawful, unfair, and/or fraudulent competition and attorneys' fees and costs.

27

28

COUNT XV

VIOLATION OF FLORIDA'S DECEPTIVE AND UNFAIR TRADE PRACTICES ACT

(FLA. STAT. § 501.201 et seq.)

- 279. Plaintiffs and the Class members incorporate by reference and re-allege each and every allegation set forth above as though fully set forth herein.
- 280. Plaintiff Love brings this fifteenth cause of action individually and on behalf of the members of the Florida Class against Defendants.
- 281. This cause of action is brought pursuant to the Florida Deceptive and Unfair Trade Practices Act, Fla. Stat. § 501.201 *et seq.* ("FDUTPA") and similar consumer fraud laws in other states.
- 282. The purpose of FDUPTA is to "protect the consuming public...from those who engage in unfair methods of competition, or unconscionable, deceptive, or unfair acts or practices in the conduct of any trade of commerce." Fla. Stat. Ann § 501 202(2).
- 283. Plaintiff Love and the members of the Class are consumers as defined by Fla. Stat. § 501.203. The Products are goods within the meaning of FDUPTA. Defendants are engaged in trade or commerce within the meaning of FDUPTA.
- 284. Fla. Stat. § 501.204(1) declares unlawful "[u]nfair methods of competition, unconscionable acts or practices, and unfair and deceptive acts or practices in the conduct of any trade or commerce."
- 285. Fla. Stat. § 501.204(2) states that "due consideration and great weight shall be given to the interpretations of the Federal Trade Commission and the federal courts relating to [section] 5(a)(1) of the Federal Trade Commission Act."
- 286. Federal decisions provide that "a deceptive practice is one that is likely to mislead consumers." *Jovine v. Abbott Labs., Inc.*, 2011 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 39702, 2011 WL 1376029 (S.D. Fla. Apr. 12, 2011) (quoting *Davis v. Powertel*, 776 So.2d 971, 974 (Fla. Dist. Ct. App. 2000)). The Fourth District Court of Florida has held

that an unfair practice is one that "offends established public policy and one that is immoral, unethical, oppressive, unscrupulous, or substantially injurious to consumers." *Yachting Promotions, Inc. v. Broward Yachts, Inc.*, 792 So.2d 600, 664 (Fla. 4th DCA 2001).

- 287. Defendants' unfair and deceptive practices are likely to mislead, and have misled, Plaintiff Love and Class members who purchased the Products.
- 288. Further, Defendants have violated the FDUPTA by engaging in the unfair and deceptive practices as described herein which offend public policies and are immoral, unethical, unscrupulous and substantially injurious to consumers.
- 289. Plaintiff Love and the Class have been aggrieved by Defendant's unfair and deceptive practices in that they paid for the Products but the Products were not as represented to them because they did not provide the advertised symptom relief.
- 290. The damages suffered by Plaintiff Love and the Class were directly and proximately caused by the deceptive, misleading and unfair practices of the Defendants, as more fully described above.
- 291. Pursuant to Fla. Stat. § 501.211(1), Plaintiff Love and the Class seek a declaratory judgment and court order for restitution and disgorgement.
- 292. Additionally, pursuant to Fla. Stat. §§ 501.211(2) and 501.2105, Plaintiff Love and the Class make claims for damages, attorneys' fees and costs. Plaintiffs also seek all other available remedies as allowed by law.

PRAYER FOR RELIEF

Wherefore, Plaintiffs, on behalf of themselves, all others similarly situated and the general public, pray for judgment against Defendants as to each and every cause of action, including:

A. An order declaring this action to be a proper Class Action, appointing the Law Offices of Ronald A. Marron as Class Counsel, Plaintiffs as Class Representatives, and requiring Defendants to bear the costs of class notice;

- B. An order awarding Plaintiffs and the proposed Class members damages, and punitive damages in the amount to be determined at trial;
- C. An order awarding restitution and disgorgement of Defendants' revenues from the Products to Plaintiffs and the proposed Class members;
- D. An order awarding attorneys' fees and costs to Plaintiffs;
- E. An order awarding Plaintiffs an incentive award if appointed class representatives;
- F. An order awarding declaratory relief, retrospective and prospective injunctive relief as permitted by law or equity, including enjoining Defendants from continuing the unlawful practices as set forth herein, and injunctive relief to remedy Defendant's past conduct;
- G. An order compelling Defendants to engage in a corrective advertising campaign to inform the public concerning the true nature of the Products, including a recall of the falsely and deceptively labeled Products.
- H. An order providing for all other such equitable relief as may be just and proper.

JURY DEMAND

Plaintiffs hereby demand a trial by jury on all issues so triable.

1		
2	Dated: September 15, 2015	/s/ Ronald A. Marron
3		Ronald A. Marron
4		LAW OFFICES OF RONALD A. MARRON
5		651 Arroyo Drive
6		San Diego, California 92103
7		Telephone: (619) 696-9006 Facsimile: (619) 564-6665
8		1 desimile. (013) 304 0003
		Attorney for Plaintiffs and the Proposed Class
9		
10		
11		
12		
13		
14		
15		
16		
17		
18		
19		
20		
21		
22		
23		
24		
25		
26		
27		
28		
_0		

TABLE OF EXHIBTS

1	Plaintiffs' demand letter regarding breach of warranty claims
	and violations of the Consumers Legal Remedies Act.
2	Affidavits of Venue Pursuant to California Civil Code §
	1780(d)

RECEIPT #

AMOUNT

Case 3:15-cv-02056-BTM1N15 Cocument 112 Filed 09/15/15 Page 1 of 1

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

	t. This form, approved by the Judicial Conferenc ocket sheet. (SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON NEXT PAGE			1974, is required for the use of	the Clerk of Court for the				
	ry Bentley and Linda Love, on behalf of nilarly situated, and the general public,		DEFENDANTS Nutramarks, Inc.,	S NutraPure, Inc., and Nutr	aceutical Corporation,				
(b) County of Residence o			County of Residence of First Listed Defendant Unknown						
(E.	XCEPT IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES)		(IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES ONLY) NOTE: IN LAND CONDEMNATION CASES, USE THE LOCATION OF THE TRACT OF LAND INVOLVED.						
(c) Attorneys (Firm Name, Law Offices of Ronald A. 651 Arroyo Drive, San Di 619.696.9006			Attorneys (If Known,		CV2056 BTM NLS				
II. BASIS OF JURISDI	ICTION (Place an "X" in One Box Only)			PRINCIPAL PARTIES	(Place an "X" in One Box for Plains				
☐ 1 U.S. Government Plaintiff	■ 3 Federal Question (U.S. Government Not a Party)								
☐ 2 U.S. Government Defendant	☐ 4 Diversity (Indicate Citizenship of Parties in Item III)	Citiz	en of Another State	2 2 Incorporated and P of Business In A					
			en or Subject of a creign Country	3 G 3 Foreign Nation	□ 6 □ 6				
IV. NATURE OF SUIT	(Place an "X" in One Box Only) TORTS	F	ORFEITURE/PENALTY	BANKRUPTCY	OTHER STATUTES				
□ 110 Insurance □ 120 Marine □ 130 Miller Act □ 140 Negotiable Instrument □ 150 Recovery of Overpayment ∞ Enforcement of Judgment □ 151 Medicare Act □ 152 Recovery of Defaulted Student Loans (Excludes Veterans) □ 153 Recovery of Overpayment of Veteran's Benefits □ 160 Stockholders' Suits □ 190 Other Contract □ 195 Contract Product Liability □ 196 Franchise REAL PROPERTY □ 210 Land Condemnation □ 220 Foreclosure □ 230 Rent Lease & Ejectment □ 240 Torts to Land □ 245 Tort Product Liability □ 290 All Other Real Property	□ 330 Federal Employers' Liability □ 340 Marine □ 345 Marine Product Liability □ 350 Motor Vehicle □ 355 Motor Vehicle □ Product Liability □ 360 Other Personal Injury □ 362 Personal Injury Medical Malpractice CIVIL RIGHTS □ 440 Other Civil Rights □ 441 Voting □ 442 Employment □ 443 Housing/ Accommodations □ 445 Amer. w/Disabilities - Uther □ 448 Education □ 448 Education □ 550 Civil Rights □ 448 Education □ 560 Civil Detainee Conditions of Confinement	y and	25 Drug Related Seizure of Property 21 USC 881 20 Other LABOR 10 Fair Labor Standards Act 20 Labor/Management Relations 40 Railway Labor Act 51 Family and Medical Leave Act 20 Other Labor Litigation 21 Employee Retirement Income Security Act IMMIGRATION 52 Naturalization Applicatio 55 Other Immigration Actions	□ 422 Appeal 28 USC 158 □ 423 Withdrawal 28 USC 157 PROPERTY RIGHTS □ 820 Copyrights □ 830 Patent □ 840 Trademark SOCIAL SECURITY □ 861 HIA (1395ff) □ 862 Black Lung (923) □ 863 DIWC/DIWW (405(g)) □ 864 SSID Title XVI □ 865 RSI (405(g)) FEDERAL TAX SUITS □ 870 Taxes (U.S. Plaintiff or Defendant) □ 871 IRS—Third Party 26 USC 7609	□ 375 False Claims Act □ 400 State Reapportionment □ 410 Antitrust □ 430 Banks and Banking □ 450 Commerce □ 460 Deportation □ 470 Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations □ 480 Consumer Credit □ 490 Cable/Sat TV □ 850 Securities/Commodities/Exchange □ 890 Other Statutory Actions □ 891 Agricultural Acts □ 893 Environmental Matters □ 895 Freedom of Information Act □ 896 Arbitration □ 899 Administrative Procedure Act/Review or Appeal of Agency Decision □ 950 Constitutionality of State Statutes				
	moved from		pened Anoth (specify	er District Litigation					
VI. CAUSE OF ACTIO	ON Cite the U.S. Civil Statute under which you 15 U.S.C. Sec. 2301, et seq. Brief description of cause: Magnuson-Moss Warranty Act	are filing (i	Do not cite jurisdictional st	atutes unless diversity):					
VII. REQUESTED IN COMPLAINT:	CHECK IF THIS IS A CLASS ACTION UNDER RULE 23, F.R.Cv.P.	ON D	EMAND \$	CHECK YES only JURY DEMAND:	if demanded in complaint:				
VIII. RELATED CASI	E(S) (See instructions):				**				
DATE	JUDGE SIGNATURE OF A		OF RECORD	DOCKET NUMBER					
09/15/2015 FOR OFFICE USE ONLY	/s/ Ronald A.	Marron							

APPLYING IFP

JUDGE

MAG. JUDGE

EXHIBIT 1

LAW OFFICES OF

RONALD A. MARRON

A PROFESSIONAL LAW CORPORATION

651 Arroyo Drive San Diego, California 92103

February 24, 2015

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

Nutraceutical Corporation 1400 Kearns Blvd. 2nd Floor Park City, Utah 84060

NutraPure, Inc. c/o Agent for Service of Process 10 E. South Temple, Ste. 850 Salt Lake City, UT 84133 NutraMarks, Inc. NutraPure, Inc. 1500 Kearns Blvd., Suite B-200 Park City, Utah 84060

NutraMarks, Inc. c/o The Prentice-Hall Corporation System, Inc. Agent for Service of Process 2711 Centerville Road, Suite 400 Wilmington, DE

Tel: 619.696.9006

Fax: 619.564.6665

RE: NOTICE: Violations of Consumer Protection Laws, Breach of Warranties, and Duty to Preserve Evidence

Dear Sir or Madam,

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that our law firm represents Cynthia Hammock, Linda Love, and Sherry Bentley, purchasers of various NatraBio® homeopathic products. All further communications intended for our clients must be directed through this office. This notice and demand letter provides Nutraceutical Corporation, NutraMarks, Inc., and NutraPure, Inc. (collectively "NatraBio" or "YOU") with notice and demand for corrective action arising from YOUR breaches of warranties, and is meant to comply with the Magnuson-Moss Warranty Act, 15 U.S.C. §§ 2301, et seq., and the laws requiring pre-suit demand and notice, including the California Consumer Legal Remedies Act, Cal. Civ. Code §§ 1750 et seq. ("CLRA").

THE NATRABIO® PRODUCTS

YOU deceptively market the NatraBio® homeopathic products by claiming that the products can provide relief for a variety of ailments— everything from colds, flus, allergies, pain, insomnia, tobacco cravings, and leg cramps. However, YOU do not disclose to consumers that the purported "active" ingredients in the NatraBio products are so hyper-diluted that they are virtually non-existent. As a matter of sound scientific principles, the NatraBio® products cannot possibly be effective at a providing relief for any type of symptoms in any human being. Indeed, the NatraBio® products are essentially just hyper-diluted "sugar pill" placebos.

NatraBio® Smoking Withdrawal

YOU falsely advertise and market the NatraBio® Smoking Withdrawal Product by putting false and misleading claims on the label, stating or suggesting that the Product provides "natural relief for the symptoms of: Tobacco & Cigarette Cravings, Nervous Tension, Irritability," and that the Product "helps detoxify." YOU further claim that the NatraBio® Smoking Withdrawal Product is an "advanced formulation" that is "non-habit forming" and provides "fast, effective symptom relief." Moreover, YOU claim that the Product is "Natural Homeopathic Medicine" made from "all natural ingredients" and that the Product is an "innovative natural health product formulated and manufactured to pharmaceutical standards."

On the Smoking Withdrawal Product's label, YOU additionally make the following misleading claims about the ingredients in the Product:

- "Abies nigra 10x"..."respiratory symptoms."
- "Lobelia inflate 10x"..."reduces ill effects of nicotine."
- "Nicovap 10x, 14x, 24x, 30x"...."tobacco product detoxification."
- "Nux vomica 10x"..."reduces tobacco cravings."
- "Ignatia amara 14x"..."reduces nervous tension."

Our client, Ms. Hammock, purchased the NatraBio® Smoking Withdrawal Product in reliance on YOUR claims that, in general, the Product will provide relief from the symptoms of tobacco and cigarette cravings, among the other representations discussed in this letter and appearing on the Product packaging. However, the truth is that the NatraBio® Smoking Withdrawal does not reduce tobacco cravings as the advertising states or suggests. Moreover, the Product contains artificial and synthetic ingredients— such as magnesium stearate— even though YOU claim that the Product is "Natural Homeopathic Medicine" made from "all natural ingredients."

Ms. Hammock purchased the NatraBio® Smoking Withdrawal Product on several occasions from natural food stores and Sprouts stores in or near La Jolla, California beginning on or around January of 2011. Ms. Hammock paid approximately \$6.00 for each product that she purchased.

NatraBio® Leg Cramps

YOU falsely advertise and market the NatraBio® Leg Cramps Product by putting false and misleading claims on the label, stating or suggesting that the Product provides "natural relief for the symptoms of: Leg Cramps, Muscle Pain & Spasms, Cramps in the Calves and Feet, [and] Night Cramps and Pain." YOU further claim that the NatraBio® Leg Cramps Product is an "advanced formulation" that is "non-habit forming" and provides "fast, effective symptom relief." Moreover, YOU claim that the Product is "Natural Homeopathic Medicine" made from "all natural ingredients" and that the Product is an "innovative natural health product formulated and manufactured to pharmaceutical standards."

On the Leg Cramps Product's label, YOU additionally make the following misleading claims about the ingredients in the Product:

- "Chininum Sulphuricum 4x...."neuralgia, tearing leg pains."
- "Colocynthis 4x"...."Contaction of muscles, leg cramps"
- "Gnaphalium polycephalum 4x"...."frequent cramps in legs and feet"
- "Calcarea Carbonica 6x, 12x, 30x...." cramps in calves at night."
- "Lycopodium clavatum 6x"..." "cramps in calves, sciatica."
- "Magnesia Phosphorica 6x"..." "severe cramps in calves."
- "Rhus toxicodendron 6x, 12x, 30x"....." cramps in calves, tearing pains."
- "Cuprum Metallicum 12x"..." cramps in legs and feet."

Our client, Ms. Bentley, purchased the NatraBio® Leg Cramps Product in reliance on YOUR claims that, in general, the Product will provide relief from the symptoms of leg cramps and muscle contractions, among the other representations discussed in this letter and appearing on the Product packaging. However, the truth is that the NatraBio® Leg Cramps do not reduce symptoms of leg cramps or prevent leg cramps as the advertising states or suggests. Moreover, the Product contains artificial and synthetic ingredients— such as magnesium stearate— even though YOU claim that the Product is "Natural Homeopathic Medicine" made from "all natural ingredients."

Ms. Bentley purchased the NatraBio® Leg Cramps Product on at least one occasion from a Wal-Mart store in or near Sacramento, California in or around July of 2013. Ms. Bentley paid approximately \$5.00 for the product.

NatraBio® Restless Legs

YOU falsely advertise and market the NatraBio® Restless Legs Product by putting false and misleading claims on the label, stating or suggesting that the Product provides "natural relief for the symptoms of: Restlessness, Jerking & Twitching, Constant Urge to Move, [and] Tingling." YOU further claim that the NatraBio® Restless Legs Product is an "advanced formulation" that is "non-habit forming" and provides "fast, effective symptom relief." Moreover, YOU claim that the Product is

"Natural Homeopathic Medicine" made from "all natural ingredients" and that the Product is an "innovative natural health product formulated and manufactured to pharmaceutical standards."

On the Restless Legs Product's label, YOU additionally make the following misleading claims about the ingredients in the Product:

- "Arsenicum Album 12x"...."desire to move feet constantly"
- "Chamomile 6x"...""urge to get up and walk around"
- "Causticum 12x"...."restless legs at night"
- "Lycopodium clavatum 6x"....."weakness, numbness, leg cramps"
- "Palladium 12x"...."heavy limbs, darting pains, restlessness"
- "Platina 12x"..."restlessness, tingling legs"
- "Zincum Metalicum 12x"..."twitching and jerking of legs"

Our client, Ms. Bentley, purchased the NatraBio® Restless Legs Product in reliance on YOUR claims that, in general, the Product will provide relief from the symptoms of restless legs and desire to move, among the other representations discussed in this letter and appearing on the Product packaging. However, the truth is that NatraBio® Restless Legs does not reduce symptoms of restless legs or prevent desires to move as the advertising states or suggests. Moreover, the Product contains artificial and synthetic ingredients— such as magnesium stearate— even though YOU claim that the Product is "Natural Homeopathic Medicine" made from "all natural ingredients."

Ms. Bentley purchased the NatraBio® Restless Legs Product on at least one occasion from a Wal-Mart store in or near Sacramento, California in or around July of 2013. Ms. Bentley paid approximately \$6.00 for the product.

NatraBio® Cold and Sinus Nasal Spray

YOU falsely advertise and market the NatraBio® Cold and Sinus Nasal Spray Product by putting false and misleading claims on the label, stating or suggesting that the Product provides relief for the symptoms of: Nasal Congestion, Sinus Pressure, Headache, Sneezing, [and] Runny Nose." YOU further claim that the NatraBio® Cold and Sinus Nasal Spray Product is a "continuous use formula." Moreover, YOU claim that the Product is "Natural Homeopathic Medicine" that is "formulated and manufactured utilizing natural ingredients in accordance with strict FDA pharmaceutical standards to ensure safety and purity."

On the Cold and Sinus Nasal Spray Product's label, YOU additionally make the following misleading claims about the ingredients in the Product:

- "Aconitum napellus 6x"...."sudden onset of cold symptoms"
- "Adrenalinum 6x"..."'decongestant"
- "Allium cepa 6x"...."runny nose, sinus congestion"

- "Echinacea angustifolia 6x"...."cold and sinus symptoms"
- "Euphorbium officinarum 6x"......"sinus congestion and pain"
- "Hydrastis canadensis 6x"....."sinus congestion, runny nose"
- "Kali bichromicum"....."cold symptoms, congestion"
- "Phytolacca decondra 6x"...."cold, cough, sore throat"
- "Sticta pulmonaria 6x"...."cold, cough, headache"

Our client, Ms. Love, purchased the NatraBio® Cold and Sinus Nasal Spray Product in reliance on YOUR claims that, in general, the Product will provide relief from the symptoms of colds and sinus congestion, among the other representations discussed in this letter and appearing on the Product packaging. However, the truth is that the NatraBio® Cold and Sinus Nasal Spray does not reduce symptoms of colds or sinus congestion as the advertising states or suggests. Moreover, the Product contains artificial and synthetic ingredients— such as Benzylkonium chloride— even though YOU claim that the Product is "Natural Homeopathic Medicine" that is "formulated and manufactured utilizing natural ingredients."

Ms. Love purchased the NatraBio® Cold and Sinus Nasal Spray Product on several occasions from a Wal-Mart, Sam's, and various health food stores in or near Middleburg, Florida beginning on or around 2012. Ms. Love paid approximately \$8.00 for each purchase of the product.

NatraBio® Allergy and Sinus

YOU falsely advertise and market the NatraBio Allergy and Sinus Product by putting false and misleading claims on the label, stating or suggesting that the Product provides "natural relief for the symptoms of: Sinus Pressure & Pain, Runny Nose, Water Eyes, Nasal Congestion, [and] Hay Fever Allergies." YOU further claim that the NatraBio Allergy and Sinus Product is an "advanced formulation" that is "non-habit forming" and provides "fast, effective symptom relief." Moreover, YOU claim that the Product is "Natural Homeopathic Medicine" made from "all natural ingredients" and that the Product is an "innovative natural health product formulated and manufactured to pharmaceutical standards."

On the Allergy and Sinus Product's label, YOU additionally make the following misleading claims about the ingredients in the Product:

- "Chamomilla 1x"....."allergies, headache, runny nose, cough"
- "Echinacea angustifolia"....."allergic reactions, allergies"
- "Allium cepa 6x"...."sneezing, runny nose, hay fever, water eyes"
- "Ambrosia artemisiaefolia"....."hay fever, stuffy head and nose"
- "Euphorbium officinarum 6x"....."sinus congestion and pain"
- "Gelsemium sempervirens 6x"......"headache, sneezing, runny nose"
- "Sanguinaria canadensis 6x"......"hay fever, runny nose, burning eyes, cough"

- "Sticta pumonaria 6x"......"headache, stuffiness, hay fever"
- "Kali lodatum 9x"....."sinus headache, runny nose, sneezing, and stuffiness"

Our client, Ms. Love, purchased the NatraBio® Allergy and Sinus Product in reliance on YOUR claims that, in general, the Product will provide relief from the symptoms of allergies and sinus congestion, among the other representations discussed in this letter and appearing on the Product packaging. However, the truth is that the NatraBio® Allergy and Sinus Nasal does not reduce symptoms of allergies or sinus congestion as the advertising states or suggests. Moreover, the Product contains artificial and synthetic ingredients— such as magnesium stearate— even though YOU claim that the Product is "Natural Homeopathic Medicine" that is "formulated and manufactured utilizing natural ingredients."

Ms. Love purchased the NatraBio® Cold and Sinus Nasal Spray Product on several occasions from a Wal-Mart, Sam's, and various health food stores in or near Middleburg, Florida beginning on or around 2012. Ms. Love paid approximately \$6.00 for each purchase of the product.

NatraBio® Children's Cold and Flu Relief

YOU falsely advertise and market the NatraBio Children's Cold and Flu Product by putting false and misleading claims on the label, stating or suggesting that the Product provides "relief for: Congestion, Sore Throat, Nausea and Vomiting, Sneezing and Runny Nose, [and] Headache and Body Aches." Moreover, YOU claim that the Product is "Natural Homeopathic Medicine" and is of a "quality parents can trust."

Our client, Ms. Love, purchased the NatraBio® Children's Cold and Flu Product in reliance on YOUR claims that, in general, the Product will provide relief from the symptoms of colds and flus, among the other representations discussed in this letter and appearing on the Product packaging. However, the truth is that the NatraBio® Cold and Flu Relief does not reduce symptoms of colds or flus as the advertising states or suggests. Moreover, the Product contains artificial and synthetic ingredients— such as glycerin and citric acid— even though YOU claim that the Product is "Natural Homeopathic Medicine."

Ms. Love purchased the NatraBio® Children's Cold and Flu Product on at least two occasions from a Wal-Mart, Sam's, and various health food stores in or near Middleburg, Florida beginning on or around 2012. Ms. Love paid approximately \$5.00 for each purchase of the product.

NatraBio® Flu Relief Spray

YOU falsely advertise and market the NatraBio® Flu Relief Spray Product by putting false and misleading claims on the label, stating or suggesting that the Product provides "Fast Flu Symptom Relief" and "Relives & Reduces symptoms of: Body Aches, Congestion, Fever, Headaches, [and] Sore Throat." YOU further claim that the NatraBio Flu Relief Product is "non addicting" and provides "fast flu symptom relief."

•	"Influenzinum 12x, 30x"	"relieves flu symptoms"
•	"Adrenalinum 6x"	"decongestant"
•	"Aconitum napellus 6x"	"relieves flu symptoms"
•	"Baptisia tinctoria"	"relieves flu symptoms"
•	"Eupatorium perfoliatum 6x"	"relieves flu symptoms"
•	"Euphrasia officinalis 6x"	"relieves sinus symptoms"
•	"Euphorbium officinarum 6x"	"decongestant"
•	"Gelsemium sempervirens 6x"	"relieves body aches"
•	"Sticta pulmonaria 6x"	"'decongestant'
•	"Rhus toxicodendron 12x"	"relieves body aches"

Our client, Ms. Love, purchased the NatraBio® Flu Relief Product in reliance on YOUR claims that, in general, the Product will provide relief from the flu symptoms, among the other representations discussed in this letter and appearing on the Product packaging. However, the truth is that the NatraBio® Flu Relief Spray does not reduce flu symptoms as the advertising states or suggests.

Ms. Love purchased the NatraBio® Flu Relief Spray on multiple occasions from a Wal-Mart, Sam's, and various health food stores in or near Middleburg, Florida beginning on or around 2012. Ms. Love paid approximately \$7.00 for each purchase of the product.

Breach of Warranties and Violations of Consumer Protection Statutes

None of the ingredients in the NatraBio® Products work as advertised. A reasonable consumer would have relied on the deceptive and false claims made in YOUR advertisements and through the exercise of reasonable diligence would not have discovered the violations alleged herein because YOU actively and purposefully concealed the truth regarding YOUR products or services.

In conclusion, YOUR material misrepresentations are deceiving customers into purchasing YOUR Products under the representation that the NatraBio® products provide relief from symptoms such as smoking withdrawal, restless legs, leg cramps, allergies, sinus congestion, colds, and flus, when in fact the Products cannot provide relief from these symptoms.

Please be advised that the alleged unfair methods of competition or unfair or deceptive acts or practices in violation of the CLRA include, but are not necessarily limited to:

- § 1770(a)(5): representing that goods have characteristics, uses, or benefits which they do not have.
- § 1770(a)(7): representing that goods are of a particular standard, quality, or grade if they are of another.

- § 1770(a)(9): advertising goods with intent not to sell them as advertised.
- § 1770(a)(16): representing the subject of a transaction has been supplied in accordance with a previous representation when it has not.

Moreover, YOU have violated the consumer protection statutes of other states, including Florida where our client Ms. Love resides, and this letter is intended to provide YOU notice of those violations as well. Specifically, YOU have violated the Florida Deceptive and Unfair Trade Practices Act, Fla. Stat. Ann §§ 501.201, *et seq*.

YOU have failed to honor your consumer protection obligations. Based upon the above, demand is hereby made that YOU conduct a corrective advertising campaign and destroy all misleading and deceptive advertising materials and products.

Please be advised that your failure to comply with this request within thirty (30) days may subject you to the following remedies, available for violations of the CLRA and other consumer protection statutes, which will be requested in the class action complaint on behalf of our clients, and all other similarly-situated U.S. residents:

- (1) The actual damages suffered;
- (2) An order enjoining you for such methods, acts or practices;
- (3) Restitution of property (when applicable);
- (4) Punitive damages;
- (5) Any other relief which the court deems proper; and
- (6) Court costs and attorneys' fees.

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

In addition, California Civil Code Section 1780 (b) provides in part that: "Any consumer who is a **senior citizen or a disabled person**, as defined in subdivision (f) and (g) of Section 1761, as part of an action under subdivision (a), may seek and be awarded, in addition to the remedied specified therein, up to **five thousand dollars** (\$5,000)... [emphasis added]".

This letter further serves to notify you that the NatraBio® Products' packaging claims as contained in quotes herein created express and implied warranties under the Magnuson Moss Warranty Act, 15 U.S.C. §§ 2301, *et seq.* and state law. Those warranties formed part of the benefit of the bargain and when the Products were not as warranted by YOU, our clients suffered economic loss.

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

Sincerely,

THE LAW OFFICES OF RONALD A. MARRON APLC

/s/ Ronald A. Marron

Ronald A. Marron

Attorney for Cynthia Hammock, Sherry Bentley, Linda Love, all others similarly situated, and the general public

Case 3:15-cv-02056-BTM-NLS Document 1-2 Filed. S. Postai Service 11 of **CERTIFIED MAIL® RECEIPT** Domestic Mail Only For delivery information, visit our website at www.usps.com%. 1416 Postage 1000 Certified Fee Return Receipt Fee (Endorsement Required) Restricted Delivery Fee (Endorsement Required) 2870 Total Postage & Fees Sent To NUTCO 7014 Street & Apt. No., or PO Box No. City, State, ZIP+4

Case 3:15-cv-02056-BTM-NLS Document 1-2 F U.S. Postai Service™ **CERTIFIED MAIL® RECEIPT** 7566 Domestic Mail Only For delivery information, visit our website at www.usps.com®. 1416 CHUL \$ Postage Certified Fee 1000 Return Receipt Fee (Endorsement Required) Restricted Delivery Fee (Endorsement Required) 2870 Total Postage & Fees \$ 7034 or PO Box No. City, State, ZIP+4 PS Form 3800, July 2014

Case 3:15-cv-02056-BTM-NLS	Document 1-2 F 6552 9ThT T000 0282 hT02	Domestic Mail Uniy				
		Postage \$ Certifled Fee Return Receipt Fee (Endorsement Required) Restricted Delivery Fee (Endorsement Required) Total Postage & Fees	s s	bsite at www.usps.com		
		Street & Apt. No., 27	lacks, Inc 11 Centervill ilmington,	LERU SE 400 DE See Reverse for Instructions		

U.S. Postal Service™ CERTIFIED MAIL® RECEIPT Case 3:15-cv-02056-BTM-NLS Document 1-2 8655 7476 Postage 1000 Certified Fee Return Receipt Fee (Endorsement Required) Restricted Delivery Fee (Endorsement Required) 2870 Total Postage & Fees 7074

Street & Apt. No., or PO Box No.

EXHIBIT 2

Case 3:15-cv-02056-BTM-NLS Document 1-3 Filed 09/15/15 Page 2 of 3

I, Sherry Bentley, declare as follows: I am the Plaintiff in this action. I make this affidavit pursuant to 1. California Civil Code Section 1780(d). The Complaint in this action is filed in a proper place for the trial of 2. this action because Defendant is doing business in this county. I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States that the foregoing is true and correct. Dated: April 23, 2015

AFFIDAVIT OF VENUE