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9 10	IN THE UNITED STATE	CS DISTRICT COURT	
10	FOR THE NORTHERN DIS	TRICT OF CALIFORNIA	
12		0: 10 N. 15 4505	
13	RUSSELL BRATTAIN, individually and on behalf of all others similarly situated,	Civil Case No.: 15-4705 Judge:	
14 15	Plaintiffs,	tage.	
15 16	V.	CLASS ACTION COMPLAIN	Т
17 18	SANTA FE NATURAL TOBACCO COMPANY, INC., REYNOLDS AMERICAN, INC., and DOES 1 through 50,	DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL OF ISSUES SO TRIABLE	'ANY
19	Defendants.		
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	COMPL	AINT	

Plaintiff, Russell Brattain ("Plaintiff"), a consumer purchaser of Natural American Spirit Cigarettes as defined in this Complaint, on behalf of himself and all others similarly situated, by and through the undersigned counsel, hereby brings this action against Defendants Santa Fe Natural Tobacco Company, Inc., Reynolds American, Inc., and Does 1 through 50, inclusive ("Defendants"), for damages and equitable relief, and alleges as follows:

I. **INTRODUCTION**

1. This is a consumer class action brought on behalf of all persons in the State of California who relied on the misrepresentations and/or material omissions of Defendants and were induced to purchase Natural American Spirit Cigarettes as a result. As used herein, "Natural American Spirit Cigarettes" shall include the following Santa Fe Natural Tobacco Company products that all uniformly claim that they are "NATURAL" and "100% ADDITIVE-FREE" (the "Statements"):

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Organic Light Filter cigarettes; a.

- b. Organic Regular Filter cigarettes;
- Medium Filter cigarettes; c.
- d. Light Filter cigarettes;
- Ultra Light Filter cigarettes; e.
- Menthol Filter cigarettes; f.
- Menthol Light Filter cigarettes; g.
- h. Perique's cigarettes;
- i. Regular Filter cigarettes; and
- i. Non-Filter cigarettes (collectively, the "Products").

2. This case arises out of Defendants' unlawful conduct in marketing and selling American Spirits from October 9, 2011, through the present ("Class Period"). However, the Class Period may be amended and expanded in a subsequent pleading, because upon information and belief, Defendants concealed and continue to conceal the truth about the Products from consumers. As a result, Plaintiffs and the Class did not discover and could not discover that Defendants' statements are misleading or that Defendants omitted material facts until recently, in part due to the Warning Letter issued by the FDA on August 27, 2015. See FDA Warning Letter to Santa Fe Natural Tobacco Company, Inc., attached hereto as **EXHIBIT 1** and incorporated herein. Therefore, any applicable statute of limitations should present no bar to any portion of the damage claims asserted by Plaintiffs and the Class.

3. California has experienced a growing consumer trend towards avoiding unnecessary exposure to potentially harmful preservatives, additives, and chemicals in food items and products. This trend has resulted in a widespread belief amongst consumers that products without synthetic (i.e., man-made or manufactured) chemicals, preservatives, or additives and only containing organic and natural ingredients are healthier and of higher quality for consumers than products containing chemicals or synthetic compounds. As a result, today's modern-day consumer is more health conscious and prefers products labeled "organic," "natural," or "additive-free" over those without similar claims.

4. As a result of this movement, from 2009 through 2014, overall cigarette sales in the United States fell by seventeen percent. However, the Natural American Spirit brand has managed to increase its sales by 86 percent from 2009 to 2014 due to its deceptive marketing campaign of the Products. Defendants have long featured phrases such as "organic," "natural," and "100% additive-free" in their marketing for the Products, but recently have increased the visibility of such claims in its marketing campaign to appeal to consumers.¹

5. Defendants' deceptive marketing campaign feeds into the consumer desire for a more health and environmentally friendly product. Consumer research confirms that terms such as "additive-free" and "natural" imply reduced risk by leading the consumer to believe he or she is purchasing a safer and healthier cigarette. Researchers at the University of California in San Francisco reported that "The idea that cigarettes are natural may also help smokers downplay the risks of smoking, as 'natural' risks inspire less concern than unnatural ones."²

¹ See Advertising for Natural American Spirits Cigarettes 2000-2015. Available at http://www.tobaccofreekids.org/press_office/2015/natural_american_spirit (last visited October 8, 2015.

² McDaniel, P. A., & Malone, R. E. (2007). "I always thought they were all pure tobacco": American smokers' perceptions of "natural" cigarettes and tobacco industry advertising strategies. *Tobacco Control*, *16*(6), e7. Available at http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC2807204/ (last visited October 8, 2015).

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6. Plaintiff and consumer smokers purchased Natural American Spirit brand cigarettes characterized as "100% additive-free," "natural" and/or "organic" on the suggestion of defendants that these cigarettes were less harmful than regular cigarettes when in fact these cigarettes were at least as dangerous as regular cigarettes and defendants were fully aware of these dangers. Based on the Statements made by Defendants, Plaintiff and members of the Class (as defined herein) believed that the Products were less harmful than other brands of cigarettes.³ But for Defendants' false and misleading advertising and marketing of the Products, Plaintiffs and members of the Classes would not have purchased or would not have paid a premium price for the Products.

7. As a result of Defendants' false and misleading labeling and advertising of the Products, Plaintiff and members of the Class have incurred actual damages for purchasing products that are not as advertised, have lost money or property, and suffered injury in fact, including economic damages by purchasing the Products, which were completely worthless as they did not conform to its advertising claims and/or were worth less than their actual premium purchase price.

8. Had Plaintiffs and the Class been provided with information regarding the true facts about the Products, including, *inter alia*, that it contains synthetic compounds, chemical additives, and makes unapproved claims under the Sherman Law and FDCA, despite its claims of being "natural" and "100% additive-free" Plaintiffs would not have purchased the Products.

9. Plaintiff expressly does not seek to contest or enforce any state law that has requirements beyond those required by any applicable Federal laws or regulations.

10. Due to the size of a typical individual class members' claims and because the costs associated with purchasing the Products is nominal, it is unlikely that individual class members would seek recovery against Defendants on their own. This is especially true in light of the size and resources of Defendants and its refusal to otherwise fully disclose the true nature of its product to the consumer. A class is therefore the only reasonable means by which class members can obtain relief from Defendants.

³ *Id*.

11. Plaintiff therefore brings this action on behalf of himself and other similarly situated consumers who purchased one or more of the Products in California during the Class Period, alleging violations of (1) California's False Advertising Law, California Business and Professions Code sections 17500, et seq., (2) California's Unfair Competition Law Unlawful Prong, California Business and Professions code sections 17200, et seq., (3) California's Unfair Competition Law Unfair Prong, California Business and Professions code sections 17200, et seq., (4) California's Unfair Competition Law Fraudulent Prong, California Business and Professions code sections 17200, et seq., and (5) California's Consumers Legal Remedies Act, California Civil Code sections 1750, et seq., for damages and equitable relief against Defendants.

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II. JURISDICTION, AND VENUE

12. Plaintiff brings this action on behalf of himself and all others similarly situated. This Court has original jurisdiction over Defendants and the claims set forth below pursuant to the Class Action Fairness Act, codified at 28 U.S.C. § 1332(d)(2), because the matter in controversy exceeds the sum or value of \$5,000,000, exclusive of interest and costs, and in addition, more than two-thirds of the members of the class reside in states other than the state in which the Defendant resides.

13. Venue is proper in this Court under 28 U.S.C. § 1391 because the unlawful actions and practices alleged in this Complaint have been committed in this District. Defendant systematically and continuously transacts business in this District and intentionally avails itself of the laws and markets of this District through the promotion, marketing, distribution, and sale of Natural American Spirit Cigarettes in this District.

III. THE PARTIES

14. Plaintiff Russell Brattain is a California citizen and resident of San Francisco, California. Plaintiff was exposed to, and read and relied on statements on the Products' labeling and/or packaging made by Defendants regarding the Products. Specifically, during the Class Period defined above, Plaintiff purchased and was exposed to, read, and relied on the Statements on the product labeling and/or packaging of Natural American Spirit Regular Filter cigarettes and Menthol Filter cigarettes.

15. Plaintiff Brattain was exposed to the Products at a convenience store in this district. When deciding to purchase the Products, Plaintiff Brattain read the statements on the packaging, specifically "NATURAL" and "100% ADDITIVE-FREE NATURAL TOBACCO." Based on these statements, Plaintiff Brattain reasonably believed that Natural American Spirit brand cigarettes contained no synthetic ingredients or chemical additives and were less harmful to his health than other brands of cigarettes. Plaintiff Brattain paid more for Natural American Spirit Regular Filter cigarettes and Menthol Filter cigarette than other comparable brands of cigarette in reliance on Defendants' claims made on the packaging.

16. Defendant Santa Fee Natural Tobacco Company, Inc. ("SFNTC") is a New Mexico corporation that does substantial business in California. SFNTC maintains it principal place of business at 1 Plaza La Prensa, Santa Fe, New Mexico 87507. SFNTC, a subsidiary of Reynolds American, Inc., manufactures, markets, sells, and distributes Natural American Spirit Cigarettes throughout California. SFNTC is registered to do business in the state of California and maintains a Registered Agent for Service of Process at CSC-Lawyers Incorporating Service, 2710 Gateway Oaks Drive, Suite 150N, Sacramento, CA 95833. Defendant SFNTC therefore avails itself of the laws and markets of California and has significant contacts that causes it to incur obligations and liabilities in this District, sustaining this Court's jurisdiction over Defendant.

17. Defendant Reynolds American, Inc. ("Reynolds") is a North Carolina corporation and the parent company of SFNTC, making it severally, jointly, and vicariously liable for the actions of SFNTC. Defendant Reynolds maintains its principal place of business at 401 North Main Street, Winston-Salem, North Carolina, 27101. Reynolds is registered to do business in the state of California and maintains a Registered Agent for Service of Process at Corporation Service Company, 327 Hillsborough Street, Raleigh, NC 27603-1725.

18. Plaintiff does not know the true names of Defendants DOES 1 through 50, inclusive, and therefore sues them by those fictitious names. Plaintiff is informed and believes, and on the basis of that information and belief alleges, that each of those Defendants was in some manner proximately responsible for the actions and events alleged in this complaint and for Plaintiff and the Class' injuries.

> 19. Defendants are legally responsible for the occurrences herein alleged.

20. Defendants promoted and marketed the Products at issue in this jurisdiction and in this judicial District. The advertising for the Products relied upon by Plaintiff was prepared and/or approved by Defendants and its agents, and was disseminated by Defendants and its agents through advertising containing the misrepresentations alleged herein.

21. The advertising for the Products was designed to encourage consumers to purchase the Products and reasonably misled the reasonable consumer, i.e. Plaintiff and the Class into purchasing the Products. Defendants are the owners, manufacturers and distributors of the Products, and created and/or authorized the unlawful, fraudulent, unfair, misleading and/or deceptive advertising and statements for the Products.

22. Plaintiff alleges that, at all times relevant herein, Defendants and its subsidiaries, affiliates, and other related entities, as well as their respective employees, were the agents, servants and employees of Defendants, and at all times relevant herein, each was acting within the purpose and scope of that agency and employment.

23. Plaintiff further alleges on information and belief that at all times relevant herein, the distributors and retailers who delivered and sold the Products, as well as their respective employees, also were Defendants' agents, servants and employees, and at all times herein, each was acting within the purpose and scope of that agency and employment.

24. In addition, Plaintiff alleges that, in committing the wrongful acts alleged herein, Defendants, in concert with its subsidiaries, affiliates, and/or other related entities and their respective employees, planned, participated in and furthered the unlawful advertising and labeling to induce members of the public to purchase the Products by means of untrue, misleading, deceptive, and/or fraudulent representations, and that Defendants participated in the making of such representations in that it disseminated those misrepresentations and/or caused them to be disseminated.

25. Whenever reference in this Class Action Complaint is made to any act by Defendants or its subsidiaries, affiliates, distributors, retailers and other related entities, such allegation shall be deemed to mean that the principals, officers, directors, employees, agents, and/or representatives of Defendants committed, knew of, performed, authorized, ratified and/or

directed that act or transaction on behalf of Defendants while actively engaged in the scope of
 their duties.

IV. <u>CLASS ALLEGATIONS</u>

26. Plaintiff brings this class action pursuant to Rule 23 on behalf of all the members of the following Class:

All persons that have purchased for their own use and not for resale any of the Products in the State of California, during October 9, 2011 through the present.

27. Plaintiff reserve the right to amend the class definition following further investigation and a reasonable opportunity to conduct discovery.

28. Excluded from the Class are as follows: (1) any entity in which Defendants have a controlling interest; (2) Defendants' officers, directors, and employees; (3) Defendants' legal representatives, successors, and assigns; and (4) the Court to which this case is assigned. The proposed Class is ascertainable and shares a well-defined community of interest in common questions of law and fact. Furthermore, this action satisfies the numerosity, typicality, adequacy, predominance and superiority requirements as set forth more fully below.

29. <u>Numerosity</u>: The members of the Class are so numerous that individual joinder of all members is impracticable. The precise number of purchasers of Natural American Spirit Cigarettes is presently unknown to Plaintiff and will be ascertained through discovery, but given the vast reach of Defendants' business in California, the number of class members is patently so large as to make joinder impracticable and the members of the Class are so geographically diverse throughout California that joinder of all Class members is impracticable.

30. <u>Existence and Predominance of Common Questions of Fact and Law</u>: Questions of law and fact common to the members of the class predominate over questions affecting only individual members. These include the following:

- (a) Whether Natural American Spirit Cigarettes are composed of solely "natural" ingredients;
- (b) Whether Natural American Spirit Cigarettes contain any additives;

 (c) Whether Defendants made false misrepresentations regarding Natural American Spirit Cigarettes;

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1	(d) Whether Natural American Cigarettes are "natural" as advertised;
2	(e) Whether Natural American Cigarettes pose fewer health risks than other
3	commercially marketed cigarettes;
4	(f) Whether Defendants engaged in unfair, false, misleading or deceptive trade
5	practices;
6	(g) Whether Defendants have engaged in false advertising;
7	(h) Whether Defendants knew or should have known that their statements and/or
8	omissions were likely to mislead Plaintiffs and the Class;
9	(i) Whether Defendants were unjustly enriched;
10	(j) Whether Plaintiffs and members of the Class are entitled to damages; and
11	(k) Whether injunctive relief is appropriate.
12	31. <u>Typicality</u> : Plaintiff's claims are typical of the claims of the members of the Class,
13	as they arise out of the same course of conduct by Defendants' manufacturing, marketing,
14	advertising, and selling Natural American Spirit Cigarettes and the uniform Statements and/or
15	omissions made by Defendants. Plaintiff's interests are allied with, and not antagonistic to, those
16	interests of the other members of the Class. By proving Plaintiff's own claims, Plaintiff will prove
17	other Class members' claims as well.
18	32. <u>Adequacy</u> : Plaintiff and his counsel are able to and will fairly and adequately
19	protect the interests of the Class. Plaintiff has no conflicts and will vigorously pursue the claims
20	asserted in this Complaint. Plaintiff understands and appreciates his duties to the Class as a class
21	representative and is committed fulfilling these duties and protecting the rights of absent Class
22	members. Plaintiff has retained counsel, who are experienced in complex class litigation.
23	33. <u>Superiority</u> : A class action is the superior procedural vehicle for fair and efficient
24	adjudication of the claims asserted in this Complaint. The members of the Class are so numerous
25	that joinder of all members is, at a minimum, impractical and likely impossible. Separate actions
26	brought by individual class members pose a risk of inconsistent or varying judgment and
27	incompatible standards of conduct for Defendants, thereby potentially impeding or impairing the
28	ability of class members to pursue their claims. Substantial judicial economy exists to the Court

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and to the parties in litigating the common issues on a class-wide, as opposed to a repetitive

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individual basis. Plaintiff does not anticipate difficulties in managing this lawsuit as a class action.
 Resolution of this action on a class-wide basis is a fair and efficient method for adjudicating the
 controversy and claims of the Class.

V. <u>COMMON FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS</u>

5 34. The Products are distributed, marketed, and sold throughout California by
6 Defendants.

35. Defendant SFNTC was created in 1982. Since then it has held itself out to be a "natural tobacco" company with a mission to "produce a natural tobacco product, an unadulterated tobacco product."⁴ SFNTC prominently labels its cigarettes as "100% Additive-Free" and "Natural" on the product labeling.

36. Since introducing the Products into commerce, Defendants consistently conveyed the message to consumers throughout California, that cigarettes are "natural" and "100% Additive-Free," implying that the cigarettes are a healthier option to other cigarette brands. This representation is made, *inter alia*, on the packaging of Natural American Spirit Cigarettes. The statements "NATURAL" and "100% ADDITIVE-FREE" appear on the carton of all Natural American Cigarettes. *See* Figure A.

⁴ https://www.sfntc.com/site/ourCompany/sfntc-story



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37. Taking Defendants' Statements made as a whole, Defendants have created an extensive and inclusive campaign to promote that the Products are less harmful than other tobacco products and other brands of cigarettes. Defendants exploit this consumer attitude through, inter alia, their product packaging and marketing campaign.

38. For example, SFNTC's website promotes: "Our blenders create the highest-quality tobacco blends and only use two ingredients: whole tobacco leaf and water."⁵

39. SFNTC also advertises, "TOBACCO + WATER," further feeding into the consumer belief in a more "natural" and reduced risk cigarette. *See* Figure B.

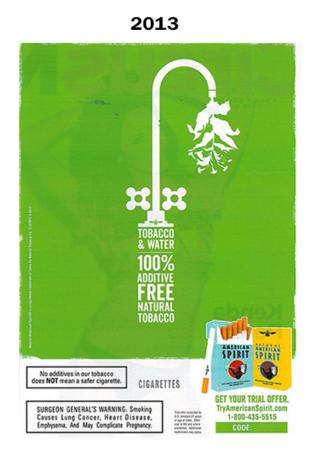


Figure B: Natural American Spirit Cigarettes Advertisement.

40. Defendants' Statements promoting "Natural" tobacco and "100% Additive-Free" are particularly attractive to Defendants' target market. Defendants systematically and deliberately targeted consumers through their campaign. Former president of SFNTC, Robin

⁵ https://www.sfntc.com/site/ourproduct/overview

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Sommers, touted, "The central concept on which the company has been built is that consumers of tobacco products have the right to know exactly what they are consuming." The website further attests, "Our blenders create the highest quality tobacco blends and only use two ingredients: whole leaf tobacco and water." Defendants' campaign deliberately misleads consumers by implying that the Products or their smoke do not contain or are free of the substances found in other commercially marketed tobacco products and therefore present a reduced risk of tobacco-related disease or are not as harmful as other commercially marketed tobacco products.

41. Each and every consumer who purchases the Products is exposed to Defendants' deceptive statements because it appears prominently and conspicuously on the front of each carton.

42. Defendants' Statements are misleading because there is no scientific evidence to show that the ingredients of the Products cause smoking the Products to pose fewer health risks than other cigarettes. In reality, Natural American Spirit Cigarettes contain 36 percent free-base nicotine, compared with 9.6 percent in Marlboro brands, 2.7% in Camel brands, and 6.2% in Winston brands.⁶

Natural American Spirit Cigarettes Deceptive and False Advertising

43. Plaintiff and members of the Class have been and will continue to be deceived or misled by Defendants' deceptive statements and material omissions.

44. Plaintiff and members of the Class purchased goods marketed with the terms "natural" and "100% additive-free," anticipating that they are purchasing a cigarette with less health risks. Researchers at the University of California in San Francisco reported that "The idea that cigarettes are natural may also help smokers downplay the risks of smoking, as 'natural' risks inspire less concern than unnatural ones."⁷

http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC2807204/ (last visited October 8, 2015).

⁶ "Percent Free Base Nicotine in the Tobacco Smoke Particulate Matter of Selected Commercial and Reference Cigarettes," James F. Pankow et al., Chemical Research Toxicology, 2003.

⁷ McDaniel, P. A., & Malone, R. E. (2007). "I always thought they were all pure tobacco": American smokers' perceptions of "natural" cigarettes and tobacco industry advertising strategies. *Tobacco Control*, 16(6), e7. Available at

45. Plaintiff and members of the Class purchased the Products characterized as "100% additive-free," "natural" and "organic" on the suggestion of defendants that these cigarettes were less harmful than regular cigarettes when in fact these cigarettes were at least as dangerous as regular cigarettes and defendants were fully aware of these dangers. Plaintiff and members of the Class believed that the Products were less harmful than other brands of cigarettes.⁸ But for Defendants' false and misleading advertising and marketing of Natural American brand cigarettes. Plaintiffs and members of the Classes would not have purchased or would not have paid a premium price for the Products.

46. Defendants' claim that the Natural American Spirit Cigarettes are "100% additivefree" is also false and misleading as chemical additives, including flavoring agents such as menthol and ammonia, are among the ingredients of the Products.

47. On August, 27, 2015, the Food and Drug Administration Center for Tobacco Products ("FDA") warned SFNTC that advertising its Natural American Spirit Cigarettes as "natural" and "additive-free" is in violation of federal law because the labeling "represents explicitly and/or implicitly that the products or their smoke do not contain or are free of a substance and/or that the products present a lower risk of tobacco-related disease or are less harmful than one or more other commercially marketed tobacco products."9 Specifically, the FDA identified SFNTC's Natural American Spirit Cigarettes as a modified risk tobacco product and considered the products as "adulterated" pursuant to 902(8) of the Food Drug and Cosmetics Act ("FDCA") (21 U.S.C. § 387b(8)). See EXHIBIT 1.

48. As a result of Defendants' Statements, Plaintiff and members of the Class paid a premium price for the Products believing that the cigarettes they purchased were "natural" and "100% additive-free" and understanding that the Products presented a reduced risk of tobaccorelated disease or were, at minimum, less harmful than other brands of cigarettes. Plaintiff and members of the Class paid more for the Products than other brands of cigarettes, without similar claims on their labeling.

⁸ *Id*.

⁹ http://www.fda.gov/ICECI/EnforcementActions/WarningLetters/2015/ucm459778.htm

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49. The Products retail for a higher price than its counterparts without such labels:

- a. Camel Blue, Camel's light cigarette, retails for approximately \$45 per carton compared to its American Spirit Light counterpart, which retails for approximately \$52 per carton (attached hereto as Exhibit 2 is a true and correct copy of a printout of American Spirit cigarette prices on Smokers-Mall.com and incorporated herein¹⁰; attached hereto as Exhibit 3 is a true and correct copy of a printout of Camel cigarette prices on Smokers-Mall.com and incorporated herein¹¹);
 - b. Camel's Regular line of cigarettes retail for approximately \$46 per carton¹² compared to its American Spirit Regular counterpart, which retails for approximately \$52 per carton¹³ (*id.*); and
 - c. Newport cigarettes retail for approximately \$41 per carton. Attached hereto as
 Exhibit 4 is true and correct copy of a printout of Newport cigarette prices on
 Smokers-mall.com and incorporated herein.¹⁴

50. Plaintiff and the Class considered the statements made on, *inter alia*, the labeling and packaging and based their decision to buy the Products based on these Statements. Plaintiff and members of the Class would not have purchased the Products if they knew that Defendants' claims that its cigarettes were "natural" and "100% additive-free" were untrue and/or misleading.

51. As a result of Defendants' deceptive conduct, Plaintiffs and Class members have been injured because they were deceived into purchasing the Products based on Defendants' misrepresentations and material omissions when they otherwise would not have purchased the product.

52. As a result of the misrepresentations and/or material omissions made regarding the Products Defendants have reaped significant profits at the expense of Plaintiffs and the Class.

- ¹⁰ http://www.smokers-mall.com/cigarettes/american-spirit.aspx.
 - ¹¹ http://www.smokers-mall.com/cigarettes/camel.aspx.
- ¹² http://www.smokers-mall.com/cigarettes/american-spirit.aspx.
- ¹³ http://www.smokers-mall.com/cigarettes/american-spirit.aspx.
 - ¹⁴ http://www.smokers-mall.com/cigarettes/newport.aspx.

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VI. <u>CLAIMS FOR RELIEF</u>

FIRST CLAIM FOR RELIEF Violation of California Business and Professions Code Section 17500, *et seq.* (False Advertising)

53. Plaintiff incorporates and re-allege, as though set forth fully herein, each and every allegation set forth in the preceding paragraphs of this Complaint.

54. The conduct described above and throughout this Complaint took place in the State of California and constitutes deceptive or false advertising in violation of California Business and Professions Code § 17500. California's False Advertising Law ("FAL"), California Business and Professions Code § 17500 applies to all claims of all Class members because the Defendants' conduct, which constitutes violations of the Code, occurred within the State of California.

55. California Business and Professions Code § 17500 prohibits deceptive or misleading practices in connection with advertising or representations made for the purpose of inducing, or which are likely to induce, consumers to purchase products.

56. Defendants, when they marketed, advertised, and the Products, represented to Plaintiff and Class Members that their "100% additive-free" and "natural" cigarettes posed fewer health risks than other cigarettes. As alleged above, these statements regarding the Products are misleading because the statements misrepresent the true character of the products, i.e. that there is no scientific evidence that corroborate Defendants' claims or the implication that the Products pose fewer health risks than other tobacco products or brands and, in actuality, the Products contain chemical additives such as ammonia and flavoring agents.

57. At the time of the misrepresentations and material omissions, Defendant were either aware that the products did not have these characteristics when sold or were aware that Defendant lacked information and/or knowledge required to make such representations truthfully.

58. Defendants' statements regarding the Products on the product packaging claiming "natural" and "100% additive-free" were false, misleading, and likely to deceive Plaintiffs, members of the Class, and other reasonable consumers:

59. Defendants' statements were made in connection with the sale of the Products. The Products lack the implied health benefits as advertised and contain chemical additives, such as flavoring agents and ammonia. Therefore, Defendants' conduct constitutes deceptive or

misleading advertising.

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60. Plaintiff has standing to pursue claims brought under the FAL because he reviewed and relied on Defendants' advertising. As alleged above, Plaintiff Brattain reviewed and relied on the statements made on the product packaging regarding the Products, and in reliance on these statements that the cigarettes were "100% additive-free" and "natural," incurred out of pocket costs when he purchased the Natural American Spirits regular cigarettes and Natural American Spirits menthol cigarettes.

61. Plaintiff purchased the Products in reliance on Defendants' advertising, which was ultimately false and misleading.

62. Had Defendants' advertising regarding the Products disclosed the true nature of the products, i.e. that the products lacked the affirmative characteristics advertised, contained synthetic ingredients, made claims that were unapproved by the FDA, and did not pose fewer health risks as Defendants implied, Plaintiffs would not have purchased the items.

63. Defendants' statements in its advertising regarding the Products was part of Defendant's plan made with an intent to sell the Products as advertised.

64. Plaintiff and the Class purchased the Products for its "natural" and "100% additivefree" formula and benefits (i.e., that its ingredients caused smoking the Products to present less harm and reduced risk of tobacco-related disease than other cigarette brands and the Products contained no chemical additives or synthetic ingredients). Because the formula actually contained chemical additives and had no substantial health benefits in comparison to other brands of cigarettes, the product is completely devoid of value.

65. Additionally, Plaintiff and the Class purchased the product for a premium price and paid more for the Products than a comparable brand. As alleged above, the Products retail for approximately \$52 per carton compared to its Camel counterpart, which retails for approximately \$46 per carton, and its Newport counterpart, which retails for approximately \$41 per carton.

66. Research shows that some smokers were willing to smoke "natural" cigarettes over a cigarette without similar claims and labeling because they believed that the "natural" cigarettes

were potentially less harmful than cigarettes without similar claims.¹⁵

67. As a direct and proximate result of Defendants' violations of the FAL as set forth above, Plaintiff and the Class have suffered injury by paying for a premium price for a product that they otherwise would not have purchased had the true nature of the product been disclosed.

68. Plaintiff and the Class seek restitution of any monies wrongfully acquired or retained by Defendant, including monies already obtained from Plaintiff and the Class, and by means of Defendant's deceptive or misleading representations under Section 17500, *et seq.*

69. Accordingly, Plaintiff seeks all available damages and claims for relief under this section.

SECOND CLAIM FOR RELIEF

Violation of the California Business and Professions Code § 17200, et seq. (Unfair Competition Law-Unlawful Business Practices)

70. Plaintiffs incorporate and re-allege, as though set forth fully herein, each and every allegation set forth in the preceding paragraphs of this Complaint.

71. Defendants' conduct in marketing and selling the Products was an unfair, unlawful or fraudulent business practice in violation of California's Unfair Competition Law ("UCL"), California Business and Professions Code § 17200, *et seq.* Defendant' concealment and intentional and negligent misrepresentation constitute unfair, unlawful, and fraudulent business acts and practices in violation of Section 17200.

72. California Business and Professions Code § 17200 applies to all claims of the Class members because the conduct, which constitutes violations of the Code by Defendants, occurred in the State of California and Defendants maintain significant contacts in California.

73. The UCL, California Business & Professions Code §17200, *et seq.* prohibits anything that can properly be called a business practice and at the same time is forbidden by law.

74. In the course of conducting business, Defendants committed unlawful business practices by, *inter alia*, claiming that the Products are "natural" and "100% additive-free." In light of the fact that the Products contain chemical additives and do not pose fewer health risks to consumers as implied, these statements and/or material omissions are misleading, deceptive,

¹⁵ http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC2807204/ (last visited October 8, 2015)

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and/or false. These statements were made in connection with the sale of Natural American Spirit
 Cigarettes and therefore constitute "advertising" within the meaning of §17200.

75. As alleged above, Defendants' statements in its advertising regarding the Products was part of Defendants' plan made with an intent to sell the Products as advertised.

76. Defendants' unlawful business acts and/or practices as alleged herein have violated federal, state, statutory and/or common laws, and these predicate acts are *per se* violations of Section 17200.

77. Defendants' conduct is in violation of the Sherman Law and the FDCA. The Sherman Law is explicitly authorized by the FDCA and adopts and imposes identical requirements to the federal FDCA. "All nonprescription drug regulations and regulations for new drug applications under the FDCA are the regulations of this State." Cal. Health & Safety Code \$\$ 110110-110111, 110115. Thus, by violating provisions of the FDCA, Defendants have violated the Sherman Law.

78. Defendants, *inter alia*, omitted material facts that their products are manufactured, marketed, advertised, and sold in violation of the Sherman Law and FDCA, and that their claims have no basis in scientific research or studies, thereby violating Civil Code §§1572, 1573, 1709, 1711, 1770 and Business & Professions Code §§17200, *et seq.* and applicable common law.

79. Defendants are in violation of provisions of the FDCA and thereby the Sherman Law for failure to abide by the FDCA and continuing to market and sell Natural American Spirit Cigarettes to Plaintiffs and the Class.

80. These violations resulted in harm to Plaintiff and the Class. Plaintiff and the Class purchased the Products in reliance on these misrepresentations and/or material omissions and suffered injury as a result. This conduct therefore constitutes violation of the unlawful prong of California Business and Professions Code §17200, *et seq*.

81. Accordingly, Plaintiff seeks all available damages and claims for relief under this section.

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THIRD CLAIM FOR RELIEF

Violation of the California Business and Professions Code § 17200, *et seq.* (Unfair Competition Law-Unfair Business Practices)

82. Plaintiffs incorporate and re-allege, as though set forth fully herein, each and every allegation set forth in the preceding paragraphs of this Complaint.

83. Defendants' conduct in marketing and selling Natural American Spirit Cigarettes was an unfair, unlawful or fraudulent business practice in violation of California's Unfair Competition Law ("UCL"), California Business and Professions Code § 17200, *et seq.* Defendant' concealment and intentional and negligent misrepresentation constitute unfair, unlawful, and fraudulent business acts and practices in violation of Section 17200.

84. California Business and Professions Code § 17200 applies to all claims of the Class members because the conduct, which constitutes violations of the Code by Defendants, occurred in the State of California and Defendants maintain significant contacts in California.

85. Defendants' untrue or misleading statements were false, misleading, and/or likely to deceive the consuming public within the meaning of Business & Professions Code §17200, *et seq.* Defendants' conduct, as alleged in this action, constitutes tortious conduct that gave Defendants an unfair competitive advantage over their competitors who did not engage in such practices. Defendants' misconduct also violated established law and/or public policies which discourage false and misleading advertising, unfair competition, and deceptive conduct towards consumers.

86. Plaintiff and the Class purchased the Products over other brands in reliance on Defendants' misrepresentations that Natural American Spirit Cigarettes contain no additives and are "natural." Failing to properly disclose the nature of the Products to consumers, prior to those consumers purchasing the products, as alleged herein, was and is directly contrary to established legislative goals and policies against engaging in false and misleading advertising, unfair competition, and deceptive conduct towards consumers.

27 87. There were reasonably available alternatives to further Defendants' legitimate
28 business interests other than the conduct described in this Complaint.

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88. The Sherman Law and FDCA set guidelines to ensure that products reaching consumers meet adequate standards. Defendants circumvented the Sherman Law and FDCA regulations and manufactured, marketed, advertised, and sold Natural American Spirit Cigarettes in violation of provisions of the Sherman Law and FDCA.

89. At all relevant times, Defendants' misconduct and omissions alleged herein: (a) caused substantial injury to the Public; (b) had no countervailing benefit to consumers or to competition that could possibly outweigh the substantial injury; and (c) caused damage to ordinary consumers by inducing them to pay out of pocket for a product that was not as advertised. Therefore, Defendant' acts and/or practices as alleged herein were unfair within the meaning of Business and Professions Code section 17200.

90. Accordingly, Plaintiff seeks all available damages and claims for relief under this section.

FOURTH CLAIM FOR RELIEF

Violation of the California Business and Professions Code § 17200, et seq. (Unfair Competition Law-Fraudulent Business Practices)

91. Plaintiffs incorporate and re-allege, as though set forth fully herein, each and every allegation set forth in the preceding paragraphs of this Complaint.

92. Defendants' acts and practices, as alleged herein, were likely to, and did, deceive the Public. As alleged throughout this Complaint, Defendant' misleading, deceptive, and/or false statements, deceived Plaintiffs and the Class and were intended to deceive consumers. Defendants' conduct therefore constitutes fraudulent business acts and/or practices within the meaning of California Business and Professions Code section 17200.

93. Plaintiff and the Class have in fact been deceived as a result of their reliance on Defendants' material representations and omissions as described in this complaint. Plaintiffs and the Class purchased Natural American Spirit Cigarettes based on (1) statements that the products were "natural" and "100% additive-free" and (2) the belief that the products posed fewer health risks than other cigarettes. As alleged in further above, the reliance has caused harm to Plaintiffs and other members of the class who each purchased Defendants' Natural American Spirit

CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT

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Cigarettes. Plaintiff and other Class members have suffered injury in fact and lost money as a result of these unlawful, unfair, and fraudulent practices as alleged in this Complaint.

3 94. As a result of its deception, Defendants have been able to reap unjust revenue and
4 profit.

95. Consumers continue to be misled and deceived by Defendants' claims and statements. Online literature reflects that consumers were and still are induced to purchase Natural American Spirit Cigarettes as a result of Defendants' deceptive claims:

a. "People who buy American Spirits fall into one of two categories: One, the kind of people who think that because American Spirits are... "100% additive free natural tobacco", that it means that it's better than the 'trash' those other simpletons buy."¹⁶

b. "Although some smokers were dubious that natural cigarettes were healthier, they did not necessarily reject the idea outright. Some expressed a willingness to smoke natural cigarettes "just in case" they were less harmful or 'one notch less bad."¹⁷

96. In fact, the FDA warned Defendants that their labeling and advertising markets that Natural American Spirit Cigarettes present a lower risk of tobacco-related disease or are less harmful than one or more other commercially marketed tobacco products. *See* **EXHIBIT 1**.

97. Unless restrained and enjoined, Defendants' claims and statements will continue to mislead and deceive consumers. Plaintiff brings this class action to afford protection to future consumers from the same fraud. Plaintiff on behalf of himself, all others similarly situated, and the public at large, seek restitution and disgorgement of all money obtained from Plaintiff and the members of the Class as a result of unfair competition, and a remedial marketing and advertising campaign to inform consumers about the true and accurate nature of Natural American Spirit Cigarettes, and all other relief which this Court deems appropriate, consistent with Business & Professions Code §17203.

¹⁶ http://www.madpoet-one.com/2010/12/what-your-cigarette-says-about-you.html
¹⁷ http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC2807204/ (last visited October 8, 2015)

98. Accordingly, Plaintiff seeks all available damages and claims for relief under this section.

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FIFTH CLAIM FOR RELIEF Violation of Cal. Civ. Code §§ 1750, et seq. (California Consumer Legal Remedies Act)

99. Plaintiffs repeat and re-allege the allegations contained in the paragraphs above. as if fully set forth herein.

100. Plaintiffs and the Class bring this claim pursuant to the Consumers Legal Remedies Act ("CLRA"), California Civil Code §§ 1750, et seq. Defendants' conduct described above and throughout this Complaint occurred in the State of California. As alleged above and described below, Defendant' conduct constitutes unfair or deceptive acts or practices and unfair methods of competition in violation of the CLRA. Because Defendant's conduct, which constitutes violations of the CLRA, occurred in the State of California, the CLRA applies to all claims of all Class 13 members.

14 101 Plaintiff and the Class are consumers as defined by California Civil Code 15 §1761(d).

16 102. Defendants' Natural American Spirit Cigarettes are "goods" within the meaning 17 of the CLRA.

103. The purchase of Natural American Spirit Cigarettes by Plaintiff and Class Members are "transactions" within the meaning of Civil Code § 1761(c).

104. As set forth below, the CLRA deems that the following unfair methods of competition and unfair or deceptive acts or practices undertaken by any person in a transaction intended to result or which results in the sale or lease of goods or services to any consumer is unlawful:

> "Representing that goods ... have sponsorship, approval, characteristics, a. ingredients, uses, benefits, or quantities which they do not have." Civil Code § 1770(a)(5).

b. "Representing that goods ... are of a particular standard, quality, or grade, or that goods are of a particular style or model, if they are of another." Civil Code § 1770(a)(7).

105. Defendants violated and continue to violate the act by engaging in the following practices that are proscribed by California Civil Code §1770(a)(5) and (a)(7) by representing that Natural American Spirit Cigarettes had characteristics and were of a particular quality when these claims were false. As detailed throughout this Complaint, Defendants have repeatedly engaged in conduct that is deemed in violation of the CLRA.

106. Defendants represented that Natural American Spirit Cigarettes were "natural" and "100% Additive-Free." Defendants further represented that the ingredients in the Products caused smoking their brand of cigarettes to be less harmful or pose reduced risk of a tobacco-related disease than one or more other commercially marketed cigarettes.

107. As detailed above, Defendant violated the CLRA when, in transactions with Plaintiff and the Class, Defendant made the following representations, which were intended to result in, and did result in, the sale of Natural American Spirit Cigarettes:

- a. Representing that Natural American Spirit Cigarettes have approval, characteristics, uses and benefits which they do not have;
- Representing that Natural American Spirit Cigarettes are of a particular standard, quality, or grade and it is of another; and
- c. Advertising goods with the intent not to sell them as advertised.

108. Defendants further violated the CLRA by representing and failing to disclose material facts on the Natural American Spirit Cigarettes labeling and packaging and any associated advertising as described above, when they knew, or should have known, that the representations were false and misleading and the omissions were of material facts it was obligated to disclose.

109. Pursuant to §1780(d) of the CLRA, filed concurrently with this Complaint is an affidavit showing that this action has been commenced in the proper forum.

110. On or about October 9, 2015, Plaintiff Russell Brattain sent Defendants notice in writing of violations under the CLRA, accompanied by a demand that Defendants correct, repair,

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replace or otherwise rectify the prohibited practices. Pursuant to Cal. Civ. Proc., § 1782(a)(2),
 Plaintiffs sent pre-suit notice and demand by certified mail, with return receipt requested, to
 Defendants' principal place of business and Registered Agent in California. In the event
 Defendants do not remedy their violations, Plaintiff reserves the right to amend the Complaint to
 include a request for punitive damages under the CLRA.

111. Accordingly, Plaintiff seeks all available damages and claims for relief under this section.

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VII. PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff, individually and on behalf of all others similarly situated, prays for a judgment and relief on all causes of action as follows:

A. For an order certifying that the action may be maintained as a class action, certifying Plaintiff as representative of the Class, and designating Plaintiff's attorneys as Class counsel.

B. For an award of equitable relief as follows:

- Enjoining Defendants from making any of the Statements (defined above) for the Products found to violate the UCL, FAL, or CLRA as set forth above;
- ii. Requiring Defendants to make full restitution of all monies wrongfully obtained as a result of the conduct as set for above;
- iii. Requiring Defendants to disgorge all ill-gotten gains flowing from the conduct as set forth above.
- C. For actual damages in an amount to be determined at trial.

D. For an award of attorneys' fees pursuant to, *inter alia*, § 1780(d) of the CLRA and *Code of Civil Procedure* § 1021.5.

- E. For an award of costs.
- F. For pre- and post-judgment interest on any amounts awarded.
- G. For such further relief this Court deems just, appropriate, or proper.

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24 CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT

	Case 4:15-cv-04705-JSW Document 1 Filed 10/09/15 Page 26 of 26							
1	VII. <u>JURY DEMAND</u>							
2	Plaintiff respectfully demands a trial by jury on all issues so triable.							
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4								
5	Dated this October 9, 2015Respectfully Submitted by,							
6	EGGNATZ, LOPATIN & PASCUCCI, LLP							
7 8	/s/ Benjamin M. Lopatin							
9	BENJAMIN M. LOPATIN (SBN 281730) Email: blopatin@elplawyers.com							
10	JILL T. LIN (SBN 284962) Email: jlin@elplawyers.com							
11	2201 Market Street, Suite H							
12	San Francisco, CA 94114 Telephone: (415) 324-8620							
13	Facsimile: (415) 520-2262							
14	Attorneys for Plaintiff Russell Brattain							
15	and for the Proposed Class							
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	CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT							

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EXHIBIT 1

U.S. Food and Drug Administration

Protecting and Promoting Your Health

Santa Fe Natural Tobacco Company, Inc. 8/27/15



Food and Drug Administration Center for Tobacco Products 10903 New Hampshire Avenue Silver Spring, MD 20993

AUG 27, 2015

VIA UPS and FAX

Michael Little, President Santa Fe Natural Tobacco Company, Inc. 1 Plaza La Prensa Santa Fe, NM 87507

WARNING LETTER

Dear Mr. Little:

The Center for Tobacco Products of the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) reviewed your cigarette product labeling and determined that your cigarette products are manufactured and distributed or offered for sale to customers in the United States. Under section 201(rr) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (the FD&C Act) (21 U.S.C. § 321(rr)), as amended by the Family Smoking Prevention and Tobacco Control Act (Tobacco Control Act), these products are tobacco products because they are made or derived from tobacco and intended for human consumption. Certain tobacco products, including cigarettes, are subject to FDA jurisdiction under section 901(b) of the FD&C Act (21 U.S.C. §

387a(b)).

FDA has determined that several of your cigarette products are adulterated under section 902(8) of the FD&C Act (21 U.S.C. § 387b(8)) because they are modified risk tobacco products sold or distributed without an FDA order in effect that permits such sale or distribution.

Modified Risk Tobacco Product Violations

You sell or distribute cigarette products the label, labeling, or advertising of which represents explicitly and/or implicitly that the products or their smoke do not contain or are free of a substance and/or that the products present a lower risk of tobacco-related disease or are less harmful than one or more other commercially marketed tobacco products. Specifically, you sell or distribute Natural American Spirit cigarettes described in product labeling as "Natural" and "Additive Free."

A tobacco product is considered a "modified risk tobacco product" under section 911(b)(2)(A)(i) of the FD&C Act (21 U.S.C. § 387k(b)(2)(A)(i)) if its label, labeling, or advertising explicitly or implicitly represents that: (1) the product presents a lower risk of tobacco-related disease or is less harmful than one or more other commercially marketed tobacco products; (2) the product or its smoke contains a reduced level of a substance or presents a reduced exposure to a substance; or (3) the product or its smoke does not contain or is free of a substance. Under section 911(a) of the FD&C Act (21 U.S.C. § 387k(a)), no person may introduce or deliver for introduction into interstate commerce any modified risk tobacco product without an FDA order in effect under section 911(g) of the FD&C Act (21 U.S.C. § 387k(a)). A product that is in violation of section 911(a) of the FD&C Act (21 U.S.C. § 387k(a)) is adulterated under section 902(8) of the FD&C Act (21 U.S.C. § 387b(8)). Your product labeling for Natural American Spirit cigarettes, which uses the descriptors "Natural" and "Additive Free," represents explicitly and/or implicitly that the products or their smoke do not contain or are free of a substance and/or that the products present a lower risk of tobacco-related disease or are less harmful than one or more other commercially marketed tobacco products. Because these products are sold or distributed to customers in the United States without an appropriate FDA order in effect under section 911(g) of the FD&C Act (21 U.S.C. § 387k(g)), these products are adulterated under section 902(8) of the FDAC order in effect CAC (21 U.S.C. § 387k(g)), these products are adulterated under section 911(g) of the FD&C Act (21 U.S.C. § 387k(g)), these products are modified risk tobacco products. Because these products are sold or distributed to customers in the United States without an appropriate FDA order in effect under section 911(g) of the FD&C Act (21 U.S.C. § 387k(g)), these products are adulterated under section 902(8)

FDA recognizes that Santa Fe Natural Tobacco Company, Inc. has entered into a consent order with the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) regarding the company's use of additive free claims in tobacco product advertising (Federal Trade Commission, *In the Matter of Santa Fe Natural Tobacco Company, Inc., a corporation*, Docket No. C-3952, Decision and Order, Issued June 12, 2000). This order requires, in part, that the company display certain disclosures (e.g., "No additives in our tobacco does NOT mean safer") in any advertisements using claims that represent tobacco products as having no additives, unless the company possesses and relies upon competent and reliable scientific evidence demonstrating that such products pose materially lower health risks than other tobacco products of the same type. This consent order predates the Tobacco Control Act, which was enacted on June 22, 2009 and gave FDA authority to

regulate the manufacture, sale, distribution, and promotion of tobacco products, including authority over modified risk tobacco products under Section 911 of the FD&C Act (21 U.S.C. § 387k). As noted above, under section 911(a) of the FD&C Act (21 U.S.C. § 387k(a)), no person may introduce or deliver for introduction into interstate commerce any modified risk tobacco product without an FDA order in effect under section 911(g) of the FD&C Act (21 U.S.C. § 387k(g)). Because you sell or distribute modified risk tobacco products without an appropriate FDA order in effect under section 911(g) of the FD&C Act (21 U.S.C. § 387k(g)), you are in violation of the FD&C Act, notwithstanding your consent order with FTC.

Conclusion and Requested Actions

The violations discussed in this letter do not necessarily constitute an exhaustive list. You should immediately correct the violations that are referenced above, as well as violations that are the same as or similar to those stated above, and take any necessary actions to bring your tobacco products into compliance with the FD&C Act.

It is your responsibility to ensure that your tobacco products and all related labeling and/or advertising comply with each applicable provision of the FD&C Act and FDA's implementing regulations. Failure to ensure full compliance with the FD&C Act may result in FDA initiating further action without notice, including, but not limited to, civil money penalties, criminal prosecution, seizure, and/or injunction. Please note that adulterated and misbranded tobacco products offered for import into the United States are subject to detention and refusal of admission.

Please submit a written response to this letter within 15 working days from the date of receipt describing your corrective actions, including the dates on which you discontinued the violative promotion, advertising, sale, and/or distribution of these tobacco products and your plan for maintaining compliance with the FD&C Act. If you do not believe that your products are in violation of the FD&C Act, include your reasoning and any supporting information for our consideration. You can find the FD&C Act through links on FDA's homepage at <u>http://www.fda.gov/</u>.

Please note your reference number, RW1500345, in your response and direct your response to the following address:

DPAL-WL Response, Office of Compliance and Enforcement FDA Center for Tobacco Products c/o Document Control Center Building 71, Room G335 10903 New Hampshire Avenue Silver Spring, MD 20993-0002 If you have any questions about the content of this letter, please contact Ele Ibarra-Pratt at (301) 796-9235 or via email at <u>CTPCompliance@fda.hhs.gov</u> (mailto:CTPCompliance@fda.hhs.gov).

Sincerely, /S/ Ann Simoneau, J.D. Director Office of Compliance and Enforcement Center for Tobacco Products

VIA UPS and FAX

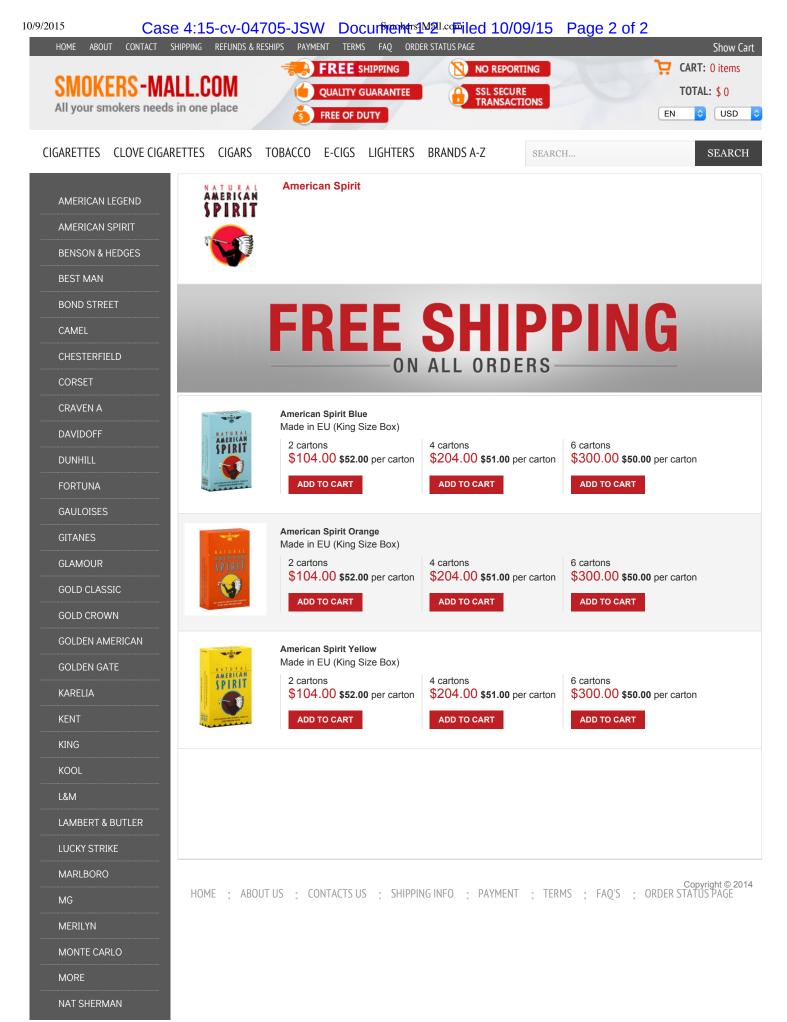
CC:

Susan M. Cameron President and Chief Executive Officer Reynolds American Inc. 401 North Main Street Winston-Salem, NC 27101-3804

Dr. James Swauger Vice President Regulatory Oversight 401 North Main Street Winston-Salem, NC 27102

More in <u>2015</u> (/ICECI/EnforcementActions/WarningLetters/2015/default.htm) Case 4:15-cv-04705-JSW Document 1-2 Filed 10/09/15 Page 1 of 2

EXHIBIT 2



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EXHIBIT 3

10/9/2015 Case 4:15-cv-047	BedSavel Doctoracint v	ithFree Ehleni hga090961991a	
	IIPS PAYMENT TERMS FAQ ORD	ER STATUS PAGE	Show Cart
SMOKERS -MALL.COM All your smokers needs in one place	QUALITY GUARANTEE	SSL SECURE TRANSACTIONS	TOTAL: \$0
	FREE OF DUTY		EN ᅌ USD ᅌ
CIGARETTES CLOVE CIGARETTES CIGARS T	OBACCO E-CIGS LIGHTERS	BRANDS A-Z SEARCH	H SEARCH
AMERICAN LEGEND AMERICAN SPIRIT BENSON & HEDGES BEST MAN	taste. They are made of Turkish aromatic additions which give the	tobacco blend and Virginia tobacco em a superb taste. Camels are po sition. Camel cigarettes lead the v	to who set a standard in both quality and to including other specific ingredients and pular for their charming odor and vay to success and are the feature of a
BOND STREET	FDFF	CUUDI	
CAMEL	FREE	SHIP	ING
CHESTERFIELD		ALL ORDERS-	
CORSET			
CRAVEN A	Camel Filter Made in EU (King Size Box)		
DAVIDOFF	Tar 10mg, Nicotine 0,8mg		
DUNHILL Social S	2 cartons \$92.00 \$46.00 per carton	4 cartons \$180.00 \$45.00 per carton	6 cartons \$264.00 \$44.00 per carton
FORTUNA	ADD TO CART	ADD TO CART	ADD TO CART
GAULOISES	Camel Mild		
GITANES	Made in EU (King Size Box) Tar 9mg, Nicotine 0,7mg		
GLAMOUR	2 cartons	4 cartons	6 cartons
GOLD CLASSIC dotelik. Rauchen ist tödlich.	\$92.00 \$46.00 per carton	\$180.00 \$45.00 per carton	\$264.00 \$44.00 per carton
GOLD CROWN	ADD TO CART	ADD TO CART	ADD TO CART
GOLDEN AMERICAN	Camel Blue Subtle Flavour Made in EU (King Size Box)		
KARELIA	Tar 8mg, Nicotine 0,6mg	4 cartons	6 cartons
KENT services around you	\$92.00 \$46.00 per carton	\$180.00 \$45.00 per carton	\$264.00 \$44.00 per carton
KING	ADD TO CART	ADD TO CART	ADD TO CART
KOOL	Camel Silver		
L&M	Made in EU (King Size Box) Tar 4mg, Nicotine 0.3mg		
LAMBERT & BUTLER	2 cartons \$92.00 \$46.00 per carton	4 cartons \$180.00 \$45.00 per carton	6 cartons \$264.00 \$44.00 per carton
LUCKY STRIKE	ADD TO CART	ADD TO CART	ADD TO CART
MARLBORO			
MG	Camel No-Filter Regular Made in EU (Soft Pack)		
MERILYN	Tar 10mg, Nicotine 0,8mg 2 cartons	4 cartons	6 cartons
MONTE CARLO	\$92.00 \$46.00 per carton	\$180.00 \$45.00 per carton	\$264.00 \$44.00 per carton
MORE	ADD TO CART	ADD TO CART	ADD TO CART
NAT SHERMAN			

10/9/2015	Case 4:15-cv-047	OBears Wel Doctor Actine vi	thFree Shiening 0900000123	Parge 3 of 4
NEWPORT	C natural flave	Camel Natural Flavor Made in EU (King Size Box)		0
NEXT	Fumer tue.	Tar 10mg, Nicotine 0,9mg 2 cartons	4 cartons	6 cartons
PALL MALL	Roken is dodelijk. Rauchen ist tödlich.	\$92.00 \$46.00 per carton	\$180.00 \$45.00 per carton	\$264.00 \$44.00 per carton
PARLIAMENT				
PETER STUYVESA	T Essential	Camel Essential Blue Made in EU (King Size Box) Tar 8mg, Nicotine 0,7mg		
PRESIDENT	m l	2 cartons	4 cartons	6 cartons
R1	Smoking seriously harms you and others	\$92.00 \$46.00 per carton	\$180.00 \$45.00 per carton	\$264.00 \$44.00 per carton
RAQUEL		ADD TO CART	ADD TO CART	ADD TO CART
REGAL	HBLACX	Camel Black Made in EU (King Size Box)		
ROTHMANS	1	Tar 10mg, Nicotine 0,9mg 2 cartons	4 cartons	6 cartons
SALEM	Las Autoridades Exercical autoridades Fumer perjudica gravemente su salud	\$92.00 \$46.00 per carton	\$180.00 \$45.00 per carton	\$264.00 \$44.00 per carton
SILK CUT	y la de los que están a su alrededor	ADD TO CART	ADD TO CART	ADD TO CART
SOBRANIE				
STATE EXPRESS 5	55 WWHTE	Camel White Made in EU (King Size Box) Tar 8mg, Nicotine 0,7mg		
SUPERKINGS	Fumer tue. Boken is	2 cartons	4 cartons	6 cartons
VICEROY	in dodelijk. Rauchen ist Ere tödlich.	\$92.00 \$46.00 per carton	\$180.00 \$45.00 per carton	\$264.00 \$44.00 per carton
VOGUE		ADD TO CART	ADD TO CART	ADD TO CART
WEST	CAMEL	Camel Filters		
WINSTON	Ci 100.	Made in Europe (King Size Box) Tar 10mg, Nicotine 0,8mg		
ASHIMA	Smoking	2 cartons \$90.00 \$45.00 per carton	4 cartons \$176.00 \$44.00 per carton	6 cartons \$258.00 \$43.00 per carton
ASSOS	seriously teams you and others around you	ADD TO CART	ADD TO CART	ADD TO CART
BRASS				
CAPITAL		Camel Blues Made in Europe (King Size Box)		
DUBLISS		Tar 8mg, Nicotine 0,6mg 2 cartons	4 cartons	6 cartons
GALA	Smoking seriously harms you and others around you	\$90.00 \$45.00 per carton	\$176.00 \$44.00 per carton	\$258.00 \$43.00 per carton
KIM		ADD TO CART	ADD TO CART	ADD TO CART
MARBLE	CAME	Camel Silvers		
MAYFAIR		Made in Europe (King Size Box) Tar 4mg, Nicotine 0.3mg		
MILD SEVEN	Fumer tue. Roken is	2 cartons \$90.00 \$45.00 per carton	4 cartons \$176.00 \$44.00 per carton	6 cartons \$258.00 \$43.00 per carton
MURATTI	dodelijk. Rauchen ist tödlich.	ADD TO CART	ADD TO CART	ADD TO CART
PLAZA				
PRINCE		GARETTES FACTS	tabliabad in 1012. As some start	ottoo ara grawing in nanularity. D l
RICHMOND	Reynolds Tobacco	eap camel cigarettes brands was es Company resolved to make the cigar	rettes being a brand tobacco. It w	as initially known as Red camel
SENECA		was taking over. After the acquisition the famous brand symbol called Join the famous brand symbol cal		a with promotional name as camel
STRAND		igarettes because they are possibly t n. For almost a century till date, came	-	ed design without noticeable ever y to both all smokers as well as non-
YESMOKE		2 · · · ·		igarettes and rebranding of 2000-2001.
HILTON	and solid. Neverthe		d with emphasis on the long histo	signed as it was been more fashionable ry of cheap camel cigarettes brand. You

10/9/2015

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- Camel Mild
- Camel Super Light
- Camel Blue
- Camel Blue Subtle Flavour
- Camel Essential Blue
- Camel Lights
- Camel One
- Camel Filter
- Camel Natural Flavor
- Camel Black
- Camel White
- Camel No-Filter Regular

By buying cheap camel cigarettes online, you will have access to many benefits which you cannot be given easily and cheaply offline.

														Copyright © 2014
HOME	5	ABOUT US	;	CONTACTS US	;	SHIPPING INFO	;	PAYMENT	;	TERMS	1	FAQ'S	1	ORDER STATUS PAGE

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EXHIBIT 4

SMOKERS - MA		IPS PAYMENT TERMS FAQ ORD	NO REPORTING SSL SECURE TRANSACTIONS	Show CART: 0 iten TOTAL: \$ 0 EN ▼ US
IGARETTES CLOVE CIG	ARETTES CIGARS TO	DBACCO E-CIGS LIGHTERS	BRANDS A-Z SEARC	H SEAR
AMERICAN LEGEND		Newport Newport cigarettes were launche	d in 1957 being America's numb	er one menthol cigarettes. Produced by
AMERICAN SPIRIT	Newport	Lorillard Tabaaaa Company of C	reensboro, North Carolina, United	d States, this brand offers a perfect was promoted as cigarettes that allow
BENSON & HEDGES	-	you to: "Enjoy full flavor mentho	l, without drowning out pure tobac	cco taste."
BEST MAN				
BOND STREET				
CAMEL		FREE	CHIDI	DINC
CHESTERFIELD				
CORSET	-	O N	ALL ORDERS-	
CRAVEN A				
DAVIDOFF	n woon	Newport Made in EU (King Size Box)		
DUNHILL		Tar 10 mg, Nicotine 0.8 mg 2 cartons	4 cartons	6 cartons
FORTUNA	CRAMETER	\$82.00 \$41.00 per carton	\$160.00 \$40.00 per carton	\$234.00 \$39.00 per carton
GAULOISES		ADD TO CART	ADD TO CART	ADD TO CART
GAULUISLS				
GLAMOUR GOLD CLASSIC				
GOLD CROWN				
GOLDEN AMERICAN	HOME ABOUT I	JS CONTACTS US SHIPPII	NG INFO PAYMENT TERI	Copyright©2 MS FAQ'S ORDER STATUS PAGE
GOLDEN GATE				-
KARELIA				
KENT				
KING				
KING KOOL				
KOOL				
KOOL L&M				
KOOL L&M LAMBERT & BUTLER				
KOOL L&M LAMBERT & BUTLER LUCKY STRIKE				
KOOL L&M LAMBERT & BUTLER LUCKY STRIKE MARLBORO				
KOOL L&M LAMBERT & BUTLER LUCKY STRIKE MARLBORO MG				

	Case 4:15-cv-04705-JSW Docume	nt 1-5	Filed 10/09/15	Page 1 of 2
1 2 3 4 5 6 7	BENJAMIN M. LOPATIN (SBN 281730) EGGNATZ, LOPATIN & PASCUCCI, LLP 2201 Market Street, Suite H San Francisco, CA 94114 Telephone: (415) 324-8620 Facsimile: (415) 520-2262 Email: blopatin@elplawyers.com Attorneys for Plaintiff Russell Brattain and for the Proposed Class			
8 9	IN THE UNITED STATI	ES DIST	RICT COURT	
9 10	FOR THE NORTHERN DIS	TRICT	OF CALIFORM	NIA
11		1		
12	RUSSELL BRATTAIN, individually and on behalf of all others similarly situated,	Case 1	No.: 15-4705	
13	Plaintiffs,	Judge		
14		CLAS	SS ACTION	
15				VENUE UNDER
16 17	SANTA FE NATURAL TOBACCO COMPANY, INC., REYNOLDS AMERICAN, INC., and DOES 1 through 50,	REM		NSUMER LEGAL AL. CIVIL CODE
18	Defendants.	DEMA	AND FOR JURY	TRIAL
19				
20		1		
21 22				
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	DECLARATION OF VENUE UNDER CALIFORNIA'S CODE §§ 175			EDIES ACT, CAL. CIVIL
		., 500	∼	

I, Benjamin M. Lopatin, hereby declare as follows:

1. I have personal knowledge of the facts stated herein and, if called upon, could competently testify to the facts set forth herein.

2. I am employed at Eggnatz, Lopatin & Pascucci, LLP. This firm has been retained as counsel for named Plaintiff, Russell Brattain, and the proposed class in this action against Defendants Santa Fe Natural Tobacco Company, Inc., Reynolds American, Inc., and Does 1 through 50, inclusive (collectively "Defendants").

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I am an attorney for the Plaintiff in the above-entitled action.

4. This action is filed in the United States District Court for the Northern District of California, because the transaction wherein the Plaintiff purchased the Defendant's product and perceived Defendant's material misrepresentations—occurred in this judicial District.

5. The Complaint concurrently filed in this matter includes a cause of action against Defendants for violations of the Consumers Legal Remedies Act ("CLRA"). Defendants avail themselves of the laws and markets of California and the alleged misrepresentations and unlawful misconduct occurred in this judicial District.

6. The transaction at issue occurred in San Francisco, California, as Plaintiff purchased Defendants' products in San Francisco, California. As a result, Defendants have significant contacts throughout California and in this judicial District, which causes Defendants to incur obligations and liabilities in this District, sustaining this Court's jurisdiction over Defendant, and creating proper venue in this Court under the CLRA..

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States that the foregoing is true and correct, and was executed in the city of San Francisco, County of San Francisco, California, on October 9, 2015.

> By: <u>/s/ Benjamin M. Lopatin</u> Benjamin M. Lopatin, Esq.

Attorneys for Plaintiff Russell Brattain and for the Proposed Class

DECLARATION OF VENUE UNDER CONSUMER UNDER CALIFORNIA'S CONSUMER LEGAL REMEDIES ACT, CAL. CIVIL CODE §§ 1750, ET SEQ.

Case 4:15-cv-04705-JSW Document 1-6 Filed 10/09/15 Page 1 of 1 JS 44 (Rev. 12/12) **CIVIL COVER SHEET** The JS 44 civil cover sheet and the information contained herein neither replace nor supplement the filing and service of pleadings or other papers as required by law, except as provided by local rules of court. This form, approved by the Judicial Conference of the United States in September 1974, is required for the use of the Clerk of Court for the purpose of initiating the civil docket sheet. *(SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON NEXT PAGE OF THIS FORM.)* I. (a) PLAINTIFFS DEFENDANTS Santa Fe Natural Tobacco Company, Inc., Reynolds American, Inc., Russell Brattain, individually and on behalf of all others similarly situated, and Does 1 through 50 County of Residence of First Listed Defendant Santa Fe, NM (b) County of Residence of First Listed Plaintiff San Francisco, CA (EXCEPT IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES) (IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES ONLY) IN LAND CONDEMNATION CASES, USE THE LOCATION OF THE TRACT OF LAND INVOLVED. NOTE (c) Attorneys (Firm Name, Address, and Telephone Number) Benjamin M. Lopatin, EGGNATZ, LOPATIN & PASCUCCI, LLP., 2201 Attorneys (If Known) Market Street, Suite H, San Francisco, CA 94114, (415) 324-8620 II. BASIS OF JURISDICTION (Place an "X" in One Box Only) III. CITIZENSHIP OF PRINCIPAL PARTIES (Place an "X" in One Box for Plaintiff (For Diversity Cases Only) and One Box for Defendant) [] 1 U.S. Government 3 Federal Ouestion PTF DEF DEF PTF **X** 1 Plaintiff (U.S. Government Not a Party) Citizen of This State I Incorporated or Principal Place 04 **D** 4 of Business In This State ¥ 4 Diversity 1 2 Incorporated and Principal Place 7 2 U.S. Government X 5 Citizen of Another State 0 2 0 5 (Indicate Citizenship of Parties in Item III) Defendant of Business In Another State Citizen or Subject of a D 3 Foreign Nation 06 06 □ 3 Foreign Country NATURE OF SUIT (Place an "X" in One Box Only) FORFEITURE/PENALTY TORTS BANKRUPTCY OTHER STATUTES □ 110 Insurance PERSONAL INJURY PERSONAL INJURY 625 Drug Related Seizure □ 422 Appeal 28 USC 158 □ 375 False Claims Act 1 120 Marine 310 Airplane Π. 365 Personal Injury of Property 21 USC 881 423 Withdrawal 400 State Reapportionment 130 Miller Act 🗆 690 Other 28 USC 157 315 Airplane Product Product Liability 410 Antitrust □ 140 Negotiable Instrument Liability D 367 Health Care/ 430 Banks and Banking □ 320 Assault, Libel & □ 150 Recovery of Overpayment Pharmaceutical PROPERTY RIGHTS D 450 Commerce & Enforcement of Judgmen Slander Personal Injury 7 820 Copyrights 460 Deportation □ 151 Medicare Act 330 Federal Employers' Product Liability D 830 Patent 470 Racketeer Influenced and □ 152 Recovery of Defaulted Liability 368 Asbestos Personal ∃ 840 Trademark Corrupt Organizations □ 340 Marine Student Loans Injury Product 480 Consumer Credit Liability SOCIAL SECURITY (Excludes Veterans) 1 345 Marine Product LABOR □ 490 Cable/Sat TV PERSONAL PROPERTY 710 Fair Labor Standards 153 Recovery of Overpayment Liability J 350 Motor Vehicle 🗇 861 HIA (1395ff) 850 Securities/Commodities/ 862 Black Lung (923) of Veteran's Benefits 1 370 Other Fraud Act Exchange 7 160 Stockholders' Suits 1 355 Motor Vehicle 720 Labor/Management 7 863 DIWC/DIWW (405(g)) 371 Truth in Lending □ 890 Other Statutory Actions 1 190 Other Contract Product Liability 864 SSID Title XVI 🗇 891 Agricultural Acts 380 Other Personal Relations Π. □ 195 Contract Product Liability 🗇 360 Other Personal Property Damage 740 Railway Labor Act 7 865 RSI (405(g)) 893 Environmental Matters □ 196 Franchise 🕱 385 Property Damage 751 Family and Medical 895 Freedom of Information Injury 362 Personal Injury Product Liability Leave Act Act Medical Malpractice □ 896 Arbitration ⊐ 790 Other Labor Litigation REAL PROPERTY CIVIL RIGHTS PRISONER PETITIONS 791 Employee Retirement FEDERAL TAX SUITS 899 Administrative Procedure 210 Land Condemnation □ 440 Other Civil Rights Habeas Corpus: Income Security Act 🗇 870 Taxes (U.S. Plaintiff Act/Review or Appeal of □ 220 Foreclosure □ 441 Voting 463 Alien Detainee or Defendant) Agency Decision 🗇 230 Rent Lease & Ejectment 1 442 Employment 510 Motions to Vacate IRS ---- Third Party D 950 Constitutionality of 240 Torts to Land 3 443 Housing/ Sentence 26 USC 7609 State Statutes C 245 Tort Product Liability Accommodations 🗇 530 General 290 All Other Real Property 7 445 Amer. w/Disabilities 535 Death Penalty IMMIGRATION Employment Other: 462 Naturalization Application 446 Amer. w/Disabilities 540 Mandamus & Other 🗇 465 Other Immigration Other 550 Civil Rights Actions □ 448 Education Π 555 Prison Condition 560 Civil Detainee п Conditions of Confinement V. ORIGIN (Place an "X" in One Box Only) সা ৷ Original □ 2 Removed from 🗖 3 Remanded from **1** 4 □ 5 Transferred from Multidistrict Reinstated or \square 6 Litigation Proceeding State Court Appellate Court Reopened Another District (specify Cite the U.S. Civil Statute under which you are filing (*Do not cite jurisdictional statutes unless diversity*): 28. U.S.C. 1332(d)(2) VI. CAUSE OF ACTION Brief description of cause: Unlawful sale and advertising of consumer products in violation of California's UCL, FAL, and CLRA VII. REQUESTED IN Ø CHECK IF THIS IS A CLASS ACTION **DEMAND \$** CHECK YES only if demanded in complaint: UNDER RULE 23, F.R.Cv.P. 5,000,000.00 **COMPLAINT:** JURY DEMAND: X Yes VIII. RELATED CASE(S) (See instructions): IF ANY JUDGE DOCKET NUMBER DATE SIGNATURE OF ATTORNEY OF RECORD

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY		4	
RECEIPT #	AMOUNT	APPLYING IFP	JUDGE

10/09/2015

Z

MAG. JUDGE

AO 440 (Rev. 06/12) Summons in a Civil Action

-	DISTRICT COURT			
Northern District of California				
Russell Brattain, individually and on behalf of all others similarly situated,)))			
Plaintiff(s))			
V.) Civil Action No. 15-4705			
Santa Fe Natural Tobacco Company, Inc., Reynolds American, Inc., and Does 1 through 50, inclusive)))			
Defendant(s))			
SUMMONS IN	A CIVIL ACTION			
To: (Defendant's name and address) Santa Fe Natural Tobacco c/o CSC-Lawyers Incorpora 2710 Gateway Oaks Dr., S Sacramento, CA 95833	ating Service			

A lawsuit has been filed against you.

Within 21 days after service of this summons on you (not counting the day you received it) — or 60 days if you are the United States or a United States agency, or an officer or employee of the United States described in Fed. R. Civ. P. 12 (a)(2) or (3) — you must serve on the plaintiff an answer to the attached complaint or a motion under Rule 12 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure. The answer or motion must be served on the plaintiff or plaintiff's attorney, whose name and address are: BENJAMIN M. LOPATIN

EGGNATZ, LOPATIN & PASCUCCI, LLP 2201 Market Street, Suite H San Francisco, CA 94114 Telephone: (415) 324-8620 Facsimile: (415) 520-2262

If you fail to respond, judgment by default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the complaint. You also must file your answer or motion with the court.

CLERK OF COURT

Date:

Signature of Clerk or Deputy Clerk

AO 440 (Rev. 06/12) Summons in a Civil Action (Page 2)

Civil Action No. 15-4705

PROOF OF SERVICE

(This section should not be filed with the court unless	required by	Fed. R.	Civ. P. 4 (1)
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	This summons for (name	e of individual and title, if any)								
was ree	ceived by me on (date)	· · ·								
	□ I personally served t	he summons on the individual at	(place)							
				or						
	\Box 1 left the summons a	t the individual's residence or us	ual place of abode with (name)							
	, a person of suitable age and discretion who resides there,									
	on (date), and mailed a copy to the individual's last known address; or									
	□ I served the summor	ns on (name of individual)		, who is						
	designated by law to a	ccept service of process on behal	f of (name of organization)							
	·· · · · · · · · · · ·			or						
	□ I returned the summ	ons unexecuted because		; or						
	O Other (<i>specify</i>):									
	My fees are \$	for travel and \$	for services, for a total of \$	0.00						
	I declare under penalty	of perjury that this information is	s true.							
Date:										
			Server's signature	····						
			Printed name and title							

Server's address

Additional information regarding attempted service, etc:

AO 440 (Rev. 06/12) Summons in a Civil Action

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

for the

)

)

Northern District of California

Russell Brattain, individually and on behalf of all others similarly situated,

Plaintiff(s)

ν.

Civil Action No. 15-4705

Santa Fe Natural Tobacco Company, Inc., Reynolds American, Inc., and Does 1 through 50, inclusive

Defendant(s)

SUMMONS IN A CIVIL ACTION

To: (Defendant's name and address) Reynolds American, Inc. c/o Corporation Service Company 327 Hillsborough Street Raleigh, NC 27603-1725

A lawsuit has been filed against you.

Within 21 days after service of this summons on you (not counting the day you received it) — or 60 days if you are the United States or a United States agency, or an officer or employee of the United States described in Fed. R. Civ. P. 12 (a)(2) or (3) — you must serve on the plaintiff an answer to the attached complaint or a motio 1 under Rule 12 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure. The answer or motion must be served on the plaintiff or plaintiff's attorney, whose name and address are: BENJAMIN M. LOPATIN

EGGNATZ, LOPATIN & PASCUCCI, LLP 2201 Market Street, Suite H San Francisco, CA 94114 Telephone: (415) 324-8620 Facsimile: (415) 520-2262

If you fail to respond, judgment by default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the complaint. You also must file your answer or motion with the court.

CLERK OF COURT

Date:

Signature of Clerk or Deputy Clerk

AO 440 (Rev. 06/12) Summons in a Civil Action (Page 2)

Civil Action No. 15-4705

PROOF OF SERVICE

	This summons for (nam	e of individual and title, if any	v)		
was rec	eived by me on (date)		•		
	I personally served the summons on the individual at <i>(place)</i>				
			on (date)	; or	
	I left the summons at the individual's residence or usual place of abode with (name)				
				e and discretion who resides there,	
	, and mailed a copy to the individual's last known address; cr				
	□ I served the summons on <i>(name of individual)</i> , who is designated by law to accept service of process on behalf of <i>(name of organization)</i>				
	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		on (date)	; or	
	I returned the summons unexecuted because				
	□ Other (<i>specify</i>):				
	My fees are \$	for travel and \$	for services, for a	total of \$ 0.00	
	I declare under penalty of perjury that this information is true.				
Date:					
			Server's signatu	re	
			Printed name and	title	

Server's address

Additional information regarding attempted service, etc: