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4	Tel: 877-206-4741 Fax: 866-633-0228	
5	Attorney for Plaintiff	
6	LAURIE MUNNING, individually and on behalf of	
7	all others similarly situated,	Case No.: 3:16-cv-03804-TEH
8	Plaintiff,	CLASS ACTION
9	v.	FIRST AMENDED COMPLAINT
10	THE CAD INC : CAD (ADDADEL) LLC: CAD	JURY TRIAL DEMAND
11	THE GAP, INC.; GAP (APPAREL) LLC; GAP INTERNATIONAL SALES, INC.; BANANA	JURI IRIAL DEMIAND
12	REPUBLIC LLC; and BANANA REPUBLIC (APPAREL) LLC,	
13	Defendants.	
14		

Plaintiff Laurie Munning, individually and on behalf of all others similarly situated, through her undersigned attorneys, files this class action First Amended Complaint against Defendants and alleges as follows:

NATURE OF THE ACTION

- Plaintiff brings this proposed class action against Defendants alleging violations
 of federal pricing regulations and the consumer protection laws of California and New Jersey as
 well as the common law.
- 2. Specifically, it is alleged that Defendants engaged in a systematic scheme of false and misleading advertising, marketing, and sales practices with respect to the sale of apparel and other personal items via their online Gap Factory and Banana Republic Factory store websites. This scheme, which is set forth in more detail herein, may be summarized as follows.
- 3. First, Defendants had, and continue to have, a policy of listing an arbitrary base price for every item offered for sale on their websites, which purports to be each item's

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"original" or "regular," non-discounted price. This practice is false and misleading because most, if not all, items are never sold or offered for sale at the listed "original," non-discounted prices, and no items are ever consistently sold or offered for sale at their non-discounted prices. Rather, the items on Defendants' websites are regularly sold at prices that are lower than the purported non-discounted prices.

- 4. Second, Defendants perpetually advertise the items for sale on their websites at purported "discount" or "sale" prices, which Defendants represent to be reduced or discounted by a specified percentage off the items' "original" prices. For example, Defendants will offer a dress for sale at a "discount" price of \$44.98, which they advertise as "50% off" the dress's purported "original" price of \$89.99. See, e.g., Exhibit A. This practice is false and misleading because the advertised discount percentage and "sale" price do not represent an actual discount, as the items were never sold or offered for sale at their listed "original" prices.
- 5. Because the vast majority – if not all – of the items on Defendants' websites are never offered for sale at their listed "original," non-discounted prices, but rather are perpetually offered for sale at purported "discount" or "sale" prices, the reduced prices advertised by Defendants are not actually discounts at all, but rather the everyday, regular prices of the items.
- 6. Federal regulations prohibit the advertising of false, "phantom" price reductions and discounts off inflated, fictitious "regular" prices that never actually existed. See 16 C.F.R. § 233.1.
- 7. Moreover, the consumer protection laws and common law of California and New Jersey, prohibit deceptive advertising, marketing, and sales practices, including advertising and selling items at purported discounts and offering price advantages that do not exist.
- 8. By advertising these purported discounts, which were never actually provided to customers, and by selling items based on these non-existent discounts, Defendants have violated certain state consumer protection laws as well as the common law and federal regulations, as specifically alleged herein.
- 9. Plaintiff brings this lawsuit against Defendants to stop this unlawful practice, to recover for the proposed classes of customers of the online Gap Factory and Banana Republic

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Factory store websites the overcharges that they paid, and to obtain for customers the actual discounts they were entitled to receive but did not due to Defendants' deceptive practices.

PARTIES

- 10. Plaintiff Laurie Munning is an individual and citizen of New Jersey. During the class period, Plaintiff purchased goods from Defendants' online Gap Factory and Banana Republic Factory store websites and suffered an ascertainable loss and monetary damages as a result of Defendants' unlawful conduct alleged herein.
- 11. Defendant The Gap, Inc. is a for-profit corporation formed and existing under the laws of the State of Delaware with its principal place of business at 2 Folsom Street, 13th Floor, San Francisco, California 94105, and thus is a citizen of Delaware and California.
- 12. Defendant Gap (Apparel) LLC is a for-profit limited liability company formed and existing under the laws of the State of California with its principal place of business at 2 Folsom Street, 13th Floor, San Francisco, California 94105, and thus is a citizen of California.
- 13. Defendant Gap International Sales, Inc. is a for-profit corporation formed and existing under the laws of the State of Delaware with its principal place of business at 2 Folsom Street, 13th Floor, San Francisco, California 94105, and thus is a citizen of Delaware and California.
- 14. Defendant Banana Republic LLC is a for-profit limited liability company formed and existing under the laws of the State of Delaware with its principal place of business at 2 Folsom Street, 13th Floor, San Francisco, California 94105, and thus is a citizen of Delaware and California.
- 15. Defendant Banana Republic (Apparel) LLC is a for-profit limited liability company formed and existing under the laws of the State of California with its principal place of business at 2 Folsom Street, 13th Floor, San Francisco, California 94105, and thus is a citizen of California.
- 16. Upon information and belief, all Defendants have a parent-subsidiary relationship, in that Defendants Gap (Apparel) LLC, Gap International Sales, Inc., Banana Republic LLC, and Banana Republic (Apparel) LLC are each wholly-owned subsidiaries of Defendant The Gap, Inc.

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- 17. At all times during the relevant class period, Defendants together owned and operated, and continue to own and operate, approximately 889 Gap and Gap Factory retail stores, and approximately 540 Banana Republic and Banana Republic Factory retail stores, throughout the United States.
- 18. Defendants also own and operate the online Gap, Gap Factory, Banana Republic, and Banana Republic Factory store retail websites, which advertise, market, and sell retail products in every state in the United States, and have done so throughout the relevant class period.
- 19. The Gap Factory and Banana Republic Factory store retail websites are, in effect, one single website, located at http://www.bananarepublicfactory.gapfactory.com. Consumers are able – and in fact are encouraged – to purchase items from both websites via a single transactions. In fact, Defendants advertise at the top of their websites: "Shop both brands. Check out once."
- 20. Defendants jointly operate the online Gap Factory and Banana Republic Factory store websites out of their headquarters in California, which operation entails, inter alia, the creation and implementation of the advertising, marketing, and sales policies described herein, including the sale of items.
- 21. Defendants created the policies and procedures described herein and, at all times during the relevant class period, participated in, endorsed, implemented, and performed the conduct alleged herein.

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

- 22. This Court has in personam jurisdiction over the Defendants because, inter alia, Defendants: (a) are headquartered in the State of California; (b) transacted business in this state; (c) maintained continuous and systematic contacts in this state prior to and during the class period; and (d) purposefully availed themselves of the benefits of doing business in this state. Accordingly, the Defendants maintain minimum contacts with this state which are more than sufficient to subject them to service of process and to comply with due process of law.
 - 23. This Court has federal jurisdiction over the subject matter of this action by virtue

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of the fact that this is a proposed class action where the amount in controversy, exclusive of interest and costs, exceeds \$5,000,000 and Plaintiff and at least one Defendant are citizens of different states.

- 24. Venue is proper in the County of San Francisco because Defendants were within the relevant class period, and continue to be, citizens of this County, in that the principal place of business for each Defendant is located in this County. Moreover, Defendants regularly transacted and continue to transact business in this County, in that Defendants operate their websites from this County and sell items on their websites from this County.
- 25. Moreover, the "Terms of Use" set forth on Defendants' Gap Factory and Banana Republic Factory online websites, which purport to give rise to a binding agreement between Defendants and users of the sites, which include Plaintiff and the nationwide class members, purport to require that any claims brought against Defendants regarding purchases made through Defendants' websites be resolved exclusively by the state and/or federal courts of the State of California, County of San Francisco and/or Northern District of California.

FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS

- 26. Defendants are in the for-profit business of selling apparel and other personal items in their Gap, Gap Factory, Banana Republic, and Banana Republic Factory retail stores, as well as via their online Gap, Gap Factory, Banana Republic, and Banana Republic Factory store retail websites.
- 27. This lawsuit concerns Defendants' false and misleading advertising, marketing, and sales practices with respect to their illusory "discounting" of items sold on their online Gap Factory and Banana Republic Factory store websites.
- 28. Specifically, on both the Gap Factory and Banana Republic Factory store websites, each item offered for sale is, and was during the class period, assigned a base price, which is listed on Defendants' websites and purports to be the "original" or "regular" price of that item.
- 29. This "original" price is illusory, however, because most – if not all – of the items on Defendants' Gap Factory and Banana Republic Factory websites are never sold, or even

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offered for sale, at their listed "original" prices.

- 30. Rather, each of these items is and has always been offered for sale at a 'discounted" price that is much lower than its listed "original" price.
- 31. For each such item, Defendants advertise that the "discounted" price represents a certain percentage reduction off the "original" price.
- 32. Thus, Defendants represent to their customers that the base price is the "original" or "regular," non-discounted price of the item offered for sale, and the "sale" price is a discounted price.
- By way of example, Defendants will offer a dress for sale at a "discount" price of 33. \$44.98, and they will advertise – in red lettering – that this price is "50% off" the dress's purported "original" price of \$89.99. See Exhibit A.
- The advertised price of the dress, which is set forth below its picture and 34. description on Defendants' websites, appear as follows in Exhibit A:

\$89.99 50% off

Now \$44.98

- Upon information and belief, the dress was never sold or offered for sale at the 35. advertised "original" price, or was never consistently sold or offered for sale at this price.
- 36. Because the dress was never sold or offered for sale at the advertised "original" price, it is not actually discounted by 50%, and thus the 50% discount advertised by Defendants, as well as the purported "sale" price, is false and misleading.
- 37. Defendants follow this identical advertising and sales procedure for the vast majority – if not all – of the items offered for sale on their Gap Factory and Banana Republic Factory store retail websites.
- Indeed, the vast majority of the items offered for sale on Defendants' websites are 38. never sold or offered for sale at their listed "original" prices, and the few items that are offered for sale at their "original" prices are so offered only for a very limited amount of time.
- 39. Rather, nearly all of the items on Defendants' websites are always advertised as being "on sale" and offered to the public at purported discounts, which Defendants typically

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claim to be between 10% off and 50% off the "original" prices.

- 40. Moreover, nearly all of the items on Defendants' websites remain at identical or substantially similar prices every day, and are always offered for sale to customers at the same or substantially similar prices, which Defendants advertise to be the items' "sale" or "discounted" prices.
- 41. Because Defendants' purported sale prices for these items never end, but rather continue on a daily basis and are available anytime a customer visits Defendants' websites, they are not actually discounted or sale prices at all, but rather constitute the everyday, regular prices of the items.
- 42. Upon information and belief, Defendants never significantly increase the price of any item from its advertised sale price. Over time, however, Defendants may reduce the prices of certain items – for example, to clear out excess inventory – resulting in an item being offered for a lower price in a subsequent sale. The prices of such items are not raised back to the original sale price, but remain at the reduced price (or eventually are reduced even further).
- 43. This practice violates 16 C.F.R. § 233.1, which specifically prohibits the advertising of false, "phantom" price reductions and discounts off inflated, fictitious "regular" prices that never actually existed. See 16 C.F.R. § 233.1., stating:

"§ 233.1 Former price comparisons.

- (a) One of the most commonly used forms of bargain advertising is to offer a reduction from the advertiser's own former price for an article. If the former price is the actual, bona fide price at which the article was offered to the public on a regular basis for a reasonably substantial period of time, it provides a legitimate basis for the advertising of a price comparison. Where the former price is genuine, the bargain being advertised is a true one. If, on the other hand, the former price being advertised is not bona fide but fictitious – for example, where an artificial, inflated price was established for the purpose of enabling the subsequent offer of a large reduction - the "bargain" being advertised is a false one; the purchaser is not receiving the unusual value he expects. In such a case, the "reduced" price is, in reality, probably just the seller's regular price.
- (b) A former price is not necessarily fictitious merely because no sales at the advertised price were made. The advertiser should be especially careful, however, in such a case, that the price is one at which the product was openly and actively offered for sale, for a reasonably substantial period of time, in the recent, regular course of his business, honestly and in good faith - and, of course, not for the purpose of establishing a fictitious higher price on which a

deceptive comparison might be based. And the advertiser should scrupulously avoid any implication that a former price is a selling, not an asking price (for example, by use of such language as, "Formerly sold at \$____"), unless substantial sales at that price were actually made.

* * *

- (d) Other illustrations of fictitious price comparisons could be given. An advertiser might use a price at which he never offered the article at all; he might feature a price which was not used in the regular course of business, or which was not used in the recent past but at some remote period in the past, without making disclosure of that fact; he might use a price that was not openly offered to the public, or that was not maintained for a reasonable length of time, but was immediately reduced.
- (e) If the former price is set forth in the advertisement, whether accompanied or not by descriptive terminology such as "Regularly," "Usually," "Formerly," etc., the advertiser should make certain that the former price is not a fictitious one. If the former price, or the amount or percentage of reduction, is not stated in the advertisement, as when the ad merely states, "Sale," the advertiser must take care that the amount of reduction is not so insignificant as to be meaningless. It should be sufficiently large that the consumer, if he knew what it was, would believe that a genuine bargain or saving was being offered. An advertiser who claims that an item has been "Reduced to \$9.99," when the former price was \$10, is misleading the consumer, who will understand the claim to mean that a much greater, and not merely nominal, reduction was being offered." (emphasis added)
- 44. Upon information and belief, the purported "original" prices of the items on Defendants' websites are "not bona fide but fictitious" under 16 C.F.R. § 233.1 because the items were never sold or offered for sale at those prices.
- 45. Consequently, the purported "reduced" prices are "in reality, ... [Defendants'] regular price[s]" and "the 'bargain[s]' being advertised" by Defendants are "false." 16 C.F.R. § 233.1.
- 46. What happened to Plaintiff Munning helps illustrate Defendants' unlawful practices described herein.
- 47. On March 15, 2016, Plaintiff Munning purchased from the Gap Factory retail website a pair of "Factory multi-stripe swim trunks" (Item No. 8870110010002) for \$16.99. The swim trunks were advertised to be on sale at a "32% off" discount from the purported original retail price of \$24.99. See Exhibits A and B.

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48.	The advertis	sed price of the	swim trunks,	which was	s set forth	below its	picture	and
description	on Defendants	Gap Factory v	vebsite, appea	red in Exhi	ibit A as f	ollows:		

\$24.99 32% off

Now \$16.99

- 49. As part of the same transaction, Plaintiff Munning also purchased from the Banana Republic Factory retail website a "Factory Colorblock Ponte Sheath" dress (Item No. 1824830010010) for \$44.98 and a "Factory Dolman Pontielle Sweater" (Item No. 1818810110002) for \$45.98. The dress was advertised to be on sale at a "50% off" discount from the purported original retail price of \$89.99, and the sweater was advertised to be on sale at a "16% off" discount from the purported original retail price of \$54.99. See Exhibit A.
- 50. The advertised price of the dress, which was set forth below its picture and description on Defendants' Banana Republic Factory website, appeared at Exhibit A as follows:

\$89.99 50% off

Now \$44.98

51. The advertised price of the sweater, which was set forth below its picture and description on Defendants' Banana Republic Factory website, appeared at Exhibit A as follows:

\$54.99 16% off

Now \$45.98

- 52. Plaintiff Munning purchased the three items from Defendants' websites via a single transaction on March 15, 2016 and paid a single payment to Defendants for the three items that totaled \$107.95. See Exhibit B.
- 53. On the following day, March 16, 2016, the prices of the swim trunks, dress, and sweater remained unchanged.
- 54. Indeed, the prices for the swim trunks, dress, and sweater remained unchanged for the entire week following Plaintiff's purchase, as did the advertisements on Defendants' websites related thereto. See Exhibit A.
- 55. Accordingly, during the week following Plaintiff's purchase of the swim trunks for "32% off," the dress for "50% off," and the sweater for "16% off," none of the three items

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was ever sold at its listed non-discounted, "original" price. Indeed, the prices of the three items never exceeded the purported "discounted" or "sale" price that Plaintiff paid.

- 56. Moreover, over one month later, the price of the swim trunks that Plaintiff purchased had only slightly increased (by one dollar) to \$17.99, which Defendants advertised to be "28% off" the non-discounted, "original" price of \$24.99. The price and purported discount of the dress did not change – it was still offered for sale at a price of \$44.98, which Defendants advertised to be "50% off" the non-discounted, "original" price of \$89.99.
- 57. Upon information and belief, the three items purchased by Plaintiff were never sold or offered for sale at the non-discounted, base prices listed on Defendants' websites, or were never consistently sold or offered for sell at their advertised base prices. Rather, the items were always sold and offered for sale at a price at or near the purported "sale" price that Plaintiff paid.
- 58. As such, the items that Plaintiff purchased were not actually on sale or discounted at all when Plaintiff purchased them, as represented by Defendants, and they certainly were not discounted to the extent claimed by Defendants.
- 59. Moreover, the prices that Plaintiff paid for the items were not sale or discounted prices at all, as represented by Defendants, but rather were the everyday, regular prices for the items.
- 60. Defendants' misrepresentations about the purported discounted prices of the items were calculated and intended to, and did in fact, induce Plaintiff's purchase thereof.
 - 61. What happened to Plaintiff Munning was not an accident or an isolated incident.
- 62. Rather, it was part of a uniform policy in which Defendants engaged in a systematic scheme of false and misleading advertising, marketing, and sales practices with the purpose of persuading customers to purchase items from Defendants' online Gap Factory and Banana Republic Factory store websites.
- 63. Plaintiff and class member reliance upon Defendants' false price comparison advertising was not only reasonable, but entirely intended by Defendants. Indeed, empirical marketing studies have provided an incentive for retailers to engage in this false and fraudulent behavior:

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[c]omparative price advertising offers consumers a basis for comparing the
relative value of the product offering by suggesting a monetary worth of the
product and any potential savings [A] comparative price advertisement
can be construed as deceptive if it makes any representation, or involves
any practice that may materially mislead a reasonable consumer.

Comparative Price Advertising: Informative or Deceptive?, Dhruv Grewal and Larry D. Compeau, Journal of Public Policy & Marketing, Vol. 11, No. 1, at 52 (Spring 1992). In short:

[b]y creating an impression of savings, the presence of a higher reference price enhances subjects' perceived value and willingness to buy the product.

. . Thus, if the reference price is not truthful, a consumer may be encouraged to purchase as a result of a false sense of value.

Id. at 55, 56

- 64. Defendants' specific unlawful practices include:
 - a. Setting and advertising an arbitrary base price for every item on their websites, which price purports to be the item's "original" or "regular" price despite the fact that the items are never sold or offered for sale at this price;
 - b. Advertising and purporting to offer items for sale at a discount off their "original" prices, when the "discounted" sale prices do not actually represent the advertised savings since the items were never offered for sale at the "original" prices; and
 - c. Representing that items are on sale and offered at discounted prices when in fact the items are being offered for sale at their everyday, regular prices.
- 65. These unlawful practices go well beyond the three items that Plaintiff purchased, and are applied by Defendants to the vast majority if not all of the items on Defendants' websites.
- 66. As described herein, the "sale" prices advertised by Defendants are not actually discounted prices at all, but rather are the everyday, regular prices of the items.
- 67. Indeed, Defendants' purported "discounts" advertised on their websites and described herein did not exist. Rather, Defendants always sold their items at, or very close to,

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the "discounted" prices. As such, Defendants' allegedly reduced, "sale" prices were and are, in fact, Defendants' regular prices.

- 68. These deceptive advertising, marketing, and sales practices were kept secret, and were affirmatively and fraudulent concealed from customers by Defendants throughout the class period. As a result, Plaintiff and her fellow Gap Factory and Banana Republic Factory online store customers were unaware of Defendants' unlawful conduct alleged herein and did not know they were actually paying the everyday, regular prices for Defendants' products, rather than the advertised, purported discount prices.
- 69. Plaintiff and the class members did not discover, nor could they have discovered through reasonable diligence, that Defendants were violating the law until shortly before this litigation was initially commenced, because Defendants used methods to avoid detection and to conceal their violations of the law.
- 70. Defendants did not tell or otherwise inform Plaintiff or the class members that they were engaged in the deceptive advertising, marketing, and sales practices alleged herein. By their very nature, Defendants' unlawful practices were self-concealing.
- 71. In sum, Defendants induced Plaintiff and the class members to purchase items from Defendants' online websites, for Defendants' profit, with the promise of discounts that never existed. As a result of this unlawful, deceptive conduct, Plaintiff and the class members have suffered damages set forth herein.

CLASS ACTION ALLEGATIONS

72. Class Definition: Plaintiff brings this action as a class action pursuant to Fed.R.Civ.P. 23, seeking damages and injunctive relief on behalf of herself and all members of the following two proposed classes (hereafter the "nationwide classes"):

> All persons in the United States who purchased any purportedly discounted item from Defendants' online Gap Factory store website between May 24, 2010 and the present.

and

All persons in the United States who purchased any purportedly discounted item from Defendants' online Banana Republic Factory

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73. **Sub-Class Definition:** Plaintiff also brings this action as a class action pursuant to Fed.R.Civ.P. 23, seeking damages and injunctive relief on behalf of herself and all members of the following two proposed sub-classes(hereafter the "New Jersey sub-classes"):

All persons in New Jersey who purchased any purportedly discounted item from Defendants' online Gap Factory store website between May 24, 2010 and the present.

and

All persons in New Jersey who purchased any purportedly discounted item from Defendants' online Banana Republic Factory store website between May 24, 2010 and the present.

- 74. The scope of the class definitions may be refined after discovery of Defendants' and/or third party records.
- 75. Each of the classes for whose benefit this action is brought is so numerous that joinder of all members is impracticable.
- 76. The exact number and identities of the persons who fit within each proposed class are contained in Defendants' records and can be easily ascertained from those records.
- 77. The proposed classes and subclasses are each composed of at least 10,000 persons.
 - 78. Common questions of law and fact exist as to each class member.
- 79. All claims in this action arise exclusively from uniform policies and procedures of Defendants as outlined herein.
- 80. No violations alleged in this Complaint are a result of any individualized oral communications or individualized interaction of any kind between class members and Defendants or anyone else.
- 81. There are common questions of law and fact affecting the rights of the class members, including, <u>inter alia</u>, the following:
 - a. whether the uniform advertising, marketing, and sales practices alleged herein exist;
 - b. whether Defendants ever sold items or offered items for sale at their listed base

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- whether Defendants' "sale" prices actually reflected the advertised savings;
- whether Defendants deceptively advertised everyday, regular prices of their d. items as "discount" or "sale" prices;
- the length of time Defendants engaged in the practices alleged herein;
- whether the alleged practices violated certain state consumer protection laws; f.
- whether the alleged practices constituted a breach of contract; g.
- whether the alleged practices constituted a breach of an express warranty; h.
- the nature and extent of the injury to the classes and the measure of class-wide i. damages; and
- whether each class is entitled to injunctive relief in the form of an order directing Defendant to send a court-approved notice to all class members, advising of the conduct alleged herein, as well as an order enjoining the conduct alleged herein and establishing a court-administered program to provide refunds of the overcharges to all such class members.
- 82. Plaintiff is a member of the classes she seeks to represent.
- 83. The claims of Plaintiff are not only typical of all class members, they are identical.
- 84. All claims of Plaintiff and the classes arise from the same course of conduct, policy and procedures as outlined herein.
 - 85. All claims of Plaintiff and the classes are based on the exact same legal theories.
 - 86. Plaintiff seeks the same relief for herself as for every other class member.
 - 87. Plaintiff has no interest antagonistic to or in conflict with the classes.
- 88. Plaintiff will thoroughly and adequately protect the interests of the classes, having retained qualified and competent legal counsel to represent herself and the classes.
- 89. Defendant has acted and/or refused to act on grounds generally applicable to the classes, thereby making appropriate injunctive and declaratory relief for each class as a whole.
 - 90. The prosecution of separate actions by individual class members would create a

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risk of inconsistent or varying adjudications with respect to individual members of each class, which would confront Defendant with incompatible standards of conduct.

- 91. Adjudications with respect to individual members of the classes would as a practical matter be dispositive of the interests of other members not parties to the adjudications and would substantially impair or impede their ability to protect their interests.
- 92. A class action is superior to other available methods for the fair and efficient adjudication of the controversy since, inter alia, the damages suffered by each class member were not great enough to enable them to maintain separate suits against Defendants and in most, if not all, instances were less than \$500 per person.
- 93. Common questions will predominate, and there will be no unusual manageability issues.
- 94. Without the proposed class action, Defendants will likely retain the benefit of their wrongdoing and will continue the complained-of practices, which will result in further damages to Plaintiff and class members.

COUNT I

VIOLATION OF STATE CONSUMER PROTECTION STATUTES

(On Behalf of the Nationwide Classes)

(DISMISSED WITH PREJUDICE BY THE COURT'S ORDER **DATED OCTOBER 28, 2016)**

COUNT II

VIOLATION OF THE CALIFORNIA CONSUMERS LEGAL REMEDIES ACT, CAL. CIV. CODE § 1750, et seq.

(On Behalf of the Nationwide Classes)

- 95. Plaintiff realleges and incorporates by reference all previous paragraphs of this Complaint as if set forth fully herein.
- 96. Plaintiff brings this claim individually and on behalf of all other nationwide class members who purchased items from Defendants' website pursuant to the California Consumers Legal Remedies Act, Cal. Civ. Code § 1750, et seq. (the "CCLRA"), because the actions of

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Defendants, and their conduct described herein, constitute transactions that have resulted in the sale of goods to consumers.

- 97. California law applies to the claims of Plaintiff and the nationwide classes because Defendants are citizens of California and performed the acts complained of herein in California, including advertising the fictitious price discounts and selling products based thereupon. Moreover, the "Terms of Use" set forth on Defendants' Gap Factory and Banana Republic Factory online websites, which purport to give rise to a binding agreement between Defendants and users of the sites, which include Plaintiff and the nationwide class members, purport to apply California law to any claims brought against Defendants regarding purchases made through Defendants' websites.
- 98. Plaintiff and each class member are "consumers" as defined by California Civil Code § 1761(d).
- 99. The items offered for sale on Defendants' websites are "goods" within the meaning of California Civil Code § 1761(a). The sale of these items to Plaintiff and the class were "transactions" within the meaning of 1761(e). Defendants intended to, and did in fact, sell these items to Plaintiff and the classes.
 - 100. Defendants violated the CCLRA in at least the following respects:
 - in violation of § 1770(a)(5), Defendants represented that the items on their websites have characteristics which they do not have (i.e., that the items have an "original" price when they do not, and are being offered for sale at a discounted price when they are not);
 - in violation of § 1770(a)(9), Defendants advertised the items on their websites with intent not to sell them as advertised (i.e., the items were advertised as being on sale when Defendants intended to, and did in fact, sell them at their regular prices);
 - in violation of § 1770(a)(13), Defendants have made false and misleading statements of fact concerning the existence and amounts of price reductions (i.e., by advertising discounts and offering sale prices that did not exist); and

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- d. in violation of § 1770(a)(16), Defendants represented that the items on their websites have been supplied in accordance with previous representations (*i.e.*, that they were sold at a discounted price) when they were not.
- 101. By the acts alleged herein, Defendants have violated the CCLRA. Specifically, Defendants:
 - a. Set and advertised an arbitrary base price for numerous items on their websites, which price was represented to be the item's "original" or "regular" price despite the fact that such items were never sold or offered for sale at that price;
 - b. Continuously advertised and offered items for sale at a discount off their purported base prices, when the "discounted" sale prices did not actually represent the advertised savings since the items were never offered for sale at their base prices;
 - c. Represented that items were on sale and offered at discounted prices when in fact the items were being offered for sale at their everyday, regular prices; and
 - d. Charged their customers the full, regular price for the items on their websites rather than the advertised sale or discounted price.
- 102. Defendants knew, or should have known, that their representations, advertisements, and actions were false and misleading.
- 103. These acts and omissions constitute unfair, deceptive, and misleading business practices in violation of California Civil Code § 1770(a).
- 104. On March 28, 2016, Plaintiff sent notice to Defendants in writing, by certified mail, of the violations alleged herein and demanded that Defendants remedy those violations with respect to herself and the classes.
- 105. On November 10, 2016 Plaintiff sent an additional notice to Defendants in writing, by certified mail and UPS, of the violations alleged herein and demanded that Defendants remedy those violations with respect to herself and the classes. See Exhibit C, November 10, 2016 notice and certified mail receipt for same.
 - 106. To date, Defendants have not remedied their practices complained of herein.

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- 107. Defendants' conduct was malicious, fraudulent, and wanton in that Defendants intentionally and knowingly provided misleading information to the public.
- 108. Plaintiff and each nationwide class member were injured in fact and lost money as a result of Defendants' deceptive conduct.
- 109. Plaintiff now seeks actual, punitive, and statutory damages pursuant to the CCLRA for herself and the nationwide classes.

COUNT III

VIOLATION OF THE CALIFORNIA UNFAIR COMPETITION LAW, CAL. BUS. & PROF. CODE § 17200, et seq.

(On Behalf of the Nationwide Classes)

- 110. Plaintiff realleges and incorporates by reference all previous paragraphs of this Complaint as if set forth fully herein.
 - 111. Plaintiff brings this claim individually and on behalf of the nationwide classes.
- 112. The California Unfair Competition Law, California Business & Professions Code § 17200, et seq. (the "CUCL"), prohibits acts of "unfair competition," which is defined as including "any unlawful, unfair or fraudulent business act or practice"
- 113. By the acts alleged herein, Defendants have engaged in unfair competition and unfair, unlawful, or fraudulent business practices in violation of the CUCL. Specifically, Defendants:
 - a. Set and advertised an arbitrary base price for numerous items on their websites, which price was represented to be the item's "original" or "regular" price despite the fact that such items were never sold or offered for sale at that price;
 - b. Continuously advertised and offered items for sale at a discount off their purported base prices, when the "discounted" sale prices did not actually represent the advertised savings since the items were never offered for sale at their base prices;
 - c. Represented that items were on sale and offered at discounted prices when in fact the items were being offered for sale at their everyday, regular prices; and

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- d. Charged their customers the full, regular price for the items on their websites rather than the advertised sale or discounted price.
- Defendants intentionally and purposefully concealed these actions from Plaintiff 114. and the class members.
- 115. Defendants' conduct was unlawful in that it violates, without limitation, the CCLRA, and California's False Advertising Law, California Business & Professions Code § 17500, et seq. (the "CFAL"). Defendants' conduct was unfair in that it offends established public policy and/or is immoral, unethical, oppressive, unscrupulous, and substantially injurious to Plaintiff and the class members. The harm to Plaintiff and the class members arising from Defendants' conduct outweighs any legitimate benefit Defendants derived from the conduct. Defendants' conduct undermines and violates the stated spirit and policies underlying the CCLRA and the CFAL as alleged herein. Defendants' actions and practices constitute fraudulent business practices in violation of the CUCL because, among other things, they are likely to deceive reasonable consumers. Plaintiff and the class members justifiably relied on Defendants' representations and omissions.
- These acts and practices have deceived Plaintiff and the class members and are 116. likely to deceive persons targeted by such statements and omissions. In failing to disclose their unlawful sales and marketing practices, Defendants breached their duties to disclose these facts, violated the CUCL, and caused injuries to Plaintiff and the class members. The omissions and acts of concealment by Defendants pertained to information that was material to Plaintiff and the class members, as it would have been to all reasonable consumers.
- 117. Due to the deceptive nature of Defendants' actions, the injuries suffered by Plaintiff and the class members were not reasonably avoidable.
- Plaintiff seeks to enjoin further unlawful, unfair, and/or fraudulent acts or 118. practices by Defendants, to obtain restitutionary disgorgement of all monies and revenues generated as a result of such practices, and all other relief allowed under the CUCL.

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COUNT IV

VIOLATION OF THE CALIFORNIA FALSE ADVERTISING LAW, CAL. BUS. & PROF. CODE § 17500, et seq.

(On Behalf of the Nationwide Classes)

- 119. Plaintiff realleges and incorporates by reference all previous paragraphs of this Complaint as if set forth fully herein.
 - 120. Plaintiff brings this claim individually and on behalf of the nationwide classes.
- 121. By the acts alleged herein, Defendants have publicly disseminated untrue or misleading advertising and have intended not to sell the items on their websites as advertised, in violation of the CFAL. Specifically, Defendants:
 - Set and advertised an arbitrary base price for numerous items on their websites, a. which price was represented to be the item's "original" or "regular" price despite the fact that such items were never sold or offered for sale at that price;
 - Continuously advertised and offered items for sale at a discount off their b. purported base prices, when the "discounted" sale prices did not actually represent the advertised savings since the items were never offered for sale at their base prices;
 - Represented that items were on sale and offered at discounted prices when in fact c. the items were being offered for sale at their everyday, regular prices; and
 - Charged their customers the full, regular price for the items on their websites d. rather than the advertised sale or discounted price.
- 122. Defendants committed such violations of the CFAL with actual knowledge that their advertising was untrue or misleading, or in the exercise of reasonable care should have known that their advertising was untrue or misleading.
- 123. Plaintiff and the class members reasonably relied on Defendants' representations and/or omissions made in violation of the CFAL.
- As a direct and proximate result of these violations, Plaintiff and the class 124. members suffered injury and fact and lost money.

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- 125. Plaintiff intends to purchase additional items from Defendants' website if she could be confident that the purported percentage "off" discounts and purported price comparisons were accurate.
- Plaintiff, individually and on behalf of the class members, seeks equitable relief in 126. the form of an order requiring Defendants to refund Plaintiff and all class members all monies they paid for the items they purchased via Defendants' websites, and injunctive relief in the form of an order prohibiting Defendants from engaging in the alleged misconduct and performing a corrective advertising campaign.

COUNT V

VIOLATION OF THE NEW JERSEY CONSUMER FRAUD ACT

N.J.S.A. 56:8-1, et seq.

(On Behalf of the New Jersey Subclasses)

- Plaintiff realleges and incorporates by reference all previous paragraphs of this 127. Complaint as if fully set forth herein.
- 128. Plaintiff brings this claim individually and on behalf of all other New Jersey subclass members who were customers of Defendants' online Gap Factory and Banana Republic Factory store websites.
- The New Jersey Consumer Fraud Act, N.J.S.A. 56:8-1, et seq. (the "NJCFA"). applies to all sales made by Defendants to New Jersey consumers from Defendants' Gap Factory and Banana Republic Factory store websites.
- 130. The NJCFA was enacted to protect consumers against sharp and unconscionable commercial practices by persons engaged in the sale of goods or services. See Marascio v. Campanella, 689 A.2d 852, 857 (App. Div. 1997).
- 131. The NJCFA is a remedial statute which the New Jersey Supreme Court has repeatedly held must be construed liberally in favor of the consumer to accomplish its deterrent and protective purposes. See Furst v. Einstein Moomjy, Inc., 860 A.2d 435, 441 (N.J. 2004) ("The [NJCFA] is remedial legislation that we construe liberally to accomplish its broad purpose of safeguarding the public.").

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- 132. "The available legislative history demonstrates that the [NJCFA] was intended to be one of the strongest consumer protection laws in the nation." New Mea Const. Corp. v. Harper, 497 A.2d 534, 543 (App. Div. 1985).
- 133. For this reason, the "history of the [NJCFA] is one of constant expansion of consumer protection." Kavky v. Herbalife Int'l of Am., 820 A.2d 677, 681-82 (App. Div 2003).
- 134. The NJCFA was intended to protect consumers "by eliminating sharp practices and dealings in the marketing of merchandise and real estate." Lemelledo v. Beneficial Mgmt. Corp., 696 A.2d 546, 550 (N.J. 1997).
- Specifically, N.J.S.A. 56:8-2 prohibits "unlawful practices, ..." which are defined as:

"The act, use or employment of any unconscionable commercial practice, deception, fraud, false pretense, misrepresentation, or the knowing, concealment, suppression, or omission of any material fact with intent that others rely upon such concealment, suppression or omission whether or not any person has in fact been misled, deceived or damaged thereby."

- The catch-all term "unconscionable commercial practice" was added to the 136. NJCFA by amendment in 1971 to ensure that the Act covered, inter alia, "incomplete **disclosures.**" Skeer v. EMK Motors, Inc., 455 A.2d 508, 512 (App.Div. 1982).
- 137. In describing what constitutes an "unconscionable commercial practice," the New Jersey Supreme Court has noted that it is an amorphous concept designed to establish a broad business ethic. See Cox v. Sears Roebuck & Co., 647 A.2d 454, 462 (N.J. 1994).
- 138. In order to state a cause of action under the NJCFA, a plaintiff does not need to show reliance by the consumer. See Varacallo v. Massachusetts Mut. Life Ins. Co., 752 A.2d 807 (App. Div. 2000); Gennari v. Weichert Co. Realtors, 691 A.2d 350 (N.J. 1997) (holding that reliance is not required in suits under the NJCFA because liability results from "misrepresentations whether 'any person has in fact been misled, deceived or damaged thereby").
 - Rather, the NJCFA requires merely a causal nexus between the false statement

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and the purchase, not actual reliance. See Lee v. Carter-Reed Co., L.L.C., 4 A.3d 561, 577 (2010) ("causation under the [NJCFA] is not the equivalent of reliance").

- 140. As stated by the New Jersey Supreme Court in Lee, 4 A.3d at 580: "It bears repeating that the [NJCFA] does not require proof of reliance, but only a causal connection between the unlawful practice and ascertainable loss."
- 141. By the acts alleged herein, Defendants have violated the NJCFA. Specifically, Defendants:
 - Set and advertised an arbitrary base price for numerous items on their websites, which price was represented to be the item's "original" or "regular" price despite the fact that such items were never sold or offered for sale at that price;
 - Continuously advertised and offered items for sale at a discount off their purported base prices, when the "discounted" sale prices did not actually represent the advertised savings since the items were never offered for sale at their base prices;
 - Represented that items were on sale and offered at discounted prices when in fact the items were being offered for sale at their everyday, regular prices; and
 - Charged their customers the full, regular price for the items on their websites rather than the advertised sale or discounted price.
- 142. These uniform practices by Defendants constitute sharp and unconscionable commercial practices relating to the sale of goods in violation of the NJCFA, N.J.S.A. § 56:8-1, et seq.
- 143. As alleged herein, Defendant has engaged in deceptive conduct which creates a likelihood of confusion or misunderstanding.
- These actions also constitute "omission[s] of any material fact with intent that 144. others rely upon such concealment," as Defendants did not inform Plaintiff and the class members that the items offered for sale on their websites were not actually discounted at all, but rather were being sold at their everyday, regular prices. Defendants purposefully omitted this

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information so that their customers would believe that they were getting a discounted price on the items they purchased from Defendants, when in fact they were not.

- 145. As such, Defendants have acted with knowledge that its conduct was deceptive and with intent that such conduct deceive purchasers.
- 146. Further, the statements on Defendants' website that the purported "sale" price of the item was a certain % discount "off" the stated, purported comparison price was a false, affirmative statement of fact, since the items in question were never sold at that comparison price and the purported "sale" price was actually Defendants' regular price for the item.
- 147. Moreover, because Defendant's conduct described herein is a violation of both federal and New Jersey state regulations, such conduct constitutes a per se violation of the NJCFA, N.J.S.A. § 56:8-1, et seq.
- 148. Specifically, Defendant's conduct violates 16 C.F.R. § 233.1 in that the purported "original" prices of the items on Defendants' websites were "not bona fide but fictitious" under 16 C.F.R. § 233.1 because the items were never actually sold or offered for sale at those prices. Thus, the purported "reduced" prices offered by Defendants were "in reality, ... [Defendants'] regular price[s]" and "the 'bargain[s]' being advertised" by Defendants were "false." C.F.R. § 233.1.
- 149. Defendants' conduct also violated both N.J.A.C. 13:45A-9.3(a)(3) and 13:45A-9.4(a)(5) and (6). These regulations require, inter alia, that a seller advertising a purported percentage "off" discount and/or price comparison must affirmatively state in writing the basis for the purported discount and the source of the price which is being used for comparison, including whether that price was previously charged by the seller or its competitors and when and where that former price was previously charged. Defendant's website clearly does not do any of this.
- 150. Plaintiff and the class members reasonably and justifiably expected Defendants to comply with applicable law, but Defendants failed to do so.

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- 151. As a direct and proximate result of these unlawful actions by Defendants, Plaintiff and the New Jersey subclasses have been injured and have suffered an ascertainable loss of money.
- As with other terms of the NJCFA, the term "ascertainable loss" is to be construed 152. liberally in favor of the consumer in order to carry out the NJCFA's broad remedial purposes. Cox v. Sears Roebuck & Co., 138 N.J. 2, 21-22 (1994); In Union Ink Co., Inc. v. AT&T Corp., 352 N.J. Super. 617, 646 (App. Div. 2002)(holding that the ascertainable loss "requirement has been broadly defined as embracing more than a monetary loss").
- The NJCFA does not require a plaintiff to have suffered any out-of-pocket loss. 153. See Union Ink, 352 N.J. Super. at 646:

"a victim of consumer fraud must prove an 'ascertainable loss,' N.J.S.A. 56:8-19, but that requirement has been broadly defined as embracing more than a monetary loss. (emphasis added)

154. Indeed, a consumer has experienced an "ascertainable loss" within the meaning of the NJCFA whenever the consumer fails to receive the bargain which was promised by the seller. See International Union v. Merck & Co, 384 N.J. Super. 275, 291 (App. Div. 2006):

> "Ascertainable loss 'has been broadly defined as more than a monetary loss' and encompasses situations where 'a consumer receives less than what was promised." (emphasis added)

Indeed, in Furst v. Einstein Moomjy, 182 N.J. 1 (2004), the New Jersey Supreme Court rejected the argument that the concept of "ascertainable loss" under the NJCFA is limited to the current out-of-pocket dollar loss suffered by the consumer and held that the term included a situation where a consumer had not received the benefit of a discount promised by the seller. See Furst, 192 N.J. at 13-14:

> "In light of the Legislature's clear intent [in passing the Consumer Fraud Act], it would be incongruous to provide consumers with a form of damages less than what is available in an ordinary breach-ofcontract case. The 'expectation interest' of the consumer who purchases merchandise at a discount is the benefit of the bargain. The

statute cannot be construed to allow an offending merchant to benefit from his own deception." (emphasis added)

- 156. Plaintiff suffered an ascertainable loss within the meaning of the NJCFA when she failed to receive the full benefit of the purported discount offered by Defendants and when she was lulled into making a purchase of \$107.95 by the promise of the illusory discounts promised by Defendants.
- 157. Specifically, Plaintiff Munning was promised by Defendants' website that she was receiving a "32% off" discount on her purchase of the swim trunks, a "50% off" discount on her purchase of the dress and "16% off" discount on her purchase of the sweater. As outlined herein, she did not receive any of these promised discounts, since the merchandise was being sold at Defendants' normal, everyday prices.
- 158. Moreover, in exchange for her payment of \$107.95, Defendants' website promised Plaintiff in writing that she would receive three items of merchandise that, together, had previously sold for a total of \$169.97. In actuality, these three items had never sold for \$169.97. Thus, Plaintiff did not receive the promised total discount of \$62.02 off the purported prior prices.
- 159. Finally, Plaintiff would not have made any purchase from Defendants' website at all on the day in question but for the false promise by Defendants that she was receiving discounted merchandise and thus Plaintiff's entire payment of \$107.95 was a loss caused by Defendants' misconduct.
- 160. Plaintiff would purchase items from Defendants' website in the future if she could be confident that the purported % "off" discounts and purported price comparisons listed on that website were truthful and accurate.
- 161. Pursuant to <u>N.J.S.A</u>. 56:8-19 of the NJCFA, Plaintiffs seeks, <u>inter alia</u>, actual damages, treble damages and injunctive relief for herself and the New Jersey sub-classes.

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COUNT VI

VIOLATION OF THE NEW JERSEY TRUTH IN CONSUMER CONTRACT, WARRANTY AND NOTICE ACT, N.J.S.A. § 56:12-14, et seq.

(On Behalf of the New Jersey Subclasses)

- 162. Plaintiff realleges and incorporates by reference all previous paragraphs of this Complaint as if fully set forth herein.
- 163. Plaintiff brings this claim individually and on behalf of all other New Jersey subclass members who were customers of Defendants' online Gap Factory and Banana Republic Factory stores.
- 164. Plaintiff and the New Jersey subclass members are "consumers" within the meaning of N.J.S.A. §§ 56:12-15 and 16.
 - 165. Defendants are "sellers" within the meaning of N.J.S.A. §§ 56:12-15 and 16.
- 166. The advertisements and representations on Defendants' websites, stating, e.g., that the items on the websites are being offered for sale at a discounted price, is both a consumer "notice" and "warranty" within the meaning of N.J.S.A. §§ 56:12-15 and 16.
- 167. By the acts alleged herein, Defendants have violated N.J.S.A. § 56:12-16 because, in the course of Defendants' business, Defendants have offered written consumer notices and warranties to Plaintiff and the New Jersey subclass members which contained provisions that violated their clearly established legal rights under state law and federal regulations, within the meaning of N.J.S.A. § 56:12-15.
- Specifically, Defendants' website is a consumer "notice" and/or "sign" within the meaning of N.J.S.A. § 56:12-15.
- The website which was presented and shown by Defendants to Plaintiff and the 169. New Jersey class violated their clearly established rights under 16 C.F.R. § 233.1 to be free of false purported discounts and the use of fictitious former prices in advertising, as well as their rights under N.J.A.C. 13:45A-9.3(a)(3) and 13:45A-9.4(a)(5) and (6), which require a seller advertising a purported percentage "off" discount and/or a price comparison to affirmatively state in writing the basis for the discount and the source of the price which is being used for

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comparison, including whether that price was charged by the seller or its competitors and when and where that former price was previously charged.

Pursuant to N.J.S.A. § 56:12-17, Plaintiff seeks a statutory penalty of \$100 for each New Jersey subclass member, as well as actual damages and attorneys' fees and costs.

COUNT VII

BREACH OF CONTRACT

(On Behalf of the Nationwide Classes and New Jersey Subclasses)

- 171. Plaintiff realleges and incorporates by reference all previous paragraphs of this Complaint as if fully set forth herein.
 - 172. Plaintiff and the class members entered into contracts with Defendants.
- 173. The contracts provided that Plaintiff and the class members would pay Defendants for their products.
- 174. The contracts further provided that Defendants would provide Plaintiff and the class members a specific discount on the price of their purchases. This specified discount was a specific and material term of each contract.
- Plaintiff and the class members paid Defendants for the products they purchased, 175. and satisfied all other conditions of the contracts.
- 176. Defendants breached the contracts with Plaintiff and the class members by failing to comply with the material term of providing the promised discount, and instead charged Plaintiff and the class members the full price of the products they purchased.
- 177. As a direct and proximate result of Defendants' breach, Plaintiff and the class members have been injured and have suffered actual damages in an amount to be established at trial.

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BREACH OF CONTRACT UNDER THE IMPLIED COVENANT OF GOOD FAITH AND FAIR DEALING

(On Behalf of the Nationwide Classes and New Jersey Subclasses)

(DISMISSED WITH PREJUDICE BY THE COURT'S ORDER DATED OCTOBER 28, 2016)

COUNT IX

BREACH OF EXPRESS WARRANTY

(On Behalf of the Nationwide Classes and New Jersey Subclasses)

- Plaintiff realleges and incorporates by reference all previous paragraphs of this Complaint as if fully set forth herein.
- 179. Plaintiff and the class members formed contracts with Defendants at the time they purchased items from Defendants' websites. The terms of such contracts included the promises and affirmations of fact made by Defendants through their marketing campaign, as alleged herein, including, but not limited to, representing that the items for sale on Defendants' Gap Factory and Banana Republic Factory websites were being discounted.
- 180. This product advertising constitutes express warranties, became part of the basis of the bargain, and is part of the contracts between Defendants and Plaintiff and the class members.
- The affirmations of fact made by Defendants were made to induce Plaintiff and the class members to purchase items from Defendants' websites.
- 182. Defendants intended that Plaintiff and the class members would rely on those representations in making their purchases, and Plaintiff and the class members did so.
- All conditions precedent to Defendants' liability under these express warranties 183. have been fulfilled by Plaintiff and the class members in terms of paying for the goods at issue, or have been waived. Defendants had actual and/or constructive notice of their own false advertising, marketing, and sales practices but to date have taken no action to remedy their breaches of express warranty.

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18	84.	Defendants	breached	the	terms	of	the	express	warranty	because	the	items
purchase	d by	Plaintiff and	the class	men	nbers d	lid 1	not c	onform t	to the desc	cription p	rovic	led by
Defendants – that they were being sold at a discounted price. In fact, they were not.												

185. As a direct and proximate result of Defendants' breach of express warranty, Plaintiff and the class members have been injured and have suffered actual damages in an amount to be established at trial.

COUNT X

UNJUST ENRICHMENT

(On Behalf of the Nationwide Classes and New Jersey Subclasses)

(DISMISSED WITH PREJUDICE BY THE COURT'S ORDER

DATED OCTOBER 28, 2016)

COUNT XI

NEGLIGENT MISREPRESENTATION

(On Behalf of the Nationwide Classes and the New Jersey Subclasses)

(DISMISSED WITH PREJUDICE BY THE COURT'S ORDER DATED OCTOBER 28, 2016)

PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, Plaintiffs pray that this case be certified and maintained as a class action and for judgment to be entered in favor of Plaintiff and the classes against Defendants as follows:

- A. Enter an order certifying the proposed classes, designating Plaintiff as the representative for each class, and designating the undersigned as class counsel;
- B. Declare that Defendants are financially responsible for notifying all class members of their deceptive advertising, sales, and marketing practices alleged herein;
- C. Declare that Defendants must disgorge, for the benefit of the classes, all or part of the ill-gotten profits they received from their deceptive advertising, sales, and marketing practices alleged herein, or order Defendants to make full restitution to Plaintiffs

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and the members of the classes;

- D. Find that Defendants' conduct alleged herein be adjudged and decreed in violation of the state laws cited above;
- E. Grant economic and compensatory damages on behalf of Plaintiff and all members of the classes, to the maximum extent permitted by applicable law;
 - F. Grant punitive or exemplary damages as permitted by law;
 - G. Grant the requested injunctive and declaratory relief;
 - H. Award interest as permitted by law;
- I. Grant reasonable attorneys' fees pursuant to California Civil Code § 1780 (d), Code of Civil Procedure § 1021.5 and as otherwise permitted by statute, and reimbursement all costs incurred in the prosecution of this action; and
 - J. Grant such other relief as this Court deems just and proper.

DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL

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

Dated: December 12, 2016 LAW OFFICES OF TODD M. FRIEDMAN, P.C.

By: s/Todd M. Friedman

Todd M. Friedman, Esq.

and

PARIS ACKERMAN & SCHMIERER LLP Ross H. Schmierer, Esq. Admitted Pro Hac Vice ross@paslawfirm.com 103 Eisenhower Parkway Roseland, NJ 07068

Tel: 973-228-4860 Fax: 973-629-1246

Exhibit A

Factory multi-stripe swim trunks | Gap Fact.



We've redirected you to this page to help you find 8870110010002.



Factory multi-stripe swim trunks

\$24.99 32% off

Factory multi-stripe swim trunks | Gap Fact.

Now \$16.99

Color: multi 1cc



Size:

XS

S

M L XL

XXL

Fit & Sizing

SIZE GUIDE

Quantity:

ADD TO BAG

fabric & care

- 100% Polyester.
- Machine wash.
- Imported.

product details

shipping & returns

STORE LOCATOR

CUSTOMER SERVICE

ORDERS & RETURNS

GIFT CARDS

GAP CREDIT CARD

EMAIL SIGN UP

Factory multi-stripe swim trunks | Gap Faction

SHOP BANANA REPUBLIC FACTORY

© 1997 . 1916 1530 per. ; Privace Lot C II Indirect Blinde de l'Tolle L'allianni Privace Riphis i Territ. In Use I Dareers ;

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Gap Factory Banana Republic Factory

Factory Dolman Pontielle Sweater | Banana Repul. .. actory



You have been redirected to this page as a result of your search for "1818810110002".



Factory Dolman Pontielle Sweater

\$54.99 16% off

Factory Dolman Pontielle Sweater | Banana Repub. ...actory

Now \$45.98

Color: Blue fairy

clearance





Size:

XS







FIT & SIZING

- Hits at the hip.

SIZE GUIDE

Quantity:

1

ADD TO BAG

FABRIC & CARE

- 50% Acrylic, 50% Viscose.
- Machine wash.
- Imported.

PRODUCT DETAILS

SHIPPING & RETURNS

BANANA REPUBLIC FACTORY EXCLUSIVE PRODUCTS. EXCEPTIONAL SAVINGS

Love what you see? Find even more great styles in store. Factory Dolman Pontielle Sweater | Banana Republicatory

Deals straight to your phone!

TEXT DEAL TO 28500

Receive a coupon & future offers to your phone!

DETAILS

STORE LOCATOR

CUSTOMER SERVICE

ORDERS & RETURNS

BANANA REPUBLIC CREDIT CARD

EMAIL SIGN UP

SHOP GAP FACTORY

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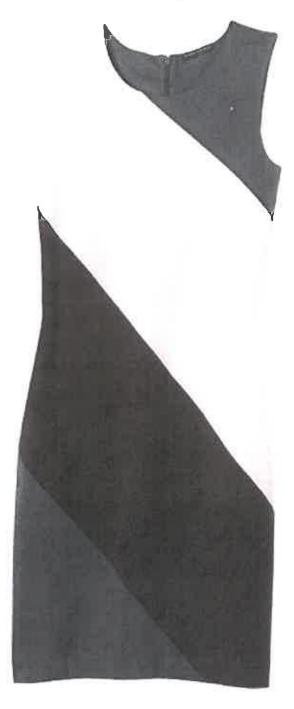
Americans with Disabilities Act

Gap Factory Banana Republic Factory

Factory Colorblock Ponte Sheath | Banana Repub. actory



You have been redirected to this page as a result of your search for "1824830010010".



Factory Colorblock Ponte Sheath

\$89.99 50% off

Factory Colorblock Ponte Sheath | Banana Republ. actory

Now \$44.98

Color: Maroon



Size:

0

2

4

6

8

10

12

14

FIT & SIZING

Hits at the knee.

SIZE GUIDE

Quantity:

1

ADD TO BAG

FABRIC & CARE

- 66% Rayon, 29% Nylon, 5% Spandex.
- Dry clean.
- imported.

PRODUCT DETAILS

SHIPPING & RETURNS

BANANA REPUBLIC FACTORY EXCLUSIVE PRODUCTS, EXCEPTIONAL SAVINGS

Love what you see?
Find even more great styles in store.

Factory Colorblock Ponte Sheath | Banana Republi. .ctory

Deals straight to your phone!

TEXT DEAL TO 28500

Receive a coupon & future offers to your phone!

DETAILS

STORE LOCATOR

CUSTOMER SERVICE

ORDERS & RETURNS

BANANA REPUBLIC CREDIT CARD

EMAIL SIGN UP

SHOP GAP FACTORY

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American with Disabilities Act

Gap Factory Banana Republic Factory

Exhibit B

Order Details | Gap Factory



Order #TQVB4B6

Ordered on: March 15, 2016 10:46 PM (EDT) from gapfactory.com

Status: In Process

Returns Order history Order status help

Order details

ORDERED BY

Laurie Munning



Payment method:

REDACTEDS

SHIPPED TO

Laurie Munning



Shipping method:

SUMMARY OF CHARGES

Merchandise \$107.95

Shipping & handling FREE

Tax \$0.00

Total: \$107.95

In stock: Available to ship

Order Details | Gap Factory



Factory multi-stripe swim trunks

#8870110010002

Color multi 1cc

Size XS

Unit price \$24.99 \$16.99

Qty 1

Cost \$16.99



Factory Colorblock Ponte Sheath

#1824830010010

Color Maroon

Size 10

Unit price \$89.99 \$44.98

Qty 1

Cost \$44.98



Factory Dolman Pontielle Sweater

#1818810110002

Color Blue fairy

Size M

Unit price \$54.99 \$45.98

Qty 1

Cost \$45.98

STORE LOCATOR

CUSTOMER SERVICE

ORDERS & RETURNS

GIFT CARDS

GAP CREDIT CARD

EMAIL SIGN UP

SHOP BANANA REPUBLIC FACTORY

Case 4:16-cv-03804-HSG Document 41 Filed 12/12/16 Page 46 of 70

3/15/2016

Order Details | Gap Factory

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Exhibit C



103 Eisenhows: Parlwey Roseland, NJ 07068 T: 973,228,6667 F: 973,629, 1246 www.paslawfirm.com

November 10, 2016

VIA UPS & CERTIFIED U.S. MAIL

Julie G. Gruber, Esq.
EVP, Global General Counsel, Corporate Secretary, Chief Compliance Office
Gap Inc.
2 Folsom Street
San Francisco, CA 94105

Re: Notice of Violations of Consumers Legal Remedies Act, California Civil Code Sections 1750 through 1784

Dear Ms. Gruber:

Please be advised that our office represents Laurie Munning and other similarly-situated persons in the United States who purchased goods from the Gap Factory and Banana Republic Factory store online websites, in pursuing class action legal claims against The Gap, Inc.; Gap (Apparel) LLC; Gap International Sales, Inc.; Banana Republic LLC; and Banana Republic (Apparel) LLC (collectively, "Defendants") for violations of: (i) federal pricing regulations; (ii) the common law; (iii) consumer protection laws of various states, including the State of California; and (iv) specifically, the Consumers Legal Remedies Act, California Civil Code Section 1750 through 1784 (the "CLRA").

Please accept this correspondence as written notice pursuant to the "Terms of Use" as posted on the Gap Factory and Banana Republic Factory store websites during the relevant time period as well as Cal Civ. Code § 1783.

Facts

Defendants are in the for-profit business of selling apparel and other personal items in their Gap, Gap Factory, Banana Republic, and Banana Republic Factory retail stores, as well as via their online Gap, Gap Factory, Banana Republic, and Banana Republic Factory store retail websites. As outlined in greater detail below, Defendants engage in a scheme involving false and misleading advertising, marketing, and sales practices with respect to their illusory "discounting" of items sold on their online Gap Factory and Banana Republic Factory store websites.

Specifically, on both the Gap Factory and Banana Republic Factory store websites, each item offered for sale is, and was during the class period, assigned a base price, which is listed on Defendants' websites and purports to be the "original" or "regular" price of that item. This "original" price is illusory, however, because most – if not all – of the items on Defendants' Gap Factory and Banana Republic Factory websites are never sold, or even offered for sale, at their listed "original" prices. Rather, each of these items is and has always been offered for sale at a "discounted" price that is much lower than its listed "original" price. For each such item, Defendants advertise that the "discounted" price represents a certain percentage reduction off the "original" price. Thus, Defendants represent to their customers that the base price is the "original" or "regular," non-discounted price of the item offered for sale, and the "sale" price is a discounted price.

By way of example, Defendants will offer a dress for sale at a "discount" price of \$44.98, and they will advertise – in red lettering – that this price is "50% off" the dress's purported "original" price of \$89.99. See Exhibit A. The advertised price of the dress, which is set forth below its picture and description on Defendants' websites, appears as follows: "\$89.99 50% off Now \$44.98". See Exhibit A. The dress was never sold or offered for sale at the advertised "original" price, or was never consistently sold or offered for sale at this price. Because the dress was never sold or offered for sale at the advertised "original" price, it is not actually discounted by 50%, and thus the 50% discount advertised by Defendants, as well as the purported "sale" price, is false and misleading.

Defendants follow this identical advertising and sales procedure for the vast majority – if not all – of the items offered for sale on their Gap Factory and Banana Republic Factory store retail websites. Indeed, the vast majority of the items offered for sale on Defendants' websites are never sold or offered for sale at their listed "original" prices, and the few items that are offered for sale at their "original" prices are so offered only for a very limited amount of time. Rather, nearly all of the items on Defendants' websites are always advertised as being "on sale" and offered to the public at purported discounts, which Defendants typically claim to be between 10% off and 50% off the "original" prices.

Moreover, nearly all of the items on Defendants' websites remain at identical or substantially similar prices every day, and are always offered for sale to customers at the same or substantially similar prices, which Defendants advertise to be the items' "sale" or "discounted" prices. Because Defendants' purported sale prices for these items never end, but rather continue on a daily basis and are available anytime a customer visits Defendants' websites, they are not actually discounted or sale prices at all, but rather constitute the everyday, regular prices of the items. Indeed, Defendants never significantly increase the price of any item from its advertised sale price. Over time, however, Defendants may reduce the prices of certain items – for example, to clear out excess inventory – resulting in an item being offered for a lower price in a subsequent sale. The prices of such items are not raised back to the original sale price, but remain at the reduced price (or eventually are reduced even further).

Thus, the advertised discounts on these items, as well as the advertised discounts on all other items listed for sale on Defendants' Gap Factory and Banana Republic Factory websites, are false and misleading because the advertised percentage discount and "sale" price do not represent an actual discount, as the items were never sold or offered for sale at their listed original retail prices. Indeed, because the vast majority – if not all – of the items on Defendants' Gap Factory and Banana Republic Factory websites are never offered for sale at their listed "original" retail prices, but rather are perpetually offered for sale at the purported "discount" or "sale" prices, the advertised discounts and reduced prices are not actually discounts at all, but rather the everyday, regular prices of the items.

Our client, Laurie Munning, has been victimized by this scheme. On March 15, 2016, Ms. Munning purchased from the Gap Factory retail website a pair of "Factory multi-stripe swim trunks" (Item No. 8870110010002) for \$16.99. The swim trunks were advertised to be on sale at a "32% off" discount from the purported original retail price of \$24.99. See Exhibits A and B. The advertised price of the swim trunks, which was set forth below its picture and description on Defendants' Gap Factory website, appeared as follows: "\$24.99 32% off Now \$16.99". Id. As part of the same transaction, Ms. Munning also purchased from the Banana Republic Factory retail website a "Factory Colorblock Ponte Sheath" dress (Item No. 1824830010010) for \$44.98 and a "Factory Dolman Pontielle Sweater" (Item No. 1818810110002) for \$45.98. The dress was advertised to be on sale at a "50% off" discount from the purported original retail price of \$89.99, and the sweater was advertised to be on sale at a "16% off" discount from the purported original retail price of \$54.99. Id. The advertised price of the dress, which was set forth below its picture and description on Defendants' Banana Republic Factory website, appeared as follows: "\$89.99 50% off Now \$44.98". Id. The advertised price of the sweater, which was set forth below its picture and description on Defendants' Banana Republic Factory website, appeared as follows: "\$54.99-16% off Now \$45.98". Id. Ms. Munning purchased the three items from Defendants' websites via a single transaction on March 15, 2016 and paid a single payment to Defendants for the three items that totaled \$107.95. See Exhibit B.

On the following day, March 16, 2016, the prices of the swim trunks, dress, and sweater remained unchanged. See Exhibit A. Indeed, the prices for the swim trunks, dress, and sweater remained unchanged for the entire week following Ms. Munning's purchase, as did the advertisements on Defendants' websites related thereto. Accordingly, during the week following Ms. Munning's purchase of the swim trunks for "32% off," the dress for "50% off," and the sweater for "16% off," none of the three items was ever sold at its listed non-discounted, "original" price. Indeed, the prices of the three items never exceeded the purported "discounted" or "sale" price that Ms. Munning paid. The three items purchased by Ms. Munning were never sold or offered for sale at the non-discounted, base prices listed on Defendants' websites, or were never consistently sold or offered for sell at their advertised base prices. Rather, the items were always sold and offered for sale at a price at or near the purported "sale" price that Ms. Munning paid. As such, the items that Ms. Munning purchased were not actually on sale or discounted at all when Ms. Munning purchased them, as represented by Defendants, and they certainly were not discounted to the extent claimed by Defendants. Moreover, the prices that Ms. Munning paid for the items were not sale or discounted prices at all, as represented by Defendants, but rather were the everyday, regular prices for the items. Defendants' misrepresentations about the

purported discounted prices of the items were calculated and intended to, and did in fact, induce Ms. Munning's purchase thereof.

What happened to Ms. Munning was not an accident or an isolated incident. Rather, it was part of a uniform policy in which Defendants engaged in a systematic scheme of false and misleading advertising, marketing, and sales practices with the purpose of persuading customers to purchase items from Defendants' online Gap Factory and Banana Republic Factory store websites.

Legal Claims

Federal regulations prohibit the advertising of false, "phantom" price reductions and discounts off inflated, fictitious "regular" prices that never actually existed. See 16 C.F.R. § 233.1. The purported "original" prices of the items on Defendants' websites are "not bona fide but fictitious" under 16 C.F.R. § 233.1 because the items were never sold or offered for sale at those prices. Consequently, the purported "reduced" prices are "in reality, [Defendants'] regular price[s]" and "the 'bargain[s]' being advertised" by Defendants are "false" within the meaning of 16 C.F.R. § 233.1.

Moreover, the consumer protection laws of California and New Jersey, prohibit deceptive advertising, marketing, and sales practices, including advertising and selling items at purported discounts and offering price advantages that do not exist. By advertising these purported discounts, which were never actually provided to Ms. Munning and her fellow customers of the Gap Factory and Banana Republic Factory store websites, and by selling items based on these non-existent discounts, Defendants have violated and continue to violate numerous state consumer protection laws as well as the common law.

Specifically, Defendants have violated the provisions of the California Business & Professions Code § 17200, et seq., which prohibit unlawful business acts and practices; the provisions of the California Business & Professions Code § 17500, et seq., which prohibit misleading, deceptive, and untrue advertising; the CLRA, California Civil Code § 1750, et seq.; and California common law regarding breach of contract and breach of express warranty. California law applies because Defendants are citizens of California and performed the acts complained of herein in California. Moreover, the "Terms of Use" set forth on the Gap Factory and Banana Republic Factory online websites, which to give rise to a binding agreement between Defendants and users of the sites, to apply California law to any claims brought against Defendants regarding purchases made through Defendants' websites.

With regard to the violations of the CLRA, the actions of Defendants, and their conduct described herein, constitute transactions that have resulted in the sale of goods to consumers. Ms. Munning and each class member are consumers as defined by California Civil Code § 1761(d). The items offered for sale on Defendants' websites are goods within the meaning of California Civil Code § 1761(a). Defendants intended to, and did in fact, sell these items to Ms. Munning and the other consumers victimized by Defendants' scheme. These consumers have suffered damage as a result of the use and employment by Defendant of methods, acts and

practices described with specificity herein that are declared to be unlawful by Section 1770. Specifically, Defendants have violated the following particular sections of Section 1770:

- in violation of § 1770(a)(5), Defendants represented that the items on their websites have characteristics which they do not have (i.e., that the items have an "original" price when they do not, and are being offered for sale at a discounted price when they are not);
- in violation of § 1770(a)(9), Defendants advertised the items on their websites with intent not to sell them as advertised (i.e., the items were advertised as being on sale when Defendants intended to, and did in fact, sell them at their regular prices);
- in violation of § 1770(a)(13), Defendants have made false and misleading statements of fact concerning the existence and amounts of price reductions (i.e., by advertising discounts and offering sale prices that did not exist); and
- in violation of § 1770(a)(16), Defendants represented that the items on their websites have been supplied in accordance with previous representations (i.e., that they were sold at a discounted price) when they were not.

To the extent California law does not apply to all claims, Defendants have also violated the consumer protection laws of New Jersey, including the New Jersey Consumer Fraud Act, N.J.S.A. § 56:8-1, et seq., which prohibits deceptive and misleading commercial business practices, and the New Jersey Truth in Consumer Contract, Warranty and Notice Act, N.J.S.A. § 56:12-16, et seq., which prohibits offers of notices that violate the legal rights of consumers. Defendants have further violated numerous states' common law regarding breach of contract and breach of express warranty.

Ms. Munning intends to bring the above claims against Defendants to stop Defendants' unlawful practices described herein, to recover for the class of customers of the online Gap Factory and Banana Republic Factory store websites the overcharges that they paid, and to obtain for the customers the actual discounts they were entitled to receive but did not due to Defendants' deceptive practices. Please be advised that you have thirty (30) calendar days from the date of receipt of this notice to correct, repair, replace, or otherwise rectify these violations, as further outlined below.

Class Potential

The fraudulent and deceptive business practices of Defendants in operating the Gap Factory and Banana Republic Factory store websites, and in advertising and selling products therefrom, have impacted thousands of customers who purchased purportedly discounted products that in fact were not. Such conduct by Defendants is systematic and uniform in nature, and applies equally to all of Defendants' customers. These thousands of customers will together comprise one or more classes, which we will seek to have certified, and which Ms. Munning will more than adequately represent. Upon certifying these classes, we will seek not only actual damages, but punitive damages and statutory damages, in addition to attorney's fees and costs.

Demand

We intend to pursue this matter as a class action, and therefore expect that any consensual resolution of this case must contemplate class-wide relief which approximates the full amount of actual, statutory and punitive damages available under applicable law. Please contact our offices within thirty (30) days of your receipt of this correspondence to discuss this matter.

Very truly yours,

Ross H. Schmierer

cc: Joseph Duffy, Esq. (via email & regular mail)

EXHIBIT A

Factory multi-stripe swim trunks | Gap Factor

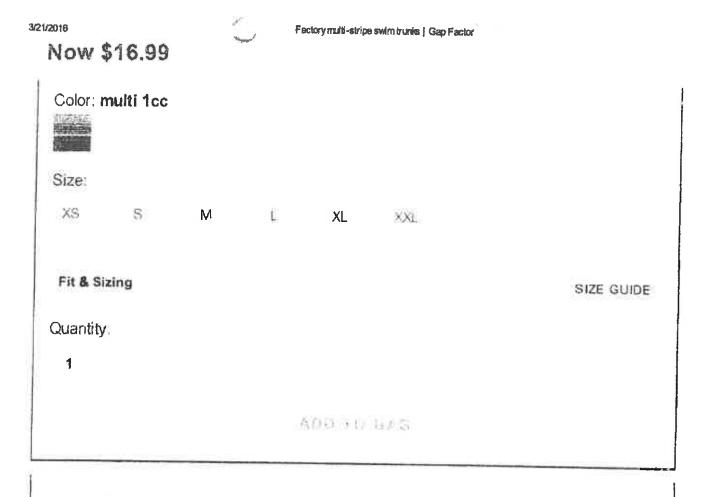




We've redirected you to this page to help you find 8870110010002.



Factory multi-stripe swim trunks \$24.99 32% off



fabric & care

- 100% Polyester.
- Machine wash
- imported.

product details

shipping & returns

STORE LOCATOR

CUSTOMER SERVICE

ORDERS & RETURNS

GIFT CARDS

GAP CREDIT CARD

EMAIL SIGN UP

Factory multi-stripe swim trunis | Gap Factor

SHOP BANANA REPUBLIC FACTORY

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Americans with Disabilities Act

Gap Factory

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3/21/2016 Factory Dolman Pontielle Sweater | Banana Republic Pory

You have been redirected to this page as a result of your search for "1818810110002".



Factory Dolman Pontielle Sweater

\$54.99 16% off

Factory Ocimen Pontielle Sweater | Banana Republic

Now \$45.98

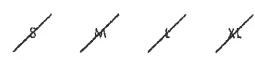
Color: Blue fairy

clearance



Size:

XS







Billion Tall Princip

FIT & SIZING

- Hits at the hip.

SIZE GUIDE

Quantity:

7

FABRIC & CARE

- 50% Acrylic, 50% Viscose.
- Machine wash.
- Imported.

PRODUCT DETAILS

SHIPPING & RETURNS

BANANA REPUBLIC FACTORY **EXCLUSIVE PRODUCTS, EXCEPTIONAL SAVINGS**

Love what you see? Find even more great styles in store.

Factory Dolman Pontielle Sweater | Banana Republic

Deals straight to your phone!

TEXT DEAL TO 28500

Receive a coupon & future offers to your phone!
DETAILS

STORE LOCATOR

CUSTOMER SERVICE

ORDERS & RETURNS

BANANA REPUBLIC CREDIT CARD

EMAIL SIGN UP

SHOP GAP FACTORY

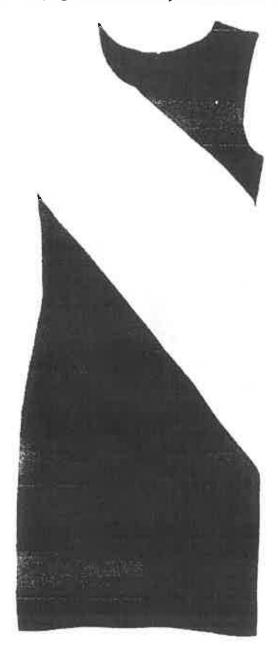
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Gap Factory Banana Republic Factory

- CHESCA BARBAN (SESTABBRA 1751)

3/21/2016 Factory Colorblock Ponte Sheath | Banana Republic

You have been redirected to this page as a result of your search for "1824830010010".



Factory Colorblock Ponte Sheath

\$89.99 50% off

Factory Colorblock Ponte Sheath | Banana Republic

nese

Now \$44.98

Color: Maroon



Size:

0

2

4

6

8

10

12

14

FIT & SIZING

- Hits at the knee.

SIZE GUIDE

Quantity:

1

FABRIC & CARE

- 66% Rayon, 29% Nylon, 5% Spandex
- Dry clean.
- Imported.

PRODUCT DETAILS

SHIPPING & RETURNS

BANANA REPUBLIC FACTORY EXCLUSIVE PRODUCTS, EXCEPTIONAL SAVINGS

Love what you see?
Find even more great styles in store.

Factory Colorblock Porte Sheath | Banana Republic

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Deals straight to your phone!

TEXT DEAL TO 28500

Receive a coupan & future offers to your phone!
DETAILS

STORE LOCATOR

CUSTOMER SERVICE

ORDERS & RETURNS

BANANA REPUBLIC CREDIT CARD

EMAIL SIGN UP

SHOP GAP FACTORY

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Americans with Disabilities Act

Gap Factory Banana Republic Factory

EXHIBIT B

Order Details | Gap Factory

Constitution &

Q

Order #TQVB4B6

Ordered on: March 15, 2016 10:46 PM (EDT) from gapfactory.com

Status: In Process

Returns

Order history

Order status help

Order details

ORDERED BY

Laurie Munning

REDACTED

8

Payment method:

REDANTED)

SHIPPED TO

Laurie Munning

8

Shipping method:

SUMMARY OF CHARGES

Merchandise \$107.95

Shipping & handling FREE

Tax \$0.00

Total: \$107.95

In stock: Available to ship

Order Details | Gap Factory



Factory multi-stripe swim trunks #8870110010002

Color multi 1cc

Size XS

Unit price \$24.99 \$16.99

Qty 1

Cost \$16.99



Factory Colorblock Ponte Sheath #1824830010010

Color Maroon

Size 10

Unit price \$89,99 \$44 98

Qty 1

Cost \$44.98



Factory Dolman Pontielle Sweater #1818810110002

Color Blue fairy

Size M

Unit price \$54.99 \$45 98

Qty 1

Cost \$45,98

STORE LOCATOR

CUSTOMER SERVICE

ORDERS & RETURNS

GIFT CARDS

GAP CREDIT CARD

EMAIL SIGN UP

SHOP BANANA REPUBLIC FACTORY

Order Details | Gap Factory

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Case 4:16-cv-03804-HSG Document 41 Filed 12/12/16 Page 68 of 70

SENDER: COMPLETE THIS SECTION	COMPLETE THIS SECTION ON DELIVERY	
 Complete items 1, 2, and 3. Print your name and address on the reverse so that we can return the card to you. Attach this card to the back of the mailpiece, 	A. Signature X	Agent Addressee C. Date of Delivery
or on the front if space permits. 1. Article Addressed to: UNITED TO CONTROL TO CONTRO	D. Is delivery address different from item 1? Yes if YES, enter delivery address below: No	
2 Fb/son Stract San Francisco CA 94105 9590 9402 1438 5329 1680 53 2. Article Number (Transfer from service label) 7016 0600 0000 5561 8766	☐ Adult Signature ☐ Adult Signature Restricted Delivery ☐ Certified Mail® ☐ Certified Mail Restricted Delivery ☐ Collect on Delivery ☐ Collect on Delivery Restricted Delivery	☐ Priority Mail Express® ☐ Registered Mail™ ☐ Registered Mail Restricted Delivery ☐ Return Receipt for Merchandise ☐ Signature Confirmation Restricted Delivery

Case 4:16-cv-03804-HSG Document 41 Filed 12/12/16 Page 69 of 70

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First-Class Mail Postage & Fees Paid USPS Permit No. G-10

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United States Postal Service *Sender: Please print your name, address, and ZIP+4° in this box*

Paris Ackermana Schmurz

103 Eisen hower Park Way

Pase land, NJ 07048

Athor Anaber Horse

PROOF OF SERVICE

2	I, the undersigned, certify and declare that I am over the age of 18 years,	
3	employed in the County of Los Angeles, State of California, and not a party to the	
5	above-entitled cause. On December 12, 2016, I electronically filed with the Court	
6	through its CM/ECF program and served a true copy through the same program the	
7	following documents: First Amended Complaint on the interested parties in said	
8 9	case as follows:	
10 11	[x] ELECTRONICALLY, Pursuant to the CM/ECF system, registration as a CM/ECF user constitutes consent to electronic service through the Court's	
12 13	transmission facilities. The Court's CM/ECF system sends an email notification the filing to the parties and counsel of record who are registered with the Court's CM/ECF system.	
14	Place of Filing: 21550 Oxnard St., Suite 780, Woodland Hills, CA 91367.	
15 16	Executed on December 12, 2016, at Woodland Hills, CA	
17	[x] I hereby certify under the penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and	
18	correct.	
19 20	By: s/ Todd M. Friedman Todd M. Friedman	