1 George C. Salmas (SBN 62616) gsalmas@salmas-law.com Michael R. Hambly (SBN 119834) 2 mhambly@salmas-law.com 3 THE FOOD LAWYERS ® 1880 Century Park East, Suite 611 Los Angeles, California 90067 Telephone: (310) 556-0721 Facsimile: (310) 788-8923 4 5 Attorneys for Defendant 6 GARDÉN OF LIGHT, INC. 7 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT 8 FOR THE CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA 9 10 Case Number BARBARA MORENO, individually 11 and on behalf of all others similarly 5:16-cv-02160 12 situated, Plaintiff, NOTICE OF REMOVAL OF 13 ACTION ON BASIS OF DIVERSITY OF 14 v. CITIZENSHIP UNDER THE 15 GARDEN OF LIGHT, INC., a CLASS ACTION FAIRNESS Connecticut corporation dba ACT (28 U.S.C. § 1332(d)) BAKERY ON MAIN; and DOES 1-16 25, Inclusive, 17 Defendants. 18 19 TO THE CLERK OF THE ABOVE-ENTITLED COURT: 20 PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that Defendant Garden of Light, Inc. dba Bakery 21 on Main hereby removes to this Court the state action described below. 22 1. On August 18, 2016, an action was commenced in the Superior Court of 23 the State of California for the County of San Bernardino, entitled Barbara Moreno 24 v. Garden of Light, Inc. dba Bakery on Main, et al., Case Number 25 CIVDS1613760. A true and correct copy of the Class Action Complaint ("the 26 Complaint") by which that action was commenced (accompanied by a copy of the 27 Summons) is attached hereto as Exhibit 1. 28

NOTICE OF REMOVAL

- 2. On September 15, 2016, a copy of the Complaint and the Summons were served on the California agent for service of process on Defendant Garden of Light, Inc.
- 3. In the Complaint, Plaintiff Barbara Moreno is suing individually, and on behalf of all others similarly situated, against Garden of Light, Inc. and Does 1-25, inclusive. The Complaint contains four causes of action for (1) alleged negligent representation; (2) alleged violation of California's Consumers Legal Remedies Act; (3) alleged violation of California's statutory False Advertising Law; and (4) California's statutory Unfair Competition Law.
- 4. This action is a civil action of which this Court has original jurisdiction and which may be removed to this Court by Defendant Garden of Light, Inc., pursuant to the provisions of 28 U.S.C. § 1441(a), in that it satisfies the special diversity of citizenship requirements of 28 U.S.C. § 1332(d), which codifies part of the Class Action Fairness Act.
- 5. Under 28 U.S.C. § 1332(d)(2), "The district courts shall have original jurisdiction of any civil action in which the matter in controversy exceeds the sum or value of \$5,000,000, exclusive of interest and costs, and is a class action in which (A) any member of a class of plaintiffs is a citizen of a State different from any defendant ...."
- 6. Plaintiff Barbara Moreno is an individual who alleges in Paragraph 1 of the Complaint that she resides in San Bernardino, California. She seeks to represent a nationwide class of certain consumers. Garden of Light, Inc. is incorporated in Connecticut and has its principal place of business in Connecticut. Plaintiff Barbara Moreno and Defendant Garden of Light, Inc. are thus citizens of different states. In addition, the nationwide class that Plaintiff seeks to certify would contain numerous other individuals who are citizens of states other than Connecticut. The diversity of citizenship requirement is thus satisfied.

- 7. The amount in controversy requirement is also satisfied for the following reasons.
- 8. Plaintiff Barbara Moreno alleges in Paragraph 1 of the Complaint that she purchased a particular Garden of Light, Inc. product called Extreme Fruit & Nut Bag, which she alleges in Paragraph 21 is sold for "approximately \$6.00." Plaintiff bases her causes of action on the product listing "evaporated cane juice" as one of the ingredients, which she characterizes as being "false and misleading" labeling. She also places at issue all other Garden of Light, Inc. products that have listed "evaporated cane juice" as an ingredient.
- 9. In Paragraph 23 of the Complaint, Plaintiff states that she "brings this class action for damages and other monetary relief on behalf of the following class: All persons located within the United States who [purchased] any of Defendant's products labeled with 'evaporated cane juice' at any time during the four years preceding the filing of this Complaint."
- 10. The Complaint does not specify a particular amount of money being sought as damages and/or restitution. In Paragraph 20, Plaintiff avers that the members of "the Class would not have paid as much, if at all, for the product but for Defendant's [alleged] misrepresentations." In Paragraph 54, Plaintiff seeks "restitution and restitutionary disgorgement for all sums obtained" by Garden of Light, Inc. Paragraph 66 alleges that "Plaintiff and members of the Class have suffered economic injury by losing money as a result of purchasing the product [and] would not have purchased or would have paid less for the product[s] had they known that they were not as represented," while Paragraph 67 seeks "an order requiring Defendant to make full restitution of all moneys it wrongfully obtained from Plaintiff and the Class."
- 11. In light of Garden of Light, Inc.'s nationwide sales over the last four years of the Granola Extreme Fruit & Nut Bag plus other products that have listed "evaporated cane juice" as an ingredient on their labels, there is over \$5 million

placed at issue by Plaintiff's claims for damages and/or restitution which Plaintiff seeks all the way up to the full amount that the putative class paid for the products at issue or that Garden of Light, Inc. received (with statutory attorneys' fees sought as well).

12. Just as Garden of Light, Inc. will dispute liability and class certification, it disputes that Plaintiff and the class she seeks to represent incurred any damages, and Garden of Light, Inc. is not agreeing to any particular model for determining claimed damages. As noted by the Ninth Circuit, defendants asserting "upon a CAFA removal that the amount in controversy exceeds \$5 million ... are still free to challenge the actual amount of damages in subsequent proceedings and at trial." *Ibarra v. Manheim Investments, Inc.*, 775 F.3d 1193, 1198 n.1 (9<sup>th</sup> Cir. 2015) ("they are not stipulating to damages suffered, but only estimating the damages that are in controversy").

Dated: October 12, 2016

George C. Salmas Michael R. Hambly THE FOOD LAWYERS®

By: <u>/s/: Michael R. Hambly</u>
Michael R. Hambly

Attorneys for Defendant GARDEN OF LIGHT, INC.

# EXHIBIT 1 TO NOTICE OF REMOVAL

Complaint in <u>Barbara Moreno v. Garden of Light, Inc., et al.,</u> San Bernardino Superior Court Case Number CIVDS1613760

## Case 5:16-cv-02160-GW-DTB Document 1-1 Filed 10/12/16 Page 2 of 21 Page ID #:6

APEX TRIAL LAW 1 A Professional Corporation Ryan M. Ferrell, Bar No. 258037 rferrell@apextrial.com AUG 18 2016 4100 Newport Place Drive, Suite 800 3 Newport Beach, CA 92660 Tel: (949) 438-0033 VICTORIA SANCHEZ, DEPUTY Fax: (949) 299-0133 5 Attorneys for Plaintiff and the Class 6 7 SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA 8 9 FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO 10 CIVDS1613760 BARBARA MORENO, individually, and on Case No .: 11 behalf of all others similarly situated, 12 Plaintiff, CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT 13 VS. 14 JURY TRIAL DEMANDED GARDEN OF LIGHT, INC. dba BAKERY ON 15 MAIN and DOES 1-25, Inclusive. 16 Defendants. 17 18 19 I. INTRODUCTION 20 Garden of Light, Inc. dba Bakery on Main ("Defendant" or "Bakery") manufactures, markets, and sells various food products, including Granola Extreme Fruit & Nut Bag ("product" or 21 "Granola"). Defendant goes out of its way to advertise its products, including its Granola, as healthy. 22 23 In order to propagate its healthy claims, Defendant lists "evaporated cane juice" as an ingredient in its product. Nowhere does Defendant explain to consumers that "evaporated cane juice" is (1) not juice 24 and (2) "evaporated cane juice" in its common and usual name is sugar. By so doing, Defendant is 25 able to deceive consumers, including Plaintiff, regarding the health claims made by Defendant. 26 Defendant's misrepresentations regarding the product were designed to, and did, deceive 27 Plaintiff and others similarly situated (collectively the "Class") with regard to the ingredients and 28

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27 28 health claims of the product. Plaintiff and members of the Class relied on Defendant's misrepresentations and would not have paid as much, if at all, for the product but for Defendant's misrepresentations.

Plaintiff brings this class action lawsuit to enjoin the ongoing deception of thousands of consumers by Defendant, and to recover the money taken by this unlawful practice.

#### THE PARTIES

#### A. Plaintiff.

Plaintiff, Barbara Moreno, is, and at all times relevant hereto, was an individual 1. residing in San Bernardino County, California. Plaintiff purchased the product earlier this year in San Bernardino County, California. Prior to purchasing Defendant's product, Plaintiff reviewed and relied upon Defendant's advertising and ingredients as detailed above. Plaintiff relied on Defendant's representations regarding the ingredients of Defendant's product, as detailed herein, and but for those representations, Plaintiff would not have purchased or paid as much for the product.

#### B. Defendant.

Plaintiff is informed and believes, and upon such information and belief alleges:

- Defendant, Garden of Light, Inc. dba Bakery on Main ("Bakery" or "Defendant") is 2. company organized and existing under the laws of the state of Connecticut, with a principal place of business located at 127 Park Avenue, Suite 100, East Hartford, CT 06108. Defendant offers the product for sale through various channels, including the internet and retailers throughout the nation, including the State of California. Defendant, directly and through its agents, has substantial contacts with and receives substantial benefits and income from and through the State of California. Defendant is the owner and distributor of the product and is the company that created and/or authorized the false, misleading, and deceptive advertisements and packaging for the product.
- Plaintiff does not know the true names or capacities of the persons or entities sued herein as DOES 1 to 25, inclusive, and therefore sues such defendants by such fictitious names. Plaintiff is informed and believes and thereon alleges that each of the DOE defendants is in some manner legally responsible for the damages suffered by Plaintiff and the members of the class as alleged herein. Plaintiff will amend this Complaint to set forth the true names and capacities of these defendants when

they have been ascertained, along with appropriate charging allegations, as may be necessary.

- 4. At all times mentioned herein, Defendants, and each of them, were members of, and engaged in, a joint venture, partnership, and common enterprise, and acted within the course and scope of, and in pursuance of, said joint venture, partnership, and common enterprise.
- 5. At all times mentioned herein, the acts and omissions of Defendants, and each of them, contributed to the various acts and omissions of each and all of the other Defendants in proximately causing the injuries and damages as alleged herein.
- 6. At all times mentioned herein, Defendants, and each of them, ratified each and every act or omission complained of herein. At all times mentioned herein, Defendants, and each of them, aided and abetted the acts and omissions of each and all of the other Defendants in proximately causing the damages as alleged herein.

#### III. JURISDICTION AND VENUE

- 7. This Court has jurisdiction over all causes of action asserted herein.
- 8. Venue is proper in this Court because Plaintiff purchased the product in this County and because Defendant has received substantial compensation from sales in this County. Specifically, Defendant knowingly engages in activities directed at consumers in this County, and Defendant obtains substantial benefits from its scheme perpetrated in this County. Plaintiff has filed concurrently herewith the declaration of venue required by Civil Code Section 1780(d) and is attached hereto as Exhibit One.
- 9. Defendant and other out-of-state participants can be brought before this Court pursuant to California's "long-arm" jurisdictional statute.

#### IV. FACTS

- 10. Defendant manufactures, markets, and sells the product. The product is marketed as healthy. In the ingredient list for the product, Defendant lists "evaporated cane juice" as an ingredient. Defendant does not list the ingredient as "sugar" or any other commonly known sweetener. Nowhere on the product or in the ingredient list does Defendant explain that "evaporated cane juice" is not actually juice and is actually sugar.
  - 11. The Food and Drug Administration ("FDA") has warned manufacturers and advertisers

not to use the term "evaporated cane juice" because: (1) it is false and misleading; (2) the term violates a number of labeling regulations requiring products to be labeled with the usual and common names of ingredients and to accurately describe those ingredients; and (3) "evaporated cane juice" is not juice.

- 12. Accurate labeling is required in order to help consumers make informed choices and not be misled. As detailed herein, Defendant has made, and continues to make, false and deceptive claims in violation of federal and California laws that govern labeling claims.
- 13. California and federal laws are identical and regulate the labeling of food. The Federal Food Drug & Cosmetic Act ("FDCA") was adopted by California through the Sherman Food Drug & Cosmetic Law, California Health & Safety Code § 109875, et seq. ("Sherman Law"). Under FDCA 403(a), food is "misbranded" when "its labeling is false or misleading in any particular," and/or if it does not contain required information on its labeling. 21 U.S.C. § 343(a).
- 14. According to the FDCA, if any claim made on the labeling of a product is false or misleading, the food product is misbranded, and no other labeling statement can cure misleading statement(s). "Misleading" is judged in reference to "the ignorant, the unthinking and the credulous who, when making a purchase, do not stop to analyze." *United States v. El-O-Pathic Pharmacy*, 192 F.2d 62, 75 (9th Cir. 1951).
- 15. Ingredients, such as "evaporated cane juice", are not to be listed by names, which suggest that the ingredients are anything other than sugar or syrup because it fails to reveal the basic nature of the food and its properties as required by 21 C.F.R. § 102.5. By listing "evaporated cane juice" as an ingredient of its product, Defendant has violated federal and California labeling regulations.
- 16. The FDA has decreed that "evaporated cane juice" is not the common or usual name of any type of sweetener, including sugar. Sugar is defined in 21 C.F.R. §101.4(b)(20) and 21 C.F.R. §184.1854, as the usual or common name for the crystallization from sugar cane or sugar beet juice that has been extracted by pressing or diffusion, then clarified and evaporated. 21 C.F.R. §168.130 defines cane syrup.
- 17. Sugar cane products must be described by their usual or common name, sugar or cane syrup. 21 C.F.R. §101.4; 21 C.F.R. §184.1854; and 21 C.F.R. §168.1340.

- 18. The FDA has directed that sweeteners should not be listed by names that suggest that the ingredients are juice. The FDA considers such listing as "false and misleading" under section 403(a)(1) of the FDCA (21 U.S.C. 343(a)(1)) because listing in this manner does not reveal the basic nature of the food and its properties as required by 21 C.F.R. § 102.5. Despite these requirements, Defendant has made, and continues to make false and misleading representations regarding its product in violation of both federal and California laws regarding appropriate and legal labeling.
- 19. Under both federal and California law, Defendant's misbranded product cannot be manufactured, advertised, distributed, or sold. Defendant's deceptive and false labeling stems from its desire to label its foods with perceived healthy characteristics. Such deceptive and false labeling drives sales of the product, and did in fact deceive Plaintiff and California consumers.
- 20. Defendant's misrepresentations regarding the product were designed to, and did, lead Plaintiff and others similarly situated (collectively the "Class") to believe that the product were of a quality that they are not and did not contain ingredients which, in fact, are found in the product. Plaintiff and members of the Class relied on Defendant's misrepresentations and would not have paid as much, if at all, for the product but for Defendant's misrepresentations.
- 21. Defendant sells the product for approximately \$6.00 based on the preceding false advertising claims. As a result, Defendant has wrongfully taken hundreds of thousands of dollars from consumers.
- 22. Accordingly, Plaintiff brings this lawsuit to enjoin the ongoing deception of thousands of consumers by Defendant, and to recover the funds taken by this unlawful practice.

#### V. CLASS ACTION ALLEGATIONS

23. Plaintiff brings this class action for damages and other monetary relief on behalf of the following class:

All persons located within the United States who any of Defendant's products labeled with "evaporated cane juice" at any time during the four years preceding the filing of this Complaint (the "Class").

24. Excluded from the Class are governmental entities, Defendant, any entity in which Defendant has a controlling interest, and Defendant's officers, directors, affiliates, legal

representatives, employees, co-conspirators, successors, subsidiaries, and assigns and individuals bound by any prior settlement involving the product. Also excluded from the Class is any judge, justice, or judicial officer presiding over this matter and the members of their immediate families and judicial staff.

- 25. The proposed Class is so numerous that individual joinder of all its members is impracticable. Due to the nature of the trade and commerce involved, however, Plaintiff believes that the total number of Class members is at least in the hundreds of thousands and members of the Class are numerous and geographically dispersed across California. While the exact number and identities of the Class members are unknown at this time, such information can be ascertained through appropriate investigation and discovery. The disposition of the claims of the Class members in a single class action will provide substantial benefits to all parties and to the Court.
- 26. There is a well-defined community of interest in the questions of law and fact involved affecting the plaintiff class and these common questions predominate over any questions that may affect individual Class members. Common questions of fact and law include, but are not limited to, the following:
  - a. Whether Defendant's products are labeled with "evaporated cane juice";
  - Whether Defendant has falsely represented that the product has benefits which it does not have;
  - c. Whether Defendant knew that its ingredient claims were false;
  - d. Whether Defendant's conduct constitutes breach of express warranty;
  - e. Whether Defendant's conduct constitutes breach of the implied warranty of fitness for a particular purpose;
  - f. Whether Defendant's conduct constitutes negligent misrepresentation;
  - g. Whether Defendant's conduct constitutes a violation of the Consumers Legal Remedies Act (Cal. Civ. Code §§ 1750, et seq.);
  - h. Whether Defendant's conduct constitutes a violation of California's false advertising law (Cal. Bus. & Prof. Code §§ 17500, et seq.);
  - i. Whether Defendant's conduct constitutes an unfair, unlawful, and/or

fraudulent business practice in violation of California's unfair competition law (Cal. Bus. & Prof. Code §§ 17200, et seq.);

- Whether Plaintiff and Class members are entitled to compensatory damages, and if so, the nature of such damages;
- k. Whether Plaintiff and Class members are entitled to restitutionary relief; and
- 1. Whether Plaintiff and Class members are entitled to injunctive relief.
- 27. Plaintiff's claims are typical of the claims of the members of the Class. Plaintiff and all members of the Class have been similarly affected by Defendant's common course of conduct since they all relied on Defendant's representations concerning the ingredients of the product and purchased the product based on those representations.
- 28. Plaintiff will fairly and adequately represent and protect the interests of the Class. Plaintiff has retained counsel with substantial experience in handling complex class action litigation. Plaintiff and his counsel are committed to vigorously prosecuting this action on behalf of the Class and have the financial resources to do so.
- 29. Plaintiff and the members of the Class suffered, and will continue to suffer, harm as a result of Defendant's unlawful and wrongful conduct. A class action is superior to other available methods for the fair and efficient adjudication of the present controversy. Individual joinder of all members of the class is impracticable. Even if individual class members had the resources to pursue individual litigation, it would be unduly burdensome to the courts in which the individual litigation would proceed. Individual litigation magnifies the delay and expense to all parties in the court system of resolving the controversies engendered by Defendant's common course of conduct. The class action device allows a single court to provide the benefits of unitary adjudication, judicial economy, and the fair and efficient handling of all class members' claims in a single forum. The conduct of this action as a class action conserves the resources of the parties and of the judicial system and protects the rights of the class members. Furthermore, for many, if not most, a class action is the only feasible mechanism that allows an opportunity for legal redress and justice.
- 30. Adjudication of individual class members' claims with respect to Defendant would, as a practical matter, be dispositive of the interests of other members not parties to the adjudication, and

could substantially impair or impede the ability of other class members to protect their interests. 1 2 VI. CAUSES OF ACTION 3 FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION 4 **NEGLIGENT MISREPRESENTATION** (By Plaintiff and on Behalf of the Class Against Defendant) 5 Plaintiff incorporates by this reference the allegations contained in the paragraphs 31. 6 7 above as if fully set forth herein. During the Class Period, Defendant's misrepresented the ingredients of the product to 8 32. consumers through the advertising, marketing, and sale of the product. 9 10 33. Defendant's misrepresentations regarding the product ingredients were false and misleading because "evaporated cane juice" is not juice. 11 12 34. Defendant's misrepresentations regarding the labeling of the ingredients were material because a reasonable consumer would attach importance to them in determining whether to purchase 13 and consume the product. 14 15 35. Defendant's material misrepresentations regarding the product are false and made without reasonable grounds for believing them to be true. 16 17 36. Defendant made material misrepresentations regarding the ingredients of the product with the intent to induce Plaintiff and Class members to purchase and consume the product. 18 19 37. Plaintiff and Class members reasonably relied on Defendant's material 20 misrepresentations in choosing to purchase and consume the product. 21 38. As a direct and proximate result of Defendant's conduct, Plaintiff and Class members have incurred damages in an amount to be proven at trial. Plaintiff and Class members are not seeking 22 23 damages arising out of personal injuries. 24 SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION VIOLATION OF THE CONSUMERS LEGAL REMEDIES ACT 25 26 (CAL. CIV. CODE §§ 1750, ET SEQ.) 27 (By Plaintiff and on Behalf of the Class Against Defendant) 28 39. Plaintiff incorporates by this reference the allegations contained in the paragraphs

above as if fully set forth herein.

- 40. Plaintiff has standing to pursue this cause of action because Plaintiff has suffered injury in fact and has lost money as a result of Defendant's actions as set forth herein. Specifically, Plaintiff purchased the product in reliance on Defendant's labeling of the product.
- 41. Defendant has engaged in and continues to engage in business practices in violation of California Civil Code §§ 1750, et seq. (the "Consumers Legal Remedies Act") by making false and unsubstantiated representations concerning the ingredients of the product. These business practices are misleading and/or likely to mislead consumers and should be enjoined.
- 42. Defendant has engaged in deceptive acts or practices intended to result in the sale of the product in violation of Civil Code § 1770. Defendant knew and/or should have known that its representations of fact concerning the ingredients of the product were material and likely to mislead the public. Defendant affirmatively misrepresented that the product had certain benefits, which they do not have.
- 43. Defendant's conduct alleged herein violates the Consumers Legal Remedies Act, including but not limited to, the following provisions: (1) using deceptive representations in connection with goods or services in violation of Civil Code § 1770(a)(4); (2) representing that goods or services have sponsorship, approval, characteristics, ingredients, uses, benefits, or quantities which they do not have in violation of Civil Code § 1770(a)(5); and/or (3) advertising goods or services with intent not to sell them as advertised in violation of Civil Code § 1770(a)(9). As a direct and proximate result of Defendant's conduct, as set forth herein, Defendant has received ill-gotten gains and/or profits, including but not limited to, money. Therefore, Defendant has been unjustly enriched.
- 44. There is no other adequate remedy at law, and Plaintiff and Class members will suffer irreparable harm unless Defendant's conduct is enjoined.
- 45. Concurrently herewith, Plaintiff's counsel mailed to Defendant, by certified mail, return receipt requested, the written notice required by Civil Code Section 1782(a) on June 29, 2016. A Copy of the letter is attached hereto as Exhibit Two.
- 46. The declaration of venue required by Civil Code § 1780(d) is attached hereto as Exhibit One.

47. Defendant's wrongful business practices constituted, and constitute, a continuing course of conduct in violation of the Consumers Legal Remedies Act since Defendant is still representing that their product has characteristics, uses, benefits, and abilities which are false and misleading, and have injured Plaintiff and the Class.

#### THIRD CAUSE OF ACTION

#### **VIOLATION OF CALIFORNIA'S FALSE ADVERTISING LAW**

#### (CAL. BUS. & PROF. CODE §§ 17500, ET SEQ.)

#### (By Plaintiff and on Behalf of the Class Against Defendant)

- 48. Plaintiff incorporates by this reference the allegations contained in the paragraphs above as if fully set forth herein.
- 49. Plaintiff has standing to pursue this cause of action because Plaintiff has suffered injury in fact and has lost money as a result of Defendant's actions as set forth herein. Specifically, Plaintiff purchased the product in reliance on Defendant's marketing claims as outlined herein.
- 50. Defendant has engaged in false advertising as it has disseminated false and/or misleading representations about the product.
- 51. Defendant knew or should have known by exercising reasonable care that its representations were false and/or misleading. During the Class Period, Defendant engaged in false advertising in violation of Cal. Bus. & Prof. Code §§ 17500, et seq., by misrepresenting in its advertising and marketing of the product to Plaintiff, Class members, and the consuming public the ingredients of its product.
- 52. Each of the aforementioned representations alleged in this Complaint was false and misleading regarding the ingredients of the product.
- 53. By disseminating and publishing these assertions in connection with the sale of the product, Defendant has engaged in and continues to engage in false advertising in violation of Bus. & Prof. Code §§ 17500, et seq.
- 54. As a direct and proximate result of Defendant's conduct, as set forth herein, Defendant has received ill-gotten gains and/or profits, including but not limited to, money. Therefore, Defendant has been unjustly enriched. Pursuant to Cal. Bus. & Prof. Code § 17535, Plaintiff requests restitution

and restitutionary disgorgement for all sums obtained in violation of Cal. Bus. & Prof. Code §§ 17500, et seq.

- 55. Plaintiff seeks injunctive relief, restitution, and restitutionary disgorgement of Defendant's ill-gotten gains as specifically provided in Cal. Bus. & Prof. Code § 17535.
- 56. Plaintiff and Class members seek to enjoin Defendant from engaging in these wrongful practices, as alleged herein, in the future. There is no other adequate remedy at law and if an injunction is not ordered, Plaintiff and the Class will suffer irreparable harm and/or injury.

#### FOURTH CAUSE OF ACTION

## UNLAWFUL, FRAUDULENT & UNFAIR BUSINESS PRACTICES

### (CAL. BUS. & PROF. CODE §§ 17200, ET SEQ.)

(By Plaintiff and on Behalf of the Class Against Defendant)

- 57. Plaintiff incorporates by this reference the allegations contained in the paragraphs above as if fully set forth herein.
- 58. Plaintiff has standing to pursue this cause of action because Plaintiff has suffered injury in fact and has lost money as a result of Defendant's actions as set forth herein. Specifically, Plaintiff purchased the product in reliance on Defendant's marketing claims as outlined herein.
- 59. Defendant's actions as alleged in this Complaint constitute an unfair or deceptive business practice within the meaning of California Business and Professions Code §§ 17200, et seq., in that Defendant's actions are unfair, unlawful, and fraudulent, and because Defendant has made unfair, deceptive, untrue, or misleading statements in advertising media, including the Internet, within the meaning of California Business and Professions Code §§ 17200, et seq.
- 60. Defendant knew or should have known by exercising reasonable care that its representations were false and/or misleading. During the Class Period, Defendant engaged in unfair, unlawful, and fraudulent business practices in violation of Cal. Bus. & Prof. Code §§ 17200, et seq., by misrepresenting in its advertising and marketing of the product to Plaintiff, Class members, and the consuming public.
- 61. Each of the aforementioned representations alleged in this Complaint was false and misleading regarding the ingredients of the product.

- 62. Defendant's business practices, as alleged herein, are unfair because they offend established public policy and/or are immoral, unethical, oppressive, unscrupulous, and/or substantially injurious to consumers in that consumers are misled by the claims made with respect to the product as set forth herein.
- 63. Defendant's business practices, as alleged herein, are unlawful because they violate the Consumers Legal Remedies Act and False Advertising Law.
- 64. Defendant's business practices, as alleged herein, are fraudulent because they are likely to, and did, deceive customers—including Plaintiff and members of the Class—into believing that the product have characteristics and benefits they in fact do not have.
- 65. Defendant's wrongful business practices constituted, and constitute, a continuing course of conduct of unfair competition since Defendant are marketing and selling their product in a manner likely to deceive the public.
- 66. As a direct and proximate result of Defendant's wrongful business practices in violation of Business and Professions Code §§ 17200, et seq., Plaintiff and members of the Class have suffered economic injury by losing money as a result of purchasing the product. Plaintiff and members of the Class would not have purchased or would have paid less for the product had they known that they were not as represented.
- 67. Pursuant to Business and Professions Code § 17203, Plaintiff and the Class seek an order of this Court enjoining Defendant from continuing to engage in unlawful, unfair, or deceptive business practices and any other act prohibited by law, including those set forth in the Complaint. Plaintiff and the Class also seek an order-requiring Defendant to make full restitution of all moneys it wrongfully obtained from Plaintiff and the Class.

#### PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff and members of the Class request that the Court enter an order or judgment against Defendant, and each of them, as follows:

- 1. For an order certifying the Class, appointing Plaintiff and Plaintiff's counsel to represent the Class, and notice to the Class to be paid by Defendant;
  - 2. For damages suffered by Plaintiff and Class members;

1	3.	For restitution to Plaintiff and Class r	nembers of all monies wrongfully obtained by				
2	Defendant;						
3	4.	For an injunction ordering Defendant to cease and desist from engaging in the unfair,					
4	unlawful, and	unlawful, and/or fraudulent practices alleged in the Complaint;					
5	5.	For both pre-judgment and post-judgment interest at the maximum allowable rate on					
6	any amounts awarded;						
7	6.	For Plaintiff's costs of the proceedings herein;					
8	7.	For reasonable attorneys' fees as allowed by statute; and					
9	8. For any and all such other and further relief that this Court may deem just and proper.						
10							
11	DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL						
12	Plaintiff hereby demands a trial by jury of all claims and causes of action so triable in this						
13	lawsuit.						
14							
15	Dated: Augus		FRIAL LAW ssional Corporation				
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17		By:	by on farm				
18			an M. Ferrell orney for Plaintiff and the Class				
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# EXHIBIT 1

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1	I, Barbara Moreno, declare as follows:					
2	1. I am a Plaintiff in this action, and am a citizen of the State of California. I have					
3	personal knowledge of the facts herein and, if called as a witness, I could and would testify					
4	competently thereto.					
5						
6	2. The Complaint in this action, filed concurrently with this Declaration, is filed in the					
7	proper place for trial under Civil Code Section 1780(d) in that San Bernardino County is a county in					
8	which Defendants are doing business.					
9						
10	I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing is					
11	true and correct.					
12						
13	Barbara Marine					
14	Barbara Moreno					
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- 11						

EXHIBIT 2



4100 Newport Place, Suite 800 Newport Beach, CA 92660 Phone: (949) 438-0033

Fax: (949) 299-0133 Email: rferrell@apextrial.com

June 29, 2016

#### **VIA CERTIFIED MAIL**

GARDEN OF LIGHT, INC. 127 PARK AVENUE, SUITE 100 EAST HARTFORD, CT 06108 Attention: Legal Department

Re: Class Action For Violations of California B&P Codes 17200, 17500 and California Consumer Legal Remedies Act

Ladies and Gentlemen:

### Please give this letter your immediate attention.

This law firm has been retained to prosecute a class action lawsuit against you for violations of California Business & Professions Code Sections 17200 and 17500 and California Consumer Legal Remedies Act (California Civil Code §§ 1750, et seq.).

First, our client purchased your product Granola Extreme Fruit & Nut Bag. The Granola Extreme Fruit & Nut Bag lists as an ingredient "evaporated cane juice." Use of the term evaporated cane juice is an attempt to hide the sugar content. The FDA has recently weighed in on the use of "evaporated cane juice" on ingredient lists to mask the sugar content of a product. In part, the FDA stated as follows:

• Sweeteners derived from sugar cane should not be listed in the ingredient declaration by names such as "evaporated cane juice," which suggest that the ingredients are made from or contain fruit or vegetable "juice" as defined in 21 CFR 120.1. We consider such representations to be false and misleading under section 403(a)(1) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (the Act) (21 U.S.C. 343(a)(1)) because they do not

accurately describe the basic nature of the food and its characterizing properties (i.e., that the ingredients are sugars or syrups), as required by 21 CFR 102.5.

- Thus, the term "evaporated cane juice" is false or misleading because it suggests that the sweetener is "juice" or is made from "juice" and does not reveal that its basic nature and characterizing properties are those of a sugar.
- As provided in 21 CFR 101.4(a)(1), "Ingredients required to be declared on the label or labeling of a food . . . shall be listed by common or usual name . . . ." The common or usual name for an ingredient is the name established by common usage or by regulation (21 CFR 102.5(d)).
- This guidance is intended to help consumers make informed choices among sweeteners by promoting accurate and consistent labeling. To that end, we are advising the regulated industry of our view that the term "evaporated cane juice" is not the common or usual name of any type of sweetener and that this ingredient should instead be declared on food labels as "sugar," preceded by one or more truthful, non-misleading descriptors if the manufacturer so chooses (e.g., "cane sugar"). [...] the term "evaporated cane juice" describes neither the basic nature of the food nor its characterizing properties, and therefore does not comply with 21 CFR 102.5(a).
- Sweeteners derived from sugar cane should not be listed in the ingredient declaration by names such as "evaporated cane juice," which suggest that the ingredients are made from or contain fruit or vegetable "juice" as defined in 21 CFR 120.1. We consider such representations to be false and misleading under section 403(a)(1) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (the Act) (21 U.S.C. 343(a)(1)) because they do not accurately describe the basic nature of the food and its characterizing properties (i.e., that the ingredients are sugars or syrups), as required by 21 CFR 102.5.

"Guidance for Industry: Ingredients Declared as Evaporated Cane Juice" http://www.fda.gov/Food/GuidanceRegulation/GuidanceDocumentsRegulatoryInformation/LabelingNutrition/ucm181491.htm

Second, through the use of the term "evaporated cane juice" to mask sugar, you have violated California Civil Code § 1770(a)(5) (representing that goods or services have sponsorship, approval, characteristics, ingredients, uses, benefits, or qualities which they do not have. You have also violated California B&P Code §§ 17500, et seq., by misrepresenting in its advertising and marketing of the Granola Extreme Fruit & Nut Bag to Plaintiff, Class members, and the consuming public that the Granola Extreme Fruit & Nut Bag contains "evaporated cane juice" instead of the common name of the ingredient "sugar." Finally, you have also violated Professions Code §§ 17200, et seq., in that Defendant's actions are unfair, unlawful, and fraudulent, within the meaning of California Business and Professions Code §§ 17200, et seq.

Finally, we intend to file a class action lawsuit within thirty days of today's date in compliance with California Civil Code § 1782(a). Pursuant to that section, if you will refund all consumers their money spent on Granola Extreme Fruit & Nut Bag and remove the term "evaporated cane juice" from the ingredient label of the Granola Extreme Fruit & Nut Bag, we will take no further action.

If you believe that any of the assertions in this letter or the attached draft complaint are inaccurate or would like to discuss a confidential pre-filing resolution of this case, I urge you to retain counsel to contact me.

Sincerely,

Ryan M. Ferrell, Esq.

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COPY

#### SUMMONS (CITACION JUDICIAL)

NOTICE TO DEFENDANT: (AVISO AL DEMANDADO).

GARDEN OF LIGHT, INC. dba BAKERY ON MAIN and DOES 1-25, Inclusive,

YOU ARE BEING SUED BY PLAINTIFF:

(LO ESTÁ DEMANDANDO EL DEMANDANTE):

BARBARA MORENO, individually, and on behalf of all others similarly situated.

SUM-100

FOR COURT USE ONLY
(SOLO PARA USO DE LA CORTE)

SUF COUNTY

AUG I 8 2016

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

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

There are other legal requirements. You may want to call an attorney right away. If you do not know an attorney, you may want to call an attorney referral service. If you cannot afford an attorney, you may be eligible for free legal services from a nonprofit legal services program. You can locate these nonprofit groups at the California Legal Services Web site (www.lawhelpcalifornia.org), the California Courts Online Self-Help Center (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp), or by contacting your local court or county bar association. NOTE: The court has a statutory lien for waived fees and jAVISO! Lo han demandado. Si no responde dentro de 30 días, la corte puede decidir en su contra sin escuchar su versión. Lea la información a

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

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

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Ryan M. Ferrell (Bar # 258037)  APEX TRIAL LAW A Professional Company in the second se							
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(Para prueba de entrega de esta citatión use el formulario Proof of Service of Summons, (POS-010)).							
NOTICE TO THE PERSON SERVED: You are served							
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Form Adopted for Mandatory Use	-	CHMMONIC	6-1-10:50	Page 1 Of 1			

Form Adopted for Mandatory Use Judicial Council of California SUM-100 [Rev. July 1, 2009]

SUMMONS

Code of Civil Procedure §§ 412.20, 465

Lexis Nexts Automated California Judicial Council Forms