Case 2:18-cv-03760-CCC-JBC Document 67 Filed 03/02/20 Page 1 of 45 PageID: 883

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF NEW JERSEY

ROBERT MIDDIEN, FREDRICK SCOTT LEVINE, and DOUGLAS W. MURPHY, on behalf of themselves and all other similarly situated,

Plaintiffs,

v.

VOLVO CARS OF NORTH AMERICA, LLC; and VOLVO CAR USA, LLC,

Defendants.

Civil Action No. 2:18-cv-03760 (CCC)(JBC)

JURY TRIAL DEMANDED

ECF Case

FIRST AMENDED CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT

Plaintiffs Fredrick Scott Levine and Douglas W. Murphy alleges for their

complaint the following.¹

¹ At the time of the filing of this complaint, Robert Middien remains a Plaintiff, but since the Court has now granted Plaintiffs' motion to amend the complaint (ECF No. 66), naming Plaintiffs Fredrick Scott Levine and Douglas W. Murphy as Plaintiffs, Mr. Middien will withdraw as a Plaintiff, and counsel will follow whatever direction the Court provides with respect to the proper caption, given Mr. Middien's withdrawal.

PRELIMINARY STATEMENT

1. This is a class action brought by the plaintiffs, Fredrick Scott Levine and Douglas W. Murphy ("Plaintiffs"), on behalf of themselves and all other purchasers and lessees of the 2016 Volvo XC90 and certain similarly situated purchasers and lessees of the 2017 Volvo XC90 (collectively, the "Non-Compatible Volvo XC90s"), as detailed herein. This case concerns Volvo's ubiquitous misrepresentations in its marketing of the Non-Compatible Volvo XC90s that those cars featured compatibility with Android Auto, when in fact, the cars were not compatible with Android Auto.

2. In September 2014, Volvo first announced a new generation of Volvo XC90 luxury crossover SUVs. The XC90 was a completely redesigned model and Volvo's first flagship offering since Chinese automobile company Zhejiang Geely Holding Group Co. Ltd had acquired Defendants' parent companies.

3. In 2015, Volvo began selling the 2016 XC90. Volvo did not sell a 2015 XC90. In developing and marketing the Volvo XC90, Volvo made substantial efforts to distinguish the Volvo XC90 from its competitors' automobiles by marketing it as more technologically advanced and unique than the competition.

4. In its public relations and marketing campaign for the Volvo XC90, Volvo touted an in-car technology user interface, which it called "Sensus." Volvo

stated in its press releases and marketing materials that a significant, cutting edge feature of Sensus was that it was or would be compatible with the coveted Google application, Android Auto. That compatibility would enable the driver of the Volvo XC90 to integrate features in his or her Android smartphone with the Sensus system in the Volvo XC90.

5. There was no suggestion that Android Auto compatibility was an optional, add-on feature that could be installed at an additional cost, nor was there a suggestion that Android Auto would become available only years in the future. To the contrary, Volvo made clear in its advertising that Android Auto compatibility was a "standard" feature that was "include[d]" in "all" XC90 models, and that such compatibility was either already available or "coming soon," not years down the road.

6. Volvo's representations that the Sensus system in the Volvo XC90 was or would soon be compatible with Android Auto as a "standard," "include[d]" feature were false and misleading. In the months and years following the purchases of XC90s by members of the Classes, Volvo told purchasers that the Sensus system in the Non-Compatible Volvo XC90s was not and would not be compatible with Android Auto. Although Volvo, after being sued, made available a so-called "USB Installation Kit" that could make the Non-Compatible Volvo XC90s compatible with Android Auto, it avoided disclosing the existence of this new part

to purchasers. Almost all of the few purchasers who somehow discovered the part were told that they would have to pay substantial out-of-pocket costs to have the part installed.

7. By making ubiquitous misrepresentations that the Sensus system in the non-compatible Volvo XC90s was or would be compatible with Android Auto as a "standard" and "include[d]" feature, Volvo (i) engaged in deceptive acts in violation of New Jersey's Consumer Fraud Act (the "NJCFA"), N.J. Stat. § 56:8-2, et seq.; (ii) engaged in deceptive acts in violation of the Florida Deceptive and Unfair Trade Practices Act ("FDUTPA"), Fla. Stat. §501.201 et seq., (iii) breached express warranties by description in violation of N.J. Stat. § 12A:2-313(b) (which is also known as UCC § 2-313(b)); and (iv) breached express warranties by description in violation of Fla. Stat. § 672.313 (Florida's enactment of UCC § 2-313(b)). Volvo is liable to Plaintiffs and all other similarly situated members of the Nationwide Class defined below for all damages resulting from its violations of the NJCFA and UCC § 2-313(b), and is liable to the Florida Class for violation of FDUTPA.

PARTIES

8. Plaintiff Fredrick Scott Levine is a resident of Delray Beach, Florida and purchased a 2016 Volvo XC90 in West Palm Beach, Florida.

9. Plaintiff Douglas W. Murphy is a resident of Dorchester,

Massachusetts and purchased a 2016 Volvo XC90 in Davie, Florida.

10. Defendant Volvo Car USA, LLC ("Volvo USA") is a limited liability company organized under Delaware law with its principal place of business in Rockleigh, New Jersey. Volvo USA is a wholly owned subsidiary of defendant Volvo Cars of North America LLC. Volvo USA is indirectly, wholly owned by Volvo Car Corporation.

11. Defendant Volvo Cars of North America, LLC ("Volvo North America") is a limited liability company organized under Delaware law with its principal place of business in Rockleigh, New Jersey. Defendant Volvo North America wholly owns defendant Volvo USA. Defendant Volvo North America is wholly owned by Volvo Car Corporation.

12. The Defendants Volvo USA and Volvo North America are affiliates of each other, are jointly and severally liable for the conduct alleged herein, and collectively are referred to in this complaint as "Volvo" or the "Defendants."

JURISDICTION

13. This Court has jurisdiction pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1332(d) and 1453, because (1) this action is a "class action," which contains class allegations and expressly seeks certification of a proposed class of individuals; (2) the putative Nationwide Class consists of more than one hundred proposed class members; (3)

the citizenship of at least one class member (Plaintiffs, citizens of Florida) is different from Defendants' citizenship (Delaware and New Jersey)²; and (4) the aggregate amount in controversy by the claims of Plaintiffs and the putative Nationwide Class exceeds \$5,000,000, exclusive of interest and costs.

14. This Court also has personal jurisdiction over Defendants because Defendants are headquartered and therefore "at home" in New Jersey, and moreover, the actions of the Defendants that give rise to the claims against them in this action took place and emanated from New Jersey.

15. Venue is proper in this jurisdiction pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1391 because Defendants are subject to personal jurisdiction in this District, and the actions of the Defendants' that give rise to the claims against them in this action took place and emanated this District.

² Because jurisdiction is based on the Class Action Fairness Act, 28 U.S.C. § 1332(d), even though Defendants are limited liability companies, each Defendant is a citizen of the states "where it has its principal place of business and…under whose laws it is organized." 28 U.S.C. § 1332(d). That is, the rules applicable in traditional non-class diversity cases, under which the citizenship of limited liability companies would be determined by the citizenship of those companies' members, do <u>not</u> apply to this case. *Erie Ins. Exch. V. Erie Indemn. Co.*, 722 F.3d 154, 161 n.7 (3d Cir. 2013) (explaining that the Class Action Fairness Act "evinces an intent that suits by unincorporated associations be treated like suits by corporations in that the citizenship of the association for diversity purposes is determined by the entity's principal place of business and not by the citizenship of its members").

FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS

16. On February 20, 2017, Plaintiff Fredrick Scott Levine purchased a 2016 Volvo XC90 from Volvo of the Palm Beaches, an authorized Volvo dealership in West Palm Beach, Florida. Mr. Levine's Volvo XC90 is one of the Non-Compatible Volvo XC90s described herein.

17. On November 8, 2015, Plaintiff Douglas W. Murphy purchased a
2016 Volvo XC90 from Weston Nissan Volvo, an authorized Volvo dealership in
Davie, Florida. Mr. Murphy's Volvo XC90 is one of the Non-Compatible Volvo
XC90s described herein.

18. Android Auto is a smartphone application for Google Android cell phones, designed to work seamlessly with the display screen of the Google Android user's car. Users can control their smartphone through the car's touchscreen display, steering wheel buttons, and/or voice commands. Certain applications and functions of the smartphone are displayed on the console, including telephone calls, text messaging, music/podcast players, and driving direction apps like Google Maps or Waze.

The Two Volvo Defendants

19. Defendant Volvo USA is the current exclusive distributor of Volvo automobiles in the United States. It imports into and markets Volvo automobiles in the United States, and it sells Volvo automobiles to authorized Volvo dealers, who

in turn sell and lease Volvo automobiles to purchasers and lessees. Volvo USA has been the exclusive distributor of Volvo automobiles in the United States since it assumed those functions from Volvo North America.

20. Since it became the exclusive distributor of Volvo automobiles in the United States, performing these functions, Volvo USA has created and disseminated the misrepresentations described in this complaint. Volvo USA has provided marketing, sales, parts, service, technology, and training support to Volvo automotive retailers in the United States.

21. Prior to Volvo USA becoming the exclusive distributor of Volvo automobiles in the United States, Volvo North America served the same function that Volvo USA currently serves. That is, Volvo North America (i) was the exclusive distributor of Volvo automobiles in the United States; (ii) imported into and marketed Volvo automobiles in the United States, and sold Volvo automobiles to authorized Volvo dealers, who in turn sold and leased Volvo automobiles to purchasers and lessees; (iii) provided marketing, sales, parts, service, technology, and training support to Volvo automotive retailers in the United States; and (iv) performing these functions, Volvo North America has created and disseminated the misrepresentations described in this complaint

22. To be clear, the two defendants in this case—Volvo USA and Volvo North America—served the same functions, but during different time periods.

When Volvo USA was formed and became the exclusive distributor of Volvo automobiles in the United States, this was simply a change in corporate structure between two corporations, one wholly owned by the other and both directly or indirectly wholly owned by the same parent corporation. That is, it was a change in form, rather than substance.

23. The precise date when Volvo USA became the exclusive distributor of Volvo automobiles in the United States is not currently known by Plaintiffs. Volvo did not publicize this change in corporate structure, and Volvo does not generally distinguish among the various Volvo-affiliated entities in its press releases or its other publicly available corporate documents. Of course, this fact will be easily learned in discovery in this action.

24. Despite Volvo's change in corporate structure, both Volvo defendants are jointly and severally liable for all wrongs alleged in this complaint for the reasons detailed below.

25. First, upon information and belief, when Volvo USA commenced operations and superseded Volvo North America, it acquired all assets **and all <u>liabilities</u>** of its predecessor, Volvo North America, including all liabilities arising from Volvo North America's deception alleged in this complaint. Therefore, Volvo USA is liable for the deceptive conduct of both Volvo North America and its own deceptive conduct.

26. Second, although Volvo North America appears to have ceased being the exclusive distributor of Volvo automobiles at or shortly after the formation of Volvo USA, Volvo North America is nonetheless liable for misrepresentations it disseminated to the public and upon which consumers continued to rely after Volvo USA became the exclusive distributor of Volvo vehicles in the United States. That is, Volvo North America is liable for the harm caused by its misrepresentations after those misrepresentations were made. Therefore, Volvo North America is also liable for damages caused by its deceptive conduct while it was the exclusive distributor of Volvo automobiles in the United States and thereafter.

27. Volvo USA and Volvo North America are joint tortfeasors. They are jointly and severally liable with each other for the conduct alleged in this complaint.

28. Finally, the deception alleged herein reflects a single, fraudulent scheme, rather than separate independent acts of deception by the two Volvo defendants. Because Volvo USA and Volvo North America jointly perpetrated the fraudulent scheme alleged herein, they are jointly and severally liable for all harm caused by that scheme.

29. Because the precise date on which Volvo USA superseded Volvo North America is not known, but both entities performed the same function just at

different times, Plaintiffs refer in this complaint to both entities simply as "Volvo." Discovery will clarify the precise date when Volvo North America ceased being the exclusive distributor of Volvo automobiles in the United States and Volvo USA became the exclusive distributor of Volvo automobiles in the United States, should that fact be relevant.

Volvo's Deceptive Conduct Occurred in New Jersey

30. Volvo developed the press releases, marketing materials, and planned and made other statements relevant to Plaintiffs' claims in New Jersey. Volvo made the representations detailed below and disseminated them from its headquarters in New Jersey. All of the deceptive conduct alleged in this complaint emanated from New Jersey.

31. Volvo's marketing staff for its North American operations is based in New Jersey. Volvo's Executive Vice President of Marketing in North America from 2014 through February 2017, Bodil Eriksson, moved to New Jersey from Sweden and led the development of Volvo's marketing strategies, including for the Volvo XC90, from New Jersey.

32. Volvo's Director of Marketing Innovation and Strategy, John Militello; Marketing Communications Manager Kevin Corcoran; Director of Marketing Operations, Jay Hammill; Technology and Product Communications

Manager, Jim Nichols; and Head of Marketing, Communications and Product Strategy for the Americas, Bob Jacobs, all work for Volvo in New Jersey.

33. The LinkedIn profiles of key Volvo marketing executives also confirm that Volvo's United States marketing emanates from New Jersey. For example, Volvo's Director of Marketing, John Militello, explains in his LinkedIn Profile that he "oversees all US marketing efforts" from Rockleigh, New Jersey. Mr. Militello specifically emphasizes his marketing efforts for the XC90 from Volvo's Rockleigh, New Jersey offices.

34. Similarly, Volvo's Head of Marketing, Communications, and Product Strategy for the Americas, Bob Jacobs, states in his LinkedIn profile that he is "[r]esponsible for all Marketing, Communications and Product Strategy for Volvo Cars US" and carries out those responsibilities from Rockleigh, New Jersey.

35. Volvo's Product Communications Manager, Jim Nichols, likewise states in his LinkedIn profile that he works for Volvo in New Jersey and is responsible for "manag[ing] product and technology communications for Volvo Cars in the United States," including "[o]rganiz[ing] and plan[ning] media launches and press drives" and setting "communications strategies for product and technology launches." As detailed herein, those are the types of communications, regarding the Volvo XC90 upon which this complaint is based.

36. Similarly, Volvo's Manager, Marketing Platforms & Technologies, Linda Gangeri confirms that Volvo works to "[d]eliver an integrated marketing strategy across all consumer touchpoints" from its offices in Rockleigh, New Jersey.

Volvo's Press Releases Regarding the Volvo XC90 and Android Auto

37. In its promotions for the XC90, Volvo specifically focused on the Sensus system, emphasizing its compatibility with Android Auto. As demonstrated below by Volvo's press releases and other statements, Volvo would sometimes falsely represent that Sensus on the Volvo XC90 was compatible with Android Auto, whereas sometimes it would instead represent that Sensus would become compatible with Android Auto in the near future. In any event, all of those representations were untrue because the Non-Compatible Volvo XC90s were incompatible with Android Auto, and even years later, when Volvo released the so-called "USB Installation Kit" to make XC90s compatible with Android Auto (described more fully below), Volvo required owners to pay substantial out-ofpocket costs to install the part. A sample of Volvo's press releases and public statements regarding the compatibility of the Sensus system in the Volvo XC90 with Android Auto is set forth below.

38. In a June 25, 2014 press release, Volvo announced that Android Auto

would be available in its next generation of vehicles, specifically including the

Volvo XC90. Volvo's press release read in full as follows:

Volvo Cars adds Android Auto to its next generation of cars

June 25, 2014 | ID: 147835

Volvo Car Group joins the Open Automotive Alliance

Volvo Car Group (Volvo Cars) has joined the Open Automotive Alliance to make the Android smartphone platform available to drivers through its new ground-breaking user interface. This move brings together one of the world's most progressive car companies and the world's most popular smartphone platform, developed by Google.

The integration of Android Auto[™] promises to add yet another dimension to the Volvo in-car experience. Android Auto brings features and services familiar to Android smartphone and tablet users directly into the car via Volvo Cars' large center console touch screen display.

"Google's approach to user-centricity and the application of technology to improve peoples' everyday lives makes Android Auto a perfect addition to the Volvo experience," said Håkan Samuelsson, President and CEO of Volvo Cars.

The interaction between Android Auto and Volvo Cars' brand new user interface transforms the look and feel of a car's interior. Volvo Cars' interiors will be characterized by their high-tech simplicity and functionality.

"We have worked hard to ensure an enjoyable user experience with Android Auto. This will offer our customers a new degree of fluidity and accessibility in the usage of their mobile devices, and bring the digital ecosystem our customers already enjoy into the car, complementing Volvo Cars' existing connected car services and applications," said Samuelsson. Android Auto will provide access to Google Search, Google Maps, Google Play Music and specially adapted third party applications, such as Spotify. All phone-based applications can be controlled via voice or steering wheel controls or the car's touch screen ensuring the entire interaction with Android Auto content is both safe and easy.

Volvo Cars' portrait touch screen provides users with the benefit of having both Volvo Cars and Android Auto content on the screen simultaneously, removing the need to switch between car and Android phone screens.

"Android smartphone users will feel completely at home in a new Volvo. We have created a wholly-integrated user experience in our large portrait-oriented touch screen that takes the in-car mobile device experience to a new level. That, coupled with the obvious driver safety benefits of an advanced voice control system offered by Google, made Android Auto a perfect match for Volvo," said Samuelsson.

Android Auto will be available on all new Volvo cars based on the new Scalable Product Architecture (SPA), starting with the all-new XC90, due to be publically revealed at this year's Paris Motor Show.

(Emphasis added).

39. In an October 21, 2014 press release, Volvo, when introducing the

new generation Volvo XC90, touted the Sensus system and its "ability to mirror

and use Apple and Android devices on Sensus' touchscreen display." In that press

release, Volvo said:

The all-new Volvo XC90

Oct 21, 2014 | ID: 153587

The all-new Volvo XC90 is a visually striking, premium quality seven seat SUV with world leading safety features, new powertrain technologies, an unrivalled combination of power and fuel efficiency and a superlative interior finish. The new XC90 marks the beginning of a new chapter in Volvo's history, capturing its future design direction, incorporating its own range of new technologies and utilising its new Scalable Product Architecture (SPA) technology.

SENSUS

Most modern control system on the market

The new Sensus user interface is without doubt the most modern incar control system on the market. It completely reinvents the way drivers operate their cars.

The traditional selection of buttons and controls has been replaced with a smooth, intuitive interaction between a large tablet-like touch screen, controls on the steering wheel and a capable voice-control system.

The digital instrumentation and the head-up display in front of the driver make sure that the most relevant information is available when needed.

Sensus gives comfortable access to a wide selection of cloud-based applications. The outstanding in-car possibilities includes Internet radio, connected navigation, finding and paying for parking, seamless music streaming, the ability to mirror and use Apple and Android devices in the touch screen display, a hot spot for using a tablet in the car – and much more.

(Emphasis added).

40. On September 17, 2015, Volvo issued a press release that expressly

represented that the Sensus system on the Volvo XC90 was compatible with

Android Auto. That press release read in part as follows:

Volvo Car USA Press Release What's New: 2016 Volvo XC90

Sep 17, 2015 | ID: 163170

XC90 T6 AWD Momentum

All new models for 2016 include the following features:

-
- Sensus High Performance Audio System with 330-watt amplifier and 10 speakers
- Sensus Navigation System with voice control and lifetime map upgrades
-

• Compatibility with Android Auto

XC90 T6 AWD Inscription

- ...
- Sensus High Performance Audio System with 330watt amplifier and 10 speakers
- Sensus Navigation System with Voice Control and Lifetime Upgrades
- ...
- Compatibility with Android Auto

XC90 T6 AWD R-Design

- ...
- Sensus High Performance Audio System with 330watt amplifier and 10 speakers
- Sensus Navigation System with Voice Control and Lifetime Upgrades
-
- Compatibility with Android Auto

(Emphasis added).

41. On the very same day, Volvo issued another press release in which it

both continued to represent that the 2016 Volvo XC90 was compatible with

Android Auto and, contradicting that representation, said that Sensus in the 2016

Volvo XC90s was not yet compatible with Android Auto but represented that

Volvo would make it compatible in the future. Volvo, however, nonetheless touted

the features of the Android Auto application. The press release is presented below:

Model Overview: 2016 Volvo XC90

Sept 17, 2015 | ID: 163169

Advanced Sensus Connect Technology

The XC90's new Sensus user interface is the most modern in-car control system on the market today. Volvo's interior design goal was to create a safer environment by adding a more intuitive interface that was both simple to operate and aesthetically elegant.

Sensus provides comfortable access to a wide selection of cloudbased applications. The in-car possibilities include Internet radio, connected navigation, finding and paying for parking, seamless music streaming, the ability to mirror and use Apple and Android devices in the touchscreen display, a hotspot for using a tablet in the car and much more.

Information on the center touchscreen is organized in a stack of four "tiles," each displaying a key functionality:

- Navigation
- Media
- Phone
- User-defined Title (such as Apple CarPlayTM)

Apple and Volvo Cars are joining forces to make Apple's widely used operating system available to XC90 drivers. Apple CarPlay[™] makes it possible to seamlessly integrate an iPhone (version 5 or later) and access selected functionalities and apps via the large center touchscreen. The iPhone can be controlled via the touchscreen or by Siri voice commands via the XC90's audio system. The all-new XC90 will be the first Volvo to offer this functionality and CarPlay can be retrofitted to any 2016 XC90 that was produced prior to availability.

A similar interface for Android phones under development and will be introduced at a later date. The integration of Android Auto[™] promises to add yet another dimension to the XC90's incar experience. Android Auto will bring features and services familiar to Android smartphone and tablet users directly into the car.

Android Auto will provide access to Google Search, Google Maps, Google Play Music and specially adapted third-party applications such as Spotify. All phone-based applications can be controlled via voice or steering wheel controls or the car's touchscreen ensuring the entire interaction with Android Auto content is both safe and easy.

(Emphasis added).

42. Volvo continued to tout the forthcoming Android Auto compatibility

in its 2016 XC90s in a press release announcing that the 2016 XC90 had won

several awards at the 2016 Chicago Auto Show:

Volvo Car USA Press Release

New Volvo S90 Luxury Sedan Makes Chicago Debut, XC90 SUV Presented With Three Awards at 2016 Chicago Auto Show

Feb 11, 2016 | ID: 173852

... The seven-passenger XC90 was given a *MotorWeek* Driver's Choice award, named Best Family Car by the Midwest Automotive Press Association (MAMA), and was selected as a *Consumer Guide* Automotive Best Buy (Premium Midsize Crossover/SUV) at separate media events here....

The XC90 is equipped with Intellisafe, a suite of standard safety features and technologies that make it an IIHS Top Pick+. Sensus,

Volvo's unique infotainment system, is controlled through a 9.3-inch tablet-like touch screen that allows drivers an incredible amount of personalization. Apple CarPlay is available now and Android Auto is coming soon.

(Emphasis added).

43. On March 1, 2016, Volvo continued to misrepresent the Sensus

system's compatibility with Android Auto. It said in a press release:

Volvo Car USA Press Release

Volvo XC90 – model year 2017

Mar 1, 2016 | ID: 190756

The XC90 is a premium seven seat SUV designed to deliver a luxurious user experience, whilst retaining the ride height, space and practicality that typifies this segment....

Connectivity

<u>All new Volvos</u> are now connected, thanks to Volvo's connectivity offering called Sensus. It delivers an intuitive touch screen interface that combines car functions, navigation, connected services and in car entertainment applications such as Spotify, Pandora, or TuneIn. The portrait oriented touch screen enables easy and fast access to a host of functions and features. **See our Sensus factsheet for more details.**

(Emphasis added).

44. The referenced "Sensus factsheet," made available on Volvo's

website, read and contained the photograph and caption thereto, as follows:

SENSUS

A technology factsheet on Volvo Cars' user interface technology across the range

Smartphone integration

Volvo Cars' Sensus user interface can now be equipped with smartphone integration, which allows you to access specific phone features directly via the touch screen.



Image shows Android Auto in car screen

Sensus works seamlessly with both Apple CarPlay and Android Auto.

Unlike other automakers, Volvo Cars has a fully native integration, ensuring a better overall experience and removing the need to switch from your phone's screen to the car screen.

As you can see from the images above with the examples of CarPlay and Android Auto integration, your car's other 'tiles' are available at all times.

...distinct, easy-to-use and enjoyable user experience.

(Emphasis added).

Automotive Reviews of the Volvo XC90 and Android Auto

45. Volvo designed and intended that its press releases and other public

relations and marketing efforts would spread among automobile reviewers, Volvo

dealers, and others the "fact" that the Sensus system on the Volvo XC90 was or

would be compatible with Android Auto as a "standard" or "included" feature.

Volvo designed and intended for the automobile reviewers, Volvo dealers, and others to then repeat and pass on to prospective purchasers or lessees of the Volvo XC90 the "fact" that the Sensus system on the Volvo XC90 was or would soon be compatible with Android Auto at no additional cost.

46. Car reviews in the media are typically based on information carefully controlled by manufacturers. During press tours, manufacturers' press teams make presentations to reviewers detailing the various features and functions of the vehicle for the reviewers to use in their reviews. Manufacturers often pay reviewers for permission to use excerpts from positive reviews, which are based on manufacturer-provided information and demonstrations. Manufacturers are thus able to control most of the information disseminated to the public through third party car reviews about the current or promised features of their vehicles.

47. Volvo succeeded in its effort to have automobile reviewers, Volvo dealers, and others repeat and pass on to prospective and actual purchasers or lessees of the Volvo XC90 the "fact" that the Sensus system on the Volvo XC90 was or would be compatible with Android Auto as a "standard" and "included" feature. The automotive press was replete with reviews of the Volvo XC90, which repeated this "fact." Some examples of those reviews are as follows.

48. On August 16, 2014, *Motor Trend* published an article entitled "2016 Volvo XC90 First Look." This article says that the 2016 Volvo XC90's Sensus "**works with** both Apple CarPlay and **Google Android Auto**."³

49. On February 23, 2015, *Kelly Blue Book* published an article entitled "2016 Volvo XC90 First Review: Promise delivered." This article describes that the 2016 Volvo XC90's Sensus console has "**connectivity capabilities**

including...Android Auto."

50. On June 22, 2015, *GQ* published an article entitled "This is the SUV it's OK to love." This article says that the 2016 Volvo XC90's Sensus will

"handle...Android Auto."

51. On Friday, October 16, 2015, *New York Daily News* published an article entitled "Review: 2016 Volvo XC90." This review stated that for the 2016 Volvo XC90 **"Android Auto is standard...."**

52. On November 25, 2015, *Jalopnik* published an article entitled "Volvo XC90: The Ultimate Buyer's Guide." This article listed among **"Notable**

Features:... Android Auto compatibility."

53. On December 15, 2015, *JD Power* published an article entitled "Apple CarPlay vs. Android Auto." Under "a list of new car, truck, and SUV

³ All bold quotations hereinafter from auto reviews, unless otherwise indicated, are "emphasis added."

models that **are available** with Android Auto (2016 model year unless otherwise noted)," the review lists "Volvo: XC90."

54. On July 22, 2016, *eBaymotors* published an article entitled "Volvo XC90 SUV sets a High Mark for 21st Technology." This article states that the 2016 XC90 **"is among a growing list of automobiles that comes standard with...Android Auto."**

55. On August 18, 2016, *Forbes* published an article entitled "Volvo's XC90 Is A Truly Admirable Technological Feat." This article describes Volvo's 2016 XC90 as offering "top notch infotainment," stating that "[t]wo of the major players in in-car infotainment, Android Auto and Apple CarPlay, are available on the XC90 as a compliment to Volvo's own near-flawless Sensus Connect".

56. On March 17, 2017, *Gotta Be Mobile* published an article entitled "2017 Volvo XC90 Review." This article states that in the 2017 XC90 "**you can use...Android Auto.**"

The Non-Compatible Volvo XC90s

57. On or about December 2016, Volvo added Android Auto to the 2017 XC90s that it was then manufacturing. Volvo also offered complimentary upgrades to create Sensus compatibility with Android Auto. However, those upgrades were

only available for 2017 XC90 models that had been built after April 2016. And,

those upgrades were not available for any 2016 Volvo XC90s.

58. On its website, Volvo told consumers that the Sensus system on the

2016 XC90 is not and never will be compatible with Android Auto. Specifically,

Volvo says:

For installation of Android Auto to be possible, the car must be equipped with two USB ports (USB hub). If the car has only one USB port then it is not possible to use Android Auto. It is not possible to install Android Auto on the XC90 or XC90 Twin Engine model year 2016 since they do not have the USB hub. It is not possible to retrofit the USB hub on these models.

(Emphasis added).

59. The 2016 Volvo XC90s have only one USB port and hence it is also not possible to install Android Auto on those models. Hence, those models were and would remain incompatible with Android Auto absent substantial rewiring of the vehicle's electronics system.

60. The 2017 Volvo XC90s that Volvo manufactured before April 2016

also have only one USB port and hence it is also not possible to install Android Auto on those 2017 Volvo XC90s, and it is not possible to retrofit the USB hub on those 2017 Volvo XC90s. Hence, those 2017 Volvo XC90s were and would remain incompatible with Android Auto absent substantial rewiring of the vehicle's electronics system. 61. Volvo routinely told XC90 purchasers who inquired, after their purchases that Volvo had not yet found a way to make the vehicles compatible with Android Auto. Then, beginning on or around November 21, 2016, Volvo began telling customers who inquired that that the 2016 Volvo XC90 would never become compatible with Android Auto.

62. As previously noted, all of the 2016 Volvo XC90s and the 2017 Volvo XC90s manufactured before April 2016 are collectively referred to herein as the "Non-Compatible Volvo XC90s." Volvo's repeated representations that Non-Compatible Volvo XC90s were compatible with Android Auto and that Android Auto was a "standard" and "include[d]" feature were false and misleading.

63. Based upon sales data publicly reported by Volvo, Plaintiffs estimate that approximately 29,000 Non-Compatible Volvo XC90s were sold or leased in the United States.

The History of This Litigation

64. On September 11, 2017, a Volvo XC90 purchaser, Robert Middien, represented by the counsel in this case, filed a class action lawsuit in the United States District Court for the District of Massachusetts, asserting claims similar to those asserted here. *See Middien v. Volvo Cars of North America, LLC*, Case No. 1:17-cv-11721-LTS (D. Mass) (the "Massachusetts Case"). Specifically, Mr. Middien alleged that Volvo violated state consumer protection and warranty law

by falsely representing that the Non-Compatible Volvo XC90s would be compatible with Android Auto, when they were not.

65. Defendants moved to strike the class action allegations in the Massachusetts Case on the basis that a district court in Massachusetts would not have personal jurisdiction over Defendants for the claims of putative class members not residing in Massachusetts—that is, that Plaintiffs could not bring a nationwide class in Massachusetts. Defendants indicated that there would be no impediment based on person jurisdiction to asserting claims on behalf of a nationwide class in Defendants' "home" state, New Jersey.

66. Although then-Plaintiff Middien did not necessarily agree with Defendants' legal contentions, he voluntarily dismissed his complaint in the District of Massachusetts without prejudice and filed this class action complaint in this Court in order ensure that the Court presiding over this case would have personal jurisdiction over Defendants with respect to the claims of all members of the nationwide class of purchasers or leases of the Non-Compatible Volvo XC90s.

After Volvo Is Sued, It Covertly Releases the "USB Installation Kit"

67. In its motion to dismiss Mr. Middien's complaint filed in this Court, Volvo disclosed for the first time that on March 1, 2018, six months after the Massachusetts Case had been filed, Volvo had released what it described as a "USB Installation Kit," which, according to Volvo, "makes it possible to connect

cellular phones that are capable of supporting Android Auto to the Sensus systems in XC90 vehicles."

68. Volvo has never disclosed to purchasers of the Non-Compatible XC90s that the USB Installation Kit is available. It did not send notices of the availability of the USB installation kit, by email or mail, to the purchasers or lessees of the non-compatible Volvo XC90's. Likewise, it did not disclose the purchasers and lessees of the non-compatible Volvo XC90's existence or availability on its consumer website. And it did not disclose the existence of the USB Installation kit, by email or mail, to the automotive press.

69. The USB Installation Kit requires a mechanic to perform the installation. The directions provided to mechanics indicate that installation requires fifty steps (and actually requires many more steps, given that step number 50 is to "reinstall the removed parts in reverse order"). The installation requires removing panels from the car's interior, removing the entire passenger side floor, rewiring various components of the vehicle's electronics, and downloading software through a platform called "VIDA," which appears to be a paid subscription service offered by Volvo only for "trained technicians" that enables them to perform repairs on Volvo vehicles.

70. The acquisition and installation of the USB Installation Kit requires substantial out-of-pocket expense. The Kit itself costs hundreds of dollars, and

labor charges for installation can drive the final cost for installation (including part plus costs) to over \$1,000. Volvo has not agreed to pay for the cost of the Kit or its installation in the class members' XC90s.

71. The vast majority of the tens of thousands of class members have no idea the Kit exists. With respect to the few class members who somehow found out about the Kit, they either had to pay for the installation themselves or refused to do pay for it, in which case their vehicle remains incompatible with Android Auto.

72. Plaintiff Fredrick Scott Levine's experience is a case in point. After learning about the USB Installation Kit, Mr. Levine went to a Volvo dealership and requested installation. The dealership informed Mr. Levine that contrary to what he was told when he purchased the vehicle, Android Auto compatibility would not be free to him. The dealership would install the USB Installation Kit only at a substantial cost to Mr. Levine. Mr. Levine demanded that the USB Installation Kit be installed at no cost. He complained directly to defendant Volvo Car USA. After discussing the issue live with a customer service representative, who was unable to honor Mr. Levine's request, Volvo's "Customer Care Team" emailed Mr. Levine on April 2, 2019, informing him as follows:

We have finished reviewing your case and as much as we truly desire to resolve all of our customer's requests to their satisfaction, it is not possible to meet every expectation. We regret that in this instance, Volvo Car USA cannot accommodate your request for assistance with part costs. We apologize for any inconvenience in this matter. We have attached a 30% off mail-in rebate coupon (parts and accessories only) to this email, that can be mailed in with your invoice after, to receive a check for the maximum allowed amount.

73. Volvo's treatment of Mr. Levine reflected its standard practice of refusing to pay for the cost of the Kit or the cost of installing the Kit; and instead requiring class members to pay for the Kit and its installation in order to obtain the Android Auto compatibly they were promised when they purchased or leased their XC90. Only after Mr. Levine filed this lawsuit did a Volvo dealer provide installation of the Kit at no cost to Mr. Levine in December 2019. Volvo provided Mr. Levine no compensation for the nearly three years of ownership of an XC90 during which he did not have Android Auto, which Volvo had represented would be a standard feature.

The Injuries Suffered by Plaintiffs and Other Class Members

74. Plaintiffs and all purchasers and lessees of the Non-Compatible Volvo XC90s (who, as detailed below are the members of the putative Classes) have suffered injury and been damaged by Volvo's misrepresentations and breaches of its express warranties by description. Specifically, Plaintiffs and all members of the putative Classes paid for a Volvo XC90 that was represented and warranted by description as being compatible with Android Auto or that Volvo would make it compatible with Android Auto, but the Volvo XC90 they received was not compatible with Android Auto.

75. Plaintiffs and all members of the putative Classes received vehicles that were substantially less valuable than the vehicles that Defendants represented and warranted to them, due to the failure of Defendants to deliver a specific, bargained-for characteristic: Android Auto compatibility.

76. The few members of the putative classes who learned about the USB Installation Kit and paid any out-of-pocket expense to have it installed were damaged by paying for a feature for their vehicles that Volvo represented would be "included" as a "standard" feature in "all trims" of the XC90.

77. Class members who either balked at paying out-of-pocket costs for the USB Installation Kit, or who are not even aware that the USB Installation Kit exists, have been damaged and remain damaged by purchasing a vehicle that remains incompatible with Android Auto.

78. Even with respect to the few members of the putative classes who were offered and received installation of the USB Installation Kit at no cost, such purchasers were damaged by possessing a Non-Compatible Volvo XC90 for years that lacked a feature that Volvo represented would be "standard."

CLASS ACTION ALLEGATIONS

79. Plaintiffs re-allege and incorporates the allegations contained in the paragraphs above.

80. Plaintiffs bring this action pursuant to Rule 23 of the Federal Rules of

Civil Procedure, on behalf of themselves and a Nationwide Class consisting of:

All persons who purchased or leased, anywhere in the United States, a new 2016 Volvo XC90, and all persons who purchased or leased a new 2017 Volvo XC90, with a Sensus system that is incompatible with Android Auto and cannot be made compatible with Android Auto (the "Nationwide Class" or the "Members of the Nationwide Class").

81. Plaintiffs also bring this action pursuant to Rule 23 of the Federal

Rules of Civil Procedure on behalf of a Florida Class consisting of:

All persons who purchased or leased, in Florida, a new 2016 Volvo XC90, and all persons who purchased or leased a new 2017 Volvo XC90 in Florida, with a Sensus system that is incompatible with Android Auto and cannot be made compatible with Android Auto (the "Florida Class" or the "Members of the Florida Class").

82. Plaintiffs refer to the Nationwide Class and the Florida Class together

as the "Classes."

83. Plaintiffs reserve the right to amend the definition of either Class.

84. This action is properly maintainable as a class action.

85. There are approximately 29,000 members of the Nationwide Class

and more than a thousand members of the Florida Class. Accordingly, joinder of all members is impractical.

86. Common questions of law and fact exist as to all members of the

Classes and predominate over any questions solely affecting individual members of the Classes. Among questions of law and fact in common to the Classes are: a. Whether Volvo misrepresented the features of Non-Compatible
 Volvo XC90s by representing that such vehicles were or would become
 compatible with Android Auto;

b. Whether Non-Compatible Volvo XC90s are, in fact, not compatible with Android Auto;

c. With respect to the Nationwide Class, whether Volvo, in its marketing and sale of the Non-Compatible Volvo XC90s violated the NJCFA, N.J. S.A. §56:8-2, *et seq*.

d. With respect to the Florida Class, whether Volvo, in its marketing and sale of the Non-Compatible Volvo XC90s violated FDUTPA Fla. Stat. §501.201 *et seq*.

e. Whether Volvo breached its express warranty by description when it delivered Non-Compatible Volvo XC90s with Sensus systems that lacked the promised compatibility with Android Auto.

87. Plaintiffs' claims are typical of the claims of each member of each of the Classes in that Plaintiffs allege a common course of conduct by Volvo toward each member of the Class. Specifically, Volvo violated the NJCFA and breached its express warranty by description with each member of the National Class, and Volvo violated FDUTPA and breached its express warranty by description with each member of the Florida Class. Plaintiffs and the other members of the Classes

seek identical remedies under identical legal theories. There is no antagonism or material factual variation between Plaintiffs' claims and those of the Classes.

88. Plaintiffs will fairly and adequately protect the interests of the members of the Classes and has retained counsel who have extensive experience prosecuting class actions and who, with Plaintiffs, are fully capable of, and intent upon, vigorously pursuing this action. Plaintiffs have no interest adverse to the Classes.

89. A class action is superior to all other available methods for the fair and efficient adjudication of this controversy. Furthermore, the damage that has been suffered by any individual Class member is likely not enough to sustain the expense and burden of individual litigation. Hence it would be impracticable for all members of the Classes to redress the wrongs done to them individually. There will be no difficulty in the management of this action as a class action.

90. The prosecution of separate actions against Defendants would create a risk of inconsistent or varying adjudications with respect to the individual Class members, which could establish incompatible standards of conduct for Defendants. In addition, adjudications with respect to individual members of the Classes could, as a practical matter, be dispositive of the interests of the other members of the Classes not parties to such adjudications, or could substantially impede or impair their ability to protect their interests.

91. The members of the Classes are readily identifiable through

Defendants' records.

92. Defendants have acted on grounds generally applicable to the Classes with respect to the matters complained of herein, thereby making appropriate the relief sought herein with respect to the Classes as a whole.

<u>COUNT I</u>

Violations of New Jersey's Consumer Fraud Act, N.J.S.A. § 56:8-2, *et seq.* (On Behalf of the Nationwide Class)

93. Plaintiffs incorporate the foregoing paragraphs as if fully set forth herein.

94. Plaintiffs bring this claim against Volvo on behalf of themselves and the Nationwide Class.

95. Volvo has engaged in deceptive, unfair, fraudulent and/or misleading commercial practices in the advertising, promotion, marketing, distribution, selling and leasing of Non-Compatible Volvo XC90s.

96. Volvo represented that Non-Compatible Volvo XC90s had characteristics, uses, benefits, or qualities that they did not have—specifically, that those vehicles were or would be compatible with Android Auto, when, in fact, the vehicles were not compatible with Android Auto and would never be compatible without substantial, costly rewiring of the vehicle's electronics. 97. In its advertising, promotion, and marketing of the Non-Compatible Volvo XC90s, Volvo misrepresented material facts to Plaintiffs and other members of the Nationwide Class with respect to the vehicles' compatibility with Android Auto. As detailed above, Volvo's deceptive advertising, promotion, and marketing of the Non-Compatible Volvo XC90s was created in and emanated from New Jersey.

98. Volvo's conduct was objectively deceptive and had the capacity to deceive reasonable consumers under the circumstances. The fact that the Non-Compatible Volvo XC90s were not compatible with Android Auto was a material fact to which a reasonable consumer would attach importance at the time of purchase or lease.

99. Volvo's practices, as detailed herein, violated the New Jersey Consumer Fraud Act, N.J.S.A. 56:8-1, et seq.

100. As a direct and proximate result of Defendants' violations of the New Jersey Consumer Fraud Act, Plaintiffs and other members of the Nationwide Class have suffered ascertainable losses, which include but are not limited to, the diminished value of their vehicles and the failure to receive the benefit of the bargain promised to them by Defendants (i.e., the vehicles they received were less valuable at the time of purchase or lease than the vehicles Defendants promised to them); and the substantial out-of-pocket costs some incurred to make their vehicles compatible with Android Auto. Accordingly, Plaintiffs and other members of the Nationwide Class were harmed by, and Defendants are liable for, Defendants' actions in violation of the New Jersey Consumer Fraud Act.

101. Defendants are liable to Plaintiffs and the members of the Nationwide Class for treble damages caused by their deceptive conduct, and for reasonable attorneys' fees as set forth in the New Jersey Consumer Fraud Act.

<u>COUNT II</u> Violations of FDUTPA, Fla. Stat. § 501.201, *et seq.* (On Behalf of the Florida Class)

102. Plaintiffs incorporate the foregoing paragraphs as if fully set forth herein.

103. Plaintiffs bring this claim against Volvo on behalf of themselves and the Florida Class.

104. At all relevant times, the Defendants were engaged in commerce within the State of Florida, as defined by Fla. Stat. § 501.203(8), and are therefore subject to the provisions contained in Fla. Stat. § 501.201, *et seq.*, FDUTPA.

105. Volvo has engaged in deceptive, unfair, fraudulent and/or misleading commercial practices in the advertising, promotion, marketing, distribution, selling and leasing of Non-Compatible Volvo XC90s.

106. Volvo represented that Non-Compatible Volvo XC90s had characteristics, uses, benefits, or qualities that they did not have—specifically, that

those vehicles were or would be compatible with Android Auto, when, in fact, the vehicles were not compatible with Android Auto and would never be compatible absent substantial, costly rewiring of the vehicle's electronics.

107. In its advertising, promotion, marketing, distributing, selling and leasing of the Non-Compatible Volvo XC90s, Volvo misrepresented material facts to Plaintiffs and other members of the Florida Class with respect to the vehicles' compatibility with Android Auto.

108. Volvo's conduct was objectively deceptive, and had the capacity to deceive reasonable consumers under the circumstances. The fact that the Non-Compatible Volvo XC90s were not compatible with Android Auto was a material fact to which a reasonable consumer would attach importance at the time of purchase or lease.

109. Volvo's practices, as detailed herein, constituted unfair or deceptive practices in violation of FDUTPA, Fla. Stat. § 501.201, *et seq*.

110. As a direct and proximate result of Defendants' violations of FDUTPA, Plaintiffs and other members of the Florida Class have suffered ascertainable losses, which include but are not limited to, the diminished value of their vehicles and the failure to receive the benefit of the bargain promised to them by Defendants (i.e., the vehicles they received were less valuable at the time of purchase or lease than the vehicles Defendants promised to them); and out-of-

pocket costs they incurred in order to make their vehicles compatible with Android Auto. Accordingly, Plaintiffs and other members of the Florida Class were harmed by, and Defendants are liable for, Defendants' actions in violation of FDUTPA.

<u>COUNT III</u> Breach of Express Warranty by Description in Violation of N.J. Stat. § 12A:2-313(b) (On Behalf of the Nationwide Class)

111. Plaintiffs incorporate the foregoing paragraphs as if fully set forth herein.

112. Plaintiffs bring this claim against Volvo on behalf of themselves and the Nationwide Class pursuant to Section 2-313(b) of the Uniform Commercial Code, adopted under New Jersey law pursuant to N.J. Stat. § 12A:2-313(b). That section provides: "Any description of the goods which is made part of the basis of the bargain creates an express warranty that the goods shall conform to that description."

113. Volvo described Non-Compatible Volvo XC90s in its advertisements, press releases, specifications provided to dealers, information provided to the press, and through other media, which it knew would be communicated to consumers either directly or indirectly. Volvo's description included that the Non-Compatible Volvo XC90s would be compatible with Android Auto. Volvo's repeated representations that the Non-Compatible Volvo XC90s would be compatible with Android Auto were express warranties by description under N.J. Stat. § 12A:2-313(b).

114. Volvo's express warranties by description that the Non-Compatible Volvo XC90s would be compatible with Android Auto were designed to induce Plaintiffs and other members of the Nationwide Class to purchase the Non-Compatible Volvo XC90s.

115. Volvo's express warranties by description became part of the basis of the bargain into which Plaintiffs and other members of the Nationwide Class entered when they purchased the Non-Compatible Volvo XC90s.

116. Given the modern significance of compatibility of vehicles with cell phones, as represented by Volvo's prominent representation of the Non-Compatible Volvo XC90s' compatibility with Android Auto, the natural tendency of Volvo's descriptions of the Non-Compatible Volvo XC90s was to induce the purchase or lease of the Non-Compatible Volvo XC90s.

117. Volvo breached its express warranties by description with Plaintiffs and other members of the Nationwide Class by delivering Non-Compatible Volvo XC90s that were not, and never could be, compatible with Android Auto without substantial, costly rewiring of the vehicle's electronics.

118. By delivering a vehicle with a Sensus system lacking compatibility with Android Auto, Volvo has breached its express warranty by description to the

purchasers and lessees of the Non-Compatible Volvo XC90s, including the Plaintiffs and members of the Nationwide Class.

119. As a direct and proximate result of Volvo's breach of its express warranties by description with Plaintiffs and the members of the Nationwide Class, Plaintiffs and the members of the Nationwide Class did not receive the full benefit of their bargain and suffered damage by receiving vehicles that were less valuable than the vehicles that Defendants had represented to them, and by paying out-ofpocket costs in order to make their vehicles compatible with Android Auto.

120. Volvo is liable to Plaintiffs and the members of the Nationwide Class for all damages caused by Volvo's breach of express warranties by description.

<u>COUNT IV</u> Breach of Express Warranty by Description in Violation of Fla. Stat. § 672.313 (on Behalf of the Florida Class)

121. Plaintiffs incorporate the foregoing paragraphs as if fully set forth herein.

122. Plaintiffs bring this claim against Volvo on behalf of themselves and the Florida Class pursuant to Section 2-313(b) of the Uniform Commercial Code, adopted under Florida law pursuant to Fla. Stat. § 672.313(a), (b). That section provides: "Any affirmation of fact or promise made by the seller to the buyer which relates to the goods and becomes part of the basis of the bargain creates an express warranty that the goods shall conform to the affirmation or promise," and, "[a]ny description of the goods which is made part of the basis of the bargain creates an express warranty that the goods shall conform to that description."

123. Volvo described Non-Compatible Volvo XC90s in its advertisements, press releases, specifications provided to dealers, information provided to the press, and through other media, which it knew would be communicated to consumers either directly or indirectly. Volvo's description included that the Non-Compatible Volvo XC90s would be compatible with Android Auto. Volvo's repeated representations that the Non-Compatible Volvo XC90s would be compatible Volvo XC90s would be compatible Volvo XC90s would be Scompatible Volvo XC90s would be compatible Volvo XC90s would be Scompatible Volvo XC90s would be compatible Volvo XC90s would be Scompatible Volvo XC9

124. Volvo's express warranties by description that the Non-Compatible Volvo XC90s would be compatible with Android Auto were designed to induce Plaintiffs and other members of the Florida Class to purchase the Non-Compatible Volvo XC90s.

125. Volvo's express warranties by description became part of the basis of the bargain into which Plaintiffs and other members of the Florida Class entered when they purchased the Non-Compatible Volvo XC90s.

126. Given the modern significance of compatibility of vehicles with cell phones, as represented by Volvo's prominent representation of the Non-

Compatible Volvo XC90s' compatibility with Android Auto, the natural tendency of Volvo's descriptions of the Non-Compatible Volvo XC90s was to induce the purchase or lease of the Non-Compatible Volvo XC90s.

127. Volvo breached its express warranties by description with Plaintiffs and other members of the Florida Class by delivering Non-Compatible Volvo XC90s that were not compatible with Android Auto.

128. By delivering a vehicle with a Sensus system lacking compatibility with Android Auto, Volvo has breached its express warranty by description to the purchasers and lessees of the Non-Compatible Volvo XC90s, including the Plaintiffs and members of the Florida Class.

129. As a direct and proximate result of Volvo's breach of its express warranties by description with Plaintiffs and the members of the Florida Class, Plaintiffs and the members of the Florida Class did not receive the full benefit of their bargain and suffered damage by receiving vehicles that were less valuable than the vehicles that Defendants had represented to them, and by paying out-ofpocket costs in order to make their vehicles compatible with Android Auto.

130. Volvo is liable to Plaintiffs and the members of the Florida Class for all damages caused by Volvo's breach of express warranties by description.

PRAYERS FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, Plaintiffs pray for relief in the form of an order as follows:

a. Certifying this action as a class action under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 23, and appointing Plaintiffs Levine and Murphy as class representative and his attorneys as class counsel;

b. Awarding actual damages to Plaintiffs and the Members of the Nationwide Class and the Florida Class;

c. Awarding attorneys' fees, expenses, and the costs of this suit, together with prejudgment and post-judgment interest at the maximum rate allowed by law; and

d. Awarding such other and further relief which the Court finds just and proper.

JURY DEMAND

Plaintiffs demand a trial by jury on all claims so triable.

Dated: March 2, 2020

Respectfully submitted,

LOWEY DANNENBERG, P.C.

By: <u>/s/ Anthony M. Christina</u> Barbara Hart (admitted *pro hac vice*) David Harrison (admitted *pro hac vice*) Anthony M. Christina (NJ ID# 196262016) 44 South Broadway, Suite 1100 White Plains, NY 10601-2301 Telephone: (914) 997-0500 Facsimile: (914) 997-0035 E-Mail: bhart@lowey.com achristina@lowey.com

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Counsel for Plaintiffs Robert Middien, Fredrick Scott Levine, and Douglas W. Murphy

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, Anthony M. Christina, hereby certify that on March 2, 2020, I filed and served through the Court's ECF system a true and correct copy of the foregoing documents. Those attorneys who are registered with the Court's electronic filing system may access these filings through the Court's system and notice of these filings will be sent to these parties by operation of this Court's electronic filing system.

> /s/ Anthony M. Christina Anthony M. Christina