| | Case 3:20-cv-02215-DMS-RBB Document 1 | Filed 11/13/20 | PageID.1 | Page 1 of 17 | | | | |
|--|---|----------------|------------------------------|-------------------|--|--|--|--|
| | | | | | | | | |
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| 10 | jbrown@leedsbrownlaw.com mtompkins@leedsbrownlaw.com | | | | | | | |
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| 17 | Counsel for Plaintiff and the Putative Class | | | | | | | |
| 18 | UNITED STATES DI | STRICT COUR | Т | | | | | |
| 19 | SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA | | | | | | | |
| 20 21 22 23 24 | EDGAR CHAVARRIA, on behalf of himself and all others similarly situated, PLAINTIFF, | Cuse 110 | CV2215 DM ACTION C | S RBB OMPLAINT | | | | |
| 25 26 27 | - AGAINST - University of San Diego, | JURY | TRIAL DE | MANDED | | | | |
| 27 28 | DEFENDANT. | | | | | | | |
| | 1 COMPLA | AINT | | | | | | |

Plaintiff Edgar Chavarria ("Plaintiff"), by and through the undersigned counsel, brings this class action against Defendant University of San Diego ("USD," the "University," or "Defendant"), and alleges as follows based upon information and belief, except as to the allegations specifically pertaining to him, which are based on personal knowledge.

NATURE OF THE ACTION

1. This is a class action lawsuit on behalf of all persons who paid tuition and/or fees to attend University of San Diego for an in person, hands-on educational services and experiences for the semesters or terms affected by Coronavirus Disease 2019 ("COVID-19"), including the Spring 2020 semester, and had their course work moved to online only learning.

2. Such individuals paid all or part of the tuition for the Spring 2020 semester that was around \$25,225.00 for undergraduate students, including mandatory fees of \$125.00 as a student fee, a \$170.00 student wellness fee, and a \$7.00 media fee ("Mandatory Fees"). Defendant also charged and assessed approximately \$4,970.00 for room and board, \$140 for parking fees, and \$70 for student life pavilion fees, and provide some prorated refunds to students.

3. However, USD has not refunded any amount of the tuition or any of the Mandatory Fees, even though it announced on March 12, 2020 that classes would be canceled for one week starting in or around March 14, 2020 and it would implement online only distance learning starting in or around March 23, 2020.

4. Because of the University's response to the COVID-19 pandemic, on or about March 14, 2020, the University also stopped providing services or facilities the Mandatory Fees were intended to cover.

5. The University's failure to provide the services for which tuition and the Mandatory Fees were intended to cover since approximately March 14, 2020 is a breach of the contracts between the University and Plaintiff and the members of the Class and is unjust.

6. In short, Plaintiff and the members of the Class have paid for tuition for a first-rate education and an on-campus, in person educational experiences, with all the appurtenant benefits offered by a first-rate University, and were provided a materially deficient and insufficient alternative, which constitutes a breach of the contracts entered into by Plaintiff with the University.

7. As to the Mandatory Fees, Plaintiff and the Class have paid fees for services and facilities which are simply not provided.

8. This failure also constitutes a breach of the contracts entered into by Plaintiff with the University.

9. Plaintiff seeks, for himself and Class members, the University's disgorgement and return of the pro-rated portion of its tuition and Mandatory Fees, proportionate to the amount of time in the respective semesters when the University closed and switched to online only learning. The return of such amounts would compensate Plaintiff and the Class members for damages sustained by way of Defendant's breach.

10. Plaintiff seeks for himself and Class members protections including injunctive and declaratory relief protecting Class Members from paying the full cost of tuition and fees during the pendency of the pandemic in light of the educational services, opportunities, and experiences Defendant can actually safely provide.

PARTIES

11. Plaintiff Edgar Chavarria was an undergraduate student during the Spring 2020 semesters and graduated in May 2020. In the Spring 2020 semester, USD charged Plaintiff approximately \$25,225.00 in tuition and at least \$298.00 in Mandatory Fees, including \$170.00 in health services fees, \$121.00 in student association fees, and \$7.00 in media fees. Additionally,

Plaintiff was charged \$80.00 for a Course fee.

12. Plaintiff Chavarria is a citizen of Lafayette, Colorado.

13. Plaintiff Chavarria paid tuition and fees for in-person educational services, experiences, opportunities, and other related collegiate services. Plaintiff Chavarria has not been provided a pro-rated refund of the tuition for his in-person classes that were discontinued and moved online, or the Mandatory Fees he paid after the University's facilities were closed and events were cancelled.

14. Plaintiff Chavarria was also charged the \$70.00 student life pavilion fee and \$140.00 parking fee, but was provided a 60% prorated refund during late March 2020. Whereby, the University acknowledges that certain services were not provided in accordance with prior arrangements and students like Plaintiffs did not receive all of the benefits of their bargain.

15. Defendant USD is a private University in San Diego, California that was founded in 1949 as two separate institutions and merged into the University of San Diego in 1972. The University offers numerous major fields for undergraduate students, as well as a number of graduate programs.

16. Defendant's undergraduate and graduate programs includes students from many, if not all, of the states in the country. Defendant is a citizen of California.

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

17. This Court has original jurisdiction under the Class Action Fairness Act, 28 U.S.C. § 1332(d)(2)(A), because the matter in controversy exceeds the sum or value of \$5,000,000, exclusive of interests and costs, and is a class action in which one or more of the other Class members are citizens of a State different from the Defendant.

18. This Court has personal jurisdiction over Defendant because it resides in this

1 District.

19. Venue is proper in this District pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1391(b)(1), because Defendant resides in this District and is a resident of the state in which the District is located.

FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS.

20. Plaintiff and Class Members paid to attend USD's Spring 2020 semester including tuition and the Mandatory Fees. The Spring 2020 semester started on January 27, 2020 and ended on or around May 21, 2020.

21. Tuition at the University was approximately \$25,225.00 for undergraduate students, and mandatory fees for the semester of approximately \$125.00 for undergraduate associated student fee, \$170.00 student wellness fee, \$70 student life pavilion fee, and a \$7.00 media fee, and similar such charges for graduate students. The only fee that was provided a prorated refund was the student life pavilion fee.

22. Plaintiff and the members of the Class paid tuition for the benefit of on-campus live interactive instruction and an on-campus educational experience throughout the semesters.

23. Throughout March 2020, the University made public announcements adjusting educational services and opportunities that affected Plaintiff.

24. The University has not held any in-person classes since March 14, 2020 for undergraduate students. All classes since March 23, 2020 have only been offered in a remote online format with no in-person instruction or interaction.

25. Most of the services for which the Mandatory Fees were assessed were also terminated or cancelled at or about this time, such as access to University health and wellness facilities, programs or services; fitness facilities; student events or sports; and an in-person commencement.

26. Despite these actions, USD has not provided reimbursement or refund information regarding tuition or the Mandatory Fees.

27. Students attending USD's Spring 2020 semester did not choose to attend an online only institution of higher learning, but instead chose to enroll in the University's in-person educational programs – with the understanding that USD would provide in person educational opportunities, services, and experiences.

28. On its website, USD markets the University's on-campus experience and opportunities as a benefit to students.

29. The University uses its website, promotional materials, circulars, admission papers, and publications to tout the benefit of being on campus and the education students will receive in its facilities.

30. The online learning options being offered to USD's students are sub-par in practically every aspect as compared to what the educational experience afforded Plaintiff and the members of the Class once was. During the online portion of the Spring 2020 semesters, USD used programs by which previously recorded lectures were posted online for students to view on their own or by virtual Zoom meetings. Therefore, there was a lack of classroom interaction among teachers and students, and among students that is instrumental in educational development and instruction.

31. The online formats being used by USD do not require memorization or the development of strong study skills given the absence of any possibility of being called on in class and the ability to consult books and other materials when taking exams. Further, the ability to receive a Pass-Fail grade rather than a letter grade provides educational leniency that the students would not otherwise have with the in-person letter grading education that was paid for and

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32. Students, like Plaintiff, have been deprived of the opportunity for collaborative learning and in-person dialogue, feedback, and critique.

33. Access to facilities such as libraries, laboratories, computer labs, recitations, and
study rooms, are integral to a university education.

7 34. Access to activities offered by campus life fosters intellectual and academic
8 development and independence, and networking for future careers.

35. USD priced the tuition and Mandatory Fees based on the in person educational services, opportunities and experiences it was providing on campus.

36. The University has not made any refund of any portion of the tuition Plaintiff and the members of the Class paid for the semesters affected by Covid-19.

37. The University has not refunded any portion of the Mandatory Fees it collected from Plaintiff and the members of the Class for the affected semester even though it closed or ceased operating the services and facilities for which the Mandatory Fees were intended to pay.

38. Plaintiff and the Class members are therefore entitled to a pro-rated refund of the
tuition and Mandatory Fee they paid for the Spring 2020 semester for the remaining days of that
semester after classes moved from in-person to online and facilities were closed, and for the future
semesters where in-person classes are cancelled and moved online.

39. Defendant's practice of failing to provide reimbursements for tuition and Mandatory Fees despite the diminished value of the education and other experiences that it provided, and the reduced benefits associated with the fees, as alleged herein, violates generally accepted principles of business conduct.

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| 1 | CLASS ACTION ALLEGATIONS | | | | | | | |
| 2 | 40. Plaintiff brings this case individually and, pursuant to FRCP 23, on behalf of the | | | | | | | |
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| 4 | class defined as: | | | | | | | |
| 5 | All persons who paid, or will pay, tuition and/or the Mandatory Fees for a student to attend in-person class(es) during the Spring 2020 or any other | | | | | | | |
| 6 | semester affected by Covid-19 at USD but had their educational experiences and class(es) moved to online only learning (the "Class"). | | | | | | | |
| 7 8 | 41. Plaintiff reserves the right to modify or amend the definition of the proposed Class | | | | | | | |
| 9 | if a second to favore this Count determines whether contification is an an anist | | | | | | | |
| 10 | 42. This action has been brought and may properly be maintained on behalf of the Class | | | | | | | |
| 11 | proposed herein under the criteria of FRCP 23 and other statutes and case law regarding class | | | | | | | |
| 12 | action litigation in California State Court. | | | | | | | |
| 13 14 | 43. The Class is so numerous that joinder of all members is impracticable. Although | | | | | | | |
| 14 | the precise number of Class members is unknown to Plaintiff, the University has reported that an | | | | | | | |
| 16 | aggregate of 9,180 or more undergraduate and graduate students were enrolled for the 2019-2020 | | | | | | | |
| 17 | school year. The names and addresses of all such students are known to the University and can be | | | | | | | |
| 18 | identified through the University's records. Class members may be notified of the pendency of this | | | | | | | |
| 19 | action by recognized, Court-approved notice dissemination methods, which may include U.S. | | | | | | | |
| 20 | Mail, electronic mail, Internet postings, and/or published notice. | | | | | | | |
| 21 | 44. The questions here are ones of common or general interest such that there is a well- | | | | | | | |
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| 23 | defined community of interest among the class members. These questions predominate over | | | | | | | |
| 24 | questions that may affect only individual members of the classes because USD has acted on | | | | | | | |
| 25 | grounds generally applicable to the classes. Such common legal or factual questions include, but | | | | | | | |
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26 are not limited to:

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a. Whether the University accepted money from Plaintiff and the Class members in

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exchange for the promise to provide an in-person and on-campus live education, as well as certain facilities and services throughout the semesters affected by Covid-19;

- b. Whether Defendant breached its contracts with Plaintiff and the members of the Class by failing to provide them with an in-person and on-campus live education after March 13, 2020;
 - c. Whether Defendant breached its contracts with Plaintiff and the Class by failing to provide the services and facilities to which the Mandatory Fees pertained after mid-March 2020; and
- d. Whether Defendant breached the covenant of good faith and fair dealing with Plaintiff and the members of the Class by failing to provide them with an in-person and on-campus live education after March 13, 2020;
 - e. Whether Defendant breached the covenant of good faith and fair dealing with Plaintiff and the members of the Class by failing to provide the services and facilities to which the Mandatory Fees pertained after mid-March 2020;
- f. Whether Defendant is unjustly enriched by retaining all of the tuition and Mandatory Fees during the time when the University has been closed, and Plaintiff and the members of the Class have been denied an in-person and on-campus live education and access and the services and facilities for which the Mandatory Fees were paid;
 - g. Whether Defendant intentionally interfered with the rights of the Plaintiff and the Class when it cancelled all in-person classes and only provided a remote online format, cancelled all on-campus events, strongly encouraged students to stay away

| 1 | | from campus, and discontinued services for which the Mandatory Fees were | | | |
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| 2 | intended to pay, all while retaining the tuition and Mandatory Fees paid by Plaintiff | | | | |
| 3 | and the Class; and | | | | |
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| 6 | | members. | | | |
| 7 | 45. | Plaintiff's claims are typical of the claims of the members of the Class because | | | |
| 8 | Plaintiff and tl | he other Class members each contracted with Defendant for it to provide an in-person | | | |
| 9 | and on-campu | as live education for the tuition they paid and the services and facilities for the | | | |
| 10 | Mandatory Fe | e that they paid, that the University stopped providing in mid-March. | | | |
| 11 | 46. | Plaintiff is a more than adequate class representative. In particular: | | | |
| 12 | a) | Plaintiff is committed to the vigorous prosecution of this action on behalf of himself | | | |
| 13 | a) | and all others similarly situated and has retained competent counsel experienced in | | | |
| 14 15 | | the prosecution of class actions and, in particular, class action litigation; | | | |
| 15 | b) | Because his interests do not conflict with the interests of the other Class members who he seeks to represent; | | | |
| 17 18 | c) | no difficulty is anticipated in the management of this litigation as a class action; and | | | |
| 19 | d) | Plaintiff's legal counsel has the financial and legal resources to meet the substantial | | | |
| 20 | , | costs and legal issues associated with this type of litigation. | | | |
| 21 | 47. | Class members' interests will be fairly and adequately protected by Plaintiff and | | | |
| 22 | his counsel. | | | | |
| 23 | 48. | It is impracticable to bring members of the Class's individual claims before the | | | |
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| 25 | Court. Class treatment permits a large number of similarly situated persons or entities to prosecute | | | | |
| 26 | their common claims in a single forum simultaneously, efficiently, and without the unnecessary | | | | |
| 27 | duplication of evidence, effort, expense, or the possibility of inconsistent or contradictory | | | | |
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1 judgments that numerous individual actions would engender. The benefits of the class mechanism, 2 including providing injured persons or entities with a method for obtaining redress on claims that 3 might not be practicable to pursue individually, substantially outweigh any difficulties that may 4 arise in the management of this class action. A class action is superior to other available methods 5 for the fair and efficient adjudication of this litigation. The damages or financial detriment suffered 6 7 by individual Class members are relatively small compared to the burden and expense of individual 8 litigation of their claims against the University. It would, thus, be virtually impossible for the 9 Class, on an individual basis, to obtain effective redress for the wrongs committed against them. 10 Furthermore, individualized litigation would create the danger of inconsistent or contradictory 11 judgments arising from the same set of facts. Individualized litigation would also increase the 12 delay and expense to all parties and the court system from the issues raised by this action. By 13 14 contrast, the class action device provides the benefits of adjudication of these issues in a single 15 proceeding, economies of scale, and comprehensive supervision by a single court, and presents no 16 unusual management difficulties under the circumstances. 17

49. Plaintiff also seeks class certification for injunctive and declaratory relief under FRCP 23(b)(2) and (b)(3), at the appropriate juncture.

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<u>FIRST CLAIM FOR RELIEF</u> BREACH OF CONTRACT (On Behalf of Plaintiff and the Class)

50. Plaintiff repeats and re-alleges the factual allegations above, as if fully alleged herein, including those made in paragraphs 1 through 48 above.

51. Plaintiff brings this claim individually and on behalf of the members of the Class.
52. By paying the University tuition and the Mandatory Fees for the Spring 2020
semester, the University agreed to, among other things, provide an in-person and on-campus live

COMPLAINT

education as well as the services and facilities to which the Mandatory Fees that were paid pertained to throughout those semesters. As a result, Plaintiff and each member of the Class entered into a binding contract with the University.

53. USD has held that its in-person educational opportunities, experiences, and services are of substantial value.

54. USD has agreed to provide in-person educational opportunities, experiences, and services to enrolled students.

55. USD has promoted its in-person educational services as being valuable to students' educational experiences and their development.

56. In marketing materials and other documents provided to the Named Plaintiff, Defendant promoted the value of the in-person education experiences, opportunities, and services that Defendant provided.

57. Defendant provided Plaintiff with an acceptance letter that the Named Plaintiff accepted based on the promise of in-person educational experiences, opportunities, and services that Defendant would provide.

58. The University has breached its contract with Plaintiff and the Class by failing to provide the promised in-person and on-campus live education as well as the services and facilities to which the Mandatory Fees pertained throughout the semesters affected by Covid-19, yet has retained monies paid by Plaintiff and the Class for a live in-person education and access to these services and facilities during these semesters.

59. Plaintiff and the members of the Class have therefore been denied the benefit of their bargain.

27 60. Plaintiff and members of the Class have performed all of the obligations on them28

pursuant to their agreement – including by making such payments or securing student loans or
 scholarships to pay for such education.

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61. Plaintiff and the members of the Class have suffered damage as a direct and 4 proximate result of the University's breach in the amount of the prorated portion of the tuition and 5 Mandatory Fee they each paid during the portion of time the semesters affected by Covid-19 in 6 7 which in-person classes were discontinued and facilities were closed by the University. 8 62. The University should return such portions of the tuition and Mandatory Fee to 9 Plaintiff and each Class Member. 10 **SECOND CLAIM FOR RELIEF** 11 UNJUST ENRICHMENT (On Behalf of Plaintiff and the Class) 12 63. Plaintiff incorporates the allegations by reference as if fully set forth herein, 13 14 including those made in paragraphs 1 through 61 above. 15 64. Plaintiff brings this claim individually and on behalf of the members of the Class. 16 65. By paying the University tuition and the Mandatory Fees for the Spring semester, 17 the University agreed to, among other things, provide an in-person and on-campus live education 18 as well as the services and facilities to which the Mandatory Fees that were paid pertained to 19 throughout the semester. 20 21 66. Defendant has retained the benefits of the amount of tuition and fees that Plaintiff 22 has provided – without providing the benefits that Plaintiff is owed. 23 67. For example, Defendant failed to provide Plaintiff and Class Members access to 24 any on-campus facility after March 13, 2020. Yet Defendant assessed Plaintiff with tuition and 25 fees that covered the cost of upkeep and maintenance of such facilities, services, costs, and 26 27 expenses. 28 13

1 68. Plaintiff was not able to access such facilities or services remotely. 2 69. Plaintiff paid tuition and fees with the expressed understanding that such costs 3 included the in-person classes, services, opportunities, and experiences that USD have previously 4 marketed, promoted, or made available prior to Covid-19. 5 70. Defendant has been unjustly enriched by Plaintiff's payment of tuition and fees. 6 7 71. Despite not being able to provide such services, USD failed to provide 8 reimbursements for tuition and fees despite the diminished value of the education and other 9 experiences that it provided, and the reduced benefits associated with the fees. 10 72. Plaintiff and members of the Class have sustained monetary damages as a result of 11 each of Defendant's breaches of the covenant of good faith and fair dealing. 12 73. Defendant's act was unjust for them to keep money for services they did not render. 13 14 THIRD CAUSE OF ACTION **CONVERSION & TAKING OF PROPERTY** 15 (On Behalf of Plaintiff and the Class) 16 74. Plaintiff repeats and re-alleges the factual allegations above, as if fully alleged 17 herein, including those made in paragraphs 1 through 72 above. 18 75. In the alternative to the First Claim for Relief, Plaintiff brings this claim 19 20 individually and on behalf of the members of the Class. 21 76. Plaintiff and members of the Class provided the University with property in the 22 form of funds (tuition and Mandatory Fees), to be in exchange for in person on campus services, 23 facilities and face to face instruction. 24 77. The University exercises control over Plaintiff's and Class members' property. 25 78. The University intentionally interfered with Plaintiff's and the Class members' 26 27 property when it unilaterally moved all in-person classes to a remote online format, cancelled all 28 14

on-campus events, strongly encouraged students to stay away from campus, and discontinued services for which the Mandatory Fees were intended to pay, all while retaining the tuition and Mandatory Fees paid by Plaintiff and the Class.

79. Class members demanded the return of their property proportionate to the reduction in benefit for education and services during the Spring 2020 semester when in-person and oncampus live education, and access to the University's services and facilities were unavailable.

80. The University's retention of the tuition and Mandatory Fees paid by Plaintiff and the Class without providing the services for which they paid, deprived Plaintiff and Class of the benefits for which the tuition and Mandatory Fees were paid, and of their funds paid for those benefits.

81. Plaintiff and the Class members are entitled to the return of the pro-rated amounts of tuition and Mandatory Fees each paid equal to the reduction in benefit for education and services during the Spring 2020 semester when in-person and on-campus live education, and access to the University's services and facilities were unavailable.

PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff respectfully requests that judgment be entered in favor of Plaintiff and the Class against Defendant as follows:

> (a) For an order certifying the Class under the FRCP and naming Plaintiff as representative of the Class and Plaintiff's attorneys as Class Counsel to represent the Class;

(b) For an order finding in favor of Plaintiff and the Class on all counts asserted herein;

15 COMPLAINT

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|-------------|---|--|---|------------------------------------|----------------------|-----------------|--|--|
| 1 2 | (c) | For compensatory of fact; | lamages in ar | n amount to | be determined | by the trier of | | |
| 3 | (d) | For an order compelling disgorgement of the ill-gotten gains derived by | | | | | | |
| 4 | (4) | Defendant from its misconduct; | | | | | | |
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| 6 | (e) | For an order of rest | For an order of restitution and all other forms of equitable monetary relief; | | | | | |
| 7 | (f) | For an order awarding Plaintiff's reasonable attorneys' fees, costs, and | | | | | | |
| 8 | expenses; | | | | | | | |
| 9 | (g) | (g) For an order awarding pre- and post-judgment interest on any amounts | | | | | | |
| .0 | awarded; and, | | | | | | | |
| 1 1 1 | (h) | For an order awarding such other and further relief as may be just and | | | | | | |
| 3 | proper, including injunctive relief and declaratory relief. | | | | | | | |
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| 15 | | DEMAND | FOR TRIAL | BY JURY | | | | |
| 6 | Plaintiff dem | nands a trial by jury of | any and all is | sues in this a | action so triab | le of right. | | |
| 7 | Dated: November 13, 2020 Respectfully submitted, | | | | | | | |
| .8 | | | SHOOP | APLC | | | | |
| 20 | | | /s/Thomas | S. Alch | | | | |
| 21 | | | | Shoop, Esq. Alch, Esq. | | | | |
| 22 | | | 9701 Wilsl | hire Blvd., S | | | | |
| 23 | | | | ills, Californ : (310) 620-9 | | | | |
| 24 | | | • | - | (To apply Pro | , | | |
| 25 | | | Michael A <i>Vice)</i> | . Tompkins, | Esq. (To apply | y Pro Hac | | |
| 26 | | | Brett R. Co | ohen, Esq. <i>(1</i> OWN LAW, P | o apply Pro H .C. | lac Vice) | | |
| 27 | | | One Old C | ountry Road e, NY 11514 | , Suite 347 | | | |
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| 8 | | | sj@thesultzerlaw | | | | | |
| 9 | | Coun | sel for Plaintiff an | d Proposed C | lass | | | |
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Case 3:20-cv-02215-DMS-RBB Document 1-1 Filed 11/13/20 PageID.18 Page 1 of 2 JS 44 (Rev. 06/17) CIVIL COVER SHEET

The JS 44 civil cover sheet and the information contained herein neither replace nor supplement the filing and service of pleadings or other papers as required by law, except as provided by local rules of court. This form, approved by the Judicial Conference of the United States in September 1974, is required for the use of the Clerk of Court for the purpose of initiating the civil docket sheet. *(SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON NEXT PAGE OF THIS FORM.)*

| L (a) PLAINTIFFS Edgar Chavarria, on beh similarly situated | alf of himself and all o | others | DEFENDANTS University of San | DEFENDANTS University of San Diego | | | |
|---|--|---|--|--|---|--|--|
| (b) County of Residence of (E) (c) Attorneys (Firm Name, 1) SHOOP A PROFESSIONAL L Beverly Hills California 90212. THE SULTZER LAW GROUP, 1 LEEDS BROWN LAW, P.C., OF | Accept IN U.S. PLAINTIFF C Address, and Telephone Numbe AW CORPORATION, 970 (310) 620-9533 P.C., 270 Madison Avenue, | er) 1 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 950 Suite 1800, New York, NY | NOTE: IN LAND C THE TRACT Attorneys (<i>If Known</i>) 7 10010 | (IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES (ONDEMNATION CASES, USE T T OF LAND INVOLVED. | | | |
| II. BASIS OF JURISDI | | | | PRINCIPAL PARTIES | (Place an "X" in One Box for Plaintij | | |
| U.S. Government Plaintiff | 1 U.S. Government | | | TF DEF D I X I Incorporated or Po of Business In | | | |
| 2 U.S. Government Defendant | ✗ 4 Diversity (Indicate Citizensh) | ip of Parties in Item 111) | | ■ 2 Incorporated and of Business In | Another State | | |
| | | | Citizen or Subject of a Foreign Country | 3 3 Foreign Nation | | | |
| IV. NATURE OF SUIT | | | | | of Suit Code Descriptions. | | |
| CONTRACT I10 Insurance I20 Marine I30 Miller Act I40 Negotiable Instrument I50 Recovery of Overpayment & Enforcement of Judgment I51 Medicare Act I52 Recovery of Defaulted Student Loans (Excludes Veterans) I53 Recovery of Overpayment of Veteran's Benefits I60 Stockholders' Suits I60 Stockholders' Suits I95 Contract Product Liability I96 Franchise REAL PROPERTY I210 Land Condemnation I220 Foreclosure I230 Rent Lease & Ejectment I240 Torts to Land I245 Tort Product Liability I290 All Other Real Property V. ORIGIN (Place an "X" in | PERSONAL INJLRY 310 Airplane 315 Airplane Product Liability 320 Assault, Libel & Slander 330 Federal Employers' Liability 340 Marine 345 Marine Product Liability 350 Motor Vehicle 355 Motor Vehicle 355 Motor Vehicle Product Liability 360 Other Personal Injury 362 Personal Injury - Medical Malpractice CIVIL RIGHTS 440 Other Civil Rights 441 Voting 442 Employment 443 Housing/ Accommodations 445 Amer. w/Disabilities - Employment 446 Amer. w/Disabilities - Other 448 Education | PERSONAL INJURY PERSONAL INJURY Soft Health Care/ Pharmaceutical Personal Injury Product Liability Soft Health Care/ Pharmaceutical Personal Injury Product Liability Soft Health Care/ Product Liability PERSONAL PROPERTY Soft Action Soft Soft Soft Soft Soft Soft Soft Soft | FORFEITURE/PENALTY G25 Drug Related Seizure of Property 21 USC 881 G90 Other CLABOR T10 Fair Labor Standards Act T20 Labor/Management Relations Act T20 Labor/Management Relations T40 Railway Labor Act T51 Family and Medical Leave Act T90 Other Labor Litigation T91 Employee Retirement Income Security Act IMMIGRATION Actions | BANKRUPTCY 422 Appeal 28 USC 158 423 Withdrawal 28 USC 157 PROPERTY RIGHTS 820 Copyrights 830 Patent 830 Patent 830 Patent 830 Patent 830 Patent 840 Prademark 80CIAL SECURITY 861 HIA (1395ff) 862 Black Lung (923) 863 DIWC/DIWW (405(g)) 864 SSID Title XVI 865 RSI (405(g)) FEDERAL TAX SUITS 870 Taxes (U.S. Plaintiff or Defendant) 871 IRS—Third Party 26 USC 7609 | OTHER STATUTES 375 False Claims Act 376 Qui Tam (31 USC 3729(a)) 400 State Reapportionment 410 Antitrust 430 Banks and Banking 450 Commerce 460 Deportation 470 Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations 480 Consumer Credit 490 Cable/Sat TV 850 Securities/Commodities/ Exchange 890 Other Statutory Actions 891 Agricultural Acts 893 Environmental Matters 895 Freedom of Information Act 896 Arbitration 899 Administrative Procedure Act/Review or Appeal of Agency Decision 950 Constitutionality of State Statutes | | |
| XI Original 🗇 2 Rer | Cite the U.S. Civil Sta Cite the U.S. Civil Sta 28 U.S.C. § 1332 Brief description of ca | Appellate Court tute under which you are fi (d)(2)(A) use: | (specify, ling (Do not cite jurisdictional stat | er District Litigation U Transfer tutes unless diversity): | n - Litigation - Direct File | | |
| VII. REQUESTED IN COMPLAINT: VIII. RELATED CASE | Class action invo | Iving Breach of Contra IS A CLASS ACTION | act, Conversion and Com DEMAND \$ 6,000,000.00 | | if demanded in complaint: | | |
| IF ANY | (See instructions): | JUDGE | | DOCKET NUMBER | | | |
| DATE 11/13/7020 FOR OFFICE USE ONLY | | SIGNATURE OF ATTOR | NEY OF RECORD | | | | |
| | IOUNT | APPL YING IFP | JUDGE | MAG. JUD | DGE | | |

INSTRUCTIONS FOR ATTORNEYS COMPLETING CIVIL COVER SHEET FORM JS 44

Authority For Civil Cover Sheet

The JS 44 civil cover sheet and the information contained herein neither replaces nor supplements the filings and service of pleading or other papers as required by law, except as provided by local rules of court. This form, approved by the Judicial Conference of the United States in September 1974, is required for the use of the Clerk of Court for the purpose of initiating the civil docket sheet. Consequently, a civil cover sheet is submitted to the Clerk of Court for each civil complaint filed. The attorney filing a case should complete the form as follows:

- **I.(a)** Plaintiffs-Defendants. Enter names (last, first, middle initial) of plaintiff and defendant. If the plaintiff or defendant is a government agency, use only the full name or standard abbreviations. If the plaintiff or defendant is an official within a government agency, identify first the agency and then the official, giving both name and title.
- (b) County of Residence. For each civil case filed, except U.S. plaintiff cases, enter the name of the county where the first listed plaintiff resides at the time of filing. In U.S. plaintiff cases, enter the name of the county in which the first listed defendant resides at the time of filing. (NOTE: In land condemnation cases, the county of residence of the "defendant" is the location of the tract of land involved.)
- (c) Attorneys. Enter the firm name, address, telephone number, and attorney of record. If there are several attorneys, list them on an attachment, noting in this section "(see attachment)".

II. Jurisdiction. The basis of jurisdiction is set forth under Rule 8(a), F.R.Cv.P., which requires that jurisdictions be shown in pleadings. Place an "X" in one of the boxes. If there is more than one basis of jurisdiction, precedence is given in the order shown below.

United States plaintiff. (1) Jurisdiction based on 28 U.S.C. 1345 and 1348. Suits by agencies and officers of the United States are included here. United States defendant. (2) When the plaintiff is suing the United States, its officers or agencies, place an "X" in this box.

Federal question. (3) This refers to suits under 28 U.S.C. 1331, where jurisdiction arises under the Constitution of the United States, an amendment to the Constitution, an act of Congress or a treaty of the United States. In cases where the U.S. is a party, the U.S. plaintiff or defendant code takes precedence, and box 1 or 2 should be marked.

Diversity of citizenship. (4) This refers to suits under 28 U.S.C. 1332, where parties are citizens of different states. When Box 4 is checked, the citizenship of the different parties must be checked. (See Section III below; **NOTE: federal question actions take precedence over diversity cases.**)

- III. Residence (citizenship) of Principal Parties. This section of the JS 44 is to be completed if diversity of citizenship was indicated above. Mark this section for each principal party.
- IV. Nature of Suit. Place an "X" in the appropriate box. If there are multiple nature of suit codes associated with the case, pick the nature of suit code that is most applicable. Click here for: Nature of Suit Code Descriptions.
- V. Origin. Place an "X" in one of the seven boxes.

Original Proceedings. (1) Cases which originate in the United States district courts.

Removed from State Court. (2) Proceedings initiated in state courts may be removed to the district courts under Title 28 U.S.C., Section 1441.

When the petition for removal is granted, check this box.

Remanded from Appellate Court. (3) Check this box for cases remanded to the district court for further action. Use the date of remand as the filing date.

Reinstated or Reopened. (4) Check this box for cases reinstated or reopened in the district court. Use the reopening date as the filing date. Transferred from Another District. (5) For cases transferred under Title 28 U.S.C. Section 1404(a). Do not use this for within district transfers or multidistrict litigation transfers.

Multidistrict Litigation – Transfer. (6) Check this box when a multidistrict case is transferred into the district under authority of Title 28 U.S.C. Section 1407.

Multidistrict Litigation – Direct File. (8) Check this box when a multidistrict case is filed in the same district as the Master MDL docket. **PLEASE NOTE THAT THERE IS NOT AN ORIGIN CODE 7.** Origin Code 7 was used for historical records and is no longer relevant due to changes in statue.

- VI. Cause of Action. Report the civil statute directly related to the cause of action and give a brief description of the cause. Do not cite jurisdictional statutes unless diversity. Example: U.S. Civil Statute: 47 USC 553 Brief Description: Unauthorized reception of cable service
- VII. Requested in Complaint. Class Action. Place an "X" in this box if you are filing a class action under Rule 23, F.R.Cv.P. Demand. In this space enter the actual dollar amount being demanded or indicate other demand, such as a preliminary injunction. Jury Demand. Check the appropriate box to indicate whether or not a jury is being demanded.
- VIII. Related Cases. This section of the JS 44 is used to reference related pending cases, if any. If there are related pending cases, insert the docket numbers and the corresponding judge names for such cases.

Date and Attorney Signature. Date and sign the civil cover sheet.