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Jonas B. Jacobson (Cal. Bar No. 269912)  
jonas@dovel.com  
Simon Franzini (Cal. Bar No. 287631)  
simon@dovel.com  
DOVEL & LUNER, LLP  
201 Santa Monica Blvd., Suite 600  
Santa Monica, California 90401  
Telephone: (310) 656-7066  
Facsimile: (310) 656-7069

*Attorneys for Plaintiff and all others similarly situated*

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA**

PAUL BELL individually and on  
behalf of all others similarly situated,

*Plaintiff,*

v.

GLAXOSMITHKLINE CONSUMER  
HEALTHCARE HOLDINGS (US)  
LLC, GSK CONSUMER HEALTH,  
INC., and PFIZER, INC.

*Defendants.*

Case No. 2:21-cv-09454-GW-AFM

**FIRST AMENDED CLASS  
ACTION COMPLAINT**

**DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL**

**Table of Contents**

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25  
26  
27  
28

I. Introduction..... 1

II. Parties..... 1

III. Jurisdiction and Venue..... 2

IV. Facts..... 3

    A. Defendants make, market, and sell Robitussin products prominently  
    labeled “Non-Drowsy.”..... 3

    B. The Non-Drowsy Robitussin Products cause drowsiness..... 7

    C. Defendants’ Non-Drowsy representations misled reasonable consumers. .... 8

    D. Plaintiff was misled by Defendants’ misrepresentations. .... 11

    E. Class Action Allegations..... 12

V. Causes of Action..... 14

VI. Jury Demand. .... 25

VII. Prayer for Relief..... 25

1 **I. Introduction.**

2 1. Defendants make, sell, and market “Robitussin” over-the-counter cough  
3 medicine. Several Robitussin products contain the active ingredient  
4 Dextromethorphan Hydrobromide (“DXM”). At least 16 Robitussin products  
5 containing DXM prominently state on the front of their label that they are “Non-  
6 Drowsy.”<sup>1</sup>

7 2. By prominently labeling these products as “Non-Drowsy,” Defendants  
8 led Plaintiff and other consumers to believe that the Non-Drowsy Robitussin Products  
9 do not cause drowsiness, and that drowsiness is not a side effect of those products.  
10 But the truth is that products containing DXM—and thus the Non-Drowsy Robitussin  
11 Products—do cause drowsiness, and that drowsiness is a known side effect of DXM.

12 3. In this way, Defendants misled Plaintiff and other consumers about the  
13 effects of the Non-Drowsy Robitussin Products. This was a material  
14 misrepresentation that Plaintiff—and other reasonable consumers—relied on when  
15 deciding to buy the products. Had Defendants been truthful, Plaintiff and other  
16 consumers would not have purchased the products or would have paid less for them.

17 4. Plaintiff brings this case for himself and for millions of other consumers  
18 who purchased Non-Drowsy Robitussin Products.

19 **II. Parties.**

20 5. Plaintiff Paul Bell is a citizen of California (domiciled in Los Angeles).  
21 The proposed class (identified below) includes citizens of every state within the  
22 United States.

23 6. Defendant GlaxoSmithKline Consumer Healthcare Holdings (US) LLC  
24 is a Delaware corporation with its principal place of business in Warren, New Jersey,  
25 and has been doing business in the State of California during all relevant times.

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26  
27 <sup>1</sup> Throughout this Complaint, Robitussin products containing DXM that state  
28 on their label that they are “Non-Drowsy” are called “Non-Drowsy Robitussin  
Products.”

1 Directly and through its agents, GlaxoSmithKline Consumer Healthcare Holdings  
2 (US) LLC has substantial contacts with, and receives substantial benefits and income  
3 from, the State of California.

4 7. Defendant GSK Consumer Health, Inc. is a Delaware corporation with  
5 its principal place of business in Warren, New Jersey, and has been doing business in  
6 the State of California during all relevant times. Directly and through its agents, GSK  
7 Consumer Health, Inc. has substantial contacts with, and receives substantial benefits  
8 and income from, the State of California.<sup>2</sup>

9 8. Defendant Pfizer, Inc. is a Delaware corporation with its principal place  
10 of business in New York, New York, and has been doing business in the State of  
11 California during all relevant times. Directly and through its agents, Pfizer, Inc. has  
12 substantial contacts with, and receives substantial benefits and income from, the State  
13 of California.

14 **III. Jurisdiction and Venue.**

15 9. This Court has subject matter jurisdiction under 28 U.S.C. § 1332(d)(2).  
16 The amount in controversy exceeds the sum or value of \$5,000,000, exclusive of  
17 interest and costs, and the matter is a class action in which one or more members of  
18 the proposed class are citizens of a state different from the Defendants.

19 10. The Court has personal jurisdiction over Defendants because they sold  
20 the Non-Drowsy Robitussin Products to consumers in California, including Plaintiff.

21 11. Venue is proper under 28 U.S.C. § 1391(b)(1) and 28 U.S.C. § 1391(d)  
22 because Defendants would be subject to personal jurisdiction in this District if this  
23 District were a separate state, given that Defendants sold the Non-Drowsy Robitussin  
24 Products to consumers in this District, including Mr. Bell. Venue is also proper  
25 under 28 U.S.C. § 1391(b)(2) because a substantial part of Defendants' conduct  
26

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27 <sup>2</sup> This Complaint uses "GSK" to refer collectively to GlaxoSmithKline  
28 Consumer Healthcare Holdings (US) LLC and GSK Consumer Health, Inc.

1 giving rise to the claims occurred in this District, including selling the Non-Drowsy  
2 Robitussin Products to Mr. Bell.

3 **IV. Facts.**

4 **A. Defendants make, market, and sell Robitussin products prominently**  
5 **labeled “Non-Drowsy.”**

6 12. GSK manufactures, distributes, markets, and sells the Non-Drowsy  
7 Robitussin Products, and has done so since mid-2019. Prior to that, Pfizer  
8 manufactured, distributed, marketed, and sold the Non-Drowsy Robitussin Products.

9 13. According to Pfizer’s filings in other cases, Pfizer “no longer owns the  
10 rights to the Products, and any potential liability it may have had for the Products has  
11 been transferred to GSK pursuant to a Stock and Asset Purchase Agreement.”

12 Defendants’ Answer to Plaintiff’s First Amended Class Action Complaint at 1-2,  
13 *Moore v. GlaxoSmithKline Consumer Healthcare Holdings (US) LLC*, 4:20-cv-  
14 09077-JSW (N.D. Cal. Aug. 20, 2021). If this representation is true, GSK is  
15 responsible, and liable, for the distribution, marketing, and sale of the Non-Drowsy  
16 Robitussin Products at all relevant times.<sup>3</sup>

17 14. In the alternative, GSK is responsible, and liable, for the distribution,  
18 marketing, and sale of the Non-Drowsy Robitussin Products since mid-2019, and  
19 Pfizer is responsible, and liable, for such distribution, marketing, and sale beforehand.

20 15. The Non-Drowsy Robitussin Products that Defendants distributed,  
21 marketed, and sold, and continue to distribute, market, and sell, include: Robitussin  
22 Honey Cough + Chest Congestion DM; Robitussin Maximum Strength DM  
23 Day/Night Pack; Robitussin Maximum Strength DM Day/Night Pack; Robitussin  
24 Maximum Strength Severe Multi-Symptom Cough Cold + Flu; Robitussin Maximum  
25 Strength Severe Multi-Symptom Cough Cold + Flue Pack; Robitussin Maximum  
26

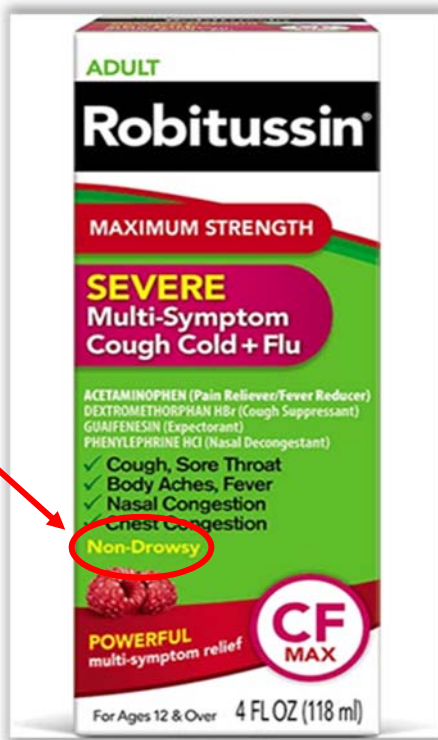
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27 <sup>3</sup> If GSK stipulates that it will assume all liability for the accused acts  
28 throughout the relevant timeframe, Plaintiff is willing to dismiss Pfizer from the case.

1 Strength Sever Cough + Sore Throat; Robitussin Maximum Strength Cough & Chest  
2 Congestion DM Capsules; Robitussin Cough + Congestion DM; Robitussin Sugar  
3 Free Cough + Chest Congestion DM; Robitussin Multi-Symptom Cold CF;  
4 Robitussin Long-Acting CoughGels; Robitussin Maximum Strength Honey Severe  
5 Cough, Flu + Sore Throat, Robitussin Children’s Cough & Chest Congestion DM;  
6 Robitussin Children’s Cough & Cold CF; Robitussin Children’s Honey Cough &  
7 Chest Congestion DM; and Robitussin Children’s DM Day/Night Pack.

8 16. The front label of each Non-Drowsy Robitussin Product prominently  
9 states that the product is “Non-Drowsy.” For example:

10 **Multi-Symptom Cough Cold + Flu**<sup>4</sup>



27  
28 <sup>4</sup> <https://www.robitussin.com/adult-robitussin/maximum-strength-severe-multi-symptom-cough-cold-flu/>

1            **Cough + Chest Congestion DM**<sup>5</sup>



13            **Multi-Symptom Cold CF**<sup>6</sup>



27 <sup>5</sup> <https://www.robitussin.com/adult-robitussin/maximum-strength-cough-chest-congestion-dm-liquid-filled-capsules/>

28 <sup>6</sup> <https://www.robitussin.com/adult-robitussin/multi-symptom-cold-cf/>

1 **Children’s Cough & Chest Congestion DM** <sup>7</sup>



14 17. These representations are materially the same across all Non-Drowsy  
15 Robitussin Products.

16 18. The Non-Drowsy Robitussin Products do not disclose anywhere on their  
17 packaging that they do or can cause drowsiness, or that drowsiness is a side effect of  
18 the Non-Drowsy Robitussin Products.

19 19. Based on the prominent “Non-Drowsy” label included on the face of  
20 each product, a reasonable consumer would believe that the products do not cause  
21 drowsiness. That is, a reasonable consumer would believe that drowsiness is *not* a  
22 side effect of the product.

23 20. Indeed, Defendants labeled the products this way because they intended  
24 consumers to rely on the labels and to believe that the products would not cause  
25 drowsiness, so that consumers would buy more products or pay more for them.

26  
27  
28 <sup>7</sup> <https://www.robitussin.com/childrens-robitussin/cough-chest-congestion-dm/>



1           **B.     The Non-Drowsy Robitussin Products cause drowsiness.**

2           21.     In truth, products containing DXM—like each of the Non-Drowsy  
3 Robitussin Products—do cause drowsiness. Drowsiness is a documented side effect  
4 of DXM at the recommended dosages. Authorities such as the Mayo Clinic <sup>8</sup> and the  
5 National Library of Medicine <sup>9</sup> list drowsiness as a side effect of DXM.

6           22.     Indeed, drowsiness is a relatively common (not rare) side effect at the  
7 recommended dosages. According to a 2017 GSK presentation on drug labeling, a  
8 “common” adverse reaction (i.e., side effect) is one that occurs in 3% or more drug  
9 takers and a “very common” side effect occurs in 10% or more drug takers. And a  
10 study of DXM found that “[s]omnolence is a common side effect of centrally acting  
11 antitussive drugs” like dextromethorphan, and that 10.4% of users of products  
12 containing dextromethorphan develop drowsiness within three days of starting  
13 treatment with DXM cough medicine. <sup>10</sup> The “cases of intense somnolence” were  
14 “related only to dextromethorphan” and not to the other drug studied. And the  
15 patients in this clinical study were given an even smaller dosage of DXM (15 mg  
16 three times a day) than the recommended dose found in many Non-Drowsy  
17 Robitussin products. <sup>11</sup>

18 \_\_\_\_\_  
19 <sup>8</sup> <https://www.mayoclinic.org/drugs-supplements/dextromethorphan-oral-route/side-effects/drg-20068661?p=1> (last accessed November 22, 2021).

20 <sup>9</sup> [Dextromethorphan: MedlinePlus Drug Information](https://medlineplus.gov/druginfo/meds/a682492.html), National Library of Medicine,  
21 <https://medlineplus.gov/druginfo/meds/a682492.html> (last accessed November 22,  
22 2021).

23 <sup>10</sup> E. Catena and L. Daffonchio, “Efficacy and Tolerability of Levodropropizine in  
24 Adult Patients with Non-productive Cough, Comparison with Dextromethorphan,” *10*  
25 *Pulmonary Pharmacology & Therapeutics* 89-96 (1997). The study reports this side  
26 effect as “somnolence.” Somnolence means “the quality or state of being drowsy.”  
27 Merriam Webster Dictionary, [https://www.merriam-](https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/somnolence)  
28 [webster.com/dictionary/somnolence](https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/somnolence) (last accessed November 22, 2021).

<sup>11</sup> For example, Robitussin Cough + Chest Congestion DM contains 20 mg of DXM  
per 20 ml of syrup and the recommended dosage is 20 ml orally every 4 hours.  
<https://www.robitussin.com/adult-robitussin/cough-chest-congestion-dm/>

23. Furthermore, the FDA’s adverse event report database confirms that sedation (i.e., drowsiness) was the fourth-most frequently cited central nervous system side effect of dextromethorphan-containing products.<sup>12</sup>

24. For this reason, the Federal Aviation Administration prohibits pilots from flying after ingesting DXM:<sup>13</sup>

Cough	Cough/cold products	Coricidin (allowed if no chlorpheniramine)  guaifenesin (found in Mucinex and Robitussin) Mucinex fast-max severe congestion and cough (liquid)  Identify combo vs isolated	dextromethorphan (Delsym)  Dayquil (contains dextromethorphan)  Most “night-time” or “PM” medications contain a sedating antihistamine: - Coricidin HBP cough & cold (contains chlorpheniramine) - Nyquil (contains doxylamine)	Most cough medications are safe for flight, but caution for combination products with sedating antihistamines. <b>If the label states PM (for nighttime use) or DM (containing dextromethorphan), you should not fly for at least 5 half-lives after the last dose (see above).</b>
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**C. Defendants’ Non-Drowsy representations misled reasonable consumers.**

25. The Food and Drug Administration prohibits drug labeling that is “false or misleading.” 21 C.F.R. § 201.6. It is misleading to label a product “Non-Drowsy” when it does cause drowsiness, or if drowsiness is a known side effect of one of its active ingredients.

26. Based on the fact that Defendants label the Non-Drowsy Robitussin Products as “Non-Drowsy,” a reasonable consumer would expect that those products do not cause drowsiness. Similarly, a reasonable consumer would expect that drowsiness is not a side effect of the products. Indeed, according to Consumer Reports, “‘Non-drowsy’ is code for antihistamines and other medications that don’t

<sup>12</sup> Drowsiness is equivalent to minimal sedation. See [https://www.medicinenet.com/sedation\\_vs\\_general\\_anesthesia/article.htm](https://www.medicinenet.com/sedation_vs_general_anesthesia/article.htm)

<sup>13</sup> [https://www.faa.gov/licenses\\_certificates/medical\\_certification/media/OTCMedicationsforPilots.pdf](https://www.faa.gov/licenses_certificates/medical_certification/media/OTCMedicationsforPilots.pdf)

1 make you sleepy.”<sup>14</sup> This is the plain meaning of “non-drowsy,” which means “not  
2 causing or accompanied by drowsiness.”<sup>15</sup>

3 27. Robitussin’s advertisements and labeling do not contain any language  
4 that a reasonable consumer would understand to qualify these representations, or that  
5 would otherwise put a reasonable consumer on notice of the fact that the Non-  
6 Drowsy Robitussin Products actually cause drowsiness.

7 28. Unlike Defendants, some other drug makers do not falsely claim that  
8 DXM-products are non-drowsy. For example, DXM is an active ingredient in  
9 Mucinex DM, sold by Reckitt. But the Mucinex label does not claim that Mucinex  
10 DM is non-drowsy, because this is not the truth:



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20 29. Defendants could have simply omitted the false and misleading  
21 statement, “Non-Drowsy,” from their products.

22 30. Or, if Defendants wanted to say something to indicate that a Non-  
23 Drowsy Robitussin Product might cause *less* drowsiness than another Robitussin  
24

25  
26 <sup>14</sup> [“How to read over the counter \(OTC\) drug labels,” Consumer Reports,](https://www.consumerreports.org/cro/2014/04/how-to-read-over-the-counter-drug-labels/index.htm)  
27 [https://www.consumerreports.org/cro/2014/04/how-to-read-over-the-counter-drug-](https://www.consumerreports.org/cro/2014/04/how-to-read-over-the-counter-drug-labels/index.htm)  
28 [labels/index.htm](https://www.consumerreports.org/cro/2014/04/how-to-read-over-the-counter-drug-labels/index.htm)

<sup>15</sup> <https://www.merriam-webster.com/medical/nondrowsy>

1 product, they could have made a truthful statement to this effect, as other drug makers  
2 do.

3 31. For example, Dramamine contains an active ingredient that causes  
4 drowsiness, Dimenhydrinate. Dramamine also sells a “less drowsy” version that  
5 contains a different active ingredient, Meclizine, which causes less drowsiness. The  
6 front label of Dramamine Less Drowsy prominently displays that it is “less drowsy”:



18 32. Because Defendants make and sell the Non-Drowsy Robitussin  
19 Products, Defendants researched the known and common side effects of DXM. This  
20 is diligence that large companies like Defendants would do when selling a drug. As a  
21 result, Defendants knew that DXM causes drowsiness. Furthermore, Defendants  
22 control their labeling, knowingly put on the “Non-Drowsy” representations, and  
23 know the plain meaning of “Non-Drowsy.” Finally, it is standard practice in the  
24 industry to test labeling with consumers, and Defendants’ testing would confirm that  
25 “Non-Drowsy” is misleading. For these reasons, Defendants knew that their labeling  
26 was false and misleading, or were reckless or willfully blind to this fact. And as  
27 alleged above, Defendants intended that consumers would rely on the “Non-Drowsy”  
28 labeling, so that consumers would purchase more products and pay a price premium.

1           33. Whether or not an over-the-counter drug causes drowsiness is material to  
2 a reasonable customer. In certain situations, consumers prefer over-the-counter drugs  
3 that will not make them drowsy to products that may make them drowsy. For  
4 example, all else equal, a reasonable consumer would prefer to take a drug that does  
5 not cause drowsiness to one that does cause drowsiness during the day (or any  
6 periods of time when they plan to be awake). As a second example, if a consumer is  
7 planning to engage in activities that require them to be alert, or during which they  
8 would prefer to be alert, that consumer would prefer to take a drug that does not  
9 cause drowsiness to one that does. Indeed, in many situations, taking a drug that does  
10 or can cause drowsiness can be dangerous. For example, taking a drug that causes  
11 drowsiness while driving, or flying a plane, is dangerous.

12           34. Defendants' false statements increased the demand for Non-Drowsy  
13 Robitussin Products and allowed Defendants to charge a price premium. As  
14 explained above, consumers specifically value the "Non-Drowsy" claim because  
15 consumers demand cough medicine that will not make them drowsy (e.g., during the  
16 day, at work or while driving). As a result, Defendants were able to charge more for  
17 these products than they would have been able to had the labeling been truthful.  
18 Accordingly, as a direct result of Defendants' false statements, Defendants were able  
19 to charge a price premium for these products. As purchasers, Plaintiff and each class  
20 member paid this price premium and sustained economic injury.

21           **D. Plaintiff was misled by Defendants' misrepresentations.**

22           35. In 2021, Plaintiff Mr. Bell bought a bottle of Robitussin Cough + Chest  
23 Congestion DM (a Non-Drowsy Robitussin Product) at a Walgreens in Los Angeles.  
24 When buying the product, Mr. Bell saw and relied on Defendants' promise that it was  
25 "Non-Drowsy." But when Mr. Bell took the medication, he became unexpectedly  
26 drowsy at work. Mr. Bell would not have bought the product had he known that the  
27 product did, in fact, cause drowsiness, and that drowsiness was a known side effect of  
28 the product.

1           36. To be sure, Plaintiff would purchase Non-Drowsy Robitussin Products  
2 again if they were actually “Non-Drowsy” (i.e., if the product was sold as advertised).  
3 Plaintiff, however, faces an imminent threat of harm because he will not be able to  
4 rely on the labels in the future, and thus will not be able to purchase the products.

5           **E. Class Action Allegations.**

6           37. Plaintiff brings the asserted claims on behalf of the proposed class of: all  
7 persons who purchased a Non-Drowsy Robitussin Product in the United States during  
8 the applicable statute of limitations (the “**Nationwide Class**”).

9           38. For certain claims, Plaintiff brings those claims on behalf of a subclass  
10 of consumers who live in certain identified states (the “**Consumer Protection**  
11 **Subclass**”).

12           39. For certain claims, in the alternative, Plaintiff brings those claims on  
13 behalf a subclass of consumers who, like Plaintiff, purchased Non-Drowsy Robitussin  
14 Products in California (the “**California Subclass**”).

15           40. The following people are excluded from the Class and the Subclasses:  
16 (1) any Judge or Magistrate Judge presiding over this action and the members of their  
17 family; (2) Defendants, Defendants’ subsidiaries, parents, successors, predecessors,  
18 and any entity in which the Defendants or its parents have a controlling interest and  
19 their current employees, officers and directors; (3) persons who properly execute and  
20 file a timely request for exclusion from the Class; (4) persons whose claims in this  
21 matter have been finally adjudicated on the merits or otherwise released; (5)  
22 Plaintiff’s counsel and Defendants’ counsel, and their experts and consultants; and (6)  
23 the legal representatives, successors, and assigns of any such excluded persons.

24           ***Numerosity***

25           41. The proposed class contains members so numerous that separate joinder  
26 of each member of the class is impractical. There are millions of proposed class  
27 members.

28           ***Commonality***

1 42. There are questions of law and fact common to the proposed class.

2 Common questions of law and fact include, without limitation:

- 3 • Whether the Non-Drowsy Robitussin Products cause drowsiness;
- 4 • Whether Defendants' labelling of the Non-Drowsy Robitussin Products
- 5 as "non-drowsy" is deceptive and misleading;
- 6 • Whether Defendants violated state consumer protection statutes;
- 7 • Whether Defendants committed a breach of express warranty; and,
- 8 • Damages needed to reasonably compensate Plaintiff and the proposed
- 9 class.

10 ***Typicality***

11 43. Plaintiff's claims are typical of the proposed class. Like the proposed  
12 class, Plaintiff purchased Non-Drowsy Robitussin Products. Like the proposed class,  
13 Plaintiff would not have purchased the products, or would have paid less for them, had  
14 he known that they cause drowsiness.

15 ***Predominance and Superiority***

16 44. The prosecution of separate actions by individual members of the  
17 proposed class would create a risk of inconsistent or varying adjudication with respect  
18 to individual members, which would establish incompatible standards for the parties  
19 opposing the class. For example, individual adjudication would create a risk that  
20 breach of the same express warranty is found for some proposed class members, but  
21 not others.

22 45. Common questions of law and fact predominate over any questions  
23 affecting only individual members of the proposed class. These common legal and  
24 factual questions arise from certain central issues which do not vary from class  
25 member to class member, and which may be determined without reference to the  
26 individual circumstances of any particular class member. For example, a core  
27 liability question is common: whether Defendants breached an express warranty by  
28

1 falsely marketing products that cause drowsiness as “Non-Drowsy.”

2 46. A class action is superior to all other available methods for the fair and  
3 efficient adjudication of this litigation because individual litigation of each claim is  
4 impractical. It would be unduly burdensome to have individual litigation of millions  
5 of individual claims in separate lawsuits, every one of which would present the issues  
6 presented in this lawsuit.

7 **V. Causes of Action**

8 **Count I: Breach of Express Warranty**

9 **(on behalf of Plaintiff and a Nationwide Class)**

10 47. Plaintiff incorporates by reference each and every factual allegation set  
11 forth above.

12 48. Plaintiff brings this cause of action on behalf of himself and the  
13 Nationwide Class.

14 49. Defendants, as the designers, manufacturers, marketers, distributors,  
15 and/or sellers of the Non-Drowsy Robitussin Products, issued written warranties by  
16 representing that the products were “Non-Drowsy.” This was an affirmation of fact  
17 about the products (i.e., a description of the effects) and a promise relating to the  
18 goods.

19 50. This warranty was part of the basis of the bargain and Plaintiff and  
20 members of the Nationwide Class relied on this warranty.

21 51. In fact, the Non-Drowsy Robitussin Products do not conform to the  
22 above-referenced representation because they cause drowsiness and thus the warranty  
23 was breached.

24 52. Plaintiff and members of the Nationwide Class were injured as a direct  
25 and proximate result of Defendants’ breach because (a) they would not have  
26 purchased Non-Drowsy Robitussin Products if they had known that they cause  
27 drowsiness, and/or (b) they overpaid for the products because they are sold at a price  
28 premium due to the misrepresentation.



53. Because Plaintiff purchased from a third-party pharmacy and did not purchase directly from Defendants, pre-suit notice is not required. In any case, Plaintiff mailed Defendants a written notice of their breach of warranty, and demand for correction, on December 7, 2021 and this notice was delivered on December 9, 2021. On January 14, 2022, Defendants responded and refused to take any corrective action.

**Count II: Violations of State Consumer Protection Acts**  
**(on behalf of Plaintiff and the Consumer Protection Subclass)**

54. Plaintiff incorporates by reference each and every factual allegation set forth above.

55. This count is brought on behalf of Plaintiff and the Consumer Protection Subclass for violations of the following state consumer protection statutes:

State	Statute
Arizona	Ariz. Rev. Stat. §§ 44-1521, and the following.
Arkansas	Ark. Code § 4-88-101, and the following.
California	Cal. Bus. & Prof. Code § 17200, and the following; <i>Id.</i> §17500, and the following Cal. Civ. Code §1750 and the following;
Colorado	Colo. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 6-1-101, and the following.
Connecticut	Conn. Gen Stat. Ann. § 42- 110, and the following.
Delaware	6 Del. Code § 2513, and the following.
Washington, D.C.	D.C. Code § 28-3901, and the following.
Georgia	Ga. Code Ann. § 10-1-390, and the following.

1	Hawaii	Haw. Rev. Stat. § 480-2, and the following.
2	Idaho	Idaho Code. Ann. § 48-601, and the
3		following.
4	Illinois	815 ILCS § 501/1, and the following.
5	Kansas	Kan. Stat. Ann. § 50-623, and the
6		following.
7	Louisiana	LSA-R.S. § 51:1401, and the following.
8	Maine	Me. Rev. Stat. Ann. Tit. 5, § 207, and the
9		following.
10	Maryland	Md. Code Ann. Com. Law, § 13-301, and
11		the following.
12	Massachusetts	Mass. Gen Laws Ann. Ch. 93A, and the
13		following.
14	Michigan	Mich. Comp. Laws Ann. § 445.901, and the
15		following.
16	Minnesota	Minn. Stat. § 325F, and the following.
17	Montana	Mont. Code Ann. §§ 30-14-101, and the
18		following.
19	Missouri	Mo. Rev. Stat. § 407, and the following.
20	Nebraska	Neb. Rev. St. § 59-1601, and the following.
21	Nevada	Nev. Rev. Stat. § 41.600, and the following.
22	New Hampshire	N.H. Rev. Stat. § 358-A:1, and the
23		following.
24	New Jersey	N.J. Stat. Ann. § 56:8, and the following.
25	New Mexico	N.M. Stat. Ann. § 57-12-1, and the
26		following.
27	New York	N.Y. Gen. Bus. Law § 349, and the
28		

	following.
North Carolina	N.C. Gen Stat. § 75-1.1, and the following.
North Dakota	N.D. Cent. Code § 51-15, and the following.
Ohio	Ohio Rev. Code Ann. § 1345.01, and the following.
Oklahoma	Okla. Stat. tit. 15 § 751, and the following.
Oregon	Or. Rev. Stat. § 646.605, and the following.
Pennsylvania	73 P.S. § 201-1, and the following.
Rhode Island	R.I. Gen. Laws § 6-13.1- 5.2(B), and the following.
South Carolina	S.C. Code Ann. § 39-5-10, and the following.
South Dakota	S.D. Codified Laws § 37-24-1, and the following.
Tennessee	Tenn. Code Ann. § 47-18-101, and the following.
Texas	Tex. Code Ann., Bus. & Con. § 17.41, and the following.
Utah	Utah Code. Ann. § 13-11-175, and the following.
Vermont	9 V.S.A. § 2451, and the following.
Virginia	Va. Code Ann. § 59.1-199, and the following.
Washington	Wash. Rev. Code § 19.86.010, and the following.
West Virginia	W. Va. Code § 46A, and the following.

1	Wisconsin	Wis. Stat. § 100.18, and the following
2	Wyoming	Wyo. Stat. Ann. § 40-12-101, and the
3		following.

4 56. Each of these consumer protection statutes prohibits unfair,  
5 unconscionable, and/or deceptive acts or practices in the course of trade or commerce  
6 or in connection with the sales of goods or services to consumers. Defendants'  
7 conduct, including the false labelling of the Non-Drowsy Robitussin Products and  
8 sale of those misleading products to Plaintiff and Class members, violates each  
9 statute's prohibitions.

10 57. Defendants' misrepresentations were a substantial factor in Plaintiff's  
11 purchase decision and the purchase decision of Class members. Defendants'  
12 misrepresentations were misleading to a reasonable consumer, and Plaintiff and Class  
13 members reasonably relied on Defendants' misrepresentations.

14 58. Defendants intended that Plaintiff and the proposed Class members  
15 would rely on their materially deceptive representations. Defendants were also aware  
16 of the side effects of DXM and thus knew that their representations were false and  
17 were likely to mislead consumers.

18 59. For applicable statutes, Plaintiff mailed Defendants a written notice and  
19 demand for correction on December 7, 2021 and this notice was delivered on  
20 December 9, 2021. On January 14, 2022, Defendants responded and refused to take  
21 any corrective action. Plaintiff and the Subclass now seek all available monetary and  
22 injunctive relief.

23 60. Plaintiff and Subclass members were injured as a direct and proximate  
24 result of Defendants' conduct because (a) they would not have purchased Non-  
25 Drowsy Robitussin Products if they had known that they cause drowsiness, and/or (b)  
26 they overpaid for the products because they are sold at a price premium due to the  
27 misrepresentation. In this way, Plaintiff and the proposed Class members have  
28 suffered an ascertainable loss, in an amount to be determined at trial.

1                    **Count III: Violation of California’s Unfair Competition Law (UCL)**

2                    **(on behalf of Plaintiff and the California Subclass)**

3                    61. Plaintiff incorporates by reference and re-alleges each and every factual  
4 allegation set forth above as though fully set forth herein.

5                    62. As alleged in Count II, state consumer protection laws are sufficiently  
6 similar such that Plaintiff may bring a claim on behalf of the Consumer Protection  
7 Subclass. In the alternative, Plaintiff brings this cause of action on behalf of himself  
8 and members of the California Subclass.

9                    63. Defendants have violated California’s Unfair Competition Law (UCL)  
10 by engaging in unlawful, fraudulent, and unfair conduct (i.e., violating each of the  
11 three prongs of the UCL).

12                    ***The Unlawful Prong***

13                    64. Defendants engaged in unlawful conduct by violating the CLRA and  
14 FAL, as alleged below and incorporated here.

15                    ***The Fraudulent Prong***

16                    65. As alleged in detail above, Defendants’ “Non-Drowsy” representations  
17 were false and misleading. These representations were likely to deceive, and did  
18 deceive, Plaintiff and reasonable consumers.

19                    ***The Unfair Prong***

20                    66. Defendants violated established public policy by violating the CLRA  
21 and FAL, as alleged below and incorporated here. The unfairness of this practice is  
22 tethered to a legislatively declared policy (that of the CLRA and FAL).

23                    67. The harm to Plaintiff and the Class greatly outweighs the public utility  
24 of Defendants’ conduct. There is no public utility to misrepresenting the side effects  
25 of an over-the-counter medication. This injury was not outweighed by any  
26 countervailing benefits to consumers or competition. Misleading medication labels  
27 only injure healthy competition and harm consumers.

1 68. Plaintiff and the Class could not have reasonably avoided this injury. As  
2 alleged above, Defendants’ representations were deceiving to reasonable consumers  
3 like Plaintiff.

4 \* \* \*

5 69. For all prongs, Defendants’ misrepresentations were intended to induce  
6 reliance, and Plaintiff saw, read and reasonably relied on them when purchasing Non-  
7 Drowsy Robitussin Products. Defendants’ misrepresentations were a substantial  
8 factor in Plaintiff’s purchase decision.

9 70. In addition, classwide reliance can be inferred because Defendants’  
10 misrepresentations were material, i.e., a reasonable consumer would consider them  
11 important in deciding whether to buy the Non-Drowsy Robitussin Products.

12 71. Defendants’ misrepresentations were a substantial factor and proximate  
13 cause in causing damages and losses to Plaintiff and Subclass members

14 72. Plaintiff and Subclass members were injured as a direct and proximate  
15 result of Defendants’ conduct because (a) they would not have purchased Non-  
16 Drowsy Robitussin Products if they had known that they cause drowsiness, and/or (b)  
17 they overpaid for the products because they are sold at a price premium due to the  
18 misrepresentation.

19 **Count IV: Violation of California’s False Advertising Law (FAL)**  
20 **(on behalf of Plaintiff and the California Subclass)**

21 73. Plaintiff incorporates by reference and re-alleges each and every  
22 allegation set forth above.

23 74. Plaintiff brings this cause of action on behalf of himself and members of  
24 the California Subclass.

25 75. As alleged more fully above, Defendants have falsely advertised Non-  
26 Drowsy Robitussin Products by falsely representing that the products do not cause  
27 drowsiness and that drowsiness is not a side effect of the products.

28 76. Defendants’ representations were likely to deceive, and did deceive,

1 Plaintiff and reasonable consumers. Defendants knew, or should have known  
2 through the exercise of reasonable care, that these statements were inaccurate and  
3 misleading.

4 77. Defendants’ misrepresentations were intended to induce reliance, and  
5 Plaintiff saw, read and reasonably relied on them when purchasing Non-Drowsy  
6 Robitussin Products. Defendants’ misrepresentations were a substantial factor in  
7 Plaintiff’s purchase decision.

8 78. In addition, classwide reliance can be inferred because Defendants’  
9 misrepresentations were material, i.e., a reasonable consumer would consider them  
10 important in deciding whether to buy the Non-Drowsy Robitussin Products.

11 79. Defendants’ misrepresentations were a substantial factor and proximate  
12 cause in causing damages and losses to Plaintiff and Subclass members.

13 80. Plaintiff and Subclass members were injured as a direct and proximate  
14 result of Defendants’ conduct because (a) they would not have purchased Non-  
15 Drowsy Robitussin Products if they had known that they cause drowsiness, and/or (b)  
16 they overpaid for the products because they are sold at a price premium due to the  
17 misrepresentation.

18 **Count V: Violation of California’s Consumer Legal Remedies Act (CLRA)**

19 **(on behalf of Plaintiff and the California Subclass)**

20 81. Plaintiff incorporates by reference and re-alleges each and every  
21 allegation set forth above.

22 82. Plaintiff brings this cause of action on behalf of himself and members of  
23 the California Subclass.

24 83. Plaintiff and the other members of the California Subclass are  
25 “consumers,” as the term is defined by California Civil Code § 1761(d).

26 84. Plaintiff, the other members of the California Subclass, and Defendants  
27 have engaged in “transactions,” as that term is defined by California Civil Code §  
28 1761(e).

1           85. The conduct alleged in this Complaint constitutes unfair methods of  
2 competition and unfair and deceptive acts and practices for the purpose of the CLRA,  
3 and the conduct was undertaken by Defendants in transactions intended to result in,  
4 and which did result in, the sale of goods to consumers.

5           86. As alleged more fully above, Defendants have violated the CLRA by  
6 falsely representing to Plaintiff and the other members of the California Subclass that  
7 the Non-Drowsy Robitussin Products do not cause drowsiness, and that drowsiness is  
8 not a side effect of the products, when in fact, the products do cause drowsiness.

9           87. As a result of engaging in such conduct, Defendants have violated  
10 California Civil Code § 1770(a)(5), (a)(7), and (a)(9).

11           88. Defendants' representations were likely to deceive, and did deceive,  
12 Plaintiff and reasonable consumers. Defendants knew, or should have known  
13 through the exercise of reasonable care, that these statements were inaccurate and  
14 misleading.

15           89. Defendants' misrepresentations were intended to induce reliance, and  
16 Plaintiff saw, read and reasonably relied on them when purchasing Non-Drowsy  
17 Robitussin Products. Defendants' misrepresentations were a substantial factor in  
18 Plaintiff's purchase decision.

19           90. In addition, classwide reliance can be inferred because Defendants'  
20 misrepresentations were material, i.e., a reasonable consumer would consider them  
21 important in deciding whether to buy the Non-Drowsy Robitussin Products.

22           91. Defendants' misrepresentations were a substantial factor and proximate  
23 cause in causing damages and losses to Plaintiff and Subclass members.

24           92. Plaintiff and Subclass members were injured as a direct and proximate  
25 result of Defendants' conduct because (a) they would not have purchased Non-  
26 Drowsy Robitussin Products if they had known that they cause drowsiness, and/or (b)  
27 they overpaid for the products because they are sold at a price premium due to the  
28 misrepresentation.



1           93.   Accordingly, pursuant to California Civil Code § 1780(a)(3), Plaintiff,  
2 on behalf of himself and all other members of the California Subclass, seeks  
3 injunctive relief.

4           94.   CLRA § 1782 NOTICE. On December 7, 2021, a CLRA demand letter  
5 was sent to Defendants’ headquarters and California registered agents, via certified  
6 mail (return receipt requested) that provided notice of Defendants’ violations of the  
7 CLRA and demanded that Defendants correct the unlawful, unfair, false and/or  
8 deceptive practices alleged here. This letter arrived on December 9, 2021.  
9 Defendants did not respond within 30 days of receipt. Then, on January 14, 2022,  
10 Defendants responded and refused to take any corrective action. Accordingly,  
11 Plaintiff and the Subclass now seek all available damages under the CLRA (in  
12 addition to an injunction, reasonable attorney fees, and all other available relief).

13                           **Count VI: Negligent Misrepresentation**

14                           **(on behalf of Plaintiff and the Nationwide Class)**

15           95.   Plaintiff incorporates by reference the facts alleged above.

16           96.   Plaintiff alleges this claim individually and on behalf of the Nationwide  
17 Class.

18           97.   As alleged in detail above, Defendants’ labeling represented to Plaintiff  
19 and Class members that the Non-Drowsy Robitussin Products do not cause  
20 drowsiness and that drowsiness is not a side effect of these products.

21           98.   These representations were false. As alleged above, the Non-Drowsy  
22 Robitussin Products do cause drowsiness and drowsiness is a documented side effect.

23           99.   When Defendants made these misrepresentations, they knew or should  
24 have known that they were false. Defendants had no reasonable grounds for  
25 believing that these representations were true when made.

26           100. Defendants intended that Plaintiff and Class members rely on these  
27 representations and Plaintiff and class members read and reasonably relied on them.  
28

1 101. In addition, classwide reliance can be inferred because Defendants’  
2 misrepresentations were material, i.e., a reasonable consumer would consider them  
3 important in deciding whether to buy the Non-Drowsy Robitussin Products.

4 102. Defendants’ misrepresentations were a substantial factor and proximate  
5 cause in causing damages and losses to Plaintiff and Class members.

6 103. Plaintiff and Class members were injured as a direct and proximate  
7 result of Defendants’ conduct because (a) they would not have purchased Non-  
8 Drowsy Robitussin Products if they had known that they cause drowsiness, and/or (b)  
9 they overpaid for the products because they are sold at a price premium due to the  
10 misrepresentation.

11 **Count VII: Intentional Misrepresentation**  
12 **(on behalf of Plaintiff and the National Class)**

13 104. Plaintiff incorporates by reference the facts alleged above.

14 105. Plaintiff alleges this claim individually and on behalf of the Nationwide  
15 Class.

16 106. As alleged in detail above, Defendants’ labeling represented to Plaintiff  
17 and Class members that the Non-Drowsy Robitussin Products do not cause  
18 drowsiness and that drowsiness is not a side effect of these products.

19 107. These representations were false and misleading. As alleged above, the  
20 Non-Drowsy Robitussin Products do cause drowsiness and drowsiness is a  
21 documented side effect.

22 108. As alleged in detail above, when Defendants made these  
23 misrepresentations, they knew that they were false, were reckless to the truth, or were  
24 willfully blind.

25 109. Defendants intended that Plaintiff and Class members rely on these  
26 representations and Plaintiff and class members read and reasonably relied on them.  
27  
28

1 110. In addition, classwide reliance can be inferred because Defendants'  
2 misrepresentations were material, i.e., a reasonable consumer would consider them  
3 important in deciding whether to buy the Non-Drowsy Robitussin Products.

4 111. Defendants' misrepresentations were a substantial factor and proximate  
5 cause in causing damages and losses to Plaintiff and Class members.

6 112. Plaintiff and Class members were injured as a direct and proximate  
7 result of Defendants' conduct because (a) they would not have purchased Non-  
8 Drowsy Robitussin Products if they had known that they cause drowsiness, and/or (b)  
9 they overpaid for the products because they are sold at a price premium due to the  
10 misrepresentation.

11 **Count VIII: Quasi-Contract / Unjust Enrichment**

12 **(on behalf of Plaintiff and the Nationwide Class)**

13 113. Plaintiff incorporates by reference the facts alleged above.

14 114. Plaintiff alleges this claim individually and on behalf of the Nationwide  
15 Class.

16 115. As alleged in detail above, Defendants' false and misleading labeling  
17 caused Plaintiff and the Class to purchase Non-Drowsy Robitussin Products and to  
18 pay a price premium for these products.

19 116. In this way, Defendants received a direct and unjust benefit, at Plaintiff's  
20 expense.

21 117. Plaintiff and the Nationwide Class seek restitution.

22 **VI. Jury Demand.**

23 118. Plaintiff demands a jury trial on all issues so triable.

24 **VII. Prayer for Relief.**

25 119. Plaintiff seeks the following relief for himself and the proposed class and  
26 subclasses:

- 27
  - An order certifying the asserted claims, or issues raised, as a class  
28 action;

- A judgment in favor of Plaintiff and the proposed class;
- Damages, including statutory, treble, and punitive damages where applicable;
- Restitution;
- Disgorgement, and other just equitable relief;
- Pre- and post-judgment interest;
- An injunction prohibiting Defendants' deceptive conduct, as allowed by law;
- Reasonable attorneys' fees and costs, as allowed by law; and
- Any additional relief that the Court deems reasonable and just.

Dated: January 18, 2022

Respectfully submitted,

By: /s/ Jonas B. Jacobson  
Jonas B. Jacobson (Cal. Bar No. 269912)  
jonas@dovel.com  
Simon Franzini (Cal. Bar No. 287631)  
simon@dovel.com  
DOVEL & LUNER, LLP  
201 Santa Monica Blvd., Suite 600  
Santa Monica, California 90401  
Telephone: (310) 656-7066  
Facsimile: (310) 656-7069

*Counsel for Plaintiff*