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11 **UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT**
 12 **CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA**
 13 **SOUTHERN DIVISION**

14 CHRISTIAN LEMUS, individually
 15 and on behalf of all others similarly
 16 situated,

17 *Plaintiff,*

18 v.

19 RITE AID CORPORATION,

20 *Defendant.*

Case No. 8:22-cv-00253-DOC-ADS

**SECOND AMENDED CLASS
ACTION COMPLAINT**

JURY TRIAL DEMANDED

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1 **I. Introduction.**

2 1. Defendant makes, sells, and markets “Rite Aid” over-the-counter cough,
3 cold and flu medicine (the “Non-Drowsy Rite Aid Products” or “Products”),
4 including generic Rite Aid versions of brands like DayQuil and Robitussin.¹ Like
5 the branded versions, these medicines contain the active ingredient
6 Dextromethorphan Hydrobromide (“DXM”), an ingredient that causes drowsiness.

7 2. Defendant’s Non-Drowsy Rite Aid Products state prominently on the
8 front of their label that they are “Non-Drowsy” products. By prominently labeling
9 these products as “Non-Drowsy,” Defendant led Plaintiff and other reasonable
10 consumers to believe that the Non-Drowsy Rite Aid Products do not cause
11 drowsiness, and that drowsiness is not a side effect of those products. Defendant also
12 led Plaintiff and other reasonable consumers to believe that those products are for use
13 during the day, and can be safely and satisfactorily consumed during waking hours, at
14 work, and while driving and operating machinery.

15 3. But the truth is that products containing DXM—and thus the Non-
16 Drowsy Rite Aid Products—do cause drowsiness, and that drowsiness is a common
17 side effect of DXM (a fact not known by the average consumer).

18 4. In this way, Defendant misled Plaintiff and other consumers about the
19 effects of the Non-Drowsy Rite Aid Products. This was a material misrepresentation
20 that Plaintiff—and other reasonable consumers—relied on when deciding to buy the
21 products. Had Defendant been truthful, Plaintiff and other consumers would not have
22 purchased the products or would have paid less for them.

23 5. Plaintiff brings this case for himself and for millions of other consumers
24 who purchased Non-Drowsy Rite Aid Products.

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¹ The Non-Drowsy Rite Aid Products include all Rite Aid products sold by Defendant that are labeled “Non-Drowsy” and that contain Dextromethorphan Hydrobromide.

1 **II. Parties.**

2 6. Plaintiff Christian Lemus is a citizen of California (domiciled in Santa
3 Ana). The proposed class (identified below) includes citizens of every state within
4 the United States.

5 7. Defendant Rite Aid Corporation is a Delaware corporation with its
6 principal place of business in Camp Hill, Pennsylvania and has been doing business
7 in the State of California during all relevant times. Directly and through its agents,
8 Rite Aid Corporation has substantial contacts with, and receives substantial benefits
9 and income from, the State of California.

10 **III. Jurisdiction and Venue.**

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

15 9. The Court has personal jurisdiction over Defendant because it sold the
16 Non-Drowsy Rite Aid Products to consumers in California, including Mr. Lemus.

17 10. Venue is proper under 28 U.S.C. § 1391(b)(2) because a substantial part
18 of Defendant’s conduct giving rise to the claims occurred in this District, including
19 selling the Non-Drowsy Rite Aid Products to Mr. Lemus.

20 **IV. Facts.**

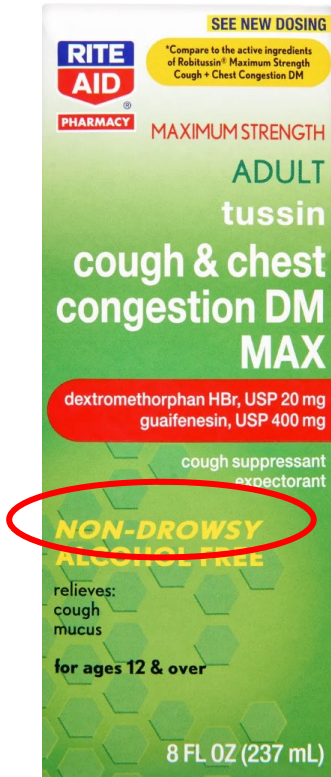
21 **A. Defendant makes, markets, and sells Rite Aid products prominently**
22 **labeled “Non-Drowsy.”**

23 11. Rite Aid manufactures, distributes, markets, and sells the Non-Drowsy
24 Rite Aid Products.

25 12. The front label of each Product prominently states that the product is
26 “Non-Drowsy.” For example:

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1 **Rite Aid Cough & Chest Congestion DM Max**²



15 **Rite Aid Daytime Cold & Flu Relief Softgels**³



27 ² <https://www.riteaid.com/shop/ra-tussin-dm-max-8z-0393525>

28 ³ <https://www.riteaid.com/shop/rite-aid-day-time-cold-flu-relief-non-drowsy-48-liquid-caps-8015816>

1 **Rite Aid Severe Multi-Symptom Cough, Cold & Flu** ⁴



16 13. These representations are materially the same across all Non-Drowsy
17 Rite Aid Products.

18 14. In reality, however, the Non-Drowsy Rite Aid Products cause
19 drowsiness, and drowsiness is a known side effect of the products.

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

24 16. Indeed, Defendant labeled the products this way because it intended
25 consumers to rely on the labels and to believe that the products would not cause
26 drowsiness, so that consumers would buy more products or pay more for them.

27 _____
28 ⁴ <https://www.riteaid.com/shop/rite-aid-adult-tussin-severe-multi-symptom-cough-cold-and-flu-cf-max-8-fl-oz>

1 **B. The Non-Drowsy Rite Aid Products cause drowsiness.**

2 17. In truth, products containing DXM—like each of the Non-Drowsy Rite
3 Aid Products—do cause drowsiness. Drowsiness is a documented side effect of
4 DXM at the recommended dosages.⁵

5 18. Indeed, drowsiness is a common side effect at the recommended
6 dosages. For example, a study of DXM found that “[s]omnolence is a common side
7 effect of centrally acting antitussive drugs” like dextromethorphan, and that 10.4% of
8 users of products containing dextromethorphan develop drowsiness within three days
9 of starting treatment with DXM cough medicine.⁶ The “cases of intense
10 somnolence” were “related only to dextromethorphan” and not to the other drug
11 studied. And the patients in this clinical study were given an even smaller dosage of
12 DXM (15 mg three times a day) than the recommended dose found in Non-Drowsy
13 Rite Aid products.⁷

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18 ⁵ [Dextromethorphan: MedlinePlus Drug Information](https://medlineplus.gov/druginfo/meds/a682492.html), National Library of Medicine,
19 <https://medlineplus.gov/druginfo/meds/a682492.html> (last accessed November 22,
20 2021).

21 ⁶ E. Catena and L. Daffonchio, “Efficacy and Tolerability of Levodropropizine in
22 Adult Patients with Non-productive Cough, Comparison with Dextromethorphan,” 10
23 *Pulmonary Pharmacology & Therapeutics* 89-96 (1997). The study reports this side
24 effect as “somnolence.” Somnolence means “the quality or state of being drowsy.”
25 Merriam Webster Dictionary, [https://www.merriam-](https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/somnolence)
26 [webster.com/dictionary/somnolence](https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/somnolence) (last accessed November 22, 2021).

27 ⁷ For example, Rite Aid Cough & Chest Congestion DM Max liquid contains 20 mg
28 of DXM per 20 ml of syrup and the recommended dosage is 20 ml orally every 4
hours. <https://www.riteaid.com/shop/ra-tussin-dm-max-8z-0393525>. Likewise, the
Rite Aid Cold & Flu Relief Softgels contain 10 mg of DXM per capsule and the
recommended dosage is two capsules every 4 hours.
[https://www.riteaid.com/shop/rite-aid-day-time-cold-flu-relief-non-drowsy-48-liquid-](https://www.riteaid.com/shop/rite-aid-day-time-cold-flu-relief-non-drowsy-48-liquid-caps-8015816)
[caps-8015816](https://www.riteaid.com/shop/rite-aid-day-time-cold-flu-relief-non-drowsy-48-liquid-caps-8015816).

1 19. Furthermore, the FDA’s adverse event report database confirms that
 2 sedation (i.e., drowsiness) is one of the most frequently-cited side effects of
 3 dextromethorphan-containing products.⁸

4 20. For this reason, the Federal Aviation Administration prohibits pilots
 5 from flying after ingesting medicines that contain DXM.⁹

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. 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).
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11 **C. Defendant’s Non-Drowsy representations misled reasonable**
 12 **consumers.**

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

17 22. This case is about Defendant’s affirmative, “Non-Drowsy”
 18 representation on the Product labels. No FDA regulation allows antitussives
 19 containing DXM to be labeled “Non-Drowsy” and the FDA has never considered
 20 whether this claim is false and misleading (nor would the FDA ever approve such a
 21 claim, because it is in fact false and misleading).

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24 ⁸ Sedation is associated with drowsiness. See IV/Monitored Sedation, American
 25 Society of Anesthesiologists, [https://www.asahq.org/madeforthismoment/anesthesia-](https://www.asahq.org/madeforthismoment/anesthesia-101/types-of-anesthesia/ivmonitored-sedation/)
 26 [101/types-of-anesthesia/ivmonitored-sedation/](https://www.asahq.org/madeforthismoment/anesthesia-101/types-of-anesthesia/ivmonitored-sedation/) (even “minimal” sedation means that
 27 “you’ll feel drowsy”)

28 ⁹ https://www.faa.gov/licenses_certificates/medical_certification/media/OTCMedicationsforPilots.pdf

1 23. Based on the fact that Defendant labels the Non-Drowsy Rite Aid
2 Products as “Non-Drowsy,” a reasonable consumer would expect that those products
3 do not cause drowsiness. Similarly, a reasonable consumer would expect that
4 drowsiness is not a side effect of the products (much less a common side effect).
5 Indeed, according to Consumer Reports, “‘Non-drowsy’ is code for antihistamines
6 and other medications that don’t make you sleepy.”¹⁰ This is the plain meaning of
7 “non-drowsy,” which means “not causing or accompanied by drowsiness.”¹¹

8 24. Rite Aid’s advertisements and labeling do not contain any language that
9 a reasonable consumer would understand to qualify these representations, or that
10 would otherwise put a reasonable consumer on notice of the fact that the Non-
11 Drowsy Rite Aid Products actually cause drowsiness.

12 25. Unlike Defendant, some other drug makers do not falsely claim that
13 DXM-products are non-drowsy. For example, DXM is an active ingredient in
14 Mucinex DM, sold by Reckitt. But the Mucinex label does not claim that Mucinex
15 DM is non-drowsy, because this is not the truth:



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27 ¹⁰ [“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)
28 <https://www.consumerreports.org/cro/2014/04/how-to-read-over-the-counter-drug-labels/index.htm>

¹¹ <https://www.merriam-webster.com/medical/nondrowsy>

1 26. Defendant could have simply omitted the false and misleading “Non-
2 Drowsy” statements from its products.

3 27. Or, if Defendant wanted to say something to indicate that a Non-Drowsy
4 Rite Aid Product might cause *less* drowsiness than another Rite Aid product, it could
5 have made a truthful statement to this effect, as other drug makers do.

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



20 29. Whether or not an over-the-counter drug causes drowsiness is material to
21 a reasonable customer. In certain situations, consumers prefer over-the-counter drugs
22 that will not make them drowsy to products that may make them drowsy. For
23 example, all else equal, a reasonable consumer would prefer to take a drug that does
24 not cause drowsiness to one that does cause drowsiness during the day (or any
25 periods of time when they plan to be awake). As a second example, if a consumer is
26 planning to engage in activities that require them to be alert, or during which they
27 would prefer to be alert, that consumer would prefer to take a drug that does not
28 cause drowsiness to one that does. Indeed, in many situations, taking a drug that does

1 or can cause drowsiness can be dangerous. For example, taking a drug that causes
2 drowsiness while driving, or flying a plane, is dangerous.

3 30. Because Defendant makes and sells the Non-Drowsy Rite Aid Products,
4 Defendant researched the known and common side effects of DXM. This is diligence
5 that large companies like Defendant would do when selling a drug. As a result,
6 Defendant knew that DXM causes drowsiness. Furthermore, Defendant controls its
7 labeling, knowingly put on the “Non-Drowsy” representations, and knows the plain
8 meaning of “Non-Drowsy.” Finally, it is standard practice in the industry to test
9 labeling with consumers, and Defendant’s testing would confirm that “Non-Drowsy”
10 is misleading. For these reasons, Defendant knew that its labeling was false and
11 misleading, or was reckless or willfully blind to this fact. And as alleged above,
12 Defendant intended that consumers would rely on the “Non-Drowsy” labeling, so that
13 consumers would purchase more products and pay a price premium.

14 31. Defendant’s false statements increased the demand for Non-Drowsy Rite
15 Aid Products and allowed Defendant to charge a price premium. As explained above,
16 consumers specifically value the “Non-Drowsy” claim because consumers demand
17 cough medicine that will not make them drowsy (e.g., during the day, at work or
18 while driving) and that they can take during the day. As a result, Defendant was able
19 to charge more for these products than it would have been able to had the labeling
20 been truthful. Accordingly, as a direct result of Defendant’s false statements,
21 Defendant was able to charge a price premium for these products. As purchasers,
22 Plaintiff and each class member paid this price premium and sustained economic
23 injury.

24 32. For example, at Rite Aid, a bottle of “Non-Drowsy” Daytime Severe
25 Cold & Flu Relief is currently priced at \$8.99 (for 12 ounces). This price is
26 artificially inflated by the misleading “Non-Drowsy” claim. If this misleading claim
27 were removed, demand would drop, which in turn would reduce the market price.
28 This price premium can be quantified (i.e., a dollar figure measured) using expert

1 economic analysis of data that includes, among other things, sales and pricing
2 information uniquely within the possession of Defendant.

3 33. In addition, because the Non-Drowsy Rite Aid Products actually do
4 cause drowsiness, Plaintiff and each class member did not get what they paid for: a
5 cough medicine that does not cause drowsiness. Instead, they received something
6 that is worth less: a cough medicine that does cause drowsiness. Plaintiff and each
7 class member sustained an economic injury for this additional reason, i.e., they
8 received something worth less than the price they paid for it.

9 34. Moreover, the Non-Drowsy Rite Aid Products are sold specifically for
10 use in situations where it is not acceptable for consumers to become drowsy (e.g.,
11 while driving, working, or supervising children). As a result, the products that
12 Plaintiff and each class member did receive in exchange for the price they paid—
13 Non-Drowsy Rite Aid Products that cause drowsiness—were not suitable for, and
14 were thus worthless for, their intended purpose. So the economic injury Plaintiff and
15 each class member sustained consists of the entire purchase price of the products,
16 because what they received was worthless for its intended use.

17 **D. Plaintiff was misled by Defendant’s misrepresentations.**

18 35. In or around December 2021, Plaintiff bought a bottle of Rite Aid “Non-
19 Drowsy” Daytime Severe Cold & Flu Relief from a Rite Aid store in Santa Ana,
20 California. The package said “Non-Drowsy” prominently on the label, and he read
21 and relied on those statements when purchasing the product. Accordingly, these
22 representations were part of the basis of the bargain, in that he would not have
23 purchased the Rite Aid “Non-Drowsy” Daytime Severe Cold & Flu Relief on the
24 same terms had he known these representations were not true. However, Plaintiff did
25 not receive the benefit of his bargain because his Non-Drowsy Rite Aid Product was
26 not, in fact, a “Non-Drowsy” medication. When Plaintiff took the recommended
27 dose of the medication as directed by Defendant, he became unexpectedly drowsy.
28 Plaintiff was not on any other medication that would have caused drowsiness, and

1 there was no other potential cause for this drowsiness, aside from the ingredients in
2 the medication. He would not have bought this product had he known that the
3 product did, in fact, cause drowsiness, and that drowsiness was a known side effect of
4 the product. The price Plaintiff paid for the Rite Aid medication was inflated due to
5 the misleading “Non-Drowsy” label, for the reasons explained above. In fact,
6 because the product causes drowsiness, it was worthless to him.

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

11 **E. Class Action Allegations.**

12 37. Plaintiff brings certain claims for the proposed class of: all persons who
13 purchased a Non-Drowsy Rite Aid Product in the United States during the applicable
14 statute of limitations period (the “**Nationwide Class**”).

15 38. For additional claims, Plaintiff brings those claims for a subclass of
16 consumers who, like Plaintiff, purchased Non-Drowsy Rite Aid Products in
17 California (the “**California Subclass**”).

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

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1 ***Numerosity***

2 40. The proposed class contains members so numerous that separate joinder
3 of each member of the class is impractical. Based on the pervasive distribution of
4 Non-Drowsy Rite Aid Products, there are millions of proposed class members.

5 ***Commonality***

6 41. There are questions of law and fact common to the proposed class.
7 Common questions of law and fact include, without limitation:

- 8 • Whether the Non-Drowsy Rite Aid Products cause drowsiness;
9 • Whether Defendant’s labeling of the Non-Drowsy Rite Aid Products as
10 “Non-Drowsy” is deceptive and misleading;
11 • Whether Defendant violated state consumer protection statutes; and
12 • Damages needed to reasonably compensate Plaintiff and the proposed
13 class.

14 ***Typicality***

15 42. Plaintiff’s claims are typical of the proposed class. Like the proposed
16 class, Plaintiff purchased Non-Drowsy Rite Aid Products. Like the proposed class,
17 Plaintiff would not have purchased the products, or would have paid less for them,
18 had he known that they cause drowsiness.

19 ***Predominance and Superiority***

20 43. The prosecution of separate actions by individual members of the
21 proposed class would create a risk of inconsistent or varying adjudication with
22 respect to individual members, which would establish incompatible standards for the
23 parties opposing the class.

24 44. Common questions of law and fact predominate over any questions
25 affecting only individual members of the proposed class. These common legal and
26 factual questions arise from certain central issues which do not vary from class
27 member to class member, and which may be determined without reference to the
28 individual circumstances of any particular class member. For example, a core

1 liability question is common: whether Defendant’s “Non-Drowsy” representations are
2 false and misleading.

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

8 ***Classwide injunctive relief***

9 46. Defendant has acted or refused to act on grounds that apply generally to
10 the class, so that final injunctive relief is appropriate respecting the class as a whole.

11 **V. Causes of Action.**

12 **Count 1: Breach of Contract**

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

14 47. Plaintiff incorporates by reference each and every factual allegation set
15 forth above.

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

18 49. Plaintiff and the Class purchased Non-Drowsy Rite Aid Products
19 directly from Defendant.

20 50. A valid contract existed between Plaintiff (and the Class) and Defendant.
21 As part of that contract, Defendant promised Plaintiff and the Class cough medicine
22 that was in fact “Non-Drowsy,” i.e., that does not cause drowsiness and that does not
23 have drowsiness as a side effect.

24 51. Plaintiff and the Class paid for the Non-Drowsy Rite Aid Products and
25 performed all their contractual obligations.

26 52. As alleged in detail above, Defendant materially breached the contract
27 because the Non-Drowsy Rite Aid Products are not, in fact, “Non-Drowsy.”
28

1 53. Defendant’s breach was the proximate cause, and a substantial factor, in
2 causing losses and damage to Plaintiff and the Class.

3 54. As alleged in detail above, the market value of what Plaintiff and Class
4 members received (a medication that causes drowsiness) was less than what Plaintiff
5 and Class members paid for (a “Non-Drowsy” medication).

6 **Count 2: Violation of California’s Unfair Competition Law (UCL)**

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

8 55. Plaintiff incorporates by reference and re-alleges each and every factual
9 allegation set forth above as though fully set forth herein.

10 56. Plaintiff brings this cause of action on behalf of himself and members of
11 the California Subclass.

12 57. Defendant has violated California’s Unfair Competition Law (UCL) by
13 engaging in unlawful, fraudulent, and unfair conduct (i.e., violating each of the three
14 prongs of the UCL).

15 ***The Unlawful Prong***

16 58. Defendant engaged in unlawful conduct by violating the CLRA and
17 FAL, as alleged below and incorporated here. In addition, Defendant engaged in
18 unlawful conduct by violating the California Sherman Act, Cal. Health & Safety
19 Code § 110390, which prohibits drug labeling that is “false or misleading in any
20 particular.”

21 ***The Fraudulent Prong***

22 59. As alleged in detail above, Defendant’s “Non-Drowsy” representations
23 were false and misleading. Defendant’s misrepresentations were likely to deceive,
24 and did deceive, Plaintiff and reasonable consumers.

25 ***The Unfair Prong***

26 60. Defendant violated established public policy by violating the CLRA and
27 FAL, as alleged below and incorporated here. The unfairness of this practice is
28 tethered to a legislatively declared policy (that of the CLRA, FAL, and Sherman Act).

1 61. The harm to Plaintiff and the Class greatly outweighs the public utility
2 of Defendant's conduct. There is no public utility to misrepresenting the side effects
3 of an over-the-counter medication. This injury was not outweighed by any
4 countervailing benefits to consumers or competition. Misleading medication labels
5 only injure healthy competition and harm consumers.

6 62. Defendant's conduct, as alleged above, was immoral, unethical,
7 oppressive, unscrupulous, and substantially injurious to consumers.

8 63. Plaintiff and the Class could not have reasonably avoided this injury. As
9 alleged above, Defendant's representations were deceiving to reasonable consumers
10 like Plaintiff.

11 * * *

12 64. For all prongs, Defendant's misrepresentations were intended to induce
13 reliance, and Plaintiff saw, read and reasonably relied on them when purchasing Non-
14 Drowsy Rite Aid Products. Defendant's misrepresentations were a substantial factor
15 in Plaintiff's purchase decision.

16 65. In addition, classwide reliance can be inferred because Defendant's
17 misrepresentations were material, i.e., a reasonable consumer would consider them
18 important in deciding whether to buy the Non-Drowsy Rite Aid Products.

19 66. Defendant's misrepresentations were a substantial factor and proximate
20 cause in causing damages and losses to Plaintiff and Subclass members.

21 67. Plaintiff and Subclass members were injured as a direct and proximate
22 result of Defendant's conduct because (a) they would not have purchased the
23 Products if they had known that the products cause drowsiness; (b) they overpaid for
24 the Products because the products are sold at a price premium due to Defendant's
25 misrepresentations; or (c) they received products that were worthless for their
26 intended purpose.

1 **Count 3: Violation of California’s False Advertising Law (FAL)**

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

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

5 69. Plaintiff brings this cause of action on behalf of himself and members of
6 the California Subclass.

7 70. As alleged more fully above, Defendant has falsely advertised Non-
8 Drowsy Rite Aid Products by falsely representing that the products do not cause
9 drowsiness and that drowsiness is not a side effect of the products.

10 71. Defendant’s representations were likely to deceive, and did deceive,
11 Plaintiff and reasonable consumers. Defendant knew, or should have known through
12 the exercise of reasonable care, that these statements were inaccurate and misleading.

13 72. Defendant’s misrepresentations were intended to induce reliance, and
14 Plaintiff saw, read and reasonably relied on them when purchasing Non-Drowsy Rite
15 Aid Products. Defendant’s misrepresentations were a substantial factor in Plaintiff’s
16 purchase decision.

17 73. In addition, classwide reliance can be inferred because Defendant’s
18 misrepresentations were material, i.e., a reasonable consumer would consider them
19 important in deciding whether to buy the Non-Drowsy Rite Aid Products.

20 74. Defendant’s misrepresentations were a substantial factor and proximate
21 cause in causing damages and losses to Plaintiff and Subclass members.

22 75. Plaintiff and Subclass members were injured as a direct and proximate
23 result of Defendant’s conduct because (a) they would not have purchased the
24 Products if they had known that the products cause drowsiness; (b) they overpaid for
25 the Products because the products are sold at a price premium due to Defendant’s
26 misrepresentations; or (c) they received products that were worthless for their
27 intended purpose.
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1 **Count 4: Violation of California’s Consumer Legal Remedies Act (CLRA)**
2 **(on behalf of Plaintiff and the California Subclass)**

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

5 77. Plaintiff brings this cause of action on behalf of himself and members of
6 the California Subclass.

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

9 79. Plaintiff, the other members of the California Subclass, and Defendant
10 have engaged in “transactions,” as that term is defined by California Civil Code §
11 1761(e).

12 80. The conduct alleged in this Complaint constitutes unfair methods of
13 competition and unfair and deceptive acts and practices for the purpose of the CLRA,
14 and the conduct was undertaken by Defendant in transactions intended to result in,
15 and which did result in, the sale of goods to consumers.

16 81. As alleged more fully above, Defendant has violated the CLRA by
17 falsely representing to Plaintiff and the other members of the California Subclass that
18 the Non-Drowsy Rite Aid Products do not cause drowsiness, and that drowsiness is
19 not a side effect of the products, when in fact, the products do cause drowsiness.

20 82. As a result of engaging in such conduct, Defendant has violated
21 California Civil Code § 1770(a)(5), (a)(7), and (a)(9).

22 83. Defendant’s representations were likely to deceive, and did deceive,
23 Plaintiff and reasonable consumers. Defendant knew, or should have known through
24 the exercise of reasonable care, that these statements were inaccurate and misleading.

25 84. Defendant’s misrepresentations were intended to induce reliance, and
26 Plaintiff saw, read and reasonably relied on them when purchasing Non-Drowsy Rite
27 Aid Products. Defendant’s misrepresentations were a substantial factor in Plaintiff’s
28 purchase decision.

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

4 86. Defendant’s misrepresentations were a substantial factor and proximate
5 cause in causing damages and losses to Plaintiff and Subclass members.

6 87. Plaintiff and Subclass members were injured as a direct and proximate
7 result of Defendant’s conduct because (a) they would not have purchased the
8 Products if they had known that the products cause drowsiness; (b) they overpaid for
9 the Products because the products are sold at a price premium due to Defendant’s
10 misrepresentations; or (c) they received products that were worthless for their
11 intended purpose.

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

15 89. CLRA § 1782 NOTICE. On February 17, 2022, a CLRA demand letter
16 was sent to Defendant’s headquarters and California registered agent, via certified
17 mail (return receipt requested). This letter provided notice of Defendant’s violation
18 of the CLRA and demanded that Defendant correct the unlawful, unfair, false and/or
19 deceptive practices alleged here. Defendant did not respond to this letter within 30
20 days of mailing. Accordingly, Plaintiff seeks all monetary relief available under the
21 CLRA.

22 **Count 5: Negligent Misrepresentation**

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

24 90. Plaintiff incorporates by reference the facts alleged above.

25 91. Plaintiff alleges this claim individually and on behalf of the California
26 Subclass.

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1 92. As alleged in detail above, Defendant's labeling represented to Plaintiff
2 and Class members that the Non-Drowsy Rite Aid Products do not cause drowsiness
3 and that drowsiness is not a side effect of these products.

4 93. These representations were false. As alleged above, the Non-Drowsy
5 Rite Aid Products do cause drowsiness and drowsiness is a documented side effect.

6 94. When Defendant made these misrepresentations, it knew or should have
7 known that they were false. Defendant had no reasonable grounds for believing that
8 these representations were true when made.

9 95. Defendant intended that Plaintiff and Subclass members rely on these
10 representations and Plaintiff and Subclass members read and reasonably relied on
11 them.

12 96. In addition, classwide reliance can be inferred because Defendant's
13 misrepresentations were material, i.e., a reasonable consumer would consider them
14 important in deciding whether to buy the Non-Drowsy Rite Aid Products.

15 97. Defendant's misrepresentations were a substantial factor and proximate
16 cause in causing damages and losses to Plaintiff and Subclass members.

17 98. Plaintiff and Subclass members were injured as a direct and proximate
18 result of Defendant's conduct because (a) they would not have purchased the
19 Products if they had known that the products cause drowsiness; (b) they overpaid for
20 the Products because the products are sold at a price premium due to Defendant's
21 misrepresentations; or (c) they received products that were worthless for their
22 intended purpose.

23 **Count 6: Intentional Misrepresentation**

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

25 99. Plaintiff incorporates by reference and re-alleges each and every
26 allegation set forth above as though fully set forth herein.

27 100. Plaintiff alleges this claim individually and on behalf of the California
28 Subclass.

1 101. As alleged in detail above, Defendant’s labeling represented to Plaintiff
2 and Subclass members that the Products do not cause drowsiness, and that drowsiness
3 is not a side effect of these products.

4 102. These representations were false and misleading. As alleged above, the
5 Products do cause drowsiness and drowsiness is a documented side effect.

6 103. As alleged in detail above, when Defendant made these
7 misrepresentations, it knew that they were false, was reckless to the truth, or was
8 willfully blind.

9 104. Defendant intended that Plaintiff and Subclass members rely on these
10 representations and Plaintiff and Subclass members read and reasonably relied on
11 them.

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

14 106. Plaintiff and Subclass members were injured as a direct and proximate
15 result of Defendant’s conduct because (a) they would not have purchased the
16 Products if they had known that the products cause drowsiness; (b) they overpaid for
17 the Products because the products are sold at a price premium due to Defendant’s
18 misrepresentations; or (c) they received products that were worthless for their
19 intended purpose.

20 **Count 7: Quasi-Contract / Unjust Enrichment**

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

22 107. Plaintiff incorporates by reference and re-alleges each and every
23 allegation set forth above as though fully set forth herein.

24 108. Plaintiff alleges this claim individually and on behalf of the California
25 Subclass.

26 109. As alleged in detail above, Defendant’s false and misleading labeling
27 caused Plaintiff and the Subclass to purchase Non-Drowsy Rite Aid Products and to
28 pay a price premium for these products.

1 110. In this way, Defendant received a direct and unjust benefit, at Plaintiff
2 and the Subclass's expense.

3 111. Plaintiff and the Subclass seek restitution.

4 **VI. Jury Demand.**

5 112. Plaintiff demands a jury trial on all issues so triable.

6 **VII. Prayer for Relief.**

7 113. Plaintiff seeks the following relief for himself and the proposed class and
8 subclasses:

- 9 • An order certifying the asserted claims, or issues raised, as a class
- 10 action;
- 11 • A judgment in favor of Plaintiff and the proposed Classes and Subclass;
- 12 • Damages, including statutory, treble, and punitive damages where
- 13 applicable;
- 14 • Restitution;
- 15 • Disgorgement, and other just equitable relief;
- 16 • Pre- and post-judgment interest;
- 17 • An injunction prohibiting Defendant's deceptive conduct, as allowed by
- 18 law;
- 19 • Reasonable attorneys' fees and costs, as allowed by law; and
- 20 • Any additional relief that the Court deems reasonable and just.
- 21

22 Dated: August 5, 2022

Respectfully submitted,

23
24 By: /s/ Jonas B. Jacobson

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