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| 9 | UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA | | | |
| 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 | GUITY HAMZEH, individually and on behalf of all others similarly situated, Plaintiff, v. PHARMAVITE LLC and NATURE | Case No. 4:24-cv-00472 AMENDED CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL | | |
| 17 18 19 | MADE NUTRITIONAL PRODUCTS, Defendants. | | | |
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Case No. 4:24-cv-00472

Class Action Complaint

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II.

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Parties

7. Plaintiff Guity Hamzeh is domiciled in Moraga, California.

I. Introduction.

- 1. Fish oil is one of the most popular dietary supplements. About 19 million Americans take fish oil supplements, because they believe that the supplements will improve their cardiovascular health by helping to support a healthy heart.
- 2. Many of the roughly 19 million Americans who supplement their diets with fish oil do so by taking fish oil capsules. But, fish oil capsules do not actually provide the health health benefits that they claim to.
- 3. While eating fish promotes healthy heart, taking fish oil *capsules* does not. Overwhelming evidence demonstrates that fish oil capsules do not not promote a healthy heart. Indeed, one way to determine whether fish oil capsules promote a healthy heart is to conduct trials pitting these capsules against placebos to see if there are any differences in heart-related benefits. If there are no differences, this shows that fish oil capsules do not support a healthy heart. Such trials have been performed multiple times. And these "multiple randomized trials pitting fish oil against placebos show no evidence of heart-related benefits from fish oil capsules."¹
- 4. Fish oil makers, however, continue to market these capsules as helping heart health. Scientists and consumer health advocates have warned that fish oil labels are misleading, and that consumers are wasting their money.²
- 5. Defendants Pharmavite LLC and Nature Made Nutritional Products ("Nature Made") or "Defendants") make, sell, and market Nature Made brand fish oil capsules ("Nature Made Fish Oil Capsules" or "Products"). Each bottle claims that the capsules support a healthy heart.
- 6. Like other consumers, Ms. Hamzeh bought Nature Made Fish Oil Capsules. As described below, the label on the Product purchased by Ms. Hamzeh states that it "Helps support a healthy heart." Ms. Hamzeh read and relied on this statement that the Product and would not have purchased the Product if she had known that the Products have not actually been shown to not promote heart health.
 - ¹https://blogs.scientificamerican.com/observations/the-false-promise-of-fish-oil-capsules/
 - ² https://www.health.harvard.edu/heart-health/the-false-promise-of-fish-oil-capsules

https://www.health.harvard.edu/heart-health/the-false-promise-of-fish-oil-capsules
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- 16. The problem is, "there's no evidence that these amber capsules improve cardiovascular health—and they may even harm it." "Multiple randomized trials have compared fish oil supplements with placebo to look for cardiovascular benefit and found nothing." "The bottom line is there is no proof fish oil capsules improve your heart health."
- 17. Yet, millions of Americans regularly buy fish oil capsules, believing that taking the capsules will improve or promote their heart health.
 - B. Nature Made sells over-the-counter fish oil capsules that purport to help "support a healthy heart."
- 18. Nature Made makes, markets, and sells Nature Made brand Fish Oil capsules (the "Nature Made Fish Oil Capsules" or "Products") in the United States. The products are available nationwide. Hundreds of thousands (or even millions) of U.S. consumers buy Nature Made fish oil capsules.
- 19. Nature Made makes and sells several varieties of Fish Oil, including the following non-limiting examples: Nature Made Fish Oil Softgels; Nature Made Burp-Less Fish Oil Softgels; Nature Made Omega-3 From Fish Oil Softgels; Nature Made Extra Strength Omega-3 From Fish Oil Softgels; Nature Made Extra Strength Omega-3 From Fish Oil Minis, Burp-Less; and Ultra Omega-3 from Fish Oil Softgels, Burp-Less. Illustrative examples are shown below:

⁴ *Id*.

https://www.nejm.org/doi/full/10.1056/nejmoa1804989

⁶ *Id*.

⁵ https://utswmed.org/medblog/fish-oil-pills-heart/; see, e.g., https://www.nejm.org/doi/full/10.1056/nejmoa1811403;

Nature Made Fish Oil 1200 mg Softgels



Nature Made Fish Oil 1200 mg Softgels, Burp-Less



Nature Made Omega-3 From Fish Oil 1200mg Softgels



Nature Made Extra Strength Omega-3 From Fish Oil Minis, Burp-Less



<u>Ultra Omega-3 from Fish Oil 1400 mg Softgels, Burp-Less</u>



What reasonable person war

- 20. Each product variant states that it supports heart health. They do this by stating that the products, "Help[] support a healthy heart."
- 21. Each of the Nature Made Products are substantially similar. They all advertise fish oil capsules, and have a representation on the front of the bottle that it supports heart health, by supporting a healthy heart, or by being "heart healthy."
 - C. Nature Made's labeling is false and misleading to most customers.
- 22. By selling fish oil capsules that purports to "support a healthy heart" and/or are "heart healthy," Nature Made is representing to customers that taking their fish oil capsule is beneficial to heart health.
- 23. When a consumer picks up a bottle of Nature Made Fish Oil Capsules, the consumer reasonably believes that taking the capsules will be beneficial to heart health. No reasonable consumer reads the label and expects that the capsule has no effect on heart health. And, specifically, when a bottle says it, "Helps support a healthy heart." consumers expect that to be accurate—that the product does help support a healthy heart. But the truth is, the product does not affect heart health. There is no proof that fish oil capsules improve heart health at all. In this way, Nature Made's affirmative representations are misleading to reasonable consumers.
 - C. Nature Made's fish oil capsules are wholly worthless.
- 24. The inaccurate labeling of Nature Made Fish Oil Capsules is highly material to reasonable consumers. The reason that consumers buy fish oil capsules is because they believe that they support heart health. No reasonable consumer wants to buy and ingest a fish oil capsule that has no effect on heart health.
- 25. Similarly, Nature Made's false and misleading labeling drives the demand for its Fish Oil Capsules. As explained above, the primary reason that people buy and ingest fish oil capsules is that they believe that it is beneficial to their heart. If consumers knew the truth—that Nature Made's Fish Oil Capsules do not have any benefit to heart health at all—the price of its products would crater.
- 26. In fact, without its heart benefits, Nature Made's Fish Oil Capsules are worthless. What reasonable person wants to pay for and ingest capsules that do not work? Plaintiff and each

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class member paid for Products that are, in truth, worthless. Thus, the full economic injury here is the entire price of the Nature Made Fish Oil Capsules that Plaintiff and the class members purchased.

- 27. Alternatively, Plaintiff and members of the class were deprived of the full benefit of their bargained-for exchange and have suffered damages in an amount to be established at trial.
 - D. Ms. Hamzeh was misled and harmed by Nature Made's misleading labeling.
- 28. In or around winter of 2022-23, Guity Hamzeh bought a bottle of Nature Made Fish Oil 1200 mg Softgels at a CVS store in Moraga, CA. The bottle is pictured below:



- 29. She purchased the Product regularly for years. The package prominently states that it helps "support a healthy heart." Ms. Hamzeh read and relied on this statement when purchasing the Product. She would not have purchased the Product at the price she paid if she had known that the Products have not actually been shown to promote heart health.
- 30. The reason that Ms. Hamzeh bought the Product is because she believed that the Products were good for her heart. She read and relied on the statement on the label that the Product "Helps support a healthy heart." She would not have purchased the Product at the price she paid, if she knew that the Product did not actually support heart health. In fact, knowing the truth, the Product is worthless to her. The economic injury she suffered is the entire purchase price she paid for the Product, as it is worthless.
- 31. Plaintiff wants Nature Made to fix its practices and sell capsules with accurate labeling. If Nature Made fixes their Products, so that the capsules actually do help support heart health, she would buy them again. But given Nature Made's past deception, Plaintiff cannot rely on Nature Made's word alone that it has fixed the problem. Plaintiff faces an imminent threat of harm

because she will not be able to rely on Nature Made's labels in the future, and will not be able to buy Nature Made's Fish Oil Capsules, even if Nature Made claims to have fixed the issue. To buy Nature Made's Products again, Plaintiff needs the Court to enter an order forbidding Nature Made from claiming that its capsules promote heart health unless the capsules actually promote heart health.

E. No adequate remedy at law.

- 32. Plaintiff seeks damages and, in the alternative, restitution. Plaintiff is permitted to seek equitable remedies in the alternative because she has no adequate remedy at law.
- 33. A legal remedy is not adequate if it is not as certain as an equitable remedy. To obtain a full refund as damages, Plaintiff must show that the products they received have essentially no market value. In contrast, Plaintiff can seek restitution without making this showing. This is because Plaintiff purchased products that she would not otherwise have purchased, but for Nature Made's misrepresentations. Obtaining a full refund at law is less certain than obtaining a refund in equity.
- 34. Also, winning damages under the CLRA requires additional showings not required under the UCL and FAL. For example, to obtain damages under the CLRA, Plaintiff must prove that she complied with the CLRA's notice requirement. No such requirements exist to obtain restitution. In addition, the CLRA prohibits only particular categories of deceptive conduct. By contrast, the UCL broadly prohibits "unfair" conduct and is thus broader.
- 35. By the same token, Plaintiff's common law claims require additional showings, compared to her UCL, FAL, or unjust enrichment claims. For example, to prevail on her breach of warranty claim, Plaintiff needs to show that the statements they challenge constitute a warranty and that the warranty was part of the basis of the bargain. No such showings are required by the UCL or FAL, or for an unjust enrichment theory. In fact, the UCL and the FAL were enacted specifically to create new claims and remedies not available at common law. And unjust enrichment exists in part because contractual claims are often more difficult to establish. In this way, Plaintiff's UCL and FAL claims, and Plaintiff's unjust enrichment claims, are more certain than her legal claims.
- 36. Finally, the remedies at law available to Plaintiff are not equally prompt or otherwise efficient. The need to schedule a jury trial may result in delay. And a jury trial will take longer, and be more expensive, than a bench trial.

V. Class action allegations.

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- - 37. Plaintiff brings the asserted claims on behalf of the proposed class of:
 - Nationwide Class: all persons who, within the applicable statute of limitations period, purchased one or more Nature Made Fish Oil Capsules.
 - Consumer Protection Subclass: all persons who, while in the states of California, Connecticut, Illinois, Maryland, Missouri or New York, and and within the applicable statute of limitations period, purchased one or more Nature Made Fish Oil Capsules.
 - California Subclass: all persons who, while in the state of California and within the applicable statute of limitations period, purchased one or more Nature Made Fish Oil Capsules.
- The following people are excluded from the class: (1) any Judge or Magistrate Judge 38. presiding over this action and the members of their family; (2) Defendants, Defendants' subsidiaries, parents, successors, predecessors, and any entity in which the Defendants or their parents have a controlling interest and their current employees, officers, and directors; (3) persons who properly execute and file a timely request for exclusion from the class; (4) persons whose claims in this matter have been finally adjudicated on the merits or otherwise released; (5) Plaintiff's counsel and Defendants' counsel, and their experts and consultants; and (6) the legal representatives, successors, and assigns of any such excluded persons.

Numerosity & Ascertainability

- 39. The proposed class contains members so numerous that separate joinder of each member of the class is impractical. There are tens or hundreds of thousands of class members.
 - 40. Class members can be identified through Defendants' sales records and public notice.

Predominance of Common Questions

- 41. There are questions of law and fact common to the proposed class. Common questions of law and fact include, without limitation:
 - (1) whether Defendants made false or misleading statements of fact in their labeling;
 - (2) whether Defendants violated consumer protection statutes;
 - (3) whether Defendants committed a breach of an express or implied warranty;

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(4) damages needed to reasonably compensate Plaintiff and the proposed class.

Typicality & Adequacy

42. Plaintiff's claims are typical of the proposed class. Like the proposed class, Plaintiff purchased the Nature Made Fish Oil Capsules. There are no conflicts of interest between Plaintiff and the class.

Superiority

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

VI. Claims.

First Cause of Action:

Violations of State Consumer Protection Acts

(on behalf of all Plaintiff and the Multi-State Consumer Protection Subclass)

- 44. Plaintiff incorporates each and every factual allegation set forth above.
- 45. As alleged below, Plaintiff brings individual and subclass claims based on California law. For the Multi-State Consumer Protection Subclass, Plaintiff brings this count for violations of state consumer protection laws that are materially-similar to the laws of California, including:

| State | Statute |
|-------------|--|
| California | Cal. Bus. & Prof. Code § 17200, and the |
| | following; <i>Id.</i> §17500, and the following; Cal. Civ. |
| | Code §1750 and the following. |
| Connecticut | Conn. Gen Stat. Ann. § 42-110, and the following. |
| Illinois | 815 ILCS § 501/1, and the following. |
| Maryland | Md. Code Ann. Com. Law, § 13-301, and the |
| | following. |
| Missouri | Mo. Rev. Stat. § 407, and the following. |

| New York | N.Y. Gen. Bus. Law § 349, and the following. |
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46. Each of these statutes is materially similar. Each broadly prohibits deceptive conduct in connection with the sale of goods to consumers. No state requires individualized reliance, or proof of defendant's knowledge or intent. Instead, it is sufficient that the deceptive conduct is misleading to reasonable consumers and that the conduct proximately caused harm.

47. As alleged in detail above, Defendants' misrepresentations are misleading to reasonable consumers in a material way. Defendants' false and misleading labeling was a substantial factor in Plaintiff's purchase decisions and the purchase decisions of class members.

48. Plaintiff and class members were injured as a direct and proximate result of Defendants' conduct because: (a) they would not have purchased Nature Made Fish Oil Capsules if they had known that the Products have not actually been shown to improve cardiovascular outcomes or promote heart health or (b) they received products that were, in truth, worthless.

Second Cause of Action:

Violation of California's False Advertising Law Bus. & Prof. Code §§ 17500 & 17501 et. seq. (By Plaintiff and the California Subclass)

49. Plaintiff incorporates each and every factual allegation set forth above.

 50. Plaintiff brings this cause of action on behalf of herself and members of the California Subclass.

51. Defendants have violated Sections 17500 and 17501 of the Business and Professions Code.

52. Defendants have violated, and continue to violate, Section 17500 of the Business and Professions Code by disseminating untrue and misleading advertisements to Plaintiff and subclass members.

53. As alleged more fully above, Defendants falsely advertised their products by falsely representing that Nature Made Fish Oil Capsules support heart health.

54. Defendants' misrepresentations were intended to induce reliance, and Plaintiff saw, read, and reasonably relied on the statements when purchasing the Products. In addition, subclass-

wide reliance can be inferred because Defendants' misrepresentations were material, i.e., a reasonable consumer would consider them important in deciding whether to buy the Products.

- 55. Defendants' misrepresentations were a substantial factor in Plaintiff's purchase decision and the purchase decision of subclass members.
- 56. Plaintiff and the subclass were injured as a direct and proximate result of Defendants' conduct because: (a) they would not have purchased Nature Made Fish Oil Capsules if they had known that the Products do not actually promote heart health, and (b) they received products that were, in truth, worthless.

Third Cause of Action:

Violation of California's Consumer Legal Remedies Act (by Plaintiff and the California Subclass)

- 57. Plaintiff incorporates each and every factual allegation set forth above.
- 58. Plaintiff brings this cause of action on behalf of herself and members of the California Subclass.
- 59. Plaintiff and the subclass are "consumers," as the term is defined by California Civil Code § 1761(d).
- 60. Plaintiff and the subclass have engaged in "transactions" with Defendants as that term is defined by California Civil Code § 1761(e).
- 61. The conduct alleged in this Complaint constitutes unfair methods of competition and unfair and deceptive acts and practices for the purpose of the CLRA, and the conduct was undertaken by Defendants in transactions intended to result in, and which did result in, the sale of goods to consumers.
- 62. As alleged more fully above, Defendants have violated the CLRA by falsely representing that Nature Made Fish Oil Capsules support heart health. Defendants knew, or should have known through the exercise of reasonable care, that these statements were false and misleading.
- 63. Defendants violated, and continues to violate, section 1770 of the California Civil Code.

- 64. Defendants violated, and continue to violate, section 1770(a)(5) of the California Civil Code by representing that Products offered for sale have characteristics or benefits that they do not have. Defendants represent that their Products have the characteristic of supporting heart health, when in reality they do not.
- 65. Defendants violated, and continue to violate, section 1770(a)(7) of the California Civil Code by representing that Products offered for sale are of a particular standard, quality, or grade, if they are another. Defendants represent that their Products meet the standard of supporting heart health, when in reality they do not.
- 66. And Defendants violated, and continue to violate, section 1770(a)(9) of the California Civil Code. Defendants violated this by advertising their Products as being fit for their intended purpose of supporting heart health, when in fact Defendants do not intend to sell the Products as advertised.
- 67. Defendants' false labeling was likely to deceive, and did deceive, Plaintiff and reasonable consumers. Defendants knew, or should have known through the exercise of reasonable care, that these statements were inaccurate and misleading.
- 68. Defendants' misrepresentations were intended to induce reliance, and Plaintiff saw, read, and reasonably relied on the statements when purchasing the Products. In addition, subclass-wide reliance can be inferred because Defendants' misrepresentations were material, i.e., a reasonable consumer would consider them important in deciding whether to buy the Products.
- 69. Defendants' misrepresentations were a substantial factor in Plaintiff's purchase decision and the purchase decision of subclass members.
- 70. Plaintiff and the subclass were injured as a direct and proximate result of Defendants' conduct because: (a) they would not have purchased Nature Made Fish Oil Capsules if they had known that the Products do not actually promote heart health, and (b) they received products that were, in truth, worthless.
- 71. Accordingly, pursuant to California Civil Code § 1780(a)(2), Ms. Hamzeh, on behalf of herself and all other members of the subclass, seeks injunctive relief.

| 1 | 72. | CLRA § 1782 NOTICE. On January 17, 2024, a CLRA demand letter was sent to | |
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| 2 | Defendants' California registered agent and California headquarters via certified mail (return receip | | |
| 3 | requested), that provided notice of Defendants' violations of the CLRA and demanded that | | |
| 4 | Defendants correct the unlawful, unfair, false and/or deceptive practices alleged here. Because | | |
| 5 | Defendants did not fully correct the problem for Plaintiff and for each member of the California | | |
| 6 | Subclass within 30 days of receipt, Plaintiff and the California Subclass now seek all monetary relie | | |
| 7 | allowed under the CLRA. | | |
| 8 | 73. | A CLRA venue declaration is attached. | |
| 9 | | Fourth Cause of Action: | |
| 10 | Violation of California's Unfair Competition Law | | |
| 11 | | (by Plaintiff and the California Subclass) | |
| 12 | 74. | Plaintiff incorporates each and every factual allegation set forth above. | |
| 13 | 75. | Plaintiff brings this cause of action on behalf of herself and members of the California | |
| 14 | Subclass. | | |
| 15 | 76. | Defendants have violated California's Unfair Competition Law (UCL) by engaging is | |
| 16 | unlawful, fra | udulent, and unfair conduct (i.e., violating each of the three prongs of the UCL). | |
| 17 | The U | Unlawful Prong | |
| 18 | 77. | Defendants engaged in unlawful conduct by violating the CLRA and FAL, as alleged | |
| 19 | above and in | corporated here. | |
| 20 | 78. | dition, Nature Made engaged in unlawful conduct by violating California Health | |
| 21 | & Safety Coo | de § 109875 et seq. (the Sherman Food Drug and Cosmetic Law) which adopts and | |
| 22 | parallels federal FDCA requirements, including prohibitions on false and misleading labeling. | | |
| 23 | The Fraudulent Prong | | |
| 24 | 79. | As alleged in detail above, Defendants' representations that its Products promote | |
| 25 | heart heart, o | r that its Products improve cardiovascular outcomes, were false and misleading. Its | |
| 26 | labeling is likely to deceive, and did deceive, Plaintiff and other reasonable consumers. | | |
| 27 | The Unfair Prong | | |
| 28 | 80. | Defendants' conduct, as detailed above, also violated the "unfair" prong of the UCL. | |
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- 81. Defendants' conduct caused substantial injury to Plaintiff and subclass members. The harm to Plaintiff and the subclass greatly outweighs the public utility of Defendants' conduct (which is none). Inaccurately labeled fish oil capsules have no public utility. This injury was not outweighed by any countervailing benefits to consumers or competition. Misleading labels only injure healthy competition and harm consumers.
- 82. Plaintiff and the subclass could not have reasonably avoided this injury. As alleged above, Defendants' labeling is false and misleading. Their labeling is likely to deceive, and did deceive reasonable consumers like Plaintiff.
- 83. Defendants' conduct, as alleged above, was immoral, unethical, oppressive, unscrupulous, and substantially injurious to consumers.
- 84. Defendants' conduct violated the public policy against false and misleading labels, which is tethered to the CLRA and the FAL, as well as California's Sherman Act.

- 85. For all prongs, Defendants' misrepresentations were intended to induce reliance, and Plaintiff saw, read, and reasonably relied on the statements when purchasing the Products. In addition, subclass-wide reliance can be inferred because Defendants' misrepresentations were material, i.e., a reasonable consumer would consider them important in deciding whether to buy the Products.
- 86. Defendants' misrepresentations were a substantial factor in Plaintiff's purchase decision and the purchase decision of subclass members.
- 87. Plaintiff and the subclass were injured as a direct and proximate result of Defendants' conduct because: (a) they would not have purchased Nature Made Fish Oil Capsules if they had known that the Products do not actually promote heart health, and (b) they received products that were, in truth, worthless.

Fifth Cause of Action:

Breach of Express Warranty

(by Plaintiff and the Nationwide Class)

88. Plaintiff incorporates each and every factual allegation set forth above.

- 89. Plaintiff brings this cause of action on behalf of herself and the Nationwide Class.

 Common law breach of express warranty claims are materially similar in all fifty states. In the alternative, Plaintiff brings this claim under California law for herself and members of the California Subclass.
- 90. Defendant, as the manufacturer, marketer, distributor, supplier, and/or seller of the Nature Made Fish Oil Capsules, issued material, written warranties by representing that the Products help support a healthy heart. This was an affirmation of fact about the Products (i.e., a description of the capsules) and a promise relating to the goods.
- 91. This warranty was part of the basis of the bargain and Plaintiff and class members relied on this warranty.
- 92. In fact, the Nature Made Fish Oil Capsules do not conform to the above-referenced representation because, as alleged in detail above, Nature Made's labeling is inaccurate and the Products have not been shown to support a healthy heart. They do not promote heart health. Thus, the warranty was breached.
- 93. Plaintiff provided Defendants with notice of this breach of warranty, by mailing a notice letter to Defendants' headquarters, on January 17, 2024.
- 94. Plaintiff and class members were injured as a direct and proximate result of Defendants' conduct, and this conduct was a substantial factor in causing harm, because: (a) they would not have purchased Nature Made Fish Oil Capsules if they had known that the Products have not actually been shown to improve cardiovascular outcomes or promote heart health or (b) they received products that were, in truth, worthless.

Sixth Cause of Action:

Quasi-Contract

(by Plaintiff and the Nationwide Class)

- 95. Plaintiff incorporates each and every factual allegation set forth above.
- 96. Plaintiff brings this cause of action on behalf of herself and the Nationwide Class.

 Common law quasi-contract claims are materially similar in all fifty states. Plaintiff brings this cause of action in the alternative to her Breach of Express Warranty claim (Fifth Cause of Action) on

| 1 | behalf of hers | elf and the Nationwide Class. In the alternative, Plaintiff brings this claim under | |
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| 2 | California law on behalf of herself and the California Subclass. | | |
| 3 | 97. | As alleged in detail above, Defendants' false and misleading representations caused | |
| 4 | Plaintiff and t | the class to purchase wholly wortheless Products. | |
| 5 | 98. | In this way, Defendants received a direct and unjust benefit, at Plaintiff's expense. | |
| 6 | 99. | Plaintiff and the class seek restitution, and in the alternative, rescission. | |
| 7 | | Seventh Cause of Action: | |
| 8 | | Negligent Misrepresentation | |
| 9 | | (by Plaintiff and the Nationwide Class) | |
| 0 | 100. | Plaintiff incorporates each and every factual allegation set forth above. | |
| 1 | 101. | Plaintiff brings this cause of action on behalf of herself and the Nationwide Class. | |
| 2 | Common law | negligent misrepresentation claims are materially similar in all fifty states. In the | |
| 3 | alternative, Plaintiff brings this claim under California law for herself and members of the California | | |
| 4 | Subclass. | | |
| 5 | 102. | As alleged more fully above, Defendants made false representations to Plaintiff and | |
| 6 | class member | s concerning their statements that the capsules support a healthy heart. | |
| 7 | 103. | These representations were false. | |
| 8 | 104. | When Defendants made these misrepresentations, they knew or should have known | |
| 9 | that they were | e false. Defendants had no reasonable grounds for believing that these representations | |
| 20 | were true who | en made. | |
| 21 | 105. | Defendants intended that Plaintiff and class members rely on these representations | |
| 22 | and Plaintiff and class members read and reasonably relied on them. | | |
| 23 | 106. | In addition, class-wide reliance can be inferred because Defendants' | |
| 24 | misrepresenta | ations were material, i.e., a reasonable consumer would consider them important in | |
| 25 | deciding whe | ther to buy the Nature Made Fish Oil Capsules. | |
| 26 | 107. | Defendants' misrepresentations were a substantial factor and proximate cause in | |
| 27 | causing dama | ges and losses to Plaintiff and class members. | |
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108. Plaintiff and class members were injured as a direct and proximate result of Defendants' conduct because: (a) they would not have purchased Nature Made Fish Oil Capsules if they had known that the Products do not actually promote heart health, and (b) they received products that were, in truth, worthless.

Eighth Cause of Action:

Intentional Misrepresentation

(by Plaintiff and the California Subclass)

- 109. Plaintiff incorporates each and every factual allegation set forth above.
- 110. Plaintiff brings this cause of action on behalf of herself and members of the California Subclass.
- 111. As alleged more fully above, Defendants made false representations to Plaintiff and class members concerning their statements that the capsules support a healthy heart.
 - 112. These representations were false.
- 113. When Defendants made these misrepresentations, they knew that they were false at the time that it made them and/or acted recklessly in making the misrepresentations.
- 114. Defendants intended that Plaintiff and class members rely on these representations and Plaintiff and subclass members read and reasonably relied on them.
- 115. In addition, subclass-wide reliance can be inferred because Defendants' misrepresentations were material, i.e., a reasonable consumer would consider them important in deciding whether to buy the Products.
- 116. Defendants' misrepresentations were a substantial factor and proximate cause in causing damages and losses to Plaintiff and class members.
- 117. Plaintiff and class members were injured as a direct and proximate result of Defendants' conduct because: (a) they would not have purchased Nature Made Fish Oil Capsules if they had known that the Products do not actually promote heart health and (b) they received products that were, in truth, worthless.

VII. Relief.

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118. Plaintiff seeks the following relief for herself and the proposed class:

| 1 | • | An order certifying the asserted c | claims, or issues raised, as a class action; | |
|----|---|--|--|--|
| 2 | • | A judgment in favor of Plaintiff a | and the proposed class; | |
| 3 | Damages, treble damages, and punitive damages where applicable; | | | |
| 4 | • | Restitution; | | |
| 5 | • | Rescission; | | |
| 6 | • | • Disgorgement, and other just equitable relief; | | |
| 7 | Pre- and post-judgment interest; | | | |
| 8 | An injunction prohibiting Defendants' deceptive conduct, as allowed by law; | | | |
| 9 | Reasonable attorneys' fees and costs, as allowed by law; | | osts, as allowed by law; | |
| 10 | Any additional relief that the Court deems reasonable and just. | | | |
| 11 | VIII. Dema | and for Jury Trial. | | |
| 12 | 119. | Plaintiff demands the right to a ju | ary trial on all claims so triable. | |
| 13 | | | | |
| 14 | Dated: April | 29, 2024 Res | spectfully submitted, | |
| 15 | | | By: /s/ Simon Franzini | |
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| 28 | | | | |