1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13	FITZGERALD MONROE FLYNN PC JACK FITZGERALD (SBN 257370) ifitzgerald@fmfpc.com MELANIE R. MONROE (SBN 275423) mmonro@fmfpc.com TREVOR FLYNN (SBN 253362) tflynn@fmfpc.com CAROLINE S. EMHARDT (SBN 321222) cemhardt@fmfpc.com 2341 Jefferson Street, Suite 200 San Diego, California 92110 Phone: (619) 215-1741 Counsel for Plaintiff and the Proposed Class SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO	- /2
14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27	ALBERT FRIED, on behalf of himself, all others similarly situated, and the general public, Plaintiff, v. SNAPPLE BEVERAGE CORP., Defendant.	CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT FOR VIOLATIONS OF CAL. BUS. & PROF. CODE §§ 17200 et seq.; CAL. BUS. & PROF. CODE §§ 17500 et seq.; CAL. CIV. CODE §§ 1750 et seq.; BREACH OF EXPRESS AND IMPLIED WARRANTIES; NEGLIGENT AND INTENTIONAL MISREPRESENTATION; AND UNJUST ENRICHMENT. (CIVIL UNLIMITED MATTER) DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL

Fried v. Snapple Beverage Corp.
CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT

Plaintiff Albert Fried, on behalf of himself, all others similarly situated, and the general public, by and through his undersigned counsel, hereby sues Defendant Snapple Beverage Corp. ("Snapple"), and alleges the following upon his own knowledge, or where he lacks personal knowledge, upon information and belief, including the investigation of his counsel.

NATURE OF THE ACTION

- 1. Snapple markets and sells various "Juice Drinks," "Teas," and "Elements" beverages marketed as "ALL NATURAL" (collectively, the "Products").
- 2. Manufactured citric acid ("MCA"), which is in the Products, is an industrial chemical derived, not from fruit or vegetables, but from the fermentation of crude sugars (e.g., molasses and corn starch) by the mold, *Aspergillus niger*. Many of the Products also contain coloring agents.
- 3. Although the FDA has not set rulemaking to establish a formal definition for the term "all natural," it has a longstanding policy that the term "natural" excludes "all color additives regardless of source." One of the reasons this longstanding policy exists is that the use of the words "natural color," or similar words containing the term "natural," are erroneously interpreted by reasonable consumers to mean the color is a naturally-occurring constituent in the food. All added colors, regardless of the source, result in an artificially-colored food.
- 4. Because each of the Products contain MCAs and several contain coloring agents, Snapple's advertising the products as "ALL NATURAL" is false and misleading.
- 5. As a global manufacturer of beverages, Snapple understands consumers have a strong preference for all natural foods. Snapple also knows that consumers will pay

¹ The "Juice Drinks" include at least the following varieties: (i) Snapple Apple, (ii) Mango Madness, (iii) Kiwi Strawberry, (iv) Fruit Punch, (v) Orangeade, (vi) Raspberry Peach, (vii) Lemonade, (viii) Watermelon Lemonade, (ix) Strawberry Pineapple Lemonade, (x) Black Cherry Lemonade, (xi) Pink Lemonade, (xii) Grapeade, and (xiii) Go Bananas. The "Teas" beverages include at least the following varieties: (i) Peach Tea, (ii) Lemon Tea, (iii) Raspberry Tea, (iv) Half 'n Half Lemonade Iced Tea, (v) Honey Sweet Tea, and (vi) Green Tea. The "Elements" beverages include Rain, Fire, Air, and Earth varieties.

significantly more for all natural foods. Recent consumer data shows that "seventy-eight percent (78%) of consumers say they would pay more for products listed as all-natural, and taking it a step further, 56% would be willing to pay 10-30% more and 33% are willing to spend 20-30% more for all-natural products."²

6. Accordingly, Plaintiff brings this action against Snapple on behalf of himself and similarly-situated Class Members to enjoin Snapple from deceptively marketing the Products, and to recover compensation for injured Class Members.

JURISDICTION & VENUE

- 7. The California Superior Court has jurisdiction over this matter as a result of defendant's violations of the California Business and Professions Codes, California Civil Codes, and California common law principles.
- 8. This Court has jurisdiction pursuant to Article VI, Section 10 of the California Constitution, because this case is not a cause given by statute to other trial courts.
- 9. The aggregate monetary damages and restitution sought herein exceed the minimum jurisdictional limits for the Superior Court and will be established at trial, according to proof.
- 10. The California Superior Court also has jurisdiction in this matter because there is no federal question at issue, as the issues herein are based solely on California statutes and law.
- 11. The Court has personal jurisdiction over Snapple because it has purposely availed itself of the benefits and privileges of conducting business activities within California.
- 12. Venue is proper in San Diego County because a substantial part of the events or omissions giving rise to the class claims occurred in San Diego County.

² Ingredion, "Maximize brand value by formulating to 2023 consumer food preferences," *at* https://www.ingredion.com/na/en-us/be-whats-next/2023-consumer-food-preference-trends.html

PARTIES

- 13. Plaintiff Albert Fried presently resides and intends to continue to reside in San Diego County, California. Accordingly, he is a citizen of the State of California.
- 14. Defendant Snapple is a Delaware corporation with its principal place of business in Plano, Texas. Snapple manufactures, distributes, and markets the Snapple Products that are the subject of this lawsuit in California, and in San Diego County.

FACTS

I. THEIR LABELS REPRESENT THE PRODUCTS ARE "ALL NATURAL"

- 15. Snapple markets and sells the Products in both single bottles, and multi-bottle packs.
- 16. Below are exemplars of the Juice Drink Product packaging and labels, including on both individual and multi-packs:





17. Below are exemplars of the packaging of the Snapple "Teas" and "Elements:"





18. Regardless of flavor, size, or count, the packaging and labeling of each of the Products sold at retail bears the prominent label claim, "ALL NATURAL." Thus, all Products are substantially similar to one another in that they all bear the claim "ALL NATURAL."

II. THE PRODUCTS CONTAIN MCA, AN INDUSTRIAL CHEMICAL

19. Manufactured citric acid is one of the most common food additives in the world. It is used to boost acidity, enhance flavor, and preserve ingredients.

- 20. Citric acid *can* be naturally found in citrus fruits. But synthetic versions, which are produced from a type of mold, are commonly added to foods, medicines, supplements, and cleaning agents. While generally recognized as safe, industrially manufactured citric acid is not "natural." Instead, it is "a major industrial chemical, produced at >2 million t/year worldwide." In industry and domestic applications, MCA is a chelating and buffering agent in many cleaning products and a starting material for synthesizing citrate esters, itaconic acid, acetonedicarboxylic acid, and other compounds."⁴
 - 21. Snapple tacitly admits this in an FAQ on its website:⁵

what is citric acid?

Citric acid, a food ingredient derived from starch, is widely used to add tart taste to foods and beverages and to adjust the acidity in beverages. It is present in citrus fruits such as oranges and lemons and in certain other fruits.

22. But this "disclosure" is inadequate for two reasons. *First*, Snapple leans into consumer confusion by first admitting that the citric acid in its Products is a manufactured chemical derived from starch. However, it simultaneously touts that citric acid is also "present in citrus fruits such as oranges and lemons and in certain other fruits," but does not clarify that its Products are not made from those naturally occurring citric acids. *Second*, without accessing this question and answer on Snapple's website, reasonable consumers would not be aware of the true facts, *i.e.*, that contrary to its "ALL NATURAL" representation, the Products are made from the industrial chemical citric acid. Thus, most consumers would reasonably but wrongly believe at the point of purchase that the Products are 100% natural.

III. MANY PRODUCTS CONTAIN COLORING ADDITIVES

23. The FDA has "a longstanding policy concerning the use of 'natural' in human food labeling" and "consider[s] the term 'natural' to mean that nothing artificial or synthetic

³ Citric Acid, ACS Chemistry for Life (April 4, 2022), available at https://www.acs.org/molecule-of-the-week/archive/c/citric-acid.html.

⁴ *Id*.

⁵ https://www.snapple.com/faq.

(including all color additives regardless of source) has been included in, or has been added to, a food that would not normally be expected to be in that food."6

- 24. One of the reasons this longstanding policy exists is that the use of the words "natural color," or similar words containing the term "natural" are erroneously interpreted by reasonable consumers to mean the color is a naturally-occurring constituent in the food. However, "any ingredient added for color is not naturally occurring to the product," and thus "all natural" claims, when made on foods with ingredients added for color, are misleading.
- Some of the Products contain ingredients that Snapple admits are used only to 25. artificially color the beverages. This includes the "Juice Drinks" in the following flavors: (a) Snapple Apple, (b) Mango Madness, (c) Kiwi Strawberry, (d) Watermelon Lemonade, (e) Strawberry Pineapple, (f) Pink Lemonade, (g) Orangeade, and (h) Raspberry Peach.⁸
- 26. Because some of the Snapple Juice Drinks identified herein contain ingredients that artificially color those products, the use of the term "ALL NATURAL" on the labels of those Juice Drinks is false and misleading.

IV. THE PRODUCTS VIOLATE CALIFORNIA LAW

- The Products' labeling violates California Health and Safety Code § 110670, 27. which states "[a]ny food is misbranded if its labeling does not conform with the requirements for nutrient content or health claims as set forth in Section 403(r) (21 U.S.C. Sec. 343(r)) of the federal act and the regulations adopted pursuant thereto."
- 28. Under 21 U.S.C. § 343(a), any food is misbranded where its "label is false or misleading in any particular."

⁶ Use of the Term Natural on Food Labeling, U.S. Food & Drug Administration, available at https://www.fda.gov/food/food-labeling-nutrition/use-term-natural-food-labeling (emphasis added).

⁷ See a Sip: A Basic Guide To Color Additives, Flavorman (June 16, 2021), available at https://www.flavorman.com/media/see-a-sip-natural-and-artificial-colors.

⁸ To the extent other Snapple Juice Drink flavors, or the Snapple "Teas" and "Elements," contain any ingredients added for color, this complaint should be read to be inclusive, rather than exclusive, of those flavors or varieties.

V. PLAINTIFF'S PURCHASE, RELIANCE, AND INJURY

- 29. For at least the last four years, Plaintiff has regularly purchased various Snapple Juice Drinks, including the Snapple Apple flavor, and Teas, including the Peach Tea and Lemon Tea. He made his purchases from various 7-11 convenience stores, Albertson's, Stater Bros., Vons, and Walmart, all grocery stores he regularly shops at, in San Diego County. At times, particularly during the hotter times of the year, Plaintiff would drink as many as one Snapple Juice Drink or Tea per day.
- 30. When purchasing the Snapple Products, Plaintiff was exposed to, read, and relied upon Snapple's labeling claims that the Products were "ALL NATURAL." Based on that representation, Plaintiff reasonably believed the Products contained no synthetic, artificial, or industrially manufactured ingredients, and that the color of the Products was derived naturally from the ingredients contained therein.
- 31. Plaintiff is not a nutritionist, food expert, or food scientist, but rather a lay consumer who does not have any specialized knowledge.
- 32. Plaintiff acted reasonably in relying on the label claim, which Snapple intentionally placed on the Products' packaging intending to induce consumers into purchasing the Products.
- 33. Plaintiff would not have purchased the Products if he knew the "ALL NATURAL" labeling claim was false and misleading in that the Products are not all natural, but instead contain industrially manufactured citric acid and ingredients that color the Products artificially.
- 34. The Products cost more than similar products without misleading "ALL NATURAL" labeling and would have cost less absent Snapple's false and misleading statement.
- 35. Through the misleading labeling claim, Snapple was able to gain a greater share of the flavored beverage and iced tea market than it would have otherwise and increased the size of the market.

- 36. Plaintiff paid more for the Products, and would only have been willing to pay less, or unwilling to purchase them at all absent the false and misleading labeling complained of herein.
- 37. Plaintiff would not have purchased the Products if he had known they were being sold in violation of state and federal law, which prohibit labeling or advertising that is false or misleading.
- 38. For these reasons, the Products were worth less than what Plaintiff and the Class paid for them.
- 39. Plaintiff and the Class lost money because of Snapple's deceptive claims and practices in that they did not receive what they paid for when purchasing the Products.

CLASS ACTION ALLEGATIONS

- 40. California Code of Civil Procedure section 382 provides that "when the question is one of a common or general interest, of many persons, or when the parties are numerous, and it is impracticable to bring them all before the court, one or more may sue or defend for the benefit of all."
- 41. Pursuant to Code Civ. Proc. § 382, Plaintiffs seek certification of a class defined as:
 - All persons who, at any time from four years preceding the date of the filing of this Complaint to the time a class is notified (the "Class Period"), purchased within the State of California, for personal or household use, and not for resale or distribution, the Snapple Products.
- 42. Excluded from the Class are: (a) Defendant, its officers, directors, and employees; affiliates and affiliates' officers, directors, and employees; (b) Plaintiff's Counsel; (c) judicial officers and their immediate family members and associated court staff assigned to this case; and (d) persons or entities who or which timely and properly exclude themselves from the Class.

- 43. Certification of Plaintiff's claims for classwide treatment is appropriate because Plaintiff can prove the elements of his claims on a classwide basis using the same evidence as would be used to prove those elements in individual actions alleging the same claims.
- 44. The members in the proposed Class are so numerous that individual joinder of all members is impracticable, and the disposition of the claims of all Class Members in a single action will provide substantial benefits to the parties and Court. The Class includes at least thousands of members.
- 45. There is a well-defined community of interest in the common questions of law and fact affecting Class members. The questions of law and fact common to Class members predominate over questions affecting only individual Class members, and include without limitation:
 - a. whether Snapple communicated a message through its packaging and advertising that the Products were all natural;
 - b. whether that message was material, or likely to be material, to a reasonable consumer;
 - c. whether the Products contained MCA;
 - d. whether foods made with MCA are, in fact, all natural;
 - e. whether the Products contained no ingredients used to artificially color the drinks;
 - f. whether food products made with ingredients that artificially color that food are, in fact, all natural;
 - g. whether the challenged "ALL NATURAL" claim is false, misleading, or reasonably likely to deceive a reasonable consumer;
 - h. whether Snapple's conduct violates public policy;
 - i. whether Snapple's conduct violates state or federal statutes or regulations;
 - j. the proper amount of damages, including punitive damages;
 - k. the proper amount of restitution;
 - 1. the proper scope of injunctive relief; and

- m. the proper amount of attorneys' fees.
- 46. These common questions of law and fact predominate over questions that affect only individual Class Members.
- 47. Plaintiff's claims are typical of Class Members' claims because they are based on the same underlying facts, events, and circumstances relating to Defendant's substantially uniform misconduct. Specifically, all Class Members, including Plaintiff, were subjected to the same misleading and deceptive conduct when they purchased the Products and suffered economic injury because the Products are misrepresented. Absent Defendant's business practice of deceptively and unlawfully labeling the Products, Plaintiffs and Class Members would not have purchased the Products. Thus, Plaintiff advances the same claims and legal theories on behalf of himself and all other Class members, and no defense is available to Defendant that is unique to Plaintiff.
- 48. Plaintiffs will fairly and adequately represent and protect the interests of the Class, has no interests incompatible with the interests of the Class, and has retained counsel competent and experienced in class action litigation, and specifically in litigation involving false and misleading advertising.
- 49. A class action is superior to any other available means for the fair and efficient adjudication of this controversy, and no unusual difficulties are likely to be encountered in the management of this matter as a class action. The damages, harm, or other financial detriment suffered individually by Plaintiff and the other Class Members are relatively small compared to the burden and expense that would be required to litigate their claims on an individual basis against Defendant, making it impracticable for Class Members to individually seek redress for Defendant's wrongful conduct. Even if Class Members could afford individual litigation, the court system should not be forced to shoulder such inefficiency. Individualized litigation would create a potential for inconsistent or contradictory judgments and increase the delay and expense to all parties and the court system. By contrast, the class action device presents far fewer management difficulties,

providing the benefits of single adjudication, economies of scale, and comprehensive supervision by a single court.

- 50. Defendant has acted on grounds applicable to the Class, thereby making appropriate final injunctive and declaratory relief concerning the Class as a whole.
- 51. As a result of the foregoing, class treatment is appropriate under California Code of Civil Procedure section 382.

CAUSES OF ACTION

FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION

Violations of the Unfair Competition Law, Cal. Bus. & Prof. Code §§ 17200 et seq.

- 52. Plaintiff realleges and incorporates the allegations elsewhere in the Complaint as if set forth in full herein.
- 53. The UCL prohibits any "unlawful, unfair or fraudulent business act or practice." Cal. Bus. & Prof. Code § 17200.
- 54. The acts, omissions, misrepresentations, practices, and non-disclosures of Defendant as alleged herein constitute business acts and practices.

Fraudulent

- 55. A statement or practice is fraudulent under the UCL if it is likely to deceive a significant portion of the public, applying an objective reasonable consumer test.
- 56. As set forth herein, Snapple's "ALL NATURAL" labeling claim for the Products is likely to deceive reasonable consumers and the public.

<u>Unlawful</u>

- 57. The acts alleged herein are "unlawful" under the UCL in that they violate at least the following laws:
 - The False Advertising Law, Cal. Bus. & Prof. Code §§ 17500 et seq.;
 - The Consumers Legal Remedies Act, Cal. Civ. Code §§ 1750 et seq.;
 - The Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act, 21 U.S.C. §§ 301 et seq.; and
 - The California Sherman Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Law, Cal. Health & Safety Code §§ 110100 et seq.

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By violating these laws, Defendant has engaged in unlawful business acts and 58. practices, which constitute unfair competition within the meaning of Business & Professions Code § 17200.

Unfair

- 59. Snapple's conduct with respect to the labeling, advertising, and sale of the Products was unfair because Snapple's conduct was immoral, unethical, unscrupulous, or substantially injurious to consumers, and the utility of its conduct, if any, did and does not outweigh the gravity of the harm to its victims.
- Snapple's conduct with respect to the labeling, advertising, and sale of the 60. Products was and is also unfair because it violates public policy as declared by specific constitutional, statutory or regulatory provisions, including but not necessarily limited to the False Advertising Law, portions of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act, and portions of the California Sherman Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Law.
- Snapple's conduct with respect to the labeling, advertising, and sale of the Products was and is also unfair because the consumer injury was substantial, not outweighed by benefits to consumers or competition, and not one consumers themselves could reasonably have avoided. Specifically, the increase in profits obtained by Snapple through the misleading labeling does not outweigh the harm to Class Members who were deceived into purchasing the Products believing they were all natural when they were not.
- 62. Snapple profited from the sale of the falsely, deceptively, and unlawfully advertised Products to unwary consumers.
- Plaintiff and Class Members are likely to continue to be damaged by Snapple's 63. deceptive trade practices, because Snapple continues to disseminate misleading information. Thus, injunctive relief enjoining Snapple's deceptive practices is proper.
- Snapple's conduct caused and continues to cause substantial injury to Plaintiff 64. and other Class Members. Plaintiff has suffered injury in fact as a result of Snapple's unlawful conduct.

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- 65. In accordance with Bus. & Prof. Code § 17203, Plaintiff seeks an order enjoining Snapple from continuing to conduct business through unlawful, unfair, and/or fraudulent acts and practices.
- 66. Plaintiff and the Class also seek an order for the restitution of all monies from the sale of the Products, which were unjustly acquired through acts of unlawful competition.

SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION

Violations of the False Advertising Law, Cal. Bus. & Prof. Code §§ 17500 et seg.

- Plaintiff realleges and incorporates the allegations elsewhere in the Complaint 67. as if set forth in full herein.
- 68. The FAL provides that "[i]t is unlawful for any person, firm, corporation or association, or any employee thereof with intent directly or indirectly to dispose of real or personal property or to perform services" to disseminate any statement "which is untrue or misleading, and which is known, or which by the exercise of reasonable care should be known, to be untrue or misleading." Cal. Bus. & Prof. Code § 17500.
- It is also unlawful under the FAL to disseminate statements concerning property or services that are "untrue or misleading, and which is known, or which by the exercise of reasonable care should be known, to be untrue or misleading." *Id*.
- As alleged herein, the advertisements, labeling, policies, acts, and practices of 70. Snapple relating to the Products misled consumers acting reasonably as to whether the Products are "ALL NATURAL."
- Plaintiff suffered injury in fact as a result of Snapple's actions as set forth herein 71. because Plaintiff purchased the Products in reliance on Snapple's false and misleading marketing claims stating the Products were "ALL NATURAL."
- Snapple's business practices as alleged herein constitute unfair, deceptive, 72. untrue, and misleading advertising pursuant to the FAL because Snapple has advertised the Products in a manner that is untrue and misleading, which Snapple knew or reasonably should have known, and omitted material information from the Products' labeling.

- 73. Snapple profited from the sale of the falsely and deceptively advertised Products to unwary consumers.
- 74. As a result, Plaintiff, the Class, and the general public are entitled to injunctive and equitable relief, restitution, and an order for the disgorgement of the funds by which Snapple was unjustly enriched.
- 75. Pursuant to Cal. Bus. & Prof. Code § 17535, Plaintiff, on behalf of himself and the Class, seeks an order enjoining Snapple from continuing to engage in deceptive business practices, false advertising, and any other act prohibited by law, including those set forth in this Complaint.

THIRD CAUSE OF ACTION

Violations of the Consumers Legal Remedies Act, Cal. Civ. Code §§ 1750 et seq.

- 76. Plaintiff realleges and incorporates the allegations elsewhere in the Complaint as if set forth in full herein.
- 77. The CLRA prohibits deceptive practices in connection with the conduct of a business that provides goods, property, or services primarily for personal, family, or household purposes.
- 78. Snapple's false and misleading labeling and other policies, acts, and practices were designed to, and did, induce the purchase and use of the Products for personal, family, or household purposes by Plaintiff and Class Members, and violated and continue to violate the following sections of the CLRA:
 - a. § 1770(a)(5): representing that goods have characteristics, uses, or benefits which they do not have;
 - b. § 1770(a)(7): representing that goods are of a particular standard, quality, or grade if they are of another;
 - c. § 1770(a)(9): advertising goods with intent not to sell them as advertised; and
 - d. § 1770(a)(16): representing the subject of a transaction has been supplied in accordance with a previous representation when it has not.

- 79. Snapple profited from the sale of the falsely, deceptively, and unlawfully advertised Products to unwary consumers.
- 80. Snapple's wrongful business practices constituted, and constitute, a continuing course of conduct in violation of the CLRA.
- 81. Pursuant to California Civil Code § 1782, more than 30 days before filing this lawsuit, Plaintiff sent written notice of his claims and Snapple's particular violations of the Act to Snapple by certified mail, return receipt requested, but Snapple has failed to implement remedial measures.
- 82. As a result, Plaintiff and the Class have suffered harm, and therefore seek (a) actual damages resulting from purchases of the Products sold throughout the Class Period to all Class Members, (b) punitive damages, (c) injunctive relief, (d) restitution, and (e) attorneys' fees and costs. *See* Cal. Civ. Code § 1782(d).
- 83. In compliance with Cal. Civ. Code § 1780(d), Plaintiff's affidavit of venue is filed concurrently herewith.

FOURTH CAUSE OF ACTION

Breaches of Express Warranties, Cal. Com. Code § 2313(1)

- 84. Plaintiff realleges and incorporates the allegations elsewhere in the Complaint as if set forth in full herein.
- 85. Through the Products' labeling, including the label claim "ALL NATURAL," Snapple made affirmations of fact or promises, or description of goods, that, *inter alia*, the Products were all natural.
- 86. These representations were "part of the basis of the bargain," in that Plaintiff and the Class purchased the Products in reasonable reliance on those statements. Cal. Com. Code § 2313(1).
- 87. Snapple breached its express warranties by selling Products that are not all natural, but rather contain MCA and ingredients used to artificially color the Products.
- 88. That breach actually and proximately caused injury in the form of the lost purchase price that Plaintiff and Class Members paid for the Products.

89. As a result, Plaintiff seeks, on behalf of himself and other Class Members, actual damages arising as a result of Snapple's breaches of express warranty, including, without limitation, expectation damages.

FIFTH CAUSE OF ACTION

Breach of Implied Warranty of Merchantability, Cal. Com. Code § 2314

- 90. Plaintiff realleges and incorporates the allegations elsewhere in the Complaint as if set forth in full herein.
- 91. Through the Products' labeling, including the label claim "ALL NATURAL," Snapple made affirmations of fact or promises, or description of goods, that, *inter alia*, the Products were all natural.
- 92. Snapple is a merchant with respect to the goods of this kind which were sold to Plaintiff and the Class, and there was, in the sale to Plaintiff and other consumers, an implied warranty that those goods were merchantable.
- 93. However, Snapple breached that implied warranty in that the Products are not all natural.
- 94. As an actual and proximate result of Snapple's conduct, Plaintiff and the Class did not receive goods as impliedly warranted by Snapple to be merchantable in that they did not conform to promises and affirmations made on the container or label of the goods.
- 95. As a result, Plaintiff seeks actual damages, including, without limitation, expectation damages.

SIXTH CAUSE OF ACTION

Unjust Enrichment

- 96. Plaintiff realleges and incorporates the allegations elsewhere in the Complaint as if fully set forth herein.
- 97. Plaintiff and Class Members conferred upon Defendant an economic benefit, in the form of profits resulting from the purchase and sale of the Products.
- 98. Defendant's financial benefits resulting from its unlawful and inequitable conduct are economically traceable to Plaintiff's and Class Members' purchases of the

Products, and the economic benefits conferred on Defendant are a direct and proximate result of its unlawful and inequitable conduct.

- 99. It would be inequitable, unconscionable, and unjust for Defendant to be permitted to retain these economic benefits because the benefits were procured as a direct and proximate result of its wrongful conduct.
- 100. As a result, Plaintiff and Class Members are entitled to equitable relief including restitution and/or disgorgement of all revenues, earnings, profits, compensation and benefits which may have been obtained by Defendant as a result of such business practices.

PRAYER FOR RELIEF

- 101. Wherefore, Plaintiff, on behalf of himself, all others similarly situated, and the general public, prays for judgment against Defendant as to each and every cause of action, and the following remedies:
 - a. An Order declaring this action to be a proper class action, appointing Plaintiff as Class Representative, and appointing Plaintiff's undersigned counsel as Class Counsel;
 - b. An Order requiring Defendant to bear the cost of Class Notice;
 - c. An Order compelling Defendant to destroy all misleading and deceptive advertising materials and product labels, and to recall all offending Products;
 - d. An Order requiring Defendant to disgorge all monies, revenues, and profits obtained by means of any wrongful act or practice;
 - e. An Order requiring Defendant to pay restitution to restore all funds acquired by means of any act or practice declared by this Court to be an unlawful, unfair, or fraudulent business act or practice, or untrue or misleading advertising, plus pre-and post-judgment interest thereon;
 - f. An Order requiring Defendant to pay compensatory damages and punitive damages as permitted by law;
 - g. An award of attorneys' fees and costs; and
 - h. Any other and further relief that Court deems necessary, just, or proper.

JURY DEMAND 102. Plaintiff hereby demands a trial by jury on all issues so triable. Trevor Solynn Dated: March 6, 2024 FITZGERALD MONROE FLYNN PC JACK FITZGERALD jfitzgerald@fmfpc.com MELANIE (PERSINGER) MONROE mmonro@fmfpc.com TREVOR FLYNN tflynn@fmfpc.com CAROLINE S. EMHARDT cemhardt@fmfpc.com 2341 Jefferson Street, Suite 200 San Diego, California 92110 Phone: (619) 215-1741 Counsel for Plaintiff

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