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Counsel for Plaintiff and the Putative Class

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
DISTRICT OF UTAH**

VICTOR RUIZ, individually and on behalf
of all others similarly situated,

Plaintiff,

v.

A1 DEVELOPMENT LLC,

Defendant.

CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT

(JURY TRIAL DEMANDED)

Case No. 2:25-cv-997

Honorable _____

United States District Judge

Plaintiff Victor Ruiz, individually and on behalf of all others similarly situated, makes the following allegations pursuant to the investigation of his counsel and based upon information and belief, except as to allegations specifically pertaining to himself and his counsel, which are based on personal knowledge.

INTRODUCTION

1. Defendant A1 Development LLC owns, operates, and receives significant revenue from its online “sweepstakes” casinos available at www.taofortune.com, www.nolimitcoins.com, www.funrize.com, www.fortunewheelz.com, and www.funzcity.com, where it offers casino-style slots games to anyone willing to spend real money wagering on them (the “A1 Gambling Platform”).

2. While Defendant advertises and promotes the A1 Gambling Platform to persons in Utah as a legitimate online business, giving it an aura of legitimacy and legality to Plaintiff and Class members, the A1 Gambling Platform is actually a dangerous and plainly unlawful gambling enterprise.

3. The scheme goes like this: Defendant sells digital “coins” to consumers on the A1 Gambling Platform – including consumers in Utah – and then immediately accepts those coins back (from by the consumers who purchased them) as wagers on the outcomes of the various casino-style games of chance offered on the A1 Gambling Platform. Consumers who purchase and then wager “coins” on the A1

Gambling Platform do so in the hopes of winning more “coins,” which can be used to place more wagers and, in some instances, are redeemable for cash. Plaintiff and numerous other Utah residents have lost significant sums of their hard-earned money placing wagers on the A1 Gambling Platform, and Defendant has in turn reaped enormous profits from the losses these people have sustained.

4. Utah law clearly prohibits what Defendant has done. Utah’s Gambling Act prohibits persons from operating or receiving revenue from “fringe gaming devices,” “video gaming devices,” or “gambling devices or records.” Utah Code Ann. § 76-9-1412(1). The games offered on the A1 Gambling Platform constitute all three of these things, and Defendant has amassed significant revenue from Plaintiff and numerous others in Utah who have played them.

5. Accordingly, Plaintiff brings this Class Action Complaint, individually and on behalf of all others similarly situated, to redress Defendant’s widespread violations of Utah’s Gambling Act.

PARTIES

6. Plaintiff Victor Ruiz is a natural person and a citizen and resident of Sandy, Utah.

7. Defendant A1 Development LLC is a private company organized and existing under the laws of Wyoming, with a place of business in Meridian, Idaho. Defendant A1 Development LLC has operated and continues to operate the A1

Gambling Platform at www.taofortune.com, www.nolimitcoins.com, www.funrize.com, www.fortunewheelz.com, and www.funzcity.com, and has received and continues to receive substantial revenue from the losses sustained by players who have purchased and wagered with digital “coins” on the A1 Gambling Platform, including Utah residents.

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

8. This Court has subject matter jurisdiction over this civil action pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1332(d) because there are more than 100 class members and the aggregate amount in controversy exceeds \$5,000,000, exclusive of interest, fees, and costs, and at least one Class member is a citizen of a state different from Defendant.

9. The Court has personal jurisdiction over Defendant and venue is proper in this judicial District because Defendant purposefully directed the A1 Gambling Platform to residents of Utah (including by advertising and running promotional materials directed to persons in Utah), knowingly accepted registrations, purchases of “coins,” and wagers placed with purchased “coins” on the A1 Gambling Platform from Plaintiff and numerous other persons in Utah, and collected enormous revenues from the losses suffered by Plaintiff and numerous other persons in Utah who placed wagers with such “coins” on the A1 Gambling Platform, such that a substantial portion of the events that gave rise to Plaintiff’s

claims occurred in Utah and within this judicial District.

FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS

I. Utah’s Gambling Act

10. Utah’s Gambling Act entitles “[a]n individual who suffers an economic loss as a result of a fringe gaming device, video gaming device, or gambling device or record” to “bring a cause of action against a person who operates or receives revenue from the fringe gaming device, video gaming device, or gambling device or record to recover damages, costs, and attorney fees.” Utah Code Ann. § 76-9-1412(1).

11. As defined in Utah’s Gambling Act, a “fringe gaming device” is “a mechanically, electrically, or electronically operated machine or device” that:

- (i) is not an amusement device¹ or a vending machine²;
- (ii) is capable of displaying or otherwise presenting information on a screen or through any other mechanism; and
- (iii) provides the user with a card, token, credit, gift certificate, product, or opportunity to participate in a contest, game, gaming scheme, or sweepstakes with a

¹ An “amusement device” is “a game that . . . is activated by a coin, token, or other object of consideration or value” and “does not provide the opportunity to,” *inter alia*, “enter into a . . . gambling event[.]” *Id.* § 76-9-1401(1)(a)(i)-(ii).

² A “vending machine” is “a device . . . that dispenses merchandise in exchange for money or any other item of value[,], provides full and adequate return of the value deposited,” and, *inter alia*, “through which the return of value is not conditioned on an element of chance or skill[.]” *Id.* § 76-9-1401(19)(a)-(c).

potential return of money or other prize.

Id. § 76-9-1401(7)(a).

12. A “video gaming device” is defined as “a device that includes all of the following”:

(a) a video display and computer mechanism for playing a game;

(b) the length of play of any single game is not substantially affected by the skill, knowledge, or dexterity of the player;

(c) a meter, tracking, or recording mechanism that records or tracks any money, tokens, games, or credits accumulated or remaining;

(d) a play option that permits a player to spend or risk varying amounts of money, tokens, or credits during a single game, in which the spending or risking of a greater amount of money, tokens, or credits;

(i) does not significantly extend the length of play time of any single game; and

(ii) provides for a chance of greater return of credits, games, or money; and

(e) an operating mechanism that, in order to function, requires inserting money, tokens, or other valuable consideration other than entering the user's name, birthdate, or contact information.

Id. § 76-9-1401(20).

13. Finally, a “gambling device or record” is “anything specifically

designed for use in gambling³ or fringe gambling⁴ or used primarily for gambling or fringe gambling.” *Id.* § 76-9-1401(10).

14. Utah’s Gambling Act provides that an individual who suffers an economic loss as a result of any of the above-defined devices may recover “twice the amount of the economic loss” they suffered. *Id.* § 76-9-1412(1)-(2).

15. As alleged below, during the relevant statutory period, Defendant violated Utah’s Gambling Act by operating and amassing enormous revenue from the losses sustained by Utah residents on the illicit “fringe gambling devices,” “video gaming devices,” and “gambling devices or records” offered on its A1 Gambling Platform.

II. The Evils of Online Gambling

16. Gambling is one of the oldest and heavily regulated human behaviors. Even before the advent of science, religions across the world have recognized the inherent addictive nature of playing games of chance and banned them through

³ “Gambling” is defined as “risking anything of value for a return or risking anything of value upon the outcome of a contest, game, gaming scheme, or gaming device when the return or outcome . . . is based on an element of chance . . . and . . . is in accord with an agreement or understanding that someone will receive anything of value in the event of a certain outcome.” *Id.* § 76-9-1401(8)(a).

⁴ “Fringe gambling” is defined as “any de facto form of gambling, lottery, fringe gaming device, or video gaming device that is given, conducted, or offered for use or sale by a business in exchange for anything of value or incident to the purchase of another good or service.” *Id.* 76-9-1401(6)(a).

biblical injunctions. As religious authority gave way to democratic governments, the vast majority of states in the country enacted legislation prohibiting or strictly regulating gambling activities. Unlike historical relics, these states have recognized that gambling poses a public health risk. Scientific research has confirmed and shed further light on the perils of gambling—ranging from mental health issues to physical, financial, and interpersonal problems.⁵

17. Against this backdrop, many states, including Utah, have been steadfast in maintaining and enforcing their gambling laws, even in the event federal law takes a more permissive approach. As stated by Utah’s legislature in enacting the Gambling Act:

If federal law authorizes online gambling in the states of the United States and provides that individual states may opt out of online gambling, this state shall opt out of online gambling in the manner provided by federal law and within the time frame provided by that law.

Utah Code Ann. § 76-9-1402(4)

18. With technological advances, however, many casinos and other gambling operators proliferated into people’s pockets through online websites and apps, including the A1 Gambling Platform. These online gambling platforms have been particularly challenging to regulate because many states’ anti-gambling

⁵ Harvard Magazine, *Governing Games of Chance* (Feb. 14, 2025), <https://www.harvardmagazine.com/2025/03/harvard-research-gambling-public-health-crisis>.

statutes were originally enacted to prohibit in-person gambling activities.

19. Worse still, because these online gambling platforms operate outside of the confines of gambling laws, they knowingly rig the odds against users to further exploit them. For example, while slot machines in a physical casino are required to randomize their results, online gambling platforms tailor “wins” and “losses” to manipulate consumer engagement through powerful algorithms. As the CEO of a popular online gambling platform explained:

The secret sauce of Playtika is our ability to work with AI. We know exactly when a player is going to stop playing. We know exactly when they’re going to pay. We know how many times they come in each day. I can’t say we can predict with 100 percent accuracy, but we can predict, for most of our players, their activities in our games. That’s the real power behind the operations side. When you can predict this, you can find solutions to problems. If someone wants to move on from your game, to delete your app, you know how to handle that player. We sound the alarm. We know how to operate and make sure a player retains in the game.⁶

20. Defendant has employed similar tactics to maximize the profits it reaps through the A1 Gambling Platform.

III. The A1 Gambling Platform

21. Defendant owns and operates the A1 Gambling Platform, which is available at www.taofortune.com, www.nolimitcoins.com, www.funrize.com.

⁶ Dean Takahashi, *Playtika CEO Robert Antokol interview— Why player retention matters now*, VENTUREBEAT (Jan. 6, 2022), <https://venturebeat.com/games/playtika-ceo-robert-antokol-interview-why-player-retention-mattersnow/>.

www.fortunewheelz.com, and www.funzcity.com. The A1 Gambling Platform allows consumers, including those in Utah, to spend real money to gamble on a wide variety of chance-based games, including slots.

22. The process of getting set up with an account to play the gambling games offered on the A1 Gambling Platform simply requires a consumer to input basic personal information, including, *inter alia*, his or her e-mail address and phone number.

23. After creating an account, the consumer can begin placing wagers on the gambling games offered on the A1 Gambling Platform with a small, one-time allotment of free “gold coins” and “super coins” (referred to collectively at times herein as “coins”) provided upon enrollment.

24. Defendant’s “gold coins” can only be used to place wagers on the A1 Gambling Platform, whereas its “super coins” can be used to place wagers on the A1 Gambling Platform **and are redeemable for cash.**

25. After invariably losing the initial allotment of free “gold coins” and “super coins,” the consumer must purchase more “gold coins” or “super coins” if he or she wishes to continue wagering with them on the A1 Gambling Platform.

26. Thus, after the consumer loses the free initial allotments of “gold coins” and/or “super coins,” Defendant will aggressively attempt, through persistent pop-up screens and pages, to sell the consumer additional “coins” – at varying prices

depending on the amount of “coins” the consumer wishes to purchase.

27. Purchases of additional “coins” on the A1 Gambling Platform can be made using a wide variety of payment methods, including credit and debit card. Regardless of the payment method, the purchased “coins” are instantly available for gambling on the A1 Gambling Platform.

28. The “gold coins” and “super coins” won by consumers playing Defendant's games of chance are identical to the “gold coins” and “super coins” that Defendant sells.

29. Freshly topped off with an additional allotment of purchased “coins,” the consumer will wager those coins in the hopes of winning more “gold coins” and “super coins” that he or she would otherwise have had to purchase.

30. Notably, the outcome of every wager placed on each of the games offered on the A1 Gambling Platform is based on an element of chance.

31. Defendant maintains win and loss records and account balances for each person who creates an account, purchases “coins,” and uses those “coins” to place wagers on the A1 Gambling Platform. Indeed, once Defendant’s algorithms determine the outcome of a wager and Defendant displays the outcome, Defendant adjusts the balance of “coins” in the person’s account. Defendant keeps detailed records of each wager and its outcome for every player of every game offered on the A1 Gambling Platform.

32. Using the information provided by users at the time they register for accounts and make purchase of “coins,” as well as by analyzing users’ IP addresses, Defendant has intimate knowledge of, and maintains records reflecting, the geographic locations (including city and state for U.S.-based players) from which each of its users enrolled in, made purchase of “coins,” and lost “coins” wagering on the A1 Gambling Platform.

33. Thus, at the time Plaintiff and the other members of the Class enrolled in, purchased “coins” on, and lost “coins” placing wagers on the A1 Gambling Platform, Defendant had actual knowledge that these persons were located in Utah based on the information they had provided while registering for accounts and making purchases and the IP addresses associated with the devices from which they accessed the A1 Gambling Platform. Defendant nonetheless happily pocketed the losses they sustained using purchased coins to place wagers on the A1 Gambling Platform.

34. During the three-year period preceding the filing of this action, Defendant has received significant revenue from Utah residents through its operation of “fringe gambling devices,” “video gaming devices,” and “gambling devices or records” on the illicit A1 Gambling Platform – in direct violation of Utah’s Gambling Act.

IV. Plaintiff Victor Ruiz’s Experience

35. Plaintiff Victor Ruiz created an account on the A1 Gambling Platform and, after losing his initial allotment of free “coins” by placing wagers on the A1 Gambling Platform, he purchased additional “coins” from Defendant.

36. Thereafter, Plaintiff continued to play the gambling games offered on the A1 Gambling Platform by placing wagers with the “gold coins” and “super coins” he had purchased for the chance to win additional such “coins,” including “super coins” that are redeemable for cash.

37. During the three-year period preceding the filing of this action, Plaintiff wagered and lost a significant sum of money, in the form of the “coins” he had purchased from Defendant, playing the gambling games offered on the A1 Gambling Platform.

38. At all times relevant hereto, Plaintiff resided in, was a citizen of, and was physically present in Utah.

CLASS ACTION ALLEGATIONS

39. Plaintiff seeks to represent a class defined as all residents of Utah who purchased and lost “coins” wagered on Defendant’s A1 Gambling Platform at any time during the three-year period preceding the filing of this action (continuing through the date of any order granting class certification).

40. Members of the Class are so numerous that their individual joinder herein is impracticable. The members of the Class number in at least the tens of

thousands. The precise number of Class members and their identities are unknown to Plaintiff at this time but will be determined in discovery. The Class may be notified of the pendency of this action at the addresses found in Defendant's records.

41. Common questions of law and fact exist as to all Class members and predominate over questions affecting only individual Class members. Common legal and factual questions include, but are not limited to: (a) whether the games offered on the A1 Gambling Platform are "fringe gaming devices"; (b) whether the games offered on the A1 Gambling Platform are "video gaming devices"; (c) whether the games offered on the A1 Gambling Platform are "gambling devices or records"; (d) whether Defendant "operates or receives revenue from" the games offered on the A1 Gambling Platform; (e) whether Defendant's acts of selling "coins" to consumers, accepting "coins" as wagers from consumers, and receiving revenue from persons in Utah as a result of the games offered on the A1 Gambling Platform violated Utah's Gambling Act; and (f) the amount of monetary relief the Class is entitled to recover from Defendant.

42. The claim of the named Plaintiff is typical of the claims of the members of the Class in that the named Plaintiff and all Class members suffered monetary loss as a result of the games offered on Defendant's A1 Gambling Platform.

43. Plaintiff is an adequate representative of the Class because his interests do not conflict with the interests of the Class members he seeks to represent, he has

retained competent counsel experienced in prosecuting class actions, and he intends to prosecute this action vigorously. The interests of Class members will be fairly and adequately protected by Plaintiff and his counsel.

44. The class mechanism is superior to other available means for the fair and efficient adjudication of the claims of Class members. Each individual Class member may lack the resources to undergo the burden and expense of individual prosecution of the complex and extensive litigation necessary to establish Defendant's liability. Individualized litigation increases the delay and expense to all parties and multiplies the burden on the judicial system presented by the complex legal and factual issues of this case. Individualized litigation also presents a potential for inconsistent or contradictory judgments. In contrast, the class action device presents far fewer management difficulties and provides the benefits of single adjudication, economy of scale, and comprehensive supervision by a single court on the issue of Defendant's liability. Class treatment of the liability issues will ensure that all claims and claimants are before this Court for consistent adjudication.

CLAIM FOR RELIEF

**Violation of Utah's Gambling Act, Utah Code Ann. § 76-9-1401, *et seq.*
(By Plaintiff, Individually and on Behalf of the Class, Against Defendant)**

45. Plaintiff repeats the allegations contained in the foregoing paragraphs as if fully set forth herein.

46. Plaintiff brings this claim individually and on behalf of the members of

the Class against Defendant.

47. Utah's Gambling Act provides that "an individual who suffers an economic loss as a result of a fringe gaming device, video gaming device, or gambling device or record may bring a cause of action against a person who operates or receives revenue from the fringe gaming device, video gaming device, or gambling device or record to recover damages, costs, and attorney fees." Utah Code Ann. § 76-9-1412(1).

48. During the time period applicable to this action, and while residing in Utah, Plaintiff purchased "coins" with real money from Defendant and used those coins to place wagers on the games offered on the A1 Gambling Platform, which resulted in Plaintiff suffering "economic loss."

49. Likewise, during the time period applicable to this action, and while residing in Utah, at least tens of thousands of other persons (members of the proposed Class) purchased "coins" with real money from Defendant and used those coins to place wagers on the games offered on the A1 Gambling Platform, which resulted in each of these persons suffering "economic loss."

50. The "coins" that Plaintiff and members of the Class purchased from Defendant, and that Defendant accepted from Plaintiff and Class members as wagers on the outcomes of the games offered on the A1 Gambling Platform, were each a "[t]hing of value" within the meaning of section 76-9-1401(8)(a) of the UGA.

51. Likewise, the “coins” that Plaintiff and members of the Class purchased from Defendant, and that Defendant accepted from Plaintiff and Class members as wagers on the outcomes of the games offered on the A1 Gambling Platform, were each a “representation of value” and thus constituted “gambling bets” within the meaning of section 76-9-1401(9) of the UGA.

52. All of the games offered on the A1 Gambling Platform and played by Plaintiff and members of the Class required Plaintiff and Class members to “risk[] [a] []thing of value for a return or . . . upon the outcome of a contest, game, gaming scheme, or gaming device when the return or outcome . . . is based on an element of chance . . . and . . . is in accord with an agreement or understanding that [they] will receive [a] []thing of value in the event of a certain outcome.” *Id.* § 76-9-1401(8)(a). Accordingly, by accepting the “coins” purchased by Plaintiff and Class members as wagers on the outcomes of games offered on the A1 Gambling Platform, Defendant engaged in “gambling” as defined in the Act.

53. All of the games offered on the A1 Gambling Platform provided Plaintiff and Class members the “opportunity to . . . enter into a gambling event,” and therefore were not “amusement devices” within the meaning of the Act. *Id.* § 76-9-1401(1)(a)(i)-(ii).

54. All of the games that Plaintiff and Class members lost “coins” playing on the A1 Gambling Platform were “conditioned on an element of chance or skill,”

and therefore were not “vending machines” within the meaning of the Act. *Id.* § 76-9-1401(19)(a)-(c).

55. All of the games offered on the A1 Gambling Platform and played by Plaintiff and members of the Class were “capable of displaying or otherwise presenting information on a screen or through any other mechanism,” and “provide[d] [Plaintiff and Class members] with a . . . token, credit, . . . or opportunity to participate in a contest, game, [or] gaming scheme . . . with a potential return of money or other prize.” *Id.* § 76-9-1401(7)(a). Accordingly, all of the games that Plaintiff and Class members lost “coins” playing on the A1 Gambling Platform constituted “fringe gaming devices” as defined under the Act. *Id.* § 76-9-1401(7)(a).

56. All of the games offered on the A1 Gambling Platform and played by Plaintiff and members of the Class included “a video display and computer mechanism for playing a game,” “a meter, tracking, or recording mechanism that records or tracks any money, tokens, games, or credits accumulated or remaining,” “a play option that permits a player to spend or risk varying amounts of money, tokens, or credits during a single game, in which the spending or risking of a greater amount of money, tokens, or credits . . . does not significantly extend the length of play time of any single game[] and . . . provides for a chance of greater return of credits, games, or money,” and “an operating mechanism that, in order to function, requires inserting money, tokens, or other valuable consideration other than entering

the user's name, birthdate, or contact information.” *Id.* § 76-9-1401(20)(a), (c)-(e). Moreover, “the length of play of any single game [offered on the A1 Gambling Platform and played by Plaintiff and members of the Class] [wa]s not substantially affected by the skill, knowledge, or dexterity of the player[.]” *Id.* 76-9-1401(20)(b). Accordingly, all of the games that Plaintiff and Class members lost “coins” playing on the A1 Gambling Platform constituted “video gaming devices” as defined under the Act. *Id.* § 76-9-1401(20).

57. Moreover, because each of the games offered on the A1 Gambling Platform was a “fringe gaming device” and/or “video gaming device” that was “conducted[] or offered for use or sale by [Defendant] in exchange for [some]thing of value,” i.e., purchased “coins,” Defendant’s acceptance of “coins” purchased by Plaintiff and Class members as wagers on the games offered on the A1 Gambling Platform constituted “fringe gambling” within the meaning of the Act. *Id.* § 76-9-1401(6)(a).

58. All of the games offered on the A1 Gambling Platform and played by Plaintiff and members of the Class were “specifically designed for use in gambling or fringe gambling or used primarily for gambling or fringe gambling.” *Id.* § 76-9-1401(10). Accordingly, all of the games that Plaintiff and Class members lost “coins” playing on the A1 Gambling Platform constituted “gambling devices or records” as defined under the Act. *Id.* § 76-9-1401(10).

59. Thus, during the applicable three-year period preceding the filing of this action, all of the games that Defendant “operate[d]” on the A1 Gambling Platform constituted “fringe gaming device[s], video gaming device[s], [and] gambling device[s]”, and Defendant “receive[d]” substantial “revenue” from the “coins” purchased, wagered, and lost by Plaintiff and members of the Class on the outcomes of those games. *Id.* § 76-9-1412(1).

60. By operating and receiving revenue from Utah residents as a result of the fringe gaming devices, video gaming devices, and gambling devices or records Defendant offered on the A1 Gambling Platform, Defendant directly violated Utah’s Gambling Act and is liable for damages to Plaintiff and the Class members, in the amount of twice the aggregate sum of the “economic loss[es]” suffered by Plaintiff and Class members on the A1 Gambling Platform. *See id.* § 76-9-1412(1)-(2).

PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff, individually and on behalf of all others similarly situated, seeks a judgment against Defendant as follows:

- A. For an order certifying the Class under Rule 23 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure and naming Plaintiff as the representative of the Class and Plaintiff’s attorneys as Class Counsel to represent the Class;
- B. For an order declaring that Defendant’s conduct as described herein violated Utah’s Gambling Act, § 76-9-1401, *et seq.*;
- C. For an order finding in favor of Plaintiff and the Class on

all counts asserted herein;

- D. For an award to Plaintiff and each Class member of twice the amount of economic losses suffered by Plaintiff Class members on the A1 Gambling Platform, as provided by Utah's Gambling Act, Utah Code Ann. § 76-9-1412(1)-(2);
- E. For prejudgment interest on all amounts awarded; and
- F. For an order awarding reasonable attorneys' fees and costs to counsel for Plaintiff and the Class pursuant to Rule 23 and Utah Code Ann. § 76-9-1412(1).

JURY DEMAND

Plaintiff demands a trial by jury on all causes of action and issues so triable.

Dated: November 2, 2025

Respectfully submitted,

PETERS | SCOFIELD

A Professional Corporation

/s/ David W. Scofield

DAVID W. SCOFIELD

-and-

HEDIN LLP

ELLIOT O. JACKSON*

GUCOVSKI LAW FIRM, PLLC

ADRIAN GUCOVSKI*

** Pro Hac Vice Application Forthcoming*

Counsel for Plaintiff and Putative Class

CIVIL COVER SHEET

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

I. (a) PLAINTIFFS

(b) County of Residence of First Listed Plaintiff _____
(EXCEPT IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES)

(c) Attorneys (Firm Name, Address, and Telephone Number)

DEFENDANTS

County of Residence of First Listed Defendant _____
(IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES ONLY)

NOTE: IN LAND CONDEMNATION CASES, USE THE LOCATION OF THE TRACT OF LAND INVOLVED.

Attorneys (If Known)

II. BASIS OF JURISDICTION (Place an "X" in One Box Only)

- ☐ 1 U.S. Government Plaintiff ☐ 3 Federal Question (U.S. Government Not a Party)
- ☐ 2 U.S. Government Defendant ☐ 4 Diversity (Indicate Citizenship of Parties in Item III)

III. CITIZENSHIP OF PRINCIPAL PARTIES (Place an "X" in One Box for Plaintiff and One Box for Defendant)

- | | PTF | DEF | | PTF | DEF |
|---|----------------------------|----------------------------|---|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| Citizen of This State | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 | Incorporated or Principal Place of Business In This State | <input type="checkbox"/> 4 | <input type="checkbox"/> 4 |
| Citizen of Another State | <input type="checkbox"/> 2 | <input type="checkbox"/> 2 | Incorporated and Principal Place of Business In Another State | <input type="checkbox"/> 5 | <input type="checkbox"/> 5 |
| Citizen or Subject of a Foreign Country | <input type="checkbox"/> 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> 3 | Foreign Nation | <input type="checkbox"/> 6 | <input type="checkbox"/> 6 |

IV. NATURE OF SUIT (Place an "X" in One Box Only)

Click here for: [Nature of Suit Code Descriptions.](#)

| CONTRACT | TORTS | FORFEITURE/PENALTY | BANKRUPTCY | OTHER STATUTES | |
|---|--|--|---|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> 110 Insurance <input type="checkbox"/> 120 Marine <input type="checkbox"/> 130 Miller Act <input type="checkbox"/> 140 Negotiable Instrument <input type="checkbox"/> 150 Recovery of Overpayment & Enforcement of Judgment <input type="checkbox"/> 151 Medicare Act <input type="checkbox"/> 152 Recovery of Defaulted Student Loans (Excludes Veterans) <input type="checkbox"/> 153 Recovery of Overpayment of Veteran's Benefits <input type="checkbox"/> 160 Stockholders' Suits <input type="checkbox"/> 190 Other Contract <input type="checkbox"/> 195 Contract Product Liability <input type="checkbox"/> 196 Franchise | PERSONAL INJURY <input type="checkbox"/> 310 Airplane <input type="checkbox"/> 315 Airplane Product Liability <input type="checkbox"/> 320 Assault, Libel & Slander <input type="checkbox"/> 330 Federal Employers' Liability <input type="checkbox"/> 340 Marine <input type="checkbox"/> 345 Marine Product Liability <input type="checkbox"/> 350 Motor Vehicle <input type="checkbox"/> 355 Motor Vehicle Product Liability <input type="checkbox"/> 360 Other Personal Injury <input type="checkbox"/> 362 Personal Injury - Medical Malpractice | PERSONAL INJURY <input type="checkbox"/> 365 Personal Injury - Product Liability <input type="checkbox"/> 367 Health Care/Pharmaceutical Personal Injury Product Liability <input type="checkbox"/> 368 Asbestos Personal Injury Product Liability PERSONAL PROPERTY <input type="checkbox"/> 370 Other Fraud <input type="checkbox"/> 371 Truth in Lending <input type="checkbox"/> 380 Other Personal Property Damage <input type="checkbox"/> 385 Property Damage Product Liability | <input type="checkbox"/> 625 Drug Related Seizure of Property 21 USC 881 <input type="checkbox"/> 690 Other LABOR <input type="checkbox"/> 710 Fair Labor Standards Act <input type="checkbox"/> 720 Labor/Management Relations <input type="checkbox"/> 740 Railway Labor Act <input type="checkbox"/> 751 Family and Medical Leave Act <input type="checkbox"/> 790 Other Labor Litigation <input type="checkbox"/> 791 Employee Retirement Income Security Act IMMIGRATION <input type="checkbox"/> 462 Naturalization Application <input type="checkbox"/> 465 Other Immigration Actions | <input type="checkbox"/> 422 Appeal 28 USC 158 <input type="checkbox"/> 423 Withdrawal 28 USC 157 INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS <input type="checkbox"/> 820 Copyrights <input type="checkbox"/> 830 Patent <input type="checkbox"/> 835 Patent - Abbreviated New Drug Application <input type="checkbox"/> 840 Trademark <input type="checkbox"/> 880 Defend Trade Secrets Act of 2016 SOCIAL SECURITY <input type="checkbox"/> 861 HIA (1395ff) <input type="checkbox"/> 862 Black Lung (923) <input type="checkbox"/> 863 DIWC/DIWW (405(g)) <input type="checkbox"/> 864 SSID Title XVI <input type="checkbox"/> 865 RSI (405(g)) FEDERAL TAX SUITS <input type="checkbox"/> 870 Taxes (U.S. Plaintiff or Defendant) <input type="checkbox"/> 871 IRS—Third Party 26 USC 7609 | <input type="checkbox"/> 375 False Claims Act <input type="checkbox"/> 376 Qui Tam (31 USC 3729(a)) <input type="checkbox"/> 400 State Reapportionment <input type="checkbox"/> 410 Antitrust <input type="checkbox"/> 430 Banks and Banking <input type="checkbox"/> 450 Commerce <input type="checkbox"/> 460 Deportation <input type="checkbox"/> 470 Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations <input type="checkbox"/> 480 Consumer Credit (15 USC 1681 or 1692) <input type="checkbox"/> 485 Telephone Consumer Protection Act <input type="checkbox"/> 490 Cable/Sat TV <input type="checkbox"/> 850 Securities/Commodities/Exchange <input type="checkbox"/> 890 Other Statutory Actions <input type="checkbox"/> 891 Agricultural Acts <input type="checkbox"/> 893 Environmental Matters <input type="checkbox"/> 895 Freedom of Information Act <input type="checkbox"/> 896 Arbitration <input type="checkbox"/> 899 Administrative Procedure Act/Review or Appeal of Agency Decision <input type="checkbox"/> 950 Constitutionality of State Statutes |
| REAL PROPERTY <input type="checkbox"/> 210 Land Condemnation <input type="checkbox"/> 220 Foreclosure <input type="checkbox"/> 230 Rent Lease & Ejectment <input type="checkbox"/> 240 Torts to Land <input type="checkbox"/> 245 Tort Product Liability <input type="checkbox"/> 290 All Other Real Property | CIVIL RIGHTS <input type="checkbox"/> 440 Other Civil Rights <input type="checkbox"/> 441 Voting <input type="checkbox"/> 442 Employment <input type="checkbox"/> 443 Housing/Accommodations <input type="checkbox"/> 445 Amer. w/Disabilities - Employment <input type="checkbox"/> 446 Amer. w/Disabilities - Other <input type="checkbox"/> 448 Education | PRISONER PETITIONS Habeas Corpus: <input type="checkbox"/> 463 Alien Detainee <input type="checkbox"/> 510 Motions to Vacate Sentence <input type="checkbox"/> 530 General <input type="checkbox"/> 535 Death Penalty Other: <input type="checkbox"/> 540 Mandamus & Other <input type="checkbox"/> 550 Civil Rights <input type="checkbox"/> 555 Prison Condition <input type="checkbox"/> 560 Civil Detainee - Conditions of Confinement | | | |

V. ORIGIN (Place an "X" in One Box Only)

- ☐ 1 Original Proceeding ☐ 2 Removed from State Court ☐ 3 Remanded from Appellate Court ☐ 4 Reinstated or Reopened ☐ 5 Transferred from Another District (specify) ☐ 6 Multidistrict Litigation - Transfer ☐ 8 Multidistrict Litigation - Direct File

VI. CAUSE OF ACTION

Cite the U.S. Civil Statute under which you are filing (Do not cite jurisdictional statutes unless diversity):

Brief description of cause:

VII. REQUESTED IN COMPLAINT:

☐ CHECK IF THIS IS A CLASS ACTION UNDER RULE 23, F.R.Cv.P. DEMAND \$

CHECK YES only if demanded in complaint:

JURY DEMAND: ☐ Yes ☐ No

VIII. RELATED CASE(S) IF ANY

(See instructions):

JUDGE _____ DOCKET NUMBER _____

DATE

SIGNATURE OF ATTORNEY OF RECORD

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

RECEIPT # _____ AMOUNT _____ APPLYING IFP _____ JUDGE _____ MAG. JUDGE _____

INSTRUCTIONS FOR ATTORNEYS COMPLETING CIVIL COVER SHEET FORM JS 44

Authority For Civil Cover Sheet

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

- I.(a) Plaintiffs-Defendants.** Enter names (last, first, middle initial) of plaintiff and defendant. If the plaintiff or defendant is a government agency, use only the full name or standard abbreviations. If the plaintiff or defendant is an official within a government agency, identify first the agency and then the official, giving both name and title.
 - (b) County of Residence.** For each civil case filed, except U.S. plaintiff cases, enter the name of the county where the first listed plaintiff resides at the time of filing. In U.S. plaintiff cases, enter the name of the county in which the first listed defendant resides at the time of filing. (NOTE: In land condemnation cases, the county of residence of the "defendant" is the location of the tract of land involved.)
 - (c) Attorneys.** Enter the firm name, address, telephone number, and attorney of record. If there are several attorneys, list them on an attachment, noting in this section "(see attachment)".
- II. Jurisdiction.** The basis of jurisdiction is set forth under Rule 8(a), F.R.Cv.P., which requires that jurisdictions be shown in pleadings. Place an "X" in one of the boxes. If there is more than one basis of jurisdiction, precedence is given in the order shown below.
- United States plaintiff. (1) Jurisdiction based on 28 U.S.C. 1345 and 1348. Suits by agencies and officers of the United States are included here. United States defendant. (2) When the plaintiff is suing the United States, its officers or agencies, place an "X" in this box.
- Federal question. (3) This refers to suits under 28 U.S.C. 1331, where jurisdiction arises under the Constitution of the United States, an amendment to the Constitution, an act of Congress or a treaty of the United States. In cases where the U.S. is a party, the U.S. plaintiff or defendant code takes precedence, and box 1 or 2 should be marked.
- Diversity of citizenship. (4) This refers to suits under 28 U.S.C. 1332, where parties are citizens of different states. When Box 4 is checked, the citizenship of the different parties must be checked. (See Section III below; **NOTE: federal question actions take precedence over diversity cases.**)
- III. Residence (citizenship) of Principal Parties.** This section of the JS 44 is to be completed if diversity of citizenship was indicated above. Mark this section for each principal party.
- IV. Nature of Suit.** Place an "X" in the appropriate box. If there are multiple nature of suit codes associated with the case, pick the nature of suit code that is most applicable. Click here for: [Nature of Suit Code Descriptions](#).
- V. Origin.** Place an "X" in one of the seven boxes.
- Original Proceedings. (1) Cases which originate in the United States district courts.
- Removed from State Court. (2) Proceedings initiated in state courts may be removed to the district courts under Title 28 U.S.C., Section 1441.
- Remanded from Appellate Court. (3) Check this box for cases remanded to the district court for further action. Use the date of remand as the filing date.
- Reinstated or Reopened. (4) Check this box for cases reinstated or reopened in the district court. Use the reopening date as the filing date.
- Transferred from Another District. (5) For cases transferred under Title 28 U.S.C. Section 1404(a). Do not use this for within district transfers or multidistrict litigation transfers.
- Multidistrict Litigation – Transfer. (6) Check this box when a multidistrict case is transferred into the district under authority of Title 28 U.S.C. Section 1407.
- Multidistrict Litigation – Direct File. (8) Check this box when a multidistrict case is filed in the same district as the Master MDL docket.
- PLEASE NOTE THAT THERE IS NOT AN ORIGIN CODE 7.** Origin Code 7 was used for historical records and is no longer relevant due to changes in statute.
- VI. Cause of Action.** Report the civil statute directly related to the cause of action and give a brief description of the cause. **Do not cite jurisdictional statutes unless diversity.** Example: U.S. Civil Statute: 47 USC 553 Brief Description: Unauthorized reception of cable service.
- VII. Requested in Complaint.** Class Action. Place an "X" in this box if you are filing a class action under Rule 23, F.R.Cv.P.
- Demand. In this space enter the actual dollar amount being demanded or indicate other demand, such as a preliminary injunction.
- Jury Demand. Check the appropriate box to indicate whether or not a jury is being demanded.
- VIII. Related Cases.** This section of the JS 44 is used to reference related cases, if any. If there are related cases, insert the docket numbers and the corresponding judge names for such cases.

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