Cas	e 3:21-cv-00687-AJB-MSB Document 1	Filed 04/16/21 PageID.1 Page 1 of 21							
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7	Attorneys for Plaintiff								
8	[Additional Counsel on Signature Page]								
9	UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT								
10	SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA								
11 12									
12	MOHAMMED USMAN ALI, Individually and On Behalf of All	Case No. 21CV0687 AJB MSB							
13	Individually and On Behalf of All Others Similarly Situated,	CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT FOR VIOLATIONS OF THE							
15	Plaintiff,	FEDERAL SECURITIES LAWS							
16	V.								
17	FRANKLIN WIRELESS CORP., OC KIM, and DAVID BROWN,								
18	Defendants.								
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Plaintiff Mohammed Usman Ali ("Plaintiff"), individually and on behalf of 1 2 all others similarly situated, by and through his attorneys, alleges the following upon 3 information and belief, except as to those allegations concerning Plaintiff, which are alleged upon personal knowledge. Plaintiff's information and belief is based upon, 4 5 among other things, his counsel's investigation, which includes without limitation: (a) review and analysis of regulatory filings made by Franklin Wireless Corp. 6 ("Franklin" or the "Company") with the United States ("U.S.") Securities and 7 Exchange Commission ("SEC"); (b) review and analysis of press releases and media 8 9 reports issued by and disseminated by Franklin; and (c) review of other publicly available information concerning Franklin. 10

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# **NATURE OF THE ACTION AND OVERVIEW**

This is a class action on behalf of persons and entities that purchased or
 otherwise acquired Franklin securities between September 17, 2020 and April 8,
 2021, inclusive (the "Class Period"). Plaintiff pursues claims against the Defendants
 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the "Exchange Act").

16 2. Franklin purports to be a leading provider of intelligent wireless
17 solutions such as mobile hotspots, routers, trackers, and other devices.

3. On April 1, 2021, Franklin stated that it "ha[d] been notified of reports
of battery issues in some of its wireless hotspot device." It also stated that the
Company was "working with its battery and device manufacturing partners and
carrier customer to determine the cause and extent of the problem."

4. On this news, the Company's share price fell \$0.35, or 1.65%, to close
at \$20.77 per share on April 5, 2021, the next trading session, on unusually heavy
trading volume.

5. On April 8, 2021, media reported that Verizon Wireless is recalling
certain hotspot devices. According to CNBC, Verizon "is recalling 2.5 million
hotspot devices after discovering that the lithium ion battery can overheat, creating a
fire and burning hazard." Moreover, the "recall impacts Ellipsis Jetpack mobile

hotspots imported by Franklin Wireless Corp and sold between April 2017 and
 March 2021."

3 6. On this news, the Company's share price fell \$2.82, or 14%, to close at
4 \$17.33 per share on April 8, 2021, on unusually heavy trading volume.

7. On April 9, 2021, Franklin stated that its customer Verizon Wireless
"has issued a voluntary recall of its Jetpack Hotspot devices imported by Franklin."
The Company stated that "[a]t this time, fewer than 20 report of trouble have been
received with over 2 million devices in [sic] sold over the last three and a half
years."

8. On this news, the Company's share price fell \$4.07, or nearly 23%, to
close at \$13.26 per share on April 9, 2021, on unusually heavy trading volume.

9. Throughout the Class Period, Defendants made materially false and/or 12 13 misleading statements, as well as failed to disclose material adverse facts about the 14 Company's business, operations, and prospects. Specifically, Defendants failed to disclose to investors: (1) that Franklin's hotspot devices suffered from battery 15 issues, including overheating, thereby presenting a fire hazard; (2) that, as a result, it 16 was reasonably likely that the Company's customers would recall Franklin's 17 devices; (3) that, as a result, Franklin would suffer reputational harm; and (4) that, 18 19 as a result of the foregoing, Defendants' positive statements about the Company's business, operations, and prospects were materially misleading and/or lacked a 20 21 reasonable basis.

10. As a result of Defendants' wrongful acts and omissions, and the
precipitous decline in the market value of the Company's securities, Plaintiff and
other Class members have suffered significant losses and damages.

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# **JURISDICTION AND VENUE**

11. The claims asserted herein arise under Sections 10(b) and 20(a) of the
Exchange Act (15 U.S.C. §§ 78j(b) and 78t(a)) and Rule 10b-5 promulgated
thereunder by the SEC (17 C.F.R. § 240.10b-5).

1 12. This Court has jurisdiction over the subject matter of this action
 2 pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1331 and Section 27 of the Exchange Act (15 U.S.C. §
 3 78aa).

Venue is proper in this Judicial District pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §
1391(b) and Section 27 of the Exchange Act (15 U.S.C. § 78aa(c)). Substantial acts
in furtherance of the alleged fraud or the effects of the fraud have occurred in this
Judicial District. Many of the acts charged herein, including the dissemination of
materially false and/or misleading information, occurred in substantial part in this
Judicial District. In addition, the Company's principal executive offices are located
in this District.

11 14. In connection with the acts, transactions, and conduct alleged herein,
12 Defendants directly and indirectly used the means and instrumentalities of interstate
13 commerce, including the United States mail, interstate telephone communications,
14 and the facilities of a national securities exchange.

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# **PARTIES**

16 15. Plaintiff Mohammed Usman Ali, as set forth in the accompanying
17 certification, incorporated by reference herein, purchased Franklin securities during
18 the Class Period, and suffered damages as a result of the federal securities law
19 violations and false and/or misleading statements and/or material omissions alleged
20 herein.

21 16. Defendant Franklin is incorporated under the laws of Nevada with its
22 principal executive offices located in San Diego, California. Franklin's common
23 stock trades on the NASDAQ exchange under the symbol "FKWL."

24 17. Defendant OC Kim ("Kim") was the Company's President at all25 relevant times.

26 18. Defendant David Brown ("Brown") was the Company's Acting Chief
27 Financial Officer ("CFO") at all relevant times.

19. Defendants Kim and Brown (collectively the "Individual Defendants"), 1 2 because of their positions with the Company, possessed the power and authority to control the contents of the Company's reports to the SEC, press releases and 3 presentations to securities analysts, money and portfolio managers and institutional 4 5 investors, i.e., the market. The Individual Defendants were provided with copies of the Company's reports and press releases alleged herein to be misleading prior to, or 6 shortly after, their issuance and had the ability and opportunity to prevent their 7 8 issuance or cause them to be corrected. Because of their positions and access to 9 material non-public information available to them, the Individual Defendants knew that the adverse facts specified herein had not been disclosed to, and were being 10 11 concealed from, the public, and that the positive representations which were being 12 made were then materially false and/or misleading. The Individual Defendants are 13 liable for the false statements pleaded herein. **SUBSTANTIVE ALLEGATIONS** 14

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# **Background**

16 20. Franklin purports to be a leading provider of intelligent wireless17 solutions such as mobile hotspots, routers, trackers, and other devices.

18 19

# Materially False and Misleading

Statements Issued During the Class Period

20 21. The Class Period begins on September 17, 2020. On that day, Franklin
21 filed its annual report on Form 10-K for the period ended June 30, 2020 (the "2020
22 10-K").<sup>1</sup> In relevant part, Franklin stated that its "current or future products and
23 services may fail to function properly, and if our products and services do not

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&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> On September 18, 2020, the Company filed an amendment to the 2020 10-K to include an exhibit titled "Description of Securities," which had been omitted from the original filing. The 2020 10-K was not otherwise modified by the amendment.

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achieve and sustain market acceptance, our business, results of operations and
 profitability may suffer." Furthermore, the Company stated:

THE LOSS OF ANY OF OUR MATERIAL CUSTOMERS COULD ADVERSELY AFFECT OUR REVENUES AND PROFITABILITY, AND THEREFORE SHAREHOLDER VALUE. We depend on a small number of customers for a significant portion of our revenues. For the year ended June 30, 2020, net revenues from our two largest customers represented 46% and 36% of our consolidated net sales, respectively. We have a written agreement with each of these customers that governs the sale of products to them, but the agreements do not obligate them to purchase any quantity of products from us. If these customers were to reduce their business with us, our revenues and profitability could materially decline.

9 22. On November 16, 2020, Franklin filed its quarterly report on Form 1010 Q for the period ended September 30, 2020 (the "1Q21 10-Q"). Therein, Franklin
11 stated that "[r]evenue for sales of products and services is derived from contracts
12 with customers" and "[t]he products and services promised in contracts primarily
13 consist of hotspot routers." It incorporated by reference the risk factors stated in its
14 2020 10-K.

15 23. On February 16, 2021, the Company filed its quarterly report on Form
16 10-Q for the period ended December 31, 2020 (the "2Q21 10-Q"). Therein, Franklin
17 stated that "[r]evenue for sales of products and services is derived from contracts
18 with customers" and "[t]he products and services promised in contracts primarily
19 consist of hotspot routers." It incorporated by reference the risk factors stated in its
2020 10-K.

21 24. The above statements identified in  $\P$  21-23 were materially false and/or misleading, and failed to disclose material adverse facts about the Company's 22 23 business, operations, and prospects. Specifically, Defendants failed to disclose to 24 investors: (1) that Franklin's hotspot devices suffered from battery issues, including 25 overheating, thereby presenting a fire hazard; (2) that, as a result, it was reasonably likely that the Company's customers would recall Franklin's devices; (3) that, as a 26 27 result, Franklin would suffer reputational harm; and (4) that, as a result of the 28 foregoing, Defendants' positive statements about the Company's business,

operations, and prospects were materially misleading and/or lacked a reasonable
 basis.

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# **Disclosures at the End of the Class Period**

4 25. On April 1, 2021, Franklin stated that it "ha[d] been notified of reports
5 of battery issues in some of its wireless hotspot device." It also stated that the
6 Company was "working with its battery and device manufacturing partners and
7 carrier customer to determine the cause and extent of the problem."

8 26. On this news, the Company's share price fell \$0.35, or 1.65%, to close
9 at \$20.77 per share on April 5, 2021, the next trading session, on unusually heavy
10 trading volume.

27. On April 8, 2021, media reported that Verizon Wireless is recalling
certain hotspot devices. According to CNBC, Verizon "is recalling 2.5 million
hotspot devices after discovering that the lithium ion battery can overheat, creating a
fire and burning hazard." Moreover, the "recall impacts Ellipsis Jetpack mobile
hotspots imported by Franklin Wireless Corp and sold between April 2017 and
March 2021."

17 28. On this news, the Company's share price fell \$2.82, or 14%, to close at
18 \$17.33 per share on April 8, 2021, on unusually heavy trading volume.

19 29. On April 9, 2021, Franklin stated that its customer Verizon Wireless
20 "has issued a voluntary recall of its Jetpack Hotspot devices imported by Franklin."
21 The Company stated that "[a]t this time, fewer than 20 report of trouble have been
22 received with over 2 million devices in [sic] sold over the last three and a half
23 years."

30. On this news, the Company's share price fell \$4.07, or nearly 23%, to
close at \$13.26 per share on April 9, 2021, on unusually heavy trading volume.

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# **CLASS ACTION ALLEGATIONS**

27 31. Plaintiff brings this action as a class action pursuant to Federal Rule of
28 Civil Procedure 23(a) and (b)(3) on behalf of a class, consisting of all persons and

entities that purchased or otherwise acquired Franklin securities between September
 17, 2020 and April 8, 2021, inclusive, and who were damaged thereby (the "Class").
 Excluded from the Class are Defendants, the officers and directors of the Company,
 at all relevant times, members of their immediate families and their legal
 representatives, heirs, successors, or assigns, and any entity in which Defendants
 have or had a controlling interest.

The members of the Class are so numerous that joinder of all members 7 32. 8 is impracticable. Throughout the Class Period, Franklin's shares actively traded on 9 the NASDAQ. While the exact number of Class members is unknown to Plaintiff at this time and can only be ascertained through appropriate discovery, Plaintiff 10 believes that there are at least hundreds or thousands of members in the proposed 11 Class. Millions of Franklin shares were traded publicly during the Class Period on 12 13 the NASDAQ. Record owners and other members of the Class may be identified from records maintained by Franklin or its transfer agent and may be notified of the 14 pendency of this action by mail, using the form of notice similar to that customarily 15 used in securities class actions. 16

33. Plaintiff's claims are typical of the claims of the members of the Class
as all members of the Class are similarly affected by Defendants' wrongful conduct
in violation of federal law that is complained of herein.

34. Plaintiff will fairly and adequately protect the interests of the members
of the Class and has retained counsel competent and experienced in class and
securities litigation.

35. Common questions of law and fact exist as to all members of the Class
and predominate over any questions solely affecting individual members of the
Class. Among the questions of law and fact common to the Class are:

26 (a) whether the federal securities laws were violated by Defendants'
27 acts as alleged herein;

(b) whether statements made by Defendants to the investing public
 during the Class Period omitted and/or misrepresented material facts about the
 business, operations, and prospects of Franklin; and

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(c) to what extent the members of the Class have sustained damages and the proper measure of damages.

6 36. A class action is superior to all other available methods for the fair and 7 efficient adjudication of this controversy since joinder of all members is 8 impracticable. Furthermore, as the damages suffered by individual Class members 9 may be relatively small, the expense and burden of individual litigation makes it 10 impossible for members of the Class to individually redress the wrongs done to 11 them. There will be no difficulty in the management of this action as a class action.

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# UNDISCLOSED ADVERSE FACTS

13 37. The market for Franklin's securities was open, well-developed and 14 efficient at all relevant times. As a result of these materially false and/or misleading 15 statements, and/or failures to disclose, Franklin's securities traded at artificially 16 inflated prices during the Class Period. Plaintiff and other members of the Class 17 purchased or otherwise acquired Franklin's securities relying upon the integrity of 18 the market price of the Company's securities and market information relating to 19 Franklin, and have been damaged thereby.

38. During the Class Period, Defendants materially misled the investing
public, thereby inflating the price of Franklin's securities, by publicly issuing false
and/or misleading statements and/or omitting to disclose material facts necessary to
make Defendants' statements, as set forth herein, not false and/or misleading. The
statements and omissions were materially false and/or misleading because they
failed to disclose material adverse information and/or misrepresented the truth about
Franklin's business, operations, and prospects as alleged herein.

39. At all relevant times, the material misrepresentations and omissions
particularized in this Complaint directly or proximately caused or were a substantial

contributing cause of the damages sustained by Plaintiff and other members of the 1 2 Class. As described herein, during the Class Period, Defendants made or caused to 3 be made a series of materially false and/or misleading statements about Franklin's financial well-being and prospects. These material misstatements and/or omissions 4 5 had the cause and effect of creating in the market an unrealistically positive assessment of the Company and its financial well-being and prospects, thus causing 6 7 the Company's securities to be overvalued and artificially inflated at all relevant 8 times. Defendants' materially false and/or misleading statements during the Class 9 Period resulted in Plaintiff and other members of the Class purchasing the 10 Company's securities at artificially inflated prices, thus causing the damages 11 complained of herein when the truth was revealed.

12

# LOSS CAUSATION

40. Defendants' wrongful conduct, as alleged herein, directly and
proximately caused the economic loss suffered by Plaintiff and the Class.

41. During the Class Period, Plaintiff and the Class purchased Franklin's
securities at artificially inflated prices and were damaged thereby. The price of the
Company's securities significantly declined when the misrepresentations made to
the market, and/or the information alleged herein to have been concealed from the
market, and/or the effects thereof, were revealed, causing investors' losses.

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# **SCIENTER ALLEGATIONS**

As alleged herein, Defendants acted with scienter since Defendants 21 42. knew that the public documents and statements issued or disseminated in the name 22 23 of the Company were materially false and/or misleading; knew that such statements 24 or documents would be issued or disseminated to the investing public; and knowingly and substantially participated or acquiesced in the issuance or 25 dissemination of such statements or documents as primary violations of the federal 26 securities laws. As set forth elsewhere herein in detail, the Individual Defendants, 27 28 by virtue of their receipt of information reflecting the true facts regarding Franklin,

their control over, and/or receipt and/or modification of Franklin's allegedly
 materially misleading misstatements and/or their associations with the Company
 which made them privy to confidential proprietary information concerning Franklin,
 participated in the fraudulent scheme alleged herein.

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# APPLICABILITY OF PRESUMPTION OF RELIANCE (FRAUD-ON-THE-MARKET DOCTRINE)

7 The market for Franklin's securities was open, well-developed and 43. 8 efficient at all relevant times. As a result of the materially false and/or misleading 9 statements and/or failures to disclose, Franklin's securities traded at artificially 10 inflated prices during the Class Period. On December 15, 2020, the Company's share price closed at a Class Period high of \$25.45 per share. Plaintiff and other 11 members of the Class purchased or otherwise acquired the Company's securities 12 13 relying upon the integrity of the market price of Franklin's securities and market 14 information relating to Franklin, and have been damaged thereby.

15 During the Class Period, the artificial inflation of Franklin's shares was 44. caused by the material misrepresentations and/or omissions particularized in this 16 Complaint causing the damages sustained by Plaintiff and other members of the 17 Class. As described herein, during the Class Period, Defendants made or caused to 18 19 be made a series of materially false and/or misleading statements about Franklin's business, prospects, and operations. These material misstatements and/or omissions 20 created an unrealistically positive assessment of Franklin and its business, 21 operations, and prospects, thus causing the price of the Company's securities to be 22 23 artificially inflated at all relevant times, and when disclosed, negatively affected the value of the Company shares. Defendants' materially false and/or misleading 24 statements during the Class Period resulted in Plaintiff and other members of the 25 Class purchasing the Company's securities at such artificially inflated prices, and 26 27 each of them has been damaged as a result.

45. At all relevant times, the market for Franklin's securities was an
 efficient market for the following reasons, among others:

- 3 (a) Franklin shares met the requirements for listing, and was listed
  4 and actively traded on the NASDAQ, a highly efficient and automated market;
- 5 (b) As a regulated issuer, Franklin filed periodic public reports with
  6 the SEC and/or the NASDAQ;

7 (c) Franklin regularly communicated with public investors via
8 established market communication mechanisms, including through regular
9 dissemination of press releases on the national circuits of major newswire services
10 and through other wide-ranging public disclosures, such as communications with the
11 financial press and other similar reporting services; and/or

(d) Franklin was followed by securities analysts employed by
brokerage firms who wrote reports about the Company, and these reports were
distributed to the sales force and certain customers of their respective brokerage
firms. Each of these reports was publicly available and entered the public
marketplace.

46. As a result of the foregoing, the market for Franklin's securities
promptly digested current information regarding Franklin from all publicly available
sources and reflected such information in Franklin's share price. Under these
circumstances, all purchasers of Franklin's securities during the Class Period
suffered similar injury through their purchase of Franklin's securities at artificially
inflated prices and a presumption of reliance applies.

47. A Class-wide presumption of reliance is also appropriate in this action
under the Supreme Court's holding in *Affiliated Ute Citizens of Utah v. United States*, 406 U.S. 128 (1972), because the Class's claims are, in large part, grounded
on Defendants' material misstatements and/or omissions. Because this action
involves Defendants' failure to disclose material adverse information regarding the
Company's business operations and financial prospects—information that

1 Defendants were obligated to disclose—positive proof of reliance is not a 2 prerequisite to recovery. All that is necessary is that the facts withheld be material 3 in the sense that a reasonable investor might have considered them important in 4 making investment decisions. Given the importance of the Class Period material 5 misstatements and omissions set forth above, that requirement is satisfied here.

6

# **NO SAFE HARBOR**

The statutory safe harbor provided for forward-looking statements 7 48. 8 under certain circumstances does not apply to any of the allegedly false statements 9 pleaded in this Complaint. The statements alleged to be false and misleading herein 10 all relate to then-existing facts and conditions. In addition, to the extent certain of the statements alleged to be false may be characterized as forward looking, they 11 were not identified as "forward-looking statements" when made and there were no 12 13 meaningful cautionary statements identifying important factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from those in the purportedly forward-looking 14 15 statements. In the alternative, to the extent that the statutory safe harbor is 16 determined to apply to any forward-looking statements pleaded herein, Defendants are liable for those false forward-looking statements because at the time each of 17 18 those forward-looking statements was made, the speaker had actual knowledge that 19 the forward-looking statement was materially false or misleading, and/or the 20 forward-looking statement was authorized or approved by an executive officer of 21 Franklin who knew that the statement was false when made.

# FIRST CLAIM

# 23 Violation of Section 10(b) of The Exchange Act and 24 Rule 10b-5 Promulgated Thereunder 25 <u>Against All Defendants</u> 26 49. Plaintiff repeats and re-alleges each and every allegation

26 49. Plaintiff repeats and re-alleges each and every allegation contained
27 above as if fully set forth herein.

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50. During the Class Period, Defendants carried out a plan, scheme and
 course of conduct which was intended to and, throughout the Class Period, did: (i)
 deceive the investing public, including Plaintiff and other Class members, as alleged
 herein; and (ii) cause Plaintiff and other members of the Class to purchase
 Franklin's securities at artificially inflated prices. In furtherance of this unlawful
 scheme, plan and course of conduct, Defendants, and each defendant, took the
 actions set forth herein.

8 51. Defendants (i) employed devices, schemes, and artifices to defraud; (ii) made untrue statements of material fact and/or omitted to state material facts 9 10 necessary to make the statements not misleading; and (iii) engaged in acts, practices, 11 and a course of business which operated as a fraud and deceit upon the purchasers of the Company's securities in an effort to maintain artificially high market prices for 12 13 Franklin's securities in violation of Section 10(b) of the Exchange Act and Rule 10b-5. All Defendants are sued either as primary participants in the wrongful and 14 illegal conduct charged herein or as controlling persons as alleged below. 15

52. Defendants, individually and in concert, directly and indirectly, by the
use, means or instrumentalities of interstate commerce and/or of the mails, engaged
and participated in a continuous course of conduct to conceal adverse material
information about Franklin's financial well-being and prospects, as specified herein.

Defendants employed devices, schemes and artifices to defraud, while 20 53. in possession of material adverse non-public information and engaged in acts, 21 practices, and a course of conduct as alleged herein in an effort to assure investors of 22 23 Franklin's value and performance and continued substantial growth, which included 24 the making of, or the participation in the making of, untrue statements of material facts and/or omitting to state material facts necessary in order to make the 25 statements made about Franklin and its business operations and future prospects in 26 27 light of the circumstances under which they were made, not misleading, as set forth 28more particularly herein, and engaged in transactions, practices and a course of

business which operated as a fraud and deceit upon the purchasers of the Company's 1 2 securities during the Class Period.

3 54. Each of the Individual Defendants' primary liability and controlling person liability arises from the following facts: (i) the Individual Defendants were 4 5 high-level executives and/or directors at the Company during the Class Period and members of the Company's management team or had control thereof; (ii) each of 6 these defendants, by virtue of their responsibilities and activities as a senior officer 7 8 and/or director of the Company, was privy to and participated in the creation, 9 development and reporting of the Company's internal budgets, plans, projections 10 and/or reports; (iii) each of these defendants enjoyed significant personal contact 11 and familiarity with the other defendants and was advised of, and had access to, other members of the Company's management team, internal reports and other data 12 13 and information about the Company's finances, operations, and sales at all relevant 14 times; and (iv) each of these defendants was aware of the Company's dissemination of information to the investing public which they knew and/or recklessly 15 disregarded was materially false and misleading. 16

17 Defendants had actual knowledge of the misrepresentations and/or 55. omissions of material facts set forth herein, or acted with reckless disregard for the 18 19 truth in that they failed to ascertain and to disclose such facts, even though such facts were available to them. Such defendants' material misrepresentations and/or 20 omissions were done knowingly or recklessly and for the purpose and effect of 21 concealing Franklin's financial well-being and prospects from the investing public 22 23 and supporting the artificially inflated price of its securities. As demonstrated by 24 Defendants' overstatements and/or misstatements of the Company's business, 25 operations, financial well-being, and prospects throughout the Class Period, Defendants, if they did not have actual knowledge of the misrepresentations and/or 26 27 omissions alleged, were reckless in failing to obtain such knowledge by deliberately

refraining from taking those steps necessary to discover whether those statements
 were false or misleading.

3 56. As a result of the dissemination of the materially false and/or misleading information and/or failure to disclose material facts, as set forth above, 4 5 the market price of Franklin's securities was artificially inflated during the Class Period. In ignorance of the fact that market prices of the Company's securities were 6 artificially inflated, and relying directly or indirectly on the false and misleading 7 8 statements made by Defendants, or upon the integrity of the market in which the securities trades, and/or in the absence of material adverse information that was 9 known to or recklessly disregarded by Defendants, but not disclosed in public 10 statements by Defendants during the Class Period, Plaintiff and the other members 11 of the Class acquired Franklin's securities during the Class Period at artificially high 12 13 prices and were damaged thereby.

At the time of said misrepresentations and/or omissions, Plaintiff and 14 57. other members of the Class were ignorant of their falsity, and believed them to be 15 true. Had Plaintiff and the other members of the Class and the marketplace known 16 the truth regarding the problems that Franklin was experiencing, which were not 17 18 disclosed by Defendants, Plaintiff and other members of the Class would not have purchased or otherwise acquired their Franklin securities, or, if they had acquired 19 such securities during the Class Period, they would not have done so at the 20 artificially inflated prices which they paid. 21

58. By virtue of the foregoing, Defendants violated Section 10(b) of the
Exchange Act and Rule 10b-5 promulgated thereunder.

59. As a direct and proximate result of Defendants' wrongful conduct,
Plaintiff and the other members of the Class suffered damages in connection with
their respective purchases and sales of the Company's securities during the Class
Period.

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# SECOND CLAIM

# Violation of Section 20(a) of The Exchange Act <u>Against the Individual Defendants</u>

60. Plaintiff repeats and re-alleges each and every allegation contained above as if fully set forth herein.

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61. 6 Individual Defendants acted as controlling persons of Franklin within the meaning of Section 20(a) of the Exchange Act as alleged herein. By virtue of 7 8 their high-level positions and their ownership and contractual rights, participation in, 9 and/or awareness of the Company's operations and intimate knowledge of the false financial statements filed by the Company with the SEC and disseminated to the 10 investing public, Individual Defendants had the power to influence and control and 11 did influence and control, directly or indirectly, the decision-making of the 12 13 Company, including the content and dissemination of the various statements which Plaintiff contends are false and misleading. Individual Defendants were provided 14 with or had unlimited access to copies of the Company's reports, press releases, 15 public filings, and other statements alleged by Plaintiff to be misleading prior to 16 and/or shortly after these statements were issued and had the ability to prevent the 17 18 issuance of the statements or cause the statements to be corrected.

19 62. In particular, Individual Defendants had direct and supervisory
20 involvement in the day-to-day operations of the Company and, therefore, had the
21 power to control or influence the particular transactions giving rise to the securities
22 violations as alleged herein, and exercised the same.

63. As set forth above, Franklin and Individual Defendants each violated
Section 10(b) and Rule 10b-5 by their acts and omissions as alleged in this
Complaint. By virtue of their position as controlling persons, Individual Defendants
are liable pursuant to Section 20(a) of the Exchange Act. As a direct and proximate
result of Defendants' wrongful conduct, Plaintiff and other members of the Class

suffered damages in connection with their purchases of the Company's securities
 during the Class Period.

3	PRAYER FOR RELIEF					
4	WHI	EREFORE, Plaintiff prays for relief and judgment, as follows:				
5	(a)	Determining that this action is a proper class action under Rule 23 of				
6	the Federal	Rules of Civil Procedure;				
7	(b)	Awarding compensatory damages in favor of Plaintiff and the other				
8	Class men	nbers against all defendants, jointly and severally, for all damages				
9	sustained a	s a result of Defendants' wrongdoing, in an amount to be proven at trial,				
10	including in	nterest thereon;				
11	(c)	Awarding Plaintiff and the Class their reasonable costs and expenses				
12	incurred in	this action, including counsel fees and expert fees; and				
13	(d)	Such other and further relief as the Court may deem just and proper.				
14		JURY TRIAL DEMANDED				
15	Plair	ntiff hereby demands a trial by jury.				
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1	DATED: April 16, 2021	GLANCY PRONGAY & MURRAY LLP
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### SWORN CERTIFICATION OF PLAINTIFF

### Franklin Wireless Corp., SECURITIES LITIGATION

- Mohammed Usman Ali , certify:
  - 1. I have reviewed the complaint and authorized its filing and/or adopted its allegations.
  - 2. I did not purchase Franklin Wireless Corp., the security that is the subject of this action at the direction of plaintiff's counsel or in order to participate in any private action arising under this title.
  - 3. I am willing to serve as a representative party on behalf of a class and will testify at deposition and trial, if necessary.
  - 4. My transactions in Franklin Wireless Corp., during the class period set forth in the Complaint are as follows:

See Attached Transactions

- 5. I have not served as a representative party on behalf of a class under this title during the last three years except as stated:
- 6. I will not accept any payment for serving as a representative party, except to receive my pro rata share of any recovery or as ordered or approved by the court including the award to a representative plaintiff of reasonable costs and expenses (including lost wages) directly relating to the representation of the class.

 $\hfill\square$  Check here if you are a current employee or former employee of the defendant Company.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing are true and correct statements.

4/15/2021

Dated:

I,

DocuSigned by: C12942D52C71450

Mohammed Usman Ali

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# **ClassAction.org**

This complaint is part of ClassAction.org's searchable class action lawsuit database and can be found in this post: <u>Franklin Wireless Hit with Securities Class Action After Hotspot Device Recall Triggered Stock Drops</u>