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11
12 **UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT**
13 **FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA**
14 **SAN JOSE DIVISION**

15 ALEXANDR BAHCEVAN, on behalf of himself
and all others similarly situated,
16
17 Plaintiff,
18 v.
19 INTEL CORPORATION, a Delaware corporation,
20 Defendant.

Case No. 5:18-cv-00187
CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT
DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL

21 Plaintiff Alexandr Bahcevan (“Plaintiff”), by and through his attorneys, makes the following
22 allegations pursuant to the investigation of his counsel and based upon information and belief, except
23 as to allegations specifically pertaining to himself and their counsel, which are based on personal
24 knowledge, against defendant Intel Corporation (“Intel” or “Defendant”).

25 **NATURE OF THE ACTION**

26 1. Plaintiff brings this action against Intel on behalf of all persons in the United States who
27 purchased an Intel x86-64x series central processing unit (“CPU”) either separately or as a component
28 of another product.

1 2. Intel is the top-selling semiconductor company in the world. There are approximately
2 1.5 billion personal computers in use today and approximately 90% are powered by Intel CPUs. The
3 x86-64x CPU is utilized in the majority of desktop, laptop computers, and servers in the United States.
4 Products containing Intel CPUs are manufactured by companies such as Apple, Asus, Acer, Lenovo,
5 Hewlett Packard, and Dell.

6 3. A CPU is the part of a computer's hardware that performs the instructions of programs
7 and controls the operations of the system. In other words, the CPU is a computer's brain.

8 4. Unfortunately, nearly every single Intel CPU is defective because they were designed
9 by Intel in a way that allows hackers and malicious programs to access highly secure information stored
10 on the units in which they are installed.¹ The vulnerabilities have been named Spectre and Meltdown:
11 "Meltdown" because it "melts security boundaries which are normally enforced by the hardware," and
12 "Spectre" because its root cause is speculative execution, and "because it is not easy to fix, it will haunt
13 us for quite some time."²

14 5. Both Meltdown and Spectre operate by manipulating different ways the CPUs optimize
15 performance by rearranging the order of instructions or performing different instructions in parallel.
16

17 ¹ The affected CPUs include: Intel® Core™ i3 processor (45nm and 32nm), Intel® Core™ i5 processor
18 (45nm and 32nm), Intel® Core™ i7 processor (45nm and 32nm), Intel® Core™ M processor family
19 (45nm and 32nm), 2nd generation Intel® Core™ processors, 3rd generation Intel® Core™ processors,
20 4th generation Intel® Core™ processors, 5th generation Intel® Core™ processors, 6th generation
21 Intel® Core™ processors, 7th generation Intel® Core™ processors, 8th generation Intel® Core™
22 processors, Intel® Core™ X-series Processor Family for Intel® X99 platforms, Intel® Core™ X-series
23 Processor Family for Intel® X299 platforms, Intel® Xeon® processor 3400 series, Intel® Xeon®
24 processor 3600 series, Intel® Xeon® processor 5500 series, Intel® Xeon® processor 5600 series,
25 Intel® Xeon® processor 6500 series, Intel® Xeon® processor 7500 series, Intel® Xeon® Processor
26 E3 Family, Intel® Xeon® Processor E3 v2 Family, Intel® Xeon® Processor E3 v3 Family, Intel®
27 Xeon® Processor E3 v4 Family, Intel® Xeon® Processor E3 v5 Family, Intel® Xeon® Processor E3
28 v6 Family, Intel® Xeon® Processor E5 Family, Intel® Xeon® Processor E5 v2 Family, Intel® Xeon®
Processor E5 v3 Family, Intel® Xeon® Processor E5 v4 Family, Intel® Xeon® Processor E7 Family,
Intel® Xeon® Processor E7 v2 Family, Intel® Xeon® Processor E7 v3 Family, Intel® Xeon®
Processor E7 v4 Family, Intel® Xeon® Processor Scalable Family, Intel® Xeon Phi™ Processor 3200,
5200, 7200 Series, Intel Atom® Processor C Series, Intel Atom® Processor E Series, Intel Atom®
Processor A Series, Intel Atom® Processor x3 Series, Intel Atom® Processor Z Series, Intel®
Celeron® Processor J Series, Intel® Celeron® Processor N Series, Intel® Pentium® Processor J Series,
Intel® Pentium® Processor N Series (the "Affected CPUs"). *See Facts About the New Security
Research Findings and Intel Products*, Intel.com, [https://www.intel.com/content/www/us/
en/architecture-and-technology/facts-about-side-channel-analysis-and-intel-products.html](https://www.intel.com/content/www/us/en/architecture-and-technology/facts-about-side-channel-analysis-and-intel-products.html) (last
visited Jan. 4, 2018).

² *See Meltdown and Spectre*, SpectraAttack.com, <https://spectreattack.com/> (last visited Jan. 5, 2018).

1 This means that an attacker who controls one process on a system can use the vulnerabilities to steal
2 sensitive data from elsewhere on the computer. The vulnerability allows hackers to read information
3 stored on a computer memory and steal sensitive data like passwords, Social Security numbers, credit
4 card and banking information, and photographs.

5 6. While Intel claims that security updates will make 90% of phones and PCs that use its
6 CPUs “immune” to the vulnerabilities,³ experts warn that the vulnerabilities result from a design flaw
7 which is *unfixable*. While companies that design operating systems are now scrambling to develop
8 patches that may provide a fix, experts warn that these are only temporary fixes and a more permanent
9 solution will have to be physically built into future CPUs. Moreover, the temporary patches will
10 dramatically degrade CPU’s performance by as much as thirty percent.

11 7. Defendant has not been able to offer an effective repair to its customers. A patch that
12 dramatically cuts processor performance is not a legitimate solution, nor is any patch that does not fully
13 address the security vulnerability.

14 8. Accordingly, Affected CPU owners are left with the unfortunate choice of either
15 (1) purchasing a new processor or computer containing a CPU that does not contain the defect,
16 (2) continuing to use a computer with massive security vulnerabilities, or (3) continuing to use a
17 computer with significant performance degradation.

18 9. Defendant has admitted knowing of the design defect giving rise to the security
19 vulnerabilities for at least six months. However, Defendant continued to manufacture, sell, and
20 distribute its Affected CPUs without repair or disclosure of the defect.

21 10. Plaintiff has suffered an ascertainable injury and a loss of money or property as a result
22 of Defendant’s wrongdoing because Plaintiff would not have purchased the Affected CPUs had he
23 known of the security vulnerabilities or would not have paid the prices he paid for the Affected CPUs.

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³ See *Intel Issues Updates to Protect Systems from Security Exploits*, Intel.com, <https://newsroom.intel.com/news-releases/intel-issues-updates-protect-systems-security-exploits/> (last visited Jan. 5, 2018).

PARTIES

11. Plaintiff Alexandr Bahcevan is a citizen of the state of New York, residing in Brooklyn. Plaintiff has purchased at least one Affected CPU every year for the last five years. Had Plaintiff known that the Affected CPUs were built with a design flaw leading to security vulnerabilities, Plaintiff would not have purchased the Affected CPUs or would have paid less for them.

12. Defendant Intel Corporation is a Delaware corporation with its principal place of business located in Santa Clara, California. At all relevant times, Defendant was engaged in the business of designing, manufacturing, distributing, and/or selling electronic computer products, including the defective Intel CPUs at issue.

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

13. The Court has subject matter jurisdiction over this 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.

14. Venue is proper in this District pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1391 because Defendant is headquartered in this District, and a substantial part of the events and omissions giving rise to Plaintiff's claims occurred in this District, including Intel's design and marketing of the Affected CPUs from its headquarters in Santa Clara, California, and that Intel's wrongful actions harmed consumers who live in this District and purchased the Affected CPUs in this District.

INTRADISTRICT ASSIGNMENT

15. Pursuant to Civil L.R. 3-2(c), this civil action should be assigned to the San Jose Division, because a substantial part of the events or omissions giving rise to the claim occurred in the county of Santa Clara, where Intel is headquartered.

APPLICATION OF CALIFORNIA LAW TO THE CLASS IS APPROPRIATE

16. Based upon information and belief, Intel's actions and representations alleged herein emanated from the State of California from its headquarters located in Santa Clara and Intel's business acts and practices complained of were centered in, carried out, effectuated, and perfected within or had

1 their effect in the State of California, and injured Plaintiff and all Class members. Accordingly, the
2 application of California law to the entire Class is appropriate.

3 **FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS**

4 17. The CPU of a computer is the piece of hardware that carries out the instructions of a
5 computer program. It performs the basic arithmetical, logical, and input/output operations of a
6 computer system. In other words, the CPU is like the brain of a computer. Every instruction has to go
7 through the CPU.

8 18. One of the most important tasks that a CPU must perform is allowing a computer's
9 operating system to interact with the computer's hardware. The CPU does this by dedicating some of
10 its processing power to this task. This memory is known as kernel memory.

11 19. The kernel inside an operating system is an invisible process that facilitates the way
12 applications and functions work on a computer by talking directly to the hardware. It has complete
13 access to the operating system, with the highest possible level of permissions.

14 20. On January 2, 2018, it was widely reported that a design defect in the Affected CPUs
15 exposes the CPU's kernel to vulnerabilities that allow malicious users to gain access to sensitive data
16 that is supposed to be protected by the kernel, such as passwords, Social Security numbers, credit card
17 and banking information, and photographs.⁴

18 21. At issue are two different vulnerabilities, dubbed "Meltdown" and "Spectre," that were
19 independently discovered and reported by several security researcher groups including, but not limited
20 to Cyberus Technology, Google, and the Graz University of Technology.

21 22. Meltdown affects every Intel processor shipped since 1995 (with the exception of Intel
22 Itanium and Intel Atom before 2013), although researchers said the flaw could impact other chip
23 makers. Spectre is a far more wide-ranging and troublesome flaw, impacting desktops, laptops, cloud
24 servers, and smartphones from a variety of vendors.⁵

25
26 ⁴ See, e.g., John Leyden, *Kernel-memory-leaking Intel processor design flaw forces Linux, Windows*
27 *redesign*, TheRegister.co.uk, https://www.theregister.co.uk/2018/01/02/intel_cpu_design_flaw/ (last
visited Jan. 5, 2018).

28 ⁵ See *Scary Chip Flaws Raise Spectre of Meltdown*, KrebsOnSecurity.com, <https://krebsonsecurity.com/2018/01/scary-chip-flaws-raise-spectre-of-meltdown/> (last visited Jan. 5, 2018).

1 23. The vulnerabilities allow access to an operating system’s kernel memory because of
2 how the CPUs handle “speculative execution,” which modern chips perform to increase performance.⁶

3 24. The *Register* reported on January 4, 2018:

4 The severe design flaw in Intel microprocessors that allows sensitive data, such as
5 passwords and crypto-keys, to be stolen from memory is real—and its details have
6 been revealed.

7 On Tuesday, we warned that a blueprint blunder in Intel’s CPUs could allow
8 applications, malware, and JavaScript running in web browsers, to obtain information
9 they should not be allowed to access: the contents of the operating system kernel’s
10 private memory areas. These zones often contain files cached from disk, a view onto
11 the machine’s entire physical memory, and other secrets. This should be invisible to
12 normal programs.

13 Thanks to Intel’s cockup—now codenamed Meltdown—that data is potentially
14 accessible, meaning bad websites and malware can attempt to rifle through the
15 computer’s memory looking for credentials, RNG seeds, personal information, and
16 more.⁷

17 25. The *Register* continued, “[t]his is, essentially, a mega-gaffe by the semiconductor
18 industry. As they souped up their CPUs to race them against each other, they left behind one thing in
19 the dust. Security.⁸

20 26. Intel is aware that its CPUs suffer from the defect that exposes the CPUs to critical
21 security vulnerabilities, and has been for at least six months. However, before informing the public
22 about these major security vulnerabilities, Intel’s CEO Brian Krzanich sold millions of dollars in
23 stock after the company had been informed that since 1995 almost every processor it has manufactured
24 has two severe security vulnerabilities. Moreover, had Intel been performing proper tests and security
25 checks of its CPUs, the vulnerabilities would have been evident far earlier. With its access to
26 proprietary information about its CPUs, there is no reason why three independent teams working
27

28 ⁶ Speculative execution attempts to improve speed by executing multiple instructions at once (or even
in a different order than when entering the CPU). To increase performance, the CPU predicts which
path of a branch is most likely to be taken, and will speculatively continue execution down that path
even before the branch is completed. If the prediction is wrong, speculative execution is rolled back in
a way that is intended to be invisible to software.

⁷ See Chris Williams, *Meltdown, Spectre: The password theft bugs at the heart of Intel CPUs*,
TheRegister.co.uk, https://www.theregister.co.uk/2018/01/04/intel_amd_arm_cpu_vulnerability/ (last
visited Jan. 5, 2018).

⁸ See *id.*

1 separately were able to discover Meltdown and two independent teams were able to discover Spectre,
2 but Intel did not.

3 27. It was only on January 3, 2018, that Intel issued a press release in response to the
4 countless news media reports concerning the Affected CPUs, stating:

5 Intel and other technology companies have been made aware of new security research
6 describing software analysis methods that, when used for malicious purposes, have
7 the potential to improperly gather sensitive data from computing devices that are
operating as designed. Intel believes these exploits do not have the potential to
corrupt, modify or delete data.

8 Recent reports that these exploits are caused by a “bug” or a “flaw” and are unique
9 to Intel products are incorrect. Based on the analysis to date, many types of computing
10 devices—with many different vendors’ processors and operating systems—are
susceptible to these exploits.

11 Intel is committed to product and customer security and is working closely with many
12 other technology companies, including AMD, ARM Holdings and several operating
13 system vendors, to develop an industry-wide approach to resolve this issue promptly
14 and constructively. Intel has begun providing software and firmware updates to
mitigate these exploits. Contrary to some reports, any performance impacts are
workload-dependent, and, for the average computer user, should not be significant
and will be mitigated over time.

15 Intel is committed to the industry best practice of responsible disclosure of potential
16 security issues, which is why Intel and other vendors had planned to disclose this
17 issue next week when more software and firmware updates will be available.
However, Intel is making this statement today because of the current inaccurate
media reports.

18 Check with your operating system vendor or system manufacturer and apply any
19 available updates as soon as they are available. Following good security practices that
20 protect against malware in general will also help protect against possible exploitation
21 until updates can be applied.

22 Intel believes its products are the most secure in the world and that, with the support
23 of its partners, the current solutions to this issue provide the best possible security for
24 its customers.⁹

25 28. However, Defendant’s press release is misleading because, among other reasons, while
26 it acknowledges the existence of the defect, it claims other vendors’ (competitors) products also suffer
27 from the vulnerabilities, and downplays the performance impact which it claims “will be mitigated over
28 time.”

⁹ See *Intel Responds to Security Research Findings*, Intel.com, <https://newsroom.intel.com/news/intel-responds-to-security-research-findings/> (last visited Jan. 5, 2018).

1 an Affected CPU inside the customer's computer.

2 34. Plaintiff reserves the right to redefine the Class prior to certification after having the
3 opportunity to conduct discovery.

4 35. Excluded from the Class are Defendant, its parents, subsidiaries, affiliates, officers and
5 directors, any entity in which Defendant has a controlling interest, and all judges assigned to hear any
6 aspect of this litigation, as well as their immediate family members.

7 36. Numerosity. Fed. R. Civ. P. 23(a)(1). The members of the Class are so numerous that
8 joinder is impractical. The Class consists of millions of members, the precise number which is within
9 the knowledge of and can be ascertained only by resort to Defendant's records.

10 37. Commonality. Fed. R. Civ. P. 23(a)(2) and (b)(3). There are numerous questions of
11 law and fact common to the Class, which predominate over any questions affecting only individual
12 members of the Class. Among the questions of law and fact common to the Class are:

- 13 a) Whether the Affected CPUs possess the Meltdown security flaw;
- 14 b) Whether the Affected CPUs possess the Spectre security flaw;
- 15 c) Whether Defendant made any implied warranties in connection with the sale of the
16 Affected CPUs;
- 17 d) Whether Defendant breached any implied warranties relating to its sale of the Affected
18 CPUs;
- 19 e) Whether Defendant was unjustly enriched as a result of its acts complained of herein;
- 20 f) Whether Defendant engaged in deceptive, unfair, and/or unlawful business practices
21 under California law; and
- 22 g) Whether Class members are entitled to damages, and in what amount.

23 38. Typicality. Fed. R. Civ. P. 23(a)(3). Plaintiff's claims are typical of the claims of the
24 members of the Class. The injuries sustained by Plaintiff and the Class flow, in each instance, from a
25 common nucleus of operative facts based on Intel's uniform conduct as set forth above. The defenses,
26 if any, that will be asserted against Plaintiff's claims likely will be similar to the defenses that will be
27 asserted, if any, against Class members' claims. Moreover, Plaintiff has no interests antagonistic to the
28 interests of any other member of the Class.

1 44. Plaintiff has standing to pursue this claim as Plaintiff has suffered injury in fact and lost
2 money or property as a result of Defendant's actions, as set forth above.

3 45. Defendant's actions as alleged in this Complaint constitute "unfair" business practices
4 within the meaning of California Business and Professions Code §§ 17200, *et seq.*

5 46. Defendant's business practices, as alleged herein, are "unfair" because they offend
6 established public policy and/or are immoral, unethical, oppressive, unscrupulous, and/or substantially
7 injurious to their customers. Additionally, Defendant's conduct is "unfair" because Defendant's
8 conduct violated legislatively declared policies not to engage in misleading and deceptive conduct, or
9 to not sell defective products. Defendant also concealed material facts from consumers.

10 47. As a result of Defendant's "unfair" business practices, Plaintiff and members of the
11 Class spent money on computers containing CPUs that contained security vulnerabilities.

12 48. Defendant's unfair business practices alleged herein constitute a continuing course of
13 unfair competition.

14 49. Plaintiff and the Class seek an order for injunctive relief to benefit the public, including
15 a corrective advertising campaign, requiring Defendant to make full disgorgement and restitution of all
16 monies wrongfully obtained from Plaintiff and the Class, and all other relief permitted under Bus. &
17 Prof. Code §§ 17200, *et seq.*

18 **COUNT II**

19 **Violation of Cal. Bus. & Prof. Code §§ 17200, *et seq.***
20 **"Deceptive" Business Practices**

21 **(Individually and on Behalf of the Class)**

22 50. Plaintiff incorporates and realleges by reference each and every allegation above as if
23 set forth herein in full.

24 51. Defendant's actions as alleged in this Complaint constitute "deceptive" business
25 practices within the meaning of Bus. & Prof. Code §§ 17200, *et seq.*

26 52. Plaintiff does not allege a claim of common law fraud nor any claim in this Cause of
27 Action that requires proof of intent.

28

1 53. Defendant’s business practices, as alleged herein, are “deceptive” because they were
2 and are likely to deceive reasonable consumers, including Plaintiff and members of the Class, targeted
3 by such omissions of material fact.

4 54. Defendant failed to disclose material information to purchasers of computers containing
5 the Affected CPUs by concealing the material fact that these CPUs contain the security vulnerabilities.

6 55. As a result of Defendant’s “deceptive” conduct, Plaintiff and members of the Class spent
7 money on the Affected CPUs or on computers containing the Affected CPUs that suffer from security
8 vulnerabilities.

9 56. Defendant’s deceptive business practices alleged herein constituted a continuing course
10 of unfair competition.

11 57. Plaintiff and the Class seek an order for injunctive relief to benefit the public, requiring
12 Defendant to make full disgorgement and restitution of all monies that have been wrongfully obtained
13 from Plaintiff and the Class, and all other relief permitted under Bus. & Prof. Code §§ 17200, *et seq.*

14 **COUNT III**

15 **Breach of Implied Warranty**

16 **(Individually and on Behalf of the Class)**

17 58. Plaintiff incorporates and realleges by reference each and every allegation above as if
18 set forth herein in full.

19 59. This claim is asserted on behalf of Plaintiff and the Class.

20 60. Defendant is a “merchant” and the Affected CPUs are “goods” as defined under the
21 Uniform Commercial Code.

22 61. Pursuant to Uniform Commercial Code § 2-314, an implied warranty that goods are
23 merchantable is implied in every contract for a sale of goods. Defendant impliedly warranted that the
24 Affected CPUs were of a merchantable quality.

25 62. Defendant breached the implied warranty of merchantability because the Affected
26 CPUs were and are not of a merchantable quality due to the security vulnerabilities and the associated
27 problems and failures in the Affected CPUs caused by the vulnerabilities.

28

1 practices described herein;

2 D. An order enjoining Defendant from continuing to violate the laws as described herein;

3 E. A judgment awarding Plaintiff the costs of suit, including reasonable attorneys' fees,
4 and pre and post-judgment interest; and

5 F. Such other and further relief as may be deemed necessary or appropriate.

6 **JURY DEMAND**

7 Plaintiff demands a trial by jury.

8 Dated: January 9, 2018

LEVI & KORSINSKY, LLP

9 By: /s/Rosemary M. Rivas

Rosemary M. Rivas

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Counsel for Plaintiff Alexandr Bahcevan

CIVIL COVER SHEET

The JS-CAND 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 in its original form by the Judicial Conference of the United States in September 1974, is required for the Clerk of Court to initiate the civil docket sheet. (SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON NEXT PAGE OF THIS FORM.)

I. (a) PLAINTIFFS

ALEXANDR BAHCEVAN, on behalf of himself and all others similarly situated

(b) County of Residence of First Listed Plaintiff Kings County, New York (EXCEPT IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES)

(c) Attorneys (Firm Name, Address, and Telephone Number) Rosemary Rivas, Levi & Korsinsky, LLP, 44 Montgomery Street, Suite 650, San Francisco, CA 94104; 415-291-2420

DEFENDANTS

INTEL CORPORATION, a Delaware corporation

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)

Table with columns for Plaintiff (PTF) and Defendant (DEF) citizenship options: Citizen of This State, Citizen of Another State, Citizen or Subject of a Foreign Country, Incorporated or Principal Place of Business In This State, Incorporated and Principal Place of Business In Another State, Foreign Nation.

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

Large table with categories: CONTRACT, REAL PROPERTY, TORTS, CIVIL RIGHTS, PRISONER PETITIONS, HABEAS CORPUS, OTHER, FORFEITURE/PENALTY, LABOR, IMMIGRATION, BANKRUPTCY, SOCIAL SECURITY, FEDERAL TAX SUITS, OTHER STATUTES.

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): 28 U.S.C. § 1332(d)

Brief description of cause:

Cal. Bus. & Prof. Code §§ 17200, et seq.; Breach of Implied Warranty; Negligence; and Unjust Enrichment

VII. REQUESTED IN COMPLAINT:

CHECK IF THIS IS A CLASS ACTION UNDER RULE 23, Fed. R. Civ. P. DEMAND \$

CHECK YES only if demanded in complaint: JURY DEMAND: Yes No

VIII. RELATED CASE(S), IF ANY (See instructions):

JUDGE van Keulen; Cousins; Lloyd DOCKET NUMBER 18cv46 and 18cv74; 18cv105; 18cv111

IX. DIVISIONAL ASSIGNMENT (Civil Local Rule 3-2)

(Place an "X" in One Box Only) SAN FRANCISCO/OAKLAND SAN JOSE EUREKA-MCKINLEYVILLE

DATE 01/09/2018

SIGNATURE OF ATTORNEY OF RECORD

/s/ Rosemary M. Rivas

INSTRUCTIONS FOR ATTORNEYS COMPLETING CIVIL COVER SHEET FORM JS-CAND 44

Authority For Civil Cover Sheet. The JS-CAND 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 in its original form by the Judicial Conference of the United States in September 1974, is required for the Clerk of Court to initiate 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 Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 8(a), 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.
- (1) United States plaintiff. Jurisdiction based on 28 USC §§ 1345 and 1348. Suits by agencies and officers of the United States are included here.
 - (2) United States defendant. When the plaintiff is suing the United States, its officers or agencies, place an “X” in this box.
 - (3) Federal question. This refers to suits under 28 USC § 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.
 - (4) Diversity of citizenship. This refers to suits under 28 USC § 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-CAND 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 the nature of suit cannot be determined, be sure the cause of action, in Section VI below, is sufficient to enable the deputy clerk or the statistical clerk(s) in the Administrative Office to determine the nature of suit. If the cause fits more than one nature of suit, select the most definitive.
- V. Origin.** Place an “X” in one of the six boxes.
- (1) Original Proceedings. Cases originating in the United States district courts.
 - (2) Removed from State Court. Proceedings initiated in state courts may be removed to the district courts under Title 28 USC § 1441. When the petition for removal is granted, check this box.
 - (3) Remanded from Appellate Court. Check this box for cases remanded to the district court for further action. Use the date of remand as the filing date.
 - (4) Reinstated or Reopened. Check this box for cases reinstated or reopened in the district court. Use the reopening date as the filing date.
 - (5) Transferred from Another District. For cases transferred under Title 28 USC § 1404(a). Do not use this for within district transfers or multidistrict litigation transfers.
 - (6) Multidistrict Litigation Transfer. Check this box when a multidistrict case is transferred into the district under authority of Title 28 USC § 1407. When this box is checked, do not check (5) above.
 - (8) Multidistrict Litigation Direct File. Check this box when a multidistrict litigation case is filed in the same district as the Master MDL docket. Please note that there is no 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 Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 23. 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-CAND 44 is used to identify related pending cases, if any. If there are related pending cases, insert the docket numbers and the corresponding judge names for such cases.
- IX. Divisional Assignment.** If the Nature of Suit is under Property Rights or Prisoner Petitions or the matter is a Securities Class Action, leave this section blank. For all other cases, identify the divisional venue according to Civil Local Rule 3-2: “the county in which a substantial part of the events or omissions which give rise to the claim occurred or in which a substantial part of the property that is the subject of the action is situated.”
- Date and Attorney Signature.** Date and sign the civil cover sheet.