

RICHARD D. McCUNE, State Bar No. 132124
rdm@mccunewright.com
DAVID C. WRIGHT, State Bar No. 177468
dcw@mccunewright.com
MCCUNEWRIGHT LLP
2068 Orange Tree Lane, Suite 216
Redlands, California 92374
Telephone: (909) 557-1250
Facsimile: (909) 557-1275

Attorneys for Plaintiff and the Proposed Class

[LIST OF ADDITIONAL COUNSEL ON SIGNATURE PAGE]

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

DOMINIC MOSCHITTI, on behalf of himself)
and all others similarly situated,)

Plaintiff,)

v.)

SONY INTERACTIVE ENTERTAINMENT,)
INC., and SONY CORPORATION OF)
AMERICA,)

Defendant.)

Case No. 3:16-cv-6182

CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT

1. Violation of the California Consumer Legal Remedies Act (Cal. Civ. Code § 1750)
2. Violation of California Unfair Competition Laws (Cal. Bus. & Prof. Code § 17200)
3. Violation of California False Advertising Law (Cal. Bus. & Prof. Code § 17500)
4. Common Law Fraud
5. Negligent Misrepresentation
6. Unjust Enrichment
7. Breach of Express Warranty
8. Breach of Implied Warranty
9. Breach of Written Warranty Under the Magnuson-Moss Warranty Act (15 U.S.C. § 2301, *et seq.*)
10. Violation of the Song-Beverly Consumer Warranty Act (Cal. Civ. Code § 1790)

DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL

1 Plaintiff Dominic Moschitti, individually, and on behalf of all others similarly situated, by and
2 through counsel, brings this action against Sony Interactive Entertainment, Inc., and Sony Corporation
3 of America (collectively, “Sony”). Plaintiff’s allegations herein are based upon personal knowledge and
4 belief as to his own acts and upon the investigation of his counsel and information and belief as to all
5 other matters.

6 **INTRODUCTION**

7 1. Plaintiff brings this action, individually and on behalf of a class of similarly situated
8 owners Sony’s PlayStation 4. This action arises from Sony’s concealment of a material manufacturing
9 defect that ultimately causes disc drives in the PlayStation 4 to eject in an infinite loop, rendering the
10 disc drive useless for its intended purpose (the “Disc Drive Defect”).

11 2. Sony has long been aware of the defective nature of the PlayStation 4. In August 2016,
12 Sony extended the warranty for the Disc Drive Defect in the Netherlands. Yet, notwithstanding its
13 longstanding knowledge of this manufacturing defect and its warranty extension in the Netherlands,
14 Sony routinely has refused to repair the PlayStation 4 without charge when the defect manifests.

15 3. Many other PlayStation 4 owners have communicated with Sony’s employees and agents
16 to request that Sony remedy and/or address the Disc Drive Defect and/or resultant damage at no
17 expense. Sony has failed and/or refused to do so.

18 4. As a result of Sony’s unfair, deceptive, and/or fraudulent business practices, owners of
19 the PlayStation 4, including Plaintiff, have suffered an ascertainable loss of money and/or property
20 and/or value. The unfair and deceptive trade practices committed by Sony were conducted in a manner
21 giving rise to substantial aggravating circumstances.

22 5. Had Plaintiff and other Class members known about the Disc Drive Defect at the time of
23 purchase, they would not have bought the PlayStation 4, or would have paid substantially less for it.

24 6. As a result of the Disc Drive Defect and the monetary costs associated with attempting to
25 repair the Disc Drive Defect, Plaintiff and the Class members have suffered injury in fact, incurred
26 damages, and otherwise have been harmed by Sony’s conduct

27 7. Accordingly, Plaintiff brings this action to redress Sony’s violations of the various states’
28 consumer fraud statutes, fraud, negligent misrepresentation, breach of implied warranty, unjust

1 enrichment, and for violations of the federal Magnuson-Moss Warranty Act and California’s Song-
2 Beverly Consumer Warranty Act.

3 **THE PARTIES**

4 8. Plaintiff Dominic Moschitti is a resident of California. In or about September 2014,
5 Plaintiff Moschitti purchased a PlayStation 4 from Amazon. In or about February 2015, the Disc Drive
6 Defect manifested itself in Plaintiff’s PlayStation 4. Defendants allegedly repaired his PlayStation and
7 returned it to Plaintiff in February 2015. In or about October 2016, the Disc Drive Defect again
8 manifested itself in Plaintiff’s PlayStation 4. Thereafter, Plaintiff requested Defendants repair or replace
9 his PlayStation 4, however, Defendants refused to do so and offered to repair Plaintiff’s PlayStation 4 at
10 a cost of approximately \$149.00, which Plaintiff declined.

11 9. Defendant Sony Interactive Entertainment, Inc., is a corporation formed under the laws of
12 Delaware with its principal place of business located in San Mateo, California. Per its website, Sony
13 Interactive Entertainment, Inc., “is responsible for the PlayStation brand and family of products” that
14 “includes [the] PlayStation 4.” Upon information and belief, Sony Interactive Entertainment, Inc., is a
15 wholly-owned subsidiary of Sony Corporation of America. Sony Interactive Entertainment was formerly
16 known as Sony Computer Entertainment of America.

17 10. Defendant Sony Corporation of America is a corporation formed under the laws of the
18 state of New York with its principal place of business located in New York, New York.

19 **JURISDICTION AND VENUE**

20 11. This Court has subject matter jurisdiction pursuant to the Class Action Fairness Act, 28
21 U.S.C. § 1332(d). The aggregated claims of the individual class members exceed the sum or value of
22 \$5,000,000, exclusive of interest and costs; there are more than 100 putative class members defined
23 below; and there are numerous members of the proposed class who are citizens of a state different from
24 Defendants.

25 12. This Court has personal jurisdiction over Sony Interactive Entertainment, Inc., because its
26 corporate headquarters are located in San Mateo, California, because it conducts substantial business in
27 the District, and because a substantial part of the acts and omissions complained of occurred in the
28 District. The Court has personal jurisdiction of Sony Corporation of America because it is authorized to

1 do business in this District and because a substantial part of the acts and omissions complained of
2 occurred in the District.

3 13. Venue as to Sony Interactive Entertainment and Sony Corporation of America is proper
4 in this judicial district under 28 U.S.C § 1391 because a substantial part of the events or omissions
5 giving rise to the claim occurred in this District. Sony Interactive Entertainment has its principal place of
6 business in this District, both Sony Interactive Entertainment and Sony Corporation of America are
7 authorized to conduct business in this District, and both have intentionally availed itself of the laws and
8 markets within this District, do substantial business in this District, and are subject to personal
9 jurisdiction in this District.

10 **GENERAL ALLEGATIONS**

11 **A. Sony’s PlayStation 4 and the Disc Drive Defect**

12 14. Sony’s PlayStation 4 (“PS4”) is a home video game console designed, developed,
13 marketed, and sold by Defendants. The PS4 was released in North America on November 15, 2013, and
14 retailed for approximately \$400.00.

15 15. The PS4 was a massive success for Sony and, as of May 22, 2016, 40 million PS4s have
16 been sold worldwide.¹

17 16. The PS4s contain disc drives that allow the owner or user to insert discs and play video
18 games and watch DVDs or Blu-rays.

19 //

20 //

21 //

22 //

23 //

24 //

25 //

26 //

27

28

¹ See <http://www.sie.com/en/corporate/release/2016/160526.html> (last visited Oct. 19, 2016).

1 17. Instead of using a standard mechanical button to eject the contents of the disc drive, the
2 user is required to touch a capacitive touch button located on the front of the PS4, pictured below:

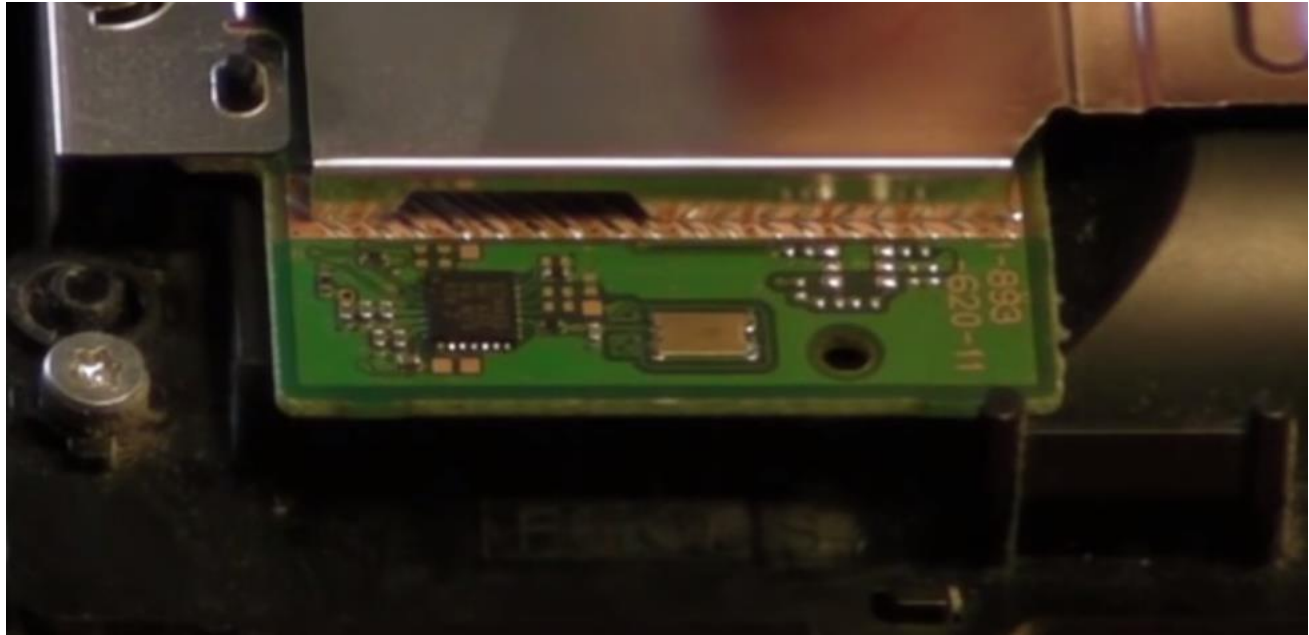


17 18. Capacitive buttons are based on capacitive coupling and rely on electrical currents from
18 the human body to detect inputs. When an individual places his or her finger on the capacitive button, it
19 causes a change in the capacitance and causes the preset command to be executed.

20 19. Capacitive sensors rely on capacitors on a circuit board to measure the overall
21 capacitance and any changes to the total capacitance. Here, an individual uses their finger to touch the
22 capacitive eject button and the sensor converts the change in capacitance from the touch into a command
23 instructing the PS4 to eject the contents of the disc drive.

24 20. As a substitute for the feedback a mechanical switch provides, the PS4 utilizes a beeping
25 noise when the eject sensor is activated. The volume of the beeping noise is designed to be loud so it can
26 be heard over the sound of the audio that is playing on the television or display device.

1 21. The PS4s contain a small circuit board located directly beneath the eject button that
2 contains a gold plated chip. This chip is responsible for converting the capacitive touch inputs into a
3 software command that ejects the contents of the disc drive. A picture of this chip is located below:
4



5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16 22. Unbeknownst to consumers, the gold plated chip suffers from a manufacturing defect that
17 causes it to misread static electricity in the air as capacitance changes that causes the disc drive to
18 attempt to eject the contents of the disc drive in a continuous loop.

19 23. The disc drive attempts to eject the contents of the disc drive regardless of whether a disc
20 is in the drive. In addition, even if a disc is successfully ejected, the disc drive still continuously attempts
21 to eject the contents of the empty drive because the chip is misinterpreting static electricity in the air as a
22 change in capacitance.

23 24. As noted above, when the disc drive attempts to eject the contents of the disc driver, it is
24 accompanied by a repeated loop of audible beeps. Since the defect causes the disc drive to eject in a
25 continuous loop, the audible beeping continues until the PS4 is manually shut down.

26 25. Moreover, the PS4 can be turned on by touching the disc eject button. As such, when the
27 Disc Drive Defect manifests itself, the PS4 will turn itself on and begin beeping in an endless loop. The
28 only way to prevent this is to unplug the PS4's power source.

1 **B. Publicly Available Complaints from PS4 Owners**

2 26. Plaintiff's experience is by no means an isolated or outlying occurrence. Indeed, the
3 internet is replete with examples of blogs and other websites where consumers have complained of the
4 exact same Disc Drive Defect.

5 27. For instance, in September 2014, one of the most popular video game websites, IGN,
6 posted an article that "addresses the common problems of a console ejecting discs on its own or the
7 system beeping repeatedly even when no disc is present."² The article includes a link to a video created
8 and disseminated by Defendants that purports to outline a fix for the problem, which consists of power-
9 cycling the PS4. A similar article was posted by Engadget, one of the world's leading technology blogs,
10 that contains similar information and a link to the video.³ Unsurprisingly, power-cycling fails to remedy
11 the defectively manufactured hardware in the PS4.

12 28. On Defendants' own website, there are numerous posts complaining of the Disc Drive
13 Defect, that date as far back as November 15, 2013, the date upon which they began selling the PS4.⁴

14 29. Through pre-release testing that evaluated the PlayStation's durability, Defendants knew
15 or should have known of the Disc Drive Defect. The Disc Drive Defect is a manufacturing defect that
16 did or should have alerted Defendants to the fact that the capacitive sensor on the eject button suffered
17 from a manufacturing defect.

18 30. Upon information and belief, Defendants, through (1) their own records of customers'
19 complaints, (2) their own pre-release testing, (3) warranty and post-warranty claims, and (4) other
20

21 _____
22 ² <http://www.ign.com/articles/2014/09/12/how-to-fix-a-ps4-that-ejects-discs-unexpectedly> (last visited
Oct. 24, 2016).

23 ³ <https://www.engadget.com/2014/09/11/heres-what-to-do-if-your-ps4-ejects-discs-unexpectedly/> (last
24 visited Oct. 24, 2016).

25 ⁴ [http://community.us.playstation.com/t5/Consoles-Peripherals/INFO-Issues-with-ejecting-PS4-discs/td-
26 p/42133811/page/2](http://community.us.playstation.com/t5/Consoles-Peripherals/INFO-Issues-with-ejecting-PS4-discs/td-p/42133811/page/2) (last visited Oct. 24, 2016). Upon information and belief, there are likely many more
27 complaints than the November 15, 2013, post. Many website owners automatically archive older online
28 forum posts after the content becomes inactive for a certain period of time (i.e. after users stop
submitting new posts). The November 15, 2013, post is still publicly accessible because users keep
posting more complaints about the disc drive defect (with the most recent post in September 2016), and
many posts have likely been automatically archived and are effectively unrecoverable until discovery.

1 various sources, were well aware of the Disc Drive Defect but failed to notify consumers of the nature
2 and extent of the problems with the PS4 or provide any adequate remedy.

3 31. In response to growing reports of the Disc Drive Defect, Defendants re-designed the
4 capacitive touch buttons and replaced them with traditional mechanical switches in subsequent versions
5 of the PS4. Upon information and belief, this change was implemented on the CUH-12XXX series PS4
6 and later versions.

7 32. In the Netherlands, Sony extended the one-year warranty on the PS4s to two years for the
8 Disc Drive Defect.⁵ The warranty extension was initiated after a famous YouTube blogger experienced
9 the Disc Drive Defect, contacted Sony's customer support after the expiration of the one-year warranty,
10 and was informed by Sony's customer service representative that this was a common problem with the
11 first generation PS4, but that his only option was to pay out-of-pocket for the necessary repair.

12 33. Despite its actions in the Netherlands, Defendants have refused to extend the warranty in
13 the United States.

14 34. In many instances, consumers have incurred and will continue to incur expenses for the
15 diagnosis of the Disc Drive Defect and repair and replacement of their PS4s, despite such defect having
16 been contained in the PS4s when manufactured by Defendants.

17 35. Consumers were without access to the information concealed by Sony as described
18 herein, and therefore reasonably relied on Sony's representations and warranties regarding the quality,
19 durability, and other material characteristics of the PS4s. Had consumers known of the defect, they
20 would have paid less for the PS4 than the amounts they actually paid, or would not have purchased the
21 PS4 at all.

22 **C. Sony's One-Year Warranty Period is Unconscionable**

23 36. Sony offers the following one-year warranty when a consumer purchases a PS4:

24 Sony Computer Entertainment America LLC ("SCEA") warrants to the
25 original purchaser that the PS4™ hardware, which includes components
26 contained in the retail box with this hardware ("Product") will be free
27 from material defects in material and workmanship for a period of one
28 year from the original date of purchase (the "Warranty Period"). This

28 ⁵ See <http://www.playstationlifestyle.net/2016/08/11/sony-netherlands-roped-into-extending-ps4-warranty-for-launch-consoles/> (last visited Oct. 24, 2016).

1 warranty is valid only in the United States and Canada. IF THIS
2 PRODUCT IS DETERMINED TO BE MATERIALLY DEFECTIVE
3 DURING THE WARRANTY PERIOD, YOUR SOLE REMEDY AND
4 SCEA'S SOLE AND EXCLUSIVE LIABILITY IS LIMITED TO THE
5 REPAIR OR REPLACEMENT OF THIS PRODUCT WITH A
6 FACTORY-RECERTIFIED PRODUCT, AT SCEA'S OPTION. For
7 purposes of this Limited Hardware Warranty and Liability, "factory
8 recertified" means a product that has been returned to its original
9 specifications.⁶

10 37. As stated above, there is ample evidence that Defendants have been aware of the Disc
11 Drive Defect from widespread complaints since, at the very least, November 15, 2013; the day Sony
12 began selling the PS4.

13 38. Many PS4 owners have discovered an informal "fix" that lessens the severity and
14 occurrence of the Disc Drive Defect. This requires individuals to open the casing of the PS4, expose the
15 internal circuitry, and scratch the gold plate using a knife to reduce its sensitivity. There are numerous
16 videos on YouTube and other websites instructing users how to complete this process.⁷

17 39. Many individuals are hesitant to even open the casing of the PS4 because Sony contends
18 this voids any warranties on the PS4, despite the legality of such a position being contrary to the text of
19 Magnuson-Moss Warranty Act. Indeed, the PS4 warranties state: "THIS WARRANTY DOES NOT
20 APPLY IF THIS PRODUCT . . . HAS HAD THE WARRANTY SEAL ON THE PS4™ SYSTEM
21 ALTERED, DEFACED, OR REMOVED." The warranty seal on the PS4 is designed to break if the
22 owner opens the casing of the PS4.

23 40. Consumers also reasonably expect that video game and media console will remain
24 operable until, at the very least, the next generation of consoles are released when not subject to abuse or
25 neglect. For instance, Sony's PlayStation 3 was released on November 11, 2006, and Sony's PS4 was
26 released on November 15, 2013. Unlike other consumer electronics, such as laptop computers, Sony's
27 PS4 is designed to sit on a shelf in the owner's home and is not moved on a regular basis, if ever.

28 41. As such, Sony's one-year express warranty is both substantively and procedurally
unconscionable. Consumers did not have the ability to negotiate the terms or length of the express

⁶ <https://www.playstation.com/en-us/support/warranties/ps4/> (last visited Oct. 24, 2016).

⁷ See, e.g., https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=X_0m_rDtG7U (last visited Oct. 25, 2016);
<http://www.gamefaqs.com/boards/691087-playstation-4/70302742?page=3> (last visited Oct. 25, 2016).

1 warranty and Sony concealed the Disc Drive Defect from the Plaintiff and the Class members on
2 November 13, 2013, which is also when the first publicly available consumer complaint of the Disc
3 Drive Defect became available, and continually after Sony's internal warranty claims showed a large
4 number of Disc Drive Defect complaints both during and shortly after Sony's express warranty period.
5 Upon information and belief, Sony knew of and concealed the Disc Drive Defects before these events,
6 including at the time of sale.

7 **CLASS ACTION ALLEGATIONS**

8 42. Plaintiff brings this suit as a class action on behalf of himself and on behalf of all others
9 similarly situated pursuant to Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, Rule 23. This action satisfies the
10 numerosity, commonality, typicality, adequacy, predominance and superiority requirements of the
11 provisions of Rule 23.

12 43. Plaintiff seeks to represent the following "Nationwide Class":

13 All persons or entities in the United States that purchased a Sony
PlayStation 4.

14 44. In the alternative, Plaintiff seeks to represent the following state sub-class:

15 All persons or entities in California that purchased a Sony PlayStation 4
16 for primarily personal, family or household purposes, as defined by
California Civil Code § 1791(a) (the "California Class").

17 45. The Nationwide Class and California Class will be referred to collectively as the "Class."

18 46. **Numerosity:** Members of the Class are so numerous that joinder of all members is
19 impracticable. While the exact number of Class members remains unknown at this time, upon
20 information and belief, there are hundreds of thousands of putative Class members throughout the
21 United States who are generally ascertainable by appropriate discovery.

22 47. **Commonality:** This action involves common questions of law and fact, which
23 predominate over any questions affecting individual Class members. These common legal and factual
24 questions include, but are not limited to, the following:

- 25 a. Whether the PS4s suffer from the Disc Drive Defect;
26 b. Whether Defendants engaged in the conduct alleged herein;

- c. Whether Defendants designed, manufactured, marketed, distributed, sold or otherwise placed the PS4s into the stream of commerce in the United States knowing that the PS4s suffered from the Disc Drive Defect;
- d. When Defendants first learned of the existence of the Disc Drive Defect;
- e. Whether Defendants intentionally concealed the Disc Drive Defect in the PS4s from consumers;
- f. Whether Defendants breached the terms of its contracts with purchasers when it marketed and sold the PS4s containing the Disc Drive Defect;
- g. Whether Plaintiff and the other Class members have been harmed by the fraud alleged herein;
- h. Whether Defendants were unjustly enriched by its deceptive practices; and
- i. Whether Plaintiff and the Class are entitled to equitable or injunctive relief.

48. **Typicality:** Plaintiff's claims are typical of those of the other Class members because, *inter alia*, all members of the Class were injured through the common misconduct described above and were subject to Defendants' unfair and unlawful conduct. Plaintiff is advancing the same claims and legal theories on behalf of himself and all members of the Class.

49. **Adequacy of Representation:** Plaintiff will fairly and adequately represent and protect the interests of the Class in that he has no disabling conflicts of interest that would be antagonistic to those of the other members of the Class. Plaintiff seeks no relief that is antagonistic or adverse to the members of the Class and the infringement of the rights and the damages they have suffered are typical of other Class members. Plaintiff has retained counsel experienced in complex consumer class action litigation, and Plaintiff intends to prosecute this action vigorously.

50. **Superiority:** The class litigation is an appropriate method for fair and efficient adjudication of the claims involved. Class action treatment is superior to all other available methods for the fair and efficient adjudication of the controversy alleged herein; it will permit a large number of Class members to prosecute their common claims in a single forum simultaneously, efficiently, and without the unnecessary duplication of evidence, effort and expense that hundreds of individual actions would require. Class action treatment will permit the adjudication of relatively modest claims by certain

1 Class members, who could not individually afford to litigate a complex claim against large corporate
2 defendants. Further, even for those Class members who could afford to litigate such a claim, it would
3 still be economically impractical.

4 51. The nature of this action and the nature of laws available to Plaintiff and the Class make
5 the use of the class action device a particularly efficient and appropriate procedure to afford relief to
6 Plaintiff and the Class for the wrongs alleged because Defendants would necessarily gain an
7 unconscionable advantage since they would be able to exploit and overwhelm the limited resources of
8 each individual Class member with superior financial and legal resources; the costs of individual suits
9 could unreasonably consume the amounts that would be recovered; proof of a common course of
10 conduct to which Plaintiff were exposed is representative of that experienced by the Class and will
11 establish the right of each member of the Class to recover on the cause of action alleged; and individual
12 actions would create a risk of inconsistent results and would be unnecessary and duplicative of this
13 litigation.

14 52. Plaintiff reserves the right to modify or amend the definition of the proposed class and
15 subclasses before the Court determines whether certification is appropriate and as the parties engage in
16 discovery.

17 53. The class action is superior to all other available methods for the fair and efficient
18 adjudication of this controversy. Because of the number and nature of common questions of fact and
19 law, multiple separate lawsuits would not serve the interest of judicial economy.

20 54. Individual litigation of the claims of all Class members is economically unfeasible and
21 procedurally impracticable. While the aggregate damages sustained by the Class are likely in the
22 millions of dollars, the individual damages incurred by each Member resulting from Defendants'
23 wrongful conduct are too small to warrant the expense of individual suits. The likelihood of individual
24 Class members prosecuting separate claims is remote, and even if every Class member could afford
25 individual litigation, the court system would be unduly burdened by individual litigation of such cases.
26 Individual Class members do not have a significant interest in individually controlling the prosecution of
27 separate actions, and the individualized litigation would also present the potential for varying,
28 inconsistent, or contradictory judgments and would magnify the delay and expense to all parties and to

1 the court system resulting from multiple trials of the same factual issues. Plaintiff knows of no difficulty
2 to be encountered in the management of this action that would preclude its maintenance as a class
3 action. A class action in this matter will avoid case management difficulties and provide multiple
4 benefits, including efficiency, economy of scale, unitary adjudication with consistent results and equal
5 protection of the rights of each Class member, all by way of the comprehensive and efficient supervision
6 of the litigation by a single court.

7 55. Notice of a certified class action and of any result or resolution of the litigation can be
8 provided to Class members by first-class mail, email, or publication, or such other methods of notice as
9 deemed appropriate by the Court.

10 56. Plaintiff does not anticipate any difficulty in the management of this litigation.

11 **FIRST CLAIM FOR RELIEF**

12 **VIOLATIONS OF CALIFORNIA’S CONSUMER LEGAL REMEDIES ACT (“CLRA”)**

13 **(On Behalf of the Nationwide Class or, Alternatively, on Behalf of the California Class)**

14 **(Against All Defendants)**

15 57. Plaintiff incorporates by reference all allegations of the preceding paragraphs as though
16 fully set forth herein.

17 58. Defendants are persons as that term is defined in California Civil Code § 1761(c).

18 59. Plaintiff and the Class are “consumers” as that term is defined in California Civil Code
19 § 1761(d).

20 60. Defendants engaged in unfair and deceptive acts in violation of the CLRA by the
21 practices described above, and by knowingly and intentionally concealing from Plaintiff and Class
22 members that the PS4 is defective. These acts and practices violate, at a minimum, the following
23 sections of the CLRA:

24 (a)(2) Misrepresenting the source, sponsorship, approval or certification of
25 goods or services;

26 (a)(5) Representing that goods or services have sponsorships,
27 characteristics, uses, benefits or quantities which they do not have, or that a
28 person has a sponsorship, approval, status, affiliation or connection which
he or she does not have;

1 (a)(7) Representing that goods or services are of a particular standard,
2 quality, or grade, or that goods are of a particular style or model, if they are
3 of another; and

4 (a)(9) Advertising goods and services with the intent not to sell them as
5 advertised.

6 61. Defendants' unfair or deceptive acts or practices occurred repeatedly in Defendants' trade
7 or business and were capable of deceiving a substantial portion of the purchasing public.

8 62. Defendants knew that the PS4 was defective, prone to failing for its essential purpose,
9 and would become useless as a result of reasonable and foreseeable use by consumers.

10 63. Defendants were under a duty to Plaintiff and the Class members to disclose the defective
11 nature of the PS4 because:

- 12 a. Defendants were in a superior position to know the true state of facts about the
13 Disc Drive Defect in the PS4;
- 14 b. Plaintiff and the Class members could not reasonably have been expected to learn
15 or discover that the PS4 was defective and not in accordance with Defendants'
16 advertisements and representations;
- 17 c. Defendants knew that Plaintiff and the Class members could not reasonably have
18 been expected to learn or discover the Disc Drive Defect in the PS4; and
- 19 d. Defendants actively concealed and failed to disclose the Disc Drive Defect from
20 Plaintiff and the Class.

21 64. In failing to disclose the Disc Drive Defect at the time of sale, Defendants have
22 knowingly and intentionally concealed material facts and breached their duty not to do so.

23 65. The facts concealed or not disclosed by Defendants to Plaintiff and the Class members
24 are material in that a reasonable consumer would have considered them to be important in deciding
25 whether to purchase Defendants' PS4 or pay a lesser price. Had Plaintiff and the Class known about the
26 Disc Drive Defect in the PS4, they would not have purchased the PS4 or would have paid less for it.

27 66. Plaintiff has provided Defendants with notice of its violations of the CLRA pursuant to
28 California Civil Code § 1782(a) and seeks injunctive relief under the CLRA. Plaintiff will amend this
complaint to seek monetary damages under the CLRA at the conclusion of the 30 day notice period.

1 67. Plaintiff and the other Class members' injuries were proximately caused by Sony's
2 fraudulent and deceptive business practices.

3 68. Therefore, Plaintiff and the other Class members are entitled to equitable relief under the
4 CLRA.

5 **SECOND CLAIM FOR RELIEF**

6 **VIOLATIONS OF CALIFORNIA BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONS CODE § 17200**

7 **(On Behalf of the Nationwide Class or, Alternatively, on Behalf of the California Class)**

8 **(Against All Defendants)**

9 69. Plaintiff incorporates by reference all allegations of the preceding paragraphs as though
10 fully set forth herein.

11 70. The California Unfair Competition Law ("UCL") prohibits acts of "unfair competition,"
12 including any "unlawful, unfair or fraudulent business act or practice" and "unfair, deceptive, untrue or
13 misleading advertising." Cal. Bus. & Prof. Code § 17200.

14 71. Defendants have engaged in unfair competition and unfair, unlawful, or fraudulent
15 business practices by the conduct, statements, and omissions described above, and by knowingly and
16 intentionally concealing from Plaintiff and the Class members the Disc Drive Defect (and the costs and
17 diminished value of the PS4 as a result of Defendants' conduct). Defendants should have disclosed this
18 information because they were in a superior position to know the true facts related to the Disc Drive
19 Defect, and Plaintiff and Class members could not reasonably be expected to learn or discover the true
20 facts related to the Disc Drive Defect.

21 72. These acts and practices have deceived Plaintiff and are likely to deceive the public. In
22 failing to disclose the Disc Drive Defect and suppressing other material facts from Plaintiff and the
23 Class members, Defendants breached their duties to disclose these facts, violated the UCL, and caused
24 injuries to Plaintiff and the Class members. The omissions and acts of concealment by Defendants
25 pertained to information that was material to Plaintiff and the Class members, as it would have been to
26 all reasonable consumers.

1 73. The injuries suffered by Plaintiff and the Class members are greatly outweighed by any
2 potential countervailing benefit to consumers or to competition, nor are they injuries that Plaintiff and
3 the Class members should have reasonably avoided.

4 74. Defendants' acts and practices are unlawful because they violate California Civil Code
5 §§ 1668, 1709, 1710, and 1750 *et seq.*, and California Commercial Code § 2313.

6 75. Plaintiff seeks to enjoin further unlawful, unfair and/or fraudulent acts or practices by
7 Defendants, to obtain restitutionary disgorgement of all monies and revenues generated as a result of
8 such practices, and all other relief allowed under California Business & Professions Code § 17200.

9 **THIRD CLAIM FOR RELIEF**

10 **VIOLATIONS OF CALIFORNIA FALSE ADVERTISING LAW**

11 **(On Behalf of the Nationwide Class or, Alternatively, on Behalf of the California Class)**

12 **(Against All Defendants)**

13 76. Plaintiff incorporates by reference all allegations of the preceding paragraphs as though
14 fully set forth herein.

15 77. California Business & Professions Code § 17500 states: "It is unlawful for
16 any . . . corporation . . . with intent directly or indirectly to dispose of real or personal property . . . to
17 induce the public to enter into any obligation relating thereto, to make or disseminate or cause to be
18 made or disseminated . . . from this state before the public in any state, in any newspaper or other
19 publication, or any advertising device, . . . or in any other manner or means whatever, including over the
20 Internet, any statement . . . which is untrue or misleading, and which is known, or which by the exercise
21 of reasonable care should be known, to be untrue or misleading."

22 78. Defendants caused to be made or disseminated throughout California and the United
23 States, through advertising, marketing, and other publications, statements that were untrue or
24 misleading, and which were known, or which by the exercise of reasonable care should have been
25 known to Defendants, to be untrue and misleading to consumers, including Plaintiff and the other Class
26 members.

1 79. Defendants have violated section 17500 because the misrepresentations and omissions
2 regarding the functionality of their PS4, as set forth in this Complaint, were material and likely to
3 deceive a reasonable consumer.

4 80. Plaintiff and the other Class members have suffered an injury in fact, including the loss of
5 money or property, as a result of Defendants' unfair, unlawful, and/or deceptive practices. In purchasing
6 the PS4, Plaintiff and the other Class members relied on the misrepresentations and/or omissions of
7 Defendants with respect to the reliability of the PS4. Defendants' representations were untrue because
8 the PS4 was manufactured and sold with the Disc Drive Defect. Had Plaintiff and the other Class
9 members known this, they would not have purchased their PS4s and/or not paid as much for them.
10 Accordingly, Plaintiff and the other Class members overpaid for the PS4 and did not receive the benefit
11 of their bargain.

12 81. All of the wrongful conduct alleged herein occurred in the conduct of Defendants'
13 business.

14 82. Plaintiff, individually and on behalf of the other Class members, requests that this Court
15 enter such orders or judgments as may be necessary to restore to Plaintiff and the other Class members
16 any money Defendants acquired by unfair competition, including restitution and/or restitutionary
17 disgorgement, and for such other relief set forth below.

18 **FOURTH CLAIM FOR RELIEF**

19 **FRAUD**

20 **(On Behalf of the Nationwide Class or, Alternatively, on Behalf of the California Class)**

21 **(Against All Defendants)**

22 83. Plaintiff incorporates by reference all allegations of the preceding paragraphs as though
23 fully set forth herein.

24 84. The misrepresentations, nondisclosure, and/or concealment of material facts made by
25 Defendants to Plaintiff and the Class members, as set forth above, were known, or through reasonable
26 care should have been known, by Defendants to be false and material and were intended to mislead
27 Plaintiff and the Class members.

1 85. Plaintiff and the Class members were actually misled and deceived and were induced by
2 Defendants to purchase the PS4 which they would not otherwise have purchased, or would have paid
3 substantially less for.

4 86. As a result of the conduct of Defendants, Plaintiff, and the Class members have been
5 damaged in an amount to be determined at trial.

6 **FIFTH CLAIM FOR RELIEF**

7 **NEGLIGENT MISREPRESENTATION**

8 **(On Behalf of the Nationwide Class or, Alternatively, on Behalf of the California Class)**

9 **(Against All Defendants)**

10 87. Plaintiff incorporates by reference all allegations of the preceding paragraphs as though
11 fully set forth herein.

12 88. Defendants had a duty to provide honest and accurate information to its customers so that
13 customers could make informed decisions on the substantial purchase of a video game and media
14 system.

15 89. Defendants specifically and expressly misrepresented material facts to Plaintiff and Class
16 members, as discussed above.

17 90. Defendants knew, or in the exercise of reasonable diligence, should have known, that the
18 ordinary and reasonable consumer would be misled by Defendants' misleading and deceptive
19 advertisements.

20 91. Plaintiff and the Class members justifiably relied on Defendants' misrepresentations and
21 have been damaged thereby in an amount to be determined at trial.

22 **SIXTH CLAIM FOR RELIEF**

23 **UNJUST ENRICHMENT**

24 **(On Behalf of the Nationwide Class or, Alternatively, on Behalf of the California Class)**

25 **(Against All Defendants)**

26 92. Plaintiff incorporates by reference all allegations of the preceding paragraphs as though
27 fully set forth herein.

28

1 93. Plaintiff and the Class members conferred a benefit on Defendants by purchasing the
2 PS4.

3 94. Defendants had knowledge that this benefit was conferred upon them.

4 95. Because of their wrongful acts and omissions, Defendants charged a higher price for the
5 PS4 than the PS4's true value and Defendants obtained money which rightfully belongs to Plaintiff and
6 the Class members.

7 96. Defendants have been unjustly enriched at the expense of Plaintiff and the Class and their
8 retention of this benefit under the circumstances would be inequitable.

9 97. Plaintiff seeks an order requiring Defendants to make restitution to him and the other
10 members of the Class.

11 **SEVENTH CLAIM FOR RELIEF**

12 **BREACH OF EXPRESS WARRANTY**

13 **(On Behalf of the Nationwide Class or, Alternatively, on Behalf of the California Class)**

14 **(Against Defendant Sony Interactive Entertainment, Inc.)**

15 98. Plaintiff incorporates by reference all allegations of the preceding paragraphs as though
16 fully set forth herein.

17 99. Defendant Sony Interactive Entertainment provided Plaintiff and the Class members with
18 the following express warranty: "Sony Computer Entertainment America LLC ("SCEA") warrants to the
19 original purchaser that the PS4™ hardware, which includes components contained in the retail box with this
20 hardware ("Product") will be free from material defects in material and workmanship for a period of one
21 year from the original date of purchase (the "Warranty Period"). This warranty is valid only in the United
22 States and Canada. IF THIS PRODUCT IS DETERMINED TO BE MATERIALLY DEFECTIVE
23 DURING THE WARRANTY PERIOD, YOUR SOLE REMEDY AND SCEA'S SOLE AND
24 EXCLUSIVE LIABILITY IS LIMITED TO THE REPAIR OR REPLACEMENT OF THIS PRODUCT
25 WITH A FACTORY-RECERTIFIED PRODUCT, AT SCEA'S OPTION."

26 100. The above express warranty became part of the basis of the bargain between Plaintiff and
27 the Class members and Defendant Sony Interactive Entertainment.

28

1 101. Plaintiff and the Class members presented their PS4s for repairs after the Disc Drive
2 Defect manifested. Sony Interactive Entertainment, however, declined to remedy the Disc Drive Defect
3 in Plaintiff's and the Class members' PS4s and thereby breached its express warranties with Plaintiff
4 and the Class members.

5 102. Plaintiff and the Class members notified Sony Interactive Entertainment of the breaches
6 within a reasonable time, and/or were not required to do so because affording Sony Interactive
7 Entertainment a reasonable opportunity to cure its breach of written warranty would have been futile.
8 Sony Interactive Entertainment also knew of the defect and yet has chosen to conceal it and fail to
9 comply with its warranty obligations.

10 103. The Disc Drive Defect is a defect as defined by Sony Interactive Entertainment's express
11 warranty.

12 104. As a direct and proximate cause of Sony Interactive Entertainment's breach, Plaintiff and
13 the Class members bought PS4s that they otherwise would not have, overpaid for their PS4s, did not
14 receive the benefit of their bargain, and their PS4s suffered a diminution in value. Plaintiff and the Class
15 members have also incurred and will continue to incur costs for replacement PS4s.

16 105. As alleged above, the terms of Sony Interactive Entertainment's express warranty are
17 both substantively and procedurally unconscionable. Sony Interactive Entertainment's attempt to
18 disclaim or limit these express warranties vis-à-vis consumers is unconscionable and unenforceable
19 under the circumstances here. Specifically, its warranty limitation is unenforceable because it knowingly
20 sold a defective product without informing consumers about the defect.

21 106. The time limits contained in Sony Interactive Entertainment's warranty period were also
22 unconscionable and inadequate to protect Plaintiff and the Class members. Among other things, Plaintiff
23 and Class members had no meaningful choice in determining these time limitations the terms of which
24 unreasonably favored Sony Interactive Entertainment. A gross disparity in bargaining power existed
25 between Sony Interactive Entertainment and Plaintiff and the Class members, and Sony Interactive
26 Entertainment knew or should have known that the PS4s were defective at the time of sale and would
27 fail well before their useful lives.

28

1 107. Plaintiff and Class members have complied with all obligations under the warranty, or
2 otherwise have been excused from performance of said obligations as a result of Sony Interactive
3 Entertainment's conduct described herein.

4 108. Plaintiff and the Class members are entitled to legal and equitable relief against Sony
5 Interactive Entertainment, including damages, consequential damages, specific performance, attorney
6 fees, costs of suit, and other relief as appropriate.

7 **EIGHTH CLAIM FOR RELIEF**

8 **BREACH OF IMPLIED WARRANTY**

9 **(On Behalf of the Nationwide Class or, Alternatively, on Behalf of the California Class)**

10 **(Against Defendant Sony Interactive Entertainment, Inc.)**

11 109. Plaintiff incorporates by reference all allegations of the preceding paragraphs as though
12 fully set forth herein.

13 110. Sony Interactive Entertainment provided Plaintiff and the Class members with an implied
14 warranty that the PS4 and any parts thereof are merchantable and fit for the ordinary purposes for which
15 they were sold. However, the PS4 is not fit for its ordinary purpose as a video game and media system
16 because it suffers from the Disc Drive Defect described herein. As such, the PS4s were incapable of
17 playing video game discs or playing DVDs or Blu-ray movies.

18 111. Sony Interactive Entertainment impliedly warranted that the PS4s were of merchantable
19 quality and fit for such use. This implied warranty included, among other things, a warranty that the
20 PS4s were reliable and would not experience premature failure when consumers used them in a
21 reasonable and foreseeable manner.

22 112. Contrary to the applicable implied warranties, the PS4s at the time of sale and thereafter
23 were not fit for their ordinary and intended purpose of providing Plaintiff and the Class members with
24 reliable video game and media systems.

25 113. Sony Interactive Entertainment's actions, as complained of herein, breached the implied
26 warranty that the PS4s were of merchantable quality and fit for such use.

27 //

28 //

NINTH CLAIM FOR RELIEF

VIOLATIONS OF THE MAGNUSON-MOSS WARRANTY ACT

(On Behalf of the Nationwide Class or, Alternatively, on Behalf of the California Class)

(Against Defendant Sony Interactive Entertainment, Inc.)

114. Plaintiff incorporate by reference all allegations of the preceding paragraphs as though fully set forth herein.

115. Congress enacted the Magnuson-Moss Warranty Act, 15 U.S.C. § 2301 *et seq.*, in response to widespread consumer complaints regarding misleading and deceptive warranties. The Act imposes civil liability on any “warrantor” for failing to comply with any obligation under written and implied warranties. 15 U.S.C. § 2310(d)(1).

116. The PS4s are consumer products as defined by 15 U.S.C. § 2301(1).

117. Plaintiff and the Class members are “consumers” as defined by 15 U.S.C. § 2301(3).

118. Sony Interactive Entertainment is a warrantor and supplier as defined by 15 U.S.C. § 2301(4) and (5).

119. Sony Interactive Entertainment has failed to remedy the Disc Drive Defect, despite its knowledge and notice of the Disc Drive Defect in the PS4.

120. Sony Interactive Entertainment expressly warranted the PS4 would be free of defects.

121. At the time Sony Interactive Entertainment issued written warranties for the PS4, it knew and had notice that the PS4 had the propensity to premature failure caused by the Disc Drive Defect. Sony Interactive Entertainment’s continued misrepresentations and omissions concerning the Disc Drive Defect, as well as its failure to abide by their own written and implied warranties, are “unfair methods of competition in or affecting commerce, and [are] unfair or deceptive acts or practices in or affecting commerce.” Accordingly, its behavior is unlawful under 15 U.S.C. §§ 2310(b), 45(a)(1).

122. Plaintiff and the Class members seek to recover damages caused as a direct result of Sony Interactive Entertainment’s breach of their written and implied warranties and its deceitful and unlawful conduct. Damages include costs associated with repairing or replacing the PS4s with non-defective PS4s or other video game and media systems.

1 123. The Act also provides for “other legal and equitable” relief. 15 U.S.C. § 2310(d)(1).
2 Accordingly, Plaintiff and the Class members seek reformulation of Sony Interactive Entertainment’s
3 written warranty to comport with its obligations under the Act and with consumers’ reasonable
4 expectations. Additionally, Plaintiff seeks to enjoin Sony Interactive Entertainment from acting
5 unlawfully as further alleged, including discouraging Plaintiff to seek all available remedies.

6 124. The Act also provides for an award of costs and expenses, including attorneys’ fees, to
7 prevailing consumers in the Court’s discretion. 15 U.S.C. § 2310(d)(2). Plaintiff intends to seek such an
8 award as prevailing consumers at the conclusion of the case.

9 **TENTH CLAIM FOR RELIEF**

10 **VIOLATIONS OF THE SONG-BEVERLY CONSUMER WARRANTY ACT**

11 **(On Behalf of the California Class)**

12 **(Against Defendant Sony Interactive Entertainment, Inc.)**

13 125. Plaintiff incorporates by reference all allegations of the preceding paragraphs as though
14 fully set forth herein.

15 126. At all relevant times, Sony Interactive Entertainment was the manufacturer, distributor,
16 warrantor and/or seller of the PS4. Sony Interactive Entertainment knew or should have known of the
17 specific use for which the PS4s were purchased.

18 127. Sony Interactive Entertainment provided Plaintiff with an implied warranty that the PS4,
19 and any parts thereof, are merchantable and fit for the ordinary purposes for which they were sold. The
20 PS4, however, was not fit for its ordinary purpose because, *inter alia*, the PS4 suffered from an inherent
21 defect at the time of sale that causes the disc drives to eject in a continuous loop, preventing the use of
22 the disc drive. As such, the PS4 was incapable of being used for its intended purpose of playing video
23 games and watching DVDs or Blu-rays.

24 128. The PS4 is not fit for the purpose of use as a video game and media system because of
25 the Disc Drive Defect.

26 129. Sony Interactive Entertainment impliedly warranted that the PS4 was of merchantable
27 quality and fit for such use. This implied warranty included, *inter alia*, a warranty that the PS4 was
28

1 manufactured, supplied, distributed, and/or sold by Sony Interactive Entertainment were reliable for use
2 as a video game and media system and would not prematurely fail.

3 **PRAYER FOR RELIEF**

4 **WHEREFORE**, Plaintiff on behalf of himself and members of the various Classes, respectfully
5 requests that this Court:

6 a. determine that the claims alleged herein may be maintained as a class action under Rule
7 23 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, and issue an order certifying one or more Classes as defined
8 above;

9 b. appoint Plaintiff as the representative of the Class or Classes and his counsel as Class
10 counsel;

11 c. award all actual, general, special, incidental, statutory, punitive, and consequential
12 damages and restitution to which Plaintiff and the Class members are entitled, except as to Plaintiff's
13 claim for violation of the CLRA for which Plaintiff seeks only restitution and injunctive relief, pursuant
14 to California Civil Code § 1780, at this time;

15 d. award pre-judgment and post-judgment interest on such monetary relief;

16 e. grant appropriate injunctive and/or declaratory relief, including, without limitation, an
17 order that requires Defendants to repair, recall, and/or replace the PS4s and to extend the applicable
18 warranties to a reasonable period of time, or, at a minimum, to provide Plaintiff and Class members with
19 appropriate curative notice regarding the existence and cause of the Disc Drive Defect;

20 f. award reasonable attorneys' fees and costs; and

21 g. grant such further relief that this Court deems appropriate.

22 DATED: October 26, 2016.

MCCUNEWRIGHT, LLP

23 BY: /s/ Richard D. McCune
24 Richard D. McCune
25 State Bar No. 132124
rdm@mccunewright.com
26 David C. Wright
State Bar No. 177468
dcw@mccunewright.com
27 2068 Orange Tree Lane, Suite 216
Redlands, California 92374
Telephone: (909) 557-1250
28 Facsimile: (909) 557-1275

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28

MCCUNEWRIGHT LLP
Joseph G. Sauder
Matthew D. Schelkopf
Joseph B. Kenney
555 Lancaster Avenue
Berwyn, PA 19312
Telephone: (610) 200-0580

Attorneys for Plaintiff and the Putative Class

JURY DEMAND

Plaintiff demands a trial by jury on all issues so triable.

DATED: October 26, 2016.

MCCUNEWRIGHT, LLP

BY: /s/ Richard D. McCune
Richard D. McCune
rdm@mccunewright.com
2068 Orange Tree Lane, Suite 216
Redlands, California 92374
Telephone: (909) 557-1250
Facsimile: (909) 557-1275

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

Dominic Moschitti

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

(c) Attorneys (Firm Name, Address, and Telephone Number) Richard D. McCune, McCuneWright, LLP, 2068 Orange Treet Lane, Suite 216, Redlands, CA 92374, (909) 557-1250

DEFENDANTS

Sony Interactive Entertainment, Inc., and Sony Corporation of America

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, 2 U.S. Government Defendant, 3 Federal Question (U.S. Government Not a Party), 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, PERSONAL INJURY, CIVIL RIGHTS, PRISONER PETITIONS, FORFEITURE/PENALTY, LABOR, IMMIGRATION, LABOR, 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. Brief description of cause: Breach of written warranty and consumer fraud class action related to defect with PlayStation 4 disc drives.

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: [X] Yes [] No

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

IX. DIVISIONAL ASSIGNMENT (Civil Local Rule 3-2) (Place an "X" in One Box Only) [X] SAN FRANCISCO/OAKLAND [] SAN JOSE [] EUREKA-MCKINLEYVILLE

DATE: 10/25/2016 SIGNATURE OF ATTORNEY OF RECORD: /s/ Richard D. McCune

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.

ClassAction.org

This complaint is part of ClassAction.org's searchable class action lawsuit database and can be found in this post: [Another Disc Drive Defect Class Action Filed Against Sony](#)
