

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ALABAMA  
SOUTHERN DIVISION**

<b>JOE MYHAND, INDIVIDUALLY AND ON BEHALF OF ALL OTHERS SIMILARLY SITUATED,</b>	)	
	)	
	)	
<b>Plaintiff,</b>	)	<b>CIVIL ACTION CASE NUMBER:</b>
	)	<b>(CLASS ACTION)</b>
<b>v.</b>	)	
	)	
<b>THE FRESH MARKET, INC. a DELAWARE CORPORATION</b>	)	
	)	
<b>Defendant.</b>	)	

**INDIVIDUAL AND CLASS ACTION  
COMPLAINT AND DEMAND FOR  
JURY TRIAL**

Plaintiff, Joe Myhand (“Plaintiff”) files this Individual and Class Action Complaint against Defendant, The Fresh Market, Inc. a Delaware Corporation (“Fresh Market”) and alleges as follows:

**INTRODUCTION**

1. Plaintiff brings this action individually and on behalf of a class of similarly situated persons for compensatory and statutory damages as a result of Fresh Market marketing its bakery goods in violation of federal food marketing regulations. Plaintiff further makes this claim against Fresh Market for breach of Fresh Market’s express and implied warranties and breach of implied agreement of good faith.
2. Plaintiff, Joe Myhand, is a resident of Shelby County, Alabama. Plaintiff shops from time to time at Fresh Market’s location at 4700 US 280, Birmingham, Jefferson

County, Alabama. On May 25, 2020, Plaintiff visited said Fresh Market location and purchased several items including the products in question, prepackaged containers of bakery goods from the Fresh Market's bakery department.<sup>1</sup> Plaintiff expected that the Defendant's bakery goods were being baked, packaged and sold in conformity with legal requirements. After the purchase, Plaintiff learned that such was in violation of the Food & Drug Administration's (FDA) clear requirements to place Nutrition Labels on its food products.

3. Fresh Market is an American chain of gourmet supermarkets based in Greensboro, North Carolina but incorporated under the laws of the State of Delaware.<sup>2</sup> Fresh Market was founded by Ray and Beverly Berry on March 5, 1982, in Greensboro, North Carolina. The Berrys' idea was to develop a better grocery store that brought back the feeling of open European-style markets.<sup>3</sup> The company operates at last report 176 stores in 24 states,<sup>4</sup> located in the Southeast, Midwest, Mid-Atlantic and Northeast, with plans for continued expansion throughout the country. Fresh Market, on November 5, 2010, began trading on Nasdaq using the symbol TFM.<sup>5</sup> Apollo Global Management, LLC (APO), a leading global alternative investment manager, has acquired the stock of Fresh Market

---

<sup>1</sup> Attached as Exhibit A is Mr. Myhand's purchase receipt.

<sup>2</sup> "Contact Us (<http://www.freshmarket.com/company/contactus.aspx>) Archived (<https://web.archive.org/web/20100923033804/http://freshmarket.com/company/contactus.aspx>) 2010-09-23 at the Wayback Machine." Fresh Market. Retrieved on July 13, 2010. "Mail: 628 Green Valley Road Suite 500 Greensboro, NC 27408-7041"

<sup>3</sup> "Archived copy" (<https://web.archive.org/web/20070531174330/http://www.freshmarket.com/Company/history.html>). Archived from the original (<http://www.freshmarket.com/Company/history.html>) on 2007-05-31. Retrieved 2007-06-22.

<sup>4</sup> <http://www.thefreshmarket.com/about.html>

<sup>5</sup> "Report: Fresh Market raises \$290 million at IPO" ([http://www.news-record.com/content/2010/11/05/article/report\\_fresh\\_market\\_raises>290\\_million\\_at\\_ipo](http://www.news-record.com/content/2010/11/05/article/report_fresh_market_raises>290_million_at_ipo)). *News & Record*. 2010-11-05. Retrieved 2010-11-05.

(TFM) as of April 27, 2016. As a result, Fresh Market became a privately held company and Fresh Market's common stock ceased trading on the NASDAQ.<sup>6</sup>

### **JURISDICTION AND VENUE**

4. This court has original jurisdiction over this civil action under the Class Action Fairness Act of 2005. The amount in controversy exceeds the sum or value of Five Million Dollars (\$5,000,000), exclusive of interest and costs, and there is minimal diversity because named Plaintiff and certain members of the class are citizens of a different state than Defendant, as required by 28 U.S.C. § 1332(d)(2).

5. Venue is proper in this judicial district because Defendant conducts substantial business in this district and the events giving rise to Plaintiff's claim occurred in this district, since the unlawful conduct complained of herein occurred in this district.

### **STATEMENT OF FACTS**

6. Plaintiff's individual claim and his claim on behalf of all others in Alabama and in the United States who are similarly situated is based on Fresh Market violating federal food law and regulations in selling its bakery goods without Fresh Market placing the required Nutrition Labeling on its bakery goods prior to sale.

7. The fronts of the bakery goods' packages purchased by Plaintiff are attached hereto as Exhibits B and C.

8. Attached hereto as Exhibits D and E are photos of the reverse of the subject bakery goods purchased by Mr. Myhand.

---

<sup>6</sup> "Certain Funds Affiliated with Apollo Global Management Announce Completion of the Acquisition of The Fresh Market, Inc" (<https://www.apollo.com/stockholders/press-releases/2016/04-27-2016-130904393>). [www.apollo.com](http://www.apollo.com). Retrieved 2020-03-20.

9. The Food and Drug Administration (“FDA”) is responsible for assuring that foods sold in the United States are safe, wholesome and properly labeled. This applies to foods produced domestically, as well as foods from foreign countries. The Federal Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act (“FD&C Act”) and the Fair Packaging and Labeling Act are the federal laws governing food products under FDA’s jurisdiction.

10. The Nutrition Labeling and Education Act (“NLEA”), which amended the FD&C Act, requires foods to bear food labeling that conforms to the nutrient content claims and certain health messages to comply with certain specifics (see CFR 101.1 et seq).

11. To clarify the requirement upon Fresh Market as mentioned in 9. And 10. above, the FDA first authored its Guidance for Industry: A Food Labeling Guide, in October, 2009.

The FDA recited:

**Away – From – Home Foods**

**L114. Is a manufacturer that produces institutional and restaurant foods required to provide nutrition information?**

**Answer:** Foods which are served or sold for use only in restaurants and other establishments in which food is served for immediate consumption are exempt from nutrition labeling. However, if there is a reasonable possibility that the product will be purchased directly by consumers (e.g. club stores), nutrition information is required. 21 CFR 101.9(j)(2)(iii) and 21 CFR 101.9(j)(2)(iv)(B) (emphasis added)

12. Later, in 2013 the FDA provided an updated “Guide to Industry” to facilitate food sales companies to better comply with the law respecting the labeling of food products. Fresh Market was provided said Guide. A basic statement from the FDA Guide regarding

Fresh Market's legal requirements for the full labeling of the subject bakery goods follows:<sup>7</sup>

(1.) **Where should label statements be placed on containers and packages?**

**Answer:** There are two ways to label packages and containers:

- a. Place all required label statements on the front label panel (the principal display panel or PDP), or,
- b. Place certain specified label statements on the PDP and other labeling on the information panel (the label panel immediately to the right of the PDP, as seen by the consumer facing the product).

21 CFR 101.1, 21 CFR 101.2, 21 CFR 101.3, 21 CFR 101.4, 21 CFR 101.5, 21 CFR 101.9, and 21 CFR 101.105

(2.) **What are the PDP and the alternate PDP?**

**Answer:** The PDP, is that portion of the package label that is most likely to be seen by the consumer at the time of purchase. Many containers are designed with two or more different surfaces that are suitable for display as the PDP. These are alternate PDPs. 21 CFR 101.1

(3.) **What label statements must appear on the PDP?**

**Answer:** Place the statement of identity, or name of the food, and the net quantity statement, or amount of product, on the PDP and on the alternate PDP. 21 CFR 101.3(a) and 21 CFR 101.5(a)

(4.) **Which label panel is the information panel?**

**Answer:** The information panel is the label panel immediately to the right of the PDP, as displayed to the consumer. If this panel is not usable, due to package design and construction, (e.g., folded flaps), then the information panel is the next label panel immediately to the right. 21 CFR 101.2(a), (which in the case of the subject bakery goods, should be on the reverse. [Fresh Market does not do that] ).

---

<sup>7</sup> "Food Labeling Guide – Guidance for Industry", FDA; 1/2013.

13. More specific to the present case, are the requirements for Fresh Market to have adhered to the FDA's requirements relative to Nutrition Labeling.

(G1.) **Where should the Nutrition Facts label be placed on food packages?**

**Answer:** The Nutrition Facts label may be placed together with the ingredient list and the name and address (name and address of the manufacturer, packer, or distributor) on the PDP. These three label statements also may be placed on the information panel (the label panel adjacent to the right of the PDP, or, if there is insufficient space on the adjacent panel, on the next adjacent panel to the right). On packages with insufficient area on the PDP and information panel, the Nutrition Facts label may be placed on any alternate panel that can be seen by the consumer, 21 CFR 101.2(b) & (e) & 101.9(i)

(G2.) **Is it necessary to use a nutrition display with a box shape on a round package?**

**Answer:** Yes. Even when using the tabular display, the nutrition information must be set off in a box. 21 CFR 101.9(d)(1)(i)

(G3.) **Can the product name be placed within the Nutrition Facts label?**

**Answer:** No. The name may be placed above the box that encloses the nutrition information. 21 CFR 101.9(c) & (d)

(G4.) **Can the Nutrition Facts label be oriented perpendicularly as opposed to parallel, to the base of the package?**

**Answer:** Yes. There is no requirement that any information, other than the net quantity of contents and statement of identity, be printed parallel to the base of the package. However, FDA urges manufacturers to strive for consistency of presentation of nutrition

information in the market and to place the Nutrition Facts label so that it is readily observable and legible to the consumer at the point of purchase.

(G5.) **Is a break in the vertical alignment allowed with the standard format?**

**Answer:** Yes. The vertical format may be broken in either of the following ways: (1) placement of the footnote to the right of the panel as shown in the example in 21 CFR 101.9(d)(11) or (2) all vitamins and minerals that are listed voluntarily (i.e., after iron) may be moved to the top of the panel along with the footnote. 21 CFR 101.9(d)(11)

14. Hence, one can readily ascertain that the labeling of food products is stringently required and meticulously stated by the federal government. To maintain the health and wellness of Americans, customary and necessary nutrition labeling has been a vital part of food merchandising in the United States since 1994.

15. The FDA recognizes that health and wellness of all Americans depends on proper nutrition. FDA and the federal Center for Disease Control (CDC) have been in the forefront of education of proper nutrition. Never before have Americans been so attuned to proper eating habits defined by less sodium, lower fat consumption, less sugar and lower carbohydrates. The Nutrition Label is vital more than ever, for all Americans to know what a product contains.<sup>8</sup>

16. Until recently, the nutrition panel that has been required on food packages was as set out in the format below (left side). That labeling has recently changed. Fresh Market was given substantial advance notice of a change in the nutrition labeling to be affixed to

---

<sup>8</sup> <http://www.letseathealthier.com/why-is-nutrition-important.html>

their food products.<sup>9</sup> As of January 1, 2020, several changes were made to FDA's nutrition labeling requirements.<sup>10</sup> The following is a side by side comparison of the prior format label (left side) to the January 1, 2020 label requirements (right side):

# SIDE-BY-SIDE COMPARISON

## Original Label

### Nutrition Facts

Serving Size 2/3 cup (55g)  
Servings Per Container About 8

Amount Per Serving			
<b>Calories 250</b>		Calories from Fat 72	
		% Daily Value*	
<b>Total Fat</b> 8g		12%	
Saturated Fat 1g		5%	
Trans Fat 0g			
<b>Cholesterol</b> 0mg		0%	
<b>Sodium</b> 160mg		7%	
<b>Total Carbohydrate</b> 37g		12%	
Dietary Fiber 4g		16%	
Sugars 12g			
<b>Protein</b> 3g			
Vitamin A		10%	
Vitamin C		8%	
Calcium		20%	
Iron		45%	

\* Percent Daily Values are based on a diet of other people's misdeeds. Your daily values may be higher or lower depending on your calorie needs.

	Calories: 2,000	2,500
Total Fat	Less than 65g	80g
Sat Fat	Less than 20g	25g
Cholesterol	Less than 300mg	300mg
Sodium	Less than 2,400mg	2,400mg
Total Carbohydrate	Less than 360g	375g
Dietary Fiber	25g	30g

## New Label

### Nutrition Facts

8 servings per container  
**Serving size 2/3 cup (55g)**

Amount per serving			
<b>Calories 230</b>			
		% Daily Value*	
<b>Total Fat</b> 8g		10%	
Saturated Fat 1g		5%	
Trans Fat 0g			
<b>Cholesterol</b> 0mg		0%	
<b>Sodium</b> 160mg		7%	
<b>Total Carbohydrate</b> 37g		13%	
Dietary Fiber 4g		14%	
Total Sugars 12g			
Includes 10g Added Sugars		20%	

<b>Protein</b> 3g			
Vitamin D 2mcg		10%	
Calcium 260mg		20%	
Iron 8mg		45%	
Potassium 235mg		5%	

\* The % Daily Value (DV) tells you how much a nutrient in a serving of food contributes to a daily diet. 2,000 calories a day is used for general nutrition advice.

17. Despite being notified of their nutrition labeling requirements, Fresh Market has continued to “skirt” their legal obligation to the law and to the American public. The manner that Fresh Market places their bakery products for sale is important in defining its responsibility. Fresh Market has not to date placed either the old nutrition label or the new label on their subject bakery goods.

<sup>9</sup> <https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2016/11/25/2016-28333/uniform-compliance-date-for-food-labeling-regulations>

<sup>10</sup> (food/food – labeling – nutrition/industry – resources – changes – nutrition – facts – label)



18. Plaintiff alleges that Fresh Market, upon information and belief, receives the dough for its bakery goods in shipments either from a third-party vendor or from a Fresh Market-owned central location. Each Fresh Market store then bakes the goods, places them in a plastic see-through container upon which is affixed the ingredient list and name of the bakery goods on the PDP (front) per the above FDA requirement. As stated above, the ingredients are to be listed in descending order of predominance of weight, meaning the ingredient weighing the most is listed first and the ingredient weighing least is listed last. See 21 CFR 101.4(a)

19. Fresh Market is then required by law to affix the nutrition label (noted in 16., above) to the reverse of the bakery good's container. But Fresh Market does not do that, thus violating the applicable FDA regulation and placing their customers at risk, in violation of 21 U.S.C. § 343.

20. While there are a few exemptions to nutrition labeling on food items, Fresh Market is not exempt respecting their bakery goods. The applicable legal requirement is codified under federal law at 21 U.S.C. 101.9(a), CFR 101.9(a):

Nutrition information relating to food shall be provided for all products intended for human consumption and offered for sale unless an exemption is provided for the product in paragraph (j) of this section.

21. One limited exemption above are pure bakeries. Should Fresh Market have expected to date to somehow fall under that exemption, Fresh Market is mistaken. The concept under the applicable FDA regulation generally is that is a typical bakery produces such things as cakes, doughnuts, muffins, pies and bread. These bakeries form their goods on site from scratch. Generally, only bakery goods that are prepared from scratch

on-site are exempt. If bakery goods are merely baked and packaged, then they are not exempt and the required Nutrition Labeling is to be affixed.

22. In addition, locations that prepare their bakery goods from scratch and/or which sell its products for immediate human consumption as in a restaurant or a school lunchroom are exempt. Those ready-to-eat establishments are listed in the FDA's "Guidance to Industry" as follows:

The following foods are exempt from this section or are subject to special labeling requirements:

- (i) Served in restaurants, Provided, That the food bears no nutrition claims or other nutrition information in any context on the label or in labeling or advertising. Claims or other nutrition information subject the food to the provisions of this section;
- (ii) Served in other establishments in which food is served for immediate human consumption (e.g., institutional food service establishments, such as schools, hospitals, and cafeterias; transportation carriers, such as trains and airplanes; bakeries; food service vendors, such as lunch wagons, ice cream shops, mall cookie counters, vending machines, and sidewalk carts where foods are generally consumed immediately where purchased or while the consumer is walking away, including similar foods sold from convenience stores; and food delivery systems or establishments where ready-to-eat foods are delivered to homes or offices), Provided, That the food bears no nutrition claims or other nutrition information in any context on the label or in labeling or advertising, except as provided in § 101.8(c). Claims or other nutrition information, except as provided in § 101.8(c), subject the food to the provisions of this section. 21 CFR 101.9(j)(2) & (3)

23. As stated in 12. above, in 2013, the FDA issued its updated "Food Labeling Guide, Guidance to Industry." The FDA further clarified the issue relative to bakeries, making it

crystal clear that unlabeled bakery items apply only in a restaurant-type facility, except in narrow circumstances:

**L118. Could FDA provide additional guidance on what foods sold in delis and bakeries are exempt?**

**Answer:** This exemption is based on 3 primary criteria: 1) when the food is consumed, 2) the location in which the food is processed and prepared, and 3) the extent to which the food is processed and prepared (i.e., must be ready-to-eat and of the type served in restaurants).

Bakeries and delis that sell foods for immediate consumption (e.g., where the deli or bakery has facilities for customers to sit and consume the food on the premises) are considered analogous to restaurants and all foods sold in such establishments are exempt under 21 CFR 101.9(j)(2) provided no claims are made.

When foods are not for immediate consumption, they may be exempt if they meet all the criteria listed in 21 CFR 101.9(j)(3). That is, when the food is ready-to-eat and is processed and prepared primarily on the premises of the establishment from which it is sold, it is exempt – regardless of how it is sold (i.e., from behind a counter or in pre-portioned packages from a self-service shelf). However, if the food is not primarily processed and prepared on-site, nutrition labeling is required.

To meet the criteria for being “primarily processed and prepared on-site”, the food must be augmented on site in a manner that changes the nutrient profile of the food (i.e., filling, icing, enrobing). Washing and garnishing with nuts, onions or seeds would fall under the definition of “primarily processed and prepared” if the added foods change the nutrition profile of the finished product. Custom cakes are exempt.

If pre-formed dough, pre-scaled/molded and par baked dough are merely proofed and baked or simply thawed, the product is considered to be “standardized” and nutrition labeling is required.

Foods which are not prepared on premises and that are portioned to consumer specifications on-site are not required to have nutrition labeling (e.g., 1 lb of potato salad; 2 lb

cheese, 1 lb assorted cookies, 5 rolls). However, if these items are packaged and offered for sale in another section of the store (e.g., refrigerator case; self-service bins), nutrition labeling is mandatory. 21 CFR 101.9(j)(3)(iv) (Defendant violates this directive also).

24. Federal law leaves little room to argue against the importance that the FDA places on proper food labeling. In fact and in law, by Fresh Market not placing Nutrition Labeling on their bakery goods, FDA states that Fresh Market is misleading consumers by marketing misbranded food.

### **MISBRANDED FOOD**

**SEC. 403.** [343] a food shall be deemed to be misbranded –

If any word, statement, or other information required by or under authority of this Act to appear on the label or labeling is not thereon with such conspicuousness (as compared with other words, statements, designs, or devices, in the labeling) and in such terms as to render it likely to be read and understood by the ordinary individual under customary conditions of purchase and use.

Section 403(a)(1) of the Federal Food, Drug, Cosmetic Act (FD&C Act) deems a food misbranded, if the labeling is false or misleading “in any particular.” What does “in any particular” mean?

“Misleading” covers not just false claims but also when ambiguity or inference [a label] create(s) a misleading impression.” In addition, a label may be deemed misleading for what it fails to disclose. That is, a label can be literally true but still be misleading when it does not disclose an important fact that is “material” to consumers. (emphasis added)

### **FD&C Act § 201(n)**

(n) If an article is alleged to be misbranded because the labeling or advertising is misleading, then in determining whether the labeling or advertising is misleading there shall be taken into account (among other things) not only representations made or suggested by statement, word,

design, device, or any combination thereof, but also the extent to which the labeling or advertising fails to reveal facts material in the light of such representations or material with respect to consequences which may result from the use of the article to which the labeling or advertising relates under the conditions of use prescribed in the labeling or advertising thereof or under such conditions of use as are customary or usual.

25. Fresh Market has ignored its federal labeling obligations while other similar sales outlets like Fresh Market use Nutrition Labeling on its bakery goods:

- Walmart – Attached as Exhibit F & G;
- Whole Foods – Attached as Exhibit H & I;
- Target – Attached as Exhibit J & K;
- Publix – Attached as Exhibit L & M.

26. As reasonable consumers, Plaintiff and class members desire to purchase bakery products with the reasonable assumption that the subject goods comply with federal law and regulations; Fresh Market is guilty of misbranding said goods:

- so that such causes confusion or misunderstanding as to the source, sponsorship, approval or certification of goods or services;
- by representing that said goods have sponsorship, approval, characteristics, ingredients, uses, benefits or qualities that they do not have;
- by representing that said goods are of a particular standard, quality or grade;
- by marketing said bakery goods in violation of law;
- by engaging in an unconscionable, false, misleading, or deceptive act or practice in the conduct of trade or commerce; and
- by impliedly representing said goods are of a quality that they are not.

27. As stated above, FDA regulations anticipate that grocery outlets will market its goods with required Nutrition Labeling and when it does not, such marketing is misleading the consumer, including Plaintiff and the classes. Plaintiff and the class paid the price for said bakery goods as required by Defendant only to receive less value than if legal Nutrition Labeling had been affixed.

### **CLASS ALLEGATIONS**

28. Plaintiff individually, and for the Class, incorporates by reference all preceding paragraphs as though fully set forth herein.

29. Plaintiff brings this case individually, and as a class action, pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 23, on behalf of all persons who have incurred economic, monetary or statutory damages as a result of Defendant's sale and distribution of its bakery goods.

30. Plaintiff seeks to represent the following Class:

- **All persons residing in the United States who purchased Fresh Market's bakery goods.**

And the following sub-class:

- **All persons residing in the State of Alabama who purchased Fresh Market's bakery goods.**

Excluded from the Classes are the following:

- i. Any and all federal, state, or local governments, including but not limited to their department, agencies, divisions, bureaus, boards, sections, groups, counsels, and/or subdivisions;
- ii. Individuals, if any who timely opt out of this proceeding using the correct protocol for opting out;

- iii. Current or former employees of Fresh Market;
- iv. Individuals, if any, who have previously settled or compromised claim(s) relating to Fresh Market's bakery goods; and
- v. Any currently sitting federal judge and/or person within the third degree of consanguinity to any federal judge.

31. Plaintiff seeks to recover damages on a Class-wide basis for himself and the Class under Alabama's breach-of-warranty law and breach of implied agreement of good faith, as well as all other states' similar laws as more fully described below.

32. Fresh Market violated the rights of each Member of the Class in the same fashion based upon Defendant's uniform actions in its marketing, producing, sales, design and distributing of its bakery goods.

33. Plaintiff should be approved to maintain this action as a class action for the following reasons:

34. **Numerosity:** Members of the Class are so numerous that individual joinder is impracticable. The proposed Class contains thousands of Members. The Class is therefore sufficiently numerous to make joinder impracticable, if not impossible.

35. **Common Questions of Fact and Law Exist:** Common questions of fact and law exist as to all Members of the Class, including whether Defendant marketed, designed, produced and distributed the Product with its representations and express warranties.

36. **Typicality:** Plaintiff's claims are typical of the claims of the Class. Fresh Market's breach of its warranties and violations of federal food safety law affected and harmed Plaintiff and all Class Members alike. Furthermore, Plaintiff and all Members of the Class sustained monetary and economic injuries arising out of Defendant's unlawful conduct.

Plaintiff is advancing the same claims and legal theories on behalf of himself and all absent Class Members.

**37. Adequacy:** Plaintiff is an adequate representative of the Class because his interests do not conflict with the interests of the Class – all seek redress and prevention for the same unlawful conduct. Plaintiff retained Counsel competent and highly experienced in complex class action litigation, and he intends to prosecute this action vigorously. The interests of the Class will be fairly and adequately protected by Plaintiff and his counsel. Plaintiff's claims, like those of the Class, are antagonistic to Defendant.

**38. Predominance:** Common questions of fact and law predominate over any questions affecting individual Class Members.

**39. Superiority:** A class action is superior to other available means of fair and efficient adjudication. The injury suffered by each individual Class Member is very small in comparison to the burden and expense of individual prosecution of the complex and extensive litigation necessitated by Defendant's conduct. It would be impossible for all Members of the Class to effectively redress the wrongs done to them on an individual basis. Therefore, a class action is the only reasonable means by which Plaintiff and the Class may pursue their claims. Moreover, even if the Members of the Class could pursue such individual litigation, the court system could not. Individualized litigation increases the delay and expense to all parties, and to the court system, by the complex legal and factual issues of this case. By contrast, the class action device presents far fewer management difficulties, and provides the benefits of single adjudication, economics of scale, and comprehensive supervision by a single court.



40. Plaintiff brings this action for himself and on behalf of a class of individuals in the United States who purchased Fresh Market's bakery goods and a subclass of individuals in the State of Alabama who have purchased Fresh Market's bakery goods.

**COUNT I**

**BREACH OF CONTRACT**

**(On Behalf of the Class and Subclass)**

41. Plaintiff realleges and incorporates by reference all previous paragraphs of this Complaint as if fully set forth herein.

42. Plaintiff and the class members entered into implied agreements with Fresh Market.

43. The agreements provided that Plaintiff and the class members would pay Defendant for its bakery products.

44. The contracts further provided that Defendant would provide Plaintiff and the class members subject bakery goods as required by law.

45. Plaintiff and the class members paid Defendant for the products that they purchased, and satisfied all other conditions of the agreements.

46. Defendant breached the implied agreements with Plaintiff and the class members by failing to comply with the material terms of providing the bakery goods as required by law.

47. As a direct and proximate result of Defendant's breach, Plaintiff and the class members have been injured and have suffered actual damages in an amount to be established at trial.

**COUNT II**

**BREACH OF WARRANTY**

**(On Behalf of the Class and the Alabama Subclass)**

48. Plaintiff realleges and incorporates by reference all paragraphs of this Complaint as if fully set forth herein.

49. Plaintiff and the class members formed contracts with Defendant at the time they purchased items from Defendant. The terms of such contracts included implied promises and affirmations of fact by Defendant that said bakery goods were being marketed in compliance with applicable law.

50. The implication of said marketing is that a requirement of law became part of the basis of the bargain, and is part of the contracts between Defendant on the one hand and Plaintiff and the class members on the other hand.

51. The implied affirmation of fact and law made by Defendant was made to induce Plaintiff and the class members to purchase goods from Defendant.

52. Defendant intended that Plaintiff and the class members would rely on said affirmations in making their purchases, and Plaintiff and the class members did so.

53. All conditions precedent to Defendants' liability under these warranties have been fulfilled by Plaintiff and the class members in terms of paying for the goods at issue, or have been waived. Defendant had actual and/or constructive notice of their own false marketing, and sales practices but to date have taken no action to remedy their breaches of implied warranty.

54. Defendant breached the terms of the warranty because the items purchased by Plaintiffs and the class members did not conform to the implied affirmations of fact by

Defendant – that they were being sold according to law. In fact, they were not.

55. As a direct and proximate result of Defendant's breach of warranty, Plaintiff and the class members have been injured and have suffered actual damages in an amount to be established at trial.

### **COUNT III**

#### **INJUNCTIVE RELIEF UNDER THE ALABAMA DECLARATORY JUDGMENT ACT**

56. Plaintiff repeats and incorporates by reference all paragraphs of this Complaint as if fully set forth herein.

57. Plaintiff and the class need, and are entitled to, an order for injunctive and declaratory relief declaring that Defendant's advertising, marketing, and sales practice alleged herein violate federal and Alabama regulations, and enjoining Defendant from continuing such practices in their Fresh Market stores.

58. Defendant is presently continuing each of these complained-of practices in their stores in Alabama, and upon information and belief in all its other stores in the United States.

59. Plaintiff and the classes have a significant interest in this matter in that each has been, and will again in the future, be subjected to the unlawful policies and practices alleged herein.

60. Indeed, Plaintiff is a frequent customer of Defendant's store. He consistently shops at Defendant's store. Further, Plaintiff routinely purchases merchandise from Defendant's store, and is entitled to know whether the purported bakery goods will legally display its nutrition facts. It is anticipated that members of the classes continue their same shopping as well. Until a change is required, Plaintiff and the classes and all of Fresh

Market shoppers will be regularly subjected to Defendant's unlawful conduct alleged herein and will be subject to such conduct in the future and otherwise.

61. Based on the foregoing, a justifiable controversy is presented in this case, rendering declaratory judgment appropriate.

62. In addition, because the unlawful uniform policies of Defendant continue, and are on-going, Plaintiff and the classes also need, and are entitled to, an order for injunctive relief, enjoining Defendant from continuing these complained-of practices in their stores in Alabama and across the United States.

### **PRAYER FOR RELIEF**

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff prays that this case be certified and maintained as a class action and that judgment be entered in favor of Plaintiff and the classes against Defendant as follows:

A. Enter an order certifying the proposed classes, designating Plaintiff as the representative for the class and subclass that he seeks to represent, and designating the undersigned as class counsel;

B. Declare that Defendant is financially responsible for notifying all class members of Defendant's misleading sales and marketing practices alleged herein;

C. Find that Defendant's conduct alleged herein be adjudged and decreed in violation of the state laws and federal laws;

D. Grant injunctive and declaratory relief to end the challenged conduct;

E. Grant economic and compensatory damages on behalf of Plaintiff and all members of the classes, to the maximum extent permitted by applicable law;

F. Grant statutory, punitive, and/or exemplary damages as permitted by law;

G. Award interest as permitted by law;

H. Grant reasonable attorneys' fees pursuant to law and as otherwise permitted by statute, with reimbursement of all costs incurred in the prosecution of this action; and

I. Grant such other relief as this Court deems just and proper.

Respectfully submitted,

BY: /s/ Charles M. Thompson  
Charles M. Thompson, Esq. THO019  
ASB-6966-P77C  
2539 John Hawkins Pkwy.  
Suite 101-149  
Hoover, AL 35244  
(205) 995-0068  
Fax (866) 610-1650  
Email: cmtlaw@aol.com

**PLAINTIFF DEMANDS TRIAL BY STRUCK JURY**

/s/ Charles M. Thompson  
Charles M. Thompson  
Attorney for Plaintiff

**SERVE DEFENDANT via certified mail at this address:**

**The Fresh Market, Inc.**  
c/o Corporate Creations Network Inc.  
4000 Eagle Point Corporate Drive  
Birmingham, AL 35242





Dakota Adams, Manager  
(206) 991-0294

HEATH CRISPIE 12CT	4.99 B
1.00 @ \$4.99/EA	
TFM MILK HALF GALL	2.49 B
WT BANANAS	0.87 B
1.26 lb @ 0.69 /lb	
LEMON POPPYSEED MU	4.99 B
1.00 @ \$4.99/EA	
COORS LT CN 12PK NP	13.99 T
TFM PIMENTO CHEESE	5.99 B
TFM UHT HALF & HAL	2.99 B
WT TOMATOES OTV CLUST	3.25 B
0.93 lb @ 3.49 /lb	
TAX	3.36
**** BALANCE	42.92

\*\*\*\*\*

Card Number: \*\*\*\*\*0536

TYPE: Purchase

SIGNATURE:

POS Entry Mode: 05

Host Return Code: 000

DEBIT 42.92

CHANGE 0.00

Date of Birth = xx/xx/xx KEYED

TOTAL NUMBER OF ITEMS SOLD = 8

05/26/20 12:20pm 49 4 31 10087616

4740 HIGHWAY 280, HOOVER, AL

Your Cashier: Charles

EXHIBIT  
A









**EXHIBIT**  
**C**



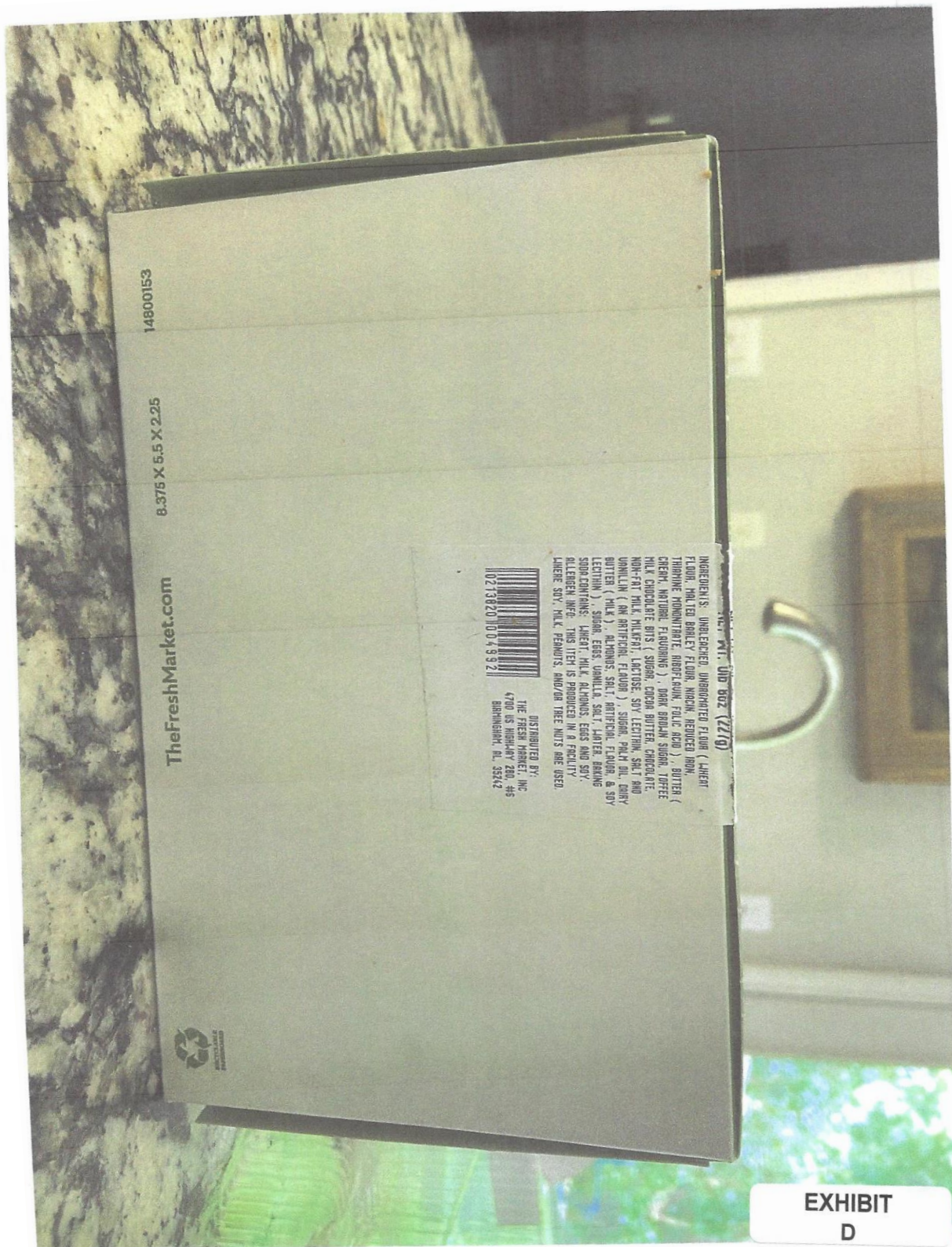






EXHIBIT  
E







# **FRENCH BREAD** **FRESH BAKED IN STORE**

Nutrition Facts			
Serving Size 1/8 OF LOAF			
Servings Per Container 8 8			
Amount Per Serving			
<b>Calories</b> 140			
Calories from Fat 10			
%Daily Value*			
<b>Total Fat</b>	1g		1%
Saturated Fat	0g		0%
Trans Fat	0g		
<b>Cholesterol</b>	0mg		0%
<b>Sodium</b>	290mg		13%
<b>Total Carb.</b>	28g		10%
Dietary Fiber	1g		4%
Sugars	1g		
<b>Protein</b>	5g		
Vitamin A	0%	Vitamin C	0%
Calcium	0%	Iron	10%
*Percent Daily Values are based on a 2,000 calorie diet			

**EXHIBIT**  
**G**







WHOLE FOODS MARKET  
Oatmeal Raisin Vegan Mini Cookie  
18 Count

CONTAINS:WHEAT. May contain other allergens due to shared production areas.

Ingredients: Oats, Raisins (raisins, sunflower oil), Palm Oil, Brown Sugar, Wheat Flour, Cane Sugar, Apple Sauce (apples, water, vitamin c, citric acid), Water, Baking Soda (sodium bicarbonate), Cinnamon, Sea Salt, Natural Flavor.

Packed On 06.03.20 @ 06:34	Sell By 06.04.20
Net Wt/Ct 1	Unit Price \$ 4.50/EA

\* Total Price \*

\$ 4.50

Packed For Whole Foods Market  
550 Bowie St, Austin, TX 78703

Nutrition Facts		Amt/Serving	%DV*	Amt/Serving	%DV*
Serv.Size 1 ea		Total Fat 3.0g	5%	Total Carb 10g	3%
Serv/Cntnr Varied		Sat. Fat 1.0g	5%	Fiber 2g	8%
Calories 70		Trans Fat 0.0g		Sugars 6g	
Fat Cal. 25		Cholest. 0mg	0%	Protein 1g	
*Percent Daily Values are based on a 2000 calorie diet.		Sodium 15mg	1%		
		Vitamin B6 0%		Vitamin B12 0%	
		Niacin 0%		Iron 0%	

NET WT. 0lb 10oz (283g)



(01)00231725000000(3904)0045000

PLU 31725

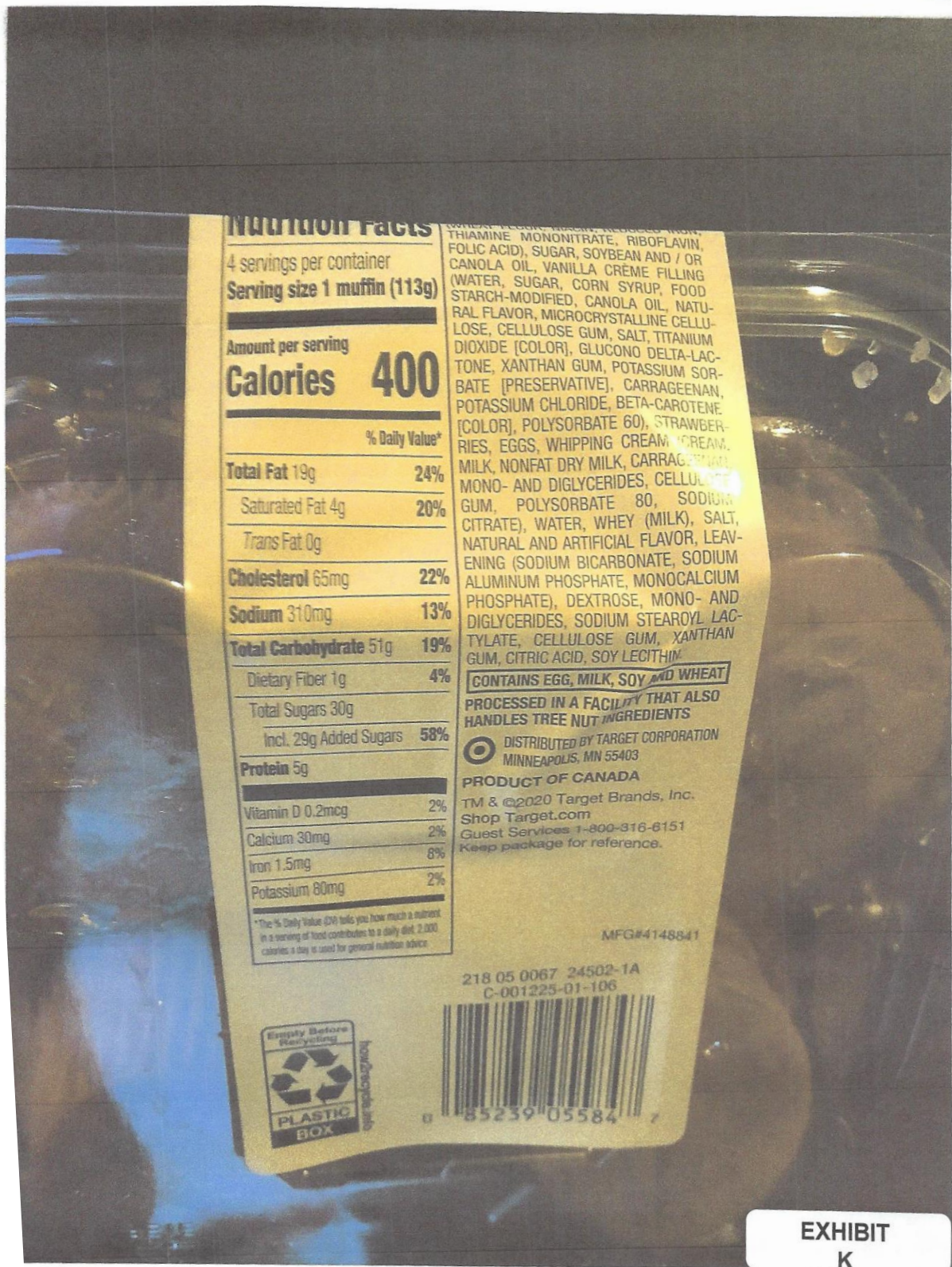
WHOLE  
FOODS®  
MARKET

EXHIBIT  
1





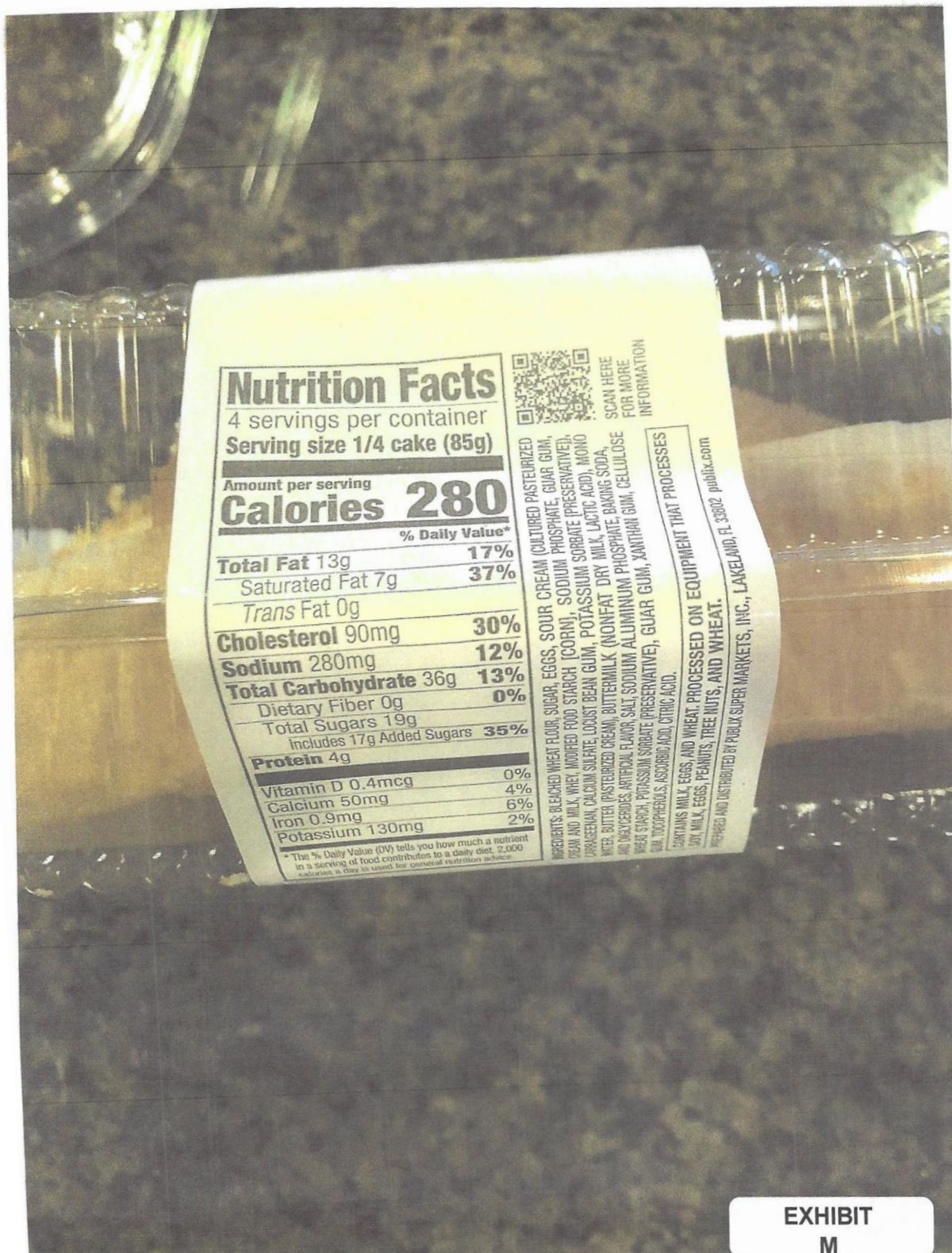


EXHIBIT  
K







EXHIBIT  
M

# ClassAction.org

This complaint is part of ClassAction.org's searchable class action lawsuit database and can be found in this post: [Class Action Claims Fresh Market Fails to Include Nutrition Facts Label on Bakery Goods](#)

---