

I.

NATURE OF THIS ACTION

- 1. Young Living purports to sell essential oils when, in reality, it sells a convincing lie—the irresistible promise of financial success and "generous, industry leading compensation" by joining its unlawful pyramid scheme.
- 2. Plaintiff Lindsay Penhall and hundreds of thousands of putative class members just like her, paid and lost hundreds (and in many cases thousands) of dollars to become Young Living distributors or "Members" based upon Defendant's false promise to "transform your financial future."
- 3. Of course, the promise of riches was simply the hook used to grow Young Living's base of recruits, which is the true purpose of the organization and the source of immense profits for Defendant—at the expense of its Members.
- 4. Young Living falsely represents to its Members that participation in Young Living—which necessarily requires hefty monthly payments—will result in material riches as long as they continue to solicit additional recruits to become Members of the Young Living family.
- 5. But that promise is nothing more than a pipe dream for Young Living's millions of Members. In reality, Defendant has created nothing more than an unlawful pyramid scheme—the cornerstone of which is Young Living's emphasis on new Member recruitment over the sale of its products.
- 6. Indeed, in 2016, the median monthly income of 94% of Members was \$0 a month, and the average monthly income was a dismal \$1 a month. But these amounts do not include the hundreds of dollars in costs Members incurred each year just to remain eligible to earn commissions. When these costs are accounted for, at least 97.5% of Members lost money rather than earned money working for Young Living in 2016. In fact, in 2016, the average Member lost \$1,175.
- 7. And Members did not fare any better in 2018. Nearly 89% of Members earned on average \$4 for the *year*. And, again, this does not include the

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27 28 hundreds of dollars in costs incurred by Members to achieve that dismal \$4 annual income. Similar to 2016, at least 96.7% of Members lost money in 2018 rather than earned money working for Young Living.

8. Through this class action, Plaintiff and the putative class seek to hold Defendant accountable for its illegal and deleterious conduct, which has injured hundreds of thousands of unwitting consumers who put their faith in Defendant's empty promises.

II.

PARTIES

- 9. Plaintiff Lindsay Penhall is a resident of San Diego, California. In 2018, Lindsay became a distributor (or "Member") of Young Living essential oils after being recruited by another distributor. Lindsay lost nearly \$2,000 dollars participating in the Young Living pyramid scheme.
- Defendant Young Living Essential Oils, LC is a Utah company with 10. its principal offices and headquarters located in Lehi, Utah. Young Living claims to "create abundance" for its Members. In reality, Young Living creates abundance only for itself through the unlawful operation of its vast pyramid scheme.
- 11. Plaintiff alleges, on information and belief, that at all times herein, Defendant's agents, employees, representatives, executives, directors, partners, and/or subsidiaries were acting within the course and scope of such agency, employment, and representation, on behalf of Defendant.

III.

JURISDICTION

12. This Court has original jurisdiction over this action pursuant to the Class Action Fairness Act of 2005, 28 U.S.C. § 1332(d), because the proposed Class consists of 100 or more members; the amount in controversy exceeds \$5,000,000, exclusive of costs and interest; and minimal diversity exists.

U.S.C. § 1367.

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IV.

Court also has supplemental jurisdiction over the state law claims pursuant to 28

VENUE

Venue is proper in this District under 28 U.S.C. § 1391 because a 13. substantial part of the events or omissions giving rise to Plaintiff's claims occurred in this District. In addition, Plaintiff worked as a Young Living Member in this District. Further, Defendant has purposefully availed itself of the California forum by intentionally directing its fraudulent pyramid scheme in California. Among other things, Defendant has a website presence that targets California residents like Lindsay; it sells and ships product to California Members like Lindsay; it markets its pyramid scheme in California; and it sponsors conferences and "Education Events" in California, where Members are encouraged to recruit new Members in furtherance of Defendant's illegal pyramid scheme.

V.

FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS

A. **Background**

- 14. Founded in 1993 by Gary D. Young, Defendant claims to be the world Defendant describes its essential oils as "aromatic, leader in essential oils. concentrated plant extracts that are carefully obtained through steam distillation, cold pressing, or resin tapping."
- 15. Defendant's purported vision is to "bring Young Living Essential Oils to every home in the world." Defendant's vision is also a lucrative one: In 2017, sales of Defendant's more than 150 essential oils exceeded over \$1.5 billion. In addition, Defendant's revenues have increased over 800 percent over the last 6 years.
- 16. Defendant also touts its purported values: "Always be honest. Young Living prides itself on strict compliance policies that keep us honest and

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transparent. Acquiring these characteristics can help us continue to progress the company." In addition, Defendant instructs its Members to "be sure to use good judgment[.]"

- 17. But in practice, Defendant has fallen far short of upholding its self-For example, Defendant's founder, Gary D. Young, was professed values. prosecuted for practicing medicine without a license. Mr. Young also ran a now shuttered "Young Living Research Clinic" in Springville, Utah (subsequently replaced by a Young Living clinic in Ecuador) where he employed a quack physician convicted of manslaughter. Mr. Young is also alleged to have nearly killed a patient through vitamin C infusions, which caused renal failure.
- 18. Even more, in 2014, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration sent a warning letter to Defendant for falsely promoting its products as viable treatments for certain viral infections, including Ebola, Parkinson's disease, autism, diabetes, hypertension, cancer, multiple sclerosis, dementia, and other serious health issues.
- 19. In 2017, Young Living pleaded guilty to federal charges and paid \$760,000 for illegally trafficking certain oils in violation of the Lacey Act and the Endangered Species Act. Utah's U.S. Attorney called Young Living's natural resource violations "substantial."
- In 2018, Young Living was ordered to pay \$1.8 million for pursuing a 20. lawsuit in bad faith against a competitor.
- 21. But most pernicious of all is that Defendant's immense wealth is derived from a vast, illegal pyramid scheme that has caused countless unwitting victims to lose substantial sums of money.

How the Young Living Pyramid Scheme Works B.

Defendant sells "essential oils" via a complicated multilevel 22. marketing ("MLM") operation. The complex and intentionally hard-to-understand multi-layer compensation/participation structure of Young Living is a hallmark of

illegal MLM pyramid schemes.1

23. While many consider every MLM company to be inherently fraudulent, the Federal Trade Commission ("FTC") has outlined guidelines it considers critical to distinguishing an illegal pyramid scheme from a "legitimate" MLM. For example, a legal MLM program must structure its compensation so that the members are paid primarily based on sales of goods and/or services to those outside of the plan. By contrast, an illegal pyramid scheme overwhelmingly rewards its participants for recruiting new members rather than through product sales made to persons outside the pyramid structure.

24. In advising consumers about how to identify a pyramid scheme, the FTC stated, in relevant part:

The promoters of a pyramid scheme may try to recruit you with pitches about what you'll earn. They may say you can change your life – quit your job and even get rich – by selling the company's products. . . . Often in a pyramid scheme, you'll be encouraged or even required to buy a certain amount of product at regular intervals, even if you already have more inventory than you can use or sell. You may even have to buy products before you're eligible to be paid or get certain bonuses. . . . In addition, the company may say you can earn lavish rewards, like prizes, bonuses, exotic vacations, and luxury cars. However, it often turns out that you have to meet certain product purchase, recruitment, training, or other goals to qualify for the rewards, and only a handful of distributors ever qualify.²

25. In addition, according to the California Department of Justice, "Millions of Americans have lost money in pyramid schemes. A pyramid scheme can take many forms, but generally involves the promise of making money by recruiting new people. Pyramid schemes are illegal, and most people lose

¹See Exhibit A (Young Living's compensation plan); also available at (and more easily viewed given its formatting) https://static.youngliving.com/en-US/PDFS/compensation-plan.pdf.

²https://www.consumer.ftc.gov/articles/0065-multi-level-marketing-businesses-and-pyramid-schemes.

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Indeed, according Jon M. Taylor, MBA, Ph.D., who has extensively 26. studied and written about MLMs:

[T]o promote as a 'business opportunity' an endless chain or pyramid selling activity (MLM) that in fact leads to almost certain loss for all but the founders and primary promoters (who are enriched from the purchases of victims/recruits), is a misrepresentation of the facts, and can lead to the defrauding of large numbers of participants. MLM is the epitome of the type of business activity the FTC[] is pledged to protect against - 'unfair and deceptive acts or practices. . . . It is not just a few MLMs that are conducting unfair and deceptive marketing practices, but virtually all of them, as all MLMs are built on a fundamentally flawed system of endless chain recruitment of participants as primary customers.⁴

- Here, Defendant operates an illegal pyramid scheme because the 27. financial success of a Young Living Member is overwhelmingly dependent on the recruitment of new people into the Young Living sales force—i.e., the defining characteristic of an illegal pyramid scheme versus a legitimate MLM company.
- 28. In addition, Young Living represents, either expressly or by implication, that by becoming a Young Living distributor or Member, a person will likely earn substantial income and/or achieve financial success—what Young Living calls "abundance" or "income opportunity." Young Living makes these representations through a variety of channels, including its website, "youngliving.com," print materials, videos, social media, live presentations, events and trainings, income testimonials, and other means.
 - 29. Examples of the false and misleading representations Young Living

³ https://oag.ca.gov/consumers/general/pyramid schemes.

⁴ Jon M. Taylor, MBA, Ph.D., Consumer Awareness Institute, *The Case (for and)* against Multi-level Marketing, 7-20, (2011), available at

https://www.ftc.gov/sites/default/files/documents/public comments/trade-

regulation-rule-disclosure-requirements-and-prohibitions-concerning-businessopportunities-ftc.r511993-00008%C2%A0/00008-57281.pdf.

has made and makes to recruit new Members include the following from its website:

- "Have you ever wanted to truly own your time—and your life? What if going to work every day was exciting and enjoyable, and you no longer had to wonder how you were going to pay the bills? Young Living's generous compensation plan gives you the power to take control of your future and build a business that will change your life forever."
- "If you're ready to achieve your dream of independence and security, our generous, industry leading compensation plan will help you get there."
- "With a Young Living business, you're on a path to a different type of lifestyle—one with the potential to earn free products, transform your financial future, and bring life-changing solutions to homes around the world."
- "Every business needs a solid foundation. With our Rising Star Team Bonus, you can achieve abundance as you progress from distributor all the way up to executive."
- "With dedicated support from Young Living and your team and a comprehensive compensation plan, you can take control of your future by building a rewarding business."
- "Young Living offers an industry-leading compensation plan with generous commissions and bonuses."
- 30. Even more egregious, Young Living actually *requires* its Members to further its deception. Specifically, Young Living requires that "[t]o qualify for compensation under Young Living's Compensation Plan [Members] have the responsibility to promote Young Living products and the Young Living income opportunity."⁵ The effect of which is that Young Living has engaged in a long-term advertising campaign that promoted—albeit misleadingly—that becoming a distributor of Young Living products will lead to financial success and/or

⁵ See Young Living's U.S. Policies and Procedures, § 3.12.2 (2018).

- 31. Unfortunately, Young Living's very structure ensures that nearly every new Member will almost certainly lose large sums of money, chasing the elusive promise of "abundance" by trying to recruit additional new Members from an ever-shrinking pool of available candidates.
- 31. And Young Living's Members' losses are compounded by its structure, which requires its Members to continuously purchase (and, as a result, hold) an ever-growing inventory of unused product, in direct violation of the 70/30 rule established in the FTC's seminal *Amway* ruling.⁶

(1) Young Living Encourages the Recruitment of Members over Retail Sales

- 32. The Young Living compensation plan rewards the recruitment of new Members far more than the sale of product outside of the Pyramid.
- 33. In describing the structure of its "generous, industry leading compensation plan," Defendant *admits* its compensation structure is designed to "help you build your business with compensation that **rewards you as you grow.**" Indeed, Defendant stated on its website:

If you're ready to achieve your dream of independence and security, our generous, industry-leading compensation plan will help you get there. It's all about caring for our Young Living family, and another example of our commitment to total body wellness. Through our three-level approach, we've developed an efficient structure to help you build your business with compensation that rewards you as you grow.

1. Create a Foundation

Every business needs a solid foundation. With our Rising Star Team Bonus you can achieve abundance as you progress from distributor all the way up to executive.

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See Matter of Amway Corp., Inc., 93 F.T.C. 618 (1979).

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2. Build Your Business

Once you've seen the benefits of being your own business, you're ready to share that experience with others. Build on your foundation by adding others to your team to achieve shared success.

3. Become a Leader

With an established business and a passion for inspiring wellness through Young Living, you're ready to take the mission worldwide as you lead others to success.

- 34. Notably absent from Defendant's message is any emphasis on selling product outside of the pyramid.
- To become a distributor of Young Living products and eligible for 35. commissions, new Members must first purchase a "starter kit." These kits range from "basic" (\$35) to "premium" kits (\$165)—however, the price can dramatically increase depending if additional options are selected.
- 36. The vast majority of new Members opt for the premium kits, largely because the recruiters are actively encouraged by Young Living to push the premium kits over the basic kits and because certain bonuses are available if a new Member purchases a Premium Starter Kit.
- Once a new Member enrolls, Young Living pays a cash bonus to the 37. "upline" Member who recruited the new "downline" Member to incentivize its existing Members to recruit as many new downline Members as possible. And Young Living encourages recruiting new Members soon after a Member enrolls by providing certain recruiting bonuses called "Fast Start" bonuses only available during the first three months after a Member enrolls.
- 38. The payment of the cash enrollment bonus, however, is not the only manner in which Members are actively and repeatedly encouraged to focus their efforts on the recruitment of new Members. Indeed, Young Living's

compensation structure makes crystal clear that recruiting is prioritized over the sale of product in the Young Living system—to a fault.⁷

- 39. As Members attempt to earn compensation through the Young Living system, their only opportunity to earn enough income to cover the cost of Membership is by recruiting new Members and then encouraging their downline Members to also recruit aggressively.
- 40. To move up the pyramid and to be eligible to receive commissions, Young Living Members must also enroll in the Essential Rewards ("ER") program and maintain their active enrollment in ER by purchasing a minimum amount of Young Living products on a monthly basis, which is referred to as personal volume or "PV."
- 41. Young Living gives each product a PV value, where each point is roughly equivalent to each dollar of goods purchased. So a \$10 product would typically have a PV value of 10. To earn commissions on a downline, the minimum PV is 100. In Lindsay's case, she purchased at least \$100—often \$300—of Young Living product each month in order to maintain her eligibility to earn commissions.
- 42. The products that comprise a Member's PV are purchased at a 24% discount and, at least theoretically, can be resold by each Member, who could retain any difference between the discount and the retail price for which they might sell the product.
- 43. Critically, however, is that there is no real incentive for a Member to try to become a reseller of oils as opposed to recruiting more downline members—for two important reasons. First, there is no real opportunity for a Member to profit from becoming a reseller of oils at a mark-up because anyone can buy the oils at the discounted "wholesale" price directly from Young Living.

⁷ See Exhibit A; https://static.youngliving.com/en-US/PDFS/compensation-plan.pdf

Second, Members do not earn any commissions on the PV they purchase from Young Living.

- 44. Instead, Members earn compensation in the form of commissions and bonuses only from (a) starter kits sold to newly recruited Young Living Members, and (b) the "Organization Group Volume," or "OGV," purchased by their downline Members either recruited personally by them or recruited by their downline Members.⁸
- 45. More specifically, to qualify for commissions and/or to advance in rank, a Member must recruit new Members to become "Legs" in their downline—much like a branch in a family tree. Each "Leg" must generate a certain "Leg Volume" through their own recruitment efforts. And, under Defendant's "Unilevel Commission" structure, each level of new Member in a Member's downline can generate additional commissions for the Member—the effect of which is to further incentivize recruiting. Therefore, a Member's compensation (commissions and bonuses) are all determined based on a Member's PV, Legs, Leg Volume and OGV—all of which are based on the recruitment of new Members. Importantly, no Member can earn a commission except through recruitment.
- 46. Even the Membership titles are intended to falsely convey to new Members the promise of wealth—such as "Gold," "Platinum," and potentially, the elusive rank of "Royal Crown Diamond." The problem is, these higher tiers are virtually unattainable. In order to move up the pyramid and share in the "abundance" of promised riches, a Member's required minimum OGV increases dramatically. For example, in order to earn the relatively low rank of "Star," a new Member must have an OGV of 500, and the Member's minimum PV of 100 doesn't count towards the 500 OGV. In other words, a Member is required to

⁸ OGV is the total volume generated within a Member's organization.

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27 28 recruit new Members to move up the pyramid and earn commissions. And because Members are not rewarded for additional PV purchased personally, the only conceivable way for a Member to move up in rank is by achieving the near impossible—i.e., the creation of a downline consisting of thousands of recruits.

- 47. Consider, for example, Young Living's highest rank of "Royal Crown Diamond." The required OGV is a staggering 1,500,000. In order to meet an OGV of 1,500,000, a Member would need a downline of more than 15,000 members each purchasing the minimum PV. Because attrition and failure to order minimum PV is not uncommon, it is likely a Member would actually need a downline consisting of many multiples of that number. Thus, it is not surprising that an infinitesimally small number of Members have ever actually achieved any meaningful success. Indeed, while Young Living brazenly touts the achievement of becoming a "Royal Crown Diamond" as within the grasp of all of its Members, a mere 46 have ever achieved this goal. Young Living claims it has 3,000,000 active Members, but does not report on the number of former Members. Thus, only .0015% of active Members have made it to the top of the pyramid, and the percentage of all Members is very likely much, much smaller.
- And even more shocking is that Young Living doesn't even pay monetary commissions to most of those lucky few who are able to amass a downline that purchases the minimum level of OGV each month. To the contrary, if a Member's earned commission is less than \$25 in a single month, Young Living will not pay that commission to the Member. Instead, Young Living issues a credit, which can be used by the Member only to buy more product. So, if a Member's OGV isn't large enough each month to trigger a commission check, his or her only option is to recruit even more Members in hopes of driving up OGV.
- 49. Defendant's singular focus on Member recruitment is further exemplified by its appropriately titled "On the Grow Tour," which is a series of "Education Events" held throughout the country. As part of the tour, Members

can participate in a "Grow Tour Challenge" where Members must enroll two new Members with a premium starter kit within a certain time period, as well as post certain information on social media to "encourage others to grow with you." By doing so, a Member will "receive on-stage recognition for growing your team," as well as a gift.

- 50. In short, this is not a system designed to sell product to those outside the pyramid. Rather, the entire system is designed for one purpose: to recruit new Members to grow the illegal pyramid, which only benefits Defendant and those very few Members at the top.
- 51. Indeed, financial success remains elusive to nearly all Members. In 2016, the median monthly income of 94% of Members was \$0 a month, and the average monthly income was a dismal \$1 a month! But these amounts do <u>not</u> include the hundreds of dollars in costs Members incur each year to remain eligible to earn commissions downline. When these costs are accounted for, *at least 97.5% of Members lost money rather than earned money working for Young Living in 2016.* In fact, in 2016, the average Member *lost \$1,175*.
- 52. Members did not fare any better in 2018. Nearly 89% of Members earned on average \$4 for the *year*. And, again, this does not include the hundreds of dollars in costs incurred by Members to achieve that dismal \$4 annual income. *Similar to 2016, at least 96.7% of Members lost money rather than earned money working for Young Living.* See also https://www.ftc.gov/news-events/press-releases/2019/10/multi-level-marketer-advocare-will-pay-150-million-settle-ftc (The FTC alleged that Advocare operated an illegal pyramid

⁹ Specifically, according to Defendant's 2016 Income Disclosure, the average yearly income of 97.5% of Members did not cover the minimum yearly costs to remain eligible to earn commissions and bonuses.

¹⁰ Specifically, according to Defendant's 2018 Income Disclosure, the average annual income of 96.7% of Members did not cover the minimum annual cost to remain eligible to earn commissions and bonuses.

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- scheme and "AdvoCare did not offer consumers a viable path to financial freedom. In 2016, 72.3 percent of distributors did not earn any compensation from AdvoCare; another 18 percent earned between one cent and \$250; and another 6 percent earned between \$250 and \$1,000. The annual earnings distribution was nearly identical for 2012 through 2015.").
- 53. even the smaller-than-promised Moreover, potential described herein do not account for the significant additional outlays of time and money that Members are forced to incur just to maintain their business, including traveling around the country to Young Living conferences or meetings, and organizing their own sales events. In addition, since Members are not classified as employees but as independent contractors of Young Living, Members are responsible for paying self-employment taxes and for their own health insurance or other typical job-related benefits.
- This is not "abundance." Rather, this is the very definition of an 54. pyramid Defendant's scheme. And misleading and deceptive representations concerning a consumer's ability to earn income does not only violate Defendant's self-professed values—it's unlawful.
- Plaintiff and Class Members relied on Defendant's material misrepresentations concerning the income opportunity and/or financial success a consumer can achieve by becoming a Young Living distributor.
- 56. And, as described herein, Defendant willfully failed to disclose and continues to fail to disclose that the program's structure ensures that most Members will not earn any—much less meaningful—income.
- In addition, Defendant willfully failed to and continues to fail to 57. adequately disclose its appalling—and certainly material—income statistics.
- 58. Further, Defendant willfully failed to disclose and continues to fail to disclose that it operates an illegal pyramid scheme.
 - 59. Had Plaintiff and reasonable consumers known that Defendant was

operating an illegal pyramid scheme and/or had they known that nearly all Members lose money rather than make money, they would not have become Members or would have acted differently.

60. Unfortunately, Plaintiff and Class Members have suffered an injury in fact and have lost money because of Defendant's unlawful misrepresentations and omissions.

(2) Young Living Members are Encouraged to Violate the 70/30 Amway Rule

- 61. Beyond Young Living's overwhelming dependence on recruitment income, Young Living's status as an unlawful pyramid scheme is further evidenced by its brazen violation of the so-called 70/30 rule. In the FTC's 1979 *Amway* ruling, it concluded that Amway did not operate as a pyramid scheme, in part, because Amway required its representatives to submit proof of resale demonstrating no more than 30% of purchased product was for personal use or storage before permitting its representatives to purchase additional product—thus the term "70/30." *See Matter of Amway Corp., Inc.*, 93 F.T.C. 618 (1979)
- 62. The 70/30 rule is designed to prevent an MLM from encouraging its members to continuously order new product for sale (sometimes referred to as "inventory loading") in order to be eligible to earn commissions. Here, Young Living's compensation system actually requires its Members to inventory load product. If a Member fails to meet his or her minimum monthly PV, he or she is not eligible to earn any commissions on his or her downline's OGV no matter how large that OGV may be.
- 63. Young Living is well aware of the 70/30 rule. Its policies and guidelines even say that no more than 30% of ordered PV can be stored prior to purchasing additional inventory. But this is mere lip-service. Young Living does absolutely nothing to enforce this policy and is well-aware that it is routinely violated. Young Living has no method of compliance in place, and it requires no

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proof that its Members are actually selling their PV. Any Member can order as much PV as he or she wants, whenever he or she wants. And Young Living turns a blind eye, because doing so helps further its scheme.

And, unlike MLMs that sell physically large products, which impedes inventory loading, the opposite is true of Young Living's products. Young Living's oils are contained in small, easily stored vials, which actually facilitate inventory loading. Most vials contain only 5 ML to 15 ML of product and each one can sell for \$20 or more. At that size and price, a single closet shelf would be enough space for a failing Young Living Member to store literally thousands of dollars in unsold product, hoping against hope that his or her downline OGV will grow large enough to trigger a meager commission.

Young Living Is an Illegal Pyramid Scheme **(3)**

- By any measure, Young Living is unequivocally a pyramid scheme. 65.
- Numerous government agencies, legal opinions and experts have all 66. recognized that MLM companies—like Young Living—which emphasize member recruitment over product sales, earn the majority of their revenue from member recruitment, and make no effort to enforce the "70/30" rule, are in fact illegal pyramid schemes.11
- 67. Indeed, in 2015, the FTC sued Arizona-based Vemma Nutrition Company in the District Court of Arizona for running an illegal pyramid scheme utilizing a very similar pay structure and model utilized by Young Living.¹²
- 68. In December 2016, Vemma admitted it was running an illegal pyramid scheme and agreed to a judgment that included \$238 million in monetary

¹¹ See e.g., Stull v. YTB Intern., Inc., CIV. 10-600-GPM, 2011 WL 4476419, *5 (S.D. Ill. Sept. 26, 2011) (noting the fact that travel-based pyramid scheme's revenues were largely derived from new recruits supported allegation it was a pyramid scheme).

¹² See FTC v. Vemma Nutrition Co., et al., 15 CV 01578 – PHX (D. Ariz.) (ECF No. 1).

damages, as well as an injunction that prohibits Vemma from, *inter alia*, engaging in the very same acts which the Defendant is engaging here.¹³

69. According to the FTC:

[Vemma,] [t]he multi-level marketing (MLM) company[] which sells health and wellness drinks through a network of distributors called "affiliates," will be prohibited under a federal court order from paying an affiliate unless a majority of that affiliate's revenue comes from sales to real customers rather than other distributors. The order also bars Vemma from making deceptive income claims and unsubstantiated health claims.

"Unfortunately, extravagant income claims and compensation plans that reward recruiting over sales continue to plague the MLM industry," said Jessica Rich, Director of the FTC's Bureau of Consumer Protection. "MLM companies must ensure that their promotional materials aren't misleading, and that their compensation programs focus on selling goods or services to customers who really want them, not on recruiting more distributors." ¹⁴

- 70. Specifically (and just like Vemma), the overwhelming majority of distributors will not even recoup the money that they paid to Young Living to become a Member and be part of Young Living's sales force.
- 71. Conversely (and just like Vemma), Young Living's enormous revenue is largely based on the money it receives from its own distributors to be part of the sales force, and the products its sales force are required to purchase.¹⁵
 - 72. Federal and state courts across the country have recognized that the

¹³ See FTC Release "Vemma Agrees to Ban on Pyramid Scheme Practices to Settle FTC Charges." https://www.ftc.gov/news-events/press-releases/2016/12/vemma-agrees-ban-pyramid-scheme-practices-settle-ftc-charges.

¹⁴ Id.

¹⁵ See also https://www.ftc.gov/news-events/press-releases/2019/10/multi-level-marketer-advocare-will-pay-150-million-settle-ftc (On October 2, 2019, "Multi-level marketer AdvoCare International, L.P. and its former chief executive officer agreed to pay \$150 million and be banned from the multi-level marketing business to resolve Federal Trade Commission charges that the company operated an illegal pyramid scheme that deceived consumers into believing they could earn significant income as 'distributors' of its health and wellness products.");

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- operation of a pyramid scheme such as Young Living constitutes fraud. Pyramid schemes make money for those at the top of the pyramid and victimize those at the bottom who cannot find recruits. Accordingly, pyramid schemes are inherently fraudulent. Defendant's operations are also a pyramid scheme because they are based on false promises of vast financial rewards, which are impossible to achieve for new Members who enter at the bottom of the pyramid and who have no realistic chance of moving up the ladder.
- Ultimately, the Members are financially induced by Defendant to 73. recruit new distributors to join the sales force through materially false representations and omissions concerning the Young Living pyramid scheme. By emphasizing recruitment over product sales, Young Living easily crosses the threshold from legitimate MLM into an illegal pyramid scheme.
- The rewards that Members can achieve in this case are dependent on 74. virtually endless recruitment into the scheme in which people are exploited and have virtually no chance to get a return on their investment, let alone achieve the high financial gains that Defendant induced these representatives to believe they would achieve.

C. Plaintiff's Experience Confirms Young Living Is a Pyramid **Scheme**

- 75. In May 2018, Plaintiff Lindsay Penhall joined Young Living as a distributor (or Member) after learning about it from another Young Living Member. Lindsay worked as a Young Living distributor from May to December 2018.
- 76. In deciding to become a Young Living Member, Lindsay relied on Young Living's material misrepresentations concerning the financial success she would likely achieve by becoming a distributor of Defendant's essential oils. Specifically, Lindsay believed she would earn significant income through recruiting others to become Young Living Members and part of her downline.

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- 77. To join Young Living, Lindsay purchased a premium starter kit and approximately \$300 worth of essential oils. Thereafter, Lindsay began making monthly payments to Young Living in order to satisfy her PV requirement and to ensure she could receive the potential commissions of her downline.
- Of course, like the overwhelming majority of Members, Lindsay 78. found recruitment difficult, notwithstanding the fact that Lindsay expended considerable time and money in her recruitment efforts. Indeed, Lindsay organized classes, giveaways, and other recruiting events to which she invited friends and others in an attempt to recruit new Members. Lindsay even constructed a display of Young Living products at the store where she worked and spoke with numerous customers about Young Living products in an effort to recruit new Members. Notwithstanding her efforts, between May and December of 2018, Lindsay was only able to recruit two new Members.
- 79. Yet, during that time, Lindsay bought product month after month even though she didn't need it and had no hope of re-selling it to someone else. Moreover, Young Living never questioned whether Lindsay was re-selling at least 70% of her purchases.
- By the time Lindsay realized she had been victimized by Young Living, she had purchased approximately \$2,150 of product, but had only "earned" commissions of approximately \$300 from her downline. Accordingly, Lindsay did not receive the benefit of her bargain and suffered an injury in fact.
- Lindsay describes her experience working as a Young Living 81. But Lindsay's experience is hardly an distributor as extremely stressful. aberration; rather, it is typical of the experience of most Young Living Members.
- 82. Had Young Living disclosed to Lindsay that most Members lose money rather than earn money, Lindsay would never have become a Young Living distributor. Similarly, had Young Living disclosed that it was an illegal

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pyramid scheme, Lindsay would not have become a distributor. And, had Young Living not misrepresented the financial success Lindsay was likely to achieve and/or the "income opportunity," Lindsay would not have become a distributor.

VI.

CLASS ACTION ALLEGATIONS

83. Plaintiff brings this action as a class action pursuant to Federal Rules of Civil Procedure 23(b)(2) and 23(b)(3) on behalf of herself and all others similarly situated, and as a member of the Classes defined as follows:

All residents of the United States who, within the relevant statute of limitations periods, were Young Living distributors ("Nationwide Class"); and

All residents of California who, within four years prior to the filing of this Complaint, were Young Living distributors ("California Subclass")

("Nationwide Class" and "California Subclass," collectively, "Class").

- Excluded from the Class are: (i) Defendant, its assigns, successors, 84. and legal representatives; (ii) any entities in which Defendant has controlling interests; (iii) federal, state, and/or local governments, including, but not limited to, their departments, agencies, divisions, bureaus, boards, sections, groups, counsels, and/or subdivisions; (iv) all persons presently in bankruptcy proceedings or who obtained a bankruptcy discharge in the last three years; and (v) any judicial officer presiding over this matter and person within the third degree of consanguinity to such judicial officer.
- 85. Plaintiff reserves the right to amend or otherwise alter the class definitions presented to the Court at the appropriate time in response to facts learned through discovery, legal arguments advanced by Defendant, or otherwise.
- 86. This action is properly maintainable as a class action pursuant to Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 23 for the reasons set forth below.

- 87. **Numerosity:** Members of the Class are so numerous that joinder of all members is impracticable. Upon information and belief, the Nationwide Class consists of hundreds of thousands of Members (if not more) dispersed throughout the United States, and the California Subclass likewise consists of tens of thousands of Members (if not more) dispersed throughout the State of California. Accordingly, it would be impracticable to join all members of the Class before the Court.
- 88. **Common Questions Predominate:** There are numerous and substantial questions of law or fact common to all members of the Class that predominate over any individual issues. Included within the common questions of law or fact are:
- a. Whether Defendant engaged in unlawful, unfair or deceptive business practices;
- b. Whether Defendant violated California Bus. & Prof. Code § 17200, et seq.;
- c. Whether Defendant violated Cal. Bus. & Prof. Code § 17500, et seq.;
- d. Whether Defendant was operating an unlawful pyramid scheme;
- e. Whether Defendant was operating an unlawful endless chain under California state law.
- f. Whether Defendant fraudulently omitted and otherwise failed to inform Plaintiff and the Class that they were entering into an unlawful scheme where an overwhelming number of participants lose money;
- k. Whether Defendant negligently misrepresented the income opportunity and/or financial success Class Members would achieve by becoming a Young Living Member.
 - 1. Whether Plaintiff and the Class are entitled to equitable and/or

injunctive relief;

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- Whether Plaintiff and the Class have sustained damages as a m. result of Defendant's unlawful conduct;
- The proper measure of damages sustained by Plaintiff and Class n. Members; and
- Whether Defendant was unjustly enriched by its unlawful 0. conduct.
- 89. **Typicality**: Plaintiff's claims are typical of the claims of the Class Members they seek to represent because Plaintiff, like the Class Members, participated in Defendant's misleading and deceptive practices, and Defendant's unlawful, unfair and/or fraudulent actions concern the same business practices described herein irrespective of where they occurred or were experienced. Plaintiff and the Class sustained similar injuries arising out of Defendant's conduct. Plaintiff's and Class Members' claims arise from the same practices and course of conduct and are based on the same legal theories.
- 90. Adequacy: Plaintiff is an adequate representative of the Class she seeks to represent because her interests do not conflict with the interests of the Class Members Plaintiff seeks to represent. Plaintiff will fairly and adequately protect Class Members' interests and has retained counsel experienced and competent in the prosecution of complex class actions.
- 91. Superiority and Substantial Benefit: A class action is superior to other methods for the fair and efficient adjudication of this controversy, since individual joinder of all members of the Class is impracticable and no other group method of adjudication of all claims asserted herein is more efficient and manageable for at least the following reasons:
- The claims presented in this case predominate over any questions of law or fact, if any exist at all, affecting any individual member of the Class;

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- b. Absent a Class, the members of the Class will continue to suffer damage and Defendant's unlawful conduct will continue without remedy while Defendant profits from and enjoys its ill-gotten gains;
- c. Given the size of individual Class Members' claims, few, if any, Class Members could afford to or would seek legal redress individually for the wrongs Defendant committed against them, and absent Class Members have no substantial interest in individually controlling the prosecution of individual actions;
- d. When the liability of Defendant has been adjudicated, claims of all members of the Class can be administered efficiently and/or determined uniformly by the Court; and
- e. This action presents no difficulty that would impede its management by the Court as a class action, which is the best available means by which Plaintiff and Class Members can seek redress for the harm caused to them by Defendant.
- 92. Because Plaintiff seeks relief for all members of the Class, the prosecution of separate actions by individual members would create a risk of inconsistent or varying adjudications with respect to individual members of the Class, which would establish incompatible standards of conduct for Defendant.
- 93. The prerequisites to maintaining a class action for injunctive or equitable relief pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 23(b)(2) are met as Defendant has acted or refused to act on grounds generally applicable to the Class, thereby making appropriate final injunctive or equitable relief with respect to the Class as a whole.
- 94. Plaintiff and Plaintiff's counsel are unaware of any difficulties that are likely to be encountered in the management of this action that would preclude its maintenance as a class action.

1		COUNT I								
2	Endless Chain Scheme									
3	(California Penal Code § 327 and California Civil Code § 1689.2)									
4		(On Behalf of the California Subclass)								
5	95.	Plaintiff repeats and re-alleges the allegations made throughout this								
6	Complaint	as if fully set forth herein.								
7	96.	Plaintiff brings this claim individually and on behalf of the California								
8	Subclass.									
9	97.	California Penal Code § 327 renders endless chain schemes illegal								
10	Section 168	39.2 of the California Civil Code provides:								
11		A participant in an endless chain scheme, as defined in Section								
12		327 of the Penal Code, may rescind the contract upon which the scheme is based, and may recover all consideration paid								
13		pursuant to the scheme, less any amounts paid or consideration								
14		provided to the participant pursuant to the scheme.								
15	98.	Defendant is operating an endless chain scheme, as described herein.								
16	99.	Plaintiff and the California Subclass have suffered an injury in fac								
17	and have	lost money because of Defendant's business acts, omissions, and								
18	practices.									
19	100.	Plaintiff and the California Subclass are entitled to recover al								
20	consideration	on paid under the scheme, less any amounts paid or consideration								
21	provided to	the participant under the scheme.								
22	101.	A violation of California Penal Code § 327 can be punishable by								
23	imprisonme	ent for up to three years in state prison.								
24		<u>COUNT II</u>								
25		Unfair and Unlawful Business Acts and Practices								
26	(California Business and Professions Code § 17200, et seq.)								
27		(On Behalf of the California Subclass)								
28	102.	Plaintiff repeats and re-alleges the allegations made throughout this								
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Complaint as if fully set forth herein.

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- 103. Plaintiff brings this claim individually and on behalf of the California Subclass.
- 104. Defendant engaged in continuous illegal, unfair, and fraudulent business acts or practices, and unfair, deceptive, false and misleading advertising within the meaning of the California Business and Professions Code § 17200, et. seq. The acts or practices alleged herein constitute a pattern of behavior, pursued as a wrongful business practice, that has victimized and continues to victimize thousands of consumers.
- 105. Under California Business and Professions Code § 17200, an "unlawful" business practice violates California law. Defendant's business practices are illegal because they involve the creation and promotion of an illegal pyramid scheme or "endless chain" under California law. Defendant is engaged in an illegal pyramid scheme or "endless chain" as defined under California Penal Defendant utilizes this illegal pyramid scheme with the intent, Code § 327. directly or indirectly to dispose of property, in Young Living products, and to convince Members to recruit others to do the same.
- 106. Under California Business and Professions Code § 17200, an "unfair" business practice includes a practice that offends an established public policy, or that is immoral, unethical, oppressive, unscrupulous or substantially injurious to consumers. Defendant's promotion and operation of an illegal pyramid scheme is unethical, oppressive, and unscrupulous in that Defendant is duping consumers out of vast sums of money through the illegal pyramid scheme.
- 107. Under California Business and Professions Code § 17200, a "fraudulent" business practice is likely to deceive the public. Defendant's business practice is fraudulent in that Defendant has deceived and continued to deceive the public by misrepresenting their business. Defendant has made numerous misrepresentations and material omissions regarding the income a Member can

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realize and the financial success a Member can achieve, and Defendant has failed to inform consumers that they are operating an illegal pyramid scheme where nearly all Members will lose money rather than make money. Plaintiff and the California Subclass have relied on and continue to rely on Defendant's misrepresentations and omissions to their detriment.

- 108. Because of these unlawful acts, Defendant has reaped and continues to reap unfair benefits and illegal profits at the expense of Plaintiff and the California Subclass. Defendant should be made to disgorge these ill-gotten gains and return to Plaintiff and the California Subclass the wrongfully taken revenue.
- 109. Defendant's unlawful, unfair, and fraudulent acts and omissions will not cease without injunctive relief being provided. Under California Business and Professions Code § 17203, Plaintiff seeks equitable and injunctive relief to stop Defendant's misconduct, as complained of herein, including, but not limited to, an order declaring such misconduct to be unlawful, unfair, fraudulent, and/or deceptive, and enjoining Defendant from undertaking any further unfair, unlawful, fraudulent, and/or deceptive acts or omissions relate to operating the illegal pyramid scheme.

COUNT III

Deceptive Advertising Practices

(California Business and Professions Code § 17500, et seq.)

(On Behalf of the California Subclass)

- 110. Plaintiff repeats and re-alleges the allegations made throughout this Complaint as if fully set forth herein.
- 111. Plaintiff brings this claim individually and on behalf of the California Subclass.
- California Business & Professions Code § 17500 prohibits "unfair, deceptive, untrue or misleading advertising[.]"
 - 113. Defendant's business acts, false advertisements and materially

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27 28 misleading omissions constitute unfair trade practices and false advertising, in violation of the California Business and Professions Code § 17500, et. seq.

- 114. Defendant engaged in and continues to engage in false, unfair, and misleading business practices consisting of false advertising and materially misleading omissions likely to deceive the public and include, but are not limited to:
- Defendant failing to disclose to Class Members that they were a. entering into an illegal pyramid scheme;
- b. Defendant misrepresenting the income opportunity and/or financial success a Class Member would achieve; and
- Defendant failing to disclose to Class Members that the vast majority would lose money rather than earn money.
- 115. Defendant's marketing and promotion of the illegal pyramid scheme constitutes misleading, unfair, and fraudulent advertising in connection with its false advertising to induce consumers to purchase products and join the illegal pyramid scheme. Defendant knew or should have known, in exercising reasonable care, that the statements it was making were untrue or misleading and deceived members of the public. Defendant knew or should have known, in exercising reasonable care, that Members, including Plaintiff, would rely, and relied on Defendant's misrepresentations and omissions.
- 116. Because of Defendant's untrue and misleading representations, Defendant wrongfully acquired money from Plaintiff and the California Subclass to which it was not entitled. Accordingly, the Court should order Defendant to disgorge, for the benefit of Plaintiff and the Class, its profits and compensation and/or make restitution to Plaintiff and the Class.
- 117. Under California Business and Professions Code § 17535, Plaintiff and the California Subclass seek a judicial order directing Defendant to cease and desist with all false advertising related to Defendant's illegal pyramid scheme and

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such other injunctive relief as the Court finds just and appropriate.

118. Pursuant to Civil Code § 3287(a), Plaintiff and the California Subclass are further entitled to pre-judgment interest as a direct and proximate result of Defendant's unfair and fraudulent business conduct. The amount on which interest is to be calculated is a sum certain and capable of calculation, and Plaintiff and the California Subclass are entitled to interest in an amount according to proof.

<u>COUNT IV</u>

Fraudulent Omission

(Cal. Civ. Code §§ 1709-1710 and California Common Law)

(On Behalf of the California Subclass)

- 119. Plaintiff repeats and re-alleges the allegations made throughout this Complaint as if fully set forth herein.
- 120. Plaintiff brings this claim individually and on behalf of the California Subclass.
- 121. Plaintiff brings this claim pursuant to California Civil Code §§ 1709-1710, et seq., and pursuant to California common law.
- 122. This claim is based on fraudulent omissions concerning Defendant's illegal pyramid scheme. Defendant actively concealed material facts, in whole or in part, with the intent to induce Plaintiff and the Class to join Defendant's illegal pyramid scheme.
- 123. As discussed herein, and among other things, Defendant failed to disclose to Class Members that they were entering into an illegal pyramid scheme, and that the vast majority of Class Members would lose money rather than earn money. Moreover, Defendant failed to adequately disclose its appalling—and certainly material—income statistics to Class Members.
- The false and misleading omissions were made with knowledge of their falsehood.
 - 125. Defendant knew the omitted information was material and was

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information Class Members would have wanted to know in making a decision to become a Young Living distributor.

- 126. In addition, Defendant could easily have disclosed the omitted information through the many different channels Defendant uses to disseminate information, as described herein, including on the various pages of Defendant's website through which consumers enroll to become Members.
- 127. Nonetheless, Defendant continued to encourage consumers to become Members of the illegal pyramid scheme without disclosing and actively concealing this material information.
- 128. The false and misleading omissions were made by Defendant, upon which Plaintiff and Class Members reasonably and justifiably relied, and were intended to induce and actually induced Plaintiff and Class Members to become Young Living Members.
- 129. Plaintiffs and the Class were unaware of these omitted material facts and would not have become Young Living distributors had they known them.
- 130. Plaintiff and the Class suffered injuries that were proximately caused by Defendant's active concealments and omissions of material facts.

COUNT V

Negligent Misrepresentation

(Cal. Civ. Code §§ 1709-1710 and California Common Law)

(On Behalf of the California Subclass)

- 131. Plaintiff repeats and re-alleges the allegations made throughout this Complaint as if fully set forth herein.
- 132. Plaintiff brings this claim individually and on behalf of the California Subclass.
- 133. Plaintiff brings this claim pursuant to California Civil Code §§ 1709-1710, et seq. and pursuant to California common law.
 - described in more detail herein, 134. As Defendant negligently

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misrepresented material facts concerning the income opportunity and/or financial success that a Class Member would achieve by becoming a Young Living distributor, and/or that Young Living was a legitimate—and lawful—multilevel marketing company as opposed to an illegal pyramid scheme.

- 135. Plaintiff and Class Members were unaware of the falsity of Defendant's misrepresentations and, as a result, justifiably relied on them when making the decision to become Young Living distributors.
- 136. Defendant knew or should have known that Plaintiff and Class Members would not have realized the truth of Defendant's negligent misrepresentations.
- 137. Defendant was in a superior position than Plaintiff and the Class such that reliance by Plaintiff and the Class on Defendant's misrepresentations was Defendant possessed the skills and expertise to know the type of justified. information that would influence a consumer's decision to become a distributor.

COUNT VI

Unjust Enrichment

(On Behalf of the Nationwide Class and California Subclass)

- 137. Plaintiff repeats and re-alleges the allegations of the preceding paragraphs as if fully set forth herein.
- 138. Plaintiff brings this claim individually and on behalf of the Nationwide Class and California Subclass.
- 139. By becoming a Member, Plaintiff and the Class conferred a benefit on Defendant in the form of monetary payments made to Defendant.
 - 140. Defendant had knowledge of such benefits.
- 141. Defendant appreciated the benefit because, were consumers not to become Members, Defendant would not generate substantial revenues and profits.
- 142. Defendant's acceptance and retention of the benefit is inequitable and unjust because the benefit was obtained by Defendant's fraudulent conduct.

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143. Equity cannot in good conscience permit Defendant to be economically enriched for such actions at the expense of Plaintiff and the Class, and therefore restitution and/or disgorgement of such economic enrichment is required.

PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff and the putative Class pray for judgment against Defendant as follows:

- For an order certifying the Nationwide Class and the California 1. Subclass under Rule 23 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure; naming Plaintiff as representatives of the Nationwide Class and California Subclass; and naming Plaintiff's attorneys as Class Counsel to represent the Nationwide Class and California Subclass:
 - A judgment against Defendant; 2.
- For an order declaring that Defendant's conduct violates the statutes 3. and laws referenced herein;
- 4. Rescission of the agreements upon which the scheme is based, and recovery of all consideration paid pursuant to the scheme, less any amounts paid or consideration provided to the participant pursuant to the scheme;
- 5. For an order awarding, as appropriate, compensatory and monetary damages, restitution or disgorgement to Plaintiff and the Class for all causes of action;
- 6. Temporary and permanent injunctive relief enjoining Defendant from further unfair, unlawful, fraudulent and/or deceptive acts, including but not limited to supporting the pyramid scheme;
- The costs of investigation and litigation reasonably incurred, as well 7. as attorneys' fees;
- 8. For such other damages, relief and pre- and post-judgment interest as the Court may deem just and proper.

DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL Plaintiff, on behalf of herself and the proposed Class, hereby demands a trial by jury as to all matters so triable. Dated: December 6, 2019 **MOON LAW APC** By: CHRISTOPHER D. MOON KEVIN O. MOON Attorneys for Plaintiff

Case 3:19-cv-02340-JLS-RBB Document 1-1 Filed 12/06/19 PageID.34 Page 1 of 2

JS 44 (Rev. 08/18)

CIVIL COVER SHEET

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

I. (a) PLAINTIFFS			DEFENDANTS						
LINDSAY PENHALL, on similarly situated	behalf of herself and a	a class of all others		YOUNG LIVING E	SSENTIAL OILS, LC				
(b) County of Residence of		San Diego County		County of Residence of First Listed Defendant Utah County, Utah					
(E.	XCEPT IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CA	ISES)		(IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES ONLY) NOTE: IN LAND CONDEMNATION CASES, USE THE LOCATION OF THE TRACT OF LAND INVOLVED.					
(c) Attorneys (Firm Name, 2) Christopher D. Moon/Key	Address, and Telephone Numbe vin O. Moon	r)		Attorneys (If Known)	'19CV2340 J	LS RBB			
600 W. Broadway, Suite	700, San Diego, CA 9	2101; 619-915-94	32						
II. BASIS OF JURISDI			III. CI		RINCIPAL PARTIES	(Place an "X" in One Box for Plaintiff			
☐ 1 U.S. Government Plaintiff	☐ 3 Federal Question (U.S. Government)	Not a Party)		(For Diversity Cases Only) PTF DEF Citizen of This State **I					
☐ 2 U.S. Government Defendant	3 4 Diversity (Indicate Citizensh.)	ip of Parties in Item III)	Citiz	en of Another State	2				
				en or Subject of a preign Country	3 🗇 3 Foreign Nation	□ 6 □ 6			
IV. NATURE OF SUIT			L			of Suit Code Descriptions.			
CONTRACT ☐ 110 Insurance	PERSONAL INJURY	PERSONAL INJUR		ORFEITURE/PENALTY 25 Drug Related Seizure	BANKRUPTCY 422 Appeal 28 USC 158	OTHER STATUTES			
☐ 120 Marine ☐ 130 Miller Act ☐ 140 Negotiable Instrument	□ 310 Airplane □ 315 Airplane Product Liability	☐ 365 Personal Injury - Product Liability ☐ 367 Health Care/		of Property 21 USC 881	□ 422 Appear 28 USC 138 □ 423 Withdrawal 28 USC 157	☐ 375 False Claims Act ☐ 376 Qui Tam (31 USC 3729(a)) ☐ 400 State Reapportionment			
☐ 150 Recovery of Overpayment & Enforcement of Judgment	☐ 320 Assault, Libel & Slander	Pharmaceutical Personal Injury			PROPERTY RIGHTS 820 Copyrights	☐ 410 Antitrust ☐ 430 Banks and Banking			
☐ 151 Medicare Act	330 Federal Employers'	Product Liability			☐ 830 Patent	☐ 450 Commerce			
☐ 152 Recovery of Defaulted Student Loans	Liability ☐ 340 Marine	☐ 368 Asbestos Personal Injury Product	1		☐ 835 Patent - Abbreviated New Drug Application	☐ 460 Deportation ☐ 470 Racketeer Influenced and			
(Excludes Veterans)	☐ 345 Marine Product	Liability			☐ 840 Trademark	Corrupt Organizations			
☐ 153 Recovery of Overpayment of Veteran's Benefits	Liability 350 Motor Vehicle	PERSONAL PROPER 370 Other Fraud		LABOR 10 Fair Labor Standards	SOCIAL SECURITY 361 HIA (1395ff)	☐ 480 Consumer Credit ☐ 485 Telephone Consumer			
☐ 160 Stockholders' Suits	☐ 355 Motor Vehicle	☐ 371 Truth in Lending		Act	☐ 862 Black Lung (923)	Protection Act			
☐ 190 Other Contract ☐ 195 Contract Product Liability	Product Liability 360 Other Personal	380 Other Personal Property Damage		20 Labor/Management Relations	☐ 863 DIWC/DIWW (405(g)) ☐ 864 SSID Title XVI	☐ 490 Cable/Sat TV ☐ 850 Securities/Commodities/			
☐ 196 Franchise	Injury	385 Property Damage	□ 7 ⁴	40 Railway Labor Act	☐ 865 RSI (405(g))	Exchange			
	☐ 362 Personal Injury - Medical Malpractice	Product Liability	□ 7:	51 Family and Medical Leave Act		■ 890 Other Statutory Actions ■ 891 Agricultural Acts			
REAL PROPERTY	CIVIL RIGHTS	PRISONER PETITIO	NS 🗆 79	90 Other Labor Litigation	FEDERAL TAX SUITS	893 Environmental Matters			
☐ 210 Land Condemnation	☐ 440 Other Civil Rights	Habeas Corpus:	□ 79	91 Employee Retirement	☐ 870 Taxes (U.S. Plaintiff	☐ 895 Freedom of Information			
☐ 220 Foreclosure ☐ 230 Rent Lease & Ejectment	☐ 441 Voting ☐ 442 Employment	☐ 463 Alien Detainee ☐ 510 Motions to Vacate		Income Security Act	or Defendant) ☐ 871 IRS—Third Party	Act ☐ 896 Arbitration			
☐ 240 Torts to Land	☐ 443 Housing/	Sentence			26 USC 7609	☐ 899 Administrative Procedure			
☐ 245 Tort Product Liability ☐ 290 All Other Real Property	Accommodations 445 Amer. w/Disabilities -	☐ 530 General ☐ 535 Death Penalty		IMMIGRATION		Act/Review or Appeal of Agency Decision			
250 An Outer Real Property	Employment	Other:		62 Naturalization Application	İ	☐ 950 Constitutionality of			
	☐ 446 Amer. w/Disabilities - Other	☐ 540 Mandamus & Oth ☐ 550 Civil Rights	ner 🗆 40	65 Other Immigration Actions		State Statutes			
	☐ 448 Education	☐ 555 Prison Condition		Actions					
		☐ 560 Civil Detainee -							
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Proceeding Sta	Cita the U.S. Civil St	Appellate Court		pened Anothe (specify) Do not cite jurisdictional state					
VI. CAUSE OF ACTIO	DN 28 U.S.C. Section Brief description of ca	n 1332	ire irinig (Do noi che jurisaichonai siai	mes uniess aiversny).	*			
	Consumer Class	Action							
VII. REQUESTED IN COMPLAINT:	CHECK IF THIS UNDER RULE 2	S IS A CLASS ACTION 23, F.R.Cv.P.	N D	ceeds 5 million		y if demanded in complaint: D: ☑ Yes ☐ No			
VIII. RELATED CASI	E(S) (See instructions):	JUDGE			DOCKET NUMBER				
DATE			TORNEY	OF RECORD					
12/06/2019									
FOR OFFICE USE ONLY									
RECEIPT# A	MOUNT	APPLYING IFP		JUDGE	мад. ли	JDGE			

INSTRUCTIONS FOR ATTORNEYS COMPLETING CIVIL COVER SHEET FORM JS 44

Authority For Civil Cover Sheet

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

- I.(a) Plaintiffs-Defendants. Enter names (last, first, middle initial) of plaintiff and defendant. If the plaintiff or defendant is a government agency, use only the full name or standard abbreviations. If the plaintiff or defendant is an official within a government agency, identify first the agency and then the official, giving both name and title.
- (b) County of Residence. For each civil case filed, except U.S. plaintiff cases, enter the name of the county where the first listed plaintiff resides at the time of filing. In U.S. plaintiff cases, enter the name of the county in which the first listed defendant resides at the time of filing. (NOTE: In land condemnation cases, the county of residence of the "defendant" is the location of the tract of land involved.)
- (c) Attorneys. Enter the firm name, address, telephone number, and attorney of record. If there are several attorneys, list them on an attachment, noting in this section "(see attachment)".
- II. Jurisdiction. The basis of jurisdiction is set forth under Rule 8(a), F.R.Cv.P., which requires that jurisdictions be shown in pleadings. Place an "X" in one of the boxes. If there is more than one basis of jurisdiction, precedence is given in the order shown below.

 United States plaintiff. (1) Jurisdiction based on 28 U.S.C. 1345 and 1348. Suits by agencies and officers of the United States are included here. United States defendant. (2) When the plaintiff is suing the United States, its officers or agencies, place an "X" in this box.

 Federal question. (3) This refers to suits under 28 U.S.C. 1331, where jurisdiction arises under the Constitution of the United States, an amendment to the Constitution, an act of Congress or a treaty of the United States. In cases where the U.S. is a party, the U.S. plaintiff or defendant code takes precedence, and box 1 or 2 should be marked.

 Diversity of citizenship. (4) This refers to suits under 28 U.S.C. 1332, where parties are citizens of different states. When Box 4 is checked, the citizenship of the different parties must be checked. (See Section III below; NOTE: federal question actions take precedence over diversity cases.)
- III. Residence (citizenship) of Principal Parties. This section of the JS 44 is to be completed if diversity of citizenship was indicated above. Mark this section for each principal party.
- IV. Nature of Suit. Place an "X" in the appropriate box. If there are multiple nature of suit codes associated with the case, pick the nature of suit code that is most applicable. Click here for: Nature of Suit Code Descriptions.
- V. Origin. Place an "X" in one of the seven boxes.
 - Original Proceedings. (1) Cases which originate in the United States district courts.

Removed from State Court. (2) Proceedings initiated in state courts may be removed to the district courts under Title 28 U.S.C., Section 1441. When the petition for removal is granted, check this box.

Remanded from Appellate Court. (3) Check this box for cases remanded to the district court for further action. Use the date of remand as the filing date

Reinstated or Reopened. (4) Check this box for cases reinstated or reopened in the district court. Use the reopening date as the filing date. Transferred from Another District. (5) For cases transferred under Title 28 U.S.C. Section 1404(a). Do not use this for within district transfers or multidistrict litigation transfers.

Multidistrict Litigation – Transfer. (6) Check this box when a multidistrict case is transferred into the district under authority of Title 28 U.S.C. Section 1407.

Multidistrict Litigation – Direct File. (8) Check this box when a multidistrict case is filed in the same district as the Master MDL docket. **PLEASE NOTE THAT THERE IS NOT AN ORIGIN CODE 7.** Origin Code 7 was used for historical records and is no longer relevant due to changes in statue.

- VI. Cause of Action. Report the civil statute directly related to the cause of action and give a brief description of the cause. Do not cite jurisdictional statutes unless diversity. Example: U.S. Civil Statute: 47 USC 553 Brief Description: Unauthorized reception of cable service
- VII. Requested in Complaint. Class Action. Place an "X" in this box if you are filing a class action under Rule 23, F.R.Cv.P. Demand. In this space enter the actual dollar amount being demanded or indicate other demand, such as a preliminary injunction. Jury Demand. Check the appropriate box to indicate whether or not a jury is being demanded.
- VIII. Related Cases. This section of the JS 44 is used to reference related pending cases, if any. If there are related pending cases, insert the docket numbers and the corresponding judge names for such cases.

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

EXHIBIT A

ADDITIONAL EARNING OPPORTUNITIES

FAST START BONUS

- . Earn a generous 25% bonus, up to \$200 each, . When you personally sponsor retail customers, on your new, personally enrolled members' orders during the first three calendar months!
- · Second-level enrollers earn 10%, up to \$80 each, on the newly enrolled members' orders described above during the same time period! . Policies and Procedures

STARTER KIT BONUS

· Earn a one-time \$25 cash bonus when your new, personally enrolled member orders the Premium Starter Kitl Member must purchase a Premium Starter Kit in the same month as enrolled to qualify.

ER ENROLLMENT BONUS

· Earn an additional \$15 bonus when your personally enrolled member enrolls with a PSK and an ER template of over 100 PV in the first month of enrollment.

RETAIL EARNINGS

you may earn the 24% difference between the retail and wholesale price for their orders.

VISIT YOUR VIRTUAL OFFICE FOR:

- · Compensation Plan Terms and Definitions
- · PowerPoint of Compensation Plan
- Training Videos

PLEASE CONTACT



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Comments or Suggestions? YoungLiving.com/toolfeedback

Enroller: The person responsible for introducing a new member to Young Living. Enrollers are eligible to qualify for financial bonuses, including the Fast Start and Starter Kit bonuses.

Sponsor: A new member's direct upline and main support. The sponsor may also be the enroller.

PV (Personal Volume): The total monthly volume of your personal orders

OGV (Organization Group Volume): The monthly volume of your entire organization.

PGV (Personal Group Volume): The monthly volume in an organization, excluding any Silver or higher rank volume and any qualifying leg(s) volume.

Leg: Each personally sponsored member is considered first level and a separate leg within an

LV (Leg Volume) @ OGV: The number of legs and the amount of monthly OGV required for each leg to qualify for each rank.

Level: The position of a member within an organization. Members who are directly sponsored by another member are considered the sponsoring member's first level. Those members who are sponsored by a member's first level are considered that member's second level and so on.

Compression: If a member does not meet the 100 PV qualification to earn commissions, his or her volume, if any, is combined, or "compressed," with all the volume of members down to and including the next qualifying member in the organization with at least 100 PV.

Unilevel: Unilevel is a term used to define the percentage of commission earned for each level. Qualifying members with 100 PV earn 8% on the PV of each member on the first level within their organization, 5% on the second level, and 4% on the third through fifth levels depending on rank achieved that month.

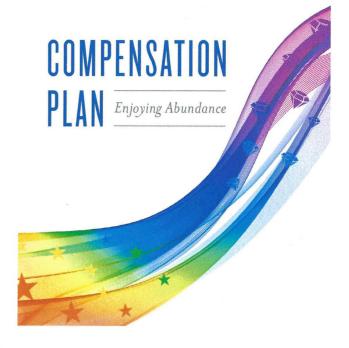
Personal Generation Commissions: Additional commissions are paid to members who achieve the rank of Silver or higher on all volume within each leg of the organization, down to but excluding the next Silver or higher ranked member within the leg.

Generation: A Silver or higher ranked member and his or her entire organization.

Generation Commissions: Based on a member's monthly rank of Silver or higher, an additional 3% commission is paid on the OGV of each Silver or higher in the member's organization. This commission is paid down to the next Silver or higher ranked member and down to eight generations deep in each leg.

Essential Rewards (ER): Members are encouraged to sign up for this autoship program in which they order products that are automatically shipped to them each month. Essential Rewards purchases earn the member ER points redeemable for free product and may be changed each month. A minimum 50 PV is required, although 100 PV is required for the Rising Star Team Bonus. For more information on this program, visit YoungLiving.com/en_US/Opportunity/Essential-Rewards.





CREATING A FOUNDATION

Young Living's compensation plan is designed to help you achieve abundance. The Rising Star Team Bonus is the blueprint for building a solid foundation that will lead you to success.

BUILDING YOUR BUSINESS

Building on your foundation, you can now focus on helping others create their success

DEVELOPING LEADERS

Share the joy of an abundant life by leading others to success as you share the Young Living mission throughout the world.

QUALIFICATIONS			SENIOR STAR	EXECUTIVE	QUALIFICATIONS		GOLD	PLATINUM	QUALIFICATIONS	DIAMOND	CROWN DIAMOND	ROYAL CROWN DIAMOND
PV	50 100	100	100	100	PV	100	100	100	PV	100	100	100
ogv		500	2,000	4,000	OGV	10,000	35,000	100,000	OGV	250,000	750,000	1,500,000
PGV					PGV	1,000	1,000	1,000	PGV	1,000	1,000	1,000
LEG (VOLUME PER EAGH LEG) OGV				2 @ 1,000	LEG @ OGV	2 @ 4,000	3 @ 6,000	4 @ 8,000	LEG @ OGV	5 @ 15,000	6 @ 20,000	6 @ 35,000
COMPENSATION	UNILE	VEL COM	MISSION PERCE!	NTAGES	COMPENSATION	UNILEV	EL COMMISSION PERC	ENTAGES	COMPENSATION	UNILEV	VEL COMMISSION PERCEN	NTAGES
LEVEL 1	8%	8%	8%	8%	LEVEL 1	8%	8%	8%	LEVEL I	8%	8%	8%
LEVEL 2	5%	5%	5%	5%	LEVEL 2	5%	5%	5%	LEVEL 2	5%	5%	5%
LEVEL 3		4%	4%	4%	LEVEL 3	4%	4%	4%	LEVEL 3	4%	4%	4%
LEVEL 4			4%	4%	LEVEL 4	4%	4%	4%	LEVEL 4	4%	4%	4%
LEVEL 5				4%	LEVEL 5	4%	4%	4%	LEVEL 5	4%	4%	4%
RISING ST	AR TEA	м во	NUS POO	OL	to be also the	GENERAT	TON COMMISSION PER	CENTAGES		GENERAT	TION COMMISSION PERCE	ENTAGES
Only Stars, Senior Stars,					PERSONAL GENERATION	2.5%	2.5%	2.5%		2.5%	2.5%	2.5%
all Young Living's monthly commissionable sales. The amount paid to the member is determined by the number of shares he or she earns (up to \$50 per share). Qualifications: 1. Paid as a Star, Senior Star, or Executive					GENERATION 2	3%	3%	3%		3%	3%	3%
					GENERATION 3	3%	3%	3%		3%	3%	3%
					GENERATION 4		3%	3%		3%	3%	3%
2. Have a 100 PV Ess			alifu for one share. A	dd two	GENERATION 5	ROYAL CROWN		3%		3%	3%	3%
Build three legs of at least 300 OGV each to qualify for one share. Add two legs of at least 500 OGV each and receive two more shares. To earn three				GENERATION 6	DIAMOND				3%	3%	3%	
additional shares f	or an overall tota	l of six, add	two legs of at least 1	,000		CROWN 6 Shares					3%	3%
OGV each.					GENERATION 8	5 Shares						1%
100 PV					4 Sha	GENERATION LEADERSHIP BONUS 6.25% of all Young Living's monthly commissionable sales is paid out in thares according to the rank you achieved for the month and on the leaders in your organization on which you earn generation commissions.			CROWN	Shares GROWN AMOND DIAMOND	DIAMOND LEADERSHIP BONUS Young Living pays 0.5% of the monthly commissionable sales in shares to Diamond leaders as a reward for helping to build Young Living worldwide.	

EAXIMIZE YOUR EARNINGS. Learn more on the reverse of this flyer.

MAXIMIZE YOUR EARNINGS. Learn more on the reverse of this fly

MAXIMIZE YOUR EARNINGS. Learn more on the reverse of this flyer.