1 2 3 4 5	BURSOR & FISHER, P.A. Joel D. Smith (State Bar No. 244902) Brittany S. Scott (State Bar No. 327132) 1990 North California Blvd., Suite 940 Walnut Creek, CA 94596 Telephone: (925) 300-4455 Facsimile: (925) 407-2700 E-mail: jsmith@bursor.com bscott@bursor.com			
6 7 8	TREEHOUSE LAW, LLP Benjamin Heikali (State Bar No. 307466) 2121 Avenue of the Stars, Suite 2580 Los Angeles, CA 90067 Telephone: (310) 751-5928 E-mail: bheikali@treehouselaw.com			
9 10	Attorneys for Plaintiffs			
11	HNITED STATES I	NETDICT COUDT		
12	UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA			
13 14				
15	LORIANN STAPLES, ASHLEY CLARK, and DEANN SCOTT, individually and on behalf of	Case No.		
16	all others similarly situated,	CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT		
17	Plaintiffs, v.	WINN TRACK DEMANDED		
18	E&E CO., LTD.,	JURY TRIAL DEMANDED		
19	, ,			
20	Defendant.			
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CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT – JURY TRIAL DEMANDED

NATURE OF THE ACTION

- 1. This is a putative class action lawsuit on behalf of purchasers of Defendant E&E Co., Ltd.'s ("Defendant") 1000 thread count Beautyrest-brand bedding and linen products (the "Beautyrest Products") and 1500 thread count Madison Park-brand bedding and linen products (the "Madison Park Products") (collectively, the "Products"). Defendant is the licensee of the Beautyrest and Madison Park trademarks. Defendant labels, markets, manufactures, distributes, and sells these Products as having higher thread counts than they actually have. By doing so, Defendant's labeling and marketing have the tendency or capacity to deceive or confuse reasonable consumers into believing the Products are of better quality, more durable, longer lasting, softer, and more comfortable for sleeping than products with lesser thread counts. In purchasing Defendant's Products, class members received less than what was promised by Defendant due to the inflated thread counts represented on the advertisements and labels of the Products.
- 2. Independent testing has revealed that, contrary to Defendant's representation that its products are made with a thread count of 1000, the Beautyrest Products are actually made with a thread count of 216. Likewise, testing has revealed that the Madison Park Products are not 1500 thread count, but in fact in the range of 237 to 295. As a cross check against the test results, the same industry-standard test methodology was used on a competing brand advertised as 600 thread count. Unlike Defendant's Products, the test results for that competing product passed. 3
- 3. Defendant's misleading representations of the Products deceive the public into believing that they are purchasing a product with a higher thread count than they actually have. The fact that Defendant emphasizes the thread count as a distinguishing feature of its products shows that thread count is material to consumers.
- 4. Plaintiffs and Class Members would not have purchased the Products or would not have paid as much as they did to purchase them had they known that they were not in fact the

¹ See Exhibit A.

² See Exhibit B.

³ See Exhibit C.

of Defendant's deceptive and false representations.

PARTIES

thread count represented. Plaintiffs and Class Members thus suffered monetary damages as a result

- 5. Plaintiff Loriann Staples is domiciled in California, residing in Fremont, California. In, or around November 2021, Plaintiff Staples purchased a pack of Beautyrest 1000 thread count bed sheets from a Target in Fremont, California. Before buying her Beautyrest Product, Plaintiff Staples reviewed the product's labeling and packaging and saw that the product was labeled and marketed as "1000 thread count." Plaintiff Staples understood this statement to mean that the sheets she was purchasing would be 1000 thread count sheets, and she bought the sheets because of that representation. Plaintiff Staples would not have purchased the sheets if she had known that the 1000 thread count labeling was false, or she would have paid less for them.
- 6. Plaintiff Ashley Clark is domiciled in New York, residing in Manhattan. In, or around December 2022, Plaintiff Clark purchased a pack of Beautyrest 1000 thread count bed sheets from a Target in New York. Before buying her Beautyrest Product, Plaintiff Clark reviewed the product's labeling and packaging and saw that the product was labeled and marketed as "1000 thread count." Plaintiff Clark understood this statement to mean that the sheets she was purchasing would be 1000 thread count sheets, and she bought the sheets because of that representation. Plaintiff Clark would not have purchased the sheets if she had known that the 1000 thread count labeling was false, or she would have paid less for them.
- 7. Plaintiff Deann Scott is domiciled in California, residing in Oakley, California. In, or around, Summer 2021, Plaintiff Scott purchased a pack of Madison Park 1500 thread count bed sheets from a Bed Bath & Beyond in Antioch, California. Prior to her purchase of her Madison Park Product, Plaintiff Scott reviewed the product's labeling and packaging and saw that the product was labeled and marketed as "1500 thread count." Plaintiff Scott relied on that labeling and packaging to choose her Madison Park Products over comparable products. Plaintiff Scott saw these representations prior to, and at the time of purchase, and understood them as representations and warranties that her Madison Park Product would be of a "1500 thread count." Plaintiff Scott understood this statement to mean that the sheets she was purchasing would be 1500 thread count

sheets, and she bought the sheets because of that representation. Plaintiff Scott would not have purchased the sheets if she had known that the 1500 thread count labeling was false, or she would have paid less for them.

- 8. Plaintiffs and putative class members paid a price premium due to the false and misleading thread count claims.
- 9. Plaintiffs regularly go to stores where Beautyrest or Madison Park sheets are sold and would consider purchasing the products again in the future if the thread count labels were accurate and complied with industry standards for determining thread counts. Absent an injunction to this effect, Plaintiffs will be unable to rely with confidence on Defendant's advertising of the Products in the future. Indeed, if those change were made, Plaintiffs would have no practical way to know that was the case. As a result, they may either refrain from purchasing the products in the future or may purchase them *incorrectly* assuming that they have been improved, and that the thread count labeling conforms with industry standards for accurately determining thread counts.
- 10. Defendant is a corporation incorporated in the state of Delaware with its principal executive office located in Fremont, California. Defendant is the licensee of the Beautyrest and Madison Park trademarks. Defendant markets, manufactures, distributes, and sells the Beautyrest and Madison Park products.
- Defendant and each class member. A significant portion of the conduct giving rise to liability occurred in California. On information and belief, Defendant's product compliance, quality assurance, supply chain, retail operations, marketing, global sourcing, and customer service departments are located at Defendant's headquarters in California. Final decisions and approvals regarding labeling, marketing, sales, and pricing were made in California. To the extent that the sheets and pillowcases were manufactured outside California, they were nonetheless made *for* Defendant as the exclusive, California-based importer and distributor of the products.

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

12. This Court has subject matter jurisdiction pursuant to 28 U.S.C § 1332(d)(2)(a) because this case is a class action where the aggregate claims of all members of the proposed class

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are in excess of \$5,000,000.00, exclusive of interest and costs, there are over 100 members of the putative class, and Plaintiffs, as well as most members of the proposed class, are citizens of states different from Defendant.

- 13. This Court has personal jurisdiction over Defendant because Defendant is headquartered in this District, and Plaintiffs' claims arise out of each of the Defendants' forum-related activities including the sale, marketing, and advertising of the Products.
- 14. Venue is proper in this District pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1391 because Defendant is headquartered in this District and a substantial part of the events giving rise to Plaintiffs' claims took place within this District.
- 15. Defendant received multiple pre-suit notices of the claims at issue in this litigation, including relevant test results, in January and April 2023. Defendant has responded to the notices, but not provided any relief to class members or altered its unlawful business practices.

FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS

- A. Defendant's Misrepresentations and Omissions Regarding The Products
- 16. **Products at issue**: Beautyrest 1000 thread count sheets and pillowcases, and Madison Park 1500 thread count sheets and pillowcases.
- 17. All Beautyrest sheets and pillowcases are substantially similar regardless of size or color. The labeling is materially the same for all such products. The 1000 thread count labeling is false for all such products, and for the same reason.
- 18. All Madison Park sheets and pillowcases are substantially similar regardless of size or color. The labeling is materially the same for all such products. The 1500 thread count labeling is false for all such products, and for the same reason.
- 19. **Relevant time period**: All misrepresentation and omissions at issue here were consistently made at all times during the last four years, at least.
- 20. There have been no material changes to the product packaging during the relevant time period.

- 21. <u>Misrepresentation at issue</u>: The misrepresentations at issue are found on the front packaging of the Products.
 - 22. Defendant misrepresents the Beautyrest Products as having a thread count of 1000:



23. Defendant misrepresents the Madison Park Products as having a thread count of 1500:



24. The online labeling and marketing of the Products similarly reference the same purported thread counts. For example, the Madison Park listings on Amazon.com,

Bedbedbathandbeyond.com, and Macys.com all boldly claim that the Products have a "1500 Thread Count." *See examples below*.







Visit the Madison Park Store

★★★★☆ Y 18 ratings

\$7167 (\$17.92 / Count)

Get \$50 off instantly: Pay $\$21.67 \, \71.67 upon approval for the Amazon Rewards Visa Card. No annual fee.

 Size
 Queen

 Material
 Cotton Blend

 Color
 Grey

 Pattern
 Solid

 Brand
 Madison Park

About this item

- 51% Cotton/49% Polyester
- · 52% Cotton / 48% Polyester 1500 thread count
- 1 Flat Sheet:90"W x 102"L 1 Fitted Sheet:60"W x 80"L + 16"D 2 Standard Pillowcases:20"W x 30"L(2)
- Machine Wash

Consider a similar item

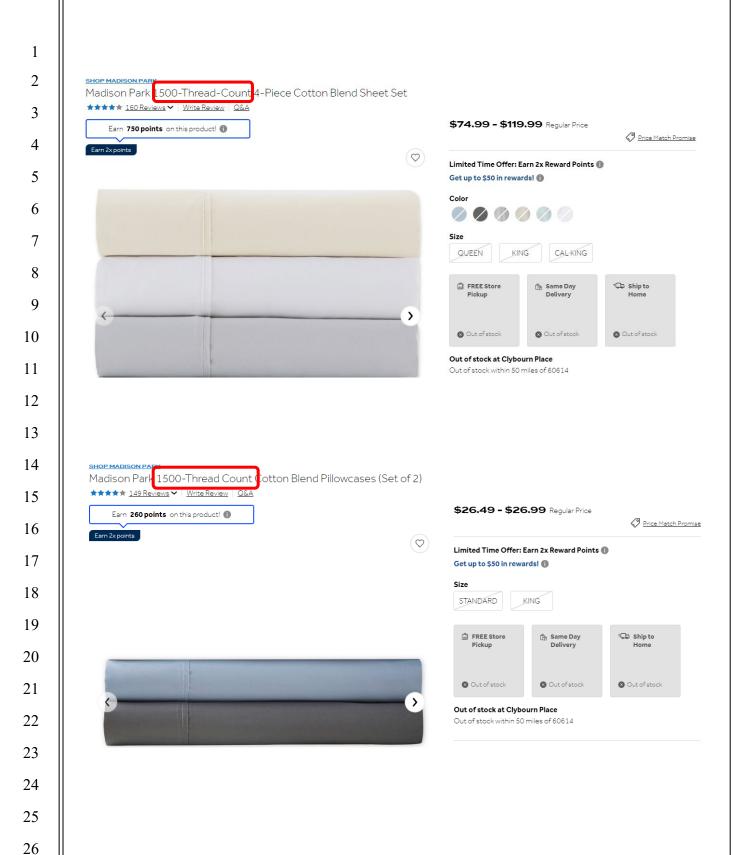


Mellanni Queen Sheet Set - Hotel Luxury 1800 Bedding Sheets & Pillowcases - Extra Soft Cooling Bed Sheets -Deep Pocket up to 16 inch Mattress - Wrinkle, Fade, Stain Resistant - 4 Piece (Queen, White)

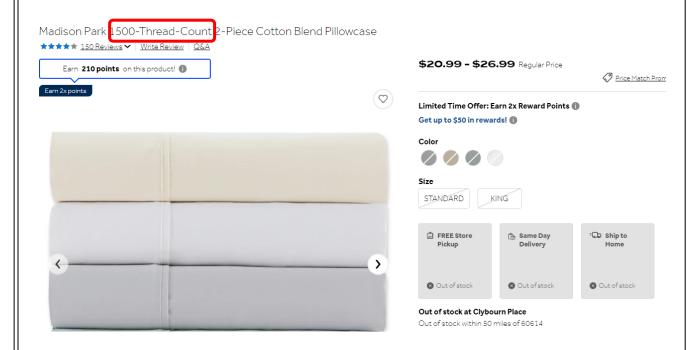
★★★★ (333361) \$34.97 ✓ prime

V Climate Pledge Friendly

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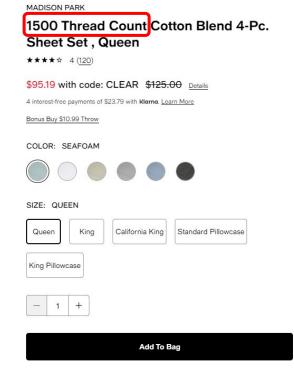


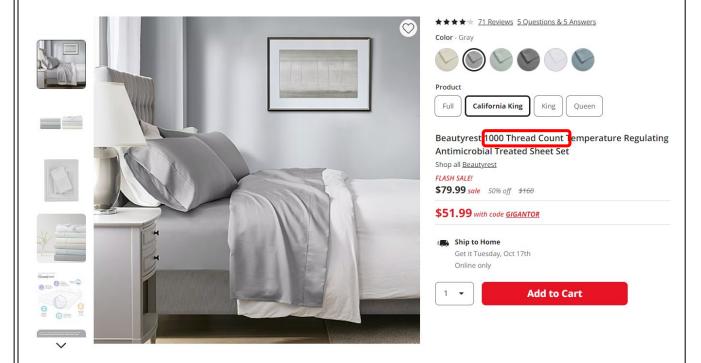
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- 25. Defendant intends that consumers will read and rely on the thread count claims made in Defendant's advertising and labeling, and Plaintiffs and putative class members read and rely on those claims to their detriment.
 - B. Why/How The Representations At Issue Here Are False And Have The Tendency Or Capacity To Deceive Or Confuse Reasonable Consumers
- 26. A fabric's "thread count" is a quantifiable measure of the total number of warp (vertical) and weft (horizontal) yarns within a square inch of the fabric. To calculate thread count, the number of vertical yarns is simply added to the number of horizontal yarns.
- 27. A fabric's thread count is indicative of the quality, durability, and longevity of the fabric, and also determines the coarseness or fineness of the fabric, and therefore how soft and smooth it is to the touch. If a fabric has a higher thread count (i.e., more threads per square inch), it will not only be stronger and more durable, but will also feel smoother and softer to the touch. As such, a fabric's "thread count" has become a material basis on which reasonable consumers make purchasing decisions.

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- 28. Moreover, as a general matter, the higher the thread count, the higher the price for that product. Indeed, consumers pay a premium for sheets based on purportedly higher thread counts and the belief that a higher thread count means higher quality. See https://www.mattressadvisor.com/thread-count-really-matter-sheets/ ("higher thread counts mean higher prices, which consumers happily pay believing they are buying top quality sheets with thread counts of 750, 800, 1000, or even higher."); see also Hawes v. Macy's Stores W., Inc., No. 1:17-CV-754, 2022 WL 194407, at *16 (S.D. Ohio Jan. 22, 2022) ("The Court finds there is more than enough evidence suggesting thread-count is a material factor in consumers' choice of bedsheets.").
- 29. Industry participants, including Defendant, know that consumers will pay higher prices for bedding and linen products with a higher thread count because of the purported higher quality. Therefore, industry participants increase product pricing as the thread count on the products increases. This includes industry participants such as Defendant.
- The industry standard for measuring thread counts is based on the American Society 30. for Testing and Materials' ("ASTM") Standard Test Method for Warp (End) Count and Filling (Pick) Count of Woven Fabric, Designation: D3775 (applicable to all woven fabrics).
- 31. The ASTM D3775 standard requires that individual warp ends and filling picks are counted as "single units regardless of whether they are comprised of single or plied components" per D3775.
- 32. The decades-long industry practice in the United States for thread counting has been to "count the number of threads in both the warp and filling directions" and to count plied yarns as "one yarn, regardless of whether the yarn was a single ply or multi-ply yarn. (A multi-ply yarn is one yarn that has been created by twisting two or more yarns together.)"⁴

CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT – JURY TRIAL DEMANDED

²⁶ ⁴ Letter from James Kohm, Assoc. Dir. for Enf't Bureau of Consumer Prot., FTC, to E. Linwood Wright, III, Chairman of the Textile Bedding Comm. of the Nat'l Textile Ass'n (Aug. 2, 2005) 27 https://www.ftc.gov/sites/default/files/documents/advisory opinions/national-textileassociation/natltextileassn.pdf 28

However, some manufacturers, including Defendant, have departed from the

industry standard for measuring thread count by "counting plied yarns individually." This results

To support its fraud, Defendant relies on a counting methodology that is

inconsistent with industry standards, and which is designed to falsely inflate the true thread count

of the sheets. In support of this scheme, Defendant has ginned up false test results that purport to

show passing test results. However, much like an asterisk on a major league baseball record

denoting steroid use, Defendant's own internal testing includes an asterisk and disclosure

signifying departure from industry standard methodologies:

in a thread count inflation of double or triple (or higher) the thread count as would be measured

- 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11
- Warp End Count and Filling Pick Count of Woven Fabric
 ASTM D3775-17e1

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34.

Ends / Inch	215	
Picks / Inch	1248*	
Total	1463	

*Note: 16 inserts / pick

using traditional industry standards.⁶

Selected tests as requested by applicant **against specified requirement** / test request form / quotation.

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35. The inclusion of an asterisk in the picks/ inch field above denotes that 16 inserts were counted per pick. That is not the industry standard method for thread counting, and if it were, then there would be no need to include the asterisk and corresponding explanation. The test results further note that they were "requested by [Defendant] against specified requirement[s]," which again denotes departure from the industry standard methodology for thread counting.

36. In a letter to the National Textiles Association ("NTA"), the Federal Trade Commission ("FTC") stated that this non-traditional practice of measuring thread count "created confusion in the marketplace and has caused consumers to compare thread counts that may have been calculated in two dramatically different ways." The FTC also stated that "consumers could"

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27 | 6 *Id*.

⁷ *Id*.

⁵ *Id*.

be deceived or misled by the practice of stating an inflated thread count, achieved by multiplying the actual count by the number of plies within the yarn."8

37. The practice of counting the plies that make up each thread was also condemned by the American Textile Manufacturer's Institute ("ATMI"). In a letter sent to the FTC on January 31, 2002, Exhibit B, ATMI addressed marketing of bed sheets and pillowcases to consumers with claims of extremely high yarn or thread count claims, stating that:

Labeling these products based on a count that includes each ply in plied yarns deceives the customer into believing that bedding products with higher counts are better, when, in fact, they might be inferior because of the method used to determine the count.

...

In many cases, these extremely high counts are achieved by counting yarns within a ply as individual yarns, thus dramatically increasing the number of yarns in a square inch of fabric. A plied yarn is one in which two or more yarns are twisted together to form a single strand.

ATMI believes this method of labeling products based on counting each individual yarn in plies to be a deceptive practice, which misleads the American public into making purchasing decisions to purchase items, based on false and misleading information.

ASTM method D 3775-96 (Standard Test Method for Fabric Count of Woven Fabric) [a prior version of D3775-12] the long-accepted industry standard for determining count. This method has been in use in this country for many years and serves as the industry's standard way to report the count of many woven textile fabrics, including sheeting. It is based on the number of yarns in the warp direction and filling direction, regardless of ply, and has become an important parameter used by consumers to judge the quality of sheeting products, since the higher the count, the more luxurious the product.

ATMI believes that any information provided to the consumer should be true and correct so as not to be deceptive or misleading. We believe that plied yarns are properly counted as only one yarn. For example, a fabric containing 250 individual four ply yarns in a square inch would be described as a "250 thread count fabric, even though each thread or yarn contained four plies twisted together." It would be false and misleading to describe this as a 1000 thread count product.

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⁸ *Id*.

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- 38. Despite knowing the long-standing industry standards, Defendant deviated from the traditional thread counting standards to mislead consumers. Defendant's Products were manufactured, marketed, advertised, sold, and/or distributed with inflated thread counts.
- 39. When Defendant's Products were measured according to industry standards by an independent lab, the thread counts were significantly less than claimed by Defendant.⁹
- 40. Defendant knows that its method of calculating thread count is misleading and not based on industry standards for determining thread count. By representing that its Products had higher thread counts than the products really have, Defendant unjustly profited from the sale of such bedding and linen products to consumers. Because of Defendant's inflated thread counts, Plaintiffs and other Class Members purchased products they would not have otherwise purchased, or that they would have paid a lower price for had they known the actual thread counts at the time of purchase.
- 41. As outlined above, the thread count representations are material to consumers, as evidenced further by their prominence on the front packaging of the Products at issue.

CLASS ALLEGATIONS

- 42. Plaintiffs seek to represent the following classes:
 - (a) All people in the United States who purchased any Beautyrest product that represents the product as having a thread count of 1000 during the applicable statute of limitations.
 - (b) All people in the United States who purchased any Madison Park product that represents the product as having a thread count of 1500 during the applicable statute of limitations.
 - (c) All people in California who purchased any Beautyrest product that represents the product as having a thread count of 1000 during the applicable statute of limitations.

⁹ See Exhibits A-B.

- (d) All people in California who purchased any Madison Park product that represents the product as having a thread count of 1500 during the applicable statute of limitations.
- (e) All people in New York who purchased any Beautyrest product that represents the product as having a thread count of 1000 during the applicable statute of limitations.
- (f) All people in New York who purchased any Madison Park product that represents the product as having a thread count of 1500 during the applicable statute of limitations.
- 43. The aforementioned class definitions are placeholders and subject to change. Subject to additional information obtained through further investigation and discovery, the foregoing class definitions may be expanded or narrowed by amended complaint or at class certification, including through the use of multi-state subclasses to account for material differences in state law, if any.
- 44. Specifically excluded from proposed classes are Defendant, Defendant's officers, directors, agents, trustees, parents, children, corporations, trusts, representatives, employees, principals, servants, partners, joint ventures, or entities controlled by Defendant, and its heirs, successors, assigns, or other persons or entities related to or affiliated with Defendant and/or Defendant's officers and/or directors, the judge assigned to this action, and any member of the judge's immediate family.
- 45. **Numerosity.** Class members are geographically dispersed throughout the United States and are so numerous that individual joinder is impracticable. Plaintiffs reasonably estimate that there are hundreds of thousands of class members.
- 46. **Existence and predominance of common questions of law and fact.** Common questions of law and fact exist as to all class members and predominate over any questions affecting only individual class members. These common legal and factual questions include, but are not limited to, the following:

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- (a) Whether Defendant made false and/or misleading statements to the consuming public concerning the thread count of its Products;
- (b) Whether Defendant's labeling and packaging for the Products at issue are misleading and/or deceptive;
- (c) Whether Defendant engaged in unfair, fraudulent, or unlawful business practices with respect to the advertising and sale of the Products at issue;
- (d) Whether Defendant represented to consumers that the its Products have characteristics or qualities they do not have;
- (e) Whether Defendant advertised the Products at issue with the intent to sell it not as advertised;
- (f) Whether Defendant made and breached express and/or implied warranties concerning the Products at issue;
- (g) Whether Defendant's conduct injured Plaintiffs and class members; and
- (h) Whether Plaintiffs and class members are entitled to damages or other relief.
- 47. **Typicality.** Plaintiffs' claims are typical of the claims of the class members in that, among other things, they were deceived (or reasonably likely to be deceived) in the same way by Defendant's false and misleading claims about the purported thread count of the Products at issue. All class members were comparably injured by Defendant's wrongful conduct as set forth herein. Further, there are no defenses available to Defendant that are unique to Plaintiffs.
- 48. **Adequacy of Representation.** Plaintiffs will fairly and adequately protect the interests of the proposed class members. Plaintiffs retained counsel that is highly experienced in complex consumer class action litigation, and Plaintiffs intend to vigorously prosecute this action on behalf of class members. Furthermore, Plaintiffs have no interests that are antagonistic to those of class members.
- 49. **Superiority.** A class action is superior to all other available means for the fair and efficient adjudication of this controversy. The damages or other financial detriment suffered by individual Class and Subclass Members are relatively small compared to the burden and expense of individual litigation of their claims against Defendant. It would, thus, be virtually impossible for

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Class or Subclass Members to obtain effective redress on an individual basis for the wrongs committed against them. Even if Class or Subclass Members could afford such individualized litigation, the court system could not. Individualized litigation would create the danger of inconsistent or contradictory judgments arising from the same set of facts. It would also increase the delay and expense to all parties and the court system from the issues raised by this action. The class action device provides the benefits of adjudication of these issues in a single proceeding, economies of scale, and comprehensive supervision by a single court, and presents no unusual management difficulties under the circumstances.

- 50. In the alternative, the Class and Subclasses may also be certified because:
 - (a) the prosecution of separate actions by individual Class and Subclass

 Members would create a risk of inconsistent or varying adjudications with
 respect to individual Class or Subclass Members that would establish
 incompatible standards of conduct for Defendant;
 - (b) the prosecution of separate actions by individual Class and Subclass

 Members would create a risk of adjudications with respect to them that

 would, as a practical matter, be dispositive of the interests of other Class and

 Subclass Members not parties to the adjudications, or substantially impair or

 impede their ability to protect their interests; and/or Defendant has acted or

 refused to act on grounds generally applicable to the Class and to the

 Subclass as a whole, thereby making appropriate final declaratory and/or

 injunctive relief with respect to the Members of the Class and to the

 Members of the Subclass as a whole.

COUNT I Breach Of Express Warranty

- 51. Plaintiffs incorporate by reference the allegations contained in all preceding paragraphs of this complaint.
- 52. Plaintiffs bring this Count individually and on behalf of the members of the proposed classes against Defendant.

- 53. Each Plaintiff asserts this claim under the laws of their respective state.
- 54. As the designer, manufacturer, marketer, distributor, and/or seller of the Products, Defendant issued an express warranty concerning the thread count of the Products.
- 55. Plaintiffs and class members reasonably relied on Defendant's misrepresentations, descriptions and specifications regarding the Products' thread counts.
- 56. Defendant's representations were part of the description of the goods and the bargain upon which the goods were offered for sale and purchased by Plaintiffs and Members of the classes.
- 57. The Products do not conform to Defendant's representations about the thread count because they have a lower thread count than advertised.
- 58. As a direct and proximate result of Defendant's breach, Plaintiffs and class members were injured because they: (1) paid money for the Products that were not what Defendant represented; (2) were deprived of the benefit of the bargain because the Products they purchased were different than what Defendant advertised; and (3) were deprived of the benefit of the bargain because the Products they purchased had less value than if Defendant's representations about the characteristics of the Products were truthful. Had Defendant not breached the express warranty by making the false representations alleged herein, Plaintiffs and class members would not have purchased the Products or would not have paid as much as they did for them.
 - 59. Defendant was provided with pre-suit notice of the claims at issue here.

COUNT II

Breach of Implied Warranty of Merchantability

- 60. Plaintiffs incorporate by reference the allegations contained in all preceding paragraphs of this complaint.
- 61. Plaintiffs bring this Count individually and on behalf of the members of the proposed classes against Defendant.
 - 62. Each Plaintiff asserts this claim under the laws of their respective state.
- 63. Defendant, as the designer, manufacturer, marketer, distributor, and/or seller, has made an implied promise on the label of the Beautyrest Products that they have a thread count of

1000, and has made an implied promise on the label of the Madison Park Products that they would have a thread count of 1500.

- 64. Defendant made implied representations about its Products' thread counts that were false and misleading, as outlined above. Defendant's Products had an entirely different thread count based on industry standards.
- 65. Defendant breached its implied warranties due to the false thread count labeling at issue in this case, Plaintiff and the proposed classes did not receive the goods as impliedly warranted by Defendant.
- 66. Had Defendant not breached its implied warranty by making the false representations alleged herein, Plaintiffs and class members would not have purchased the Products or would not have paid as much as they did for them. As such, Plaintiffs and the proposed classes have sustained damages as a proximate result of the foregoing breach of implied warranty in an amount to be determined at trial.
 - 67. Defendant was provided with pre-suit notice of the claims at issue here.

COUNT III Unjust Enrichment

- 68. Plaintiffs incorporate by reference the allegations contained in all proceeding paragraphs of this complaint.
- 69. Plaintiffs bring this Count individually and on behalf of the members of the proposed classes against Defendant.
 - 70. Each Plaintiff asserts this claim under the laws of their respective state.
- 71. Plaintiffs and class members conferred benefits on Defendant by purchasing the Products.
 - 72. Defendant has knowledge of such benefits.
- 73. Defendant has been unjustly enriched in retaining the revenues derived from the purchases of the Products. Retention of monies under these circumstances is unjust and inequitable because Defendant misrepresented that the Products contained a thread count of 1000 or 1500 and charged a price premium based on those representations.

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74. Putative class members have suffered an injury in fact and have lost money as a result of Defendant's unjust conduct. Putative class members lack and adequate remedy at law with respect to this claim and are entitled to non-restitutionary disgorgement of the financial profits that Defendant obtained as a result of its unjust conduct.

COUNT IV

Fraud

- 75. Plaintiffs incorporate by reference the allegations contained in all preceding paragraphs of this complaint.
- 76. Plaintiffs bring this Count individually and on behalf of the members of the proposed classes against Defendant.
 - 77. Each Plaintiff asserts this claim under the laws of their respective state.
- 78. As discussed above, Defendant misrepresented the thread count of the Products at issue.
- 79. The false and misleading representations were made with knowledge of their falsehood.
- 80. The false and misleading representations were made by Defendant, upon which Plaintiffs and members of the classes reasonably and justifiably relied and were intended to induce and actually induced Plaintiffs and Class members to purchase the Products.
- 81. The fraudulent actions of Defendant caused damage to Plaintiffs and members of the classes, who are entitled to damages and punitive damages as a result.

COUNT V

Violation of California's Consumers Legal Remedies Act California Civil Code § 1750, et seq.

- 82. Plaintiffs hereby incorporate by reference the allegations contained in all preceding paragraphs of this complaint.
- 83. Plaintiffs bring this Count individually and on behalf of the members of the proposed classes against Defendant.
- 84. This cause of action is brought pursuant to California's Consumers Legal Remedies Act, Cal. Civ. Code §§ 1750-1785 (the "CLRA").

- 85. Plaintiffs and class members are "consumers," as the term is defined by California Civil Code § 1761(d), because they bought the Products at issue for personal, family, or household purposes.
- 86. Defendant is a "person" within the meaning of Cal. Civ. Code § 1761(c). Defendant's Products are "goods" within the meaning of Cal. Civ. Code § 1761(a).
- 87. The parties have engaged in "transactions," as that term is defined by California Civil Code § 1761(e).
- 88. The conduct alleged in this Complaint constitutes unfair methods of competition and unfair and deceptive acts and practices for the purpose of the CLRA, and the conduct was undertaken by Defendant in transactions intended to result in, and which did result in, the sale of goods to consumers.
- 89. Defendant has violated the CLRA by making false statements about the thread count of the Products at issue.
- 90. As a result of engaging in such conduct, Defendant has violated California Civil Code § 1770(a)(5), (a)(7), and (a)(9).
- 91. As a direct and proximate result of Defendant's unfair and deceptive business practices, as alleged above and herein, Plaintiffs and class members have suffered injury.
- 92. Defendant's unfair and deceptive business practices, as alleged above and herein, were willful, wanton, and fraudulent.
- 93. Defendant's officers, directors, and/or managing agents authorized the use of the false and misleading statements regarding the Products' thread counts, as alleged above and herein.
- 94. Plaintiffs and class members suffered harm as a result of these violations of the CLRA because they have paid money for the Products that they otherwise would not have incurred or paid.
- 95. Plaintiffs and class members suffered an injury in fact resulting in the loss of money and/or property as a proximate result of the violations of law and wrongful conduct of Defendant alleged herein, and they lack an adequate remedy at law to address the unfair conduct at issue here. Legal remedies available to Plaintiffs and class members are inadequate because they are not

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equally prompt and certain and in other ways efficient as equitable relief. Damages are not equally certain as restitution because the standard that governs restitution is different than the standard that governs damages. Hence, the Court may award restitution even if it determines that Plaintiffs fail to sufficiently adduce evidence to support an award of damages. Damages and restitution are not the same amount. Unlike damages, restitution is not limited to the amount of money defendant wrongfully acquired plus the legal rate of interest. Equitable relief, including restitution, entitles the plaintiff to recover all profits from the wrongdoing, even where the original funds taken have grown far greater than the legal rate of interest would recognize. Legal claims for damages are not equally certain as restitution because claims under the CLRA entail few elements. In short, significant differences in proof and certainty establish that any potential legal claim cannot serve as an adequate remedy at law.

96. Plaintiffs seek all available relief under the CLRA, except damages. Plaintiffs reserve the right to amend to seek damages at a later date.

COUNT VI

Violation of California's False Advertising Law ("FAL"), Business & Professions Code § 17500 et seq.

- 97. Plaintiffs incorporate by reference and re-allege each and every allegation set forth above as though fully set forth herein.
- 98. Plaintiffs bring this Count individually and on behalf of the members of the proposed classes against Defendant.
- 99. Defendant violated Business & Professions Code § 17500 by publicly disseminating false, misleading, and deceptive advertisements regarding the Products by falsely inflating their thread count.
- 100. Defendant's false and misleading advertisements were disseminated to increase the sales of the Products at issue. Defendant knew or should have known that its advertisements for the Products were false, misleading, and deceptive.

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- 101. Plaintiffs and class members suffered harm as a result of these violations of the FAL because they have incurred charges and/or paid monies for Products that they otherwise would not have incurred or paid.
- 102. Plaintiffs and class members suffered an injury in fact resulting in the loss of money and/or property as a proximate result of the violations of law and wrongful conduct of Defendant alleged herein, and they lack an adequate remedy at law to address the unfair conduct at issue here. Legal remedies available to Plaintiffs and class members are inadequate because they are not equally prompt and certain and in other ways efficient as equitable relief. Damages are not equally certain as restitution because the standard that governs restitution is different than the standard that governs damages. Hence, the Court may award restitution even if it determines that Plaintiffs fail to sufficiently adduce evidence to support an award of damages. Damages and restitution are not the same amount. Unlike damages, restitution is not limited to the amount of money defendant wrongfully acquired plus the legal rate of interest. Equitable relief, including restitution, entitles the plaintiff to recover all profits from the wrongdoing, even where the original funds taken have grown far greater than the legal rate of interest would recognize. Legal claims for damages are not equally certain as restitution because claims under the FAL entail few elements. In short, significant differences in proof and certainty establish that any potential legal claim cannot serve as an adequate remedy at law.
 - 103. Plaintiffs seek all available relief under the FAL.

COUNT VII

Violation of California's Unfair Competition Law ("UCL"), Business & Professions Code §§ 17200 et seq.

- 104. Plaintiffs incorporate by reference and re-allege each and every allegation set forth above as though fully set forth herein.
- 105. Plaintiffs bring this Count individually and on behalf of the members of the proposed classes against Defendant.

- 106. By committing the acts and practices alleged herein, Defendant has violated California's Unfair Competition Law ("UCL"), Cal. Bus. & Prof. Code §§ 17200-17210 by engaging in unlawful, fraudulent, and unfair conduct.
- 107. Defendant has violated the UCL's proscription against engaging in unlawful conduct as a result of its violations of the CLRA, Cal. Civ. Code § 1770(a)(5), (a)(7), and (a)(9) as alleged above, as well as its violations of the other laws referenced herein. Defendant has also violated the unlawful prong under FCTA § 5(A) because its business practices are "likely to cause substantial injury to consumers which is not reasonably avoidable by consumers themselves and not outweighed by countervailing benefits to consumers or to competition." 15 U.S.C. § 45(n).
- 108. Defendant's business practices are also unlawful pursuant to the FTCA by way of the Textile Fiber Products Identification Act, 15 U.S.C. §§ 70a(a), 70a(b), and/or § 70a(c). These sections make it unlawful, under 15 U.S.C. §§ 41 et seq., to sell, transport, deliver, or advertise "any textile fiber product . . . which is misbranded or deceptively advertised."
- 109. Defendant's business practices are fraudulent because they include affirmative representations and omissions and are likely to mislead reasonable consumers under the circumstances.
- 110. Plaintiffs and the members of the Class have suffered an injury in fact resulting in the loss of money and/or property as a proximate result of the violations of law and wrongful conduct of Defendant alleged herein, and they lack an adequate remedy at law to address the unfair conduct at issue here. Legal remedies available to Plaintiffs and class members are inadequate because they are not equally prompt and certain and in other ways efficient as equitable relief. Damages are not equally certain as restitution because the standard that governs restitution is different than the standard that governs damages. Hence, the Court may award restitution even if it determines that Plaintiffs fail to sufficiently adduce evidence to support an award of damages. Damages and restitution are not the same amount. Unlike damages, restitution is not limited to the amount of money defendant wrongfully acquired plus the legal rate of interest. Equitable relief, including restitution, entitles the plaintiff to recover all profits from the wrongdoing, even where the original funds taken have grown far greater than the legal rate of interest would recognize.

1	Legal claims for damages are not equ
2	few elements. In short, significant di
3	legal claim cannot serve as an adequa
4	111. Plaintiffs seek all avai
5	Violation of New Y
6	112. Plaintiffs hereby incor
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8	paragraphs of this complaint.
9	113. Plaintiff Clark brings
10	New York subclasses against Defend
11	114. New York General Bu
	conduct of any business, trade or con
12	115. Similarly, New York
13	the conduct of any business, trade or
14	116. Defendant intended th
15	conduct and false advertising of threa
16	this deceptive conduct.
17	117. As a result of the Defe
18	business practices and false advertising
19	_
20	have sustained damages in an amoun
21	118. In addition, Defendant
22	of the truth such that an award of pun
23	119. Plaintiff Clark seeks a
	not limited to statutory damages.
24]
25	WHEREFORE, Plaintiffs, ind
26	judgment against Defendant, as follow
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ally certain as restitution because claims under the UCL entail fferences in proof and certainty establish that any potential ate remedy at law.

lable relief under the UCL.

COUNT VIII

York General Business Laws §§ 349 & 350

- porate by reference the allegations contained in all preceding
- this Count individually and on behalf of the members of the ant.
- usiness Law §349 prohibits "[d]eceptive acts or practices in the nmerce or in the furnishing of any service[.]"
- General Business Law §350 prohibits "[f]alse advertising in commerce or in the furnishing of any service[.]"
- at Plaintiffs and class members would rely upon its deceptive ad count, and a reasonable person would in fact be misled by
- endant's use or employment of unfair or deceptive acts or ng, Plaintiff Clark and members of the New York subclasses t to be proven at trial.
- t's conduct showed malice, motive, and the reckless disregard nitive damages is appropriate.
- Il available relief under GBL §§ 349 and 350, including but

PRAYER FOR RELIEF

ividually and on behalf of all others similarly situated, seeks vs:

1	(a)	For an order certifying	ng the Class and the Subclasses under Rule 23 of the Federal Rules
2		of Civil Procedure, n	naming Plaintiffs as the representative of the Class, Plaintiff Staples
3		and Scott representat	tives of the California Subclass, Plaintiff Clark representative of the
4		New York Subclass,	, and Plaintiffs' attorneys as Class Counsel to represent the Class
5		and Subclass member	ers;
6	(b)	For an order declaring	ng the Defendant's conduct violates the statutes referenced herein;
7	(c)	For an order finding	g in favor of Plaintiffs, the Class, and the Subclasses on all counts
8		asserted herein;	
9	(d)	For compensatory, s	tatutory, and punitive damages in amounts to be determined by the
10		Court and/or jury;	
11	(e)	For prejudgment inte	erest in all amounts awarded;
12	(f)	For an order of resti	itution and all other forms of equitable monetary relief, including
13		non-restitutionary dis	sgorgement;
14	(g)	For an order awardin	g Plaintiffs and the Class and Subclasses their reasonable attorney's
15		fees and expenses an	nd costs of suit.
16		:	JURY TRIAL DEMANDED
17	Pursuant to Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 38(b), Plaintiffs demand a trial by jury of any and		
18	all issues in the	his action so triable of 1	right.
19			
20	Dated: Janua	ary 4, 2024	BURSOR & FISHER, P.A.
21			By: /s/ Joel D. Smith
22			Joel D. Smith
23			Joel D. Smith (State Bar No. 244902) Brittany S. Scott (State Bar No. 327132)
24			1990 North California Blvd., Suite 940 Walnut Creek, CA 94596
25			Telephone: (925) 300-4455
26			Facsimile: (925) 407-2700 E-mail: jsmith@bursor.com
27			bscott@bursor.com
28			

1	TREEHOUSE LAW, LLP	
2	Benjamin Heikali (State Bar No. 307466 2121 Avenue of the Stars, Suite 2580)
3	Los Angeles, CA 90067 Telephone: (310) 751-5928	
4	E-mail: bheikali@treehouselaw.com	
5	Attorneys for Plaintiffs	
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ClassAction.org

This complaint is part of ClassAction.org's searchable class action lawsuit database and can be found in this post: <u>Class Action Says Beautyrest</u>, <u>Madison Park Sheets Labeled With 'Inflated' Thread Counts</u>