### IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF NEW JERSEY NEWARK DIVISION

JOHN WAUDBY, ROBERT SPUNTAK and MOHAMAD IBRAHIM individually, and on behalf of others similarly situated, No.

**CLASS ACTION** 

Plaintiffs,

VS.

JURY TRIAL DEMANDED

SAMSUNG ELECTRONICS AMERICA, INC.,

Defendant.

### **COMPLAINT**

Plaintiffs John Waudby, Robert Spuntak and Mohamad Ibrahim (together, "Plaintiffs") bring this action against Defendant Samsung Electronics America, Inc. ("Defendant" or "Samsung"), by and through their attorneys, individually, and behalf of all others similarly situated, and allege as follows:

### **INTRODUCTION**

- 1. This is a class action lawsuit brought by Plaintiffs on behalf of themselves and a class of persons and entities ("consumers") who purchased or financed a Samsung Galaxy Note7 smartphone ("Note7").
- 2. As discussed in more detail below, soon after sales of the Note7 began, complaints surfaced that the Note7s were overheating and catching fire.

Accordingly, Samsung recalled the defective devices and notified consumers that they should immediately discontinue using the smartphones and exchange them for replacements.

- 3. Following Samsung's advice, consumers discontinued using their Note7s only to find out that Samsung did not have replacement smartphones available. Instead, Samsung informed consumers that they would have to wait several days, and even weeks in many cases, before receiving a replacement smartphone.
- 4. During this time, and as a result of Defendant failing to provide consumers with an adequate replacement, consumers continued to incur monthly device and plan charges from their cellular carriers for phones they could not safely use.
- 5. As a result of Samsung's actions, Plaintiffs and the Class have suffered injury in fact, incurred millions of dollars in fees, and have otherwise been harmed by Samsung's conduct.
- 6. Accordingly, Plaintiffs bring this action and seek recovery for Defendant's breach of express warranty, breach of the covenant of good faith and fair dealing, and common law fraud.

#### THE PARTIES

7. Plaintiff John Waudby is a resident of Nevada. On or about August

- 21, 2016, Plaintiff Waudby purchased a Note7 in the state of Nevada and suffered damages as a result of Defendant's conduct.
- 8. Plaintiff Robert Spuntak is a resident of Pennsylvania. On or about August 21, 2016, Plaintiff Spuntak purchased a Note7, in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and suffered damages as a result of Defendant's conduct.
- 9. Plaintiff Mohamad Ibrahim is a resident of California. On or about August 24, 2016, Plaintiff Ibrahim purchased a Note7, in the state of California and suffered damages as a result of Defendant's conduct.
- 10. Defendant Samsung Electronics America, Inc., is a New York corporation with its principal place of business in Ridgefield Park, New Jersey. Samsung is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Samsung Electronics Co., Ltd., which is a Korean company headquartered in Suwon, South Korea. Defendant has been and still is engaged in the business of distributing, marketing, and selling smart phones and other products throughout United States and this district.

### **JURISDICTION AND VENUE**

11. This Court has subject matter jurisdiction of this action pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1332(d) because the aggregated claims of the individual class members exceed the sum or value of \$5,000,000, exclusive of interest and costs; there are more than 100 putative class members defined below; and there are numerous members of the proposed class who are citizens of a state different from Defendant

This Court has supplemental jurisdiction over the state law claims pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1367.

- 12. Venue is proper in this judicial district pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1391 because Defendant resides and is headquartered in this district, and therefore is deemed a citizen of this district. Additionally, Defendant has advertised in this district and has received substantial revenue and profits from the sales of Note7 smartphones in this district; therefore, a substantial part of the events and/or omissions giving rise to the claims occurred, in part, within this district.
- 13. This Court has personal jurisdiction over Defendant because Samsung has conducted substantial business in this judicial district, and intentionally and purposefully placed Note7 smartphones into the stream of commerce within the District of New Jersey and throughout the United States.

### **FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS**

- 14. On August 19, 2016, Samsung released to the market its highly touted, high-end, flagship smartphone, the Galaxy Note7, which sells for approximately \$850. Shortly after the smartphones' highly anticipated release, however, reports began to surface that the new smartphones were overheating and "exploding" in the hands of consumers.
- 15. In late-August, Samsung halted shipments of the Note7 while conducting additional testing for product quality as a result of these reports.

- 16. On September 2, 2016, after 35 incidents of overheating smartphones had been reported worldwide, Samsung suspended sales of the Note7 smartphone. As a result, Samsung announced the U.S. Product Exchange Program for Note7 owners and stated that the new Galaxy Note7 would be "available next week."
- 17. This replacement program included an estimated 1 million phones in the United States and 2.5 million worldwide.
- 18. In its announcement, Samsung stated that it had conducted a thorough investigation and had found a battery cell issue in the Note7 phones. Samsung stated that it was working with its supplier to identify possible affected batteries in the field, but that because safety was an absolute priority, it had decided to stop sales of the Note7. For those customers already owning a Note7, Samsung announced that it would voluntarily replace each device with a new device "over the coming weeks."
- 19. On September 9, the United States Consumer Product Safety

  Commission ("CPSC") and Samsung issued advisories urging consumers to

  immediately stop using the Note7. The CPSC told consumers "to power [the

  Note7] down and stop charging or using the device" while it worked with Samsung

  on the recall details. Samsung Electronics America President, Tim Baxter, told

  consumers that Samsung was "asking users to power down their Galaxy Note7s

  and exchange them now."

20. On September 10, DJ Koh, President of Mobile Communications Business at Samsung, further stated:

Our number one priority is the safety of our customers. We are asking users to power down their Galaxy Note7s and exchange them as soon as possible. We are expediting replacement devices so that they can be provided through the exchange program as conveniently as possible and in compliance with related regulations.

- 21. Samsung directed consumers who had Note7 devices to contact their place of purchase or call their designated local call center as soon as possible to exchange their device for a new Galaxy Note7 (with an updated battery).

  Alternatively, consumers could choose to exchange their Note7 for a Galaxy S7 or Galaxy S7 Edge, both of which are less expensive and offer less advanced technology than the Note7.
- 22. Consumers quickly learned that although Samsung announced its recall on September 2 and told consumers to immediately exchange their smartphones on September 9, that replacement Note7s were not available.
- 23. It was not until September 21 that Samsung announced that it would begin the Note7 exchanges nationwide. And even on that date, only an estimated 500,000 replacement devices had arrived in the United States. In fact, as of September 27, approximately 40 percent of the unsafe Note7s sold in South Korea and the United States still had not been replaced with new devices.
  - 24. Consumers were left without the safe use of smartphones that they

had purchased, while waiting approximately three weeks (or more) for the replacement Note7s to become locally available for exchange. During this time, consumers continued to incur monthly device and plan charges associated with their Note7s.

- 25. Plaintiff Waudby purchased a Note7 on August 21, 2016, and incurred monthly device charges and monthly plan charges that have not been reimbursed through the Samsung recall program or other third parties.
- 26. Plaintiff Spuntak purchased a Note7 on August 26, 2016, and incurred monthly device charges and monthly plan charges that have not been reimbursed through the Samsung recall program or other third parties.
- 27. Plaintiff Ibrahim purchased a Note7 on August 24, 2016, and incurred monthly device charges and monthly plan charges that have not been reimbursed through the Samsung recall program or other third parties.
- 28. On October 11, just as consumers were finally starting to receive their replacement smartphones, Samsung announced that it was discontinuing the Galaxy Note7 entirely. Samsung's decision followed reports of some replacement devices (with new batteries) also exploding. In fact, at least three owners of replacement Note7s reported fires with their replacement devices, including one Note7 that caught fire on a Southwest Airlines flight necessitating an evacuation of the airplane.

- 29. On October 14, the Department of Transportation (DOT) issued an "emergency order to ban all Samsung Galaxy Note7 smartphone devices from air transportation in the United States. Individuals who own or possess a Samsung Galaxy Note7 device may not transport the device on their person, in carry-on baggage, or in checked baggage on flights to, from, or within the United States. This prohibition includes all Samsung Galaxy Note7 devices. The phones also cannot be shipped as air cargo."
- 30. The DOT announcement further stated "[i]f passengers attempt to travel by air with their Samsung Galaxy Note7 devices, the phones may be confiscated and passengers may face fines."

### **CLASS ACTION ALLEGATIONS**

- 31. Plaintiffs bring this suit as a class action on behalf of themselves and on behalf of all others similarly situated pursuant to Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, Rule 23(a), 23(b)(2), and/or 23(b)(3). This action satisfies the numerosity, commonality, typicality, adequacy, predominance and superiority requirements of the provisions of Rule 23.
  - 32. Plaintiff seeks to represent the following "Nationwide Class":

    All persons and entities in the United States who purchased or leased a Samsung Galaxy Note7.
  - 33. In the alternative, Plaintiffs seek to represent the following state sub-

classes:

All persons and entities in Nevada that purchased or financed a Samsung Galaxy Note7 (the "Nevada Class").

All persons and entities in Pennsylvania that purchased or financed a Samsung Galaxy Note7 (the "Pennsylvania Class").

All persons and entities in California that purchased or financed a Samsung Galaxy Note7 (the "California Class").

- 34. The Nationwide Class, Nevada Class, Pennsylvania Class and California Class will be referred to collectively as the "Class" for purposes of Plaintiffs' claims.
- 35. Excluded from all classes are the Judge(s) to whom this case is assigned and any member of the Judge's immediate family, along with Defendant's employees, officers, directors, agents, and representatives and their immediate family members. Also excluded are those persons who have suffered personal injuries as a result of the facts alleged herein.
- 36. *Numerosity:* Members of the Class are so numerous that joinder of all members is impracticable. While the exact number of Class members remains unknown at this time, upon information and belief, there are hundreds of thousands of putative Class members throughout the United States who are generally ascertainable by appropriate discovery.

- 37. *Commonality:* This action involves common questions of law and fact, which predominate over any questions affecting individual Class members. These common legal and factual questions include, but are not limited to, the following;
  - a. Whether Samsung engaged in the conduct alleged herein;
  - b. Whether Samsung breached any warranties through its conduct as alleged herein;
  - c. Whether Plaintiffs and other Class members are entitled to restitution for monthly device and plan charges for phones they could not safely use during the relevant period;
  - d. Whether Plaintiff and other Class members are entitled to recover compensatory damages as a result of Samsung's breach of warranty.
- 38. *Typicality*: Plaintiffs' claims are typical of those of the other Class members because, *inter alia*, all members of the Class were injured through the common misconduct described above and were subject to Samsung's breach of warranty. Plaintiffs are advancing the same claims and legal theories on behalf of themselves and all members of the Class.
- 39. *Adequacy of Representation:* Plaintiffs will fairly and adequately represent and protect the interests of the Class in that they have no disabling conflicts of interest that would be antagonistic to those of the other members of the

Class. Plaintiffs seek no relief that is antagonistic or adverse to the members of the Class and the infringement of the rights and the damages they have suffered are typical of other Class members. Plaintiffs have retained counsel experienced in complex consumer class action litigation, and Plaintiffs intend to prosecute this action vigorously.

- 40. *Superiority:* The class litigation is an appropriate method for fair and efficient adjudication of the claims involved. Class action treatment is superior to all other available methods for the fair and efficient adjudication of the controversy alleged herein; it will permit a large number of Class members to prosecute their common claims in a single forum simultaneously, efficiently, and without the unnecessary duplication of evidence, effort and expense that hundreds of individual actions would require. Class action treatment will permit the adjudication of relatively modest claims by certain Class members, who could not individually afford to litigate a complex claim against large corporate defendants. Further, even for those Class members who could afford to litigate such a claim, it would still be economically impractical.
- 41. The nature of this action and the nature of laws available to Plaintiffs and the Class make the use of the class action device a particularly efficient and appropriate procedure to afford relief to Plaintiffs and the Class for the wrongs alleged because Samsung would necessarily gain an unconscionable advantage

since they would be able to exploit and overwhelm the limited resources of each individual Class member with superior financial and legal resources; the costs of individual suits could unreasonably consume the amounts that would be recovered; proof of a common course of conduct to which Plaintiffs were exposed is representative of that experienced by the Class and will establish the right of each member of the Class to recover on the cause of action alleged; and individual actions would create a risk of inconsistent results and would be unnecessary and duplicative of this litigation.

- 42. Plaintiffs reserve the right to modify or amend the definition of the proposed class and subclasses before the Court determines whether certification is appropriate and as the parties engage in discovery.
- 43. The class action is superior to all other available methods for the fair and efficient adjudication of this controversy. Because of the number and nature of common questions of fact and law, multiple separate lawsuits would not serve the interest of judicial economy.
- 44. Individual litigation of the claims of all Class members is economically unfeasible and procedurally impracticable. While the aggregate damages sustained by the Class are likely in the millions of dollars, the individual damages incurred by each Member resulting from Samsung's wrongful conduct are too small to warrant the expense of individual suits. The likelihood of

individual Class members prosecuting separate claims is remote, and even if every Class member could afford individual litigation, the court system would be unduly burdened by individual litigation of such cases. Individual Class members do not have a significant interest in individually controlling the prosecution of separate actions, and the individualized litigation would also present the potential for varying, inconsistent, or contradictory judgments and would magnify the delay and expense to all parties and to the court system resulting from multiple trials of the same factual issues. Plaintiffs know of no difficulty to be encountered in the management of this action that would preclude its maintenance as a class action. A class action in this matter will avoid case management difficulties and provide multiple benefits, including efficiency, economy of scale, unitary adjudication with consistent results and equal protection of the rights of each Class member, all by way of the comprehensive and efficient supervision of the litigation by a single court.

- 45. Notice of a certified class action and of any result or resolution of the litigation can be provided to Class members by first-class mail, email, or publication, or such other methods of notice as deemed appropriate by the Court.
- 46. Plaintiffs do not anticipate any difficulty in the management of this litigation.

#### **COUNT I**

#### **BREACH OF EXPRESS WARRANTY**

(On Behalf of the Nationwide Class or, Alternatively, the Pennsylvania, California and Nevada Classes)

- 47. Plaintiffs and the Class incorporate by reference each preceding and succeeding paragraph as though fully set forth at length herein.
- 48. Defendant expressly warranted to Plaintiffs and the Class members that the Note7s were of high quality and, at a minimum, safe.
- 49. Defendant breached this warranty by selling to Plaintiffs and the Class members Note7s that were subject to a known and dangerous defect and known to fail prematurely.
- 50. As a result of Defendant's actions, Plaintiffs have suffered economic damages including but not limited to monthly charges and fees, loss of use of the Note7, substantial loss in value and resale value of their Note7s, and other related damage.
- 51. Defendant's attempt to disclaim or limit these express warranties is unconscionable and unenforceable under the circumstances here. Specifically, Defendant's warranty limitation is unenforceable because they knowingly sold a defective product without informing consumers about the defect.
- 52. Plaintiffs and Class members have complied with all obligations under the warranty, or otherwise have been excused from performance of said obligations as a result of Defendant's conduct described herein.

### COUNT II COMMON LAW FRAUD

## (On Behalf of the Nationwide Class or, Alternatively, the Pennsylvania, California and Nevada Classes)

- 53. Plaintiffs incorporate by reference each preceding and succeeding paragraph as though fully set forth at length herein.
- 54. Defendant made material misstatements and omissions concerning the availability of replacement Note7s.
- 55. As a result, Plaintiffs and Class members were fraudulently induced to continue incurring and paying monthly charges and fees for their Note7s, which they could neither use nor replace.
- 56. These misstatements and omissions were made by Defendant with knowledge of their falsity, and with the intent that Plaintiffs and Class memebrs rely upon them.
- 57. Plaintiffs and Class members reasonably relied on these misstatements and omissions, and suffered damages as a result.

# COUNT III BREACH OF THE DUTY OF GOOD FAITH AND FAIR DEALING

### (On Behalf of the Nationwide Class or, Alternatively, the Pennsylvania, California and Nevada Classes)

- 58. Plaintiffs and the Class incorporate by reference each preceding and succeeding paragraph as though fully set forth at length herein.
  - 59. Every contract in New Jersey, Pennsylvania, California and Nevada

contains an implied covenant of good faith and fair dealing.

- 60. Defendant breached the covenant of good faith and fair dealing by failing to notify Plaintiffs and Class members that replacement Note7s would not be made available in a timely manner, or that the Note7 would be discontinued entirely.
- 61. Defendant acted in bad faith and/or with a malicious motive to deny Plaintiffs and Class members some benefit of the bargain originally intended by the parties, thereby causing them injuries in an amount to be determined at trial.

### **PRAYER FOR RELIEF**

WHEREFORE, Plaintiffs, on behalf of themselves and members of the Class, respectfully requests that this Court:

- A. determine that the claims alleged herein may be maintained as a class action under Rule 23 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, and issue an order certifying one or more Classes as defined above;
- B. appoint Plaintiffs as the representatives of the Class and their counsel as Class counsel;
- C. award all actual, general, special, incidental, statutory, punitive, and consequential damages to which Plaintiffs and Class members are entitled;

- D. award pre-judgment and post-judgment interest on such monetary relief;
- E. grant appropriate injunctive and/or declaratory relief, including, without limitation, an order that requires Defendant to repair, recall, and/or replace the Note7s and to extend the applicable warranties for a reasonable period of time, or, at a minimum, to provide Plaintiffs and Class members with appropriate curative notice regarding the existence and cause of the design defect;
- F. award reasonable attorney's fees and costs; and
- G. grant such further relief that this Court deems appropriate.

Dated: October 14, 2016

Respectfully submitted,

### McCuneWright, LLP

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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.)

purpose of initiating the civil d	ocket sheet. (SEE INSTRUC	HONS ON NEXT FACE OF	THISTO	KW.)			
I. (a) PLAINTIFFS JOHN WAUDBY, ROBERT SPUNTAK and MOHAMAD IBRAHIM, individually and on behalf of others similarly situated,				DEFENDANTS SAMSUNG ELECTRONICS AMERICA, INC.			
(b) County of Residence of First Listed Plaintiff Clark County, NV (EXCEPT IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES)				County of Residence of First Listed Defendant  (IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES ONLY)  NOTE: IN LAND CONDEMNATION CASES, USE THE LOCATION OF THE TRACT OF LAND INVOLVED.			
(c) Attorneys (Firm Name, Joseph G. Sauder, McCi PA 19312, jgs@mccune	uneWright, LLP, 555 L	ancaster Avenue, B	erwyn,	Attorneys (If Known)			
II. BASIS OF JURISDI	CTION (Place an "X" in O	One Box Only)			RINCIPAL PARTIES	(Place an "X" in One Box for Plaintig	
☐ 1 U.S. Government Plaintiff	☐ 3 Federal Question (U.S. Government Not a Party)			(For Diversity Cases Only) PT en of This State			
☐ 2 U.S. Government Defendant	ent 2 4 Diversity (Indicate Citizenship of Parties in Item III)		Citiz	en of Another State	2		
		Citizen or Subject of a 3 3 5 Foreign Nation 6 6 6 Foreign Country					
IV. NATURE OF SUIT		orts	I E		DANIZDUDTCV	OTHER STATUTES	
☐ 110 Insurance ☐ 120 Marine ☐ 130 Miller Act	PERSONAL INJURY  310 Airplane  315 Airplane Product	PERSONAL INJURY  365 Personal Injury - Product Liability	7 🗖 62	25 Drug Related Seizure of Property 21 USC 881	BANKRUPTCY  ☐ 422 Appeal 28 USC 158 ☐ 423 Withdrawal 28 USC 157	☐ 375 False Claims Act ☐ 376 Qui Tam (31 USC 3729(a))	
<ul> <li>□ 140 Negotiable Instrument</li> <li>□ 150 Recovery of Overpayment</li> <li>&amp; Enforcement of Judgment</li> <li>□ 151 Medicare Act</li> <li>□ 152 Recovery of Defaulted</li> </ul>	ument Liability 367 erpayment 320 Assault, Libel & Slander 330 Federal Employers' Liability 368		05	o Oner	PROPERTY RIGHTS  820 Copyrights 830 Patent 840 Trademark	☐ 400 State Reapportionment ☐ 410 Antitrust ☐ 430 Banks and Banking ☐ 450 Commerce ☐ 460 Deportation	
Student Loans (Excludes Veterans)  153 Recovery of Overpayment of Veteran's Benefits 160 Stockholders' Suits 190 Other Contract 195 Contract Product Liability	□ 340 Marine □ 345 Marine Product Liability □ 350 Motor Vehicle □ 355 Motor Vehicle Product Liability □ 360 Other Personal	Injury Product Liability PERSONAL PROPER 370 Other Fraud 371 Truth in Lending 380 Other Personal Property Damage	□ 72 □ 74	LABOR 10 Fair Labor Standards Act 20 Labor/Management Relations 40 Railway Labor Act	SOCIAL SECURITY  □ 861 HIA (1395ff) □ 862 Black Lung (923) □ 863 DIWC/DIWW (405(g)) □ 864 SSID Title XVI □ 865 RSI (405(g))	□ 470 Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations □ 480 Consumer Credit □ 490 Cable/Sat TV □ 850 Securities/Commodities/ Exchange □ 890 Other Statutory Actions □ 891 Agricultural Acts □ 893 Environmental Matters □ 895 Freedom of Information Act □ 896 Arbitration □ 899 Administrative Procedure Act/Review or Appeal of Agency Decision □ 950 Constitutionality of	
☐ 196 Franchise  REAL PROPERTY	Injury  362 Personal Injury - Medical Malpractice  CIVIL RIGHTS	□ 385 Property Damage Product Liability  PRISONER PETITION	<b> </b> 79	1 Family and Medical Leave Act 0 Other Labor Litigation 1 Employee Retirement	FEDERAL TAX SUITS		
☐ 210 Land Condemnation ☐ 220 Foreclosure ☐ 230 Rent Lease & Ejectment ☐ 240 Torts to Land ☐ 245 Tort Product Liability	☐ 440 Other Civil Rights ☐ 441 Voting ☐ 442 Employment ☐ 443 Housing/ Accommodations	Habeas Corpus:  ☐ 463 Alien Detainee ☐ 510 Motions to Vacate Sentence ☐ 530 General		Income Security Act	□ 870 Taxes (U.S. Plaintiff or Defendant) □ 871 IRS—Third Party 26 USC 7609		
□ 290 All Other Real Property	□ 445 Amer. w/Disabilities - Employment □ 446 Amer. w/Disabilities - Other □ 448 Education	□ 535 Death Penalty Other: □ 540 Mandamus & Othe □ 550 Civil Rights □ 555 Prison Condition □ 560 Civil Detainee - Conditions of Confinement		IMMIGRATION 52 Naturalization Application 55 Other Immigration Actions		State Statutes	
	moved from	Appellate Court	Reoj	pened Another (specify)	rred from		
VI. CAUSE OF ACTIO	ON 28 USC 1332 Brief description of ca	ause:		Do not cite jurisdictional stati	utes unless diversity):		
VII. REQUESTED IN COMPLAINT:				CHECK YES only if demanded in complaint:  JURY DEMAND: X Yes			
VIII. RELATED CASI	E(S) (See instructions):	JUDGE			DOCKET NUMBER		
DATE 10/16/2016	signature of attorney of record /s/ Joseph G. Sauder						
FOR OFFICE USE ONLY							
RECEIPT # Al	MOUNT	APPLYING IFP		JUDGE	MAG. JU	DGE	

#### 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 the nature of suit cannot be determined, be sure the cause of action, in Section VI below, is sufficient to enable the deputy clerk or the statistical clerk(s) in the Administrative Office to determine the nature of suit. If the cause fits more than one nature of suit, select the most definitive.
- V. Origin. Place an "X" in one of the 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.

### **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 Filed in NJ Over Samsung Galaxy Note7</u>