ORIGINAL DAVID SHONKA 1 **Acting General Counsel** 2 HEATHER ALLEN DUANE C. POZZA (CA Bar No. 225933) 3 JANE RICCI GLERK, U.S. DISTRICT CO 4 **ROBIN THURSTON** hallen@ftc.gov, dpozza@ftc.gov DEC - 5 2013 5 iricci@ftc.gov, rthurston@ftc.gov Federal Trade Commission 6 600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20580 Tel: (202) 326-3224 Fax: (202) 326-3629 Local Counsel FAYE CHEN BARNOUW (CA Bar No. 168631) 11 fbarnouw@ftc.gov **Federal Trade Commission** 10877 Wilshire Blvd., Ste. 700 Los Angeles, CA 90024 Tel: (310) 824-4343 14 Fax: (310) 824-4380 15 Attorneys for the Plaintiff 16 **Federal Trade Commission** 17 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT 18 CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA 19 20 FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION 21 Plaintiff, COMPLAINT FOR PERMANENT INJUNCTION AND OTHER 22 **EQUITABLE RELIEF** v. 23 TATTO, INC., a corporation, also d/b/a 24 WINBIGBIDLOW and TATTO MEDIA; 25 BULLROARER, INC., a corporation, also 26 LODGED CLERK, U.S. DISTRICT COURT d/b/a BULLROARER CORPORATION 27 PTY LTD; 28 DEC - 4 2013 CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

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#### ORIGINAL DAVID SHONKA 1 Acting General Counsel 2 HEATHER ALLEN DUANE C. POZZA (CA Bar No. 225933) 3 JANE RICCI FILED CLERK, U.S. DISTRICT COURT 4 **ROBIN THURSTON** hallen@ftc.gov, dpozza@ftc.gov 5 DEC - 5 2013 iricci@ftc.gov, rthurston@ftc.gov Federal Trade Commission SINTHAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA 600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20580 Tel: (202) 326-3224 8 Fax: (202) 326-3629 9 10 Local Counsel FAYE CHEN BARNOUW (CA Bar No. 168631) 11 fbarnouw@ftc.gov Federal Trade Commission 10877 Wilshire Blvd., Ste. 700 13 Los Angeles, CA 90024 Tel: (310) 824-4343 14 Fax: (310) 824-4380 15 Attorneys for the Plaintiff 16 Federal Trade Commission 17 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT 18 CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA 19 FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION, 20 21 **COMPLAINT FOR PERMANENT** Plaintiff, INJUNCTION AND OTHER 22 **EQUITABLE RELIEF** 23 24 TATTO, INC., a corporation, also d/b/a WINBIGBIDLOW and TATTO MEDIA; 25 LODGED CLERK, U.S. DISTRICT COURT BULLROARER, INC., a corporation, also 26 d/b/a BULLROARER CORPORATION DEC - 4 2013 27 PTY LTD; 28

		-
1	SHABOOM MEDIA, LLC, a limited liability company, also d/b/a TATTO	
2	MEDIA;	
3	BUNE, LLC, a limited liability company;	
4	BOILE, EDO, a minica mainly company,	
5	MOBILE MEDIA PRODUCTS, LLC, a limited liability company;	
6	minou masing company,	
7	CHAIRMAN VENTURES, LLC, a limited liability company;	
8	immeed matricey company,	·
9	GALACTIC MEDIA, LLC, a limited liability company;	
10		·
11	VIRTUS MEDIA, LLC, a limited liability company;	
12		
13	LIN MIAO, in his individual and corporate capacity; and	
14	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	
15	ANDREW BACHMAN, in his individual and corporate capacity;	
16		
17	Defendants.	

Plaintiff, the Federal Trade Commission ("FTC"), for its Complaint alleges:

1. The FTC brings this action under Section 13(b) of the Federal Trade Commission Act ("FTC Act"), 15 U.S.C. § 53(b), to obtain temporary, preliminary, and permanent injunctive relief, rescission or reformation of contracts, restitution, the refund of monies paid, disgorgement of ill-gotten monies, and other equitable relief for Defendants' acts or practices in violation of Section 5(a) of the FTC Act, 15 U.S.C. § 45(a). As explained herein, Defendants have been engaging in a widespread scheme to place unauthorized third-party charges on consumers' mobile phone bills, a harmful and illegal practice known as "cramming."

#### JURISDICTION AND VENUE

2. This Court has subject matter jurisdiction pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1331, 1337(a), and 1345, and 15 U.S.C. §§ 45(a) and 53(b).

3. Venue is proper in this district under 28 U.S.C. § 1391(b)(2), (c)(1) and (2), and (d), and 15 U.S.C. § 53(b).

#### **PLAINTIFF**

- 4. The FTC is an independent agency of the United States Government created by statute. 15 U.S.C. §§ 41-58. The FTC enforces Section 5(a) of the FTC Act, 15 U.S.C. § 45(a), which prohibits unfair or deceptive acts or practices in or affecting commerce.
- 5. The FTC is authorized to initiate federal district court proceedings, by its own attorneys, to enjoin violations of the FTC Act and to secure such equitable relief as may be appropriate in each case, including rescission or reformation of contracts, restitution, the refund of monies paid, and the disgorgement of ill-gotten monies. 15 U.S.C. §§ 53(b) and 56(a)(2)(A).

#### **DEFENDANTS**

- 6. Defendant Tatto, Inc. ("Tatto") is a Delaware corporation with its principal place of business in Los Angeles, California. Tatto transacts or has transacted business in this District and throughout the United States.
- 7. Defendant Bullroarer, Inc. ("Bullroarer") is a Delaware corporation with its principal place of business located in San Francisco, California. Bullroarer transacts or has transacted business in this District and throughout the United States.
- 8. Defendant Shaboom Media, LLC ("Shaboom") is a Delaware limited liability company with its principal place of business located in Boston, Massachusetts. Shaboom transacts or has transacted business in this District and throughout the United States.

- 10. Defendant Mobile Media Products, LLC ("Mobile Media") is a Delaware limited liability company with its principal place of business located in Beverly Hills, California. Mobile Media transacts or has transacted business in this District and throughout the United States.
- 11. Defendant Chairman Ventures, LLC ("Chairman Ventures") has been a Delaware limited liability company with its principal place of business located in Boston, Massachusetts. Chairman Ventures transacts or has transacted business in this District and throughout the United States.
- 12. Defendant Galactic Media, LLC ("Galactic Media") has been a Delaware limited liability company with its principal place of business located in Boston, Massachusetts. Galactic Media transacts or has transacted business in this District and throughout the United States.
- 13. Defendant Virtus Media, LLC ("Virtus Media") has been a Delaware limited liability company with its principal place of business located in Boston, Massachusetts. Virtus Media transacts or has transacted business in this District and throughout the United States.
- 14. Defendant Lin Miao ("Miao") has been an owner and officer of Tatto and an officer of Shaboom and Chairman Ventures. He has also been listed as a contact or authorized person in various state filings and corporate documents for Bune, Mobile Media, Virtus Media, and Galactic Media. At all times material to this complaint, acting alone or in concert with others, Miao formulated, directed, controlled, had the authority to control, or participated in the acts and practices of the Tatto Corporate Defendants (as defined below), including the acts and practices set forth in this Complaint. Since at least the Spring of 2011, acting alone or in

concert with others, Miao formulated, directed, controlled, had the authority to control, or participated in the acts and practices of Bullroarer, including the acts and practices set forth in this Complaint. Defendant Miao resides in this District and, in connection with the matters alleged herein, transacts or has transacted business in this District and throughout the United States.

officer of Tatto and an officer of Shaboom and Virtus Media. His personal residence has been used as the mailing address for several of the Corporate Defendants, including Shaboom, Bune, and Virtus Media. Until at least the Fall of 2012, acting alone or in concert with others, Bachman formulated, directed, controlled, had the authority to control, or participated in the acts and practices of the Tatto Corporate Defendants (as defined below), including the acts and practices set forth in this Complaint. Defendant Bachman, in connection with the matters alleged herein, transacts or has transacted business in this District and throughout the United States.

#### **COMMON ENTERPRISES**

16. At all times material to this Complaint, and since at least January 2011, Defendants Tatto, Shaboom, Bune, Mobile Media, Chairman Ventures, Galactic Media, and Virtus Media (collectively, "Tatto Corporate Defendants") have operated as a common enterprise while engaging in the unlawful acts and practices alleged herein. The Tatto Corporate Defendants have conducted the business practices described herein through interrelated companies that have common ownership, officers, managers, business functions, employees, and office locations, and that commingled funds. Because the Tatto Corporate Defendants have operated as a common enterprise, each of them is jointly and severally liable for the acts and practices alleged herein. Individual Defendants Miao and Bachman have formulated, directed, controlled, had the authority to control, or

participated in the acts and practices of the Tatto Corporate Defendants that constitute the Tatto common enterprise.

17. Since at least the spring of 2011, Defendant Bullroarer and the Tatto Corporate Defendants (collectively, "Corporate Defendants") have operated as a common enterprise while engaging in the unlawful acts and practices alleged herein. The Corporate Defendants have conducted the business practices described herein through interrelated companies that have common business functions and commingled funds. Further, Bullroarer and Tatto are commonly owned by Ozura World, Ltd., a Hong Kong-based company. Because the Corporate Defendants have operated as a common enterprise, each of them is jointly and severally liable for the acts and practices alleged herein for the period of the common enterprise. Individual Defendants Miao and Bachman have formulated, directed, controlled, had the authority to control, or participated in the acts and practices of the Corporate Defendants that constitute the Bullroarer/Tatto common enterprise.

#### **COMMERCE**

18. At all times material to this Complaint, Defendants have maintained a substantial course of trade in or affecting commerce, as "commerce" is defined in Section 4 of the FTC Act, 15 U.S.C. § 44.

#### **DEFENDANTS' ACTIVITIES**

19. Defendants have been operating a scam in which they have been billing consumers for text message-based subscription services even though the consumers did not authorize any purchase of the services. Defendants' purported services have included sending periodic text messages containing celebrity gossip alerts, "fun facts," horoscopes, and similar kinds of information. Using the billing mechanisms of mobile phone companies, Defendants have been causing unauthorized charges for these services to be placed on consumers' mobile phone bills, often with abbreviated and uninformative descriptions. Many consumers have paid their mobile bills without ever noticing these charges; others have paid

and then unsuccessfully have disputed the third-party charges without obtaining a refund; still others have disputed the charges and succeeded in having them removed only after substantial effort. Defendants have been receiving a substantial percentage of the unauthorized charges that have been collected, and have made millions of dollars.

#### The Placement of Third-Party Charges on Phone Bills

- 20. Mobile phone bills can include charges for so-called "Premium SMS" services provided by third-party merchants rather than a consumer's mobile phone company. Premium SMS services allow consumers to purchase digital goods or services by using text messages (also known as "SMS" messages) sent to and from their mobile phones. For example, a merchant known in this context as a "content provider" may offer digital content, such as a game that can be played on a consumer's phone that can be ordered and purchased by the consumer using text messaging. The charge for the service is placed on the consumer's monthly mobile bill.
- charges on a phone bill, a content provider uses a five- or six-digit number called a "short code." There are several ways consumers can be enrolled in Premium SMS services using short codes. The content provider typically advertises to consumers and instructs them on how to order the service via text message. Under standard industry practice, the content provider generally requires the consumer to take two steps to confirm a purchase, a practice that is known as "double opt-in" verification. For example, a consumer can send a text message from a cell phone to the short code and receive in response a text message describing how to opt-in to the subscription program, which typically involves replying to the text message with a particular keyword. The content provider enters into agreements often via a third party known as an "aggregator" to place charges on specific mobile carriers' mobile phone bills. The content provider is responsible for delivering the

digital content to the consumer's mobile phone, and it bills the consumer and collects charges by having the phone company place the appropriate charge on the consumer's bill. The aggregator then transmits the content provider's share of the funds from the mobile phone company to the content provider.

#### **Defendants' Scam**

- 22. Defendants purportedly have been providing a number of Premium SMS services through various short codes. However, unlike legitimate content providers, Defendants have not been obtaining consumers' knowing agreement to pay for their purported services. Instead, they have been placing the charges onto consumers' phone bills without their consent a practice known as "cramming" and profiting when consumers pay their phone bills without noticing these unauthorized charges.
- 23. In this case, Defendants have offered their purported services using multiple short codes. For example, Tatto and Bune have offered a subscription service called "Hollywood Stars Live! Alerts," which purportedly provides three weekly celebrity-related text messages, using short codes 88044 and 580580. Bune also has advertised a subscription service called "FlashFacts" which purportedly provides three "fun facts" a week by text message, using the short code 58678. Galactic Media and Mobile Media Products each have offered a subscription service called "MyLuvCrush," which purportedly provides an initial "love reading" and up to 12 horoscope readings per month by text message using the short code 60206. Each subscription typically costs \$9.99 per month and automatically renews every month. All of the Defendants have offered similar kinds of services using other short codes as well. Defendants have operated and billed for such services on multiple mobile phone networks.
- 24. Defendants have been placing the charges on consumers' mobile phone bills despite the fact that consumers did not knowingly sign up for their services. In some instances, consumers have received text messages containing

random factoids or other types of message alerts, but these messages often appear merely to be spam, which consumers therefore ignore. Defendants also likely have been using misleading website offers to obtain consumers' phone numbers and to sign them up for subscription services. For example, one website informed consumers that they had won free Justin Bieber tickets, which they could claim by completing an online quiz and entering their score. One of the following screens directed the consumer to enter his/her cell phone number. After the quiz was complete, consumers did not receive Justin Bieber tickets, yet it is likely that any phone numbers entered were signed up for one of Defendants' services.

- 25. Defendants have been placing these charges even though the consumers did not knowingly consent to sign up for the services that Defendants purportedly provide, whether by a "double opt-in" or any other process in which a consumer provides express informed consent to the charges.
- 26. Many consumers have not noticed Defendants' charges included on their phone bills, and have paid their bills in full. The charges have often appeared on a bill in an abbreviated and confusing form. For example, the billing descriptor for Bune's "MobChance Gossip Alerts" text alert service has been "77050IQ12CALL8663611606." Similarly, the billing descriptor for Bullroarer's "Tonetime Content" service has been "25184USBFIQMIG." The \$9.99 per month charge has been included in the total amount due for the entire mobile phone bill. Consumers may not notice slight variations in their bill totals from month to month. Indeed, consumers billed by Defendants often failed to notice the charges on their bills. Further, the charges have been recurring \$9.99 each month unless and until the consumer notices the charge and takes action to unsubscribe.
- 27. In some cases, consumers have noticed the unauthorized charges on their phone bills and attempted to dispute those charges and/or any additional charges related to the Defendants that they may have paid in the past. This process has been difficult and often unsuccessful. In numerous instances, the Defendants'

contact phone numbers were not provided with the description on the phone bill. If consumers were able to find a phone number, they have often reached representatives who claim they will provide refunds, but do not. In many cases, consumers have not received refunds for all of the months that they paid the bogus charges.

- 28. Consumers who have noticed the crammed charges have complained in significant numbers, and some phone companies have refunded between 20 and 40% of all charges on certain short codes in various months. Defendants have continued to receive Better Business Bureau and other complaints from consumers who did not expressly sign up for Defendants' services. Throughout 2011 and 2012, two major phone companies suspended many of Defendants' short codes for excessive refund rates and misrepresentations in Defendants' marketing and advertising. Another phone company warned Defendants of excessive refund rates on certain of the short codes.
- 29. Defendants have been receiving a substantial portion of the charges collected by the mobile phone company, authorized or not. Defendants have made millions from the unauthorized charges, notwithstanding that many consumers have complained and that some phone companies have terminated their short codes.
- 30. All the Defendants have been participating in and profiting from this activity. Defendant Miao has been at the center of the fraudulent operations. At various times, he has held himself out as the President, Treasurer, Secretary, Director, CEO, and owner of Tatto. He has also been an officer of Shaboom and Chairman Ventures, and has been listed as a contact or authorized person in various state filings and corporate documents for Bune, Mobile Media, Virtus Media, and Galactic Media. He has also identified himself as an officer of Ozura World, Ltd., the parent company of both Bullroarer and Tatto. He is the sole signatory on several of Tatto's corporate bank accounts, and he personally signed

checks as part of the daily operations of the companies. He has also been the signatory on forms submitted to the wireless carriers in connection with the companies' operations. He has directly received at least twenty-nine million dollars from the scam, and he has knowledge and control of the Corporate Defendants' unlawful behavior.

31. Defendant Bachman was an owner of Tatto and an officer of Shaboom and Virtus Media during much of the relevant time period. At least until recently, he directed, participated in, and profited from the Corporate Defendants' fraudulent operations. His personal residence has been used as the mailing address for several of the Tatto Corporate Defendants, including Shaboom, Bune, and Virtus Media. He is also listed as the applicant and billing contact on several applications to renew short code leases involved in the scam. He has directly received at least four and a half million dollars from the scam, and he has had knowledge and control of the Corporate Defendants' unlawful behavior.

#### **VIOLATIONS OF THE FTC ACT**

- 32. Section 5(a) of the FTC Act, 15 U.S.C. § 45(a), prohibits "unfair or deceptive acts or practices in or affecting commerce." Misrepresentations or deceptive omissions of material fact constitute deceptive acts or practices prohibited by Section 5(a) of the FTC Act.
- 33. Acts or practices are unfair under Section 5 of the FTC Act if they cause substantial injury to consumers that consumers cannot reasonably avoid themselves and that is not outweighed by countervailing benefits to consumers or competition. 15 U.S.C. § 45(n).

#### **COUNT I**

#### Deceptive Acts and Practices in Violation of Section 5 of the FTC Act

34. In numerous instances in connection with the sale of Premium SMS services, including "Hollywood Stars Live! Alerts" and "MyLuvCrush" and similar services, Defendants have represented, directly or indirectly, expressly or

- 35. In truth and in fact, in numerous instances in which Defendants have made the representations set forth in Paragraph 34 of this Complaint, consumers were not obligated to pay the charges because the consumers did not authorize charges for Defendants' services corresponding to the charges on the bill.
- 36. Therefore, Defendants' representations as set forth in Paragraph 34 of this Complaint are false or misleading and constitute deceptive acts or practices in violation of Section 5(a) of the FTC Act, 15 U.S.C. § 45(a).

#### **COUNT II**

#### Unfair Billing Practices in Violation of Section 5 of the FTC Act

- 37. In numerous instances, Defendants have caused consumers' mobile phone accounts to be billed without having previously obtained the consumers' express informed consent.
- 38. Defendants' actions have caused or are likely to cause substantial injury to consumers that consumers cannot reasonably avoid themselves and that is not outweighed by countervailing benefits to consumers or competition.
- 39. Therefore, Defendants' practices as set forth in Paragraph 37 constitute unfair acts or practices in violation of Section 5 of the FTC Act, 15 U.S.C. § 45(a) and (n).

### **CONSUMER INJURY**

40. Consumers have suffered and will continue to suffer substantial injury as a result of Defendants' violations of the FTC Act. In addition, Defendants have been unjustly enriched as a result of their unlawful acts or practices. Absent injunctive relief by this Court, Defendants are likely to injure consumers, reap unjust enrichment, and harm the public interest.

#### THIS COURT'S POWER TO GRANT RELIEF

41. Section 13(b) of the FTC Act, 15 U.S.C. § 53(b), empowers this Court to grant injunctive and other such relief as the Court may deem appropriate to halt and redress violations of any provision of law enforced by the FTC. The Court, in the exercise of its equitable jurisdiction, may award ancillary relief, including rescission or reformation of contracts, restitution, the refund of monies paid, and the disgorgement of ill-gotten monies, to prevent and remedy any violation of any provision of law enforced by the FTC.

#### PRAYER FOR RELIEF

Wherefore, Plaintiff FTC, pursuant to Section 13(b) of the FTC Act, § 53(b), and the Court's own equitable powers, requests that the Court:

- A. Award such preliminary and ancillary relief as may be necessary to avert the likelihood of consumer injury during the pendency of this action and to preserve the possibility of effective final relief, including, but not limited to, a temporary and preliminary injunction, asset freeze, appointment of a receiver, an evidence preservation order, and expedited discovery;
- B. Enter a permanent injunction to prevent future violations of the FTC Act by Defendants;
- C. Award such relief as the Court finds necessary to redress injury to consumers resulting from Defendants' violations of the FTC Act, including, but not limited to, rescission and reformation of contracts, restitution, the refund of monies paid, and the disgorgement of ill-gotten monies;
- D. Award Plaintiff the costs of bringing this action, as well as such other and additional relief as the Court may determine to be just and proper.

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21	Attorr	neys for Plaintiff
22	II .	al Trade Commission
23	Dated: Dec. 4, 2013	
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## UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

#### NOTICE OF ASSIGNMENT TO UNITED STATES JUDGES

This case has bee	n assigned to District Judge	Dale S. Fiso	cher and the assigned			
Magistrate Judge is	Frederick F. Mumm	·				
The cas	e number on all documents fil	ed with the Court shou	ıld read as follows:			
	2:13CV891	2 DSF FFMx				
	eral Order 05-07 of the United e Judge has been designated to					
All discovery rela	ted motions should be noticed	l on the calendar of the	e Magistrate Judge.			
		Clerk, U. S. D	istrict Court			
December 4, 20	013	By J.Prado				
Date		Deputy Cl	erk			
		with Second				
	NOTICE T	O COUNSEL				
	be served with the summons a must be served on all plaintiffs		fendants (if a removal action is			
Subsequent documents	must be filed at the following	location:				
Western Division 312 N. Spring Street Los Angeles, CA 90		th St., Ste 1053	Eastern Division 3470 Twelfth Street, Room 134 Riverside, CA 92501			
Failure to file at the proper location will result in your documents being returned to you.						

# Case 2:13-cv-08912-DSF-FFM Document 1 Filed 12/05/13 Page 17 of 19 Page 17 WITH UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT, CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA CIVIL COVER SHEET

I. (a) PLAINTIFFS ( Che	eck box if you are repr	esenting yourself 🔲 🕽	)	DEFENDANTS	( Check box if you are re	presenting yourself [ ]				
Federal Trade Commission		_		Tatto, Inc., also d/b/a WinBigBidLow and Tatto Media, Bullroarer, Inc., Shaboom Media, LLC, Bune, LLC, Mobile Media Products, LLC, Chairman Ventures, LLC, Galactic Media, LLC, Virtus Media, LLC, Lin Miao, and Andrew Bachman						
(b) County of Residence	e of First Listed Plair	ntiff		County of Residence of First Listed Defendant Los Angeles						
(EXCEPT IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CAS	SES)			(IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES ONLY)						
(c) Attorneys (Firm Name representing yourself, pro Heather Allen, Duane C. Poz Commission, 600 Pennsylvar (202-326-2042); Faye Chen E 700, Los Angeles, CA 90024	ovide the same inform za, Jane Ricci, and Robin nia Ave., NW, NJ-3158, W Barnouw, Federal Trade C	ation. Thurston, Federal Trade ashington, DC 20580;		Attorneys (Firm Name, Address and Telephone Number) If you are representing yourself, provide the same information.						
II. BASIS OF JURISDIC		ne box only.)	III. CIT	IZENSHIP OF PR	RINCIPAL PARTIES-For D	Diversity Cases Only				
1. U.S. Government Plaintiff	3. Federal Q Governmen	uestion (U.S. t Not a Party)	Citizen o	lace an X in one bo  prof This State  of Another State	x for plaintiff and one for c  TF DEF 1 Incorporated o of Business in t	lefendant) r Principal Place				
2. U.S. Government Defendant	of Parties in	•	1 .	or Subject of a Country	] 3 🔲 3 Foreign Nation	□ 6 □ 6				
IV. ORIGIN (Place an X	•	3. Remanded from	4 Poin	nstated or 5. Tra	6	. Multi-				
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V. REQUESTED IN COM	MPLAINT: JURY DE	MAND: Yes	₹ No	(Check "Yes" o	nly if demanded in com	plaint.)				
<b>CLASS ACTION under</b>	F.R.Cv.P. 23:	Yes 🔀 No		MONEY DEMA	NDED IN COMPLAINT:	\$				
VI. CAUSE OF ACTION			ling and v	write a brief statemer	nt of cause. Do not cite jurisdi	ctional statutes unless diversity.)				
Unfair and deceptive acts vio					·					
VII. NATURE OF SUIT (	Place an X in one bo	ox only).			******					
OTHER STATUTES	CONTRACT	REAL PROPERTY CONT	т. 🗀	IMMIGRATION	PRISONER PETITIONS	PROPERTY RIGHTS				
375 False Claims Act	110 Insurance	240 Torts to Land		162 Naturalization	Habeas Corpus:	820 Copyrights				
400 State	120 Marine	245 Tort Product		Application	463 Alien Detainee	830 Patent				
Reapportionment  1 410 Antitrust	130 Miller Act	Liability 290 All Other Real		l65 Other mmigration Actions	510 Motions to Vacate Sentence	840 Trademark				
430 Banks and Banking	140 Negotiable	Property TORTS	95 C 222	TORTS	530 General	SOCIAL SECURITY				
450 Commerce/ICC	☐ Instrument 150 Recovery of	PERSONAL INJURY	5 (8) 1 (4) (8) (8) (8)	SONAL PROPERTY  370 Other Fraud	535 Death Penalty Other:	861 HIA (1395ff)				
□ Rates/Etc.	Overpayment &	310 Airplane				862 Black Lung (923)				
460 Deportation	Enforcement of Judgment	315 Airplane Product Liability	1-	371 Truth in Lending 380 Other Personal	540 Mandamus/Other 550 Civil Rights	863 DIWC/DIWW (405 (g))				
470 Racketeer Influenced & Corrupt Org.	151 Medicare Act	320 Assault, Libel &		Property Damage	555 Prison Condition	864 SSID Title XVI				
480 Consumer Credit	152 Recovery of	Slander 330 Fed. Employers'		85 Property Damage		865 RSI (405 (g))				
490 Cable/Sat TV	Defaulted Student Loan (Excl. Vet.)	Liability	1	roduct Liability BANKRUPTCY	Conditions of Confinement	FEDERAL TAX SUITS				
850 Securities/Com-	153 Recovery of	340 Marine	4	122 Appeal 28	FORFEITURE/PENALTY	870 Taxes (U.S. Plaintiff or Defendant)				
□ modities/Exchange	Overpayment of	345 Marine Product	י ויי נ	JSC 158	625 Drug Related	871 IRS-Third Party 26 USC 7609				
890 Other Statutory Actions	Vet. Benefits  160 Stockholders'	350 Motor Vehicle		I23 Withdrawal 28 JSC 157	Seizure of Property 21 USC 881					
891 Agricultural Acts	Suits	355 Motor Vehicle Product Liability	11 (21 ) A 1 14 (14 ) 4 (14 )	CIVIL RIGHTS	690 Other					
893 Environmental	190 Other	360 Other Personal	4	140 Other Civil Rights		•				
895 Freedom of Info.	Contract	│└─ Injury ├─ 362 Personal Injury		l41 Voting	710 Fair Labor Standards Act					
□ Act	Product Liability	☐ Med Malpratice		42 Employment 43 Housing/	720 Labor/Mgmt. Relations					
896 Arbitration	196 Franchise	365 Personal Injury- Product Liability		accomodations	740 Railway Labor Act					
899 Admin. Procedures	REAL PROPERTY	367 Health Care/		45 American with Disabilities-	751 Family and Medical					
Act/Review of Appeal of Agency Decision	210 Land Condemnation	Pharmaceutical Personal Injury	E	mployment	Leave Act					
	220 Foreclosure	Product Liability 368 Asbestos		46 American with Disabilities-Other	790 Other Labor Litigation					
950 Constitutionality of State Statutes	230 Rent Lease & Ejectment	Personal Injury Product Liability	4	48 Education	791 Employee Ret. Inc. Security Act					
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FOR OFFICE USE ONLY:

Case Number:

#### Case 2:13-cv-08912-DSF-FFM Document 1 Filed 12/05/13 Page 18 of 19 Page ID #:18

### UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT, CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA CIVIL COVER SHEET

**VIII. VENUE**: Your answers to the questions below will determine the division of the Court to which this case will most likely be initially assigned. This initial assignment is subject to change, in accordance with the Court's General Orders, upon review by the Court of your Complaint or Notice of Removal.

state court?	STATE CASE WAS PENDING IN THE COUNTY OF:					L DIVISION IN CA	CD IS:	
Yes X No	Los Angeles				Western			
If "no, " go to Question B. If "yes," check the	☐ Ventura, Santa Barbara, or Sa		Western					
box to the right that applies, enter the corresponding division in response to	Orange				Southern			
Question D, below, and skip to Section IX.	Riverside or San Bernardino	Riverside or San Bernardino				Eastern		
Question B: Is the United States, or one of its agencies or employees, a party to this action?  X Yes No  If "no," go to Question C. If "yes," check the box to the right that applies, enter the corresponding division in response to Question D, below, and skip to Section IX.	A PLAINTIFF?  Then check the box below for the county in which the majority of DEFENDANTS reside.  Los Angeles  Ventura, Santa Barbara, or San Luis Obispo		gencies or employees, is a party, is it:  A DEFENDANT?  Then check the box below for the county in which the majority of PLAINTIFFS reside.  Los Angeles  Ventura, Santa Barbara, or San Luis Obispo		reside,	INITIAL DIVISION IN CACD IS:  Western Western		
	Orange		Orange			Southern		
	Riverside or San Bernardino	Riverside or San Bernardino		Riverside or San Bernardino		Eastern		
	Other		Other			Weste	rn	
Question C: Location of Los A	A. B. Ingeles Ventura, Santa Barbara, or unty San Luis Obispo Counties	C. Orange C	ounty Riv	D. verside or San ardino Counties	医甲酰胺苯胺医尿管 医二氯酚磺基	E. the Central of California	F. Other	
Indicate the location in which a majority of plaintiffs reside:								
Indicate the location in which a majority of defendants reside:								
Indicate the location in which a majority of claims arose:								
	Andrew State Commission of the		i i				Carrier State Control (Control	
C.1. Is either of the following true? If so, o  2 or more answers in Column C  only 1 answer in Column C and no  Your case will initially be SOUTHERN DIV Enter "Southern" in response to	answers in Column D assigned to the VISION. to Question D, below.	C.2. Is e	2 or more ans only 1 answer Yo Enter "	lowing true? If so, wers in Column D in Column D and n ur case will initially EASTERN D Eastern" in response	o answers in be assigned t VISION. e to Question	o the		
2 or more answers in Column C only 1 answer in Column C and no Your case will initially be SOUTHERN DIV Enter "Southern" in response to	e assigned to the //SION. to Question D, below. stion C2 to the right.		2 or more ans only 1 answer Yo Enter "	wers in Column D in Column D and n ur case will initially EASTERN D Eastern" in response	o answers in be assigned t VISION. e to Question	o the		
2 or more answers in Column C only 1 answer in Column C and no Your case will initially be SOUTHERN DIV Enter "Southern" in response to	answers in Column D  assigned to the //SION. to Question D, below. stion C2 to the right.  Your case will	initially be a	2 or more ans only 1 answer Yo Enter " I ssigned to the ION.	wers in Column D in Column D and n ur case will initially EASTERN D Eastern" in response f none applies, go t	o answers in be assigned t VISION. e to Question	o the		
2 or more answers in Column C only 1 answer in Column C and no Your case will initially be SOUTHERN DIV Enter "Southern" in response to	answers in Column D  assigned to the //SION. to Question D, below. stion C2 to the right.  Your case will WES	initially be a	2 or more ans only 1 answer Yo Enter " I ssigned to the ION.	wers in Column D in Column D and n ur case will initially EASTERN D Eastern" in response f none applies, go t	o answers in be assigned t VISION. e to Question o the box bel	o the		

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# Case 2:13-cv-08912-DSF-FFM Document 1 Filed 12/05/13 Page 19 of 19 Page ID #:19 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT, CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

**CIVIL COVER SHEET** 

. LX	a). IDENTICAL CA	SES: Has this a	ction been previously filed <b>in this court</b> and dismissed, remanded or closed?	X	NO		YES			
,	If yes, list case num	nber(s):								
IX(	b). RELATED CASE	ES: Have any ca	ses been previously filed in this court that are related to the present case?	×	NO		YES			
	If yes, list case num	aber(s):								
(	ivil cases are deemed	related if a previ	ously filed case and the present case:							
(	Check all boxes that app	oly) 🗌 A. Arise	from the same or closely related transactions, happenings, or events; or							
		B. Call f	or determination of the same or substantially related or similar questions of law and fac	t; or						
		C. For o	ther reasons would entail substantial duplication of labor if heard by different judges; o	or						
		D. Invol	ve the same patent, trademark or copyright <u>, and</u> one of the factors identified above in a	a, b or c a	also is pre	sent.				
	SIGNATURE OF AT R SELF-REPRESENT		o:/mm	: /2	-/4/	13				
othe	er papers as required by	law. This form, ap	Civil Cover Sheet and the information contained herein neither replace nor supplemer proved by the Judicial Conference of the United States in September 1974, is required urpose of statistics, venue and initiating the civil docket sheet. (For more detailed instru	pursuan	it to Local	Rule 3-1 is	not filed			
Key	to Statistical codes relat	ting to Social Secu	rity Cases:							
	Nature of Suit Code	Abbreviation	Substantive Statement of Cause of Action							
	861	HIA	All claims for health insurance benefits (Medicare) under Title 18, Part A, of the Social Security Act, as amended. Also, include claims by hospitals, skilled nursing facilities, etc., for certification as providers of services under the program. (42 U.S.C. 1935FF(b))							
ومنت م	862	BL	All claims for "Black Lung" benefits under Title 4, Part B, of the Federal Coal Mine Hea 923)	alth and	Safety Act	: of 1969. (	(30 U.S.C.			
,	863	DIWC	All claims filed by insured workers for disability insurance benefits under Title 2 of the Social Security Act, as amended; plus all claims filed for child's insurance benefits based on disability. (42 U.S.C. 405 (g))							
	863	DIWW	All claims filed for widows or widowers insurance benefits based on disability under Title 2 of the Social Security Act, as amended. (42 U.S.C. 405 (g))							
	864	SSID	All claims for supplemental security income payments based upon disability filed un amended.	ıder Title	: 16 of the	Social Sec	curity Act, a			
	865	RSI	All claims for retirement (old age) and survivors benefits under Title 2 of the Social Se (42 U.S.C. 405 (g))	ecurity A	ıct, as ame	ended.				