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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

KAREN WOOTEN, HARLEY WOOTEN III,
and TIMOTHY WOOTEN, individually and on
behalf of the Estate of HARLEY WOOTEN,
Deceased;

Plaintiffs,

vs.

MONSANTO COMPANY and DOES 1-50,

Defendants.

Case No.: _____

COMPLAINT

JURY TRIAL DEMANDED

Plaintiffs Karen Wooten, Harley Wooten III, and Timothy Wooten, individually and on behalf of the Estate of Harley Wooten, deceased (collectively herein "Plaintiffs"), by and through their undersigned counsel, hereby bring this Complaint for damages and wrongful death against Defendants Monsanto Company and Does 1-50 and allege the following:

1 **NATURE OF THE CASE**

2 1. This is an action for damages suffered by Plaintiffs as a direct and proximate result
3 of Defendants' negligent and wrongful conduct in connection with the design, development,
4 manufacture, testing, packaging, promoting, marketing, advertising, distribution, labeling, and/or
5 sale of the herbicide Roundup®, containing the active ingredient glyphosate.

6 2. Plaintiffs maintain that Roundup® and/or glyphosate is defective, dangerous to
7 human health, unfit and unsuitable to be marketed and sold in commerce, and lacked proper
8 warnings and directions as to the dangers associated with its use.

9 3. Plaintiffs' injuries, like those striking thousands of similarly situated victims across
10 the country, were avoidable.

11 **JURISDICTION AND VENUE**

12 4. This Court has jurisdiction over Defendants and this action pursuant to 28 U.S.C.
13 § 1332 because there is complete diversity of citizenship between Plaintiffs and Defendants.
14 Defendants are all either incorporated and/or have their principal place of business outside of the
15 state in which the Plaintiffs reside.

16 5. The amount in controversy between Plaintiffs and Defendants exceeds \$75,000,
17 exclusive of interest and cost.

18 6. The Court also has supplemental jurisdiction pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1367.

19 7. Venue is proper within this district pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1391 in that Defendants
20 conduct business here and are subject to personal jurisdiction in this district. Furthermore,
21 Defendants sell, market, and/or distribute Roundup® within the Northern District of California.
22 Also, a substantial part of the acts and/or omissions giving rise to these claims occurred within this
23 district.

24 **PARTIES**

25 8. Decedent, Harley Wooten (hereinafter "Decedent"), was a natural person and at all
26 relevant times a resident and citizen of Riverside County, California.

27 9. Plaintiff Karen Wooten is the Decedent's surviving spouse. Plaintiff Harley Wooten
28 III and Timothy Wooten are the Decedent's only children. Plaintiffs Karen Wooten, Harley Wooten

1 III and Timothy Wooten are the surviving heirs of Harley Wooten, deceased. Plaintiff Karen
2 Wooten was at all relevant times a resident and citizen of Riverside County, California. Plaintiff
3 Harley Wooten III was at all relevant times a resident and citizen of Yuba County, California.
4 Plaintiff Timothy Wooten was at all relevant times a resident and citizen of Riverside County,
5 California. Plaintiffs bring this action for injuries and Decedent's wrongful death sustained by
6 exposure to Roundup® ("Roundup") containing the active ingredient glyphosate and the surfactant
7 POEA. As a direct and proximate result of being exposed to Roundup, Decedent developed non-
8 Hodgkin's lymphoma ("NHL") and died as a result thereof on November 21, 2014.

9 10. "Roundup" refers to all formulations of Defendants' roundup products, including,
10 but not limited to, Roundup Concentrate Poison Ivy and Tough Brush Killer 1, Roundup Custom
11 Herbicide, Roundup D-Pak herbicide, Roundup Dry Concentrate, Roundup Export Herbicide,
12 Roundup Fence & Hard Edger 1, Roundup Garden Foam Weed & Grass Killer, Roundup Grass and
13 Weed Killer, Roundup Herbicide, Roundup Original 2k herbicide, Roundup Original II Herbicide,
14 Roundup Pro Concentrate, Roundup Prodry Herbicide, Roundup Promax, Roundup Quik Stik Grass
15 and Weed Killer, Roundup Quikpro Herbicide, Roundup Rainfast Concentrate Weed & Grass
16 Killer, Roundup Rainfast Super Concentrate Weed & Grass Killer, Roundup Ready-to-Use
17 Extended Control Weed & Grass Killer 1 Plus Weed Preventer, Roundup Ready-to-Use Weed &
18 Grass Killer, Roundup Ready-to-Use Weed and Grass Killer 2, Roundup Ultra Dry, Roundup Ultra
19 Herbicide, Roundup Ultramax, Roundup VM Herbicide, Roundup Weed & Grass Killer
20 Concentrate, Roundup Weed & Grass Killer Concentrate Plus, Roundup Weed & Grass killer
21 Ready-to-Use Plus, Roundup Weed & Grass Killer Super Concentrate, Roundup Weed & Grass
22 Killer1 Ready-to-Use, Roundup WSD Water Soluble Dry Herbicide Deploy Dry Herbicide, or any
23 other formulation of containing the active ingredient glyphosate.

24 11. Defendant Monsanto Company ("Monsanto") is incorporated in the state of
25 Delaware, with a principal place of business in St. Louis, Missouri.

26 12. Upon best information and belief, Defendants Does 1-50 are subsidiaries, partners,
27 or other entities that were involved in the design, development, manufacture, testing, packaging,
28 promoting, marketing, advertising, distribution, labeling, and/or sale of the herbicide Roundup,

1 containing the active ingredient glyphosate. The identities of Does 1-50 are unknown to Plaintiffs at
2 this time. Plaintiffs will move the Court to specifically name Does 1-50 as their identities become
3 known to Plaintiffs through discovery.

4 13. Defendants Monsanto Company and Does 1-50 are collectively referred to as
5 “Monsanto Defendants” or “Defendants.”

6 14. Defendants advertise and sell goods, specifically Roundup, in Riverside, California.

7 15. Defendants transacted and conducted business within the State of California that
8 relates to the allegations in this Complaint.

9 16. Defendants derived substantial revenue from goods and products used in the State of
10 California.

11 17. Defendants expected or should have expected their acts to have consequences within
12 the State of California, and derived substantial revenue from interstate commerce.

13 18. Defendants engaged in the business of designing, developing, manufacturing,
14 testing, packaging, marketing, distributing, labeling, and/or selling Roundup.

15 19. Defendants are authorized to do business in the State of California and derive
16 substantial income from doing business in this state.

17 20. Defendants purposefully availed themselves of the privilege of conducting activities
18 with the State of California, thus invoking the benefits and protections of its laws.

19 21. Defendants did act to design, sell, advertise, manufacture and/or distribute Roundup,
20 with full knowledge of its dangerous and defective nature.

21 **FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS**

22 22. At all relevant times, Defendants were in the business of, and did, design, research,
23 manufacture, test, advertise, promote, market, sell, distribute, and/or have acquired and was
24 responsible for Defendants who have designed, researched, manufactured, tested, advertised,
25 promoted, marketed, sold, and distributed the commercial herbicide Roundup.

26 23. Monsanto is a multinational agricultural biotechnology corporation based in
27 St. Louis, Missouri. It is the world’s leading producer of glyphosate.
28

1 24. Defendants discovered the herbicidal properties of glyphosate during the 1970s and
2 subsequently began to design, research, manufacture, sell and distribute glyphosate based
3 “Roundup” as a broad spectrum herbicide.

4 25. Glyphosate is the active ingredient in Roundup.

5 26. Glyphosate is a broad-spectrum herbicide used to kill weeds and grasses known to
6 compete with commercial crops grown around the globe.

7 27. Glyphosate is a “non-selective” herbicide, meaning it kills indiscriminately based
8 only on whether a given organism produces a specific enzyme, 5-enolpyruvylshikimic acid-3-
9 phosphate synthase, known as EPSP synthase.

10 28. Glyphosate inhibits the enzyme 5-enolpyruvylshikimic acid-3-phosphate synthase
11 that interferes with the shikimic pathway in plants, resulting in the accumulation of shikimic acid in
12 plant tissue and ultimately plant death.

13 29. Sprayed as a liquid, plants absorb glyphosate directly through their leaves, stems,
14 and roots, and detectable quantities accumulate in the plant tissues.

15 30. Each year, approximately 250 million pounds of glyphosate are sprayed on crops,
16 commercial nurseries, suburban lawns, parks, and golf courses. This increase in use has been driven
17 largely by the proliferation of genetically engineered crops, crops specifically tailored to resist the
18 activity of glyphosate.

19 31. Defendants are intimately involved in the development, design, manufacture, marketing,
20 sale, and/or distribution of genetically modified (“GMO”) crops, many of which are marketed as
21 being resistant to Roundup i.e., “Roundup Ready®.” As of 2009, Defendants were the world’s
22 leading producer of seeds designed to be Roundup Ready®. In 2010, an estimated 70% of corn and
23 cotton, and 90% of soybean fields in the United States contained Roundup Ready® seeds.

24 32. The original Roundup, containing the active ingredient glyphosate, was introduced
25 in 1974. Today, glyphosate products are among the world’s most widely used herbicides.¹

26 _____
27 ¹ *Backgrounder*, History of Monsanto’s Glyphosate Herbicides, June 2005.

1 33. For nearly 40 years, consumers, farmers, and the public have used Roundup,
2 unaware of its carcinogenic properties.

3 **REGISTRATION OF HERBICIDES UNDER FEDERAL LAW**

4 34. The manufacture, formulation and distribution of herbicides, such as Roundup, are
5 regulated under the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (“FIFRA”), 7 U.S.C.
6 § 136 et seq. FIFRA requires that all pesticides be registered with the Environmental Protection
7 Agency (“EPA) prior to their distribution, sale, or use, except as described by FIFRA 7 U.S.C.
8 § 136a(a).

9 35. The EPA requires as part of the registration process, among other requirements, a
10 variety of tests to evaluate the potential for exposure to pesticides, toxicity to people and other
11 potential non-target organisms, and other adverse effects on the environment. Registration by the
12 EPA, however, is not an assurance or finding of safety. The determination the EPA makes in
13 registering or re-registering a product is not that the product is “safe,” but rather that use of the
14 product in accordance with its label directions “will not generally cause unreasonable adverse
15 effects on the environment.” 7 U.S.C. § 136(a)(c)(5)(D).

16 36. FIFRA defines “unreasonable adverse effects on the environment” to mean “any
17 unreasonable risk to man or the environment, taking into account the economic, social, and
18 environmental costs and benefits of the use of any pesticide.” 7 U.S.C. § 136(bb). FIFRA thus
19 requires the EPA to make a risk/benefit analysis in determining whether a registration should be
20 granted or allowed to continue to be sold in commerce.

21 37. The EPA and the State of California registered Roundup for distribution, sale, and
22 manufacture in the United States and the State of California.

23 38. FIFRA generally requires that the registrant, Monsanto, conduct health and safety
24 testing of pesticide products. The government is not required, nor is it able, to perform the product
25 tests that are required of the manufacturer.

26 39. The evaluation of each pesticide product distributed, sold, or manufactured is
27 completed at the time the product is initially registered. The data necessary for registration of a
28 pesticide has changed over time. The EPA is now in the process of re-evaluating all pesticide

1 products through a Congressionally-mandated process called “re-registration.” 7 U.S.C. § 136a-1.
2 In order to reevaluate these pesticides, the EPA demands the completion of additional tests and the
3 submission of data for the EPA’s review and evaluation.

4 40. In the case of glyphosate and Roundup, the EPA had planned on releasing its
5 preliminary risk assessment—in relation to the registration process—no later than July 2015. The
6 EPA completed its review of glyphosate in early 2015, but delayed releasing the assessment
7 pending further review in light of the World Health Organization’s findings.

8 **MONSANTO’S FALSE REPRESENTATIONS**
9 **REGARDING THE SAFETY OF ROUNDUP®**

10 41. In 1996, the New York Attorney General (“NYAG”) filed a lawsuit against
11 Monsanto based on its false and misleading advertising of Roundup products. Specifically, the
12 lawsuit challenged Monsanto’s general representations that its spray-on glyphosate-based
13 herbicides, including Roundup, were “safer than table salt” and “practically non-toxic” to
14 mammals, birds, and fish. Among the representations the NYAG found deceptive and misleading
15 about the human and environmental safety of Roundup are the following:

- 16 a) Remember that environmentally friendly Roundup herbicide is
17 biodegradable. It won't build up in the soil so you can use Roundup
18 with confidence along customers' driveways, sidewalks and fences ...
- 19 b) And remember that Roundup is biodegradable and won't build up in
20 the soil. That will give you the environmental confidence you need to
21 use Roundup everywhere you've got a weed, brush, edging or
22 trimming problem.
- 23 c) Roundup biodegrades into naturally occurring elements.
- 24 d) Remember that versatile Roundup herbicide stays where you put it.
25 That means there's no washing or leaching to harm customers' shrubs
26 or other desirable vegetation.
- 27 e) This non-residual herbicide will not wash or leach in the soil. It ...
28 stays where you apply it.
- f) You can apply Accord with “confidence because it will stay where you
put it” it bonds tightly to soil particles, preventing leaching. Then,
soon after application, soil microorganisms biodegrade Accord into
natural products.

- 1 g) Glyphosate is less toxic to rats than table salt following acute oral
2 ingestion.
- 3 h) h) Glyphosate's safety margin is much greater than required. It has
4 over a 1,000-fold safety margin in food and over a 700-fold safety
5 margin for workers who manufacture it or use it.
- 6 i) You can feel good about using herbicides by Monsanto. They carry a
7 toxicity category rating of 'practically non-toxic' as it pertains to
8 mammals, birds and fish.
- 9 j) "Roundup can be used where kids and pets will play and breaks down
10 into natural material." This ad depicts a person with his head in the
11 ground and a pet dog standing in an area which has been treated with
12 Roundup.²

13 42. On November 19, 1996, Monsanto entered into an Assurance of Discontinuance
14 with NYAG, in which Monsanto agreed, among other things, "to cease and desist from publishing
15 or broadcasting any advertisements [in New York] that represent, directly or by implication" that:

- 16 a) its glyphosate-containing pesticide products or any component thereof
17 are safe, non-toxic, harmless or free from risk.

18 ***

- 19 b) its glyphosate-containing pesticide products or any component thereof
20 manufactured, formulated, distributed or sold by Monsanto are
21 biodegradable

22 ***

- 23 c) its glyphosate-containing pesticide products or any component thereof
24 stay where they are applied under all circumstances and will not move
25 through the environment by any means.

26 ***

- 27 d) its glyphosate-containing pesticide products or any component thereof
28 are "good" for the environment or are "known for their environmental
characteristics."

² Attorney General of the State of New York, In the Matter of Monsanto Company, Assurance of Discontinuance Pursuant to Executive Law § 63(15) (Nov. 1996).

1 e) glyphosate-containing pesticide products or any component thereof are
2 safer or less toxic than common consumer products other than
herbicides;

3 f) its glyphosate-containing products or any component thereof might be
4 classified as "practically non-toxic."

5 43. Monsanto did not alter its advertising in the same manner in any state other than
6 New York, and on information and belief still has not done so today.

7 44. In 2009, France's highest court ruled that Monsanto had not told the truth about the
8 safety of Roundup. The French court affirmed an earlier judgment that Monsanto had falsely
9 advertised its herbicide Roundup as "biodegradable" and that it "left the soil clean."³

10 **EVIDENCE OF CARCINOGENICITY IN ROUNDUP**

11 45. As early as the 1980s Monsanto was aware of glyphosate's carcinogenic properties.

12 46. On March 4, 1985, a group of the Environmental Protection Agency's ("EPA")
13 Toxicology Branch published a memorandum classifying glyphosate as a Category C oncogene.⁴
14 Category C oncogenes are possible human carcinogens with limited evidence of carcinogenicity.

15 47. In 1986, the EPA issued a Registration Standard for glyphosate (NTIS PB87-
16 103214). The Registration standard required additional phytotoxicity, environmental fate,
17 toxicology, product chemistry, and residue chemistry studies. All of the data required was
18 submitted and reviewed and/or waived.⁵

19 48. In October 1991 the EPA published a Memorandum entitled "Second Peer Review
20 of Glyphosate." The memorandum changed glyphosate's classification to Group E (evidence of
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24 ³ *Monsanto Guilty in 'False Ad' Row*, BBC, Oct. 15, 2009, available at
25 <http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/europe/8308903.stm>.

26 ⁴ Consensus Review of Glyphosate, Casewell No. 661A. March 4, 1985. United States
Environmental Protection Agency.

27 ⁵ <http://www.epa.gov/oppsrrd1/reregistration/REDS/factsheets/0178fact.pdf>
28

1 non-carcinogenicity for humans). Two peer review committee members did not concur with the
2 conclusions of the committee and one member refused to sign.⁶

3 49. In addition to the toxicity of the active molecule, many studies support the
4 hypothesis that glyphosate formulations found in Defendants' Roundup products are more
5 dangerous and toxic than glyphosate alone.⁷ As early as 1991 evidence existed demonstrating that
6 glyphosate formulations were significantly more toxic than glyphosate alone.⁸

7 50. In 2002, Julie Marc published a study entitled "Pesticide Roundup Provokes Cell
8 Division Dysfunction at the Level of CDK1/Cyclin B Activation."

9 51. The study found that Defendants' Roundup caused delays in the cell cycles of sea
10 urchins, while the same concentrations of glyphosate alone proved ineffective and did not alter cell
11 cycles.

12 52. In 2004, Julie Marc published a study entitled "Glyphosate-based pesticides affect
13 cell cycle regulation." The study demonstrated a molecular link between glyphosate-based products
14 and cell cycle dysregulation.

15 53. The study noted that "cell-cycle dysregulation is a hallmark of tumor cells and
16 human cancer. Failure in the cell-cycle checkpoints leads to genomic instability and subsequent
17 development of cancers from the initial affected cell." Further, "[s]ince cell cycle disorders such as
18 cancer result from dysfunction of unique cell, it was of interest to evaluate the threshold dose of
19 glyphosate affecting cells."⁹

20 54. In 2005, Francisco Peixoto published a study showing that Roundup's effects on rat
21 liver mitochondria are much more toxic and harmful than the same concentrations of glyphosate
22 alone.

24 ⁶ Second Peer Review of Glyphosate, CAS No. 1071-83-6. October 30, 1881. United States
25 Environmental Protection Agency.

26 ⁷ Martinez et al. 2007; Benachour 2009; Gasnier et al. 2010; Peixoto 2005; Marc 2004

27 ⁸ Martinez et al 1991

28 ⁹ (Molinari, 2000; Stewart et al., 2003)

1 55. The Peixoto study suggested that the harmful effects of Roundup on mitochondrial
2 bioenergetics could not be exclusively attributed to glyphosate and could be the result of other
3 chemicals, namely the surfactant POEA, or alternatively due to the possible synergy between
4 glyphosate and Roundup formulation products.

5 56. In 2009, Nora Benachour and Gilles-Eric Seralini published a study examining the
6 effects of Roundup and glyphosate on human umbilical, embryonic, and placental cells.

7 57. The study used dilution levels of Roundup and glyphosate far below agricultural
8 recommendations, corresponding with low levels of residues in food. The study concluded that
9 supposed “inert” ingredients, and possibly POEA, change human cell permeability and amplify
10 toxicity of glyphosate alone. The study further suggested that determinations of glyphosate toxicity
11 should take into account the presence of adjuvants, or those chemicals used in the formulation of
12 the complete pesticide. The study confirmed that the adjuvants in Roundup are not inert and that
13 Roundup is always more toxic than its active ingredient glyphosate.

14 58. The results of these studies were confirmed in recently published peer-reviewed
15 studies and were at all times available and/or known to Defendants.

16 59. Defendants knew or should have known that Roundup is more toxic than glyphosate
17 alone and that safety studies on Roundup, Roundup’s adjuvants and “inert” ingredients, and/or the
18 surfactant POEA were necessary to protect Plaintiff from Roundup.

19 60. Defendants knew or should have known that tests limited to Roundup’s active
20 ingredient glyphosate were insufficient to prove the safety of Roundup.

21 61. Defendants failed to appropriately and adequately test Roundup, Roundup’s
22 adjuvants and “inert” ingredients, and/or the surfactant POEA to protect Plaintiff from Roundup.

23 62. Rather than performing appropriate tests, Defendants relied upon flawed industry-
24 supported studies designed to protect Defendants’ economic interests rather than Plaintiff and the
25 consuming public.

26 63. Despite their knowledge that Roundup was considerably more dangerous than
27 glyphosate alone, Defendants continued to promote Roundup as safe.
28

IARC CLASSIFICATION OF GLYPHOSATE

1
2 64. The International Agency for Research on Cancer (“IARC”) is the specialized
3 intergovernmental cancer agency the World Health Organization (“WHO”) of the United Nations
4 tasked with conducting and coordinating research into the causes of cancer.

5 65. An IARC Advisory Group to Recommend Priorities for IARC Monographs during
6 2015–2019 met in April 2014. Though nominations for the review were solicited, a substance must
7 meet two criteria to be eligible for review by the IARC Monographs: there must already be some
8 evidence of carcinogenicity of the substance, and there must be evidence that humans are exposed
9 to the substance.

10 66. IARC set glyphosate for review in 2015-2016. IARC uses five criteria for
11 determining priority in reviewing chemicals. The substance must have a potential for direct impact
12 on public health; scientific literature to support suspicion of carcinogenicity; evidence of significant
13 human exposure; high public interest and/or potential to bring clarity to a controversial area and/or
14 reduce public anxiety or concern; related agents similar to one given high priority by the above
15 considerations. Data reviewed is sourced preferably from publicly accessible, peer-reviewed data.

16 67. On March 24, 2015, after its cumulative review of human, animal, and DNA studies
17 for more than one (1) year, many of which have been in Defendants’ possession since as early as
18 1985, the IARC’s working group published its conclusion that the glyphosate contained in
19 Defendants’ Roundup herbicide, is a Class 2A “probable carcinogen” as demonstrated by the
20 mechanistic evidence of carcinogenicity in humans and sufficient evidence of carcinogenicity in
21 animals.

22 68. The IARC’s full Monograph was published on July 29, 2015 and established
23 glyphosate as a class 2A probable carcinogen to humans. According to the authors glyphosate
24 demonstrated sufficient mechanistic evidence (genotoxicity and oxidative stress) to warrant a 2A
25 classification based on evidence of carcinogenicity in humans and animals.

26 69. The IARC Working Group found an increased risk between exposure to glyphosate
27 and NHL and several subtypes of NHL, and the increased risk continued after adjustment for other
28 pesticides.

1 81. Despite knowledge to the contrary, Defendants maintain that there is no evidence
2 that Roundup is genotoxic, that regulatory authorities and independent experts are in agreement that
3 Roundup is not genotoxic, and that there is no evidence that Roundup is genotoxic.

4 82. In addition to glyphosate and Roundup's genotoxic properties, Defendants have long
5 been aware of glyphosate's carcinogenic properties.

6 83. Glyphosate and Roundup in particular have long been associated with
7 carcinogenicity and the development of numerous forms of cancer, including, but not limited to,
8 NHL, Hodgkin's lymphoma, multiple myeloma, and soft tissue sarcoma.

9 84. Defendants have known of this association since the early to mid-1980s and
10 numerous human and animal studies have evidenced the carcinogenicity of glyphosate and/or
11 Roundup.

12 85. In 1985 the EPA studied the effects of glyphosate in mice finding a dose related
13 response in male mice linked to renal tubal adenomas, a rare tumor. The study concluded the
14 glyphosate was oncogenic.

15 86. In 2003 Lennart Hardell and Mikael Eriksson published the results of two case
16 controlled studies on pesticides as a risk factor for NHL and hairy cell leukemia.

17 87. The study concluded that glyphosate had the most significant relationship to NHL
18 among all herbicides studies with an increased odds ratio of 3.11.

19 88. In 2003 AJ De Roos published a study examining the pooled data of mid-western
20 farmers, examining pesticides and herbicides as risk factors for NHL.

21 89. The study, which controlled for potential confounders, found a relationship between
22 increased NHL incidence and glyphosate.

23 90. In 2008 Mikael Eriksson published a study a population based case-control study of
24 exposure to various pesticides as a risk factor for NHL.

25 91. This strengthened previous associations between glyphosate and NHL.

26 92. In spite of this knowledge, Defendants continued to issue broad and sweeping
27 statements suggesting that Roundup was, and is, safer than ordinary household items such as table
28

1 salt, despite a lack of scientific support for the accuracy and validity of these statements and, in
2 fact, voluminous evidence to the contrary.

3 93. Upon information and belief, these statements and representations have been made
4 with the intent of inducing Decedent, the agricultural community, and the public at large to
5 purchase, and increase the use of, Defendants' Roundup for Defendants' pecuniary gain, and in fact
6 did induce Decedent to use Roundup.

7 94. Defendants made these statements with complete disregard and reckless indifference
8 to the safety of Decedent and the general public.

9 95. Notwithstanding Defendants' representations, scientific evidence has established a
10 clear association between glyphosate and genotoxicity, inflammation, and an increased risk of
11 many cancers, including, but not limited to, NHL, multiple myeloma, and soft tissue sarcoma.

12 96. Defendants knew or should have known that glyphosate is associated with an
13 increased risk of developing cancer, including, but not limited to, NHL, multiple myeloma, and soft
14 tissue sarcomas.

15 97. Defendants failed to appropriately and adequately inform and warn Decedent of the
16 serious and dangerous risks associated with the use of and exposure to glyphosate and/or Roundup,
17 including, but not limited to, the risk of developing NHL, as well as other severe and personal
18 injuries, which are permanent and/or long-lasting in nature, cause significant physical pain and
19 mental anguish, diminished enjoyment of life, and the need for medical treatment, monitoring
20 and/or medications.

21 98. Despite the IARC's classification of glyphosate as a class 2A probable carcinogen,
22 Defendants continue to maintain that glyphosate and/or Roundup is safe, non-carcinogenic, non-
23 genotoxic, and falsely warrant to users and the general public that independent experts and
24 regulatory agencies agree that there is no evidence of carcinogenicity or genotoxicity in glyphosate
25 and Roundup.

26 99. Defendants have claimed and continue to claim that Roundup is safe, non-
27 carcinogenic, and non-genotoxic.
28

1 100. Monsanto claims on its website that “[r]egulatory authorities and independent
2 experts around the world have reviewed numerous long-term/carcinogenicity and genotoxicity
3 studies and agree that there is no evidence that glyphosate, the active ingredient in Roundup brand
4 herbicides and other glyphosate-based herbicides, causes cancer, even at very high doses, and that it
5 is not genotoxic.”¹⁰

6 101. Ironically, the primary source for this statement is a 1986 report by the WHO, the
7 same organization that now considers glyphosate to be a probable carcinogen.

8 102. Glyphosate, and Defendants’ Roundup products in particular, have long been
9 associated with serious side effects and many regulatory agencies around the globe have banned or
10 are currently banning the use of glyphosate herbicide products.

11 103. Defendants’ statements proclaiming the safety of Roundup and disregarding its
12 dangers misled Decedent.

13 104. Despite Defendants’ knowledge that Roundup was associated with an elevated risk
14 of developing cancer, Defendants’ promotional campaigns focused on Roundup’s purported “safety
15 profile.”

16 105. Defendants’ failure to adequately warn Decedent resulted in (1) Decedent using and
17 being exposed to glyphosate instead of using another acceptable and safe method of controlling
18 unwanted weeds and pests; and (2) scientists and physicians failing to warn and instruct consumers
19 about the risk of cancer, including NHL, and other injuries associated with Roundup.

20 106. Defendants failed to seek modification of the labeling of Roundup to include
21 relevant information regarding the risks and dangers associated with Roundup exposure.

22 107. The failure of Defendants to appropriately warn and inform the EPA has resulted in
23 inadequate warnings in safety information presented directly to users and consumers.

24
25
26 _____
¹⁰ *Backgrounder—Glyphosate: No Evidence of Carcinogenicity*. Updated November 2014
27 (downloaded October 9, 2015).
28

1 118. At all relevant times, Defendants have maintained that Roundup is safe, non-toxic,
2 and non-carcinogenic.

3 119. Indeed, even as of July 2016, Defendants continue to represent to the public that
4 “Regulatory authorities and independent experts around the world have reviewed numerous long-
5 term/carcinogenicity and genotoxicity studies and agree that there is no evidence that glyphosate,
6 the active ingredient in Roundup® brand herbicides and other glyphosate-based herbicides, causes
7 cancer, even at very high doses, and that it is not genotoxic.” (emphasis added)¹¹

8 120. As a result of Defendants’ actions, Decedent was unaware, and could not reasonably
9 have known or have learned through reasonable diligence, that Roundup and/or glyphosate contact
10 exposed Decedent to the risks alleged herein and that those risks were the direct and proximate
11 result of Defendants’ acts and omissions.

12 121. Furthermore, Defendants are estopped from relying on any statute of limitations
13 because of their fraudulent concealment of the true character, quality and nature of Roundup.
14 Defendants were under a duty to disclose the true character, quality, and nature of Roundup because
15 this was non-public information over which Defendants had and continues to have exclusive
16 control, and because Defendants knew that this information was not available to Decedent or to
17 distributors of Roundup. In addition, Defendants is estopped from relying on any statute of
18 limitations because of their intentional concealment of these facts.

19 122. Decedent had no knowledge that Defendants was engaged in the wrongdoing alleged
20 herein. Because of the fraudulent acts of concealment of wrongdoing by Defendants, Decedent
21 could not have reasonably discovered the wrongdoing at any time prior. Also, the economics of this
22 fraud should be considered. Defendants had the ability to and did spend enormous amounts of
23 money in furtherance of their purpose of marketing, promoting and/or distributing a profitable
24 herbicide, notwithstanding the known or reasonably known risks. Decedent and medical
25

26 ¹¹ *Backgrounder—Glyphosate: No Evidence of Carcinogenicity*. Updated November 2014
27 (downloaded October 9, 2015).
28

1 professionals could not have afforded and could not have possibly conducted studies to determine
2 the nature, extent, and identity of related health risks, and were forced to rely on only the
3 Defendants' representations. Accordingly, Defendants are precluded by the discovery rule and/or
4 the doctrine of fraudulent concealment from relying upon any statute of limitations.

5 **FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION**
6 **(NEGLIGENCE)**

7 123. Plaintiffs repeat, reiterate, and re-allege each and every allegation of this Complaint
8 contained in each of the foregoing paragraphs inclusive, with the same force and effect as if more
9 fully set forth herein.

10 124. Defendants had a duty to exercise reasonable care in the designing, researching,
11 testing, manufacturing, marketing, supplying, promoting, packaging, sale, and/or distribution of
12 Roundup into the stream of commerce, including a duty to assure that the product would not cause
13 users to suffer unreasonable, dangerous side effects.

14 125. Defendants failed to exercise ordinary care in the designing, researching, testing,
15 manufacturing, marketing, supplying, promoting, packaging, sale, testing, quality assurance, quality
16 control, and/or distribution of Roundup into interstate commerce in that Defendants knew or should
17 have known that using Roundup created a high risk of unreasonable, dangerous side effects,
18 including, but not limited to, the development of NHL, as well as other severe and personal injuries
19 which are permanent and lasting in nature, physical pain and mental anguish, including diminished
20 enjoyment of life, as well as need for lifelong medical treatment, monitoring, and/or medications.

21 126. The negligence by the Defendants, their agents, servants, and/or employees,
22 included but was not limited to the following acts and/or omissions:

- 23 a) Manufacturing, producing, promoting, formulating, creating, and/or
24 designing Roundup without thoroughly testing it;
- 25 b) Failing to test Roundup and/or failing to adequately, sufficiently, and
26 properly test Roundup;
- 27 c) Not conducting sufficient testing programs to determine whether or
28 not Roundup was safe for use; in that Defendants herein knew or
should have known that Roundup was unsafe and unfit for use by
reason of the dangers to its users;

- 1 d) Not conducting sufficient testing programs and studies to determine
2 Roundup's carcinogenic properties even after Defendants had
3 knowledge that Roundup is, was, or could be carcinogenic;
- 4 e) Failing to conduct sufficient testing programs to determine the safety
5 of "inert" ingredients and/or adjuvants contained within Roundup, and
6 the propensity of these ingredients to render Roundup toxic, increase
7 the toxicity of Roundup, whether these ingredients are carcinogenic,
8 magnify the carcinogenic properties of Roundup, and whether or not
9 "inert" ingredients and/or adjuvants were safe for use;
- 10 f) Negligently failing to adequately and correctly warn the Plaintiff, the
11 public, the medical and agricultural professions, and the EPA of the
12 dangers of Roundup;
- 13 g) Negligently failing to petition the EPA to strength the warnings
14 associated with Roundup;
- 15 h) Failing to provide adequate cautions and warnings to protect the health
16 of users, handlers, applicators, and persons who would reasonably and
17 foreseeably come into contact with Roundup;
- 18 i) Negligently marketing, advertising, and recommending the use of
19 Roundup without sufficient knowledge as to its dangerous
20 propensities;
- 21 j) Negligently representing that Roundup was safe for use for its
22 intended purpose, and/or that Roundup was safer than ordinary and
23 common items such as table salt, when, in fact, it was unsafe;
- 24 k) Negligently representing that Roundup had equivalent safety and
25 efficacy as other forms of herbicides;
- 26 l) Negligently designing Roundup in a manner, which was dangerous to
27 its users;
- 28 m) Negligently manufacturing Roundup in a manner, which was
dangerous to its users;
- n) Negligently producing Roundup in a manner, which was dangerous to
its users;
- o) Negligently formulating Roundup in a manner, which was dangerous
to its users;
- p) Concealing information from the Plaintiff while knowing that
Roundup was unsafe, dangerous, and/or non-conforming with EPA
regulations;
- q) Improperly concealing and/or misrepresenting information from the
Plaintiff, scientific and medical professionals, and/or the EPA,
concerning the severity of risks and dangers of Roundup compared to
other forms of herbicides; and

1 r) Negligently selling Roundup with a false and misleading label.

2 127. Defendants under-reported, underestimated, and downplayed the serious dangers of
3 Roundup.

4 128. Defendants negligently and deceptively compared the safety risks and/or dangers of
5 Roundup with common everyday foods such as table salt, and other forms of herbicides.

6 129. Defendants were negligent and/or violated California law in the designing,
7 researching, supplying, manufacturing, promoting, packaging, distributing, testing, advertising,
8 warning, marketing, and selling of Roundup in that they:

- 9 a) Failed to use ordinary care in designing and manufacturing Roundup
10 so as to avoid the aforementioned risks to individuals when Roundup
11 was used as an herbicide;
- 12 b) Failed to accompany their product with proper and/or accurate
13 warnings regarding all possible adverse side effects associated with the
14 use of Roundup;
- 15 c) Failed to accompany their product with proper warnings regarding all
16 possible adverse side effects concerning the failure and/or malfunction
17 of Roundup;
- 18 d) Failed to accompany their product with accurate warnings regarding
19 the risks of all possible adverse side effects concerning Roundup;
- 20 e) Failed to warn Decedent of the severity and duration of such adverse
21 effects, as the warnings given did not accurately reflect the symptoms,
22 or severity of the side effects including, but not limited to, the
23 development of NHL;
- 24 f) Failed to conduct adequate testing, clinical testing and post-marketing
25 surveillance to determine the safety of Roundup;
- 26 g) Failed to conduct adequate testing, clinical testing, and post-marketing
27 surveillance to determine the safety of Roundup's "inert" ingredients
28 and/or adjuvants;
- h) Negligently misrepresented the evidence of Roundup's genotoxicity
and carcinogenicity; and
- i) Were otherwise careless and/or negligent.

129. Despite the fact that Defendants knew or should have known that Roundup caused,
or could cause, unreasonably dangerous side effects, Defendants continued and continue to market,
manufacture, distribute, and/or sell Roundup to consumers, including the Decedent.

1 139. The Roundup designed, researched, manufactured, tested, advertised, promoted,
2 marketed, sold, and distributed by Defendants were defective in design or formulation in that, when
3 it left the hands of the manufacturer and/or suppliers, the foreseeable risks exceeded the benefits
4 associated with the design or formulation of Roundup.

5 140. The Roundup designed, researched, manufactured, tested, advertised, promoted,
6 marketed, sold, and distributed by Defendants were defective in design and/or formulation, in that,
7 when it left the hands of the Defendants' manufacturer and/or supplier, it was unreasonably
8 dangerous, unreasonably dangerous in normal use, and it was more dangerous than an ordinary
9 consumer would expect.

10 141. At all times herein mentioned, Roundup was in a defective condition and unsafe, and
11 Defendants knew or had reason to know that said product was defective and unsafe, especially
12 when used in the form and manner as provided by the Defendants. In particular, Defendants'
13 Roundup was defective in the following ways:

- 14 a) When placed in the stream of commerce, Defendants' Roundup
15 Products were defective in design and formulation and, consequently,
16 dangerous to an extent beyond that which an ordinary consumer would
17 anticipate.
- 18 b) When placed in the stream of commerce, Defendants' Roundup
19 products were unreasonably dangerous in that they were hazardous
20 and posed a grave risk of cancer and other serious illnesses when used
21 in a reasonably anticipated manner.
- 22 c) When placed in the stream of commerce, Defendants' Roundup
23 products contained unreasonably dangerous design defects and were
24 not reasonably safe when used in a reasonably anticipated manner.
- 25 d) Defendants did not sufficiently test, investigate, or study its Roundup
26 products.
- 27 e) Exposure to Roundup presents a risk of harmful side effects that
28 outweigh any potential utility stemming from the use of the herbicide.
- f) Defendants knew or should have known at the time of marketing its
Roundup products that exposure to Roundup and could result in cancer
and other severe illnesses and injuries.
- g) Defendants did not conduct adequate post-marketing surveillance of its
Roundup products.

1 142. Defendants knew, or should have known that at all times herein mentioned its
2 Roundup was in a defective condition, and was and is inherently dangerous and unsafe.

3 143. Decedent was exposed to Defendants' Roundup, as described above, without
4 knowledge of Roundup's dangerous characteristics.

5 144. At the time of the Decedent's use of and exposure to Roundup, Roundup was being
6 used for the purposes and in a manner normally intended, as a broad-spectrum herbicide.

7 145. Defendants with this knowledge voluntarily designed its Roundup with a dangerous
8 condition for use by the public, and in particular the Decedent.

9 146. Defendants had a duty to create a product that was not unreasonably dangerous for
10 its normal, intended use.

11 147. Defendants created a product that was and is unreasonably dangerous for its normal,
12 intended use.

13 148. Defendants marketed and promoted a product in such a manner so as to make it
14 inherently defective as the product downplayed its suspected, probable, and established health risks
15 inherent with its normal, intended use.

16 149. The Roundup designed, researched, manufactured, tested, advertised, promoted,
17 marketed, sold, and distributed by Defendants was manufactured defectively in that Roundup left
18 the hands of Defendants in a defective condition and was unreasonably dangerous to its intended
19 users.

20 150. The Roundup designed, researched, manufactured, tested, advertised, promoted,
21 marketed, sold, and distributed by Defendants reached their intended users in the same defective
22 and unreasonably dangerous condition in which the Defendants' Roundup was manufactured.

23 151. Defendants designed, researched, manufactured, tested, advertised, promoted,
24 marketed, sold, and distributed a defective product, which created an unreasonable risk to the health
25 of consumers and to the Decedent in particular, and Defendants are therefore strictly liable for the
26 injuries sustained by the Decedent.

27 152. The Decedent could not, by the exercise of reasonable care, have discovered
28 Roundup's defects herein mentioned or perceived its danger.

1 including Decedent, without any substantial change in the condition of the product from when it
2 was initially distributed by Defendants.

3 161. At the time of manufacture, Defendants could have provided the warnings or
4 instructions regarding the full and complete risks of Roundup and glyphosate-containing products
5 because it knew or should have known of the unreasonable risks of harm associated with the use of
6 and/or exposure to such products.

7 162. At all times herein mentioned, the aforesaid product was defective and unsafe in
8 manufacture such that it was unreasonably dangerous to the user, and was so at the time it was
9 distributed by Defendants and at the time Decedent was exposed to and/or ingested the product.
10 The defective condition of Roundup was due in part to the fact that it was not accompanied by
11 proper warnings regarding its carcinogenic qualities and possible side effects, including, but not
12 limited to, developing NHL as a result of exposure and use.

13 163. Roundup did not contain a warning or caution statement, which was necessary and,
14 if complied with, was adequate to protect health those exposed in violation of 7 U.S.C.
15 § 136j(a)(1)(E).

16 164. Defendants' failure to include a warning or caution statement which was necessary
17 and, if complied with, was adequate to protect the health of those exposed, violated 7 U.S.C.
18 § 136j(a)(1)(E) as well as the laws of the State of California.

19 165. Defendants could have amended the label of Roundup to provide additional
20 warnings.

21 166. This defect caused serious injury to Decedent, who used Roundup in its intended and
22 foreseeable manner.

23 167. At all times herein mentioned, Defendants had a duty to properly design,
24 manufacture, compound, test, inspect, package, label, distribute, market, examine, maintain supply,
25 provide proper warnings, and take such steps to assure that the product did not cause users to suffer
26 from unreasonable and dangerous side effects.

27 168. Defendants labeled, distributed, and promoted the aforesaid product that it was
28 dangerous and unsafe for the use and purpose for which it was intended.

1 169. Defendants failed to warn of the nature and scope of the side effects associated with
2 Roundup, namely its carcinogenic properties and its propensity to cause or serve as a substantial
3 contributing factor in the development of NHL.

4 170. Defendants were aware of the probable consequences of the aforesaid conduct.
5 Despite the fact that Defendants knew or should have known that Roundup caused serious injuries,
6 Defendants failed to exercise reasonable care to warn of the dangerous carcinogenic properties and
7 side effect of developing NHL from Roundup exposure, even though these side effects were known
8 or reasonably scientifically knowable at the time of distribution. Defendants willfully and
9 deliberately failed to avoid the consequences associated with their failure to warn, and in doing so,
10 Defendants acted with a conscious disregard for the safety of Decedent.

11 171. At the time of exposure, Decedent could not have reasonably discovered any defect
12 in Roundup prior through the exercise of reasonable care.

13 172. Defendants, as the manufacturer and/or distributor of the subject product, is held to
14 the level of knowledge of an expert in the field.

15 173. Decedent reasonably relied upon the skill, superior knowledge, and judgment of
16 Defendants.

17 174. Had Defendants properly disclosed the risks associated with Roundup, Decedent
18 would have avoided the risk of NHL by not using Roundup.

19 175. The information that Defendants did provide or communicate failed to contain
20 adequate warnings and precautions that would have enabled Decedent, and similarly situated
21 individuals, to utilize the product safely and with adequate protection. Instead, Defendants
22 disseminated information that was inaccurate, false, and misleading and which failed to
23 communicate accurately or adequately the comparative severity, duration, and extent of the risk of
24 injuries associated with use of and/or exposure to Roundup and glyphosate; continued to promote
25 the efficacy of Roundup, even after it knew or should have known of the unreasonable risks from
26 use or exposure; and concealed, downplayed, or otherwise suppressed, through aggressive
27 marketing and promotion, any information or research about the risks and dangers of exposure to
28 Roundup and glyphosate.

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- 7. Awarding Plaintiffs reasonable attorneys’ fees;
- 8. Awarding Plaintiffs the costs of these proceedings; and
- 9. Such other and further relief as this Court deems just and proper.

DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL

Plaintiffs hereby demands trial by jury as to all issues.

Dated: November 18, 2016

ANDRUS ANDERSON LLP

By: /s/ Lori E. Andrus
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CIVIL COVER SHEET

The JS-CAND 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 in its original form by the Judicial Conference of the United States in September 1974, is required for the Clerk of Court to initiate the civil docket sheet. (SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON NEXT PAGE OF THIS FORM.)

I. (a) PLAINTIFFS
(b) County of Residence of First Listed Plaintiff (EXCEPT IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES)
(c) Attorneys (Firm Name, Address, and Telephone Number)

DEFENDANTS
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. Attorneys (If Known)

II. BASIS OF JURISDICTION (Place an "X" in One Box Only)
1 U.S. Government Plaintiff
2 U.S. Government Defendant
3 Federal Question (U.S. Government Not a Party)
4 Diversity (Indicate Citizenship of Parties in Item III)

III. CITIZENSHIP OF PRINCIPAL PARTIES (Place an "X" in One Box for Plaintiff and One Box for Defendant)
Table with columns: CITIZENSHIP, PTF, DEF

IV. NATURE OF SUIT (Place an "X" in One Box Only)

Table with 5 main categories: CONTRACT, REAL PROPERTY, TORTS, CIVIL RIGHTS, PRISONER PETITIONS, FORFEITURE/PENALTY, LABOR, IMMIGRATION, BANKRUPTCY, SOCIAL SECURITY, FEDERAL TAX SUITS, OTHER STATUTES.

V. ORIGIN (Place an "X" in One Box Only)
1 Original Proceeding, 2 Removed from State Court, 3 Remanded from Appellate Court, 4 Reinstated or Reopened, 5 Transferred from Another District (specify), 6 Multidistrict Litigation-Transfer, 8 Multidistrict Litigation-Direct File

VI. CAUSE OF ACTION
Cite the U.S. Civil Statute under which you are filing (Do not cite jurisdictional statutes unless diversity):
Brief description of cause:

VII. REQUESTED IN COMPLAINT:
CHECK IF THIS IS A CLASS ACTION UNDER RULE 23, Fed. R. Civ. P. DEMAND \$ CHECK YES only if demanded in complaint: JURY DEMAND: Yes No

VIII. RELATED CASE(S), IF ANY (See instructions): JUDGE DOCKET NUMBER

IX. DIVISIONAL ASSIGNMENT (Civil Local Rule 3-2)
(Place an "X" in One Box Only) SAN FRANCISCO/OAKLAND SAN JOSE EUREKA-MCKINLEYVILLE

DATE: SIGNATURE OF ATTORNEY OF RECORD:

INSTRUCTIONS FOR ATTORNEYS COMPLETING CIVIL COVER SHEET FORM JS-CAND 44

Authority For Civil Cover Sheet. The JS-CAND 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 in its original form by the Judicial Conference of the United States in September 1974, is required for the Clerk of Court to initiate 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 Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 8(a), 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.
- (1) United States plaintiff. Jurisdiction based on 28 USC §§ 1345 and 1348. Suits by agencies and officers of the United States are included here.
 - (2) United States defendant. When the plaintiff is suing the United States, its officers or agencies, place an “X” in this box.
 - (3) Federal question. This refers to suits under 28 USC § 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.
 - (4) Diversity of citizenship. This refers to suits under 28 USC § 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-CAND 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 six boxes.
- (1) Original Proceedings. Cases originating in the United States district courts.
 - (2) Removed from State Court. Proceedings initiated in state courts may be removed to the district courts under Title 28 USC § 1441. When the petition for removal is granted, check this box.
 - (3) Remanded from Appellate Court. Check this box for cases remanded to the district court for further action. Use the date of remand as the filing date.
 - (4) Reinstated or Reopened. Check this box for cases reinstated or reopened in the district court. Use the reopening date as the filing date.
 - (5) Transferred from Another District. For cases transferred under Title 28 USC § 1404(a). Do not use this for within district transfers or multidistrict litigation transfers.
 - (6) Multidistrict Litigation Transfer. Check this box when a multidistrict case is transferred into the district under authority of Title 28 USC § 1407. When this box is checked, do not check (5) above.
 - (8) Multidistrict Litigation Direct File. Check this box when a multidistrict litigation case is filed in the same district as the Master MDL docket. Please note that there is no Origin Code 7. Origin Code 7 was used for historical records and is no longer relevant due to changes in statute.
- 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 Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 23. 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-CAND 44 is used to identify related pending cases, if any. If there are related pending cases, insert the docket numbers and the corresponding judge names for such cases.
- IX. Divisional Assignment.** If the Nature of Suit is under Property Rights or Prisoner Petitions or the matter is a Securities Class Action, leave this section blank. For all other cases, identify the divisional venue according to Civil Local Rule 3-2: “the county in which a substantial part of the events or omissions which give rise to the claim occurred or in which a substantial part of the property that is the subject of the action is situated.”
- Date and Attorney Signature.** Date and sign the civil cover sheet.