

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

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LINDA S. BOBLETZ,

Plaintiff,

3:14-CV-1024 [TJM/DEP]
DOCKET NO:

-against-

VERIFIED COMPLAINT

KARL STORZ ENDOSCOPY-AMERICA, INC.,
KARL STORZ ENDOVISION, INC., KARL STORZ
GMBH & CO. KG and ABC CORPORATIONS 1-10 and
JOHN DOES 1-10 and JANE DOES 1-10,

Defendants.

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Plaintiff, LINDA S. BOBLETZ by her attorneys, ALONSO KRANGLE LLP,
complaining of the defendants, respectfully alleges, upon information and belief, as follows

I. INTRODUCTION

1. This action is a products liability action against KARL STORZ ENDOSCOPY-AMERICA, INC., (STORZ AMERICA), KARL STORZ ENDOVISION, INC. (STORZ ENDOVISION), KARL STORZ GMBH & CO. KG (STORZ) as well as ABC Corporations, 1-10, John Does, 1-10, and/or Jane Does, 1-10, resulting from the use of said defendants' morcellator surgical products. Plaintiff LINDA BOBLETZ, had a surgical procedure performed on her known as a laparoscopic, supracervical hysterectomy with uterine morcellation on or about August 30, 2011 at the United Health Services, Wilson Regional Medical Center 33-57 Harrison Street, Johnson City, NY 13790.

II. JURISDICTION AND VENUE

2. This Court has original jurisdiction pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §1332, as the matter in controversy exceeds the sum or value of \$75,000, exclusive of interest and costs, and is between citizens of different states as plaintiff LINDA BOBLETZ is a resident of the State

of New York and defendants have their principal places of business in the State of California, Commonwealth of Massachusetts and the Federal Republic of Germany, respectively.

3. Venue in the Northern District of New York is proper under 28 U.S.C. §1391(b)(2) as a substantial part of the events or omissions giving rise to the claim occurred in this District.

III. PARTIES

4. Plaintiff LINDA BOBLETZ is an adult individual residing in Endicott, New York.

5. Defendant STORZ AMERICA is a corporation, or other entity, organized and/or existing under the laws of the State of California, and who at all times material and relevant hereto was engaged in the business of manufacturing and/or selling and/or supplying and/or marketing and/or designing and/or distributing minimally invasive surgical products, with a principal place of business at 2151 East Grand Avenue, El Segundo, California 90245-5017.

6. Defendant STORZ ENDOVISION, is a corporation, or other entity, organized and/or existing under the laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, and who at all times was engaged in the business of manufacturing and/or selling and/or supplying and/or marketing and/or designing and/or distributing minimally invasive surgical products, with a principal place of business at 91 Carpenter Hill Road, Charlton, Massachusetts.

7. Defendant STORZ, is a corporation, or other entity, organized and/or existing under the laws of the Federal Republic of Germany, and who at all times was engaged in the business of manufacturing and/or selling and/or supplying and/or marketing and/or designing and/or distributing minimally invasive surgical products, with a principal place of business at Mittelstrasse 8, Tuttingen, Germany 78532.

6. Defendants ABC Corporations, 1-10, are fictitious names, corporations, or other similar entities who were engaged in the business of manufacturing and/or selling and/or supplying and/or marketing and/or designing and/or distributing minimally invasive gynecological surgical products, specifically, the product/s used upon Plaintiff.

7. John Does, 1-10, who were engaged in the business manufacturing and/or selling and/or supplying and/or marketing and/or distributing minimally invasive gynecological surgical products, specifically, the product/s used upon Plaintiff.

8. Jane Does, 1-10, who were engaged in the business manufacturing and/or selling and/or supplying and/or marketing and/or distributing minimally invasive gynecological surgical products, specifically, the product/s used upon Plaintiff.

9. In August 2011, plaintiff LINDA BOBLETZ underwent a surgical procedure known as a laparoscopic supracervical hysterectomy with uterine morcellation at the United Health Services, Wilson Regional Medical Center 33-57 Harrison Street, Johnson City, NY 13790

10. Prior to the Plaintiff's surgery in August, 2011, there was no evidence of disseminated and/or metastatic cancer/disease.

11. Following this procedure, in September 2011 was informed that she had cancer – specifically, leiomyosarcoma.

12. Plaintiff has been undergoing aggressive treatment and therapy since learning of her cancer diagnosis.

13. It is alleged that each and every defendant herein failed to warn about the extent to which there was a possibility of dissemination of an occult uterine leiomyosarcoma throughout the peritoneal cavity.

14. Defendants were each aware of the risks, complications, and/or adverse events associated with their products used for uterine morcellation.

COUNT I – NEGLIGENCE
ON BEHALF OF PLAINTIFF LINDA

15. The paragraphs above are incorporated by reference hereto as if set forth at length.

16. Defendants, STORZ AMERICA, STORZ ENDOVISION, STORZ, ABC Corporations, 1-10, John Does, 1-10, and/or Jane Does, 1-10, (hereafter collectively referred to as “Defendants”), owed a duty to manufacture, compound, label, market, distribute, and supply and/or sell products, including minimally invasive gynecologic products, including products used for uterine morcellation, specifically the Storz Rotocut G1 product manufactured and marketed by defendant STORZ in such a way as to avoid harm to persons upon whom they are used, such as Plaintiff herein, or to refrain from such activities following knowledge and/or constructive knowledge that such product is harmful to persons upon whom it is used.

17. Defendants owed a duty to warn of the hazards and dangers associated with the use of its products, specifically minimally invasive gynecologic products, including products used for uterine morcellation, such as the Storz Rotocut G1 product manufactured and marketed by defendant STORZ for patients such as plaintiff herein, so as to avoid harm.

18. Defendants, acting by and through their authorized divisions, subsidiaries, agents, servants, and employees, were guilty of carelessness, recklessness, negligence, gross negligence and willful, wanton, outrageous and reckless disregard for human life and safety in manufacturing, designing, labeling, marketing, distributing, supplying and/or selling and/or placing into the stream of commerce, minimally invasive gynecologic products, including the Storz Rotocut G1 morcellator, both generally, and in the following particular respects:

- a. failing to conduct adequate and appropriate testing of minimally invasive gynecologic products, such as the Storz Rotocut G1 morcellator, specifically including, but not limited to, products used for uterine morcellation;
- b. putting products used for uterine morcellation such as the Storz Rotocut G1 morcellator on the market without first conducting adequate testing to determine possible side effects;
- c. putting products used for uterine morcellation such as the Storz Rotocut G1 morcellator on the market without adequate testing of its dangers to humans;
- d. failing to recognize the significance of their own and other testing of, and information regarding, products used for uterine morcellation, such as the Storz Rotocut G1 morcellator, which testing evidenced such products potential harm to humans;
- e. failing to respond promptly and appropriately to their own and other testing of, and information regarding products used for uterine morcellation, such as the Storz Rotocut G1 morcellator which indicated such products potential harm to human;
- f. failing to promptly and adequately warn of the potential of the products used for uterine morcellation to be harmful to humans;
- g. failing to promptly and adequately warn of the potential for the metastases of cancer when using products used for uterine morcellation, such as the Rotocut G1 morcellator;
- h. failing to promptly, adequately, and appropriately recommend testing and monitoring of patients upon whom products used for uterine morcellation in light of such products potential harm to humans;
- i. failing to properly, appropriately, and adequately monitor the post-market performance of products used for uterine morcellation and such products effects on patients;

j. concealing from the FDA, National Institutes of Health, the general medical community and/or physicians, their full knowledge and experience regarding the potential that products used for uterine morcellation, specifically the Rotocut G1 morcellator, are harmful to humans;

k. promoting, marketing, advertising and/or selling products used for uterine morcellation, such as the Rotocut G1 morcellator, for use on patients given their knowledge and experience of such products' potential harmful effects;

l. failing to withdraw products used for uterine morcellation from the market, restrict its use and/or warn of such products' potential dangers, given their knowledge of the potential for its harm to humans;

m. failing to fulfill the standard of care required of a reasonable, prudent, minimally invasive gynecological surgical products manufacturer engaged in the manufacture of said products, specifically including products used for uterine morcellation such as the Rotocut G1 morcellator;

n. placing and/or permitting the placement of the products used for uterine morcellation, specifically the Rotocut G1 morcellator into the stream of commerce without warnings of the potential for said products to be harmful to humans and/or without properly warning of said products' dangerousness;

o. failing to disclose to the medical community in an appropriate and timely manner, facts relative to the potential of the products used for uterine morcellation, including the Rotocut G1 morcellator to be harmful to humans;

p. failing to respond or react promptly and appropriately to reports of products used for uterine morcellation causing harm to patients, including the Rotocut G1

morcellator;

q. disregarding the safety of users and consumers of products used for uterine morcellation, including plaintiff herein, under the circumstances by failing adequately to warn of said products' potential harm to humans;

r. disregarding the safety of users and consumers of the products used for uterine morcellation, including plaintiff herein, and/or her physicians' and/or hospital, under the circumstances by failing to withdraw said products from the market and/or restrict their usage;

s. disregarding publicity, government and/or industry studies, information, documentation and recommendations, consumer complaints and reports and/or other information regarding the hazards of the products used for uterine morcellation and their potential harm to humans;

t. failing to exercise reasonable care in informing physicians and/or hospitals using the products used for uterine morcellation about their own knowledge regarding said products' potential harm to humans;

u. failing to remove products used for uterine morcellation from the stream of commerce;

v. failing to test products used for uterine morcellation properly and/or adequately so as to determine its safety for use;

w. promoting the products used for uterine morcellation as safe and/or safer than other comparative methods of lesion removal;

x. promoting the products used for uterine morcellation on websites aimed at creating user and consumer demand;

y. failing to conduct and/or respond to post-marketing surveillance of

complications and injuries.

z. failing to design a morcellation device which required the use of a tissue collection bag to prevent the dissemination of cancer.

19. As a direct and proximate result of the negligent and/or reckless and/or wanton acts and/or omissions of Defendants, Plaintiff suffered serious injuries, and/or financial losses and harm.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff, LINDA BOBLETZ respectfully requests that this Honorable Court enter judgment in her favor and against, STORZ AMERICA, STORZ ENDOVISION, STORZ, and/or ABC Corporations, 1-10; and/or John Does, 1-10, and/or Jane Does, 1-10, jointly and/or severally, in an amount in excess of \$75,000.00 plus interest, costs and punitive damages, and attorneys' fees to the extent allowed by law.

COUNT II – STRICT PRODUCTS LIABILITY
ON BEHALF OF LINDA BOBLETZ

20. The paragraphs above are incorporated by reference hereto as if set forth at length.

21. As a result of the unreasonably dangerous and defective condition of the products used for uterine morcellation, specifically the Rotocut G1 morcellator, which defendants manufactured, designed, labeled, marketed, distributed, supplied and/or sold, and/or placed into the stream of commerce, they are strictly liable to the Plaintiffs for their injuries which they directly and proximately caused, based on the following:

a. failing to properly and adequately design the products used for uterine morcellation, specifically the Rotocut G1 morcellator, in order to prevent the potential spread of malignancy.

22. In addition, the aforesaid incident and Plaintiff's injuries and losses were the

direct and proximate result of Defendants' manufacturing, designing, labeling, marketing, distributing, supplying and/or selling and/or placing into the stream of commerce the products used for uterine morcellation, specifically the Rotocut G1 morcellator without proper and adequate warnings regarding the potential for said products' harm to humans and as otherwise set forth supra, when said defendants knew or should have known of the need for such warnings and/or recommendations.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff, LINDA BOBLETZ, respectfully requests that this Honorable Court enter judgment in her favor against, STORZ AMERICA, STORZ ENDOVISION, STORZ and/or ABC Corporations, 1-10; and/or John Does, 1-10, and/or Jane Does, 1-10, jointly and/or severally, in an amount in excess of \$75,000.00 plus interest, costs, punitive damages, and attorney's fees to the extent allowed by law.

COUNT III - BREACH OF EXPRESS WARRANTY
ON BEHALF OF LINDA BOBLETZ

23. The paragraphs above are incorporated by reference hereto as if set forth at length.

24. In the advertising and marketing of the products used for uterine morcellation, which was directed to both physicians and hospitals and consumers, Defendants warranted that said product or products, including the Rotocut G1 morcellator, were safe for the use, which had the natural tendency to induce physicians and hospitals to use the same for patients and for patients to want to be treated with the same.

25. The aforesaid warranties were breached by defendants in that the Rotocut G1 morcellator products used for uterine morcellation constituted a serious danger to the user.

26. As a direct and proximate result of defendants' breach of express warranty, Plaintiff suffered serious injuries, financial losses and harm.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff, LINDA BOBLETZ respectfully requests that this Honorable Court enter judgment in her favor and against, STORZ AMERICA, STORZ ENDOVISION, STORZ, and/or ABC Corporations, 1-10; and/or John Does, 1-10, and/or Jane Does, 1-10, jointly and/or severally, in an amount in excess of \$75,000.00 plus interest, costs, punitive damages, and attorney's fees to the extent allowed by law.

**COUNT IV – BREACH OF IMPLIED WARRANTY
ON BEHALF OF LINDA BOBLETZ**

27. The paragraphs above are incorporated by reference hereto as if set forth at length.

28. At all relevant and material times, Defendants manufactured, distributed, advertised, promoted, and sold the Rotocut G1 morcellator used for uterine morcellation.

29. At all relevant times, defendants intended that the products used for uterine morcellation, including the Rotocut G1 morcellator, be used in the manner that the Plaintiff's surgeons in fact used it and Defendants impliedly warranted the product to be of merchantable quality, safe and fit for such use, and was adequately tested.

30. Defendants breached various implied warranties with respect to the products used for uterine morcellation, including:

a. Defendants represented through their labeling, advertising, marketing materials, detail persons, seminar presentations, publications, notice letters, and regulatory submissions that the products used for uterine morcellation, including the Rotocut G1 morcellator, were safe, and withheld and concealed information about the substantial risks of serious injury and/or death associated with using the products used for uterine morcellation;

b. Defendant represented that the products used for uterine morcellation, including, the Rotocut G1 morcellator, were as safe and/or safer than other alternative surgical approaches that did not include the use of the said products, and concealed information, which demonstrated that said products were not safer than alternatives available on the market; and,

c. Defendants represented that the products used for uterine morcellation, including the Rotocut G1 morcellator, were more efficacious than other alternative surgical approaches and techniques and concealed information, regarding the true efficacy and safety of said products.

31. In reliance upon Defendants' implied warranty, Plaintiff's surgeons used said Rotocut G1 morcellator as prescribed and in the foreseeable manner normally intended, recommended, promoted, instructed, and marketed by Defendant.

32. Defendants breached their implied warranty to Plaintiff in that said Rotocut G1 morcellator used for uterine morcellation was not of merchantable quality, safe and fit for their intended use, or adequately tested.

33. As a direct and proximate consequence of Defendants' breach of implied warranty and/or intentional acts, omissions, misrepresentations and/or otherwise culpable acts described herein, the Plaintiff sustained injuries and damages alleged herein including pain and suffering.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff, LINDA BOBLETZ, respectfully requests that this Honorable Court enter judgment in his favor and against STORZ AMERICA, STORZ ENDOVISION, STORZ and/or ABC Corporations, 1-10; and/or John Does, 1-10, and/or Jane Does, 1-10, jointly and/or severally, in an amount in excess of \$75,000.00 plus interest, costs, punitive damages, and attorney's fees to the extent allowed by law.

COUNT V
FRAUDULENT MISREPRESENTATION AND OMISSION

34. Plaintiffs incorporate by reference, as if fully set forth herein, each and every allegation set forth in the preceding paragraphs and further allege as follows.

35. Defendant, having undertaken design, formulation, testing, manufacture, marketing, sale, and distribution of devices used for uterine morcellation, including the Rotocut G1 morcellator owed a duty to provide accurate and complete information regarding said devices.

36. Prior to Plaintiff LINDA BOBLETZ undergoing her surgery defendants fraudulently misrepresented, that the use of their Rotocut G1 morcellator for uterine morcellation was safe and effective.

37. Defendant had a duty to provide Plaintiff LINDA BOBLETZ, physicians, and other consumers with true and accurate information regarding the devices for uterine morcellation it manufactured, marketed, distributed and sold.

38. Defendant made representations and failed to disclose material facts with the intent to induce consumers, including Plaintiff, LINDA BOBLETZ and the medical community to act in reliance by purchasing and using the Rotocut G1 morcellator sold by defendant.

39. Plaintiff LINDA BOBLETZ and the medical community justifiably relied on Defendant's representations and omissions by purchasing and using the uterine morcellator during Plaintiff's surgery.

40. Defendant's representations and omissions regarding use of its uterine morcellation devices were a direct and proximate cause of LINDA BOBLETZ's injuries.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff, LINDA BOBLETZ respectfully requests that this Honorable Court enter judgment in his favor and against STORZ AMERICA, STORZ ENDOVISION, STORZ and/or ABC Corporations, 1-10; and/or John Does, 1-10, and/or Jane Does, 1-10, jointly and/or severally, in an amount in excess of \$75,000.00 plus interest, costs, punitive damages, and attorney's fees to the extent allowed by law.

PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, Plaintiffs pray for relief as follows:

1. Compensatory damages in excess of the jurisdictional amount, including, but not limited to pain, suffering, emotional distress, loss of enjoyment of life, society and other non-economic damages in an amount to be determined at trial of this action;
2. Medical expenses and other economic damages in an amount to be determined at trial of this action;
3. Double or triple damages as allowed by law;
4. Restitution and disgorgement of profits;
5. Reasonable attorneys' fees;
6. Punitive damages;
7. The costs of these proceedings; and
8. Such other and further relief as this Court deems just and proper.

Dated: Melville, New York
August 18, 2014

Respectfully submitted,



Andrés F. Alonso (AFA 8307)
David B. Krangle (DBK 8085)
ALONSO KRANGLE LLP
445 Broad Hollow Road, Suite 205
Melville, NY 11747
Telephone: (516) 350-5555
Facsimile: (516) 350-5554
Email: DKrangle@alonsokrangle.com
AAlonso@alonsokrangle.com

ATTORNEYS VERIFICATION

STATE OF NEW YORK)
 : ss:
COUNTY OF NASSAU)

Andres F. Alonso, an attorney and counselor at law, duly admitted to practice in the Courts of the State of New York, affirms the following to be true under penalties of perjury:

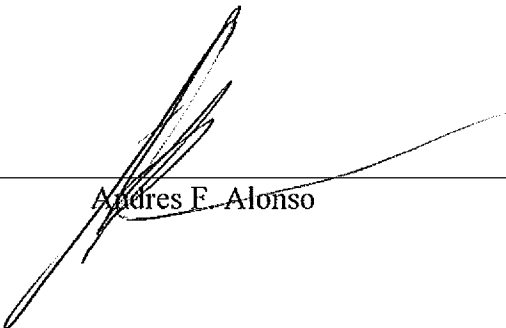
I am a member/associate of the firm **ALONSO KRANGLE LLP** attorneys for the plaintiff(s) herein.

I have read the foregoing COMPLAINT and know the contents thereof. Upon information and belief, I believe the matters alleged therein to be true.

The source of your deponent's information and the grounds of my belief are communications, papers, reports and investigations contained in my file.

The reason this verification is made by deponent and not by plaintiff(s) is that plaintiff(s) reside in a county other than the one in which your deponent's office is maintained.

Dated: Melville, New York
August 18, 2014



Andres E. Alonso

JS 44 (Rev. 12/12)

CIVIL COVER SHEET 3:14-CV-1024

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

I. (a) PLAINTIFFS
LINDA S. BOBLETZ

DEFENDANT'S
KARL STORZ ENDOSCOPY-AMERICA, INC., KARL STORZ
ENDOVISION, INC., KARL STORZ GMBH & CO. KG and ABC
CORPORATIONS 1-10 and JANE DOES 1-10

(b) County of Residence of First Listed Plaintiff Broome County, NY
(EXCEPT IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES)

County of Residence of First Listed Defendant Los Angeles County, CA
(IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES ONLY)

NOTE: IN LAND CONDEMNATION CASES, USE THE LOCATION OF THE TRACT OF LAND INVOLVED.

(c) Attorneys (Firm Name, Address, and Telephone Number)
Andres F. Alonso, Esq., Alonso Krangle LLP, 445 Broad Hollow Road,
Suite 205, Melville, NY 11747, Phone: 516-350-5555, email:
AAlonso@alonsokrangle.com

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)

	PTF	DEF		PTF	DEF
Citizen of This State	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	Incorporated or Principal Place of Business In This State	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 4
Citizen of Another State	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	Incorporated and Principal Place of Business In Another State	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 5
Citizen or Subject of a Foreign Country	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	Foreign Nation	<input type="checkbox"/> 6	<input type="checkbox"/> 6

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

CONTRACT	TORTS	FORFEITURE/PENALTY	BANKRUPTCY	OTHER STATUTES	
<input type="checkbox"/> 110 Insurance <input type="checkbox"/> 120 Marine <input type="checkbox"/> 130 Miller Act <input type="checkbox"/> 140 Negotiable Instrument <input type="checkbox"/> 150 Recovery of Overpayment & Enforcement of Judgment <input type="checkbox"/> 151 Medicare Act <input type="checkbox"/> 152 Recovery of Defaulted Student Loans (Excludes Veterans) <input type="checkbox"/> 153 Recovery of Overpayment of Veteran's Benefits <input type="checkbox"/> 160 Stockholders' Suits <input type="checkbox"/> 190 Other Contract <input type="checkbox"/> 195 Contract Product Liability <input type="checkbox"/> 196 Franchise	PERSONAL INJURY <input type="checkbox"/> 310 Airplane <input type="checkbox"/> 315 Airplane Product Liability <input type="checkbox"/> 320 Assault, Libel & Slander <input type="checkbox"/> 330 Federal Employers' Liability <input type="checkbox"/> 340 Marine <input type="checkbox"/> 345 Marine Product Liability <input type="checkbox"/> 350 Motor Vehicle <input type="checkbox"/> 355 Motor Vehicle Product Liability <input type="checkbox"/> 360 Other Personal Injury <input type="checkbox"/> 362 Personal Injury - Medical Malpractice	PERSONAL INJURY <input type="checkbox"/> 365 Personal Injury - Product Liability <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 367 Health Care/Pharmaceutical Personal Injury Product Liability <input type="checkbox"/> 368 Asbestos Personal Injury Product Liability PERSONAL PROPERTY <input type="checkbox"/> 370 Other Fraud <input type="checkbox"/> 371 Truth in Lending <input type="checkbox"/> 380 Other Personal Property Damage <input type="checkbox"/> 385 Property Damage Product Liability	<input type="checkbox"/> 625 Drug Related Seizure of Property 21 USC 881 <input type="checkbox"/> 690 Other LABOR <input type="checkbox"/> 710 Fair Labor Standards Act <input type="checkbox"/> 720 Labor/Management Relations <input type="checkbox"/> 740 Railway Labor Act <input type="checkbox"/> 751 Family and Medical Leave Act <input type="checkbox"/> 790 Other Labor Litigation <input type="checkbox"/> 791 Employee Retirement Income Security Act IMMIGRATION <input type="checkbox"/> 462 Naturalization Application <input type="checkbox"/> 465 Other Immigration Actions	<input type="checkbox"/> 422 Appeal 28 USC 158 <input type="checkbox"/> 423 Withdrawal 28 USC 157 PROPERTY RIGHTS <input type="checkbox"/> 820 Copyrights <input type="checkbox"/> 830 Patent <input type="checkbox"/> 840 Trademark SOCIAL SECURITY <input type="checkbox"/> 861 HIA (1395ff) <input type="checkbox"/> 862 Black Lung (923) <input type="checkbox"/> 863 DIWC/DIWW (405(g)) <input type="checkbox"/> 864 SSID Title XVI <input type="checkbox"/> 865 RSI (405(g)) FEDERAL TAX SUITS <input type="checkbox"/> 870 Taxes (U.S. Plaintiff or Defendant) <input type="checkbox"/> 871 IRS—Third Party 26 USC 7609	<input type="checkbox"/> 375 False Claims Act <input type="checkbox"/> 400 State Reapportionment <input type="checkbox"/> 410 Antitrust <input type="checkbox"/> 430 Banks and Banking <input type="checkbox"/> 450 Commerce <input type="checkbox"/> 460 Deportation <input type="checkbox"/> 470 Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations <input type="checkbox"/> 480 Consumer Credit <input type="checkbox"/> 490 Cable/Sat TV <input type="checkbox"/> 850 Securities/Commodities/Exchange <input type="checkbox"/> 890 Other Statutory Actions <input type="checkbox"/> 891 Agricultural Acts <input type="checkbox"/> 893 Environmental Matters <input type="checkbox"/> 895 Freedom of Information Act <input type="checkbox"/> 896 Arbitration <input type="checkbox"/> 899 Administrative Procedure Act/Review or Appeal of Agency Decision <input type="checkbox"/> 950 Constitutionality of State Statutes
REAL PROPERTY	CIVIL RIGHTS	PRISONER PETITIONS			
<input type="checkbox"/> 210 Land Condemnation <input type="checkbox"/> 220 Foreclosure <input type="checkbox"/> 230 Rent Lease & Ejectment <input type="checkbox"/> 240 Torts to Land <input type="checkbox"/> 245 Tort Product Liability <input type="checkbox"/> 290 All Other Real Property	<input type="checkbox"/> 440 Other Civil Rights <input type="checkbox"/> 441 Voting <input type="checkbox"/> 442 Employment <input type="checkbox"/> 443 Housing/Accommodations <input type="checkbox"/> 445 Amer. w/Disabilities - Employment <input type="checkbox"/> 446 Amer. w/Disabilities - Other <input type="checkbox"/> 448 Education	Habeas Corpus: <input type="checkbox"/> 463 Alien Detainee <input type="checkbox"/> 510 Motions to Vacate Sentence <input type="checkbox"/> 530 General <input type="checkbox"/> 535 Death Penalty Other: <input type="checkbox"/> 540 Mandamus & Other <input type="checkbox"/> 550 Civil Rights <input type="checkbox"/> 555 Prison Condition <input type="checkbox"/> 560 Civil Detainee - Conditions of Confinement			

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

VI. CAUSE OF ACTION

Cite the U.S. Civil Statute under which you are filing (Do not cite jurisdictional statutes unless diversity):
28 U.S.C. § 1332(d)
Brief description of cause:
Negligence

VII. REQUESTED IN COMPLAINT:

CHECK IF THIS IS A CLASS ACTION UNDER RULE 23, F.R.Cv.P.

DEMAND \$ _____

CHECK YES only if demanded in complaint:
JURY DEMAND: Yes No

VIII. RELATED CASE(S) IF ANY

(See instructions):

JUDGE _____

DOCKET NUMBER _____

DATE
08/18/2014

SIGNATURE OF ATTORNEY OF RECORD

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

RECEIPT # 3023737 AMOUNT \$ 400.00

APPLYING IFP _____

JUDGE TJM

MAG. JUDGE DEP

INSTRUCTIONS FOR ATTORNEYS COMPLETING CIVIL COVER SHEET FORM JS 44

Authority For Civil Cover Sheet

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

- I.(a) Plaintiffs-Defendants.** Enter names (last, first, middle initial) of plaintiff and defendant. If the plaintiff or defendant is a government agency, use only the full name or standard abbreviations. If the plaintiff or defendant is an official within a government agency, identify first the agency and then the official, giving both name and title.
- (b) County of Residence.** For each civil case filed, except U.S. plaintiff cases, enter the name of the county where the first listed plaintiff resides at the time of filing. In U.S. plaintiff cases, enter the name of the county in which the first listed defendant resides at the time of filing. (NOTE: In land condemnation cases, the county of residence of the "defendant" is the location of the tract of land involved.)
- (c) Attorneys.** Enter the firm name, address, telephone number, and attorney of record. If there are several attorneys, list them on an attachment, noting in this section "(see attachment)".
- II. Jurisdiction.** The basis of jurisdiction is set forth under Rule 8(a), F.R.Cv.P., which requires that jurisdictions be shown in pleadings. Place an "X" in one of the boxes. If there is more than one basis of jurisdiction, precedence is given in the order shown below.
 United States plaintiff. (1) Jurisdiction based on 28 U.S.C. 1345 and 1348. Suits by agencies and officers of the United States are included here. United States defendant. (2) When the plaintiff is suing the United States, its officers or agencies, place an "X" in this box.
 Federal question. (3) This refers to suits under 28 U.S.C. 1331, where jurisdiction arises under the Constitution of the United States, an amendment to the Constitution, an act of Congress or a treaty of the United States. In cases where the U.S. is a party, the U.S. plaintiff or defendant code takes precedence, and box 1 or 2 should be marked.
 Diversity of citizenship. (4) This refers to suits under 28 U.S.C. 1332, where parties are citizens of different states. When Box 4 is checked, the citizenship of the different parties must be checked. (See Section III below; NOTE: federal question actions take precedence over diversity cases.)
- III. Residence (citizenship) of Principal Parties.** This section of the JS 44 is to be completed if diversity of citizenship was indicated above. Mark this section for each principal party.
- IV. Nature of Suit.** Place an "X" in the appropriate box. If the nature of suit cannot be determined, be sure the cause of action, in Section VI below, is sufficient to enable the deputy clerk or the statistical clerk(s) in the Administrative Office to determine the nature of suit. If the cause fits more than one nature of suit, select the most definitive.
- V. Origin.** Place an "X" in one of the six boxes.
 Original Proceedings. (1) Cases which originate in the United States district courts.
 Removed from State Court. (2) Proceedings initiated in state courts may be removed to the district courts under Title 28 U.S.C., Section 1441. When the petition for removal is granted, check this box.
 Remanded from Appellate Court. (3) Check this box for cases remanded to the district court for further action. Use the date of remand as the filing date.
 Reinstated or Reopened. (4) Check this box for cases reinstated or reopened in the district court. Use the reopening date as the filing date.
 Transferred from Another District. (5) For cases transferred under Title 28 U.S.C. Section 1404(a). Do not use this for within district transfers or multidistrict litigation transfers.
 Multidistrict Litigation. (6) Check this box when a multidistrict case is transferred into the district under authority of Title 28 U.S.C. Section 1407. When this box is checked, do not check (5) above.
- VI. Cause of Action.** Report the civil statute directly related to the cause of action and give a brief description of the cause. **Do not cite jurisdictional statutes unless diversity.** Example: U.S. Civil Statute: 47 USC 553 Brief Description: Unauthorized reception of cable service
- VII. Requested in Complaint.** Class Action. Place an "X" in this box if you are filing a class action under Rule 23, F.R.Cv.P.
 Demand. In this space enter the actual dollar amount being demanded or indicate other demand, such as a preliminary injunction.
 Jury Demand. Check the appropriate box to indicate whether or not a jury is being demanded.
- VIII. Related Cases.** This section of the JS 44 is used to reference related pending cases, if any. If there are related pending cases, insert the docket numbers and the corresponding judge names for such cases.

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