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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT DISTRICT OF NEW JERSEY TRENTON DIVISION

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MARIA PUENTE AND CARLOS PUENTE,

Plaintiffs,

CASE NUMBER:

JANSSEN PHARMACEUTICALS, INC., JOHNSON & JOHNSON CO., AND MITSUBISHI TANABE PHARMA CORP. COMPLAINT AND JURY DEMAND

Defendants.

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Plaintiffs, by their attorneys, **DOUGLAS & LONDON**, P.C., upon information and belief, at all times hereinafter mentioned, allege as follows:

## **BACKGROUND**

1. This is an action for damages suffered by Plaintiff as a direct and proximate result of Defendants' negligent and wrongful conduct in connection with the design, development, manufacture, testing, packaging, promoting, marketing, distribution, labeling, and/or sale of INVOKANA (at times referred to herein as "the subject product") for the treatment of diabetes.

2. Defendants Mitsubishi Tanabe Pharma Corp. ("TANABE"), Johnson & Johnson, Co ("JOHNSON & JOHNSON"), and Janssen Pharmaceuticals ("JANSSEN"), concealed, and continue to conceal, their knowledge of INVOKANA's unreasonably dangerous risks from Plaintiff, other consumers, and the medical community.

3. As a result of the defective nature of INVOKANA, persons who were prescribed and ingested INVOKANA, including Plaintiff, have suffered and may continue to suffer severe and

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permanent personal injuries, including diabetic ketoacidosis, stroke, heart attack, and severe kidney damage.

4. After beginning treatment with INVOKANA, and as a direct and proximate result of Defendants' actions and inaction, Plaintiff developed diabetic ketoacidosis. Plaintiff's ingestion of the defective and unreasonably dangerous drug INVOKANA has caused and will continue to cause injury and damage to Plaintiff.

5. Plaintiff brings this action for personal injuries suffered as a proximate result of being prescribed and ingesting INVOKANA. Plaintiff accordingly seeks compensatory and punitive damages, monetary restitution, and all other available remedies as a result of injuries caused by INVOKANA.

#### PARTIES

6. Plaintiff MARIA PUENTE is a citizen and resident of the State of Texas.

7. Plaintiff CARLOS PUENTE is a citizen and resident of the State of Texas.

8. At all relevant times, Plaintiffs MARIA PUENTE and CARLOS PUENTE were and still are husband and wife.

9. Plaintiff MARIA PUENTE began taking INVOKANA on or about October 2013 and continued to use INVOKANA until November 2013.

10. JOHNSON & JOHNSON is a New Jersey corporation with its principal place of business at One Johnson & Johnson Plaza, New Brunswick, New Jersey. JOHNSON & JOHNSON is engaged in the business of researching, developing, designing, licensing, manufacturing, distributing, supplying, selling marketing, and introducing into interstate commerce, either directly or indirectly through third parties or related entities, its products, including the prescription drug INVOKANA.

11. Defendant JANSSEN is a Pennsylvania corporation with its principal place of

business at 1125 Trenton Harbourton Road, Titusville, New Jersey, and is a wholly owned subsidiary of Defendant JOHNSON & JOHNSON. JANSSEN is registered to do business in Illinois, and has designated a registered agent in Illinois. JANSSEN is engaged in the business of researching, developing, designing, licensing, manufacturing, distributing, supplying, selling marketing, and introducing into interstate commerce, either directly or indirectly through third parties or related entities, its products, including the prescription drug INVOKANA.

12. Defendant TANABE is a Japanese corporation with its principal place of business at 3-2-10, Dosho-machi, Chuo-ku, Osaka 541-8505, Japan. TANABE is engaged in the business of researching, developing, designing, licensing, manufacturing, distributing, supplying, selling, marketing, and introducing into interstate commerce, either directly or indirectly through third parties or related entities, its products, including the prescription drug INVOKANA.

## **JURISDICTION**

13. This Court has jurisdiction over Defendants and this action pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1332 because there is complete diversity of citizenship between Plaintiffs and Defendants and because the amount in controversy between Plaintiffs and Defendants exceeds \$75,000, exclusive of interest and cost, and because, among other reasons, Defendants have significant contacts with this district by virtue of doing business within this judicial district.

## FACTUAL BACKGROUND

14. Defendant TANABE, in collaboration with Defendant JOHNSON & JOHNSON, designed and developed the diabetes drug, INVOKANA.

15. Defendant JANSSEN, a wholly owned subsidiary of JOHNSON & JOHNSON, acquired the marketing rights to INVOKANA in North America, and marketed, advertised, distributed, and sold INVOKANA in the United States, including in the State of Texas.

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16. INVOKANA is one of Defendants' top selling drugs, with sales of \$278 million in just the first quarter of 2015.

17. In March 2013, the United States Food and Drug Administration ("FDA") approved Defendants' compound INVOKANA (*canagliflozin*) for the treatment of type 2 diabetes.

18. *Canagliflozin* is a member of the *gliflozin* class of pharmaceuticals, also known as sodium-glucose cotransporter 2 ("SGLT2") inhibitors, and is marketed in the United States by Defendants under the name INVOKANA.

19. SGLT2 inhibitors, including INVOKANA, primarily are used for treating type 2 diabetes. INVOKANA was the first SGLT2 inhibitor approved for use by the FDA.

20. SGLT2 inhibitors, including INVOKANA, are designed to inhibit renal glucose reabsorption with the goal of lowering blood glucose. As a result, excess glucose is not metabolized, but instead is excreted through the kidneys of a population of consumers already at risk for kidney disease.

21. Though INVOKANA is indicated for only improved glycemic control in type 2 adult diabetics, Defendants have marketed and continue to market INVOKANA for off label purposes, including but not limited to weight loss, reduced blood pressure, and improved glycemic control in type 1 diabetics.

22. Since INVOKANA's release, the FDA has received a significant number of reports of severe kidney damage among users of INVOKANA.

23. An analysis of the FDA adverse event database shows that patients taking INVOKANA are several times more likely to report severe kidney damage than those taking non-SGLT2 diabetes drugs to treat diabetes.

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24. Despite Defendants' knowledge of the increased risk of severe injury among INVOKANA users, Defendants did not warn patients but instead continued to defend INVOKANA, mislead physicians and the public, and minimize unfavorable findings.

25. Consumers, including Plaintiff, who have used INVOKANA for treatment of diabetes, have several alternative safer products available to treat the conditions.

26. Defendants knew of the significant risk of kidney damage caused by ingestion of INVOKANA. However, Defendants did not adequately and sufficiently warn consumers, including Plaintiff, or the medical community of the severity such risks.

27. To the contrary, Defendants conducted nationwide sales and marketing campaigns to promote the sale of INVOKANA and willfully deceived Plaintiff, her health care professionals, the medical community, and the general public as to the health risks and consequences of the use of the INVOKANA.

28. As a direct result, in or about October 2013, Plaintiff was prescribed and began taking INVOKANA, primarily to treat diabetes.

29. Plaintiff ingested and used INVOKANA as prescribed and in a foreseeable manner.

30. The INVOKANA used by Plaintiff was provided to her in a condition substantially the same as the condition in which it was manufactured and sold.

31. Plaintiff agreed to initiate treatment with INVOKANA in an effort to reduce her blood sugar. In doing so, Plaintiff relied on claims made by Defendants that INVOKANA was safe and effective for the treatment of diabetes.

32. Instead, INVOKANA can cause severe injuries, including severe kidney damage.

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33. After beginning treatment INVOKANA, and as a direct and proximate result thereof, Plaintiff suffered diabetic ketoacidosis and severe kidney damage.

34. Defendants knew or should have known the risks associated with the use of INVOKANA, including the risk of developing severe kidney damage.

35. The development of Plaintiff's injuries was preventable and resulted directly from Defendants' failure and refusal to conduct proper safety studies, failure to properly assess and publicize alarming safety signals, suppression of information revealing serious and life-threatening risks, willful and wanton failure to provide adequate instructions, and willful misrepresentations concerning the nature and safety of INVOKANA. This conduct, as well as the product defects complained of herein, were substantial factors in bringing about and exacerbating Plaintiff's injuries.

36. Plaintiff's injuries were a reasonably foreseeable consequence of Defendants' conduct and INVOKANA's defects.

37. At all times material hereto, Defendants, by and through their agents, servants and employees, negligently, recklessly and carelessly marketed, distributed and sold INVOKANA without adequate instructions or warning of its serious side effects and unreasonably dangerous risks.

38. Plaintiff would not have used INVOKANA had Defendants properly disclosed the risks associated with the drug. Thus, had Defendants properly disclosed the risks associated with INVOKANA, Plaintiff would have avoided the risk of developing the injuries complained of herein by not ingesting INVOKANA.

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39. Defendants, through their affirmative misrepresentations and omissions, actively concealed from Plaintiff and her physicians the true and significant risks associated with taking INVOKANA.

40. As a result of Defendants' actions, Plaintiff and her prescribing physicians were unaware, and could not reasonably have known or learned through reasonable diligence, that Plaintiff had been exposed to the risks identified herein, and that those risks were the direct and proximate result of Defendants' acts, omissions, and misrepresentations.

41. As a direct and proximate result of Defendants' negligence, wrongful conduct, and the unreasonably dangerous and defective characteristics of INVOKANA, Plaintiff suffered severe and permanent physical and emotional injuries. Plaintiff has endured pain and suffering, emotional distress, loss of enjoyment of life, and economic loss, including significant expenses for medical care and treatment which will continue in the future. Plaintiff seeks actual, compensatory, and punitive damages from Defendants.

42. Plaintiff has suffered from mental anguish from the knowledge that he may suffer life-long complications as a result of the injuries caused by INVOKANA.

#### COUNT I

#### PRODUCT LIABILITY – DESIGN DEFECT (N.J.S.A. 2A:58C-1 et seq)

43. Plaintiff restates the allegations set forth above as if fully rewritten herein.

44. Defendants designed, developed, researched, tested, licensed, manufactured, packaged, labeled, promoted, marketed, sold, and/or distributed INVOKANA, including the INVOKANA used by Plaintiff, which was in a defective and unreasonably dangerous condition.

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45. Defendants expected INVOKANA to reach, and it did in fact reach, Plaintiff without substantial change in the condition in which it was manufactured and sold by the Defendants.

46. At all times relevant hereto, Defendants' INVOKANA was manufactured, designed, and labeled in an unsafe, defective, and inherently dangerous condition and was dangerous for use by the public and in particular by Plaintiff.

47. At all times relevant to this action, INVOKANA, as designed, developed, researched, tested, licensed, manufactured, packaged, labeled, promoted, marketed, sold, and/or distributed by the Defendants, was defective in design and formulation in one or more of the following particulars:

a. When placed in the stream of commerce, INVOKANA contained unreasonably dangerous design defects and was not reasonably safe as intended to be used, subjecting Plaintiff to risks that exceeded the benefits of the drug;

b. When placed in the stream of commerce, INVOKANA was defective in design and formulation, making use of the drug more dangerous than an ordinary consumer would expect and more dangerous than other risks associated with the treatment of diabetes;

c. INVOKANA was insufficiently tested;

d. INVOKANA caused harmful side effects that outweighed any potential utility;

e. Defendants were aware at the time INVOKANA was marketed that ingestion of INVOKANA would result in an increased risk of severe kidney damage, and other injuries;

f. Inadequate post-marketing surveillance; and/or

g. There were safer alternative designs and formulations that were not utilized.

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48. INVOKANA was defective, failed to perform safely, and was unreasonably dangerous when used by ordinary consumers, including Plaintiff, as intended and in a reasonably foreseeable manner.

49. INVOKANA, as designed, developed, researched, tested, licensed, manufactured, packaged, labeled, promoted, marketed, sold, and/or distributed by Defendants, was defective in its design or formulation, in that it was unreasonably dangerous and its foreseeable risks exceeded the alleged benefits associated with INVOKANA's design or formulation.

50. INVOKANA, as designed, developed, researched, tested, licensed, manufactured, packaged, labeled, promoted, marketed, sold, and/or distributed by Defendants, was defective in design or formulation in that it posed a greater likelihood of injury than other diabetes drugs and was more dangerous than an ordinary consumer could reasonably foresee or anticipate.

51. At all times relevant to this action, Defendants knew or had reason to know that INVOKANA was in a defective condition and was inherently dangerous and unsafe when used in the manner instructed, provided, and/or promoted by Defendants.

52. Defendants had a duty to properly test, develop, design, manufacture, inspect, package, label, market, promote, sell, distribute, maintain supply, provide proper warnings, and otherwise ensure that INVOKANA was not unreasonably dangerous for its normal, common, intended use, or for use in a form and manner instructed and provided by Defendants.

53. When Defendants placed INVOKANA into the stream of commerce, they knew it would be prescribed to treat diabetes, and they marketed and promoted INVOKANA as safe for treating diabetes.

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54. Plaintiff was prescribed, purchased, and used INVOKANA. Plaintiff used INVOKANA for its intended purpose and in the manner recommended, promoted, marketed, and reasonably anticipated by Defendants

55. Neither Plaintiff nor her health care professionals, by the exercise of reasonable care, could have discovered the defects and risks associated with INVOKANA before Plaintiff's ingestion of INVOKANA.

56. The harm caused by INVOKANA far outweighed its benefit, rendering INVOKANA more dangerous than an ordinary consumer or health care professional would expect and more dangerous than alternative products. Defendants could have designed INVOKANA to make it less dangerous. When Defendants designed INVOKANA, the state of the industry's scientific knowledge was such that a less risky design was attainable.

57. At the time INVOKANA left Defendants' control, there was a practical, technically feasible and safer alternative design that would have prevented the harm Plaintiff suffered without substantially impairing the reasonably anticipated or intended function of INVOKANA. This was demonstrated by the existence of other diabetes medications that had a more established safety profile and a considerably lower risk profile.

58. Defendants' defective design of INVOKANA was willful, wanton, fraudulent, malicious, and done with reckless disregard for the health and safety of users of INVOKANA. Defendants' conduct was motivated by greed and the intentional decision to value profits over the safety and well-being of the consumers of INVOKANA.

59. The defects in INVOKANA were substantial and contributing factors in causing Plaintiff's injuries. But for Defendants' acts and omissions, Plaintiff would not have suffered the injuries complained of herein.

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60. Due to the unreasonably dangerous condition of INVOKANA, Defendants are liable to Plaintiff.

61. Defendants' conduct, as described above, was reckless. Defendants risked the lives of consumers and users of INVOKANA, including Plaintiff, with knowledge of the safety problems associated with INVOKANA, and suppressed this knowledge from the general public. Defendants made conscious decisions not to redesign, adequately warn, or inform the unsuspecting public. Defendants' reckless conduct warrants an award of punitive damages.

62. As a foreseeable, direct, and proximate consequence of Defendants' actions, omissions, and misrepresentations, Plaintiff suffered severe kidney damage, diabetic ketoacidosis, and other related health complications. In addition, Plaintiff requires and will continue to require healthcare and services. Plaintiff has incurred and will continue to incur medical and related expenses. Plaintiff also has suffered and will continue to suffer diminished capacity for the enjoyment of life, a diminished quality of life, increased risk of premature death, aggravation of preexisting conditions, activation of latent conditions, and other losses and damages. Plaintiff's direct medical losses and costs include physician care, monitoring, and treatment. Plaintiff has incurred and will continue to incur mental and physical pain and suffering.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff respectfully requests that this Court enter judgment in Plaintiff's favor for compensatory and punitive damages, together with interest, costs herein incurred, attorneys' fees, and all such other and further relief as this Court deems just and proper. Plaintiff also demands that the issues contained herein be tried by a jury.

## <u>COUNT II</u> PRODUCTS LIABILITY – FAILURE TO WARN (<u>N.J.S.A. 2A:58C-1 et seq.</u>))

63. Plaintiff restates the allegations set forth above as if fully rewritten herein.

64. Defendants have engaged in the business of designing, developing, researching, testing, licensing, manufacturing, packaging, labeling, promoting, marketing, selling, and/or distributing INVOKANA. Through that conduct, Defendants knowingly and intentionally placed INVOKANA into the stream of commerce with full knowledge that it reaches consumers, such as Plaintiff, who ingested it.

65. Defendants researched, developed, designed, tested, manufactured, inspected, labeled, distributed, marketed, promoted, sold, and otherwise released INVOKANA into the stream of commerce. In the course of same, Defendants directly advertised, marketed, and promoted INVOKANA to the FDA, health care professionals, Plaintiff, and other consumers, and therefore had a duty to warn of the risks associated with the use of INVOKANA.

66.

#### Defendants

expected INVOKANA to reach, and it did in fact reach, prescribing health care professionals and consumers, including Plaintiff and her prescribing health care professionals, without any substantial change in the condition of the product from when it was initially distributed by Defendants.

67. INVOKANA, as manufactured and/or supplied by Defendants, was defective due to inadequate warnings or instructions. Defendants knew or should have known that the product created significant risks of serious bodily harm to consumers, as alleged herein, and they failed to adequately warn consumers and/or their health care professionals of such risks.

68. INVOKANA was defective and unsafe such that it was unreasonably dangerous when it left Defendants' possession and/or control, was distributed by Defendants, and ingested

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by Plaintiff. INVOKANA contained warnings insufficient to alert consumers, including Plaintiff, to the dangerous risks and reactions associated with INVOKANA, including the development of Plaintiff's injuries.

69. This defect caused serious injury to Plaintiff, who used INVOKANA for its intended purpose and in a reasonably anticipated manner.

70. At all times herein mentioned, Defendants had a duty to properly test, develop, design, manufacture, inspect, package, label, market, promote, sell, distribute, supply, warn, and take such other steps as are necessary to ensure INVOKANA did not cause users to suffer from unreasonable and dangerous risks.

71. Defendants negligently and recklessly labeled, distributed, and promoted INVOKANA.

72. Defendants had a continuing duty to warn Plaintiff of the dangers associated with INVOKANA.

73. Defendants, as manufacturers, sellers, or distributors of prescription drugs, are held to the knowledge of an expert in the field.

74. Plaintiff could not have discovered any defects in INVOKANA through the exercise of reasonable care and relied upon the skill, superior knowledge, and judgment of Defendants.

75. Defendants were aware of the probable consequences of the aforesaid conduct. Despite the facts that Defendants knew or should have known that INVOKANA caused serious injuries, they failed to exercise reasonable care to warn of the severity of the dangerous risks associated with its use. The dangerous propensities of INVOKANA, as referenced above, were known to the Defendants, or scientifically knowable to them, through appropriate research and

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testing by known methods, at the time they distributed, supplied, or sold the product. Such information was not known to ordinary physicians who would be expected to prescribe the drug for their patients.

76. INVOKANA, as manufactured and/or supplied by Defendants, was unreasonably dangerous when used by consumers, including Plaintiff, in a reasonably and intended manner without knowledge of this risk of serious bodily harm.

77. Each of the Defendants knew or should have known that the limited warnings disseminated with INVOKANA were inadequate, but they failed to communicate adequate information on the dangers and safe use of its product, taking into account the characteristics of and the ordinary knowledge common to physicians who would be expected to prescribe the drug. In particular, Defendants failed to communicate warnings and instructions to doctors that were appropriate and adequate to render the product safe for its ordinary, intended, and reasonably foreseeable uses, including the common, foreseeable, and intended use of the product for treatment of diabetes.

78. Defendants communicated to health care professionals information that failed to contain relevant warnings, hazards, contraindications, efficacy, side effects, and precautions, that would enable health care professionals to prescribe the drug safely for use by patients for the purposes for which it is intended. In particular, Defendants:

a. disseminated information that was inaccurate, false, and misleading, and which failed to communicate accurately or adequately the comparative severity, duration, and extent of the risk of injuries with use of INVOKANA;

b. continued to aggressively promote INVOKANA even after Defendants knew or should have known of the unreasonable risks from use;

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c. failed to accompany their product with proper or adequate warnings or labeling regarding adverse side effects and health risks associated with the use of INVOKANA and the comparative severity of such adverse effects;

d. failed to provide warnings, instructions or other information that accurately reflected the symptoms, scope, and severity of the side effects and health risks, including but not limited to those associated with the severity of INVOKANA's effect on renal function;

e. failed to adequately warn users, consumers, and physicians about the need to monitor renal function in patients that do not already suffer from renal impairment; and

f. overwhelmed, downplayed, or otherwise suppressed, through aggressive marketing and promotion, the risks associated with the use of INVOKANA.

79. To this day, Defendants have failed to adequately and accurately warn of the true risks of injuries associated with the use of INVOKANA.

80. Due to these deficiencies and inadequacies, INVOKANA was unreasonably dangerous and defective as manufactured, distributed, promoted, advertised, sold, labeled, and marketed by the Defendants.

81. Had Defendants properly disclosed and disseminated the risks associated with INVOKANA, Plaintiff would have avoided the risk of developing injuries as alleged herein.

82. The Defendants are liable to Plaintiff for injuries caused by their negligent or willful failure to provide adequate warnings or other clinically relevant information and data regarding the appropriate use of INVOKANA and the risks associated with its use.

83. As a foreseeable, direct, and proximate consequence of Defendants' actions, omissions, and misrepresentations, Plaintiff suffered severe kidney damage, diabetic ketoacidosis, and other related health complications. In addition, Plaintiff requires and will

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continue to require healthcare and services. Plaintiff has incurred and will continue to incur medical and related expenses. Plaintiff also has suffered and will continue to suffer diminished capacity for the enjoyment of life, a diminished quality of life, increased risk of premature death, aggravation of preexisting conditions, activation of latent conditions, and other losses and damages. Plaintiff's direct medical losses and costs include physician care, monitoring, and treatment. Plaintiff has incurred and will continue to incur mental and physical pain and suffering.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff respectfully requests that this Court enter judgment in Plaintiff's favor for compensatory and punitive damages, together with interest, costs herein incurred, attorneys' fees, and all such other and further relief as this Court deems just and proper. Plaintiff also demands that the issues contained herein be tried by a jury.

#### COUNT III

#### PRODUCT LIABILITY – MANUFACTURING DEFECT (N.J.S.A. 2A:58C-1 et seq.)

83. Plaintiff repeats and incorporates by reference all other paragraphs of this Complaint as if set forth in full in this cause of action.

84. At all times material to this action, Defendants were engaged in the business of designing, developing, manufacturing, testing, packaging, promoting, marketing, distributing, labeling, and/or selling INVOKANA.

85. At all times material to this action, INVOKANA was expected to reach, and did reach, consumers in the State of Texas and throughout the United States, including Plaintiff herein without substantial change in the condition in which it was sold.

86. At all times material to this action, INVOKANA was designed, developed, manufactured, tested, packaged, promoted, marketed, distributed, labeled, and/or sold by Defendants in a defective and unreasonably dangerous condition at the time it was placed in the

stream of commerce in ways which include, but are not limited to, one or more of the following particulars:

- a. When placed in the stream of commerce, INVOKANA contained manufacturing defects which rendered the product unreasonably dangerous;
- b. The subject product's manufacturing defects occurred while the product was in the possession and control of Defendants;
- c. The subject product was not made in accordance with Defendants' specifications or performance standards;
- d. The subject product's manufacturing defects existed before it left the control of Defendants;

70. As a direct and proximate result of the design defect and Defendants' misconduct set forth herein, Plaintiff has suffered and will continue to suffer serious and permanent physical and emotional injuries, has expended and will continue to expend large sums of money for medical care and treatment, has suffered and will continue to suffer economic loss, and have otherwise been physically, emotionally and economically injured.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff respectfully requests that this Court enter judgment in Plaintiff's favor for compensatory and punitive damages, together with interest, costs herein incurred, attorneys' fees, and all such other and further relief as this Court deems just and proper. Plaintiff also demands that the issues contained herein be tried by a jury.

# COUNT IV BREACH OF EXPRESS WARRANTY

71. Plaintiff restates the allegations set forth above as if fully rewritten herein.

72. At all times material hereto, Defendants engaged in the business of testing, developing, designing, manufacturing, packaging, labeling, marketing, promoting, selling, and/or

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distributing INVOKANA, which is unreasonably dangerous and defective, thereby placing INVOKANA into the stream of commerce.

73. Defendants expressly represented to Plaintiff, other consumers, Plaintiff's physicians, and the medical community, by and through statements made and written materials disseminated by Defendants or their authorized agents or sales representatives, that INVOKANA:

a. was safe and fit for its intended purposes;

b. was of merchantable quality;

c. did not produce any dangerous side effects, and

d. had been adequately tested and found to be safe and effective for the treatment of diabetes.

74. These express representations include incomplete prescribing information that purports, but fails, to include the true risks associated with use of INVOKANA. In fact, Defendants knew or should have known that the risks identified in INVOKANA's prescribing information and package inserts do not accurately or adequately set forth the drug's true risks. Despite this, Defendants expressly warranted INVOKANA as safe and effective for use.

75. Defendants advertised, labeled, marketed, and promoted INVOKANA, representing the quality to health care professionals, Plaintiff, and the public in such a way as to induce INVOKANA's purchase or use, thereby making an express warranty that INVOKANA would conform to the representations. More specifically, the prescribing information for INVOKANA did not and does not contain adequate information about the true risks of developing the injuries complained of herein.

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76. Despite this, Defendants expressly represented that INVOKANA was safe and effective, that it was safe and effective for use by individuals such as Plaintiff, and/or that it was safe and effective to treat diabetes. Portions of the prescribing information relied upon by Plaintiff and her health care professionals, including the "Warnings and Precautions" section, purport to expressly include the risks associated with the use of INVOKANA, but those risks are neither accurately nor adequately set forth.

77. The representations about INVOKANA contained or constituted affirmations of fact or promises made by the seller to the buyer which related to the goods and became part of the basis of the bargain creating an express warranty that the goods shall conform to the affirmations of fact or promises.

78. INVOKANA does not conform to Defendants' express representations because it is not safe, has numerous and serious side effects, and causes severe and permanent injuries. Therefore, Defendants breached the aforementioned warranties.

79. At all relevant times, INVOKANA did not perform as safely as an ordinary consumer would expect when used as intended or in a reasonably foreseeable manner.

80. Neither Plaintiff nor her prescribing health care professionals had knowledge of the falsity or incompleteness of the Defendants' statements and representations concerning INVOKANA.

81. Plaintiff, other consumers, Plaintiff's physicians, and the medical community justifiably and detrimentally relied upon Defendants' express warranties when prescribing and ingesting INVOKANA.

82. Had the prescribing information for INVOKANA accurately and adequately set forth the true risks associated with the use of such product, including Plaintiff's injuries, rather

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than expressly excluding such information and warranting that the product was safe for its intended use, Plaintiff could have avoided the injuries complained of herein.

83. As a foreseeable, direct, and proximate consequence of Defendants' actions, omissions, and misrepresentations, Plaintiff suffered severe kidney damage, diabetic ketoacidosis, and other related health complications. In addition, Plaintiff requires and will continue to require healthcare and services. Plaintiff has incurred and will continue to incur medical and related expenses. Plaintiff also has suffered and will continue to suffer diminished capacity for the enjoyment of life, a diminished quality of life, increased risk of premature death, aggravation of preexisting conditions, activation of latent conditions, and other losses and damages. Plaintiff's direct medical losses and costs include physician care, monitoring, and treatment. Plaintiff has incurred and will continue to incur mental and physical pain and suffering.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff respectfully requests that this Court enter judgment in Plaintiff's favor for compensatory and punitive damages, together with interest, costs herein incurred, attorneys' fees, and all such other and further relief as this Court deems just and proper. Plaintiff also demands that the issues contained herein be tried by a jury.

## COUNT VI BREACH OF IMPLIED WARRANTY

84. Plaintiff restates the allegations set forth above as if fully rewritten herein.

85. Defendants manufactured, distributed, advertised, promoted, and sold INVOKANA.

86. At all relevant times, Defendants knew of the use for which INVOKANA was intended, and impliedly warranted the product to be of merchantable quality and safe and fit for such use.

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87. Defendants were aware that consumers, including Plaintiff, would use INVOKANA for treatment of type 2 diabetes and for other purposes, including but not limited to weight loss, reduced blood pressure, and improved glycemic control in type 1 diabetics.

88. INVOKANA was neither safe for its intended use nor of merchantable quality, as impliedly warranted by Defendants, in that INVOKANA has dangerous propensities when used as intended and can cause serious injuries, including stroke, heart attack, ketoacidosis, and severe kidney damage.

89. At all relevant times, Defendants intended that INVOKANA be used in the manner used by Plaintiff, and Defendants impliedly warranted it to be of merchantable quality, safe, and fit for such use, despite the fact that INVOKANA was not adequately tested.

90. Defendants were aware that consumers, including Plaintiff, would use INVOKANA as marketed by Defendants. As such, Plaintiff was a foreseeable user of INVOKANA.

91. Upon information and belief, Plaintiff and/or her health care professionals were at all relevant times in privity with Defendants.

92. INVOKANA was dangerous and defective when Defendants placed it into the stream of commerce because of its propensity to cause Plaintiff's injuries.

93. Plaintiff and the medical community reasonably relied upon the judgment and sensibility of Defendants to sell INVOKANA only if it was indeed of merchantable quality and safe and fit for its intended use.

94. Defendants breached their implied warranty to consumers, including Plaintiff. INVOKANA was not of merchantable quality, nor was it safe and fit for its intended use.

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95. Plaintiff and her physicians reasonably relied upon Defendants' implied warranty for INVOKANA when prescribing and ingesting INVOKANA.

96. Plaintiff's use of INVOKANA was as prescribed and in a foreseeable manner as intended, recommended, promoted, and marketed by Defendants.

97. INVOKANA was expected to reach and did in fact reach consumers, including Plaintiff, without substantial change in the condition in which it was manufactured and sold by Defendants.

98. Defendants breached the warranties of merchantability and fitness for its particular purpose because INVOKANA was unduly dangerous and caused undue injuries, including Plaintiff's injuries.

99. The harm caused by INVOKANA far outweighed its alleged benefit, rendering INVOKANA more dangerous than an ordinary consumer or health care professional would expect and more dangerous than alternative products.

100. Neither Plaintiff nor her health care professionals reasonably could have discovered or known of the risk of serious injury and death associated with INVOKANA.

101. Defendants' breach of these implied warranties caused Plaintiff's injuries.

102. As a foreseeable, direct, and proximate consequence of Defendants' actions, omissions, and misrepresentations, Plaintiff suffered severe kidney damage, diabetic ketoacidosis, and other related health complications. In addition, Plaintiff requires and will continue to require healthcare and services. Plaintiff has incurred and will continue to incur medical and related expenses. Plaintiff also has suffered and will continue to suffer diminished capacity for the enjoyment of life, a diminished quality of life, increased risk of premature death, aggravation of preexisting conditions, activation of latent conditions, and other losses and

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damages. Plaintiff's direct medical losses and costs include physician care, monitoring, and treatment. Plaintiff has incurred and will continue to incur mental and physical pain and suffering.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff respectfully requests that this Court enter judgment in Plaintiff's favor for compensatory and punitive damages, together with interest, costs herein incurred, attorneys' fees, and all such other and further relief as this Court deems just and proper. Plaintiff also demands that the issues contained herein be tried by a jury.

## COUNT VII FRAUDULENT MISREPRESENTATION

103. Plaintiff restates the allegations set forth above as if fully rewritten herein.

104. Defendants made fraudulent misrepresentations with respect to INVOKANA in the following particulars:

a. Defendants represented through their labeling, advertising, marketing materials, detail persons, seminar presentations, publications, notice letters, and regulatory submissions that INVOKANA had been tested and found to be safe and effective for the treatment of diabetes; and

b. Upon information and belief, Defendants represented that INVOKANA was safer than other alternative medications.

105. Defendants knew that their representations were false, yet they willfully, wantonly, and recklessly disregarded their obligation to provide truthful representations regarding the safety and risk of INVOKANA to Plaintiff, other consumers, Plaintiff's physicians, and the medical community.

106. The representations were made by the Defendants with the intent that doctors and patients, including Plaintiff and her physicians, rely upon them.

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107. Defendants' representations were made with the intent of defrauding and deceiving Plaintiff, other consumers, Plaintiff's physicians, and the medical community to induce and encourage the sale of INVOKANA.

108. Plaintiff, her doctors, and others relied upon these representations.

109. As a foreseeable, direct, and proximate consequence of Defendants' actions, omissions, and misrepresentations, Plaintiff suffered severe kidney damage, diabetic ketoacidosis, and other related health complications. In addition, Plaintiff requires and will continue to require healthcare and services. Plaintiff has incurred and will continue to incur medical and related expenses. Plaintiff also has suffered and will continue to suffer diminished capacity for the enjoyment of life, a diminished quality of life, increased risk of premature death, aggravation of preexisting conditions, activation of latent conditions, and other losses and damages. Plaintiff's direct medical losses and costs include physician care, monitoring, and treatment. Plaintiff has incurred and will continue to incur mental and physical pain and suffering.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff respectfully requests that this Court enter judgment in Plaintiff's favor for compensatory and punitive damages, together with interest, costs herein incurred, attorneys' fees, and all such other and further relief as this Court deems just and proper. Plaintiff also demands that the issues contained herein be tried by a jury.

## COUNT VIII NEGLIGENT MISREPRESENTATION

110. Plaintiff restates the allegations set forth above as if fully rewritten herein.

111. Defendants owed a duty in all of their undertakings, including the dissemination of information concerning INVOKANA, to exercise reasonable care to ensure they did not create unreasonable risks of personal injury to others.

112. Defendants disseminated to health care professionals and consumers — through published labels, marketing materials, and otherwise — information that misrepresented the properties and effects of INVOKANA with the intention that health care professionals and consumers would rely upon that information in their decisions concerning whether to prescribe or ingest INVOKANA.

113. Defendants, as the designers, manufacturers, sellers, promoters, and/or distributors of INVOKANA, knew or reasonably should have known that health care professionals and consumers of INVOKANA rely on information disseminated and marketed to them regarding the product when weighing the potential benefits and potential risks of prescribing or ingesting INVOKANA.

114. Defendants failed to exercise reasonable care to ensure that the information they disseminated to health care professionals and consumers concerning the properties and effects of INVOKANA were accurate, complete, and not misleading. As a result, Defendants disseminated information to health care professionals and consumers that was negligently and materially inaccurate, misleading, false, and unreasonably dangerous to consumers such as Plaintiff.

115. Defendants, as designers, manufacturers, sellers, promoters, and/or distributors of INVOKANA, knew or reasonably should have known that health care professionals would write prescriptions for INVOKANA in reliance on the information disseminated by Defendants, and that the patients receiving prescriptions for INVOKANA would be placed in peril of developing serious and potential life threatening injuries if the information disseminated by Defendants and relied upon was materially inaccurate, misleading, or otherwise false.

116. From the time INVOKANA was first tested, studied, researched, evaluated, endorsed, manufactured, marketed, and distributed, and up to the present, Defendants failed to

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disclose material facts regarding the safety of INVOKANA. Defendants made material misrepresentations to Plaintiff, her health care professionals, the healthcare community, and the general public, including:

a. stating that INVOKANA had been tested and found to be safe and effective for the treatment of diabetes;

b. concealing, misrepresenting, and actively downplaying the severe and lifethreatening risks of harm to users of INVOKANA, when compared to comparable or superior alternative drug therapies; and

c. misrepresenting INVOKANA's risk of unreasonable, dangerous, adverse side effects.

117. Defendants made the foregoing representations without any reasonable ground for believing them to be true.

118. These representations were made directly by Defendants, their sales representative, and other authorized agents, and in publications and other written materials directed to health care professionals, medical patients, and the public.

119. Defendants made these representations with the intent to induce reliance thereon, and to encourage the prescription, purchase, and use of INVOKANA.

120. Defendants had a duty to accurately and truthfully represent to medical professionals and consumers, including Plaintiff, the truth regarding Defendants' claims that INVOKANA had been tested and found to be safe and effective for treating diabetes.

121. The misrepresentations made by Defendants, in fact, were false and known by Defendants to be false at the time the misrepresentations were made.

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122. Defendants failed to exercise ordinary care in making their representations concerning INVOKANA and in the manufacture, sale, testing, quality assurance, quality control, and distribution in interstate commerce of INVOKANA.

123. Defendants engaged in a nationwide marketing campaign, over-promoting INVOKANA in written marketing literature, in written product packaging, and in direct-toconsumer advertising via written and internet advertisements and television commercial ads. Defendants' over-promotion was undertaken by touting the safety and efficacy of INVOKANA while concealing, misrepresenting, and actively downplaying the serious, severe, and life-threatening risks of harm to users of INVOKANA, when compared to comparable or superior alternative drug therapies. Defendants negligently misrepresented INVOKANA's risk of unreasonable and dangerous adverse side effects.

124. Defendants' conduct, as described above, was reckless. Defendants risked the lives of consumers and users of INVOKANA, including Plaintiff. Defendants had knowledge of the safety problems and suppressed this knowledge from the general public. Defendants made conscious decisions not to redesign, re-label, adequately warn, or inform the unsuspecting public. Defendants' reckless conduct warrants an award of punitive damages.

125. As a foreseeable, direct, and proximate consequence of Defendants' actions, omissions, and misrepresentations, Plaintiff suffered severe kidney damage, diabetic ketoacidosis, and other related health complications. In addition, Plaintiff requires and will continue to require healthcare and services. Plaintiff has incurred and will continue to incur medical and related expenses. Plaintiff also has suffered and will continue to suffer diminished capacity for the enjoyment of life, a diminished quality of life, increased risk of premature death, aggravation of preexisting conditions, activation of latent conditions, and other losses and

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damages. Plaintiff's direct medical losses and costs include physician care, monitoring, and treatment. Plaintiff has incurred and will continue to incur mental and physical pain and suffering.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff respectfully requests that this Court enter judgment in Plaintiff's favor for compensatory and punitive damages, together with interest, costs herein incurred, attorneys' fees, and all such other and further relief as this Court deems just and proper. Plaintiff also demands that the issues contained herein be tried by a jury.

## COUNT IX FRAUDULENT CONCEALMENT

126. Plaintiff restates the allegations set forth above as if fully rewritten herein.

127. Throughout the relevant time period, Defendants knew that INVOKANA was defective and unreasonably unsafe for its intended purpose, and intentionally and willfully failed to disclose and/or suppressed information regarding the true nature of the risks of use of INVOKANA.

128. Defendants fraudulently concealed information with respect to INVOKANA in the following particulars:

a. Defendants represented through their labeling, advertising, marketing materials, detail persons, seminar presentations, publications, notice letters, and regulatory submissions that INVOKANA was safe and fraudulently withheld and concealed information about the severity of the substantial risks of using INVOKANA; and

b. Upon information and belief, Defendants represented that INVOKANA was safer than other alternative medications and fraudulently concealed information which demonstrated that INVOKANA was not safer than alternatives available on the market.

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129. Defendants were under a duty to Plaintiff to disclose and warn of the defective and dangerous nature of INVOKANA because:

a. Defendants had sole access to material facts concerning, and unique and special expertise regarding, the dangers and unreasonable risks of INVOKANA;

b. Defendants knowingly made false claims and omitted important information about the safety and quality of INVOKANA in the documents and marketing materials Defendants provided to physicians and the general public; and

c. Defendants fraudulently and affirmatively concealed the defective and dangerous nature of INVOKANA from Plaintiff.

130. As the designers, manufacturers, sellers, promoters, and/or distributors of INVOKANA, Defendants had unique knowledge and special expertise regarding INVOKANA. This placed them in a position of superiority and influence over Plaintiff and her healthcare providers. As such, Plaintiff andher healthcare providers reasonably placed their trust and confidence in Defendants and in the information disseminated by Defendants.

131. The facts concealed or not disclosed by Defendants to Plaintiff were material facts that a reasonable person would have considered to be important in deciding whether or not to purchase or use INVOKANA.

132. The concealment and/or non-disclosure of information by Defendants about the severity of the risks caused by INVOKANA was intentional, and the representations made by Defendants were known by them to be false.

133. The concealment of information and the misrepresentations about INVOKANA were made by Defendants with the intent that doctors and patients, including Plaintiff, rely upon

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them so that Plaintiff would request and purchase INVOKANA and her health care providers would prescribe and recommend INVOKANA.

134. Plaintiff, her doctors, and others reasonably relied on Defendants' representations and were unaware of the substantial risk posed by INVOKANA

135. Had Defendants not concealed or suppressed information regarding the severity of the risks of INVOKANA, Plaintiff and her physicians would not have prescribed or ingested the drug.

136. Defendants, by concealment or other action, intentionally prevented Plaintiff and her health care professionals from acquiring material information regarding the lack of safety of INVOKANA, thereby preventing Plaintiff from discovering the truth. As such, Defendants are liable for fraudulent concealment.

137. As a foreseeable, direct, and proximate consequence of Defendants' actions, omissions, and misrepresentations, Plaintiff suffered severe kidney damage, diabetic ketoacidosis, and other related health complications. In addition, Plaintiff requires and will continue to require healthcare and services. Plaintiff has incurred and will continue to incur medical and related expenses. Plaintiff also has suffered and will continue to suffer diminished capacity for the enjoyment of life, a diminished quality of life, increased risk of premature death, aggravation of preexisting conditions, activation of latent conditions, and other losses and damages. Plaintiff's direct medical losses and costs include physician care, monitoring, and treatment. Plaintiff has incurred and will continue to incur mental and physical pain and suffering.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff respectfully requests that this Court enter judgment in Plaintiff's favor for compensatory and punitive damages, together with interest, costs herein incurred,

attorneys' fees, and all such other and further relief as this Court deems just and proper. Plaintiff also demands that the issues contained herein be tried by a jury.

## COUNT X

# PUNITIVE DAMAGES UNDER COMMON LAW, THE PUNITIVE DAMAGES ACT (N.J.S.A. 2A:15 et seq.) AND THE PRODUCTS LIABILITY ACT (N.J.S.A. 2A:58C-1 et <u>seq.)</u>

138. Plaintiffs repeat and re-allege each and every allegation of this Complaint as if set forth in full in this cause of action.

139. Plaintiff is entitled to punitive damages because Defendants misrepresented and/or withheld information and materials from the FDA, the medical community and the public at large, including the Plaintiff, concerning the safety profile, and, more specifically the serious side effects and/or complications associated with INVOKANA.

140. In respect to the FDA, physicians and consumers, Defendant downplayed, understated or disregarded knowledge of the serious and permanent side effects and risks associated with the use of INVOKANA, despite available information that INVOKANA was likely to cause serious side effects and/or complications.

141. Defendants' failure to provide the necessary materials and information to the FDA, as well as their failure warn physicians and consumers of the serious side effects and and/or complications, was reckless and without regard for the public's safety and welfare.

142. Defendants were or should have been in possession of evidence demonstrating that INVOKANA causes serious side effects. Nevertheless, Defendant continued to market INVOKANA by providing false and misleading information with regard to safety and efficacy.

143. Defendants failed to provide the FDA, physicians and consumers with available materials, information and warnings that would have ultimately dissuaded physicians from prescribing INVOKANA to consumers, from purchasing and consuming INVOKANA, thus

depriving physicians and consumers from weighing the true risks against the benefits of prescribing and/or purchasing and consuming INVOKANA.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff respectfully requests that this Court enter judgment in Plaintiff's favor for compensatory and punitive damages, together with interest, costs herein incurred, attorneys' fees, and all such other and further relief as this Court deems just and proper. Plaintiff also demands that the issues contained herein be tried by a jury.

#### COUNT XI

#### LOSS OF CONSORTIUM/PER QUOD CLAIM

#### (On Behalf of Plaintiff Carlos Puente)

123. Plaintiff repeats and re-allege each and every allegation of this Complaint as if set forth in full in this cause of action.

124. Plaintiff CARLOS PUENTE was and is the lawful spouse of Plaintiff MARIA PUENTE, and as such, was and is entitled to the comfort, enjoyment, society and services of his spouse.

126. As a direct and proximate result of the foregoing, Plaintiff CARLOS PUENTE were deprived of the comfort and enjoyment of the services and society of his spouse, has suffered and will continue to suffer economic loss, and have otherwise been emotionally and economically injured. Plaintiff CARLOS PUENTE's injuries and damages are permanent and will continue into the future. Plaintiff seeks actual and punitive damages from the Defendant as alleged.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff respectfully requests that this Court enter judgment in Plaintiff's favor for compensatory and punitive damages, together with interest, costs herein incurred, attorneys' fees, and all such other and further relief as this Court deems just and proper. Plaintiff also demands that the issues contained herein be tried by a jury.

## **RELIEF REQUESTED**

WHEREFORE, Plaintiffs demand judgment against Defendants as follows:

- a. Awarding Plaintiffs compensatory damages against Defendants in an amount sufficient to fairly and completely compensate Plaintiffs for all damages;
- b. Awarding Plaintiffs treble damages against Defendants so to fairly and completely compensate Plaintiffs for all damages, and to deter similar wrongful conduct in the future;
- c. Awarding Plaintiffs punitive damages against Defendants in an amount sufficient to punish Defendants for its wrongful conduct and to deter similar wrongful conduct.
- Awarding Plaintiffs costs and disbursements, costs of investigations, attorneys' fees and all such other relive available under New Jersey law;
- e. Awarding that the costs of this action be taxed to Defendants; and
- f. Awarding such other and further relief as the Court may deem just and proper.

## JURY TRIAL DEMANDED

Demand is hereby made for trial by jury.

Dated: November 13, 2015

<u>s/ Michael A. London</u>
Michael A. London **DOUGLAS AND LONDON, P.C.**59 Maiden Lane, 6th Floor
New York, New York 10038
Telephone: (212) 566-7500

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JS 44 (Rev. 12/12)

# **CIVIL COVER SHEET**

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 Maria Puente and Carlos Puente				DEFENDANT Janssen Pharmad		nc. et. al.			
(b) County of Residence of First Listed Plaintiff <u>Webb County</u> (EXCEPT IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES)				County of Residence of First Listed Defendant (IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES ONLY) NOTE: IN LAND CONDEMNATION CASES, USE THE LOCATION OF THE TRACT OF LAND INVOLVED.					
(c) Attorneys (Firm Name Michael A. London, Dou New York, New York 10 212-566-7500	, Address, Email and Telephon Iglas & London, P.C., 038, mlondon@dougl	59 Maiden Lane, 6th	1 Fl.,	Attorneys (If I	Known)				
II. BASIS OF JURISDICTION (Place an "X" in One Box Only)			III. CI	TIZENSHIP OF I	PRINCIPA	L PARTIES	(Place an "X" in One B	ox for Plainti	
1 U.S. Government Plaintiff	3 Federal Question (U.S. Government Not a Party)		(	(For Diversity Cases Only) PTF DEF Citizen of This State 1 1 1 Incorporated or Principal Place 4 25, 4 of Business In This State					
2 U.S. Government Defendant	<b>3</b> 4 Diversity (Indicate Citizenship of Parties in Item III)		Citize	Citizen of Another State 🛛 2 🗇 2 Incorporated and Principal Place 🗇 5 🗇 5 of Business In Another State					
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(Excludes Veterans) 153 Recovery of Overpayment	345 Marine Product Liability	Liability PERSONAL PROPER		LABOR Fair Labor Standards	SOCTAL	SECURITY	□ 490 Cable/Sat TV □ 850 Securities/Corr		
of Veteran's Benefits I 160 Stockholders' Suits	<ul> <li>350 Motor Vehicle</li> <li>355 Motor Vehicle</li> </ul>	370 Other Fraud		Act	D 862 Black	Lung (923)	Exchange		
190 Other Contract	Product Liability	<ul> <li>371 Truth in Lending</li> <li>380 Other Personal</li> </ul>		Labor/Management Relations	□ 863 DIWC	VDIWW (405(g)) Title XVI	□ 890 Other Statutory □ 891 Agricultural A		
<ul> <li>195 Contract Product Liability</li> <li>196 Franchise</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>360 Other Personal Injury</li> <li>362 Personal Injury -</li> </ul>	Property Damage 385 Property Damage Product Liability		Railway Labor Act Family and Medical Leave Act	🗇 865 RSI (4	l05(g))	<ul> <li>893 Environmental</li> <li>895 Freedom of Inf Act</li> </ul>	Matters	
REAL PROPERTY	Medical Malpractice			Other Labor Litigation			896 Arbitration		
210 Land Condemnation	440 Other Civil Rights	PRISONER PETITION Habeas Corpus:		Employee Retirement Income Security Act		L TAX SUITS*	899 Administrative Act/Review or		
<ul> <li>220 Foreclosure</li> <li>230 Rent Lease &amp; Ejectment</li> </ul>	441 Voting 442 Employment	<ul> <li>463 Alien Detainee</li> <li>510 Motions to Vacate</li> </ul>		-	or Dei	fendant)	Agency Decisio	n.	
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	Employment  446 Amer. w/Disabilities -	Other:		Naturalization Application Other Immigration					
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VII. REQUESTED IN COMPLAINT:		IS A CLASS ACTION	DEN C~v`Ve	MAND SID MALLON	per CH	ECK YES only i RY DEMAND:	f demanded in comple		
VIII. RELATED CASE IF ANY	(See instructions):	JUDGE	<del>8</del> 2			NUMBER			
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11/13/2015 FOR OFFICE USE ONLY		s/Michael A. Lon	don					_	
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JS 44 Reverse (Rev. 12/12)

# **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.