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6 **UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT**
7 **NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA**

8 David R. Ankney,) Case No.: _____

9 Plaintiff,) **COMPLAINT FOR DAMAGES**

10 vs.)

11 Pfizer Inc.,) **1. Negligence**

12 Defendant) **2. Negligence Per Se**

) **3. Strict Products Liability (Failure to**

) **Warn/Defective Design)**

) **4. Breach of Implied Warranty**

) **5. Breach of Express Warranty**

) **6. Fraudulent Misrepresentation**

) **7. Fraudulent Concealment**

) **8. Negligent Misrepresentation**

16 **DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL**

17 Plaintiff, David R. Ankney, by and through his undersigned counsel, hereby submits this
18 Complaint and Jury Demand against Defendant, Pfizer Inc. (“Pfizer” or “Defendant”), for
19 compensatory damages, punitive damages, equitable relief and such other relief deemed just and
20 proper arising from the injuries to David R. Ankney resulting from the ingestion of the prescription
21 drug Viagra®. In support of this Complaint and Jury Demand, Plaintiff alleges the following:
22

23 This is an action for personal injuries and damages suffered by Plaintiff David R. Ankney
24 (“Plaintiff”) as a direct and proximate result of Pfizer Inc.’s (“Pfizer”) negligent and wrongful
25 conduct in connection with the design, development, manufacturing, testing, packaging, promoting,
26 marking, distribution, labeling and/or sale of sildenafil citrate tablets sold under the brand name
27 Viagra® (“Viagra®”).
28

PARTIES

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2 1. Plaintiff, David R. Ankney, resides in the County of Pinal, State of Arizona.

3 2. Defendant, Pfizer Inc. (“Pfizer”) is a corporation organized and existing under the
4 laws of the State of Delaware with its principal place of business in the State of New York. Pfizer
5 regularly conducts business in the States of Delaware, New York, California, Arizona and throughout
6 the United States and derives substantial revenues from drugs it sells in the States of Delaware, New
7 York, California, Arizona and throughout the United States. Pfizer is engaged in the business of
8 designing, developing, manufacturing, labeling, promoting, marketing, distributing and selling
9 pharmaceutical drugs, including the drug Viagra® in New York, California, Arizona and throughout
10 the United States.
11

12 3. Pfizer may be served with process by registered mail with return receipt requested,
13 upon CT Corporation System, 818 West Seventh Street, Suite 930, Los Angeles, CA, 90017. Pfizer’s
14 registered agent in New York is CT Corporation System, 111 Eighth Avenue, New York, New York,
15 10011.
16

17 4. Pfizer, including its owners, employees, parent companies, subsidiaries, affiliates and
18 agents, developed, designed, manufactured, assembled, tested, inspected, marketed, promoted,
19 advertised, warranted, distributed, labeled, sold, packaged, and/or provided warnings and instructions
20 for Viagra®.
21

22 5. Pfizer conducts substantial business within Delaware, New York, California, Arizona
23 and throughout the United States through the marketing, distribution and sales of Viagra®.
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JURISDICTION AND VENUE

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2 6. Plaintiff is a citizen of the State of Arizona.

3 7. Pfizer maintains its principal place of business in New York.

4 8. The value of Plaintiff's claims exceeds the total of seventy-five thousand dollars
5 (\$75,000.000), exclusive of recoverable interest and costs. None of the causes of action stated herein
6 have been assigned or otherwise given to any other court or tribunal.
7

8 9. Therefore, this Court has subject matter jurisdiction pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1332.

9 10. Venue is proper in this Judicial District pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1391 because Pfizer
10 has engaged in continuous and substantial business within this Judicial District, and otherwise
11 maintains the requisite minimum contacts within the State of California. Additionally, Pfizer
12 markets, advertises, distributes, sells and receives substantial profits from the sales of Viagra® in this
13 District, and has and continues to conceal and make material omissions in this District, so as to
14 subject it to *in personam* jurisdiction in this Judicial District.
15

16 11. On December 11, 2015, a Petition was filed with the Judicial Panel on Multidistrict
17 Litigation ("JPML") seeking coordination of all such matters before the U.S. District Court for the
18 Northern District of California. *See In Re: Viagra Products Liability Litigation*, MDL No. 2691.
19 The Petition was fully briefed, unopposed by Pfizer and all other interested parties, and argued on
20 March 31, 2016.
21

22 12. On April 7, 2016, the JPML issued a Transfer Order and consolidation of related cases
23 into *In Re: Viagra (Sildenafil Citrate) Products Liability Litigation*, MDL No. 2691 and transferred
24 the consolidation to the United States District Court for the Northern District of California before The
25 Honorable Richard Seeborg.
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2 20. Viagra® treats erectile dysfunction by inhibiting the secretion of phosphodiesterase
3 type 5 (“PDE5”), an enzyme responsible for the degradation of cyclic guanosine monophosphate
4 (“cGMP”). When the cGMP is not degraded by the PDE5, smooth muscles in the corpus cavernosum
5 relax, creating an erection.
6

7 21. The National Institutes of Health estimate that erectile dysfunction affects as many as
8 thirty million men in the United States.¹

9 **Prevalence of Viagra® in the Market**

10 22. In its 2013 Annual Report, Pfizer states that it accumulated revenue exceeding
11 \$1,800,000,000 from worldwide sales of Viagra®. This statistic is particularly significant in light of
12 the fact that Pfizer lost exclusivity of Viagra® throughout Europe in 2013, which in itself led to a
13 drop in profits from the previous calendar year.
14

15 23. Viagra® holds approximately 45% of the U.S. market share for erectile dysfunction
16 medications.²
17

18 24. Pfizer estimates that Viagra® has been prescribed to more than 35 million men
19 worldwide.³

20 25. In 2012 alone, physicians wrote approximately eight million prescriptions for
21 Viagra®.⁴
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26 ¹ NIH Consensus Development Panel on Impotence (July 7, 1993).

27 ² Jacque Wilson, *Viagra: The Little Blue Pill That Could*, CNN, Mar. 27, 2013, available at:
<http://www.cnn.com/2013/03/27/health/viagra-anniversary-timeline/index.html>.

28 ³ Hilary Stout, *The Thrill That Was*, N.Y. TIMES, June 5, 2011, available at:
<http://query.nytimes.com/gst/fullpage.html?res=9B06E3DF173DF173FF936A35755C0A9679D8B63>.

⁴ Wilson, *supra* note 4.

Pfizer's Knowledge

1
2 26. Unbeknownst to Viagra® users, studies have shown that the cellular activity providing
3 the mechanism of action for Viagra® is associated with the development and/or exacerbation of
4 melanoma.

5
6 27. The American Cancer Society states that melanoma is “the most serious type of skin
7 cancer.”⁵

8 28. According to the National Cancer Institute, part of the National Institutes of Health,
9 melanoma is more likely than other skin cancers to spread to other parts of the body, thereby causing
10 further tissue damage and complicating the potential for effective treatment and eradication of the
11 cancerous cells.⁶

12
13 29. Several studies have linked the mechanism of action for Viagra® to cell mutation
14 cultivating melanomagenesis, or the creation of melanocytes which develop into melanoma.

15 30. Upon information and belief, according to the Center for Drug Evaluation and
16 Research “Joint Clinical Review” Internal Safety Review for Viagra (Sildenafil) NDA 20-895, Pfizer
17 knew as early as approximately 1998 that there were people that dropped out of the clinical studies
18 due to the development of carcinoma, including but not limited to melanoma, after taking Viagra® as
19 part of a study.
20

21 31. A study published in 2011 found that treatment with Viagra® can promote melanoma
22 cell invasion.⁷ Specifically, by inhibiting PDE5, Viagra® mimics an effect of gene activation and
23 therefore may potentially function as a trigger for the creation of melanoma cells.
24

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26 ⁵ American Cancer Society, *Skin Cancer Facts*, last revised March 19, 2014, available at:
<http://cancer.org/cancer/cancercauses/sunanduvexposure/skin-cancer-facts>.

27 ⁶ National Cancer Institute, *Types of Skin Cancer*, last updated Jan. 11, 2011, available at:
<http://www.cancer.gov/cancertopics/wyinthk/skin/page4>.

28 ⁷ I. Aozarena, et al., *Oncogenic BRAF Induces Melanoma Cell Invasion by Downregulating The cGMP-Specific Phosphodiesterase PDE5A*, 19 CANCER CELL 45 (2011).

1 32. A 2012 study published in the Journal of Cell Biochemistry also found that PDE5
2 inhibitors were shown to promote melanin synthesis,⁸ which may exacerbate melanoma
3 development.⁹

4 33. On April 7, 2014, an original study (“the JAMA study”) was published on the website
5 for the *Journal of the American Medical Association Internal Medicine* which, in light of the
6 previous studies, sought to examine the direct relationship between sildenafil use and melanoma
7 development in men in the United States.¹⁰ The JAMA study was published in the journal’s June
8 2014 edition.
9

10 34. Among 25,848 participants, the JAMA study reported that recent sildenafil users at
11 baseline had a significantly elevated risk of invasive melanoma, with a “hazard ratio” of 1.84; in
12 other words, the study participants who had recently used sildenafil exhibited an 84% increase in risk
13 of developing or encouraging invasive melanoma.¹¹
14

15 Consumer Expectations

16 35. Since Viagra®’s FDA approval in 1998, Pfizer has engaged in a continuous,
17 expensive and aggressive advertising campaign to market Viagra® to men worldwide as a symbol of
18 regaining and enhancing one’s virility.
19

20 36. Pfizer has engaged in increasingly aggressive marketing techniques and strategies to
21 promote the use of Viagra® in the face of increasing pharmaceutical competition. By means of
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23
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25 ⁸ X Zhang, et al., *PDE5 Inhibitor Promotes Melanin Synthesis Through the PKG Pathway in B16 Melanoma Cells*, 113 J.
26 CELL BIOCHEM. 2738 (2012).

27 ⁹ F.P. Noonan, et al., *Melanoma Induction by Ultraviolet A But Not Ultraviolet B Radiation Requires Melanin Pigment*, 3
28 NATURE COMMUNICATIONS 884 (2012).

¹⁰ Wen-Qing Li, Abrar A. Qureshi, Kathleen C. Robinson & Jiali Han, *Sildenafil Use and Increased Risk of Incident
Melanoma in U.S. Men: A Prospective Cohort Study*, 174 JAMA INTERNAL MEDICINE 964 (2014).

¹¹ Id.

1 demonstration, a 2004 article in the Chicago Tribune cited industry reports stating that Pfizer spent
2 “tens of millions of dollars each month on direct-to-consumer advertising.”¹²

3 37. Pfizer has also been criticized by regulators, physicians and consumer groups for its
4 attempt to target younger men in their advertising. Doctors and federal regulators stated that “such
5 ads sen[t] a confusing message to patients who might really benefit from the drug.”¹³
6

7 38. While designing and formulating Viagra®, Pfizer discovered or should have
8 discovered that the drug’s mechanism of action, the inhibition of PDE5, also presented a significant
9 risk of the development and/or the exacerbation of melanoma.

10 39. Despite these significant findings, Pfizer has made no efforts in its ubiquitous Viagra®
11 advertisements to warn users about the potential risk of developing and/or exacerbating melanoma
12 that has been scientifically linked to its drug.
13

14 40. Members of the general public had no plausible means through which they could have
15 discovered the significant risk of melanomagenesis associated with PDE5 inhibition.

16 41. Prescribing physicians would not have had the same level of access to the research and
17 development conducted by Pfizer prior to its decision to manufacture Viagra® for general public use.
18

19 42. Pfizer failed to communicate to the general public that the inhibition of PDE5
20 inherently necessary to the efficacy of Viagra® would also present a significant risk of one’s
21 development and/or exacerbation of cancerous cells.

22 43. For example, no individual prescribed to use Viagra® would have believed or be
23 expected to know that his use of Viagra® would expose him to an increased risk of developing
24 melanoma or exacerbating the growth of melanocytes already present in the body.
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27 ¹² Bruce Japsen, *Viagra’s 2 Rivals Grab Market Share In A Year*, CHICAGO TRIBUNE, Sept. 23, 2004, available at
http://articles.chicagotribune.com/2004-09-23/business/0409230283_1_viagra-erectile-levitra.

28 ¹³ Bruce Japsen, *Toned-Down Advertising Credited for Viagra Gains*, CHICAGO TRIBUTED, Feb. 8, 2007, available at
http://articles.chicagotribune.com/2007-02-08/business/0702080063_1_viagra-erectile-Pfizer-spokesman.

1 44. Pfizer expected or should have expected individuals who suffered from erectile
2 dysfunction to ingest Viagra® as a means to treat their condition.

3 45. Pfizer expected or should have expected physicians treating erectile dysfunction to
4 prescribe Viagra® as a means to treat this condition.

5 46. The risk presented by ingesting Viagra® would be present from the moment of
6 manufacture; that is, the user would not need to change or alter the drug itself or the means by which
7 it was ingested in order for the drug to carry the same risk of harm as described herein.
8

9 **Risks and Benefits of Viagra® Use**

10 47. Erectile dysfunction is not fatal, nor does it present any related symptoms or
11 characteristics harmful to one's physical health; however, those with erectile dysfunction are unable
12 to achieve and maintain an erection.
13

14 48. At all times relevant hereto, Viagra® was useful to some members of the population;
15 namely, men diagnosed with erectile dysfunction.

16 49. However, Viagra® also encourages the development of melanoma in the body of a
17 user, thereby placing them at a significant health risk.
18

19 50. Pfizer manufactured, marketed and sold Viagra® as a PDE5 inhibitor; however, the
20 mechanism of action that made the drug effective in treating erectile dysfunction simultaneously
21 increased the risk of the user developing melanoma.

22 51. At the time Viagra® was formulated and manufactured, Pfizer knew or should have
23 known that the drug posed a significantly heightened risk to users, specifically through the increased
24 likelihood that those users would develop melanoma because of the chemical reactions inherent to the
25 drug's functioning.
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1 70. Pfizer had a duty to exercise reasonable care and comply with existing standards of
2 care in the testing, designing, researching, developing, manufacturing, packaging, promoting,
3 labeling, advertising, marketing, selling and/or distribution of Viagra® into the stream of commerce
4 including a duty to ensure that the product would not cause users to suffer unreasonable and
5 dangerous side effects.
6

7 71. Pfizer failed to exercise ordinary care and failed to comply with existing standards of
8 care in the testing, designing, researching, developing, manufacturing, packaging, promoting,
9 labeling, advertising, marketing, selling and/or distribution of Viagra® into interstate commerce in
10 that Pfizer knew or should have known that using Viagra® created an unreasonable risk of melanoma
11 as well as other severe personal injuries which are permanent and lasting in nature, physical pain and
12 mental anguish, including diminished enjoyment of life as well as the need for lifelong medical
13 treatment, monitoring, medications and/or death.
14

15 72. Pfizer, its agents, servants and/or employees failed to exercise ordinary care and failed
16 to comply with existing standards of care in the following acts and/or omissions:
17

- 18 a. Failing to conduct adequate testing, including pre-clinical and clinical testing and
19 post-marketing surveillance to determine the safety risks of Viagra® for treating
20 men while promoting the use of Viagra® and providing kickbacks to healthcare
21 professionals to convince healthcare professionals to prescribe Viagra® for
22 erectile dysfunction;
- 23 b. Marketing Viagra® for the treatment of erectile dysfunction without testing it to
24 determine whether Viagra® was safe for this use;
- 25 c. Designing, manufacturing, producing, promoting, formulating, creating and/or
26 developing Viagra® without adequately and thoroughly testing it;
- 27 d. Selling Viagra® without conducting sufficient tests to identify the dangers posed
28 by Viagra® to men;
- e. Failing to adequately and correctly warn Plaintiff, the public, the healthcare
 community, including Plaintiff, David R. Ankney's healthcare providers, as well
 as the FDA of the dangers of Viagra® in men;

- f. Failing to evaluate available data and safety information concerning Viagra® use in men;
- g. Advertising and recommending the use of Viagra® without sufficient knowledge as to its dangerous propensities to cause and/or exacerbate melanoma;
- h. Representing that Viagra® was safe for treating men when in fact it was and is unsafe;
- i. Representing that Viagra® was safe and efficacious for treating erectile dysfunction when Defendant was aware that neither the safety nor efficacy for such treatment has been established;
- j. Representing that Viagra® was not carcinogenic in the animal studies conducted in rats and rabbits;
- k. Failing to provide any warnings regarding melanoma;
- l. Failing to accompany Viagra® with proper and/or accurate warnings regarding all possible adverse side effects associated with the use of Viagra®;
- m. Failing to issue sufficiently strengthened warnings following additional evidence associating Viagra® use with the increased risk of melanoma;
- n. Failing to advise Plaintiff, David R. Ankney's healthcare providers, the FDA and the healthcare community that neither the safety nor the efficacy of Viagra® for treating erectile dysfunction has been established and that the risks of using the drug for that condition outweigh any putative benefit; and
- o. Failing to advise Plaintiff, David R. Ankney's healthcare providers, the FDA and the healthcare community of clinically significant adverse events, specifically melanoma, associated with Viagra® use for erectile dysfunction.

73. Despite the fact that Pfizer knew or should have known that Viagra® significantly increased the risk of melanoma, it continued and still continues to negligently market through false and misleading promotion and communication, manufacture, distribute and/or sell Viagra® to consumers including Plaintiff, David R. Ankney.

74. Pfizer knew or should have known that consumers such as Plaintiff would foreseeably suffer injury as a result of its failure to exercise ordinary care as set forth above.

1 75. Pfizer's negligence was the proximate cause of Plaintiff's injuries, harm and economic
2 loss which Plaintiff suffered and/or will continue to suffer.

3 76. Had Plaintiff, David R. Ankney, not taken Viagra®, he would not have suffered those
4 injuries and damages as described herein with particularity.

5 77. As a result of the foregoing acts and omissions, David R. Ankney was caused to suffer
6 injuries from melanoma that are permanent and lasting in nature, physical pain and mental anguish
7 including diminished enjoyment of life, as well as the need for lifelong medical treatment, monitoring
8 and/or medication.

9 78. Plaintiff, David R. Ankney, has also sustained severe emotional distress and suffering
10 as a result of Pfizer's wrongful conduct.

11 79. As a result of the foregoing acts and omissions, David R. Ankney has required and
12 will require future medical care for which he has incurred medical, health, incidental and related
13 expenses. Plaintiff, David R. Ankney, believes and further alleges that he will in the future be
14 required to obtain further medical and/or hospital care, attention and services.

15 80. By reason of the foregoing, Plaintiff has been damaged by Pfizer's wrongful conduct.
16 Pfizer's conduct was willful, wanton, reckless and, at the very least, arose to the level of gross
17 negligence so as to indicate a complete disregard of the rights and safety of Plaintiff and others
18 justifying an award of punitive damages.

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

NEGLIGENCE PER SE

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3 81. Plaintiff repeats, reiterates and realleges each and every allegation of this Complaint
4 contained in each of the foregoing paragraphs inclusive, with the same force and effect as if more
5 fully set forth herein.
6

7 82. Pfizer had a duty to exercise reasonable care and comply with existing laws in the
8 testing, designing, researching, developing, manufacturing, packaging, promoting, labeling,
9 advertising, marketing, selling and/or distribution of Viagra® into the stream of commerce including
10 a duty to ensure that the product would not cause users to suffer unreasonable and dangerous side
11 effects.
12

13 83. Pfizer failed to exercise ordinary care and failed to comply with existing laws in the
14 testing, designing, researching, developing, manufacturing, packaging, promoting, labeling,
15 advertising, marketing, selling and/or distribution of Viagra® into interstate commerce in that Pfizer
16 knew or should have known that using Viagra® created an unreasonable risk of melanoma as well as
17 other severe personal injuries which are permanent and lasting in nature, physical pain and mental
18 anguish, including diminished enjoyment of life as well as the need for lifelong medical treatment,
19 monitoring, medications and/or death.
20

21 84. Pfizer, its agents, servants and/or employees failed to exercise ordinary care and
22 violated 21 U.S.C. § 331, 352; 42 U.S.C. § 1320a-7b; and 21 C.F.R. §§ 201.57, 201.128 in particular.
23

24 85. The laws violated by Pfizer were designed to protect Plaintiff and similarly situated
25 persons against the risks and hazards that have occurred in this case. Therefore, Defendant's conduct
26 constitutes negligence *per se*.
27
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1 86. Despite the fact that Pfizer knew or should have known that Viagra® significantly
2 increased the risk of melanoma and/or the exacerbation of melanoma, it continues to negligently
3 market through false and misleading promotion and communication, manufacture, distribute and/or
4 sell Viagra® to consumers including Plaintiff, David R. Ankney.

5
6 87. Pfizer knew or should have known that consumers such as Plaintiff would foreseeably
7 suffer injury as a result of its failure to exercise ordinary care as set forth above.

8 88. Pfizer's negligence was the proximate cause of Plaintiff injuries, harm and economic
9 loss which Plaintiff suffered and/or will continue to suffer.

10 89. Had Plaintiff, David R. Ankney, not taken Viagra®, he would not have suffered those
11 injuries and damages as described herein.

12
13 90. As a result of the foregoing acts and omissions, David R. Ankney was caused to suffer
14 injuries from melanoma that are permanent and lasting in nature, physical pain and mental anguish
15 including diminished enjoyment of life, as well as the need for lifelong medical treatment, monitoring
16 and/or medication.

17
18 91. Plaintiff, David R. Ankney, has also sustained severe emotional distress and suffering
19 as a result of Pfizer's wrongful conduct and his injuries.

20 92. As a result of the foregoing acts and omissions, David R. Ankney has required and
21 will require future medical care for which he has incurred medical, health, incidental and related
22 expenses. Plaintiff, David R. Ankney, believes and further alleges that he will in the future be
23 required to obtain further medical and/or hospital care, attention and services.
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1 93. By reason of the foregoing, Plaintiff has been damaged by Pfizer’s wrongful conduct.
2 Pfizer’s conduct was willful, wanton, reckless and, at the very least, arose to the level of gross
3 negligence so as to indicate a complete disregard of the rights and safety of Plaintiff and others
4 justifying an award of punitive damages.

5
6 WHEREFORE, Plaintiff respectfully requests that this Court enter judgment in his favor for
7 compensatory and punitive damages together with interest, costs herein, attorneys’ fees and all such
8 other and further relief as this Court deems just and proper. Plaintiff also demands that the issues
9 herein contained be tried by a jury.

10
11 **THIRD CAUSE OF ACTION**
12 **STRICT PRODUCTS LIABILITY**
(Failure to Warn/Design Defect)

13 94. Plaintiff repeats, reiterates and realleges each and every allegation of this Complaint
14 contained in each of the foregoing paragraphs inclusive, with the same force and effect as if more
15 fully set forth herein.

16 95. Viagra® was tested, designed, researched, developed, manufactured, packaged,
17 promoted, labeled, advertised, marketed, sold, distributed and/or placed into the stream of commerce
18 by Pfizer and was defective at the time it left Pfizer’s control in that, and not by way of limitation, the
19 drug labeling failed to include adequate warnings, instructions and directions relating to the
20 dangerous risks associated with the use of Viagra® to treat erectile dysfunction. Viagra® was also
21 defective in its design because the foreseeable risks of harm posed by the product could have been
22 reduced or avoided by the adoption of a reasonable alternative design. Safe and effective products
23 were available for the purpose for which Pfizer marketed Viagra® for use in men with erectile
24 dysfunction and neither the safety nor the efficacy of Viagra® for that purpose had been established.
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1 96. Pfizer failed to provide adequate warnings to healthcare providers and consumers,
2 including Plaintiff, David R. Ankney, and his treating healthcare providers of the increased risk
3 and/or exacerbation of melanoma associated with Viagra® and aggressively promoted the product to
4 healthcare providers, hospitals and directly to consumers.

5 97. Prescribing physicians, healthcare providers and men neither knew nor had reason to
6 know of the existence of the aforementioned melanoma at the time of prescribing and/or ingesting of
7 Viagra®. Healthcare providers and/or consumers would not have recognized the potential risks or
8 side effects for which Pfizer failed to include appropriate warnings and which it masked through the
9 unbalanced promotion of Viagra® specifically for treatment in men with erectile dysfunction.
10

11 98. At all times herein mentioned, due to Pfizer's marketing of Viagra®, the drug was
12 prescribed and used as intended by Plaintiff, David R. Ankney, and in a manner reasonably
13 foreseeable to Pfizer.
14

15 99. Pfizer is liable to Plaintiff for the negligent and/or willful failure to provide adequate
16 warnings and other clinically relevant information and data regarding the appropriate use of Viagra®
17 to Plaintiff, David R. Ankney, and his healthcare providers.
18

19 100. Pfizer, as a manufacturer of pharmaceutical drugs, is held to the level of knowledge of
20 an expert in the field. Further, Pfizer knew or should have known that the warnings and other
21 clinically relevant information and data which they distributed, omitting the risks of developing
22 and/or exacerbating melanoma, associated with the use of Viagra® were inadequate.
23

24 101. Pfizer had a continuing duty to provide consumers including Plaintiff, David R.
25 Ankney, and his healthcare providers with warnings and other clinically relevant information and
26 data regarding the risks and dangers associated with Viagra® as it became or could have become
27 available to Pfizer.
28

1 102. Despite the fact that Pfizer knew or should have known that Viagra® caused and/or
2 exacerbated melanoma, it continued to manufacture, package, promote, label, advertise, distribute
3 and sell Viagra® without stating that there existed safer and more equally effective alternative drug
4 products and/or providing adequate clinically relevant information, warnings and data.
5

6 103. Pfizer knew or should have known that consumers and Plaintiff specifically would
7 foreseeably and needlessly suffer injury as a result of Pfizer's failures.

8 104. Pfizer breached its duty to provide timely and adequate warnings, instructions and
9 information in the following particulars:

- 10 a. failing to ensure Viagra® warnings to the healthcare community, physicians,
11 David R. Ankney's healthcare providers and Plaintiff were accurate and
12 adequate despite having extensive knowledge of the risks associated with
13 Viagra®;
- 14 b. failing in obligation to provide the healthcare community, physicians, David R.
15 Ankney's healthcare providers and Plaintiff with adequate clinically relevant
16 information, data and warnings regarding the adverse health risks associated
17 with exposure to Viagra® and/or that there existed safer and more or equally
18 effective alternative drug products;
- 19 c. failing to conduct post-market safety surveillance and report that information
20 to the healthcare community, David R. Ankney's healthcare providers and
21 Plaintiff;
- 22 d. failing to include adequate warnings and/or providing adequate and clinically
23 relevant information and data that would alert the healthcare community,
24 David R. Ankney's healthcare providers and Plaintiff to the dangerous risks of
25 Viagra® including among other things the increased risk of melanoma;
- 26 e. failing to continually monitor, test and analyze data regarding safety, efficacy
27 and prescribing practices of their marketed drugs including Viagra®;
- 28 f. failing to review all adverse drug event information (AER) and to report any
information bearing upon the adequacy and/or accuracy of its warnings,
efficacy or safety including the risks and/or prevalence of side effects caused
by Viagra® to the healthcare community, David R. Ankney's healthcare
providers and Plaintiff;

- 1 g. failing to provide adequate post-marketing warnings and instructions after
2 Pfizer knew or should have known of the significant risks of, among other
3 things, melanoma of Viagra®;
- 4 h. failing to periodically review all medical literature regarding Viagra® and
5 failing to report data, regardless of the degree of significance, regarding the
6 adequacy and/or accuracy of their warnings, efficacy or safety of Viagra®;
- 7 i. failing to disclose the results of the testing and other information in Pfizer's
8 possession regarding Viagra® and the increased risk of melanoma and/or
9 exacerbation of melanoma; and
- 10 j. failing to warn adequately the healthcare community, the general public and
11 Plaintiff of the dangers of using Viagra® for erectile dysfunction including the
12 risk of melanoma and/or representing that Viagra® was safe for erectile
13 dysfunction when in fact Pfizer knew or should have known that Viagra® was
14 unsafe for this use and that Viagra® increased the risk of melanoma and/or
15 exacerbation of melanoma.

16 105. As a direct and proximate result of the defective nature of Viagra®, David R. Ankney
17 was caused to suffer injuries from melanoma that are permanent and lasting in nature, physical pain
18 and mental anguish including diminished enjoyment of life, as well as the need for lifelong medical
19 treatment, monitoring and/or medication.

20 106. Plaintiff, David R. Ankney, has also sustained severe emotional distress and suffering
21 as a result of Pfizer's wrongful conduct resulting in his injuries.

22 107. As a result of the foregoing acts and omissions, David R. Ankney has required and
23 will require future medical care for which he has incurred medical, health, incidental and related
24 expenses. Plaintiff, David R. Ankney, believes and further alleges that he will in the future be
25 required to obtain further medical and/or hospital care, attention and services.

26 108. By reason of the foregoing, Plaintiff has been damaged by Pfizer's wrongful conduct.
27 Pfizer's conduct was willful, wanton, reckless and, at the very least, arose to the level of gross
28 negligence so as to indicate a complete disregard of the rights and safety of Plaintiff and others
 justifying an award of punitive damages.

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

5
6 **FOURTH CAUSE OF ACTION**
7 **BREACH OF IMPLIED WARRANTY**

8 109. Plaintiff repeats, reiterates and realleges each and every allegation of this Complaint
9 contained in each of the foregoing paragraphs inclusive, with the same force and effect as if more
10 fully set forth herein.

11 110. Plaintiff used Viagra® in substantially the same condition it was in when it left the
12 control of Pfizer.

13 111. Prior to the time that Plaintiff used Viagra®, Pfizer implicitly warranted to Plaintiff
14 and his physicians that Viagra® was of merchantable quality, safe to use and fit for the use for which
15 it was intended.

16 112. Pfizer implicitly warranted the safety of Viagra® through a multimedia advertising
17 campaign conducted over a span of several years, as Viagra® had been on the market for many years
18 prior to the time when Plaintiff was first prescribed Viagra®.

19 113. Pfizer implicitly warranted the merchantable quality of Viagra® by opting to mass-
20 produce and promote the prescription and sale of Viagra®.

21 114. Pfizer implicitly warranted that Viagra® was fit for the use for which it was intended
22 by offering assertions through multimedia advertisements that the drug was used for the treatment of
23 erectile dysfunction.
24
25
26
27
28

1 115. Plaintiff was and is unskilled in the research, design and manufacture of erectile
2 dysfunction medications and therefore reasonably relied entirely on the skill, judgment and implied
3 warranty of Pfizer in deciding to use Viagra®.

4 116. Plaintiff's physicians would not have had the same level of access to the research and
5 development conducted by Pfizer prior to its decision to manufacture Viagra® for general use.
6

7 117. Viagra® was neither safe for its intended use nor of merchantable quality, as had been
8 implicitly warranted by Pfizer, in that Viagra®'s mechanism of action – the inhibition of PDE5 –
9 inherently presented a significant increased risk of developing and/or exacerbating melanoma.

10 118. As a direct and proximate result of the falsity of the warranties implicated by Pfizer's
11 actions and omissions, Plaintiff suffered significant pain, suffering, invasive procedures and
12 economic damages incurred for the treatment of melanoma caused by Viagra® use.
13

14 119. By reason of the foregoing, Plaintiff has been damaged by Pfizer's wrongful conduct.
15 Pfizer's conduct was willful, wanton, reckless and, at the very least, arose to the level of gross
16 negligence so as to indicate a complete disregard of the rights and safety of Plaintiff and others
17 justifying an award of punitive damages.
18

19 WHEREFORE, Plaintiff respectfully requests that this Court enter judgment in his favor for
20 compensatory and punitive damages together with interest, costs herein, attorneys' fees and all such
21 other and further relief as this Court deems just and proper. Plaintiff also demands that the issues
22 herein contained be tried by a jury.
23

24 **FIFTH CAUSE OF ACTION**
BREACH OF EXPRESS WARRANTY

25 120. Plaintiff repeats, reiterates and realleges each and every allegation of this Complaint
26 contained in each of the foregoing paragraphs inclusive, with the same force and effect as if more
27 fully set forth herein.
28

1 121. At all times relevant hereto, Pfizer expressly represented and warranted to Plaintiff
2 and his healthcare providers, by and through statements made by Pfizer or their authorized agents or
3 sales representatives, orally and in publications, package inserts and other written materials intended
4 for physicians, medical patients and the general public, that Viagra® was safe, effective and proper
5 for its intended use.
6

7 122. These representations include, but are not limited to, the information disseminated in
8 Pfizer's patient information and prescribing information publications, Pfizer's website and on the
9 FDA's website, since the drug entered the market.

10 123. The warranties expressly made by Pfizer through its marketing and labeling were false
11 as Viagra® is unsafe.
12

13 124. Specifically, Viagra® is unsafe in that its mechanism of action, the inhibition of the
14 PDE5 enzyme, also increases the risk of the development and proliferation of melanocytic cells in the
15 user's body.

16 125. Plaintiff's physicians acted as reasonable physicians in relying on what they believed
17 to be the superior knowledge, judgment and access to research information possessed by Pfizer in
18 choosing to prescribe Viagra® to Plaintiff.
19

20 126. Plaintiff acted as a reasonable consumer, relied on what he believed to be the superior
21 skill, judgment, representations and express warranties of Pfizer in deciding to purchase and use
22 Viagra®.
23

24 127. In direct reliance upon the warranties made by Pfizer that Viagra® was safe to use in
25 treating erectile dysfunction, Plaintiff's physicians prescribed and Plaintiff ingested Viagra® and
26 ultimately developed melanoma as a result.
27
28

1 128. As a direct and proximate result of the breach of warranty committed by Pfizer,
2 Plaintiff suffered significant pain, suffering, invasive procedures and economic damages incurred for
3 the treatment of melanoma caused by Viagra® use.

4 129. By reason of the foregoing, Plaintiff has been damaged by Pfizer's wrongful conduct.
5 Pfizer's conduct was willful, wanton, reckless and, at the very least, arose to the level of gross
6 negligence so as to indicate a complete disregard of the rights and safety of Plaintiff and others
7 justifying an award of punitive damages.

8
9 WHEREFORE, Plaintiff respectfully requests that this Court enter judgment in his favor for
10 compensatory and punitive damages together with interest, costs herein, attorneys' fees and all such
11 other and further relief as this Court deems just and proper. Plaintiff also demands that the issues
12 herein contained be tried by a jury.

13
14 **SIXTH CAUSE OF ACTION**
15 **FRAUDULENT MISREPRESENTATION**

16 130. Plaintiff repeats, reiterates and realleges each and every allegation of this Complaint
17 contained in each of the foregoing paragraphs inclusive, with the same force and effect as if more
18 fully set forth herein.

19 131. Pfizer falsely and fraudulently represented to men suffering with erectile dysfunction
20 and the healthcare community, including Plaintiff, David R. Ankney's healthcare providers that:

- 21
22 a. Viagra® was safe and effective for treating erectile dysfunction;
23 b. Viagra® had been adequately tested and studied in men with erectile
24 dysfunction;
25 c. Viagra® use was safe by omitting knowledge of an increased risk of
26 melanoma; and
27 d. Viagra®'s designation established the safety and efficacy of Viagra® for
28 treating erectile dysfunction.

1 132. These representations made by Pfizer were material, false and misleading.

2 133. When Pfizer made these representations, it knew they were false.

3 134. Pfizer made these representations with the intent of defrauding and deceiving the
4 public in general, and the healthcare community in particular, and were made with the intent of
5 inducing the public in general, and the healthcare community in particular, including Plaintiff, David
6 R. Ankney's healthcare providers, to recommend, prescribe, dispense and/or purchase Viagra® to
7 treat erectile dysfunction, all of which evidenced a callous, reckless willful, depraved indifference to
8 the health, safety and welfare of Plaintiff herein.
9

10 135. At the time the aforesaid representations were made by Pfizer and at the time Plaintiff,
11 David R. Ankney, was prescribed and ingested Viagra® to treat erectile dysfunction, he was unaware
12 of the falsity of said representations and reasonably believed them to be true.
13

14 136. In reliance upon said representations, David R. Ankney's prescriber was induced to
15 prescribe Viagra® to Plaintiff and Plaintiff, David R. Ankney, was induced to and did ingest Viagra®
16 to treat erectile dysfunction.
17

18 137. Pfizer knew that Viagra® had not been sufficiently tested for erectile dysfunction and
19 that it lacked adequate warnings.

20 138. Pfizer knew or should have known that Viagra® increases the risk of melanoma
21 and/or the exacerbation of melanoma.

22 139. As a result of the foregoing acts and omissions, David R. Ankney was caused to suffer
23 injuries from melanoma that are permanent and lasting in nature, physical pain and mental anguish
24 including diminished enjoyment of life, invasive procedures, as well as the need for lifelong medical
25 treatment, monitoring and/or medication.
26
27
28

1 140. Plaintiff, David R. Ankney, has also sustained severe emotional distress and suffering
2 as a result of Pfizer's wrongful conduct and the injuries from melanoma.

3 141. As a result of the foregoing acts and omissions, David R. Ankney has required and
4 will require future medical care for which he has incurred medical, health, incidental and related
5 expenses. Plaintiff, David R. Ankney, believes and further alleges that he will in the future be
6 required to obtain further medical and/or hospital care, attention and services.
7

8 142. By reason of the foregoing, Plaintiff has been damaged by Pfizer's wrongful conduct.
9 Pfizer's conduct was willful, wanton, reckless and, at the very least, arose to the level of gross
10 negligence so as to indicate a complete disregard of the rights and safety of Plaintiff and others
11 justifying an award of punitive damages.
12

13 WHEREFORE, Plaintiff respectfully requests that this Court enter judgment in his favor for
14 compensatory and punitive damages together with interest, costs herein, attorneys' fees and all such
15 other and further relief as this Court deems just and proper. Plaintiff also demands that the issues
16 herein contained be tried by a jury.
17

18 **SEVENTH CAUSE OF ACTION**
19 **FRAUDULENT CONCEALMENT**

20 143. Plaintiff repeats, reiterates and realleges each and every allegation of this Complaint
21 contained in each of the foregoing paragraphs inclusive, with the same force and effect as if more
22 fully set forth herein.

23 144. In representations to Plaintiff, David R. Ankney's healthcare providers, men with
24 erectile dysfunction (including Plaintiff, David R. Ankney) and the FDA, Pfizer fraudulently
25 concealed and intentionally omitted the following material facts:
26

- 27 a. Pfizer was illegally paying and offering to pay doctors remuneration to promote
28 and prescribe Viagra®;

- b. Viagra® use increases the risk of developing melanoma and/or exacerbates melanoma;
- c. the risks of melanoma associated with the consumption of Viagra® by men with erectile dysfunction were not adequately tested prior to Pfizer's marketing of Viagra®;
- d. the safety and efficacy of Viagra® for treating erectile dysfunction had not been established;
- e. Viagra® is not safe and effective for treating erectile dysfunction; and
- f. Pfizer's internal data and information associated Viagra® with melanoma.

145. Pfizer's concealment and omissions of material facts concerning, among other things, the safety and efficacy of Viagra® for erectile dysfunction was made purposefully, willfully, wantonly and/or recklessly to mislead physicians, hospital, healthcare providers and men with erectile dysfunction including Plaintiff, David R. Ankney, into reliance, continued use of Viagra® and to cause them to promote, purchase, prescribe and/or dispense Viagra®.

146. Pfizer knew that physicians, hospitals, healthcare providers and men with erectile dysfunction such as Plaintiff, David R. Ankney, had no way to determine the truth behind Pfizer's concealment and material omissions of facts surrounding Viagra® as set forth herein.

147. Plaintiff, David R. Ankney, and his healthcare providers reasonably relied on Pfizer's promotional statements concerning the asserted safety and efficacy of Viagra® for men with erectile dysfunction from which Pfizer negligently, fraudulently and/or purposefully omitted material facts.

148. As a result of the foregoing acts and omissions, David R. Ankney was caused to suffer injuries from melanoma that are permanent and lasting in nature, physical pain and mental anguish including diminished enjoyment of life, invasive procedures, as well as the need for lifelong medical treatment, monitoring and/or medication.

1 149. Plaintiff, David R. Ankney, has also sustained severe emotional distress and suffering
2 as a result of Pfizer's wrongful conduct and the injuries from melanoma.

3 150. As a result of the foregoing acts and omissions, David R. Ankney has required and
4 will require future medical care for which he has incurred medical, health, incidental and related
5 expenses. Plaintiff, David R. Ankney, believes and further alleges that he will in the future be
6 required to obtain further medical and/or hospital care, attention and services.
7

8 151. By reason of the foregoing, Plaintiff has been damaged by Pfizer's wrongful conduct.
9 Pfizer's conduct was willful, wanton, reckless and, at the very least, arose to the level of gross
10 negligence so as to indicate a complete disregard of the rights and safety of Plaintiff and others
11 justifying an award of punitive damages.
12

13 WHEREFORE, Plaintiff respectfully requests that this Court enter judgment in his favor for
14 compensatory and punitive damages together with interest, costs herein, attorneys' fees and all such
15 other and further relief as this Court deems just and proper. Plaintiff also demands that the issues
16 herein contained be tried by a jury.
17

18 **EIGHTH CAUSE OF ACTION**
NEGLIGENT MISREPRESENTATION

19 152. Plaintiff repeats, reiterates and realleges each and every allegation of this Complaint
20 contained in each of the foregoing paragraphs inclusive, with the same force and effect as if more
21 fully set forth herein.
22

23 153. Pfizer falsely and negligently represented to the healthcare community and men with
24 erectile dysfunction, including Plaintiff, David R. Ankney, and his healthcare providers that:

- 25 a. Viagra® was safe and effective for treating erectile dysfunction;
26 b. Viagra® had been adequately tested and studied in men with erectile
27 dysfunction;
28

- 1 c. Viagra® use pursuant to Pfizer's labeling was safe; and
2 d. Viagra®'s designation established the safety and efficacy of Viagra® for
3 treating erectile dysfunction.

4 154. These representations made by Pfizer were, in fact, false and misleading.

5 155. As a result of the foregoing acts and omissions, David R. Ankney was caused to suffer
6 injuries from melanoma that are permanent and lasting in nature, physical pain and mental anguish
7 including diminished enjoyment of life, invasive procedures, as well as the need for lifelong medical
8 treatment, monitoring and/or medication.
9

10 156. Plaintiff, David R. Ankney, has also sustained severe emotional distress and suffering
11 as a result of Pfizer's wrongful conduct and his injuries.

12 157. As a result of the foregoing acts and omissions, David R. Ankney has required and
13 will require future medical care for which he has incurred medical, health, incidental and related
14 expenses. Plaintiff, David R. Ankney, believes and further alleges that he will in the future be
15 required to obtain further medical and/or hospital care, attention and services.
16

17 158. By reason of the foregoing, Plaintiff has been damaged by Pfizer's wrongful conduct.
18 Pfizer's conduct was willful, wanton, reckless and, at the very least, arose to the level of gross
19 negligence so as to indicate a complete disregard of the rights and safety of Plaintiff and others
20 justifying an award of punitive damages.
21

22 WHEREFORE, Plaintiff respectfully request that this Court enter judgment in his favor for
23 compensatory and punitive damages together with interest, costs herein, attorneys' fees and all such
24 other and further relief as this Court deems just and proper. Plaintiff also demands that the issues
25 herein contained be tried by a jury.
26
27
28

DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL

Plaintiff demands a trial by jury pursuant to Rule 38 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure and the Seventh Amendment of the United States Constitution.

PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff demands judgment against Defendant on each of the above-referenced claims and causes of action and as follows:

- a. For general damages in a sum in excess of the jurisdictional minimum of this Court;
- b. For medical, incidental and hospital expenses according to proof;
- c. For pre-judgment and post-judgment interest as provided by law;
- d. For full refund of all purchase costs of Viagra®;
- e. For consequential damages in excess of the jurisdictional minimum of this Court;
- f. For compensatory damages in excess of the jurisdictional minimum of this Court;
- g. For punitive damages in an amount in excess of any jurisdictional minimum of this Court in an amount sufficient to deter similar conduct in the future and punish the Defendant for the conduct described herein;
- h. For attorneys' fees and costs of this action; and
- i. For equitable relief and such other and further relief as this Court deems necessary, just and proper.

Dated: August 2, 2016

/s/ Kimberly D. Barone Baden

Kimberly D. Barone Baden (CA SBN 207731)

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Mount Pleasant, SC 29464

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Attorneys for Plaintiff

CIVIL COVER SHEET

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

I. (a) PLAINTIFFS
DAVID R. ANKNEY
(b) County of Residence of First Listed Plaintiff PINAL COUNTY
(c) Attorneys (Firm Name, Address, and Telephone Number)
Motley Rice LLP
28 Bridgeside Boulevard
Mount Pleasant, SC 29464
(843) 216-9265

DEFENDANTS
PFIZER INC.
County of Residence of First Listed Defendant NY
NOTE: IN LAND CONDEMNATION CASES, USE THE LOCATION OF THE TRACT OF LAND INVOLVED. Attorneys (If Known)

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

III. CITIZENSHIP OF PRINCIPAL PARTIES (Place an "X" in One Box for Plaintiff and One Box for Defendant)
PTF DEF
Citizen of This State
Citizen of Another State
Citizen or Subject of a Foreign Country
Incorporated or Principal Place of Business In This State
Incorporated and Principal Place of Business In Another State
Foreign Nation

IV. NATURE OF SUIT (Place an "X" in One Box Only)
CONTRACT: 110 Insurance, 120 Marine, 130 Miller Act, 140 Negotiable Instrument, 150 Recovery of Overpayment Of Veteran's Benefits, 151 Medicare Act, 152 Recovery of Defaulted Student Loans (Excludes Veterans), 153 Recovery of Overpayment of Veteran's Benefits, 160 Stockholders' Suits, 190 Other Contract, 195 Contract Product Liability, 196 Franchise
PERSONAL INJURY: 310 Airplane, 315 Airplane Product Liability, 320 Assault, Libel & Slander, 330 Federal Employers' Liability, 340 Marine, 345 Marine Product Liability, 350 Motor Vehicle, 355 Motor Vehicle Product Liability, 360 Other Personal Injury, 362 Personal Injury - Medical Malpractice
PERSONAL INJURY: 365 Personal Injury - Product Liability, 367 Health Care/Pharmaceutical Personal Injury Product Liability, 368 Asbestos Personal Injury Product Liability
PERSONAL PROPERTY: 370 Other Fraud, 371 Truth in Lending, 380 Other Personal Property Damage, 385 Property Damage Product Liability
FORFEITURE/PENALTY: 625 Drug Related Seizure of Property 21 USC § 881, 690 Other
LABOR: 710 Fair Labor Standards Act, 720 Labor/Management Relations, 740 Railway Labor Act, 751 Family and Medical Leave Act, 790 Other Labor Litigation, 791 Employee Retirement Income Security Act
IMMIGRATION: 462 Naturalization Application, 465 Other Immigration Actions
BANKRUPTCY: 422 Appeal 28 USC § 158, 423 Withdrawal 28 USC § 157
PROPERTY RIGHTS: 820 Copyrights, 830 Patent, 840 Trademark
SOCIAL SECURITY: 861 HIA (1395ff), 862 Black Lung (923), 863 DIWC/DIWW (405(g)), 864 SSID Title XVI, 865 RSI (405(g))
FEDERAL TAX SUITS: 870 Taxes (U.S. Plaintiff or Defendant), 871 IRS-Third Party 26 USC § 7609
OTHER STATUTES: 375 False Claims Act, 376 Qui Tam (31 USC § 3729(a)), 400 State Reapportionment, 410 Antitrust, 430 Banks and Banking, 450 Commerce, 460 Deportation, 470 Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations, 480 Consumer Credit, 490 Cable/Sat TV, 850 Securities/Commodities/Exchange, 890 Other Statutory Actions, 891 Agricultural Acts, 893 Environmental Matters, 895 Freedom of Information Act, 896 Arbitration, 899 Administrative Procedure Act/Review or Appeal of Agency Decision, 950 Constitutionality of State Statutes

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

VI. CAUSE OF ACTION
Cite the U.S. Civil Statute under which you are filing (Do not cite jurisdictional statutes unless diversity): 28 U.S.C. 1332
Brief description of cause: Product Liability

VII. REQUESTED IN COMPLAINT:
CHECK IF THIS IS A CLASS ACTION UNDER RULE 23, Fed. R. Civ. P. DEMAND \$ Exceeds \$75,000.00 CHECK YES only if demanded in complaint: JURY DEMAND: Yes No

VIII. RELATED CASE(S), IF ANY (See instructions): JUDGE The Honorable Richard Seeborg DOCKET NUMBER 3:16-md-02691

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

DATE: 08/02/2016 SIGNATURE OF ATTORNEY OF RECORD: /s/Kimberly D. Barone Baden

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

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

- I. a) Plaintiffs-Defendants.** Enter names (last, first, middle initial) of plaintiff and defendant. If the plaintiff or defendant is a government agency, use only the full name or standard abbreviations. If the plaintiff or defendant is an official within a government agency, identify first the agency and then the official, giving both name and title.
- b) County of Residence.** For each civil case filed, except U.S. plaintiff cases, enter the name of the county where the first listed plaintiff resides at the time of filing. In U.S. plaintiff cases, enter the name of the county in which the first listed defendant resides at the time of filing. (NOTE: In land condemnation cases, the county of residence of the “defendant” is the location of the tract of land involved.)
- c) Attorneys.** Enter the firm name, address, telephone number, and attorney of record. If there are several attorneys, list them on an attachment, noting in this section “(see attachment).”
- II. Jurisdiction.** The basis of jurisdiction is set forth under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 8(a), which requires that jurisdictions be shown in pleadings. Place an “X” in one of the boxes. If there is more than one basis of jurisdiction, precedence is given in the order shown below.
- (1) United States plaintiff. Jurisdiction based on 28 USC §§ 1345 and 1348. Suits by agencies and officers of the United States are included here.
 - (2) United States defendant. When the plaintiff is suing the United States, its officers or agencies, place an “X” in this box.
 - (3) Federal question. This refers to suits under 28 USC § 1331, where jurisdiction arises under the Constitution of the United States, an amendment to the Constitution, an act of Congress or a treaty of the United States. In cases where the U.S. is a party, the U.S. plaintiff or defendant code takes precedence, and box 1 or 2 should be marked.
 - (4) Diversity of citizenship. This refers to suits under 28 USC § 1332, where parties are citizens of different states. When Box 4 is checked, the citizenship of the different parties must be checked. (See Section III below; **NOTE: federal question actions take precedence over diversity cases.**)
- III. Residence (citizenship) of Principal Parties.** This section of the JS-CAND 44 is to be completed if diversity of citizenship was indicated above. Mark this section for each principal party.
- IV. Nature of Suit.** Place an “X” in the appropriate box. If the nature of suit cannot be determined, be sure the cause of action, in Section VI below, is sufficient to enable the deputy clerk or the statistical clerk(s) in the Administrative Office to determine the nature of suit. If the cause fits more than one nature of suit, select the most definitive.
- V. Origin.** Place an “X” in one of the six boxes.
- (1) Original Proceedings. Cases originating in the United States district courts.
 - (2) Removed from State Court. Proceedings initiated in state courts may be removed to the district courts under Title 28 USC § 1441. When the petition for removal is granted, check this box.
 - (3) Remanded from Appellate Court. Check this box for cases remanded to the district court for further action. Use the date of remand as the filing date.
 - (4) Reinstated or Reopened. Check this box for cases reinstated or reopened in the district court. Use the reopening date as the filing date.
 - (5) Transferred from Another District. For cases transferred under Title 28 USC § 1404(a). Do not use this for within district transfers or multidistrict litigation transfers.
 - (6) Multidistrict Litigation Transfer. Check this box when a multidistrict case is transferred into the district under authority of Title 28 USC § 1407. When this box is checked, do not check (5) above.
 - (8) Multidistrict Litigation Direct File. Check this box when a multidistrict litigation case is filed in the same district as the Master MDL docket. Please note that there is no Origin Code 7. Origin Code 7 was used for historical records and is no longer relevant due to changes in statute.
- VI. Cause of Action.** Report the civil statute directly related to the cause of action and give a brief description of the cause. **Do not cite jurisdictional statutes unless diversity.** Example: U.S. Civil Statute: 47 USC § 553. Brief Description: Unauthorized reception of cable service.
- VII. Requested in Complaint.** Class Action. Place an “X” in this box if you are filing a class action under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 23. Demand. In this space enter the actual dollar amount being demanded or indicate other demand, such as a preliminary injunction. Jury Demand. Check the appropriate box to indicate whether or not a jury is being demanded.
- VIII. Related Cases.** This section of the JS-CAND 44 is used to identify related pending cases, if any. If there are related pending cases, insert the docket numbers and the corresponding judge names for such cases.
- IX. Divisional Assignment.** If the Nature of Suit is under Property Rights or Prisoner Petitions or the matter is a Securities Class Action, leave this section blank. For all other cases, identify the divisional venue according to Civil Local Rule 3-2: “the county in which a substantial part of the events or omissions which give rise to the claim occurred or in which a substantial part of the property that is the subject of the action is situated.”
- Date and Attorney Signature.** Date and sign the civil cover sheet.