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10 Attorneys for Plaintiffs and the Class

11 **SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA**
12 **BY AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO**

13 LOUISA GUTIERREZ, an individual,
14 DEBBIE LUNA, an individual, on behalf of
15 themselves and all persons similarly situated,

16 Plaintiff,

17 v.

18 JOHNSON & JOHNSON, a New Jersey
19 Corporation, JOHNSON & JOHNSON
20 CONSUMER, INC., a New Jersey
21 Corporation, VALEANT
22 PHARMACEUTICALS NORTH AMERICA
23 LLC, a New Jersey Limited Liability
24 Company, AND DOES 1-100, inclusive

25 Defendants.

CASE NO. 37-2019-00025810-CU-NP-CTL

CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT FOR VIOLATIONS OF:

(1) THE CONSUMER LEGAL REMEDIES ACT (Civil Code § 1750, et seq.)

(2) THE FALSE ADVERTISING LAW (Business and Professions Code § 17500, et seq.), and

(3) THE UNFAIR COMPETITION LAW (Business & Professions Code § 17200, et seq.)

DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL

1 Plaintiffs Louisa Gutierrez and Debbie Luna (collectively “Plaintiffs”), individually, on
2 behalf of all others similarly situated (the “Class” or the “Class Members” as defined below), and
3 on behalf of the general public, allege:

4 **INTRODUCTION**

5 1. This is consumer class action seeking restitution of all monies unlawfully earned by
6 Defendants Johnson & Johnson, Inc., Valeant Pharmaceuticals, LLC and Johnson & Johnson
7 Consumer, Inc. (collectively, "Defendants") for the sale of their Baby Powder and Shower to
8 Shower products (“Talcum Products”). Defendants have consistently informed the public, the
9 Plaintiffs, and the Class Members that no asbestos or asbestiform fibers are found within the
10 Talcum Products, when in fact, Defendants have known for decades that not only do the Talcum
11 Products contain asbestos or asbestiform fibers, but the methods used by Defendants to look for
12 asbestos and asbestiform fibers in the talc used for the Talcum Products are and were inadequate.

13 2. The reason for this deception is simple: asbestos and talc containing asbestiform
14 fibers are chemicals known to the State of California to cause cancer. Under the Safe Drinking
15 Water and Toxic II Enforcement Act of 1986, Health and Safety Code §25249.6, a.k.a "Proposition
16 65", businesses must provide persons with a "clear and reasonable warning" before exposing
17 individuals to chemicals known to the State of California to cause cancer. The purpose of this
18 requirement is to ensure that California citizens are made fully aware of the presence of
19 toxins in consumer products, allowing them to make an informed choice/decision about whether
20 or not to consume products with toxins known to cause cancer. Knowing that no reasonable
21 consumer would purchase the Talcum Products knowing that the Talcum Products contain or might
22 contain asbestos or asbestiform fibers, Defendants have persisted in obfuscating the potential harm
23 to Plaintiffs, the Class, and the general public.

24 3. This is a class action alleging violations of the Consumer Legal Remedies Act
25 (“CLRA”), Civil Code § 1750, *et seq.*, the False Advertising Law (“FAL”), Business & Professions
26 Code § 17500, *et seq.*, and the Unfair Competition Law (“UCL”), Business & Professions Code
27 §17200, *et seq.*, that seeks, among other things, injunctive relief, restitution, and disgorgement to
28 remedy to a class of all purchasers of Talcum Products resulting decades of Defendants' on-going

1 failure to warn and otherwise negligent, reckless and/or knowing sale of Talcum Products
2 containing asbestos and talc containing asbestiform fibers without providing the notice
3 required by law, and worse, making false representations that the Talcum Products are safe and
4 “free of asbestos”. This action further seeks to remedy Defendants' unfair, unlawful, and fraudulent
5 business practices, and to ensure that all California consumers are warned that they are being
6 exposed to asbestos and talc containing asbestiform fibers before purchasing and/or using Talcum
7 Products.

8 4. Indeed, as Defendants were required as a matter of law to inform Plaintiffs and the
9 members of the Class as defined below that their Talcum Products contained, or could contain,
10 carcinogenic substances, namely talc containing asbestiform fibers, the information withheld from
11 Plaintiff, the Class Members (as defined below), and the general public, must be deemed a material
12 representation.

13 5. While there have been a number of actions seeking individual recovery for injuries
14 suffered because of prolonged use of the Talcum Products, and while there is an action based on
15 Defendants' failure to comply with Prop. 65 and label the Talcum Products with the proper warning
16 label, Plaintiffs are unaware of any class action on behalf of a class of purchasers of the Talcum
17 Products filed in the State of California.

18 6. In accordance with Cal. Business & Professions Code §17203, (“Any person may
19 pursue representative claims or relief on behalf of others only if the claimant meets the standing
20 requirements of Section 17204 and complies with Section 382 of the Code of Civil Procedure,”)
21 Plaintiffs bring this action on behalf of themselves, and all a class of persons similarly situated. The
22 Class, as alleged herein, is defined as:

23 Plaintiffs and all persons who purchased the Talcum Products within the state of
24 California at any time from four years prior to the filing of this complaint and
25 ongoing until date of judgment and/or preliminary approval of class action
settlement.

26 Specifically excluded from the proposed Class are Defendants, their officers, directors, agents,
27 trustees, parents, children, corporations, trusts, representatives, employees, principals, servants,
28 partners, joint venturers, or entities controlled by Defendants, and their heirs, successors, assigns,

1 or other persons or entities related to or affiliated with Defendants and/or their officers and/or
2 directors, or any of them; the judicial officer or judicial officers assigned to this action, any member
3 of the judicial officers' immediate family. Also excluded from the Class are any persons who, as
4 of the date the Complaint is filed, have an action pending against one or more of the Defendants
5 resulting the sale of and any injuries resulting from, any of the Talcum Products.

6 **PARTIES, VENUE AND JURISDICTION**

7 7. This Court has jurisdiction over this action pursuant to the California Constitution,
8 Article VI, §10, which grants the Superior Court "original jurisdiction in all causes except those
9 given by statute to other courts." The statutes under which this action is brought do not specify any
10 other basis for jurisdiction. The damages and restitution sought by Plaintiffs exceed the minimal
11 jurisdiction limit of the Superior Court and will be established according to proof at trial.

12 8. At all relevant times, Plaintiffs are and were citizens of the State of California and
13 purchased the Talcum Products in the State of California. At all relevant times, the Talcum
14 Products were manufactured and packaged in one centralized location from the same raw talc and
15 shipped to all fifty states. Thus, consumers that purchased and used the Talcum Products in any
16 of the other 49 states outside of California would be exposed to the same talc containing asbestos
17 and talc containing asbestiform fibers as a consumer that purchased Talcum Products, and vice
18 versa.

19 9. Plaintiff Louisa Gutierrez is a citizen of the State of California, and a resident of
20 Riverside County. On a regular basis for the past thirty years, Plaintiff Louisa Gutierrez purchased
21 the Talcum Products in the State of California until she became aware of the connection between
22 the Talcum Products and asbestos at the end of 2018 by reading, amongst other stories, the report
23 by Reuters that the Talcum Products contained asbestos and/or talc containing asbestiform fibers.
24 Had Plaintiff Louisa Gutierrez been aware that the Talcum products contained, or could contained
25 asbestos and/or talc containing asbestiform fibers, Plaintiff Louisa Gutierrez would never have
26 purchased or used any of the Talcum Products.

27 10. Plaintiff Debbie Luna is a citizen of the State of California, and a resident of San
28 Diego County. Plaintiff Debbie Luna purchased the Talcum Products in the State of California for

1 for herself and her infant child until she became aware of the connection between the Talcum
2 Products and asbestos at the end of 2018 by reading, amongst other stories, the report by Reuters
3 that the Talcum Products contained asbestos and/or talc containing asbestiform fibers. Had Plaintiff
4 Debbie Luna been aware that the Talcum products contained, or could contained asbestos and/or
5 talc containing asbestiform fibers, Plaintiff Debbie Luna would never have purchased or used any
6 of the Talcum Products.

7 11. Defendant Johnson & Johnson is a New Jersey corporation that is transacting and
8 conducting substantial business within the State of California. Johnson & Johnson mined, milled,
9 processed, imported, converted, compounded, designed, manufactured, marketed, supplied,
10 distributed, sold and/or otherwise placed in the stream of commerce Baby Powder products which
11 contain or contained asbestos and talc containing asbestiform fibers without warnings to which
12 Plaintiffs, the Class, and the consuming public in this State were exposed.

13 12. Defendant Valeant Pharmaceuticals North America, LLC, (“Valeant”) is a New
14 Jersey limited liability company that is and was doing business in the State of New Jersey and in
15 the State of California. Valeant, mined, milled, processed, imported, converted, compounded,
16 designed, manufactured, marketed, supplied, distributed, sold and/or otherwise placed in the stream
17 of commerce Shower to Shower products which contain or contained asbestos and talc containing
18 asbestiform fibers without warnings to which Plaintiffs, the Class, and the consuming public in this
19 State were exposed.

20 13. At all pertinent times, Defendants Johnson & Johnson and Valeant were engaged
21 in the business of manufacturing, marketing, testing, promoting, selling, and/or distributing
22 the Talcum Products containing Asbestos and Talc Containing Asbestiform Fibers. At all pertinent
23 times, Johnson & Johnson and Valeant regularly transacted, solicited, and conducted business in
24 all States of the United States, including the State of California.

25 14. Johnson & Johnson and Valeant have derived substantial revenue from goods and
26 products purchased and used in the State of California. Johnson & Johnson and Valeant expected
27 or should have expected its acts to have consequences within the State of California, and derived
28 substantial revenue from interstate commerce.

1 15. Johnson & Johnson and Valeant mined, milled, processed, imported, converted,
2 compounded, designed, manufactured, marketed, supplied, distributed, sold and/or otherwise
3 placed in the stream of commerce the Talcum Products containing Asbestos and talc containing
4 asbestiform fibers without warnings to which Plaintiffs, the Class, and the consuming public in this
5 State were exposed.

6 16. Defendant Johnson & Johnson Consumer Inc. (f/k/a Johnson & Johnson
7 Consumer Companies, Inc.) is a New Jersey corporation that is and was doing business in the State
8 of New Jersey and in the State of California. Johnson & Johnson Consumer Inc. mined, milled,
9 processed, imparted, converted, compounded, designed, manufactured, marketed, supplied,
10 distributed, sold and/or otherwise placed in the stream of commerce the Talcum Products
11 containing asbestos and talc containing asbestiform fibers without warnings to which Plaintiff and
12 the consuming public in this State were exposed.

13 17. Defendants DOES 1-100 are the fictitious names of corporations, partnerships or
14 other business entities or organizations whose identities are not presently known and that
15 participated in a conspiracy with other corporations, partnerships or other business entities or
16 organizations, including the named Defendants herein, and/or mined, milled, processed, imported,
17 converted, compounded, designed, manufactured, marketed, supplied, distributed, sold and/or
18 otherwise placed in the stream of commerce the Talcum Products containing asbestos and
19 talc containing asbestiform fibers without warnings to which Plaintiff and the consuming public in
20 this State were exposed.

21 **FACTUAL BACKGROUND**

22 18. For decades, Defendants have manufactured the Talcum Products containing
23 asbestos and talc containing asbestiform fibers that were and are continuing to be sold and marketed
24 as safe for daily use by consumers to give off a pleasant smell, mask odors, prevent chaffing and/or
25 absorb moisture. Defendants' Talcum Products were advertised as healthful for babies, children
26 and adults and to be applied regularly to maintain freshness, keep skin soft, mask odors with a floral
27 fragrance, prevent chaffing and/or absorb moisture.

28 19. Defendants and the Cosmetic, Toiletry & Fragrance Association (n/k/a Personal
Care Products Council) ("CTFA") made false statements to Plaintiffs, the Class, the general
public, news media and government agencies that exercise regulatory authority over the

1 cosmetic industry, including, but not limited to, the U.S. Food & Drug Administration ("FDA"),
2 the National Institute of Occupational Health and Safety ("OSHA"), the National Institute for
3 Occupational Safety and Health ("NIOSH"), the Mine Health and Safety Administration
4 ("MHS"), and the National Toxicology Program ("NTP"), which, in turn, proximately caused
5 Plaintiffs' and the Class Members' harm through intentional efforts to deceive the general public
6 and regulatory authorities as to the safety of and presence of carcinogens, including asbestos and
7 talc containing asbestiform fibers in the Talcum Products.

8 20. Defendants and CTFA, for decades, possessed medical and scientific data that
9 raised concerns regarding the presence of carcinogens, including asbestos and talc containing
10 asbestiform fibers in the Talcum Products and that demonstrated the existence of health hazards to
11 those exposed to asbestos and talc containing asbestiform fibers.

12 21. Talc is a hydrous magnesium silicate, inorganic material that is mined from the
13 earth. It is used in the manufacture of goods, such as paper, plastic, paint and coatings, rubber, food,
14 electric cable, ceramics, and cosmetics. In its loose form and as used in the Talcum Products, talc
15 is known as "talcum powder."

16 22. Geologists, Defendants and CTFA-and. their suppliers, experts, agents and advisors-
17 have long known that the deposits in the earth that are associated with talc are also associated
18 with the formation of asbestos. "Asbestos" is a commercial and legal term, rather than a geologic
19 or scientific term, referring to six now-regulated magnesium silicate minerals that occur in
20 fibrous form, including the serpentine mineral chrysotile, and amphibole minerals such as
21 actinolite, anthophyllite, tremolite, amosite and crocidolite. The United States Geological survey
22 on Commercial Talc production in 1965, as well as those dating back to the 1800s, note the presence
23 of tremolite, anthophyllite and chrysotile commonly among those minerals found within talc
24 deposits.

25 23. Defendants and their talc suppliers, which have been and still are the largest talc
26 producers and/or talc-containing product manufactures in the world, admit that they have long
27 employed and/or consulted with doctors, scientists, geologists, mineralogists and .toxicologists,
28 and that they have long maintained extensive medical and scientific libraries and archives
containing materials relating to the health hazards of talc and the presence of carcinogens,
including asbestos and asbestiform talc, in talc and talc deposits.

1 24. Beginning in the 1930s, medical and scientific literature emerged indicating talc was
2 commonly, if not invariably, contaminated with substances known or suspected of being
3 carcinogenic, such as asbestos, silica, quartz, nickel and arsenic. Within the next several decades,
4 an ever-growing body of medical and scientific literature demonstrated that direct and secondary
5 exposure to talc, including asbestos-containing talc, was hazardous to exposed persons' health in
6 that it could cause lung disease, cancer and death.

7 25. Defendants and their affiliates, employees, agents and/or suppliers were members
8 of the National Safety Council. In March of 1933, Waldemar C. Dreesen of the United States Public
9 Health Service reported to the National Safety Council the results of a study conducted among
10 tremolite, talc and slate workers. The study indicated that the talc was a hydrous calcium
11 magnesium silicate, being 45% talc and 45% tremolite, and the National Safety Council stated "The
12 results of the study seemed to indicate a relationship between the amount of dust inhaled and the
13 effect of this dust on the lungs of the workers." As early as 1934, the National Safety Council was
14 publishing that "a cause of severe pulmonary injury is asbestos, a silicate of magnesium." In the
15 September 1935 issue of National Safety News, an article entitled "No Halfway Measures in
16 Dust Control" by Arthur S. Johnson reported lowered lung capacity resulting from "asbestosis"
17 and "similar conditions" that developed "from exposure to excess of many mineral dusts relatively
18 low in free silica content." The article further noted that claims for disabilities from workers who
19 alleged exposure to "clay, talc, emery, and carborundum dusts" had "claims prosecuted
20 successfully." The article concluded that "[i]n the absence of adequate diagnoses, occupational
21 histories and a more satisfactory method of adjudicating claims than prosecution at common law,
22 we must conclude that it is necessary to find a practical method for controlling all mineral dusts."

23 26. In 1936, the National Safety Council published an article entitled "Lesser Known
24 Facts About Occupational Diseases" that found "exposure to asbestos fibers, present in
25 the weaving and grinding of dry asbestos material, offers another type of dust which may
26 cause fatalities among workers." In 1958, The New York Department of Labor published Industrial
27 code Rule No. 12 establishing regulations applying to all employees and employers relating to
28 dangerous air contaminants and listing both asbestos and talc as such substances.

 27. In 1968, a study presented at the American Industrial Hygiene Conference &
Exposition and published in the American Industrial Hygiene Association Journal concluded

1 that "[a]ll of the 22 talcum products analyzed have a...fiber content...averaging 19%. The fibrous
2 material was predominantly talc but contained minor amounts of tremolite, anthophyllite, and
3 chrysotile as these are often present in fibrous talc mineral deposits...Unknown significant
4 amounts of such materials in products that may be used without precautions may create an
5 unsuspected problem ." L. J. Cralley, et al., Fibrous and Mineral Content of Cosmetic Talcum
6 Products, 29 AM. IND. HYG. Assoc. J. 350-354 (1968). Defendants were aware of these findings.

7 28. In 1968, a scientific study of store-bought, commercially available talcum
8 powders conducted by the Occupational Health Program, National Center for Urban Industrial
9 Health, was published and presented by the American Industrial Hygiene Association. Defendants
10 were aware of this study. The study revealed that, contrary to popular belief, talcum powders
11 were not entirely pure, but rather contained various fibrous minerals, including tremolite,
12 anthophyllite and chrysotile. The study explained that such fibrous content was not unexpected
13 because these types of fibers are often present in fibrous talc mineral deposits. Available
14 documents indicate that during the same year and in the years following, at least one company
15 began testing store-bought talcum powders for asbestos content. Despite tests showing some talcum
16 powders contained asbestos, there is no evidence that positive results or the brand names of
17 contaminated products were communicated to any governmental agency, the media or the public.

18 29. According to a December 2018 report by Reuters, by at least 1967 and 1969,
19 Defendants investigated the existence of tremolite in its Talcum Products, finding that asbestiform
20 fibers were commonly found in its Talcum Products. From the report:

21 In 1964, J&J's Windsor Minerals Inc subsidiary bought a cluster of talc mines in
22 Vermont, with names like Argonaut, Rainbow, Frostbite and Black Bear. By 1966,
23 it was blasting and bulldozing white rock out of the Green Mountain state. J&J
24 used the milled powder in its cosmetic powders and sold a less-refined grade to
25 roofing, flooring and tire companies for use in manufacturing.

26 Ten years after tremolite turned up in the Italian talc, it showed up in Vermont talc,
27 too. In 1967, J&J found traces of tremolite and another mineral that can occur as
28 asbestos, according to a table attached to a Nov. 1, 1967, memo¹ by William Ashton,
the executive in charge of J&J's talc supply for decades.

J&J continued to search for sources of clean talc. But in an April 9, 1969, memo² to
a company doctor, Ashton said it was "normal" to find tremolite in many U.S. talc

¹ Attached hereto at Exhibit 1.

² Attached hereto at Exhibit 2.

1 deposits. He suggested J&J rethink its approach. “Historically, in our Company,
2 Tremolite has been bad,” Ashton wrote. “How bad is Tremolite medically, and how
much of it can safely be in a talc base we might develop?”

3 Since pulmonary disease, including cancer, appeared to be on the rise, “it would
4 seem to be prudent to limit any possible content of Tremolite ... to an absolute
minimum,” came the reply from another physician executive days later.

5 The doctor told Ashton that J&J was receiving safety questions from pediatricians.
6 Even Robert Wood Johnson II, the founder’s son and then-retired CEO, had
7 expressed “concern over the possibility of the adverse effects on the lungs of babies
or mothers,” he wrote.

8 “We have replied,” the doctor wrote, that “we would not regard the usage of our
9 powders as presenting any hazard.” Such assurances would be impossible, he added,
“if we do include Tremolite in more than unavoidable trace amounts.”

10 The memo is the earliest J&J document reviewed by Reuters that discusses tremolite
11 as more than a scratchy nuisance. The doctor urged Ashton to consult with company
12 lawyers because “it is not inconceivable that we could become involved in
litigation.”

13 Lisa Girion, “Johnson & Johnson knew for decades that asbestos lurked in its Baby Powder,”
14 Reuters (December 14, 2018), [https://www.reuters.com/investigates/special-
15 report/johnsonandjohnson-cancer/](https://www.reuters.com/investigates/special-report/johnsonandjohnson-cancer/).

16 30. A 1976 follow-up study conducted by researchers at Mount Sinai Hospital
17 New York concluded that “[t]he presence in these products of asbestiform anthophyllite and
18 tremolite, chrysotile, and quartz indicates the need for a regulatory standard for cosmetic
19 talc ...We also recommend that evaluation be made to determine the possible health hazards
20 associated with the use of these products.” Rohl A.N., et al., Consumer Talcums and Powders:
21 Mineral and Chemical Characterization, 2 J. TOXICOL. ENVIRON. HEALTH 255-284(1976).
22 The Mount Sinai study results were published by various newspapers, including the New York
23 Times and the Washington Post, and Defendants were aware of same.

24 31. In the early 1970s, the FDA began an inquiry into whether to regulate and require
25 warnings on talc-containing products. Defendants and CTFA, an exclusive lobbying and advocacy
26 group representing companies engaged in the cosmetic products industry, repeatedly conspired and
27 worked in concert to block efforts to label and warn consumers regarding the dangers (including
28

1 Asbestos and talc containing asbestiform fibers hazards) associated with cosmetic talcum powder
2 products, such as Defendants' The Talcum Products.

3 32. In 1971, the New York City of Environmental Protection Administration Air
4 Resources Board conducted a study of two "leading" brands of talcum powder using transmission
5 electron microscopy ("TEM") and X-ray diffraction ("XRD") analysis, and found them to contain
6 5-25% tremolite and anthophyllite asbestos.

7 33. Soon thereafter, a symposium was held in August of 1974 at the FDA to discuss the
8 issue of asbestos content of talcum powders with the talc industry, government officials, and
9 doctors and scientists from Mt. Sinai Hospital, which was then the epicenter of the medical and
10 scientific study of asbestos. Among other statements, participants and attendees heard: that
11 asbestos should be banned in talcum powders; models should be set up to measure the levels
12 exposure to asbestos experienced by persons using talcum powder containing asbestos at the
13 lowest level of microscopic detection; and that finding asbestos in talc and talcum powder is
14 extremely difficult, and the only truly reliable way to determine the asbestos content of talc and
15 talcum powder is through TEM and electron diffraction. Defendants and CTFA, aware of the
16 foregoing and citing costs as well as their fear of the public learning talc was contaminated with
17 asbestos, ignored and completely rejected any measures to meaningfully test talc products to
18 make sure they were free from asbestos, asbestiform talc and other carcinogens.

19 34. After this 1971 symposium, Dr. Weissler of the FDA hired Dr. Seymour Z. Lewin
20 to test commercially available talcum powders for asbestos. Dr. Lewin tested 195 samples and
21 found asbestos of varying amounts in 43. Many of Dr. Lewin's positive results were eventually
22 corroborated by Pfizer Inc. The results, however, were uncorroborated by two other laboratories,
23 leading the FDA to the conclusion that XRD, optical and electron microscopy, and electron
24 diffraction must be used to detect asbestos in talc and talcum powders.

25 35. Dr. Lewin of New York University disclosed twice in 1972 that asbestos had been
26 found in cosmetic talc. In a report to the FDA on August 3, 1972, Dr. Lewin reported that of 195
27 talc products, 20 had tremolite, 7 had chrysotile, 9 had both tremolite and chrysotile, and 7 had
28 substantial percentages of one of both. XRD had been used as the first step in analysis and the

1 presence of asbestos and was verified by the use of optical microscopy to disclose the presence of
2 significant numbers of fibers. Shortly thereafter, Dr. Lewin reported to Whittaker, Clark & Daniels
3 Inc. on September 30, 1972, that Italian talc 1615 contained about 2% tremolite and 0.5% chrysotile
4 as determined with XRD and detailed microscopic exam. In a July 31, 1973, review of Dr. Lewin's
5 testing of 195 talc samples, the FDA found "good semi-quantitative agreement" for tremolite on
6 selected samples re-analyzed using optical microscope analysis by FDA and XRD by Pfizer.
7 Agreement was not as good for chrysotile, but the review did warn that optical microscopy could
8 "completely miss the presence of chrysotile if the fibers are submicroscopic, which may well be
9 the case in finely-milled talc." In 1972, ES Laboratories reported that "1615" talc contained
10 1% chrysotile and that "4615" talc contained 3% chrysotile and 3% anthophyllite. An August
11 23, 1973, report by Johns-Manville on TEM analysis of commercial talcs reported that nine of
12 fourteen samples contained chrysotile. Only five samples did not have detectable levels of
13 chrysotile. Pages from the laboratory notebook of Colgate-Palmolive Co. scientist Paul Briscese
14 from March 7, 1976, show that Old Regal (North Carolina) talc tested positive for tremolite, New
15 Montana talc tested positive for anthophyllite and tremolite, and Italian talc tested positive for
16 tremolite.

17 36. A December 10, 1973, report of the CTFA's Talc Subcommittee disclosed that
18 optical microscope analyses of talcs from the Italian, Montana I & 11, Alabama, Vermont, and
19 North Carolina mines had failed the proposed FDA's method because of elevated chrysotile
20 concentrations. This December 10, 1973, CTFA report also showed that several laboratories had
21 reported chrysotile in many of the talc samples sent by the CTFA for evaluation of analytical
22 methods as well as the several identifications of asbestos in talc mentioned.

23 37. In the early 1970s, the FDA began an inquiry into whether to regulate and require
24 warnings on consumer talcum powder products. CTFA, an exclusive lobbying and advocacy group
25 representing companies engaged in the cosmetic products industry, including Defendants and their
26 talc suppliers, repeatedly conspired and worked in concert to block efforts to label and warn
27 consumers regarding the dangers associated with cosmetic talcum powder products, such as Talc
28 Defendants' products. On September 3, 1973, the FDA sent CTFA a letter regarding various means

1 of measuring asbestos in talc, stating that "conventional methods employing X-ray diffraction or
2 differential thermal analysis are not sufficiently reliable to produce quantitative results of the
3 desired precision." The FDA further advised CTFA that it "has been exploring refractory optical
4 microscopy as a means of measuring asbestos in talc." CTFA responded to the FDA's public notice
5 on its proposed optical microscopy method on December 26, 1973. CTFA contended that the
6 proposed method was not "reliable" for the detection of asbestos in talc, recommended a
7 "collaborative effort between FDA and industry to develop such a method," and urged deferment
8 of the proposed rule. Minutes of CTFA's Talc Subcommittee meeting on March 15, 1976, indicate
9 that the FDA's "Dr. Shaffner suggested the possibility of having industry report periodically on the
10 results of its analysis to the FDA." Dr. Estrin of CTFA responded that "the subcommittee would
11 give serious consideration to this suggestion."

12 38. Contemporaneously, evidence began to emerge from testing conducted by various
13 regulatory agencies revealing that asbestos was being found in food, beer and drugs, including
14 intravenously injected medicines. In 1972, and later in 1973, the FDA filed notices of proposed
15 rulemaking requiring talc used in food, food packing and drugs to be completely free of asbestos.
16 These were some of the same "grades" of talc used by Defendants.

17 39. The talc industry's response, including that of the Defendants, was swift and
18 well-coordinated through CTFA, with which the Defendants conspired and worked in concert
19 to purposely create a flawed, voluntary testing and surveillance methodology for detecting asbestos
20 in talc and block efforts to label and warn consumers regarding the dangers associated with the
21 talc products, including Defendants' Talcum Products.

22 40. Regarding the FDA's proposed 1972 rule-making, the FDA Director of Product
23 Development and Cosmetics, Dr. Schaffner, invited representatives of the talc industry to a
24 meeting in August of 1972 to discuss the results of Dr. Lewin's study and inform them that the
25 FDA was preparing to release a "Proposed Statement of Policy On Asbestos in Cosmetics
26 Containing Talc." Schaffner explained that he was duty-bound and must publicize the brand names
27 of the talcum powders that contained asbestos. CTFA's president, Dr. Merritt, strongly objected
28 to the FDA alerting the general public and publishing the brand names of the talcum powders, as it

1 would cause the manufactures "economic hardship." Merritt also threatened to sue the FDA to
2 prevent the disclosure of the brand names. As a result, the FDA, Defendants and CTFA never
3 revealed or publicized the brand names of the talcum powders that contained asbestos, much
4 to the detriment of the plaintiffs and the general public.

5 41. In 1973, CTFA created a talc subcommittee and the Scientific Advisory
6 Committee to develop a testing methodology for detecting asbestos in talc. Initially, CTFA
7 designated a group of its members to tests talc grades used in talcum powder utilizing the
8 methodology proposed by the FDA in its notice of rulemaking. Six samples of talc used in
9 commercially available talcum powders, plus one talc sample purposely spiked with tremolite and
10 chrysotile, were circulated among the members, including representatives of Defendants. Of the
11 eight participating members, four found asbestos in every sample, three did not find asbestos in any
12 sample (including the spiked sample), and one found asbestos only in the spiked sample. In
13 conclusion, all members agreed that the best and most reliable method of detecting asbestos in talc
14 is not optical microscopy, but rather TEM and electron diffraction. The same members,
15 however, dispensed with this analytical method, claiming TEM and electron diffraction
16 equipment was too expensive, despite Defendants then owning or having unfettered access to
17 same.

18 42. From there, the difference between what Defendants and CTFA knew diverged from
19 what they were representing to the FDA. Defendants, CTFA and others in the industry knew that
20 there was no such thing as asbestos-free talc--only talc in which asbestos could not be
21 detected using the prevailing, most economic analytical methodology, XRD, which at the time
22 could not accurately identify chrysotile asbestos in talc, nor detect tremolite
23 asbestos contamination levels below 2-5%.

24 43. Defendants and the CTFA also did not disclose to the FDA that the overwhelming
25 majority of talcum powder manufacturers and sellers were not testing their products for asbestos,
26 and even if they were testing, it was done so superficially: only four or so grams per 20 tons of pre-
27 shipment and pre-processed talc, as an example. Defendants and CTFA also failed to the
28 inform the FDA that they were not testing off-the-shelf talc powder products, but rather

1 old samples that were never from the end products themselves. They also failed to inform the FDA
2 that they were limiting their testing of talc to only one type of asbestos fiber to the exclusion of all
3 other fiber types that are commonly found in talc deposits. What is more, to the extent Defendants
4 found asbestos in their samples, these positive results were not reported to the FDA. Instead, on
5 their behalf, CTFA sent letters to the FDA in March of 1976 fraudulently claiming that industry
6 testing had shown all talcum powder products to be completely free of asbestos.

7 44. Beginning in 1975 and 1976, researchers at New York Air Resources Board, Mt.
8 Sinai School of Medicine, and the FDA became increasingly concerned that CTFA, Defendants
9 and the cosmetic industries were slow to address the issue of asbestos in talc and talcum powders.
10 Defendants had not issued any recalls, provided consumer warnings, informed the FDA of any
11 effort to ensure that talcum powders on the market did not contain asbestos, or developed a
12 reliable methodology or protocol for ensuring that talc and talcum powder did not contain
13 asbestos or asbestiform-talc.

14 45. Taking matters into their own hands, Mt. Sinai Hospital researchers published a
15 follow-up article to Dr. Lewin's 1971 study that demonstrated that some of Defendants' talcum
16 powders contained over 20% asbestos. The researchers concluded that "[t]he presence in these
17 products of asbestiform anthophyllite and tremolite, chrysotile, and quartz indicates the need for a
18 regulatory standard for cosmetic talc ...We also recommend that evaluation be made to determine
19 the possible health hazards associated with the use of these products." The results of the Mount
20 Sinai study were known to the Defendants and published the same year by the New York Times
21 and the Washington Post.

22 46. Defendants and CTFA responded to these developments by falsely claiming that the
23 industry was doing "everything" it could to solve the problem; issuing press releases falsely
24 claiming that chrysotile had never been found in talcum powders; and intentionally suppressing
25 data that showed tremolite was commonly found in talc and talcum powder.

26 47. CTFA subsequently began in earnest to produce a voluntary protocol
27 and methodology that would provide Defendants cover from both lawsuits and
28 regulation. Egregiously, as concerned media members, citizens and regulators began asking more

1 questions about which other brands of talcum powder contained asbestos, Defendants and CTFA
2 falsely represented that talcum powders have never contained asbestos or asbestiform-talc.

3 48. Defendants, their talc suppliers, and third parties funded by Defendants
4 collectively met with and corresponded with CTFA, as well as collectively met with the FDA and
5 other government agencies, to individually and collectively advocate for the use of "voluntary"
6 XRD testing of miniscule portions of the tons of talc to be used in consumer
7 products. Defendants' "voluntary" method-that was developed collectively by Defendants and
8 CTFA and advocated to the FDA in lieu of regulations requiring asbestos labeling or warnings on
9 talcum powder products-was inadequate because levels of asbestos contamination in talc
10 commonly fell below the detection limit of the testing methods. Defendants and CTFA also knew
11 that asbestos contamination was not uniformly distributed, such that the miniscule amounts tested
12 would not reveal the true level of contamination in talc products, such as The Talcum Products to
13 which Plaintiff and the consuming public in this State were exposed.

14 49. In support of its voluntary XRD methodology, which was finally published
15 in 1977, CTFA produced letters to the FDA written by its members, including Defendants,
16 identifying tests conducted showing talcum powder products did not contain asbestos. CTFA,
17 Defendants and other talc product producers, however, never informed the FDA of the hundreds of
18 positive tests showing talc and talcum powders contained asbestos and other carcinogens.

19 50. CTFA "Method J4-I," published on October 7, 1976, states that TEM-SAED "offers
20 greater sensitivity, but is not presented since it is unsuitable for normal quality control
21 applications." The published method, rather, relies on XRD with "the level of detection of
22 amphibole by this method [being] 0.5% and above." CTFA met with and corresponded with
23 Defendants and third parties, to individually and collectively advocate to the FDA for the use of
24 inadequate XRD testing on miniscule portions of the tons of talc obtained from the mining
25 sources to be used in the consumer products, followed by fewer "periodic" tests by TEM. This
26 voluntary method was developed by CTFA and Defendants, and was advocated to the FDA by
27 CTFA and Defendants in lieu of regulations requiring labeling and warnings on talcum powder
28 products, even though CTFA and Defendants knew that the J4-I method would not reveal the true

1 level of asbestos in the talc that reached consumers. In fact, the first "round robin" tests, which
2 analyzed a "CTFA Tremolite-Spiked Talc," resulted in 6 of 7 participating laboratories failing to
3 detect the tremolite. In other words, 84% of the industry's laboratories failed to detect asbestos in a
4 sample known to contain tremolite asbestos while using the CTFA's own J4-1 method. There is no
5 evidence that CTFA or Defendants ever shared this remarkable failure with the FDA or the public.

6 51. Minutes of CTFA's Talc Subcommittee from February 24, 1975, stated "It was
7 agreed, however, that chrysotile is never found in cosmetic talcs, based on numerous analyses by
8 several investigators ..." When referring to the challenge of chrysotile detection, an article entitled
9 "Talc" in the January/March 1976 CTFA Cosmetic Journal, states that "The only known backup
10 method for a positive identification in this event, is [TEM] with selected area diffraction."
11 However, "despite many efforts, the committee had been unable to find a sample of cosmetic talc
12 containing naturally occurring asbestos ...it was asked, 'Why should we test for chrysotile if there
13 isn't any?'" CTFA's Specification for Cosmetic Talc, revised on October 7, 1976, falsely
14 represented that no fibrous asbestos was detected in cosmetic talc. Even after 1976, CTFA and
15 Defendants continued to obtain and/or receive results of testing performed internally and
16 externally indicating the presence of asbestos and other carcinogens in the talc being used to
17 manufacture cosmetic products. However, CTFA and Defendants continued to represent that no
18 asbestos was detected in cosmetic talc. These material representations adversely and directly
19 impacted the FDA's attempt to adequately test consumer talc for asbestos and regulate cosmetics.
20 The most sensitive method of identifying or detecting asbestos in cosmetic talc, TEM-SAED, was
21 not used because CTFA represented that its "ultra sensitivity could be a problem" and that it was
22 too expensive to use. Instead, its J4-1 method relied on XRD alone for detection of asbestos at
23 greater concentrations than 0.5%, a concentration that could allow more than a billion asbestos
24 fibers per gram of talc to be passed off as "asbestos-free ."

25 52. Defendants and CTFA made and published such representations, claiming that
26 their testing method was adequate, that they were ensuring that talcum powder products were
27 safe, and that the talc reaching consumers in the Talcum Products was "safe," despite having
28 substantial knowledge and evidence to the contrary. Defendants intentionally and knowingly

1 did so to avoid FDA, CalEPA, OEHHA and other governmental agency regulations that, like
2 California's Proposition 65, would have required them to place warnings regarding the asbestos
3 and talc containing asbestiform fibers content of their talcum products, and thereby inform the
4 public in this State, including Plaintiffs, that their Talcum Products contain asbestos and talc
5 containing asbestiform fibers.

6 53. CTFA then published an article in 1979 stating it conducted over three thousand
7 tests of talcum powders and none of them found chrysotile. The article and report failed to disclose
8 whether the talcum powders tested contained tremolite, anthophyllite or any other form of asbestos.
9 This publication of half-truths was conveyed to the FDA and the public with the purpose of
10 preventing regulations of cosmetic products. Thereafter CTFA's methodology became the standard
11 by which nearly all talc was analyzed by the entire industry, including talc used in cosmetic and
12 hygiene products today.

13 54. CTFA and Defendants have represented to various news media outlets and the public
14 at large that their products are "asbestos-free," when, in fact, their products did test positive for
15 asbestos and those that did not were merely the result of inadequate and imprecise testing methods.
16 "No asbestos detected" does not mean the product does not contain asbestos, but due to Defendants'
17 repeated conflation of the terms, the public has been lead to erroneously believe talc products are
18 safe. Furthermore, since Defendants and CTFA did not have sufficient testing protocols in place to
19 support the claims that Talc Products, were safe or asbestos-free, such statements were recklessly
20 made, as they had no reason to believe them.

21 55. Between 1970 and the 1990s, tests conducted by and on behalf of Defendants and
22 the talc industry continued to show that talc and talcum powder products contained asbestos.
23 None of these positive tests have ever been produced or made known to any regulatory agency, and
24 knowledge of their existence is only because of civil litigation. Defendants intentionally and
25 knowingly did so to avoid FDA and California's Proposition 65 regulations that may have
26 required them to place warnings regarding the asbestos content of their products, including the
27 Talcum Products, and thereby inform the public, including Plaintiffs, that the Talcum Products
28 contained asbestos and talc containing asbestiform fibers.

1 56. Defendants and CTFA's failure to disclose these positive results and the
2 inadequacies of their testing protocols continued through the 1980s, 1990s and 2000s, even when
3 various government agencies, including California's Environmental Protection Agency ("CalEPA")
4 and Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment ("OEHHA") and others, raised
5 concerns about the safety of talc, including the issue of asbestos content.

6 57. To this day, many talc-containing products presently on the market, including the
7 talcum products contain asbestos and talc containing asbestiform fibers. Instead of publicizing this
8 fact, Defendants and CTFA continue to deny all the above to protect their pecuniary interests, to
9 the severe detriment of the public, including Plaintiffs and the members of the Class.

10 58. Since at least 1979, Defendants have conducted a campaign--to convince the
11 public that their products are regulated by the FDA, that their tests are conducted pursuant to FDA
12 regulations, and that talcum powder products are, therefore, safe. Nothing could be further from
13 the truth: the FDA has never been assigned a budget by Congress to regulate cosmetics, including
14 asbestos and other carcinogens in talcum powders. Defendants' concerns for the safety of their
15 products have always been voluntary and under the auspices of CTFA, a private industry group,
16 that in its 40 years has only banned the use of 11 ingredients in all cosmetics ever sold in the United
17 States. Indeed, as of today, asbestos-containing talc in cosmetics has not been banned or otherwise
18 regulated by CTFA or the FDA.

19 59. Defendants (and other entities in the talc industry and cosmetic industries,
20 including the CTFA), individually and collectively, failed to report to the FDA, CalEPA, OEHHA
21 and other regulatory agencies, tests performed both internally and by outside laboratories
22 confirming the presence of asbestos and talc containing asbestiform fibers in both their
23 finished products, including the Talcum Products, as well as talc shipments from suppliers
24 Defendants obtained talc from and other sources that were used to produce finished products.

25 60. Defendants, and even the outside laboratories, including McCone Associates,
26 sent letters to CTFA, to be and which were forwarded to the FDA, stating that results of testing of
27 talc used by them after 1972 had not revealed the presence of amphibole or chrysotile asbestos,
28

1 when in fact all of these entities had received or performed tests indicating the contrary when
2 such false representations were made.

3 61. After 1976, Defendants and CTFA continued to obtain and/or receive results of
4 testing performed internally and externally indicating the presence of Asbestos and talc
5 containing asbestiform fibers in the Talcum Products.

6 62. Defendants failed to place any warning on their Talcum Products despite CalEPA
7 and OEHHA regulations otherwise, or ever disclose the fact that these products contain asbestos or
8 talc containing asbestiform fibers, at any point, up to and including the present, despite the clear
9 hazard and direct information that their Talcum Products did and continue to contain asbestos or
10 talc containing asbestiform fibers.

11 63. Defendants and CTFA, collectively and through explicit agreement and
12 consciously parallel behavior, controlled industry standards regarding the testing, manufacture,
13 sale, distribution and use of talcum powder products, and controlled the level of knowledge and
14 information available to the public, including Plaintiffs, regarding the hazards of exposure to
15 carcinogens, including asbestos and talc containing asbestiform fibers, from the Talcum Products.

16 64. Defendants and CTFA, through agreement and consciously parallel behavior,
17 knowingly and intentionally released, published and disseminated invalid, inaccurate, outdated
18 and misleading scientific data, literature and test reports containing misinformation and false
19 statements regarding the health risks associated with the use of talc and talcum powder products,
20 including the Talcum Products, to which Plaintiffs and the consuming public in this State have
21 been exposed .

22 65. Defendants and CTFA, while cognizant of the aforementioned data, deliberately
23 chose to ignore the health and safety issues raised in said data and embarked upon a plan of
24 deception intended to deprive the public at large in this State and elsewhere, including Plaintiffs,
25 of alarming medical and scientific findings, many of which remained in their exclusive
26 possession and under their exclusive control.

27 66. Defendants and CTFA conspired and/or acted in concert with each other and/or with
28 other entities through agreement and consciously parallel behavior:

1 a. to withhold from users of their products including Plaintiffs, the Class, and
2 the general consuming public of this State-and from persons who they knew and should have
3 known would be exposed thereto--information regarding the health risks of inhaling and/or
4 ingesting and/or perineal (genital) application of the Talcum Products;

5 b. to eliminate, suppress or prevent investigation into the health hazards of
6 exposure to asbestos and other carcinogens in talc and talcum powder products;

7 c. to ensure that asbestos-containing talc and talcum powder products became
8 widely used in commerce, irrespective of the potential and actual risk of harm to the users and
9 consumers from the asbestos and other carcinogens therein; and

10 d. to falsely represent that talc and talcum powder products, including those of
11 Defendants, were safe and healthful for use by consumers such as Plaintiffs, the Class Members,
12 and the general consuming public of this State.

13 67. Plaintiffs and the Class reasonably, and in good faith, relied upon the false and
14 fraudulent representations made by Defendants and CTFA regarding the hazards of talc and talcum
15 powder products that contained asbestos and other carcinogens, and he was, therefore, deprived
16 of an opportunity to make informed 'decisions concerning use of, exposure to and contact with
17 said products.

18 68. CTFA, as well as Defendants and other entities in the talc industry and cosmetic
19 industries, individually and collectively, failed to report to the FDA tests performed both
20 internally and by outside laboratories confirming the presence of asbestos in Defendants' and
21 other CTFA members ' finished products as well as talc shipments from talc suppliers and other
22 sources that were used to produce finished products. Instead, CTFA sent letters to the FDA
23 stating that results of testing of talc used by the industry after 1972 had not revealed the presence
24 of amphiboles or chrysotile, when in fact all of these entities had received or performed tests
25 indicating the contrary by 1976, when such intentionally false misrepresentations were made.
26 CTFA and Defendants made and published such representations claiming that their collective
27 testing method was adequate, they were ensuring that talcum powder products, including The
28

1 Talcum Products, were safe, and that their testing of talc reaching consumers was "safe," despite
2 knowing the contrary.

3 69. The FDA, CalEPA, OEHHA, other regulatory bodies, and ultimately Plaintiffs, the
4 Class, and the general consuming public of this State, directly and/or indirectly relied upon CTFA's
5 and Defendants' false representations regarding the safety of cosmetic talc. In fact, a FDA letter
6 dated January 11, 1979, states: "In cooperation with scientists from industry, our scientists have
7 been making progress in the development of such regulatory methods." The continuing lack of
8 FDA awareness regarding CTFA's and Defendants' misrepresentations was obvious seven years
9 later. In a response to a citizen petition to require an asbestos warning label on cosmetic talc, on
10 July 1, 1986, the FDA states that an "analytical methodology was sufficiently developed" to ensure
11 that "such talc [is] free of fibrous amphibole..." CTFA's J4-I method has continued for the past four
12 decades to be the cosmetic talc industry's method for "ensuring" "asbestos-free" talc. The use of
13 TEM, recognized by the CTFA as offering "greater sensitivity" for asbestos, continued to increase
14 over the following decades as its advantages were applied to more matrices. In 1990, Kremer and
15 Millette published a TEM method for analysis of asbestos in talc with a theoretical detection limit
16 of about 0.00005%. Despite such improvements in analytical techniques, the cosmetic talc
17 industry, including Defendants, continues, four decades later, to use and promote its antiquated and
18 wholly inadequate J4-I method.

19 70. CTFA and Defendants, collectively and through explicit agreement and consciously
20 parallel behavior, controlled industry standards regarding the testing, manufacture, sale, marketing,
21 distribution and use of asbestos-containing talcum powder products, and controlled the level of
22 knowledge and information available to the public in this State regarding the hazards of exposure
23 to asbestos and talc with asbestiform fibers and other carcinogens from talc and talc-containing
24 products, including the Talcum Products.

25 71. CTFA and Defendants, through agreement and consciously parallel behavior,
26 intentionally failed to warn potential users, including Plaintiffs, the Class, and the general
27 consuming public in this State, of the serious bodily harm and/or death which may result from the
28

1 inhalation and/or ingestion and/or perineal (genital) application of asbestos and talc containing
2 asbestiform fibers from their Talcum Products.

3 72. CTFA and Defendants, through agreement and consciously parallel behavior,
4 knowingly and intentionally released, published and disseminated invalid, inaccurate, outdated
5 and misleading scientific data, literature and test reports containing misinformation and false
6 statements regarding the health risks associated with the use of talc and talcum powder, and
7 specifically talc and talcum powder used in the production of the Talcum Products to which
8 Plaintiffs, the Class, and the general consuming public in this State were exposed.

9 73. CTFA and Defendants, through agreement and consciously parallel behavior,
10 suppressed, altered, changed, destroyed and/or revised reports, data, tests, studies and other
11 documents regarding the potential presence of asbestos and other carcinogens in talc and talc-
12 containing products, including Defendants' the Talcum Products to which Plaintiffs, the Class, and
13 the consuming public in this State were exposed.

14 74. As recently as 2016, Defendants made material misrepresentations to the FDA
15 regarding asbestos and talc containing asbestiform fibers in their talcum powder products.

16 75. However, as a matter of law, Defendants were required to inform the public that
17 their products contained, or possibly contained carcinogens such as asbestos and talc containing
18 asbestiform fibers. Health & Safety Code §25249.6 provides:

19 No person in the course of doing business shall knowingly and intentionally
20 expose any individual to a chemical known to the state to cause cancer or
21 reproductive toxicity without first giving clear and reasonable warning to such
22 individual. ..

23 76. "Knowingly" refers only to knowledge of the fact that a discharge of, release of, or
24 exposure to a chemical listed pursuant to Section 25249.8(a) of the Act is occurring. "No knowledge
25 that the discharge, release or exposure is unlawful is required (27 Cal. Code Regs, title 27,
26 §25102(n)).

27 77. Proposition 65 also provides that any person "violating or threatening to violate"
28 the statute may be enjoined in a court of competent jurisdiction. (Health & Saf. Code §25249.7)
The phrase "threatening to violate" is defined to mean creating "a condition in which there is

1 substantial likelihood that a violation will occur." (Health & Saf. Code §25249.1 1(e)). Violaters
2 are liable for civil penalties of up to \$2,500 per day for each violation of the Act. (Health & Saf.
3 Code §25249.7).

4 78. Asbestos is listed by the State of California as a chemical known to cause cancer.
5 Asbestos is therefore subject to the "clear and reasonable" warning requirements of

6 79. Due to the high toxicity of asbestos in causing cancer, the No Significant Risk Level
7 ("NSRL") or ("Safe Harbor") for inhalation of asbestos is 100 fibers/day (inhalation) (27 Cal. Code
8 Regs, Title 27, CR 25709(b)). Defendants manufacture, distribute, market and/or sell in California
9 the Talcum Products containing asbestos in levels exceeding the NSRL for inhalation through
10 normal and intended use of the products.

11 80. There is no Safe Harbor established for perineal (genital) exposure to asbestos.

12 81. Talc Containing Asbestiform Fibers is also listed by the State of California as a
13 chemical known to cause cancer. Talc Containing Asbestiform Fibers is therefore subject to the
14 "clear and reasonable" warning requirements of Proposition 65 for cancer.

15 82. There are no Safe Harbors established for exposure to Talc Containing
16 Asbestiform Fibers.

17 83. Since there is no established Safe Harbor for perineal (genital) exposure to
18 Asbestos, or for inhalation or perineal (genital) exposure to Talc Containing Asbestiform Fibers,
19 the named Defendants must demonstrate that the exposure will produce no observable effect,
20 even at 1,000 times the level in question. See, 27 Cal. Code of Regs, Title 27, §25801 et. seq.
21 Clearly, at 1,000 times the asbestos and talc containing asbestiform fibers levels in question, the
22 named Defendants are unable to show "no observable effect."

23 84. At all times relevant to this action, Defendants have knowingly exposed
24 California consumers to asbestos and talc containing asbestiform fibers in the offending the Talcum
25 Products talcum powder products without clear and reasonable warning to such individuals.

26 85. At all times relevant to this action, Defendants have failed to place a clear
27 and reasonable Proposition 65 warning for asbestos and talc containing asbestiform fibers,
28 disclosing the cancer-causing effects, on the Talcum Products.

1 86. At all times relevant to this action, Defendants' representatives have failed to
2 warn California consumers that their Talcum Products contain cancer-causing asbestos and talc
3 containing asbestiform fibers.

4 87. At all times relevant to this action, Defendants have failed to place a clear and
5 reasonable Proposition 65 warning for asbestos and talc containing asbestiform fibers on their
6 marketing materials.

7 88. At all times relevant to this action, Defendants have failed to place a clear and
8 reasonable Proposition 65 warning for asbestos and talc containing asbestiform fibers on store
9 shelves.

10 89. At all times relevant to this action, Defendants have failed to place a clear and
11 reasonable Proposition 65 warning for asbestos and talc containing asbestiform fibers on their 16
12 websites. To the contrary, Defendants continue to represent on their websites that the Talcum
13 Products are "asbestos free."

14 90. Further, by failing to place a clear and reasonable Proposition 65 label on for their
15 websites, products, or advertising, Defendants both actively and passively asserted to Plaintiffs,
16 the Class, and the general consuming public, that the Talcum Products were safe and legal to use
17 for all purposes, when, as alleged above, they were not. Plaintiffs and the Class had a reasonable
18 presumption that the sale of the Talcum Products, all of which were placed on retail store shelves,
19 and which were openly available for sale without any warning labels at all, was safe, and in
20 compliance with California law. *Steroid Hormone Product Cases* (2010) 181 Cal. App. 4th 145,
21 156-57.

22 **CLASS ACTION ALLEGATIONS**

23 91. Plaintiffs bring this action on behalf of themselves, the general public, and all others
24 similarly situated. Plaintiffs seek to represent the following class:

25 Plaintiffs and all persons who purchased the Talcum Products within the state of
26 California at any time from four years prior to the filing of this complaint and
27 ongoing until date of judgment and/or preliminary approval of class action
28 settlement.

1 All Class members are hereinafter referred to as the “Class.” Subject to additional information
2 obtained through further investigation and discovery, the foregoing definition of the Class may be
3 expanded or narrowed by amendment or amended complaint. Specifically excluded from the
4 proposed Class are Defendants, their officers, directors, agents, trustees, parents, children,
5 corporations, trusts, representatives, employees, principals, servants, partners, joint venturers, or
6 entities controlled by Defendants, and their heirs, successors, assigns, or other persons or entities
7 related to or affiliated with Defendants and/or their officers and/or directors, or any of them; the
8 judicial officer or judicial officers assigned to this action, any member of the judicial officers’
9 immediate family. Also excluded from the Class are any persons who, as of the date the Complaint
10 is filed, have an action pending against one or more of the Defendants resulting from the sale of, or
11 injuries related to the use of, any of the Talcum Products.

12 92. This action has been brought and may be properly maintained as a class action,
13 pursuant to the provisions of the California Code of Civil Procedure Section 382 and California
14 Civil Code Section 1781.

15 93. Numerosity – Code Civ. Proc. § 382; Civ. Code § 1781(b)(1): Members of the Class
16 are so numerous that their individual joinder is impracticable. Plaintiffs are informed and believes,
17 and on that basis allege, that the proposed class contains thousands of members. The precise
18 number of Class members is unknown to Plaintiffs. Class members are likely to be known by
19 Defendants, or Defendants’ customers, however, and thus, may be notified of the pendency of this
20 action by mail, supplemented (if deemed necessary and appropriate by the Court) by published
21 notice.

22 94. Existence and Predominance of Commons Questions of Fact and Law – Code of
23 Civ. Proc. § 382; Civ. Code § 1781(b)(2): Common questions of law and fact exist as to all
24 members of the Class. These questions predominate over the questions affecting individual Class
25 members. These common legal and factual questions include:

- 26 i. Whether the Talcum Products contain asbestos or asbestiform fibers;
- 27 ii. Whether Defendants knew or should have known that the Talcum
28 Products contained asbestos or asbestiform fibers;

1 iii. Whether Defendants failure to label the Talcum Products as possibly
2 containing known carcinogens violates Health & Safety Code § 259249.5;

3 iv. Whether Defendants violated Health & Safety Code § 111792 by
4 failing to notify the California Division of Environmental and Occupational Disease Control that
5 the Talcum Products contain asbestos and/or asbestiform fibers;

6 v. Whether Defendants could lawfully sell the Talcum Products in the
7 State of California without complying with Health & Safety Code §§ 11792 and 259249.2;

8 vi. Whether the sale of the Talcum Products in California at retail
9 establishments constituted an affirmative statement by Defendants to Plaintiffs and the Class
10 Members that the Talcum Products were safe to use, and that Defendants had complied with all
11 laws, including Health & Safety Code §§ 11792 and 259249.2;

12 vii. Whether the affirmative statement by Defendants through the sale
13 the Talcum Products in California at retail establishments that the Talcum Products were safe to
14 use, and that Defendants had complied with all laws, including Health & Safety Code §§ 11792
15 and 259249.2 was a misrepresentation as to the Talcum Product's source, sponsorship, approval,
16 or certification in violation of Civil Code § 1770(a)(2);

17 viii. Whether the affirmative statement by Defendants through the sale
18 the Talcum Products in California at retail establishments that the Talcum Products were safe to
19 use, and that Defendants had complied with all laws, including Health & Safety Code §§ 11792
20 and 259249.2 constituted a representation, whether express or implied, that the Talcum Products
21 have sponsorship, approval, characteristics, ingredients, uses or benefits which they do not have in
22 violation of Civil Code § 1770(a)(5);

23 ix. Whether the affirmative statement by Defendants through the sale
24 the Talcum Products in California at retail establishments that the Talcum Products were safe to
25 use, and that Defendants had complied with all laws, including Health & Safety Code §§ 11792
26 and 259249.2 constituted a representation that the Talcum Products are of a particular standard,
27 quality, or grade, or of a particular style or model, when they are of another in violation of Civil
28 Code § 1770(a)(7);

1 x. Whether the affirmative statements by Defendants that the Talcum
2 Products were “asbestos-free” constituted a misrepresentation as to the Talcum Products source,
3 sponsorship, approval, or certification in violation of Civil Code § 1770(a)(2);

4 xi. Whether the affirmative statements by Defendants that the Talcum
5 Products were “asbestos-free” constituted a representation, whether express or implied, that the
6 Talcum Products have sponsorship, approval, characteristics, ingredients, uses or benefits which
7 they do not have in violation of Civil Code § 1770(a)(5);

8 xii. Whether the affirmative statements by Defendants that the Talcum
9 Products were “asbestos-free” constituted a representation that the Talcum Products are of a
10 particular standard, quality, or grade, or of a particular style or model, when they are of another in
11 violation of Civil Code § 1770(a)(7);

12 xiv. Whether the affirmative statements by Defendants that the Talcum
13 Products are and were “asbestos-free” constitutes false advertising under Business & Professions
14 Code § 17500, et seq.;

15 xv. Whether the sale of the Talcum Products constituted an unlawful
16 business practice in violation of Business & Professions Code § 17200, et seq.;

17 xvi. Whether the sale of the Talcum Products constituted a deceptive
18 business practice in violation of Business & Professions Code § 17200, et seq.;

19 xvii. Whether the sale of the Talcum Products constituted an unfair
20 business practice in violation of Business & Professions Code § 17200, et seq.;

21 xviii. Whether Defendants have been unjustly enriched by their sale of the
22 Talcum Products to Plaintiffs and the members of the Class; and,

23 xix. The appropriate amount of restitutionary disgorgement owed to
24 Plaintiffs and the Class.

25 95. Typicality – Code Civ. Proc. § 382; Civ. Code § 1781(b)(3): Plaintiffs’ claims are
26 typical of the claims of the Class since Plaintiffs purchased the Talcum Products from Defendants
27 as did members of the Class. Furthermore, Plaintiffs and all members of the Class sustained injury
28 in fact by losing money as a result of Defendants’ wrongful conduct.

1 96. Adequacy – Code Civ. Proc. § 382; Civ. Code § 1781(b)(4): Plaintiffs are adequate
2 representatives of the Class because their interests do not conflict with the interests of the Class
3 they seek to represent; they have retained counsel competent and experienced in complex class
4 action litigation; and she intends to prosecute this action vigorously. The interests of the Class will
5 be fairly and adequately protected by Plaintiffs and their counsel.

6 97. Superiority – Code Civ. Proc. § 382: The class action is superior to other available
7 means for the fair and efficient adjudication of the claims of Plaintiff and members of the Class.
8 Although the monetary injury suffered by each individual Class member may total several hundred
9 dollars, injury of such magnitude is nonetheless relatively small given the burden and expense of
10 individual prosecution of the complex and extensive litigation necessitated by Defendants’ conduct.
11 It would be virtually impossible for members of the Class individually to redress effectively the
12 wrongs done to them. Even if the members of the Class could afford such individual litigation, the
13 court system could not. Individualized litigation presents a potential for inconsistent or
14 contradictory judgments. Individualized litigation increases the delay and expense to all parties,
15 and to the court system, presented by the complex legal and factual issues of the case. By contrast,
16 the class action device presents far fewer management difficulties, and provides the benefits of
17 single adjudication, economy of scale, and comprehensive supervision by a single court.

18 **CAUSES OF ACTION**

19 **FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION**

20 **Violation of the Consumers Legal Remedies Act**
21 **[Civil Code § 1750 *et seq.*]**
22 **(On behalf of Plaintiffs and the Class Against All Defendants)**

23 98. The allegations of the preceding paragraphs are incorporated by reference as if fully
24 set forth herein.

25 99. The Talcum Products are “goods” within the meaning of the Consumer Legal
26 Remedies Act, Civil Code sections 1761(a) and 1770 (the “CLRA”).

27 100. Each Defendant is a “person” within the meaning of the CLRA, Civil Code sections
28 1761(c) and 1770.

 100. Purchasers of the Talcum Products, including Plaintiffs Gutierrez and Luna, and the

1 Class, are “consumers” within the meaning of the CLRA, Civil Code sections 1761(d) and 1770.

2 102. Plaintiffs and each and every Class Member’s purchases of the Talcum Products
3 constitute “transactions” within the meaning of the CLRA, Civil Code sections 1761(e) and 1770.

4 103. Defendants’ unfair or deceptive acts or practices as described herein, were
5 undertaken by Defendants in transactions intended to result or which resulted in the sale of goods
6 to consumers, and were intended to induce, and did in fact induce, Plaintiffs and the Class to
7 purchase for personal use such products, which they would not have otherwise purchased. Indeed,
8 as one official with the U.S. Food and Drug Administration was quoted in 1971 as saying with
9 regard to the possible presence of asbestos and/or talc containing asbestiform fibers in baby powder,
10 “No mother was going to powder her baby with 1% of a known carcinogen irregardless [sic] of the
11 large safety factor.”³

12 104. Defendants’ practices, acts and course of conduct with respect to their distribution
13 and sale of the Talcum Products violate the CLRA in that Defendants’ representation that its talcum
14 powder products are safe and free from asbestos or asbestiform fibers constitutes: (1) a
15 misrepresentation as to the Talcum Products source, sponsorship, approval, or certification in
16 violation of Civil Code § 1770(a)(2); (2) a representation, whether express or implied, that the
17 Talcum Products have sponsorship, approval, characteristics, ingredients, uses or benefits which
18 they do not have in violation of Civil Code § 1770(a)(5); and (3) a representation that the Talcum
19 Products are of a particular standard, quality, or grade, or of a particular style or model, when they
20 are of another in violation of Civil Code § 1770(a)(7). Here, despite decades of evidence that the
21 Talcum Products contain, or could contain asbestos or asbestiform fibers, Defendants continue to
22 advertise that their products are safe.

23 105. Defendants’ practices, acts and course of conduct in connection with its sale of the
24 Talcum Products are likely to mislead a reasonable consumer acting reasonably under the
25 circumstances to his or her detriment. Further, the misrepresentation of the safety of the Talcum
26 Products are clearly material to the determination to purchase the Talcum Products, as the potential
27 harm to the consumer or the consumer’s family is significantly greater than the value conferred by

28 ³ See Exhibit 3.

1 the purchase of the Talcum Products (“No mother was going to powder her baby with 1% of a
2 known carcinogen irregardless [sic] of the large safety factor.”), there are equivalent products that
3 confer a similar benefit to the consumer that the Talcum Products provided, and, as a result, no
4 reasonable consumer, including Plaintiffs and the Class Members, would purchase the Talcum
5 Products had they known that the Talcum Products were not, in fact, safe as Defendants, advertised,
6 but that these products contained, or possibly contained, asbestos or asbestiform fibers, which are
7 known carcinogens.

8 106. As a direct and proximate result of Defendants’ violations of law, Plaintiffs and the
9 Class have suffered damages by not receiving what was promised to them in exchange for the
10 purchase of the Talcum Products, which Defendants contended were safe, and did not contain
11 asbestos or asbestiform fibers.

12 107. By filing this Complaint, Plaintiffs seek an order enjoining Defendants from the
13 continued sale of Talcum Products; an Order enjoining Defendants from collecting money from the
14 Class from the sale of such products; and an Order requiring Defendants to notify the class of its
15 violations of the CLRA and the remedy it will provide to them. Plaintiff and the Class are entitled
16 to equitable relief in the form of restitutionary disgorgement of all earnings, profits, compensation
17 and benefits obtained by Defendants as a result of its violations of the CLRA, along with other
18 appropriate relief including reasonable attorneys’ fees and expenses.

19 **SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION**
20 **Violation of the False Advertising Law**
21 **[Business And Professions Code Section 17500, Et Seq.]**
22 **(On Behalf of Plaintiffs and the Class Against all Defendants)**

23 108. Plaintiffs hereby incorporate by reference all previous paragraphs of this
24 Complaint as if fully set forth herein and further allege as follows:

25 109. Plaintiffs bring this cause of action pursuant to California Business & Professions
26 Code § 17500. California Business & Professions Code § 17500 provides that it is unlawful
27 for any person, firm, corporation or association to dispose of property or perform services, or
28 to induce the public to enter into any obligation relating thereto, through the use of untrue
or misleading statements.

1 110. Plaintiffs and the Class Members purchased the Talcum Products and have suffered
2 injury in fact and have lost money or property as a result of the unlawful, unfair, or fraudulent
3 business practices and unfair, deceptive, untrue or misleading advertising.

4 111. At all times herein alleged, Defendants have committed acts of disseminating
5 untrue and misleading statements as defined by California Business & Professions Code § 17500
6 by engaging in the following acts and practices with intent to induce members of the public to
7 purchase and use the Talcum Products:(a) Representing that the Talcum Products are safe for their
8 intended and foreseeable use and "free of asbestos," knowing that said representations were
9 false, and concealing that the Talcum Products, or at least some of them, contain asbestos and talc
10 containing asbestiform fibers and have a serious propensity to cause injuries to users; (b) Issuing
11 promotional literature and commercials deceiving potential users of the Talcum Products by
12 relaying positive information and concealing material relevant information regarding the safety
13 and efficacy of the Talcum Products; and other unfair, unlawful and fraudulent conduct.

14 112. The foregoing practices constitute false and misleading advertising within the
15 meaning of California Business & Professions Code § 17500.

16 113. The acts of untrue and misleading statements by Defendants described here in
17 above present a continuing threat to members of the public in that the acts alleged herein are
18 continuous and ongoing, and the public will continue to suffer the harm alleged herein .

19 114. As a result of their conduct described above, Defendants have been and will be
20 unjustly enriched. Specifically, Defendants have been unjustly enriched by receipt of hundreds of
21 millions of dollars in ill-gotten gains from Plaintiffs and the Class Members from the sale of the
22 Talcum Products in California, sold in large part as a result of the acts and omissions described
23 herein.

24 115. Pursuant to California Business & Professions Code § 17535, Plaintiffs seeks an
25 order of this Court compelling the Defendants to provide restitution and injunctive relief calling for
26 Defendants, and each of them, to cease unfair business practices in the future.

27
28

1 116. Plaintiffs seek restitutionary disgorgement of the monies collected from Plaintiffs and
2 the Class, by Defendants, and each of them, and other injunctive relief to cease such false and
3 misleading advertising in the future.

4 117. Defendants' actions described above were performed willfully, intentionally, and
5 with reckless disregard of the life and safety of the Plaintiffs, the Class, and the general public.

6 **THIRD CAUSE OF ACTION**
7 **Violation of the Unfair Competition Law**
8 **[Business and Professions Code Section 17200, et seq.]**
9 **(on Behalf of Plaintiffs and the Class Against all Defendants)**

10 118. Plaintiffs hereby incorporate by reference all previous paragraphs of this
11 Complaint as if fully set forth herein and further allege as follows.

12 119. California Business & Professions Code § 17200 provides that unfair competition
13 shall mean and include "all unlawful, unfair or fraudulent business practices and unfair,
14 deceptive, untrue or misleading advertising."

15 120. Plaintiffs and the Class purchased the Talcum Products and have suffered injury in
16 fact and have lost money or property as a result of the unlawful, unfair or fraudulent business
17 practices and unfair, deceptive, untrue or misleading advertising.

18 121. The acts and practices described above violate California Health and Safety Code
19 §25249.5, et seq. (Proposition 65) and therefore satisfy and violate the "unlawful" prong of § 17200.

20 122. The acts and practices described above also violate the California Safe Cosmetic
21 Act of 2005 (Cal. Health & Safety Code §§ 111791 et seq.) for failing to notify the California Safe
22 Cosmetics Program that the Talcum Products contain asbestos and talc containing asbestiform
23 fibers -- ingredients known to cause cancer. The California Safe Cosmetics Act is a California
24 State law that was enacted in 2005 and is implemented by the California Safe Cosmetics Program
25 in the California Department of Public Health. The Act requires companies to report cosmetics
26 products sold within the state that contain ingredients known or suspected to cause cancer, birth
27 defects, or other reproductive harm. The violations of Cal. Health & Safety Code §§ 11191 et
28 seq. also satisfy and violate the "unlawful" prong of § 17200.

1 123. The acts and practices described above also violate the Consumer Legal Remedies
2 Act, and the False Advertising Law, as described above, in that Defendants have represented to
3 Plaintiffs, the Class and the general public, that their products are safe and “asbestos-free.” Thus,
4 the statements made by Defendants that the Talcum Products were safe and “asbestos-free” are
5 constitute unlawful acts within the meaning of California Business & Professions Code § 17200.

6 124. Further, by selling the Talcum Products openly in retail establishments throughout
7 the State of California, Defendants violated and violate the Consumer Legal Remedies Act, by
8 passively intimating that the Talcum Products complied with all of California’s laws, and were safe
9 to use, when, in fact, they were not. This conduct, prohibited by the CLRA, also constitutes
10 unlawful acts within the meaning of California Business & Professions Code § 17200.

11 125. The acts and practices described above were and are also likely to mislead the
12 general public and therefore constitute unfair business practices within the meaning of California
13 Business & Professions Code § 17200, including unfair, unlawful, and/or fraudulent practices.

14 126. The acts of untrue and misleading advertising set forth in presiding paragraphs are
15 incorporated by reference and are, by definition, violations of California Business &
16 Professions Code § 17200. This conduct is set forth fully herein, and includes, but is not limited to:
17 (a) Representing that the Talcum Products are safe for their intended and foreseeable use and "free
18 of asbestos," knowing that said representations were false, and concealing that the Talcum Products
19 contain Asbestos and Talc Containing Asbestiform Fibers and had a serious propensity to cause
20 injuries to users; (b) Issuing promotional literature and commercials deceiving potential users of
21 the Talcum Products by relaying positive information and concealing material relevant information
22 regarding the safety and efficacy of the Talcum Products; (c) Selling the Talcum Products freely
23 and openly without any indication of the associated health risks; and other unfair, unlawful and
24 fraudulent conduct.

25 127. These practices constitute unlawful, unfair and/or fraudulent business acts or
26 practices, within the meaning of California Business & Professions Code § 17200. The fraudulent
27 conduct includes representing that the Talcum Products were safe for their intended use and failing
28 to warn Plaintiff and the Class Members of the risks associated with the Talcum Products.

1 128. The unlawful, unfair and fraudulent business practices of Defendants described
2 above present a continuing threat to members of the public in that Defendants continue to engage
3 in the conduct described therein.

4 129. As a result of their conduct described above, Defendants have been and will be
5 unjustly enriched. Specifically, Defendants have been unjustly enriched by receipt of millions of
6 dollars in ill-gotten gains from the sale of the Talcum Products in California to Plaintiffs and the
7 Class, sold in large part as a result of the acts and omissions described herein.

8 130. Plaintiffs, on behalf of themselves, and on behalf of the Class, pursuant to California
9 Business & Professions Code § 17203, seeks an order of this court compelling the Defendants
10 to provide restitutionary disgorgement and injunctive relief calling for Defendants, and each of
11 them, to cease unfair business practices in the future.

12 **DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL**

13 131. Plaintiffs hereby demand trial by jury.
14

15 **PRAYER FOR RELIEF**

16 WHEREFORE, Plaintiffs, individually, and on behalf of the Class and the general
17 public, pray for judgment against Defendants as follows:

- 18 1. For an order certifying that this action may be maintained as a class action against
19 Defendants, appointing Plaintiffs and their counsel to represent the Class, as alleged
20 herein, and directing that reasonable notice of this action be given by Defendants to the
21 members of the Class;
- 22 2. For an order awarding reimbursement, restitution and disgorgement from Defendants of
23 the benefits unjustly conferred by Plaintiffs and the Class;
- 24 3. For an order awarding injunctive and other equitable relief;
- 25 4. For an order awarding declaratory relief;
- 26 5. For an order awarding pre- and post-judgment interest to the Class, at the highest rate
27 allowed by law;
- 28 6. For an order awarding costs, including experts' fees, and attorneys' fees and expenses,

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and the costs of prosecuting this action; and

7. For an order awarding granting such other and further relief as is just and proper.

Dated: May 15, 2019

POTTER HANDY LLP

By:  _____

Mark Potter, Esq.
James M. Treglio, Esq.

Attorneys for Plaintiffs and the Class

EXHIBIT 1

Johnson-Johnson

New Brunswick, N. J.

Nov. 1, 1967

Subject:

Metropolitan Talc
Lot G 716
Preliminary Evaluation

The talc used for this evaluation was produced in the Plainfield plant and was delivered to us by Mr. Don Ferry about Oct. 1, 1967.

Perfume Retention and Aroma

The Metro talc shows greater retention for perfume than does our Vermont talc and the indications are that the rate of escape is very close to that developed with Italian talc. We ran a gravimetric rate loss test on talcs containing 1% P-5 in open dishes and find the rate loss very close to Italian talc at both 70 and 100F for the Metro and significantly faster for the Vermont. (Graphs 1 & 2)

The Metro talc does not show the chalky note under circumstances which create that aroma in Vermont talcs. Since the original problem in perfumery developed at a low dose of P-5 we elected to set up a storage test with the three talcs (Italian, Vermont, Metro) and P-5 at 0.1% incubated at 120F for three weeks. The Vermont article develops a chalky tone whereas the other two did not.

The above tests lead us to believe that the commercial dose of either P or P-5 would provide a satisfactory aroma life with Metro type talc. Our tests were limited in that we did not include the neutralizer at this point.

Chemical and Physical Properties

Except for fineness the Metro talc fits the physical characteristics which we find adequate. (Table I) The shipment on hand is slightly on the coarse side; a slightly increased grind should bring it into range.

Mineralogically the talc is predominantly platy although a large percentage of the plates are broken and lath shaped. The lath shape of some of the particles appears to have resulted from the grinding method since the cleavage of the crystals from a sample of the

Plaintiff's
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rock is normal. Optically, by count, the product is at least 93% talc plus 3-5% Dolomite and 1% or less of Tremolite. The associate minerals are liberated from the talc crystals.

The talc has high slip, good flow character and is remarkably white. It is probably the whitest commercially available talc which we have observed at the 200 mesh grind level.

The carbonate Dolomite is actually calcium magnesium carbonate. This assays about 5% using the strong acid method and close to 4% using the titration method. This carbonate level requires up to 1% of sesquicarbonate to maintain our historic pH limits in the finished product. A 1% neutralizer content is prohibitively high. Sesquicarbonate in the 0.2% area brings the initial pH of the product close to neutral and there might be some merit in considering such a product but of course the effect would be to drift up to the higher alkaline ranges over the 18 hr control test we now use. (Graph 111)

Talc Source and Processing

The talc ore processed in Plainfield comes from the deposit in Madoc Ontario which we explored at depth some years ago.

The Madoc deposit has a lot in common with Italian talc from the geological and mineralogical points of view. The associate minerals in the district are very similar and the crystal habit of the talcs are also very similar to the Italian situation. Thus there would be every reason to expect the two talcs to perform about the same when their processing conditions were reasonably close.

The Madoc deposit is a relatively large source of talc but it contains several grades of ore which are given different names. The highest grade up there is the Henderson section and it is that section which is presently being worked to supply the crudes for the Plainfield plant. As far as we know the reserves at Madoc were of the 150,000 ton order for the Henderson type at the 600 foot levels.

The process used to upgrade the talc is based on electrostatic separation. This is a dry process so there would be no effects resulting from wetting or flotation reagentry.

Next Steps

Mr. Russell and I shall be visiting Mr. Ferry at the Plainfield plant in the next few days. We will get an idea of the capabilities and determine what is

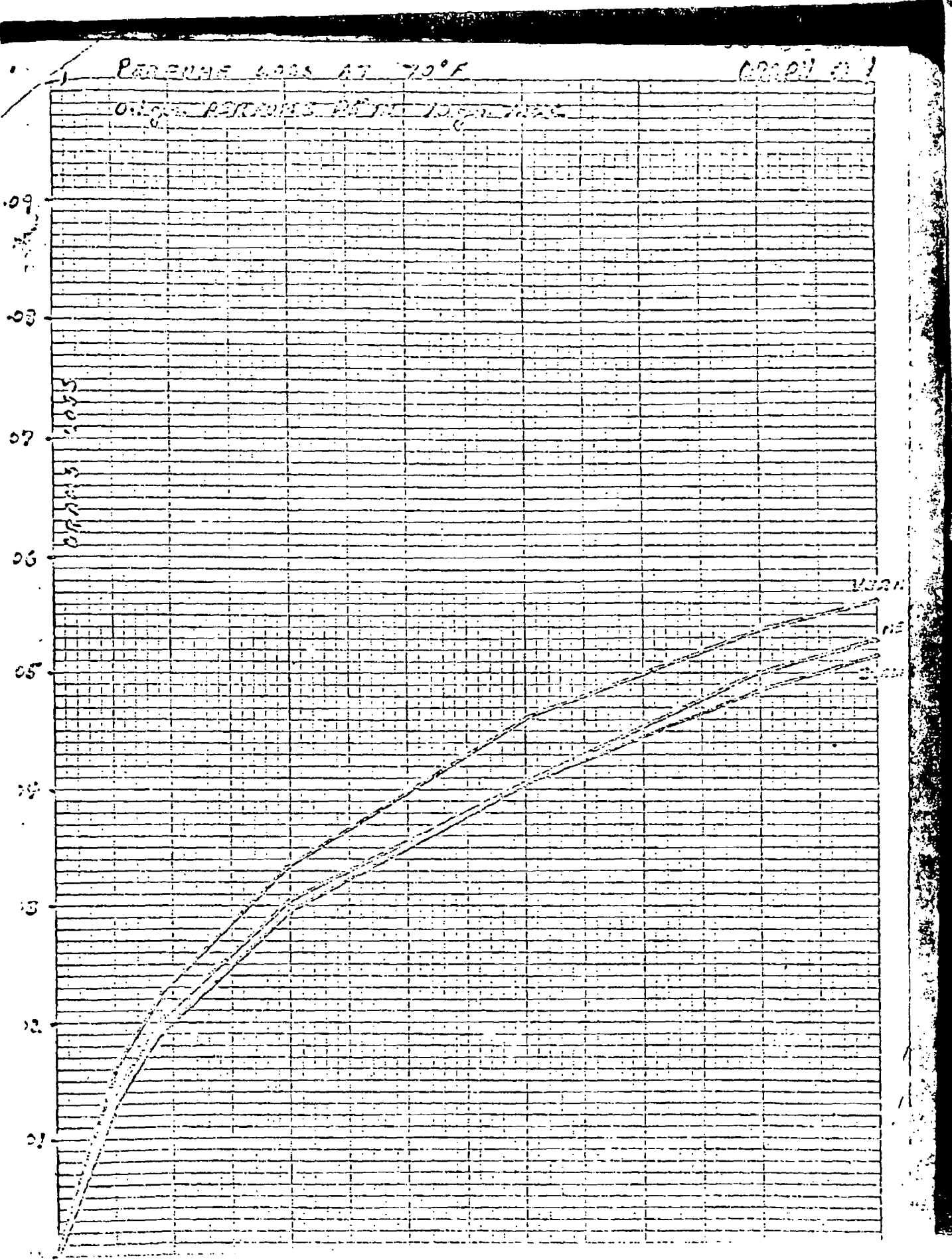
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involved in reducing the carbonate level and making arrangements for a couple tons of it for a large scale run.

Meanwhile we have 200 lbs of the above described Metro talc on hand here which I plan to make available to whomever would like to run some tests with it. Although I am personally impressed with the laboratory scale work Russell and I have done, a larger confirmation on a pilot plant batch could prove useful. For example this should be made up with whatever perfume levels are used in the plant today and might evaluate the holding power for the perfume in the powder-puff unit also.

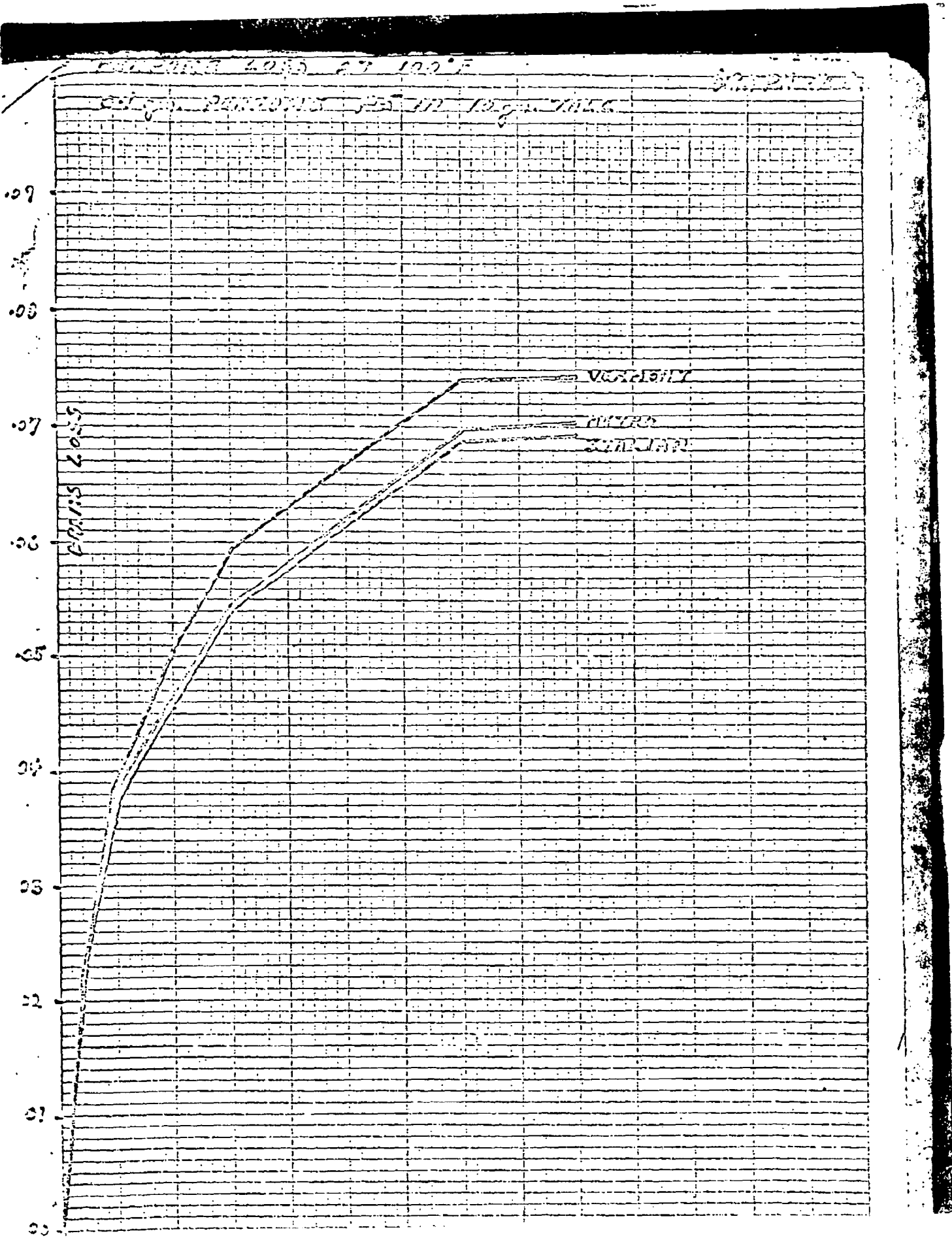
Mr. Russell prepared and arranged the attached data.

W. Ashton



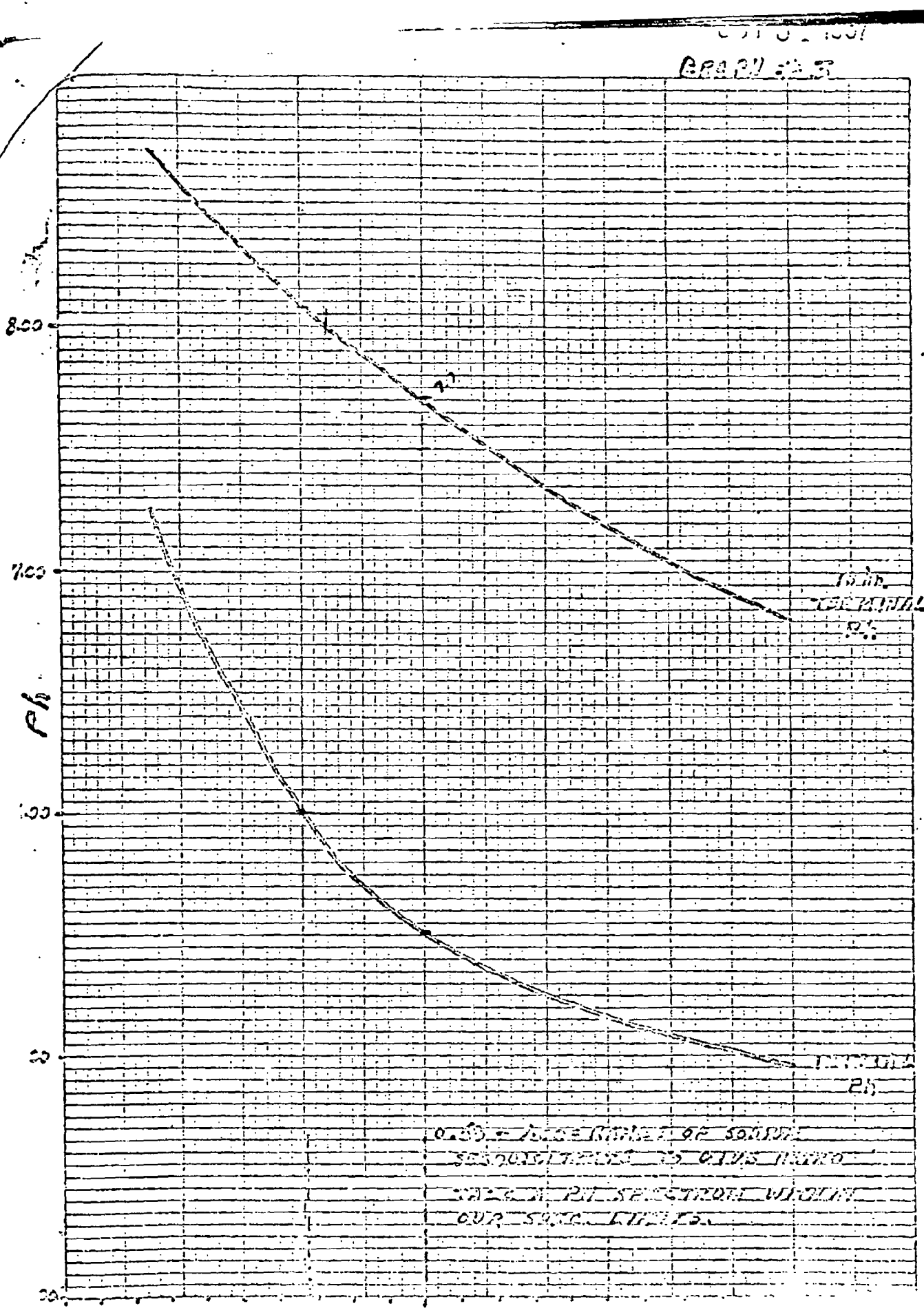
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OCT 31 1967

TABLE I
Physical & Chemical Data

<u>t</u>	<u>Metro #1</u>	<u>Vermont S4-23</u>	<u>Ital. 42771E</u>
sture %	0.09	0.07	0.01
. in Acid %	5.08	1.60	3.00
ration %	4.08	0.80	1.50
Dens. lb/ft ³	24.7	25.4	23.4
or	White	Off White Grey-Green cast	White with creamy cast
ness %			
-60	100%	100%	100%
than -100	99.98%	99.90%	100%
-200	96.85%	99.0%	99.7%
y Metals ppm	less than 10	less than 10	less than 10
ic ppm	0.3	less than 2 ppm	0.7
Soluble Iron	passes	passes	passes
ction (2 oz) max.	130 cc	125 cc	137 cc
ncO TAPPED) min.	72 cc	73 cc	72 cc

P C D . . .

OCT 31 1967

TABLE II
Microscopic Mineralogical Assay

	<u>Metro #1</u>	<u>Vermont Talc S4-23</u>	<u>Talc Batch 994*</u>	<u>Italian Talc</u>
Total Talc	93%	99%	94%	93 - 99%
Platy	90%	95%	86%	88 - 90%
Nonplaty	3%	3%	8%	5 - 9%
Carbonates	5	1	1-2	1-3
Remolite	1	trace	trace	1-2
Argentine	trace	trace	4	none
Opalines	< 1	trace	trace	trace

*Produced August 21, 1967 at West Windsor

R.S. Rawill

Johnson & Johnson

New Brunswick, N. J.

April 9, 1969

Subject: Alternate Domestic Talc Sources
File No. 101

Dr. G. Hildick-Smith

Pete, we have to firm up the position the Company should have on the presence of the mineral Tremolite in talc. Your staff will have to do this for us since the objections to that mineral have been mainly medical or clinical as opposed to chemical or physical.

The reason we have to firm up our position is that we have moved into high gear on some alternate talc sources and it is normal to find different levels of Tremolite in many U.S. talcs. We are looking at some of those.

Historically, in our Company, Tremolite has been bad because it has needle type crystals. Our position has been that these can stand on end, penetrate the skin, and cause irritation; consequently, talcs exceeding trace contents have never been approved. Over the past year or two, the medical literature has made reference to potential hazards of talcs containing Tremolite and I have seen some articles under the umbra of environmental health agencies from here and abroad which pinpoint severe objections to that mineral in talcum powders.

Unfortunately, Tremolite has different varieties and can be easily confused with other members of the mineral class into which it falls. Chemically, it is mainly a calcium silicate with varying amounts of magnesium silicate and sometimes it carries iron with it in minor amounts. Some varieties of it match asbestos, and I gather there has been a lot of attention given to the hazards of inhaling minerals of that type lately.

Plaintiff's
Exhibit
J&J 202

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There is nothing we can do about the confused state of affairs on Tremolite from the mineralogical and chemical points of view as far as historic literature is concerned.

The question is...How bad is Tremolite medically, and how much of it can safely be in a talc base we might develop?


W. H. Ashton

pm

cc: Dr. R. A. Fuller
Dr. E. R. L. Gaughran
Mr. R. J. Mortimer
Dr. T. H. Shelley
Dr. R. L. Sundberg

EXHIBIT 2

CC: [unclear]
Johnson & Johnson

New Brunswick, N. J.

April 15, 1969

Subject: ALTERNATE DOMESTIC TALC SOURCES

Project Code #101

Mr. W. H. Ashton:

Your inquiry of April 9th, 1969 addressed to Dr. G. Hildick-Smith has been referred to my attention for reply.

Over the years, I have reviewed the literature on the hazards relating to the inhalation of talc particles on several different occasions. In your memorandum, you indicate that Tremolite does have needle-type crystals and that our position has been that these could penetrate the skin and cause irritation. Actually, to the best of my knowledge, we have no factual information on this subject. It would seem logical that it could occur, although whether or not it would be of clinical significance would be conjectural.

We have been concerned to a much greater extent with regard to possible dangers relative to the inhalation of the talc with a spicule or needle-like crystalline structure as compared with the flat, platelet-type of crystalline structure. There are reports in the literature concerning talcosis which, as you know, is a form of pneumoconiosis attributed to the inhalation of talc. Reported studies have suggested that this does not occur in connection with the flat, platelet-type of talc, but does occur in connection with the spicule-type of crystalline structure characteristic of Tremolite. The reported instances have been extremely few but have, without exception, involved inhalations of high concentrations on an occupational basis of many years duration. Furthermore, we have occasionally received inquiries from various individuals, including General Johnson and several pediatricians, expressing concern over the possibility of the adverse effects on the lungs of babies or mothers who might inhale any substantial amounts of our talc formulations. In the past, we have replied to the effect that since our talc is essentially all of the platelet-type of crystalline structure, and is of a size which would not be likely to enter the pulmonary alveoli, we would not regard the usage of our powders as presenting any hazard. Obviously, if we do include Tremolite in more than unavoidable trace amounts, this sort of negation of such inquiries could no longer pertain.

Plaintiff's
Exhibit
J&J 195

- 2 -

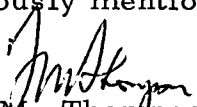
Mr. W. H. Ashton

April 15th, 1969

Upon various occasions we have discussed the possibility of carrying out studies on animals which might provide factual information with regard to whether or not variable exposures to talc suspended in the environmental atmosphere might be productive of fibrotic and/or inflammatory reactions in lungs. For a variety of reasons, these have never been carried out here.

Since pulmonary diseases, including inflammatory, fibroplastic, and neoplastic types, appear to be on the increase, it would seem to be prudent to limit any possible content of Tremolite in our powder formulations to an absolute minimum. To the best of my knowledge, we have never been faced with any litigation involving either skin or lung penetration by our talc formulations. Some years ago, we were faced with a more or less serious problem resulting from what we consider to have been an unjust accusation of danger due to the presence of a small amount of boric acid in our talc. This created such a furor that we were more or less compelled to remove boric acid from the formulation. It is conceivable that a similar situation might eventually arise if it became known that our talc formulations contained any significant amount of Tremolite. Since the usage of these products is so widespread, and the existence of pulmonary disease is increasing, it is not inconceivable that we could become involved in litigation in which pulmonary fibrosis or other changes might be rightfully or wrongfully attributed to inhalation of our powder formulations. It might be that someone in the Law Department should be consulted with regard to the defensibility of our position in the event that such a situation could ever arise.

It is my personal feeling that until we have at least substantial evidence, based on animal work, to the effect that the presence of Tremolite in our talc does not produce adverse effects, we should not extend its usage beyond an absolute minimum previously mentioned.

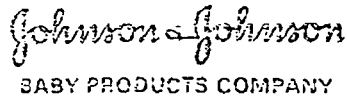


T. M. Thompson, M.D.

TMT:JAG

cc: Dr. R. A. Fuller
Dr. Gavin Hildick-Smith
Mr. W. J. Ryan
Dr. G. H. Lord
Dr. J. E. Willson
Dr. J. Bothwell

EXHIBIT 3



February 13, 1975

SUBJECT: CTFA Talc Subcommittee Meeting
with Food and Drug Administration
Washington, D.C. February 7, 1975

To: Distribution

This letter is being sent to all members of Dr. R.N. Schaffner and the following is a summary of the major discussions.

This meeting was held in Dr. R.N. Schaffner's office on February 7, 1975 at 1:00 PM. Representing FDA were: Dr. R. Schaffner, Mr. H. Eiermann, Mr. H. Davis, Dr. W. Horowitz and Dr. Yates. The CTFA was represented by: Dr. N. Estrin, Mr. G. Sandland, Dr. M. Berdick, Dr. R. Rolle and G. Lee.

Dr. Estrin introduced Mr. Sandland as chairman of the CTFA Talc Subcommittee and indicated that the purpose of our meeting was to present the analytical methodology which had been developed by the CTFA Task Force as applicable to cosmetic talcs.

FDA indicated that there had been no eminent plans to publish new proposed methodology in this regard and did not give us the impression that this matter was being assigned any urgency. They reported no further work with the optical microscopy method. Dr. Horowitz was asked by Dr. Schaffner to elaborate on the only apparent area of analytical activity which is being directed towards Food Regulatory. This is being carried out under contract by the Franklin Institute, who are investigating an SEM method. They're attempting to develop methodology for detecting low levels of asbestos contamination and have experienced difficulty in presenting a uniform sample to the SEM. It's expected that this study may take one to two years. Any further steps to be taken with regards to Food Regulation will therefore have to wait on developments from the Franklin Institute.

When questioned as to FDA efforts and progress in the approach of "concentrating asbestos" to increase the level

Plaintiff's
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of sensitivity, Dr. Yates replied in a tone of frustration that all attempts have met with failure; they had investigated heavy density liquid separation. Dr. Yates did not state that efforts would be continued in this direction, but we volunteered help in evaluating methodology should they develop something.

Dr. Rolle outlined the proposed CTFA methods and the expected limits of detection. It was emphasized to the FDA that these were methods evaluated and recommended for cosmetic talc and would be practical to apply for industrial manufacturing processes. Dr. Rolle highlighted the fact that

any natural-occurring chrysotile in talc for his methods is negligible. Dr. Rolle further supported this by stating that a thorough-points has examined numerous talcs from around the world for cosmetics application and have not found chrysotile. The writer reiterated similar J&J experience with domestic and overseas talcs. Dr. Schaffner agreed that no one has purported to have seen chrysotile in cosmetic talc except Professor Lewin. At this point, Dr. Schaffner asked us what Professor Lewin was doing (if anything) in talc analysis. Dr. Rolle outlined a conversation he had had with Professor Lewin the day before and Dr. Schaffner directed Dr. Horowitz to interview Professor Lewin for his most current views regarding chrysotile in talc. Dr. Berdick made the point that if chrysotile is not expected to be found in talc, then the FDA should not propose regulations to cover chrysotile. After an exchange of philosophy, where Mr. Eiermann took a strong stand for chrysotile in talc regulation, Dr. Schaffner suggested that if the CTFA would submit supporting data attesting to the absence of chrysotile in talc the FDA would take the matter under consideration. Mr. Sandland indicated that the CTFA will be proposing self-regulatory action by amending its present CTFA Talc Standard to include the asbestiform tremolite proposal.

Mr. G. Sandland stated that a regulation of 1% asbestos in talc was not only achievable by thoroughly tested methods, but also gave a safety factor of 48,300 (Sivertson calculation). Mr. Eiermann bluntly said that the calculation was wrong since the standard of 2 fibers/cc. is not a time weighted average. Before we had a chance for rebuttal Dr. Schaffner said that the Sivertson calculation was foolish since no mother was going to powder her baby with 1% of a known carcinogen irregardless of the large safety factor. Because of Dr. Schaffner's strong stand we did not correct Mr. Eiermann's misunderstanding of the calculation.

J&J-0089805


-3-

Dr. Schaffner emphasized that there is an ultimate and more important need for talc clinical safety data in order to satisfy the consumerist advocates. The writer assured him that this would be forthcoming from J&J.

Copies of the DTA and X-Ray Diffraction Detection Procedures together with the Sivertson Report "An Estimate of a Safe Level of Asbestos in Baby Powder Talc" were distributed to the FDA representatives and the meeting was closed with Dr. Estrin thanking the FDA for the opportunity of exchange and discussion.

The general impression received by the writer was that the FDA was not anxious to publish further proposals relative to "asbestos-in-talc" pending outcome of the Franklin Institute Study, as long as the consumerist advocates remain quiescent. It is also evident that the FDA would depend on clinical data to defend the safety of talc.

In a post-meeting caucus of the CTFA attendees, it was agreed that the CTFA would proceed to compile information from consultants and manufacturers which attest to the fact that chrysotile has never been found in cosmetic talcs and submit this to the FDA.


G. Lee

paj

J&J-0089806

EXHIBIT B



**Service of Process
Transmittal**

07/08/2019
CT Log Number 535821601

TO: Stephanie Youngman
Johnson & Johnson
1 Johnson and Johnson Plz
New Brunswick, NJ 08933-0002

RE: Process Served in California

FOR: Johnson & Johnson Consumer Inc. (Domestic State: NJ)

ENCLOSED ARE COPIES OF LEGAL PROCESS RECEIVED BY THE STATUTORY AGENT OF THE ABOVE COMPANY AS FOLLOWS:

TITLE OF ACTION: Louisa Gutierrez, etc. and Debbie Luna, etc. on behalf of themselves and all persons similarly situated, Pltfs. vs. Johnson & Johnson, etc., et al., Dfts. // To: Johnson & Johnson Consumer, Inc. *Name discrepancy noted.*

DOCUMENT(S) SERVED: Summons, Instructions, First Amended Complaint, Exhibit(s), Cover Sheet(s), Notice(s)

COURT/AGENCY: San Diego County - Superior Court - San Diego, CA
Case # 37201900025810CUNPCTL

NATURE OF ACTION: Product Liability Litigation - Personal Injury - Class Action - Baby Powder and Shower to Shower products

ON WHOM PROCESS WAS SERVED: C T Corporation System, Los Angeles, CA

DATE AND HOUR OF SERVICE: By Process Server on 07/08/2019 at 13:34

JURISDICTION SERVED : California

APPEARANCE OR ANSWER DUE: Within 30 days after service (Document(s) may contain additional answer dates)

ATTORNEY(S) / SENDER(S): James M. Treglio
Potter Handy LLP
9845 Erma Road, Suite 300
San Diego, CA 92131
858-375-7385

ACTION ITEMS: CT has retained the current log, Retain Date: 07/09/2019, Expected Purge Date: 07/14/2019

Image SOP

Email Notification, RA-JJCUS LDSOP RA-JJCUS-LDSOP@its.jnj.com

Email Notification, Amy McLaren cls-ctsopsupport@wolterskluwer.com

SIGNED: C T Corporation System
ADDRESS: 818 West Seventh Street
Los Angeles, CA 90017
TELEPHONE: 213-337-4615

Information displayed on this transmittal is for CT Corporation's record keeping purposes only and is provided to the recipient for quick reference. This information does not constitute a legal opinion as to the nature of action, the amount of damages, the answer date, or any information contained in the documents themselves. Recipient is responsible for interpreting said documents and for taking appropriate action. Signatures on certified mail receipts confirm receipt of package only, not contents.

SUM-100

SUMMONS On Amended Complaint
(CITACION JUDICIAL)

NOTICE TO DEFENDANT:
(AVISO AL DEMANDADO):

JOHNSON & JOHNSON, a New Jersey Corporation,
Additional Parties Attachment form is attached.

YOU ARE BEING SUED BY PLAINTIFF:
(LO ESTÁ DEMANDANDO EL DEMANDANTE):

LOUISA GUTIERREZ, an individual, **DEBBIE LUNA**, an individual,
on behalf of themselves and all persons similarly situated.

FOR COURT USE ONLY
(SOLO PARA USO DE LA CORTE)

FILED
Clerk of the Superior Court

JUN 19 2019

By: **K. Sorianosos**, Deputy

NOTICE! You have been sued. The court may decide against you without your being heard unless you respond within 30 days. Read the information below.

You have 30 CALENDAR DAYS after this summons and legal papers are served on you to file a written response at this court and have a copy served on the plaintiff. A letter or phone call will not protect you. Your written response must be in proper legal form. If you want the court to hear your case, there may be a court form that you can use for your response. You can find these court forms and more information at the California Courts Online Self-Help Center (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp), your county law library, or the courthouse nearest you. If you cannot pay the filing fee, ask the court clerk for a fee waiver form. If you do not file your response on time, you may lose the case by default, and your wages, money, and property may be taken without further warning from the court.

There are other legal requirements. You may want to call an attorney right away. If you do not know an attorney, you may want to call an attorney referral service. If you cannot afford an attorney, you may be eligible for free legal services from a nonprofit legal services program. You can locate these nonprofit groups at the California Legal Services Web site (www.lawhelpcalifornia.org), the California Courts Online Self-Help Center (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp), or by contacting your local court or county bar association. **NOTE:** The court has a statutory lien for waived fees and costs on any settlement or arbitration award of \$10,000 or more in a civil case. The court's lien must be paid before the court will dismiss the case. **AVISO!** Lo han demandado. Si no responde dentro de 30 días, la corte puede decidir en su contra sin escuchar su versión. Lea la información a continuación.

Tiene 30 DÍAS DE CALENDARIO después de que le entreguen esta citación y papeles legales para presentar una respuesta por escrito en esta corte y hacer que se entregue una copia al demandante. Una carta o una llamada telefónica no lo protegen. Su respuesta por escrito tiene que estar en formato legal correcto, si desea que procesen su caso en la corte. Es posible que haya un formulario que usted pueda usar para su respuesta. Puede encontrar estos formularios de la corte y más información en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California (www.sucorte.ca.gov), en la biblioteca de leyes de su condado o en la corte que le quede más cerca. Si no pueda pagar la cuota de presentación, pida al secretario de la corte que le dé un formulario de exención de pago de cuotas. Si no presenta su respuesta a tiempo, puede perder el caso por incumplimiento y la corte le podrá quitar su sueldo, dinero y bienes sin más advertencia.

Hay otros requisitos legales. Es recomendable que llame a un abogado inmediatamente. Si no conoce a un abogado, puede llamar a un servicio de remisión a abogados. Si no puede pagar a un abogado, es posible que cumpla con los requisitos para obtener servicios legales gratuitos de un programa de servicios legales sin fines de lucro. Puede encontrar estos grupos sin fines de lucro en el sitio web de California Legal Services (www.lawhelpcalifornia.org), en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California (www.sucorte.ca.gov) o poniéndose en contacto con la corte o el colegio de abogados locales. **AVISO:** Por ley, la corte tiene derecho a reclamar las cuotas y los costos exorbitantes por imponer un gravamen sobre cualquier recuperación de \$10,000 o más de valor recibida mediante un acuerdo o una concesión de arbitraje en un caso de derecho civil. Tiene que pagar el gravamen de la corte antes de que la corte pueda desechar el caso.

The name and address of the court is:
(El nombre y dirección de la corte es): **San Diego Superior Court, Hall of Justice**

**330 West Broadway,
San Diego, CA 92101.**

CASE NUMBER
(Número del Caso):
37-2019-00025810-CU-NP-CTL

The name, address, and telephone number of plaintiff's attorney, or plaintiff without an attorney, is:
(El nombre, la dirección y el número de teléfono del abogado del demandante, o del demandante que no tiene abogado, es):

**James M. Treglio (SBN 228077), Potter Handy, LLP,
9845 Erma Road, Suite 300, San Diego, CA 92131**

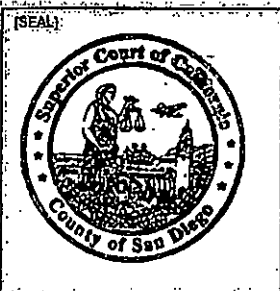
Telephone: (858) 375-7385

DATE:
(Fecha) **JUN 25 2019**

Clerk, by
(Secretario) *[Signature]* **K. Sorianosos**

Deputy
(Adjunto)

(For proof of service of this summons, use Proof of Service of Summons (form POS-010).)
(Para prueba de entrega de esta citación use el formulario Proof of Service of Summons, (POS-010)).



NOTICE TO THE PERSON SERVED: You are served

- as an individual defendant.
- as the person sued under the fictitious name of (specify):
- on behalf of (specify): **Johnson & Johnson Consumer, Inc.**
under: CCP 416.10 (corporation) CCP 416.60 (minor)
 CCP 416.20 (defunct corporation) CCP 416.70 (conservatee)
 CCP 416.40 (association or partnership) CCP 416.90 (authorized person)
 other (specify):
- by personal delivery on (date): **7/8/19 - 11:35 AM**

SUM-200(A)

SHORT TITLE:	CASE NUMBER:
Louisa Gutierrez et al., v. Johnson & Johnson, et al.,	37-2019-00025810-CU-NP-CTL

INSTRUCTIONS FOR USE:

- ▶ This form may be used as an attachment to any summons. If space does not permit the listing of all parties on the summons.
- ▶ If this attachment is used, insert the following statement in the plaintiff or defendant box on the summons: "Additional Parties Attachment form is attached."

List additional parties. (Check only one box. Use a separate page for each type of party.)

Plaintiff
 Defendant
 Cross-Complainant
 Cross-Defendant

JOHNSON & JOHNSON CONSUMER, INC., a New Jersey Corporation, **BAUSCH HEALTH US LLC,**
f/k/a VALEANT PHARMACEUTICALS NORTH AMERICA LLC, a New Jersey Limited Liability
 Company, **AND DOES 1-100,** inclusive.

1 **POTTER HANDY LLP**
2 Mark D. Potter (SBN 166317)
3 mark@potterhandy.com
4 James M. Treglio (SBN 228077)
5 jimt@potterhandy.com
6 9845 Erma Road, Suite 300
7 San Diego, CA 92131
8 (858) 375-7385
9 Fax: (888) 422-5191

ELECTRONICALLY FILED
Superior Court of California,
County of San Diego
06/04/2019 at 11:39:00 AM
Clerk of the Superior Court
By Kristin Sorianosos, Deputy Clerk

Attorneys for Plaintiffs and the Class

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA
BY AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO

10 LOUISA GUTIERREZ, an individual,
11 DEBBIE LUNA, an individual, on behalf of
12 themselves and all persons similarly situated,

Plaintiffs,

v.

13
14 JOHNSON & JOHNSON, a New Jersey
15 Corporation, JOHNSON & JOHNSON
16 CONSUMER, INC., a New Jersey
17 Corporation, BAUSCH HEALTH US, LLC,
18 f/k/a VALEANT PHARMACEUTICALS
19 NORTH AMERICA LLC, a New Jersey
20 Limited Liability Company, AND DOES 1-
21 100, inclusive

Defendants.

CASE NO. 37-2019-00025810-CU-NP-CTL

**FIRST AMENDED CLASS ACTION
COMPLAINT FOR VIOLATIONS OF:**

**(1) THE CONSUMER LEGAL
REMEDIES ACT (Civil Code § 1750, et
seq.)**

**(2) THE FALSE ADVERTISING LAW
(Business and Professions Code § 17500,
et seq.), and**

**(3) THE UNFAIR COMPETITION
LAW (Business & Professions Code §
17200, et seq.)**

DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL

1 Plaintiffs Louisa Gutierrez and Debbie Luna (collectively "Plaintiffs"), individually, on
2 behalf of all others similarly situated (the "Class" or the "Class Members" as defined below), and
3 on behalf of the general public, allege:

4 **INTRODUCTION**

5 1. This is consumer class action seeking restitution of all monies unlawfully earned by
6 Defendants Johnson & Johnson, Inc., Bausch Health US, LLC, f/k/a Valeant Pharmaceuticals
7 North America, LLC and Johnson & Johnson Consumer, Inc. (collectively, "Defendants") for the
8 sale of their of Baby Powder and Shower to Shower products ("Talcum Products").
9 Defendants have consistently informed the public, the Plaintiffs, and the Class Members that
10 no asbestos or asbestiform fibers are found within the Talcum Products, when in fact,
11 Defendants have known for decades that not only do the Talcum Products contain asbestos or
12 asbestiform fibers, but the methods used by Defendants to look for asbestos and asbestiform
13 fibers in the talc used for the Talcum Products are and were inadequate.

14 2. The reason for this deception is simple: asbestos and talc containing asbestiform
15 fibers are chemicals known to the State of California to cause cancer. Under the Safe Drinking
16 Water and Toxic II Enforcement Act of 1986, Health and Safety Code §25249.6, a.k.a "Proposition
17 65", businesses must provide persons with a "clear and reasonable warning" before exposing
18 individuals to chemicals known to the State of California to cause cancer. The purpose of this
19 requirement is to ensure that California citizens are made fully aware of the presence of
20 toxins in consumer products, allowing them to make an informed choice/decision about whether
21 or not to consume products with toxins known to cause cancer. Knowing that no reasonable
22 consumer would purchase the Talcum Products knowing that the Talcum Products contain or might
23 contain asbestos or asbestiform fibers, Defendants have persisted in obfuscating the potential harm
24 to Plaintiffs, the Class, and the general public.

25 3. This is a class action alleging violations of the Consumer Legal Remedies Act
26 ("CLRA"), Civil Code § 1750, *et seq.*, the False Advertising Law ("FAL"), Business & Professions
27 Code § 17500, *et seq.*, and the Unfair Competition Law ("UCL"), Business & Professions Code
28 §17200, *et seq.*, that seeks, among other things, injunctive relief, restitution, and disgorgement to

1 remedy to a class of all purchasers of Talcum Products resulting decades of Defendants' on-going
2 failure to warn and otherwise negligent, reckless and/or knowing sale of Talcum Products
3 containing asbestos and talc containing asbestiform fibers without providing the notice
4 required by law, and worse, making false representations that the Talcum Products are safe and
5 "free of asbestos". This action further seeks to remedy Defendants' unfair, unlawful, and fraudulent
6 business practices, and to ensure that all California consumers are warned that they are being
7 exposed to asbestos and talc containing asbestiform fibers before purchasing and/or using Talcum
8 Products.

9 4. Indeed, as Defendants were required as a matter of law to inform Plaintiffs and the
10 members of the Class as defined below that their Talcum Products contained, or could contain,
11 carcinogenic substances, namely talc containing asbestiform fibers, the information withheld from
12 Plaintiff, the Class Members (as defined below), and the general public, must be deemed a material
13 representation.

14 5. While there have been a number of actions seeking individual recovery for injuries
15 suffered because of prolonged use of the Talcum Products, and while there is an action based on
16 Defendants' failure to comply with Prop. 65 and label the Talcum Products with the proper warning
17 label, Plaintiffs are unaware of any class action on behalf of a class of purchasers of the Talcum
18 Products filed in the State of California.

19 6. In accordance with Cal. Business & Professions Code §17203, ("Any person may
20 pursue representative claims or relief on behalf of others only if the claimant meets the standing
21 requirements of Section 17204 and complies with Section 382 of the Code of Civil Procedure,")
22 Plaintiffs bring this action on behalf of themselves, and all a class of persons similarly situated. The
23 Class, as alleged herein, is defined as:

24 Plaintiffs and all persons who purchased the Talcum Products within the state of
25 California at any time from four years prior to the filing of this complaint and
26 ongoing until date of judgment and/or preliminary approval of class action
settlement.

27 Specifically excluded from the proposed Class are Defendants, their officers, directors, agents,
28 trustees, parents, children, corporations, trusts, representatives, employees, principals, servants,

1 partners, joint venturers, or entities controlled by Defendants, and their heirs, successors, assigns,
2 or other persons or entities related to or affiliated with Defendants and/or their officers and/or
3 directors, or any of them; the judicial officer or judicial officers assigned to this action, any member
4 of the judicial officers' immediate family. Also excluded from the Class are any persons who, as
5 of the date the Complaint is filed, have an action pending against one or more of the Defendants
6 resulting the sale of and any injuries resulting from, any of the Talcum Products.

7 **PARTIES, VENUE AND JURISDICTION**

8 7. This Court has jurisdiction over this action pursuant to the California Constitution,
9 Article VI, §10, which grants the Superior Court "original jurisdiction in all causes except those
10 given by statute to other courts." The statutes under which this action is brought do not specify any
11 other basis for jurisdiction. The damages and restitution sought by Plaintiffs exceed the minimal
12 jurisdiction limit of the Superior Court and will be established according to proof at trial.

13 8. At all relevant times, Plaintiffs are and were citizens of the State of California and
14 purchased the Talcum Products in the State of California. At all relevant times, the Talcum
15 Products were manufactured and packaged in one centralized location from the same raw talc and
16 shipped to all fifty states. Thus, consumers that purchased and used the Talcum Products in any
17 of the other 49 states outside of California would be exposed to the same talc containing asbestos
18 and talc containing asbestiform fibers as a consumer that purchased Talcum Products, and vice
19 versa.

20 9. Plaintiff Louisa Gutierrez is a citizen of the State of California, and a resident of
21 Riverside County. On a regular basis for the past thirty years, Plaintiff Louisa Gutierrez purchased
22 the Talcum Products in the State of California until she became aware of the connection between
23 the Talcum Products and asbestos at the end of 2018 by reading, amongst other stories, the report
24 by Reuters that the Talcum Products contained asbestos and/or talc containing asbestiform fibers.
25 Had Plaintiff Louisa Gutierrez been aware that the Talcum products contained, or could contained
26 asbestos and/or talc containing asbestiform fibers, Plaintiff Louisa Gutierrez would never have
27 purchased or used any of the Talcum Products.

1 10. Plaintiff Debbie Luna is a citizen of the State of California, and a resident of San
2 Diego County. Plaintiff Debbie Luna purchased the Talcum Products in the State of California for
3 for herself and her infant child until she became aware of the connection between the Talcum
4 Products and asbestos at the end of 2018 by reading, amongst other stories, the report by Reuters
5 that the Talcum Products contained asbestos and/or talc containing asbestiform fibers. Had Plaintiff
6 Debbie Luna been aware that the Talcum products contained, or could contained asbestos and/or
7 talc containing asbestiform fibers, Plaintiff Debbie Luna would never have purchased or used any
8 of the Talcum Products.

9 11. Defendant Johnson & Johnson is a New Jersey corporation that is transacting and
10 conducting substantial business within the State of California. Johnson & Johnson mined, milled,
11 processed, imported, converted, compounded, designed, manufactured, marketed, supplied,
12 distributed, sold and/or otherwise placed in the stream of commerce Baby Powder products which
13 contain or contained asbestos and talc containing asbestiform fibers without warnings to which
14 Plaintiffs, the Class, and the consuming public in this State were exposed.

15 12. Defendant Bausch Health US, LLC, formerly known as Valeant Pharmaceuticals
16 North America, LLC, ("Bausch") is a New Jersey limited liability company that is and was doing
17 business in the State of New Jersey and in the State of California. Bausch, mined, milled, processed,
18 imported, converted, compounded, designed, manufactured, marketed, supplied, distributed, sold
19 and/or otherwise placed in the stream of commerce Shower to Shower products which contain or
20 contained asbestos and talc containing asbestiform fibers without warnings to which Plaintiffs, the
21 Class, and the consuming public in this State were exposed.

22 13. At all pertinent times, Defendants Johnson & Johnson and Bausch were engaged
23 in the business of manufacturing, marketing, testing, promoting, selling, and/or distributing
24 the Talcum Products containing Asbestos and Talc Containing Asbestiform Fibers. At all pertinent
25 times, Johnson & Johnson and Bausch regularly transacted, solicited, and conducted business in all
26 States of the United States, including the State of California.

27 14. Johnson & Johnson and Bausch have derived substantial revenue from goods and
28 products purchased and used in the State of California. Johnson & Johnson and Bausch expected

1 or should have expected its acts to have consequences within the State of California, and derived
2 substantial revenue from interstate commerce.

3 15. Johnson & Johnson and Bausch mined, milled, processed, imported, converted,
4 compounded, designed, manufactured, marketed, supplied, distributed, sold and/or otherwise
5 placed in the stream of commerce the Talcum Products containing Asbestos and talc containing
6 asbestiform fibers without warnings to which Plaintiffs, the Class, and the consuming public in this
7 State were exposed.

8 16. Defendant Johnson & Johnson Consumer Inc. (f/k/a Johnson & Johnson
9 Consumer Companies, Inc.) is a New Jersey corporation that is and was doing business in the State
10 of New Jersey and in the State of California. Johnson & Johnson Consumer Inc. mined, milled,
11 processed, imparted, converted, compounded, designed, manufactured, marketed, supplied,
12 distributed, sold and/or otherwise placed in the stream of commerce the Talcum Products
13 containing asbestos and talc containing asbestiform fibers without warnings to which Plaintiff and
14 the consuming public in this State were exposed.

15 17. Defendants DOES 1-100 are the fictitious names of corporations, partnerships or
16 other business entities or organizations whose identities are not presently known and that
17 participated in a conspiracy with other corporations, partnerships or other business entities or
18 organizations, including the named Defendants herein, and/or mined, milled, processed, imported,
19 converted, compounded, designed, manufactured, marketed, supplied, distributed, sold and/or
20 otherwise placed in the stream of commerce the Talcum Products containing asbestos and
21 talc containing asbestiform fibers without warnings to which Plaintiff and the consuming public in
22 this State were exposed.

23 **FACTUAL BACKGROUND**

24 18. For decades, Defendants have manufactured the Talcum Products containing
25 asbestos and talc containing asbestiform fibers that were and are continuing to be sold and marketed
26 as safe for daily use by consumers to give off a pleasant smell, mask odors, prevent chaffing and/or
27 absorb moisture. Defendants' Talcum Products were advertised as healthful for babies, children
28 and adults and to be applied regularly to maintain freshness, keep skin soft, mask odors with a floral
fragrance, prevent chaffing and/or absorb moisture.

1 19. Defendants and the Cosmetic, Toiletry & Fragrance Association (n/k/a Personal
2 Care Products Council) ("CTFA") made false statements to Plaintiffs, the Class, the general
3 public, news media and government agencies that exercise regulatory authority over the
4 cosmetic industry, including, but not limited to, the U.S. Food & Drug Administration ("FDA"),
5 the National Institute of Occupational Health and Safety ("OSHA"), the National Institute for
6 Occupational Safety and Health ("NIOSH"), the Mine Health and Safety Administration
7 ("MHS"), and the National Toxicology Program ("NTP"), which, in turn, proximately caused
8 Plaintiffs' and the Class Members' harm through intentional efforts to deceive the general public
9 and regulatory authorities as to the safety of and presence of carcinogens, including asbestos and
10 talc containing asbestiform fibers in the Talcum Products.

11 20. Defendants and CTFA, for decades, possessed medical and scientific data that
12 raised concerns regarding the presence of carcinogens, including asbestos and talc containing
13 asbestiform fibers in the Talcum Products and that demonstrated the existence of health hazards to
14 those exposed to asbestos and talc containing asbestiform fibers.

15 21. Talc is a hydrous magnesium silicate, inorganic material that is mined from the
16 earth. It is used in the manufacture of goods, such as paper, plastic, paint and coatings, rubber, food,
17 electric cable, ceramics, and cosmetics. In its loose form and as used in the Talcum Products, talc
18 is known as "talcum powder."

19 22. Geologists, Defendants and CTFA-and. their suppliers, experts, agents and advisors-
20 have long known that the deposits in the earth that are associated with talc are also associated
21 with the formation of asbestos. "Asbestos" is a commercial and legal term, rather than a geologic
22 or scientific term, referring to six now-regulated magnesium silicate minerals that occur in
23 fibrous form, including the serpentine mineral chrysotile, and amphibole minerals such as
24 actinolite, anthophyllite, tremolite, amosite and crocidolite. The United States Geological survey
25 on Commercial Talc production in 1965, as well as those dating back to the 1800s, note the presence
26 of tremolite, anthophyllite and chrysotile commonly among those minerals found within talc
27 deposits.

28 23. Defendants and their talc suppliers, which have been and still are the largest talc
producers and/or talc-containing product manufactures in the world, admit that they have long
employed and/or consulted with doctors, scientists, geologists, mineralogists and toxicologists,

1 and that they have long maintained extensive medical and scientific libraries and archives
2 containing materials relating to the health hazards of talc and the presence of carcinogens,
3 including asbestos and asbestiform talc, in talc and talc deposits.

4 24. Beginning in the 1930s, medical and scientific literature emerged indicating talc was
5 commonly, if not invariably, contaminated with substances known or suspected of being
6 carcinogenic, such as asbestos, silica, quartz, nickel and arsenic. Within the next several decades,
7 an ever-growing body of medical and scientific literature demonstrated that direct and secondary
8 exposure to talc, including asbestos-containing talc, was hazardous to exposed persons' health in
9 that it could cause lung disease, cancer and death.

10 25. Defendants and their affiliates, employees, agents and/or suppliers were members
11 of the National Safety Council. In March of 1933, Waldemar C. Dreesen of the United States Public
12 Health Service reported to the National Safety Council the results of a study conducted among
13 tremolite, talc and slate workers. The study indicated that the talc was a hydrous calcium
14 magnesium silicate, being 45% talc and 45% tremolite, and the National Safety Council stated "The
15 results of the study seemed to indicate a relationship between the amount of dust inhaled and the
16 effect of this dust on the lungs of the workers." As early as 1934, the National Safety Council was
17 publishing that "a cause of severe pulmonary injury is asbestos, a silicate of magnesium." In the
18 September 1935 issue of National Safety News, an article entitled "No Halfway Measures in
19 Dust Control" by Arthur S. Johnson reported lowered lung capacity resulting from "asbestosis"
20 and "similar conditions" that developed "from exposure to excess of many mineral dusts relatively
21 low in free silica content." The article further noted that claims for disabilities from workers who
22 alleged exposure to "clay, talc, emery, and carborundum dusts" had "claims prosecuted
23 successfully." The article concluded that "[i]n the absence of adequate diagnoses, occupational
24 histories and a more satisfactory method of adjudicating claims than prosecution at common law,
25 we must conclude that it is necessary to find a practical method for controlling all mineral dusts."

26 26. In 1936, the National Safety Council published an article entitled "Lesser Known
27 Facts About Occupational Diseases" that found "exposure to asbestos fibers, present in
28 the weaving and grinding of dry asbestos material, offers another type of dust which may
cause fatalities among workers." In 1958, The New York Department of Labor published Industrial

1 code Rule No. 12 establishing regulations applying to all employees and employers relating to
2 dangerous air contaminants and listing both asbestos and talc as such substances.

3 27. In 1968, a study presented at the American Industrial Hygiene Conference &
4 Exposition and published in the American Industrial Hygiene Association Journal concluded
5 that "[a]ll of the 22 talcum products analyzed have a...fiber content...averaging 19%. The fibrous
6 material was predominantly talc but contained minor amounts of tremolite, anthophyllite, and
7 chrysotile as these are often present in fibrous talc mineral deposits ...Unknown significant
8 amounts of such materials in products that may be used without precautions may create an
9 unsuspected problem ." L. J. Cralley, et al., Fibrous and Mineral Content of Cosmetic Talcum
10 Products, 29 AM. IND. HYG. Assoc. J. 350-354 (1968). Defendants were aware of these findings.

11 28. In 1968, a scientific study of store-bought, commercially available talcum
12 powders conducted by the Occupational Health Program, National Center for Urban Industrial
13 Health, was published and presented by the American Industrial Hygiene Association. Defendants
14 were aware of this study. The study revealed that, contrary to popular belief, talcum powders
15 were not entirely pure, but rather contained various fibrous minerals, including tremolite,
16 anthophyllite and chrysotile. The study explained that such fibrous content was not unexpected
17 because these types of fibers are often present in fibrous talc mineral deposits. Available
18 documents indicate that during the same year and in the years following, at least one company
19 began testing store-bought talcum powders for asbestos content. Despite tests showing some talcum
20 powders contained asbestos, there is no evidence that positive results or the brand names of
21 contaminated products were communicated to any governmental agency, the media or the public.

22 29. According to a December 2018 report by Reuters, by at least 1967 and 1969,
23 Defendants investigated the existence of tremolite in its Talcum Products, finding that asbestiform
24 fibers were commonly found in its Talcum Products. From the report:

25 In 1964, J&J's Windsor Minerals Inc subsidiary bought a cluster of talc mines in
26 Vermont, with names like Argonaut, Rainbow, Frostbite and Black Bear. By 1966,
27 it was blasting and bulldozing white rock out of the Green Mountain state. J&J
28 used the milled powder in its cosmetic powders and sold a less-refined grade to
roofing, flooring and tire companies for use in manufacturing.

Ten years after tremolite turned up in the Italian talc, it showed up in Vermont talc,
too. In 1967, J&J found traces of tremolite and another mineral that can occur as

1 asbestos, according to a table attached to a Nov. 1, 1967, memo¹ by William Ashton,
2 the executive in charge of J&J's talc supply for decades.

3 J&J continued to search for sources of clean talc. But in an April 9, 1969, memo² to
4 a company doctor, Ashton said it was "normal" to find tremolite in many U.S. talc
5 deposits. He suggested J&J rethink its approach. "Historically, in our Company,
6 Tremolite has been bad," Ashton wrote. "How bad is Tremolite medically, and how
7 much of it can safely be in a talc base we might develop?"

8 Since pulmonary disease, including cancer, appeared to be on the rise, "it would
9 seem to be prudent to limit any possible content of Tremolite ... to an absolute
10 minimum," came the reply from another physician executive days later.

11 The doctor told Ashton that J&J was receiving safety questions from pediatricians.
12 Even Robert Wood Johnson II, the founder's son and then-retired CEO, had
13 expressed "concern over the possibility of the adverse effects on the lungs of babies
14 or mothers," he wrote.

15 "We have replied," the doctor wrote, that "we would not regard the usage of our
16 powders as presenting any hazard." Such assurances would be impossible, he added,
17 "if we do include Tremolite in more than unavoidable trace amounts."

18 The memo is the earliest J&J document reviewed by Reuters that discusses tremolite
19 as more than a scratchy nuisance. The doctor urged Ashton to consult with company
20 lawyers because "it is not inconceivable that we could become involved in
21 litigation."

22 Lisa Girion, "Johnson & Johnson knew for decades that asbestos lurked in its Baby Powder,"
23 Reuters (December 14, 2018), [https://www.reuters.com/investigates/special-
24 report/johnsonandjohnson-cancer/](https://www.reuters.com/investigates/special-report/johnsonandjohnson-cancer/).

25 30. A 1976 follow-up study conducted by researchers at Mount Sinai Hospital
26 New York concluded that "[t]he presence in these products of asbestiform anthophyllite and
27 tremolite, chrysotile, and quartz indicates the need for a regulatory standard for cosmetic
28 talc ... We also recommend that evaluation be made to determine the possible health hazards
associated with the use of these products." Rohl A.N., et al., Consumer Talcums and Powders:
Mineral and Chemical Characterization, 2 J. TOXICOL. ENVIRON. HEALTH 255-284(1976).
The Mount Sinai study results were published by various newspapers, including the New York
Times and the Washington Post, and Defendants were aware of same.

¹ Attached hereto at Exhibit 1.

² Attached hereto at Exhibit 2.

1 31. In the early 1970s, the FDA began an inquiry into whether to regulate and require
2 warnings on talc-containing products. Defendants and CTFA, an exclusive lobbying and advocacy
3 group representing companies engaged in the cosmetic products industry, repeatedly conspired and
4 worked in concert to block efforts to label and warn consumers regarding the dangers (including
5 Asbestos and talc containing asbestiform fibers hazards) associated with cosmetic talcum powder
6 products, such as Defendants' The Talcum Products.

7 32. In 1971, the New York City of Environmental Protection Administration Air
8 Resources Board conducted a study of two "leading" brands of talcum powder using transmission
9 electron microscopy ("TEM") and X-ray diffraction ("XRD") analysis, and found them to contain
10 5-25% tremolite and anthophyllite asbestos.

11 33. Soon thereafter, a symposium was held in August of 1974 at the FDA to discuss the
12 issue of asbestos content of talcum powders with the talc industry, government officials, and
13 doctors and scientists from Mt. Sinai Hospital, which was then the epicenter of the medical and
14 scientific study of asbestos. Among other statements, participants and attendees heard: that
15 asbestos should be banned in talcum powders; models should be set up to measure the levels
16 exposure to asbestos experienced by persons using talcum powder containing asbestos at the
17 lowest level of microscopic detection; and that finding asbestos in talc and talcum powder is
18 extremely difficult, and the only truly reliable way to determine the asbestos content of talc and
19 talcum powder is through TEM and electron diffraction. Defendants and CTFA, aware of the
20 foregoing and citing costs as well as their fear of the public learning talc was contaminated with
21 asbestos, ignored and completely rejected any measures to meaningfully test talc products to
22 make sure they were free from asbestos, asbestiform talc and other carcinogens.

23 34. After this 1971 symposium, Dr. Weissler of the FDA hired Dr. Seymour Z. Lewin
24 to test commercially available talcum powders for asbestos. Dr. Lewin tested 195 samples and
25 found asbestos of varying amounts in 43. Many of Dr. Lewin's positive results were eventually
26 corroborated by Pfizer Inc. The results, however, were uncorroborated by two other laboratories,
27 leading the FDA to the conclusion that XRD, optical and electron microscopy, and electron
28 diffraction must be used to detect asbestos in talc and talcum powders.

1 35. Dr. Lewin of New York University disclosed twice in 1972 that asbestos had been
2 found in cosmetic talc. In a report to the FDA on August 3, 1972, Dr. Lewin reported that of 195
3 talc products, 20 had tremolite, 7 had chrysotile, 9 had both tremolite and chrysotile, and 7 had
4 substantial percentages of one of both. XRD had been used as the first step in analysis and the
5 presence of asbestos and was verified by the use of optical microscopy to disclose the presence of
6 significant numbers of fibers. Shortly thereafter, Dr. Lewin reported to Whittaker, Clark & Daniels
7 Inc. on September 30, 1972, that Italian talc 1615 contained about 2% tremolite and 0.5% chrysotile
8 as determined with XRD and detailed microscopic exam. In a July 31, 1973, review of Dr. Lewin's
9 testing of 195 talc samples, the FDA found "good semi-quantitative agreement" for tremolite on
10 selected samples re-analyzed using optical microscope analysis by FDA and XRD by Pfizer.
11 Agreement was not as good for chrysotile, but the review did warn that optical microscopy could
12 "completely miss the presence of chrysotile if the fibers are submicroscopic, which may well be
13 the case in finely-milled talc." In 1972, ES Laboratories reported that "1615" talc contained
14 1% chrysotile and that "4615" talc contained 3% chrysotile and 3% anthophyllite. An August
15 23, 1973, report by Johns-Manville on TEM analysis of commercial talcs reported that nine of
16 fourteen samples contained chrysotile. Only five samples did not have detectable levels of
17 chrysotile. Pages from the laboratory notebook of Colgate-Palmolive Co. scientist Paul Briscese
18 from March 7, 1976, show that Old Regal (North Carolina) talc tested positive for tremolite, New
19 Montana talc tested positive for anthophyllite and tremolite, and Italian talc tested positive for
20 tremolite.

21 36. A December 10, 1973, report of the CTFA's Talc Subcommittee disclosed that
22 optical microscope analyses of talcs from the Italian, Montana I & II, Alabama, Vermont, and
23 North Carolina mines had failed the proposed FDA's method because of elevated chrysotile
24 concentrations. This December 10, 1973, CTFA report also showed that several laboratories had
25 reported chrysotile in many of the talc samples sent by the CTFA for evaluation of analytical
26 methods as well as the several identifications of asbestos in talc mentioned.

27 37. In the early 1970s, the FDA began an inquiry into whether to regulate and require
28 warnings on consumer talcum powder products. CTFA, an exclusive lobbying and advocacy group

1 representing companies engaged in the cosmetic products industry, including Defendants and their
2 talc suppliers, repeatedly conspired and worked in concert to block efforts to label and warn
3 consumers regarding the dangers associated with cosmetic talcum powder products, such as Talc
4 Defendants' products. On September 3, 1973, the FDA sent CTFA a letter regarding various means
5 of measuring asbestos in talc, stating that "conventional methods employing X-ray diffraction or
6 differential thermal analysis are not sufficiently reliable to produce quantitative results of the
7 desired precision." The FDA further advised CTFA that it "has been exploring refractory optical
8 microscopy as a means of measuring asbestos in talc." CTFA responded to the FDA's public notice
9 on its proposed optical microscopy method on December 26, 1973. CTFA contended that the
10 proposed method was not "reliable" for the detection of asbestos in talc, recommended a
11 "collaborative effort between FDA and industry to develop such a method," and urged deferment
12 of the proposed rule. Minutes of CTFA's Talc Subcommittee meeting on March 15, 1976, indicate
13 that the FDA's "Dr. Shaffner suggested the possibility of having industry report periodically on the
14 results of its analysis to the FDA." Dr. Estrin of CTFA responded that "the subcommittee would
15 give serious consideration to this suggestion."

16 38. Contemporaneously, evidence began to emerge from testing conducted by various
17 regulatory agencies revealing that asbestos was being found in food, beer and drugs, including
18 intravenously injected medicines. In 1972, and later in 1973, the FDA filed notices of proposed
19 rulemaking requiring talc used in food, food packing and drugs to be completely free of asbestos.
20 These were some of the same "grades" of talc used by Defendants.

21 39. The talc industry's response, including that of the Defendants, was swift and
22 well-coordinated through CTFA, with which the Defendants conspired and worked in concert
23 to purposely create a flawed, voluntary testing and surveillance methodology for detecting asbestos
24 in talc and block efforts to label and warn consumers regarding the dangers associated with the
25 talc products, including Defendants' Talcum Products.

26 40. Regarding the FDA's proposed 1972 rule-making, the FDA Director of Product
27 Development and Cosmetics, Dr. Schaffner, invited representatives of the talc industry to a
28 meeting in August of 1972 to discuss the results of Dr. Lewin's study and inform them that the

1 FDA was preparing to release a "Proposed Statement of Policy On Asbestos in Cosmetics
2 Containing Talc." Schaffner explained that he was duty-bound and must publicize the brand names
3 of the talcum powders that contained asbestos. CTFA's president, Dr. Merritt, strongly objected
4 to the FDA alerting the general public and publishing the brand names of the talcum powders, as it
5 would cause the manufactures "economic hardship." Merritt also threatened to sue the FDA to
6 prevent the disclosure of the brand names. As a result, the FDA, Defendants and CTFA never
7 revealed or publicized the brand names of the talcum powders that contained asbestos, much
8 to the detriment of the plaintiffs and the general public.

9 41. In 1973, CTFA created a talc subcommittee and the Scientific Advisory
10 Committee to develop a testing methodology for detecting asbestos in talc. Initially, CTFA
11 designated a group of its members to tests talc grades used in talcum powder utilizing the
12 methodology proposed by the FDA in its notice of rulemaking. Six samples of talc used in
13 commercially available talcum powders, plus one talc sample purposely spiked with tremolite and
14 chrysotile, were circulated among the members, including representatives of Defendants. Of the
15 eight participating members, four found asbestos in every sample, three did not find asbestos in any
16 sample (including the spiked sample), and one found asbestos only in the spiked sample. In
17 conclusion, all members agreed that the best and most reliable method of detecting asbestos in talc
18 is not optical microscopy, but rather TEM and electron diffraction . The same members,
19 however, dispensed with this analytical method, claiming TEM and electron diffraction
20 equipment was too expensive, despite Defendants then owning or having unfettered access to
21 same.

22 42. From there, the difference between what Defendants and CTFA knew diverged from
23 what they were representing to the FDA. Defendants, CTFA and others in the industry knew that
24 there was no such thing as asbestos-free talc--only talc in which asbestos could not be
25 detected using the prevailing, most economic analytical methodology, XRD, which at the time
26 could not accurately identify chrysotile asbestos in talc, nor detect tremolite
27 asbestos contamination levels below 2-5%.

28

1 43. Defendants and the CTFA also did not disclose to the FDA that the overwhelming
2 majority of talcum powder manufacturers and sellers were not testing their products for asbestos,
3 and even if they were testing, it was done so superficially: only four or so grams per 20 tons of pre-
4 shipment and pre-processed talc, as an example. Defendants and CTFA also failed to the
5 inform the FDA that they were not testing off-the-shelf talc powder products, but rather
6 old samples that were never from the end products themselves. They also failed to inform the FDA
7 that they were limiting their testing of talc to only one type of asbestos fiber to the exclusion of all
8 other fiber types that are commonly found in talc deposits. What is more, to the extent Defendants
9 found asbestos in their samples, these positive results were not reported to the FDA. Instead, on
10 their behalf, CTFA sent letters to the FDA in March of 1976 fraudulently claiming that industry
11 testing had shown all talcum powder products to be completely free of asbestos.

12 44. Beginning in 1975 and 1976, researchers at New York Air Resources Board, Mt.
13 Sinai School of Medicine, and the FDA became increasingly concerned that CTFA, Defendants
14 and the cosmetic industries were slow to address the issue of asbestos in talc and talcum powders.
15 Defendants had not issued any recalls, provided consumer warnings, informed the FDA of any
16 effort to ensure that talcum powders on the market did not contain asbestos, or developed a
17 reliable methodology or protocol for ensuring that talc and talcum powder did not contain
18 asbestos or asbestiform-talc.

19 45. Taking matters into their own hands, Mt. Sinai Hospital researchers published a
20 follow-up article to Dr. Lewin's 1971 study that demonstrated that some of Defendants' talcum
21 powders contained over 20% asbestos. The researchers concluded that "[t]he presence in these
22 products of asbestiform anthophyllite and tremolite, chrysotile, and quartz indicates the need for a
23 regulatory standard for cosmetic talc ...We also recommend that evaluation be made to determine
24 the possible health hazards associated with the use of these products." The results of the Mount
25 Sinai study were known to the Defendants and published the same year by the New York Times
26 and the Washington Post.

27 46. Defendants and CTFA responded to these developments by falsely claiming that the
28 industry was doing "everything" it could to solve the problem; issuing press releases falsely

1 claiming that chrysotile had never been found in talcum powders; and intentionally suppressing
2 data that showed tremolite was commonly found in talc and talcum powder.

3 47. CTFA subsequently began in earnest to produce a voluntary protocol
4 and methodology that would provide Defendants cover from both lawsuits and
5 regulation. Egregiously, as concerned media members, citizens and regulators began asking more
6 questions about which other brands of talcum powder contained asbestos, Defendants and CTFA
7 falsely represented that talcum powders have never contained asbestos or asbestiform-talc.

8 48. Defendants, their talc suppliers, and third parties funded by Defendants
9 collectively met with and corresponded with CTFA, as well as collectively met with the FDA and
10 other government agencies, to individually and collectively advocate for the use of "voluntary"
11 XRD testing of miniscule portions of the tons of talc to be used in consumer
12 products. Defendants' "voluntary" method-that was developed collectively by Defendants and
13 CTFA and advocated to the FDA in lieu of regulations requiring asbestos labeling or warnings on
14 talcum powder products-was inadequate because levels of asbestos contamination in talc
15 commonly fell below the detection limit of the testing methods. Defendants and CTFA also knew
16 that asbestos contamination was not uniformly distributed, such that the miniscule amounts tested
17 would not reveal the true level of contamination in talc products, such as The Talcum Products to
18 which Plaintiff and the consuming public in this State were exposed.

19 49. In support of its voluntary XRD methodology, which was finally published
20 in 1977, CTFA produced letters to the FDA written by its members, including Defendants,
21 identifying tests conducted showing talcum powder products did not contain asbestos. CTFA,
22 Defendants and other talc product producers, however, never informed the FDA of the hundreds of
23 positive tests showing talc and talcum powders contained asbestos and other carcinogens.

24 50. CTFA "Method J4-1," published on October 7, 1976, states that TEM-SAED "offers
25 greater sensitivity, but is not presented since it is unsuitable for normal quality control
26 applications." The published method, rather, relies on XRD with "the level of detection of
27 amphibole by this method [being] 0.5% and above." CTFA met with and corresponded with
28 Defendants and third parties, to individually and collectively advocate to the FDA for the use of

1 inadequate XRD testing on miniscule portions of the tons of talc obtained from the mining
2 sources to be used in the consumer products, followed by fewer "periodic" tests by TEM. This
3 voluntary method was developed by CTFA and Defendants, and was advocated to the FDA by
4 CTFA and Defendants in lieu of regulations requiring labeling and warnings on talcum powder
5 products, even though CTFA and Defendants knew that the J4-I method would not reveal the true
6 level of asbestos in the talc that reached consumers. In fact, the first "round robin" tests, which
7 analyzed a "CTFA Tremolite-Spiked Talc," resulted in 6 of 7 participating laboratories failing to
8 detect the tremolite. In other words, 84% of the industry's laboratories failed to detect asbestos in a
9 sample known to contain tremolite asbestos while using the CTFA's own J4-I method. There is no
10 evidence that CTFA or Defendants ever shared this remarkable failure with the FDA or the public.

11 51. Minutes of CTFA's Talc Subcommittee from February 24, 1975, stated "It was
12 agreed, however, that chrysotile is never found in cosmetic talcs, based on numerous analyses by
13 several investigators ..." When referring to the challenge of chrysotile detection, an article entitled
14 "Talc" in the January/March 1976 CTFA Cosmetic Journal, states that "The only known backup
15 method for a positive identification in this event, is [TEM] with selected area diffraction."
16 However, "despite many efforts, the committee had been unable to find a sample of cosmetic talc
17 containing naturally occurring asbestos ...it was asked, 'Why should we test for chrysotile if there
18 isn't any?'" CTFA's Specification for Cosmetic Talc, revised on October 7, 1976, falsely
19 represented that no fibrous asbestos was detected in cosmetic talc. Even after 1976, CTFA and
20 Defendants continued to obtain and/or receive results of testing performed internally and
21 externally indicating the presence of asbestos and other carcinogens in the talc being used to
22 manufacture cosmetic products. However, CTFA and Defendants continued to represent that no
23 asbestos was detected in cosmetic talc. These material representations adversely and directly
24 impacted the FDA's attempt to adequately test consumer talc for asbestos and regulate cosmetics.
25 The most sensitive method of identifying or detecting asbestos in cosmetic talc, TEM-SAED, was
26 not used because CTFA represented that its "ultra sensitivity could be a problem" and that it was
27 too expensive to use. Instead, its J4-I method relied on XRD alone for detection of asbestos at
28

1 greater concentrations than 0.5%, a concentration that could allow more than a billion asbestos
2 fibers per gram of talc to be passed off as "asbestos-free ."

3 52. Defendants and CTFA made and published such representations, claiming that
4 their testing method was adequate, that they were ensuring that talcum powder products were
5 safe, and that the talc reaching consumers in the Talcum Products was "safe," despite having
6 substantial knowledge and evidence to the contrary. Defendants intentionally and knowingly
7 did so to avoid FDA, CalEPA, OEHHA and other governmental agency regulations that, like
8 California's Proposition 65, would have required them to place warnings regarding the asbestos
9 and talc containing asbestiform fibers content of their talcum products, and thereby inform the
10 public in this State, including Plaintiffs, that their Talcum Products contain asbestos and talc
11 containing asbestiform fibers.

12 53. CTFA then published an article in 1979 stating it conducted over three thousand
13 tests of talcum powders and none of them found chrysotile. The article and report failed to disclose
14 whether the talcum powders tested contained tremolite, anthophyllite or any other form of asbestos.
15 This publication of half-truths was conveyed to the FDA and the public with the purpose of
16 preventing regulations of cosmetic products. Thereafter CTFA's methodology became the standard
17 by which nearly all talc was analyzed by the entire industry, including talc used in cosmetic and
18 hygiene products today.

19 54. CTFA and Defendants have represented to various news media outlets and the public
20 at large that their products are "asbestos-free," when, in fact, their products did test positive for
21 asbestos and those that did not were merely the result of inadequate and imprecise testing methods.
22 "No asbestos detected" does not mean the product does not contain asbestos, but due to Defendants'
23 repeated conflation of the terms, the public has been lead to erroneously believe talc products are
24 safe. Furthermore, since Defendants and CTFA did not have sufficient testing protocols in place to
25 support the claims that Talc Products, were safe or asbestos-free, such statements were recklessly
26 made, as they had no reason to believe them.

27 55. Between 1970 and the 1990s, tests conducted by and on behalf of Defendants and
28 the talc industry continued to show that talc and talcum powder products contained asbestos.

1 None of these positive tests have ever been produced or made known to any regulatory agency, and
2 knowledge of their existence is only because of civil litigation. Defendants intentionally and
3 knowingly did so to avoid FDA and California's Proposition 65 regulations that may have
4 required them to place warnings regarding the asbestos content of their products, including the
5 Talcum Products, and thereby inform the public, including Plaintiffs, that the Talcum Products
6 contained asbestos and talc containing asbestiform fibers.

7 56. Defendants and CTFA's failure to disclose these positive results and the
8 inadequacies of their testing protocols continued through the 1980s, 1990s and 2000s, even when
9 various government agencies, including California's Environmental Protection Agency ("CalEPA")
10 and Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment ("OEHHA") and others, raised
11 concerns about the safety of talc, including the issue of asbestos content.

12 57. To this day, many talc-containing products presently on the market, including the
13 talcum products contain asbestos and talc containing asbestiform fibers. Instead of publicizing this
14 fact, Defendants and CTFA continue to deny all the above to protect their pecuniary interests, to
15 the severe detriment of the public, including Plaintiffs and the members of the Class.

16 58. Since at least 1979, Defendants have conducted a campaign-to convince the
17 public that their products are regulated by the FDA, that their tests are conducted pursuant to FDA
18 regulations, and that talcum powder products are, therefore, safe. Nothing could be further from
19 the truth: the FDA has never been assigned a budget by Congress to regulate cosmetics, including
20 asbestos and other carcinogens in talcum powders. Defendants' concerns for the safety of their
21 products have always been voluntary and under the auspices of CTFA, a private industry group,
22 that in its 40 years has only banned the use of 11 ingredients in all cosmetics ever sold in the United
23 States. Indeed, as of today, asbestos-containing talc in cosmetics has not been banned or otherwise
24 regulated by CTFA or the FDA.

25 59. Defendants (and other entities in the talc industry and cosmetic industries,
26 including the CTFA), individually and collectively, failed to report to the FDA, CalEPA, OEHHA
27 and other regulatory agencies, tests performed both internally and by outside laboratories
28 confirming the presence of asbestos and talc containing asbestiform fibers in both their

1 finished products, including the Talcum Products, as well as talc shipments from suppliers
2 Defendants obtained talc from and other sources that were used to produce finished products.

3 60. Defendants, and even the outside laboratories, including McCone Associates,
4 sent letters to CTFA, to be and which were forwarded to the FDA, stating that results of testing of
5 talc used by them after 1972 had not revealed the presence of amphibole or chrysotile asbestos,
6 when in fact all of these entities had received or performed tests indicating the contrary when
7 such false representations were made.

8 61. After 1976, Defendants and CTFA continued to obtain and/or receive results of
9 testing performed internally and externally indicating the presence of Asbestos and talc
10 containing asbestiform fibers in the Talcum Products.

11 62. Defendants failed to place any warning on their Talcum Products despite CalEPA
12 and OEHHA regulations otherwise, or ever disclose the fact that these products contain asbestos or
13 talc containing asbestiform fibers, at any point, up to and including the present, despite the clear
14 hazard and direct information that their Talcum Products did and continue to contain asbestos or
15 talc containing asbestiform fibers.

16 63. Defendants and CTFA, collectively and through explicit agreement and
17 consciously parallel behavior, controlled industry standards regarding the testing, manufacture,
18 sale, distribution and use of talcum powder products, and controlled the level of knowledge and
19 information available to the public, including Plaintiffs, regarding the hazards of exposure to
20 carcinogens, including asbestos and talc containing asbestiform fibers, from the Talcum Products.

21 64. Defendants and CTFA, through agreement and consciously parallel behavior,
22 knowingly and intentionally released, published and disseminated invalid, inaccurate, outdated
23 and misleading scientific data, literature and test reports containing misinformation and false
24 statements regarding the health risks associated with the use of talc and talcum powder products,
25 including the Talcum Products, to which Plaintiffs and the consuming public in this State have
26 been exposed .

27 65. Defendants and CTFA, while cognizant of the aforementioned data, deliberately
28 chose to ignore the health and safety issues raised in said data and embarked upon a plan of

1 deception intended to deprive the public at large in this State and elsewhere, including Plaintiffs,
2 of alarming medical and scientific findings, many of which remained in their exclusive
3 possession and under their exclusive control.

4 66. Defendants and CTFA conspired and/or acted in concert with each other and/or with
5 other entities through agreement and consciously parallel behavior:

6 a. to withhold from users of their products including Plaintiffs, the Class, and
7 the general consuming public of this State-and from persons who they knew and should have
8 known would be exposed thereto--information regarding the health risks of inhaling and/or
9 ingesting and/or perineal (genital) application of the Talcum Products;

10 b. to eliminate, suppress or prevent investigation into the health hazards of
11 exposure to asbestos and other carcinogens in talc and talcum powder products;

12 c. to ensure that asbestos-containing talc and talcum powder products became
13 widely used in commerce, irrespective of the potential and actual risk of harm to the users and
14 consumers from the asbestos and other carcinogens therein; and

15 d. to falsely represent that talc and talcum powder products, including those of
16 Defendants, were safe and healthful for use by consumers such as Plaintiffs, the Class Members,
17 and the general consuming public of this State.

18 67. Plaintiffs and the Class reasonably, and in good faith, relied upon the false and
19 fraudulent representations made by Defendants and CTFA regarding the hazards of talc and talcum
20 powder products that contained asbestos and other carcinogens, and he was, therefore, deprived
21 of an opportunity to make informed 'decisions concerning use of, exposure to and contact with
22 said products.

23 68. CTFA, as well as Defendants and other entities in the talc industry and cosmetic
24 industries, individually and collectively, failed to report to the FDA tests performed both
25 internally and by outside laboratories confirming the presence of asbestos in Defendants' and
26 other CTFA members ' finished products as well as talc shipments from talc suppliers and other
27 sources that were used to produce finished products. Instead, CTFA sent letters to the FDA
28 stating that results of testing of talc used by the industry after 1972 had not revealed the presence

1 of amphiboles or chrysotile, when in fact all of these entities had received or performed tests
2 indicating the contrary by 1976, when such intentionally false misrepresentations were made.
3 CTFA and Defendants made and published such representations claiming that their collective
4 testing method was adequate, they were ensuring that talcum powder products, including The
5 Talcum Products, were safe, and that their testing of talc reaching consumers was "safe," despite
6 knowing the contrary.

7 69. The FDA, CalEPA, OEHHA, other regulatory bodies, and ultimately Plaintiffs, the
8 Class, and the general consuming public of this State, directly and/or indirectly relied upon CTFA's
9 and Defendants' false representations regarding the safety of cosmetic talc. In fact, a FDA letter
10 dated January 11, 1979, states: "In cooperation with scientists from industry, our scientists have
11 been making progress in the development of such regulatory methods." The continuing lack of
12 FDA awareness regarding CTFA's and Defendants' misrepresentations was obvious seven years
13 later. In a response to a citizen petition to require an asbestos warning label on cosmetic talc, on
14 July 1, 1986, the FDA states that an "analytical methodology was sufficiently developed" to ensure
15 that "such talc [is] free of fibrous amphibole..." CTFA's J4-I method has continued for the past four
16 decades to be the cosmetic talc industry's method for "ensuring" "asbestos-free" talc. The use of
17 TEM, recognized by the CTFA as offering "greater sensitivity" for asbestos, continued to increase
18 over the following decades as its advantages were applied to more matrices. In 1990, Kremer and
19 Millette published a TEM method for analysis of asbestos in talc with a theoretical detection limit
20 of about 0.00005%. Despite such improvements in analytical techniques, the cosmetic talc
21 industry, including Defendants, continues, four decades later, to use and promote its antiquated and
22 wholly inadequate J4-I method.

23 70. CTFA and Defendants, collectively and through explicit agreement and consciously
24 parallel behavior, controlled industry standards regarding the testing, manufacture, sale, marketing,
25 distribution and use of asbestos-containing talcum powder products, and controlled the level of
26 knowledge and information available to the public in this State regarding the hazards of exposure
27 to asbestos and talc with asbestiform fibers and other carcinogens from talc and talc-containing
28 products, including the Talcum Products.

1 71. CTFA and Defendants, through agreement and consciously parallel behavior,
2 intentionally failed to warn potential users, including Plaintiffs, the Class, and the general
3 consuming public in this State, of the serious bodily harm and/or death which may result from the
4 inhalation and/or ingestion and/or perineal (genital) application of asbestos and talc containing
5 asbestiform fibers from their Talcum Products.

6 72. CTFA and Defendants, through agreement and consciously parallel behavior,
7 knowingly and intentionally released, published and disseminated invalid, inaccurate, outdated
8 and misleading scientific data, literature and test reports containing misinformation and false
9 statements regarding the health risks associated with the use of talc and talcum powder, and
10 specifically talc and talcum powder used in the production of the Talcum Products to which
11 Plaintiffs, the Class, and the general consuming public in this State were exposed.

12 73. CTFA and Defendants, through agreement and consciously parallel behavior,
13 suppressed, altered, changed, destroyed and/or revised reports, data, tests, studies and other
14 documents regarding the potential presence of asbestos and other carcinogens in talc and talc-
15 containing products, including Defendants' the Talcum Products to which Plaintiffs, the Class, and
16 the consuming public in this State were exposed.

17 74. As recently as 2016, Defendants made material misrepresentations to the FDA
18 regarding asbestos and talc containing asbestiform fibers in their talcum powder products.

19 75. However, as a matter of law, Defendants were required to inform the public that
20 their products contained, or possibly contained carcinogens such as asbestos and talc containing
21 asbestiform fibers. Health & Safety Code §25249.6 provides:

22 No person in the course of doing business shall knowingly and intentionally
23 expose any individual to a chemical known to the state to cause cancer or
24 reproductive toxicity without first giving clear and reasonable warning to such
individual. ..

25 76. "Knowingly" refers only to knowledge of the fact that a discharge of, release of, or
26 exposure to a chemical listed pursuant to Section 25249.8(a) of the Act is occurring. "No knowledge
27 that the discharge, release or exposure is unlawful is required (27 Cal. Code Regs, title 27,
28 §25102(n)).

1 77. Proposition 65 also provides that any person "violating or threatening to violate"
2 the statute may be enjoined in a court of competent jurisdiction. (Health & Saf. Code §25249.7)
3 The phrase "threatening to violate" is defined to mean creating "a condition in which there is
4 substantial likelihood that a violation will occur." (Health & Saf. Code §25249.1 1(e)). Violaters
5 are liable for civil penalties of up to \$2,500 per day for each violation of the Act. (Health & Saf.
6 Code §25249.7).

7 78. Asbestos is listed by the State of California as a chemical known to cause cancer.
8 Asbestos is therefore subject to the "clear and reasonable" warning requirements of

9 79. Due to the high toxicity of asbestos in causing cancer, the No Significant Risk Level
10 ("NSRL") or ("Safe Harbor") for inhalation of asbestos is 100 fibers/day (inhalation) (27 Cal. Code
11 Regs, Title 27, CR 25709(b)). Defendants manufacture, distribute, market and/or sell in California
12 the Talcum Products containing asbestos in levels exceeding the NSRL for inhalation through
13 normal and intended use of the products.

14 80. There is no Safe Harbor established for perineal (genital) exposure to asbestos.

15 81. Talc Containing Asbestiform Fibers is also listed by the State of California as a
16 chemical known to cause cancer. Talc Containing Asbestiform Fibers is therefore subject to the
17 "clear and reasonable" warning requirements of Proposition 65 for cancer.

18 82. There are no Safe Harbors established for exposure to Talc Containing
19 Asbestiform Fibers.

20 83. Since there is no established Safe Harbor for perineal (genital) exposure to
21 Asbestos, or for inhalation or perineal (genital) exposure to Talc Containing Asbestiform Fibers,
22 the named Defendants must demonstrate that the exposure will produce no observable effect,
23 even at 1,000 times the level in question. See, 27 Cal. Code of Regs, Title 27, §25801 et. seq.
24 Clearly, at 1,000 times the asbestos and talc containing asbestiform fibers levels in question, the
25 named Defendants are unable to show "no observable effect."

26 84. At all times relevant to this action, Defendants have knowingly exposed
27 California consumers to asbestos and talc containing asbestiform fibers in the offending the Talcum
28 Products talcum powder products without clear and reasonable warning to such individuals.

1 85. At all times relevant to this action, Defendants have failed to place a clear
2 and reasonable Proposition 65 warning for asbestos and talc containing asbestiform fibers,
3 disclosing the cancer-causing effects, on the Talcum Products.

4 86. At all times relevant to this action, Defendants' representatives have failed to
5 warn California consumers that their Talcum Products contain cancer-causing asbestos and talc
6 containing asbestiform fibers.

7 87. At all times relevant to this action, Defendants have failed to place a clear and
8 reasonable Proposition 65 warning for asbestos and talc containing asbestiform fibers on their
9 marketing materials.

10 88. At all times relevant to this action, Defendants have failed to place a clear and
11 reasonable Proposition 65 warning for asbestos and talc containing asbestiform fibers on store
12 shelves.

13 89. At all times relevant to this action, Defendants have failed to place a clear and
14 reasonable Proposition 65 warning for asbestos and talc containing asbestiform fibers on their 16
15 websites. To the contrary, Defendants continue to represent on their websites that the Talcum
16 Products are "asbestos free."

17 90. Further, by failing to place a clear and reasonable Proposition 65 label on for their
18 websites, products, or advertising, Defendants both actively and passively asserted to Plaintiffs,
19 the Class, and the general consuming public, that the Talcum Products were safe and legal to use
20 for all purposes, when, as alleged above, they were not. Plaintiffs and the Class had a reasonable
21 presumption that the sale of the Talcum Products, all of which were placed on retail store shelves,
22 and which were openly available for sale without any warning labels at all, was safe, and in
23 compliance with California law. *Steroid Hormone Product Cases* (2010) 181 Cal. App. 4th 145,
24 156-57.

25 **CLASS ACTION ALLEGATIONS**

26 91. Plaintiffs bring this action on behalf of themselves, the general public, and all others
27 similarly situated. Plaintiffs seek to represent the following class:
28

1 Plaintiffs and all persons who purchased the Talcum Products within the state of
2 California at any time from four years prior to the filing of this complaint and
ongoing until date of judgment and/or preliminary approval of class action
settlement.

3 All Class members are hereinafter referred to as the "Class." Subject to additional information
4 obtained through further investigation and discovery, the foregoing definition of the Class may be
5 expanded or narrowed by amendment or amended complaint. Specifically excluded from the
6 proposed Class are Defendants, their officers, directors, agents, trustees, parents, children,
7 corporations, trusts, representatives, employees, principals, servants, partners, joint venturers, or
8 entities controlled by Defendants, and their heirs, successors, assigns, or other persons or entities
9 related to or affiliated with Defendants and/or their officers and/or directors, or any of them; the
10 judicial officer or judicial officers assigned to this action, any member of the judicial officers'
11 immediate family. Also excluded from the Class are any persons who, as of the date the Complaint
12 is filed, have an action pending against one or more of the Defendants resulting from the sale of, or
13 injuries related to the use of, any of the Talcum Products.

14 92. This action has been brought and may be properly maintained as a class action,
15 pursuant to the provisions of the California Code of Civil Procedure Section 382 and California
16 Civil Code Section 1781.

17 93. Numerosity – Code Civ. Proc. § 382; Civ. Code § 1781(b)(1): Members of the Class
18 are so numerous that their individual joinder is impracticable. Plaintiffs are informed and believes,
19 and on that basis allege, that the proposed class contains thousands of members. The precise
20 number of Class members is unknown to Plaintiffs. Class members are likely to be known by
21 Defendants, or Defendants' customers, however, and thus, may be notified of the pendency of this
22 action by mail, supplemented (if deemed necessary and appropriate by the Court) by published
23 notice.

24 94. Existence and Predominance of Commons Questions of Fact and Law – Code of
25 Civ. Proc. § 382; Civ. Code § 1781(b)(2): Common questions of law and fact exist as to all
26 members of the Class. These questions predominate over the questions affecting individual Class
27 members. These common legal and factual questions include:
28

1 i. Whether the Talcum Products contain asbestos or asbestiform fibers;

2 ii. Whether Defendants knew or should have known that the Talcum
3 Products contained asbestos or asbestiform fibers;

4 iii. Whether Defendants failure to label the Talcum Products as possibly
5 containing known carcinogens violates Health & Safety Code § 259249.5;

6 iv. Whether Defendants violated Health & Safety Code § 111792 by
7 failing to notify the California Division of Environmental and Occupational Disease Control that
8 the Talcum Products contain asbestos and/or asbestiform fibers;

9 v. Whether Defendants could lawfully sell the Talcum Products in the
10 State of California without complying with Health & Safety Code §§ 11792 and 259249.2;

11 vi. Whether the sale of the Talcum Products in California at retail
12 establishments constituted an affirmative statement by Defendants to Plaintiffs and the Class
13 Members that the Talcum Products were safe to use, and that Defendants had complied with all
14 laws, including Health & Safety Code §§ 11792 and 259249.2;

15 vii. Whether the affirmative statement by Defendants through the sale
16 the Talcum Products in California at retail establishments that the Talcum Products were safe to
17 use, and that Defendants had complied with all laws, including Health & Safety Code §§ 11792
18 and 259249.2 was a misrepresentation as to the Talcum Product's source, sponsorship, approval,
19 or certification in violation of Civil Code § 1770(a)(2);

20 viii. Whether the affirmative statement by Defendants through the sale
21 the Talcum Products in California at retail establishments that the Talcum Products were safe to
22 use, and that Defendants had complied with all laws, including Health & Safety Code §§ 11792
23 and 259249.2 constituted a representation, whether express or implied, that the Talcum Products
24 have sponsorship, approval, characteristics, ingredients, uses or benefits which they do not have in
25 violation of Civil Code § 1770(a)(5);

26 ix. Whether the affirmative statement by Defendants through the sale
27 the Talcum Products in California at retail establishments that the Talcum Products were safe to
28 use, and that Defendants had complied with all laws, including Health & Safety Code §§ 11792

1 and 259249.2 constituted a representation that the Talcum Products are of a particular standard,
2 quality, or grade, or of a particular style or model, when they are of another in violation of Civil
3 Code § 1770(a)(7);

4 x. Whether the affirmative statements by Defendants that the Talcum
5 Products were “asbestos-free” constituted a misrepresentation as to the Talcum Products source,
6 sponsorship, approval, or certification in violation of Civil Code § 1770(a)(2);

7 xi. Whether the affirmative statements by Defendants that the Talcum
8 Products were “asbestos-free” constituted a representation, whether express or implied, that the
9 Talcum Products have sponsorship, approval, characteristics, ingredients, uses or benefits which
10 they do not have in violation of Civil Code § 1770(a)(5);

11 xii. Whether the affirmative statements by Defendants that the Talcum
12 Products were “asbestos-free” constituted a representation that the Talcum Products are of a
13 particular standard, quality, or grade, or of a particular style or model, when they are of another in
14 violation of Civil Code § 1770(a)(7);

15 xiv. Whether the affirmative statements by Defendants that the Talcum
16 Products are and were “asbestos-free” constitutes false advertising under Business & Professions
17 Code § 17500, et seq.;

18 xv. Whether the sale of the Talcum Products constituted an unlawful
19 business practice in violation of Business & Professions Code § 17200, et seq.;

20 xvi. Whether the sale of the Talcum Products constituted a deceptive
21 business practice in violation of Business & Professions Code § 17200, et seq.;

22 xvii. Whether the sale of the Talcum Products constituted an unfair
23 business practice in violation of Business & Professions Code § 17200, et seq.;

24 xviii. Whether Defendants have been unjustly enriched by their sale of the
25 Talcum Products to Plaintiffs and the members of the Class; and,

26 xix. The appropriate amount of restitutionary disgorgement owed to
27 Plaintiffs and the Class.

28

1 95. Typicality – Code Civ. Proc. § 382; Civ. Code § 1781(b)(3): Plaintiffs’ claims are
2 typical of the claims of the Class since Plaintiffs purchased the Talcum Products from Defendants
3 as did members of the Class. Furthermore, Plaintiffs and all members of the Class sustained injury
4 in fact by losing money as a result of Defendants’ wrongful conduct.

5 96. Adequacy – Code Civ. Proc. § 382; Civ. Code § 1781(b)(4): Plaintiffs are adequate
6 representatives of the Class because their interests do not conflict with the interests of the Class
7 they seek to represent; they have retained counsel competent and experienced in complex class
8 action litigation; and she intends to prosecute this action vigorously. The interests of the Class will
9 be fairly and adequately protected by Plaintiffs and their counsel.

10 97. Superiority – Code Civ. Proc. § 382: The class action is superior to other available
11 means for the fair and efficient adjudication of the claims of Plaintiff and members of the Class.
12 Although the monetary injury suffered by each individual Class member may total several hundred
13 dollars, injury of such magnitude is nonetheless relatively small given the burden and expense of
14 individual prosecution of the complex and extensive litigation necessitated by Defendants’ conduct.
15 It would be virtually impossible for members of the Class individually to redress effectively the
16 wrongs done to them. Even if the members of the Class could afford such individual litigation, the
17 court system could not. Individualized litigation presents a potential for inconsistent or
18 contradictory judgments. Individualized litigation increases the delay and expense to all parties,
19 and to the court system, presented by the complex legal and factual issues of the case. By contrast,
20 the class action device presents far fewer management difficulties, and provides the benefits of
21 single adjudication, economy of scale, and comprehensive supervision by a single court.

22 **CAUSES OF ACTION**

23 **FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION**

24 **Violation of the Consumers Legal Remedies Act**

25 **[Civil Code § 1750 *et seq.*]**

26 **(On behalf of Plaintiffs and the Class Against All Defendants)**

27 98. The allegations of the preceding paragraphs are incorporated by reference as if fully
28 set forth herein.

99. The Talcum Products are “goods” within the meaning of the Consumer Legal

1 Remedies Act, Civil Code sections 1761(a) and 1770 (the “CLRA”).

2 100. Each Defendant is a “person” within the meaning of the CLRA, Civil Code sections
3 1761(c) and 1770.

4 100. Purchasers of the Talcum Products, including Plaintiffs Gutierrez and Luna, and the
5 Class, are “consumers” within the meaning of the CLRA, Civil Code sections 1761(d) and 1770.

6 102. Plaintiffs and each and every Class Member’s purchases of the Talcum Products
7 constitute “transactions” within the meaning of the CLRA, Civil Code sections 1761(e) and 1770.

8 103. Defendants’ unfair or deceptive acts or practices as described herein, were
9 undertaken by Defendants in transactions intended to result or which resulted in the sale of goods
10 to consumers, and were intended to induce, and did in fact induce, Plaintiffs and the Class to
11 purchase for personal use such products, which they would not have otherwise purchased. Indeed,
12 as one official with the U.S. Food and Drug Administration was quoted in 1971 as saying with
13 regard to the possible presence of asbestos and/or talc containing asbestiform fibers in baby powder,
14 “No mother was going to powder her baby with 1% of a known carcinogen irregardless [sic] of the
15 large safety factor.”³

16 104. Defendants’ practices, acts and course of conduct with respect to their distribution
17 and sale of the Talcum Products violate the CLRA in that Defendants’ representation that its talcum
18 powder products are safe and free from asbestos or asbestiform fibers constitutes: (1) a
19 misrepresentation as to the Talcum Products source, sponsorship, approval, or certification in
20 violation of Civil Code § 1770(a)(2); (2) a representation, whether express or implied, that the
21 Talcum Products have sponsorship, approval, characteristics, ingredients, uses or benefits which
22 they do not have in violation of Civil Code § 1770(a)(5); and (3) a representation that the Talcum
23 Products are of a particular standard, quality, or grade, or of a particular style or model, when they
24 are of another in violation of Civil Code § 1770(a)(7). Here, despite decades of evidence that the
25 Talcum Products contain, or could contain asbestos or asbestiform fibers, Defendants continue to
26 advertise that their products are safe.

27 105. Defendants’ practices, acts and course of conduct in connection with its sale of the

28 ³ See Exhibit 3.

1 Talcum Products are likely to mislead a reasonable consumer acting reasonably under the
2 circumstances to his or her detriment. Further, the misrepresentation of the safety of the Talcum
3 Products are clearly material to the determination to purchase the Talcum Products, as the potential
4 harm to the consumer or the consumer's family is significantly greater than the value conferred by
5 the purchase of the Talcum Products ("No mother was going to powder her baby with 1% of a
6 known carcinogen irregardless [sic] of the large safety factor."), there are equivalent products that
7 confer a similar benefit to the consumer that the Talcum Products provided, and, as a result, no
8 reasonable consumer, including Plaintiffs and the Class Members, would purchase the Talcum
9 Products had they known that the Talcum Products were not, in fact, safe as Defendants, advertised,
10 but that these products contained, or possibly contained, asbestos or asbestiform fibers, which are
11 known carcinogens.

12 106. As a direct and proximate result of Defendants' violations of law, Plaintiffs and the
13 Class have suffered damages by not receiving what was promised to them in exchange for the
14 purchase of the Talcum Products, which Defendants contended were safe, and did not contain
15 asbestos or asbestiform fibers.

16 107. By filing this Complaint, Plaintiffs seek an order enjoining Defendants from the
17 continued sale of Talcum Products; an Order enjoining Defendants from collecting money from the
18 Class from the sale of such products; and an Order requiring Defendants to notify the class of its
19 violations of the CLRA and the remedy it will provide to them. Plaintiff and the Class are entitled
20 to equitable relief in the form of restitutionary disgorgement of all earnings, profits, compensation
21 and benefits obtained by Defendants as a result of its violations of the CLRA, along with other
22 appropriate relief including reasonable attorneys' fees and expenses.

23 **SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION**
24 **Violation of the False Advertising Law**
25 **[Business And Professions Code Section 17500, Et Seq.]**
26 **(On Behalf of Plaintiffs and the Class Against all Defendants)**

27 108. Plaintiffs hereby incorporate by reference all previous paragraphs of this
28 Complaint as if fully set forth herein and further allege as follows:

1 109. Plaintiffs bring this cause of action pursuant to California Business & Professions
2 Code § 17500. California Business & Professions Code § 17500 provides that it is unlawful
3 for any person, firm, corporation or association to dispose of property or perform services, or
4 to induce the public to enter into any obligation relating thereto, through the use of untrue
5 or misleading statements.

6 110. Plaintiffs and the Class Members purchased the Talcum Products and have suffered
7 injury in fact and have lost money or property as a result of the unlawful, unfair, or fraudulent
8 business practices and unfair, deceptive, untrue or misleading advertising.

9 111. At all times herein alleged, Defendants have committed acts of disseminating
10 untrue and misleading statements as defined by California Business & Professions Code § 17500
11 by engaging in the following acts and practices with intent to induce members of the public to
12 purchase and use the Talcum Products:(a) Representing that the Talcum Products are safe for their
13 intended and foreseeable use and "free of asbestos," knowing that said representations were
14 false, and concealing that the Talcum Products, or at least some of them, contain asbestos and talc
15 containing asbestiform fibers and have a serious propensity to cause injuries to users; (b) Issuing
16 promotional literature and commercials deceiving potential users of the Talcum Products by
17 relaying positive information and concealing material relevant information regarding the safety
18 and efficacy of the Talcum Products; and other unfair, unlawful and fraudulent conduct.

19 112. The foregoing practices constitute false and misleading advertising within the
20 meaning of California Business & Professions Code § 17500.

21 113. The acts of untrue and misleading statements by Defendants described here in
22 above present a continuing threat to members of the public in that the acts alleged herein are
23 continuous and ongoing, and the public will continue to suffer the harm alleged herein .

24 114. As a result of their conduct described above, Defendants have been and will be
25 unjustly enriched. Specifically, Defendants have been unjustly enriched by receipt of hundreds of
26 millions of dollars in ill-gotten gains from Plaintiffs and the Class Members from the sale of the
27 Talcum Products in California, sold in large part as a result of the acts and omissions described
28 herein.

1 115. Pursuant to California Business & Professions Code § 17535, Plaintiffs seeks an
2 order of this Court compelling the Defendants to provide restitution and injunctive relief calling for
3 Defendants, and each of them, to cease unfair business practices in the future.

4 116. Plaintiffs seek restitutionary disgorgement of the monies collected from Plaintiffs and
5 the Class, by Defendants, and each of them, and other injunctive relief to cease such false and
6 misleading advertising in the future.

7 117. Defendants' actions described above were performed willfully, intentionally, and
8 with reckless disregard of the life and safety of the Plaintiffs, the Class, and the general public.

9 **THIRD CAUSE OF ACTION**
10 **Violation of the Unfair Competition Law**
11 **[Business and Professions Code Section 17200, et seq.]**
12 **(on Behalf of Plaintiffs and the Class Against all Defendants)**

13 118. Plaintiffs hereby incorporate by reference all previous paragraphs of this
14 Complaint as if fully set forth herein and further allege as follows.

15 119. California Business & Professions Code § 17200 provides that unfair competition
16 shall mean and include "all unlawful, unfair or fraudulent business practices and unfair,
17 deceptive, untrue or misleading advertising."

18 120. Plaintiffs and the Class purchased the Talcum Products and have suffered injury in
19 fact and have lost money or property as a result of the unlawful, unfair or fraudulent business
20 practices and unfair, deceptive, untrue or misleading advertising.

21 121. The acts and practices described above violate California Health and Safety Code
22 §25249.5, et seq. (Proposition 65) and therefore satisfy and violate the "unlawful" prong of § 17200.

23 122. The acts and practices described above also violate the California Safe Cosmetic
24 Act of 2005 (Cal. Health & Safety Code §§ 111791 et seq.) for failing to notify the California Safe
25 Cosmetics Program that the Talcum Products contain asbestos and talc containing asbestiform
26 fibers -- ingredients known to cause cancer. The California Safe Cosmetics Act is a California
27 State law that was enacted in 2005 and is implemented by the California Safe Cosmetics Program
28 in the California Department of Public Health. The Act requires companies to report cosmetics
products sold within the state that contain ingredients known or suspected to cause cancer, birth

1 defects, or other reproductive harm. The violations of Cal. Health & Safety Code §§ 11191 et
2 seq. also satisfy and violate the "unlawful" prong of § 17200.

3 123. The acts and practices described above also violate the Consumer Legal Remedies
4 Act, and the False Advertising Law, as described above, in that Defendants have represented to
5 Plaintiffs, the Class and the general public, that their products are safe and "asbestos-free." Thus,
6 the statements made by Defendants that the Talcum Products were safe and "asbestos-free" are
7 constitute unlawful acts within the meaning of California Business & Professions Code § 17200.

8 124. Further, by selling the Talcum Products openly in retail establishments throughout
9 the State of California, Defendants violated and violate the Consumer Legal Remedies Act, by
10 passively intimating that the Talcum Products complied with all of California's laws, and were safe
11 to use, when, in fact, they were not. This conduct, prohibited by the CLRA, also constitutes
12 unlawful acts within the meaning of California Business & Professions Code § 17200.

13 125. The acts and practices described above were and are also likely to mislead the
14 general public and therefore constitute unfair business practices within the meaning of California
15 Business & Professions Code § 17200, including unfair, unlawful, and/or fraudulent practices.

16 126. The acts of untrue and misleading advertising set forth in presiding paragraphs are
17 incorporated by reference and are, by definition, violations of California Business &
18 Professions Code § 17200. This conduct is set forth fully herein, and includes, but is not limited to:
19 (a) Representing that the Talcum Products are safe for their intended and foreseeable use and "free
20 of asbestos," knowing that said representations were false, and concealing that the Talcum Products
21 contain Asbestos and Talc Containing Asbestiform Fibers and had a serious propensity to cause
22 injuries to users; (b) Issuing promotional literature and commercials deceiving potential users of
23 the Talcum Products by relaying positive information and concealing material relevant information
24 regarding the safety and efficacy of the Talcum Products; (c) Selling the Talcum Products freely
25 and openly without any indication of the associated health risks; and other unfair, unlawful and
26 fraudulent conduct.

27 127. These practices constitute unlawful, unfair and/or fraudulent business acts or
28 practices, within the meaning of California Business & Professions Code § 17200. The fraudulent

1 conduct includes representing that the Talcum Products were safe for their intended use and failing
2 to warn Plaintiff and the Class Members of the risks associated with the Talcum Products.

3 128. The unlawful, unfair and fraudulent business practices of Defendants described
4 above present a continuing threat to members of the public in that Defendants continue to engage
5 in the conduct described therein.

6 129. As a result of their conduct described above, Defendants have been and will be
7 unjustly enriched. Specifically, Defendants have been unjustly enriched by receipt of millions of
8 dollars in ill-gotten gains from the sale of the Talcum Products in California to Plaintiffs and the
9 Class, sold in large part as a result of the acts and omissions described herein.

10 130. Plaintiffs, on behalf of themselves, and on behalf of the Class, pursuant to California
11 Business & Professions Code § 17203, seeks an order of this court compelling the Defendants
12 to provide restitutionary disgorgement and injunctive relief calling for Defendants, and each of
13 them, to cease unfair business practices in the future.

14 **DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL**

15 131. Plaintiffs hereby demand trial by jury.

16
17 **PRAYER FOR RELIEF**

18 WHEREFORE, Plaintiffs, individually, and on behalf of the Class and the general
19 public, pray for judgment against Defendants as follows:

- 20 1. For an order certifying that this action may be maintained as a class action against
21 Defendants, appointing Plaintiffs and their counsel to represent the Class, as alleged
22 herein, and directing that reasonable notice of this action be given by Defendants to the
23 members of the Class;
- 24 2. For an order awarding reimbursement, restitution and disgorgement from Defendants of
25 the benefits unjustly conferred by Plaintiffs and the Class;
- 26 3. For an order awarding injunctive and other equitable relief;
- 27 4. For an order awarding declaratory relief;
- 28 5. For an order awarding pre- and post-judgment interest to the Class, at the highest rate

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allowed by law;

- 6. For an order awarding costs, including experts' fees, and attorneys' fees and expenses, and the costs of prosecuting this action; and
- 7. For an order awarding granting such other and further relief as is just and proper.

Dated: May 29, 2019

POTTER HANDY LLP

By: 

Mark Potter, Esq.
James M. Treglio, Esq.

Attorneys for Plaintiffs and the Class

EXHIBIT 1

Johnson-Johnson

New Brunswick, N. J.

Nov. 1, 1967

Subject:

Metropolitan Talc
Lot G 716
Preliminary Evaluation

The talc used for this evaluation was produced in the Plainfield plant and was delivered to us by Mr. Don Ferry about Oct. 1, 1967.

Perfume Retention and Aroma

The Metro talc shows greater retention for perfume than does our Vermont talc and the indications are that the rate of escape is very close to that developed with Italian talc. We ran a gravimetric rate loss test on talcs containing 1% P-5 in open dishes and find the rate loss very close to Italian talc at both 70 and 100F for the Metro and significantly faster for the Vermont. (Graphs 1 & 2)

The Metro talc does not show the chalky note under circumstances which create that aroma in Vermont talcs. Since the original problem in perfumery developed at a low dose of P-5 we elected to set up a storage test with the three talcs (Italian, Vermont, Metro) and P-5 at 0.1% incubated at 120F for three weeks. The Vermont article develops a chalky tone whereas the other two did not.

The above tests lead us to believe that the commercial dose of either P or P-5 would provide a satisfactory aroma life with Metro type talc. Our tests were limited in that we did not include the neutralizer at this point.

Chemical and Physical Properties

Except for fineness the Metro talc fits the physical characteristics which we find adequate. (Table I) The shipment on hand is slightly on the coarse side; a slightly increased grind should bring it into range.

Mineralogically the talc is predominantly platy although a large percentage of the plates are broken and lath shaped. The lath shape of some of the particles appears to have resulted from the grinding method since the cleavage of the crystals from a sample of the

Plaintiff's
Exhibit
J&J 124

J&J-0076514

rock is normal. Optically, by count, the product is at least 93% talc plus 3-5% Dolomite and 1% or less of Tremolite. The associate minerals are liberated from the talc crystals.

The talc has high slip, good flow character and is remarkably white. It is probably the whitest commercially available talc which we have observed at the 200 mesh grind level.

The carbonate Dolomite is actually calcium magnesium carbonate. This assays about 5% using the strong acid method and close to 4% using the titration method. This carbonate level requires up to 1% of sesquicarbonate to maintain our historic pH limits in the finished product. A 1% neutralizer content is prohibitively high. Sesquicarbonate in the 0.2% area brings the initial pH of the product close to neutral and there might be some merit in considering such a product but of course the effect would be to drift up to the higher alkaline ranges over the 18 hr control test we now use. (Graph 111)

Talc Source and Processing

The talc ore processed in Plainfield comes from the deposit in Madoc Ontario which we explored at depth some years ago.

The Madoc deposit has a lot in common with Italian talc from the geological and mineralogical points of view. The associate minerals in the district are very similar and the crystal habit of the talcs are also very similar to the Italian situation. Thus there would be every reason to expect the two talcs to perform about the same when their processing conditions were reasonably close.

The Madoc deposit is a relatively large source of talc but it contains several grades of ore which are given different names. The highest grade up there is the Henderson section and it is that section which is presently being worked to supply the crudes for the Plainfield plant. As far as we know the reserves at Madoc were of the 150,000 ton order for the Henderson type at the 600 foot levels.

The process used to upgrade the talc is based on electrostatic separation. This is a dry process so there would be no effects resulting from wetting or flotation reagentry.

Next Steps

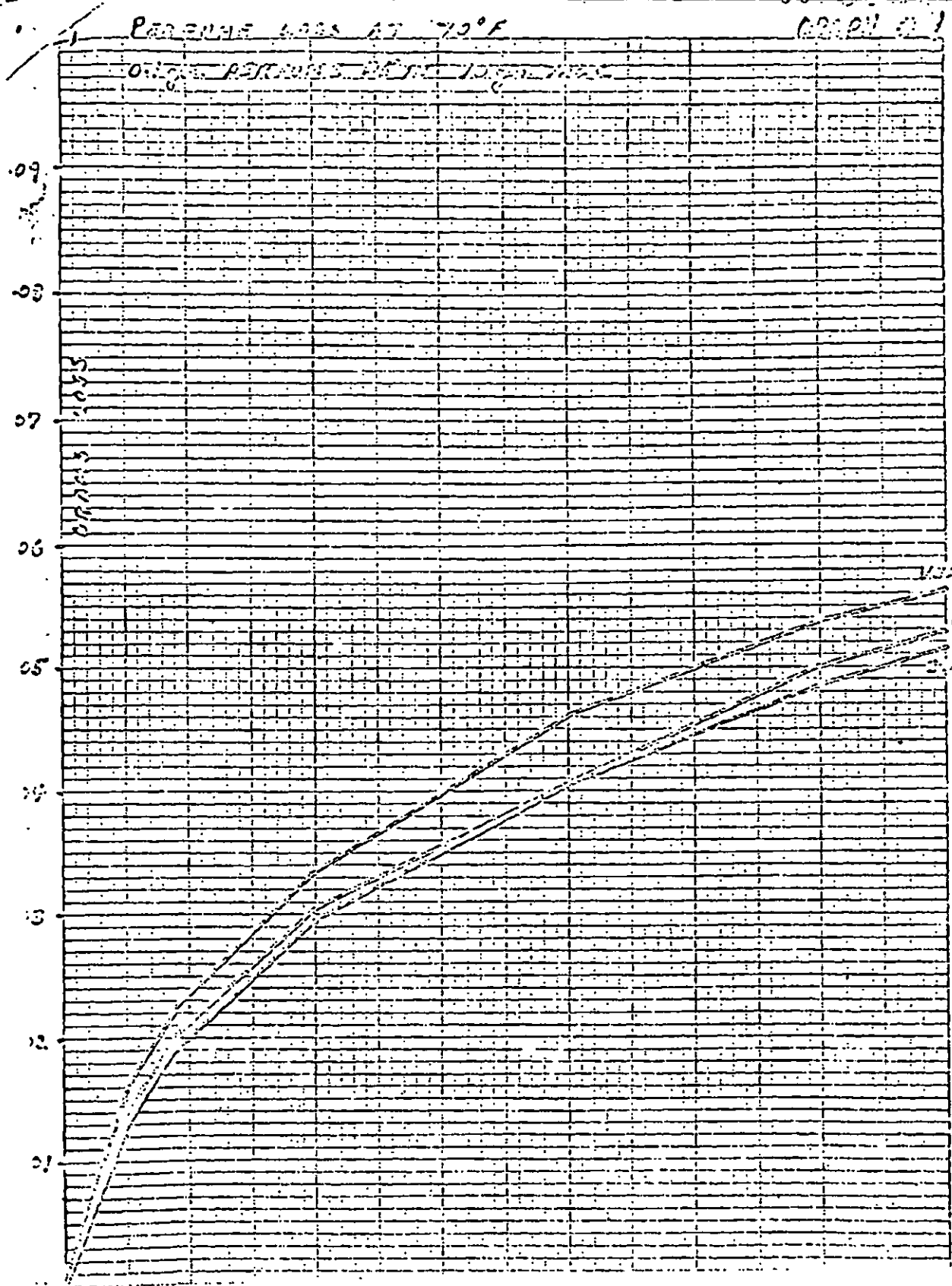
Mr. Russell and I shall be visiting Mr. Ferry at the Plainfield plant in the next few days. We will get an idea of the capabilities and determine what is

involved in reducing the carbonate level and making arrangements for a couple tons of it for a large scale run.

Meanwhile we have 200 lbs of the above described Metro talc on hand here which I plan to make available to whomever would like to run some tests with it. Although I am personally impressed with the laboratory scale work Russell and I have done, a larger confirmation on a pilot plant batch could prove useful. For example this should be made up with whatever perfume levels are used in the plant today and might evaluate the holding power for the perfume in the powder puff unit also.

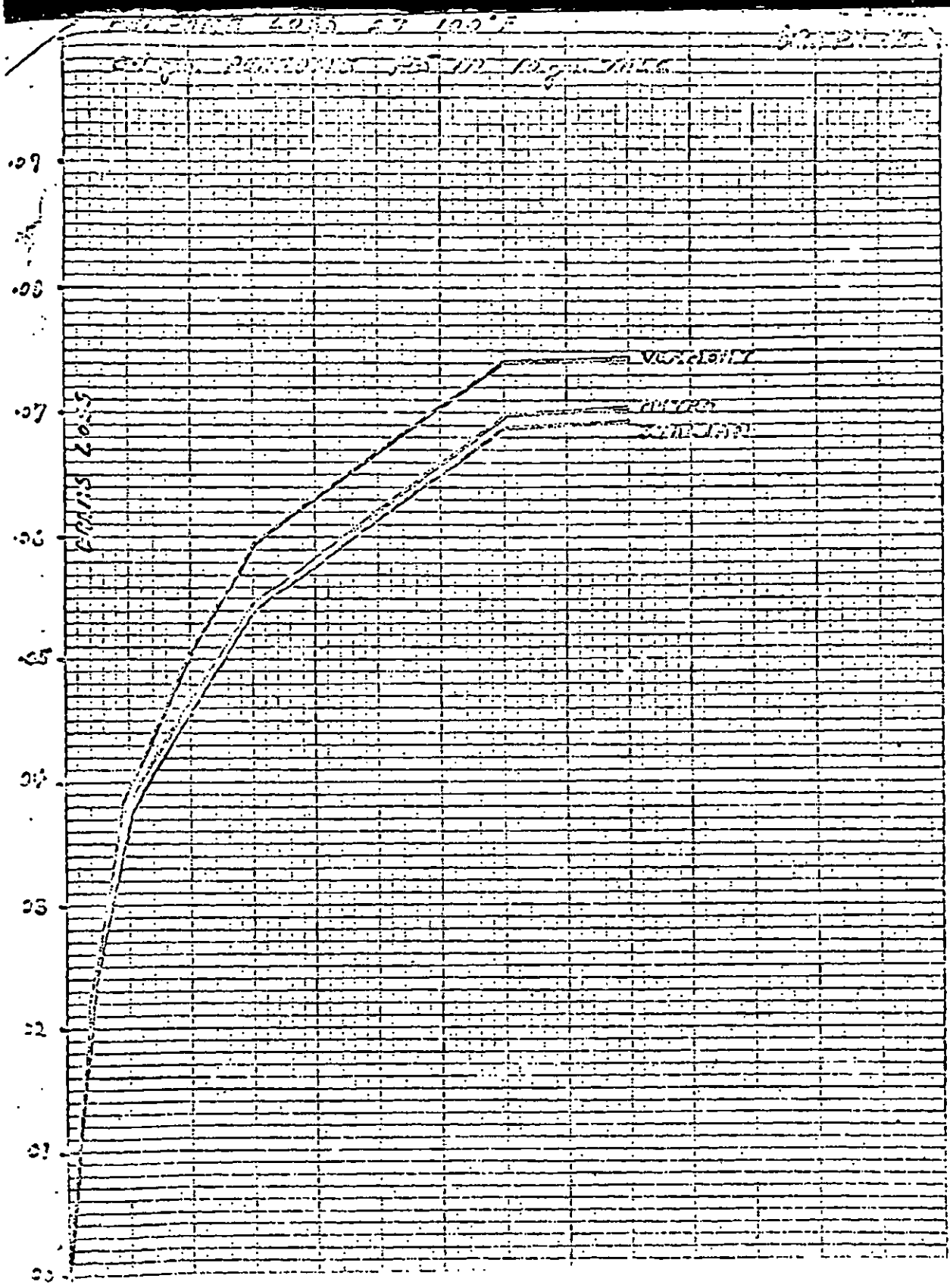
Mr. Russell prepared and arranged the attached data.

W. Ashton



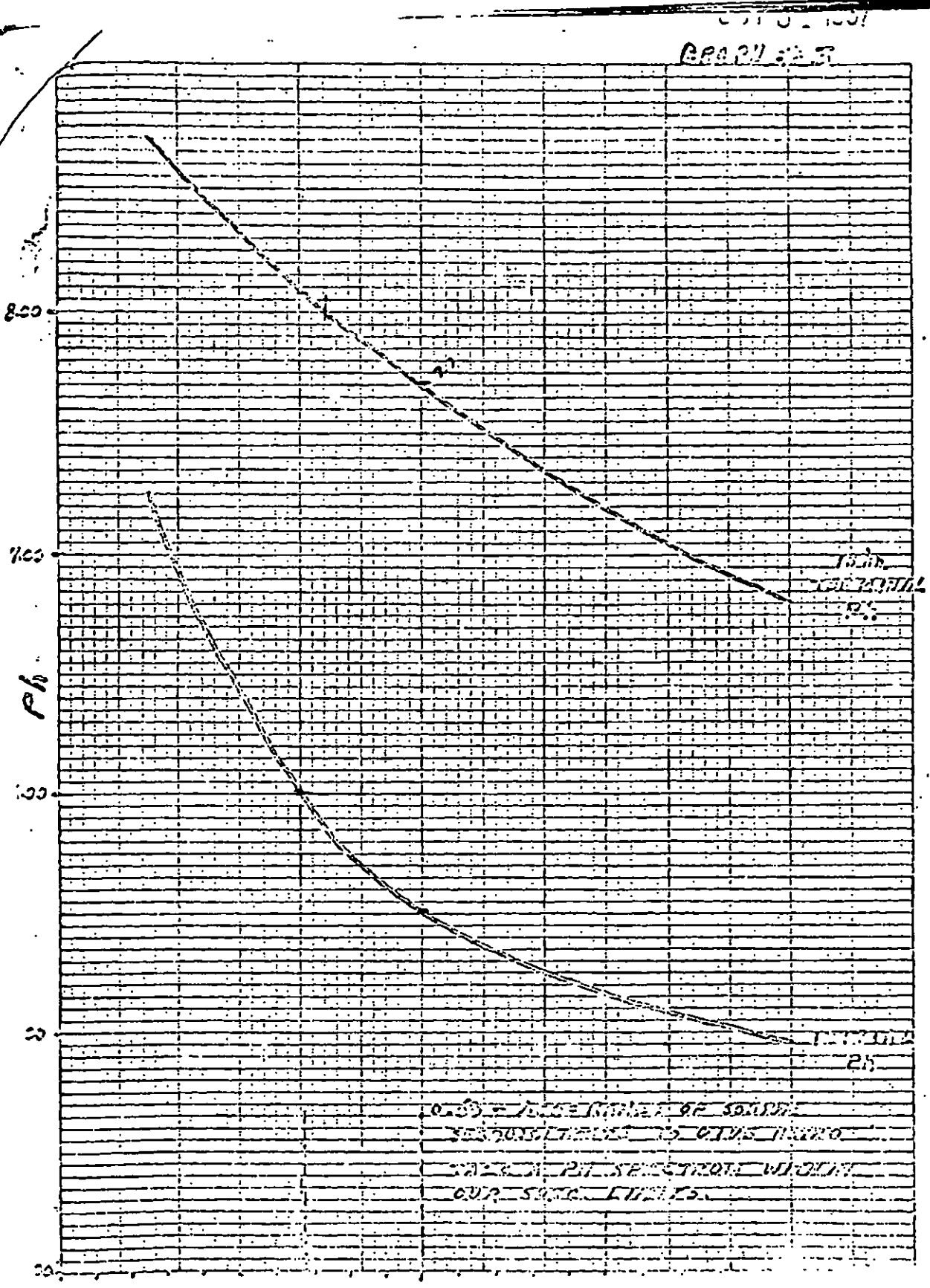
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UOT 311367

TABLE I

Physical & Chemical Data

	<u>Metro #1</u>	<u>Vermont S4-23</u>	<u>Ital. 42771E</u>
Moisture %	0.09	0.07	0.01
Loss in Acid %	5.08	1.60	3.00
Acidulation %	4.08	0.80	1.50
Dens. lb/ft ³	24.7	25.4	23.4
Color	White	Off White Grey-Green cast	White with creamy cast
Whiteness %			
-60	100%	100%	100%
than -100	99.98%	99.90%	100%
-200	96.85%	99.0%	99.7%
Heavy Metals ppm	less than 10	less than 10	less than 10
Chloride ppm	0.3	less than 2 ppm	0.7
Soluble Iron	passes	passes	passes
Acid Solubility (2 oz) max.	130 cc	125 cc	137 cc
(NCO TAPPED) min.	72 cc	73 cc	72 cc

P.C.C. . . .

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TABLE II
Microscopic Mineralogical Assay

	<u>Metro #1</u>	<u>Vermont S4-23</u>	<u>Talc Batch 994*</u>	<u>Italian Talc</u>
Total Talc	93%	99%	94%	93 - 95%
Platy	90%	95%	86%	88 - 90%
Nonplaty	3%	3%	8%	5 - 9%
Carbonates	5	1	1-2	1-3
Remolite	1	trace	trace	1-2
Serpentine	trace	trace	4	none
Asques	< 1	trace	trace	trace

*Produced August 21, 1967 at West Windsor

R.S. Russell

J&J-0076521

Johnson & Johnson

New Brunswick, N. J.

April 9, 1969

Subject: Alternate Domestic Talc Sources
File No. 101

Dr. G. Hildick-Smith

Pete, we have to firm up the position the Company should have on the presence of the mineral Tremolite in talc. Your staff will have to do this for us since the objections to that mineral have been mainly medical or clinical as opposed to chemical or physical.

The reason we have to firm up our position is that we have moved into high gear on some alternate talc sources and it is normal to find different levels of Tremolite in many U.S. talcs. We are looking at some of those.

Historically, in our Company, Tremolite has been bad because it has needle type crystals. Our position has been that these can stand on end, penetrate the skin, and cause irritation; consequently, talcs exceeding trace contents have never been approved. Over the past year or two, the medical literature has made reference to potential hazards of talcs containing Tremolite and I have seen some articles under the umbrella of environmental health agencies from here and abroad which pinpoint severe objections to that mineral in talcum powders.

Unfortunately, Tremolite has different varieties and can be easily confused with other members of the mineral class into which it falls. Chemically, it is mainly a calcium silicate with varying amounts of magnesium silicate and sometimes it carries iron with it in minor amounts. Some varieties of it match asbestos, and I gather there has been a lot of attention given to the hazards of inhaling minerals of that type lately.

Plaintiff's
Exhibit
J&J 202

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There is nothing we can do about the confused state of affairs on Tremolite from the mineralogical and chemical points of view as far as historic literature is concerned.

The question is...How bad is Tremolite medically, and how much of it can safely be in a talc base we might develop?


W. H. Ashton

pm

cc: Dr. R. A. Fuller
Dr. E. R. L. Gaughran
Mr. R. J. Mortimer
Dr. T. H. Shelley
Dr. R. L. Sundberg

EXHIBIT 2

CC: [unclear]
Johnson & Johnson

New Brunswick, N. J.

April 15, 1969

Subject: ALTERNATE DOMESTIC TALC SOURCES

Project Code #101

Mr. W. H. Ashton:

Your inquiry of April 9th, 1969 addressed to Dr. G. Hildick-Smith has been referred to my attention for reply.

Over the years, I have reviewed the literature on the hazards relating to the inhalation of talc particles on several different occasions. In your memorandum, you indicate that Tremolite does have needle-type crystals and that our position has been that these could penetrate the skin and cause irritation. Actually, to the best of my knowledge, we have no factual information on this subject. It would seem logical that it could occur, although whether or not it would be of clinical significance would be conjectural.

We have been concerned to a much greater extent with regard to possible dangers relative to the inhalation of the talc with a spicule or needle-like crystalline structure as compared with the flat, platelet-type of crystalline structure. There are reports in the literature concerning talcosis which, as you know, is a form of pneumoconiosis attributed to the inhalation of talc. Reported studies have suggested that this does not occur in connection with the flat, platelet-type of talc, but does occur in connection with the spicule-type of crystalline structure characteristic of Tremolite. The reported instances have been extremely few but have, without exception, involved inhalations of high concentrations on an occupational basis of many years duration. Furthermore, we have occasionally received inquiries from various individuals, including General Johnson and several pediatricians, expressing concern over the possibility of the adverse effects on the lungs of babies or mothers who might inhale any substantial amounts of our talc formulations. In the past, we have replied to the effect that since our talc is essentially all of the platelet-type of crystalline structure, and is of a size which would not be likely to enter the pulmonary alveoli, we would not regard the usage of our powders as presenting any hazard. Obviously, if we do include Tremolite in more than unavoidable trace amounts, this sort of negation of such inquiries could no longer pertain.

Plaintiff's
Exhibit
J&J 195

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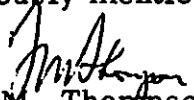
Mr. W. H. Ashton

April 15th, 1969

Upon various occasions we have discussed the possibility of carrying out studies on animals which might provide factual information with regard to whether or not variable exposures to talc suspended in the environmental atmosphere might be productive of fibrotic and/or inflammatory reactions in lungs. For a variety of reasons, these have never been carried out here.

Since pulmonary diseases, including inflammatory, fibroplastic, and neoplastic types, appear to be on the increase, it would seem to be prudent to limit any possible content of Tremolite in our powder formulations to an absolute minimum. To the best of my knowledge, we have never been faced with any litigation involving either skin or lung penetration by our talc formulations. Some years ago, we were faced with a more or less serious problem resulting from what we consider to have been an unjust accusation of danger due to the presence of a small amount of boric acid in our talc. This created such a furor that we were more or less compelled to remove boric acid from the formulation. It is conceivable that a similar situation might eventually arise if it became known that our talc formulations contained any significant amount of Tremolite. Since the usage of these products is so widespread, and the existence of pulmonary disease is increasing, it is not inconceivable that we could become involved in litigation in which pulmonary fibrosis or other changes might be rightfully or wrongfully attributed to inhalation of our powder formulations. It might be that someone in the Law Department should be consulted with regard to the defensibility of our position in the event that such a situation could ever arise.

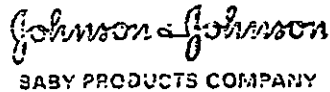
It is my personal feeling that until we have at least substantial evidence, based on animal work, to the effect that the presence of Tremolite in our talc does not produce adverse effects, we should not extend its usage beyond an absolute minimum previously mentioned.


T. M. Thompson, M. D.

TMT:JAG

cc: Dr. R. A. Fuller
Dr. Gavin Hildick-Smith
Mr. W. J. Ryan
Dr. G. H. Lord
Dr. J. E. Willson
Dr. J. Bothwell

EXHIBIT 3



February 13, 1975

SUBJECT: CTFA Talc Subcommittee Meeting
with Food and Drug Administration
Washington, D.C. February 7, 1975

To: Distribution

This document is a summary of the meeting held on February 7, 1975 at 1:00 PM in Dr. R.N. Schaffner's office. The following is a summary of the major discussions.

This meeting was held in Dr. R.N. Schaffner's office on February 7, 1975 at 1:00 PM. Representing FDA were: Dr. R. Schaffner, Mr. H. Eiermann, Mr. H. Davis, Dr. W. Horowitz and Dr. Yates. The CTFA was represented by: Dr. N. Estrin, Mr. G. Sandland, Dr. M. Berdick, Dr. R. Rolle and G. Lee.

Dr. Estrin introduced Mr. Sandland as chairman of the CTFA Talc Subcommittee and indicated that the purpose of our meeting was to present the analytical methodology which had been developed by the CTFA Task Force as applicable to cosmetic talcs.

FDA indicated that there had been no eminent plans to publish new proposed methodology in this regard and did not give us the impression that this matter was being assigned any urgency. They reported no further work with the optical microscopy method. Dr. Horowitz was asked by Dr. Schaffner to elaborate on the only apparent area of analytical activity which is being directed towards Food Regulatory. This is being carried out under contract by the Franklin Institute, who are investigating an SEM method. They're attempting to develop methodology for detecting low levels of asbestos contamination and have experienced difficulty in presenting a uniform sample to the SEM. It's expected that this study may take one to two years. Any further steps to be taken with regards to Food Regulation will therefore have to wait on developments from the Franklin Institute.

When questioned as to FDA efforts and progress in the approach of "concentrating asbestos" to increase the level

Plaintiff's
Exhibit
J&J 60

J&J-0089804

JNJAZ55_000013775

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of sensitivity, Dr. Yates replied in a tone of frustration that all attempts have met with failure; they had investigated heavy density liquid separation. Dr. Yates did not state that efforts would be continued in this direction, but we volunteered help in evaluating methodology should they develop something.

Dr. Rolle outlined the proposed CTFA methods and the expected limits of detection. It was emphasized to the FDA that these were methods evaluated and recommended for cosmetic talc and would be practical to apply for industrial manufacturing processes. Dr. Rolle indicated the fact that

any natural-occurring chrysotile in talc for his methods is negligible. However, Dr. Rolle supported this by stating that Dr. Schaffner-Peterson has examined numerous talcs from around the world for cosmetics application and have not found chrysotile. The writer reiterated similar J&J experience with domestic and overseas talcs. Dr. Schaffner agreed that no one has purported to have seen chrysotile in cosmetic talc except Professor Lewin. At this point, Dr. Schaffner asked us what Professor Lewin was doing (if anything) in talc analysis. Dr. Rolle outlined a conversation he had had with Professor Lewin the day before and Dr. Schaffner directed Dr. Horowitz to interview Professor Lewin for his most current views regarding chrysotile in talc. Dr. Berdick made the point that if chrysotile is not expected to be found in talc, then the FDA should not propose regulations to cover chrysotile. After an exchange of philosophy, where Mr. Eiermann took a strong stand for chrysotile in talc regulation, Dr. Schaffner suggested that if the CTFA would submit supporting data attesting to the absence of chrysotile in talc the FDA would take the matter under consideration. Mr. Sandland indicated that the CTFA will be proposing self-regulatory action by amending its present CTFA Talc Standard to include the asbestiform tremolite proposal.

Mr. G. Sandland stated that a regulation of 1% asbestos in talc was not only achievable by thoroughly tested methods, but also gave a safety factor of 48,300 (Sivertson calculation). Mr. Eiermann bluntly said that the calculation was wrong since the standard of 2 fibers/cc is not a time weighted average. (Before we had a chance for rebuttal Dr. Schaffner said that the Sivertson calculation was foolish since no mother was going to powder her baby with 1% of a known carcinogen irregardless of the large safety factor.) Because of Dr. Schaffner's strong stand we did not correct Mr. Eiermann's misunderstanding of the calculation.

J&J-0089805

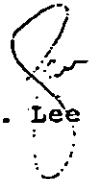
-3-

Dr. Schaffner emphasized that there is an ultimate and more important need for talc clinical safety data in order to satisfy the consumerist advocates. The writer assured him that this would be forthcoming from J&J.

Copies of the DTA and X-Ray Diffraction Detection Procedures together with the Sivertson Report "An Estimate of a Safe Level of Asbestos in Baby Powder Talc" were distributed to the FDA representatives and the meeting was closed with Dr. Estrin thanking the FDA for the opportunity of exchange and discussion.

The general impression received by the writer was that the FDA was not anxious to publish further proposals relative to "asbestos-in-talc" pending outcome of the Franklin Institute Study, as long as the consumerist advocates remain quiescent. It is also evident that the FDA would depend on clinical data to defend the safety of talc.

In a post-meeting caucus of the CTFA attendees, it was agreed that the CTFA would proceed to compile information from consultants and manufacturers which attest to the fact that chrysotile has never been found in cosmetic talcs and submit this to the FDA.


G. Lee

paj

J&J-0089806

ATTORNEY OR PARTY WITHOUT ATTORNEY (Name, State Bar number, and address): James M. Treglio (SBN 228077) Potter Handy LLP 7385 Erma Road, Suite 300 San Diego, CA 92131 TELEPHONE NO.: (858) 375-7385 FAX NO.: (888) 422-5191 ATTORNEY FOR (Name): Plaintiffs Louisa Gutierrez and Debbie Luna		FOR COURT USE ONLY ELECTRONICALLY FILED Superior Court of California, County of San Diego 05/20/2019 at 10:53:21 AM Clerk of the Superior Court By Melinda McClure, Deputy Clerk
SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF San Diego STREET ADDRESS: 330 West Broadway MAILING ADDRESS: CITY AND ZIP CODE: San Diego, CA 92101 BRANCH NAME: Hall of Justice		
CASE NAME: Louisa Gutierrez et al. v. Johnson & Johnson, et al.,		
CIVIL CASE COVER SHEET <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unlimited (Amount demanded exceeds \$25,000)	<input type="checkbox"/> Limited (Amount demanded is \$25,000 or less)	
Complex Case Designation <input type="checkbox"/> Counter <input type="checkbox"/> Joinder Filed with first appearance by defendant (Cal. Rules of Court, rule 3.402)		CASE NUMBER: 37-2019-00025810-CU-NP-CTL JUDGE: Judge Eddie C Sturgeon DEPT:

Items 1-6 below must be completed (see instructions on page 2).

1. Check one box below for the case type that best describes this case:

Auto Tort <input type="checkbox"/> Auto (22) <input type="checkbox"/> Uninsured motorist (46)	Contract <input type="checkbox"/> Breach of contract/warranty (06) <input type="checkbox"/> Rule 3.740 collections (09) <input type="checkbox"/> Other collections (09) <input type="checkbox"/> Insurance coverage (18) <input type="checkbox"/> Other contract (37)	Provisionally Complex Civil Litigation (Cal. Rules of Court, rules 3.400-3.403) <input type="checkbox"/> Antitrust/Trade regulation (03) <input type="checkbox"/> Construction defect (10) <input type="checkbox"/> Mass tort (40) <input type="checkbox"/> Securities litigation (28) <input type="checkbox"/> Environmental/Toxic tort (30) <input type="checkbox"/> Insurance coverage claims arising from the above listed provisionally complex case types (41)
Other PI/PD/WD (Personal Injury/Property Damage/Wrongful Death) Tort <input type="checkbox"/> Asbestos (04) <input type="checkbox"/> Product liability (24) <input type="checkbox"/> Medical malpractice (45) <input type="checkbox"/> Other PI/PD/WD (23)	Real Property <input type="checkbox"/> Eminent domain/Inverse condemnation (14) <input type="checkbox"/> Wrongful eviction (33) <input type="checkbox"/> Other real property (26)	Enforcement of Judgment <input type="checkbox"/> Enforcement of judgment (20)
Non-PI/PD/WD (Other) Tort <input type="checkbox"/> Business tort/unfair business practice (07) <input type="checkbox"/> Civil rights (08) <input type="checkbox"/> Defamation (13) <input type="checkbox"/> Fraud (16) <input type="checkbox"/> Intellectual property (19) <input type="checkbox"/> Professional negligence (25) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other non-PI/PD/WD tort (35)	Unlawful Detainer <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial (31) <input type="checkbox"/> Residential (32) <input type="checkbox"/> Drugs (38)	Miscellaneous Civil Complaint <input type="checkbox"/> RICO (27) <input type="checkbox"/> Other complaint (not specified above) (42)
Employment <input type="checkbox"/> Wrongful termination (36) <input type="checkbox"/> Other employment (15)	Judicial Review <input type="checkbox"/> Asset forfeiture (05) <input type="checkbox"/> Petition re: arbitration award (11) <input type="checkbox"/> Writ of mandate (02) <input type="checkbox"/> Other judicial review (39)	Miscellaneous Civil Petition <input type="checkbox"/> Partnership and corporate governance (21) <input type="checkbox"/> Other petition (not specified above) (43)

2. This case is is not complex under rule 3.400 of the California Rules of Court. If the case is complex, mark the factors requiring exceptional judicial management:

a. <input type="checkbox"/> Large number of separately represented parties	d. <input type="checkbox"/> Large number of witnesses
b. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Extensive motion practice raising difficult or novel issues that will be time-consuming to resolve	e. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Coordination with related actions pending in one or more courts in other counties, states, or countries, or in a federal court
c. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Substantial amount of documentary evidence	f. <input type="checkbox"/> Substantial postjudgment judicial supervision

3. Remedies sought (check all that apply): a. monetary b. nonmonetary; declaratory or injunctive relief c. punitive

4. Number of causes of action (specify): 3 - CLRA (Civil Code 1750), FAL (B&P 17500), UCL (B&P 17200)

5. This case is is not a class action suit.

6. If there are any known related cases, file and serve a notice of related case. (You may use form CM-015.)

Date: May 15, 2019
 James M. Treglio

(TYPE OR PRINT NAME)



(SIGNATURE OF PARTY OR ATTORNEY FOR PARTY)

NOTICE

- Plaintiff must file this cover sheet with the first paper filed in the action or proceeding (except small claims cases or cases filed under the Probate Code, Family Code, or Welfare and Institutions Code). (Cal. Rules of Court, rule 3.220.) Failure to file may result in sanctions.
- File this cover sheet in addition to any cover sheet required by local court rule.
- If this case is complex under rule 3.400 et seq. of the California Rules of Court, you must serve a copy of this cover sheet on all other parties to the action or proceeding.
- Unless this is a collections case under rule 3.740 or a complex case, this cover sheet will be used for statistical purposes only.

INSTRUCTIONS ON HOW TO COMPLETE THE COVER SHEET

To Plaintiffs and Others Filing First Papers. If you are filing a first paper (for example, a complaint) in a civil case, you must complete and file, along with your first paper, the *Civil Case Cover Sheet* contained on page 1. This information will be used to compile statistics about the types and numbers of cases filed. You must complete items 1 through 6 on the sheet. In item 1, you must check **one** box for the case type that best describes the case. If the case fits both a general and a more specific type of case listed in item 1, check the more specific one. If the case has multiple causes of action, check the box that best indicates the **primary** cause of action. To assist you in completing the sheet, examples of the cases that belong under each case type in item 1 are provided below. A cover sheet must be filed only with your initial paper. Failure to file a cover sheet with the first paper filed in a civil case may subject a party, its counsel, or both to sanctions under rules 2.30 and 3.220 of the California Rules of Court.

To Parties in Rule 3.740 Collections Cases. A "collections case" under rule 3.740 is defined as an action for recovery of money owed in a sum stated to be certain that is not more than \$25,000, exclusive of interest and attorney's fees, arising from a transaction in which property, services, or money was acquired on credit. A collections case does not include an action seeking the following: (1) tort damages, (2) punitive damages, (3) recovery of real property, (4) recovery of personal property, or (5) a prejudgment writ of attachment. The identification of a case as a rule 3.740 collections case on this form means that it will be exempt from the general time-for-service requirements and case management rules, unless a defendant files a responsive pleading. A rule 3.740 collections case will be subject to the requirements for service and obtaining a judgment in rule 3.740.

To Parties in Complex Cases. In complex cases only, parties must also use the *Civil Case Cover Sheet* to designate whether the case is complex. If a plaintiff believes the case is complex under rule 3.400 of the California Rules of Court, this must be indicated by completing the appropriate boxes in items 1 and 2. If a plaintiff designates a case as complex, the cover sheet must be served with the complaint on all parties to the action. A defendant may file and serve no later than the time of its first appearance a joinder in the plaintiff's designation, a counter-designation that the case is not complex, or, if the plaintiff has made no designation, a designation that the case is complex.

CASE TYPES AND EXAMPLES

Auto Tort

Auto (22)—Personal Injury/Property Damage/Wrongful Death
Uninsured Motorist (46) (if the case involves an uninsured motorist claim subject to arbitration, check this item instead of Auto)

Other PI/PD/WD (Personal Injury/Property Damage/Wrongful Death) Tort

Asbestos (04)
Asbestos Property Damage
Asbestos Personal Injury/Wrongful Death
Product Liability (not asbestos or toxic/environmental) (24)
Medical Malpractice (45)
Medical Malpractice—Physicians & Surgeons
Other Professional Health Care Malpractice
Other PI/PD/WD (23)
Premises Liability (e.g., slip and fall)
Intentional Bodily Injury/PD/WD (e.g., assault, vandalism)
Intentional Infliction of Emotional Distress
Negligent Infliction of Emotional Distress
Other PI/PD/WD

Non-PI/PD/WD (Other) Tort

Business Tort/Unfair Business Practice (07)
Civil Rights (e.g., discrimination, false arrest) (not civil harassment) (08)
Defamation (e.g., slander, libel) (13)
Fraud (16)
Intellectual Property (19)
Professional Negligence (25)
Legal Malpractice
Other Professional Malpractice (not medical or legal)
Other Non-PI/PD/WD Tort (35)

Employment

Wrongful Termination (36)
Other Employment (15)

Contract

Breach of Contract/Warranty (06)
Breach of Rental/Lease
Contract (not unlawful detainer or wrongful eviction)
Contract/Warranty Breach—Seller Plaintiff (not fraud or negligence)
Negligent Breach of Contract/Warranty
Other Breach of Contract/Warranty
Collections (e.g., money owed, open book accounts) (09)
Collection Case—Seller Plaintiff
Other Promissory Note/Collections Case
Insurance Coverage (not provisionally complex) (18)
Auto Subrogation
Other Coverage
Other Contract (37)
Contractual Fraud
Other Contract Dispute

Real Property

Eminent Domain/Inverse Condemnation (14)
Wrongful Eviction (33)
Other Real Property (e.g., quiet title) (26)
Writ of Possession of Real Property
Mortgage Foreclosure
Quiet Title
Other Real Property (not eminent domain, landlord/tenant, or foreclosure)

Unlawful Detainer

Commercial (31)
Residential (32)
Drugs (38) (if the case involves illegal drugs, check this item; otherwise, report as Commercial or Residential)

Judicial Review

Asset Forfeiture (05)
Petition Re: Arbitration Award (11)
Writ of Mandate (02)
Writ—Administrative Mandamus
Writ—Mandamus on Limited Court Case Matter
Writ—Other Limited Court Case Review
Other Judicial Review (39)
Review of Health Officer Order
Notice of Appeal—Labor
Commissioner Appeals

Provisionally Complex Civil Litigation (Cal. Rules of Court Rules 3.400–3.403)

Antitrust/Trade Regulation (03)
Construction Defect (10)
Claims Involving Mass Tort (40)
Securities Litigation (28)
Environmental/Toxic Tort (30)
Insurance Coverage Claims (arising from provisionally complex case type listed above) (41)

Enforcement of Judgment

Enforcement of Judgment (20)
Abstract of Judgment (Out of County)
Confession of Judgment (non-domestic relations)
Sister State Judgment
Administrative Agency Award (not unpaid taxes)
Petition/Certification of Entry of Judgment on Unpaid Taxes
Other Enforcement of Judgment Case

Miscellaneous Civil Complaint

RICO (27)
Other Complaint (not specified above) (42)
Declaratory Relief Only
Injunctive Relief Only (non-harassment)
Mechanics Lien
Other Commercial Complaint Case (non-tort/non-complex)
Other Civil Complaint (non-tort/non-complex)

Miscellaneous Civil Petition

Partnership and Corporate Governance (21)
Other Petition (not specified above) (43)
Civil Harassment
Workplace Violence
Elder/Dependent Adult Abuse
Election Contest
Petition for Name Change
Petition for Relief From Late Claim
Other Civil Petition

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO	
STREET ADDRESS: 330 W Broadway	
MAILING ADDRESS: 330 W Broadway	
CITY AND ZIP CODE: San Diego, CA 92101-3827	
BRANCH NAME: Central	
TELEPHONE NUMBER: (619) 450-7067	
PLAINTIFF(S) / PETITIONER(S):	Louisa Gutierrez et.al.
DEFENDANT(S) / RESPONDENT(S):	Johnson & Johnson et.al.
GUTIERREZ VS JOHNSON & JOHNSON [IMAGED]	
NOTICE OF CASE ASSIGNMENT AND CASE MANAGEMENT CONFERENCE on MANDATORY eFILE CASE	CASE NUMBER: 37-2019-00025810-CU-NP-CTL

CASE ASSIGNMENT

Judge: Eddie C Sturgeon

Department: C-67

COMPLAINT/PETITION FILED: 05/20/2019

TYPE OF HEARING SCHEDULED	DATE	TIME	DEPT	JUDGE
Civil Case Management Conference	02/21/2020	10:30 am	C-67	Eddie C Sturgeon

A case management statement must be completed by counsel for all parties or self-represented litigants and timely filed with the court at least 15 days prior to the initial case management conference. (San Diego Local Rules, Division II, CRC Rule 3.725).

All counsel of record or parties in pro per shall appear at the Case Management Conference, be familiar with the case, and be fully prepared to participate effectively in the hearing, including discussions of ADR* options.

IT IS THE DUTY OF EACH PLAINTIFF (AND CROSS-COMPLAINANT) TO SERVE A COPY OF THIS NOTICE WITH THE COMPLAINT (AND CROSS-COMPLAINT), THE ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION (ADR) INFORMATION FORM (SDSC FORM #CIV-730), A STIPULATION TO USE ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION (ADR) (SDSC FORM #CIV-359), AND OTHER DOCUMENTS AS SET OUT IN SDSC LOCAL RULE 2.1.5.

ALL COUNSEL WILL BE EXPECTED TO BE FAMILIAR WITH SUPERIOR COURT RULES WHICH HAVE BEEN PUBLISHED AS DIVISION II, AND WILL BE STRICTLY ENFORCED.

TIME STANDARDS: The following timeframes apply to general civil cases and must be adhered to unless you have requested and been granted an extension of time. General civil cases consist of all civil cases except: small claims proceedings, civil petitions, unlawful detainer proceedings, probate, guardianship, conservatorship, juvenile, parking citation appeals, and family law proceedings.

COMPLAINTS: Complaints and all other documents listed in SDSC Local Rule 2.1.5 must be served on all named defendants.

DEFENDANT'S APPEARANCE: Defendant must generally appear within 30 days of service of the complaint. (Plaintiff may stipulate to no more than 15 day extension which must be in writing and filed with the Court.) (SDSC Local Rule 2.1.6)

JURY FEES: In order to preserve the right to a jury trial, one party for each side demanding a jury trial shall pay an advance jury fee in the amount of one hundred fifty dollars (\$150) on or before the date scheduled for the initial case management conference in the action.

MANDATORY eFILE: Case assigned to mandatory eFile program per CRC 3.400-3.403 and SDSC Rule 2.4.11. All documents must be eFiled at www.onelegal.com. Refer to General Order in re procedures regarding electronically imaged court records, electronic filing, and access to electronic court records in civil and probate cases or guidelines and procedures.

COURT REPORTERS: Court reporters are not provided by the Court in Civil cases. See policy regarding normal availability and unavailability of official court reporters at www.sdcourt.ca.gov.

*ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION (ADR): THE COURT ENCOURAGES YOU TO CONSIDER UTILIZING VARIOUS ALTERNATIVES TO TRIAL, INCLUDING MEDIATION AND ARBITRATION, PRIOR TO THE CASE MANAGEMENT CONFERENCE. PARTIES MAY FILE THE ATTACHED STIPULATION TO USE ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION (SDSC FORM #CIV-359).

EXHIBIT C



Bausch Health US, LLC
 Kirsten O'Donnell
 Bausch Health Companies, Inc.
 400 Somerset Corporate Blvd.
 Bridgewater NJ 08807

July 1, 2019

SERVICE OF PROCESS NOTICE

Item: 2019-95

The following is a courtesy summary of the enclosed document(s). **ALL information should be verified by you.**

Note: Any questions regarding the substance of the matter described below, including the status or to whom or where to respond, should be directed to the person set forth in line 12 below or to the court or government agency where the matter is being heard.

1.	Client Entity:	Bausch Health US, LLC
2.	Title of Action:	Louisa Gutierrez, an individual, Debbie Luna, an individual on behalf of themselves and all persons similarly situated vs. Johnson & Johnson, a New Jersey Corporation, et al.
3.	Document(s) Served:	Summons on Amended Complaint First Amended Class Action Complaint for Violations
4.	Court/Agency:	San Diego County Superior Court
5.	State Served:	California
6.	Case Number:	37-2019-00025810-CU-NP-CTL
7.	Case Type:	Consumer Legal Remedies Act
8.	Method of Service:	Hand Delivered
9.	Date Received:	Friday 6/28/2019
10.	Date To Client:	Monday 7/1/2019
11.	# Days When Answer Due: Answer Due Date:	30 07/28/2019 <small>CAUTION: Client is solely responsible for verifying the accuracy of the estimated Answer Due Date. To avoid missing a crucial deadline, we recommend immediately confirming in writing with opposing counsel that the date of the service in their records matches the Date Received.</small>
12.	SOP Sender: <small>(Name, City, State, and Phone Number)</small>	Potter Handy LLP San Diego, CA (858) 375-7385
13.	Shipped To Client By:	Email Only with PDF Link
14.	Tracking Number:	
15.	Handled By:	051
16.	Notes:	None.

NOTE: This notice and the information above is provided for general informational purposes only and should not be considered a legal opinion. The client and their legal counsel are solely responsible for reviewing the service of process and verifying the accuracy of all information. At ComputerShare, we take pride in developing systems that effectively manage risk so our clients feel comfortable with the reliability of our service. We always deliver service of process so our clients avoid the risk of a default judgment. As registered agent, our role is to receive and forward service of process. To decrease risk for our clients, it is not our role to determine the merits of whether service of process is valid and effective. It is the role of legal counsel to assess whether service of process is invalid or defective. Registered agent services are provided by United Agent Group Inc.

SUM-100

SUMMONS On Amended Complaint
(CITACION JUDICIAL)

**NOTICE TO DEFENDANT:
(AVISO AL DEMANDADO):**

JOHNSON & JOHNSON, a New Jersey Corporation,
Additional Parties Attachment form is attached.

**YOU ARE BEING SUED BY PLAINTIFF:
(LO ESTÁ DEMANDANDO EL DEMANDANTE):**

LOUISA GUTIERREZ, an individual, DEBBIE LUNA, an individual,
on behalf of themselves and all persons similarly situated,

FOR COURT USE ONLY
(SOLO PARA USO DE LA CORTE)

FILED
Clerk of the Superior Court

JUN 19 2019

By: K. Sorianosos, Deputy

NOTICE: You have been sued. The court may decide against you without your being heard unless you respond within 30 days. Read the information below.

You have 30 CALENDAR DAYS after this summons and legal papers are served on you to file a written response at this court and have a copy served on the plaintiff. A letter or phone call will not protect you. Your written response must be in proper legal form if you want the court to hear your case. There may be a court form that you can use for your response. You can find these court forms and more information at the California Courts Online Self-Help Center (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp), your county law library, or the courthouse nearest you. If you cannot pay the filing fee, ask the court clerk for a fee waiver form. If you do not file your response on time, you may lose the case by default, and your wages, money, and property may be taken without further warning from the court.

There are other legal requirements. You may want to call an attorney right away. If you do not know an attorney, you may want to call an attorney referral service. If you cannot afford an attorney, you may be eligible for free legal services from a nonprofit legal services program. You can locate these nonprofit groups at the California Legal Services Web site (www.lawhelpcalifornia.org), the California Courts Online Self-Help Center (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp), or by contacting your local court or county bar association. **NOTE:** The court has a statutory lien for waived fees and costs on any settlement or arbitration award of \$10,000 or more in a civil case. The court's lien must be paid before the court will dismiss the case. **AVISO:** Lo han demandado. Si no responde dentro de 30 días, la corte puede decidir en su contra sin escuchar su versión. Lea la información a continuación.

Tiene 30 DÍAS DE CALENDARIO después de que le entreguen esta citación y papeles legales para presentar una respuesta por escrito en esta corte y hacer que se entregue una copia al demandante. Una carta o una llamada telefónica no lo protegen. Su respuesta por escrito tiene que estar en formato legal correcto si desea que procesen su caso en la corte. Es posible que haya un formulario que usted puede usar para su respuesta. Puede encontrar estos formularios de la corte y más información en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California (www.sucorte.ca.gov), en la biblioteca de leyes de su condado o en la corte que le quede más cerca. Si no puede pagar la cuota de presentación, pida al secretario de la corte que le dé un formulario de exención de pago de cuotas. Si no presenta su respuesta a tiempo, puede perder el caso por incumplimiento y la corte le podrá quitar su sueldo, dinero y bienes sin más advertencia.

Hay otros requisitos legales. Es recomendable que llame a un abogado inmediatamente. Si no conoce a un abogado, puede llamar a un servicio de remisión a abogados. Si no puede pagar a un abogado, es posible que cumpla con los requisitos para obtener servicios legales gratuitos de un programa de servicios legales sin fines de lucro. Puede encontrar estos grupos sin fines de lucro en el sitio web de California Legal Services (www.lawhelpcalifornia.org), en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California (www.sucorte.ca.gov) o poniéndose en contacto con la corte o el colegio de abogados locales. **AVISO:** Por ley, la corte tiene derecho a reclamar las cuotas y los costos exentos por imponer un gravamen sobre cualquier recuperación de \$10,000 o más de valor recibida mediante un acuerdo o una concesión de arbitraje en un caso de derecho civil. Tiene que pagar el gravamen de la corte antes de que la corte pueda desechar el caso.

The name and address of the court is:
(El nombre y dirección de la corte es): San Diego Superior Court, Hall of Justice
330 West Broadway,
San Diego, CA 92101

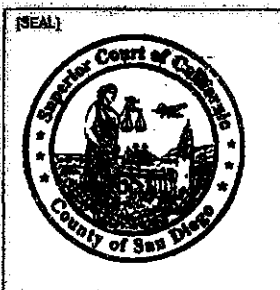
CASE NUMBER:
(Número del Caso): 37-2019-00025810-CU-NP-CTL

The name, address, and telephone number of plaintiff's attorney, or plaintiff without an attorney, is:
(El nombre, la dirección y el número de teléfono del abogado del demandante, o del demandante que no tiene abogado, es):
James M. Treglio (SBN 228077), Potter Handy, LLP,
9845 Erma Road, Suite 300, San Diego, CA 92131 Telephone: (858) 375-7385

DATE: JUN 25 2019
(Fecha)

Clerk, by *K. Sorianosos* K. Sorianosos Deputy
(Secretario) (Adjunto)

(For proof of service of this summons, use Proof of Service of Summons (form POS-010).)
(Para prueba de entrega de esta citación use el formulario Proof of Service of Summons, (POS-010)).



NOTICE TO THE PERSON SERVED: You are served

1. as an individual defendant.
2. as the person sued under the fictitious name of (specify):
3. on behalf of (specify): BAUSCH HEALTH US LLC
under: CCP 416.10 (corporation) CCP 416.60 (minor)
 CCP 416.20 (defunct corporation) CCP 416.70 (conservatee)
 CCP 416.40 (association or partnership) CCP 416.90 (authorized person)
 other (specify):
4. by personal delivery on (date): 6/29/19

SUM-200(A)

SHORT TITLE: Louisa Gutierrez et al., v. Johnson & Johnson, et al.,	CASE NUMBER: 37-2019-00025810-CU-NP-CTL
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INSTRUCTIONS FOR USE

- This form may be used as an attachment to any summons. If space does not permit the listing of all parties on the summons.
- If this attachment is used, insert the following statement in the plaintiff or defendant box on the summons: "Additional Parties Attachment form is attached."

List additional parties. (Check only one box. Use a separate page for each type of party.)

- Plaintiff
 Defendant
 Cross-Complainant
 Cross-Defendant

JOHNSON & JOHNSON CONSUMER, INC., a New Jersey Corporation, **BAUSCH HEALTH US LLC,**
 f/k/a **VALEANT PHARMACEUTICALS NORTH AMERICA LLC,** a New Jersey Limited Liability
 Company, **AND DOES 1-100,** inclusive

1 **POTTER HANDY LLP**
2 Mark D. Potter (SBN 166317)
3 mark@potterhandy.com
4 James M. Treglio (SBN 228077)
5 jimt@potterhandy.com
6 9845 Erma Road, Suite 300
7 San Diego, CA 92131
8 (858) 375-7385
9 Fax: (888) 422-5191

ELECTRONICALLY FILED
Superior Court of California,
County of San Diego
06/04/2019 at 11:39:00 AM
Clerk of the Superior Court
By Kristin Sorianosos, Deputy Clerk

7 Attorneys for Plaintiffs and the Class

8 **SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA**

9 **BY AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO**

10 LOUISA GUTIERREZ, an individual,
11 DEBBIE LUNA, an individual, on behalf of
12 themselves and all persons similarly situated,

12 Plaintiffs,

13 v.

14 JOHNSON & JOHNSON, a New Jersey
15 Corporation, JOHNSON & JOHNSON
16 CONSUMER, INC., a New Jersey
17 Corporation, BAUSCH HEALTH US, LLC,
18 f/k/a VALEANT PHARMACEUTICALS
19 NORTH AMERICA LLC, a New Jersey
20 Limited Liability Company, AND DOES 1-
21 100, inclusive

19 Defendants.

CASE NO. 37-2019-00025810-CU-NP-CTL

**FIRST AMENDED CLASS ACTION
COMPLAINT FOR VIOLATIONS OF:**

**(1) THE CONSUMER LEGAL
REMEDIES ACT (Civil Code § 1750, et
seq.)**

**(2) THE FALSE ADVERTISING LAW
(Business and Professions Code § 17500,
et seq.), and**

**(3) THE UNFAIR COMPETITION
LAW (Business & Professions Code §
17200, et seq.)**

DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL

1 Plaintiffs Louisa Gutierrez and Debbie Luna (collectively "Plaintiffs"), individually, on
2 behalf of all others similarly situated (the "Class" or the "Class Members" as defined below), and
3 on behalf of the general public, allege:

4 **INTRODUCTION**

5 1. This is consumer class action seeking restitution of all monies unlawfully earned by
6 Defendants Johnson & Johnson, Inc., Bausch Health US, LLC, f/k/a Valeant Pharmaceuticals
7 North America, LLC and Johnson & Johnson Consumer, Inc. (collectively, "Defendants") for the
8 sale of their of Baby Powder and Shower to Shower products ("Talcum Products").
9 Defendants have consistently informed the public, the Plaintiffs, and the Class Members that
10 no asbestos or asbestiform fibers are found within the Talcum Products, when in fact,
11 Defendants have known for decades that not only do the Talcum Products contain asbestos or
12 asbestiform fibers, but the methods used by Defendants to look for asbestos and asbestiform
13 fibers in the talc used for the Talcum Products are and were inadequate.

14 2. The reason for this deception is simple: asbestos and talc containing asbestiform
15 fibers are chemicals known to the State of California to cause cancer. Under the Safe Drinking
16 Water and Toxic II Enforcement Act of 1986, Health and Safety Code §25249.6, a.k.a "Proposition
17 65", businesses must provide persons with a "clear and reasonable warning" before exposing
18 individuals to chemicals known to the State of California to cause cancer. The purpose of this
19 requirement is to ensure that California citizens are made fully aware of the presence of
20 toxins in consumer products, allowing them to make an informed choice/decision about whether
21 or not to consume products with toxins known to cause cancer. Knowing that no reasonable
22 consumer would purchase the Talcum Products knowing that the Talcum Products contain or might
23 contain asbestos or asbestiform fibers, Defendants have persisted in obfuscating the potential harm
24 to Plaintiffs, the Class, and the general public.

25 3. This is a class action alleging violations of the Consumer Legal Remedies Act
26 ("CLRA"), Civil Code § 1750, *et seq.*, the False Advertising Law ("FAL"), Business & Professions
27 Code § 17500, *et seq.*, and the Unfair Competition Law ("UCL"), Business & Professions Code
28 §17200, *et seq.*, that seeks, among other things, injunctive relief, restitution, and disgorgement to

1 remedy to a class of all purchasers of Talcum Products resulting decades of Defendants' on-going
2 failure to warn and otherwise negligent, reckless and/or knowing sale of Talcum Products
3 containing asbestos and talc containing asbestiform fibers without providing the notice
4 required by law, and worse, making false representations that the Talcum Products are safe and
5 "free of asbestos". This action further seeks to remedy Defendants' unfair, unlawful, and fraudulent
6 business practices, and to ensure that all California consumers are warned that they are being
7 exposed to asbestos and talc containing asbestiform fibers before purchasing and/or using Talcum
8 Products.

9 4. Indeed, as Defendants were required as a matter of law to inform Plaintiffs and the
10 members of the Class as defined below that their Talcum Products contained, or could contain,
11 carcinogenic substances, namely talc containing asbestiform fibers, the information withheld from
12 Plaintiff, the Class Members (as defined below), and the general public, must be deemed a material
13 representation.

14 5. While there have been a number of actions seeking individual recovery for injuries
15 suffered because of prolonged use of the Talcum Products, and while there is an action based on
16 Defendants' failure to comply with Prop. 65 and label the Talcum Products with the proper warning
17 label, Plaintiffs are unaware of any class action on behalf of a class of purchasers of the Talcum
18 Products filed in the State of California.

19 6. In accordance with Cal. Business & Professions Code §17203, ("Any person may
20 pursue representative claims or relief on behalf of others only if the claimant meets the standing
21 requirements of Section 17204 and complies with Section 382 of the Code of Civil Procedure,")
22 Plaintiffs bring this action on behalf of themselves, and all a class of persons similarly situated. The
23 Class, as alleged herein, is defined as:

24 Plaintiffs and all persons who purchased the Talcum Products within the state of
25 California at any time from four years prior to the filing of this complaint and
26 ongoing until date of judgment and/or preliminary approval of class action
settlement.

27 Specifically excluded from the proposed Class are Defendants, their officers, directors, agents,
28 trustees, parents, children, corporations, trusts, representatives, employees, principals, servants,

1 partners, joint venturers, or entities controlled by Defendants, and their heirs, successors, assigns,
2 or other persons or entities related to or affiliated with Defendants and/or their officers and/or
3 directors, or any of them; the judicial officer or judicial officers assigned to this action, any member
4 of the judicial officers' immediate family. Also excluded from the Class are any persons who, as
5 of the date the Complaint is filed, have an action pending against one or more of the Defendants
6 resulting the sale of and any injuries resulting from, any of the Talcum Products.

7 **PARTIES, VENUE AND JURISDICTION**

8 7. This Court has jurisdiction over this action pursuant to the California Constitution,
9 Article VI, §10, which grants the Superior Court "original jurisdiction in all causes except those
10 given by statute to other courts." The statutes under which this action is brought do not specify any
11 other basis for jurisdiction. The damages and restitution sought by Plaintiffs exceed the minimal
12 jurisdiction limit of the Superior Court and will be established according to proof at trial.

13 8. At all relevant times, Plaintiffs are and were citizens of the State of California and
14 purchased the Talcum Products in the State of California. At all relevant times, the Talcum
15 Products were manufactured and packaged in one centralized location from the same raw talc and
16 shipped to all fifty states. Thus, consumers that purchased and used the Talcum Products in any
17 of the other 49 states outside of California would be exposed to the same talc containing asbestos
18 and talc containing asbestiform fibers as a consumer that purchased Talcum Products, and vice
19 versa.

20 9. Plaintiff Louisa Gutierrez is a citizen of the State of California, and a resident of
21 Riverside County. On a regular basis for the past thirty years, Plaintiff Louisa Gutierrez purchased
22 the Talcum Products in the State of California until she became aware of the connection between
23 the Talcum Products and asbestos at the end of 2018 by reading, amongst other stories, the report
24 by Reuters that the Talcum Products contained asbestos and/or talc containing asbestiform fibers.
25 Had Plaintiff Louisa Gutierrez been aware that the Talcum products contained, or could contained
26 asbestos and/or talc containing asbestiform fibers, Plaintiff Louisa Gutierrez would never have
27 purchased or used any of the Talcum Products.

28

1 10. Plaintiff Debbie Luna is a citizen of the State of California, and a resident of San
2 Diego County. Plaintiff Debbie Luna purchased the Talcum Products in the State of California for
3 for herself and her infant child until she became aware of the connection between the Talcum
4 Products and asbestos at the end of 2018 by reading, amongst other stories, the report by Reuters
5 that the Talcum Products contained asbestos and/or talc containing asbestiform fibers. Had Plaintiff
6 Debbie Luna been aware that the Talcum products contained, or could contained asbestos and/or
7 talc containing asbestiform fibers, Plaintiff Debbie Luna would never have purchased or used any
8 of the Talcum Products.

9 11. Defendant Johnson & Johnson is a New Jersey corporation that is transacting and
10 conducting substantial business within the State of California. Johnson & Johnson mined, milled,
11 processed, imported, converted, compounded, designed, manufactured, marketed, supplied,
12 distributed, sold and/or otherwise placed in the stream of commerce Baby Powder products which
13 contain or contained asbestos and talc containing asbestiform fibers without warnings to which
14 Plaintiffs, the Class, and the consuming public in this State were exposed.

15 12. Defendant Bausch Health US, LLC, formerly known as Valeant Pharmaceuticals
16 North America, LLC, (“Bausch”) is a New Jersey limited liability company that is and was doing
17 business in the State of New Jersey and in the State of California. Bausch, mined, milled, processed,
18 imported, converted, compounded, designed, manufactured, marketed, supplied, distributed, sold
19 and/or otherwise placed in the stream of commerce Shower to Shower products which contain or
20 contained asbestos and talc containing asbestiform fibers without warnings to which Plaintiffs, the
21 Class, and the consuming public in this State were exposed.

22 13. At all pertinent times, Defendants Johnson & Johnson and Bausch were engaged
23 in the business of manufacturing, marketing, testing, promoting, selling, and/or distributing
24 the Talcum Products containing Asbestos and Talc Containing Asbestiform Fibers. At all pertinent
25 times, Johnson & Johnson and Bausch regularly transacted, solicited, and conducted business in all
26 States of the United States, including the State of California.

27 14. Johnson & Johnson and Bausch have derived substantial revenue from goods and
28 products purchased and used in the State of California. Johnson & Johnson and Bausch expected

1 or should have expected its acts to have consequences within the State of California, and derived
2 substantial revenue from interstate commerce.

3 15. Johnson & Johnson and Bausch mined, milled, processed, imported, converted,
4 compounded, designed, manufactured, marketed, supplied, distributed, sold and/or otherwise
5 placed in the stream of commerce the Talcum Products containing Asbestos and talc containing
6 asbestiform fibers without warnings to which Plaintiffs, the Class, and the consuming public in this
7 State were exposed.

8 16. Defendant Johnson & Johnson Consumer Inc. (f/k/a Johnson & Johnson
9 Consumer Companies, Inc.) is a New Jersey corporation that is and was doing business in the State
10 of New Jersey and in the State of California. Johnson & Johnson Consumer Inc. mined, milled,
11 processed, imparted, converted, compounded, designed, manufactured, marketed, supplied,
12 distributed, sold and/or otherwise placed in the stream of commerce the Talcum Products
13 containing asbestos and talc containing asbestiform fibers without warnings to which Plaintiff and
14 the consuming public in this State were exposed.

15 17. Defendants DOES 1-100 are the fictitious names of corporations, partnerships or
16 other business entities or organizations whose identities are not presently known and that
17 participated in a conspiracy with other corporations, partnerships or other business entities or
18 organizations, including the named Defendants herein, and/or mined, milled, processed, imported,
19 converted, compounded, designed, manufactured, marketed, supplied, distributed, sold and/or
20 otherwise placed in the stream of commerce the Talcum Products containing asbestos and
21 talc containing asbestiform fibers without warnings to which Plaintiff and the consuming public in
22 this State were exposed.

23 **FACTUAL BACKGROUND**

24 18. For decades, Defendants have manufactured the Talcum Products containing
25 asbestos and talc containing asbestiform fibers that were and are continuing to be sold and marketed
26 as safe for daily use by consumers to give off a pleasant smell, mask odors, prevent chaffing and/or
27 absorb moisture. Defendants' Talcum Products were advertised as healthful for babies, children
28 and adults and to be applied regularly to maintain freshness, keep skin soft, mask odors with a floral
fragrance, prevent chaffing and/or absorb moisture.

1 19. Defendants and the Cosmetic, Toiletry & Fragrance Association (n/k/a Personal
2 Care Products Council) ("CTFA") made false statements to Plaintiffs, the Class, the general
3 public, news media and government agencies that exercise regulatory authority over the
4 cosmetic industry, including, but not limited to, the U.S. Food & Drug Administration ("FDA"),
5 the National Institute of Occupational Health and Safety ("OSHA"), the National Institute for
6 Occupational Safety and Health ("NIOSH"), the Mine Health and Safety Administration
7 ("MHS"), and the National Toxicology Program ("NTP"), which, in turn, proximately caused
8 Plaintiffs' and the Class Members' harm through intentional efforts to deceive the general public
9 and regulatory authorities as to the safety of and presence of carcinogens, including asbestos and
10 talc containing asbestiform fibers in the Talcum Products.

11 20. Defendants and CTFA, for decades, possessed medical and scientific data that
12 raised concerns regarding the presence of carcinogens, including asbestos and talc containing
13 asbestiform fibers in the Talcum Products and that demonstrated the existence of health hazards to
14 those exposed to asbestos and talc containing asbestiform fibers.

15 21. Talc is a hydrous magnesium silicate, inorganic material that is mined from the
16 earth. It is used in the manufacture of goods, such as paper, plastic, paint and coatings, rubber, food,
17 electric cable, ceramics, and cosmetics. In its loose form and as used in the Talcum Products, talc
18 is known as "talcum powder."

19 22. Geologists, Defendants and CTFA-and. their suppliers, experts, agents and advisors-
20 have long known that the deposits in the earth that are associated with talc are also associated
21 with the formation of asbestos. "Asbestos" is a commercial and legal term, rather than a geologic
22 or scientific term, referring to six now-regulated magnesium silicate minerals that occur in
23 fibrous form, including the serpentine mineral chrysotile, and amphibole minerals such as
24 actinolite, anthophyllite, tremolite, amosite and crocidolite. The United States Geological survey
25 on Commercial Talc production in 1965, as well as those dating back to the 1800s, note the presence
26 of tremolite, anthophyllite and chrysotile commonly among those minerals found within talc
27 deposits.

28 23. Defendants and their talc suppliers, which have been and still are the largest talc
producers and/or talc-containing product manufactures in the world, admit that they have long
employed and/or consulted with doctors, scientists, geologists, mineralogists and .toxicologists,

1 and that they have long maintained extensive medical and scientific libraries and archives
2 containing materials relating to the health hazards of talc and the presence of carcinogens,
3 including asbestos and asbestiform talc, in talc and talc deposits.

4 24. Beginning in the 1930s, medical and scientific literature emerged indicating talc was
5 commonly, if not invariably, contaminated with substances known or suspected of being
6 carcinogenic, such as asbestos, silica, quartz, nickel and arsenic. Within the next several decades,
7 an ever-growing body of medical and scientific literature demonstrated .that direct and secondary
8 exposure to talc, including asbestos-containing talc, was hazardous to exposed persons ' health in
9 that it could cause lung disease, cancer and death.

10 25. Defendants and their affiliates, employees, agents and/or suppliers were members
11 of the National Safety Council. In March of 1933, Waldemar C. Dreesen of the United States Public
12 Health Service reported to the National Safety Council the results of a study conducted among
13 tremolite, talc and slate workers. The study indicated that the talc was a hydrous calcium
14 magnesium silicate, being 45% talc and 45% tremolite, and the National Safety Council stated "The
15 results of the study seemed to indicate a relationship between the amount of dust inhaled and the
16 effect of this dust on the lungs of the workers." As early as 1934, the National Safety Council was
17 publishing that "a cause of severe pulmonary injury is asbestos, a silicate of magnesium." In the
18 September 1935 issue of National Safety News, an article entitled "No Halfway Measures in
19 Dust Control" by Arthur S. Johnson reported lowered lung capacity resulting from "asbestosis"
20 and "similar conditions" that developed "from exposure to excess of many mineral dusts .relatively
21 low in free silica content." The article further noted that claims for disabilities from workers who
22 alleged exposure to "clay, talc, emery, and carborundum dusts" had "claims prosecuted
23 successfully." The article concluded that "[i]n the absence of adequate diagnoses, occupational
24 histories and a more satisfactory method of adjudicating claims than prosecution at common law,
25 we must conclude that it is necessary to find a practical method for controlling all mineral dusts."

26 26. In 1936, the National Safety Council published an article entitled "Lesser Known
27 Facts About Occupational Diseases" that found "exposure to asbestos fibers, present in
28 the weaving and grinding of dry asbestos material, offers another type of dust which may
cause fatalities among workers." In 1958, The New York Department of Labor published Industrial

1 code Rule No. 12 establishing regulations applying to all employees and employers relating to
2 dangerous air contaminants and listing both asbestos and talc as such substances.

3 27. In 1968, a study presented at the American Industrial Hygiene Conference &
4 Exposition and published in the American Industrial Hygiene Association Journal concluded
5 that "[a]ll of the 22 talcum products analyzed have a...fiber content...averaging 19%. The fibrous
6 material was predominantly talc but contained minor amounts of tremolite, anthophyllite, and
7 chrysotile as these are often present in fibrous talc mineral deposits...Unknown significant
8 amounts of such materials in products that may be used without precautions may create an
9 unsuspected problem ." L. J. Cralley, et al., Fibrous and Mineral Content of Cosmetic Talcum
10 Products, 29 AM. IND. HYG. Assoc. J. 350-354 (1968). Defendants were aware of these findings.

11 28. In 1968, a scientific study of store-bought, commercially available talcum
12 powders conducted by the Occupational Health Program, National Center for Urban Industrial
13 Health, was published and presented by the American Industrial Hygiene Association. Defendants
14 were aware of this study. The study revealed that, contrary to popular belief, talcum powders
15 were not entirely pure, but rather contained various fibrous minerals, including tremolite,
16 anthophyllite and chrysotile. The study explained that such fibrous content was not unexpected
17 because these types of fibers are often present in fibrous talc mineral deposits. Available
18 documents indicate that during the same year and in the years following, at least one company
19 began testing store-bought talcum powders for asbestos content. Despite tests showing some talcum
20 powders contained asbestos, there is no evidence that positive results or the brand names of
21 contaminated products were communicated to any governmental agency, the media or the public.

22 29. According to a December 2018 report by Reuters, by at least 1967 and 1969,
23 Defendants investigated the existence of tremolite in its Talcum Products, finding that asbestiform
24 fibers were commonly found in its Talcum Products. From the report:

25 In 1964, J&J's Windsor Minerals Inc subsidiary bought a cluster of talc mines in
26 Vermont, with names like Argonaut, Rainbow, Frostbite and Black Bear. By 1966,
27 it was blasting and bulldozing white rock out of the Green Mountain state. J&J
28 used the milled powder in its cosmetic powders and sold a less-refined grade to
roofing, flooring and tire companies for use in manufacturing.

Ten years after tremolite turned up in the Italian talc, it showed up in Vermont talc,
too. In 1967, J&J found traces of tremolite and another mineral that can occur as

1 asbestos, according to a table attached to a Nov. 1, 1967, memo¹ by William Ashton,
2 the executive in charge of J&J's talc supply for decades.

3 J&J continued to search for sources of clean talc. But in an April 9, 1969, memo² to
4 a company doctor, Ashton said it was "normal" to find tremolite in many U.S. talc
5 deposits. He suggested J&J rethink its approach. "Historically, in our Company,
6 Tremolite has been bad," Ashton wrote. "How bad is Tremolite medically, and how
7 much of it can safely be in a talc base we might develop?"

8 Since pulmonary disease, including cancer, appeared to be on the rise, "it would
9 seem to be prudent to limit any possible content of Tremolite ... to an absolute
10 minimum," came the reply from another physician executive days later.

11 The doctor told Ashton that J&J was receiving safety questions from pediatricians.
12 Even Robert Wood Johnson II, the founder's son and then-retired CEO, had
13 expressed "concern over the possibility of the adverse effects on the lungs of babies
14 or mothers," he wrote.

15 "We have replied," the doctor wrote, that "we would not regard the usage of our
16 powders as presenting any hazard." Such assurances would be impossible, he added,
17 "if we do include Tremolite in more than unavoidable trace amounts."

18 The memo is the earliest J&J document reviewed by Reuters that discusses tremolite
19 as more than a scratchy nuisance. The doctor urged Ashton to consult with company
20 lawyers because "it is not inconceivable that we could become involved in
21 litigation."

22 Lisa Girion, "Johnson & Johnson knew for decades that asbestos lurked in its Baby Powder,"
23 Reuters (December 14, 2018), [https://www.reuters.com/investigates/special-
24 report/johnsonandjohnson-cancer/](https://www.reuters.com/investigates/special-report/johnsonandjohnson-cancer/).

25 30. A 1976 follow-up study conducted by researchers at Mount Sinai Hospital
26 New York concluded that "[t]he presence in these products of asbestiform anthophyllite and
27 tremolite, chrysotile, and quartz indicates the need for a regulatory standard for cosmetic
28 talc ... We also recommend that evaluation be made to determine the possible health hazards
associated with the use of these products." Rohl A.N., et al., Consumer Talcums and Powders:
Mineral and Chemical Characterization, 2 J. TOXICOL. ENVIRON. HEALTH 255-284(1976).
The Mount Sinai study results were published by various newspapers, including the New York
Times and the Washington Post, and Defendants were aware of same.

¹ Attached hereto at Exhibit 1.

² Attached hereto at Exhibit 2.

1 31. In the early 1970s, the FDA began an inquiry into whether to regulate and require
2 warnings on talc-containing products. Defendants and CTFA, an exclusive lobbying and advocacy
3 group representing companies engaged in the cosmetic products industry, repeatedly conspired and
4 worked in concert to block efforts to label and warn consumers regarding the dangers (including
5 Asbestos and talc containing asbestiform fibers hazards) associated with cosmetic talcum powder
6 products, such as Defendants' The Talcum Products.

7 32. In 1971, the New York City of Environmental Protection Administration Air
8 Resources Board conducted a study of two "leading" brands of talcum powder using transmission
9 electron microscopy ("TEM") and X-ray diffraction ("XRD") analysis, and found them to contain
10 5-25% tremolite and anthophyllite asbestos.

11 33. Soon thereafter, a symposium was held in August of 1974 at the FDA to discuss the
12 issue of asbestos content of talcum powders with the talc industry, government officials, and
13 doctors and scientists from Mt. Sinai Hospital, which was then the epicenter of the medical and
14 scientific study of asbestos. Among other statements, participants and attendees heard: that
15 asbestos should be banned in talcum powders; models should be set up to measure the levels
16 exposure to asbestos experienced by persons using talcum powder containing asbestos at the
17 lowest level of microscopic detection; and that finding asbestos in talc and talcum powder is
18 extremely difficult, and the only truly reliable way to determine the asbestos content of talc and
19 talcum powder is through TEM and electron diffraction. Defendants and CTFA, aware of the
20 foregoing and citing costs as well as their fear of the public learning talc was contaminated with
21 asbestos, ignored and completely rejected any measures to meaningfully test talc products to
22 make sure they were free from asbestos, asbestiform talc and other carcinogens.

23 34. After this 1971 symposium, Dr. Weissler of the FDA hired Dr. Seymour Z. Lewin
24 to test commercially available talcum powders for asbestos. Dr. Lewin tested 195 samples and
25 found asbestos of varying amounts in 43. Many of Dr. Lewin's positive results were eventually
26 corroborated by Pfizer Inc. The results, however, were uncorroborated by two other laboratories,
27 leading the FDA to the conclusion that XRD, optical and electron microscopy, and electron
28 diffraction must be used to detect asbestos in talc and talcum powders.

1 35. Dr. Lewin of New York University disclosed twice in 1972 that asbestos had been
2 found in cosmetic talc. In a report to the FDA on August 3, 1972, Dr. Lewin reported that of 195
3 talc products, 20 had tremolite, 7 had chrysotile, 9 had both tremolite and chrysotile, and 7 had
4 substantial percentages of one of both. XRD had been used as the first step in analysis and the
5 presence of asbestos and was verified by the use of optical microscopy to disclose the presence of
6 significant numbers of fibers. Shortly thereafter, Dr. Lewin reported to Whittaker, Clark & Daniels
7 Inc. on September 30, 1972, that Italian talc 1615 contained about 2% tremolite and 0.5% chrysotile
8 as determined with XRD and detailed microscopic exam. In a July 31, 1973, review of Dr. Lewin's
9 testing of 195 talc samples, the FDA found "good semi-quantitative agreement" for tremolite on
10 selected samples re-analyzed using optical microscope analysis by FDA and XRD by Pfizer.
11 Agreement was not as good for chrysotile, but the review did warn that optical microscopy could
12 "completely miss the presence of chrysotile if the fibers are submicroscopic, which may well be
13 the case in finely-milled talc." In 1972, ES Laboratories reported that "1615" talc contained
14 1% chrysotile and that "4615" talc contained 3% chrysotile and 3% anthophyllite. An August
15 23, 1973, report by Johns-Manville on TEM analysis of commercial talcs reported that nine of
16 fourteen samples contained chrysotile. Only five samples did not have detectable levels of
17 chrysotile. Pages from the laboratory notebook of Colgate-Palmolive Co. scientist Paul Briscese
18 from March 7, 1976, show that Old Regal (North Carolina) talc tested positive for tremolite, New
19 Montana talc tested positive for anthophyllite and tremolite, and Italian talc tested positive for
20 tremolite.

21 36. A December 10, 1973, report of the CTFA's Talc Subcommittee disclosed that
22 optical microscope analyses of talcs from the Italian, Montana I & 11, Alabama, Vermont, and
23 North Carolina mines had failed the proposed FDA's method because of elevated chrysotile
24 concentrations. This December 10, 1973, CTFA report also showed that several laboratories had
25 reported chrysotile in many of the talc samples sent by the CTFA for evaluation of analytical
26 methods as well as the several identifications of asbestos in talc mentioned.

27 37. In the early 1970s, the FDA began an inquiry into whether to regulate and require
28 warnings on consumer talcum powder products. CTFA, an exclusive lobbying and advocacy group

1 representing companies engaged in the cosmetic products industry, including Defendants and their
2 talc suppliers, repeatedly conspired and worked in concert to block efforts to label and warn
3 consumers regarding the dangers associated with cosmetic talcum powder products, such as Talc
4 Defendants' products. On September 3, 1973, the FDA sent CTFA a letter regarding various means
5 of measuring asbestos in talc, stating that "conventional methods employing X-ray diffraction or
6 differential thermal analysis are not sufficiently reliable to produce quantitative results of the
7 desired precision." The FDA further advised CTFA that it "has been exploring refractory optical
8 microscopy as a means of measuring asbestos in talc." CTFA responded to the FDA's public notice
9 on its proposed optical microscopy method on December 26, 1973. CTFA contended that the
10 proposed method was not "reliable" for the detection of asbestos in talc, recommended a
11 "collaborative effort between FDA and industry to develop such a method," and urged deferment
12 of the proposed rule. Minutes of CTFA's Talc Subcommittee meeting on March 15, 1976, indicate
13 that the FDA's "Dr. Shaffner suggested the possibility of having industry report periodically on the
14 results of its analysis to the FDA." Dr. Estrin of CTFA responded that "the subcommittee would
15 give serious consideration to this suggestion."

16 38. Contemporaneously, evidence began to emerge from testing conducted by various
17 regulatory agencies revealing that asbestos was being found in food, beer and drugs, including
18 intravenously injected medicines. In 1972, and later in 1973, the FDA filed notices of proposed
19 rulemaking requiring talc used in food, food packing and drugs to be completely free of asbestos.
20 These were some of the same "grades" of talc used by Defendants.

21 39. The talc industry's response, including that of the Defendants, was swift and
22 well-coordinated through CTFA, with which the Defendants conspired and worked in concert
23 to purposely create a flawed, voluntary testing and surveillance methodology for detecting asbestos
24 in talc and block efforts to label and warn consumers regarding the dangers associated with the
25 talc products, including Defendants' Talcum Products.

26 40. Regarding the FDA's proposed 1972 rule-making, the FDA Director of Product
27 Development and Cosmetics, Dr. Schaffner, invited representatives of the talc industry to a
28 meeting in August of 1972 to discuss the results of Dr. Lewin's study and inform them that the

1 FDA was preparing to release a "Proposed Statement of Policy On Asbestos in Cosmetics
2 Containing Talc." Schaffner explained that he was duty-bound and must publicize the brand names
3 of the talcum powders that contained asbestos. CTFA's president, Dr. Merritt, strongly objected
4 to the FDA alerting the general public and publishing the brand names of the talcum powders, as it
5 would cause the manufactures "economic hardship." Merritt also threatened to sue the FDA to
6 prevent the disclosure of the brand names. As a result, the FDA, Defendants and CTFA never
7 revealed or publicized the brand names of the talcum powders that contained asbestos, much
8 to the detriment of the plaintiffs and the general public.

9 41. In 1973, CTFA created a talc subcommittee and the Scientific Advisory
10 Committee to develop a testing methodology for detecting asbestos in talc. Initially, CTFA
11 designated a group of its members to tests talc grades used in talcum powder utilizing the
12 methodology proposed by the FDA in its notice of rulemaking. Six samples of talc used in
13 commercially available talcum powders, plus one talc sample purposely spiked with tremolite and
14 chrysotile, were circulated among the members, including representatives of Defendants. Of the
15 eight participating members, four found asbestos in every sample, three did not find asbestos in any
16 sample (including the spiked sample), and one found asbestos only in the spiked sample. In
17 conclusion, all members agreed that the best and most reliable method of detecting asbestos in talc
18 is not optical microscopy, but rather TEM and electron diffraction. The same members,
19 however, dispensed with this analytical method, claiming TEM and electron diffraction
20 equipment was too expensive, despite Defendants then owning or having unfettered access to
21 same.

22 42. From there, the difference between what Defendants and CTFA knew diverged from
23 what they were representing to the FDA. Defendants, CTFA and others in the industry knew that
24 there was no such thing as asbestos-free talc--only talc in which asbestos could not be
25 detected using the prevailing, most economic analytical methodology, XRD, which at the time
26 could not accurately identify chrysotile asbestos in talc, nor detect tremolite
27 asbestos contamination levels below 2-5%.

28

1 43. Defendants and the CTFA also did not disclose to the FDA that the overwhelming
2 majority of talcum powder manufacturers and sellers were not testing their products for asbestos,
3 and even if they were testing, it was done so superficially: only four or so grams per 20 tons of pre-
4 shipment and pre-processed talc, as an example. Defendants and CTFA also failed to the
5 inform the FDA that they were not testing off-the-shelf talc powder products, but rather
6 old samples that were never from the end products themselves. They also failed to inform the FDA
7 that they were limiting their testing of talc to only one type of asbestos fiber to the exclusion of all
8 other fiber types that are commonly found in talc deposits. What is more, to the extent Defendants
9 found asbestos in their samples, these positive results were not reported to the FDA. Instead, on
10 their behalf, CTFA sent letters to the FDA in March of 1976 fraudulently claiming that industry
11 testing had shown all talcum powder products to be completely free of asbestos.

12 44. Beginning in 1975 and 1976, researchers at New York Air Resources Board, Mt.
13 Sinai School of Medicine, and the FDA became increasingly concerned that CTFA, Defendants
14 and the cosmetic industries were slow to address the issue of asbestos in talc and talcum powders.
15 Defendants had not issued any recalls, provided consumer warnings, informed the FDA of any
16 effort to ensure that talcum powders on the market did not contain asbestos, or developed a
17 reliable methodology or protocol for ensuring that talc and talcum powder did not contain
18 asbestos or asbestiform-talc.

19 45. Taking matters into their own hands, Mt. Sinai Hospital researchers published a
20 follow-up article to Dr. Lewin's 1971 study that demonstrated that some of Defendants' talcum
21 powders contained over 20% asbestos. The researchers concluded that "[t]he presence in these
22 products of asbestiform anthophyllite and tremolite, chrysotile, and quartz indicates the need for a
23 regulatory standard for cosmetic talc ...We also recommend that evaluation be made to determine
24 the possible health hazards associated with the use of these products." The results of the Mount
25 Sinai study were known to the Defendants and published the same year by the New York Times
26 and the Washington Post.

27 46. Defendants and CTFA responded to these developments by falsely claiming that the
28 industry was doing "everything" it could to solve the problem; issuing press releases falsely

1 claiming that chrysotile had never been found in talcum powders; and intentionally suppressing
2 data that showed tremolite was commonly found in talc and talcum powder.

3 47. CTFA subsequently began in earnest to produce a voluntary protocol
4 and methodology that would provide Defendants cover from both lawsuits and
5 regulation. Egregiously, as concerned media members, citizens and regulators began asking more
6 questions about which other brands of talcum powder contained asbestos, Defendants and CTFA
7 falsely represented that talcum powders have never contained asbestos or asbestiform-talc.

8 48. Defendants, their talc suppliers, and third parties funded by Defendants
9 collectively met with and corresponded with CTFA, as well as collectively met with the FDA and
10 other government agencies, to individually and collectively advocate for the use of "voluntary"
11 XRD testing of miniscule portions of the tons of talc to be used in consumer
12 products. Defendants' "voluntary" method-that was developed collectively by Defendants and
13 CTFA and advocated to the FDA in lieu of regulations requiring asbestos labeling or warnings on
14 talcum powder products-was inadequate because levels of asbestos contamination in talc
15 commonly fell below the detection limit of the testing methods. Defendants and CTFA also knew
16 that asbestos contamination was not uniformly distributed, such that the miniscule amounts tested
17 would not reveal the true level of contamination in talc products, such as The Talcum Products to
18 which Plaintiff and the consuming public in this State were exposed.

19 49. In support of its voluntary XRD methodology, which was finally published
20 in 1977, CTFA produced letters to the FDA written by its members, including Defendants,
21 identifying tests conducted showing talcum powder products did not contain asbestos. CTFA,
22 Defendants and other talc product producers, however, never informed the FDA of the hundreds of
23 positive tests showing talc and talcum powders contained asbestos and other carcinogens.

24 50. CTFA "Method J4-1," published on October 7, 1976, states that TEM-SAED "offers
25 greater sensitivity, but is not presented since it is unsuitable for normal quality control
26 applications." The published method, rather, relies on XRD with "the level of detection of
27 amphibole by this method [being] 0.5% and above." CTFA met with and corresponded with
28 Defendants and third parties, to individually and collectively advocate to the FDA for the use of

1 inadequate XRD testing on miniscule portions of the tons of talc obtained from the mining
2 sources to be used in the consumer products, followed by fewer "periodic" tests by TEM. This
3 voluntary method was developed by CTFA and Defendants, and was advocated to the FDA by
4 CTFA and Defendants in lieu of regulations requiring labeling and warnings on talcum powder
5 products, even though CTFA and Defendants knew that the J4-1 method would not reveal the true
6 level of asbestos in the talc that reached consumers. In fact, the first "round robin" tests, which
7 analyzed a "CTFA Tremolite-Spiked Talc," resulted in 6 of 7 participating laboratories failing to
8 detect the tremolite. In other words, 84% of the industry's laboratories failed to detect asbestos in a
9 sample known to contain tremolite asbestos while using the CTFA's own J4-1 method. There is no
10 evidence that CTFA or Defendants ever shared this remarkable failure with the FDA or the public.

11 51. Minutes of CTFA's Talc Subcommittee from February 24, 1975, stated "It was
12 agreed, however, that chrysotile is never found in cosmetic talcs, based on numerous analyses by
13 several investigators ..." When referring to the challenge of chrysotile detection, an article entitled
14 "Talc" in the January/March 1976 CTFA Cosmetic Journal, states that "The only known backup
15 method for a positive identification in this event, is [TEM] with selected area diffraction."
16 However, "despite many efforts, the committee had been unable to find a sample of cosmetic talc
17 containing naturally occurring asbestos ...it was asked, 'Why should we test for chrysotile if there
18 isn't any?'" CTFA's Specification for Cosmetic Talc, revised on October 7, 1976, falsely
19 represented that no fibrous asbestos was detected in cosmetic talc. Even after 1976, CTFA and
20 Defendants continued to obtain and/or receive results of testing performed internally and
21 externally indicating the presence of asbestos and other carcinogens in the talc being used to
22 manufacture cosmetic products. However, CTFA and Defendants continued to represent that no
23 asbestos was detected in cosmetic talc. These material representations adversely and directly
24 impacted the FDA's attempt to adequately test consumer talc for asbestos and regulate cosmetics.
25 The most sensitive method of identifying or detecting asbestos in cosmetic talc, TEM-SAED, was
26 not used because CTFA represented that its "ultra sensitivity could be a problem" and that it was
27 too expensive to use. Instead, its J4-1 method relied on XRD alone for detection of asbestos at
28

1 greater concentrations than 0.5%, a concentration that could allow more than a billion asbestos
2 fibers per gram of talc to be passed off as "asbestos-free."

3 52. Defendants and CTFA made and published such representations, claiming that
4 their testing method was adequate, that they were ensuring that talcum powder products were
5 safe, and that the talc reaching consumers in the Talcum Products was "safe," despite having
6 substantial knowledge and evidence to the contrary. Defendants intentionally and knowingly
7 did so to avoid FDA, CalEPA, OEHHA and other governmental agency regulations that, like
8 California's Proposition 65, would have required them to place warnings regarding the asbestos
9 and talc containing asbestiform fibers content of their talcum products, and thereby inform the
10 public in this State, including Plaintiffs, that their Talcum Products contain asbestos and talc
11 containing asbestiform fibers.

12 53. CTFA then published an article in 1979 stating it conducted over three thousand
13 tests of talcum powders and none of them found chrysotile. The article and report failed to disclose
14 whether the talcum powders tested contained tremolite, anthophyllite or any other form of asbestos.
15 This publication of half-truths was conveyed to the FDA and the public with the purpose of
16 preventing regulations of cosmetic products. Thereafter CTFA's methodology became the standard
17 by which nearly all talc was analyzed by the entire industry, including talc used in cosmetic and
18 hygiene products today.

19 54. CTFA and Defendants have represented to various news media outlets and the public
20 at large that their products are "asbestos-free," when, in fact, their products did test positive for
21 asbestos and those that did not were merely the result of inadequate and imprecise testing methods.
22 "No asbestos detected" does not mean the product does not contain asbestos, but due to Defendants'
23 repeated conflation of the terms, the public has been lead to erroneously believe talc products are
24 safe. Furthermore, since Defendants and CTFA did not have sufficient testing protocols in place to
25 support the claims that Talc Products, were safe or asbestos-free, such statements were recklessly
26 made, as they had no reason to believe them.

27 55. Between 1970 and the 1990s, tests conducted by and on behalf of Defendants and
28 the talc industry continued to show that talc and talcum powder products contained asbestos.

1 None of these positive tests have ever been produced or made known to any regulatory agency, and
2 knowledge of 'their existence is only because of civil litigation. Defendants intentionally and
3 knowingly did so to avoid FDA and California's Proposition 65 regulations that may have
4 required them to place warnings regarding the asbestos content of their products, including the
5 Talcum Products, and thereby inform the public, including Plaintiffs, that the Talcum Products
6 contained asbestos and talc containing asbestiform fibers.

7 56. Defendants and CTFA's failure to disclose these positive results and the
8 inadequacies of their testing protocols continued through the 1980s, 1990s and 2000s, even when
9 various government agencies, including California's Environmental Protection Agency ("CalEPA")
10 and Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment ("OEHHA") and others, raised
11 concerns about the safety of talc, including the issue of asbestos content.

12 57. To this day, many talc-containing products presently on the market, including the
13 talcum products contain asbestos and talc containing asbestiform fibers. Instead of publicizing this
14 fact, Defendants and CTFA continue to deny all the above to protect their pecuniary interests, to
15 the severe detriment of the public, including Plaintiffs and the members of the Class.

16 58. Since at least 1979, Defendants have conducted a campaign--to convince the
17 public that their products are regulated by the FDA, that their tests are conducted pursuant to FDA
18 regulations, and that talcum powder products are, therefore, safe. Nothing could be further from
19 the truth: the FDA has never been assigned a budget by Congress to regulate cosmetics, including
20 asbestos and other carcinogens in talcum powders. Defendants' concerns for the safety of their
21 products have always been voluntary and under the auspices of CTFA, a private industry group,
22 that in its 40 years has only banned the use of 11 ingredients in all cosmetics ever sold in the United
23 States. Indeed, as of today, asbestos-containing talc in cosmetics has not been banned or otherwise
24 regulated by CTFA or the FDA.

25 59. Defendants (and other entities in the talc industry and cosmetic industries,
26 including the CTFA), individually and collectively, failed to report to the FDA, CalEPA, OEHHA
27 and other regulatory agencies, tests performed both internally and by outside laboratories
28 confirming the presence of asbestos and talc containing asbestiform fibers in both their

1 finished products, including the Talcum Products, as well as talc shipments from suppliers
2 Defendants obtained talc from and other sources that were used to produce finished products.

3 60. Defendants, and even the outside laboratories, including McCone Associates,
4 sent letters to CTFA, to be and which were forwarded to the FDA, stating that results of testing of
5 talc used by them after 1972 had not revealed the presence of amphibole or chrysotile asbestos,
6 when in fact all of these entities had received or performed tests indicating the contrary when
7 such false representations were made.

8 61. After 1976, Defendants and CTFA continued to obtain and/or receive results of
9 testing performed internally and externally indicating the presence of Asbestos and talc
10 containing asbestiform fibers in the Talcum Products.

11 62. Defendants failed to place any warning on their Talcum Products despite CalEPA
12 and OEHHA regulations otherwise, or ever disclose the fact that these products contain asbestos or
13 talc containing asbestiform fibers, at any point, up to and including the present, despite the clear
14 hazard and direct information that their Talcum Products did and continue to contain asbestos or
15 talc containing asbestiform fibers.

16 63. Defendants and CTFA, collectively and through explicit agreement and
17 consciously parallel behavior, controlled industry standards regarding the testing, manufacture,
18 sale, distribution and use of talcum powder products, and controlled the level of knowledge and
19 information available to the public, including Plaintiffs, regarding the hazards of exposure to
20 carcinogens, including asbestos and talc containing asbestiform fibers, from the Talcum Products.

21 64. Defendants and CTFA, through agreement and consciously parallel behavior,
22 knowingly and intentionally released, published and disseminated invalid, inaccurate, outdated
23 and misleading scientific data, literature and test reports containing misinformation and false
24 statements regarding the health risks associated with the use of talc and talcum powder products,
25 including the Talcum Products, to which Plaintiffs and the consuming public in this State have
26 been exposed .

27 65. Defendants and CTFA, while cognizant of the aforementioned data, deliberately
28 chose to ignore the health and safety issues raised in said data and embarked upon a plan of

1 deception intended to deprive the public at large in this State and elsewhere, including Plaintiffs,
2 of alarming medical and scientific findings, many of which remained in their exclusive
3 possession and under their exclusive control.

4 66. Defendants and CTFA conspired and/or acted in concert with each other and/or with
5 other entities through agreement and consciously parallel behavior:

6 a. to withhold from users of their products including Plaintiffs, the Class, and
7 the general consuming public of this State-and from persons who they knew and should have
8 known would be exposed thereto--information regarding the health risks of inhaling and/or
9 ingesting and/or perineal (genital) application of the Talcum Products;

10 b. to eliminate, suppress or prevent investigation into the health hazards of
11 exposure to asbestos and other carcinogens in talc and talcum powder products;

12 c. to ensure that asbestos-containing talc and talcum powder products became
13 widely used in commerce, irrespective of the potential and actual risk of harm to the users and
14 consumers from the asbestos and other carcinogens therein; and

15 d. to falsely represent that talc and talcum powder products, including those of
16 Defendants, were safe and healthful for use by consumers such as Plaintiffs, the Class Members,
17 and the general consuming public of this State.

18 67. Plaintiffs and the Class reasonably, and in good faith, relied upon the false and
19 fraudulent representations made by Defendants and CTFA regarding the hazards of talc and talcum
20 powder products that contained asbestos and other carcinogens, and he was, therefore, deprived
21 of an opportunity to make informed 'decisions concerning use of, exposure to and contact with
22 said products.

23 68. CTFA, as well as Defendants and other entities in the talc industry and cosmetic
24 industries, individually and collectively, failed to report to the FDA tests performed both
25 internally and by outside laboratories confirming the presence of asbestos in Defendants' and
26 other CTFA members ' finished products as well as talc shipments from talc suppliers and other
27 sources that were used to produce finished products. Instead, CTFA sent letters to the FDA
28 stating that results of testing of talc used by the industry after 1972 had not revealed the presence

1 of amphiboles or chrysotile, when in fact all of these entities had received or performed tests
2 indicating the contrary by 1976, when such intentionally false misrepresentations were made.
3 CTFA and Defendants made and published such representations claiming that their collective
4 testing method was adequate, they were ensuring that talcum powder products, including The
5 Talcum Products, were safe, and that their testing of talc reaching consumers was "safe," despite
6 knowing the contrary.

7 69. The FDA, CalEPA, OEHHA, other regulatory bodies, and ultimately Plaintiffs, the
8 Class, and the general consuming public of this State, directly and/or indirectly relied upon CTFA's
9 and Defendants' false representations regarding the safety of cosmetic talc. In fact, a FDA letter
10 dated January 11, 1979, states: "In cooperation with scientists from industry, our scientists have
11 been making progress in the development of such regulatory methods." The continuing lack of
12 FDA awareness regarding CTFA's and Defendants' misrepresentations was obvious seven years
13 later. In a response to a citizen petition to require an asbestos warning label on cosmetic talc, on
14 July 1, 1986, the FDA states that an "analytical methodology was sufficiently developed" to ensure
15 that "such talc [is] free of fibrous amphibole..." CTFA's J4-I method has continued for the past four
16 decades to be the cosmetic talc industry's method for "ensuring" "asbestos-free" talc. The use of
17 TEM, recognized by the CTFA as offering "greater sensitivity" for asbestos, continued to increase
18 over the following decades as its advantages were applied to more matrices. In 1990, Kremer and
19 Millette published a TEM method for analysis of asbestos in talc with a theoretical detection limit
20 of about 0.00005%. Despite such improvements in analytical techniques, the cosmetic talc
21 industry, including Defendants, continues, four decades later, to use and promote its antiquated and
22 wholly inadequate J4-I method.

23 70. CTFA and Defendants, collectively and through explicit agreement and consciously
24 parallel behavior, controlled industry standards regarding the testing, manufacture, sale, marketing,
25 distribution and use of asbestos-containing talcum powder products, and controlled the level of
26 knowledge and information available to the public in this State regarding the hazards of exposure
27 to asbestos and talc with asbestiform fibers and other carcinogens from talc and talc-containing
28 products, including the Talcum Products.

1 71. CTFA and Defendants, through agreement and consciously parallel behavior,
2 intentionally failed to warn potential users, including Plaintiffs, the Class, and the general
3 consuming public in this State, of the serious bodily harm and/or death which may result from the
4 inhalation and/or ingestion and/or perineal (genital) application of asbestos and talc containing
5 asbestiform fibers from their Talcum Products.

6 72. CTFA and Defendants, through agreement and consciously parallel behavior,
7 knowingly and intentionally released, published and disseminated invalid, inaccurate, outdated
8 and misleading scientific data, literature and test reports containing misinformation and false
9 statements regarding the health risks associated with the use of talc and talcum powder, and
10 specifically talc and talcum powder used in the production of the Talcum Products to which
11 Plaintiffs, the Class, and the general consuming public in this State were exposed.

12 73. CTFA and Defendants, through agreement and consciously parallel behavior,
13 suppressed, altered, changed, destroyed and/or revised reports, data, tests, studies and other
14 documents regarding the potential presence of asbestos and other carcinogens in talc and talc-
15 containing products, including Defendants' the Talcum Products to which Plaintiffs, the Class, and
16 the consuming public in this State were exposed.

17 74. As recently as 2016, Defendants made material misrepresentations to the FDA
18 regarding asbestos and talc containing asbestiform fibers in their talcum powder products.

19 75. However, as a matter of law, Defendants were required to inform the public that
20 their products contained, or possibly contained carcinogens such as asbestos and talc containing
21 asbestiform fibers. Health & Safety Code §25249.6 provides:

22 No person in the course of doing business shall knowingly and intentionally
23 expose any individual to a chemical known to the state to cause cancer or
24 reproductive toxicity without first giving clear and reasonable warning to such
individual. ..

25 76. "Knowingly" refers only to knowledge of the fact that a discharge of, release of, or
26 exposure to a chemical listed pursuant to Section 25249.8(a) of the Act is occurring. "No knowledge
27 that the discharge, release or exposure is unlawful is required (27 Cal. Code Regs, title 27,
28 §25102(n)).

1 77. Proposition 65 also provides that any person "violating or threatening to violate"
2 the statute may be enjoined in a court of competent jurisdiction. (Health & Saf. Code §25249.7)
3 The phrase "threatening to violate" is defined to mean creating "a condition in which there is
4 substantial likelihood that a violation will occur." (Health & Saf. Code §25249.1 1(e)). Violators
5 are liable for civil penalties of up to \$2,500 per day for each violation of the Act. (Health & Saf.
6 Code §25249.7).

7 78. Asbestos is listed by the State of California as a chemical known to cause cancer.
8 Asbestos is therefore subject to the "clear and reasonable" warning requirements of

9 79. Due to the high toxicity of asbestos in causing cancer, the No Significant Risk Level
10 ("NSRL") or ("Safe Harbor") for inhalation of asbestos is 100 fibers/day (inhalation) (27 Cal. Code
11 Regs, Title 27, CR 25709(b)). Defendants manufacture, distribute, market and/or sell in California
12 the Talcum Products containing asbestos in levels exceeding the NSRL for inhalation through
13 normal and intended use of the products.

14 80. There is no Safe Harbor established for perineal (genital) exposure to asbestos.

15 81. Talc Containing Asbestiform Fibers is also listed by the State of California as a
16 chemical known to cause cancer. Talc Containing Asbestiform Fibers is therefore subject to the
17 "clear and reasonable" warning requirements of Proposition 65 for cancer.

18 82. There are no Safe Harbors established for exposure to Talc Containing
19 Asbestiform Fibers.

20 83. Since there is no established Safe Harbor for perineal (genital) exposure to
21 Asbestos, or for inhalation or perineal (genital) exposure to Talc Containing Asbestiform Fibers,
22 the named Defendants must demonstrate that the exposure will produce no observable effect,
23 even at 1,000 times the level in question. See, 27 Cal. Code of Regs, Title 27, §25801 et. seq.
24 Clearly, at 1,000 times the asbestos and talc containing asbestiform fibers levels in question, the
25 named Defendants are unable to show "no observable effect."

26 84. At all times relevant to this action, Defendants have knowingly exposed
27 California consumers to asbestos and talc containing asbestiform fibers in the offending the Talcum
28 Products talcum powder products without clear and reasonable warning to such individuals.

1 85. At all times relevant to this action, Defendants have failed to place a clear
2 and reasonable Proposition 65 warning for asbestos and talc containing asbestiform fibers,
3 disclosing the cancer-causing effects, on the Talcum Products.

4 86. At all times relevant to this action, Defendants' representatives have failed to
5 warn California consumers that their Talcum Products contain cancer-causing asbestos and talc
6 containing asbestiform fibers.

7 87. At all times relevant to this action, Defendants have failed to place a clear and
8 reasonable Proposition 65 warning for asbestos and talc containing asbestiform fibers on their
9 marketing materials.

10 88. At all times relevant to this action, Defendants have failed to place a clear and
11 reasonable Proposition 65 warning for asbestos and talc containing asbestiform fibers on store
12 shelves.

13 89. At all times relevant to this action, Defendants have failed to place a clear and
14 reasonable Proposition 65 warning for asbestos and talc containing asbestiform fibers on their 16
15 websites. To the contrary, Defendants continue to represent on their websites that the Talcum
16 Products are "asbestos free."

17 90. Further, by failing to place a clear and reasonable Proposition 65 label on for their
18 websites, products, or advertising, Defendants both actively and passively asserted to Plaintiffs,
19 the Class, and the general consuming public, that the Talcum Products were safe and legal to use
20 for all purposes, when, as alleged above, they were not. Plaintiffs and the Class had a reasonable
21 presumption that the sale of the Talcum Products, all of which were placed on retail store shelves,
22 and which were openly available for sale without any warning labels at all, was safe, and in
23 compliance with California law. *Steroid Hormone Product Cases* (2010) 181 Cal. App. 4th 145,
24 156-57.

25 **CLASS ACTION ALLEGATIONS**

26 91. Plaintiffs bring this action on behalf of themselves, the general public, and all others
27 similarly situated. Plaintiffs seek to represent the following class:
28

1 Plaintiffs and all persons who purchased the Talcum Products within the state of
2 California at any time from four years prior to the filing of this complaint and
ongoing until date of judgment and/or preliminary approval of class action
settlement.

3 All Class members are hereinafter referred to as the "Class." Subject to additional information
4 obtained through further investigation and discovery, the foregoing definition of the Class may be
5 expanded or narrowed by amendment or amended complaint. Specifically excluded from the
6 proposed Class are Defendants, their officers, directors, agents, trustees, parents, children,
7 corporations, trusts, representatives, employees, principals, servants, partners, joint venturers, or
8 entities controlled by Defendants, and their heirs, successors, assigns, or other persons or entities
9 related to or affiliated with Defendants and/or their officers and/or directors, or any of them; the
10 judicial officer or judicial officers assigned to this action, any member of the judicial officers'
11 immediate family. Also excluded from the Class are any persons who, as of the date the Complaint
12 is filed, have an action pending against one or more of the Defendants resulting from the sale of, or
13 injuries related to the use of, any of the Talcum Products.

14 92. This action has been brought and may be properly maintained as a class action,
15 pursuant to the provisions of the California Code of Civil Procedure Section 382 and California
16 Civil Code Section 1781.

17 93. Numerosity – Code Civ. Proc. § 382; Civ. Code § 1781(b)(1): Members of the Class
18 are so numerous that their individual joinder is impracticable. Plaintiffs are informed and believes,
19 and on that basis allege, that the proposed class contains thousands of members. The precise
20 number of Class members is unknown to Plaintiffs. Class members are likely to be known by
21 Defendants, or Defendants' customers, however, and thus, may be notified of the pendency of this
22 action by mail, supplemented (if deemed necessary and appropriate by the Court) by published
23 notice.

24 94. Existence and Predominance of Commons Questions of Fact and Law – Code of
25 Civ. Proc. § 382; Civ. Code § 1781(b)(2): Common questions of law and fact exist as to all
26 members of the Class. These questions predominate over the questions affecting individual Class
27 members. These common legal and factual questions include:
28

1 i. Whether the Talcum Products contain asbestos or asbestiform fibers;

2 ii. Whether Defendants knew or should have known that the Talcum
3 Products contained asbestos or asbestiform fibers;

4 iii. Whether Defendants failure to label the Talcum Products as possibly
5 containing known carcinogens violates Health & Safety Code § 259249.5;

6 iv. Whether Defendants violated Health & Safety Code § 111792 by
7 failing to notify the California Division of Environmental and Occupational Disease Control that
8 the Talcum Products contain asbestos and/or asbestiform fibers;

9 v. Whether Defendants could lawfully sell the Talcum Products in the
10 State of California without complying with Health & Safety Code §§ 11792 and 259249.2;

11 vi. Whether the sale of the Talcum Products in California at retail
12 establishments constituted an affirmative statement by Defendants to Plaintiffs and the Class
13 Members that the Talcum Products were safe to use, and that Defendants had complied with all
14 laws, including Health & Safety Code §§ 11792 and 259249.2;

15 vii. Whether the affirmative statement by Defendants through the sale
16 the Talcum Products in California at retail establishments that the Talcum Products were safe to
17 use, and that Defendants had complied with all laws, including Health & Safety Code §§ 11792
18 and 259249.2 was a misrepresentation as to the Talcum Product's source, sponsorship, approval,
19 or certification in violation of Civil Code § 1770(a)(2);

20 viii. Whether the affirmative statement by Defendants through the sale
21 the Talcum Products in California at retail establishments that the Talcum Products were safe to
22 use, and that Defendants had complied with all laws, including Health & Safety Code §§ 11792
23 and 259249.2 constituted a representation, whether express or implied, that the Talcum Products
24 have sponsorship, approval, characteristics, ingredients, uses or benefits which they do not have in
25 violation of Civil Code § 1770(a)(5);

26 ix. Whether the affirmative statement by Defendants through the sale
27 the Talcum Products in California at retail establishments that the Talcum Products were safe to
28 use, and that Defendants had complied with all laws, including Health & Safety Code §§ 11792

1 and 259249.2 constituted a representation that the Talcum Products are of a particular standard,
2 quality, or grade, or of a particular style or model, when they are of another in violation of Civil
3 Code § 1770(a)(7);

4 x. Whether the affirmative statements by Defendants that the Talcum
5 Products were “asbestos-free” constituted a misrepresentation as to the Talcum Products source,
6 sponsorship, approval, or certification in violation of Civil Code § 1770(a)(2);

7 xi. Whether the affirmative statements by Defendants that the Talcum
8 Products were “asbestos-free” constituted a representation, whether express or implied, that the
9 Talcum Products have sponsorship, approval, characteristics, ingredients, uses or benefits which
10 they do not have in violation of Civil Code § 1770(a)(5);

11 xii. Whether the affirmative statements by Defendants that the Talcum
12 Products were “asbestos-free” constituted a representation that the Talcum Products are of a
13 particular standard, quality, or grade, or of a particular style or model, when they are of another in
14 violation of Civil Code § 1770(a)(7);

15 xiv. Whether the affirmative statements by Defendants that the Talcum
16 Products are and were “asbestos-free” constitutes false advertising under Business & Professions
17 Code § 17500, et seq.;

18 xv. Whether the sale of the Talcum Products constituted an unlawful
19 business practice in violation of Business & Professions Code § 17200, et seq.;

20 xvi. Whether the sale of the Talcum Products constituted a deceptive
21 business practice in violation of Business & Professions Code § 17200, et seq.;

22 xvii. Whether the sale of the Talcum Products constituted an unfair
23 business practice in violation of Business & Professions Code § 17200, et seq.;

24 xviii. Whether Defendants have been unjustly enriched by their sale of the
25 Talcum Products to Plaintiffs and the members of the Class; and,

26 xix. The appropriate amount of restitutionary disgorgement owed to
27 Plaintiffs and the Class.
28

1 Remedies Act, Civil Code sections 1761(a) and 1770 (the “CLRA”).

2 100. Each Defendant is a “person” within the meaning of the CLRA, Civil Code sections
3 1761(c) and 1770.

4 100. Purchasers of the Talcum Products, including Plaintiffs Gutierrez and Luna, and the
5 Class, are “consumers” within the meaning of the CLRA, Civil Code sections 1761(d) and 1770.

6 102. Plaintiffs and each and every Class Member’s purchases of the Talcum Products
7 constitute “transactions” within the meaning of the CLRA, Civil Code sections 1761(e) and 1770.

8 103. Defendants’ unfair or deceptive acts or practices as described herein, were
9 undertaken by Defendants in transactions intended to result or which resulted in the sale of goods
10 to consumers, and were intended to induce, and did in fact induce, Plaintiffs and the Class to
11 purchase for personal use such products, which they would not have otherwise purchased. Indeed,
12 as one official with the U.S. Food and Drug Administration was quoted in 1971 as saying with
13 regard to the possible presence of asbestos and/or talc containing asbestiform fibers in baby powder,
14 “No mother was going to powder her baby with 1% of a known carcinogen irregardless [sic] of the
15 large safety factor.”³

16 104. Defendants’ practices, acts and course of conduct with respect to their distribution
17 and sale of the Talcum Products violate the CLRA in that Defendants’ representation that its talcum
18 powder products are safe and free from asbestos or asbestiform fibers constitutes: (1) a
19 misrepresentation as to the Talcum Products source, sponsorship, approval, or certification in
20 violation of Civil Code § 1770(a)(2); (2) a representation, whether express or implied, that the
21 Talcum Products have sponsorship, approval, characteristics, ingredients, uses or benefits which
22 they do not have in violation of Civil Code § 1770(a)(5); and (3) a representation that the Talcum
23 Products are of a particular standard, quality, or grade, or of a particular style or model, when they
24 are of another in violation of Civil Code § 1770(a)(7). Here, despite decades of evidence that the
25 Talcum Products contain, or could contain asbestos or asbestiform fibers, Defendants continue to
26 advertise that their products are safe.

27 105. Defendants’ practices, acts and course of conduct in connection with its sale of the

28 ³ See Exhibit 3.

1 Talcum Products are likely to mislead a reasonable consumer acting reasonably under the
2 circumstances to his or her detriment. Further, the misrepresentation of the safety of the Talcum
3 Products are clearly material to the determination to purchase the Talcum Products, as the potential
4 harm to the consumer or the consumer's family is significantly greater than the value conferred by
5 the purchase of the Talcum Products ("No mother was going to powder her baby with 1% of a
6 known carcinogen irregardless [sic] of the large safety factor."), there are equivalent products that
7 confer a similar benefit to the consumer that the Talcum Products provided, and, as a result, no
8 reasonable consumer, including Plaintiffs and the Class Members, would purchase the Talcum
9 Products had they known that the Talcum Products were not, in fact, safe as Defendants, advertised,
10 but that these products contained, or possibly contained, asbestos or asbestiform fibers, which are
11 known carcinogens.

12 106. As a direct and proximate result of Defendants' violations of law, Plaintiffs and the
13 Class have suffered damages by not receiving what was promised to them in exchange for the
14 purchase of the Talcum Products, which Defendants contended were safe, and did not contain
15 asbestos or asbestiform fibers.

16 107. By filing this Complaint, Plaintiffs seek an order enjoining Defendants from the
17 continued sale of Talcum Products; an Order enjoining Defendants from collecting money from the
18 Class from the sale of such products; and an Order requiring Defendants to notify the class of its
19 violations of the CLRA and the remedy it will provide to them. Plaintiff and the Class are entitled
20 to equitable relief in the form of restitutionary disgorgement of all earnings, profits, compensation
21 and benefits obtained by Defendants as a result of its violations of the CLRA, along with other
22 appropriate relief including reasonable attorneys' fees and expenses.

23 **SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION**
24 **Violation of the False Advertising Law**
25 **[Business And Professions Code Section 17500, Et Seq.]**
26 **(On Behalf of Plaintiffs and the Class Against all Defendants)**

27 108. Plaintiffs hereby incorporate by reference all previous paragraphs of this
28 Complaint as if fully set forth herein and further allege as follows:

1 109. Plaintiffs bring this cause of action pursuant to California Business & Professions
2 Code § 17500. California Business & Professions Code § 17500 provides that it is unlawful
3 for any person, firm, corporation or association to dispose of property or perform services, or
4 to induce the public to enter into any obligation relating thereto, through the use of untrue
5 or misleading statements.

6 110. Plaintiffs and the Class Members purchased the Talcum Products and have suffered
7 injury in fact and have lost money or property as a result of the unlawful, unfair, or fraudulent
8 business practices and unfair, deceptive, untrue or misleading advertising.

9 111. At all times herein alleged, Defendants have committed acts of disseminating
10 untrue and misleading statements as defined by California Business & Professions Code § 17500
11 by engaging in the following acts and practices with intent to induce members of the public to
12 purchase and use the Talcum Products:(a) Representing that the Talcum Products are safe for their
13 intended and foreseeable use and "free of asbestos," knowing that said representations were
14 false, and concealing that the Talcum Products, or at least some of them, contain asbestos and talc
15 containing asbestiform fibers and have a serious propensity to cause injuries to users; (b) Issuing
16 promotional literature and commercials deceiving potential users of the Talcum Products by
17 relaying positive information and concealing material relevant information regarding the safety
18 and efficacy of the Talcum Products; and other unfair, unlawful and fraudulent conduct.

19 112. The foregoing practices constitute false and misleading advertising within the
20 meaning of California Business & Professions Code § 17500.

21 113. The acts of untrue and misleading statements by Defendants described here in
22 above present a continuing threat to members of the public in that the acts alleged herein are
23 continuous and ongoing, and the public will continue to suffer the harm alleged herein .

24 114. As a result of their conduct described above, Defendants have been and will be
25 unjustly enriched. Specifically, Defendants have been unjustly enriched by receipt of hundreds of
26 millions of dollars in ill-gotten gains from Plaintiffs and the Class Members from the sale of the
27 Talcum Products in California, sold in large part as a result of the acts and omissions described
28 herein.

1 defects, or other reproductive harm. The violations of Cal. Health & Safety Code §§ 11191 et
2 seq. also satisfy and violate the "unlawful" prong of § 17200.

3 123. The acts and practices described above also violate the Consumer Legal Remedies
4 Act, and the False Advertising Law, as described above, in that Defendants have represented to
5 Plaintiffs, the Class and the general public, that their products are safe and "asbestos-free." Thus,
6 the statements made by Defendants that the Talcum Products were safe and "asbestos-free" are
7 constitute unlawful acts within the meaning of California Business & Professions Code § 17200.

8 124. Further, by selling the Talcum Products openly in retail establishments throughout
9 the State of California, Defendants violated and violate the Consumer Legal Remedies Act, by
10 passively intimating that the Talcum Products complied with all of California's laws, and were safe
11 to use, when, in fact, they were not. This conduct, prohibited by the CLRA, also constitutes
12 unlawful acts within the meaning of California Business & Professions Code § 17200.

13 125. The acts and practices described above were and are also likely to mislead the
14 general public and therefore constitute unfair business practices within the meaning of California
15 Business & Professions Code § 17200, including unfair, unlawful, and/or fraudulent practices.

16 126. The acts of untrue and misleading advertising set forth in presiding paragraphs are
17 incorporated by reference and are, by definition, violations of California Business &
18 Professions Code § 17200. This conduct is set forth fully herein, and includes, but is not limited to:
19 (a) Representing that the Talcum Products are safe for their intended and foreseeable use and "free
20 of asbestos," knowing that said representations were false, and concealing that the Talcum Products
21 contain Asbestos and Talc Containing Asbestiform Fibers and had a serious propensity to cause
22 injuries to users; (b) Issuing promotional literature and commercials deceiving potential users of
23 the Talcum Products by relaying positive information and concealing material relevant information
24 regarding the safety and efficacy of the Talcum Products; (c) Selling the Talcum Products freely
25 and openly without any indication of the associated health risks; and other unfair, unlawful and
26 fraudulent conduct.

27 127. These practices constitute unlawful, unfair and/or fraudulent business acts or
28 practices, within the meaning of California Business & Professions Code § 17200. The fraudulent

1 conduct includes representing that the Talcum Products were safe for their intended use and failing
2 to warn Plaintiff and the Class Members of the risks associated with the Talcum Products.

3 128. The unlawful, unfair and fraudulent business practices of Defendants described
4 above present a continuing threat to members of the public in that Defendants continue to engage
5 in the conduct described therein.

6 129. As a result of their conduct described above, Defendants have been and will be
7 unjustly enriched. Specifically, Defendants have been unjustly enriched by receipt of millions of
8 dollars in ill-gotten gains from the sale of the Talcum Products in California to Plaintiffs and the
9 Class, sold in large part as a result of the acts and omissions described herein.

10 130. Plaintiffs, on behalf of themselves, and on behalf of the Class, pursuant to California
11 Business & Professions Code § 17203, seeks an order of this court compelling the Defendants
12 to provide restitutionary disgorgement and injunctive relief calling for Defendants, and each of
13 them, to cease unfair business practices in the future.

14 **DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL**

15 131. Plaintiffs hereby demand trial by jury.

16
17 **PRAYER FOR RELIEF**

18 WHEREFORE, Plaintiffs, individually, and on behalf of the Class and the general
19 public, pray for judgment against Defendants as follows:

- 20 1. For an order certifying that this action may be maintained as a class action against
21 Defendants, appointing Plaintiffs and their counsel to represent the Class, as alleged
22 herein, and directing that reasonable notice of this action be given by Defendants to the
23 members of the Class;
- 24 2. For an order awarding reimbursement, restitution and disgorgement from Defendants of
25 the benefits unjustly conferred by Plaintiffs and the Class;
- 26 3. For an order awarding injunctive and other equitable relief;
- 27 4. For an order awarding declaratory relief;
- 28 5. For an order awarding pre- and post-judgment interest to the Class, at the highest rate

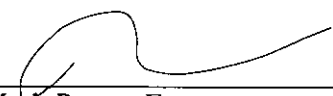
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allowed by law;

- 6. For an order awarding costs, including experts' fees, and attorneys' fees and expenses, and the costs of prosecuting this action; and
- 7. For an order awarding granting such other and further relief as is just and proper.

Dated: May 29, 2019

POTTER HANDY LLP

By: 

Mark Potter, Esq.
James M. Treglio, Esq.

Attorneys for Plaintiffs and the Class

EXHIBIT 1

Johnson-Johnson

New Brunswick, N. J.

Nov. 1, 1967

Subject:

Metropolitan Talc
Lot G 716
Preliminary Evaluation

The talc used for this evaluation was produced in the Plainfield plant and was delivered to us by Mr. Don Ferry about Oct. 1, 1967.

Perfume Retention and Aroma

The Metro talc shows greater retention for perfume than does our Vermont talc and the indications are that the rate of escape is very close to that developed with Italian talc. We ran a gravimetric rate loss test on talcs containing 1% P-5 in open dishes and find the rate loss very close to Italian talc at both 70 and 100F for the Metro and significantly faster for the Vermont. (Graphs 1 & 2)

The Metro talc does not show the chalky note under circumstances which create that aroma in Vermont talcs. Since the original problem in perfumery developed at a low dose of P-5 we elected to set up a storage test with the three talcs (Italian, Vermont, Metro) and P-5 at 0.1% incubated at 120F for three weeks. The Vermont article develops a chalky tone whereas the other two did not.

The above tests lead us to believe that the commercial dose of either P or P-5 would provide a satisfactory aroma life with Metro type talc. Our tests were limited in that we did not include the neutralizer at this point.

Chemical and Physical Properties

Except for fineness the Metro talc fits the physical characteristics which we find adequate. (Table I) The shipment on hand is slightly on the coarse side; a slightly increased grind should bring it into range.

Mineralogically the talc is predominantly platy although a large percentage of the plates are broken and lath shaped. The lath shape of some of the particles appears to have resulted from the grinding method since the cleavage of the crystals from a sample of the

Plaintiff's
Exhibit
J&J 124

J&J-0076514

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rock is normal. Optically, by count, the product is at least 93% talc plus 3-5% Dolomite and 1% or less of Tremolite. The associate minerals are liberated from the talc crystals.

The talc has high slip, good flow character and is remarkably white. It is probably the whitest commercially available talc which we have observed at the 200 mesh grind level.

The carbonate Dolomite is actually calcium magnesium carbonate. This assays about 5% using the strong acid method and close to 4% using the titration method. This carbonate level requires up to 1% of sesquicarbonate to maintain our historic pH limits in the finished product. A 1% neutralizer content is prohibitively high. Sesquicarbonate in the 0.2% area brings the initial pH of the product close to neutral and there might be some merit in considering such a product but of course the effect would be to drift up to the higher alkaline ranges over the 18 hr control test we now use. (Graph 111)

Talc Source and Processing

The talc ore processed in Plainfield comes from the deposit in Madoc Ontario which we explored at depth some years ago.

The Madoc deposit has a lot in common with Italian talc from the geological and mineralogical points of view. The associate minerals in the district are very similar and the crystal habit of the talcs are also very similar to the Italian situation. Thus there would be every reason to expect the two talcs to perform about the same when their processing conditions were reasonably close.

The Madoc deposit is a relatively large source of talc but it contains several grades of ore which are given different names. The highest grade up there is the Henderson section and it is that section which is presently being worked to supply the crudes for the Plainfield plant. As far as we know the reserves at Madoc were of the 150,000 ton order for the Henderson type at the 600 foot levels.

The process used to upgrade the talc is based on electrostatic separation. This is a dry process so there would be no effects resulting from wetting or flotation reagentry.

Next Steps

Mr. Russell and I shall be visiting Mr. Ferry at the Plainfield plant in the next few days. We will get an idea of the capabilities and determine what is

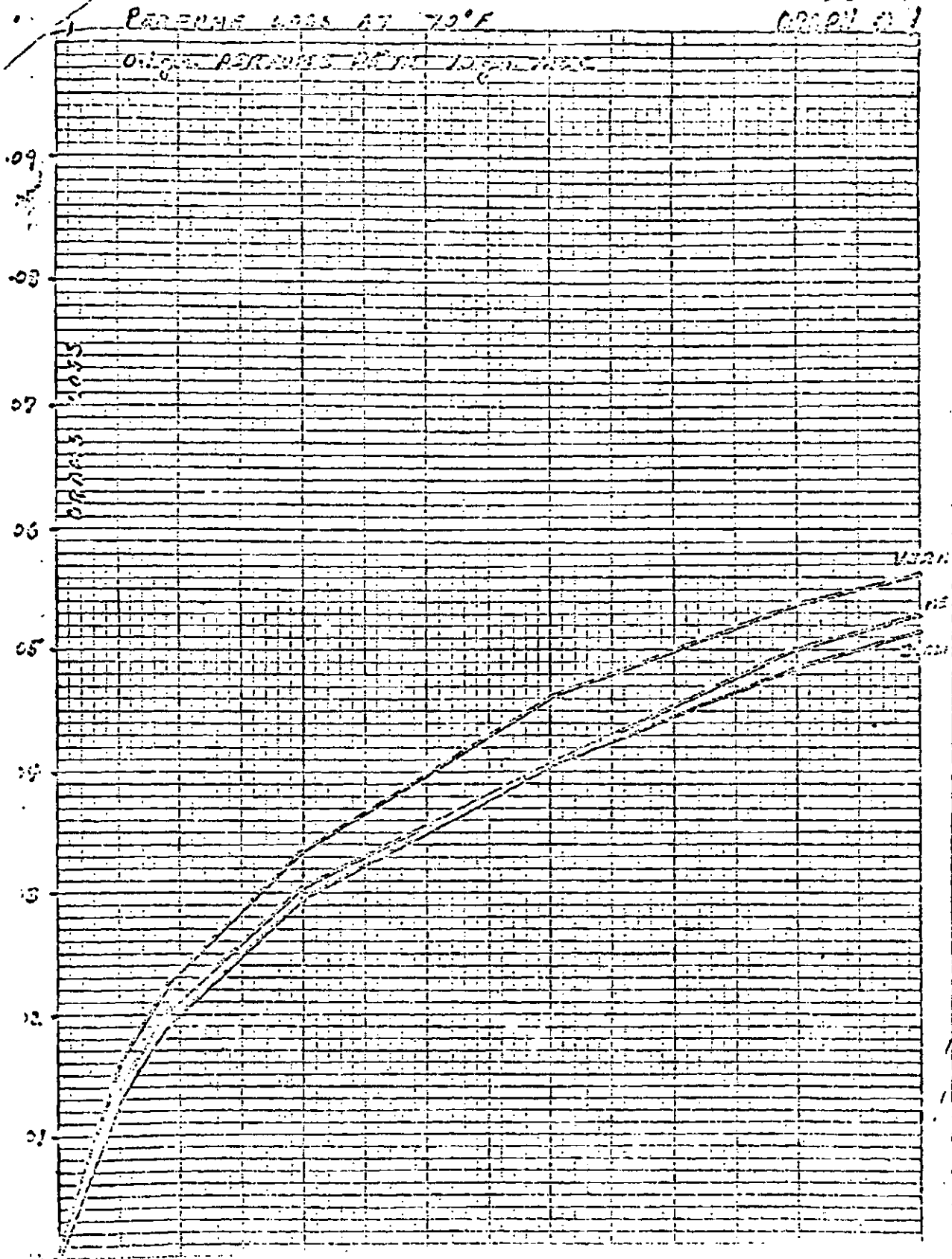
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involved in reducing the carbonate level and making arrangements for a couple tons of it for a large scale run.

Meanwhile we have 200 lbs of the above described Metro talc on hand here which I plan to make available to whomever would like to run some tests with it. Although I am personally impressed with the laboratory scale work Russell and I have done, a larger confirmation on a pilot plant batch could prove useful. For example this should be made up with whatever perfume levels are used in the plant today and might evaluate the holding power for the perfume in the powder-puff unit also.

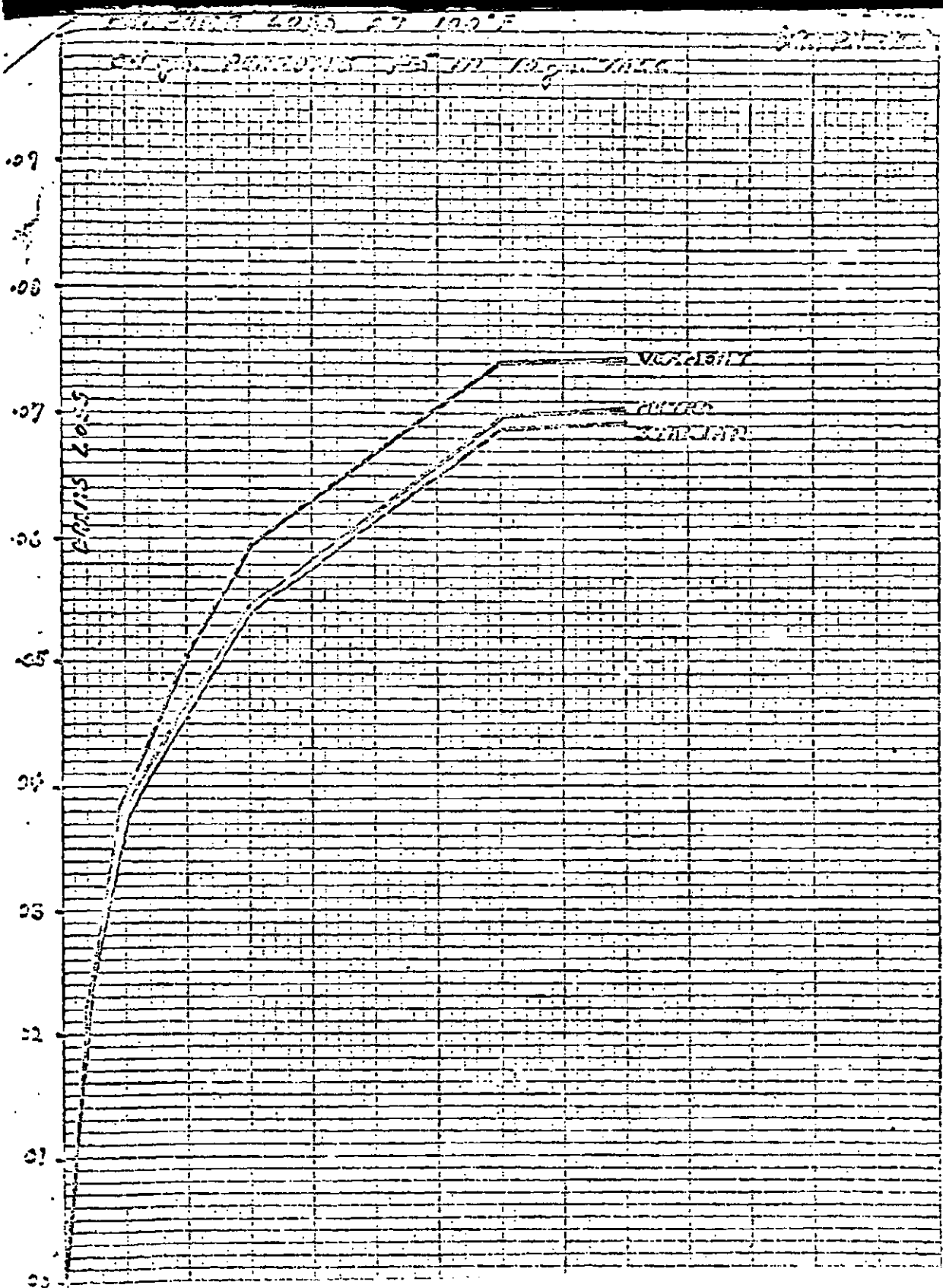
Mr. Russell prepared and arranged the attached data.

W. Ashton



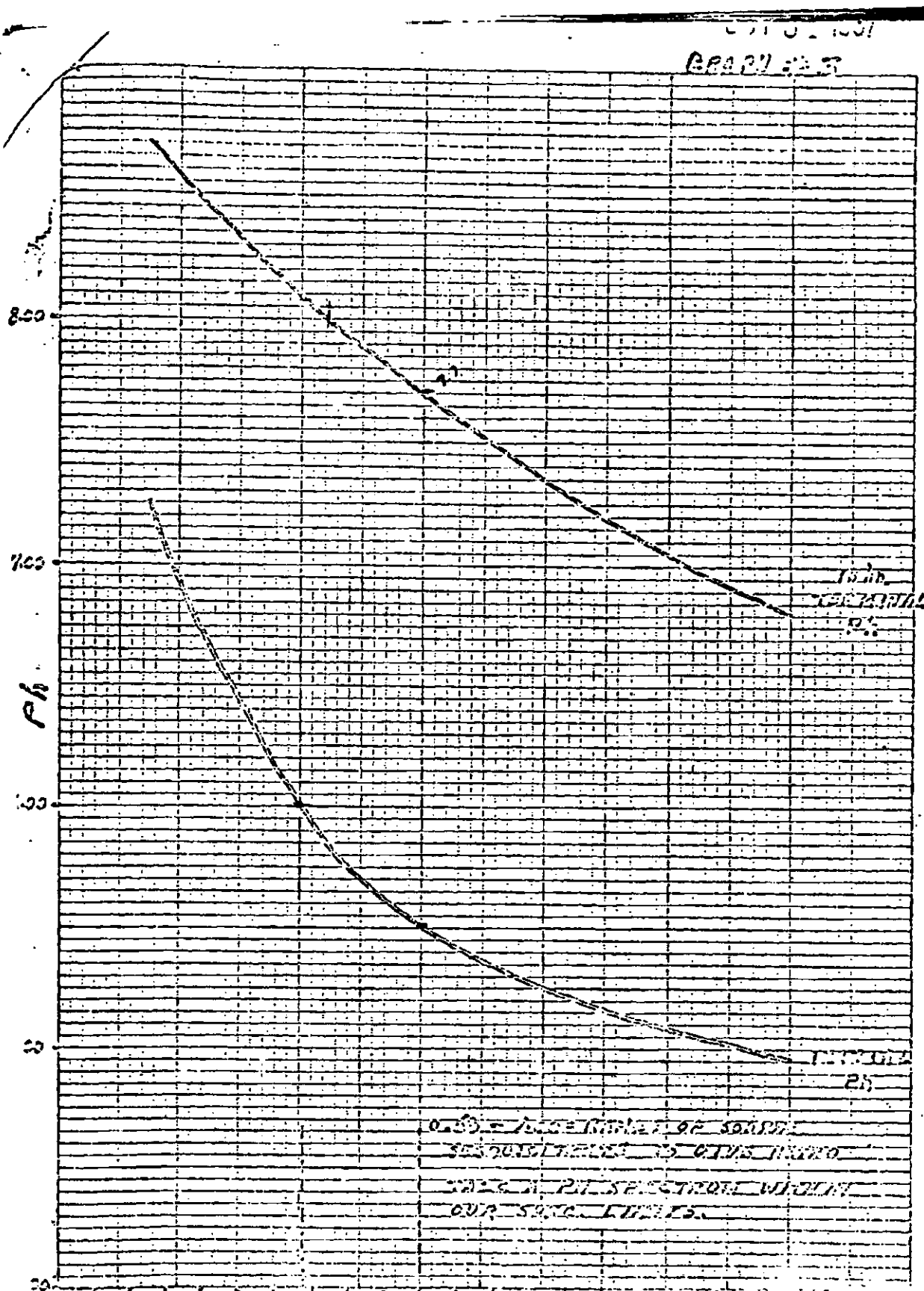
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TABLE I

Physical & Chemical Data

<u>t</u>	<u>Metro #1</u>	<u>Vermont S4-23</u>	<u>Ital. 42771E</u>
sture %	0.09	0.07	0.01
in Acid %	5.08	1.60	3.00
ration %	4.08	0.80	1.50
Dens. lb/ft ³	24.7	25.4	23.4
or	White	Off White Grey-Green cast	White with creamy cast
ness %			
-60	100%	100%	100%
than -100	99.98%	99.90%	100%
-200	96.85%	99.0%	99.7%
y Metals ppm	less than 10	less than 10	less than 10
nic ppm	0.3	less than 2 ppm	0.7
Soluble Iron	passes	passes	passes
ction (2 oz) max.	130 cc	125 cc	137 cc
nco TAPPED) min.	72 cc	73 cc	72 cc

P.C.C. . . . 06

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TABLE II
Microscopic Mineralogical Assay

	<u>Metro #1</u>	<u>Vermont S4-23</u>	<u>Talc Batch 994*</u>	<u>Italian Talc</u>
Total Talc	93%	99%	94%	93 - 95%
Platy	90%	95%	86%	88 - 90%
Nonplaty	3%	3%	8%	5 - 9%
Carbonates	5	1	1-2	1-3
remolite	1	trace	trace	1-2
serpentine	trace	trace	4	none
asques	< 1	trace	trace	trace

*Produced August 21, 1967 at West Windsor

R.S. Russell

J&J-0076521

Johnson & Johnson

New Brunswick, N. J.

April 9, 1969

Subject: Alternate Domestic Talc Sources
File No. 101

Dr. G. Hildick-Smith

Pete, we have to firm up the position the Company should have on the presence of the mineral Tremolite in talc. Your staff will have to do this for us since the objections to that mineral have been mainly medical or clinical as opposed to chemical or physical.

The reason we have to firm up our position is that we have moved into high gear on some alternate talc sources and it is normal to find different levels of Tremolite in many U.S. talcs. We are looking at some of those.

Historically, in our Company, Tremolite has been bad because it has needle type crystals. Our position has been that these can stand on end, penetrate the skin, and cause irritation; consequently, talcs exceeding trace contents have never been approved. Over the past year or two, the medical literature has made reference to potential hazards of talcs containing Tremolite and I have seen some articles under the umbra of environmental health agencies from here and abroad which pinpoint severe objections to that mineral in talcum powders.

Unfortunately, Tremolite has different varieties and can be easily confused with other members of the mineral class into which it falls. Chemically, it is mainly a calcium silicate with varying amounts of magnesium silicate and sometimes it carries iron with it in minor amounts. Some varieties of it match asbestos, and I gather there has been a lot of attention given to the hazards of inhaling minerals of that type lately.

Plaintiff's
Exhibit
J&J 202

-2-

There is nothing we can do about the confused state of affairs on Tremolite from the mineralogical and chemical points of view as far as historic literature is concerned.

The question is...How bad is Tremolite medically, and how much of it can safely be in a talc base we might develop?


W. H. Ashton

pm

cc: Dr. R. A. Fuller
Dr. E. R. L. Gaughran
Mr. R. J. Mortimer
Dr. T. H. Shelley
Dr. R. L. Sundberg

EXHIBIT 2

cc: [unclear]
[unclear]
Johnson & Johnson

New Brunswick, N. J.

April 15, 1969

Subject: ALTERNATE DOMESTIC TALC SOURCES

Project Code #101

Mr. W. H. Ashton:

Your inquiry of April 9th, 1969 addressed to Dr. G. Hildick-Smith has been referred to my attention for reply.

Over the years, I have reviewed the literature on the hazards relating to the inhalation of talc particles on several different occasions. In your memorandum, you indicate that Tremolite does have needle-type crystals and that our position has been that these could penetrate the skin and cause irritation. Actually, to the best of my knowledge, we have no factual information on this subject. It would seem logical that it could occur, although whether or not it would be of clinical significance would be conjectural.

We have been concerned to a much greater extent with regard to possible dangers relative to the inhalation of the talc with a spicule or needle-like crystalline structure as compared with the flat, platelet-type of crystalline structure. There are reports in the literature concerning talcosis which, as you know, is a form of pneumoconiosis attributed to the inhalation of talc. Reported studies have suggested that this does not occur in connection with the flat, platelet-type of talc, but does occur in connection with the spicule-type of crystalline structure characteristic of Tremolite. The reported instances have been extremely few but have, without exception, involved inhalations of high concentrations on an occupational basis of many years duration. Furthermore, we have occasionally received inquiries from various individuals, including General Johnson and several pediatricians, expressing concern over the possibility of the adverse effects on the lungs of babies or mothers who might inhale any substantial amounts of our talc formulations. In the past, we have replied to the effect that since our talc is essentially all of the platelet-type of crystalline structure, and is of a size which would not be likely to enter the pulmonary alveoli, we would not regard the usage of our powders as presenting any hazard. Obviously, if we do include Tremolite in more than unavoidable trace amounts, this sort of negation of such inquiries could no longer pertain.

Plaintiff's
Exhibit
J&J 195

- 2 -

Mr. W. H. Ashton

April 15th, 1969

Upon various occasions we have discussed the possibility of carrying out studies on animals which might provide factual information with regard to whether or not variable exposures to talc suspended in the environmental atmosphere might be productive of fibrotic and/or inflammatory reactions in lungs. For a variety of reasons, these have never been carried out here.

Since pulmonary diseases, including inflammatory, fibroplastic, and neoplastic types, appear to be on the increase, it would seem to be prudent to limit any possible content of Tremolite in our powder formulations to an absolute minimum. To the best of my knowledge, we have never been faced with any litigation involving either skin or lung penetration by our talc formulations. Some years ago, we were faced with a more or less serious problem resulting from what we consider to have been an unjust accusation of danger due to the presence of a small amount of boric acid in our talc. This created such a furor that we were more or less compelled to remove boric acid from the formulation. It is conceivable that a similar situation might eventually arise if it became known that our talc formulations contained any significant amount of Tremolite. Since the usage of these products is so widespread, and the existence of pulmonary disease is increasing, it is not inconceivable that we could become involved in litigation in which pulmonary fibrosis or other changes might be rightfully or wrongfully attributed to inhalation of our powder formulations. It might be that someone in the Law Department should be consulted with regard to the defensibility of our position in the event that such a situation could ever arise.

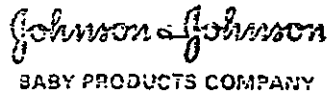
It is my personal feeling that until we have at least substantial evidence, based on animal work, to the effect that the presence of Tremolite in our talc does not produce adverse effects, we should not extend its usage beyond an absolute minimum previously mentioned.


T. M. Thompson, M.D.

TMT:JAG

cc: Dr. R. A. Fuller
Dr. Gavin Hildick-Smith
Mr. W. J. Ryan
Dr. G. H. Lord
Dr. J. E. Willson
Dr. J. Bothwell

EXHIBIT 3



February 13, 1975

SUBJECT: CTFA Talc Subcommittee Meeting
with Food and Drug Administration
Washington, D.C. February 7, 1975

To: Distribution

This meeting was held on February 7, 1975 at 1:00 PM. Representing FDA were: Dr. R. Schaffner, Mr. H. Eiermann, Mr. H. Davis, Dr. W. Horowitz and Dr. Yates. The CTFA was represented by: Dr. N. Estrin, Mr. G. Sandland, Dr. M. Berdick, Dr. R. Rolle and G. Lee.

This meeting was held in Dr. R.N. Schaffner's office on February 7, 1975 at 1:00 PM. Representing FDA were: Dr. R. Schaffner, Mr. H. Eiermann, Mr. H. Davis, Dr. W. Horowitz and Dr. Yates. The CTFA was represented by: Dr. N. Estrin, Mr. G. Sandland, Dr. M. Berdick, Dr. R. Rolle and G. Lee.

Dr. Estrin introduced Mr. Sandland as chairman of the CTFA Talc Subcommittee and indicated that the purpose of our meeting was to present the analytical methodology which had been developed by the CTFA Task Force as applicable to cosmetic talcs.

FDA indicated that there had been no eminent plans to publish new proposed methodology in this regard and did not give us the impression that this matter was being assigned any urgency. They reported no further work with the optical microscopy method. Dr. Horowitz was asked by Dr. Schaffner to elaborate on the only apparent area of analytical activity which is being directed towards Food Regulatory. This is being carried out under contract by the Franklin Institute, who are investigating an SEM method. They're attempting to develop methodology for detecting low levels of asbestos contamination and have experienced difficulty in presenting a uniform sample to the SEM. It's expected that this study may take one to two years. Any further steps to be taken with regards to Food Regulation will therefore have to wait on developments from the Franklin Institute.

When questioned as to FDA efforts and progress in the approach of "concentrating asbestos" to increase the level

Plaintiff's
Exhibit
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of sensitivity, Dr. Yates replied in a tone of frustration that all attempts have met with failure; they had investigated heavy density liquid separation. Dr. Yates did not state that efforts would be continued in this direction, but we volunteered help in evaluating methodology should they develop something.

Dr. Rolle outlined the proposed CTFA methods and the expected limits of detection. It was emphasized to the FDA that these were methods evaluated and recommended for cosmetic talc and would be practical to apply for industrial manufacturing purposes. Dr. Rolle highlighted the fact that

any natural-occurring chrysotile is safe for his methods. Dr. Rolle, however, did not support this by stating that his own group has examined numerous talcs from around the world for cosmetics application and have not found chrysotile. The writer reiterated similar J&J experience with domestic and overseas talcs. Dr. Schaffner agreed that no one has purported to have seen chrysotile in cosmetic talc except Professor Lewin. At this point, Dr. Schaffner asked us what Professor Lewin was doing (if anything) in talc analysis. Dr. Rolle outlined a conversation he had had with Professor Lewin the day before and Dr. Schaffner directed Dr. Horowitz to interview Professor Lewin for his most current views regarding chrysotile in talc. Dr. Berdick made the point that if chrysotile is not expected to be found in talc, then the FDA should not propose regulations to cover chrysotile. After an exchange of philosophy, where Mr. Eiermann took a strong stand for chrysotile in talc regulation, Dr. Schaffner suggested that if the CTFA would submit supporting data attesting to the absence of chrysotile in talc the FDA would take the matter under consideration. Mr. Sandland indicated that the CTFA will be proposing self-regulatory action by amending its present CTFA Talc Standard to include the asbestiform tremolite proposal.

Mr. G. Sandland stated that a regulation of 1% asbestos in talc was not only achievable by thoroughly tested methods, but also gave a safety factor of 48,300 (Sivertson calculation). Mr. Eiermann bluntly said that the calculation was wrong since the standard of 2 fibers/cc. is not a time weighted average. Before we had a chance for rebuttal Dr. Schaffner said that the Sivertson calculation was foolish since no mother was going to powder her baby with 1% of a known carcinogen irregardless of the large safety factor. Because of Dr. Schaffner's strong stand we did not correct Mr. Eiermann's misunderstanding of the calculation.

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Dr. Schaffner emphasized that there is an ultimate and more important need for talc clinical safety data in order to satisfy the consumerist advocates. The writer assured him that this would be forthcoming from J&J.

Copies of the DTA and X-Ray Diffraction Detection Procedures together with the Sivertson Report "An Estimate of a Safe Level of Asbestos in Baby Powder Talc" were distributed to the FDA representatives and the meeting was closed with Dr. Estrin thanking the FDA for the opportunity of exchange and discussion.

The general impression received by the writer was that the FDA was not anxious to publish further proposals relative to "asbestos-in-talc" pending outcome of the Franklin Institute Study, as long as the consumerist advocates remain quiescent. It is also evident that the FDA would depend on clinical data to defend the safety of talc.

In a post-meeting caucus of the CTFA attendees, it was agreed that the CTFA would proceed to compile information from consultants and manufacturers which attest to the fact that chrysotile has never been found in cosmetic talcs and submit this to the FDA.


G. Lee

paj

J&J-0089806

ATTORNEY OR PARTY WITHOUT ATTORNEY (Name, State Bar number, and address): James M. Treglio (SBN 228077) Potter Handy LLP 7385 Erma Road, Suite 300 San Diego, CA 92131 TELEPHONE NO.: (858) 375-7385 FAX NO.: (888) 422-5191 ATTORNEY FOR (Name): Plaintiffs Louisa Gutierrez and Debbie Luna	FOR COURT USE ONLY ELECTRONICALLY FILED Superior Court of California, County of San Diego 05/20/2019 at 10:53:21 AM Clerk of the Superior Court By Melinda McClure, Deputy Clerk
SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF San Diego STREET ADDRESS: 330 West Broadway MAILING ADDRESS: CITY AND ZIP CODE: San Diego, CA 92101 BRANCH NAME: Hall of Justice	CASE NUMBER: 37-2019-00025810-CU-NP-CTL
CASE NAME: Louisa Gutierrez et al. v. Johnson & Johnson, et al.,	JUDGE: Judge Eddie C Sturgeon
CIVIL CASE COVER SHEET <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unlimited (Amount demanded exceeds \$25,000) <input type="checkbox"/> Limited (Amount demanded is \$25,000 or less) Complex Case Designation <input type="checkbox"/> Counter <input type="checkbox"/> Joinder Filed with first appearance by defendant (Cal. Rules of Court, rule 3.402)	DEPT: Judge Eddie C Sturgeon

Items 1-6 below must be completed (see instructions on page 2).

1. Check **one** box below for the case type that best describes this case:

Auto Tort <input type="checkbox"/> Auto (22) <input type="checkbox"/> Uninsured motorist (46) Other PI/PD/WD (Personal Injury/Property Damage/Wrongful Death) Tort <input type="checkbox"/> Asbestos (04) <input type="checkbox"/> Product liability (24) <input type="checkbox"/> Medical malpractice (45) <input type="checkbox"/> Other PI/PD/WD (23) Non-PI/PD/WD (Other) Tort <input type="checkbox"/> Business tort/unfair business practice (07) <input type="checkbox"/> Civil rights (08) <input type="checkbox"/> Defamation (13) <input type="checkbox"/> Fraud (16) <input type="checkbox"/> Intellectual property (19) <input type="checkbox"/> Professional negligence (25) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other non-PI/PD/WD tort (35) Employment <input type="checkbox"/> Wrongful termination (36) <input type="checkbox"/> Other employment (15)	Contract <input type="checkbox"/> Breach of contract/warranty (06) <input type="checkbox"/> Rule 3.740 collections (09) <input type="checkbox"/> Other collections (09) <input type="checkbox"/> Insurance coverage (18) <input type="checkbox"/> Other contract (37) Real Property <input type="checkbox"/> Eminent domain/Inverse condemnation (14) <input type="checkbox"/> Wrongful eviction (33) <input type="checkbox"/> Other real property (26) Unlawful Detainer <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial (31) <input type="checkbox"/> Residential (32) <input type="checkbox"/> Drugs (38) Judicial Review <input type="checkbox"/> Asset forfeiture (05) <input type="checkbox"/> Petition re: arbitration award (11) <input type="checkbox"/> Writ of mandate (02) <input type="checkbox"/> Other judicial review (39)	Provisionally Complex Civil Litigation (Cal. Rules of Court, rules 3.400-3.403) <input type="checkbox"/> Antitrust/Trade regulation (03) <input type="checkbox"/> Construction defect (10) <input type="checkbox"/> Mass tort (40) <input type="checkbox"/> Securities litigation (28) <input type="checkbox"/> Environmental/Toxic tort (30) <input type="checkbox"/> Insurance coverage claims arising from the above listed provisionally complex case types (41) Enforcement of Judgment <input type="checkbox"/> Enforcement of judgment (20) Miscellaneous Civil Complaint <input type="checkbox"/> RICO (27) <input type="checkbox"/> Other complaint (not specified above) (42) Miscellaneous Civil Petition <input type="checkbox"/> Partnership and corporate governance (21) <input type="checkbox"/> Other petition (not specified above) (43)
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2. This case is is not complex under rule 3.400 of the California Rules of Court. If the case is complex, mark the factors requiring exceptional judicial management:
- | | |
|---|---|
| a. <input type="checkbox"/> Large number of separately represented parties | d. <input type="checkbox"/> Large number of witnesses |
| b. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Extensive motion practice raising difficult or novel issues that will be time-consuming to resolve | e. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Coordination with related actions pending in one or more courts in other counties, states, or countries, or in a federal court |
| c. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Substantial amount of documentary evidence | f. <input type="checkbox"/> Substantial postjudgment judicial supervision |
3. Remedies sought (check all that apply): a. monetary b. nonmonetary; declaratory or injunctive relief c. punitive
4. Number of causes of action (specify): **3 - CLRA (Civil Code 1750), FAL (B&P 17500), UCL (B&P 17200)**
5. This case is is not a class action suit.
6. If there are any known related cases, file and serve a notice of related case. (You may use form CM-015.)

Date: **May 15, 2019**

James M. Treglio

(TYPE OR PRINT NAME)



(SIGNATURE OF PARTY OR ATTORNEY FOR PARTY)

NOTICE

- Plaintiff must file this cover sheet with the first paper filed in the action or proceeding (except small claims cases or cases filed under the Probate Code, Family Code, or Welfare and Institutions Code). (Cal. Rules of Court, rule 3.220.) Failure to file may result in sanctions.
- File this cover sheet in addition to any cover sheet required by local court rule.
- If this case is complex under rule 3.400 et seq. of the California Rules of Court, you must serve a copy of this cover sheet on all other parties to the action or proceeding.
- Unless this is a collections case under rule 3.740 or a complex case, this cover sheet will be used for statistical purposes only.

INSTRUCTIONS ON HOW TO COMPLETE THE COVER SHEET

To Plaintiffs and Others Filing First Papers. If you are filing a first paper (for example, a complaint) in a civil case, you **must** complete and file, along with your first paper, the *Civil Case Cover Sheet* contained on page 1. This information will be used to compile statistics about the types and numbers of cases filed. You must complete items 1 through 6 on the sheet. In item 1, you must check **one** box for the case type that best describes the case. If the case fits both a general and a more specific type of case listed in item 1, check the more specific one. If the case has multiple causes of action, check the box that best indicates the **primary** cause of action. To assist you in completing the sheet, examples of the cases that belong under each case type in item 1 are provided below. A cover sheet must be filed only with your initial paper. Failure to file a cover sheet with the first paper filed in a civil case may subject a party, its counsel, or both to sanctions under rules 2.30 and 3.220 of the California Rules of Court.

To Parties in Rule 3.740 Collections Cases. A "collections case" under rule 3.740 is defined as an action for recovery of money owed in a sum stated to be certain that is not more than \$25,000, exclusive of interest and attorney's fees, arising from a transaction in which property, services, or money was acquired on credit. A collections case does not include an action seeking the following: (1) tort damages, (2) punitive damages, (3) recovery of real property, (4) recovery of personal property, or (5) a prejudgment writ of attachment. The identification of a case as a rule 3.740 collections case on this form means that it will be exempt from the general time-for-service requirements and case management rules, unless a defendant files a responsive pleading. A rule 3.740 collections case will be subject to the requirements for service and obtaining a judgment in rule 3.740.

To Parties in Complex Cases. In complex cases only, parties must also use the *Civil Case Cover Sheet* to designate whether the case is complex. If a plaintiff believes the case is complex under rule 3.400 of the California Rules of Court, this must be indicated by completing the appropriate boxes in items 1 and 2. If a plaintiff designates a case as complex, the cover sheet must be served with the complaint on all parties to the action. A defendant may file and serve no later than the time of its first appearance a joinder in the plaintiff's designation, a counter-designation that the case is not complex, or, if the plaintiff has made no designation, a designation that the case is complex.

CASE TYPES AND EXAMPLES

Auto Tort

Auto (22)—Personal Injury/Property Damage/Wrongful Death
Uninsured Motorist (46) (*if the case involves an uninsured motorist claim subject to arbitration, check this item instead of Auto*)

Other PI/PD/WD (Personal Injury/Property Damage/Wrongful Death) Tort

Asbestos (04)
Asbestos Property Damage
Asbestos Personal Injury/Wrongful Death
Product Liability (*not asbestos or toxic/environmental*) (24)
Medical Malpractice (45)
Medical Malpractice—Physicians & Surgeons
Other Professional Health Care Malpractice
Other PI/PD/WD (23)
Premises Liability (e.g., slip and fall)
Intentional Bodily Injury/PD/WD (e.g., assault, vandalism)
Intentional Infliction of Emotional Distress
Negligent Infliction of Emotional Distress
Other PI/PD/WD

Non-PI/PD/WD (Other) Tort

Business Tort/Unfair Business Practice (07)
Civil Rights (e.g., discrimination, false arrest) (*not civil harassment*) (08)
Defamation (e.g., slander, libel) (13)
Fraud (16)
Intellectual Property (19)
Professional Negligence (25)
Legal Malpractice
Other Professional Malpractice (*not medical or legal*)
Other Non-PI/PD/WD Tort (35)

Employment

Wrongful Termination (36)
Other Employment (15)

Contract

Breach of Contract/Warranty (06)
Breach of Rental/Lease
Contract (*not unlawful detainer or wrongful eviction*)
Contract/Warranty Breach—Seller Plaintiff (*not fraud or negligence*)
Negligent Breach of Contract/Warranty
Other Breach of Contract/Warranty
Collections (e.g., money owed, open book accounts) (09)
Collection Case—Seller Plaintiff
Other Promissory Note/Collections Case
Insurance Coverage (*not provisionally complex*) (18)
Auto Subrogation
Other Coverage
Other Contract (37)
Contractual Fraud
Other Contract Dispute

Real Property

Eminent Domain/Inverse Condemnation (14)
Wrongful Eviction (33)
Other Real Property (e.g., quiet title) (26)
Writ of Possession of Real Property
Mortgage Foreclosure
Quiet Title
Other Real Property (*not eminent domain, landlord/tenant, or foreclosure*)

Unlawful Detainer

Commercial (31)
Residential (32)
Drugs (38) (*if the case involves illegal drugs, check this item; otherwise, report as Commercial or Residential*)

Judicial Review

Asset Forfeiture (05)
Petition Re: Arbitration Award (11)
Writ of Mandate (02)
Writ—Administrative Mandamus
Writ—Mandamus on Limited Court Case Matter
Writ—Other Limited Court Case Review
Other Judicial Review (39)
Review of Health Officer Order
Notice of Appeal—Labor
Commissioner Appeals

Provisionally Complex Civil Litigation (Cal. Rules of Court Rules 3.400–3.403)

Antitrust/Trade Regulation (03)
Construction Defect (10)
Claims Involving Mass Tort (40)
Securities Litigation (28)
Environmental/Toxic Tort (30)
Insurance Coverage Claims (*arising from provisionally complex case type listed above*) (41)

Enforcement of Judgment

Enforcement of Judgment (20)
Abstract of Judgment (Out of County)
Confession of Judgment (*non-domestic relations*)
Sister State Judgment
Administrative Agency Award (*not unpaid taxes*)
Petition/Certification of Entry of Judgment on Unpaid Taxes
Other Enforcement of Judgment Case

Miscellaneous Civil Complaint

RICO (27)
Other Complaint (*not specified above*) (42)
Declaratory Relief Only
Injunctive Relief Only (*non-harassment*)
Mechanics Lien
Other Commercial Complaint Case (*non-tort/non-complex*)
Other Civil Complaint (*non-tort/non-complex*)

Miscellaneous Civil Petition

Partnership and Corporate Governance (21)
Other Petition (*not specified above*) (43)
Civil Harassment
Workplace Violence
Elder/Dependent Adult Abuse
Election Contest
Petition for Name Change
Petition for Relief From Late Claim
Other Civil Petition

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO	
STREET ADDRESS: 330 W Broadway	
MAILING ADDRESS: 330 W Broadway	
CITY AND ZIP CODE: San Diego, CA 92101-3827	
BRANCH NAME: Central	
TELEPHONE NUMBER: (619) 450-7067	
PLAINTIFF(S) / PETITIONER(S): Louisa Gutierrez et.al.	
DEFENDANT(S) / RESPONDENT(S): Johnson & Johnson et.al.	
GUTIERREZ VS JOHNSON & JOHNSON [IMAGED]	
NOTICE OF CASE ASSIGNMENT AND CASE MANAGEMENT CONFERENCE on MANDATORY eFILE CASE	CASE NUMBER: 37-2019-00025810-CU-NP-CTL

CASE ASSIGNMENT

Judge: Eddie C Sturgeon

Department: C-67

COMPLAINT/PETITION FILED: 05/20/2019

TYPE OF HEARING SCHEDULED	DATE	TIME	DEPT	JUDGE
Civil Case Management Conference	02/21/2020	10:30 am	C-67	Eddie C Sturgeon

A case management statement must be completed by counsel for all parties or self-represented litigants and timely filed with the court at least 15 days prior to the initial case management conference. (San Diego Local Rules, Division II, CRC Rule 3.725).

All counsel of record or parties in pro per shall appear at the Case Management Conference, be familiar with the case, and be fully prepared to participate effectively in the hearing, including discussions of ADR* options.

IT IS THE DUTY OF EACH PLAINTIFF (AND CROSS-COMPLAINANT) TO SERVE A COPY OF THIS NOTICE WITH THE COMPLAINT (AND CROSS-COMPLAINT), THE ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION (ADR) INFORMATION FORM (SDSC FORM #CIV-730), A STIPULATION TO USE ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION (ADR) (SDSC FORM #CIV-359), AND OTHER DOCUMENTS AS SET OUT IN SDSC LOCAL RULE 2.1.5.

ALL COUNSEL WILL BE EXPECTED TO BE FAMILIAR WITH SUPERIOR COURT RULES WHICH HAVE BEEN PUBLISHED AS DIVISION II, AND WILL BE STRICTLY ENFORCED.

TIME STANDARDS: The following timeframes apply to general civil cases and must be adhered to unless you have requested and been granted an extension of time. General civil cases consist of all civil cases except: small claims proceedings, civil petitions, unlawful detainer proceedings, probate, guardianship, conservatorship, juvenile, parking citation appeals, and family law proceedings.

COMPLAINTS: Complaints and all other documents listed in SDSC Local Rule 2.1.5 must be served on all named defendants.

DEFENDANT'S APPEARANCE: Defendant must generally appear within 30 days of service of the complaint. (Plaintiff may stipulate to no more than 15 day extension which must be in writing and filed with the Court.) (SDSC Local Rule 2.1.6)

JURY FEES: In order to preserve the right to a jury trial, one party for each side demanding a jury trial shall pay an advance jury fee in the amount of one hundred fifty dollars (\$150) on or before the date scheduled for the initial case management conference in the action.

MANDATORY eFILE: Case assigned to mandatory eFile program per CRC 3.400-3.403 and SDSC Rule 2.4.11. All documents must be eFiled at www.onelegal.com. Refer to General Order in re procedures regarding electronically imaged court records, electronic filing, and access to electronic court records in civil and probate cases or guidelines and procedures.

COURT REPORTERS: Court reporters are not provided by the Court in Civil cases. See policy regarding normal availability and unavailability of official court reporters at www.sdcourt.ca.gov.

*ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION (ADR): THE COURT ENCOURAGES YOU TO CONSIDER UTILIZING VARIOUS ALTERNATIVES TO TRIAL, INCLUDING MEDIATION AND ARBITRATION, PRIOR TO THE CASE MANAGEMENT CONFERENCE. PARTIES MAY FILE THE ATTACHED STIPULATION TO USE ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION (SDSC FORM #CIV-359).

JUN 28 2019