

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF INDIANA  
NEW ALBANY DIVISION**

ALAN HECHT AND	)	Case No.
JACKIE HECHT	)	
Plaintiffs	)	
	)	
v.	)	
	)	<b>DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL</b>
KONINKELIJKE PHILIPS N.V.;	)	
PHILIPS NORTH AMERICA, LLC;	)	
PHILIPS HOLDING USA, INC.; AND	)	
PHILIPS RS NORTH AMERICA LLC.	)	
Defendants	)	

**COMPLAINT FOR DAMAGES AND DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL**

Plaintiffs, Alan Hecht and Jackie Hecht (hereinafter “Plaintiffs”), by and through counsel, alleges upon information and belief and files this Complaint for Damages against Defendants, Koninkelijke Philips N.V. (“Royal Philips”); Philips North America, LLC (“Philips NA”) ; Philips Holding USA, Inc. (“PHUSA”) ; and Philips RS North America, LLC (“Philips RS”) (collectively hereinafter “Philips” or “Defendants”), both jointly and severally, as the companies and/or successors-in-interest to the companies that designed, developed, manufactured, tested, labeled, packaged, distributed, marketed, and/or sold the breathing machine that Plaintiff Alan Hecht used. Accordingly, Plaintiffs allege and assert that:

**I. SUMMARY OF THE CASE**

1. Philips manufactures, markets, sells, and distributes a variety of products for sleep and home respiratory care.

2. Philips manufactures, markets, imports, sells, and distributes a variety of Continuous Positive Airway Pressure (“CPAP”), and Bilevel Positive Airway Pressure (“BiPAP”) devices for patients with obstructive sleep apnea (“OSA”).
3. Philips also manufactures, markets, imports, sells, and distributes a variety of ventilator devices for patients with respiratory conditions.
4. On June 14, 2021, Philips issued a recall notification for many of its CPAP and BiPAP devices, as well as several of its ventilator devices.
5. In its recall notification, Philips advised of potential health risks related to the sound abatement foam used in the affected devices.
6. Philips informed patients using the affected devices of potential risks from exposure to degraded sound abatement foam particles, and exposure to chemical emissions from the sound abatement foam material.
7. Specifically, Philips notified patients that the risks related to issues with the sound abatement foam include headache, irritation, inflammation, respiratory issues, and possible toxic and carcinogenic effects.
8. Plaintiff Alan Hecht was prescribed the use of and purchased one of Philips’ recalled devices, a DreamStation CPAP to treat his obstructive sleep apnea.
9. Plaintiff used Philips’ DreamStation CPAP (the “subject device”), one of Philips’ recalled devices on a daily basis for a number of years.
10. In or around September 2015, Plaintiff was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer.
11. As a direct and proximate result of Philips’ conduct, Plaintiff Alan Hecht has suffered serious and substantial life-altering injuries.

12. As a direct and proximate result of the subject device, manufactured, marketed, imported, sold, and distributed by Philips, Plaintiff Alan Hecht has suffered physical, emotional, and financial injuries.

**II. PARTIES, JURISDICTION AND VENUE**

13. Plaintiff incorporates by reference all preceding paragraphs as if fully set forth herein and further alleges as follows:
14. This Court has jurisdiction over Defendants and this action pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1332 because there is complete diversity of citizenship between Plaintiff and each Defendant.
15. Plaintiffs are residents of the State of Indiana.
16. At the time Plaintiff Alan Hecht was prescribed the subject device, Plaintiffs Alan Hecht and Jackie Hecht were residents of the City of Leavenworth, County of Crawford, State of Indiana.
17. Plaintiff Alan Hecht (hereinafter “Plaintiff”) was prescribed the use of the subject device while a resident of Crawford County, Indiana. He purchased the subject device in Indiana, and the majority of his use of the subject device occurred in Indiana.
18. Defendant Koninklijke Philips N.V. (“Royal Philips”) is a public limited liability company established under the laws of The Netherlands. Royal Philips has its principal executive offices at Philips Center, Amstelplein 2, 1096 BC Amsterdam, The Netherlands. Royal Philips is the parent company of Philips NA and Philips RS.
19. Defendant Philips North America, LLC (“Philips NA”) is a Delaware Corporation. Philips NA’s principal place of business is located at 222 Jacobs Street, Floor 3, Cambridge, Massachusetts 02141. Philips NA is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Royal Philips.

20. Upon information and belief, Philips NA manages the operation of Royal Philips' various lines of business, including Philips RS, in North America.
21. The sole member of Philips NA is Defendant Philips Holding USA, Inc. ("PHUSA"). PHUSA is a holding company.
22. Defendant PHUSA is a Delaware Corporation with its principal place of business located at 222 Jacobs Street, Floor 3, Cambridge, Massachusetts 02141.
23. Defendant Philips RS North America, LLC ("Philips RS") is a Delaware corporation. Philips RS' principal place of business is located at 6501 Living Place, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15206.
24. Philips RS was formerly operated under the business name Respiroics, Inc. ("Respiroics"). Royal Philips acquired Respiroics in 2008.
25. At all times relevant to this Complaint, Defendants were and are in the business of designing, manufacturing, marketing, promoting, advertising, and selling devices for the treatment of obstructive sleep apnea, including the DreamStation CPAP device prescribed for and purchased by Plaintiff at issue in this lawsuit.
26. At all times relevant to this Complaint, Defendants were the mere alter egos and/or instrumentalities of each other. There is such a unity of interest and ownership between Defendants that the separate personalities of their entities ceased to exist.
27. Defendants operated as a single enterprise, equally controlled each other's business affairs, commingled their assets and funds, disregarded corporate formalities, and used each other as a corporate shield to defeat justice, perpetuate fraud and evade contractual and/or tort liability.

28. At all times relevant to this Complaint, Defendants acted in all respects as agents or apparent agents of one another.
29. At all times relevant to this Complaint, Defendants acted in concert in the designing, manufacturing, marketing, promoting, advertising, and selling of devices for the treatment of obstructive sleep apnea, including the subject device. Defendants combined their property and labor in a joint undertaking for profit, with rights of mutual control over each other, rendering them jointly liable to Plaintiff.
30. Defendants regularly transact business in Indiana which includes marketing and selling devices for the treatment of obstructive sleep apnea. Furthermore, Defendants derive substantial revenue from their business transactions in Indiana, and have purposely availed themselves of the privilege of doing business in Indiana.
31. Defendants shipped or participated in shipping the subject device and other devices with the reasonable expectation that the devices could or would find their way to Indiana through the stream of commerce.
32. Defendants' actions in marketing and selling their devices in Indiana should have led them to reasonably anticipate being hauled into court in Indiana.
33. Defendants have sufficient "minimum contacts" with Indiana that subjecting them to personal jurisdiction in Indiana does not offend traditional notions of fair play and substantial justice.
34. As detailed below, Plaintiff suffered injuries in Crawford County, Indiana from the subject device that Defendants negligently designed and/or manufactured either in Indiana or outside of Indiana. Thus, Defendants committed a tort either in Indiana or

outside of Indiana that caused injuries in Indiana, and the Court has personal jurisdiction over Defendants under Indiana's Long Arm Statute,

35. This Court has personal jurisdiction over Philips NA, and PHUSA, because of their systematic and continuous contacts with Indiana as well as their maintenance of a registered agent for service of process in Indiana.
36. This Court has personal jurisdiction over Philips RS because of its systematic and continuous contacts with Indiana.
37. This Court has personal jurisdiction over Royal Philips because of its systematic and continuous contacts with Indiana.
38. This Court has original jurisdiction in the matter pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1332(a)(1) and § 1332(a)(2), as there is complete diversity between Plaintiff and Defendants and the amount in controversy exceeds \$75,000.
39. There is complete diversity between Plaintiffs and all of the members comprising Philips NA and Philips RS.
40. This Court is a proper venue for this civil action pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1391(b)(2) as the event giving rise to the Plaintiff's claims occurred in Crawford County, Indiana.

### **BACKGROUND**

41. At all relevant times, Defendants manufactured, marketed, sold, and distributed a lineup of CPAP, and BiPAP devices as well as ventilator devices under its "Sleep & Respiratory Care" portfolio. These devices are designed to assist individuals with a number of sleep, breathing, and other respiratory conditions, including sleep apnea.
42. Defendants sought and obtained Food and Drug Administration ("FDA") approval to market the Recalled Devices, including the subject device used by Plaintiff, under

Section 510(k) of the Medical Device Amendment to the Food, Drug and Cosmetics Act.

Section 510(k) allows marketing of medical devices if the device is deemed substantially equivalent to other legally marketed predicate devices marketed prior to May 28, 1976.

No formal review for safety or efficacy is required.

#### **A. Continuous Positive Airway Pressure**

43. Continuous Positive Airway Pressure (“CPAP”) therapy is a common nonsurgical treatment primarily used to treat sleep apnea. CPAP therapy typically involves the use of a nasal or face mask device and a CPAP device which help individuals breathe by increasing the air pressure in an individual’s throat.
44. Sleep apnea is a common sleep disorder characterized by repeated interruptions in breathing throughout an individual’s sleep cycle. These interruptions, called “apneas,” are caused when the soft tissue in an individual’s airway collapses. The airway collapse prevents oxygen from reaching the individual’s lungs which can cause a buildup of carbon dioxide. If the individual’s brain senses the buildup of carbon dioxide, it will briefly rouse the individual from sleep so that the individual’s airway can reopen. Often these interruptions are so brief that the individual will not remember. Despite the brevity of the interruptions, the sleep cycle disruption caused by sleep apnea can dramatically impact a person’s lifestyle, including negatively impacting energy, mental performance, and long-term health. CPAP therapy helps treat sleep apnea by preventing the person’s airway from collapsing while breathing during sleep cycles, which can help prevent interruptions in breathing.

#### **B. Bi-Level Positive Airway Pressure Therapy**

45. Bi-Level Positive Airway Pressure (“BiPAP”) therapy is a common alternative to CPAP therapy for treating sleep apnea. Similar to CPAP therapy, BiPAP therapy is nonsurgical and involves the use of a nasal or face-mask device to maintain air pressure in an individual’s airway. BiPAP is distinguishable from CPAP therapy, however, because BiPAP devices deliver two alternating levels—inspiratory and expiratory—of pressurized air into a person’s airway, rather than the single continuous level of pressurized air delivered by a CPAP device. The inspiratory positive airway pressure assists a person as a breath is taken in. Conversely, the expiratory positive airway pressure is applied to allow a person to comfortably breathe out. BiPAP devices deliver one level of pressurized air (the inspiratory positive level) to assist as a person inhales, and another level (the expiratory level) as a person exhales.

**C. Philips’ Sleep & Respiratory Care Devices Were Endangering its Users**

46. On April 26, 2021, as part of its Quarterly Report for Q1 2021, Philips disclosed for the first time, under a section entitled “Regulatory Update,” that device user reports had led to a discovery that the type of PE-PUR “sound abatement” foam Philips used to minimize noise in several CPAP and BiPAP respirators posed health risks to its users. Specifically, Philips disclosed that “the [PE-PUR] foam may degrade under certain circumstances, influenced by factors including use of unapproved cleaning methods, such as ozone[], and certain environmental conditions involving high humidity and temperature.”<sup>1</sup>
47. Philips has utilized polyester-based polyurethane (PE-PUR) sound abatement foam to dampen device vibration and sound during routine operation.

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<sup>1</sup> *First Quarter Results*, PHILIPS (Apr. 26, 2021), <https://www.results.philips.com/publications/q121/downloads/pdf/en/philips-first-quarter-results-2021-report.pdf> (last accessed Oct. 13, 2021).

48. On June 14, 2021, as a result of extensive ongoing review following the announcement on April 26, 2021, Philips issued a recall notification for specific affected devices.<sup>2</sup>
49. In its recall notification, Philips identified examples of potential risks which include exposure to degraded sound abatement foam particles and exposure to chemical emissions from the sound abatement foam material.<sup>3</sup>
50. Philips reports that, based on lab testing and evaluations, it may be possible that these potential health risks could result in a wide range of potential patient impact, from transient potential injuries, symptoms and complications, as well as potentially serious injury which can be life-threatening or cause permanent impairment, or require medical intervention to preclude permanent impairment.<sup>4</sup>
51. According to Philips' recall notice, the PE-PUR Foam used in Recalled Devices puts Recalled Device user at risk of suffering from the following health harms: "*Particulate exposure* can cause headache, irritation [skin, eye, and respiratory tract], inflammation, respiratory issues, and possible toxic and carcinogenic effects [;]" whereas the "potential risks of *chemical exposure due to off-gassing* include headache, irritation, hypersensitivity, nausea/vomiting, and possible toxic and *carcinogenic* effects."<sup>5</sup>
52. On June 14, 2021, Philips also issued a brief report titled "Clinical Information for Physicians." In this report, Philips disclosed that "[l]ab analysis of the degraded foam reveals the presence of potentially harmful chemicals including:

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<sup>2</sup> Medical Device recall Notification (U.S. only)/field safety notice (International Markets), PHILIPS RESPIRONICS (June 14, 2021), [https://www.usa.philips.com/healthcare/e/sleep/communications/src-update#section\\_2](https://www.usa.philips.com/healthcare/e/sleep/communications/src-update#section_2) (last accessed Oct. 13, 2021).

<sup>3</sup> Philips issues recall notification, PHILIPS RESPIRONICS (June 14, 2021), <https://www.usa.philips.com/a-w/about/news/archive/standard/news/press/2021/20210614-philips-issues-recall-notification-to-mitigate-potential-health-risks-related-to-the-sound-abatement-foam-component-in-certain-sleep-and-respiratory-care-devices.html> (last accessed Oct. 13, 2021). (emphasis added).

<sup>4</sup> *Id.*

<sup>5</sup> *Id.*

- a. Toluene Diamine
- b. Toluene Diisocyanate
- c. Diethylene glycol<sup>6</sup>

53. In its report title “Clinical Information for Physicians,” Philips also disclosed that lab testing performed by and for Philips has also identified the presence of Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCS) which may be emitted from the sound abatement foam component of the affected devices. “VOCS are emitted as gases from the foam included in the [affected devices] and may have short- and long-term adverse health effects. Standard testing identified two compounds of concern may be emitted from the foam that are outside of safety thresholds. The compounds identified are the following:

- a. Dimethyl Diazine
- b. Phenol, 2,6-bis (1,1-dimethylethyl)-4-(1-methylpropyl)-<sup>7</sup>

#### **D. Philips’ Recalled Devices**

54. In total, Philips announced that “[b]etween 3 million and 4 million” devices are targeted in the recall.<sup>8</sup>
55. The list of devices recalled by Philips (the “Recalled Devices”) include:

<b>Philips CPAP and BiLevel PAP Devices Subject to Recall<sup>9</sup></b>
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<sup>6</sup> *Sleep and Respiratory Care update, Clinical Information for Physicians*, PHILIPS (June 14, 2021), [https://www.philips.com/c-dam/b2bhc/master/landing-pages/src/update/documents/philips-recall-clinical-information-for-physicians-and-providers.pdf?\\_ga=2.43039205.1759564883.1625006706212130326.1624473291&\\_gl=1\\*2nhulw\\*\\_ga\\*MjEyMTMwMzI2LjE2MjQ0NzMyOTE.\\*\\_ga\\_2NMXNNS6LE\\*MTYyNTE1MTQ3MC4xNi4xLjE2MjUxNTW1OTUuMTg](https://www.philips.com/c-dam/b2bhc/master/landing-pages/src/update/documents/philips-recall-clinical-information-for-physicians-and-providers.pdf?_ga=2.43039205.1759564883.1625006706212130326.1624473291&_gl=1*2nhulw*_ga*MjEyMTMwMzI2LjE2MjQ0NzMyOTE.*_ga_2NMXNNS6LE*MTYyNTE1MTQ3MC4xNi4xLjE2MjUxNTW1OTUuMTg) (last accessed Oct. 13, 2021).

<sup>7</sup> *Id.*

<sup>8</sup> Associated Press, *Philips recalls ventilators, sleep apnea machines due to health risks*, NBC NEWS, <https://www.nbcnews.com/business/consumer/philips-recalls-ventilators-sleep-apnea-machines-due-health-risks-n1270725> (last accessed Oct. 13, 2021).

<sup>9</sup> *Medical Device recall Notification (U.S. only)/field safety notice (International Markets)*, PHILIPS RESPIRONICS (June 14, 2021), [https://www.usa.philips.com/healthcare/e/sleep/communications/src-update#section\\_2](https://www.usa.philips.com/healthcare/e/sleep/communications/src-update#section_2) (last accessed Oct. 13, 2021).

<b>Device Name/Model</b>	<b>Type</b>
Philips E30 (Emergency Use Authorization)	Continuous Ventilator, Minimum Ventilatory Support, Facility Use
Philips DreamStation ASV	Continuous Ventilator, Non-life Supporting
Philips DreamStation ST, AVAPS	Continuous Ventilator, Non-life Supporting
Philips SystemOne ASV4	Continuous Ventilator, Non-life Supporting
Philips OmniLab Advanced Plus, In-Lab Titration Device	Continuous Ventilator, Non-life Supporting
Philips SystemOne (Q Series)	Non-continuous Ventilator
Philips DreamStation, (CPAP, Auto CPAP, BiPAP)	Non-continuous Ventilator
Philips DreamSTation GO, CPAP, APAP	Non-continuous Ventilator
Philips Dorma 400, 500, CPAP	Non-continuous Ventilator
Philips REMStar SE Auto, CPAP	Non-continuous Ventilator

<b>Philips Mechanical Respirator Devices Subject to Recall<sup>10</sup></b>	
<b>Device Name/Model</b>	<b>Type</b>
Philips Trilogy 100 Ventilator	Continuous Ventilator
Philips Trilogy 200 Ventilator	Continuous Ventilator
Philips Garbin Plus, Aeris, LifeVent Ventilator	Continuous Ventilator
Philips A-Series BiPAP Hybrid A30	Continuous Ventilator, Minimum Ventilatory Support, Facility Use
Philips A-Series BiPAP V30 Auto Ventilator	Continuous Ventilator, Minimum Ventilatory Support, Facility Use
Philips A-Series BiPAP A40	Continuous Ventilator, Non-life Supporting
Philips A-Series BiPAP A30	Continuous Ventilator, Non-life Supporting

56. Philips issued the following advice to patients using any of the Recalled Devices:

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<sup>10</sup> *Id.*

- a. “For patients using BiLevel PAP and CPAP Devices: Discontinue use of affected units and consult with physicians to determine the benefits of continuing therapy and potential risks.”<sup>11</sup>
- b. “For patients using life-sustaining mechanical ventilator devices: DO NOT discontinue or alter prescribed therapy, without consulting physicians to determine appropriate next steps.”<sup>12</sup>

#### **E. Philips Unreasonably Delayed is Recall**

57. Defendants have not disclosed when they first received reports from users of its Sleep & Respiratory Care devices “regarding the presence of black debris/particles within the airpath circuit (extending from the device outlet, humidifier, tubing, and mask).”<sup>13</sup>
58. Thus, as a result of user reports and other testing performed by and on behalf of Defendants, Defendants were aware of the degradation of the PE-PUR sound abatement foam used in the Recalled Devices, yet continued to manufacture, market, and sell the Recalled Devices with such awareness for a significant period of time. During this period, Defendants unreasonably and unjustly profited from the manufacture and sale of the Recalled Devices and unreasonably put users of the Recalled Devices at risk of developing adverse health effects, including cancer.

#### **PLAINTIFF**

59. Plaintiffs Alan Hecht and Jackie Hecht are residents and citizens of the City of Leavenworth, County of Crawford, State of Indiana.
60. Plaintiff was prescribed the use of and purchased a Philips DreamStation CPAP device (the “subject device”). The subject device prescribed for and purchased by Plaintiff was one of the Recalled Devices.

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<sup>11</sup> *Id.* (Emphasis in original).

<sup>12</sup> *Id.* (Emphasis in original).

<sup>13</sup> *Medical Device recall Notification (U.S. only)/field safety notice (International Markets)*, PHILIS RESPIRONICS (June 14, 2021), [https://www.usa.philips.com/healthcare/e/sleep/communications/src-update#section\\_2](https://www.usa.philips.com/healthcare/e/sleep/communications/src-update#section_2) (last accessed Oct. 13, 2021).

61. At the time Plaintiff was prescribed the use of and purchased the subject device, he was a resident and citizen of Crawford County, Indiana.
62. Since he purchased the subject device, Plaintiff used the it daily to treat his sleep apnea.
63. At all times relevant to this complaint, Plaintiff used the subject device in accordance with the guidelines, manuals, and instructions for use set forth by Defendants.
64. At all times relevant to this complaint, Plaintiff used the subject device for a purpose for which the subject device was marketed, designed, and intended.
65. At all times relevant to this complaint, Plaintiff used the subject device in accordance with the directions and instructions issued by his physician who prescribed the use of the subject device.
66. After, and as a result of using the subject device, Plaintiff has suffered personal injuries including harm to his respiratory system, cellular damage, DNA damage, and pancreatic cancer, among others. These injuries would not have occurred by for the defective nature of the subject device and/or Defendants' wrongful conduct.
67. Plaintiff was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer in or around September 2015.
68. Plaintiff's use of the subject device caused or significantly contributed to his development and progression of pancreatic cancer, which has permanently changed his life.
69. By reason of the foregoing, Plaintiff has had to undergo significant treatment, will be required to undergo significant treatment in the future, and now requires constant and continuous medical monitoring and treatment due to the defective nature of the subject device and/or Defendants' wrongful conduct.

70. As a result of the aforementioned conduct and subject device manufactured, designed, sold, distributed, advertised, and promoted by Defendants, Plaintiff was injured, resulting in severe mental and physical pain and suffering. Such injuries will result in some permanent disability to his person. As a result of such injuries, Plaintiff has suffered damages for which compensatory damages should be awarded.

### **III. CAUSES OF ACTION**

#### **COUNT I** **STRICT LIABILITY-DESIGN DEFECT**

71. Plaintiffs incorporate by reference all preceding paragraphs as if fully set forth herein and further alleges as follows:
72. Plaintiff was a foreseeable user of the Defendants' Recalled Devices.
73. At all times herein mentioned, Defendants were involved in researching, designing, developing, manufacturing, testing, selling and/or distributing the Recalled Devices, including the subject device, which are defective and unreasonably dangerous.
74. The subject device is defective in its design or formulation in that it is not reasonably fit, suitable or safe for its intended purpose and/or its foreseeable risks exceeded the benefits associated with its design. The subject device is defective in design because it causes headaches, irritation of the skin, eye, and respiratory tract, inflammation, respiratory issues, asthma, adverse effect to organs (including the kidneys and liver), hypersensitivity, nausea, vomiting, and toxic and carcinogenic effects. It is more dangerous than other available devices indicated for similar conditions and uses, and the utility of the device does not outweigh its risks.
75. The defective condition of the subject device rendered it unreasonably dangerous and/or not reasonably safe, and the device was in this defective condition at the time it left the

hands of the Defendants. Subject device was expected to and did reach Plaintiff and his physician without substantial change in the condition in which it was designed, manufactured, labeled, sold, distributed, marketed, promoted, supplied, and otherwise released into the stream of commerce.

76. The subject device was used for its intended purposes by Plaintiff and the subject device was not materially altered or modified prior to its use.
77. The subject device is defective in design because the PE-PUR foam comprising part of the device can degrade into particles that enter the device's air pathway and can off-gas certain chemicals. These characteristics cause, among other problems, cancer.
78. At or before the time the subject device was released on the market and/or sold to Plaintiff, Defendants could have designed the product to make it less prone to causing the above listed health harms, a technically feasible safer alternative design that would have prevented the harm Plaintiff suffered without substantially impairing the function of the device.
79. Plaintiff was not able to discover, nor could he have discovered through the exercise of reasonable diligence, the defective nature of the subject device. Further, in no way could Plaintiff had known that Defendants had designed, developed, and manufactured the subject device in a way as to make the risk of harm or injury outweigh any benefits.
80. The subject device is and was being used in a way intended by the Defendants at the time it was prescribed to Plaintiff.
81. Defendants had a duty to create a device that was not unreasonably dangerous for its normal, intended use and breached this duty.

82. Defendants knew or should have known that the Recalled Devices, including the subject device, would be prescribed to patients and that physicians and patients were relying on them to furnish a suitable device. Further, Defendants knew or should have known that patients for whom the Recalled Devices would be used, such as Plaintiff, could be and would be affected by the defective design and composition of the devices.
83. Defendants researched, designed, manufactured, tested, advertised, promoted, marketed, sold, and distributed a defective device which, when used in its intended or reasonably foreseeable manner, created an unreasonable risk to the health of consumers, such as Plaintiff, and Defendants are therefore strictly liable for the injuries sustained by Plaintiff.
84. As a direct and proximate result of Defendants' placement of the subject device into the stream of commerce and Plaintiff's use of the product as designed, manufactured, sold, supplied, and introduced into the stream of commerce by Defendants, Plaintiff suffered serious physical and mental injury, harm, damages, and economic loss and will continue to suffer such harm, damages and economic loss in the future.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiffs demand judgment against Defendants, and each of them, individually, jointly, and severally, and requests compensatory and punitive damages, together with costs and interest, and any further relief as the Court deems proper.

**COUNT II**  
**STRICT LIABILITY-FAILURE TO WARN**

85. Plaintiffs incorporate by reference all preceding paragraphs as if fully set forth herein and further alleges as follows:
86. Plaintiff was a foreseeable user of the Defendants' Recalled Devices.
87. At all times herein mentioned, Defendants designed, developed, researched, tested, and knew or should have known about significant cancer risks with subject device.

88. At all times herein mentioned, Defendants advertised, promoted, marketed, sold, and distributed the subject device that was used by the Plaintiff.
89. The subject device was expected to and did reach the usual consumers, handlers, and persons coming into contact with said device without substantial change in the condition in which it was produced, manufactured, sold, distributed, and marketed by the Defendants.
90. Defendants each had an independent and continuing duty to warn the medical community and Plaintiff's physicians about the significance of the risks of cancer and other health harms with the subject device.
91. Plaintiff used the subject device in a manner intended and foreseeable by Defendants.
92. The subject device was defective due to inadequate warnings because Defendants knew or should have known that the product created a significantly increased risk of cancer, among other health impacts, and failed to warn the medical community and Plaintiff's physician of the nature of such risks.
93. Defendants omitted and downplayed the significantly increased risks of cancer and other health risks with the subject device that Defendants knew or should have known from previous testing and research even prior to subject device's FDA approval.
94. The subject device's labeling and warnings were defective because they omitted and inadequately warned of the device's risk of cancer and other health risks.
95. Although physicians are supposed to weigh the risks and benefits before prescribing a medical device, Defendants knew that their deliberate omissions would cause physicians, including Plaintiff's physician, to prescribe the subject device without being able to adequately weigh the risk of the subject device's risk of cancer and other health risks.

96. If Defendants would have properly warned about the subject device's cancer risk and/or other health harms, no reasonable physician, including Plaintiff's physician, would have recommended or prescribed the subject device because the potential benefits of weight loss are significantly outweighed by the risk of cancer and/or other harms.
97. Had Defendants reasonably provided adequate warnings of cancer, such warnings would have been heeded and no healthcare professional, including Plaintiff's physician, would have prescribed the subject device and no consumer, including Plaintiff, would have purchased and/or used the subject device.
98. As a direct and proximate result of the subject device's defects as described herein, Plaintiff developed cancer, suffered permanent and continuous injuries, pain and suffering, disability and impairment. Plaintiff has further suffered emotional trauma, harm and injuries that will continue into the future. Plaintiff has lost his ability to live a normal life and will continue to be so diminished in the future.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiffs demand judgment against Defendants, and each of them, individually, jointly, and severally, and requests compensatory and punitive damages, together with costs and interest, and any further relief as the Court deems proper.

**COUNT III**  
**STRICT LIABILITY-MANUFACTURING DEFECT**

99. Plaintiffs incorporate by reference all preceding paragraphs as if fully set forth herein and further alleges as follows:
100. Plaintiff was a foreseeable user of the Defendants' Recalled Devices.
101. At all times herein mentioned, Defendants were involved in researching, designing, developing, manufacturing, testing, selling and/or distributing the Recalled Devices, including the subject device, which are defective and unreasonably dangerous.

102. The subject device was expected to and did reach Plaintiff without a substantial change in its condition.
103. The finished subject device deviated, in terms of construction and quality, from the specifications or planned output in a manner that made it unreasonably dangerous.
104. At all relevant times, the Recalled Devices, including the subject device, were defectively and improperly manufactured and designed by Defendants in that Defendants continued to supply consumers with the Recalled Devices despite having full knowledge that the devices posed substantial and avoidable bodily injury, including cancer.
105. The foreseeable risks of the subject device were known and could have been avoided.
106. At all relevant times, the subject device was defectively manufactured by Defendants in that its design and formulation is more dangerous than what an ordinary consumer would expect when used in an intended and reasonably foreseeable manner.
107. At all relevant times, Defendants actively deceived users that their use of the Recalled Devices posed safety risks that far outweighed any benefits.
108. Furthermore, the Recalled Devices, including the subject device, were defectively manufactured in that the PE-PUR foam comprising part of the devices can degrade into particles that enter the devices' air pathway and can off-gas certain chemicals. These characteristics cause, among other problems, cancer. Plaintiff and other similarly situated consumers were unknowingly subjected to receiving different doses of toxins, carcinogens, and other deleterious components and contaminants when using the Recalled Devices.
109. As a direct and proximate result of the defective manufacture of the subject device, Plaintiff suffered and will continue to suffer damages for which he is entitled to recovery,

including but not limited to compensatory damages, consequential damages, costs, and attorneys' fees.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiffs demand judgment against Defendants, and each of them, individually, jointly, and severally, and requests compensatory and punitive damages, together with costs and interest, and any further relief as the Court deems proper.

**COUNT IV**  
**NEGLIGENCE-DESIGN DEFECT**

110. Plaintiffs incorporate by reference all preceding paragraphs as if fully set forth herein and further alleges as follows:
111. At all relevant times, Defendants manufactured, designed, marketed, tested, promoted, supplied, sold and/or distributed the Recalled Devices, including the subject device, in the regular course of business that Plaintiff consumed.
112. The subject device was designed and intended to be used for the treatment of sleep apnea and other health issues.
113. Defendants knew or by the exercise of reasonable care, should have known, the use of the subject device was dangerous, harmful and injurious when used by Plaintiff and other consumers in a reasonably foreseeable manner.
114. Defendants knew or, by the exercise of reasonable care, should have known that ordinary consumers such as Plaintiff would not have realized the potential risks and dangers of the subject device.
115. Defendants breached their duty by failing to use reasonable care in the design of the subject device by designing the device such that PE-PUR foam inside the device could produce highly harmful particles and gasses that enter the device's airway leading to the user's respiratory system.

116. The subject device contained and produced chemicals and particles which can lead to headaches, irritation of the skin, eye, and respiratory tract, inflammation, respiratory issues, asthma, adverse effects to organs (including the kidneys and liver), hypersensitivity, nausea, vomiting, and toxicity, and cancer, all of which Defendants knew, or by the exercise of reasonable care, should have known that ordinary consumers, such as Plaintiff, would fall victim to.
117. Defendants breached their duty when they failed to use commercially-feasible alternative designs to minimize these harms, including but not limited to designing products that prevented exposure to particles and off-gasses from PE-PUR foam, using a kind of noise and vibration reducing foam that did not possess these harmful qualities, using alternative methods of noise vibration reduction, preventing foam particles and gasses from entering the airway of the product, among many other potential designs.
118. Defendants breached their duty by failing to use reasonable care by declining to include an expiration or best if “used by” date, which left open the potential for the devices’ chemical and other properties to change in an even more harmful manner.
119. As a direct and proximate result of Defendants’ negligent design, Plaintiff suffered and will continue to suffer damages for which he is entitled to recover, including but not limited to compensatory damages, consequential damages, interest, costs, and attorneys’ fees.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiffs demand judgment against Defendants, and each of them, individually, jointly, and severally, and requests compensatory and punitive damages, together with costs and interest, and any further relief as the Court deems proper.

**COUNT V**  
**NEGLIGENCE-FAILURE TO WARN**

120. Plaintiffs incorporate by reference all preceding paragraphs as if fully set forth herein and further alleges as follows:
121. At all relevant times, Defendants designed, manufactured, assembled, inspected, tested (or not), packaged, labeled, marketed, advertised, promoted, supplied, distributed, and/or sold the Recalled Devices, including the subject device that Plaintiff used.
122. The Defendants knew or, by the exercise of reasonable care, should have known, use of the subject device was dangerous, harmful, and injurious when used by Plaintiff in a reasonably foreseeable manner.
123. The Defendants knew or, by the exercise of reasonable care, should have known, ordinary consumers such as Plaintiff would not have realized the potential risks and dangers of the subject device.
124. The Defendants knew or, by the exercise of reasonable care, should have known, that the Recalled Devices posed risks including headaches, irritation of the skin, eye, and respiratory tract, inflammation, respiratory issues, asthma, adverse effects to organs (including the kidneys and liver), hypersensitivity, nausea, vomiting, toxicity, and cancer, among other harmful effects, as described herein, that were known and knowable to Defendants in light of scientific and medical knowledge that was generally accepted in the scientific community at the time of design, manufacture, and distribution of the Recalled Devices.
125. The Defendants owed a duty to all reasonably foreseeable users to disclose the risks associated with the use of the Recalled Devices.

126. The Defendants breached their duty of care by failing to use reasonable care in providing adequate warnings to Plaintiff's physician, in the subject device's labeling and packaging, and through marketing, promoting, and advertising of the subject device.
127. At all relevant times, Defendants could have provided adequate warnings and instructions to prevent the harms and injuries set forth herein, such as providing full and accurate information about the Recalled Devices to physicians, to patients, in advertising, at point of sale, on the devices' instructions and inserts, and on the devices' labels.
128. A reasonable company under the same or similar circumstances would have warned and instructed of the dangers.
129. Plaintiff was injured as a direct and proximate result of Defendants' failure to warn and instruct because he would not have used or purchased the subject device had he received adequate warnings and instructions that he could be exposed to toxic and carcinogenic particles and gasses that cause headaches, irritation of the skin, eye, and respiratory tract, inflammation, respiratory issues, asthma, adverse effects to organs (including the kidneys and liver), hypersensitivity, nausea, vomiting, toxic chemicals, and cancer.
130. Defendants' lack of adequate and sufficient warnings and instructions and its inadequate and misleading advertising, labeling, and instructions to physicians was a substantial contributing factor in causing the harm to Plaintiff.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiffs demand judgment against Defendants, and each of them, individually, jointly, and severally, and requests compensatory and punitive damages, together with costs and interest, and any further relief as the Court deems proper.

**COUNT VI**  
**NEGLIGENCE-MANUFACTURING DEFECT**

131. Plaintiffs incorporate by reference all preceding paragraphs as if fully set forth herein and further alleges as follows:
132. At all relevant times, the Defendants designed, manufactured, assembled, inspected, tested (or not), packaged, labeled, marketed, advertised, promoted, supplied, distributed, and/or sold the Recalled Devices, including the subject device that Plaintiff used.
133. The Defendants had a duty to exercise reasonable care in the manufacturing, assembling, inspecting, and packaging of the subject device.
134. The Defendants knew or, by the exercise of reasonable care, should have known, that use of the subject device manufactured, assembled, inspected, and packaged by Defendants, was dangerous, harmful, and injurious when used by Plaintiff in a reasonably foreseeable manner.
135. The Defendants knew or, by the exercise of reasonable care, should have known, ordinary consumers such as Plaintiff would not have realized the potential risks and dangers of the subject device which was improperly manufactured, assembled, inspected, and packaged by Defendants.
136. Without limitation, Defendants breached their duty to exercise reasonable care in manufacturing, assembling, inspecting, and packaging the Recalled Devices by their:
  - a. Failure to follow Good Manufacturing Practices (“GMPs”);
  - b. Failure to adequately inspect/test the Recalled Devices during the manufacturing process;
  - c. Failure to adequately determine/test the integrity of the PE-PUR foam and its qualities, especially after the devices have aged; and

- d. Failure to adequately determine/test the purity of airflow through the Recalled Devices' airway, especially after the devices have aged.

- 137. A reasonable manufacturer under the same or similar circumstances would have implemented appropriate manufacturing procedures to better ensure the quality of their devices.
- 138. Plaintiff was injured as a direct and proximate result of Defendants' failure to use reasonable care in the manufacturing, assembling, inspecting, and packaging of the subject device as described herein.
- 139. The Defendants' negligent manufacturing, assembling, inspecting, and packaging of the subject device was a substantial factor in causing Plaintiff's harms.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiffs demand judgment against Defendants, and each of them, individually, jointly, and severally, and requests compensatory and punitive damages, together with costs and interest, and any further relief as the Court deems proper.

**COUNT VII**  
**GROSS NEGLIGENCE**

- 140. Plaintiffs incorporate by reference all preceding paragraphs as if fully set forth herein and further alleges as follows:
- 141. Defendants had a duty to exercise reasonable care in designing, developing, researching, testing, manufacturing, marketing, supplying, promoting, selling, and distribution of the Recalled Devices, including the subject device.
- 142. Defendants knew or should have known that using the subject device created a significantly increased risk of cancer, among other health harms.
- 143. The negligence of the Defendants, their agents, servants, and/or employees, including but was not limited to the following acts and/or omissions:

- a. Defendants designed and developed the Recalled Devices without thoroughly or adequately testing the devices;
  - b. Defendants sold the Recalled Devices without making proper and sufficient tests to determine the dangers to the users;
  - c. Defendants failed to adequately and correctly warn the Plaintiff, the public, and the medical community of the cancer risks associated with the Recalled Devices;
  - d. Defendants advertised and recommended the use of the Recalled Devices for treatment of sleep apnea and other conditions without sufficient knowledge as to the significance of cancer risks;
  - e. Defendants failed to exercise reasonable care in designing the Recalled Devices in a manner which was dangerous to the users;
  - f. Defendants negligently manufactured the Recalled Devices in a manner which was dangerous to the users;
  - g. Defendants failed to exercise reasonable care when they collectively decided to conceal information concerning cancer risks, and other harms.
144. Additionally, Defendants under-reported, underestimated, and downplayed the serious dangers of the Recalled Devices' association with cancer and other health harms.
145. Defendants negligently compared the safety risk and/or dangers of the subject device without forms of treatment for sleep apnea and similar conditions.
146. Defendants also failed to warn Plaintiff, prior to actively encouraging the sale of the subject device, either directly or indirectly, orally or in writing, about the need for more comprehensive, more regular medical monitoring than usual to ensure early detection of cancer and other health harms.

147. Defendants specifically failed to exercise reasonable care when they failed to accompany the subject device with proper and/or accurate warnings regarding all adverse side effects—namely cancer—associated with the use of the subject device.
148. Once Defendants gained additional information about the Recalled Devices’ association with cancer and other health harms, they failed to update the warnings on the Recalled Devices, and further failed to accompany the Recalled Devices with adequate warnings regarding the risks of cancer and other health harms.
149. Despite the fact that Defendants knew or should have known that the Recalled Devices caused unreasonably dangerous side effects, like cancer, they made conscious decisions to downplay these risks and continue to market, manufacture, distribute, and/or sell the devices to physicians and patients, including the Plaintiff.
150. Defendants knew or should have known that consumers, such as Plaintiff, would foreseeably suffer injury as a result of Defendants’ failure to exercise ordinary care, as set forth above.
151. Defendants’ negligence was the proximate cause of Plaintiff’s injuries, which Plaintiff suffered and/or will continue to suffer.
152. As a result of the foregoing acts and omissions, the Plaintiff was caused to suffer serious and dangerous side effects, including severe and personal injuries which are permanent and lasting in nature, physical pain and mental anguish, diminished enjoyment of life, as well as the need for lifelong medical treatment, monitoring, and/or medications.
153. As a result of the foregoing acts and omissions, the Plaintiff requires and/or will require more health care and services and did incur medical, health, incidental, and related

expenses. Upon information and belief, Plaintiff further alleges that he requires and/or will, in the future, be required medical and/or hospital care, attention, and services.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiffs demand judgment against Defendants, and each of them, individually, jointly, and severally, and requests compensatory and punitive damages, together with costs and interest, and any further relief as the Court deems proper.

**COUNT VIII**  
**NEGLIGENT MISREPRESENTATION**

154. Plaintiffs incorporate by reference all preceding paragraphs as if fully set forth herein and further alleges as follows:
155. Defendants had a duty to exercise reasonable care to those whom they provided device information about the Recalled Devices and to all those relying on the information provided, including Plaintiff, his healthcare providers, and the public in general that the devices had been tested and found to be safe and effective for treating sleep apnea.
156. Defendants, in the course of selling the Recalled Devices, supplied information about the devices through television commercials, advertisements, marketing campaigns, sales representatives, labeling, and warnings.
157. Defendants breached their duty by misrepresenting the Recalled Devices' safety to the medical and healthcare community, to Plaintiff, and to the public in general.
158. However, Defendants failed to exercise reasonable care because their goal should have been to put safety before their profits by providing individuals with the realistic risks and expectations that the Recalled Devices could cause cancer and other serious injuries.
159. Defendants' representations were made without properly conducting sufficient testing and by providing insufficient warnings about the Recalled Devices' potential risks.

160. Defendants' false representations that the Recalled Devices were safe for consumers and their failure to disclose material facts of the Recalled Devices' risk of cancer and other health harms were made or omitted with the intent to induce Plaintiff to rely upon those facts or omissions.
161. Plaintiff was unaware and did not know that the subject device was unsafe for the purpose of treating sleep apnea because it caused significant increased risk of cancer, and other health harms, until after he had been exposed to carcinogenic particles and gasses.
162. Plaintiff justifiably relied upon the false representations of Defendants.
163. Had Defendants reasonably provided adequate warnings of cancer and other serious injuries, such warnings would have been heeded and no healthcare professional, including Plaintiff's physician, would have prescribed the Recalled Devices and no consumer, including Plaintiff, would have purchased and/or used the Recalled Devices.
164. As a direct and proximate result of the foregoing acts and omissions, Plaintiff was caused to suffer serious and dangerous side effects, including lung cancer, as well as other severe and personal injuries which are permanent and lasting in nature, physical pain and mental anguish, including diminished enjoyment of life, as well as the need for lifelong medical treatment, monitoring and/or medications.
165. As a result of the foregoing acts and omissions, Plaintiff requires and/or will require more healthcare and services and did incur medical, health, incidental, and related expenses. Upon information and belief, Plaintiff further alleges that Plaintiff will in the future be required to obtain further medical and/or hospital care, attention, and services.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiffs demand judgment against Defendants, and each of them, individually, jointly, and severally, and requests compensatory and punitive damages, together with costs and interest, and any further relief as the Court deems proper.

**COUNT IX**  
**FRAUD**

166. Plaintiffs incorporate by reference all preceding paragraphs as if fully set forth herein and further alleges as follows:
167. At all relevant times, Defendants designed, manufactured, assembled, inspected, tested, packaged, labeled, marketed, advertised, promoted, supplied, distributed, sold, and/or otherwise placed the Recalled Devices into the stream of commerce, and therefore owed a duty of reasonable care to avoid causing harm to consumers, such as Plaintiff.
168. Defendants knowingly made fraudulent statements regarding the safety of the Recalled Devices and the substantial health risks associated with using the devices, all the while intended to deceive Plaintiff and the general public.
169. At all relevant times, Defendants fraudulently misrepresented the Recalled Devices as safe, when in fact the devices posed unreasonable risks of substantial bodily injury. Due to these and other features, the Recalled Devices are not fit for their ordinary, intended use as treatment devices for sleep apnea and other similar conditions.
170. Defendants touted the Recalled Devices as safe, despite a failure to adequately research or test the devices to assess their safety prior to marketing and promoting their use.
171. Defendants further falsely represented the nature and risks associated with the Recalled Devices, and their marketing and strategy regarding the same, in general statements to the media, general public, and federal agencies.

172. Defendants' fraudulent misrepresentations and omissions were material facts that were essential to Plaintiff's decision to purchase the subject device.
173. Plaintiff was unaware that Defendants were knowingly concealing these material facts, which Plaintiff relied on to his detriment.
174. By knowingly misrepresenting this material information, Defendants breached their duty to protect Plaintiff and other consumers.
175. Plaintiff justifiably relied to his detriment on Defendants' fraudulent statements. Had Plaintiff been adequately informed of the material facts concealed from him regarding the safety of the subject device, and not intentionally deceived by Defendants, he would not have acquired/purchased or used the subject device.
176. As a direct and proximate result of the foregoing acts and omissions, Plaintiff requires and/or will require more healthcare and services and did incur medical, health, incidental, and related expenses. Upon information and belief, Plaintiff further alleges that Plaintiff will in the future be required to obtain further medical and/or hospital care, attention, and services.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiffs demand judgment against Defendants, and each of them, individually, jointly, and severally, and requests compensatory and punitive damages, together with costs and interest, and any further relief as the Court deems proper.

**COUNT X**  
**FRAUDULENT CONCEALMENT**

177. Plaintiffs incorporate by reference all preceding paragraphs as if fully set forth herein and further alleges as follows:
178. At all relevant times, Defendants designed, manufactured, assembled, inspected, tested, packaged, labeled, marketed, advertised, promoted, supplied, distributed, sold, and/or

otherwise placed the Recalled Devices into the stream of commerce, and therefore owed a duty of reasonable care to avoid causing harm to those that used the devices, such as Plaintiff.

179. Defendants had a duty to disclose material facts about the Recalled Devices that would substantially affect Plaintiff's and the general public's use when purchasing the devices.

180. At all relevant times, Defendants fraudulently misrepresented the Recalled Devices as safe, when in fact the devices posed unreasonable risks of substantial bodily injury.

Therefore, the devices are not fit for their ordinary and intended uses.

181. Defendants had actual knowledge of the above facts.

182. At all relevant times, Defendants fraudulently and deceptively concealed their failure to adequately research or test the Recalled Devices to assess their safety before marketing to susceptible users.

183. Defendants further falsely represented the nature and risks associated with the Recalled Devices, and their marketing strategy regarding the same, in general statements to the media, general public, and federal agencies.

184. Defendants' misrepresentations and omissions were material facts that were essential to Plaintiff's decision making when purchasing and using the subject device.

185. Plaintiff was completely unaware that Defendants were concealing these material facts.

186. Defendants intentionally deceived and concealed material information concerning the safety of the Recalled Devices from Plaintiff and the general public, which had a direct impact on the health and wellbeing of Plaintiff and other general consumers.

187. Plaintiff relied to his detriment on Defendants' fraudulent concealment and omissions. Had Plaintiff been adequately informed of the material facts regarding the safety of the

Recalled Devices, and not intentionally deceived by Defendants, he would not have acquired/purchased, used, or been injured by the subject device.

188. As a direct and proximate result of the foregoing acts and omissions, Plaintiff requires and/or will require more healthcare and services and did incur medical, health, incidental, and related expenses. Upon information and belief, Plaintiff further alleges that Plaintiff will in the future be required to obtain further medical and/or hospital care, attention, and services.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiffs demand judgment against Defendants, and each of them, individually, jointly, and severally, and requests compensatory and punitive damages, together with costs and interest, and any further relief as the Court deems proper.

**COUNT XI**  
**CIVIL CONSPIRACY**

189. Plaintiffs incorporate by reference all preceding paragraphs as if fully set forth herein and further alleges as follows:
190. Defendants knowingly agreed, contrived, confederated, and/or conspired to defraud Plaintiff and other general consumers of the Recalled Devices regarding the true nature of the devices and their potential to cause cancer and other serious injuries associated with the PE-PUR foam's particles and chemicals when the devices were used in a reasonably foreseeable manner.
191. Defendants knowingly agreed, contrived, confederated, and/or conspired to defraud Plaintiff and other general consumers of the Recalled Devices with the purposes of maintaining the popularity and reputation of the devices, therefore maintaining high sales, at the expense of consumer safety.

192. At all relevant times, pursuant to and in furtherance of said conspiracies, the Defendants performed the following overt and unlawful acts:
- a. Defendants designed and sold the Recalled Devices with full knowledge that the devices were not a safe way to treat sleep apnea and other conditions;
  - b. Upon information and belief, despite available medical and scientific data, literature, and test reports possessed by and available to Defendants, Defendants individually, jointly, and in conspiracy with each other, fraudulently, willfully, and maliciously, delayed reporting to the public the issues and delayed the product recall. In the meantime, Defendants continued to represent the Recalled Devices as safe and omitted warnings about serious side effects.
193. Plaintiff and the general public reasonably relied upon the aforementioned fraudulent representations, omissions, and concealments made by the Defendants regarding the nature of the Recalled Devices.
194. Were it not for Defendants' unlawful actions to mislead the public and limit the natural dissemination of scientific research and knowledge on the dangers and harms associated with the Recalled Devices, Plaintiff and the general public could have learned of the dangers at an earlier date and potentially prevented their introduction to and use of the devices.
195. As a direct and proximate result of the Defendants' overt unlawful acts regarding the nature of the Recalled Devices which were made pursuant to and in furtherance of a common scheme, and Plaintiff's reliance thereon, Plaintiff suffered and continues to suffer from injuries. Plaintiff requires and/or will require more healthcare and services and did incur medical, health, incidental, and related expenses. Upon information and

belief, Plaintiff further alleges that Plaintiff will in the future be required to obtain further medical and/or hospital care, attention, and services.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiffs demand judgment against Defendants, and each of them, individually, jointly, and severally, and requests compensatory and punitive damages, together with costs and interest, and any further relief as the Court deems proper.

**COUNT XII**  
**UNJUST ENRICHMENT**

196. Plaintiffs incorporate by reference all preceding paragraphs as if fully set forth herein and further alleges as follows:
197. At all relevant times, Defendants designed, manufactured, assembled, inspected, tested (or not), packaged, labeled, marketed, advertised, promoted, supplied, distributed, sold and/or otherwise placed the Recalled Devices into the stream of commerce, and therefore owed a duty of reasonable care to avoid causing harm to those that used the devices, such as Plaintiff.
198. Defendants were unjustly enriched as a result of their wrongful conduct, including through the false and misleading marketing, promotions, and advertisements, that failed to discuss the unreasonable risks of substantial bodily injury resulting from the use of the Recalled Devices. Defendants were also unjustly enriched through their developing, manufacturing, promoting, and selling the Recalled Devices without adequately testing and investigating their potential side effects and health impacts.
199. Defendants requested and received a measurable benefit at the expense of the Plaintiff in the form of payment for the subject device.

200. Defendants appreciated, recognized, and chose to accept the monetary benefits Plaintiff conferred onto Defendants to the Plaintiff's detriment. These benefits were the expected result of Defendants acting in their pecuniary interests at the expense of its customers.
201. There is no justification for Defendants' enrichment. It would be inequitable, unconscionable, and unjust for Defendants to be permitted to retain these benefits because the benefits were procured as a result of their wrongful conduct.
202. Defendants wrongfully obfuscated the harm caused by their conduct. Thus, Plaintiff, who mistakenly enriched Defendants by relying on Defendants' fraudulent representations, could not and did not know the effect that using the subject device would have on Plaintiff's health.
203. Acceptance of the benefit by Defendants under these circumstances would be inequitable.
204. Plaintiff is entitled to restitution of the benefits Defendants unjustly retained and/or any amounts necessary to return Plaintiff to the position he occupied prior to dealing with Defendants. Given the importance of respiratory health and severity of the injuries the subject device can cause, Defendants were reasonably notified that Plaintiff would expect compensation from Defendants' unjust enrichment stemming from their wrongful actions.
205. As a direct and proximate result of the Defendants' overt unlawful acts regarding the nature of the Recalled Devices which unjustly enriched Defendants, and Plaintiff's reliance thereon, Plaintiff suffered and continues to suffer from injuries. Plaintiff requires and/or will require more healthcare and services and did incur medical, health, incidental, and related expenses. Upon information and belief, Plaintiff further alleges that Plaintiff

will in the future be required to obtain further medical and/or hospital care, attention, and services.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiffs demand judgment against Defendants, and each of them, individually, jointly, and severally, and requests compensatory and punitive damages, together with costs and interest, and any further relief as the Court deems proper.

**COUNT XIII**  
**BREACH OF EXPRESS WARRANTIES**

206. Plaintiffs incorporate by reference all preceding paragraphs as if fully set forth herein and further alleges as follows:
207. Defendants, through their advertising, promotional materials, and labeling, expressly warranted and affirmed that the Recalled Devices were safe for their intended uses and for uses which were reasonably foreseeable.
208. Defendants' representations became a basis of the bargain.
209. Defendants made express warranties which extended beyond delivery of the Recalled Devices and expressly warranted for future performance of the devices. Defendants advertised, promoted, and labeled the Recalled Devices as being safe and effective for the treatment of sleep apnea and other conditions.
210. At all relevant times, Defendants breached said express warranties in that the Recalled Devices were unsafe and caused cancer among other harms. Plaintiff foreseeably used the subject device without knowing of the harmful and substantial consequences to his health.
211. At all relevant times, Defendants had knowledge of the hazards and health risks posed by the Recalled Devices when used.

212. At all relevant times, Defendants willfully failed to disclose the defects and health risks of the Recalled Devices when used.
213. At all relevant times, Defendants willfully failed to disclose the defects and health risks of the Recalled Devices to Plaintiff and the rest of the public that used the devices.
214. In reliance upon the express warranties made by Defendants, Plaintiff acquired/purchased and used the subject device, believing the subject device was inherently safe and/or a safe treatment for sleep apnea and other conditions.
215. Plaintiff notified Defendants of the breach.
216. As a direct and proximate result of the Defendants' breach of their express warranties concerning the nature of the Recalled Devices, Plaintiff suffered and continues to suffer from injuries. Plaintiff requires and/or will require more healthcare and services and did incur medical, health, incidental, and related expenses. Upon information and belief, Plaintiff further alleges that Plaintiff will in the future be required to obtain further medical and/or hospital care, attention, and services.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiffs demand judgment against Defendants, and each of them, individually, jointly, and severally, and requests compensatory and punitive damages, together with costs and interest, and any further relief as the Court deems proper.

**COUNT XIV**  
**BREACH OF THE IMPLIED WARRANTY OF FITNESS**  
**FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE**

217. Plaintiffs incorporate by reference all preceding paragraphs as if fully set forth herein and further alleges as follows:

218. At all relevant times, Defendants through their advertising and promotional materials, expressly and impliedly warranted and affirmed that the Recalled Devices' purpose was to offer a reasonably safe treatment for sleep apnea and similar health problems.
219. Defendants touted the Recalled Devices as safe, despite knowingly having never adequately researched or tested the devices to assess their safety before placing the devices on the market and promoting them to consumers.
220. Defendants intended to make Plaintiff and the general public believe the Recalled Devices were safe.
221. Defendants knowingly mislead Plaintiff and the general public to believe the Recalled Devices were safe for use, despite knowing that the devices could lead to serious injuries, all of which Defendants knew, or by the exercise of reasonable care, should have known, ordinary consumers such as Plaintiff would be a victim to.
222. At all relevant times, Defendants had knowledge of the hazards and health risks posed by the Recalled Devices when used.
223. At all relevant times, Defendants willfully failed to disclose the defects and health risks of the Recalled Devices to Plaintiff and the consuming public.
224. Plaintiff relied to his detriment on the information publicized by Defendants.
225. In reliance upon these implied warranties as to the safety of the subject device by Defendants, Plaintiff acquired/purchased and used the subject device, believing that the subject device was inherently safe.
226. Plaintiff notified Defendants of the breach.
227. As a direct and proximate result of the Defendants' warranties concerning the nature of the Recalled Devices, and Plaintiff's reliance thereon, Plaintiff suffered and continues to

suffer from injuries. Plaintiff requires and/or will require more healthcare and services and did incur medical, health, incidental, and related expenses. Upon information and belief, Plaintiff further alleges that Plaintiff will in the future be required to obtain further medical and/or hospital care, attention, and services.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiffs demand judgment against Defendants, and each of them, individually, jointly, and severally, and requests compensatory and punitive damages, together with costs and interest, and any further relief as the Court deems proper.

**COUNT XV**  
**BREACH OF THE IMPLIED WARRANTY OF MERCHANTABILITY**

228. Plaintiffs incorporate by reference all preceding paragraphs as if fully set forth herein and further alleges as follows:
229. At all relevant times Defendants have been a merchant in regards to the Recalled Devices they created and sold to consumers.
230. Defendants breached their implied warranty of merchantability since the Recalled Devices were defective when created and designed, and do not conform with the promised represented on their labels.
231. Defendants failed to comply with merchantability requirements, as the Recalled Devices do not achieve the ordinary purposes they advertise: a health treatment for respiratory conditions such as sleep apnea.
232. Beyond Defendants' own direct sales of the Recalled Devices, Plaintiff and other consumers are third-party beneficiaries of Defendants' agreements with its distributors, dealers, and sellers for the distribution, dealing, and sale of the Recalled Devices to consumers. Plaintiff and other consumers are the intended beneficiaries of Defendants'

implied warranties since the Recalled Devices are manufactured with the express and intended purpose of selling the devices to consumers.

233. As a direct and proximate result of the Defendants' breach of their implied warranties of merchantability regarding the nature of the Recalled Devices, Plaintiff suffered and continues to suffer from injuries. Plaintiff requires and/or will require more healthcare and services and did incur medical, health, incidental, and related expenses. Upon information and belief, Plaintiff further alleges that Plaintiff will in the future be required to obtain further medical and/or hospital care, attention, and services.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiffs demand judgment against Defendants, and each of them, individually, jointly, and severally, and requests compensatory and punitive damages, together with costs and interest, and any further relief as the Court deems proper.

**COUNT XVI**  
**LOSS OF CONSORTIUM**

234. Plaintiffs incorporate by reference all preceding paragraphs as if fully set forth herein and further alleges as follows:
235. Plaintiff Alan Hecht and Plaintiff Jackie Hecht are married and have been since prior to September 2015 when Plaintiff Alan Hecht was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer.
236. As a direct and proximate result of the defective and unreasonably dangerous condition of the Recalled Devices manufactured, distributed, marketed, and sold by Defendants, Plaintiff Jackie Hecht has been and is reasonably certain to be deprived in the future of the services, society, companionship of, and an intimate relationship with her husband Alan Hecht.
237. As a direct and proximate result of the Defendants to issue adequate warnings about the dangers of the Recalled Devices manufactured, distributed, marketed, and sold by

Defendants, Plaintiff Jackie Hecht has been and is reasonably certain to be deprived in the future of the services, society, companionship of, and an intimate relationship with her husband Alan Hecht.

238. As a direct and proximate result of the negligence of Defendants regarding the Recalled Devices manufactured, distributed, marketed, and sold by Defendants, Plaintiff Jackie Hecht has been and is reasonably certain to be deprived in the future of the services, society, companionship of, and an intimate relationship with her husband Alan Hecht.

239. As a direct and proximate result of the breaches of express warranties by Defendants regarding the Recalled Devices manufactured, distributed, marketed, and sold by Defendants, Plaintiff Jackie Hecht has been and is reasonably certain to be deprived in the future of the services, society, companionship of, and an intimate relationship with her husband Alan Hecht.

240. As a direct and proximate result of the breaches of the implied warranty for a particular purpose by Defendants regarding the Recalled Devices manufactured, distributed, marketed, and sold by Defendants, Plaintiff Jackie Hecht has been and is reasonably certain to be deprived in the future of the services, society, companionship of, and an intimate relationship with her husband Alan Hecht.

241. As a direct and proximate result of the breaches of the implied warranty of merchantability by Defendants regarding the Recalled Devices manufactured, distributed, marketed, and sold by Defendants, Plaintiff Jackie Hecht has been and is reasonably certain to be deprived in the future of the services, society, companionship of, and an intimate relationship with her husband Alan Hecht.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff Jackie Hecht demands judgment against Defendants, and each of them, individually, jointly, and severally, and requests compensatory and punitive damages, together with costs and interest, and any further relief as the Court deems proper.

**COUNT XVII**  
**PUNITIVE DAMAGES**

242. Plaintiffs incorporate by reference all preceding paragraphs as if fully set forth herein and further alleges as follows:
243. Defendants' conduct described herein consisted of oppression, fraud, and/or malice, and was done with advance knowledge, conscious disregard of the safety of others, and/or ratification by Defendants' officers, directors, and/or managing agents.
244. Despite their knowledge of the Recalled Devices' propensity to cause cancer and other serious injuries, Defendants chose profits over the safety of American citizens suffering with sleep apnea when they sought to create and market a device posing significant health risks.
245. Despite having substantial information about the Recalled Devices' serious and unreasonable side effects, Defendants intentionally and recklessly failed to adequately warn the general public, physicians, and the medical community.
246. Further, despite having substantial information about the Recalled Devices' serious and unreasonable side effects, Defendants failed to make the decision to pull the devices from the market after receiving indications and after receiving reports from consumers who were experiencing serious injuries associated with the use of the devices.
247. Defendants downplayed and recklessly disregarded their knowledge of the defective nature of the Recalled Devices' potential for causing serious injuries, such as cancer.

248. Defendants chose to do nothing to warn and adequately instruct physicians, including Plaintiff's physician, regarding the increase in reports from consumers who were experiencing serious injuries associated with the use of the Recalled Devices.

249. Consequently, Defendants are liable for punitive damages in an amount to be determined by a jury.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiffs demand judgment against Defendants, and each of them, individually, jointly, and severally, and requests compensatory and punitive damages, together with costs and interest, and any further relief as the Court deems proper.

#### **IV. PRAYER FOR RELIEF**

WHEREFORE, Plaintiffs request this Court enter judgment in Plaintiffs' favor and against Defendants for:

- a. Actual or compensatory damages in such amount to be determined at trial and provided by applicable law;
- b. Exemplary and punitive damages sufficient to punish and deter the Defendants, and others from future fraudulent practices;
- c. Pre-judgment and post-judgment interest;
- d. Costs including reasonable attorneys' fees, court costs, and other litigation expenses; and
- e. Any other relief the Court may deem just and proper in the premises.

#### **V. JURY TRIAL DEMAND**

Plaintiffs demand a trial by jury on all of the triable issues within this pleading.

Dated: October 14, 2021

Respectfully Submitted,

/s/ Kristina Anderson

Kristina Anderson, IN Bar #34493-49

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