1 Paul R. Kiesel, State Bar No. 119854 kiesel@kiesel.law Kaitlyn E. Fry, State Bar No. 350768 fry@kiesel.law KIESEL LAW LLP 8648 Willshire Blvd. Beverly Hills, CA 90211 Telephone: 310-854-4444 5 Facsimile: 310 854-0812 6 Jonathan R. Gdanski (to be admitted *Pro Hac Vice*) jonathan@schlesingerlawoffices.com Jeffrey L. Haberman (to be admitted *Pro Hac Vice*) jhaberman@schlesingerlaw.com Malaak Abdulrazzak (to be admitted *Pro Hac Vice*) malaak@schlesingerlaw.com SCHLESINGER LAW OFFICES, P.A. 1212 SE Third Avenue Fort Lauderdale, FL 33316 10 Telephone: 954 467-8800 Facsimile: 954 320-9509 11 12 Attorneys for Plaintiff ALEXANDER KELLAM 13 14 SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA FOR THE COUNTY OF ORANGE - CENTRAL JUSTICE CENTER 15 16 ALEXANDER KELLAM, CASE NO. 30-2025-01472367-CU-PL-NJC 17 COMPLAINT FOR DAMAGES Plaintiff, 18 1. Strict Product Liability - Design Defect v. 2. Strict Product Liability - Failure to Warn 19 3. Negligence GALAXY GAS LLC; SBK 4. Product Liability - Breach of Implied 20 INTERNATIONAL LLC; SBK INTERNATIONAL INC.; AMSTERDAM 21 5. Product Liability - Breach of Express SMOKE SHOP LLC; CLOUD MARKET Warranty AND SMOKE SHOP, INC.; DAMIR BARY, 22 INC. d/b/a SMOKE & VAPE; DTLA SMOKE **DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL** SHOP, INC.; KARIM TIJANI AMOR, an 23 individual; SAMMY AMOR, an individual; Judge Craig Griffin 24 and BEN AMOR, an individual; and DOES 1 Assigned for All Purposes through 100, inclusive. 25 Defendants. 26 27 28

Plaintiff Alexander Kellam, by his attorneys, Schlesinger Law Offices, P.A., complains and alleges against Defendants Galaxy Gas LLC, SBK International LLC, SBK International Inc., Amsterdam Smoke Shop LLC, Cloud Market and Smoke Shop, Inc., DAMIR BARY, INC. d/b/a SMOKE & VAPE, DTLA Smoke Shop, Inc., Karim Tijani Amor, Sammy Amor, and Ben Amor; and DOES 1 through 100, inclusive (collectively "Defendants") as follows:

INTRODUCTION

- 1. Galaxy Gas is a flavored nitrous oxide tank that users place in their mouths with nozzles and balloons to access the addictive nitrous oxide it contains. Similar to the popular drug Whippets, Galaxy Gas tanks are designed to create and sustain an addiction to nitrous oxide. Nitrous oxide is the fundamental reason why people use these products. Nitrous oxide is a highly addictive and dangerous drug. 1 Children and teenagers, especially ages 12-17, are particularly vulnerable to nitrous oxide addiction.² Galaxy Gas is the most popular nitrous oxide product on the market and is directly sold to smoke shop owners, third-party retailers, and consumers by Galaxy Gas and tobacco and smoke shop wholesalers.
- Galaxy Gas is just a recent iteration of the smoke shop industry practice of designing 2. a nitrous oxide delivery device that hooks children to nitrous oxide while making them think it is not dangerous or harmful. And so, Galaxy Gas looks like an enticing desert that is safe for consumption and comes in sweet flavors such as: "vanilla cupcake," "strawberry cream," "mango smoothie," "blue raspberry," "blueberry mango," "tropical punch," "birthday cake," "watermelon lemonade," and others.
- 3. Advertisements for Galaxy Gas emphasize the themes the industry has long known to resonate with youth and young adults, like "Galaxy," -a clear play on the notion that Galaxy Gas is going to take you somewhere high in the Galaxy- and further highlights the common sensation

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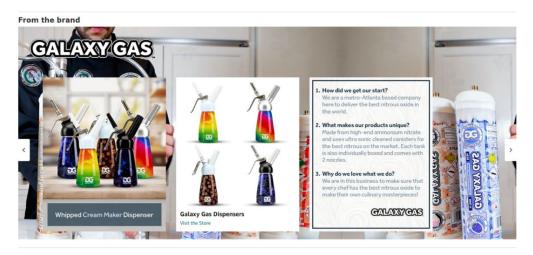
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¹ ALLAN, CAMERON & BRUNO, A Systematic Review of Recreational Nitrous Oxide Use: *Implications for Policy, Service Delivery and Individuals*, NIH (2022).

² *Id*.

nitrous oxide creates, described by most of its users and medical journals as "floating" and "euphoric."³

- 4. Defendants also benefit tremendously from social media influencers who promote Galaxy Gas from social media accounts run by smoke shops and private social media influencers. The Galaxy Gas trend on TikTok and YouTube receives significant internet traffic, striking millions of views.⁴ Most influencers describe the design of the logo and canister print as a product that belongs in a smoke shop. More specifically, with over a quarter million followers, YouTuber Andy King reviews the current type of Galaxy Gas and describes it as follows: "from every single angle, this product is modeled, shaped, colored, texted, printed as if it belongs in a smoke shop."⁵
- 5. Galaxy Gas is sold on Amazon.com and is verifiably described "from the brand" as a brand that uses "sonic cleaned canisters for the best nitrous on the market," making the product deceivingly seem safe and clean:



³ Psychiatric Times, Galaxy Gas: The Dangerous Viral Trend, https://www.psychiatrictimes.com/view/galaxy-gas-the-dangerous-viral-trend

⁴ Live Now Fox, 'Galaxy Gas': Kids are Inhaling Dangerous Levels of Nitrous Oxide, https://www.livenowfox.com/news/kids-inhaling-galaxy-gas-nitrous-oxide-dangerous

⁵ Andy King, *Galaxy Gas: TikTok's most Dangerous Trend*, YOUTUBE (Sep. 29, 2024), https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wV52qw_XaXM

6. The tools used and sold by Galaxy Gas have an uncanny resemblance to smoking tools and devices commonly sold in smoke shops and referred to as "bongs," as seen below:



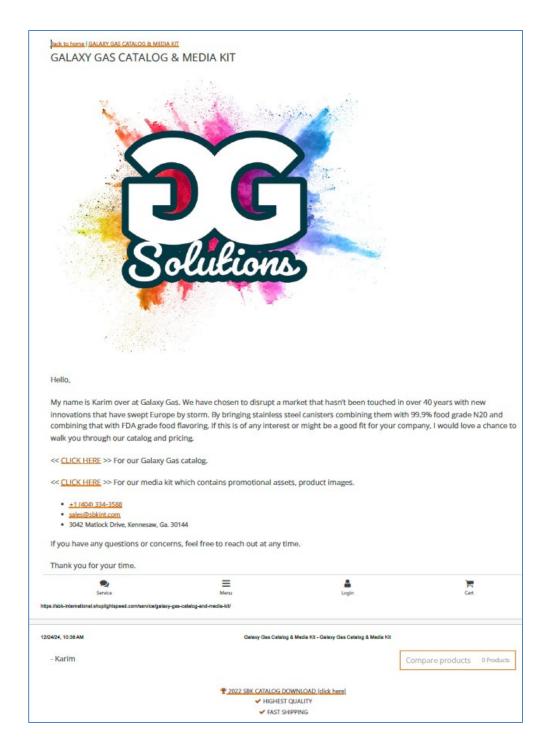
7. Galaxy Gas has directly advertised on social media platforms such as TikTok, Facebook, Instagram, and X as a whipped cream culinary tool and product, claiming that their products come in "eight amazing flavors for you to chef up." However, Galaxy Gas has hired the same individual retained by Smoke shops to promote the sale of Galaxy Gas as a smoking device:



	8.	Galaxy Gas trended on social media and was widely known amongst the youth as a
nitrous	oxide i	inhalant drug. A simple Google search for "Galaxy Gas on TikTok" will show over
nine m	illion re	esults, clearly reaching the pockets of youth and young adults nationwide.

9. Defendants Karim Tijani Amor, Sammy Amor, and Ben Amor created a co-founded the Galaxy Gas brand, Galaxy Gas LLC, SBK International Inc., and SBK International LLC. Both company names, "SBK International Inc." and "SBK International LLC," represents the first letter of each brother's name, Sammy Amor, Ben Amor, and Karim Tijani Amor as "SBK". Karim Tijani Amor proudly represented the Amor brothers and Galaxy Gas LLC on the SBK International Tobacco and Smoke Shop Wholesaler website as to having chosen "...to disrupt a market that hasn't been touched in over 40 years with new innovations..." alluding to the current nitrous oxide market in the smoke and head shop industry. See Defendant Karim Tijani Amor's signed letter on the SBK international tobacco and smoke shop wholesaler website below.

⁶ Intelligencer, The Next Drug Epidemic Is Blue Raspberry Flavored How Galaxy Gas Became Synonymous With The Country's Burgeoning Addiction To Gas, https://nymag.com/intelligencer/article/galaxy-gas-flavored-nitrous-oxide-drug-epidemic.html



10. The Food and Drug Administration (HEREINAFTER "FDA") is an agency within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services that is responsible for the safety and security of the nation's food supply and assures the safety and effectiveness of drugs and medical devices.⁷

⁷ U.S. Food and Drug Administration, *About FDA: Patient Q&A?*, (Nov 2024),

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11. In addition to targeting youth and young adults through flavors, Defendants use deceptive advertising in describing Galaxy Gas as "FDA approved," which falsely implies that Galaxy Gas is not harmful, is safe for consumption, or that there is a reduced risk of addiction. "FDA approved" means that the Food and Drug Administration has reviewed the product's safety and effectiveness and determined that the product's benefits outweigh the risks of its intended use. ⁸ But Galaxy Gas nitrous oxide is indeed intended for inhalation and recreational use.

12. Like too many others, Plaintiff Alexander Kellam began using Galaxy Gas because he was enticed by the flavors and by Defendants' deceptive advertising. He brings this suit to redress his injuries caused by Galaxy Gas.

NATURE OF THE CASE

13. Mr. Alexander Kellam brings this negligence and product liability action against Defendants to redress the injuries sustained due to Defendants' defective nitrous oxide tank -Galaxy Gas. Plaintiff seeks compensatory damages, medical monitoring to diagnose Galaxy Gas induced injuries at an earlier date to allow for timely treatment and prevention of exacerbation of injuries, together with interest, costs of suit, attorney's fees, and all such other relief as the Court deems proper.

PARTIES, JURISDICTION, AND VENUE

14. Plaintiff, ALEXANDER KELLAM, is a citizen of the state of CALIFORNIA and resides in ORANGE COUNTY, CALIFORNIA. Plaintiff, ALEXANDER KELLAM, is addicted to the nitrous oxide contained in Galaxy Gas and has suffered personal injuries as a result of his Galaxy Gas use. Plaintiff was influenced by Galaxy Gas's marketing and advertising, which drove his purchases. Plaintiff did not know of Galaxy Gas's unreasonably dangerous characteristics when he began using Galaxy Gas. Defendants' wrongful conduct in marketing, promoting, manufacturing, designing, and selling Galaxy Gas caused or contributed substantially to causing his injuries.

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approved%E2%80%9D%20mean,the%20known%20and%20potential%20risks.

⁸ *Id*.

16. At all times material hereto, Defendant GALAXY GAS LLC (HEREINAFTER "GALAXY GAS") was a Foreign Corporation authorized to conduct business in CALIFORNIA and who was conducting business in the State of CALIFORNIA.

Defendant GALAXY GAS LLC manufactured, designed, sold, and operated the sale

- 17. At all times, material hereto, GALAXY GAS, sold, produced, distributed, possessed, and/or maintained the sale of Galaxy Gas products within the State of CALIFORNIA.
- 18. At all times material hereto, Defendant, SBK INTERNATIONAL LLC, was a Foreign Corporation authorized to conduct business in CALIFORNIA and who was conducting business in the State of CALIFORNIA.
- 19. At all times material hereto, Defendant, SBK INTERNATIONAL LLC, was a tobacco and smoke shop wholesaler and sold, produced, distributed, possessed, and/or maintained the sale of Galaxy Gas and nitrous oxide products within the State of CALIFORNIA.
- 20. At all times material hereto, Defendant, SBK INTERNATIONAL INC., was a Foreign Corporation authorized to conduct business in CALIFORNIA and who was conducting business in the State of CALIFORNIA.
- 21. At all times material hereto, Defendant, SBK INTERNATIONAL INC., was a tobacco and smoke shop wholesaler and sold, produced, distributed, possessed, and/or maintained the sale of Galaxy Gas and nitrous oxide products within the State of CALIFORNIA.
- 22. At all times material hereto, Defendant AMSTERDAM SMOKE SHOP LLC, (HEREINAFTER "AMSTERDAM SMOKE SHOP") was a CALIFORNIA Corporation authorized to conduct business in CALIFORNIA and who was conducting business in the State of CALIFORNIA.
- 23. At all times material hereto, AMSTERDAM SMOKE SHOP LLC owned, operated, controlled, possessed and/or maintained a smoke shop which sold Galaxy Gas and nitrous oxide and was located at or near 5901 Warner Ave, Huntington Beach, CA 92649.

- 24. At all times material hereto, Defendant CLOUD MARKET AND SMOKE SHOP, INC. (HEREINAFTER "CLOUD MARKET SMOKE SHOP") was a CALIFORNIA Corporation authorized to conduct business in CALIFORNIA and who was conducting business in the State of CALIFORNIA.
- 25. At all times material hereto, CLOUD MARKET SMOKE SHOP owned, operated, controlled, possessed and/or maintained a smoke shop which sold Galaxy Gas and nitrous oxide and was located at or near 560 S. Los Angeles St., Suite 17, Los Angeles, CA 90013.
- 26. At all times material hereto, Defendant DAMIR BERY, INC. d/b/a SMOKE & VAPE (HEREINAFTER "DAMIR") was a CALIFORNIA Corporation authorized to conduct business in CALIFORNIA and who was conducting business in the State of CALIFORNIA.
- 27. At all times material hereto, DAMIR owned, operated, controlled, possessed and/or maintained a smoke shop which sold Galaxy Gas and nitrous oxide and was located at or near 3813 W 3rd St, Los Angeles, CA 90020.
- 28. At all times material hereto, Defendant DTLA SMOKE SHOP, INC. (HEREINAFTER "DTLA SMOKE SHOP") was a CALIFORNIA Corporation authorized to conduct business in CALIFORNIA and who was conducting business in the State of CALIFORNIA.
- 29. At all times material hereto, DTLA SMOKE SHOP owned, operated, controlled, possessed and/or maintained a smoke shop which sold Galaxy Gas and nitrous oxide and was located at or near 223 1/2 W 6th St, Los Angeles, CA 90014.
- 30. Defendant KARIM TIJANI AMOR resides in CHEROKEE, GEORGIA. KARIM TIJANI AMOR co-founded GALAXY GAS LLC, SBK INTERNATIONAL LLC, and/ or SBK INTERNATIONAL INC. KARIM TIJANI AMOR has been significantly involved in the production, marketing, distribution, and design of the Galaxy Gas nitrous oxide tanks, charges, and canisters. KARIM TIJANI has carefully engineered products for nitrous oxide delivery with the "highest quality gas" and "ultra sonic cleaned canisters for the best nitrous oxide on the market" and has therefore mislead the youth and young adults into believing this product was safe to use in the intended manner, as an inhalant.

- 31. At all times material hereto, the Court has personal jurisdiction over Defendant, KARIM TIJANI AMOR, because California's long-arm statute permits a court to exercise personal jurisdiction consistent with constitutional due process. CCP § 410.10. Due process requires that a non-resident defendant have "certain minimum contacts" with the forum such that the maintenance of the suit does not offend traditional notions of fair play and substantial justice. Defendant KARIM TIJANI AMOR, has directly conducted, managed, controlled, maintained and promoted the sale of Galaxy Gas products in the state of California.
- 32. The Defendant, KARIM TIJANI AMOR, committed torts in California by conducting, controlling, promoting, marketing, and/ or maintaining GALAXY GAS LLC, SBK INTERNATIONAL LLC, and SBK INTERNATIONAL INC., which caused significant financial loss, pain, and suffering to Plaintiff ALEXANDER KELLAM. Minimum contacts are satisfied as to Defendant KARIM TIJANI AMOR, based on both general and specific jurisdiction has sold, distributed, produced, marketed, and designed the exact product which caused significant injury to Plaintiff ALEXANDER KELLAM in the state of California.
- 33. Defendant SAMMY AMOR resides in COBB, GEORGIA. SAMMY AMOR cofounded GALAXY GAS LLC, SBK INTERNATIONAL LLC, and/ or SBK INTERNATIONAL INC. SAMMY AMOR has been significantly involved in the production, marketing, distribution, and design of the Galaxy Gas nitrous oxide tanks, charges, and canisters. SAMMY AMOR has carefully engineered products for nitrous oxide delivery with the "highest quality gas" and "ultra sonic cleaned canisters for the best nitrous oxide on the market" and has therefore mislead youth and young adults into believing this product was safe to use in the intended manner, as an inhalant.
- 34. At all times material hereto, the Court has personal jurisdiction over Defendant, SAMMY AMOR, because California's long-arm statute permits a court to exercise personal jurisdiction consistent with constitutional due process. CCP § 410.10. Due process requires that a non-resident defendant have "certain minimum contacts" with the forum such that the maintenance of the suit does not offend traditional notions of fair play and substantial justice. Defendant SAMMY AMOR, has directly conducted, managed, controlled, maintained and promoted the sale of Galaxy Gas products in the state of California.

- 35. The Defendant, SAMMY AMOR, committed torts in California by conducting, controlling, promoting, marketing, and/ or maintaining GALAXY GAS LLC, SBK INTERNATIONAL LLC, and SBK INTERNATIONAL INC., which caused significant financial loss, pain, and suffering to Plaintiff ALEXANDER KELLAM. Minimum contacts are satisfied as to Defendant SAMMY AMOR, based on both general and specific jurisdiction has sold, distributed, produced, marketed, and designed the exact product which caused significant injury to Plaintiff ALEXANDER KELLAM in the state of California.
- 36. Defendant BEN AMOR resides in COBB, GEORGIA. BEN AMOR co-founded GALAXY GAS LLC, SBK INTERNATIONAL LLC, and/ or SBK INTERNATIONAL INC. BEN AMOR has been significantly involved in the production, marketing, distribution, and design of the Galaxy Gas nitrous oxide tanks, charges, and canisters. BEN AMOR has carefully engineered products for nitrous oxide delivery with the "highest quality gas" and "ultra sonic cleaned canisters for the best nitrous oxide on the market" and has therefore mislead youth and young adults into believing this product was safe to use in the intended manner, as an inhalant.
- AMOR, because California's long-arm statute permits a court to exercise personal jurisdiction consistent with constitutional due process. CCP § 410.10. Due process requires that a non-resident defendant have "certain minimum contacts" with the forum such that the maintenance of the suit does not offend traditional notions of fair play and substantial justice. Defendant BEN AMOR, has directly conducted, managed, controlled, maintained and promoted the sale of Galaxy Gas products in the state of California.
- 38. The Defendant, BEN AMOR, committed torts in California by conducting, controlling, promoting, marketing, and/ or maintaining GALAXY GAS LLC, SBK INTERNATIONAL LLC, and SBK INTERNATIONAL INC, which caused significant financial loss, pain, and suffering to Plaintiff ALEXANDER KELLAM. Minimum contacts are satisfied as to Defendant BEN AMOR, based on both general and specific jurisdiction has sold, distributed, produced, marketed, and designed the exact product which caused significant injury to Plaintiff ALEXANDER KELLAM in the state of California.

- 39. Plaintiff is ignorant of the true names and capacities of Defendants sued herein as Does 1 through 100 and therefore sue these Defendants by such fictitious names pursuant to the provisions of California Code of Civil Procedure § 474. Plaintiff is informed and believes, and upon such information and belief alleges, that each of the Defendants designated as a Doe are legally responsible in some manner for the events and happenings hereinafter referred to, and caused damages thereby as hereinafter alleged. Plaintiff will seek leave of the Court to amend this complaint to show the true names and capacities of the Defendants, and each of them, designated as Does when the same have been ascertained. At all times relevant to this action Defendants and Does 1 through 100, inclusive, and each of them, were the agents, servants, employees and joint venturers of each other and at all times herein mentioned each and all were acting within the course, scope and purpose of their respective agency, service, employment and joint venture relationships.
- 40. Defendants design, manufacture, market, advertise, promote, distribute, and/or sell Galaxy Gas in the United States.
- 41. This is an action for damages in excess of the sum of Thirty-Five Thousand (\$35,000.00) Dollars, exclusive of interest and costs.
- 42. This Court has personal jurisdiction over the Defendants because they have committed the acts complained of herein in the State of California. Defendants have significant contacts with the State of California such that they are subject to personal jurisdiction of the Court.
- 43. This Court has personal jurisdiction over Defendants for the additional reason that they have engaged in substantial, systematic and continuous contacts with this State by, inter alia, regularly conducting, controlling, maintaining, and soliciting business in the State of California, deriving substantial revenue from products and/or services provided and promoted to persons in the State of California, and in some circumstance, from products and services provided from persons in the State of California.
- 44. Venue is appropriate within the County of Orange pursuant to Section 395(a) of the Code of Civil Procedure because Plaintiff's physical injuries and property damage were incurred within the County of Orange.

45. Upon information and belief, at all relevant times, Defendants did, and continue to do, business throughout the United States, including within the State of California. Defendants, either directly or through their agents, designed, manufactured, labeled, distributed, promoted, marketed, solicited, and sold the product at issue in this matter and instructed smoke shops regarding the advantages of and the method of implanting this product as "safe" and at the same time promoting addiction.

FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS

- 46. Nitrous oxide, commonly known as laughing gas, nangs, hippy crack, or nitrous oxide, is a colorless, odorless, non-flammable gas.
- 47. Nitrous oxide is manufactured and sold for various purposes, including as a whipping propellant for food-grade aerosols, an oxidizer in motor racing fuels, and as an anesthetic and pain reliever in surgery and dentistry.
 - 48. Galaxy Gas is a nitrous oxide that comes in a hand-held canister:



49. Galaxy Gas also comes in small canisters called "chargers" that are easily accessible and pocket size:







- 50. The nitrous oxide in Galaxy Gas is inhaled with a nozzle or balloon attached to the dispenser. Once inhaled, the nitrous oxide is quickly absorbed into the bloodstream through the lungs; then, it travels rapidly to the brain and the rest of the body.
- 51. Nozzles, commonly used to inhale the nitrous oxide in the Galaxy Gas canister, are included in the Galaxy Gas packaging. Balloons are complimentary when purchasing Galaxy Gas at smoke shops and gas stations.
- 52. Once the user places Galaxy Gas nitrous oxide via nozzle, balloon, or directly from the canister in their mouth, the nitrous oxide is quickly absorbed into the bloodstream through the lungs, before traveling rapidly to the brain and the rest of the body.¹⁰
- 53. Nitrous oxide, when in liquid form, can cause severe scar burns or frostbite to the skin and any contact areas.¹¹
- 54. Galaxy Gas is available in chargers or canisters of 8g, 375g, 580g, 615g, 700g, 1365g, and 2000g.
- 55. The popularity of nitrous oxide consumption among young adults is explained by its easy availability, low price, and belief by users that it is a relatively safe and socially acceptable drug.¹²

⁹ ALLAN, CAMERON & BRUNO, *supra* note 1.

¹⁰ *Id*.

 $^{| ^{11}}$ Id

 $^{^{12}}$ Leleu & Denimal, A Case of Functional Vitamin B12 Deficiency After recreational Nitrous Oxide Use, NHI (2023).

- 56. Unlike medical-grade nitrous oxide, food-grade nitrous oxide is not combined with oxygen, resulting in higher concentrations of pure nitrous oxide. Inhalation of high concentrations of nitrous oxide deprives the body of oxygen. Depriving the brain of oxygen can cause nerve damage, unconsciousness, and even death.
- 57. Inhaling nitrous oxide can result in a rapid rush of euphoric, dissociated, and out-of-body experiences. It causes the user to get very dizzy, light-headed, and giggly. The high is brief but very intense, and the sensation is often described as a sensation of "floating."¹³
- 58. Systematic use of nitrous oxide may lead to many long-term physical effects and disorders, including memory loss, vitamin B12 deficiencies, numbness in the hands, feet, and other body parts, neuropathy, limb spasms, loss of muscle control in arms, legs, and other body parts, weakened immunity, and disruption to the reproductive system.¹⁴
- 59. Systematic use of nitrous oxide may also lead to many long-term mental health disorders, including depression, addiction, anxiety, psychological dependency, and psychosis. 15
- 60. An overdose of nitrous oxide may result in symptoms such as seizures, irregular heartbeat, chest pain, heart palpitations, loss of consciousness, shallow or slow breathing, and skin color changes in lips and fingernails. These symptoms are commonly experienced day to day among users. ¹⁶
- 61. Defendants knew or should have known of the purposes and common use of Galaxy Gas as a nitrous oxide inhalant. The recreational use of nitrous oxide from Galaxy Gas has been widely advertised and published among influencers on social media and professional news outlets.
- 62. At all times, material Defendant GALAXY GAS designed, manufactured, assembled, inspected, tested (or not), packaged, marketed, advertised, promoted, supplied, distributed, and/or sold Galaxy Gas nitrous oxide.

¹³ ALLAN, CAMERON & BRUNO, *supra* note 2.

¹⁴ Alcohol and Drug Foundation, What is Nitrous Oxide?, https://adf.org.au/drug-facts/nitrous-oxide/

^{| 15} Id.

 $_{28}$ | 16 *Id*.

- 63. At all times, material Defendant SBK INTERNATIONAL, INC., designed, manufactured, assembled, inspected, tested (or not), packaged, marketed, promoted, supplied, distributed, and/or sold Galaxy Gas nitrous oxide.
- 64. At all times, material Defendant SBK INTERNATIONAL LLC, designed, manufactured, assembled, inspected, tested (or not), packaged, marketed, promoted, supplied, distributed, and/or sold Galaxy Gas nitrous oxide.
- 65. At all times, material Defendant AMSTERDAM SMOKE SHOP LLC, designed, manufactured, assembled, inspected, tested (or not), packaged, marketed, promoted, supplied, distributed, and/or sold Galaxy Gas nitrous oxide.
- 66. At all times, material Defendant CLOUD MARKET AND SMOKE SHOP, INC., designed, manufactured, assembled, inspected, tested (or not), packaged, marketed, promoted, supplied, distributed, and/or sold Galaxy Gas nitrous oxide.
- 67. At all times, material Defendant DAMIR BERY, INC. d/b/a SMOKE & VAPE, designed, manufactured, assembled, inspected, tested (or not), packaged, marketed, promoted, supplied, distributed, and/or sold Galaxy Gas nitrous oxide.
- 68. At all times, material Defendant DTLA SMOKE SHOP, INC., designed, manufactured, assembled, inspected, tested (or not), packaged, marketed, promoted, supplied, distributed, and/or sold Galaxy Gas nitrous oxide.
- 69. At all times, material Defendant KARIM TIJANI AMOR designed, manufactured, assembled, inspected, tested (or not), packaged, marketed, promoted, supplied, distributed, and/or sold Galaxy Gas nitrous oxide.
- 70. At all times, material Defendant SAMMY AMOR designed, manufactured, assembled, inspected, tested (or not), packaged, marketed, promoted, supplied, distributed, and/or sold Galaxy Gas nitrous oxide.
- 71. At all times, material Defendant BEN AMOR designed, manufactured, assembled, inspected, tested (or not), packaged, marketed, promoted, supplied, distributed, and/or sold Galaxy Gas nitrous oxide.

- a. The subject nitrous oxide canisters were sold for recreational use;
- b. The subject nitrous oxide canisters were designed to promote recreational
- c. The subject nitrous oxide canisters were of inappropriate size;
- d. The subject nitrous oxide canisters were provided to consumers in unreasonable quantities;
 - e. The subject nitrous oxide canisters are addictive;
- f. The subject nitrous oxide canisters failed to contain adequate guarding, which allows for repetitive recreational use;
- g. The subject nitrous oxide canisters failed to incorporate abuse-deterrent designs;
 - h. The subject nitrous oxide canisters failed to contain an adequate warning; and
 - i. Such further defects as discovery and the evidence shall reveal.
- 82. Galaxy Gas was sold in a defective condition that is unreasonably dangerous and unsafe and posed a substantial likelihood of harm to Plaintiff because of reasons including the high delivery of nitrous oxide, the likelihood of nitrous oxide addiction and the risks of behavioral, cognitive, and mental health injuries, neurological injuries, and pulmonary injuries, cyanosis secondary to hypoxia, long term vitamin B12 (cobalamin) deficiency, subacute combined degeneration, and among other harmful effects.
- 83. Galaxy Gas was sold in a defective condition that is unreasonably dangerous and unsafe to Plaintiff because Defendants failed to adequately warn about the risk of nitrous oxide addiction and failed to warn of the risks of behavioral, cognitive, and mental health injuries, neurological injuries, and pulmonary injuries, cyanosis secondary to hypoxia, long term vitamin B12 (cobalamin) deficiency, subacute combined degeneration, and among other harmful effects.
- 84. Defendants designed and promoted Galaxy Gas to specifically appeal to minors and young adults who were particularly unable to appreciate the risks posed by Galaxy Gas.
- 85. Defendants designed Galaxy Gas with a pharmacokinetic profile engineered to create risks of abuse and addiction.

- 86. Defendants defectively designed Galaxy Gas in that it is inherently dangerous because it included features making the product attractive and more palatable to the youth. These features include its concealability and its so-called "safe for consumption" and "Food and Drug Administration Approval" conditions, which are false and misleading.
- 87. Galaxy Gas does not perform as safely as a reasonable and ordinary consumer would reasonably assume and reasonably expect, as Galaxy Gas is designed to cause and sustain nitrous oxide addiction, delivers a potent amount of nitrous oxide, and is likely to cause behavioral, cognitive, and mental health injuries, neurological injuries, pulmonary injuries, cyanosis secondary to hypoxia, long term vitamin B12 (cobalamin) deficiency, subacute combined degeneration, and among other harmful effects.
- 88. The risks inherent in the design of Galaxy Gas significantly outweigh any benefits of such design.
- 89. Defendants could have utilized cost-effective, reasonably feasible alternative designs to minimize these harms, such as by designing products that delivered less nitrous oxide, preventing the sale of Galaxy Gas in smoke shops, and/or did not have flavors that attract youths and young adults like Plaintiff.
 - 90. Plaintiff used Galaxy Gas as intended or in reasonably foreseeable ways.
- 91. Plaintiff's injuries, physical, emotional, and economic, were reasonably foreseeable at the time of Galaxy Gas's design, manufacture, distribution, and sale.
- 92. Galaxy Gas was defective and unreasonably dangerous when they left Defendants' possession. The defects continued to exist through the products' sale to and use by consumers, including Plaintiff, who used the products without any substantial change in the products' condition.
- 93. Plaintiff was injured as a direct and proximate result of Galaxy Gas's defective design as described herein. The defective design of Galaxy Gas was a substantial factor in causing Plaintiff's harms.
- 94. Plaintiff demands judgment against Defendants for compensatory damages, medical monitoring to diagnose Galaxy Gas induced injuries at an earlier date to allow for timely treatment and prevention of exacerbation of injuries, together with interest, costs of suit, attorney's fees, and

all such other relief as the Court deems proper.

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SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION

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STRICT LIABILITY – FAILURE TO WARN

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(By Plaintiff Against All Defendants)

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95. Plaintiff repeats, reiterates, and realleges each and every allegation of this Complaint contained in each of the foregoing paragraphs inclusive, with the same force and effect as if more

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fully set forth herein.

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96. Defendants designed, manufactured, assembled, inspected, tested (or not), packaged, labeled, marketed, advertised, promoted, supplied, distributed, and/or sold Galaxy Gas that Plaintiff

consumed.

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97. Galaxy Gas was sold in a defective condition that is unreasonably dangerous and

unsafe to Plaintiff because Defendants failed to adequately warn about the risk of nitrous oxide

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addiction and failed to warn of the risks of behavioral, cognitive, and mental health injuries,

neurological injuries, and pulmonary injuries, cyanosis secondary to hypoxia, long term vitamin

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B12 (cobalamin) deficiency, subacute combined degeneration, and among other harmful effects.

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98. Defendants were aware that Galaxy Gas posed risks that were known and knowable in light of scientific and medical knowledge that was generally accepted in the scientific community

at the time of design, manufacture, distribution, and sale of Galaxy Gas.

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99. Galaxy Gas is defective because, among other reasons described herein, Defendants failed to warn consumers, including Plaintiff, in Galaxy Gas's labeling, packaging, and through the

marketing promotion, and advertising of Galaxy Gas including that:

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Galaxy Gas causes, maintains, or aggravates nitrous oxide addiction and subject consumers to the risks of concomitant health hazards that addictive, i.e., compulsive

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behavior can result in, and that this danger was even greater for minors;

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b. Galaxy Gas causes harm by increased exposure to nitrous oxide and other

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Galaxy Gas is a nitrous oxide delivery device not intended for youth or young c.

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adults;

harmful ingredients;

- d. Galaxy Gas delivers nitrous oxide at greater levels than medically recommended;
- e. Galaxy Gas carries risks of behavioral, cognitive, and mental health injuries, neurological injuries, and pulmonary injuries, cyanosis secondary to hypoxia, long term vitamin B12 (cobalamin) deficiency, subacute combined degeneration, and among other harmful effects;
 - f. Which and when medical symptoms warranted medical care; and
 - g. How much Galaxy Gas nitrous oxide is safe to consume in a day.
- 100. The failure to adequately warn about its defective products and to misleadingly advertise through conventional and social media avenues created a danger of injuries described herein that were reasonably foreseeable at the time of labeling, design, manufacture, distribution, and sale of Galaxy Gas.
- 101. Ordinary consumers would not have recognized the potential risks of Galaxy Gas when used in a manner reasonably foreseeable to Defendants.
- 102. Defendants are strictly liable for the sale of defective Galaxy Gas products that contained inadequate warnings.
- 103. Plaintiff could not have averted injury through exercise of reasonable care for reasons including Defendants' concealment of the true risks posed by Galaxy Gas.
- 104. Galaxy Gas was defective and unreasonably dangerous when it left Defendants' possession because it lacked adequate warnings. The defects continued to exist through the products' sale to and use by consumers, including Plaintiff, who used the products without any substantial change in the products' condition.
- 105. Defendants could have provided adequate warnings and instructions to prevent the harms and injuries set forth herein.
- 106. Plaintiff was injured as a direct and proximate result of Defendants' failure to warn because Plaintiff would not have used or purchased Galaxy Gas had Plaintiff received adequate warnings and instructions.
- 107. Defendants lack of adequate and sufficient warnings and instructions and its inadequate and misleading advertising was a substantial contributing factor in causing harms to

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Plaintiff demands judgment against Defendants for compensatory damages, medical monitoring to diagnose Galaxy Gas induced injuries at an earlier date to allow for timely treatment and prevention of exacerbation of injuries, together with interest, costs of suit, attorney's fees, and all such other relief as the Court deems proper.

THIRD CAUSE OF ACTION

<u>NEGLIGENCE</u>

(By Plaintiff Against All Defendants)

- 109. Plaintiff repeats, reiterates, and realleges each and every allegation of this Complaint contained in each of the foregoing paragraphs inclusive, with the same force and effect as if more fully set forth herein.
- 110. Defendants designed, manufactured, assembled, inspected, tested (or not), packaged, labeled, marketed, advertised, promoted, supplied, distributed, and/or sold Galaxy Gas that Plaintiff consumed.
- 111. Galaxy Gas was the type of product that could endanger others if negligently made, promoted, and sold.
- 112. Defendants had a duty of reasonable care in designing, manufacturing, assembling, inspecting, testing, packaging, labeling, marketing, advertising, promoting, supplying, distributing, and/or selling Galaxy Gas to avoid causing harm to those that consumed Galaxy Gas.
- 113. Defendants knew or should have known through the exercise of reasonable care that the risks of consumers of Galaxy, a powerfully addictive and dangerous nitrous oxide delivery device.
- 114. Defendants knew or should have known, through the exercise of reasonable care, that minors and young adults would be attracted to Galaxy Gas.
- 115. Defendants knew or should have known, through the exercise of reasonable care, that Galaxy Gas was dangerous, harmful, and injurious when used by Plaintiff in a reasonably foreseeable manner, particularly with minors and young adults.

- 116. Defendants knew or should have known through the exercise of reasonable care, that Galaxy Gas was designed to cause or sustain nitrous oxide addiction and that Galaxy Gas posed a risk of harm, including risks of addiction, behavioral, cognitive, and mental health injuries, neurological injuries, and pulmonary injuries, cyanosis secondary to hypoxia, long term vitamin B12 (cobalamin) deficiency, subacute combined degeneration, and among other harmful effects, as described herein, that were known and knowable in light of scientific and medical knowledge that was generally accepted in the scientific community at the time of design, manufacture, distribution, promotion, and sale of Galaxy Gas.
- 117. Defendants knew or should have known through the exercise of reasonable care that Galaxy Gas needed to be researched, designed, manufactured, assembled, inspected, tested, packaged, labeled, marketed, advertised, promoted, supplied, distributed, and/or sold properly, without defects and with due care to avoid needlessly causing harm.
- 118. Defendants knew or should have known through the exercise of reasonable care that Galaxy Gas could cause serious risk of harm, particularly to young adults and minors.
- 119. Defendants were negligent, reckless, and careless and failed to take the care and duty owed to Plaintiff, thereby causing Plaintiff to suffer harm.
 - 120. Defendants breached their duty of care by, among other things:
- a. Failing to perform adequate testing of Galaxy Gas prior to marketing to ensure safety, including long-term testing of the product, and testing for injury to the brain and pulmonary systems, respiratory, gastrointestinal, and periodontal, and other related medical conditions, as well as its effect on mental health;
- b. Failing to inform or warn consumers, including Plaintiff, that Galaxy Gas had not been adequately tested or researched prior to marketing to ensure safety;
 - c. Failure to take reasonable care in the design of Galaxy Gas;
- d. Failure to take reasonable care in the advertising, promoting, and marketing of Galaxy Gas;
- e. Failure to warn consumers, including Plaintiff, of the dangers associated with Galaxy Gas, including that it was unsafe, is powerfully addictive, can cause permanent changes in

- 127. Defendants designed, manufactured, distributed, packaged, compounded, merchandised, advertised, promoted, supplied and sold Galaxy Gas, before Galaxy Gas was purchased and used, Defendants impliedly warranted to Plaintiff and the FDA that Galaxy Gas were of merchantable quality and safe for the use for which they were intended.
- 128. Plaintiff relied on the skill, judgment, and representations of Defendants in purchasing and using Galaxy Gas.
- 129. Galaxy Gas was unsafe for their intended use and was not of merchantable quality as warranted by Defendants in that they had dangerous propensities when put to their intended use.
- 130. Plaintiff now suffers from the continuing likelihood of medical problems described herein.
- 131. As a proximate cause of Defendants' actions, Plaintiff must employ clinicians to examine, treat, and care for them and will incur medical, hospital, pharmaceutical, and incidental and consequential expenses. Plaintiff will continue to incur such medical, hospital, pharmaceutical, and incidental and consequential expenses in the future.

FIFTH CAUSE OF ACTION

BREACH OF EXPRESS WARRANTY

(By Plaintiff Against All Defendants)

- 132. Plaintiff repeats, reiterates, and realleges each and every allegation of this Complaint contained in each of the foregoing paragraphs inclusive, with the same force and effect as if more fully set forth herein.
- 133. Defendants designed, manufactured, distributed, packaged, compounded, merchandised, advertised, promoted, supplied, and sold Galaxy Gas, and before Galaxy Gas was purchased and used, Defendants expressly warranted to Plaintiff that Galaxy Gas was of merchantable quality and safe for the use for which they were intended.
- 134. At the time of making said express warranties, Defendants had knowledge of the purpose for which Galaxy Gas was to be used and warranted them to be, in all respects, fit, safe, effective, and proper for such purposes.

SCHLESINGER LAW OFFICES, P.A. Jonathan R. Gdanski (to be admitted *Pro Hac Vice*) Jeffrey L. Haberman (to be admitted Pro Hac Vice) Malaak Abdulrazzak(to be admitted *Pro Hac Vice*) Attorneys for Plaintiff ALEXANDER KELLAM

DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL A trial by jury is hereby demanded by Plaintiff on all triable issues. DATED: April 2, 2025 **KIESEL LAW LLP** By: Kaitlyn E. Fry SCHLESINGER LAW OFFICES, P.A. Jonathan R. Gdanski (to be admitted *Pro Hac Vice*) Jeffrey L. Haberman (to be admitted *Pro Hac Vice*) Malaak Abdulrazzak(to be admitted *Pro Hac Vice*) Attorneys for Plaintiff ALEXANDER KELLAM