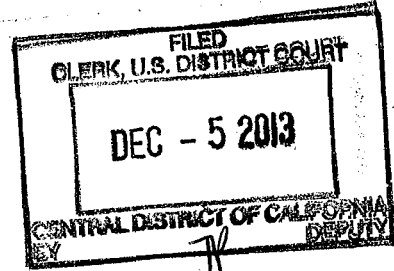


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16 Attorneys for the Plaintiff
 17 Federal Trade Commission

18 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
 19 CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

20 FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION;

21 Plaintiff,

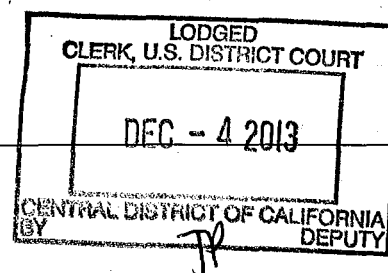
22 v.

24 TATTO, INC., a corporation, also d/b/a
 25 WINBIGBIDLOW and TATTO MEDIA;

26 BULLROARER, INC., a corporation, also
 27 d/b/a BULLROARER CORPORATION
 28 PTY LTD;

Case No. **CV 13-8912 DSF (FFM)**

**COMPLAINT FOR PERMANENT
 INJUNCTION AND OTHER
 EQUITABLE RELIEF**



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FILED
CLERK, U.S. DISTRICT COURT
DEC - 5 2013
CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA
BY JY DEPUTY

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18 Attorneys for the Plaintiff
19 Federal Trade Commission

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21

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

20 FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION,

Case No. **CV 13-8912 DSF (FFM)**

21 Plaintiff,

COMPLAINT FOR PERMANENT
22 INJUNCTION AND OTHER
23 EQUITABLE RELIEF

24 v.

24 TATTO, INC., a corporation, also d/b/a
25 WINBIGBIDLOW and TATTO MEDIA;

26 BULLROARER, INC., a corporation, also
27 d/b/a BULLROARER CORPORATION
28 PTY LTD;

LODGED
CLERK, U.S. DISTRICT COURT
DEC - 4 2013
CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA
BY JY DEPUTY

1 SHABOOM MEDIA, LLC, a limited
2 liability company, also d/b/a TATTO
3 MEDIA;
4 BUNE, LLC, a limited liability company;
5 MOBILE MEDIA PRODUCTS, LLC, a
6 limited liability company;
7 CHAIRMAN VENTURES, LLC, a
8 limited liability company;
9 GALACTIC MEDIA, LLC, a limited
10 liability company;
11 VIRTUS MEDIA, LLC, a limited liability
12 company;
13 LIN MIAO, in his individual and
14 corporate capacity; and
15 ANDREW BACHMAN, in his individual
16 and corporate capacity;
17 Defendants.

18
19 Plaintiff, the Federal Trade Commission (“FTC”), for its Complaint alleges:

20 1. The FTC brings this action under Section 13(b) of the Federal Trade
21 Commission Act (“FTC Act”), 15 U.S.C. § 53(b), to obtain temporary,
22 preliminary, and permanent injunctive relief, rescission or reformation of contracts,
23 restitution, the refund of monies paid, disgorgement of ill-gotten monies, and other
24 equitable relief for Defendants’ acts or practices in violation of Section 5(a) of the
25 FTC Act, 15 U.S.C. § 45(a). As explained herein, Defendants have been engaging
26 in a widespread scheme to place unauthorized third-party charges on consumers’
27 mobile phone bills, a harmful and illegal practice known as “cramming.”
28

1 **JURISDICTION AND VENUE**

2 2. This Court has subject matter jurisdiction pursuant to 28 U.S.C.
3 §§ 1331, 1337(a), and 1345, and 15 U.S.C. §§ 45(a) and 53(b).

4 3. Venue is proper in this district under 28 U.S.C. § 1391(b)(2), (c)(1)
5 and (2), and (d), and 15 U.S.C. § 53(b).

6 **PLAINTIFF**

7 4. The FTC is an independent agency of the United States Government
8 created by statute. 15 U.S.C. §§ 41-58. The FTC enforces Section 5(a) of the FTC
9 Act, 15 U.S.C. § 45(a), which prohibits unfair or deceptive acts or practices in or
10 affecting commerce.

11 5. The FTC is authorized to initiate federal district court proceedings, by
12 its own attorneys, to enjoin violations of the FTC Act and to secure such equitable
13 relief as may be appropriate in each case, including rescission or reformation of
14 contracts, restitution, the refund of monies paid, and the disgorgement of ill-gotten
15 monies. 15 U.S.C. §§ 53(b) and 56(a)(2)(A).

16 **DEFENDANTS**

17 6. Defendant Tatto, Inc. (“Tatto”) is a Delaware corporation with its
18 principal place of business in Los Angeles, California. Tatto transacts or has
19 transacted business in this District and throughout the United States.

20 7. Defendant Bullroarer, Inc. (“Bullroarer”) is a Delaware corporation
21 with its principal place of business located in San Francisco, California. Bullroarer
22 transacts or has transacted business in this District and throughout the United
23 States.

24 8. Defendant Shaboom Media, LLC (“Shaboom”) is a Delaware limited
25 liability company with its principal place of business located in Boston,
26 Massachusetts. Shaboom transacts or has transacted business in this District and
27 throughout the United States.

28

1 9. Defendant Bune LLC (“Bune”) is a Delaware limited liability
2 company with its principal place of business located in Boston, Massachusetts.
3 Bune transacts or has transacted business in this District and throughout the United
4 States.

5 10. Defendant Mobile Media Products, LLC (“Mobile Media”) is a
6 Delaware limited liability company with its principal place of business located in
7 Beverly Hills, California. Mobile Media transacts or has transacted business in
8 this District and throughout the United States.

9 11. Defendant Chairman Ventures, LLC (“Chairman Ventures”) has been
10 a Delaware limited liability company with its principal place of business located in
11 Boston, Massachusetts. Chairman Ventures transacts or has transacted business in
12 this District and throughout the United States.

13 12. Defendant Galactic Media, LLC (“Galactic Media”) has been a
14 Delaware limited liability company with its principal place of business located in
15 Boston, Massachusetts. Galactic Media transacts or has transacted business in this
16 District and throughout the United States.

17 13. Defendant Virtus Media, LLC (“Virtus Media”) has been a Delaware
18 limited liability company with its principal place of business located in Boston,
19 Massachusetts. Virtus Media transacts or has transacted business in this District
20 and throughout the United States.

21 14. Defendant Lin Miao (“Miao”) has been an owner and officer of Tatto
22 and an officer of Shaboom and Chairman Ventures. He has also been listed as a
23 contact or authorized person in various state filings and corporate documents for
24 Bune, Mobile Media, Virtus Media, and Galactic Media. At all times material to
25 this complaint, acting alone or in concert with others, Miao formulated, directed,
26 controlled, had the authority to control, or participated in the acts and practices of
27 the Tatto Corporate Defendants (as defined below), including the acts and practices
28 set forth in this Complaint. Since at least the Spring of 2011, acting alone or in

1 concert with others, Miao formulated, directed, controlled, had the authority to
2 control, or participated in the acts and practices of Bullroarer, including the acts
3 and practices set forth in this Complaint. Defendant Miao resides in this District
4 and, in connection with the matters alleged herein, transacts or has transacted
5 business in this District and throughout the United States.

6 15. Defendant Andrew Bachman ("Bachman") has been an owner and
7 officer of Tatto and an officer of Shaboom and Virtus Media. His personal
8 residence has been used as the mailing address for several of the Corporate
9 Defendants, including Shaboom, Bune, and Virtus Media. Until at least the Fall of
10 2012, acting alone or in concert with others, Bachman formulated, directed,
11 controlled, had the authority to control, or participated in the acts and practices of
12 the Tatto Corporate Defendants (as defined below), including the acts and practices
13 set forth in this Complaint. Defendant Bachman, in connection with the matters
14 alleged herein, transacts or has transacted business in this District and throughout
15 the United States.

16 **COMMON ENTERPRISES**

17 16. At all times material to this Complaint, and since at least January
18 2011, Defendants Tatto, Shaboom, Bune, Mobile Media, Chairman Ventures,
19 Galactic Media, and Virtus Media (collectively, "Tatto Corporate Defendants")
20 have operated as a common enterprise while engaging in the unlawful acts and
21 practices alleged herein. The Tatto Corporate Defendants have conducted the
22 business practices described herein through interrelated companies that have
23 common ownership, officers, managers, business functions, employees, and office
24 locations, and that commingled funds. Because the Tatto Corporate Defendants
25 have operated as a common enterprise, each of them is jointly and severally liable
26 for the acts and practices alleged herein. Individual Defendants Miao and
27 Bachman have formulated, directed, controlled, had the authority to control, or
28

1 participated in the acts and practices of the Tatto Corporate Defendants that
2 constitute the Tatto common enterprise.

3 17. Since at least the spring of 2011, Defendant Bullroarer and the Tatto
4 Corporate Defendants (collectively, "Corporate Defendants") have operated as a
5 common enterprise while engaging in the unlawful acts and practices alleged
6 herein. The Corporate Defendants have conducted the business practices described
7 herein through interrelated companies that have common business functions and
8 commingled funds. Further, Bullroarer and Tatto are commonly owned by Ozura
9 World, Ltd., a Hong Kong-based company. Because the Corporate Defendants
10 have operated as a common enterprise, each of them is jointly and severally liable
11 for the acts and practices alleged herein for the period of the common enterprise.
12 Individual Defendants Miao and Bachman have formulated, directed, controlled,
13 had the authority to control, or participated in the acts and practices of the
14 Corporate Defendants that constitute the Bullroarer/Tatto common enterprise.

15 **COMMERCE**

16 18. At all times material to this Complaint, Defendants have maintained a
17 substantial course of trade in or affecting commerce, as "commerce" is defined in
18 Section 4 of the FTC Act, 15 U.S.C. § 44.

19 **DEFENDANTS' ACTIVITIES**

20 19. Defendants have been operating a scam in which they have been
21 billing consumers for text message-based subscription services even though the
22 consumers did not authorize any purchase of the services. Defendants' purported
23 services have included sending periodic text messages containing celebrity gossip
24 alerts, "fun facts," horoscopes, and similar kinds of information. Using the billing
25 mechanisms of mobile phone companies, Defendants have been causing
26 unauthorized charges for these services to be placed on consumers' mobile phone
27 bills, often with abbreviated and uninformative descriptions. Many consumers
28 have paid their mobile bills without ever noticing these charges; others have paid

1 and then unsuccessfully have disputed the third-party charges without obtaining a
2 refund; still others have disputed the charges and succeeded in having them
3 removed only after substantial effort. Defendants have been receiving a substantial
4 percentage of the unauthorized charges that have been collected, and have made
5 millions of dollars.

6 **The Placement of Third-Party Charges on Phone Bills**

7 20. Mobile phone bills can include charges for so-called “Premium SMS”
8 services provided by third-party merchants rather than a consumer’s mobile phone
9 company. Premium SMS services allow consumers to purchase digital goods or
10 services by using text messages (also known as “SMS” messages) sent to and from
11 their mobile phones. For example, a merchant – known in this context as a
12 “content provider” – may offer digital content, such as a game that can be played
13 on a consumer’s phone that can be ordered and purchased by the consumer using
14 text messaging. The charge for the service is placed on the consumer’s monthly
15 mobile bill.

16 21. In order to send commercial text messages to consumers and place
17 charges on a phone bill, a content provider uses a five- or six-digit number called a
18 “short code.” There are several ways consumers can be enrolled in Premium SMS
19 services using short codes. The content provider typically advertises to consumers
20 and instructs them on how to order the service via text message. Under standard
21 industry practice, the content provider generally requires the consumer to take two
22 steps to confirm a purchase, a practice that is known as “double opt-in”
23 verification. For example, a consumer can send a text message from a cell phone
24 to the short code and receive in response a text message describing how to opt-in to
25 the subscription program, which typically involves replying to the text message
26 with a particular keyword. The content provider enters into agreements – often via
27 a third party known as an “aggregator” – to place charges on specific mobile
28 carriers’ mobile phone bills. The content provider is responsible for delivering the

1 digital content to the consumer's mobile phone, and it bills the consumer and
2 collects charges by having the phone company place the appropriate charge on the
3 consumer's bill. The aggregator then transmits the content provider's share of the
4 funds from the mobile phone company to the content provider.

5 **Defendants' Scam**

6 22. Defendants purportedly have been providing a number of Premium
7 SMS services through various short codes. However, unlike legitimate content
8 providers, Defendants have not been obtaining consumers' knowing agreement to
9 pay for their purported services. Instead, they have been placing the charges onto
10 consumers' phone bills without their consent – a practice known as “cramming” –
11 and profiting when consumers pay their phone bills without noticing these
12 unauthorized charges.

13 23. In this case, Defendants have offered their purported services using
14 multiple short codes. For example, Tatto and Bune have offered a subscription
15 service called “Hollywood Stars Live! Alerts,” which purportedly provides three
16 weekly celebrity-related text messages, using short codes 88044 and 580580.
17 Bune also has advertised a subscription service called “FlashFacts” which
18 purportedly provides three “fun facts” a week by text message, using the short
19 code 58678. Galactic Media and Mobile Media Products each have offered a
20 subscription service called “MyLuvCrush,” which purportedly provides an initial
21 “love reading” and up to 12 horoscope readings per month by text message using
22 the short code 60206. Each subscription typically costs \$9.99 per month and
23 automatically renews every month. All of the Defendants have offered similar
24 kinds of services using other short codes as well. Defendants have operated and
25 billed for such services on multiple mobile phone networks.

26 24. Defendants have been placing the charges on consumers' mobile
27 phone bills despite the fact that consumers did not knowingly sign up for their
28 services. In some instances, consumers have received text messages containing

1 random factoids or other types of message alerts, but these messages often appear
2 merely to be spam, which consumers therefore ignore. Defendants also likely have
3 been using misleading website offers to obtain consumers' phone numbers and to
4 sign them up for subscription services. For example, one website informed
5 consumers that they had won free Justin Bieber tickets, which they could claim by
6 completing an online quiz and entering their score. One of the following screens
7 directed the consumer to enter his/her cell phone number. After the quiz was
8 complete, consumers did not receive Justin Bieber tickets, yet it is likely that any
9 phone numbers entered were signed up for one of Defendants' services.

10 25. Defendants have been placing these charges even though the
11 consumers did not knowingly consent to sign up for the services that Defendants
12 purportedly provide, whether by a "double opt-in" or any other process in which a
13 consumer provides express informed consent to the charges.

14 26. Many consumers have not noticed Defendants' charges included on
15 their phone bills, and have paid their bills in full. The charges have often appeared
16 on a bill in an abbreviated and confusing form. For example, the billing descriptor
17 for Bune's "MobChance Gossip Alerts" text alert service has been
18 "77050IQ12CALL8663611606." Similarly, the billing descriptor for Bullroarer's
19 "Tonetime Content" service has been "25184USBFIQMIG." The \$9.99 per month
20 charge has been included in the total amount due for the entire mobile phone bill.
21 Consumers may not notice slight variations in their bill totals from month to
22 month. Indeed, consumers billed by Defendants often failed to notice the charges
23 on their bills. Further, the charges have been recurring – \$9.99 each month –
24 unless and until the consumer notices the charge and takes action to unsubscribe.

25 27. In some cases, consumers have noticed the unauthorized charges on
26 their phone bills and attempted to dispute those charges and/or any additional
27 charges related to the Defendants that they may have paid in the past. This process
28 has been difficult and often unsuccessful. In numerous instances, the Defendants'

1 contact phone numbers were not provided with the description on the phone bill.
2 If consumers were able to find a phone number, they have often reached
3 representatives who claim they will provide refunds, but do not. In many cases,
4 consumers have not received refunds for all of the months that they paid the bogus
5 charges.

6 28. Consumers who have noticed the crammed charges have complained
7 in significant numbers, and some phone companies have refunded between 20 and
8 40% of all charges on certain short codes in various months. Defendants have
9 continued to receive Better Business Bureau and other complaints from consumers
10 who did not expressly sign up for Defendants' services. Throughout 2011 and
11 2012, two major phone companies suspended many of Defendants' short codes for
12 excessive refund rates and misrepresentations in Defendants' marketing and
13 advertising. Another phone company warned Defendants of excessive refund rates
14 on certain of the short codes.

15 29. Defendants have been receiving a substantial portion of the charges
16 collected by the mobile phone company, authorized or not. Defendants have made
17 millions from the unauthorized charges, notwithstanding that many consumers
18 have complained and that some phone companies have terminated their short
19 codes.

20 30. All the Defendants have been participating in and profiting from this
21 activity. Defendant Miao has been at the center of the fraudulent operations. At
22 various times, he has held himself out as the President, Treasurer, Secretary,
23 Director, CEO, and owner of Tatto. He has also been an officer of Shaboom and
24 Chairman Ventures, and has been listed as a contact or authorized person in
25 various state filings and corporate documents for Bune, Mobile Media, Virtus
26 Media, and Galactic Media. He has also identified himself as an officer of Ozura
27 World, Ltd., the parent company of both Bullroarer and Tatto. He is the sole
28 signatory on several of Tatto's corporate bank accounts, and he personally signed

1 checks as part of the daily operations of the companies. He has also been the
2 signatory on forms submitted to the wireless carriers in connection with the
3 companies' operations. He has directly received at least twenty-nine million
4 dollars from the scam, and he has knowledge and control of the Corporate
5 Defendants' unlawful behavior.

6 31. Defendant Bachman was an owner of Tatto and an officer of
7 Shaboom and Virtus Media during much of the relevant time period. At least until
8 recently, he directed, participated in, and profited from the Corporate Defendants'
9 fraudulent operations. His personal residence has been used as the mailing address
10 for several of the Tatto Corporate Defendants, including Shaboom, Bune, and
11 Virtus Media. He is also listed as the applicant and billing contact on several
12 applications to renew short code leases involved in the scam. He has directly
13 received at least four and a half million dollars from the scam, and he has had
14 knowledge and control of the Corporate Defendants' unlawful behavior.

15 **VIOLATIONS OF THE FTC ACT**

16 32. Section 5(a) of the FTC Act, 15 U.S.C. § 45(a), prohibits "unfair or
17 deceptive acts or practices in or affecting commerce." Misrepresentations or
18 deceptive omissions of material fact constitute deceptive acts or practices
19 prohibited by Section 5(a) of the FTC Act.

20 33. Acts or practices are unfair under Section 5 of the FTC Act if they
21 cause substantial injury to consumers that consumers cannot reasonably avoid
22 themselves and that is not outweighed by countervailing benefits to consumers or
23 competition. 15 U.S.C. § 45(n).

24 **COUNT I**

25 **Deceptive Acts and Practices in Violation of Section 5 of the FTC Act**

26 34. In numerous instances in connection with the sale of Premium SMS
27 services, including "Hollywood Stars Live! Alerts" and "MyLuvCrush" and
28 similar services, Defendants have represented, directly or indirectly, expressly or

1 by implication, that consumers are obligated to pay for charges for Defendants'
2 Premium SMS services appearing on consumers' mobile phone bills.

3 35. In truth and in fact, in numerous instances in which Defendants have
4 made the representations set forth in Paragraph 34 of this Complaint, consumers
5 were not obligated to pay the charges because the consumers did not authorize
6 charges for Defendants' services corresponding to the charges on the bill.

7 36. Therefore, Defendants' representations as set forth in Paragraph 34 of
8 this Complaint are false or misleading and constitute deceptive acts or practices in
9 violation of Section 5(a) of the FTC Act, 15 U.S.C. § 45(a).

10 **COUNT II**

11 **Unfair Billing Practices in Violation of Section 5 of the FTC Act**

12 37. In numerous instances, Defendants have caused consumers' mobile
13 phone accounts to be billed without having previously obtained the consumers'
14 express informed consent.

15 38. Defendants' actions have caused or are likely to cause substantial
16 injury to consumers that consumers cannot reasonably avoid themselves and that is
17 not outweighed by countervailing benefits to consumers or competition.

18 39. Therefore, Defendants' practices as set forth in Paragraph 37
19 constitute unfair acts or practices in violation of Section 5 of the FTC Act, 15
20 U.S.C. § 45(a) and (n).

21 **CONSUMER INJURY**

22 40. Consumers have suffered and will continue to suffer substantial injury
23 as a result of Defendants' violations of the FTC Act. In addition, Defendants have
24 been unjustly enriched as a result of their unlawful acts or practices. Absent
25 injunctive relief by this Court, Defendants are likely to injure consumers, reap
26 unjust enrichment, and harm the public interest.

27
28

THIS COURT'S POWER TO GRANT RELIEF

1
2 41. Section 13(b) of the FTC Act, 15 U.S.C. § 53(b), empowers this Court
3 to grant injunctive and other such relief as the Court may deem appropriate to halt
4 and redress violations of any provision of law enforced by the FTC. The Court, in
5 the exercise of its equitable jurisdiction, may award ancillary relief, including
6 rescission or reformation of contracts, restitution, the refund of monies paid, and
7 the disgorgement of ill-gotten monies, to prevent and remedy any violation of any
8 provision of law enforced by the FTC.

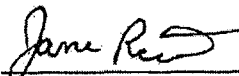
9 **PRAYER FOR RELIEF**

10 Wherefore, Plaintiff FTC, pursuant to Section 13(b) of the FTC Act, § 53(b),
11 and the Court's own equitable powers, requests that the Court:

- 12 A. Award such preliminary and ancillary relief as may be necessary to avert
13 the likelihood of consumer injury during the pendency of this action and
14 to preserve the possibility of effective final relief, including, but not
15 limited to, a temporary and preliminary injunction, asset freeze,
16 appointment of a receiver, an evidence preservation order, and expedited
17 discovery;
- 18 B. Enter a permanent injunction to prevent future violations of the FTC Act
19 by Defendants;
- 20 C. Award such relief as the Court finds necessary to redress injury to
21 consumers resulting from Defendants' violations of the FTC Act,
22 including, but not limited to, rescission and reformation of contracts,
23 restitution, the refund of monies paid, and the disgorgement of ill-gotten
24 monies;
- 25 D. Award Plaintiff the costs of bringing this action, as well as such other and
26 additional relief as the Court may determine to be just and proper.
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Respectfully submitted,
David Shonka
Acting General Counsel



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Attorneys for Plaintiff
Federal Trade Commission

Dated: Dec. 4, 2013

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

NOTICE OF ASSIGNMENT TO UNITED STATES JUDGES

This case has been assigned to District Judge Dale S. Fischer and the assigned Magistrate Judge is Frederick F. Mumm.

The case number on all documents filed with the Court should read as follows:

2:13CV8912 DSF FFMx

Pursuant to General Order 05-07 of the United States District Court for the Central District of California, the Magistrate Judge has been designated to hear discovery related motions.

All discovery related motions should be noticed on the calendar of the Magistrate Judge.

Clerk, U. S. District Court

December 4, 2013

Date

By J.Prado

Deputy Clerk

NOTICE TO COUNSEL

A copy of this notice must be served with the summons and complaint on all defendants (if a removal action is filed, a copy of this notice must be served on all plaintiffs).

Subsequent documents must be filed at the following location:

Western Division
312 N. Spring Street, G-8
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Southern Division
411 West Fourth St., Ste 1053
Santa Ana, CA 92701

Eastern Division
3470 Twelfth Street, Room 134
Riverside, CA 92501

Failure to file at the proper location will result in your documents being returned to you.

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT, CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA
CIVIL COVER SHEET

ORIGINAL

I. (a) PLAINTIFFS (Check box if you are representing yourself)
Federal Trade Commission

DEFENDANTS (Check box if you are representing yourself)
Tatto, Inc., also d/b/a WinBigBidLow and Tatto Media, Bullroarer, Inc., Shaboom Media, LLC, Bune, LLC, Mobile Media Products, LLC, Chairman Ventures, LLC, Galactic Media, LLC, Virtus Media, LLC, Lin Miao, and Andrew Bachman

(b) County of Residence of First Listed Plaintiff _____
(EXCEPT IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES)

County of Residence of First Listed Defendant Los Angeles
(IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES ONLY)

(c) Attorneys (Firm Name, Address and Telephone Number) If you are representing yourself, provide the same information.
Heather Allen, Duane C. Pozza, Jane Ricci, and Robin Thurston, Federal Trade Commission, 600 Pennsylvania Ave., NW, NJ-3158, Washington, DC 20580; (202-326-2042); Faye Chen Barnouw, Federal Trade Comm, 10877 Wilshire Blvd, Ste 700, Los Angeles, CA 90024 (310-824-4380).

Attorneys (Firm Name, Address and Telephone Number) If you are representing yourself, provide the same information.

II. BASIS OF JURISDICTION (Place an X in one box only.)

1. U.S. Government Plaintiff
 2. U.S. Government Defendant

3. Federal Question (U.S. Government Not a Party)
 4. Diversity (Indicate Citizenship of Parties in Item III)

III. CITIZENSHIP OF PRINCIPAL PARTIES-For Diversity Cases Only
(Place an X in one box for plaintiff and one for defendant)

Citizen of This State	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	Incorporated or Principal Place of Business in this State	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 4
Citizen of Another State	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	Incorporated and Principal Place of Business in Another State	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
Citizen or Subject of a Foreign Country	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	Foreign Nation	<input type="checkbox"/> 6	<input type="checkbox"/> 6

IV. ORIGIN (Place an X in one box only.)

1. Original Proceeding
 2. Removed from State Court
 3. Remanded from Appellate Court
 4. Reinstated or Reopened
 5. Transferred from Another District (Specify) _____
 6. Multi-District Litigation

V. REQUESTED IN COMPLAINT: JURY DEMAND: Yes No (Check "Yes" only if demanded in complaint.)

CLASS ACTION under F.R.Cv.P. 23: Yes No **MONEY DEMANDED IN COMPLAINT:** \$ _____

VI. CAUSE OF ACTION (Cite the U.S. Civil Statute under which you are filing and write a brief statement of cause. Do not cite jurisdictional statutes unless diversity.)
Unfair and deceptive acts violating Section 5 of the FTC Act, 15 U.S.C. Sec. 45.

VII. NATURE OF SUIT (Place an X in one box only.)

OTHER STATUTES	CONTRACT	REAL PROPERTY CONT.	IMMIGRATION	PRISONER PETITIONS	PROPERTY RIGHTS
<input type="checkbox"/> 375 False Claims Act	<input type="checkbox"/> 110 Insurance	<input type="checkbox"/> 240 Torts to Land	<input type="checkbox"/> 462 Naturalization Application	Habeas Corpus:	<input type="checkbox"/> 820 Copyrights
<input type="checkbox"/> 400 State Reapportionment	<input type="checkbox"/> 120 Marine	<input type="checkbox"/> 245 Tort Product Liability	<input type="checkbox"/> 465 Other Immigration Actions	<input type="checkbox"/> 463 Alien Detainee	<input type="checkbox"/> 830 Patent
<input type="checkbox"/> 410 Antitrust	<input type="checkbox"/> 130 Miller Act	<input type="checkbox"/> 290 All Other Real Property	TORTS	<input type="checkbox"/> 510 Motions to Vacate Sentence	<input type="checkbox"/> 840 Trademark
<input type="checkbox"/> 430 Banks and Banking	<input type="checkbox"/> 140 Negotiable Instrument	TORTS	PERSONAL PROPERTY	<input type="checkbox"/> 530 General	SOCIAL SECURITY
<input type="checkbox"/> 450 Commerce/ICC Rates/Etc.	<input type="checkbox"/> 150 Recovery of Overpayment & Enforcement of Judgment	PERSONAL INJURY	<input type="checkbox"/> 370 Other Fraud	<input type="checkbox"/> 535 Death Penalty	<input type="checkbox"/> 861 HIA (1395ff)
<input type="checkbox"/> 460 Deportation	<input type="checkbox"/> 151 Medicare Act	<input type="checkbox"/> 310 Airplane	<input type="checkbox"/> 371 Truth in Lending	Other:	<input type="checkbox"/> 862 Black Lung (923)
<input type="checkbox"/> 470 Racketeer Influenced & Corrupt Org.	<input type="checkbox"/> 152 Recovery of Defaulted Student Loan (Excl. Vet.)	<input type="checkbox"/> 315 Airplane Product Liability	<input type="checkbox"/> 380 Other Personal Property Damage	<input type="checkbox"/> 540 Mandamus/Other	<input type="checkbox"/> 863 DIWC/DIWW (405 (g))
<input type="checkbox"/> 480 Consumer Credit	<input type="checkbox"/> 153 Recovery of Overpayment of Vet. Benefits	<input type="checkbox"/> 320 Assault, Libel & Slander	<input type="checkbox"/> 385 Property Damage Product Liability	<input type="checkbox"/> 550 Civil Rights	<input type="checkbox"/> 864 SSID Title XVI
<input type="checkbox"/> 490 Cable/Sat TV	<input type="checkbox"/> 155 Medicare Act	<input type="checkbox"/> 330 Fed. Employers' Liability	BANKRUPTCY	<input type="checkbox"/> 555 Prison Condition	<input type="checkbox"/> 865 RSI (405 (g))
<input type="checkbox"/> 850 Securities/Commodities/Exchange	<input type="checkbox"/> 160 Stockholders' Suits	<input type="checkbox"/> 340 Marine	<input type="checkbox"/> 422 Appeal 28 USC 158	<input type="checkbox"/> 560 Civil Detainee Conditions of Confinement	FEDERAL TAX SUITS
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 890 Other Statutory Actions	<input type="checkbox"/> 190 Other Contract	<input type="checkbox"/> 345 Marine Product Liability	<input type="checkbox"/> 423 Withdrawal 28 USC 157	FORFEITURE/PENALTY	<input type="checkbox"/> 870 Taxes (U.S. Plaintiff or Defendant)
<input type="checkbox"/> 891 Agricultural Acts	<input type="checkbox"/> 195 Contract Product Liability	<input type="checkbox"/> 350 Motor Vehicle	CIVIL RIGHTS	<input type="checkbox"/> 625 Drug Related Seizure of Property 21 USC 881	<input type="checkbox"/> 871 IRS-Third Party 26 USC 7609
<input type="checkbox"/> 893 Environmental Matters	<input type="checkbox"/> 196 Franchise	<input type="checkbox"/> 355 Motor Vehicle Product Liability	<input type="checkbox"/> 440 Other Civil Rights	<input type="checkbox"/> 690 Other	
<input type="checkbox"/> 895 Freedom of Info. Act	REAL PROPERTY	<input type="checkbox"/> 360 Other Personal Injury	<input type="checkbox"/> 441 Voting	LABOR	
<input type="checkbox"/> 896 Arbitration	<input type="checkbox"/> 210 Land Condemnation	<input type="checkbox"/> 362 Personal Injury-Med Malpractice	<input type="checkbox"/> 442 Employment	<input type="checkbox"/> 710 Fair Labor Standards Act	
<input type="checkbox"/> 899 Admin. Procedures Act/Review of Appeal of Agency Decision	<input type="checkbox"/> 220 Foreclosure	<input type="checkbox"/> 365 Personal Injury-Product Liability	<input type="checkbox"/> 443 Housing/Accommodations	<input type="checkbox"/> 720 Labor/Mgmt. Relations	
<input type="checkbox"/> 950 Constitutionality of State Statutes	<input type="checkbox"/> 230 Rent Lease & Ejectment	<input type="checkbox"/> 367 Health Care/Pharmaceutical Personal Injury Product Liability	<input type="checkbox"/> 445 American with Disabilities-Employment	<input type="checkbox"/> 740 Railway Labor Act	
		<input type="checkbox"/> 368 Asbestos Personal Injury Product Liability	<input type="checkbox"/> 446 American with Disabilities-Other	<input type="checkbox"/> 751 Family and Medical Leave Act	
			<input type="checkbox"/> 448 Education	<input type="checkbox"/> 790 Other Labor Litigation	
				<input type="checkbox"/> 791 Employee Ret. Inc. Security Act	

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT, CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA
CIVIL COVER SHEET**

VIII. VENUE: Your answers to the questions below will determine the division of the Court to which this case will most likely be initially assigned. This initial assignment is subject to change, in accordance with the Court's General Orders, upon review by the Court of your Complaint or Notice of Removal.

Question A: Was this case removed from state court? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No If "no," go to Question B. If "yes," check the box to the right that applies, enter the corresponding division in response to Question D, below, and skip to Section IX.	STATE CASE WAS PENDING IN THE COUNTY OF:		INITIAL DIVISION IN CACD IS:
	<input type="checkbox"/> Los Angeles		Western
	<input type="checkbox"/> Ventura, Santa Barbara, or San Luis Obispo		Western
	<input type="checkbox"/> Orange		Southern
	<input type="checkbox"/> Riverside or San Bernardino		Eastern

Question B: Is the United States, or one of its agencies or employees, a party to this action? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No If "no," go to Question C. If "yes," check the box to the right that applies, enter the corresponding division in response to Question D, below, and skip to Section IX.	If the United States, or one of its agencies or employees, is a party, is it:		INITIAL DIVISION IN CACD IS:
	A PLAINTIFF?	A DEFENDANT?	
	Then check the box below for the county in which the majority of DEFENDANTS reside.	Then check the box below for the county in which the majority of PLAINTIFFS reside.	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Los Angeles	<input type="checkbox"/> Los Angeles	Western
	<input type="checkbox"/> Ventura, Santa Barbara, or San Luis Obispo	<input type="checkbox"/> Ventura, Santa Barbara, or San Luis Obispo	Western
	<input type="checkbox"/> Orange	<input type="checkbox"/> Orange	Southern
	<input type="checkbox"/> Riverside or San Bernardino	<input type="checkbox"/> Riverside or San Bernardino	Eastern
<input type="checkbox"/> Other	<input type="checkbox"/> Other	Western	

Question C: Location of plaintiffs, defendants, and claims? (Make only one selection per row)	A. Los Angeles County	B. Ventura, Santa Barbara, or San Luis Obispo Counties	C. Orange County	D. Riverside or San Bernardino Counties	E. Outside the Central District of California	F. Other
Indicate the location in which a majority of plaintiffs reside:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Indicate the location in which a majority of defendants reside:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Indicate the location in which a majority of claims arose:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

C.1. Is either of the following true? If so, check the one that applies: <input type="checkbox"/> 2 or more answers in Column C <input type="checkbox"/> only 1 answer in Column C and no answers in Column D Your case will initially be assigned to the SOUTHERN DIVISION. Enter "Southern" in response to Question D, below. If none applies, answer question C2 to the right. →	C.2. Is either of the following true? If so, check the one that applies: <input type="checkbox"/> 2 or more answers in Column D <input type="checkbox"/> only 1 answer in Column D and no answers in Column C Your case will initially be assigned to the EASTERN DIVISION. Enter "Eastern" in response to Question D, below. If none applies, go to the box below. ↓
Your case will initially be assigned to the WESTERN DIVISION. Enter "Western" in response to Question D below.	

Question D: Initial Division?	INITIAL DIVISION IN CACD
Enter the initial division determined by Question A, B, or C above: →	Western

IX(a). IDENTICAL CASES: Has this action been previously filed in this court and dismissed, remanded or closed? NO YES

If yes, list case number(s): _____

IX(b). RELATED CASES: Have any cases been previously filed in this court that are related to the present case? NO YES

If yes, list case number(s): _____

Civil cases are deemed related if a previously filed case and the present case:

(Check all boxes that apply)

- A. Arise from the same or closely related transactions, happenings, or events; or
- B. Call for determination of the same or substantially related or similar questions of law and fact; or
- C. For other reasons would entail substantial duplication of labor if heard by different judges; or
- D. Involve the same patent, trademark or copyright, and one of the factors identified above in a, b or c also is present.

**X. SIGNATURE OF ATTORNEY
 (OR SELF-REPRESENTED LITIGANT):**

DATE: 12/4/13

Notice to Counsel/Parties: The CV-71 (JS-44) Civil Cover Sheet and the information contained herein neither replace nor supplement the filing and service of pleadings or other papers as required by law. This form, approved by the Judicial Conference of the United States in September 1974, is required pursuant to Local Rule 3-1 is not filed but is used by the Clerk of the Court for the purpose of statistics, venue and initiating the civil docket sheet. (For more detailed instructions, see separate instructions sheet).

Key to Statistical codes relating to Social Security Cases:

Nature of Suit Code	Abbreviation	Substantive Statement of Cause of Action
861	HIA	All claims for health insurance benefits (Medicare) under Title 18, Part A, of the Social Security Act, as amended. Also, include claims by hospitals, skilled nursing facilities, etc., for certification as providers of services under the program. (42 U.S.C. 1935FF(b))
862	BL	All claims for "Black Lung" benefits under Title 4, Part B, of the Federal Coal Mine Health and Safety Act of 1969. (30 U.S.C. 923)
863	DIWC	All claims filed by insured workers for disability insurance benefits under Title 2 of the Social Security Act, as amended; plus all claims filed for child's insurance benefits based on disability. (42 U.S.C. 405 (g))
863	DIWW	All claims filed for widows or widowers insurance benefits based on disability under Title 2 of the Social Security Act, as amended. (42 U.S.C. 405 (g))
864	SSID	All claims for supplemental security income payments based upon disability filed under Title 16 of the Social Security Act, as amended.
865	RSI	All claims for retirement (old age) and survivors benefits under Title 2 of the Social Security Act, as amended. (42 U.S.C. 405 (g))