E-FILED 1/24/2025 4:50 PM Clerk of Court 1 JEFFREY F. ROSEN Superior Court of CA, Santa Clara County District Attorney County of Santa Clara 2 Christopher Judge (SBN 274418) 25CV457431 Deputy District Attorney 3 Reviewed By: L. Ayala 70 West Hedding Street San Jose, CA 95110 4 Telephone: (408) 299-7400 5 Email: cjudge@dao.sccgov.org Attorneys for Plaintiff 6 (For list of additional Plaintiff's counsel, 7 see Appendix attached to Complaint) 8 SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA 9 IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SANTA CLARA 10 25CV457431 11 THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF CASE NO. CALIFORNIA, 12 COMPLAINT FOR EQUITABLE RELIEF, Plaintiff, INCLUDING AN INJUNCTION, 13 RESTITUTION, AND CIVIL PENALTIES (Bus. & Prof. Code, § 17200 et seq.,) 14 ALLISON BAVARIAN; 15 AN FREMONT LUXURY IMPORTS, INC.: AN IMPORTS OF STEVENS CREEK, INC.; 16 AN LUXURY IMPORTS OF SAN DIEGO, INC.; 17 AN SAN JOSE LUXURY IMPORTS INC.; AN VALENCIA AUTO IMPORTS, INC.: 18 AUTO CAR, INC.; AUTO COMPANY XIX, INC.; 19 AUTO COMPANY XXII, INC.; AUTO COMPANY XXIII, INC.; 20 **AUTO MISSION LTD.:** BARGAIN RENT-A-CAR: 21 BUENA PARK LUXURY IMPORTS, INC.; CARWELL, LLC; 22 COSTA MESA CARS, INC.; EDGREN MOTOR COMPANY, INC.; 23 FIT KIT, INC.; G.B. IMPORT SALES & SERVICE, LLC; 24 HOUSE OF IMPORTS, INC.: IRVINE IMPORTS, INC. 25 JOE MACPHERSON FORD; JOE MACPHERSON INFINITI; 26 MAGIC ACQUISITION CORP.; MR. WHEELS, INC.; 27 NEWPORT BEACH CARS, LLC; OXNARD EUROPEAN MOTORS, LLC; 28 PEYTON CRAMER AUTOMOTIVE;

1	PEYTON CRAMER FORD;)		
2	ROSEVILLE MOTOR CORPORATION;) STEVENS CREEK LUXURY IMPORTS,)		
3	INC.;) STEVENS CREEK MOTORS, INC.;)		
	TERRY YORK MOTOR CARS, LTD.;		
4	VALENCIA B. IMPORTS, INC.;		
5	VALENCA H. IMPORTS, INC.; VANDERBEEK MOTORS, INC.;		
5	VINCE WIESE CHEVROLET, INC.;		
6	VISTACAL LUXURY IMPORTS, INC.;		
_	CREEKSIDE IMPORTS, INC.;		
7	IMPORTS ON PASEO DEL NORTE, INC.;)		
8	COUNTRY DRIVE CDJR MOTORS, INC.;)		
0	CARCOUNTRY VW IMPORTS, INC.;) CARCOUNTRY MOTORS, INC.;)		
9	HYG COUNTRY DRIVE IMPORTS, INC.,		
10	Defendants.		
11			
11	Plaintiff, the People of the State of Californ		
12	i lamini, the reopie of the State of Camoni		
	attorneys: Jeffrey F. Rosen, District Attorney of Sa		
13			
1.4	Deputy District Attorney; Carla Rodriguez, Distric		
14	 Washington, Deputy District Attorney; Brooke Jen		
15	, washington, Deputy District Mitorney, Brooke Jen		

Plaintiff, the People of the State of California ("the People"), appearing through its attorneys: Jeffrey F. Rosen, District Attorney of Santa Clara County, by Christopher Judge, Deputy District Attorney; Carla Rodriguez, District Attorney of Sonoma County, by Jessica Washington, Deputy District Attorney; Brooke Jenkins, District Attorney of San Francisco, by Matthew Beltramo, Assistant District Attorney; Erik Nasarenko, District Attorney of Ventura County, by Christopher Harman, Deputy District Attorney; Nathan J. Hochman, District Attorney of Los Angeles County, by Steven Wang, Deputy District Attorney, allege as follows:

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

- This Court has subject matter jurisdiction over this action pursuant to Business and Professions Code sections 17203, 17204, 17206, and Article 6, section 10 of the California Constitution.
- 2. This Court has jurisdiction over Defendants named above and further identified below pursuant to Code of Civil Procedure section 410.10 because the causes of action alleged herein arise out of business activities that occurred throughout the State of California, including the counties of Santa Clara, Riverside, Ventura, Sonoma, and Los Angeles.
- 3. During the period at issue, Defendants made substantial used vehicle sales to California consumers, including in the counties listed above and elsewhere throughout the State

of California.

4. Venue is proper in this Court because the violations of law herein alleged occurred within Santa Clara County and throughout the State of California.

PLAINITFF

5. Plaintiff, the People, are represented by and through the District Attorneys listed above. Each of these District Attorneys has authority to bring this case on behalf of the People, pursuant to the Unfair Competition Law (Bus. & Prof. Code § 17200 et seq.) and specifically Business and Professions Code sections 17203, 17204, and 17206.

DEFENDANTS

- 6. Defendant ALLISON BAVARIAN is now, and at all times relevant to the claims in this Complaint was, a California corporation that owned and/or operated as a subsidiary of AutoNation, including BMW of Mountain View, located at 150 E. El Camino Real, Mountain View, in the County of Santa Clara, where the events and actions and omissions complained of herein occurred.
- 7. Defendant AN FREMONT LUXURY IMPORTS, INC., is now, and at all times relevant to the claims in this Complaint was, a Delaware corporation that owned and/or operated as a subsidiary of AutoNation, including BMW of Fremont, located at 5720 Cushing Parkway, Fremont, in the County of Alameda, where the events and actions and omissions complained of herein occurred.
- 8. Defendant AN IMPORTS OF STEVENS CREEK, INC. is now, and at all times relevant to the claims in this Complaint was, a Delaware corporation that owned and/or operated as a subsidiary of AutoNation, including MINI of Stevens Creek, located at 4201 Stevens Creek Boulevard, Santa Clara, in the County of Santa Clara, where the events and actions and omissions complained of herein occurred.
- 9. Defendant AN LUXURY IMPORTS OF SAN DIEGO, INC. is now, and at all times relevant to the claims in this Complaint was, a Delaware corporation that owned and/or operated as a subsidiary of AutoNation, including BMW of Carlsbad, located at 1060 Auto Center Court, Carlsbad, in the County of San Diego, where the events and actions and omissions

12

13

14 15

16

17

18 19

20 21

22

23 24

25

27

28

26

complained of herein occurred.

- 10. Defendant AN SAN JOSE LUXURY IMPORTS, INC. is now, and at all times relevant to the claims in this Complaint was, a California corporation that owned and/or operated as a subsidiary of AutoNation, including Mercedes-Benz of Stevens Creek, located at 4500 Stevens Creek Boulevard, San Jose, and AutoNation Volvo Cars San Jose, located at 4600 Stevens Creek Boulevard, San Jose, in the County of Santa Clara, where the events and actions and omissions complained of herein occurred.
- 11. Defendant AN VALENCIA AUTO IMPORTS, INC. is now, and at all times relevant to the claims in this Complaint was, a Delaware corporation that owned and/or operated as a subsidiary of AutoNation, including MINI of Valencia, located at 24135 Creekside Road, Valencia, in the County of Los Angeles, where the events and actions and omissions complained of herein occurred.
- 12. Defendant AUTO CAR, INC. is now, and at all times relevant to the claims in this Complaint was, a California corporation that owned and/or operated as a subsidiary of AutoNation, including AutoNation Honda Roseville, located at 230 Auto Mall Drive, Roseville, in the County of Placer, where the events and actions and omissions complained of herein occurred.
- 13. Defendant AUTO COMPANY XIX, INC. is now, and at all times relevant to the claims in this Complaint was, a Delaware corporation that owned and/or operated as a subsidiary of AutoNation, including Porsche Irvine, located at 14500 Scientific Way, Irvine, in the County of Orange, where the events and actions and omissions complained of herein occurred.
- 14. Defendant AUTO COMPANY XXII, INC. is now, and at all times relevant to the claims in this Complaint was, a Delaware corporation that owned and/or operated as a subsidiary of AutoNation, including Mercedes-Benz of San Jose/smart Center San Jose, located at 3000 East Capitol Expressway, San Jose, in the County of Santa Clara, where the events and actions and omissions complained of herein occurred.
- 15. Defendant AUTO COMPANY XXIII, INC. is now, and at all times relevant to the claims in this Complaint was, a Delaware corporation that owned and/or operated as a subsidiary

of AutoNation, including AutoNation Chrysler Dodge Jeep Ram Valencia, located at 23820 Creekside Road, Valencia, in the County of Los Angeles, where the events and actions and omissions complained of herein occurred.

- 16. Defendant AUTO MISSION LTD. is now, and at all times relevant to the claims in this Complaint was, a California corporation that owned and/or operated as a subsidiary of AutoNation, including AutoNation Toyota Hayward, located at 24773 Mission Boulevard, Hayward, in the County of Alameda, where the events and actions and omissions complained of herein occurred.
- 17. Defendant BARGAIN RENT-A-CAR is now, and at all times relevant to the claims in this Complaint was, a California corporation that owned and/or operated as a subsidiary of AutoNation, including Lexus of Cerritos, located at 18800 Studebaker Road, Cerritos, in the County of Los Angeles, where the events and actions and omissions complained of herein occurred.
- 18. Defendant BUENA PARK LUXURY IMPORTS, INC. is now, and at all times relevant to the claims in this Complaint was, a Delaware corporation that owned and/or operated as a subsidiary of AutoNation, including BMW of Buena Park, located at 6750 Auto Center Drive, Buena Park, in the County of Orange, where the events and actions and omissions complained of herein occurred.
- 19. Defendant CARWELL, LLC is now, and at all times relevant to the claims in this Complaint was, a Delaware limited liability company that owned and/or operated as a subsidiary of AutoNation, including Mercedes-Benz of South Bay, located at 3311 Pacific Coast Highway, Torrance, and Jaguar Land Rover South Bay, located at 3233 Pacific Coast Highway, Torrance, in the County of Los Angeles, where the events and actions and omissions complained of herein occurred.
- 20. Defendant COSTA MESA CARS, INC. is now, and at all times relevant to the claims in this Complaint was, a California corporation that owned and/or operated as a subsidiary of AutoNation, including AutoNation Honda Costa Mesa, in the County of Orange, where the events and actions and omissions complained of herein occurred.

- 21. Defendant EDGREN MOTOR COMPANY, INC. is now, and at all times relevant to the claims in this Complaint was, a California corporation that owned and/or operated as a subsidiary of AutoNation, including AutoNation Honda Fremont, located at 5780 Cushing Parkway, Fremont, in the County of Alameda, where the events and actions and omissions complained of herein occurred.
- 22. Defendant FIT KIT, INC. is now, and at all times relevant to the claims in this Complaint was, a California corporation that owned and/or operated as a subsidiary of AutoNation, including AutoNation Toyota Buena Park, located at 6400 Beach Boulevard, Buena Park, in the County of Orange, where the events and actions and omissions complained of herein occurred.
- 23. Defendant G.B. IMPORT SALES & SERVICE, LLC is now, and at all times relevant to the claims in this Complaint was, a Delaware limited liability company that owned and/or operated as a subsidiary of AutoNation, including AutoNation Volvo Cars South Bay, located at 3010 Pacific Coast Highway, Torrance, in the County of Los Angeles, where the events and actions and omissions complained of herein occurred.
- 24. Defendant HOUSE OF IMPORTS, INC. is now, and at all times relevant to the claims in this Complaint was, a California corporation that owned and/or operated as a subsidiary of AutoNation, including House of Imports, located at 6862 Manchester Boulevard, Buena Park, in the County of Orange, where the events and actions and omissions complained of herein occurred.
- 25. Defendant IRVINE IMPORTS, INC. is now, and at all times relevant to the claims in this Complaint was, a California corporation that owned and/or operated as a subsidiary of AutoNation, including AutoNation Toyota Irvine, located at 9101 Research Drive, Irvine, in the County of Orange, where the events and actions and omissions complained of herein occurred.
- 26. Defendant JOE MACPHERSON FORD is now, and at all times relevant to the claims in this Complaint was, a California corporation that owned and/or operated as a subsidiary of AutoNation, including AutoNation Ford Tustin, located at 2 Auto Center Drive, Tustin, in the County of Orange, where the events and actions and omissions complained of herein occurred.

- 27. Defendant JOE MACPHERSON INFINITI is now, and at all times relevant to the claims in this Complaint was, a California corporation that owned and/or operated as a subsidiary of AutoNation, including AutoNation Infiniti Tustin, located at 33 Auto Center Drive, Tustin, in the County of Orange, where the events and actions and omissions complained of herein occurred.
- 28. Defendant MAGIC ACQUISITION CORP. is now, and at all times relevant to the claims in this Complaint was, a Delaware corporation that owned and/or operated as a subsidiary of AutoNation, including AutoNation Ford Valencia, located at 23920 Creekside Road, Valencia, in the County of Los Angeles, where the events and actions and omissions complained of herein occurred.
- 29. Defendant MR. WHEELS, INC. is now, and at all times relevant to the claims in this Complaint was, a California corporation that owned and/or operated as a subsidiary of AutoNation, including AutoNation Toyota Cerritos, located at 18700 Studebaker Road, Cerritos, in the County of Los Angeles, where the events and actions and omissions complained of herein occurred.
- 30. Defendant NEWPORT BEACH CARS, LLC is now, and at all times relevant to the claims in this Complaint was, a Delaware limited liability company that owned and/or operated as a subsidiary of AutoNation, including Audi Newport Beach, located at 445 E. Pacific Coast Highway, Bentley Newport Beach, Porsche of Newport Beach, and Newport Auto Center, located at 3140 Pullman Street, Newport Beach, in the County of Orange, where the events and actions and omissions complained of herein occurred.
- 31. Defendant OXNARD EUROPEAN MOTORS, LLC is now, and at all times relevant to the claims in this Complaint was, a Delaware limited liability company that owned and/or operated as a subsidiary of AutoNation, including Mercedes-Benz of Oxnard/smart Center Oxnard, located at 1511 Auto Center Drive, Oxnard, in the County of Ventura, where the events and actions and omissions complained of herein occurred.
- 32. Defendant PEYTON CRAMER AUTOMOTIVE is now, and at all times relevant to the claims in this Complaint was, a California corporation that owned and/or operated as a

subsidiary of AutoNation, including AutoNation Acura South Bay, located at 25341 Crenshaw Boulevard, Torrance, in the County of Los Angeles, where the events and actions and omissions complained of herein occurred.

- 33. Defendant PEYTON CRAMER FORD is now, and at all times relevant to the claims in this Complaint was, a California corporation that owned and/or operated as a subsidiary of AutoNation, including AutoNation Ford Torrance, located at 3111 Pacific Coast Highway, Torrance, in the County of Los Angeles, where the events and actions and omissions complained of herein occurred.
- 34. Defendant ROSEVILLE MOTOR CORPORATION is now, and at all times relevant to the claims in this Complaint was, a California corporation that owned and/or operated as a subsidiary of AutoNation, including AutoNation Chrysler Dodge Jeep Ram Roseville, located at 200 Automall Drive, Roseville, in the County of Placer, where the events and actions and omissions complained of herein occurred.
- 35. Defendant STEVENS CREEK LUXURY IMPORTS, INC. is now, and at all times relevant to the claims in this Complaint was, a Delaware corporation that owned and/or operated as a subsidiary of AutoNation, including AutoNation Maserati of Stevens Creek and AutoNation Alfa Romeo Stevens Creek, located at 4520 Stevens Creek Boulevard, San Jose, in the County of Santa Clara, where the events and actions and omissions complained of herein occurred.
- 36. Defendant STEVENS CREEK MOTORS, INC. is now, and at all times relevant to the claims in this Complaint was, a California corporation that owned and/or operated as a subsidiary of AutoNation, including AutoNation Acura Stevens Creek, located at 4747 Stevens Creek Boulevard, Santa Clara, in the County of Santa Clara, where the events and actions and omissions complained of herein occurred.
- 37. Defendant TERRY YORK MOTOR CARS, LTD. is now, and at all times relevant to the claims in this Complaint was, a California corporation that owned and/or operated as a subsidiary of AutoNation, including Jaguar Land Rover Encino, located at 15800 Ventura Boulevard, Encino, in the County of Los Angeles, where the events and actions and omissions complained of herein occurred.

- 38. Defendant VALENCIA B. IMPORTS, INC. is now, and at all times relevant to the claims in this Complaint was, a Delaware corporation that owned and/or operated as a subsidiary of AutoNation, including Valencia BMW, located at 23435 Creekside Road, Valencia, in the County of Los Angeles, where the events and actions and omissions complained of herein occurred.
- 39. Defendant VALENCIA H. IMPORTS, INC. is now, and at all times relevant to the claims in this Complaint was, a Delaware corporation that owned and/or operated as a subsidiary of AutoNation, including AutoNation Honda Valencia, located at 23551 Magic Mountain Parkway, Valencia, in the County of Los Angeles, where the events and actions and omissions complained of herein occurred.
- 40. Defendant VANDERBEEK MOTORS, INC. is now, and at all times relevant to the claims in this Complaint was, a California corporation that owned and/or operated as a subsidiary of AutoNation, including BMW of Roseville, located at 500 Automall Drive, Roseville, AutoNation Subaru Roseville, located at 250 Automall Drive, Roseville, and AutoNation Mazda Subaru Roseville, located at 100 Automall Drive, Roseville, in the County of Placer, where the events and actions and omissions complained of herein occurred.
- 41. Defendant VINCE WIESE CHEVROLET, INC. is now, and at all times relevant to the claims in this Complaint was, a Delaware corporation that owned and/or operated as a subsidiary of AutoNation, including AutoNation Chevrolet Valencia, located at 26349 W. Valencia Boulevard, Valencia, in the County of Los Angeles, where the events and actions and omissions complained of herein occurred.
- 42. Defendant VISTACAL LUXURY IMPORTS, INC. is now, and at all times relevant to the claims in this Complaint was, a Delaware corporation that owned and/or operated as a subsidiary of AutoNation, including BMW of Vista, located at 1715 Hacienda Drive, Vista, in the County of San Diego, where the events and actions and omissions complained of herein occurred.
- 43. Defendant CREEKSIDE IMPORTS, INC. is now, and at all times relevant to the claims in this Complaint was, a Delaware corporation that owned and/or operated as a subsidiary

of AutoNation, including AutoNation Hyundai Valencia, located at 34135 Creekside Road, Santa Clarita, in the County of Los Angeles, where the events and actions and omissions complained of herein occurred.

- 44. Defendant IMPORTS ON PASEO DEL NORTE, INC. is now, and at all times relevant to the claims in this Complaint was, a Delaware corporation that owned and/or operated as a subsidiary of AutoNation, including AutoNation Subaru Carlsbad, located at 5500 Paseo Del Norte, Carlsbad, in the County of San Diego, where the events and actions and omissions complained of herein occurred.
- 45. Defendant COUNTRY DRIVE CDJR MOTORS, INC. is now, and at all times relevant to the claims in this Complaint was, a Delaware corporation that owned and/or operated as a subsidiary of AutoNation, including AutoNation Chrysler Dodge Jeep Ram and FIAT Carlsbad, located at 5555 Car Country Drive, Carlsbad, in the County of San Diego, where the events and actions and omissions complained of herein occurred.
- 46. Defendant CARCOUNTRY VW IMPORTS, INC. is now, and at all times relevant to the claims in this Complaint was, a Delaware corporation that owned and/or operated as a subsidiary of AutoNation, including AutoNation Volkswagen Carlsbad, located at 5515 Car Country Drive, Carlsbad, in the County of San Diego, where the events and actions and omissions complained of herein occurred.
- 47. Defendant CARCOUNTRY MOTORS, INC. is now, and at all times relevant to the claims in this Complaint was, a Delaware corporation that owned and/or operated as a subsidiary of AutoNation, including AutoNation Mazda Carlsbad, located at 5365 Car Country Drive, Carlsbad, in the County of San Diego, where the events and actions and omissions complained of herein occurred.
- 48. Defendant HYG COUNTRY DRIVE IMPORTS, INC. is now, and at all times relevant to the claims in this Complaint was, a Delaware corporation that owned and/or operated as a subsidiary of AutoNation, including AutoNation Volkswagen Carlsbad, located at 5285 Car Country Drive, Carlsbad, in the County of San Diego, where the events and actions and omissions complained of herein occurred.

49. Whenever reference is made in this Complaint to any acts of Defendants, such reference shall be deemed to mean that each of Defendants' officers, employees, agents, or representatives did ratify or authorize such acts while actively engaged in the management, direction, or control of the affairs of said Defendants or while acting within the scope and course of their duties.

STATUTORY BACKGROUND

- 50. This case pertains to the sale of used vehicles by licensed used car dealers and the paperwork that must be submitted to effectuate those sales. In California, the Vehicle Code sets forth specific time periods by which used car dealers must submit to the Department of Motor Vehicles ("DMV") an application to transfer ownership to a purchaser. These statutory deadlines are intended to protect the interests of consumers in receiving paperwork memorializing their legal ownership of recently purchased used vehicles in a timely manner.
- 51. Used car dealers must submit to the DMV an application to transfer registration to a buyer. The application must be submitted within 30 days of the date of sale. Vehicle Code section 4456, subdivision (a)(2), states in relevant part that, "The dealer ... shall submit to the [DMV] an application accompanied by all fees and penalties due for registration or transfer of registration of the vehicle within 30 days from the date of sale, as provided in subdivision (c) of Section 9553, if the vehicle is a used vehicle...." (Emphasis added.)
- 52. A timely application to transfer registration may be rejected by the DMV if the application or supporting documentation is deficient in some respect. In those instances, Vehicle Code section 4456, subdivision (a)(5), is triggered. It states in relevant part that, "If the [DMV] returns an application and the application was first received by the [DMV] within 30 days of the date of sale of the vehicle if the vehicle is a used vehicle, ... the dealer or lessor-retailer shall submit a corrected application to the department within 50 days from the date of sale of the vehicle ... or within 30 days from the date that the application was first returned by the [DMV]..., whichever is later." (Emphasis added).
- 53. *Untimely* applications to transfer registration on a used vehicle may also be rejected by the DMV because the application or supporting documentation is deficient in some

Vehicle Code section 5906 pertains to the transfer of vehicles \underline{to} a licensed dealer. It is not implicated by this case.

respect. In those instances, Vehicle Code section 4456, subdivision (a)(6), is triggered. It states that, "If the department returns an application and the application was first received by the department more than 30 days from the date of sale of the vehicle if the vehicle is a used vehicle [i.e., in an untimely manner] ..., the dealer or lessor-retailer *shall submit a corrected application* to the department within 50 days from the date of sale of the vehicle"

54. The Vehicle Code also imposes requirements on sellers of used vehicles to deliver the certificate of ownership (i.e., the title or "pink slip"). For licensed used car dealers, the timeframe for delivery of the certificate of ownership correlates to the timeframe for submitting an application to transfer registration. Vehicle Code section 5753, subdivision (b), states in relevant part that, "Except when the certificate of ownership is demanded in writing by a purchaser, a vehicle dealer licensed under this code shall satisfy the delivery requirement of this section by submitting appropriate documents and fees to the department for transfer of registration in accordance with Sections 5906^[1] and 4456 of this code and rules and regulations promulgated thereunder." (Emphasis added.)

FACTUAL BACKGROUND

- 55. Defendants are part of a network of new and used car dealers within the network of dealerships owned, through subsidiaries, by AutoNation, Inc. ("AutoNation"), a publicly traded company. Through this extensive network, AutoNation is one of the largest automotive retailers in the United States, with more than 300 dealerships and other facilities in at least 20 states, including the State of California.
- 56. Defendants each operate one or more dealerships that are or were during the relevant time period licensed to sell used cars in the State of California.
- 57. As described above, California's Vehicle Code imposes statutory deadlines on licensed sellers of used vehicles regarding the submittal and, if necessary, resubmittal of applications for transfer of registration and delivery of certificates of ownership.
 - 58. In thousands of instances dating back to 2019, Defendants failed to timely submit

and, as applicable, resubmit to the DMV applications for transfer of registration of used vehicles and failed to deliver certificates of ownership for those vehicles in a timely manner as prescribed by law.

FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION

VIOLATIONS OF BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONS CODE SECTION 17200

(Unfair Competition)

(Against All Defendants)

- 59. The People re-allege and incorporate by reference the preceding paragraphs of this Complaint as though fully set forth herein.
- 60. Beginning at an exact date which is unknown to the People, but within four years prior to the filing of this Complaint, plus the period of time in which civil statutes of limitations were tolled as a result of the California Judicial Council's Emergency rule 9(a), plus additional tolling under the parties' Agreement Tolling the Statutes of Limitation in this matter, including stipulated extensions thereto, Defendants engaged in a course of conduct that constituted acts of unfair competition, as defined by Business and Professions Code section 17200, by committing the following acts:
 - a. Violating Vehicle Code section 4456, subdivision (a)(2), by failing to submit applications to the DMV accompanied by all fees and penalties due for registration or transfer of registration of the vehicle within 30 days from the date of sale;
 - b. Violating Vehicle Code section 4456, subdivision (a)(5), by failing to resubmit initially timely applications to the DMV within 50 days from the date of sale or within 30 days from the date that the application was first returned by the DMV, whichever was later;
 - c. Violating Vehicle Code section 4456, subdivision (a)(6), by failing to resubmit initially untimely applications to the DMV within 50 days from the date of sale;
 - d. Violating Vehicle Code section 5753, subdivision (b), by failing to deliver certificates of ownership in accordance with the statutory deadlines found in Vehicle Code section 4456.

61. As a result of this conduct, Defendants are subject to civil penalties, pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 17206, to injunctive relief and the payment of restitution, pursuant to Business and Professions Code sections 17203 and 17204, and to other sanctions as provided by law.

PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, the People pray for relief as follows:

- 1. For a preliminary and permanent injunction, pursuant to Business and Professions Code sections 17203 and 17204, restraining and enjoining Defendants and their respective officers, directors, members, managers, partners, employees, agents, and representatives, and all persons who act in concert with them, from performing, directly or indirectly, any acts of unfair competition as set forth in the First Cause of Action, above.
- 2. That Defendants be ordered to pay a civil penalty of up to \$2,500 for each act of unfair competition as set forth in the First Cause of Action pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 17206 in an amount according to proof.
- 3. That Defendants be ordered to pay restitution as required under law, in an amount according to proof.
- 4. That the People have whatever further relief the Court deems equitable and just, including reimbursement of investigative costs.

Date: January 24, 2025

JEFFREY F. ROSEN

Santa Clara County District Attorney

Christopher Judge

Deputy District Attorney and on behalf of the District Attorney's Offices listed in the Appendix

Attorneys for Plaintiff, the People of the State of California

1	APPENDIX	
2	MICHAEL HESTRIN	BROOKE JENKINS
3	District Attorney of Riverside County Evan Goldsmith, SBN# 297356	District Attorney of San Francisco Matthew Beltramo, SBN # 184796
4	Deputy District Attorney	Assistant District Attorney
5	3960 Orange Street Riverside, CA 92501	350 Rhode Island Street North Building, Suite 400N
6	Phone: 951-955-5400	San Francisco, CA 94103
	Email: EvanGoldsmith@RivCoDA.org	Telephone: (628) 652-4000 E-mail: Matthew.Beltramo@sfgov.org
7		
8	CARLA RODRIGUEZ District Attorney, County of Sonoma	ERIK NASARENKO District Attorney of Ventura County
9	Jessica Washington, SBN #282863	Christopher Harman, SBN #155353
10	Deputy District Attorney 2300 County Center Dr., Ste. B-170	Deputy District Attorney 5720 Ralston Street, Suite 300
11	Santa Rosa, CA 95403	Ventura, CA 93003
	Telephone: (707) 565-3161	Phone: 805-654-3850
12	E-mail: jessica.washington@sonoma-county.org	Email: chris.harman@ventura.org
13	NATHAN J. HOCHMAN District Attorney of Los Angeles County Steven Wang, SBN # 221950	
14		
15	Deputy District Attorney	
16	211 W. Temple Street, 10th Fl. Los Angeles, CA 90012	
17	Tel: (213) 257-2450	
	Email: swang@da.lacounty.gov	
18		
19		
20		
21		
22		
23		
24		
25		
26		
27		
<i>- 1</i>		