1	JEFFREY L. HOGUE (SBN 234557) TYLER J. BELONG (SBN 234543)	ELECTRONICALLY FILED Superior Court of California,
2	OCTAVIO VELARDE (SBN 328435)	County of San Diego 12/08/2022 at 06:31:23 PM
3	HOGUE & BELONG 170 Laurel Street	Clerk of the Superior Court By Taylor Crandall,Deputy Clerk
4	San Diego, CA 92101	by faylor crantial, beputy clerk
5	Telephone: (619) 238-4720 Facsimile: (619) 238-5260	
6	Attorneys for Plaintiff and all others similarly situa	ited
7		
8	IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF	THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA
9		
10	COUNTY OF	ALAMEDA
11	ROSA NAVARRO, individually and on behalf of all others similarly situated; and ROES 1 through	Case No.: 37-2022-00049211-CU-OR-CTL
12	100, inclusive;	CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT SEEKING DECLARATIVE RELIEF, DAMAGES,
13	Plaintiff,	INJUNCTIVE RELIEF AND RESTITUTION
14	V.	CLASS ACTION
15		(Plaintiff Class, Cal. Code Civ. Proc., § 382)
16	APARTMENT MANAGEMENT CONSULTANTS, LLC, a California corporation;	1. Violation of Civil Code § 1950.5
17	and DOES 1 through 100, inclusive,	2. Unfair Competition (Bus. & Prof. Code
18	Defendants.	§§ 17200, <i>et seq</i>.)3. Violation of California Civil Code § 1671
19		
20		JURY DEMAND
21		[Imaged File]
22		
23		
24		
25		
26		
27		
28		
	CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT SEEKING DECLARAT	TVE RELIEF, DAMAGES, INJUNCTIVE RELIEF AND
	RESTIT	

6

7

12

13

14

15

16

17

Plaintiff avers:

JURISDICTION

1. This Court has jurisdiction over the claims for relief asserted herein pursuant to Article 6, Section 10 of the Constitution of the State of California, which grants the Superior Court "original jurisdiction in all causes except those given by statute to other courts." The statutes under which this action is brought do not specify any other basis for jurisdiction over Plaintiff's claims to another court.

8 2. This Court has jurisdiction over all defendants because upon information and belief,
9 each defendant is a citizen of California, has sufficient minimum contacts in California, and/or
10 otherwise intentionally avails itself of the California market so as to render this Court's jurisdiction
11 over it consistent with traditional notions of fair play and substantial justice.

VENUE

3. Venue of this civil action is properly fixed in Alameda County, California, pursuant to sections 395 and 395.5 of the California Code of Civil Procedure because the acts herein complained of occurred in the County of Alameda, and Plaintiff's resulting injuries were sustained there. Further, Defendants own and operate real property in California, including within the County of Alameda, from which the allegations in this suit arise.

18

19

20

21

22

CERTAIN AVERMENTS UPON INFORMATION AND BELIEF

4. The averments of fact contained within certain paragraphs of this complaint are made upon information and belief, which may be grounded in whole or part upon matters discovered through investigation conducted by the undersigned counsel.

PARTIES

5. Plaintiff ROSA NAVARRO is an individual, a resident of Alameda County and a
citizen of the State of California who resided at one of the Defendants' (defined below) apartment
complexes in Alameda County during all relevant times.

6. Plaintiff ROES 1 through 100 are former tenants of one or more of the Defendants
herein, who, though not yet identified, are similarly situated to the above-named Plaintiff, and who
may serve as additional class representatives. The true names of Plaintiff ROES 1 through 100 will

be added to this complaint when their identities become known. Hereinafter, plaintiff ROSA NAVARRO and unidentified plaintiff ROES 1–100 shall be collectively referred to as "Plaintiff."

- 3 7. Defendant APARTMENT MANAGEMENT CONSULTANTS, LLC, a Utah limited 4 liability company (hereinafter "AMC"), has been registered as doing business in California since 5 2003 and holds itself out as a "full-service property/asset management company [...] committed to 6 exceeding the expectations of owners & asset managers. [... AMC] strive[s] to make each of the 7 properties we manage perform to their potential by [...] overcoming any obstacles that might be 8 presented along the way. [...]." AMC is a multi-dwelling residential apartment advisor and property 9 management juggernaut with its offices and business operations in California and Utah, including, 10 without limitations, four California office locations in the following California cities: Chino Hills, 11 San Marcos, Rocklin, and Brentwood. California is the only state in which AMC has more than one 12 corporate office. In fact, AMC has four times more California offices than it has in any other state. 13 According to AMC's own publication, as of 2022, AMC is the sixth largest apartment complex 14 property management company in the United States and directly manages hundreds of apartment complexes (thousands of apartment units) in California.
 - 8. Plaintiff are informed and believe that Defendant AMC's Chief Executive Officer and founder is Greg B. Wiseman, its controller Connie J. Wirthlin, its President of Property Management Operations Brenda Barrett, and one of its managing members Sep VI AMC Holdings, which operates out of Marina Del Rey, California.

9. AMC exclusively manages and controls the real properties outlined below. More specifically, AMC manages, controls and operates at least 174 California-based apartment complexes within the AMC portfolio, each of which are described in paragraph 11 below ("APARTMENT COMPLEXES").

10. AMC, in bad faith, retains security deposits from residential tenants at its APARTMENT COMPLEXES in violation of California law and additionally charges its tenants unlawful and excessive late fees when they are late on their rent payments. AMC has intentionally designed a centralized security deposit and late fee administration of the APARTMENT COMPLEXES by developing and administering security deposit and late fee policies, practices,

28

1

2

CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT SEEKING DECLARATIVE RELIEF, DAMAGES, INJUNCTIVE RELIEF AND RESTITUTION

1	systems and databases uniformly across all APARTMENT COMPLEXES.		
2	11.	The APARTMENT COMPLEXES that are exclusively managed, controlled and	
3	operated by AN	MC and subject to AMC's uniform, systematic and unlawful administration of	
4	residential secu	arity deposit and late fees are as follows:	
5	а.	The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "Aloha," a multi-dwelling	
6		residential apartment complex generally located at 250 W Jackson St, Hayward, California 94544.	
7	h	The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "Amber Court," a multi-dwelling	
8 9		residential apartment complex generally located at 34050 Westchester Terrace, Fremont, California 94555.	
10	C	The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "Amber Grove," a multi-dwelling	
11		residential apartment complex generally located at 4009 Marconi Avenue, Sacramento, California 95821.	
12	d.	The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "Anaheim Cottages," a multi-	
13		dwelling residential apartment complex generally located at 2544 W. Winston Road,	
14		Anaheim, California 92804.	
15 16		The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "Appian Terrace," a multi-dwelling residential apartment complex generally located at 4481-4489 Appian Way, El	
17		Sobrante, California 94803.	
18		The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "Arbor At Palmdale," a multi- dwelling residential apartment complex generally located at 1000 East Avenue Q,	
19		Palmdale, California 93550.	
20	0	The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "Arbor Court," a multi-dwelling	
21		residential apartment complex generally located at 44916 10th Street, Lancaster, California 93534.	
22		The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "Arbor Fiels," a multi-dwelling	
23		residential apartment complex generally located at 530 W Jackman Street, Lancaster, California 93534.	
24		The ADADTMENT COMPLEX 1, inclusion of "A 1 or Contrary" and the line	
25		The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "Arbor Gardens," a multi-dwelling residential apartment complex generally located at 710-726 W. Kettering Street,	
26		Lancaster, California 93534.	
27	•	The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "Arbor Grove Senior Housing," a multi-dwelling residential apartment complex generally located at 855 West Jackman	
28			
	CLASS ACTIO	- 3 - DN COMPLAINT SEEKING DECLARATIVE RELIEF, DAMAGES, INJUNCTIVE RELIEF AND RESTITUTION	

1		Street B120, Lancaster, California 93534.
2	k.	The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "Arbor Lofts," a multi-dwelling residential apartment complex generally located at 661 West Lancaster Blvd,
3		Lancaster, California 93534.
4	1.	The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "Arbor on a date," a multi-dwelling
5 6		residential apartment complex generally located at 44927 Date Ave, Lancaster, California 93534.
7	m.	The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "Arlington Creek," a multi-
8		dwelling residential apartment complex generally located at 8131 Walerga Road, Antelope, California 95843.
9	n.	The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "Atwater Cove Apartments," a
10		multi-dwelling residential apartment complex generally located at 425 Merrimac Way, Costa Mesa, California 92626.
11		The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "Avery Park," a multi-dwelling
12 13	0.	residential apartment complex generally located at 2000 Clay Bank Rd, Fairfield, California 94533.
14 15	p.	The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "AVION," a multi-dwelling residential apartment complex generally located at 3250 Laurelhurst Drive, Rancho Cordova, California 95670.
16		
17	q.	The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "Bay Vista," a multi-dwelling residential apartment complex generally located at 470 Central Ave, Alameda, California 94501.
18		
19 20	r.	The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "Beachwalk," a multi-dwelling residential apartment complex generally located at 234 S Voluntario St, Santa Barbara, California 93103.
21		
22	S.	The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "Bella Vista," a multi-dwelling residential apartment complex generally located at 1500 Vista Club Circle, Santa
23		Clara, California 95054.
24	t.	The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "Bennington," a multi-dwelling residential apartment complex generally located at 2780 N Texas St, Fairfield,
25		California 94533.
26	u.	The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "Beverly Park Senior," a multi- dwelling residential apartment complex generally located at 1071 S. La Cienega Blvd,
27 28		Los Angeles, California 90035.
20		- 4 -
	CLASS ACT	ION COMPLAINT SEEKING DECLARATIVE RELIEF, DAMAGES, INJUNCTIVE RELIEF AND RESTITUTION

1 2	v.	The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "Bridges at San Ramon," a multi- dwelling residential apartment complex generally located at 309 Springfield Drive, San Ramon, California 94583.
3	w.	The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "Brio on Broadway," a multi-
4		dwelling residential apartment complex generally located at 1636 Broadway Street, Fresno, California 93721.
5	X.	The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "Camden Village," a multi-
6 7		dwelling residential apartment complex generally located at 38000 Camden Street, Fremont, California 94536.
8	V	The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "Casa Arroyo," a multi-dwelling
9		residential apartment complex generally located at 405 Rancho Arroyo Parkway, Fremont, California 94536.
10	Z.	The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "Casa De Luna," a multi-dwelling
11		residential apartment complex generally located at 5175 N Fresno Street, Fresno,
12		California 93710.
13	aa	. The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "Casa Del Sol Apartment," a multi-
14		dwelling residential apartment complex generally located at 5155 N Fresno Street, Fresno, California 93710.
15	bb	. The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "Cedar Ridge," a multi-dwelling
16		residential apartment complex generally located at 2105 East Ave. J-8, Lancaster, California 93535.
17	cc	. The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "Chaparral," a multi-dwelling
18 19		residential apartment complex generally located at 38441 5th St. West, Palmdale, California 93551.
20	dd	. The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "Chatham Village," a multi-
21		dwelling residential apartment complex generally located at 16331 McFadden Ave., Tustin, California 92780.
22		
23	ee.	. The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "City Walk," a multi-dwelling residential apartment complex generally located at 4215 Vineland Avenue, North
24		Hollywood, California 91602.
25	ff.	The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "City Walk Apartment Homes," a
26		multi-dwelling residential apartment complex generally located at 1412 San Pascual St, Santa Barbara, California 93101.
27		
28	gg	The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "Coral Court," a multi-dwelling residential apartment complex generally located at 1491 Detroit Avenue, Concord,
		- 5 - ION COMPLAINT SEEKING DECLARATIVE RELIEF, DAMAGES, INJUNCTIVE RELIEF AND
	ULASS AUT	RESTITUTION

1	California 94520.
2	hh. The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "Costa Azule Senior," a multi-
3	dwelling residential apartment complex generally located at 10829 Fulton Wells Ave, Santa Fe Springs, California 90670.
4	ii. The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "Cotton Wood," a multi-dwelling
5	residential apartment complex generally located at 6500 Cotton Wood Circle, Dublin, California 94568.
6	
7 8	jj. The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "Crocker Oaks," a multi-dwelling residential apartment complex generally located at 8000 Painted Desert Way, Roseville, California 95747.
9	
10	kk. The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "Desert Oasis," a multi-dwelling residential apartment complex generally located at 38260 5th Street E, Palmdale, California 93550.
11	
12	 The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "Echo Pointe," a multi-dwelling residential apartment complex generally located at 4300 Echo Court, La Mesa,
13	California 91941.
14	mm. The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "Elevate Long Beach," a
15	multi-dwelling residential apartment complex generally located at 225 W 3rd Street, Long Beach, California 90802.
16	nn. The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "Enclave," a multi-dwelling
17 18	residential apartment complex generally located at 3081 N Main Street, Walnut Creek, California 94597.
19	oo. The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "Estancia," a multi-dwelling
20	residential apartment complex generally located at 1720 E. D Street, Ontario, California 91764.
21	pp. The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "Foothill Villas," a multi-dwelling
22	residential apartment complex generally located at 2631 W 2nd Street, San Bernardino, California 92410.
23	
24	qq. The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "Galleria Townhomes & Casa Galleria," a multi-dwelling residential apartment complex generally located at 4422
25	W. 172nd Street, Lawndale, California 90260.
26	rr. The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "Glasdore Lofts," a multi-dwelling residential apartment complex generally located at 30 Dore Street, San Francisco,
27	California 94103.
28	
	- 6 - CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT SEEKING DECLARATIVE RELIEF, DAMAGES, INJUNCTIVE RELIEF AND
	RESTITUTION

1 2	ss. The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "Greenleaf," a multi-dwelling residential apartment complex generally located at 27495 Manon Avenue, Hayward, California 94544.
3	tt The ADADTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "Hempshipe" a multi dwelling
4	tt. The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "Hampshire," a multi-dwelling residential apartment complex generally located at 570 Hampshire Ave, Redwood City, California 94063.
5	
6	uu. The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "Harbor Cove," a multi-dwelling residential apartment complex generally located at 900 E Hillsdale Blvd, Foster City,
7	California 94404.
8	vv. The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "Harborside Marina Bay," a multi-
9	dwelling residential apartment complex generally located at 14015 West Tahiti Way, Marina Del Rey, California 90292.
10	ww. The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "Harmony Gates," a multi-
11	dwelling residential apartment complex generally located at 5220 Harmony, North
12	Hollywood, California 91601.
13	xx. The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "Harvest Ridge," a multi-dwelling residential apartment complex generally located at 1388 E. Palomar Street, Chula
14	Vista, California 91913.
15	yy. The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "Hawthorn Village," a multi-
16	dwelling residential apartment complex generally located at 3663 Solano Ave, Napa, California 94558.
17	
18	zz. The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "Hazeltine," a multi-dwelling residential apartment complex generally located at 7250 Hazeltine Avenue, Van Nuys,
19	California 91405.
20	aaa. The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "Heratage Park Escondido
21	Senior," a multi-dwelling residential apartment complex generally located at 2549 E Valley Parkway, Escondido, California 92027.
22	bbb. The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "Heritage Park Livermore,"
23	a multi-dwelling residential apartment complex generally located at 1089 Bluebell
24	Drive, Livermore, California 94551.
25	ccc. The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "Heritage Village Anaheim
26	Senior," a multi-dwelling residential apartment complex generally located at 707 W Santa Ana Street, Anaheim, California 92805.
27	
28	ddd. The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "Hillside Terrace," a multi- dwelling residential apartment complex generally located at 3262 College Place,
	- 7 -
	CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT SEEKING DECLARATIVE RELIEF, DAMAGES, INJUNCTIVE RELIEF AND RESTITUTION

1	Lemon Grove, California 91945.
2	eee. The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "Hollywood View Towers,"
3	a multi-dwelling residential apartment complex generally located at 5724 Hollywood Blvd, Hollywood, California 90028.
4	fff. The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "Horizon," a multi-dwelling
5	residential apartment complex generally located at 2414 N Tustin Ave, Santa Ana, California 92705.
6	Camornia 92703.
7	ggg. The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "Huntington Breeze," a multi-dwelling residential apartment complex generally located at 16171 Springdale
8	Street, Huntington Beach, California 92649.
9	hhh. The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "Imperial Tower," a multi- dwelling residential apartment complex generally located at 333 J Street, Sacramento,
10 11	California 95814.
11	iii. The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "Jefferson Sola," a multi-dwelling
13	residential apartment complex generally located at 10920 Garfield Avenue, South Gate, California 90280.
14	jjj. The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "Juniper," a multi-dwelling
15	residential apartment complex generally located at 9190 Blue Point Ln, Sacramento, California 95826.
16	kkk. The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "Kendallwood," a multi-
17 18	dwelling residential apartment complex generally located at 10522 Santa Gertrudes Avenue, Whittier, California 90603.
19	lll. The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "Kittridge Villas," a multi-dwelling
20	residential apartment complex generally located at 18303 Kittridge Street, Reseda, California 91335.
21	mmm. The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "La Vina," a multi-dwelling
22	residential apartment complex generally located at 4601 Gerrilyn Way, Livermore, California 94550.
23	Camornia 94550.
24	nnn. The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "Lakeside," a multi- dwelling residential apartment complex generally located at 4170 Springlake Drive,
25	San Leandro, California 94578.
26	000. The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "Lakeview Village," a
27	multi-dwelling residential apartment complex generally located at 3115 Sweetwater Springs Blvd, Spring Valley, California 91978.
28	
	- 8 - CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT SEEKING DECLARATIVE RELIEF, DAMAGES, INJUNCTIVE RELIEF AND RESTITUTION

1	ppp. The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "Lantern Lofts," a multi- dwelling residential apartment complex generally located at 1168 Folsom St, San
2	Francisco, California 94103.
3 4	qqq. The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "Legacy At Westglen," a multi-dwelling residential apartment complex generally located at 1151 Sonora Ave,
5	Glendale, California 91201.
6	rrr. The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "Links at Westridge," a multi- dwelling residential apartment complex generally located at 25330 Silver Aspen Way, Valancia, California 01281
7	Valencia, California 91381.
8 9	sss. The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "Longhorn Pavillio," a multi- dwelling residential apartment complex generally located at 36523 25th Street East,
	Palmdale, California 93550.
10	ttt. The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "Los Feliz Bliss," a multi-dwelling
11 12	residential apartment complex generally located at 4646 Los Feliz Blvd, Los Angeles, California 90027.
12	uuu. The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "Luxe at Burbank," a multi-
13	dwelling residential apartment complex generally located at 1731 Rogers Place, Burbank, California 91504.
15	
16	vvv. The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "Madrid," a multi-dwelling residential apartment complex generally located at 28401 Los Alisos Blvd, Mission Viejo, California 92692.
17	
18	www. The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "Magnolia Villas," a multi- dwelling residential apartment complex generally located at 5250 Harmony Avenue #106, North Hollywood, California 91601.
19	"Too, North Hony wood, Camornia 71001.
20 21	xxx. The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "Mcinnis Park," a multi- dwelling residential apartment complex generally located at 10-90 North Avenue, San
22	Rafael, California 94903.
23	yyy. The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "Meadowood," a multi- dwelling residential apartment complex generally located at 788 Springwood Street,
24	Corona, California 92882.
25	zzz. The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "Mendocino," a multi-
26	dwelling residential apartment complex generally located at 1521 Mendocino Dr, Concord, California 94521.
27	
28	aaaa. The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "Millennium South Bay," a multi-dwelling residential apartment complex generally located at 12530 Crenshaw
	-9-
	CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT SEEKING DECLARATIVE RELIEF, DAMAGES, INJUNCTIVE RELIEF AND RESTITUTION

1	Blvd, Hawthorne, California 90250.
2	bbbb. The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "Miramonte and Trovas," a
3	multi-dwelling residential apartment complex generally located at 4850 Natomas Blvd, Sacramento, California 95835.
4	cccc. The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "Mission 1," a multi-
5	dwelling residential apartment complex generally located at 5530 Mission Street, San Francisco, California 94112.
6	dddd. The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "Montery Station
7 8	Apartments," a multi-dwelling residential apartment complex generally located at 180 Monterey Ave, Pomona, California 91767.
9	
10	eeee. The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "Nantucket," a multi- dwelling residential apartment complex generally located at 1600 Nantucket Circle, Santa Clara, California 95054.
11	
12	ffff. The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "Natomas Park," a multi- dwelling residential apartment complex generally located at 1850 Club Center Drive, Sacramento, California 95835.
13	
14 15	gggg. The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "Nob Hill Place," a multi- dwelling residential apartment complex generally located at 1155 Jones Street, San
16	Francisco, California 94109.
17	hhhh. The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "Oasis Anaheim," a multi- dwelling residential apartment complex generally located at 3530 E La Palma Avenue, Anaheim, California 92806.
18	Anancini, Cantolnia 52000.
19 20	iiii. The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "Ome Apartments," a multi- dwelling residential apartment complex generally located at 663 Clementina Street, San Francisco, California 94103.
21	San Francisco, Camorina 94105.
22	jjjj. The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "Pacific Pines," a multi-dwelling residential apartment complex generally located at 930 Casanova Ave, Monterey,
23	California 93940.
24	kkkk. The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "Pacific Place Apartments," a multi-dwelling residential apartment complex generally located at 2665 Geneva Ave,
25	Daly City, California 94014.
26	llll. The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "Palisades at Sierra Del Oro," a
27	multi-dwelling residential apartment complex generally located at 2300 Palisades Drive, Corona, California 92882.
28	- 10 -
	CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT SEEKING DECLARATIVE RELIEF, DAMAGES, INJUNCTIVE RELIEF AND RESTITUTION

1 2	mmm. The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "Palmdale Desert Club," a multi-dwelling residential apartment complex generally located at 37902 20th Street East, Palmdale, California 93550.
3	nnnn. The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "Panomar," a multi-
4	dwelling residential apartment complex generally located at 1100 Pacific Marina, Alameda, California 94501.
5	
6	oooo. The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "Parc Claremont," a multi- dwelling residential apartment complex generally located at 1826 W Arrow Route,
7	Upland, California 91786.
8	ppp. The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "Parcwood," a multi-
9	dwelling residential apartment complex generally located at 1700 Via Pacifica, Corona, California 92882.
10	qqqq. The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "Park Hacienda," a multi-
11	dwelling residential apartment complex generally located at 5650 Owens Drive,
12	Pleasanton, California 94588.
13	rrrr. The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "Park Hill," a multi- dwelling residential apartment complex generally located at 1747 Lincoln Avenue,
14	San Rafael, California 94901.
15	ssss. The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "Park Tower," a multi-
16	dwelling residential apartment complex generally located at 20353 Park Way, Castro Valley, California 94546.
17	tttt. The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "Parkside Commons," a multi-
18	dwelling residential apartment complex generally located at 900 143rd Avenue, San
19	Leandro, California 94578.
20	uuuu. The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "Parkside Villa," a multi-
21	dwelling residential apartment complex generally located at 1650 Park Lane, Fairfield, California 94533.
22	The ADADTMENT COMPLEX doing business of "Devinues d" a multi-
23	vvvv. The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "Parkwood," a multi- dwelling residential apartment complex generally located at 2450 Peach Tree Dr,
24	Fairfield, California 94533.
25	wwww. The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "Portola Redlands," a
26	multi-dwelling residential apartment complex generally located at 1250 N University St., Redlands, California 92374.
27	
28	xxxx. The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "Premier," a multi-dwelling residential apartment complex generally located at 44150 35th Street West, Lancaster,
	- 11 -
	CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT SEEKING DECLARATIVE RELIEF, DAMAGES, INJUNCTIVE RELIEF AND RESTITUTION

1	California 93536.
2	yyyy. The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "Radford," a multi-dwelling
3	residential apartment complex generally located at 5330 Radford Ave, Valley Village, California 91607.
4	zzzz. The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "Rio Vista," a multi-
5	dwelling residential apartment complex generally located at 1190 West San Ysidro Boulevard, San Diego, California 92173.
6	aaaaa. The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "Ritch Street," a multi-
7 8	aaaaa. The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "Ritch Street," a multi- dwelling residential apartment complex generally located at 246 Ritch Street, San Francisco, California 94107.
9	
10	bbbbb. The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "River Bank," a multi- dwelling residential apartment complex generally located at 4433 Continental Way,
11	Stockton, California 95207.
12	ccccc. The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "Rockwell Manor," a multi- dwelling residential apartment complex generally located at 693 E. Tabor Ave,
13	Fairfield, California 94533.
14	ddddd. The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "Roscoe," a multi-dwelling
15	residential apartment complex generally located at 20234 Roscoe Blvd, Winnetka, California 91306.
16	eeeee. The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "Rosenberg," a multi-
17 18	dwelling residential apartment complex generally located at 306 Mendocino Ave, Santa Rosa, California 95401.
19	fffff. The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "Sagebrush 1," a multi-
20	dwelling residential apartment complex generally located at 715 W. Milling Street,
20	Lancaster, California 93534.
22	ggggg. The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "San Clemente Beachwalk," a multi-dwelling residential apartment complex generally located at 211
	W Marquita, San Clemente, California 92672.
23	hhhhh. The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "Sanbreeze Apartment," a
24	multi-dwelling residential apartment complex generally located at 1881 Baker St.,
25	Seaside, California 93955.
26	iiiii. The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "Seapointe," a multi-
27	dwelling residential apartment complex generally located at 1380 Village Way, Costa Mesa, California 92626.
28	
	- 12 - CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT SEEKING DECLARATIVE RELIEF, DAMAGES, INJUNCTIVE RELIEF AND
	RESTITUTION

П

1 2	jjjjj. The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "Serra Monte Ridge," a multi-dwelling residential apartment complex generally located at 862 Campus Drive, Daly City, California 94015.
3	kkkkk. The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "Serrano," a multi-dwelling
4	residential apartment complex generally located at 1536 N. Serrano Ave, Los Angeles, California 90027.
5	IIII. The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "Shadow Ridge," a multi-
6 7	dwelling residential apartment complex generally located at 3699 Barnard Dr, Oceanside, California 92056.
	mmmmm The ADARTMENT COMPLEX doing husiness of "Sigme Del Ore" a multi
8 9	mmmm. The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "Sierra Del Oro," a multi- dwelling residential apartment complex generally located at 1456 Serfas Club Drive, Corona, California 92882.
10	
11	nnnnn. The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "Solis Garden," a multi- dwelling residential apartment complex generally located at 145 Lund Avenue,
12	Hayward, California 94544.
13	00000. The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "Solstice," a multi-dwelling
14	residential apartment complex generally located at 27467 Manon Avenue, Hayward, California 94544.
15	ppppp. The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "Sommerset," a multi-
16	dwelling residential apartment complex generally located at 591 Peabody Road, Vacacille, California 95687.
17	qqqqq. The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "Stevenson Manor," a
18	multi-dwelling residential apartment complex generally located at 1230 N Cole
19	Avenue #119, Los Angeles, California 90038.
20	rrrrr. The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "Studio Arnaz," a multi- dwelling residential apartment complex generally located at 320 S. Arnaz Dr., Los
21	Angeles, California 90048.
22	sssss. The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "Studio City Hills," a multi-
23	dwelling residential apartment complex generally located at 10913 Fruitland Dr,
24	Studio City, California 91604.
25	ttttt. The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "Studio City Midrise," a
26	multi-dwelling residential apartment complex generally located at 4176 Arch Dr, Studio City, California 91604.
27	uuuuu. The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "Summerwood," a multi-
28	dwelling residential apartment complex generally located at 21701 Foothill Blvd,
	- 13 - CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT SEEKING DECLARATIVE RELIEF, DAMAGES, INJUNCTIVE RELIEF AND
	RESTITUTION

1	Hayward, California 94514.
2	vvvvv. The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "Sun Valley," a multi-
3	dwelling residential apartment complex generally located at 1400 Contra Costa Blvd, Pleasant Hill, California 94523.
4	wwwww. The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "Sunrose," a multi-dwelling
5	residential apartment complex generally located at 1325 Santa Rita E, Chula Vista, California 91913.
6	
7	xxxxx. The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "Sunset Pines," a multi- dwelling residential apartment complex generally located at 1770 Adelaide St.,
8	Concord, California 94520.
9	yyyyy. The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "Sur Apartments," a multi-
10	dwelling residential apartment complex generally located at 2927 Marconi Avenue, Sacramento, California 95821.
11	zzzzz. The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "Tempo At Riverapark," a
12	multi-dwelling residential apartment complex generally located at 450 Forest Park
13	Blvd, Oxnard, California 93036.
14	aaaaaa. The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "Terra Nova," a multi-
15	dwelling residential apartment complex generally located at 440 East H Street, Chula Vista, California 91910.
16	bbbbbb. The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "The Atrium," a multi-
17 18	dwelling residential apartment complex generally located at 3733 Gibson Rd, El Monte, California 91731.
	cccccc. The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "The Bluffs," a multi-
19	dwelling residential apartment complex generally located at 10801 Lemon Ave,
20	Rancho Cucamonga, California 91737.
21	dddddd. The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "The Boulevard," a multi-
22	dwelling residential apartment complex generally located at 20600 Ventura Boulevard, Los Angeles, California 91364.
23	
24	eeeeee. The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "The Cape," a multi- dwelling residential apartment complex generally located at 250 E Ave R, Palmdale,
25	California 93550.
26	ffffff. The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "The Carlyle," a multi-
27	dwelling residential apartment complex generally located at 4500 Carlyle Street, Santa
28	Clara, California 95054.
	- 14 -
	CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT SEEKING DECLARATIVE RELIEF, DAMAGES, INJUNCTIVE RELIEF AND RESTITUTION

П

1 2	gggggg. The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "The Charleston," a multi- dwelling residential apartment complex generally located at 4337 Norwood Ave, Sacramento, California 95838.
3	hhhhhh. The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "The Crescent At West
4	Hollywood," a multi-dwelling residential apartment complex generally located at 1274
5	N Crescent Heights Blvd, West Hollywood, California 90046.
	iiiiii. The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "The Grand at 5746," a
6	multi-dwelling residential apartment complex generally located at 5746 Burchard Ave, Los Angeles, California 90034.
7	
8	jjjjjj. The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "The Heights On Superior," a multi-dwelling residential apartment complex generally located at 9710 Zelzah
9	Avenue, Los Angeles, California 91325.
10	kkkkkk. The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "The Kodo," a multi-
11	dwelling residential apartment complex generally located at 2867 Sunset Place, Los
12	Angeles, California 90005.
13	IIIII. The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "The Link," a multi-
14	dwelling residential apartment complex generally located at 3909 San Fernando Road, Glendale, California 91204.
15	The ADADTMENT COMPLEX doing husiness of "The Days of 1200"
16	mmmmm. The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "The Parc at 1300," a multi-dwelling residential apartment complex generally located at 1300 Delaware
17	Street, Berkeley, California 94702.
18	nnnnnn. The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "The Parker," a multi-
19	dwelling residential apartment complex generally located at 4640 Arden Way, El Monte, California 91731.
20	oooooo. The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "The Pinnacle At Nob Hill," a multi-dwelling residential apartment complex generally located at 899 Pine
21	Street, San Francisco, California 94108.
22	pppppp. The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "The Reniassance At City
23	Center," a multi-dwelling residential apartment complex generally located at 21800 S
24	Avalon Blvd, Carson, California 90745.
25	qqqqqq. The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "The Ridge At San Diego,"
26	a multi-dwelling residential apartment complex generally located at 4665 Home Ave, San Diego, California 92105.
27	
28	rrrrr. The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "The Springs," a multi- dwelling residential apartment complex generally located at 7511 N. First Street,
	- 15 -
	CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT SEEKING DECLARATIVE RELIEF, DAMAGES, INJUNCTIVE RELIEF AND RESTITUTION
	RESTROTION

1	Fresno, California 93720.
2	ssssss. The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "The Square," a multi-
3	dwelling residential apartment complex generally located at 12535 Brookshire Ave, Downey, California 90242.
4	tttttt. The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "The Timbers," a multi-
5	dwelling residential apartment complex generally located at 25200 Santa Clara Street, Hayward, California 94544.
6	Hayward, Camornia 94344.
7	uuuuuu. The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "The Villas At Rowland Heights," a multi-dwelling residential apartment complex generally located at 18600
8	Colima Road, Rowland Heights, California 91748.
9	vvvvvv. The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "The Woodlands," a multi-
10	dwelling residential apartment complex generally located at 2025 W El Camino Avenue, Sacramento, California 95833.
11	wwwww. The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "Tribeca," a multi-
12	dwelling residential apartment complex generally located at 3201 Yorba Linda
13	Boulevard, Fullerton, California 92831.
14	xxxxxx. The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "Truckee's Coburn Crossing," a multi-dwelling residential apartment complex generally located at 10551
15	East Jibboom Street, Unit 108, Truckee, California 96161.
16	yyyyyy. The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "Tuscany Village," a multi-
17	dwelling residential apartment complex generally located at 1701 East D Street, Ontario, California 91764.
18	
19	zzzzz. The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "UCA," a multi-dwelling residential apartment complex generally located at 2404 Nutwood Avenue, Fullerton,
20	California 92831.
21	aaaaaaa. The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "UCE," a multi-dwelling
22	residential apartment complex generally located at 600 Langsdorf Drive, Fullerton, California 92831.
23	bbbbbbb. The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "Union South Bay," a
24	multi-dwelling residential apartment complex generally located at 615 E Carson
25 26	Street, Carson, California 90745.
26	ccccccc. The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "Verdugo Mesa," a multi- dwelling residential apartment complex generally located at 4269 Verdugo Road, Los
27	Angeles, California 90065.
28	- 16 -
	CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT SEEKING DECLARATIVE RELIEF, DAMAGES, INJUNCTIVE RELIEF AND RESTITUTION

1 2	dddddd. The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "Villa De Guadalupe," a multi-dwelling residential apartment complex generally located at 2151 Plaza De Guadalupe, San Jose, California 95116.
3	eeeeeee. The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "Villa Hermosa," a multi-
4	dwelling residential apartment complex generally located at 1608 W Jefferson Blvd, Los Angeles, California 90018.
5	fffffff. The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "Villa La Jolla," a multi-
6	dwelling residential apartment complex generally located at 734 La Jolla St, Placentia,
7	California 92870.
8	ggggggg. The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "Villa Raymond," a multi- dwelling residential apartment complex generally located at 455 N. Raymond Avenue
9	#101, Pasadena, California 91103.
10	hhhhhhh. The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "Village Green," a multi-
11	dwelling residential apartment complex generally located at 2122 W Chestnut Street, San Bernardino, California 92410.
12	
13	iiiiiii. The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "Village Oaks CA," a multi-dwelling residential apartment complex generally located at 15773 High Knoll
14	Drive, Chino Hills, California 91709.
15	jjjjjjjj. The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "Villas At Anaheim Villas,"
16 17	a multi-dwelling residential apartment complex generally located at 124 N. Tustin Ave, Anaheim, California 92807.
17	kkkkkkk. The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "Villas At Parkside," a
19	multi-dwelling residential apartment complex generally located at 381 West Hawkeye Avenue, Turlock, California 95380.
20	
20	IIIIIII. The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "Vista La Rosa," a multi- dwelling residential apartment complex generally located at 2002 Rimbey Avenue,
22	San Diego, California 92154.
22	mmmmmm. The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "Vivante," a multi-
23	dwelling residential apartment complex generally located at 26609 Gading Road, Hayward, California 94544.
25	nnnnnn. The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "Volta On Pine," a multi-
26	dwelling residential apartment complex generally located at 635 Pine Avenue, Long
27	Beach, California 90802.
28	ooooooo. The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "Weddington Mid-Rise," a multi-dwelling residential apartment complex generally located at 11911 Weddington
	- 17 -
	CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT SEEKING DECLARATIVE RELIEF, DAMAGES, INJUNCTIVE RELIEF AND RESTITUTION

1	Street, Valley Village, California 91607.
2	pppppp. The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "Woodside Place," a multi- dwelling residential apartment complex generally located at 2033 Latham Street,
3	Mountain View, California 94040.
4	qqqqqqq. The APARTMENT COMPLEX doing business as "Wyandotte," a multi-
5 6	dwelling residential apartment complex generally located at 14630 Wyandotte St, Van Nuys, California 91405.
7	12. AMC and the DOE defendants are collectively referred to herein as "Defendants."
8	
	13. Upon information and belief, all putative plaintiffs resided in California at the time
9	their cause of action accrued, more than two-thirds of putative plaintiffs continue to reside in
10	California, all injuries complained of herein occurred within California, and all defendants are
11	headquartered in California, own property in California and primarily do business within California.
12	14. Upon information and belief, each defendant herein has uniformity of employees,
13	offices, officers, management, ownership, and legal representation with each other defendant, such
14	that Defendants operated a joint and integrated enterprise.
15	15. Plaintiff are informed and believe, and thereupon aver, that Defendants are closely
16	held companies or partnerships that commingle their funds and other assets with all other Defendants;
17	do not maintain formal, adequate, discrete corporate records in distinction from all other Defendants;
18	have identical or overlapping officers and directors as all other Defendants; use the same offices and
19	business locations as all other Defendants; employ the same employees and attorneys as all other
20	Defendants; lack adequate separate capitalization; are in the same business and venture, for the
21	benefit of the same ultimate shareholders and members, as all other Defendants; do not maintain
22	arm's-length relationships with all other Defendants; and share and provide labor, services, capital,
23	revenue, real estate and/or management services with/for all other Defendants.
24	16. Plaintiff are informed and believe and thereupon aver that DOES 1 through 100 are
25	other natural persons, corporations, limited-liability companies, general partnerships, limited
26	partnerships, limited-liability partnerships, trusts, unincorporated associations, and/or other entities of
27	any kind or character who have incurred liability to Plaintiff (and/or to one or more members of the
28	Plaintiff Class) in relation to the transactions and/or occurrences that are the subject of this - 18 -

1 Complaint, or who have any interest in the subject of this Complaint.

17. Except as may be described here, Plaintiff are yet uninformed of the true names, capacities and nature and extent of participation in the course of conduct alleged here of the persons sued as DOES 1 through 100 inclusive. Plaintiff are yet uninformed of the nature and extent of any interest that the persons sued as DOES 1 through 100 inclusive may have in the subject of the Complaint. Plaintiff therefore sue these defendants by fictitious names. Plaintiff will amend this complaint to allege the true names and capacities of the DOE defendants when ascertained.

18. Upon information and belief, each of the Defendants named here, including DOES 1-100 and their alter egos, are joint tortfeasers, in joint enterprise, co-conspirators, and acting within the scope of their agency and their actual and apparent authority to conduct themselves in the manner herein complained.

19. Upon information and belief, each of the Defendants named here, including DOES 1-100 and their alter egos, acted as an owner, principal, agent, employer, employee, joint employer, joint venturer, franchisor, franchisee, shareholder, director, member, co-conspirator, shell, conduit, master, or partner of each other, and at all times were acting within the scope and course and in pursuance of their or its agency, employment, joint employment, joint venture, franchise, partnership, common and joint enterprise, or actual or apparent authority in concert with each other.

20. Upon information and belief, each of the Defendants named here, including DOES 1-100 and their alter egos, are individually, jointly and severally liable to Plaintiff and the Plaintiff class because each Defendant directly or indirectly, or through an agent or employee, actually, proximately and vicariously caused injury to Plaintiff as described here.

21. Upon information and belief, the acts and omissions of each Defendant named herein, 23 including DOES 1–100 and their alter egos, contributed to the acts and omissions of every other 24 Defendant in proximately causing the complaints, injuries, and damages alleged. Defendants 25 approved of, condoned, and/or otherwise ratified each of the acts or omissions complained of. 26 Defendants aided and abetted the acts and omissions of each other Defendant, including DOES 1–100 27 and their alter egos, in proximately causing the complaints, injuries, and damages alleged.

28

///

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

GENERAL ALLEGATIONS

22. AMC is a real estate property management company that manages an expansive empire of residential apartment complexes in California. As ultimate beneficiary of a significant percentage of the rents collected from residential tenants at the approximately 174 APARTMENT COMPLEXES it manages in California, AMC not only realizes rental income from tens of thousands of residential tenants, but also from AMC's standard operating procedures, practices and policies of charging tenants unlawful late fees and unlawfully retaining the security deposits of its current and former tenants in bad faith, by fraudulently overcharging tenants amounts against their security deposits for unsubstantiated, unnecessary, or unperformed work, including work which is either not supported by statutorily required documentation or not the obligation of the departing tenant under California law. AMC received immediate monetary benefit from these unlawful practices and gained ongoing and future monetary benefit in the form of client acquisition and client retention as a result of AMC's unlawful policies and practices as described herein.

As the sixth largest apartment complex property management company in the United
States, AMC directly manages, controls, and oversees all aspects of the income and expenses
generated at each of the APARTMENT COMPLEXES, including the security deposits and late fees.
According to AMC's own publication, in order to manage all aspects of these APARTMENT
COMPLEXES, including administration of late fees and retention of security deposits, AMC
employs numerous regional managers who directly supervise on-site property managers concerning
every aspect of property performance, from market rents to expense control.

24. AMC has a property inspection protocol that includes monthly and quarterly exterior inspections of each of the APARTMENT COMPLEXES by AMC's assigned and controlled Manager and Maintenance Supervisor. Per AMC's uniform policies, these inspections document any deficiencies, which are in turn noted and addressed. Additionally, AMC inspects all individual units at each APARTMENT COMPLEX on at least a bi-annual basis. AMC's inspections include preventative maintenance. The general condition of the unit is noted by AMC, and notices are sent by AMC to tenants if any housekeeping or lease violation issues are noted.

28

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

25. AMC's controlled Managers and Service Managers also inspect all units at the

^{- 20 -}

APARTMENT COMPLEXES before tenants move in and move out, reporting all findings to AMC's
 Regional Managers. Additionally, AMC's Regional Property Managers themselves are required to
 directly inspect any unit at the APARTMENT COMPLEXES vacant longer than thirty days, in
 addition to random weekly inspections. AMC uniformly and systematically audits all aspects of
 property management at the APARTMENT COMPLEXES.

26. AMC's Regional Property Managers also conduct several audits per year to ensure consistent handling of resident files and resident accounts — including late fee and security deposit administration. AMC monitors all risk management logs including unit turn tracking. These audits are done on a monthly and quarterly basis. AMC's accounting department also performs monthly audits of a random assortment of invoices for uniformity in all areas, including vendor names, vendor compliance, invoice numbers, invoice totals, and invoice coding.

27. To uniformly manage all APARTMENT COMPLEXES, AMC also utilizes uniform on-site property management software programs including AIM, Yardi and ResMan. These software programs provide AMC with comprehensive databases of relevant information, including prospect tracking, resident demographics, payment history, accounts receivable and accounts payable detail, budget control and maintenance issues, and property financial results. AIM, ResMan and Yardi have been uniformly interfaced with AMC's customized accounting system to provide AMC with the most current financial and resident data available across the APARTMENT COMPLEXES.

28. All resident rental receipt processing is accomplished exclusively by AMC through AIM, Yardi, ResMan or other specified on-site property management software programs implemented and controlled by AMC. Information, including all resident transactions, move-in and move-out statements and data, resident demographics and security deposit refunds, are initially processed by each of AMC's controlled and supervised on-site managers and instantaneously made visible to AMC's Regional Managers and accounting through a uniform comprehensive reporting system within the AIM, Yardi or ResMan systems. The flexibility of these standardized AMC systems allows AMC to track revenues, expenses, security deposits and late fees, and provides significant history detail for AMC's review and audit purposes. Additionally, AMC directly collects all rent payments and late fees from tenants at its APARTMENT COMPLEXES through AMC's

<u>- 21 -</u>

1 uniform online portal at www.amcrentpay.com.

Unlawful Security Deposit Retention:

29. The Civil Code sets forth requirements for the treatment of security deposits upon termination of a residential lease. Section 1950.5(b) provides that a landlord may only use a security deposit to satisfy charges against a former tenant for: (1) rent in arrears; (2) repairs exclusive of wear and tear; (3) cleaning required to bring the leasehold back to the condition it was in when the tenant 8 accepted the tenancy; and (4) "to remedy future defaults by the tenant in any obligation under the rental agreement to restore, replace, or return personal property or appurtenances" if provided for in 10 the lease.

30. Section 1950.5(g)(1) requires that the balance of security deposits and an itemization 12 of their disposition must be provided to the departing tenant within 21 days of vacating the leasehold. More specifically, section 1950.5(g)(1) provides that, no later than 21 calendar days after the tenant 14 vacates the premises, the landlord "shall furnish the tenant, by personal delivery or by first-class mail, 15 postage prepaid, a copy of an itemized statement indicating the basis for, and the amount of, any 16 security received and the disposition of the security, and shall return any remaining portion of the 17 security to the tenant."

31. Section 1950.5(g)(2) describes the substantiation required to be sent to former tenants for charges levied against security deposits – a reasonable description of work performed by employees including hours worked and hourly rate charged; and, for work by vendors, copies of invoices and receipts from the vendors who performed work.

32. Civil Code section 1950.5(g)(2)(B) provides that the landlord must also include copies 23 of documents substantiating the charges incurred and deducted by the landlord to repair or clean the 24 premises; specifically, the "landlord shall provide the tenant a copy of the bill, invoice, or receipt 25 supplied by the person or entity performing the work."¹

26 27

28

2

3

4

5

6

7

9

11

13

18

19

20

21

22

The "receipt requirement" of Civ. Code § 1950.5(g)(2) is excepted only when deductions for cleaning and repairs combined do not exceed \$125.

33. Civil Code section 1950.5(g)(2)(A) provides: "If the landlord or landlord's employee did the work, the itemized statement shall reasonably describe the work performed. The itemized statement shall include the time spent and the reasonable hourly rate charged." AMC's itemizations and other documentation sent to former tenants, commonly referred to as "Move-out Statements," by universal, standard operating procedure and policy do not satisfy any of the requirements as set forth in section 1950.5(g)(2).

7 34. Section 1950.5(m) provides that no portion of a security deposit may be deemed non-8 refundable by operation of the lease.

35. Defendants in this action systematically, uniformly, and in bad faith have violated the Civil Code to the detriment of thousands of Californians over many years by charging for repairs, replacement, and cleaning that were never done; a practice obscured by intentionally failing to itemize and substantiate repairs, replacement and cleaning by code, if they were done. As such, these former California tenants of Defendants have each been deprived of some or all of their security deposits which Defendants were legally obligated to return to its tenants at the conclusion of their respective leases.

16 36. AMC directs all tenants of the APARTMENT COMPLEXES to send their complaints, 17 concerns, rent checks and security deposits to AMC, its employees, agents, and/or co-conspirators. 18 Defendants unlawfully retain former tenants' security deposits via AMC's standardized practice and 19 policy of billing former tenants for normal wear and tear; and, charging former tenants fees for labor 20 and services that were not performed, not required, and moreover not substantiated by documentation 21 as required under California law. These excessive, unsubstantiated, unwarranted, unenforceable, 22 unlawful and/or fraudulent charges, and the subsequent withholding of security deposits from these 23 former tenants and the efforts to collect these charges over and above the security deposits, form the 24 gravamen of this Complaint.

25 37. Defendants' unreasonable, excessive, unlawful, unenforceable and/or unsubstantiated 26 charges made against former tenants' security deposits often exceed the amount of the deposit held 27 by Defendants. When this occurs, Defendants cause a bill, and sometimes a collections notice, to be 28 sent to former tenants, knowing that the monies claimed are based upon fraudulent, unreasonable,

1

2

3

4

5

6

9

10

- 23 -

1 excessive, unlawful, unenforceable and/or unsubstantiated move-out charges. Additionally, 2 Defendants apply these same standardized processes to avoid repayment of some or all of the former 3 tenants' security deposit and/or retaining some or all of the former tenants' security deposit beyond 4 the 21-day period mandated by California law. This conduct has resulted in damages to Plaintiff and 5 other former tenants of the APARTMENT COMPLEXES both through the nonpayment of full 6 security deposit amounts owed to tenants within 21-days of move-out and through the collection of 7 such amounts and by the reporting of such alleged debts to third-parties, defaming former tenants, 8 damaging their credit and impairing their ability to rent other apartments.

9 38. AMC's standard operating procedures for the administration of its former tenants' 10 security deposits uniformly and systematically violates Civil Code sections 1950.5(g)(1) and (g)(2). AMC, as a matter of standard policy and practice, does not send bills, receipts, or invoices from the 12 third-party vendors it alleges performed work on the vacated premises. AMC, as a matter of standard policy and practice, does not describe the work allegedly performed on the leasehold in the manner 14 required by code. Instead, it fails to provide statements and uses unlawfully vague descriptions —a 15 uniform practice designed to obfuscate the work, if any, performed on a leasehold, who performed 16 the work, and the cost and/or labor of the work with the intention of wrongfully maximizing security 17 deposit retention. By uniform and standard operating procedure, it is impossible to determine, in 18 contravention of law, if the work AMC allegedly performed or paid to be performed on the leasehold 19 was actually performed — either by a vendor or an in-house employee. AMC's practices also make 20 it impossible for the former tenants, including Plaintiff to tell what amounts, if any, were lawfully withheld from their security deposit.

11

13

21

22 39. Worse still, pursuant to AMC's uniform standard operating procedure, when certain 23 uniform predetermined circumstances exist, AMC does not even provide its former tenants at the 24 APARTMENT COMPLEXES a legally compliant Move-out Statement. AMC does not provide 25 them any itemized statement indicating what amount and scope of deductions were made from the 26 former tenant's security deposit, does not provide any receipts, invoices or bills supporting any 27 deductions, and does not return the full security deposit to the former tenant within 21 days of move-28 out, less lawful substantiated deductions.

- 24 -

Unlawful Late Fees:

40. In addition to the forgoing, Defendants systematically, uniformly, and in bad faith have violated the Civil Code to the detriment of thousands of Californians over many years by creating and maintaining a uniform late rent fee policy and practice across all of their California residential rental properties. Defendants' policy and practice is to charge tenants a late fee for the payment of any portion of rent that is late – even if Defendants incurred no damages (other than, potentially, a few cents of lost interest) as a result of the late payment. (Defendants' late fee penalties are hereinafter referred to as the "Excessive Late Fee(s).") Defendant has never substantiated the amount of fees it charges. As such, these Excessive Late Fees bare no reasonable relation to the damages actually incurred, are usurious, violate the civil code, and are otherwise unlawful and unenforceable under California law. Defendants' Excessive Late Fee Policy forms the basis of the Excessive Late Fee Class.

41. As such, Defendants charged an unreasonable penalty that is void under California law. The unreasonableness of the late fee penalty is further demonstrated by the fact that Defendants charge these fees whether the rent is one day late or two weeks late and whether the outstanding balance is \$25 or \$2,000. Defendants' policy and practice of charging Excessive Late Fees violates Civil Code § 1671(d), and it is additionally an unlawful business act or practice which causes Plaintiff and other tenants' financial injury, and is therefore prohibited by California's Unfair Competition Law, Business and Professions Code § 17200, et seq. (hereinafter referred to as the "UCL"). It is also an unfair business act or practice in violation of the UCL. Plaintiff brings this action to challenge Defendants' Excessive Late Fee policy and practice on behalf of themselves and all other similarly situated residents of Defendants' residential rental properties in California.

42. California law establishes a presumption that "the detriment caused by the breach of an obligation to pay money only, is deemed to be the amount due by the terms of the obligation, with interest thereon." Cal. Civ. Code § 3302. Defendants' Excessive Late Fees represent exorbitant interest rates for tenants' failure to pay the amount of rent or other charges due. Defendants' late fees exceed any reasonable measure of Defendants' actual damages sustained as a result of their tenants' late rent payments, the maximum

- 25 -

1 extent of which is interest, and the pro rata administrative costs related to collecting and accounting for late 2 payments. In order to be valid under California law, the amount of late fees in a residential lease must 3 represent the result of a reasonable endeavor by the parties to estimate a fair average compensation for any loss 4 that may be sustained only upon the showing that the amount of actual damages sustained is impractical or 5 extremely difficult to fix. Absent these elements, the late fees provision is void. Orozco v. Casimiro (2004) 6 121 Cal. App. 4th Supp. 7. 31. Defendants' late fee is an arbitrary amount which functions as a penalty. Any marginal interest accumulated or other damages that Defendants' sustain due to the delay in rent payments are definite and easily ascertainable. On information and belief, Defendants' have never made a reasonable endeavor to estimate a fair average compensation for the losses sustained when a tenant pays rent late, as required for a liquidated damages provision under California Civil Code § 1671(d) to be enforceable.

Plaintiff Rosa Navarro:

43. Plaintiff ROSA NAVARRO is a former tenant of Defendants, formerly residing at the following APARTMENT COMPLEX: The Bay Vista Apartments, at 470 Central Avenue, Alameda, CA 94501, unit number 18. Ms. NAVARRO leased the apartment from Defendants beginning in or about May 2021. Ms. NAVARRO's lease with Defendants required a security deposit of approximately more than \$2,000 when she moved in on or about May 2021.

44. Ms. NAVARRO vacated her leased premises at the Bay Vista Apartments on or about May 22, 2022. She never received any statutorily required Move-out Statement, notice or itemized statement regarding the disposition of her security deposit at that time, nor did she receive any bills, receipts, invoices, or other documentation from any third-party vendor who may have allegedly performed any repairs, cleaning or replacements to the unit Ms. NAVARRO vacated. In fact, no such notice, statement, invoice, bill, or other document evidencing any amounts that were deducted from Ms. NAVAROO's security deposit were ever sent to Ms. NAVARRO within 21 days after vacating her unit at Bay Vista Apartments.

26 45. Not only did Ms. NAVARRO not receive any statutotrily required notice, itemized statement, invoices, bills, receipts, or other documents related to the disposition of her security 28 deposit within 21 days upon vacating, to date she still has never received any such records. And, to

date, Defendants have retained Ms. NAVARRO's entire security deposit, despite her numerous efforts to receive repayment of her security deposit, as described in greater detail below.

46. On or about May 22, 2022, Ms. NAVARRO vacated the premises. On or about June 1, 2022, Ms. NAVARRO called and texted AMC's manager to inquire about the status of her security deposit. AMC informed Ms. NAVARRO that its manager was unavailable but would call her back later. AMC's manager did not return Ms. NAVARRO's call.

47. On or about June 10, 2022, Ms. NAVARRO called again. She also emailed AMC management about the estimated arrival time for her security deposit check, stating: "I am reaching out because I have not heard back regarding my deposit." Later that day, Ms. NAVARRO texted AMC's manager, stating that she just sent another short email "because I have not heard back. Please look into [this]. Thanks." AMC's manager confirmed via text AMC's receipt of her emails and promised to respond by the following day. AMC's manager did not respond.

48. On June 14, 2022, Ms. NAVARRO again called AMC inquiring about her security deposit and reminding AMC that it still had not responded to her prior texts and emails. AMC finally responded, stating, "Can you please provide us with your new address so we can mail you the deposit." That same date, Ms. NAVARRO emailed AMC her address in Oakland, California, where the security deposit should be mailed.

49. On June 15, 2022, Ms. NAVARRO emailed AMC's her mailing address a second time. Afterwards, she called AMC's manager. He refused to take her call and texted that he was unavailable.

50. On June 22, 2022, approximately 30 days after she had vacated the premises, Ms. NAVARRO followed up with AMC's manager via text: "checking on update of deposit[.] was that mailed out."

51. On June 23, 2022, after hearing nothing from AMC, Ms. NAVARRO asked AMC again via email whether the deposit had yet been forwarded to her Oakland, California address that she had previously provided AMC twice before. In response, AMC feigned ignorance: "thank you for your new address." AMC stated it would reach out to its accounting department to "inquire about [her] deposit." AMC further stated, "We will update you tomorrow when we hear back from them."

1

1 Unsurprisingly, the following day came and went, but still AMC provided Ms. NAVARRO with no 2 update.

52. On June 29, 2022, Ms. NAVARRO followed up again: "I am emailing once more I have not heard from you about the deposit."

53. On June 30, 2022, about 38 days after vacating the premises, after receiving no updates from AMC for over a week, Ms. NAVARRO again texted AMC's manager: "regarding the deposit have not heard from the office can you please check for me thanks." AMC's manager gave another excuse: "I will check your mail box today incase the check was mailed to your unit at bay vista." In reality, AMC had no reason to believe that a security deposit check was ever mailed to Ms. NAVARRO's Bay Vista apartment because she had not lived there in over a month; AMC used this as an excuse to further delay payment and thwart Ms. NAVARRO'S recovery of her security deposit. AMC continued to provide Ms. NAVARRO with no update regarding the whereabouts of her security deposit.

54. On July 2, 2022, Ms. NAVARRO again emailed AMC to inform it that "it has now been past the 21 days after I moved out and I have not been forwarded my deposit." In this email, Ms. NAVARRO also reaffirmed her Oakland, California address (for a fourth time), and asked for AMC to call her regarding her security deposit "as soon as possible."

18 55. On July 5, 2022, 44 days after Ms. NAVARRO had vacated her unit at Bay Vista 19 Apartments, she again texted AMC to inquire about her security deposit: "Hello again, sorry to bother 20 you but can I get the main office number so I can contact them directly. I feel awful that I keep texting you about the matter. But still nothing yet." In response, AMC dodged Ms. NAVARRO's 22 request by stating, "I'll contact our accountant to see what's going on."

23 56. On July 6, 2022, Ms. NAVARRO again called and texted AMC's management asking 24 for an update. She was again told AMC would call her back. AMC did not.

25 57. On July 12, 2022, Ms. NAVARRO again followed up with AMC regarding the status 26 of her deposit check. This time, AMC told her that according to AMC's accounting department "the 27 check wasn't cashed so [they] reissued a new check for you on Friday [July 8, 2022]."

28

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

21

58. On July 26, 2022, Ms. NAVARRO again called and texted AMC, stating "reaching

- 28 -

1 out to you regarding my deposit. I need [you] to provide me with information. I was told it would be 2 forwarded many times and till today I have not heard from your office. I have a legal right to know. 3 I need an answer." That same date, Ms. Navarro also emailed AMC, stating that she had emailed and 4 called multiple times about her deposit, and that AMC told her that it would be forwarded to her 5 Oakland, California address, but that she still has not received it. She further requested "an 6 explanation and honest response" from AMC. However, in response, AMC again claimed that its 7 accountant reissued the security deposit check and mailed it to Ms. NAVARRO at her Oakland, 8 California address. AMC stated Ms. NAVARRO should expect to finally receive the check at the 9 end of the week. AMC never mailed the check. AMC never sent her any lawful itemized statement 10 either.

59. As of the time of the filing of this civil complaint, more than 198 days have passed since Ms. NAVARRO vacated her apartment at Bay Vista Apartments. AMC still has not returned to Ms. NAVARRO her security deposit, nor any portion thereof. Nor has AMC sent Ms. NAVARRO any itemized statement, invoice, receipt or bill of any kind for any deduction from her security deposit.

16 60. In addition to the forgoing, pursuant to AMC's Excessive Late Fee Policy, on information
17 and belief, Ms. DAVIS was charged by Defendants approximately \$100 for each instance when her
18 rent was paid late, regardless of the amount or number of days late. Defendants never wiaved nor
19 refunded any of the late fees Defendants charged Plaintiff pursuant to its uniform Excessive Late Fee
20 Policy.

22

21

11

12

13

14

15

CLASS ACTION ALLEGATIONS:

23 61. Plaintiff re-alleges and incorporates by reference the allegations of all preceding
24 paragraphs.

62. Plaintiff brings this action as a class action pursuant to California Civil Code of
Procedure § 382 on behalf of herself and all other similarly situated persons in the Classes, which are
composed of and defined as follows, excepting only individuals against whom or in whose favor a
final judgment has already been rendered with respect to the defendant(s):

<u>- 2</u>9 -

1	a. Unsubstantiated-Charges Class: All former residents of Defendants' California
2	properties whose leaseholds terminated between December 9, 2018 to the date of tiral,
3	and who had at least \$125 of their security deposit retained for, inter alia, cleaning,
4	repairs and/or replacements combined (the "Plaintiff Class.").
5	b. Excessive Late Fee Class: All current and former residents of Defendants' California
6	Properties who were subject to Defendants' Excessive Late Fee policy at any time
7	between December 9, 2018 and the date of trial.
8	63. Plaintiff reserves the right to amend this Class and to add any number of subclasses.
9	The Court should permit this action to be maintained as a class action pursuant to California Code of
10	Civil Procedure section 382 because:
11	a. <u>Numerosity:</u> The Plaintiff Class is so numerous that the individual joinder of all
12	members is impracticable. Plaintiff is informed and believes that there are more than
13	20,000 class members in total and a sufficiently numerous amount in the proposed
14	class.
15	b. <u>Common Questions Predominate:</u> Common questions of law and fact exist as to all
16	members of the class that predominate over any questions that affect only individual
17	members. These common questions of law and fact include:
18	i. Whether Defendants enacted policies or engaged in a pattern and practice in
19	violation of Civil Code section 1950.5(g)(1) of failing to return any remaining
20	portion of the security deposits to the respective former tenants within 21
21	calendar days after the tenant vacates the premises.
22	ii. Whether Defendants enacted policies or engaged in a pattern and practice in
23	violation of Civil Code section 1950.5(g)(1) of failing to provide itemized
24	statements detailing charges for repairs or cleaning deducted from security
25	deposits of its former tenants within 21 days of move out.
26	iii. Whether Defendants enacted policies or engaged in a pattern and practice of
27	failing to provide copies of vendor-supplied bills, receipts or invoices for
28	repairs or cleaning deducted from security deposits of its former tenants within
	- 30 - CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT SEEKING DECLARATIVE RELIEF, DAMAGES, INJUNCTIVE RELIEF AND RESTITUTION

1	21 days of move out.
2	iv. Whether Defendants' uniform security deposit itemizations satisfy the
3	requirements for any alleged "employee performed work" on vacated
4	leaseholds under Civil Code section 1950.5(g)(2)(A).
5	v. Whether Defendants' uniform security deposit itemizations satisfy the
6	requirements for any alleged "vendor performed work" on vacated leaseholds
7	under Civil Code section 1950.5(g)(2).
8	vi. Whether Defendants, by operation of law, are barred from seeking recovery for
9	amounts which could legitimately have been charged at move out due to their
10	systematic and bad faith violation of Civil Code section 1950.5 and other
11	equitable or statutory provisions of law.
12	vii. Whether any and all Defendants are liable to each former tenant who is a class
13	member for punitive and/or treble damages for bad-faith retention of security
14	deposits under Civil Code section 1950.5(l).
15	viii. Whether Granberry v. Islay Investments 9 Cal. 4th 738 mandates that the
16	Defendant return all of the security deposit retained from the Plaintiff Class for
17	its uniform violation of Civil Code section 1950.5.
18	ix. Whether Defendants' policy and practice of charging a late fee resulted in
19	Defendants' charging a late fee that was excessive.
20	x. Whether Defendants late fee policy was ever validated by engaging in a
21	reasonable endeavor to estimate a fair average compensation for any
22	substantiated loss by showing that the amount of actual damages sustained is
23	impractical or extremely difficult to fix.
24	xi. The appropriate measure of class-wide legal and/or equitable relief.
25	c. <u>Typicality:</u> Plaintiff's claims are typical of those of the Plaintiff Class. Plaintiff and
26	all Plaintiff Class members sustained injuries and damages arising from Defendants'
27	common policies, practices and course of conduct, and those injuries and damages
28	were caused directly by the Defendants' wrongful conduct in violation of law as
	- 31 - CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT SEEKING DECLARATIVE RELIEF, DAMAGES, INJUNCTIVE RELIEF AND
	RESTITUTION

alleged.

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

23

24

25

26

27

28

///

///

///

///

|||

|||

- d. Adequacy of Representation: Plaintiff will fairly and adequately protect the interest of the members of the Plaintiff Class. Plaintiff has no interests adverse to the interests of absent class members. Plaintiff has retained counsel adequate to prosecute the case for the entire class.
- e. <u>Superiority</u>: A class action is superior to other available means for the fair and efficient adjudication of this controversy since individual joinder of all members of the class is impracticable; class action treatment will permit a large number of similarly situated persons to prosecute their common claims in a single forum simultaneously, efficiently, and without the unnecessary duplication of effort and expense that numerous individual actions would engender. Furthermore, because Defendants are expected to contend that any individual's damages may be relatively small, the expense and burden of individual litigation make it difficult or impossible for individual class members to redress the wrongs done to them, while an important public interest will be served by addressing the matter as a class action. The cost to the judicial system of individual adjudication would be substantial and present the potential for inconsistent or contradictory judgments. In addition, individual actions give Defendants too many opportunities to take advantage of unrepresented tenants at a summary proceeding without access to substantial discovery, as discovery is not available in small claims court.

64. Plaintiff is unaware of any difficulties that are likely to be encountered in the 22 management of this action that would preclude its maintenance as a class action.

- 32 -CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT SEEKING DECLARATIVE RELIEF, DAMAGES, INJUNCTIVE RELIEF AND RESTITUTION

1		FIRST CLAIM FOR RELIEF
2		Unlawful Retention of Residential Security Deposits
3		(California Civil Code § 1950.5)
4		(Against all Defendants)
5	65.	Plaintiff re-alleges and incorporates by reference the allegations of all preceding
6	paragraphs.	
7	66.	This cause of action is brought against Defendants on behalf of Plaintiff and the
8	Plaintiff Clas	SS.
9	67.	Defendants charged unsubstantiated cleaning, repair, replacement, and/or painting fees
10	to Plaintiff a	nd the Plaintiff Class upon the termination of their leasehold and deducted these charges
11	from their se	curity deposits.
12	68.	Defendants did not provide a copy of an itemized statement indicating the basis for,
13	and the amou	unt of, any security received and the disposition of the security within 21 days of
14	Plaintiff's an	d the Plaintiff Class' vacating the respective leased premises owned and managed by
15	Defendants.	
16	69.	Defendants did not provide the requisite substantiation of the charges against
17	Plaintiff's an	d the Plaintiff Class' security deposits as required under Civil Code section
18	1950.5(g)(2)	
19	70.	Defendants, as a result of these charges, unlawfully retained some or all of Plaintiff's
20	and the Plain	ntiff Class' security deposits.
21	71.	Defendants further retained some or all of the Plaintiff's and the Plaintiff Class'
22	security depo	osit beyond 21 calendar days after vacating the premises.
23	72.	Defendants engaged in the above-described misconduct in bad faith.
24	73.	As a direct and proximate cause of Defendants' conduct, Plaintiff and the Plaintiff
25	Class suffere	ed damages.
26	///	
27	///	
28	///	
	CLASS AC	- 33 - TION COMPLAINT SEEKING DECLARATIVE RELIEF, DAMAGES, INJUNCTIVE RELIEF AND
		RESTITUTION

1	SECOND CLAIM FOR RELIEF
2	Unlawful Liquidated Damages
3	(California Civil Code § 1671)
4	(Against all Defendants)
5	74. Plaintiff re-alleges and incorporates by reference the allegations of all preceding
6	paragraphs.
7	75. Defendants rented real property to Plaintiff and Class Members for use as dwellings
8	by Plaintiff and Class Members subject to California Civil Code § 1671(c)(2).
9	76. California Civil Code § 1671(d) provides that "a provision in a contract liquidating
10	damages for the breach of the contract is void except that the parties to such a contract may agree
11	therein upon an amount which shall be presumed to be the amount of damage sustained by a breach
12	thereof, when, from the nature of the case, it would be impracticable or extremely difficult to fix the
13	actual damage."
14	77. Any damages Defendants' sustained as a result of Plaintiff's and Class Members' late
15	payment of rent is neither impracticable nor extremely difficult to fix. Neither is Defendant's late rent
16	fee the result of a reasonable effort to estimate fair compensation for Defendants' actual damages
17	sustained due to their late receipt of rent from Plaintiff or Class Members. Defendants' late rent fee
18	is usurious, unreasonable, excessive, and voidable under California law.
19	78. Defendants' Excessive Late Fees are accordingly unlawful pursuant to California Civil
20	Code § 1671(d). Plaintiff and Class Members are entitled to restitution of all fees Defendants have
21	collected from tenants for the late payment of rent or other outstanding balances, as well as interest
22	and other relief as specifically prayed for herein.
23	79. As a direct and proximate cause of Defendants' conduct, Plaintiff suffered damages.
24	///
25	///
26	///
27	///
28	///
	- 34 -
	CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT SEEKING DECLARATIVE RELIEF, DAMAGES, INJUNCTIVE RELIEF AND RESTITUTION

1	THIRD CLAIM FOR RELIEF	
2	Restitution as a Remedy for "Unfair Competition"	
3	(California Business and Professions Code §§ 17200, et seq.)	
4	(Against All Defendants)	
5	80. Plaintiff re-alleges and incorporates by reference the allegations of all preceding	
6	paragraphs.	
7	81. This cause of action is brought against Defendants on behalf of Plaintiff and the	
8	Plaintiff Class.	
9	82. Pursuant to section 17200 of the California Business and Professions Code, "any	
10	unlawful, unfair or fraudulent business act or practice" constitutes "unfair competition."	
11	83. The violations of the California Civil Code and other wrongdoing alleged herein	
12	constitute unlawful, unfair and/or fraudulent business acts and practices, and therefore "unfair	
13	competition," for the purposes of section 17200 of the California Business and Professions Code.	
14	Among other violations, Defendants' collections and attempted collections of amounts over and	
15	above a retained security deposit are unlawful, all entitling Plaintiff and the Plaintiff Class to	
16	restitution under the UCL.	
17	84. Likewise, Defendants' deduction from the Plaintiff's and the Plaintiff Class'	
18	respective security deposits without timely providing Plaintiff and the Class legally competent	
19	itemized descriptions of the repairs, replacement or cleaning purportedly performed by Defendants	
20	constitutes an unlawful, unfair and/or fraudulent business practice. Similarly, Defendants' failure to	
21	furnish the statutorily required itemized statement, receipts, invoices, bills and other substantiating	
22	records within 21 days, and Defendants' failure to return any remaining portion of the security	
23	deposits to the Plaintiff and Plaintiff Class within 21 calendar days after the tenant vacates the	
24	premises was unfair and unlawful. Defendants' deduction from the Plaintiff's and the Plaintiff Class'	
25	respective security deposits without timely providing Plaintiff and the Class third-party vendor	
26	invoices for all repairs, replacement, and/or cleaning purportedly performed by third party vendors	
27	constitutes an unlawful, unfair and/or fraudulent business practice.	
28	85. Defednants' policy and practice of charging unsubstantiated late fees without first - 35 -	

engaging in a reasonable endeavor to estimate a fair average compensation for any substantiated loss
by showing that the amount of actual damages sustained is impractical or extremely difficult to fix
render the late fee charges unfair and unlawful. Defendants' late fee charges to Plaintiff and the
Plaintiff Class were arbitrary, excessive, and unreasonable charges in violation of statute and,
therefore, are unfair and unlawful.

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

86. Plaintiff and the Plaintiff Class have suffered financial injury in fact and have lost money and/or property as a result of such unfair competition.

87. The facts set forth establish that the Plaintiff and the members of the Plaintiff Class are entitled to judgment over and against Defendants and all of them, jointly and severally, awarding restitution to the Plaintiff and the Plaintiff Class of all monies acquired by means of the described unfair competition, including wrongfully withheld security deposits and associated penalties, and wrongfully charged unlawful and unfair late fees.

88. Plaintiff and the Plaintiff Class are further entitled to declaratory and injunctive relief
determining the rights and obligations in dispute among the Parties and an order mandating
Defendants adhere to the mandates of law with respect to their security deposit accounting practices.

PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff, on behalf of themselves and other members of Plaintiff Class, pray:

89. For actual damages sustained by Plaintiff and the Plaintiff Class members, including but not limited to, unlawfully retained security deposits; any amounts paid to Defendants over and above what was retained of their respective security deposits for unreasonable and unsubstantiated charges at move-out; plus any other amounts collected from Class members in connection with their leasehold termination for purported repairs, replacements, painting, carpet replacement or cleaning, accelerated rent, rental concession charge-backs, and any other charges collected in violation of law.

25 90. For return of the entirety of all Plaintiff's and the Plaintiff Class' security deposits
26 retained by Defendants;

27 91. For return of the entirety of all Plaintiff's and the Plaintiff Class' late fees paid to
28 Defendants;

1	92.	For penalties available pursuant to Civil Code section 1950.5 et seq.;
2	93.	For penalties available pursuant to Civil Code section 3345;
3	94.	For restitution for violation of Business and Professions Code sections 17200 et seq.;
4	95.	For pre-judgment interest;
5	96.	For attorney's fees and expenses recoverable under law, including, without limitation,
6	Code of Civil	Procedure 1021.5;
7	97.	For costs, including class action notice and administration expenses;
8	98.	For injunctive relief against Defendants' conduct, including an injunction:
9		a. Requiring Defendants to issue proper itemizations of security deposits as required
10		by Civil Code section 1950.5 within the time prescribed by law.
11		b. Requiring Defendants to provide a third-party documentation for every cleaning,
12		replacement, and repair charges consistent with the provisions of Civil Code \S
13		1950.5(g)(2);
14		c. Prohibiting Defendants from charging any fees against residential security deposits
15		other than the charges specifically authorized by Civil Code section 1950.5(b); and
16		d. To declare all alleged outstanding balances owed by class members invalid and
17		prohibit collection thereupon.
18	99.	For declaratory relief, declaring that outstanding balances alleged owed by the
19	Plaintiff Class	s members are extinguished by operation of this suit;
20	100.	For all other appropriate declaratory and equitable relief; and
21	101.	Any other relief that this Court deems just.
22	Datady Dagar	mber 8, 2022 HOGUE & BELONG
23	Dated: Decei	
24		By: <u>Tyler J. Belong</u> JEFFREY L. HOGUE, ESQ.
25		TYLER J. BELONG, ESQ. OCTAVIO VELARDE, ESQ.
26		Attorneys for Plaintiff
27		
28		27
	CLASS ACT	- 37 - 'ION COMPLAINT SEEKING DECLARATIVE RELIEF, DAMAGES, INJUNCTIVE RELIEF AND RESTITUTION
		KLOTTI U LION

1	JURY DEMAND
2	Plaintiff and ROES 1 through 100, individually and on behalf of the other members of the
3	Plaintiff Class, hereby demand trial by jury of all issues triable by a jury, pursuant to applicable law,
4	including, but not necessarily limited to Article I, ¶ 16 of the California Constitution, and/or § 592 of
5	the California Code of Civil Procedure.
6	
7	Dated: December 8, 2022 HOGUE & BELONG
8	By: <u>Tyler J. Belong</u> JEFFREY L. HOGUE, ESQ.
9	TYLER J. BELONG, ESQ. OCTAVIO VELARDE, ESQ.
10	Attorneys for Plaintiff
11	
12 13	
13	
14	
15	
17	
18	
19	
20	
21	
22	
23	
24	
25	
26	
27	
28	
	- 38 - CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT SEEKING DECLARATIVE RELIEF, DAMAGES, INJUNCTIVE RELIEF AND
	RESTITUTION