## IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA

AXCESS GLOBAL SCIENCES LLC,	
Plaintiff, vs.	C.A. No
ALEXANDER LEBED, GEORGE GONCHAR, MICHAEL FRIDMAN, DMITRY KUZMENKOV, MARK KATSOS, CONTESSA DUBOIS, HEALTH SOLUTION LLC, HEALTH SOLUTION USA LLC, LIFE NUTRITION LLC, LIFE NUTRITION USA LLC, NATURE SUPPLEMENTS LLC, NATURE SUPPLEMENTS USA LLC, PL NUTRITION LLC, PRIVATE LABEL NUTRITION LLC, PRIVATE LABEL NUTRITION USA LLC, SPORT NUTRITION & VITAMINS LLC, SPORT SUPPLEMENTS LLC, THE SUPPLEMENT SHOP LLC, and VIP VITAMINS LLC,	JURY TRIAL DEMANDED
Defendants.	

## **COMPLAINT**

Plaintiff, Axcess Global Sciences LLC ("Plaintiff" OR "AGS"), hereby alleges as follows against Defendants Alexander Lebed ("Lebed"), George Gonchar ("Gonchar"), Michael Fridman ("Fridman"), Dmitry Kuzmenkov ("Kuzmenkov"), Mark Katsos ("Katsos"), Contessa Dubois ("Dubois"), Health Solution LLC ("Health Solution"), Health Solution USA LLC ("Health Solution USA"), Life Nutrition LLC ("Life Nutrition"), Life Nutrition USA LLC ("Life Nutrition USA"), Nature Supplements LLC ("Nature Supplements"), Nature Supplements USA LLC ("Nature Supplements USA"), PL Nutrition LLC ("PL Nutrition"), Private Label Nutrition LLC ("Private Label"), Private Label Nutrition USA LLC ("Sport Nutrition & Vitamins LLC ("Sport Nutrition"), Sport Supplements LLC ("Sport Supplements"), The Supplement Shop LLC ("Supplement Shop") and VIP Vitamins LLC ("VIP Vitamins"). Defendants Lebed, Gonchar, Fridman, Kuzmenkov, Katsos, and Dubois are collectively referred to herein as the "Individual Defendants." All Defendants that are LLCs are collectively referred to herein as the "LLC Defendants." The Individual Defendants and LLC Defendants together are collectively referred to herein as "Defendants."

## NATURE OF THE CLAIMS

1. This is an action for patent infringement arising under 35 U.S.C. § 1, *et seq.* Plaintiff is the owner of U.S. Pat. Nos. 11,241,403 (the "403 Patent") and 11,020,362 (the "362 Patent") (collectively, the "Asserted Patents"). *See* Exhibits A and B. The Asserted Patents include claims for unique formulations of the health supplement Beta-Hydroxybutyrate ("BHB"). Without authorization, Defendants make, use, offer for sale, and sell products that infringe the Asserted Patents through hundreds of listings on the e-commerce platform eBay.com (collectively, the "Accused Products"). Plaintiff seeks injunctive relief and damages adequate to compensate for Defendants' infringement.

### THE PARTIES

2. AGS is a Utah limited liability company with a principal place of business at 2157 Lincoln St, Salt Lake City, UT 84106.

3. On information and belief, Lebed is an individual residing at 4600 Old Oak Rd, Doylestown, PA 18902. In 2005, Lebed was investigated by the FBI and indicted on over 100 criminal counts, including for wire fraud, mail fraud, and money laundering related to a business that he owned and operated in Pennsylvania. Lebed pleaded guilty to dozens of counts.

4. On information and belief, Gonchar is an individual residing at 7915 Bustleton Ave, Philadelphia, PA 19152. In 2012, Gonchar was also investigated by the FBI and indicted in a

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separate money laundering scheme related to a different business that he owned and operated in Pennsylvania. Gonchar was also found guilty on multiple counts.

5. On information and belief, Fridman is an individual residing at 126 Moredun Rd, Philadelphia, PA 19115.

6. On information and belief, Kuzmenkov is an individual residing at 1728 Balas Cir, Southampton, PA 18966.

7. On information and belief, Katsos is an individual residing at 139 Swamp Rd, Newtown, PA 18940.

On information and belief, Dubois is an individual residing at 301 Brook Meadow
 Dr, Mechanicsburg, PA 17050.

9. On information and belief, Health Solution is a Pennsylvania limited liability company with a registered address at 2030 County Line Rd, #220, Huntingdon Valley, PA 19006. Also on information and belief, Health Solution was formed by Gonchar and Kuzmenkov but now Kuzmenkov is the sole member, manager, and owner.

10. On information and belief, Health Solution USA is a Pennsylvania limited liability company with a registered address at 2337 Philmont Ave, Ste 108, Huntingdon Valley, PA 19006. Also on information and belief, the members, managers, and owners of Health Solution USA are Lebed, Gonchar, and Fridman.

11. On information and belief, Life Nutrition is a Pennsylvania limited liability company with a registered address at 634 Stream Ridge Lane, Feasterville, PA 19053. Also on information and belief, Fridman is the member, manager, and owner of Life Nutrition.

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12. On information and belief, Life Nutrition USA LLC is a limited liability company with a registered address at 9754 Hilspach St, Philadelphia, PA 19115. Also on information and belief, Gonchar is the sole member, manager, and owner of Life Nutrition USA LLC.

13. On information and belief, Nature Supplements is a Pennsylvania limited liability company with a registered address at 26 Moredun Rd, Philadelphia, PA 19115. Also on information and belief, Fridman is the sole member, manager, and owner of Nature Supplements.

14. On information and belief, Nature Supplements USA is a Pennsylvania limited liability company with a registered address at 148 E Street Rd, #324, Feasterville, PA 19053. On information and belief, Lebed is the sole owner and member of Nature Supplements USA.

15. On information and belief, PL Nutrition is a Pennsylvania limited liability company with a registered address at 4201 Neshaminy Boulevard, #108, Bensalem, PA 19020. Also on information and belief, PL Nutrition was formed by Kuzmenkov but now Lebed is the sole member, manager, and owner.

16. On information and belief, Private Label is a Pennsylvania limited liability company with a registered address at 4201 Neshaminy Boulevard, #108, Bensalem, PA 19020. Also on information and belief, Private Label was formed by Kuzmenkov but now Lebed is the sole member, manager, and owner.

17. On information and belief, Private Label USA is a Pennsylvania limited liability company with a registered address at 4201 Neshaminy Boulevard, #108, Bensalem, PA 19020. Also on information and belief, Private Label USA was formed by Kuzmenkov but now Lebed is the sole member, manager, and owner.

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18. On information and belief, Sport Nutrition is a Pennsylvania limited liability company with a registered address at 4201 Neshaminy Boulevard, #108, Bensalem, PA 19020. Also on information and belief, Lebed is the sole member, manager, and owner of Sport Nutrition.

19. On information and belief, Sport Supplements is a Pennsylvania limited liability company with a registered address at 137 Swamp Rd, Newtown, PA 18940. Also on information and belief, Katsos is the sole member, manager, and owner of Sport Supplements.

20. On information and belief, Supplement Shop is a Pennsylvania limited liability company with a registered address at 1146 Brockton Cir, New Cumberland, PA 17070. Also on information and belief, Dubois is the sole member, manager, and owner of Supplement Shop.

21. On information and belief, VIP Vitamins is a Pennsylvania limited liability company with a registered address at 148 E Street Rd, #166 Feasterville, PA 19053. Also on information and belief, Lebed is the sole member, manager, and owner of VIP Vitamin.

22. As alleged in Paragraphs 2-21, *supra*, of the thirteen LLC Defendants, six are wholly-owned by Lebed. Another is owned by Lebed, Gonchar, and Fridman. Another by just Gonchar. Two others by just Fridman. One was previously owned by Gonchar but is now owned by Kuzmenkov. Three were previously owned by Kuzmenkov but are now owned by Lebed. One more is owned by Katsos and another by Dubois.

23. On information and belief, including based on the facts alleged in Paragraphs 9-22 *supra* and 29-33 and 41-49 *infra*, the Individual Defendants conspire together to willfully infringe the Asserted Patents by making, offering for sale, selling, and using the Accused Products.

24. On information and belief, including based on the facts alleged in Paragraphs 9-22 *supra* and 29-33 and 41-49 *infra*, the Individual Defendants created a complex web of the

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interrelated LLC Defendants in a fraudulent attempt to mask their identities and shield themselves from liability, including for the misconduct alleged herein.

25. On information and belief, including based on the facts alleged in Paragraphs 9-22 *supra* and 29-33 and 41-49 *infra*, because the LLC Defendants were created in a fraudulent attempt to shield the Individual Defendants from liability, each of the LLC Defendants is undercapitalized and has been since it was formed.

26. On information and belief, including based on the facts alleged in Paragraphs 9-22 *supra* and 29-33 and 41-49 *infra*, the LLC Defendants fail to adhere to any corporate formalities, including a failure to maintain separate bank accounts for the LLC Defendants, a failure to hold corporate meetings, and a failure to keep proper business records.

27. On information and belief, including based on the facts alleged in Paragraphs 9-22 *supra* and 29-33 and 41-49 *infra*, the LLC Defendants commingle all assets with their corresponding Individual Defendants. In fact, on information and belief, the LLC Defendants have no assets beyond their business names and registrations.

28. On information and belief, including based on the facts alleged in Paragraphs 9-22 *supra* and 29-33 and 41-49 *infra*, all funds for each LLC Defendant are improperly siphoned directly to their corresponding Individual Defendants.

29. On information and belief, while the LLC Defendants are registered under various Pennsylvania addresses, all but one address is either (1) residential, (2) mail-only (i.e. a P.O. Box), or (3) non-existent. Defendants' only commercial address is a warehouse located at 2337 Philmont Ave, Ste 108, Huntingdon Valley, PA, which is the registered address for Health Solution USA.

30. While investigating Defendants' infringement in this matter, Plaintiff purchased sample products from each of the Defendants. Plaintiff made the sample purchases for all products

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on the same day. USPS tracking data reveals that all shipping labels for the test purchases were printed the following day within 30 minutes of each other. All of the packages were then taken to the **same post office at the same time** in Huntingdon Valley—the closest post office to Defendants' warehouse at 2337 Philmont Ave, Ste 108, Huntingdon Valley, PA.

31. All of the products were shipped in identical Uline Poly Bubble Mailers with identical Pitney Bowes labels and identically-formatted invoices folded in an identical manner inside each envelope.

32. Although they were marketed with different bottles online, the test products were each sealed in identical brown bottles with identical red caps and identical tamper-proof seals. Each bottle contains the same quantity (60) of identical pills. Each product is called "Keto 3000." Furthermore, each of the bottles bears one of just three, identically-formatted lot numbers (30068, 33493, or 34032)—indicating that they were all manufactured by the same entity, in the same facility, at around the same time.





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33. Even Defendants struggle to untangle the intricate web of entities created to mask their wrongdoing. As just one example, the eBay account for "Health Solution USA" states in separate locations in the seller profile and listing descriptions that it is Health Solution USA LLC (owned by Lebed, Gonchar, and Fridman), Health Solution LLC (owned by Kuzmenkov), The Supplement Shop LLC (owned by Dubois), and Supplements LLC (a non-existent entity).

34. For at least the reasons alleged in Paragraphs 2-33, *supra*, on information and belief, the Defendants operate as a single entity, are alter-egos of each other, and are effectively the same entity—at least for purposes of the misconduct alleged herein.

35. Furthermore, for at least the reasons alleged in Paragraphs 2-34, *supra*, on information and belief, the LLC Defendants are sham entities and are merely facades created in a fraudulent attempt to shield their corresponding Individual Defendants from liability, including for the egregious and willful misconduct alleged herein. There is no corporate veil and each of the Defendants—including each of the Individual Defendants—is jointly and severally liable for the misconduct alleged herein.

#### JURISDICTION AND VENUE

36. This court has original subject matter jurisdiction under 28 U.S.C. §§ 1331 and 1338(a) because this matter arises under the patent laws of the United States, 35 U.S.C. § 1, *et seq.* 

37. This Court has personal jurisdiction over Defendants at least because each Defendant is resident in Pennsylvania and because each Defendant engages in the patent infringements giving rise to this action from within Pennsylvania.

38. Venue is proper in this district under 28 U.S.C § 1400(b) because each Defendant either resides in this district and/or engages in the patent infringements giving rise to this action from a principal place of business within this district. On information and belief, all Defendants

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reside in this district except Dubois and Katsos and their LLCs—Supplement Shop and Sport Supplements. On information and belief, all Defendants—including Dubois, Katsos, Supplement Shop, and Sport Supplements—have the same principal place of business at 2337 Philmont Ave, Ste 108, Huntingdon Valley, PA from which they conduct a substantial portion of the infringing activities giving rise to this action, including making, offering for sale, selling, using, and distributing the Accused Products.

#### **BACKGROUND**

39. Plaintiff is a leader and innovator in the field of exogenous ketones and ketogenic precursor supplement products. These products aid the body in producing and sustaining elevated levels of ketone bodies in the blood and assist in the body's transition into nutritional ketosis. Plaintiff has patent rights in many unique formulations of BHB, including those claimed in the Asserted Patents.

40. Defendants make, use, offer for sale, and sell the Accused Products through nearly 400 product listings on eBay.com with a formula that blatantly infringes Plaintiff's exclusive rights in the Asserted Patents. Although Defendants sell the Accused Products under various brands, all of the Accused Products are advertised and sold under the same name: Keto 3000.

41. For at least the reasons alleged in Paragraphs 30-35 and 39-40, *supra*, the Accused Products are, in fact, all the same product, and on information and belief, are manufactured, marketed, sold, and shipped by the same entity on behalf of all the Defendants.

42. On information and belief, Defendants, operating under Health Solution LLC, Health Solution USA LLC, and The Supplement Shop LLC, sell the Accused Products through at least the following 57 listings on eBay.com:

https://www.ebay.com/itm/226099808627 https://www.ebay.com/itm/326094756413 https://www.ebay.com/itm/226099813361 https://www.ebay.com/itm/226099814207 https://www.ebay.com/itm/226099827099 https://www.ebay.com/itm/226099824090 https://www.ebay.com/itm/326094767441 https://www.ebay.com/itm/224046676446 https://www.ebay.com/itm/224046676449 https://www.ebay.com/itm/226099827109 https://www.ebay.com/itm/326094756419 https://www.ebay.com/itm/324343211657 https://www.ebay.com/itm/326094756429 https://www.ebay.com/itm/326094759995 https://www.ebay.com/itm/226099808597 https://www.ebay.com/itm/226099808618 https://www.ebay.com/itm/226099808620 https://www.ebay.com/itm/226099808624 https://www.ebay.com/itm/226099808626 https://www.ebay.com/itm/226099808632 https://www.ebay.com/itm/226099808637 https://www.ebay.com/itm/226099808639 https://www.ebay.com/itm/326094756436 https://www.ebay.com/itm/326094756457 https://www.ebay.com/itm/326094759933 https://www.ebay.com/itm/326094759982 https://www.ebay.com/itm/326094760001 https://www.ebay.com/itm/326094760006 https://www.ebay.com/itm/326094760030 https://www.ebay.com/itm/226099815483 https://www.ebay.com/itm/326094764875

https://www.ebay.com/itm/326094767392 https://www.ebay.com/itm/226099827064 https://www.ebay.com/itm/326094769586 https://www.ebay.com/itm/326094774959 https://www.ebay.com/itm/226099835519 https://www.ebay.com/itm/326094764908 https://www.ebay.com/itm/326094779045 https://www.ebay.com/itm/326094766490 https://www.ebay.com/itm/326094767893 https://www.ebay.com/itm/326094766432 https://www.ebay.com/itm/226099808591 https://www.ebay.com/itm/226099808601 https://www.ebay.com/itm/226099808610 https://www.ebay.com/itm/226099808631 https://www.ebay.com/itm/326094756400 https://www.ebay.com/itm/326094756418 https://www.ebay.com/itm/226099814197 https://www.ebay.com/itm/326094760033 https://www.ebay.com/itm/326094760036 https://www.ebay.com/itm/326094760037 https://www.ebay.com/itm/226099827083 https://www.ebay.com/itm/326094769563 https://www.ebay.com/itm/326094769618 https://www.ebay.com/itm/226099836423 https://www.ebay.com/itm/226099837198 https://www.ebay.com/itm/326094778632

43. On information and belief, Defendants, operating under Life Nutrition LLC and

Life Nutrition USA LLC, sell the Accused Products through at least the following 48 listings on

eBay.com:

https://www.ebay.com/itm/256403583281 https://www.ebay.com/itm/256403583294 https://www.ebay.com/itm/256403583312 https://www.ebay.com/itm/266659276735 https://www.ebay.com/itm/266659279473 https://www.ebay.com/itm/266659279481 https://www.ebay.com/itm/256194524028 https://www.ebay.com/itm/256403585432 https://www.ebay.com/itm/256403585454 https://www.ebay.com/itm/264735289202 https://www.ebay.com/itm/25442603385 https://www.ebay.com/itm/256403602192 https://www.ebay.com/itm/256403602193 https://www.ebay.com/itm/256403602194 https://www.ebay.com/itm/256403602195 https://www.ebay.com/itm/256403602196 https://www.ebay.com/itm/256403602197 https://www.ebay.com/itm/256403602198 https://www.ebay.com/itm/256403602200 https://www.ebay.com/itm/256403602200 https://www.ebay.com/itm/256403602209 https://www.ebay.com/itm/266659300800 https://www.ebay.com/itm/266659300801 https://www.ebay.com/itm/266659300804 https://www.ebay.com/itm/266659300805 https://www.ebay.com/itm/266659300807 https://www.ebay.com/itm/266659300811 https://www.ebay.com/itm/266659300822 https://www.ebay.com/itm/266659300847 https://www.ebay.com/itm/266659300878 https://www.ebay.com/itm/266288266089 https://www.ebay.com/itm/265366804299 https://www.ebay.com/itm/255185176650 https://www.ebay.com/itm/254716127363 https://www.ebay.com/itm/256404675088

https://www.ebay.com/itm/266661018162 https://www.ebay.com/itm/266661018177 https://www.ebay.com/itm/256404675081 https://www.ebay.com/itm/256404675094 https://www.ebay.com/itm/266661018169 https://www.ebay.com/itm/256404675121 https://www.ebay.com/itm/256404675122 https://www.ebay.com/itm/256404675123 https://www.ebay.com/itm/266661018198 https://www.ebay.com/itm/266661018219

44. On information and belief, Defendants, operating under Nature Supplements LLC,

sell the Accused Products through at least the following 63 listings on eBay.com:

https://www.ebay.com/itm/284486295578 https://www.ebay.com/itm/276441131923 https://www.ebay.com/itm/285832109057 https://www.ebay.com/itm/285832108587 https://www.ebay.com/itm/285832118639 https://www.ebay.com/itm/276441124779 https://www.ebay.com/itm/285832107005 https://www.ebay.com/itm/285832111138 https://www.ebay.com/itm/284454680468 https://www.ebay.com/itm/284381398798 https://www.ebay.com/itm/276441129879 https://www.ebay.com/itm/276441128027 https://www.ebay.com/itm/285832106029 https://www.ebay.com/itm/276441145180 https://www.ebay.com/itm/276441128026 https://www.ebay.com/itm/285832123154 https://www.ebay.com/itm/284486295555 https://www.ebay.com/itm/284486269234 https://www.ebay.com/itm/276441132581 https://www.ebay.com/itm/274966414608 https://www.ebay.com/itm/276441121920 https://www.ebay.com/itm/276441129178 https://www.ebay.com/itm/285832109076 https://www.ebay.com/itm/285559129909 https://www.ebay.com/itm/285832103779 https://www.ebay.com/itm/276441129103 https://www.ebay.com/itm/276441135220 https://www.ebay.com/itm/285832114150 https://www.ebay.com/itm/285832106485 https://www.ebay.com/itm/276441132571

https://www.ebay.com/itm/285832110050 https://www.ebay.com/itm/285832123816 https://www.ebay.com/itm/276441125762 https://www.ebay.com/itm/276441135160 https://www.ebay.com/itm/284486284341 https://www.ebay.com/itm/285832116728 https://www.ebay.com/itm/276441146128 https://www.ebay.com/itm/285832103232 https://www.ebay.com/itm/276441139667 https://www.ebay.com/itm/285832104866 https://www.ebay.com/itm/276441140439 https://www.ebay.com/itm/285832102557 https://www.ebay.com/itm/276441124830 https://www.ebay.com/itm/276441151562 https://www.ebay.com/itm/274043844274 https://www.ebay.com/itm/276441146056 https://www.ebay.com/itm/276441133012 https://www.ebay.com/itm/285832108330 https://www.ebay.com/itm/276441146130 https://www.ebay.com/itm/276441147044 https://www.ebay.com/itm/284486269172 https://www.ebay.com/itm/276441135134 https://www.ebay.com/itm/285832122224 https://www.ebay.com/itm/276441153484 https://www.ebay.com/itm/276441142704 https://www.ebay.com/itm/276441152421 https://www.ebay.com/itm/285140211088 https://www.ebay.com/itm/285832108653 https://www.ebay.com/itm/276441135132 https://www.ebay.com/itm/276441135708

https://www.ebay.com/itm/285832110568 https://www.ebay.com/itm/285832113783 https://www.ebay.com/itm/276441122521

45. On information and belief, Defendants, operating under PL Nutrition LLC, sell the

Accused Products through at least the following 48 listings on eBay.com:

https://www.ebay.com/itm/224074928979 https://www.ebay.com/itm/224629707116 https://www.ebay.com/itm/226099969012 https://www.ebay.com/itm/226099969015 https://www.ebay.com/itm/226099969020 https://www.ebay.com/itm/226099969027 https://www.ebay.com/itm/226099969065 https://www.ebay.com/itm/226099969090 https://www.ebay.com/itm/226099969118 https://www.ebay.com/itm/226099969715 https://www.ebay.com/itm/226099969826 https://www.ebay.com/itm/226099969880 https://www.ebay.com/itm/226099973340 https://www.ebay.com/itm/226099974190 https://www.ebay.com/itm/226099976936 https://www.ebay.com/itm/225946017011 https://www.ebay.com/itm/225523085066 https://www.ebay.com/itm/226099979707 https://www.ebay.com/itm/226099981786 https://www.ebay.com/itm/226099981795 https://www.ebay.com/itm/226099983162 https://www.ebay.com/itm/226099983186 https://www.ebay.com/itm/226099983236 https://www.ebay.com/itm/226099984521

https://www.ebay.com/itm/226099985411 https://www.ebay.com/itm/226099985442 https://www.ebay.com/itm/226099985467 https://www.ebay.com/itm/226099985495 https://www.ebay.com/itm/226099985570 https://www.ebay.com/itm/226099986686 https://www.ebay.com/itm/226099986690 https://www.ebay.com/itm/226099986694 https://www.ebay.com/itm/226099986739 https://www.ebay.com/itm/226099986826 https://www.ebay.com/itm/226099986860 https://www.ebay.com/itm/226099988096 https://www.ebay.com/itm/226099989075 https://www.ebay.com/itm/226099989906 https://www.ebay.com/itm/226099989997 https://www.ebay.com/itm/226099990040 https://www.ebay.com/itm/226099990072 https://www.ebay.com/itm/226099990112 https://www.ebay.com/itm/226099990791 https://www.ebay.com/itm/226099990794 https://www.ebay.com/itm/226099990797 https://www.ebay.com/itm/226099990836 https://www.ebay.com/itm/226099990989 https://www.ebay.com/itm/226099991757

46. On information and belief, Defendants, operating under Private Label Nutrition

LLC and Private Label Nutrition USA LLC, sell the Accused Products through at least the

following 63 listings on eBay.com:

https://www.ebay.com/itm/285830273950 https://www.ebay.com/itm/276439785394 https://www.ebay.com/itm/276439785395 https://www.ebay.com/itm/285830273609 https://www.ebay.com/itm/285830260059 https://www.ebay.com/itm/276439785775 https://www.ebay.com/itm/276439794761 https://www.ebay.com/itm/276439794765 https://www.ebay.com/itm/274394620549 https://www.ebay.com/itm/283911042227 https://www.ebay.com/itm/274034253329 https://www.ebay.com/itm/274973647419 https://www.ebay.com/itm/284476132324 https://www.ebay.com/itm/274973648374 https://www.ebay.com/itm/274973648866 https://www.ebay.com/itm/285830273602 https://www.ebay.com/itm/276439785404 https://www.ebay.com/itm/285830267500 https://www.ebay.com/itm/276439781402 https://www.ebay.com/itm/276439781479 https://www.ebay.com/itm/285830255289 https://www.ebay.com/itm/285830255311 https://www.ebay.com/itm/276439781948 https://www.ebay.com/itm/285830255727 https://www.ebay.com/itm/285830259598 https://www.ebay.com/itm/276439791295 https://www.ebay.com/itm/285830267495 https://www.ebay.com/itm/285830267499 https://www.ebay.com/itm/276439791364 https://www.ebay.com/itm/285830259518 https://www.ebay.com/itm/276439791291 https://www.ebay.com/itm/276439791301 https://www.ebay.com/itm/276439784856 https://www.ebay.com/itm/276439781462 https://www.ebay.com/itm/285830255286 https://www.ebay.com/itm/285830259579 https://www.ebay.com/itm/285830266232 https://www.ebay.com/itm/276439794235 https://www.ebay.com/itm/276439789884 https://www.ebay.com/itm/285830273029 https://www.ebay.com/itm/285830273049

https://www.ebay.com/itm/276439789888 https://www.ebay.com/itm/283875150134 https://www.ebay.com/itm/274394641724 https://www.ebay.com/itm/283857174832 https://www.ebay.com/itm/274973661156 https://www.ebay.com/itm/285830248298 https://www.ebay.com/itm/285830248285 https://www.ebay.com/itm/285830248311 https://www.ebay.com/itm/276439774024 https://www.ebay.com/itm/276439774026 https://www.ebay.com/itm/276439774030 https://www.ebay.com/itm/285830248266 https://www.ebay.com/itm/285830248267 https://www.ebay.com/itm/285830248287 https://www.ebay.com/itm/276439774048 https://www.ebay.com/itm/285830248259 https://www.ebay.com/itm/285830248261 https://www.ebay.com/itm/285830248281 https://www.ebay.com/itm/285830248262 https://www.ebay.com/itm/285830248296 https://www.ebay.com/itm/276439774039 https://www.ebay.com/itm/283911055133

# 47. On information and belief, Defendants, operating under Sport Nutrition & Vitamins

LLC and Sport Supplements LLC, sell the Accused Products through at least the following 49

listings on eBay.com:

https://www.ebay.com/itm/116062192805 https://www.ebay.com/itm/116160840784 https://www.ebay.com/itm/116160840780 https://www.ebay.com/itm/116160840786 https://www.ebay.com/itm/116160840806 https://www.ebay.com/itm/116160840809 https://www.ebay.com/itm/116160840811 https://www.ebay.com/itm/124157395673 https://www.ebay.com/itm/124399334449 https://www.ebay.com/itm/123924224603 https://www.ebay.com/itm/124212605352 https://www.ebay.com/itm/124857886161 https://www.ebay.com/itm/116160854194 https://www.ebay.com/itm/116160854200 https://www.ebay.com/itm/116160854206 https://www.ebay.com/itm/116160854209 https://www.ebay.com/itm/126452231611

https://www.ebay.com/itm/126452231639 https://www.ebay.com/itm/116160854394 https://www.ebay.com/itm/126452231847 https://www.ebay.com/itm/126452231868 https://www.ebay.com/itm/126452231870 https://www.ebay.com/itm/116160854404 https://www.ebay.com/itm/116160854405 https://www.ebay.com/itm/126452231883 https://www.ebay.com/itm/126452231923 https://www.ebay.com/itm/116160854421 https://www.ebay.com/itm/116160854435 https://www.ebay.com/itm/126452231909 https://www.ebay.com/itm/115046156404 https://www.ebay.com/itm/114475540296 https://www.ebay.com/itm/124831843304 https://www.ebay.com/itm/123924239406 https://www.ebay.com/itm/114248650527 https://www.ebay.com/itm/124212607936 https://www.ebay.com/itm/124212610278 https://www.ebay.com/itm/114190880985 https://www.ebay.com/itm/116160872589 https://www.ebay.com/itm/116160872571 https://www.ebay.com/itm/126452240364 https://www.ebay.com/itm/126452240383 https://www.ebay.com/itm/116160872608 https://www.ebay.com/itm/126452240378 https://www.ebay.com/itm/126452240395 https://www.ebay.com/itm/116160872592 https://www.ebay.com/itm/116160872604 https://www.ebay.com/itm/124953795342 https://www.ebay.com/itm/123924267884 https://www.ebay.com/itm/123924269661

48. On information and belief, Defendants, operating under VIP Vitamins LLC, sell the

Accused Products through at least the following 49 listings on eBay.com:

https://www.ebay.com/itm/293642235409 https://www.ebay.com/itm/296209633546 https://www.ebay.com/itm/296209633547 https://www.ebay.com/itm/296209633550 https://www.ebay.com/itm/296209633554 https://www.ebay.com/itm/296209633557 https://www.ebay.com/itm/296209633568 https://www.ebay.com/itm/296209633586 https://www.ebay.com/itm/296209633599 https://www.ebay.com/itm/293623363170 https://www.ebay.com/itm/294479930942 https://www.ebay.com/itm/294029604099 https://www.ebay.com/itm/296209649135 https://www.ebay.com/itm/296209649141 https://www.ebay.com/itm/296209649149 https://www.ebay.com/itm/296209649157 https://www.ebay.com/itm/296209649158 https://www.ebay.com/itm/296209649162 https://www.ebay.com/itm/296209649164 https://www.ebay.com/itm/296209649175 https://www.ebay.com/itm/296209649180 https://www.ebay.com/itm/296209649183 https://www.ebay.com/itm/296209649185 https://www.ebay.com/itm/296209649187 https://www.ebay.com/itm/296209649192

https://www.ebay.com/itm/296209649193 https://www.ebay.com/itm/296209649194 https://www.ebay.com/itm/296209649195 https://www.ebay.com/itm/296209649197 https://www.ebay.com/itm/296209649199 https://www.ebay.com/itm/296209649201 https://www.ebay.com/itm/296209649203 https://www.ebay.com/itm/296209649204 https://www.ebay.com/itm/296209649205 https://www.ebay.com/itm/296209649206 https://www.ebay.com/itm/296209649207 https://www.ebay.com/itm/295963690999 https://www.ebay.com/itm/296209657940 https://www.ebay.com/itm/294361947800 https://www.ebay.com/itm/296209660199 https://www.ebay.com/itm/296209660202 https://www.ebay.com/itm/296209660211 https://www.ebay.com/itm/296209660216 https://www.ebay.com/itm/296209660217 https://www.ebay.com/itm/296209660224 https://www.ebay.com/itm/296209660225 https://www.ebay.com/itm/296209660231 https://www.ebay.com/itm/296209660249 https://www.ebay.com/itm/296209660251

49. As alleged herein, the Accused Products are all the same and each Accused Product

infringes Plaintiff's exclusive rights in the Asserted Patents in the same manner.

50. Plaintiff and its BHB products—especially those products clearly marked with the

Asserted Patents-are famous in the health and wellness industry, and particularly among BHB-

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supplement retailers. Plaintiff's products—including those products clearly marked with the Asserted Patents—set the standard for quality and effectiveness in the industry. Plaintiff's products—including those products clearly marked with the Asserted Patents—are found through online marketplaces and brick-and-mortar stores around the country, including Amazon, Walmart, Target, Walgreens, and more. Plaintiff also has dozens of licensees of the Asserted Patents that sell products clearly marked with the Asserted Patents through various retailers. Plaintiff has ardently sought to protect its rights in the Asserted Patents, including by engaging in enforcement actions against other online retailers, including on eBay.com. On information and belief, at least considering the pervasiveness of Plaintiff's products marked with the Asserted Patents and those of its licensees, as well as the deliberate steps that the Defendants' have taken to mask their identities and the massive scale of their infringements, the Defendants are fully aware of the Asserted Patents and their infringements are willful.

51. Plaintiff directly competes with Defendants in the market for BHB supplements. Plaintiff has suffered harm from Defendants' infringements in the form of lost profits and diverted sales and market share.

## <u>COUNT I</u> Patent Infringement – '403 Patent 35 U.S.C. § 271

52. Plaintiff incorporates and realleges the allegations of each preceding paragraph as if fully set forth herein.

53. Plaintiff owns all rights in the '403 Patent.

54. On February 8, 2022, the '403 Patent, titled "Beta-hydroxybutyrate mixed salt compositions and methods of use" was duly and legally issued. A true and correct copy of the '403 Patent is attached as Exhibit A.

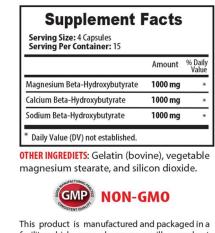
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55. Plaintiff and its licensees have marked their products in accordance with 35 U.S.C. § 287(a).

56. Without license or authorization, Defendants make, use, import, offer for sale, and/or sell the Accused Products containing compounds that infringe the '403 Patent.

57. On information and belief, although they are marketed under different brands, each of the Accused Products is made with the same concentrations of the same ingredients, as exemplified below for Defendants' infringing Keto 3000 product:





facility which may also process milk, soy, wheat, egg, peanuts, tree nuts, fish, & crustacean shellfish.

KEEP OUT OF REACH OF CHILDREN. DO NOT USE IF SAFETY SEAL IS DAMAGED OR MISSING. STORE IN A COOL, DRY PLACE.

https://www.ebay.com/itm/276441129178

58. Representative claim 1 of the '403 Patent is reproduced below:

- wherein the beta-hydroxybutyrate salts comprise at least 20% by total weight of calcium beta-hydroxybutyrate and/or magnesium beta-hydroxybutyrate,
- wherein the composition is in solid and/or powder form,
- wherein the composition is free of medium chain fatty acids having 6 to 12 carbons and glycerides or other esters thereof.
- 59. As advertised in Defendants' product labels and listings, the Accused Products

infringe at least representative claim 1 of the '403 Patent in the manner described below.

60. To the extent the preamble of claim 1 is limiting, the Accused Products meet the

preamble of claim 1 as set forth below:

1. A composition for increasing ketone level in a subject, comprising: a plurality of beta-hydroxybutyrate salts comprised of:

at least one beta-hydroxybutyrate salt selected from: calcium beta-hydroxybutyrate; and magnesium beta-hydroxybutyrate; and

- at least one other beta-hydroxybutyrate salt selected from:
  - sodium beta-hydroxybutyrate;
  - potassium beta-hydroxybutyrate;
  - calcium beta-hydroxybutyrate;
  - magnesium beta-hydroxybutyrate; and
  - amino acid salts of beta-hydroxybutyrate,
- wherein the beta-hydroxybutyrate salts comprise at least 20% by total weight of calcium beta-hydroxybutyrate and/or magnesium beta-hydroxybutyrate,

wherein the composition is in solid and/or powder form,

wherein the composition is free of medium chain fatty acids having 6 to 12 carbons and glycerides or other esters thereof.



- 61. The Accused Products further meet the limitations of claim 1 as set forth below:
  - 1. A composition for increasing ketone level in a subject, comprising: a plurality of beta-hydroxybutyrate salts comprised of:

at least one beta-hydroxybutyrate salt selected from:

calcium beta-hydroxybutyrate; and

magnesium beta-hydroxybutyrate; and

at least one other beta-hydroxybutyrate salt selected from:

sodium beta-hydroxybutyrate;

potassium beta-hydroxybutyrate;

calcium beta-hydroxybutyrate;

magnesium beta-hydroxybutyrate; and

amino acid salts of beta-hydroxybutyrate,

wherein the beta-hydroxybutyrate salts comprise at least 20% by total weight of calcium beta-hydroxybutyrate and/or magnesium beta-hydroxybutyrate,

wherein the composition is in solid and/or powder form,

wherein the composition is free of medium chain fatty acids having 6 to 12 carbons and glycerides or other esters thereof.

Supplement Facts Serving Size: 4 Capsules Serving Per Container: 15		
-	Amount	% Daily Value
Magnesium Beta-Hydroxybutyrate	1000 mg	*
Calcium Beta-Hydroxybutyrate	1000 mg	*
Sodium Beta-Hydroxybutyrate	1000 mg	*
* Daily Value (DV) not established.		

**OTHER INGREDIETS**: Gelatin (bovine), vegetable magnesium stearate, and silicon dioxide.

62. The Accused Products further meet the limitations of claim 1 as set forth below:

1. A composition for increasing ketone level in a subject, comprising:

a plurality of beta-hydroxybutyrate salts comprised of:

at least one beta-hydroxybutyrate salt selected from: calcium beta-hydroxybutyrate; and magnesium beta-hydroxybutyrate; and

at least one other beta-hydroxybutyrate salt selected from:

sodium beta-hydroxybutyrate;

potassium beta-hydroxybutyrate;

calcium beta-hydroxybutyrate;

magnesium beta-hydroxybutyrate; and

amino acid salts of beta-hydroxybutyrate,

wherein the beta-hydroxybutyrate salts comprise at least 20% by total weight of calcium beta-hydroxybutyrate and/or magnesium beta-hydroxybutyrate,

wherein the composition is in solid and/or powder form,

wherein the composition is free of medium chain fatty acids having 6 to 12 carbons and glycerides or other esters thereof.

Supplement I Serving Size: 4 Capsules Serving Per Container: 15	Facts	
	Amount	% Daily Value
Magnesium Beta-Hydroxybutyrate	1000 mg	*
Calcium Beta-Hydroxybutyrate	1000 mg	*
Sodium Beta-Hydroxybutyrate	1000 mg	*
* Daily Value (DV) not established.		

**OTHER INGREDIETS:** Gelatin (bovine), vegetable magnesium stearate, and silicon dioxide.

63. The Accused Products further meet the limitations of claim 1 as set forth below:

## 1. A composition for increasing ketone level in a subject, comprising:

a plurality of beta-hydroxybutyrate salts comprised of:

at least one beta-hydroxybutyrate salt selected from: calcium beta-hydroxybutyrate; and magnesium beta-hydroxybutyrate; and

at least one other beta-hydroxybutyrate salt selected from:

sodium beta-hydroxybutyrate;

potassium beta-hydroxybutyrate;

calcium beta-hydroxybutyrate;

magnesium beta-hydroxybutyrate; and

amino acid salts of beta-hydroxybutyrate,

wherein the beta-hydroxybutyrate salts comprise at least 20% by total weight of calcium beta-hydroxybutyrate and/or magnesium betahydroxybutyrate,

wherein the composition is in solid and/or powder form,

wherein the composition is free of medium chain fatty acids having 6 to 12 carbons and glycerides or other esters thereof.

Supplement I	Facts	
Serving Size: 4 Capsules Serving Per Container: 15		
	Amount	% Daily Value
Magnesium Beta-Hydroxybutyrate	1000 mg	
Calcium Beta-Hydroxybutyrate	1000 mg	
Sodium Beta-Hydroxybutyrate	1000 mg	•
* Daily Value (DV) not established.		

OTHER INGREDIETS: Gelatin (bovine), vegetable magnesium stearate, and silicon dioxide.

64. The Accused Products further meet the limitations of claim 1 as set forth below:

1. A composition for increasing ketone level in a subject, comprising: a plurality of beta-hydroxybutyrate salts comprised of: at least one beta-hydroxybutyrate salt selected from:

calcium beta-hydroxybutyrate; and

magnesium beta-hydroxybutyrate; and

at least one other beta-hydroxybutyrate salt selected from:

sodium beta-hydroxybutyrate;

potassium beta-hydroxybutyrate;

calcium beta-hydroxybutyrate;

magnesium beta-hydroxybutyrate; and

amino acid salts of beta-hydroxybutyrate,

wherein the beta-hydroxybutyrate salts comprise at least 20% by total weight of calcium beta-hydroxybutyrate and/or magnesium beta-hydroxybutyrate,

## wherein the composition is in solid and/or powder form,

wherein the composition is free of medium chain fatty acids having 6 to 12 carbons and glycerides or other esters thereof.



- 65. The Accused Products further meet the limitations of claim 1 as set forth below:
  - 1. A composition for increasing ketone level in a subject, comprising: a plurality of beta-hydroxybutyrate salts comprised of:

at least one beta-hydroxybutyrate salt selected from: calcium beta-hydroxybutyrate; and magnesium beta-hydroxybutyrate; and

at least one other beta-hydroxybutyrate salt selected from:

sodium beta-hydroxybutyrate;

potassium beta-hydroxybutyrate;

calcium beta-hydroxybutyrate;

magnesium beta-hydroxybutyrate; and

amino acid salts of beta-hydroxybutyrate,

wherein the beta-hydroxybutyrate salts comprise at least 20% by total weight of calcium beta-hydroxybutyrate and/or magnesium beta-hydroxybutyrate,

wherein the composition is in solid and/or powder form,

wherein the composition is free of medium chain fatty acids having 6 to 12 carbons and glycerides or other esters thereof.

Supplement Facts Serving Size: 4 Capsules Serving Per Container: 15		
	Amount	% Daily Value
Magnesium Beta-Hydroxybutyrate	1000 mg	
Calcium Beta-Hydroxybutyrate	1000 mg	
Sodium Beta-Hydroxybutyrate	1000 mg	•
* Daily Value (DV) not established.		

66. Defendants have directly infringed claim 1 of the '403 Patent in the United States by making, using, offering for sale, selling, and/or importing the Accused Products in violation of 35 U.S.C. § 271(a). As such, Defendants are liable for direct infringement of the '403 Patent under 35 U.S.C. § 271(a).

67. Defendants have indirectly infringed the '403 Patent in this District and elsewhere in the United States by inducing others—including their own customers—to infringe the Asserted

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Patents. Defendants have actual knowledge of their infringement of the '403 Patent. As such, Defendants are liable for indirect infringement of the '403 Patent under 35 U.S.C. § 271(b).

68. Defendants' infringement of the '403 Patent is willful and this case is exceptional.

69. Plaintiff has suffered harm as a result of Defendants' infringement of the '403 Patent, including in the form of lost profits and diverted sales and market share. Plaintiff is therefore entitled to recover damages sustained as a result of Defendants' wrongful acts in an amount that is to be proven at trial.

## <u>COUNT II</u> Patent Infringement – '362 Patent 35 U.S.C. § 271

70. Plaintiff incorporates and realleges the allegations of each preceding paragraph as if fully set forth herein.

71. Plaintiff owns all rights in the '362 Patent.

72. On June 1, 2021, the '362 Patent, titled "Beta-hydroxybutyrate mixed salt compositions and methods of use" was duly and legally issued. A true and correct copy of the '362 Patent is attached as Exhibit B.

73. Plaintiff and its licensees have marked their products in accordance with 35 U.S.C.§ 287(a).

74. Without license or authorization, Defendants make, use, import, offer for sale, and/or sell the Accused Products containing compounds that infringe the '362 Patent.

75. On information and belief, although they are marketed under different brands, each of the Accused Products is made with the same concentrations of the same ingredients, as exemplified below for Defendants' infringing Keto 3000 product:



76. Representative claim 1 of the '362 Patent is reproduced below:

 A composition for increasing blood ketone level in a subject, comprising: at least three beta-hydroxybutyrate salts selected from: sodium beta-hydroxybutyrate; potassium beta-hydroxybutyrate; calcium beta-hydroxybutyrate; and magnesium beta-hydroxybutyrate; wherein the composition is in solid and/or powder form, wherein the composition is free of medium chain fatty acids having 6 to 12 carbons and glycerides or other esters thereof.

77. As advertised in Defendants' product labels and listings, the Accused Products

infringe at least representative claim 1 of the '362 Patent in the manner described below.

78. To the extent the preamble of claim 1 is limiting, the Accused Products meet the

preamble of claim 1 as set forth below:

- 1. A composition for increasing blood ketone level in a subject, comprising:
  - at least three beta-hydroxybutyrate salts selected from:
    - sodium beta-hydroxybutyrate;
    - potassium beta-hydroxybutyrate;
    - calcium beta-hydroxybutyrate; and
    - magnesium beta-hydroxybutyrate;
  - wherein the composition is in solid and/or powder form,
  - wherein the composition is free of medium chain fatty acids having 6 to
    - 12 carbons and glycerides or other esters thereof.



79. The Accused Products further meet the limitations of claim 1 as set forth below:

A composition for increasing blood ketone level in a subject, comprising:

at least three beta-hydroxybutyrate salts selected from: sodium beta-hydroxybutyrate; potassium beta-hydroxybutyrate; calcium beta-hydroxybutyrate; and magnesium beta-hydroxybutyrate;

wherein the composition is in solid and/or powder form,

wherein the composition is free of medium chain fatty acids having 6 to 12 carbons and glycerides or other esters thereof.

Supplement Facts Serving Size: 4 Capsules Serving Per Container: 15		
	Amount	% Daily Value
Magnesium Beta-Hydroxybutyrate	1000 mg	
Calcium Beta-Hydroxybutyrate	1000 mg	
Sodium Beta-Hydroxybutyrate	1000 mg	•
* Daily Value (DV) not established.		

OTHER INGREDIETS: Gelatin (bovine), vegetable magnesium stearate, and silicon dioxide.

- 80. The Accused Products further meet the limitations of claim 1 as set forth below:
  - 1. A composition for increasing blood ketone level in a subject, comprising:

at least three beta-hydroxybutyrate salts selected from: sodium beta-hydroxybutyrate; potassium beta-hydroxybutyrate; calcium beta-hydroxybutyrate; and magnesium beta-hydroxybutyrate;

wherein the composition is in solid and/or powder form,

wherein the composition is free of medium chain fatty acids having 6 to 12 carbons and glycerides or other esters thereof.



The Accused Products further meet the limitations of claim 1 as set forth below:

1. A composition for increasing blood ketone level in a subject, comprising: at least three beta-hydroxybutyrate salts selected from:

sodium beta-hydroxybutyrate;

potassium beta-hydroxybutyrate;

calcium beta-hydroxybutyrate; and

magnesium beta-hydroxybutyrate;

wherein the composition is in solid and/or powder form,

wherein the composition is free of medium chain fatty acids having 6 to 12 carbons and glycerides or other esters thereof.

Supplement I Serving Size: 4 Capsules Serving Per Container: 15	Facts	
	Amount	% Daily Value
Magnesium Beta-Hydroxybutyrate	1000 mg	•
Calcium Beta-Hydroxybutyrate	1000 mg	•
Sodium Beta-Hydroxybutyrate	1000 mg	•
* Daily Value (DV) not established.		
OTHER INGREDIETS: Gelatin (bov magnesium stearate, and sili		

81. Defendants have directly infringed claim 1 of the '362 Patent in the United States by making, using, offering for sale, selling, and/or importing the Accused Products in violation of

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35 U.S.C. § 271(a). As such, Defendants are liable for direct infringement of the '362 Patent under 35 U.S.C. § 271(a).

82. Defendants have indirectly infringed the '362 Patent in this District and elsewhere in the United States by inducing others—including their own customers—to infringe the Asserted Patents. Defendants have actual knowledge of their infringement of the '362 Patent. As such, Defendants are liable for indirect infringement of the '362 Patent under 35 U.S.C. § 271(b).

83. Defendants' infringement of the '362 Patent is willful and this case is exceptional.

84. Plaintiff has suffered harm as a result of Defendants' infringement of the '362 Patent, including in the form of lost profits and diverted sales and market share. Plaintiff is therefore entitled to recover damages sustained as a result of Defendants' wrongful acts in an amount that is to be proven at trial.

### PRAYER FOR RELIEF

Wherefore, Plaintiff respectfully prays that the Court enter judgment in its favor and award the following relief against Defendants:

A. A judgment that Defendants infringed the '403 Patent directly and indirectly by inducement;

B. A judgment that Defendants infringed the '362 Patent directly and indirectly by inducement;

C. A finding that the Defendants' misconduct alleged herein was willful and that this case is exceptional;

D. An order and judgment enjoining Defendants and their officers, directors, employees, agents, licensees, representatives, affiliates, related companies, servants, successors

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and assigns, and any and all persons acting in privity or in concert with any of them, from infringing Plaintiff's patents;

E. An award of actual damages in an amount to be determined at trial for patent infringement;

F. Plaintiff's costs and attorneys' fees;

G. A judgment for treble damages and other punitive damages;

H. Any such other and further relief as the Court deems proper.

# **DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL**

Pursuant to Rule 38(b) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, Plaintiff demands a jury

trial on all matters triable to a jury.

DATED May 24, 2024.

Respectfully submitted,

<u>/s/ Jonathan L Cochran</u> Jonathan L. Cochran jcochran@levanstapleton.com LEVAN STAPLETON SEGAL COCHRAN LLC 1760 Market Street, Suite 403 Philadelphia, PA 19103 Tel: (215) 261-5210

/s/ Brian N. Platt Brian N. Platt (pro hac vice forthcoming) bplatt@wnlaw.com Collin D. Hansen (pro hac vice forthcoming) chansen@wnlaw.com WORKMAN NYDEGGER 60 East South Temple, Suite 1000 Salt Lake City, UT 84111 Tel: (801) 533-9800

Counsel for Plaintiff Axcess Global Sciences LLC