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7	Attorneys for Plaintiff, individually and	on behalf of all others similarly situated				
8	UNITED STATE	S DISTRICT COURT				
9						
10	FOR THE SOUTHERN I	DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA				
11	CARL BARBATA, JR., individually	Case No. '16CV2875L MDD				
12	and on behalf of all others similarly situated,	CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT				
13	Plaintiff,	JURY TRIAL DEMANDED				
14		JUNI INIAL DEMANDED				
15	v.					
16	AUDI OF AMERICA, LLC, and					
17	AUDI AG,					
18	Defendants.					
19 20						
20 21	Plaintiff Carl Barbata, Jr. ("Plain	tiff"), individually and on behalf of all				
21	others similarly situated brings this act	ion against Defendants Audi AG and Audi				
22	others similarly situated, brings this action against Defendants Audi AG and Audi					
23	of America, LLC (unless otherwise indicated, both Defendants are collectively					
25	referred to as "Audi"). All allegations made in this Complaint are based upon					
26	information and belief except those allegations that pertain to Plaintiff, which are					
27	based on personal knowledge. Each all	agation in this Complaint aither has				
28	based on personal knowledge. Each allegation in this Complaint either has - 1 -					
	CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT AND DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL					
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evidentiary support or, alternatively, pursuant to Rule 11(b)(3) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, is likely to have evidentiary support after a reasonable opportunity for further investigation or discovery.

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I. NATURE OF THE ACTION

1. Plaintiff brings this action in connection with Audi's practice of equipping certain gasoline vehicles with an illegal "defeat device" designed to evade governmental emissions regulations by tricking the public and regulators into thinking the vehicles emit far less noxious carbon dioxide gas ("CO₂") than they actually do.

13 2. In September 2015, and again in November 2015, Volkswagen and
¹⁴ Audi admitted using defeat device software to activate emissions controls when
¹⁵ diesel cars were being smog tested and deactivate those controls during normal,
¹⁷ on-road driving. Volkswagen, Audi AG's parent company, took the position that the
¹⁸ diesel defeat device was an isolated incident, which it dubiously blamed on "rogue
¹⁹ engineers."

3. It was not an isolated incident, and the unlawful activity was not
 perpetrated by a few "rogue engineers" but by hundreds of personnel throughout the
 companies.

4. Moreover, Audi's unlawful activity was not limited to its diesel
vehicles. It has recently been reported that Audi has been hiding its use of a

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completely different defeat device on additional *gasoline* vehicles equipped with
 automatic transmissions.

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The vehicles containing the illegal defeat device include at least those 5. 4 5 vehicles Audi equipped with (1) a ZF 8HP55 "AL551" transmission, including but 6 not limited to, the A6, A8, Q5, and Q 7 or (2) a DL 501-7Q "DL 501" transmission, 7 including, but not limited to, the Audi S4, S5, S6, and S7 models (collectively the 8 9 "Affected Vehicles"). In those vehicles, Audi installed software which detects 10 when the vehicle undergoes emissions and mileage testing and then programs the 11 car to shift into each higher gear sooner, thus reducing engine RPM, fuel 12 13 consumption, and CO2 emissions. But otherwise, during normal driving operation, 14 the cars' shift points are higher, resulting in more power and acceleration, but 15 increased fuel consumption, lower MPG, and higher CO2 emissions. 16 17 Audi sold the Affected Vehicles to Plaintiff and Class members without 6. 18 informing them of the existence of the defeat devices, and by falsely representing to

them that the Affected Vehicles were compliant with all relevant emissions standards
 when in normal use. Audi also falsely represented the fuel efficiency of the Affected
 Vehicles.

7. Because the existence of the defeat devices was concealed, Plaintiff and
 the Class members were unaware that the vehicles they purchased were equipped
 with illegal defeat devices.

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1 8. Plaintiff and Class members suffered damages as a result of Audi's 2 misrepresentations and omissions regarding the defeat device. Plaintiff would not 3 have purchased the Affected Vehicle at all and/or-if the Affected Vehicle's true 4 5 nature had been disclosed and mitigated, and the Affected Vehicle rendered legal to 6 sell—would have paid significantly less for it. At the very least, Plaintiff and Class 7 members overpaid for their vehicles, which are incapable of providing the balance of 8 9 performance, fuel efficiency, and cleanlieness that Audi advertised. Plaintiff and 10 Class members have also suffered diminution of vehicle value now that the existence 11 of the defeat device has been revealed. 12

9. Plaintiff and similarly situated owners and lessees of the Affected
 Vehicles are entitled to compensation for their losses, including losses related to
 increased fuel expenditures. Plaintiff therefore brings this proposed class action for
 damages on behalf of himself and on behalf of the other members of the nationwide
 class and California class defined below.

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II. JURISDICTION & VENUE

10. This Court has jurisdiction pursuant to the Class Action Fairness Act of
 2005, 28 U.S.C. § 1332(d), because the proposed Class consists of 100 or more
 members; the amount in controversy exceeds \$5,000,000, exclusive of costs and
 interest; and minimal diversity exists. Minimal diversity exists for two independent
 reasons: (i) plaintiff and the defendants are diverse, and (ii) the proposed class

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contains citizens of states outside of defendants' home jurisdictions, as per 28 U.S.C. § 1332(d)(2).

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11. The Court has personal jurisdiction over Audi AG and Audi America
 because the alleged wrongdoing occurred in California and because Audi AG and
 Audi America have sufficient minimum contacts with California and have otherwise
 intentionally availed themselves of the markets in California.

9 12. Venue is proper in the United States District Court for the Southern
10 District of California pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1391 (b)-(c) because Audi AG and
11 Audi America are corporate entities that are deemed to reside in any judicial district
13 in which they are subject to personal jurisdiction at the time the action is
14 commenced, and because their contacts with this District are sufficient to subject it
15 to personal jurisdiction.

III. PARTIES

18 13. Plaintiff CARL BARBATA JR. (for the purpose of this paragraph, 19 "Plaintiff") is a citizen of California domiciled in San Bernardino County, 20 21 California. In or around January 2016, Plaintiff purchased a new 2016 Audi A6 22 from Walter's Audi. Plaintiff purchased, and still owns, the vehicle. Unknown to 23 Plaintiff, at the time the vehicle was purchased, it was designed and equipped to turn 24 off or limit emissions reduction during normal driving conditions, resulting in CO2 25 26 emissions that were higher than Audi represented and fuel economy that was lower 27 - 5 -28

than Audi represented. Audi's unfair, unlawful, and deceptive conduct in designing, 1 2 manufacturing, marketing, selling, and leasing Audi 3.0-liter gasoline engine 3 vehicles with these manipulations has caused Plaintiff out-of-pocket loss, future 4 5 attempted repairs, and diminished value of his vehicle. Had Audi disclosed this 6 design, and the fact that his Audi actually emitted pollutants at a much higher level 7 than stated and that his vehicle had substantially lower fuel economy than stated, 8 9 Plaintiff would not have purchased the vehicle, or would have paid less for it. 10 Audi of America, LLC ("Audi America") is a Delaware limited liability 14. 11 company with its principal place of business located at 2200 Ferdinand Porsche 12 13 Drive, Herndon, Virginia 20171. Audi America is a wholly-owned U.S. 14 subsidiary of Audi AG, and it engaged in business, including the advertising, 15 marketing and sale of Audi automobiles, in all 50 states, including this district. 16 17 15. Audi AG is a German corporation with its principal place of business in 18 Ingolstadt, Germany. Audi AG is the parent company of Audi of America, LLC and 19 a subsidiary of the Audi Group, which is a wholly-owned subsidiary of VW AG. 20 21 Audi AG designs, develops, manufacturers, and sells luxury automobiles. 22 According to Audi AG, the Audi Group sold 1.8 million cars worldwide in 2015, 23 including more than 200,000 vehicles in the United States, with sales revenues in 24 25 2015 totaling €58.5 billion (approximately \$64.34 billion). 26 IV. **FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS** 27 - 6 -28 CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT AND DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL

1 16. It has been widely publicized that Audi and its parent Volkswagen, for
 2 years, engaged in an extensive scheme to misrepresent the emissions of their so 3 called "clean diesel" vehicles by equipping them with a defeat device.

5 The defeat device at issue in that litigation used a multi-faceted 17. 6 algorithm to detect when vehicles were being operated on dynamometers, such as is 7 used in smog testing facilities and by the Environmental Protection Agency, the 8 9 California Air Resources Board, and state regulators when determining whether 10 vehicles comply with emissions standards. When the diesel defeat device detected 11 that the car was undergoing emissions testing, it would engage full emissions 12 13 controls, which allowed the diesel vehicles to pass stringent standards for Oxides of 14 Nitrogen (NOx) emissions. But during on-road driving, these same cars emitted 10-15 40 times the legal limits for NOx because the emission controls were turned off. 16

17 It has been recently discovered and widely reported that Audi 18. 18 equipped many of its gasoline vehicles with an entirely different defeat device to 19 falsify and misrepresent carbon dioxide emissions and, upon information and belief, 20 fuel efficiency. According to reports, this defeat device is particularly nefarious 21 22 because it does not directly affect emissions controls, so it is very difficult to detect. 23 Instead, when the device detects that the car is in a testing bay, it changes the shift 24 points of the automatic transmission so that the vehicle operates in a "low rev" mode, 25 that is, it shifts into the next higher gear sooner than it otherwise would. This 26 27 modified shifting scheme effectively falsifies the vehicle's emissions and fuel - 7 -28

efficiency results by keeping the engine RPM artificially low, thereby using less fuel
and emitting less carbon dioxide.¹ Conversely, when the vehicle is not in a testing
bay, the defeat device deactivates and allows the vehicle to operate at higher
revolutions per minute such that the vehicle has more power and acceleration, but
also consumes more fuel and emits more carbon dioxide.²

7 19. Audi installed the defeat device in at least the vehicles equipped with 8 one of two automatic transmissions with the internal designations AL 551 and DL 9 501 through May 2016. The AL 551 transmission belongs to the ZF 8HP family of 10 11 eight-speed units Audi sourced from transmission supplier ZF Friedrichshafen, 12 commonly known as ZF. The DL 501 model Audi sourced from Volkswagen. The 13 gasoline vehicles that Audi equipped with the AL 551 and DL 501 transmissions-14 and, therefore, with the defeat device-include, but may not be limited to, the Audi 15 16 A6, A8, Q5, Q7, S4, S5, S6, and S7 models

Additional reports indicate that Audi executives were aware of this
 defeat device and instructed that it be utilized as much as possible to mispresent the
 performance of Audi vehicles.³ According to these reports, Audi installed this defeat

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 ² VW Recovery Dealt Blow by Poetsch Probe, Audi Cheating Report, November 7, 2016, <u>https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2016-11-07/vw-recovery-dealt-blow-by-poetsch-probe-audi-cheating-report.</u>

 3 "Volkswagen and Audi management discussed the CO2 defeat-device software in detail during a 'Summer Drive' event in South Africa in the second half of February 2013, according to one person familiar with the situation -8 -

¹ CARB Finds New Audi Defect Device, German Paper Digs Up Smoking Gun Document, November 6, 2016, <u>http://www.forbes.com/sites/bertelschmitt/2016/11/06/carb-finds-new-audi-defeat-device-german-paper-digs-up-smoking-gun-document/#6ae523791ce8.</u>

device in models equipped with the AL 551 transmission, including the A6, A8, and Q5, as late as May 2016, eight months after public disclosure of the defeat device utilized by Audi and its parent Volkswagen on "clean diesel" vehicles in September 2015.4

6 Volkswagen and Audi were aware that emissions and fuel consumption 21. 7 were decisive factors for customers making purchase decisions. In response, Audi 8 began representing to consumers that its vehicles consumed less fuel and emitted less 9 CO₂ than they actually do in normal driving conditions. 10

11 22. As described above, Audi was able to disguise this deception by 12 programming its engines with the ability to engage different modes, one of which 13 used significantly less fuel and emitted significantly less CO2, but also delivered 14 significantly less power. Audi deceptively dubbed this the "warm-up" strategy, a 15 16 mode that activates when the Affected Vehicles are started. As long as the "warm-up" 17 function remains activated, the automatic transmission remains in a "switching 18 program" that produces a low engine speed, consumes less fuel, and produces less 19 CO_2 . 20

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23. Audi also figured out how to activate this low fuel/low emissions/low

23 and excerpts from the minutes of the meeting, which were reviewed by THE WALL STREET JOURNAL. According to the minutes, Axel Eiser, the head of Audi's powertrain division, said: "the shifting program needs 24 to be configured so that it runs at 100% on the treadmill but only 0.01% with the customer." New Discovery Broadens VW Emissions-Cheating Crisis, November 6, 2016, http://www.wsj.com/articles/volkswagen-probe-in-25 germany-extended-to-chairman-1478429066. This is an astounding admission of deception.

26 ⁴ CARB Finds New Audi Defect Device, German Paper Digs Up Smoking Gun Document, November 6, 2016, http://www.forbes.com/sites/bertelschmitt/2016/11/06/carb-finds-new-audi- defeat-device-german-paper-digs-up-27 smoking-gun-document/#6ae523791ce - 9 -

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CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT AND DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL

1 power mode during governmental tests. Audi engineers concluded that the only time 2 the Affected Vehicles would run continuously with no steering wheel input would be 3 when the vehicles were undergoing examination in a lab, on a test bed. The vehicles' 4 transmission control modules ("TCM") therefore set "shift points" that allow the 5 vehicles to detect those lab conditions and to produce compliant emission results 6 7 under those conditions (known by Volkswagen as the "dyno calibration" mode). 8 Under these static dynamometer lab conditions (a vehicle treadmill), the defeat device 9 enables the Affected Vehicles to operate in this low power mode. 10

This low power mode, also known as the "low CO₂" program, works by
 causing the Affected Vehicles to shift gears early to maintain artificially low engine
 revs and emissions.

At all other times—that is, when the Affected Vehicles are actually
being driven under normal conditions—the transmission computer switches to "road
calibration" mode which offers full power to the driver and which results in increased
fuel consumption and greater CO₂ emissions. Indeed, the road calibration mode
activates once the driver turns the steering wheel 15 degrees, something happens
almost immediately under normal driving conditions.

22 26. This defeat device scheme allowed Audi to deceptively misrepresent the
 24 Affected Vehicles' fuel consumption and CO₂ emissions to governmental authorities
 25 and to the consuming public. A vehicle's advertised fuel economy, which is listed on
 26 the "Monroney sticker" or window sticker, is determined by driving a vehicle over

1 five standardized driving patterns (or drive cycles), all of which are performed in a 2 laboratory on a dynamometer where the conditions for all tests can be controlled. 3 These driving cycles include cold starts, hot starts, highway driving, aggressive and 4 high speed driving, driving with the air conditioner in use under conditions similar to 5 a hot day in the summer in Los Angeles and driving in cold temperatures. Data from 6 7 the five drive cycles are combined and adjusted for "real world" conditions in a way 8 to represent "City" driving and "Highway" driving. The "combined" fuel economy is g the average of the City and Highway values with weights of 55% and 45% 10 11 respectively. These adjusted and combined values appear on the vehicle's Monroney 12 sticker.

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During each of the drive cycles—all of which are performed in a lab, 27. 14 under the Affected Vehicles' low power/low emissions/low fuel consumption 15 16 mode-the amount of each pollutant is measured. This includes un-combusted or 17 partially combusted gasoline (hydrocarbons or HC), carbon monoxide (CO) and 18 19 carbon dioxide (CO_2) . The amount of carbon produced is then converted to amount 20 of gasoline which was required to produce the carbon in the exhaust. The amount of 21 gasoline produced during the tests is divided into the distance driven on the test to 22 23 produce the fuel economy.

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28. Based on this equation, as the amount of CO₂ produced increases, the
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26 gasoline used increases and the fuel economy decreases. Therefore, if an Affected
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27 Vehicle produced less CO₂ during laboratory testing, but higher CO₂ when driven on -11 -

road, then the vehicle would have better estimated fuel economy represented on the Monroney sticker than the vehicle would actually achieve on road.

This is exactly what happened here. Again, in simple terms, the defeat 29. 4 5 device program equips the Affected Vehicles with two modes or personalities. The 6 "dyno calibration" personality reduces fuel supply and limits revolutions per minute 7 ("rpms") per gear, reducing fuel burn and lowering emissions. This was personality 8 9 engaged during all of the laboratory testing used to calculate the Affected Vehicles' 10 purported fuel economy. The "road calibration," in contrast, personality allows the 11 engine to turn maximum rpms in each gear and provides the necessary (much higher) 12 13 fuel supply required to deliver advertised torque and performance. This is the 14 personality engaged during all normal driving. 15

30. There is no question that Audi knew what it was doing. Audi
commissioned its own study, in fact, which found that a vehicles' fuel consumption
on the road increased by 8.5 percent after the wheel was turned.

31. As alleged above, high-placed Audi executives knew precisely how the
 defeat device worked, and instructed company employees to utilize it as much as
 possible to deceive regulators and the public. Volkswagen and Audi management
 discussed the defeat device software in detail, for example, during a "Summer Drive"
 event in South Africa in the second half of February 2013. According to the event
 minutes, Axel Eiser, then the head of Audi's powertrain division (and currently the

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head of powertrain development of the entire Volkswagen group) asked: "When will 1 2 we have the cycle optimized shift program?" He continued: "The shifting program 3 shall be designed to be 100% active on the dyno, but only 0.01% in the hands of the 4 customer."⁵ The implication of this could not be clearer: Audi executives intended to 5 6 use, and did in fact use, the defeat device to mislead regulators and consumers by 7 selectively activating the low power/low emissions/low fuel consumption mode only 8 9 in testing conditions. This practice is highly deceptive and illegal. 10 32. Plaintiff has suffered damages as a result of his purchase of an Affected 11 Vehicle, including but not limited to (i) overpayment for a vehicle that is incapable 12 13 of performing as represented, (ii) future additional fuel costs, (iii) loss of 14 performance from future repairs, and (iv) diminution of vehicle value. 15 FRAUDULENT CONCEALMENT ALLEGATIONS V. 16 17 33. Plaintiff makes the following specific fraud allegations with as much 18 specificity as possible at this point in the litigation: 19 **Who:** Audi actively concealed the defeat device present in the a. 20 21 Affected Vehicles from Plaintiff and the class members when Audi continued to 22 manufacture, distribute, sell and lease the Affected Vehicles. Plaintiff is unaware of 23 and therefore cannot specifically identify the true names and identities of specific 24

26 ⁵ Kayhan Oezgenc and Jan C. Wehmeyer, *This is How the Manufacturer Cheated on CO*₂, Bild am Sonntag (November 5, 2016) http://www.bild.de/bild-plus/auto/auto-news/audi/so-27 schummelte-der-hersteller-bei-co-48621300.bild.html - 13 -

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Audi officials responsible for such decisions, except that Plaintiff can identify Axel Eiser, the head of Audi's powertrain division, as having knowledge and intent that the defeat device be used in Affected Vehicles, in addition to other executives at the "Summer Drive" event in South Africa in the second half of February 2013.

6 What: Audi and at least the executives at the "Summer Drive" b. event in South Africa in the second half of February 2013, including Axel Eiser, knew, or were reckless or negligent in not knowing, that the Affected Vehicles 10 contain the defeat device, as alleged herein. Audi concealed the defeat device from Plaintiff and the class members they seek to represent and made misrepresentations 12 13 about CO2 emissions and fuel efficiency.

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When: Audi concealed material information regarding the c. defeat device in the Affected Vehicles sold and/or leased from at least February 16 17 2013, but in likelihood for many years before then-namely, that the reported 18 carbon dioxide emissions and fuel consumption estimates were false, that Audi had 19 not disclosed the truth about the defeat device in Affected Vehicles to anyone 20 21 outside of Audi, and that Audi had not taken any action to inform consumers about 22 the true nature of the Affected Vehicles. 23

d. Where: Audi concealed material information regarding the true 24 25 nature of the Affected Vehicles in connection with every sale and lease transaction 26 involving Affected Vehicles at least in the United States, if not worldwide.

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CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT AND DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL

Plaintiff is aware of no communication, document, or other interaction with anyone outside of Audi before the date of filing of this Complaint, in which Audi disclosed the true nature of the defeat device in each and every Affected Vehicle. The existence of the defeat device in the Affected Vehicles was not disclosed in Audi's marketing, warranties, documentation, website, or any communications with Plaintiff and vehicle owners.

9 How: Audi concealed material information regarding the defeat e. 10 device at all times prior to the date of this Complaint, including that the existence of 11 the defeat device manipulates the performance of the Affected Vehicles. Audi 12 13 actively concealed the truth about the existence and nature of the defeat device 14 from Plaintiff and class members, even though Audi knew that information 15 regarding the defeat device would be important to a reasonable consumer. Audi 16 17 falsely reported the CO2 emissions levels and fuel consumption on the Monroney 18 labels affixed to the Affected Vehicles and its sales and marketing materials 19 distributed and viewed by consumers and regulators. 20

f. Why: Audi concealed material information about the defeat
 device in Affected Vehicles for the purpose of inducing Plaintiff and class members
 to continue to and repeatedly purchase and/or lease Affected Vehicles, rather than
 purchasing and/or leasing competing vehicles. If Audi had disclosed the truth about
 the defeat device, or had not used the defeat devices, thus rendering the cars either

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less powerful or less efficient and less environmental friendly—assuming they could be legally sold at all—then Plaintiff would not have purchased the Affected Vehicles or he would have paid less.

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VI. TOLLING OF STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS

A. Fraudulent Concealment Tolling

8 34. Upon information and belief, prior to the date of this Complaint, and 9 at least as early as February 2013, if not earlier, Audi knew of the defeat device in 10 the Affected Vehicles, but continued to distribute, sell, and/or lease the Affected 11 12 Vehicles to Plaintiff and the class members. In doing so, Audi concealed from or 13 failed to notify Plaintiff and the class members about the true nature of the Affected 14 15 Vehicles. Any applicable statute of limitations has therefore been tolled by Audi's 16 knowledge, active concealment, and denial of the facts alleged herein.

B. Estoppel

35. Audi was under a continuous duty to disclose to Plaintiff and the class 19 20 members the existence of the defeat device, which substantially affects the true 21 character, quality, performance, and nature of the Affected Vehicles. Audi 22 actively concealed the true character, quality, performance, and nature of the defeat 23 24 device in the Affected Vehicles, and Plaintiff and the class members reasonably 25 relied upon Audi's knowing and active concealment of these facts. Audi is 26 27 accordingly estopped from relying on any statute of limitations in defense of this - 16 -28

action. For these same reasons, Audi is estopped from relying upon any warranty mileage and age limitations in defense of this action.

C. Discovery Rule

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36. The claims for relief alleged herein did not accrue until Plaintiff and the class members discovered that the Affected Vehicles contained the defeat device.

37. Plaintiff and the class members had no realistic ability to identify the defeat device until—at the earliest—November 7, 2016, when published reports surfaced for the first time disclosing the existence of the defeat device.

38. Despite their exercise of due diligence, Plaintiff and the class members
were not reasonably able to discover the defeat device until after they purchased or
leased the Affected Vehicles. Accordingly, their claims for relief did not accrue
until they discovered that the defeat device caused the Affected Vehicles to fail
required emissions standards.

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VII. CLASS ACTION ALLEGATIONS

39. Plaintiff brings this action on behalf of himself and all others similarly situated under Fed. R. Civ. P. 23(b)(2) and (b)(3) on behalf of the following classes (collectively, the "Classes"):

The Nationwide Class

CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT AND DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL

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1 2 3 4	All persons or entitles in the United States who are current or former owners and/or lessees of an Affected Vehicle. ⁶ The California Class All persons or entitles in the state of California who are current or former					
5 6	owners and/or lessees of an Affected Vehicle.40. Excluded from the Classes are (i) Audi and any entity in which Audi has					
7	a controlling interest, and their legal representatives, officers, directors, employees,					
8 9	assigns and successors; (ii) the Judge to whom this case is assigned and any member					
10	of the Judge's staff or immediate family; and (iii) Class Counsel.					
11	41. Plaintiff seeks only damages and injunctive relief on behalf of himself					
12 13	and the Class Members. Plaintiff disclaims any intent or right to seek any					
13	recovery in this action for personal injuries suffered by Plaintiff and/or the Class					
15	Members.					
16 17	42. Certification of Plaintiff's claims for class-wide treatment is					
18	appropriate because Plaintiff can prove the elements of his claims on a class-wide					
19	basis using the same evidence as would be used to prove those elements in					
20 21	individual actions alleging the same claim.					
21 22	43. This action has been brought and may be properly maintained on behalf					
23	of each of the Classes proposed herein under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 23.					
24	44. Numerosity. Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 23(a)(1): The members					
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26 27 28	⁶ At present, on information and belief, Affected Vehicles include Audi A6, A8, Q5 and Q7 vehicles equipped with Audi's 3.0 liter gasoline engine and automatic transmission. Discovery and further investigation may reveal additional models of vehicles to be included in the definition of Affected Vehicles. - 18 -					
20	CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT AND DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL					

CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT AND DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL

1 of the Classes are so numerous and geographically dispersed that individual joinder 2 of all Class members is impracticable. While Plaintiff is informed and believe that 3 there are at least hundreds-of-thousands of members of the Classes, the precise 4 5 number of Class members is unknown to Plaintiff, but may be ascertained from 6 Audi's books and records. Audi sold more than 270,000 Affected Vehicles in the 7 United States from 2013 to the present, including thousands in the state of 8 9 California. Class members may be notified of the pendency of this action by 10 recognized, Court-approved notice dissemination methods, which may include U.S. 11 mail, electronic mail, Internet postings, and/or published notice. 12 13 **Commonality**. Common questions of law and fact exist as to all Class 45. 14 Members, as required by Fed. R. Civ. P. 23(a)(2), and include: 15 whether Audi designed, marketed, distributed, leased, and/or a. 16 17 sold the Affected Vehicles in the United States and California; 18 b. whether the Affected Vehicles that Audi designed, marketed, 19 distributed, leased, and/or sold contained a defeat device; 20 21 whether Audi knew of the defeat device at the time of c. 22 designing, marketing, distributing, leasing, and/or selling the Affected Vehicles; 23 d. whether Audi knew that its representations regarding the 24 25 emissions and/or fuel efficiency of the Affected Vehicles were false at the time of 26 designing, marketing, distributing, leasing, and/or selling the Affected Vehicles; 27 - 19 -28 CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT AND DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL

e. whether Audi's conduct violates consumer protection statutes
and other laws as asserted herein;

f. whether Audi's actions violate California consumer protection
5 laws;

g. whether Plaintiff and the other Class members overpaid for their
8 Affected Vehicles;

9 h. whether Plaintiff and the other Class members are entitled to
10 equitable relief, including, but not limited to, restitution or injunctive relief; and

i. whether Plaintiff and the other Class members are entitled to
 damages and other monetary relief and, if so, in what amount.

46. <u>Typicality</u>. Plaintiff's claims are typical of the claims of the Class
 Members whom Plaintiff seeks to represent under Fed. R. Civ. P. 23(a)(3),
 because Plaintiff and each Class Member purchased an Affected Vehicle and were
 comparably injured through Audi's wrongful conduct as described above.

47. Adequacy. Plaintiff will fairly and adequately represent and protect the
 interests of the Class Members as required by Fed. R. Civ. P. 23(a)(4). Plaintiff's
 interests do not conflict with the interests of the Class Members. Further, Plaintiff
 has retained counsel competent and experienced in complex class action litigation,
 including vehicle defect litigation, and Plaintiff intends to prosecute this action
 vigorously. Therefore, the interests of the Class Members will be fairly and

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adequately protected.

48. <u>**Predominance of Common Issues**</u>. A class action is appropriate under Fed. R. Civ. P. 23(b)(3) because common questions of law and fact predominate over any questions affecting only individual members<u>.</u>

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49. Declaratory and Injunctive Relief. Federal Rule of Civil Procedure
23(b)(2): Audi has acted or refused to act on grounds generally applicable to
Plaintiff and the other members of the Classes, thereby making appropriate final
injunctive relief and declaratory relief, as described below, with respect to each
Class as a whole.

13 Superiority. Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 23(b)(3): A class action 50. 14 is superior to all other available means for fairly and efficiently adjudicating the 15 controversy. In this regard, the Class Members' interests in individually 16 17 controlling the prosecution of separate actions is low given the magnitude, burden, 18 and expense of individual prosecutions against a large corporation such as Audi. It 19 is desirable to concentrate this litigation in this forum to avoid burdening the courts 20 21 with individual lawsuits. Individualized litigation presents a potential for 22 inconsistent or contradictory judgments, and also increases the delay and expense to 23 all parties and the court system presented by the legal and factual issues of this case. 24 25 By contrast, the class action procedure here will have no management difficulties. 26 The Classes are ascertainable and the same common documents and testimony 27

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1 will be used to prove Plaintiff's claims as well as the claims of the Class 2 Members. Finally, proceeding as a class action provides the benefits of single 3 adjudication, economies of scale, and comprehensive supervision by a single court. 4 5 FIRST CLAIM **Violation of Magnuson Moss Warranty Act** 6 (15 U.S.C. §§ 2301, et seq.) 7 (On Behalf of the Nationwide Class) 8 Plaintiff incorporates by reference all the allegations set forth in this 51. 9 Complaint as though fully set forth herein. 10 11 Plaintiff brings this Count on behalf of himself and the Nationwide 52. 12 Class. 13 53. This Court has jurisdiction to decide claims brought under the 14 15 Magnuson-Moss Warranty Act (for the purpose of this Count, the "Act") by virtue 16 of 28 U.S.C. § 1332(a)-(d). 17 54. Defendants are "supplier[s]" and "warrantor[s]" within the meaning of 18 19 15 U.S.C. § 2301(4) and (5) because the company regularly sells Audi vehicles 20 accompanied by the written Limited Warranties. 21 Plaintiff and the other Class members are "consumers" who purchased 55. 22 23 "consumer products" for purposes of 15 U.S.C. § 2301(1) and (3) because they 24 purchased Affected Vehicles for personal, family, or household purposes. 25 The Affected Vehicles are "consumer products" within the meaning of 26 56. 27 the Act. 15 U.S.C. § 2301(1). - 22 -28 CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT AND DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL

57. The Act provides a cause of action for any consumer who is damages by the failure of a warrantor to comply with a written or implied warranty. 15 U.S.C. § 2310(d)(1).

58. The amount in controversy of the Plaintiff's individual claims meets or exceeds \$25.00 in value. In addition, the amount in controversy meets or exceeds \$50,000 in value (exclusive of interest and costs) on the basis of all claims to be determined in this suit.

59. Under the Act, damaged "consumers" have a private cause of action against any warrantor that fails to comply with a written or implied warranty.

Audi provided Plaintiff and the Nationwide Class with two express 60. warranties: (1) "bumper-to-bumper" limited express warranty coverage for a minimum of four years or 50,000 miles, whichever comes first, and which covers emission related repairs; and (2) a federal emissions warranty that covers the repair and replacement of all emission control and emission-related parts for two years or 24,000 miles (whichever comes first), and covers specified major emission control components, including catalytic converters, electronic emissions control unit or computer and on-board emissions diagnostic device or computer for 8 years or 80,000 miles (whichever comes first). These express warranties constitute written warranties within the meaning of 15 U.S.C. § 2301(6). The Affected Vehicles' implied warranties are covered by 15 U.S.C. § 2301(7).

- 23 -

61. The terms of written warranties and implied warranty became part of the basis of the bargain between Plaintiff and all other Class members when deciding to purchase an Affected Vehicle.

62. Audi breached these written and implied warranties as described in detail above. Without limitation, the Affected Vehicles share a common design defect in that they emit more carbon dioxide than: (a) is allowable under the applicable regulations, and (b) Audi represented were emitted to their customers, the public, and regulators.

Plaintiff and each of the other Nationwide Class members have had 63. 12 13 sufficient direct dealings with either Audi or its agents (including Audi dealerships) 14 to establish privity of contract between Audi, on the one hand, and Plaintiff and 15 each of the other Nationwide Class members, on the other hand. Nonetheless, 16 17 privity is not required here because Plaintiff and each of the other Nationwide Class 18 members are intended third-party beneficiaries of contracts between Audi and its 19 dealers, and specifically, of Audi's implied warranties. The dealers were not 20 21 intended to be the ultimate consumers of the Affected Vehicles and have no rights 22 under the warranty agreements provided with the Affected Vehicles; the warranty 23 agreements were designed for and intended to benefit the consumers only. 24

64. Affording Audi a reasonable opportunity to cure its breach of written
warranties would be unnecessary and futile here. At the time of sale or lease of each

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1 Affected Vehicle, Audi knew, should have known, or was reckless in not knowing 2 of its misrepresentations concerning the Affected Vehicles' inability to perform as 3 warranted, but nonetheless failed to rectify the situation and/or disclose the design 4 5 defect. Under the circumstances, the remedies available under any informal 6 settlement procedure would be inadequate and any requirement that Plaintiff resort 7 to an informal dispute resolution procedure and/or afford Audi a reasonable 8 9 opportunity to cure its breach of warranties is excused and thereby deemed satisfied. 10 As a direct and proximate result of Audi's breach of the written 65. 11 warranties and the implied warranty of merchantability, Plaintiff and Class members 12 13 have suffered damages in an amount to be determined at trial. 14 66. Plaintiff, individually and on behalf of the Nationwide Class, seek all 15 damages permitted by law, including compensation for the monetary difference 16 17 between the Affected Vehicles as warranted and as sold; compensation for the 18 reduction in resale value; the cost of purchasing, leasing, or renting replacement 19 vehicles, along with all other incidental and consequential damages, statutory 20 21 attorney fees, and all other relief allowed by law. 22 SECOND CLAIM 23 **Fraudulent Concealment** (On Behalf of the Nationwide Class, or, in the Alternative, the California Class) 24 25 Plaintiff incorporates all allegations set forth in this Complaint as 67. 26 though fully set forth herein. 27 - 25 -28 CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT AND DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL

68. Plaintiff brings this Count on behalf of the Nationwide Class or, in the alternative, on behalf of the California Class, against all Defendants..

69. Audi concealed the defeat device that changes the shift points of the automatic transmission so that the Affected Vehicles operate in a "low rev" mode, that is, it shifts into the next higher gear sooner than it otherwise would, which effectively falsifies the Affected Vehicles' emissions and fuel efficiency results by keeping the engine RPM artificially low, thereby using less fuel and emitting less carbon dioxide. Audi also concealed that, when the vehicle is not in a testing bay, the defeat device deactivates and allows the vehicle to operate at higher revolutions per minute such that the vehicle has more power and acceleration, but consumes more fuel and emits more carbon dioxide.

70. As alleged herein, Defendants intentionally concealed and suppressed material facts concerning the illegality and quality of the Affected Vehicles in order to defraud and mislead both regulators and the Class about the true nature of the Affected Vehicles. As Audi intended, the result of installing its defeat device was to enable Defendants to pass emission testing by way of deliberately inducing false readings and thus successfully sell and/or lease thousands of vehicles to unwitting consumers.

71. Audi made material representations and statements of fact to Plaintiff
and the Classes that resulted in Plaintiff and the Classes reasonably believing the

- 26 -

state of affairs to be other than what it actually was, such that the Affected Vehicles had functioning emissions systems which operated within legal limits during normal driving conditions, which is not the case. Defendants also represented that Audi's Affected Vehicles actually emitted the amount of CO2 as stated on the Monroney sticker and that the Affected Vehicles actually had certain accurately calculated fuel economy standards, which is also not the case.

9 72. Audi executives were aware of the defeat device and instructed that it 10 be utilized as much as possible to misrepresent the performance of the Affected 11 Vehicles. 12

13 73. Audi intended that Plaintiff and the other members of the Classes rely 14 on the misrepresentations and omissions described above, so that Plaintiff and other 15 class members would purchase the Affected Vehicles. 16

17 The truth about the defeat device and Audi's manipulations of the "low 74. 18 rev" mode was only known to Audi; Plaintiff and the Class members did not know of these facts, and Audi actively concealed these facts from them.

21 75. Audi had a duty to disclose the truth about the defeat device and Audi's 22 "low rev" mode manipulations because Audi (i) possessed exclusive knowledge 23 about the defeat device and the manipulations, and (ii) intentionally concealed the 24 25 foregoing from Plaintiff and all members of the Classes.

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27 28 Plaintiff and all members of the Classes reasonably relied upon

Audi's deception. They had no way of knowing that Audi's representations were false and/or misleading. As consumers, Plaintiff and the Class members could not unravel Audi's deceptions on their own. Rather, Audi intended to deceive Plaintiff and the Class by concealing the true facts about the defeat device and Audi's "low rev" mode manipulations.

77. Audi's false representations and omissions were material to consumers, because they concerned the exhaust and mileage performance of the Affected Vehicles, as well as the legality, marketing features, and overall performance of the Affected Vehicles.

78. The foregoing conduct constitutes fraudulent concealment or fraud by concealment under the laws of all of the states and the District of Columbia.

79. Had Audi disclosed the omitted material or not misrepresented the characteristics of the Affected Vehicles, Plaintiff and members of the Classes would not have purchased or leased the Affected Vehicles or would have paid less for them.

80. The foregoing acts, omissions and practices proximately caused Plaintiff and the other members of the Classes to suffer actual damages in the form of, inter alia, loss of the benefit of the bargain, diminution of value, the cost to repair each Affected Vehicle's engine to remove the effects of the CO2 Defeat Device without compromising each Affected Vehicle's performance, and excess

cost for gasoline expenditures.

2	81. Audi's conduct was knowing, intentional, and malicious, and			
3	demonstrated a complete lack of care and recklessness and was in conscious			
5	disregard for the rights of Plaintiff and the Classes.			
6	82. As a result of this wrongful conduct, Plaintiff and the Classes have been			
7	damaged in an amount to be proven at trial, including, but not limited to.	in an amount to be proven at trial, including, but not limited to,		
8 9	actual damages, punitive damages, equitable relief, diminution of value, and			
10				
11	reasonable attorneys' fees.			
12	83. Audi's conduct was unfair as offensive to public policy, unscrupulous,			
13	unethical and immoral, and caused substantial injury to Plaintiff and the Classes.			
14				
15	THIRD CLAIM Violation of the Song Powerly Congumer Protection Act. Presch of Eveness			
16	Violation of the Song-Beverly Consumer Protection Act, Breach of Express Warranty			
17	(Cal. Civ. Code §§ 1790, et seq.) (On Behalf of the California Class)			
18	84. Plaintiff incorporates by reference all allegations in this Complaint as			
19 20	though fully set forth herein.			
20				
21	85. Plaintiff brings this Count on behalf of himself and the California Class.			
23	86. Plaintiff and the other members of the California Class who purchased			
24	Affected Vehicles in California are "buyers" within the meaning of Cal. Civ. Code			
25	§ 1791.			
26	87. The Affected Vehicles are "consumer goods" within the meaning of			
27	87. The Affected vehicles are consumer goods within the meaning of			
28	- 29 -			
	CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT AND DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL			

1	Cal. Civ. Code § 1791(a).			
2 3	88. Audi is the "manufacturer" of the Affected Vehicles within the meaning			
3 4	of Cal. Civ. Code § 1791(j).			
5	89. Audi impliedly warranted to Plaintiff and the other members of the			
6	California Class that the Affected Vehicles were "merchantable" within the			
7 8	meaning of Cal. Civ. Code §§ 1791.1(a) & 1792; however, the Affected Vehicles do			
9	not have the quality that a buyer would reasonably expect.			
10	90. Cal. Civ. Code § 1791.1(a) states: "Implied warranty of			
11 12	merchantability" or "implied warranty that goods are merchantable" means that the			
12	consumer goods meet each of the following:			
14	(1) Pass without objection in the trade under the contract description.			
15	(1) I ass white objection in the trace time of the contract description.(2) Are fit for the ordinary purposes for which such goods are used.			
16 17	(3) Are adequately contained, packaged, and labeled.			
18	(4) Conform to the promises or affirmations of fact made on the container or label.			
19	91. The Affected Vehicles would not pass without objection in the			
20				
21	automotive trade because they share a common design defect in that they are			
22 23	equipped with "defeat devices." These defeat devices are designed to secretly limit			
23 24	emissions and increase fuel efficiency when the vehicles are being subject to			
25	regulatory emissions and fuel efficiency testing. However, when the Affected			
26	Vehicles are in regular use on the road, they emit a substantially increased amount			
27 28	- 30 -			
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	CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT AND DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL			

of noxious gasses.

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92. Affected Vehicles are not adequately labeled because the labeling fails to disclose the fact that they are defective.

5 93. In the various channels of information through which Audi sold 6 Affected Vehicles, Audi failed to disclose material information concerning the 7 Affected Vehicles, which it had a duty to disclose. Audi had a duty to disclose the 8 9 defect because, as detailed above: (a) Audi knew about the defect; (b) Audi had 10 exclusive knowledge of material facts not known to the general public, Plaintiff, or 11 the other California Class members; and (c) Audi actively concealed material facts 12 13 concerning the fact that the Affected Vehicles were equipped with defeat devices 14 from the general public, Plaintiff, and the California Class members. As detailed 15 above, Audi knew the information concerning the defect at the time of advertising 16 17 and selling the Affected Vehicles, all of which was intended to induce consumers to 18 purchase the Affected Vehicles. 19

94. Audi breached the implied warranty of merchantability by manufacturing and selling Affected Vehicles that are defective. Furthermore, this defect has caused Plaintiff and the other members of the California Class to not receive the benefit of their bargain and have caused the Affected Vehicles to depreciate in value.

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95. Plaintiff and the other members of the California Class have been

CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT AND DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL

1 damaged as a result of the diminished value of Audi's products. 2 96. Under Cal. Civ. Code §§ 1791.1(d) & 1794, Plaintiff and other members 3 of the California Class are entitled to damages and other legal and equitable relief 4 5 including, at their election, the purchase price of their Affected Vehicles, or the 6 overpayment or diminution in value of their Affected Vehicles. 7 97. Under Cal. Civ. Code § 1794, Plaintiff and the other members of the 8 9 California Class are entitled to costs and attorneys' fees. 10 11 FOURTH CLAIM **Violation of the California Consumer Legal Remedies Act** 12 (Cal. Civ. Code §§ 1750, et seq.) (On Behalf of the California Class Against All Defendants) 13 14 98. Plaintiff incorporates the allegations set forth in this Complaint as if 15 fully set forth herein. 16 99. Plaintiff brings this Count on behalf of the California Class. 17 18 100. Plaintiff and the other members of the California Class were deceived 19 by Audi's failure to disclose that the Affected Vehicles share a uniform defect in 20 that they are equipped with "defeat devices." These defeat devices are designed to 21 22 secretly limit emissions and increase fuel efficiency when the vehicles are being 23 subject to regulatory emissions and fuel efficiency testing. However, then the 24 Affected Vehicles are in regular use on the road, they emit a substantially increased 25 26 amount of noxious gasses. 27 - 32 -28 CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT AND DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL

101. Audi engaged in unfair or deceptive acts or practices when, in the course of its business it, among other acts and practices, knowingly made materially incomplete representations as to the characteristics, uses and benefits of the Affected Vehicles.

102. In the various channels of information through which Audi sold
Affected Vehicles, Audi failed to disclose material information concerning the
Affected Vehicles, which it had a duty to disclose. Audi had a duty to disclose the
defect because, as detailed above, (a) Audi knew about the defeat device equipped
on the Affected Vehicles; (b) Audi had exclusive knowledge of material facts not
known to the general public, Plaintiff, or the other California Class members; and
(c) Audi actively concealed material facts concerning the defeat device from the
general public, Plaintiff, and the California Class members. As detailed above, Audi
knew the information concerning the defect at the time of advertising and selling the
Affected Vehicles, all of which was intended to induce consumers to purchase the
Affected Vehicles.

103. Audi intended for the Plaintiff and the other California Class members to rely on it to provide adequately design, and adequately manufactured automobiles and to honestly and accurately reveal the problems described throughout this Complaint.

104. Audi intentionally failed or refused to disclose the defect to consumers.

CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT AND DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL

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105. Audi's conduct constitutes unfair acts or practices as defined by the California Consumer Legal Remedies Act (the "CLRA"), Cal. Civ. Code §§ 1750, et seq.

106. As alleged herein, Audi made numerous representations and/or omissions concerning the benefits, efficiency, performance, safety, legality, compliance, fuel efficiency and nature of the Affected Vehicles that were misleading.

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 107. In purchasing or leasing the Affected Vehicles, Plaintiff and Class
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 12
 13 members were deceived by Audi's failure to disclose that the Affected Vehicles
 13 were equipped with a defeat device such that they were not compliant with EPA and
 14
 California emissions standards.

108. Audi's conduct, as described herein, was and is in violation of the
 CLRA. Audi's conduct violates at least the following enumerated CLRA
 provisions:

20	a. Cal. Civ. Code § 1770(a)(5): Representing that goods have
21	characteristics, uses, and benefits which they do not have;
22	b. Cal. Civ. Code § 1770(a)(7): Representing that goods are of a
23	particular standard, quality, or grade, if they are of another;
24	particular standard, quanty, or grade, if they are or another,
25	c. Cal. Civ. Code § 1770(a)(9): Advertising goods with intent not to
26	sell them as advertised; and
27	
28	- 34 -
	CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT AND DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL

d. Cal. Civ. Code § 1770(a)(16): Representing that goods have been supplied in accordance with a previous representation when they have not.

109. The foregoing acts, omissions and practices proximately caused Plaintiff and the other members of the Class to suffer actual damages in the form of, inter alia, loss of the benefit of the bargain, diminution of value, the cost to repair each Affected Vehicle's engine to remove the effects of the defeat device without compromising each Affected Vehicle's performance, and excess cost for increased gasoline expenditures.

110. Plaintiff and the other California Class members have therefore suffered
injury in fact and actual damages, including lost money or property, as a result of
Audi's material omissions because they paid inflated purchase prices for the
Affected Vehicles.

18
 111. Plaintiff and the California Class seek an order enjoining Audi's unfair
 or deceptive acts or practices, equitable relief, an award of attorneys' fees and costs
 under Cal. Civ. Code § 178(e), and any other just and proper relief available under
 the CLRA.

112. In accordance with section 1782(a) of the CLRA, Plaintiff's counsel, on
 behalf of Plaintiff, will serve Audi with notice of their alleged violations of Cal.
 Civ. Code § 1770(a) relating to the Affected Vehicles purchased by Plaintiff and

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California Class members, and demand that Audi correct or agree to correct the actions described therein within thirty (3) days of such notice. If Audi fails to do so, Plaintiff will amend this Complaint as of right (or otherwise seek leave to amend the Complaint) to include compensatory and monetary damages to which Plaintiff and Class members are entitled. 113. Audi's conduct described herein is fraudulent, wanton, and malicious

and was in conscious disregard for the rights of Plaint and the Class. 10 114. Audi's violations present a continuing risk to Plaintiff as well as to 11

the general public. Audi's unlawful acts and practices complained of herein affect 12 13 the public interest.

PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff, on behalf of himself and members of the proposed 16 Classes, pray for judgment as follow: 17

18 Certification of the Classes under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 23 A. 19 and appointment of Plaintiff as representatives of the Classes and his counsel as 20 21 Class counsel;

> Β. Compensatory and other damages identified herein;

C. Awarding restitution and disgorgement of Audi's revenues or profits 24 to Plaintiff and the proposed Classes as permitted by applicable law; 25

1	D.	An Order requirin	ng Audi to cease and desist from engaging in		
2	wrongful c	wrongful conduct and to engage in a corrective advertising campaign;			
3					
4	E. Statutory pre-judgment and post-judgment interest on any amounts;				
5	F. Payment of reasonable attorneys' fees and recoverable litigation				
6	expenses as may be allowable under applicable law; and				
7 8	G.	Such other relief	as the Court may deem just and proper.		
9					
10			JURY DEMAND		
11	Plaintiff hereby demands a jury trial for all claims so triable.				
12	Date: Nover	mber 22, 2016	Respectfully submitted,		
13					
14			<u>/s/ Natasha N. Serino</u> Natasha N. Serino, Esq.		
15			LAW OFFICES OF ALEXANDER M. SCHACK		
16			16870 W. Bernardo Drive, #400		
17 18			San Diego, CA 92128 (858) 485-6535 (858) 485-0608 fax		
10			natashaserino@amslawoffice.com		
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		CLASS ACTION CO	MPLAINT AND DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL		

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JS 44 (Rev. 12/12)

CIVIL COVER SHEET

The JS 44 civil cover sheet and the information contained herein neither replace nor supplement the filing and service of pleadings or other papers as required by law, except as provided by local rules of court. This form, approved by the Judicial Conference of the United States in September 1974, is required for the use of the Clerk of Court for the purpose of initiating the civil docket sheet. *(SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON NEXT PAGE OF THIS FORM.)*

purpose of minuting the orm d	Seneralicer. (0355 7457745C)	1010 011 11 11 100 0				
I. (a) PLAINTIFFS CARL BARBATA, JR., in situated	dividually and on beha	If of all others simil	arly	DEFENDANTS AUDI OF AMERICA	A, LLC, and AUDI AG	
(b) County of Residence of <i>(E.</i>	f First Listed Plaintiff <u>S</u> XCEPT IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CA	an Bernardino, CA ses)		NOTE: IN LAND CO	of First Listed Defendant <u>F</u> (IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES OF NDEMNATION CASES, USE TH OF LAND INVOLVED.	
(c) Attorneys (Firm Name, Natasha N. Serino (2847 16870 West Bernardo Dr (858) 485-6535	11), Law Offices of Ale	xander M. Schack		Attorneys (If Known)	'16C	V2875 L MDD
II. BASIS OF JURISDI	CTION (Place an "X" in O	ne Box Only)	III. CI	TIZENSHIP OF PI	RINCIPAL PARTIES	Place an "X" in One Box for Plaintiff
I U.S. Government Plaintiff	3 Federal Question (U.S. Government)	vot a Party)	Citiz	(For Diversity Cases Only) PT ten of This State A		
2 U.S. Government Defendant	4 Diversity (Indicate Citizenshi)	p of Parties in Item III)	Citiz	ten of Another State	2 🗇 2 Incorporated and P of Business In A	
				ten or Subject of a oreign Country	3 🗇 3 Foreign Nation	0606
IV. NATURE OF SUIT		and the second se				
CONTRACT	1	RTS		ORFEITURE/PENALTY	BANKRUPTCY	OTHER STATUTES
 110 Insurance 120 Marine 130 Miller Act 140 Negotiable Instrument 150 Recovery of Overpayment 	ine and a state of a	PERSONAL INJURY 365 Personal Injury - Product Liability 367 Health Care/ Pharmaceutical Personal Injury Product Liability 368 Asbestos Personal Injury Product		25 Drug Related Seizure of Property 21 USC 881 90 Other	28 USC 157 🛛 410 Antitrust	 400 State Reapportionment 410 Antitrust 430 Banks and Banking
& Enforcement of Judgment I 151 Medicare Act I 152 Recovery of Defaulted Student Loans	 330 Federal Employers' Liability 340 Marine 				 820 Copyrights 830 Patent 840 Trademark 	 460 Deportation 470 Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations 480 Consumer Credit
 (Excludes Veterans) I53 Recovery of Overpayment of Veteran's Benefits I60 Stockholders' Suits I90 Other Contract I95 Contract Product Liability I95 Contract Product Liability 	 345 Marine Product Liability 350 Motor Vehicle 355 Motor Vehicle Product Liability 360 Other Personal 	Liability PERSONAL PROPER O 370 Other Fraud O 371 Truth in Lending O 380 Other Personal Property Damage	07. 07	LABOR 10 Fair Labor Standards Act 20 Labor/Management Relations 40 Railway Labor Act 51 Fursile med Modical	SOCIAL SECURITY □ 861 HIA (1395ff) □ 862 Black Lung (923) □ 863 DIWC/DIWW (405(g)) □ 864 SSID Title XVI □ 865 RSI (405(g))	 490 Cable/Sat TV 850 Securities/Commodities/ Exchange 890 Other Statutory Actions 891 Agricultural Acts 893 Environmental Matters 895 Freedom of Information
196 Franchise REAL PROPERTY	Injury 362 Personal Injury - Medical Malpractice	385 Property Damage Product Liability PRISONER PETITIO	0 7	51 Family and Medical Leave Act 90 Other Labor Litigation 91 Employee Retirement	FEDERAL TAX SUITS	Act \$96 Arbitration \$99 Administrative Procedure
210 Land Condemnation 220 Foreclosure 230 Rent Lease & Ejectment 240 Torts to Land 245 Tort Product Liability	ndemnation	Habeas Corpus: 463 Alien Detainee 510 Motions to Vacate Sentence 530 General	e	Income Security Act	 RTO Taxes (U.S. Plaintiff or Defendant) RTI IRS—Third Party 26 USC 7609 	Act/Review or Appeal of Agency Decision 950 Constitutionality of State Statutes
290 All Other Real Property	 445 Amer. w/Disabilities - Employment 446 Amer. w/Disabilities - Other 448 Education 	 535 Death Penalty Other: 540 Mandamus & Oth 550 Civil Rights 555 Prison Condition 560 Civil Detaince - 		IMMIGRATION 62 Naturalization Application 65 Other Immigration Actions		
		Conditions of Confinement				
	• ·	Remanded from Appellate Court			r District Litigation	
VI. CAUSE OF ACTION	DN 28 U.S.C. Section Brief description of ca	n 1332(d); 28 U.S.C nuse:	C. Section	<i>(specify)</i> Do not cite jurisdictional stat on 1391		
VII. REQUESTED IN COMPLAINT:	L	ealment of Vehicle IS A CLASS ACTION 3, F.R.Cv.P.		DEMAND S	CHECK YES only JURY DEMAND:	if demanded in complaint: XI Yes □ No
VIII. RELATED CASI IF ANY	E(S) (See instructions):	JUDGE			DOCKET NUMBER	
DATE 11/22/2016	······································	signature of at /s/ Natasha N.				
FOR OFFICE USE ONLY						
RECEIPT # AI	MOUNT	APPLYING IFP		JUDGE	MAG. JUI	DGE

ClassAction.org

This complaint is part of ClassAction.org's searchable class action lawsuit database and can be found in this post: <u>Audi Hit with Another Suit Over Alleged 'Defeat Devices'</u>