Benjamin Heikali (SBN 307466) FARUQI & FARUQI, LLP 10866 Wilshire Boulevard, Suite 1470 Los Angeles, CA 90024 Telephone: (424) 256-2884 Facsimile: (424) 256-2885 4 E-mail: bheikali@faruqilaw.com 5 [Additional Captions on Signature Page] 6 Attorney for Plaintiff Robert Johnson 7 8 9 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA 10 11 ROBERT JOHNSON, Individually and on 12 Behalf of All Others Similarly Situated, 13 Case No.: 8:18-cy-00698 Plaintiff, 14 CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT VS. FOR VIOLATIONS OF 15 SECTIONS 14(A) AND 20(A) OF MICROSEMI CORPORATION, JAMES THE SECURITIÉS EXCHANGE 16 **ACT OF 1934** J. PETERSON, DENNIS R. LEIBEL, 17 KIMBERLY E. ALEXY, THOMAS R. JURY TRIAL DEMANDED ANDERSON, WILLIAM E. BENDUSH, 18 RICHARD M. BEYER, PAUL F. 19 FOLINO, WILLIAM L. HEALEY, and MATTHEW E. MASSENGILL, 20 Defendants. 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT FOR VIOLATIONS OF SECTIONS 14(A) AND 20(A) OF

THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934 No. 8:18-cv-00698

Plaintiff Robert Johnson ("Plaintiff"), by his undersigned attorneys, alleges upon personal knowledge with respect to himself, and information and belief based upon, *inter alia*, the investigation of counsel as to all other allegations herein, as follows:

NATURE OF THE ACTION

- 1. This action is brought as a class action by Plaintiff on behalf of himself and the other public holders of the common stock of Microsemi Corporation ("Microsemi" or the "Company") against the Company and the members of the Company's board of directors (collectively, the "Board" or "Individual Defendants," and together with Microsemi, the "Defendants") for their violations of Sections 14(a) and 20(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the "Exchange Act"), 15 U.S.C. §§ 78n(a), 78t(a), SEC Rule 14a-9, 17 C.F.R. 240.14a-9, and Regulation G, 17 C.F.R. § 244.100 in connection with the proposed merger ("Proposed Merger") between Microsemi and Microchip Technology Incorporated ("Microchip").
- 2. On March 1, 2018, the Board caused the Company to enter into an Agreement and Plan of Merger (the "Merger Agreement") pursuant to which Company shareholders will receive \$68.78 per share in cash for each share of Company common stock they own (the "Merger Consideration"), a deal with a total equity value of about \$8.35 billion.
- 3. On April 19, 2018, in order to convince Microsemi shareholders to vote in favor of the Proposed Merger, the Board authorized the filing of a materially incomplete and misleading Definitive Proxy Statement (the "Proxy") with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC"), in violation of Sections 14(a) and 20(a) of the Exchange Act. The materially incomplete and misleading Proxy independently violates both Regulation G (17 C.F.R. § 244.100) and SEC Rule 14a-9 (17 C.F.R. 240.14a-9), each of which constitutes a violation of Section 14(a) and

20(a) of the Exchange Act.

- 4. While touting the fairness of the Merger Consideration to the Company's shareholders in the Proxy, Defendants have failed to disclose certain material information that is necessary for shareholders to properly assess the fairness of the Proposed Merger, thereby violating SEC rules and regulations and rendering certain statements in the Proxy materially incomplete and misleading.
- 5. In particular, the Proxy contains materially incomplete and misleading information concerning the financial projections for the Company that were prepared by the Company and relied upon by the Board in recommending that Company shareholders vote in favor of the Proposed Merger.
- 6. It is imperative that the material information that has been omitted from the Proxy is disclosed prior to the forthcoming shareholder vote on May 22, 2018 in order to allow the Company's shareholders to make an informed decision regarding the Proposed Merger.
- 7. For these reasons, and as set forth in detail herein, Plaintiff asserts claims against Defendants for violations of Sections 14(a) and 20(a) of the Exchange Act, based on Defendants' violations of: (i) Regulation G (17 C.F.R. § 244.100); and (ii) Rule 14a-9 (17 C.F.R. 240.14a-9). Plaintiff seeks to enjoin Defendants from holding the shareholder vote on the Proposed Merger and taking any steps to consummate the Proposed Merger unless, and until, the material information discussed below is disclosed to Microsemi shareholders sufficiently in advance of the vote on the Proposed Merger or, in the event the Proposed Merger is consummated, to recover damages resulting from the Defendants' violations of the Exchange Act.

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

8. This Court has subject matter jurisdiction pursuant to Section 27 of the

Exchange Act (15 U.S.C. § 78aa) and 28 U.S.C. § 1331 (federal question jurisdiction) as Plaintiff alleges violations of Section 14(a) and 20(a) of the Exchange Act.

- 9. Personal jurisdiction exists over each Defendant either because the Defendant conducts business in or maintains operations in this District, or is an individual who is either present in this District for jurisdictional purposes or has sufficient minimum contacts with this District as to render the exercise of jurisdiction over Defendant by this Court permissible under traditional notions of fair play and substantial justice.
- 10. Venue is proper in this District under Section 27 of the Exchange Act, 15 U.S.C. § 78aa, as well as under 28 U.S.C. § 1391, because Microsemi is headquartered in this District.

PARTIES

- 11. Plaintiff is, and at all relevant times has been, a holder of Microsemi common stock.
- 12. Defendant Microsemi is incorporated in Delaware and maintains its principal executive offices at One Enterprise, Aliso Viejo, California 92656. The Company's common stock trades on the Nasdaq GS under the ticker symbol "MSCC."
- 13. Individual Defendant James J. Peterson has served as Chairman of the Board since November 2013 and Chief Executive Officer since 2000.
- 14. Individual Defendant Dennis R. Leibel has served as Lead Independent Director of the Company since November 2013 and as an Independent Director since 2002.
- 15. Individual Defendant Kimberly E. Alexy has served as an Independent Director of the Company since 2016.

- 16. Individual Defendant Thomas R. Anderson has served as an Independent Director of the Company since 2002.
- 17. Individual Defendant William E. Bendush has served as an Independent Director of the Company since 2003.
- 18. Individual Defendant Richard M. Beyer has served as an Independent Director of the Company since 2017.
- 19. Individual Defendant Paul F. Folino has served as an Independent Director of the Company since 2004.
- 20. Individual Defendant William L. Healey has served as an Independent Director of the Company since 2003.
- 21. Individual Defendant Matthew E. Massengill has served as an Independent Director of the Company since 2006.
- 22. The Individual Defendants referred to in paragraphs 13-21 are collectively referred to herein as the "Individual Defendants" and/or the "Board."

CLASS ACTION ALLEGATIONS

- 23. Plaintiff brings this class action pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 23 on behalf of himself and the other public shareholders of Microsemi (the "Class"). Excluded from the Class are Defendants herein and any person, firm, trust, corporation, or other entity related to or affiliated with any Defendant.
 - 24. This action is properly maintainable as a class action because:
 - a. The Class is so numerous that joinder of all members is impracticable. As of April 10, 2018, there were approximately 117,956,110 shares of Microsemi common stock outstanding. The actual number of public shareholders of Microsemi will be ascertained through discovery;

- b. There are questions of law and fact that are common to the Class that predominate over any questions affecting only individual members, including the following:
 - i) whether Defendants disclosed material information that includes non-GAAP financial measures without providing a reconciliation of the same non-GAAP financial measures to their most directly comparable GAAP equivalent in violation of Section 14(a) of the Exchange Act;
 - ii) whether Defendants have misrepresented or omitted material information concerning the Proposed Merger in the Proxy in violation of Section 14(a) of the Exchange Act;
 - iii) whether the Individual Defendants have violated Section 20(a) of the Exchange Act; and
 - iv) whether Plaintiff and other members of the Class will suffer irreparable harm if compelled to vote their shares regarding the Proposed Merger based on the materially incomplete and misleading Proxy.
- c. Plaintiff is an adequate representative of the Class, has retained competent counsel experienced in litigation of this nature, and will fairly and adequately protect the interests of the Class;
- d. Plaintiff's claims are typical of the claims of the other members of the Class and Plaintiff does not have any interests adverse to the Class;
- e. The prosecution of separate actions by individual members of the Class would create a risk of inconsistent or varying adjudications with respect

to individual members of the Class, which would establish incompatible standards of conduct for the party opposing the Class;

- f. Defendants have acted on grounds generally applicable to the Class with respect to the matters complained of herein, thereby making appropriate the relief sought herein with respect to the Class as a whole; and
- g. A class action is superior to other available methods for fairly and efficiently adjudicating the controversy.

SUBSTANTIVE ALLEGATIONS

I. The Proposed Merger

- 25. Microsemi offers semiconductor and system solutions for aerospace & defense, communications, data center and industrial markets. The Company's products include high-performance and radiation-hardened analog mixed-signal integrated circuits, FPGAs, SoCs and ASICs; power management products; timing and synchronization devices and precise time solutions, setting the world's standard for time; voice processing devices; RF solutions; discrete components; enterprise storage and communication solutions; security technologies and scalable antitamper products; Ethernet solutions; Power-over-Ethernet ICs and midspans; as well as custom design capabilities and services.
- 26. On March 1, 2018, Microsemi and Microchip issued a joint press release announcing the Agreement, which states in pertinent part:

CHANDLER, Ariz. and ALISO VIEJO, Calif., March 01, 2018 (GLOBE NEWSWIRE) -- Microchip Technology Incorporated (NASDAQ:MCHP), a leading provider of microcontroller, mixed-signal, analog and Flash-IP solutions, and Microsemi Corporation (NASDAQ:MSCC), a leading provider of semiconductor solutions differentiated by power, security, reliability and performance, today announced that the two companies have signed a definitive agreement pursuant to which Microchip will acquire Microsemi for \$68.78 per share in cash. The acquisition price represents a total equity value of about \$8.35 billion, and a total enterprise value of about \$10.15 billion, after

accounting for Microsemi's cash and investments, net of debt, on its balance sheet at December 31, 2017.

"We are delighted to welcome Microsemi to become part of the Microchip team and look forward to closing the transaction and working together to realize the benefits of a combined team pursuing a unified strategy. Even as we execute a very successful Microchip 2.0 strategy that is enabling organic revenue growth in the mid to high single digits, Microchip continues to view accretive acquisitions as a key strategy to deliver incremental growth and stockholder value. The Microsemi acquisition is the latest chapter of this strategy and will add further operational and customer scale to Microchip," said Steve Sanghi, Chairman and CEO of Microchip.

"Microchip and Microsemi have a strong tradition of delivering innovative solutions to demanding customers and markets, thus creating highly valued and long-lasting revenue streams. Joining forces and combining our complementary product portfolios and end market exposure will offer our customers a richer set of solution options to enable innovative and competitive products for the markets they serve," said Ganesh Moorthy, President and COO of Microchip.

"This transaction represents a compelling opportunity for Microsemi stockholders, employees and customers by combining the leading embedded control market position of Microchip Technology with the world class power, security, reliability and performance solutions from Microsemi," said James J. Peterson, Chairman and CEO of Microsemi. "We are delighted to become part of Microchip Technology, a premier company in the semiconductor industry."

- 27. The Merger Consideration appears inadequate in light of the Company's recent financial performance and prospects for future growth. For instance, the Company has reported positive Sales Growth, Gross Income Growth, double-digit Net Operating Cash Flow from Sales every year since 2014, with double-digit EBITDA Growth every year since 2015.
- 28. In sum, it appears that Microsemi is well-positioned for financial growth, and that the Merger Consideration fails to adequately compensate the Company's shareholders. It is imperative that Defendants disclose the material information they have omitted from the Proxy, discussed in detail below, so that the

Company's shareholders can properly assess the fairness of the Merger Consideration for themselves and make an informed decision concerning whether or not to vote in favor of the Proposed Merger.

II. The Materially Incomplete and Misleading Proxy

29. On April 19, 2018, Defendants caused the Proxy to be filed with the SEC in connection with the Proposed Merger. The Proxy solicits the Company's shareholders to vote in favor of the Proposed Merger. Defendants were obligated to carefully review the Proxy before it was filed with the SEC and disseminated to the Company's shareholders to ensure that it did not contain any material misrepresentations or omissions. However, the Proxy misrepresents and/or omits both required and material information that is necessary for the Company's shareholders to make an informed decision concerning whether to vote in favor of the Proposed Merger, in violation of Sections 14(a) and 20(a) of the Exchange Act.

The Materiality of Financial Projections

- 30. A company's financial projections are material information a board relies on to determine whether to approve a merger transaction and recommend that shareholders vote to approve the transaction. Here, the financial forecasts were relied on to approve the Merger Agreement and recommend the Proposed Merger to shareholders. The Proxy discloses that the financial projections above were prepared by the Company's management and provided to the Board "in connection with Microsemi's evaluation of strategic alternatives[.]" Proxy at 41.
- 31. When soliciting proxies from shareholders, a company must furnish the information found in Schedule 14A (codified as 17 C.F.R. § 240.14a-101). Item 14 of Schedule 14A sets forth the information a company must disclose when soliciting proxies regarding mergers and acquisitions. In regards to financial information, companies are required to disclose "financial information required by Article 11 of

- 32. Under Item 10 of Regulation S-K, companies are encouraged to disclose "management's projections of future economic performance that have a reasonable basis and are presented in an appropriate format." 17 C.F.R. § 229.10(b). Although the SEC recognizes the usefulness of disclosing projected financial metrics, the SEC cautions companies to "take care to assure that the choice of items projected is not susceptible of misleading inferences through selective projection of only favorable items." *Id.*
- 33. In order to facilitate investor understanding of the Company's financial projections, the SEC provides companies with certain factors "to be considered in formulating and disclosing such projections[,]" including:
 - (i) When management chooses to include its projections in a Commission filing, the disclosures accompanying the projections should facilitate investor understanding of the basis for and limitations of projections. In this regard investors should be cautioned against attributing undue certainty to management's assessment, and the Commission believes that investors would be aided by a statement indicating management's intention regarding the furnishing of updated projections. The Commission also believes that investor understanding would be enhanced by disclosure of the assumptions which in management's opinion are most significant to the projections or are the key factors upon which the financial results of the enterprise depend and encourages disclosure of assumptions in a manner that will provide a framework for analysis of the projection.
 - (ii) Management also should consider whether disclosure of the accuracy or inaccuracy of previous projections would provide investors with important insights into the limitations of projections. In this regard, consideration should be given to presenting the projections in a format that will facilitate subsequent analysis of the reasons for differences between actual and forecast results. An important benefit may arise from the systematic analysis of variances between projected and actual results on a continuing basis, since such disclosure may highlight for investors the most significant risk and profit-sensitive areas in a business operation.
- 17 C.F.R. § 229.10(b)(3) (emphasis added).
 - 34. As discussed further below, the financial projections here do not

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Proxy 38.

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provide Microsemi's shareholders with a materially complete understanding of the assumptions and key factors, which shareholders would find material since the Board's recommendation that shareholders vote in favor of the Proposed Merger was based, in part, on the following:

- current information regarding (i) Microsemi's business, prospects, financial condition, operations, technology, products, services, management, competitive position and strategic business goals and objectives, (ii) general economic, industry and financial market conditions, and opportunities and competitive factors within Microsemi's industry; . . .
- the prospects and likelihood of realizing superior benefits for Microsemi through remaining an independent company, risks associated with remaining an independent company, and possible alternative business strategies; . . .
- the two processes of considering strategic alternatives and contacting potential strategic parties regarding a potential business combination transaction with Microsemi that Microsemi had engaged in over the past two years and results of and conclusions drawn from those processes[.]

The Financial Projections are Materially Incomplete

- 35. The Proxy discloses certain financial projections for the Company on pages 41-44. However, the Proxy fails to provide material information concerning the projections, which were developed by the Company's management and relied upon by the Board in recommending that the shareholders vote in favor of the Proposed Merger. Proxy 38.
- 36. Specifically, the Proxy provides values for non-GAAP measures: (1) Non-GAAP Gross Profit; (2) EBITDA; (3) Non-GAAP Operating Income; (4) Non-GAAP Diluted Earnings Per Share under the December 2017 management projections and January 2018 management projections; and (5) Unlevered Free Cash Flow derived from the January 2018 management projections, but fails to provide

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line items or reconciliation for any of these metrics. Proxy 41-44.

- 37. The Proxy defines "Non-GAAP Gross Profit" as excluding "inventory write-offs from restructuring activities and manufacturing profit in acquired inventory," but never provides values for the line items nor a reconciliation to its most comparable GAAP equivalent. Proxy 42, 43.
- 38. EBITDA is defined in the Proxy as "starting with Non-GAAP Operating Income and adding back depreciation," but does not provide the value of depreciation or any of the line items comprising Non-GAAP Operating Income (as set forth below) and does not provide a reconciliation of EBITDA to its most comparable GAAP equivalent. Proxy 42, 43.
- 39. The Proxy provides values for "Non-GAAP Operating Income" and calculates it as excluding "inventory write-offs from restructuring activities, manufacturing profit in acquired inventory, stock-based compensation expense, amortization of intangible assets, acquisition and divestiture related costs, facility consolidation and equipment charges and restructuring, severance and other special charges," but does not provide the values of these line items or a reconciliation of Non-GAAP Operating Income to its most comparable GAAP equivalent. Proxy 42, 43.
- The Proxy defines "Non-GAAP Diluted Earnings Per Share" as 40. excluding "inventory write-offs from restructuring activities, manufacturing profit in acquired inventory, stock-based compensation expense, amortization of intangible assets, acquisition and divestiture related costs, facility consolidation and equipment charges, restructuring, severance and other special charges, gain on divestiture, credit facility issuance and debt extinguishment costs, gain from facility sale, fair value change in foreign tax liabilities and income tax effects on non-GAAP adjustments," but omits the values of the line items or a reconciliation of the measure

to its GAAP equivalent. Proxy 42, 43.

41. For the January 2018 projections, the Proxy discloses for the projections for "Unlevered Free Cash Flow" ("UFCF"), which is defined as "a non-GAAP financial measure calculated by starting with Non-GAAP Operating Income (as shown in the table above) and subtracting cash taxes paid, capital expenditures and investment in working capital and then adding back depreciation expense" but fails to provide the values of the line items or a reconciliation to its most comparable GAAP equivalent. Proxy 44.

The Financial Projections Violate Regulation G.

- 42. The SEC has acknowledged that potential "misleading inferences" are exacerbated when the disclosed information contains non-GAAP financial measures ¹ and adopted Regulation G² "to ensure that investors and others are not misled by the use of non-GAAP financial measures." More specifically, the company must disclose the most directly comparable GAAP financial measure <u>and</u> a reconciliation (by schedule or other clearly understandable method) of the differences between the non-GAAP financial measure disclosed or released with the most comparable financial measure or measures calculated and presented in accordance with GAAP. 17 C.F.R. § 244.100. This is because the SEC believes "this reconciliation will help investors . . . to better evaluate the non-GAAP financial measures . . . [and] more accurately evaluate companies' securities and, in turn, result in a more accurate pricing of securities."⁴
 - 43. Moreover, the SEC has publicly stated that the use of non-GAAP

Non-GAAP financial measures are numerical measures of future financial performance that exclude amounts or are adjusted to effectively exclude amounts that are included in the most directly comparable GAAP measure. 17 C.F.R. §244.101(a)(1).

Item 10 of Regulations S-K and S-B were amended to reflect the requirements of Regulation G.

United States Securities and Exchange Commission, *Final Rule: Conditions for Use of Non-GAAP Financial Measures* (2002), *available at* https://www.sec.gov/rules/final/33-8176.htm.

Id.

financial measures can be misleading.⁵ Former SEC Chairwoman Mary Jo White has stated that the frequent use by publicly traded companies of unique company-specific non-GAAP financial measures (as Microsemi included in the Proxy here), implicates the centerpiece of the SEC's disclosures regime:

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In too many cases, the non-GAAP information, which is meant to supplement the GAAP information, has become the key message to investors, crowding out and effectively supplanting the GAAP presentation. Jim Schnurr, our Chief Accountant, Mark Kronforst, our Chief Accountant in the Division of Corporation Finance and I, along with other members of the staff, have spoken out frequently about our concerns to raise the awareness of boards, management and investors. And last month, the staff issued guidance addressing a number of troublesome practices which can make non-GAAP disclosures misleading: the lack of equal or greater prominence for GAAP measures; exclusion of normal, recurring cash operating expenses; individually tailored non-GAAP revenues; lack of consistency; cherry-picking; and the use of cash per share data. I strongly urge companies to carefully consider this guidance and revisit their approach to non-GAAP disclosures. I also urge again, as I did last December, that appropriate controls be considered and that audit committees carefully oversee their company's use of non-GAAP measures and disclosures.6

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44. Compliance with Regulation G is mandatory under Section 14(a), and non-compliance constitutes a violation of Section 14(a). Thus, in order to bring the Proxy into compliance with Regulation G, Defendants must provide a reconciliation of

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5 See, e.g., Nicolas Grabar and Sandra Flow, Non-GAAP Financial Measures: The SEC's Evolving Views, Harvard Law School Forum on Corporate Governance and Financial Regulation (June 24, 2016), https://corpgov.law.harvard.edu/2016/06/24/non-gaap-financial-measures-the-secs-evolving-views/; Gretchen Morgenson, Fantasy Math Is Helping Companies Spin Losses Into

Profits, N.Y. Times, Apr. 22, 2016, http://www.nytimes.com/2016/04/24/business/fantasy-math-is-helping-companies-spin-losses-into-profits.html? r=0.

Mary Jo White, Keynote Address, International Corporate Governance Network Annual Conference: Focusing the Lens of Disclosure to Set the Path Forward on Board Diversity, Non-GAAP, and Sustainability (June 27, 2016), https://www.sec.gov/news/speech/chair-white-icgn-speech.html (emphasis added) (footnotes omitted).

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measures. The Financial Projections are Materially Misleading and Violate SEC Rule

the non-GAAP financial measures to their respective most comparable GAAP financial

- In addition to the Proxy's violation of Regulation G, the lack of 45. reconciliation, or at the very least the line items utilized in calculating the non-GAAP measures renders the financial projections disclosed materially misleading as shareholders are unable to understand the differences between the non-GAAP measures and their respective most comparable GAAP financial measures.
- Such projections are necessary to make the non-GAAP projections 46. included in the Proxy not misleading. Indeed, Defendants acknowledge the misleading nature of non-GAAP projections, as Microsemi shareholders are cautioned: "Non-GAAP financial measures are not prepared in accordance with GAAP and should be considered as a supplement to, not a substitute for, or superior to, the corresponding measures calculated in accordance with GAAP." Proxy 42.
- As such, in order to cure the materially misleading nature of the 47. projections under SEC Rule 14a-9 as a result of the omitted information on pages 41-44, Defendants must provide a reconciliation table of the non-GAAP financial measures to the most comparable GAAP measures.
- 48. In sum, the Proxy independently violates both: (i) Regulation G, which requires a presentation and reconciliation of any non-GAAP financial measure to its most directly comparable GAAP equivalent; and (ii) Rule 14a-9, since the material omitted information renders certain statements, discussed above, materially incomplete and misleading. As the Proxy independently contravenes the SEC rules and regulations, Defendants violated Section 14(a) and Section 20(a) of the Exchange Act by filing the Proxy to garner votes in support of the Proposed Merger

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from Microsemi shareholders.

49. Absent disclosure of the foregoing material information prior to the special shareholder meeting to vote on the Proposed Merger, Plaintiff and the other members of the Class will be unable to make a fully-informed decision regarding whether to vote in favor of the Proposed Merger, and they are thus threatened with irreparable harm, warranting the injunctive relief sought herein.

COUNT I

(Against All Defendants for Violations of Section 14(a) of the Exchange Act and 17 C.F.R. § 244.100 Promulgated Thereunder)

- Plaintiff incorporates each and every allegation set forth above as if 50. fully set forth herein.
- 51. Section 14(a)(1) of the Exchange Act makes it "unlawful for any person, by the use of the mails or by any means or instrumentality of interstate commerce or of any facility of a national securities exchange or otherwise, in contravention of such rules and regulations as the Commission may prescribe as necessary or appropriate in the public interest or for the protection of investors, to solicit or to permit the use of his name to solicit any proxy or consent or authorization in respect of any security (other than an exempted security) registered pursuant to section 12 of this title [15 USCS § 781]." 15 U.S.C. § 78n(a)(1).
- As set forth above, the Proxy omits information required by SEC 52. Regulation G, 17 C.F.R. § 244.100, which independently violates Section 14(a). SEC Regulation G, among other things, requires an issuer that chooses to disclose a non-GAAP measure to provide a presentation of the "most directly comparable" GAAP measure, and a reconciliation "by schedule or other clearly understandable method" of the non-GAAP measure to the "most directly comparable" GAAP measure. 17 C.F.R. § 244.100(a).

53. The failure to reconcile the numerous non-GAAP financial measures included in the Proxy violates Regulation G and constitutes a violation of Section 14(a).

COUNT II

(Against All Defendants for Violations of Section 14(a) of the Exchange Act and Rule 14a-9 Promulgated Thereunder)

- 54. Plaintiff incorporates each and every allegation set forth above as if fully set forth herein.
- 55. SEC Rule 14a-9 prohibits the solicitation of shareholder votes in Proxy communications that contain "any statement which, at the time and in the light of the circumstances under which it is made, is false or misleading with respect to any material fact, or which omits to state any material fact necessary in order to make the statements therein not false or misleading[.]" 17 C.F.R. § 240.14a-9.
- 56. Regulation G similarly prohibits the solicitation of shareholder votes by "mak[ing] public a non-GAAP financial measure that, taken together with the information accompanying that measure . . . contains an untrue statement of a material fact or *omits to state a material fact necessary in order to make the presentation of the non-GAAP financial measure* . . . *not misleading*." 17 C.F.R. § 244.100(b) (emphasis added).
- 57. Defendants have issued the Proxy with the intention of soliciting shareholder support for the Proposed Merger. Each of the Defendants reviewed and authorized the dissemination of the Proxy, which fails to provide critical information regarding, amongst other things, the financial projections for the Company.
- 58. In so doing, Defendants made untrue statements of fact and/or omitted material facts necessary to make the statements made not misleading. Each of the Individual Defendants, by virtue of their roles as directors and/or officers, were

aware of the omitted information but failed to disclose such information in violation of Section 14(a). The Individual Defendants were therefore negligent, as they had reasonable grounds to believe material facts existed that were misstated or omitted from the Proxy, but nonetheless failed to obtain and disclose such information to shareholders although they could have done so without extraordinary effort.

- 59. The Individual Defendants knew or were negligent in not knowing that the Proxy is materially misleading and omits material facts that are necessary to render it not misleading. The Individual Defendants undoubtedly reviewed and relied upon the omitted information identified above in connection with their decision to approve and recommend the Proposed Merger.
- 60. The Individual Defendants knew or were negligent in not knowing that the material information identified above has been omitted from the Proxy, rendering the sections of the Proxy identified above to be materially incomplete and misleading.
- 61. The Individual Defendants were, at the very least, negligent in preparing and reviewing the Proxy. The preparation of a Proxy statement by corporate insiders containing materially false or misleading statements or omitting a material fact constitutes negligence. The Individual Defendants were negligent in choosing to omit material information from the Proxy or failing to notice the material omissions in the Proxy upon reviewing it, which they were required to do carefully as the Company's directors. Indeed, the Individual Defendants were intricately involved in the process leading up to the signing of the Agreement and the preparation of the Company's financial projections.
- 62. Microsemi is also deemed negligent as a result of the Individual Defendants' negligence in preparing and reviewing the Proxy.
 - 63. The misrepresentations and omissions in the Proxy are material to

Plaintiff and the Class, who will be deprived of their right to cast an informed vote if such misrepresentations and omissions are not corrected prior to the vote on the Proposed Merger.

64. Plaintiff and the Class have no adequate remedy at law. Only through the exercise of this Court's equitable powers can Plaintiff and the Class be fully protected from the immediate and irreparable injury that Defendants' actions threaten to inflict.

COUNT III

(Against the Individual Defendants for Violations of Section 20(a) of the Exchange Act)

- 65. Plaintiff incorporates each and every allegation set forth above as if fully set forth herein.
- 66. The Individual Defendants acted as controlling persons of Microsemi within the meaning of Section 20(a) of the Exchange Act as alleged herein. By virtue of their positions as officers and/or directors of Microsemi, and participation in and/or awareness of the Company's operations and/or intimate knowledge of the incomplete and misleading statements contained in the Proxy filed with the SEC, they had the power to influence and control and did influence and control, directly or indirectly, the decision making of the Company, including the content and dissemination of the various statements that Plaintiff contends are materially incomplete and misleading.
- 67. Each of the Individual Defendants was provided with or had unlimited access to copies of the Proxy and other statements alleged by Plaintiff to be misleading prior to and/or shortly after these statements were issued and had the ability to prevent the issuance of the statements or cause the statements to be corrected.

- 68. In particular, each of the Individual Defendants had direct and supervisory involvement in the day-to-day operations of the Company, and, therefore, is presumed to have had the power to control or influence the particular transactions giving rise to the Exchange Act violations alleged herein, and exercised the same. The Proxy at issue contains the unanimous recommendation of each of the Individual Defendants to approve the Proposed Merger. They were thus directly involved in preparing the Proxy.
- 69. In addition, as described herein and set forth at length in the Proxy, the Individual Defendants were involved in negotiating, reviewing, and approving the Agreement. The Proxy purports to describe the various issues and information that the Individual Defendants reviewed and considered. The Individual Defendants participated in drafting and/or gave their input on the content of those descriptions.
- 70. By virtue of the foregoing, the Individual Defendants have violated Section 20(a) of the Exchange Act.
- 71. As set forth above, the Individual Defendants had the ability to exercise control over and did control a person or persons who have each violated Section 14(a) and Rule 14a-9 by their acts and omissions as alleged herein. By virtue of their positions as controlling persons, these Defendants are liable pursuant to Section 20(a) of the Exchange Act. As a direct and proximate result of Individual Defendants' conduct, Plaintiff and the Class will be irreparably harmed.
- 72. Plaintiff and the Class have no adequate remedy at law. Only through the exercise of this Court's equitable powers can Plaintiff and the Class be fully protected from the immediate and irreparable injury that Defendants' actions threaten to inflict.

1 PRAYER FOR RELIEF WHEREFORE, Plaintiff prays for judgment and relief as follows: 2 Declaring that this action is properly maintainable as a Class Action and 3 certifying Plaintiff as Class Representative and his counsel as Class Counsel; 4 Enjoining Defendants and all persons acting in concert with them from 5 B. proceeding with the shareholder vote on the Proposed Merger or consummating the 7 Proposed Merger, unless and until the Company discloses the material information discussed above which has been omitted from the Proxy; 8 Directing Defendants to account to Plaintiff and the Class for all damages 9 sustained as a result of their wrongdoing; 10 Awarding Plaintiff the costs and disbursements of this action, including 11 D. reasonable attorneys' and expert fees and expenses; and 12 Granting such other and further relief as this Court may deem just and 13 Ε. proper. 14 15 **JURY DEMAND** Plaintiff demands a trial by jury on all issues so triable. 16 17 Dated: April 24, 2018 18 Respectfully submitted, 19 20 **OF COUNSEL:** FARUQI & FARUQI, LLP 21 FARUQI & FARUQI, LLP By: /s/ Benjamin Heikali 22 Benjamin Heikali, Bar No. 307466 Nadeem Faruqi James M. Wilson, Jr. 10866 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 1470 23 685 Third Ave., 26th Fl. Los Angeles, CA 90024 24 Tel.: (424) 256-2884 New York, NY 10017 Tel.: (212) 983-9330 Fax: (424) 256-2885 25 Email: nfaruqi@faruqilaw.com Email: bheikali@faruqilaw.com 26 Email: jwilson@faruqilaw.com 27 20 28 CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT FOR VIOLATIONS OF SECTIONS 14(A) AND 20(A) OF

THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934 No. 8:18-cv-00698