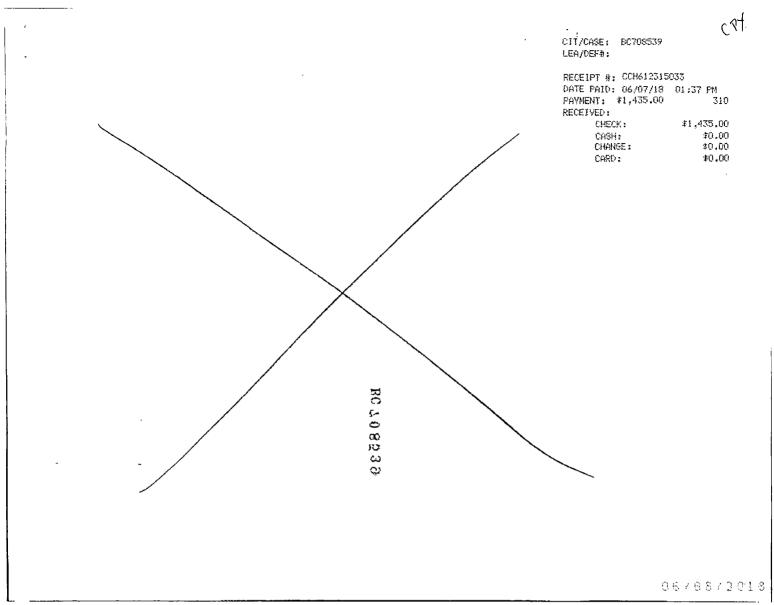
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1 2	ROBBINS GELLER RUDMAN & DOWD LLP JAMES I. JACONETTE (179565)	FILED Superior Court of California County of Los Angeles
3	655 West Broadway, Suite 1900 San Diego, CA 92101	JUN 07 2018
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10	SUPERIOR COURT OF TH	HE STATE OF CALIFORNIA
11	COUNTY OF	LOS ANGELES
12	 ERIC ROJANY, Individually and on Behalf of)	<u>VIA</u> FAX
13	All Others Similarly Situated,)	Case No. BC 708539
14	Plaintiff,)	COMPLAINT FOR VIOLATIONS OF
15	vs.	§§12(a)(2) AND 15 OF THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933
16	FAT BRANDS INC.,) ANDREW A. WIEDERHORN,)	ACT OF 1955
17	RON ROE,	
18		
19	MARC L. HOLTZMAN,) SQUIRE JUNGER,)	•
20	SILVIA KESSEI.,) JEFF LOTMAN,)	
. 21	FOG CUTTER CAPITAL GROUP INC.,) TRIPOINT GLOBAL EQUITIES, LLC and)	
22	DOES 1-25, inclusive,	
23	Defendants.)	DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL
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	COMPLAINT FOR VIOLATIONS OF §§ 12(a)	(2) AND 15 OF THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933
	COMPLAINT FOR VIOLATIONS OF §§12(a)	(2) AND 15 OF THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933



Doc# 1 Page# 2 - Doc ID = 1741940264 - Doc Type = Complaint

Plaintiff Eric Rojany ("plaintiff"), individually and on behalf of all others similarly situated, by plaintiff's undersigned attorneys, for plaintiff's complaint against defendants, alleges the following based upon personal knowledge as to plaintiff and plaintiff's own acts, and upon information and belief as to all other matters based on the investigation conducted by and through plaintiff's attorneys, which included, among other things, a review of FAT Brands Inc. ("FAT Brands" or the "Company") press releases, U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC") filings, and analyst reports, media reports and other publicly disclosed reports and information about FAT Brands. Plaintiff believes that substantial evidentiary support will exist for the allegations set forth herein after a reasonable opportunity for discovery.

NATURE OF THE ACTION

1. This is a securities class action on behalf of all those who purchased FAT Brands common stock pursuant to FAT Brands' October 23, 2017 initial public stock offering (the "IPO"), seeking to pursue remedies under the Securities Act of 1933 (the "1933 Act"). Defendants are responsible for false and misleading statements and omitted material facts in connection with the IPO. Defendants authorized or signed the Registration Statement, including an Offering Circular that formed part of the Registration Statement (collectively, the "Prospectus"), and/or participated in making false and misleading statements that omitted material facts in connection with the IPO roadshow. The IPO was made under Regulation A of the 1933 Act, and the Offering Circular was filed purportedly pursuant to Rule 253(g)(2). This lawsuit asserts claims under §12(a)(2) of the 1933 Act, which provides buyers of securities an express remedy for material misstatements or omissions made by any seller or solicitor in connection with the offer or sale of the issuer's securities involving a prospectus or oral communications, and §15 of the 1933 Act, which extends liability for the §12(a)(2) claims to those who controlled the issuer, here FAT Brands.

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

2. The claims alleged herein arise under §§12(a)(2) and 15 of the 1933 Act, 15 U.S.C. §§771(a)(2) and 770. Jurisdiction is conferred by §22 of the 1933 Act. This case is not removable to federal court.

3. Venue is proper in this County pursuant to §22 of the 1933 Act. The violations of law complained of herein occurred in this State and specifically in large part in this County. Defendant FAT Brands is headquartered in this County and orchestrated the IPO in large part from this County, including preparing and disseminating videos and other materials used to market the IPO in the roadshow from this County.

PARTIES

- 4. Plaintiff Eric Rojany purchased FAT Brands common stock pursuant in the IPO, and was damaged thereby.
- 5. Defendant FAT Brands is a multi-brand franchising company that acquires, markets and develops fast casual and casual dining restaurant concepts.
- 6. Defendant Andrew A. Wiederhorn ("Wiederhorn") is, and was at the time of the IPO, FAT Brands' Chief Executive Officer ("CEO"), President and a member of its Board of Directors (the "Board"). Defendant Wiederhorn is also the chairman, CEO and controlling shareholder of defendant FCCG (defined below), which owned 100% of FAT Brands' common stock at the time of its IPO. As one of FAT Brands' executives in the IPO working group, Wiederhorn reviewed and approved, and participated in making, statements to investors, including statements in the Prospectus and roadshow. Wiederhorn was motivated by the financial implications of an IPO given his financial stake in the Company via his family's 75% ownership of FCCG. Defendant Wiederhorn also received a \$400,000 cash bonus along with 15,000 shares as an inducement to complete the IPO, which shares immediately assumed a market value of \$180,000 upon consummation of the IPO. Defendant Wiederhorn also received stock options for 15,000 shares of FAT Brands common stock with a strike price of \$12 per share in connection with completing the IPO that would vest in one year. Wiederhorn was also motivated by the financial implications of an IPO for FAT Brands, FCCG and FAT Brands' other pre-IPO investors.
- 7. Defendant Ron Roe ("Roe") is, and was at the time of the IPO, a Senior Vice President and the Chief Financial Officer of FAT Brands. Defendant Roe is also the CFO of defendant FCCG. Roe was motivated by the financial implications of an IPO given that he received a \$300,000 cash bonus along with 15,000 shares as an inducement to complete the IPO, which shares immediately

assumed a market value of \$180,000 upon consummation of the IPO. Defendant Roc also received stock options for 15,000 shares of FAT Brands common stock with a strike price of \$12 in connection with completing the IPO that would vest in one year. Roe was also motivated by the financial implications of an IPO for FAT Brands, FCCG and FAT Brands' other pre-IPO investors, including defendant Wiederhorn and his family, FAT Brands' controlling shareholders who effectively controlled whether Roe maintained his employment at FAT Brands.

- 8. Defendant James Neuhauser ("Neuhauser") is, and was at the time of the IPO, a member of the FAT Brands Board. As one of only three members (then) of the FAT Brands Board (along with defendant Wiederhorn), defendant Neuhauser reviewed and approved, and participated in making, statements to investors in the Prospectus. Neuhauser was motivated by the financial implications of an IPO given that he received stock options for 15,000 shares of FAT Brand common stock with a strike price of \$12 in connection with the IPO that would vest in one year. Neuhauser was also motivated by the financial implications of an IPO for FAT Brands. FCCG and FAT Brands' pre-IPO investors, including defendant Wiederhorn and his family, FAT Brands' controlling shareholders who effectively controlled whether Neuhauser maintained his directorship at FAT Brands.
- 9. Defendant Edward H. Rensi ("Rensi") is, and was at the time of the IPO, a member of the FAT Brands Board and its Chairman. As one of only three members (then) of the FAT Brands Board (along with defendant Wiederhorn), defendant Rensi reviewed and approved, and participated in making, statements to investors in the Prospectus. Rensi was motivated by the financial implications of an IPO given that his personal financial insolvency had forced him into bankruptcy in October 2015 and the plan of reorganization provided for distributions to creditors from the liquidation of his real estate holdings and from his social security and pension income. Rensi was to receive stock options for 15,000 shares of FAT Brands common stock with a strike price of \$12 in connection with the IPO that would vest in one year. Rensi was also motivated by the financial implications of an IPO for FAT Brands. FCCG and FAT Brands' pre-IPO investors, including defendant Wiederhorn and his family, FAT Brands' controlling shareholders who effectively controlled whether Rensi maintained his directorship at FAT Brands.

- as "Director Nominees" in the Prospectus and would become members of the FAT Brands Board at the time of the IPO. They too were motivated by the financial implications of an IPO given that they each received stock options for 15,000 shares of FAT Brands common stock with a strike price of \$12 in connection with the IPO that would vest in one year. These defendants were also motivated by the financial implications of an IPO for FAT Brands, FCCG and FAT Brands' pre-IPO investors, including defendant Wiederhorn and his family, FAT Brands' controlling shareholders who effectively controlled whether they maintained their directorships at FAT Brands.
- 11. The defendants referenced above in ¶¶6-10 signed or authorized the signing of the Registration Statement used to conduct the IPO (defined below), or were listed therein as "Director Nominees," and are sometimes referred to herein as "Individual Defendants." The defendants referenced above in ¶¶6-7 are executives of FAT Brands who participated in the roadshow to sell the IPO and are sometimes referred to herein as the "Executive Defendants."
- 12. Defendant Fog Cutter Capital Group Inc. ("FCCG") is a Portland, Oregon-based company that owned 100% of the Company's common stock and voting power at the time of the IPO, and retained 80% of each following the IPO. Defendant Wiederhorn founded FCCG, was the chairman of its board of directors at the time of the IPO and then personally owned 38.5% of its outstanding common stock, though with his family owned 75% of FCCG shares. FCCG once had a public stock listing, but lost that listing and now trades on the pink sheets.
- that, along with its crowd-funding subsidiary Banq, acted as underwriter of the IPO, serving as both Lead Manager and Book Runner. TriPoint participated in drafting and disseminating the Prospectus used to conduct the IPO and participated in crafting the oral statements made in connection with the selling efforts, including the Prospectus and roadshow video and other materials appearing on TriPoint's and Banq's websites. TriPoint built the broker-dealer syndicate that transacted the offering and was motivated by the financial implications of the IPO, given the Company's payment of \$1.8 million, or 7.42% of the IPO's gross proceeds, in return for best efforts to sell the shares in the IPO, as well as the issuance of a warrant to purchase a number of shares of FAT Brands common stock equal to

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4% of the total shares of the common stock sold in the IPO, which were exercisable commencing upon issuance and will be exercisable up to five years from the date of qualification of the IPO registration statement at a price of \$15 per share. TriPoint is referred to herein sometimes as the "Underwriter Defendant." Pursuant to the 1933 Act, TriPoint is liable for the material misstatements and omissions used to market and conduct the IPO as follows:

- TriPoint is an investment banking house that specializes, inter alia, in underwriting public IPOs of securities. It served as underwriter of the IPO and received more than \$1.8 million in fees as a result. TriPoint determined that in return for its share of the IPO proceeds, it was willing to merchandize FAT Brands stock in the IPO. It arranged a roadshow prior to the IPO during which it and the Executive Defendants met with potential investors and presented highly favorable information about the Company, its operations and its financial prospects. As a significant part of the roadshow, TriPoint, including through its subsidiary Banq, created web pages soliciting investment in the IPO accessible from the home pages of TriPoint's and Banq's websites (TriPoint: "We focus on growth companies seeking capital in the range of \$10-100 million through various debt and equity financing instruments"; Banq: "Reinventing Capital Markets - The Crowd Finance Revolution" and "We are bringing back the Small Cap IPO"). TriPoint also participated in scripting and creating videos about FAT Brands and the IPO investment that it made accessible from the Banq website alongside a neon-green "Learn More" button on the webpage that linked to a web form allowing investors to view the Prospectus in connection with making their investment, to open an account with Banq, and to purchase shares of FAT Brands. Through TriPoint's website, the IPO was sold, and TriPoint authorized, approved, participated in making and communicated the statements in the roadshow videos to plaintiff and other investors who purchased FAT Brands shares in the IPO on TriPoint's/Bang's websites.
- (b) TriPoint also demanded and obtained an agreement from FAT Brands that it would indemnify and hold TriPoint harmless from any liability under the federal securities laws. It also made certain that FAT Brands had purchased millions of dollars in directors' and officers' liability insurance.

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1 (c) Representatives of TriPoint also assisted FAT Brands and the Individual
2 Defendants in planning the IPO and purportedly conducted an adequate and reasonable investigation
3 into the business and operations of FAT Brands, an undertaking known as a "due diligence"
4 investigation. The due diligence investigation was required of the Underwriter Defendant in order to
5 engage in the IPO. During the course of "due diligence," the Underwriter Defendant had continual
6 access to confidential corporate information concerning FAT Brands' operations and financial
7 prospects.

- (d) In addition to availing itself of virtually unbridled access to internal corporate documents, agents of TriPoint met with FAT Brands' employees and top executives as well as counsel and engaged in "drafting sessions" between at least June and October 2017. During these sessions, understandings were reached as to: (i) the strategy to best accomplish the IPO; (ii) the terms of the IPO, including the price range at which FAT Brands stock would be sold; (iii) the language to be used in the Prospectus and oral statements used to market and conduct the IPO; (iv) what disclosures about FAT Brands would be made in the Prospectus and what oral statements would be used to market the IPO; and (v) what responses would be made to the SEC in connection with its review of the registration statement (described below). As a result of these constant contacts and communications between TriPoint representatives and FAT Brands, TriPoint knew, or should have known, of FAT Brands' existing problems as detailed herein.
- (e) The Underwriter Defendant caused the Prospectus to be filed with the SEC and declared qualified in connection with offers and sales thereof, including to plaintiff and the Class (as defined below).
- 14. The true names and capacities of defendants sued herein under California Code of Civil Procedure §474 as Does 1 through 25, inclusive, are presently not known to plaintiff, who therefore sues these defendants by such fictitious names. Plaintiff will seek to amend this complaint and include these Doe defendants' true names and capacities when they are ascertained. Each of the fictitiously named defendants is responsible in some manner for the conduct alleged herein and for the injuries suffered by the Class.

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SUBSTANTIVE ALLEGATIONS

FAT Brands' Fast-Casual Restaurant Concepts

- 15. At the time of the IPO, FAT Brands was the franchiser of just two fast casual restaurant brands: Fatburger and Buffalo's Cafe/Buffalo's Express. According to the IPO Prospectus, FAT Brands then "intend[ed] to complete the acquisitions [of] Ponderosa and Bonanza [steakhouses], including one company-owned restaurant, concurrently with the consummation of' the IPO, which would bring FAT Brands' fast-casual brand concepts up to three.
- 16. As a franchisor, FAT Brands generally did not own or operate actual restaurant locations. FAT Brands historically generated relatively strong margins, compared to other restaurant companies, by charging franchisees an initial franchise fee, as well as ongoing royalty payments. According to the IPO Prospectus, FAT Brands' "asset light franchisor model provide[d] the opportunity for strong profit margins and an attractive free cash flow profile while minimizing restaurant operating company risk, such as long-term real estate commitments or capital investments." At the time of its IPO, FAT Brands' existing portfolio of restaurant brands had a presence in seven states and 18 countries, totaling 176 locations.
- 17. Prior to the IPO, FAT Brands' flagship operating subsidiary, Fatburger North America, Inc. ("Fatburger"), accounted for the overwhelming majority of the Company's locations, revenues and profits, with 157 Fatburger locations across five states and 18 countries. Founded in 1947 in Los Angeles, Fatburger's famous tagline is "The Last Great Hamburger Stand." The Fatburger menu is centered on hamburgers, in which it offers patties of varying sizes, small to large, and in varying numbers, along with add-ons such as cheese, bacon and eggs. Some Fatburger restaurants have a liquor license, as well as "Fat Bars."
- 18. FAT Brands' other operating subsidiary, Buffalo's Franchise Concepts Inc. ("Buffalo Café"), accounted for another 19 locations. Founded in 1985 in Georgia and acquired by FAT Brands in 2011, Buffalo's Café's tagline is "Where Everyone is Family." Like Fatburger, Buffalo's Café offers a casual dining restaurant experience, but with sit-down table service for its chicken wings and chicken tenders and various sauces, along with steaks and seafood, and bar service. Buffalo's Express, which is a smaller, fast-casual variant of Buffalo's Café, has a more limited menu of chicken wings, chicken

tenders, and various sauces. FAT Brands has cobranded Buffalo's Express with Fatburger, including offering burgers with various chicken wing sauces. At the time of the IPO, there were an additional 68 co-branded Buffalo's Express/Fatburger locations globally.

19. Concerning FAT Brands' post-IPO acquisition of Homestyle Dining LLC, which then owned Ponderosa Franchising Company and Bonanza Restaurant Company ("Ponderosa & Bonanza"), the Prospectus stated that those brands would "offer the quintessential American steakhouse experience, for which there is strong and growing demand in international markets, particularly in Asia, the Middle East, Europe and Central America." Ponderosa & Bonanza were established in 1965 and 1963, respectively, and as of June 25, 2017, there were 100 Ponderosa and 20 Bonanza steakhouse restaurants operating under franchise and sub-franchise agreements in 19 states in the United States, Canada, Puerto Rico, the United Arab Emirates, Egypt, Qatar, Taiwan, and one company-owned Ponderosa restaurant in the United States.

FCCG's Development of FAT Brands

- 20. On August 15, 2003, Beverly Hills-based FCCG completed a \$7 million investment and financing package for Fatburger and would later acquire the rest of the Company in 2011. Defendant Wiederhorn, who founded FCCG and is its majority shareholder, became Fatburger's CEO in 2006. Wiederhorn continued to serve as FCCG's Chairman and CEO, as well as Fatburger's CEO and President, through the time of the IPO.
- 21. Defendant Wiederhorn is a convicted felon. In 2004, defendant Wiederhorn pled guilty to two felony charges, one for filing a false tax return and the other for paying an illegal bribe to Capital Consultants—which lost approximately \$350 million in union pension money to fraudulent and failed investments. FCCG dubbed Wiederhorn's resulting incarceration as a "leave of absence" and allowed him to retain his seat on its board of directors while in prison. FCCG not only paid Wiederhorn his \$350,000 salary while in prison, but also a \$2 million "leave-of-absence" bonus, the same amount he was ordered to pay in restitution for his crimes.
- 22. After defendant Wiederhorn's appointment as CEO of Fatburger in 2006, Fatburger was barred from selling additional franchises in California for several months due to Wiederhorn's prior felony convictions.

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23. Indeed, upon Wiederhorn's release from prison in February 2006, FCCG attempted to
add him to Fatburger's California franchisor registration as a director, but the California Department of
Corporations ("DOC") rejected the post-effective amendment application. The DOC advised Fatburger
to withdraw its application and cause Wiederhorn to resign from Fatburger, or its request for
registration would be turned over to the DOC's Enforcement Division for an issuance of a stop order.
Represented by the Jenkins & Gilchrist law firm, Wiederhorn and Fatburger responded that "there
[were] many franchisors who continue[d] to be registered in California despite having pages of
disclosures about concluded litigation holding them liable for fraud, embezzlement, fraudulent
conversion, or misappropriation of property." But the DOC persisted, and in April 2006 issued its final
answer, again stating it would deny Fatburger's franchisor application based on the fact and nature of
Wiederhorn's convictions and that it would take action on April 20, 2006 if Fatburger did not meet the
state's requirements. In response, Fatburger withdrew its application effective immediately, and also
withdrew its entire California franchise registration, acknowledging that Fatburger was no longer
registered and could not offer or sell franchises in California and, as a result, there was no need for them
to issue a stop order. Fatburger was ultimately granted a Notice of Exemption, qualifying it as a large
franchisor with no franchisor registration requirements in California.

- 24. On or about March 31, 2009, several Fatburger subsidiaries received notices of default and demand for payment from financier General Electric Capital Business Asset Funding Corp. ("GE"). GE had loaned about \$3.85 million to the Fatburger companies and demanded payment by April 9, 2009. Fatburger was unable to pay, and several Fatburger subsidiaries filed Chapter 11 bankruptcy on April 7, 2009 including Fatburger Restaurants of California and Fatburger Restaurants of Nevada which were later jointly administered in a single bankruptcy proceeding.
- 25. After the bankruptcy filing, the NASDAQ delisted FCCG common stock for failing to timely file its financial reports with the SEC. The approximately eight million shares of FCCG common stock then issued and outstanding as of March 10, 2010 became worthless.
- 26. In 2011, FCCG acquired the then-25 unit Buffalo's Café franchise brand concept and subsequently converted both the Fatburger and Buffalo's Café brands into a franchisor model. After the

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acquisition of Buffalo's Café, FCCG developed the Buffalo Express concept and rolled out scores of cobranded Fatburger/Buffalo Express restaurants.

27. In March 2017, FCCG agreed to acquire Homestyle Dining LLC, the franchisor of the Ponderosa & Bonanza restaurants, with the specific plan to use the forthcoming proceeds from the FAT Brands IPO to fund that acquisition.

FCCG's Pre- and Post-IPO Control of FAT Brands

- 28. Prior to the IPO, FCCG owned all eight million shares of FAT Brands common stock and controlled 100% of its voting power. FAT Brands was formed as a Delaware corporation on March 21, 2017 for the sole purpose of completing a public offering and related transactions and to acquire and continue all the businesses then being conducted as subsidiaries of FCCG. In addition to defendant Wiederhorn serving as President and CEO of FAT Brands and the Chairman and CEO of FCCG at the time of the IPO, FAT Brands' CFO and Chief Controlling Officers are also affiliates and executives of FCCG. Indeed, non-party Donald Berchtold is the father-in-law of defendant Wiederhorn, and defendant Wiederhorn is the father of 29-year-old twin brothers, Thayer Wiederhorn and Taylor Wiederhorn, who serve as FAT Brands' Chief Marketing Officer and Chief Development Officer, respectively. The Wiederhorn family collectively owned 75% of FCCG at the time of the IPO.
- 29. FCCG, through defendants Wiederhorn, Roe and other FCCG affiliates, planned to conduct FAT Brands' IPO as a Regulation A+, or "Reg A+," offering. Under Title IV of the 2015 Jumpstart Our Business Startups (JOBS) Act, a private company can raise money and go public vis-àvis a Reg A+ offering pursuant to a streamlined, expedited review process in which the company would be required to make its offering memorandum public just 21 days before SEC qualification.
- 30. Defendants' plan for FAT Brands was to sell two million shares of the Company's common stock through a Reg A+ offering for \$12 a share, raising \$24 million in gross proceeds, while leaving FCCG's ownership of its eight million shares intact now worth 80% of the total voting power of FAT Brands. FAT Brands simultaneously planned to use \$10.55 million to purchase Ponderosa & Bonanza and return \$9.5 million in its IPO proceeds to FCCG to repay debt. After the repayment of the \$9.5 million, FAT Brands would assume the \$20.5 million debt obligation to FCCG, which would carry a 10% interest rate and mature five years following the IPO.

31. According to the Prospectus, FAT Brands intended to pay annual dividends of \$0.48 per share, and with the IPO priced at \$12 per share, that equated to a 4% yield on the stock being sold in the IPO. Defendant FCCG, as the Company's controlling shareholder, would receive the lion's share of those stock dividends.

THE MATERIALLY FALSE AND MISLEADING IPO DOCUMENTS AND ROADSHOW DOCUMENTS

- 32. On or about May 5, 2017, FAT Brands filed with the SEC its first draft registration statement on Form 1-A (File No. 024-10737), which, following several amendments made in response to comments received from the SEC, was declared qualified by the SEC on October 3, 2017 and utilized for the IPO (the "Registration Statement"). The Registration Statement was either signed by each of the Individual Defendants, or their names were listed therein as Director Nominees, at the direction of FCCG. The Registration Statement included an Offering Circular that formed part of the Registration Statement (collectively, the "Prospectus").
- 33. Beginning on or around August 3, 2017 (at the latest), utilizing the Prospectus, defendants FAT Brands, the Executive Defendants and the Underwriter Defendant commenced a multicity roadshow to market FAT Brands common stock to the investing public, which they completed on or about October 20, 2017, pricing the IPO at \$12 per share. Due to their rigorous marketing efforts, defendants raised \$24 million through the sale of two million shares of FAT Brands common stock during the IPO roadshow—leaving defendant FCCG with 80% of the Company's outstanding common stock and the \$3.84 million in annual dividends that would be paid on those shares.
- 34. Mark Elenowitz, CEO of defendant TriPoint, told *Forbes* on October 23, 2017 that ""[t]he offering was very well received with \$64 million of interest we had to decline \$40 million We built the broker-dealer syndicate of 21 members and we had to decline an additional 6 syndicate members that wanted to join, but by then we were already oversubscribed." According to *Forbes*, "[t]his level of over-subscription is a first for Reg A+," "mak[ing] the FAT Brands offering by far the most successful Reg A+ to date for institutional engagement."
- 35. As part of the IPO roadshow, on or about September 19, 2017, defendants conducted a live interactive online webinar, featured on VirtualInvestorConference.com, to promote FAT Brands'

forthcoming offering. Defendant Wiederhorn and Mark Elenowitz, CEO of Underwriter Defendant TriPoint, hosted the webinar and answered questions from potential investors about FAT Brands and the offering. The webinar included a video presentation that contained material misstatements and omissions that defendants participated in making.

- 36. During the webinar, defendant Wiederhorn discussed defendant FCCG's holdings in FAT Brands and how FCCG would continue to hold at least 80% of the Company after the IPO. To highlight this point, Wiederhorn showed a slide during the video presentation, entitled "Corporate Organizational Structure," illustrating that following the IPO, FCCG would hold 80% of FAT Brands' common stock and outside investors would hold 20% of the Company's common stock.
- 37. The images and statements communicated to investors that are referenced in ¶36 above contained material misstatements and omissions as indicated. Indeed, what was not disclosed during the webinar was that the combined Wiederhorn family's ownership of FCCG was actually 75%, meaning the Wiederhorn family, not just FCCG, would be FAT Brands' controlling shareholder owners following the IPO. Moreover, there was no disclosure that defendant Wiederhorn planned to merge FCCG into FAT Brands in 2018 or 2019, effectively allowing him and his family to take FCCG public without undertaking a formal IPO process.
- 38. Also during the webinar, defendant Wiederhorn touted FAT Brands' "asset-light business model" and explained that the Company, as a franchisor, was not making significant capital expenditures, thus maintaining an attractive free cash flow profile. To that end, Wiederhorn presented a slide entitled "Asset-Light Business Model," which stated: "FAT Brands maintains an asset-light business model, which allows for growth with minimal capital expenditures through franchising." The slide highlighted (in bulletpoint form) the following purported benefits of FAT Brands' asset-light business model:
 - Revenues from (i) franchise fees and (ii) royalties
 - Franchisor model enables scale with limited incremental overhead and minimal storelevel risk exposure
 - Multi-brand approach allows efficient back office support to franchisees
 - Business model drives strong profit margins and attractive free cash

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- 39. However, the images and statements communicated to investors that are referenced in ¶38 above contained material misstatements and omissions as indicated. There was no mention of the fact that FAT Brands' then-present free cash flow was not enough to cover its outsized dividend, which, at \$0.48 per share annually, would cost the Company \$5 million to service. This was particularly critical because FAT Brands was assuming the \$20.5 million debt to FCCG as part of the IPO, thus increasing its leverage and thus debt servicing costs.
- 40. Toward the end of the webinar, defendant Wiederhorn and Elenowitz, on behalf of Underwrite Defendant TriPoint, fielded real-time questions from investors participating in the webinar. In response to the question "what is [FAT Brands'] EBITDA margin," Wiederhorn stated "almost 60%," adding that the EBITDA margin is "very, very strong." However, the reality was that both the Fatburger and Ponderosa & Bonanza brands were on track to report lower revenues in 2017 than they did in 2016, which meant that the combined company's profit margins were on the decline at the time of the IPO. The lower margins, coupled with the increased new leverage, put the Company on course to report lower 2017 profits. This rendered the statements touting the Company's "EBITDA margins" materially false and misleading, as sales growth for the existing brands' stores had already plummeted and the Ponderosa & Bonanza acquisition would further diminish sales growth and profits.
- 41. Moreover, the Prospectus for the IPO was negligently prepared and, as a result, contained untrue statements of material facts or omitted to state other facts necessary to make the statements made not misleading and was not prepared in accordance with the rules and regulations governing its preparation.
- 42. Despite having reported achieving \$1.7 million in net income on \$4.3 million of revenue during the first six months of 2017 a 40% net margin and an astounding 62% operating margin, which margins were used to price the shares sold in the IPO based on their future assumed profitability with both the Fatburger and Ponderosa & Bonanza brands on track to report lower revenues in 2017 than they did in 2016, the combined company's profit margins were on the decline at the time of the IPO, and that, coupled with the increased new leverage, put the Company on course to report lower 2017 profits. This rendered statements in the Prospectus, such as "between 2012 and 2016, unadjusted for the acquisition of Ponderosa and Bonanza, the company achieved compound annual growth rates in net

revenue, net income, and EBITDA of 9.9%, 40.0% and 35.3%, respectively, reflecting consistent yearly growth over this period," materially false and misleading, as sales growth for the existing brands' stores had already plummeted, and the Ponderosa & Bonanza acquisition would further diminish sales growth and profits.

- 43. After having agreed to pay \$10.55 million to acquire Ponderosa & Bonanza in March 2017, by October 2017, FAT Brands had received internal reports and data indicating that its revenues were not growing anywhere near as robustly as projected by FCCG when negotiating the acquisition.
- 44. Although the Prospectus repeatedly referenced how FAT Brands' "Capital Light Business Model [Drove] High Free Cash Flow Conversion" by "requiring minimal capital expenditures," the Prospectus failed to disclose that FAT Brands' then-present free cash flow was not enough to cover its outsized dividend, which, at \$0.48 per share annually, would cost the Company \$5 million to service. This was particularly critical because FAT Brands was assuming the \$20.5 million debt to FCCG as part of the IPO, thus increasing its leverage and thus debt servicing costs.
- 45. Furthermore, while the Prospectus represented that the "existing markets for Fatburger, Buffalo's Cafe, Buffalo's Express, and Ponderosa and Bonanza locations are far from saturated and can support a significant increase in units," the reality at the time was that the "fast-casual" dining sector was extremely saturated and the sector was facing significant headwinds and a slowdown in growth. By 2017, fast-casual sales growth in the United States had slowed to around 6%, compared to 8% growth in 2016%, and between 10%-11% growth in each of the prior five years. A number of notable fast-casual dining concepts posted significant losses during this time, leading some businesses to close locations (including Qdoba, Pie Five, Noodles & Co., and Pollo Tropical), and others to file for bankruptcy (Cosi, Rita Restaurant Corp., and Garden Fresh Corp.). One of the principal reasons for this slowdown in growth was that customers were much more reluctant to spend their money on trendy fast-casual restaurant concepts and instead preferred cheaper and quicker dining options, including traditional fast-food chains.
- 46. Also, while the Prospectus disclosed that "[i]n October 2015, [defendant] Rensi filed for protection under Chapter 11 of the Federal Bankruptcy Code," and that "in November 1998, [the former employer of defendant Wiederhorn and his father-in-law, now FAT Brands' COO] underwent a pre-

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packaged bankruptcy," the Prospectus failed to disclose bankruptcies filed by several of the Fatburger subsidiaries in 2009, much less that FCCG had once had, but lost, its public stock listing due in large part to those filings. This disclosure would have been material to investors, especially since the "Summary of the Circumstances that Led to the Filing of the Debtors' Chapter 11 Cases" the Fatburger subsidiaries filed with the federal bankruptcy court in November 2009 stated that because all of the Fatburgers, then owned 83% by FCCG and run by defendant Wiederhorn and his father-in-law, had "beg[u]n to experience financial problems as a result of: (1) a shortage in available restaurant financing, and (2) a decline in same store sales over the past three years," they had been forced to borrow from GE in order to finance their then-ongoing acquisition spree, but when GE refused to continue lending to them, "ft]he Debtors and their affiliates were not able to find alternate financing and were forced to finance the expenses related to constructing and equipping their new restaurants that they had already committed to building from their existing cash flow" and "[t]his strain on existing cash flow caused the Debtors to fall behind on their accounts payable and real property lease obligations," hence forcing them into bankruptcy. Because the exact same management team was then in the midst of yet another acquisition spree at the time of the IPO, it would have been material to investors to know of this management team's prior inability to obtain financing in connection with an acquisition spree, which had forced it into bankruptcy and ultimately resulted in FCCG losing its first public stock listing.

47. Although the Prospectus stated that defendant "Wiederhorn beneficially own[ed] 38.2% of FCCG, and disclaim[ed] beneficial ownership of the Company held by FCCG except to the extent of his pecuniary interest in FCCG," the Prospectus omitted the fact that the combined Wiederhorn family's ownership of FCCG was actually 75%, meaning the Wiederhorn family, not just FCCG, would be FAT Brands' controlling shareholder owners following the IPO.

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Indeed, the IPO Prospectus expressly stated that "[i]n addition to our pending acquisition of Ponderosa and Bonanza, as of the date of this Offering Circular we have entered into a letter of intent to acquire an additional restaurant concept with approximately 60 franchised stores for approximately \$11,000,000, and are in discussions to acquire another restaurant concept with approximately 50 stores for a purchase price in the range of \$26-30 million. We intend to finance future acquisitions through a combination of borrowings under a proposed new credit facility and by issuing new equity securities, including preferred stock if available on terms satisfactory to us."

- 48. The Prospectus further stated that FCCG would "remain a significant stockholder" in FAT Brands following the IPO and that so long as FCCG continued to own at least 80% of FAT Brands, the two companies would file joint tax returns, with FCCG receiving any tax savings on the part of FAT Brands resulting from the combined filings (including as a result of FCCG's net operation losses ("NOLs"). In reality, however, defendant Wiederhorn intends to merge FCCG into FAT Brands in 2018 or 2019, effectively allowing him and his family to take FCCG public without undertaking a formal IPO process. This was particularly one-sided for FCCG, since it sold all of its assets to FAT Brands in connection with the IPO for \$30 million (in debt), while only \$24 million was being raised in the IPO, demonstrating that FCCG already took \$6.5 million in shareholder equity out through the IPO-related transactions.
- The planned merger of FCCG into FAT Brands also obliterates the barrier in place at the time of the IPO that prevented FAT Brands from diluting shareholders by issuing additional common stock (and thus reducing FCCG's ownership down from 80%), because merging FCCG into FAT Brands will permit the former to contribute its NOLs for use by the latter. Nonetheless, the Prospectus expressly stated that "[b]eneficial ownership of at least 80% of the total voting power and value of our capital stock is required in order for FCCG to continue to include us in its consolidated group for federal income tax purposes," and that "[i]t [was] the present intention of FCCG to continue to file a single consolidated federal income tax return with its eligible subsidiaries" following the IPO. That, combined with the "NOL Protective Provisions" in the Company's amended and restated certificate of incorporation and bylaws, which the Prospectus explained were "intended to prevent certain future transfers of... capital stock which could adversely affect the ability of FCCG and [FAT Brands] to use I'CCG's tax net operating loss carryforwards ('NOLs') for federal and state income tax purposes and certain income tax credits," created a reasonable expectation that defendants were not intending to merge FCCG into FAT Brands at the time of the IPO.
- 50. Defendant FCCG and the Wiederhorn family alone knew at the time of the IPO the amount of NOLs that FCCG then maintained and they alone then knew how the impending 2018 tax bill, which had been unveiled in September 2017, would devalue those NOLs, reducing the value of the NOLs, and FCCG's and the Wiederhorn family's incentive to keep FCCG and FAT Brands separate.

- 51. The statements referenced above in ¶¶35-38, 40, 42, 44-49 were each materially false and misleading because they failed to disclose and misrepresented the following adverse facts that existed at the time of the IPO:

 (a) FAT Brands' sales growth had significantly declined;

 (b) Sales growth at Ponderosa & Bonanza was significantly below that which the Company had believed it was when it agreed to acquire those brands in March 2017;

 (c) The fast-casual dining sector was extremely saturated and facing significant
- headwinds and a slowdown in growth, which was largely caused by customers fleeing to lower cost, quicker options such as traditional fast-food chains;
- (d) FAT Brands' free cash flow was less than its \$5 million annual dividend obligation;
- (e) The Wiederhorn family planned to merge FCCG into FAT Brands following the IPO; and
- (f) FCCG and the Wiederhorn family that owned it had already once run FCCG/Fatburger into bankruptcy, resulting in its stock being delisted in connection with the attempt to undertake an acquisition spree much like the spree they had undertaken at FAT Brands at the time of its IPO.
- 52. Pursuant to Item 7(a)(2) of the Form 1-A Instructions, issuers must "describe those distinctive or special characteristics of the issuer's operation or industry that are reasonably likely to have a material impact upon the issuer's future financial performance." Pursuant to Item 9(d) of the Form 1-A Instructions, issuers are also required to "identify the most significant recent trends in production, sales and inventory, the state of the order book and costs and selling prices since the latest financial year." They "also must discuss, for at least the current financial year, any known trends, uncertainties, demands, commitments or events that are reasonably likely to have a material effect on the issuer's net sales or revenues, income from continuing operations, profitability, liquidity or capital resources, or that would cause reported financial information not necessarily to be indicative of future operating results or financial condition." At the time of the IPO, unbeknownst to investors, FAT Brands' organic sales growth was declining and the sales growth at Ponderosa & Bonanza was much

lower than FCCG had presumed when it negotiated to pay \$10.55 million for the franchising rights in March 2017. The adverse events and uncertainties associated with these negative trends were reasonably likely to have a material impact on FAT Brands' profitability and, therefore, were required to be disclosed in the Prospectus, but were not.

- 53. The IPO was successful for the Company and the Underwriters Defendant who sold two million shares of FAT Brands common stock to the investing public at \$12 per share, raising \$24 million in gross proceeds (\$22.2 million net of underwriting fees and IPO costs).
- 54. The price of FAT Brands common stock later plummeted as the market learned the truth about FAT Brands' business metrics and financial prospects at the time of its IPO. FAT Brands stock now trades at approximately \$7 per share, down more than 40% from the price the stock was sold at in the IPO.

CLASS ACTION ALLEGATIONS

- 55. Plaintiff brings this action as a class action on behalf of all those who purchased FAT Brands common stock pursuant to the Prospectus issued in connection with the IPO (the "Class"). Excluded from the Class are defendants and their families, the officers, directors and affiliates of defendants, at all relevant times, members of their immediate families and their legal representatives, heirs, successors or assigns and any entity in which defendants have or had a controlling interest.
- 56. The members of the Class are so numerous that joinder of all members is impracticable. While the exact number of Class members is unknown to plaintiff at this time and can only be ascertained through appropriate discovery, plaintiff believes that there are hundreds of members in the proposed Class. Record owners and other members of the Class may be identified from records maintained by FAT Brands or its transfer agent and may be notified of the pendency of this action by mail, using the form of notice similar to that customarily used in securities class actions.
- 57. Plaintiff's claims are typical of the claims of the members of the Class, as all members of the Class are similarly affected by defendants' wrongful conduct in violation of the federal law that is complained of herein.
- 58. Plaintiff will fairly and adequately protect the interests of the members of the Class and has retained counsel competent and experienced in class and securities litigation.

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- 59. Common questions of law and fact exist as to all members of the Class and predominate over any questions solely affecting individual members of the Class. Among the questions of law and fact common to the Class are:
 - (a) whether defendants violated the 1933 Act;
- (b) whether statements made by defendants to the investing public in the Prospectus amd during the roadshow misrepresented material facts about the business and operations of FAT Brands; and
- (c) to what extent the members of the Class have sustained damages and the proper measure of damages.
- 60. A class action is superior to all other available methods for the fair and efficient adjudication of this controversy since joinder of all members is impracticable. Furthermore, as the damages suffered by individual Class members may be relatively small, the expense and burden of individual litigation make it impossible for members of the Class to individually redress the wrongs done to them. There will be no difficulty in the management of this action as a class action.

FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION

For Violation of §12(a)(2) of the 1933 Act Against Defendants FAT Brands, FCCG, the Executive Defendants and the Underwriter Defendant

- 61. Plaintiff incorporates ¶1-60 by reference.
- 62. By means of the defective Prospectus and other statements made in connection with the roadshow, defendants FAT Brands, FCCG, the Executive Defendants and the Underwriter Defendant promoted and sold FAT Brands stock to plaintiff and other members of the Class.
- 63. The Prospectus and roadshow contained untrue statements of material fact, and/or concealed or failed to disclose material facts, as detailed above. These defendants owed plaintiff and the other members of the Class who purchased FAT Brands common stock pursuant to the Prospectus the duty to make a reasonable and diligent investigation of the statements contained in the Prospectus to ensure that such statements were true and that there was no omission to state a material fact required to be stated in order to make the statements contained therein not misleading. These defendants, in the

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exercise of reasonable care, should have known of the misstatements and omissions contained in the Prospectus as set forth above.

- 64. Plaintiff did not know, nor in the exercise of reasonable diligence could plaintiff have known, of the untruths and omissions contained in the Prospectus and roadshow videos at the time plaintiff acquired FAT Brands common stock.
- 65. By reason of the conduct alleged herein, each of the defendants named in this Cause of Action violated §12(a)(2) of the 1933 Act. As a direct and proximate result of such violations, plaintiff and the other members of the Class who purchased FAT Brands common stock pursuant to the Prospectus sustained substantial damages in connection with their purchases of FAT Brands stock. Accordingly, plaintiff and the other members of the Class who hold the common stock issued pursuant to the Prospectus have the right to rescind and recover the consideration paid for their shares, and hereby tender their common stock to the defendants sued herein. Class members who have sold their common stock seek damages to the extent permitted by law.

SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION

For Violation of §15 of the 1933 Act Against FAT Brands, FCCG and the Individual Defendants

- 66. Plaintiff incorporates ¶¶1-65 by reference.
- 67. This Cause of Action is brought pursuant to §15 of the 1933 Act against defendants FAT Brands, FCCG and the Individual Defendants.
- 68. The Individual Defendants each were control persons of FAT Brands by virtue of their positions as directors and/or senior officers of FAT Brands. Each of these defendants had the ability to influence the policies and management of FAT Brands by their voting and control over statements made by FAT Brands in the Prospectus. The Individual Defendants also each had a series of direct and/or indirect business and/or personal relationships with other directors and/or officers and/or major shareholders of FAT Brands. FAT Brands controlled the Individual Defendants and all of its employees.
- 69. The Individual Defendants had a financial interest in taking the Company's stock public in order to increase the holding value and marketability of their investment as identified above at ¶¶6-

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10. Defendants FCCG and Wiederhorn, in particular, had strong motives to undertake the IPO as FCCG owns eight million shares of FAT Brands common stock now subject to a \$0.48 annual dividend and defendant Wiederhorn's family owns 75% of FCCG. Essentially, the IPO buttressed the cash spigot now flowing cash returns to FCCG and Wiederhorn. Defendants concede in the IPO Prospectus both that FAT Brands was at the time of its IPO and would remain following the IPO a "controlled company," and that "[t]he stockholders of FCCG, including Mr. Wiederhorn, will indirectly benefit from the proceeds of this Offering." Defendant FAT Brands and the Individual Defendants were each critical to effecting the IPO, based on their authorization of the filing of the Registration Statement, by voting (including voting their shares) to execute the IPO, and by having otherwise directed through their authority the processes leading to execution of the IPO.

PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, plaintiff prays for relief and judgment, as follows:

- A. Determining that this action is a proper class action, certifying plaintiff as a Class representative under California Code of Civil Procedure §382 and Rule 3.764 of the California Rules of Court and appointing plaintiff's counsel as Class counsel;
- B. Awarding compensatory damages in favor of plaintiff and the other Class members against all defendants, jointly and severally, for all damages sustained as a result of defendants' wrongdoing, in an amount to be proven at trial, including interest thereon;
- C. Awarding plaintiff and the Class their reasonable costs and expenses incurred in this
 action, including counsel fees and expert fees;
 - D. Awarding rescission or a rescissory measure of damages; and
 - E. Such equitable/injunctive or other relief as deemed appropriate by the Court.

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JURY DEMAND

Plaintiff hereby demands a trial by jury.

DATED: June 7, 2018

ROBBINS GELLER RUDMAN & DOWD LLP JAMES I. JACONETTE

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Attorneys for Plaintiff

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Form Adopted for Mandatory Use Judicial Council of California CM-010 [Rev. July 1, 2007]

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To Plaintiffs and Others Filing First Papers. If you are filing a first paper (for example, a complaint) in a civil case, you must complete and file, along with your first paper, the *Civil Case Cover Sheet* contained on page 1. This information will be used to compile statistics about the types and numbers of cases filed. You must complete items 1 through 6 on the sheet. In item 1, you must check one box for the case type that best describes the case. If the case fils both a general and a more specific type of case listed in item 1, check the more specific one. If the case has multiple causes of action, check the box that best indicates the primary cause of action. To assist you in completing the sheet, examples of the cases that belong under each case type in item 1 are provided below. A cover sheet must be filed only with your initial paper. Failure to file a cover sheet with the first paper filed in a civil case may subject a party, its counsel, or both to sanctions under rules 2.30 and 3.220 of the California Rules of Court.

To Parties in Rule 3.740 Collections Cases. A "collections case" under rule 3.740 is defined as an action for recovery of money owed in a sum stated to be certain that is not more than \$25,000, exclusive of interest and attorney's fees, arising from a transaction in which property, services, or money was acquired on credit. A collections case does not include an action seeking the following: (1) tort damages, (2) punitive damages, (3) recovery of real property, (4) recovery of personal property, or (5) a prejudgment writ of attachment. The identification of a case as a rule 3.740 collections case on this form means that it will be exempt from the general time-for-service requirements and case management rules, unless a defendant files a responsive pleading. A rule 3.740 collections case will be subject to the requirements for service and obtaining a judgment in rule 3.740.

To Parties in Complex Cases. In complex cases only, parties must also use the *Civil Case Cover Sheet* to designate whether the case is complex. If a plaintiff believes the case is complex under rule 3.400 of the California Rules of Court, this must be indicated by completing the appropriate boxes in items 1 and 2. If a plaintiff designates a case as complex, the cover sheet must be served with the complaint on all parties to the action. A defendant may file and serve no later than the time of its first appearance a joinder in the plaintiff's designation, a counter-designation that the case is not complex, or, if the plaintiff has made no designation, a designation that

the case is complex.

Auto Tort

Auto (22)-Personal Injury/Property
Damage/Wrongful Death
Uninsured Motorist (46) (if the
case involves an uninsured
motorist claim subject to
arbitration, check this item
instead of Auto)
Other PI/PD/WD (Personal Injury/
Property Damage/Wrongful Death)
Tort

Asbestos (04)
Asbestos Property Damage

Asbestos (U4)
Asbestos Property Damage
Asbestos Personal Injury/
Wrongful Death
Product Liability (not asbestos or
toxic/environmental) (24)
Medical Malpractice (45)
Medical Malpractice—
Physiclans & Surgeons
Other Professional Health Care
Malpractice
Other PI/PD/M/D (23)
Premises Liability (e.g., slip
and fall)
Intentional Bodily Injury/PD/M/D
(e.g., assault, vandalism)
Intentional Infliction of

Emotional Distress
Negligent Infliction of
Emotional Distress
Other PI/PD/WD
Non-PI/PD/WD (Other) Tort

Non-PI/PD/WD (Other) Tort Business

Practice (07)

Civil Rights (e.g., discrimination, false arrest) (not civil harassment) (08)
Defamation (e.g., slander libet)

Defamation (e.g., slander, libel) (13) Fraud (16)

Professional Negligence (25)
Legal Malpractice
Other Professional Malpractice
(not medical or legal)
Other Non-PI/PD/WD Tott (35)

Employment
Wrongful Termination (36)
Other Employment (15)

CASE TYPES AND EXAMPLES
Contract
Breach of Contract/Warranty (06)

Breach of Rental/Lease
Contract (not unlawful detainer
or wrongful eviction)
Contract/Warranty Breach—Seller
Plaintiff (not fraud or negligence)
Negligent Breach of Contract/
Warranty

Other Breach of Contract/Warrenty
Collections (e.g., money owed, open book accounts) (09)
Collection Case—Seller Plaintiff
Other Promissory Note/Collections

Case
Insurance Coverage (not provisionally complex) (18)

Auto Subrogation Other Coverage Other Contract (37)

Contractual Fraud
Other Contract Dispute
Real Property

Eminent Domain/Inverse Condemnation (14) Wrongful Eviction (33)

Other Real Property (e.g., quiet title) (26)
Writ of Possession of Real Property

Mortgage Foreclosure

Quiet Title
Other Real Property (not eminent domain, landlord/tenent, or foreclosure)

Unlawful Detainer

Commercial (31) Residential (32)

Drugs (38) (if the case involves illegal drugs, check this item; otherwise, report as Commercial or Residential)

Judicial Review
Asset Forfeiture (05)

Petition Re: Arbitration Award (11)
Writ of Mandate (02)
Writ-Administrative Mandamus
Writ-Mandamus on Limited Court

Case Matter Writ-Other Limited Court Case

Review
Other Judicial Review (39)
Review of Health Officer Order
Notice of Appeal-Labor
Commissioner Appeals

Provisionally Complex Civil Litigation (Cal. Rules of Court Rules 3.400–3.403)

Antitrus/Trade Regulation (03)
Construction Defect (10)
Claims Involving Mass Tort (40)
Securities Litigation (28)
Environmental/Toxic Tort (30)
Insurance Coverage Claims

(arising from provisionally complex case type listed above) (41)

Enforcement of Judgment
Enforcement of Judgment (20)
Abstract of Judgment (Out of County)
Confession of Judgment (non-

domestic relations)
Sister State Judgment
Administrative Agency Award
(not unpaid taxes)
Petition/Certification of Entry of

Judgment on Unpaid Taxes
Other Enforcement of Judgment
Case

Miscellaneous Civil Complaint RICO (27) Other Complaint (not specified

above (42)
Declaratory Relief Only
Injunctive Relief Only (nonharassment)

Mechanics Lien
Other Commercial Complaint
Case (non-tort/non-complex)

Other Civil Complaint (non-tort/non-complex) Miscellaneous Civil Petition

Partnership and Corporate
Governance (21)
Other Petition (not specified

above) (43) Civil Harassment Workplace Violence Elder/Dependent Adult Abuse

Election Contest
Petition for Name Change
Petition for Relief From Lale
Claim

Other Civil Petition

CM-010 [Rev. July 1, 2007]

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(3) (4) (5) **CIVIL CASE COVER SHEET**

Page 2 of 2

CIVIL CASE COVER SHEET ADDENDUM AND STATEMENT OF LOCATION (CERTIFICATE OF GROUNDS FOR ASSIGNMENT TO COURTHOUSE LOCATION)

This form is required pursuant to Local Rule 2.3 in all new civil case fillings in the Los Angeles Superior Court.

- Step 1: After completing the Civil Case Cover Sheet (Judicial Council form CM-010), find the exact case type in Column A that corresponds to the case type indicated in the Civil Case Cover Sheet.
- Step 2: In Column B, check the box for the type of action that best describes the nature of the case.
- Step 3: In Column C, circle the number which explains the reason for the court filing location you have chosen.

Applicable Reasons for Choosing Court Filing Location (Column C)

- 1. Class actions must be filed in the Stanley Mosk Courthouse, Central District.
- 2. Permissive filing in central district,
- 3. Location where cause of action arose.
- 4. Mandatory personal injury filing in North District.
- 5. Location where performance required or defendant resides.
- 6. Location of property or permanently garaged vehicle.

- 7. Location where petitioner resides.
- 8. Location wherein defendant/respondent functions wholly.
- 9. Location where one or more of the parties reside.
- 10. Location of Labor Commissioner Office.
- 11. Mandatory filing location (Hub Cases unlawful detainer, limited non-collection, limited collection, or personal injury).



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Other Personal Injury/ Property Damage/ Wrongful Death Tort

Civil Case Cover Sheet Category No.	B Type of Action (Check only one)	C Applicable Reasons See Step 3 Above
Auto (22)	Auto (22) A7100 Motor Vehicle - Personal Injury/Property Damage/Wrongful Death	
Uninsured Motorist (46)	☐ A7110 Personal Injury/Property Damage/Wrongful Death - Uninsured Motorist	1, 4, 11
Asbestos (04)	☐ A6070 Asbestos Property Damage ☐ A7221 Asbestos - Personal Injury/Wrongful Death	1, 11 1, 11
Product Liability (24)	Product Liability (24)	
Medical Malpractice (45)	A7210 Medical Malpractice - Physicians & Surgeons A7240 Other Professional Health Care Malpractice	1, 4, 11 1, 4, 11
Other Personal Injury Property Damage Wrongful Death (23)	□ A7250 Premises Liebillty (e.g., slip and fall) □ A7230 Intentional Bodily Injury/Property Damage/Wrongful Death (e.g., assault, vandalism, etc.) □ A7270 Intentional Infliction of Emotional Distress □ A7220 Other Personal Injury/Property Damage/Wrongful Death	1, 4, 11 1, 4, 11 1, 4, 11 1, 4, 11

LACIV 109 (Rev 2/16) LASC Approved 03-04 CIVIL CASE COVER SHEET ADDENDUM AND STATEMENT OF LOCATION

Local Rule 2.3

Page 1 of 4

Rojany v. FAT Brands Inc., et al.

CASE NUMBER

Non-Personal Injury! Property Damage! Wrongful Death Tort

Employment

Contract

Unlawful Detainer

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A Civil Case Cover Sheet & Category No.	B Type of Action (Check ohly one)	C Applicable Reasons - See Step Above
Business Tort (07)	☐ A6029 Other Commercial/Business Tort (not fraud/breach of contract)	1, 2, 3
Civil Rights (08)	□ A6005 Clvil Rights/Discrimination	1, 2, 3
Defamation (13)	□ A6010 Defamation (slander/libel)	1, 2, 3
Fraud (16)	□ A6013 Fraud (no contract)	1, 2, 3
0.4	☐ A6017 Legal Malpractice	1, 2, 3
Professional Negligence (25)	☐ A6050 Other Professional Malpractice (not medical or legal)	1, 2, 3
Other (35)	☐ A6025 Other Non-Personal Injury/Property Damage tort	1, 2, 3
Wrongful Termination (36)	☐ A6037 Wrongful Termination	1, 2, 3
Olhar Emplement (45)	□ A6024 Other Employment Complaint Case	1, 2, 3
Other Employment (15)	☐ A6109 Labor Commissioner Appeals	10
	A6004 Breach of Rental/Lease Contract (not unlawful detainer or wrongful eviction)	2, 5
Breach of Contract/ Warranty	☐ A6008 Contract/Warranty Breach -Seller Plaintiff (no fraud/negligence)	2, 5
(06) (not insurance)	☐ A6019 Negligent Breach of Contract/Warranty (no fraud)	1, 2, 5
	☐ A6028 Other Breach of Contract/Warranty (not fraud or negligence)	1, 2, 5
A 11 11 100)	□ A6002 Collections Case-Seller Plaintiff	5, 6, 11
Collections (09)	☐ A6012 Other Promissory Note/Collections Case	5, 11
	☐ A6034 Collections Case-Purchased Debt (Charged Off Consumer Debt	5, 6, 11
Insurance Coverage (18)	□ A6015 Insurance Coverage (not complex)	1, 2, 5, 8
	☐ A6009 Contractual Fraud	1, 2, 3, 5
Other Contract (37)	☐ A6031 Tortious Interference	1, 2, 3, 5
	☐ A6027 Other Contract Dispute(not breach/insurance/fraud/neg/igence)	1, 2, 3, 8, 9
Eminent Domain/Inverse Condemnation (14)	□ A7300 Eminent Domain/Condemnation Number of parcels	2, 6
Wrongful Eviction (33)	□ A6023 Wrongful Eviction Case	2, 6
	☐ A6018 Mortgage Foreclosure	2, 6
Other Real Property (26)	☐ A6032 Quiet Title	2, 6
	A6060 Other Real Property (not eminent domain, landlord/tenant, foreclosure)	2, 6
Unlawful Detainer-Commercial (31)	☐ A6021 Unlawful Delainer-Commercial (not drugs or wrongful eviction)	6, 11
Unlawful Detainer-Residential (32)	A6020 Unlawful Detainer-Residential (not drugs or wrongful eviction)	6, 11
Unlawful Detainer- Post-Foreclosure (34) A6020FUnlawful Detainer-Post-Foreclosure		2, 6, 11
Unlawful Detainer-Drugs (38)	☐ A6022 Unlawful Detainer-Drugs	2, 6, 11

LACIV 109 (Rev 2/16) LASC Approved 03-04

CIVIL CASE COVER SHEET ADDENDUM AND STATEMENT OF LOCATION

Local Rule 2.3

Page 2 of 4

 \odot $\mathfrak{O})$ ्रं SHORT TITLE: Rojany v. FAT Brands Inc., et al. CASE NUMBER

	A Civil Case Cover Sheet Calegory No.	Type of Action (Check only one)	C Applicable Reasons - See Step 3 Above		
	Asset Forfeiture (05)	☐ A6108 Asset Forfeiture Case	2, 3, 6		
Α.	Petition re Arbitration (11)	☐ A6115 Petition to Compel/Confirm/Vacate Arbitration	2, 5		
Judicial Review	Writ of Mandate (02)	□ A6151 Writ - Administrative Mandamus □ A6152 Writ - Mandamus on Limited Court Case Matter □ A6153 Writ - Other Limited Court Case Review	2, 8 2 2		
,	Other Judicial Review (39)	☐ A6150 Other Writ /Judicial Review	2, 8		
Ē	Antitrust/Trade Regulation (03)	e Regulation (03)			
tigatio	Construction Defect (10)	☐ A6007 Construction Defect	1, 2, 3		
Provisionally Complex Litigation	Claims Involving Mass Tort (40)	☐ A6006 Claims Involving Mass Tort	1, 2, 8		
y Com	Securities Litigation (28)	☑ A6035 Securities Litigation Case	① 2, 8		
sional	Toxic Tort Environmental (30)	☐ A6036 Toxic Tort/Environmental	1, 2, 3, 8		
Provi	Insurance Coverage Claims from Complex Case (41)	☐ A6014 Insurance Coverage/Subrogation (complex case only)	1, 2, 5, 8		
Enforcement of Judgment	Enforcement of Judgment (20)	□ A6141 Sister State Judgment □ A6160 Abstract of Judgment □ A6107 Confession of Judgment (non-domestic relations) □ A6140 Administrative Agency Award (not unpaid taxes) □ A6114 Petition/Certificate for Entry of Judgment on Unpaid Tax □ A6112 Other Enforcement of Judgment Case	2. 5. 11 2. 6 2. 9 2. 8 2. 8 2. 8, 9		
40	RICO (27)	☐ A6033 Racketeering (RICO) Case	1, 2, 8		
Miscellaneous Civil Complaints	Other Complaints (Not Specified Above) (42)	□ A6030 Declaratory Relief Only □ A6040 Injunctive Relief Only (not domestic/harassment) □ A6011 Other Commercial Complaint Case (non-tort/non-complex) □ A6000 Other Civil Complaint (non-tort/non-complex)	1, 2, 8 2, 8 1, 2, 8 1, 2, 8		
	Partnership Corporation Governance (21)	☐ A6113 Partnership and Corporate Governance Case	2, 8		
Miscellaneous Civil Petitions	Other Petitions (Not Specified Above) (43)	□ A6121 Civil Harassment □ A6123 Workplace Harassment □ A6124 Elder/Dependent Adult Abuse Case □ A6190 Election Contest □ A6110 Petition for Change of Name/Change of Gender □ A6170 Petition for Relief from Late Claim Law □ A6100 Other Civil Petition	2, 3, 9 2, 3, 9 2, 3, 9 2 2, 7 2, 3, 8 2, 9		

LACIV 109 (Rev 2/16) LASC Approved 03-04 CIVIL CASE COVER SHEET ADDENDUM AND STATEMENT OF LOCATION

Local Rule 2.3 Page 3 of 4

SHORT TITLE:	CASE NUMBER
Rojany v. FAT Brands Inc., et al.	}
, ,	

Step 4: Statement of Reason and Address: Check the appropriate boxes for the numbers shown under Column C for the type of action that you have selected. Enter the address which is the basis for the filing location, including zip code. (No address required for class action cases).

REASON: ☑ 1. ☑ 2. □ 3. □ 4. □ 5. □ 6. □ 7. □ 8. □ 9. □ 10. □ 11.			ADDRESS: 9720 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 500
city:	STATE:	ZIP CODE:	
Beverly Hills	CA	90212	

Step 5: Certification of Assignment: I certify that this case is properly filed in the ___Central District of the Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles [Code Civ. Proc., §392 et seq., and Local Rule 2.3(a)(1)(E)].

Dated:	June 7,	2018

(SIGNATURE OF

PLEASE HAVE THE FOLLOWING ITEMS COMPLETED AND READY TO BE FILED IN ORDER TO PROPERLY COMMENCE YOUR NEW COURT CASE:

- 1. Original Complaint or Petition.
- 2. If filing a Complaint, a completed Summons form for issuance by the Clerk.
- 3. Civil Case Cover Sheet, Judicial Council form CM-010.
- Civil Case Cover Sheet Addendum and Statement of Location form, LACIV 109, LASC Approved 03-04 (Rev. 02/16).
- 5. Payment in full of the filing fee, unless there is court order for waiver, partial or scheduled payments.
- A signed order appointing the Guardian ad Litem, Judicial Council form CIV-010, if the plaintiff or petitioner is a minor under 18 years of age will be required by Court in order to issue a summons.
- Additional copies of documents to be conformed by the Clerk. Copies of the cover sheet and this addendum must be served along with the summons and complaint, or other initiating pleading in the case.

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