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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

BRUCE HORTI, SANDRA GEORGE, and
JEANETTE CRAIG, individually and on
behalf of all others similarly situated,

Plaintiffs,

v.

NESTLE USA, INC., a Company,

Defendant.

Civil Action No.:

CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT

JURY TRIAL DEMANDED

CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT

CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT

1
2 Plaintiffs Bruce Horti, Sandra George, and Jeanette Craig (“Plaintiffs”), through their
3 undersigned attorneys, bring this Class Action Complaint against Defendant Nestle USA, Inc.
4 (“Defendant”), individually and on behalf of all others similarly situated, and complain and allege
5 upon personal knowledge as to herself and her own acts and experiences and, as to all other
6 matters, upon information and belief, including investigation conducted by their attorneys:

7 **NATURE OF THE ACTION**

8 1. This is a civil class action brought individually by Plaintiffs on behalf of consumers
9 who purchased the following of Defendant’s Products:

- 10 a. BOOST Glucose Control,
- 11 b. BOOST Glucose Control High Protein
- 12 c. BOOST Glucose Control Max, nutritional supplement drinks (the “Products”).

13 2. The Products are sold online and in stores throughout the United States including
14 at mass retailers such as Amazon.com, Walmart, Target, CVS, and on Nestle’s own website.

15 3. The Products are sold in lined bottles that prominently represented on the bottles
16 themselves that the Products “help[s] manage blood sugar,” and/or that they are “designed for
17 people with diabetes.” The name of the Products themselves, BOOST Glucose Control, is also a
18 representation that it controls glucose. The main difference between BOOST Glucose Control,
19 Glucose Control High Protein, and BOOST Glucose Control MAX is the level of protein which,
20 which is 16 grams, 22 grams, and 30 grams, respectively.

21 4. The advertising makes express or implied disease claims which would require prior
22 testing and approval by the Food and Drug Administration (“FDA”), which Nestle has not
23 obtained. The Products are mislabeled, and tricks reasonable consumers into believing that it can
24 prevent and treat diabetes.

25 5. Moreover, Defendant’s express representations that the Products control glucose
26 are deceptive. Defendant’s representations are reasonably understood by consumers, and were
27 understood by Plaintiffs, to mean that the Products affirmatively control their blood glucose levels:

1 that it will make their glucose level better than prior to drinking it. But Defendant’s own clinical
2 trial concluded that the Products were associated with a lesser rise in glucose levels as compared
3 to one other nutritional drink that was unidentified in the study. The Products do not control
4 glucose, but rather produce a “less bad” response to glucose compared to one unknown product.
5 That is not the same as controlling glucose. This is not what a reasonable person would understand
6 from Nestle’s representations that the Products is controls and manages glucose, and that it is
7 designed specifically for diabetics.

8 6. Nestle considers the Products to be Diabetes Specific Oral Nutrition Supplements,
9 as explained in the clinical study (discussed more fully below) undertaken by the Nestle Nutrition
10 Institute.

11 7. Defendant’s prominent and systematic mislabeling of the Products and its false and
12 deceptive advertising form a pattern of unlawful and unfair business practices that harms the public
13 and, if unstopped, could lead to substantial societal harm.

14 8. Plaintiffs bring this suit to halt Defendant’s unlawful sales and marketing of its
15 Products and for damages they sustained as a result of the illegal sales and false and misleading
16 marketing. Declaratory and injunctive relief is of particular importance given the likely
17 consequences of Defendant’s actions.

18 **PARTIES**

19 9. Plaintiff Bruce Horti is a resident and citizen of Concord California, Contra Costa
20 County.

21 10. Plaintiff Sandra George is a resident and citizen of Adelanto, California in San
22 Bernardino County.

23 11. Plaintiff Jeanette Craig is a resident and citizen of Kingston, New York in Ulster
24 County.

25 12. Defendant Nestle USA, Inc. (“Nestle”) is a Virginia corporation with its principal
26 place of business at 1812 N Moore St, Arlington, Virginia 22209. Nestle USA is the U.S.
27 subsidiary of Nestle N.A., a Swiss multinational conglomerate that is the largest food company in
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1 the world as measured by revenue. Defendant markets, distributes, and retails its Products
2 throughout the United States, including in California and in this District, through brick-and-mortar
3 stores, and at through numerous retailers online.

4 **JURISDICTION AND VENUE**

5 13. This Court has personal jurisdiction over Defendant. Defendant purposefully avails
6 itself of the California consumer market and distributes the Products to hundreds of locations
7 within this District and thousands of locations throughout California, where the Products are
8 purchased by consumers every day.

9 14. This Court has original subject-matter jurisdiction over this proposed class action
10 pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1332(d), which, under the provisions of the Class Action Fairness Act
11 (“CAFA”), explicitly provides for the original jurisdiction of the federal courts in any class action
12 in which at least 100 members are in the proposed Plaintiffs class, any member of the Plaintiffs
13 class is a citizen of a State different from any defendant, and the matter in controversy exceeds the
14 sum of \$5,000,000.00, exclusive of interest and costs. Plaintiffs alleges that the total claims of
15 individual members of the proposed Classes (as defined herein) are well in excess of \$5,000,000.00
16 in the aggregate, exclusive of interest and costs.

17 15. Venue is proper in this District under 28 U.S.C. § 1391(a). Plaintiff Horti lives in
18 and made purchases of Products in this District, substantial acts in furtherance of the alleged
19 improper conduct, including the dissemination of false and misleading information regarding the
20 nature, quality, and/or ingredients of the Products, occurred within this District and the Defendant
21 conducts business in this District.

22 **FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS**

23 16. At all relevant times, Defendant has marketed its Products in a consistent and
24 uniform manner. Defendant sells the Products in all 50 states on its website and through various
25 distributors and retailers across the United States.

26 **Diabetes in The U.S.A.**

27 17. Diabetes is a serious chronic disease that stems from the body’s inability to properly
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1 regulate blood sugar (glucose), due to problems with the body's production and use of the
2 pancreas-produced hormone insulin. Insulin's role is to regulate the absorption of glucose from
3 the blood into the cells for use as energy. When the body's ability to make and/or utilize insulin is
4 compromised, too much glucose remains in the blood, leading to significant health problems.

5 There are three types of diabetes:

- 6 a. Type 1: this results when the body does not produce enough insulin, resulting in high
7 levels of glucose in the blood. People with Type 1 diabetes are typically diagnosed
8 as children and must take insulin externally to manage their condition. Type 1
9 diabetes accounts for 5%-10% of diabetes in the United States.¹
- 10 b. Type 2: accounting for 90%-95% of all diabetes cases, Type 2 diabetes develops
11 typically later in life than Type 1, and results not from the body's lack of insulin but
12 from the body's inability to keep blood sugar at normal levels using the insulin that
13 is produced, often because of the body acquiring insulin resistance. *See e.g. id.* Type
14 2 diabetes often, but not always, results from unhealthy weight.
- 15 c. Gestational Diabetes: develops during pregnancy in pregnant women who have
16 never had diabetes outside of pregnancy. The condition typically disappears after
17 pregnancy. *See id.*

18 18. Diabetes of all types are a serious disease whose damaging effects increase over
19 time. Diabetes symptoms typically include: frequent urination, thirst that is difficult to quench,
20 hunger, blurred vision, fatigue, dry skin, slow healing sores, more than the normal number of
21 infections.

22 19. Diabetes often leads to more serious symptoms including death from increased risks
23 of cardiac events, or from organ failure. According to the U.S. Center for Disease Control (CDC)
24 diabetes is a leading cause of death and serious health complications in the U.S., and Type 2
25 diabetes in particular has been growing rapidly in the United States. The CDC's website reports
26 as follows:

27 _____
28 ¹ See <https://www.cdc.gov/diabetes/basics/diabetes.html> (last visited October 25, 2021).

- 1 • 34.2 million US adults [more than 10% of the entire population of the U.S.] , have
- 2 diabetes, and 1 in 5 of them don't know they have it.
- 3 • Diabetes is the seventh leading cause of death in the United States.
- 4 • Diabetes is the No. 1 cause of kidney failure, lower-limb amputations, and adult
- 5 blindness.
- 6 • In the last 20 years, the number of adults diagnosed with diabetes has more than
- 7 doubled.²

8 20. There has been significant reporting on the growing dangers of Type 2 diabetes in
9 the general media over the past several years, leading to awareness of the disease among American
10 consumers.

11 21. In addition to diagnosed diabetes, 88 million American adults (1-in-3 Americans)
12 are “prediabetic,” which the CDC defines as follows:

13 Prediabetes is a serious health condition where blood sugar levels are higher than normal,
14 but not high enough yet to be diagnosed as type 2 diabetes. Approximately 88 million
15 American adults—more than 1 in 3—have prediabetes. Of those with prediabetes, more
16 than 84% don't know they have it. Prediabetes puts you at increased risk of developing [type](#)
17 [2 diabetes](#), [heart disease](#), and [stroke](#).³

18 22. People with Type 2 diabetes typically are prescribed medications to control their
19 blood glucose levels, while Type 1 diabetics typically also are prescribed insulin, often in
20 combination with other medications:

21 You may be able to [manage your diabetes](#) with healthy eating and being active, or your
22 doctor may prescribe insulin, other injectable medications, or oral diabetes medicines to
23 help manage your blood sugar and avoid [complications](#). You'll still need to eat healthy and
24 be active if you take insulin or other medicines. It's also important to keep your [blood](#)
25 [pressure](#) and [cholesterol](#) close to the targets your doctor sets for you and get necessary

26 _____
27 ² See <https://www.cdc.gov/diabetes/basics/diabetes.html> (last visited October 25, 2021).

28 ³ See <https://www.cdc.gov/diabetes/basics/prediabetes.html> (last visited October 25, 2021).

1 screening tests.⁴

2 23. While the mechanism of action among these prescription medications differ, all of
3 them ultimately seek to control and manage blood glucose levels, because it is the level of glucose
4 in the blood that defines diabetes: a diagnosis of diabetes, or prediabetes, is triggered by measuring
5 the level of glucose in the blood.

6 24. For example, Lantus, the best-selling diabetes medication (and the 5th best-selling
7 medication worldwide), advertises its ability to control blood glucose as follows:

8 If your doctor said it's time for insulin, it's important to understand your options. Insulin
9 is a hormone made in your body. If your doctor mentioned insulin, it can mean your body
10 is no longer making, or is having trouble using, its own insulin. Millions of people count
11 on once-daily Lantus®, as well as other diabetes medicines made by Sanofi, to help lower
12 their blood sugar. Learn more below, then talk to your doctor to find out which insulin
13 treatment may be right for you.⁵

14 25. Similarly, Farxiga, another top selling medication for Type 2 diabetes, represents
15 that it is used to “improve blood sugar control along with diet and exercise.”⁶

16 26. With the dramatic rise of diabetes and prediabetes, companies have tapped into
17 consumer anxieties about preventing and treating diabetes and prediabetes. This action is brought
18 because of Defendant's deceptive advertising and misbranding of an over-the-counter [nutritional
19 supplement] protein drink.

20 **I. Defendant Makes Improper Health Claims**

21 27. Food manufacturers are required to comply with state and federal laws and
22 regulations that govern the labeling of food products. Among these is the Food Drug & Cosmetic
23 Act, 21 U.S.C. § 301 *et seq* (“FDCA”) and its labeling regulations, including those in 21 C.F.R.
24 § 101.
25

26 ⁴ See <https://www.cdc.gov/diabetes/basics/type2.html> (last visited October 25, 2021).

27 ⁵ <https://www.lantus.com/new-to-insulin/starting-insulin> (Last checked October 25, 2025).

28 ⁶ <https://www.farxiga.com/> (Last checked October 25, 2025).

1 28. California's Sherman Law has expressly adopted the federal labeling
2 requirements as its own and indicated that "[a]ll food labeling regulations and any amendments
3 to those regulations adopted pursuant to the federal act, in effect on January 1, 1993, or adopted
4 on or after that date shall be the food regulations of this state." California Health & Safety Code
5 § 110100.

6 29. As alleged herein, Defendant has violated the FDCA, the Sherman Law, and
7 consumer protection statutes.

8 30. The Products are represented on the front of their labels to be "nutritional
9 drink[s]." As such they are "food" pursuant to 21 U.S.C. § 321(f), and the products as a whole
10 and their ingredients are "substances" pursuant to 21 CFR § 101.14(a)(2), and such as Defendant
11 may not make health claims about the Products unless such claims are expressly reviewed and
12 preauthorized by the FDA. *See* 21 C.F.R. 101.14(e). A product that makes unauthorized health
13 claims is misbranded pursuant to 21 USCS § 343(r). Pursuant to the California Sherman law,
14 "[i]t is unlawful for any person to manufacture, sell, deliver, hold, or offer for sale any food that
15 is misbranded." Cal. Health & Saf. Code § 110760.

16 31. Cal. Health & Safety Code § 110760 (Deering, Lexis Advance through Chapter 1-
17 100, 102, 103, 105-112, 114, 115, 117-123, 125-142, 145-160, 164, 173, 174, 177, 180-184, 276,
18 294, and 307 of the 2021 Regular Session, including all urgency legislation effective July 22,
19 2021 or earlier)

20 32. A health claim is "any claim made on the label or in labeling of a food, including
21 a dietary supplement, that expressly or by implication . . . characterizes the relationship of any
22 substance to a disease or health-related condition." 21 C.F.R. § 101.14(a)(1). Substance "means a
23 specific food or component of food. . ." 21 C.F.R. § 101.14(a)(2). "Disease or health-related
24 condition means damage to an organ, part, structure, or system of the body such that it does not
25 function properly . . . or a state of health leading to such dysfunctioning." 21 C.F.R. §
26 101.14(a)(5).

27 33. The Products are foods, and diabetes is disease and/or health-related condition.
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1 34. Defendant makes the following health claims right on bottles themselves and on
2 the packaging of the multi-packed bottles:

- 3
- 4 a. “Designed for people with diabetes” (indicate only 2 of the 3 advertise this if
5 MAX doesn’t). This is an implicit or express health claim: it denotes a relationship
6 between the drink and diabetes, and reasonable consumers could only understand
7 this to mean that the Products prevent diabetes or mitigates the negative effects of
8 diabetes.
- 9
- 10 b. The name of the Products: “BOOST Glucose Control,” is an implicit or express
11 health claim because it purports to control a health-related condition, namely the
12 inability to control glucose, which describes diabetes. Reasonable consumers could
13 only understand this to mean that the Products prevent diabetes or mitigate the
14 negative effects of diabetes.
- 15 c. “Helps manage blood sugar is an implicit or express health claim because it purports
16 to control a health-related condition, namely the inability to manage glucose, which
17 describes diabetes. Reasonable consumers could only understand this to mean that
18 the Products prevent diabetes or mitigate the negative effects of diabetes.

19 35. The BOOST Glucose Control and BOOST Glucose Control High Protein
20 represent[ed] as follows on the bottles themselves:



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Sports Nutrition > Protein > Ready to Drink



Click image to open expanded view

Boost Protein
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Flavor Na

Vanilla	Chocolate	16,769
Temporarily out of stock.	Currently unavailable.	

Sponsored

Flavor	Vanilla
Brand	Boost
Item Weight	10.8 Pounds

36. BOOST Glucose Control MAX appears as follows:

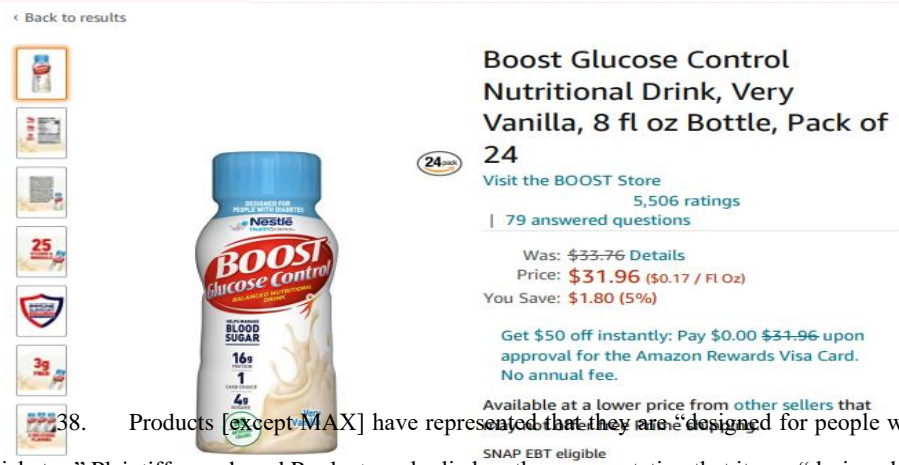


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37. The Products come in a variety of sizes and are commonly sold in multi-pack paper containers. The multi-pack packaging contains the same representations as are also made on the individual bottles enclosed:

Commented [NS1]: Needs editing.



38. Products [except MAX] have represented that they are “designed for people with Diabetes.” Plaintiffs purchased Products and relied on the representation that it was “designed for people with diabetes,” and on the representations that BOOST Glucose Control effectively controls glucose and helps manage blood sugar, representations which are made on the Products.

39. It appears that Nestle may be in the process of transitioning away from making the

1 “designed for people with diabetes” representation. On its website, Nestle currently shows a
2 graphic indicating a “new look” for the Glucose Control Products, which shows that “designed for
3 people with diabetes” has been replaced with “helps manage blood sugar,” which is independently
4 actionably deceptive as alleged herein:



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24 40. On the Walmart website, as of October 28, 2021, the “new look” packaging is
25 described as “coming soon,” indicating that the new packaging is not yet in the stream of
26 commerce.



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41. Nestle has been selling the Products expressly for “people with diabetes” for a long time, and it is still, as of October 26, 2021, specifically targeting the Products for people with diabetes. On the ubiquitous Google search engine, searching for “BOOST Glucose Control” returns ads sponsored by Nestle as the top search result on October 25, 2021, and October 26, 2021, respectively, which highlight prominently that they are meant for diabetics, and evidence that Nestle is targeting the Products specifically to people concerned about diabetes:

1 • **BOOST Glucose Control® Drinks | Nutrition For**
2 **Diabetics**

3 <https://www.boost.com/boost/>

4 AdPurchase **BOOST Glucose Control®** Online Today . Free Shipping Over \$49.95. Comes With 16
5 g High-Quality Protein And 25 Vitamins & Minerals!

6 **Types: BOOST® Original, BOOST® High Protein, BOOST Plus®, BOOST Glucose Control®**

7 **BOOST® Drinks For Diabetics | Tailored Nutrition**

8 <https://www.boost.com/boost/>

9 AdPurchase **BOOST Glucose Control®** Online Today . Free Shipping Over \$49.95. Comes With 16
10 G High-Quality Protein And 25 Vitamins & Minerals!

11 Gluten Free · Buy Online · Free Shipping Over \$49.95 · Balanced Nutrition

12 **Types: BOOST® Original, BOOST® High Protein, BOOST Plus®, BOOST Glucose Control®**

13 42. The “new look” packaging contains the same health claims, representing that the
14 Products can be used for “glucose control” and that it “helps manage blood sugar.”

15 43. When Defendant’s claims are viewed in their totality, they are either explicitly or
16 implicitly claiming to prevent disease and/or treat disease, which makes the product attractive to
17 people that wish to lower their risk of becoming diabetic or prediabetic, and is also attractive those
18 that are already diagnosed and wish to mitigate their diagnosed diabetes or diagnosed prediabetes.

19 44. The *sine qua non* of diabetes is the body’s inability to properly manage blood
20 glucose. A nutritional drink that claims to manage and control blood glucose levels, particularly
21 one that also represents that it is “designed for people with diabetes” is representing to reasonable
22 consumers that it can prevent and treat diabetes. As demonstrated above, the glucose control
23 claims on the Products closely match the language in advertisements for FDA approved
24 prescription diabetes medications.

25 45. These claims mislead consumers into believing reasonably that they can use the
26 Product to prevent and treat diabetes.

27 46. Pursuant to FDA regulations, express or implied health claims must be specifically
28 preauthorized by the FDA. *See* 21 C.F.R. § 101.14(e). The health claims made by Defendant were
not authorized, and are therefore misbranded pursuant to 21 USCS § 343(r).

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2 **II. The Products Are Unapproved New Drugs**

3 47. Pursuant to 21 U.S.C. § 321(g)(1), a drug is defined as any “article[s] intended for
4 use in the diagnosis, cure, mitigation, treatment, or prevention of disease in man or other animals.”

5 48. As alleged above, the Products are expressly marketed to diabetics. The Products
6 represented that they are “designed specifically for people with diabetes.” The Products also
7 purport to control and/or manage blood glucose, which is a representation that they treat diabetes
8 because that is what diabetes is: an inability to manage blood glucose naturally.

9 49. Pursuant to 21 U.S.C. § 355(a), new drugs cannot be sold without prior approval
10 from the FDA. This has not been obtained by Nestle for the Products.

11 50. The Products are misbranded drugs, and their marketing and sale violates 21 U.S.C.
12 § 331(a).

13 **III. The Products Deceptively Represents That It and Controls and Manages Blood**
14 **Glucose**

15 51. As alleged above, the Products purports to control blood glucose. It does this by the
16 representations on the bottle seen by anyone who buys it. The name of the Products, “Boost
17 Glucose Control” represents prominently that it controls glucose, which is reinforced by the
18 separate representation that it “helps manage blood sugar.”

19 52. Representations that a Products controls glucose and “helps manage blood sugar”
20 conveys to a reasonable consumer that the Products affirmatively does something to control blood
21 sugar: that whatever one’s blood glucose is at the time they take the Products, drinking the Products
22 will make it better. This is the way in which Plaintiffs and all other class members reasonably
23 understood the representation.

24 53. But this reasonable understanding is false, as demonstrated by the clinical study
25 that Nestle discusses on a part of its website:

26 BOOST Glucose Control® Drink is clinically shown to produce a lower blood sugar
27 response vs. a standard nutritional drink in people with type 2 diabetes. Not a substitute for
28 medication.

[BOOST Glucose Control® | BOOST®](#) (last visited October 25, 2021).

1 54. Upon information and belief, Nestle’s claims that the Products controls blood
2 glucose is ostensibly backed by a single clinical study which compared the glucose response of 12
3 clinical trial participants with type 2 diabetes after drinking “BOOST Glucose Control®
4 Nutritional Drink,” and an unidentified “standard oral nutritional supplement” (ONS). The study
5 abstract does not say that the High Protein or the MAX BOOST drinks were also tested. The
6 study was done by the Nestle Nutrition Institute, which, upon information and belief is funded by
7 and/or directly or indirectly affiliated with defendant Nestle. BOOST Glucose Control is described
8 in the study as a “Diabetes Specific Oral Nutritional Supplement (DS-ONS).” The study concluded
9 that the rise in glucose levels was lower when the subjects drank the Products versus the ONS.
10 According to the Abstract Summary for the Products (Exhibit A), the conclusions are:

11 Conclusions:

12 DS-ONS attenuated the overall blood glucose response and produced lower
13 postprandial blood glucose peaks compared to a standard ONS.

14 Specially formulated DS-ONS can be a useful tool to provide nutritional support
15 as part of an overall diabetes management plan in individuals with T2D.

16 Exhibit A.

17 55. According to the study, the DS-ONS caused blood glucose levels to go up.

18 56. Accordingly, contrary to the representations on each of the Products, Nestle
19 BOOST (let alone BOST High Protein and BOOST MAX, which were not tested) does not control
20 glucose in a way that such claim is reasonably understood, it simply provokes a *less bad* glucose
21 response.

22 57. Leaving aside whether the conclusion of this small (12 person), non double-blind
23 study are scientifically valid, taking the conclusions at face value at most shows that BOOST
24 Glucose Control leads to a smaller glucose spike than a single, unidentified nutritional drink. This
25 is like a winery advertising prominently that its wine controls blood alcohol levels when all the
26 winery can show is that its wine is less bad than tequila.

27 58. A lowered glucose response can be achieved by lowering the sugar content. While
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1 Plaintiffs cannot know what unidentified ONS was compared against the Products, Nestle makes
2 several drinks including Original BOOST, which contains 20 grams of sugar as compared with 4
3 grams of sugar for BOOST Glucose Control. Even if this was the only difference between Original
4 BOOST and BOOST Glucose Control, the latter would produce a lesser glucose spike.

5 59. Plaintiffs and class members bought the Products because they believed that they
6 was scientifically proven to keep their blood glucose levels in control, Nestle's own testing show
7 it does not do: it causes glucose levels to rise.

8 60. Defendant's false, deceptive and misleading label statements violate 21 U.S.C. §
9 343(a)(1) and statutes adopted by many states deeming food misbranded when "its labeling is false
10 or misleading in any particular."

11 61. Defendant's false, deceptive and misleading label statements are unlawful under
12 State Unfair and Deceptive Acts and Practices Statutes and/or Consumer Protection Acts, which
13 prohibit unfair, deceptive or unconscionable acts in the conduct of trade or commerce.

14 62. Further, as explained above, Defendant's claims are misleading to consumers in
15 violation of 21 U.S.C. § 343, which states, "A food shall be deemed to be misbranded—False or
16 misleading label [i]f its labeling is false or misleading in any particular."

17 63. The California Sherman Law explicitly incorporates by reference "[a]ll food
18 labeling regulations and any amendments to those regulations adopted pursuant to the FDCA," as
19 the food labeling regulations of California Cal. Health & Saf. Code, § 110100, subd. (a). Thus, a
20 violation of federal food labeling laws is an independent violation of California law and actionable
21 as such.

22 64. Under the New York Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act, New York has expressly
23 adopted the federal labeling requirements of the Act. Thus, a violation of federal labeling laws is
24 an independent violation of New York law and actionable as such.

25 **Plaintiffs' Experiences**

26 **Bruce Horti**

27 65. On or about March 10, 2020, Mr. Horti purchased the Boost Glucose Control Rich
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1 Chocolate and Very Vanilla flavors from a Costco in Concord, California, and a Walmart in
2 Martinez, California. Although the Products were more expensive than other choices he viewed,
3 Mr. Horti chose to pay the premium price based upon the various claims and promises made by
4 Nestle regarding the Products' diabetes-related representations (as identified above), including the
5 representations that it controls and manages glucose levels. At the time of his purchase, Mr. Horti
6 relied on Nestle' diabetes-related factual representations on the Products' label. All of the diabetes-
7 related representations made by Nestle regarding the Products purchased by Mr. Horti are false
8 because Nestle did not receive FDA approval for such claims and the claims viewed in their totality
9 implicitly or explicitly claim to mitigate, prevent disease, and because the Products do not control
10 or manage glucose levels These claims, alone or in tandem, are deceptive and violate federal
11 regulations.

12 **Sandra George**

13 66. On or about September 20, 2021, Ms. George purchased the Boost Glucose Control
14 Products from a Walmart and CVS in Adelanto and Santa Fe Springs, California. Although the
15 Products were more expensive than other choices she viewed, Ms. George chose to pay the
16 premium price based upon the various claims and promises made by Nestle regarding the Products'
17 diabetes-related representations (as identified above), including the representations that it controls
18 and manages glucose levels. At the time of her purchase, Ms. George relied on Nestle' diabetes-
19 related factual representations on the Products' label. All of the diabetes-related representations
20 made by Nestle regarding the Products purchased by Ms. George are false because Nestle did not
21 receive FDA approval for such claims and the claims viewed in their totality implicitly or explicitly
22 claim to mitigate, prevent disease, and because the Products do not control or manage glucose
23 levels These claims, alone or in tandem, are deceptive and violate federal regulations.

24 **Jeanette Craig**

25 67. On or about October 12, 2021, Ms. Craig purchased the Boost Glucose Control
26 Products from a Sam's Club in Kingston New York. Although the Products were more expensive
27 than other choices she viewed, Ms. Craig chose to pay the premium price based upon the various
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1 claims and promises made by Nestle regarding the Products' diabetes-related representations (as
 2 identified above), including the representations that it controls and manages glucose levels. At the
 3 time of her purchase, Ms. Craig relied on Nestle' diabetes-related factual representations on the
 4 Products' label. All of the diabetes-related representations made by Nestle regarding the Products
 5 purchased by Ms. Craig are false because Nestle did not receive FDA approval for such claims
 6 and the claims viewed in their totality implicitly or explicitly claim to mitigate, prevent disease,
 7 and because the Products do not control or manage glucose levels These claims, alone or in tandem,
 8 are deceptive and violate federal regulations.

9 **CLASS ACTION ALLEGATIONS**

10 68. Plaintiffs bring this class action lawsuit on behalf of themselves and proposed
 11 Classes of similarly situated persons, pursuant to Rule 23(b)(2) and (b)(3) of the Federal Rules of
 12 Civil Procedure.

13 69. Plaintiffs seek certification of the following Classes:

14 **California Class:** All persons in the State of California who purchased the Products
 15 (the "California Subclass") for personal use and not for resale.

16 **New York Class:** All persons in the State of New York who purchased the Products
 17 (the "New York Subclass") for personal use and not for resale.

18 70. Members of the classes described are referred to as "Class Members" or members
 19 of the "Classes."

20 71. The following are excluded from the Classes: (1) any Judge presiding over this
 21 action and members of his or her family; (2) Defendant, Defendant's subsidiaries, parents,
 22 successors, predecessors, and any entity in which Defendant or its parent has a controlling interest
 23 (as well as current or former employees, officers, and directors); (3) persons who properly execute
 24 and file a timely request for exclusion from the Class; (4) persons whose claims in this matter have
 25 been finally adjudicated on the merits or otherwise released; (5) Plaintiffs' counsel and
 26 Defendant's counsel; and (6) the legal representatives, successors, and assigns of any such
 27 excluded persons.

28 72. Certification of Plaintiffs' claims for class-wide treatment is appropriate because

1 Plaintiffs can prove the elements of their claims on a class-wide basis using the same evidence as
2 would be used to prove those elements in individual actions alleging the same claims.

3 73. **Numerosity – Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 23(a)(1).** The members of the
4 Classes are so numerous that individual joinder of all Class Members is impracticable. On
5 information and belief, Class Members number in the thousands to millions. The precise number
6 or identification of members of the Classes are presently unknown to Plaintiffs but may be
7 ascertained from Defendant’s books and records. Class Members may be notified of the pendency
8 of this action by recognized, Court-approved notice dissemination methods, which may include
9 U.S. mail, electronic mail, Internet postings, and/or published notice.

10 74. **Commonality and Predominance – Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 23(a)(2)**
11 **and 23(b)(3).** Common questions of law and fact exist as to all members of the Classes, which
12 predominate over any questions affecting individual members of the Classes. These common
13 questions of law or fact include, but are not limited to, the following:

14 a. Whether the Products contents are mislabeled as dietary supplements, and are being
15 sold in violation of the FDCA;

16 b. Whether Defendant is explicitly or implicitly claiming that its Products can mitigate
17 or prevent a disease or class of diseases in violation of the FDCA and DSHEA;

18 c. Whether Defendant’s Products are misbranded because their labelling fails to
19 include adequate directions for use;

20 d. Whether Defendant knowingly made misleading statements in connection with
21 consumer transactions that reasonable consumers were likely to rely upon to their detriment;

22 e. Whether Defendant knew or should have known that the representations and
23 advertisements regarding the Products was false and misleading;

24 f. Whether Defendant’s conduct violates public policy;

25 g. Whether Defendant’s acts and omissions violate California law;

26 h. Whether Defendant’s acts and omissions violate New York law;

27 i. Whether Plaintiffs and the Class Members did not receive the benefit of their
28

1 bargain when purchasing the Products;

2 j. Whether the Plaintiffs and the Class Members suffered monetary damages, and, if
3 so, what is the measure of those damages;

4 k. Whether Plaintiffs and the Class Members are entitled to an injunction, damages,
5 restitution, equitable relief, and other relief deemed appropriate, and, if so, the amount and nature
6 of such relief.

7 75. Defendant engaged in a common course of conduct giving rise to the legal rights
8 sought to be enforced by Plaintiffs, on behalf of themselves and the other Class Members. Similar
9 or identical statutory and common law violations, business practices, and injuries are involved.
10 Individual questions, if any, pale by comparison, in both quality and quantity, to the numerous
11 common questions that dominate this action.

12 76. **Typicality – Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 23(a)(3).** Plaintiffs’ claims are
13 typical of the claims of the other Class Members because, among other things, all such claims arise
14 out of the same wrongful course of conduct engaged in by Defendant in violation of law as
15 complained of herein. Further, the damages of each Class Member were caused directly by
16 Defendant’s wrongful conduct in violation of the law as alleged herein.

17 77. **Adequacy of Representation – Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 23(a)(4).**
18 Plaintiffs are adequate representatives of the Classes because they are members of the Classes and
19 their interests do not conflict with the interests of the Class Members they seek to represent.
20 Plaintiffs have also retained counsel competent and experienced in complex commercial and class
21 action litigation. Plaintiffs and their counsel intend to prosecute this action vigorously for the
22 benefit of all Class Members. Accordingly, the interests of the Class Members will be fairly and
23 adequately protected by Plaintiffs and their counsel.

24 78. **Superiority – Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 23(b)(3).** A class action is superior
25 to any other available means for the fair and efficient adjudication of this controversy, and no
26 unusual difficulties are likely to be encountered in the management of this class action. The
27 damages or other financial detriment suffered by Plaintiffs and the Class Members are relatively
28

1 small compared to the burden and expense that would be required to individually litigate their
 2 claims against Defendant, so it would be impracticable for Class Members to individually seek
 3 redress for Defendant's wrongful conduct. Even if Class Members could afford individual
 4 litigation, the court system could not. Individualized litigation creates a potential for inconsistent
 5 or contradictory judgments and increases the delay and expense to all parties and the court system.
 6 By contrast, the class action device presents far fewer management difficulties, and provides the
 7 benefits of single adjudication, economy of scale, and comprehensive supervision by a single
 8 court.

9 **CAUSES OF ACTION**

10 **COUNT I**

11 **California's Unfair Competition Law**
 12 **Cal. Bus. & Prof. Code § 17200 et seq. ("UCL")**
(On Behalf of Plaintiffs Bruce Horti, Sandra George, and the California Class)

13 79. Plaintiffs Bruce Horti, Sandra George, reallege ("Plaintiffs" for the purposes of this
 14 section) and incorporate by reference the allegations contained in the preceding paragraphs as if
 15 fully set forth herein.

16 80. Plaintiffs brings this claim individually and on behalf of all members of the
 17 California Subclass against Defendant.

18 81. The UCL prohibits any "unlawful, unfair or fraudulent business act or practice."
 19 Cal. Bus. & Prof. Code § 17200.

20 82. The acts, omissions, misrepresentations, practices, and non-disclosures of
 21 Defendant as alleged herein constitute business acts and practices.

22 83. Unlawful: The acts alleged herein are "unlawful" under the UCL in that they
 23 violate at least the following laws:

- 24 a. The False Advertising Law, Cal. Bus. & Prof. Code §§ 17500 *et seq.*;
- 25 b. The Consumers Legal Remedies Act, Cal. Civ. Code §§ 1750 *et seq.*;
- 26 c. The Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act, 21 U.S.C. §§ 301 *et seq.*; as
 27 incorporated into California law in the Sherman Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Law, Cal.

1 Health & Safety Code §§ 110100 *et seq.*

2 84. Unfair: Defendant’s conduct with respect to the labeling, advertising, and sale of
3 the Products was “unfair” because Defendant’s conduct was immoral, unethical, unscrupulous, or
4 substantially injurious to consumers and the utility of their conduct, if any, does not outweigh the
5 gravity of the harm to their victims.

6 85. Defendant’s conduct with respect to the labeling, advertising, and sale of the
7 Products was and is also unfair because it violates public policy as declared by specific
8 constitutional, statutory or regulatory provisions, including but not limited to the applicable
9 sections of the Consumers Legal Remedies Act, the False Advertising Law, the FDCA, and the
10 California Sherman Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Law.

11 86. Defendant’s conduct with respect to the labeling, advertising, and sale of the
12 Products was and is unfair because the consumer injury was substantial, not outweighed by
13 benefits to consumers or competition, and not one consumer themselves could reasonably have
14 avoided.

15 87. Fraudulent: A statement or practice is “fraudulent” under the UCL if it is likely to
16 mislead or deceive the public, applying an objective reasonable consumer test.

17 88. As set forth in detail above, Defendant has fraudulently misbranded and mislabeled
18 in violation of the FDCA; and has made false and misleading statements that are likely to mislead
19 reasonable consumers to believe the Products have been scientifically established to be effective,
20 which they have not been

21 89. Defendant profited from its sale of the falsely, deceptively, and unlawfully
22 advertised and packaged Products to unwary consumers.

23 90. Plaintiffs and Class Members are likely to continue to be damaged by Defendant’s
24 deceptive trade practices, because Defendant continues to disseminate misleading information on
25 the Products’ packaging. Thus, injunctive relief enjoining Defendant’s deceptive practices is
26 proper.

27 91. Defendant’s conduct caused and continues to cause substantial injury to Plaintiffs
28

1 and the other Class Members. Plaintiffs have suffered injury in fact as a result of Defendant’s
2 unlawful conduct, by paying more for the Products that they otherwise would have, or not
3 purchasing it altogether.

4 92. In accordance with Bus. & Prof. Code § 17203, Plaintiffs seek an order enjoining
5 Defendant from continuing to conduct business through unlawful, unfair, and/or fraudulent acts
6 and practices, and to commence a corrective advertising campaign.

7 93. Plaintiffs and the Class also seek an order for and restitution of all monies from the
8 sale of the Products, which were unjustly acquired through acts of unlawful competition.

9 **COUNT II**
10 **California’s False Advertising Law**
11 **Cal. Bus. & Prof. Code § 17500 (“FAL”)**
12 **(On Behalf of Plaintiffs Bruce Horti, Sandra George, and the California Class)**

13 94. Plaintiffs Bruce Horti and Sandra George reallege (“Plaintiffs” for the purposes of
14 this section) and incorporate by reference the allegations contained in the preceding paragraphs as
15 if fully set forth herein.

16 95. Plaintiffs brings this claim individually and on behalf of the members of the
17 California Subclass against Defendant.

18 96. The FAL provides that “[i]t is unlawful for any person, firm, corporation or
19 association, or any employee thereof with intent directly or indirectly to dispose of real or personal
20 property or to perform services” to disseminate any statement “which is untrue or misleading, and
21 which is known, or which by the exercise of reasonable care should be known, to be untrue or
22 misleading.” Cal. Bus. & Prof. Code § 17500.

23 97. It is also unlawful under the FAL to disseminate statements concerning property or
24 services that are “untrue or misleading, and which is known, or which by the exercise of reasonable
25 care should be known, to be untrue or misleading.” *Id.*

26 98. As alleged in detail above, the advertisements, labeling, policies, acts, and practices
27 of Defendant relating to the Products misled consumers acting reasonably as to the ingredients and
28 effectiveness of the Products.

1 99. Plaintiffs suffered injury in fact as a result of Defendant’s actions as set forth herein
2 because they purchased the Products in reliance on Defendant’s labeling claims that under the
3 FDCA and DSHEA amount to intentional mislabeling and misbranding of the Products.

4 100. Defendant’s business practices as alleged herein constitute deceptive, untrue, and
5 misleading advertising pursuant to the FAL because Defendant has advertised the Products in a
6 manner that is untrue and misleading, which Defendant knew or reasonably should have known,
7 and omitted material information from its advertising.

8 101. Defendant profited from its sale of the falsely and deceptively advertised Products
9 to unwary consumers.

10 102. As a result, Plaintiffs, the California Class, and the general public are entitled to
11 injunctive and equitable relief, restitution, and an order for the disgorgement of the funds by which
12 Defendant was unjustly enriched.

13 103. Pursuant to Cal. Bus. & Prof. Code § 17535, Plaintiffs, on behalf of themselves and
14 the California Class, seek an order enjoining Defendant from continuing to engage in deceptive
15 business practices, false advertising, and any other act prohibited by law, including those set forth
16 in this Complaint.

17 **COUNT III**
18 **California’s Consumer Legal Remedies Act**
19 **Cal. Civ. Code § 1750 et seq. (“CLRA”)**
(On Behalf of Plaintiffs Bruce Horti, Sandra George, and the California Class)

20 104. Plaintiffs Bruce Horti and Sandra George reallege (“Plaintiffs” for the purposes of
21 this section) and incorporate by reference the allegations contained in the preceding paragraphs as
22 if fully set forth herein.

23 105. Plaintiffs bring this claim individually and on behalf of the members of the
24 California Class against Defendant.

25 106. Defendant is a “person” under the Legal Remedies Act, Cal. Civ. Code § 1761(c).

26 107. Plaintiffs and Subclass members are “consumers” under the Legal Remedies Act,
27 Cal. Civ. Code § 1761(d).

1 108. The CLRA prohibits deceptive practices in connection with the conduct of a
2 business that provides goods, property, or services primarily for personal, family, or household
3 purposes.

4 109. Defendant's false and misleading labeling and other policies, acts, and practices
5 were designed to, and did, induce the purchase and use of the Products for personal, family, or
6 household purposes by Plaintiffs and Subclass Members, and violated and continue to violate the
7 following sections of the CLRA:

8 110. § 1770(a)(5): representing that goods have characteristics, uses, or benefits which
9 they do not have;

10 111. § 1770(a)(7): representing that goods are of a particular standard, quality, or grade
11 if they are of another;

12 112. § 1770(a)(9): advertising goods with intent not to sell them as advertised; and

13 113. § 1770(a)(16): representing the subject of a transaction has been supplied in
14 accordance with a previous representation when it has not.

15 114. Defendant profited from the sale of the falsely, deceptively, and unlawfully
16 advertised Products to unwary consumers.

17 115. Defendant's wrongful business practices constituted, and constitute, a continuing
18 course of conduct in violation of the CLRA.

19 116. Pursuant to the provisions of Cal. Civ. Code § 1782(a), Plaintiffs Aliva and Horti
20 mailed Defendant a letter prior to the filing of this Class Action Complaint providing notice of its
21 alleged violations of the CLRA, demanding that Defendant correct such violations, and providing
22 Defendant with the opportunity to correct its business practices. If Defendant does not correct its
23 business practices, Plaintiffs will amend (or seek leave to amend) the complaint to add claims for
24 monetary relief, including restitution and actual damages under the Consumers Legal Remedies
25 Act.

26 **COUNT IV**
27 **Violation of New York General Business Law § 349**
(On Behalf Of Plaintiff Craig And The New York Class)

1 117. Plaintiff Craig repeats and re-alleges the allegations above as if set forth herein.

2 118. New York Business Law §349 prohibits “[d]eceptive acts or practices in the
3 conduct of any business, trade or commerce or in the furnishing of any service[.]” N.Y. GEN.
4 BUS. LAW § 349.

5 119. Defendant’s actions occurred in the conduct of business, trade or commerce.

6 120. Defendant’s foregoing acts and practices, including its omissions, were directed at
7 consumers.

8 121. Defendant’s foregoing deceptive acts and practices, including its omissions, were
9 material, in part, because they concerned an essential part of the Products’ functionality.

10 122. Defendant’s conduct, as described in this Complaint, constitutes “deceptive acts or
11 practices” within the meaning of the New York GBL. All of Defendant’s deceptive acts and
12 practices, which were intended to mislead consumers in a material way in the process of purchasing
13 Defendant’s Products, constitute conduct directed at consumers.

14 123. As purveyors in the highly lucrative diabetic supplement market, Defendant knows
15 that when it comes to labeling and marketing, words matter. This is why Defendant chose to name
16 the Products “Boost Glucose Control” and to specifically represent the products “help “control
17 glucose” and “manage blood sugar.” Defendant even stated that the Products were “designed for
18 people with diabetes”.

19 124. Defendant chose to label the Products in this way to impact consumer choices and
20 to gain market dominance, as it is well aware that all consumers whopurchased the Products were
21 exposed tothe aforementioned representations, and would reasonably believe from these
22 representations that the Products were legal and did in fact control glucose.

23 125. As described herein, Defendant’s false, deceptive and misleading label statements
24 violate 21 U.S.C. § 343(a)(1) and the statutes adopted by many states, which deem food
25 misbranded when “its labeling is false or misleading in any particular.”

26 126. Plaintiff Craig and the New York Class Members suffered damages when they
27 purchased the Products. Defendant’s unconscionable, deceptive and/or unfair practices caused
28

1 actual damages to Plaintiffs and the New York Class Members.

2 127. Defendant’s foregoing deceptive acts and practices, including its omissions, were
3 likely to deceive, and did deceive, consumers acting reasonably under the circumstances.
4 Consumers, including Plaintiff Craig and putative New York Class Members, would not have
5 purchased their Products had they known Nestle did not receive FDA approval for such claims and
6 the claims viewed in their totality implicitly or explicitly claim to mitigate, prevent disease. These
7 claims, alone or in tandem, are deceptive and violate federal regulations.

8 128. As a direct and proximate result of Defendant’s deceptive acts and practices,
9 including its omissions, Plaintiff Craig and New York Class Members have been damaged as
10 alleged herein, and are entitled to recover actual damages to the extent permitted by law, including
11 class action rules, in an amount to be proven at trial.

12 129. In addition, Plaintiff Craig and New York Class Members seek equitable and
13 injunctive relief against Defendant on terms that the Court considers reasonable, and reasonable
14 attorneys’ fees and costs.

15 130. On December 6, 2021, Plaintiff Craig gave notice to Defendant of its violations of
16 the New York General Business Law § 349.

17 131. Plaintiff Craig has not received a response to her letter as of the date of this filing.

18
19 **COUNT V**
20 **Violation of New York General Business Laws § 350**
(On Behalf Of Plaintiff Craig And The New York Class)

21 132. Plaintiff Craig repeats and re-alleges the allegations above as if set forth herein.

22 133. New York Business Law §350 prohibits “[f]alse advertising in the conduct of any
23 business, trade or commerce or in the furnishing of any service[.]” N.Y. GEN. BUS. LAW § 350.

24 134. Defendant’s actions occurred in the conduct of business, trade or commerce.

25 135. Defendant’s foregoing acts and practices, including its advertising, were directed
26 at consumers.

27 136. Defendant’s conduct, as described in this Complaint, constitutes “false advertising”
28

1 within the meaning of the New York GBL, as Defendant publicly disseminated misleading and
2 false advertisements through advertising and marketing statements, suggesting that their Products
3 were FDA approved and could “control glucose.”

4 137. Defendant’s foregoing, consumer-oriented, unfair or deceptive acts and practices,
5 including its advertising, representations, and omissions, constitute false and misleading advertising
6 in a material way in violation of the New York’s General Business Law § 350.

7 138. As purveyors in the highly lucrative diabetic supplement market, Defendant knows
8 that when it comes to labeling and marketing, words matter. This is why Defendant chose to name
9 the Products “Boost Glucose Control” and to specifically represent that the Products “help “control
10 glucose” and “manage blood sugar. Defendant even stated that the Products were “designed for
11 people with diabetes.”

12 139. As described herein, Defendant’s false, deceptive and misleading label statements
13 violate 21 U.S.C. § 343(a)(1) and the statutes adopted by many states, which deem food
14 misbranded when “its labeling is false or misleading in any particular.”

15 140. Plaintiff Craig and the New York Class Members suffered damages when they
16 purchased the Products. Defendant’s unconscionable, deceptive and/or unfair practices caused
17 actual damages to Plaintiffs and the New York Class Members.

18 141. Defendant’s foregoing deceptive acts and practices, including its omissions, were
19 likely to deceive, and did deceive, consumers acting reasonably under the circumstances.
20 Consumers, including Plaintiff Craig and putative New York Class Members, would not have
21 purchased their Products had they known Nestle did not receive FDA approval for such claims and
22 he claims viewed in their totality implicitly or explicitly claim to mitigate or prevent disease. These
23 claims, alone or in tandem, are deceptive and violate federal regulations.

24 142. As a direct and proximate result of Defendants’ deceptive acts and practices,
25 including its omissions, Plaintiff Craig and New York Class Members have been damaged as
26 alleged herein, and are entitled to recover actual damages to the extent permitted by law, including
27 class action rules, in an amount to be proven at trial.

1 143. Defendant’s false, misleading, and deceptive advertising and representations of fact
2 were and are directed at consumers.

3 144. Defendant’s false, misleading, and deceptive advertising and representations of fact
4 were and are likely to mislead a reasonable consumer acting reasonably under the circumstances.

5 145. Defendant’s false, misleading, and deceptive advertising and representations of fact
6 have resulted in consumer injury or harm to the public interest

7 146. Defendant intended that Plaintiff Craig and each of the other members of the New
8 York Subclass would rely upon their deceptive conduct and false advertising, and a reasonable
9 person would in fact be misled by this deceptive conduct. Defendant engaged in misleading and
10 deceptive advertising that represented that the Products were FDA approved and “manage
11 glucose.” Defendant chose to label the Products in this way to impact consumer choices and gain
12 market dominance, as it is aware that all consumers who purchased the Products were exposed
13 to the representations at issue and would reasonably believe from these representations that the
14 Products in fact help treat, cure, or prevent diabetes. Thus, Defendant’s advertising and labeling
15 was an unfair, untrue, and misleading practice.

16 147. Plaintiff Craig and putative New York Class Members would not have purchased
17 their Products had they known Nestle did not receive FDA approval for such claims and the claims
18 viewed in their totality implicitly or explicitly claim to mitigate, prevent disease. These claims,
19 alone or in tandem, are deceptive and violate federal regulations.

20 148. As a direct and proximate result of Defendant’s deceptive acts and practices,
21 including its use or employment of false advertising, Plaintiff Craig and each of the other members
22 of the New York Subclass have sustained actual damages in an amount to be proven at trial.

23 149. In addition, Plaintiff Craig and New York Subclass Members seek equitable and
24 injunctive relief against Defendant on terms that the Court considers reasonable, and reasonable
25 attorneys’ fees and costs.

26 150. On December 6, 2021, Plaintiff Craig gave notice to Defendant of its violations of
27 the New York General Business Law § 350.
28

1 151. As of the date of this filing, Plaintiff Craig has not received a response back to her
2 letter.

3 152. In addition, Defendant’s conduct showed malice, motive, and the reckless disregard
4 of the truth such that an award of punitive damages is appropriate.

5
6 **COUNT VI**
7 **Breach of Express Warranty**
8 **(On Behalf Plaintiffs and the New York and California Classes)**

9 153. Plaintiffs repeat and re-allege the allegations above as if set forth herein.

10 154. Plaintiffs, and each member of the Classes, formed a contract with Defendant at the
11 time Plaintiffs and each member of the Classes purchased the Products.

12 155. The terms of the contract include the promises and affirmations of fact made by
13 Defendant on the Products’ packaging and through marketing and advertising, as described above.

14 156. This labeling, marketing, and advertising constitute express warranties and became
15 part of the basis of the bargain and are part of the standardized contract between Plaintiffs and the
16 members of the Classes and Defendant.

17 157. Defendant also made claims that were implied disease claims under 21 C.F.R.
18 101.93(g)(2), and therefore the Products are misbranded under 21 U.S.C. 343(r)(6). This breaches
19 the warranties made by Defendant which Plaintiffs reasonably relied upon at the time of purchase.

20 158. Plaintiffs and the members of the Classes performed all conditions precedent to
21 Defendant’s liability under this contract when they purchased the Products.

22 159. Defendant breached express warranties about the Products and their qualities
23 because Defendant’s Products’ representations, purports the Products control blood glucose, when
24 it does not do so. The name of the Products, “Boost Glucose Control” represents prominently that
25 it controls glucose, which is reinforced by the separate representation that it “helps manage blood
26 sugar”.

27 160. Plaintiffs and each of the members of the National Class would not have purchased
28 the Products had they known the Products did not “control glucose”, “helps manage blood sugar”,

1 nor was authorized by the FDA to make either of those claims.

2 161. Plaintiffs relied upon the representations made by Defendant at the time of purchase
3 and were deprived of the benefit of the bargain as a result of Defendant’s conduct.

4 162. On December 8, 2021, Plaintiffs Horti, Craig and Aliva gave notice to Defendant
5 of its breach of express warranties.

6 163. As a result of Defendant’s breach of warranty, Plaintiffs and each of the members
7 of the Classes have been damaged in the amount of the purchase price of the Products and any
8 consequential damages resulting from their purchases.

9
10 **COUNT VII**
11 **Unjust Enrichment**
12 **(In The Alternative To Count VI And On Behalf Plaintiffs and the New York and**
13 **California Classes)**

14 164. Plaintiffs repeat and re-allege the allegations above as if set forth herein.

15 165. Plaintiffs and Class members conferred tangible and material economic benefits
16 upon Defendant by purchasing Defendant’s Products. Plaintiffs and Class members would not
17 have purchased the Products had they not relied upon Defendant’s deceptive conduct and false
18 advertising of the Products to help “control glucose” and “manage blood sugar”.

19 166. Defendant has been unjustly enriched in retaining the revenues derived from the
20 purchase of the Products by Plaintiffs and the other members of the Classes.

21 167. Retention of those monies under these circumstances is unjust and inequitable
22 because Defendant’s labeling of the Products was misleading to consumers, which caused injuries
23 to Plaintiffs and the other members of the National Class, as they would have not purchased the
24 Products if Defendant had not mislead them into believing the Products helped to “control glucose”
25 and “manage blood sugar...”

26 168. Because Defendant’s retention of the non-gratuitous benefits conferred on them by
27 Plaintiffs and the other members of the National Class is unjust and inequitable, Defendant must
28 pay restitution to Plaintiffs and the other members of the National Class for their unjust enrichment,

1 as ordered by the Court.

2 **PRAYER FOR RELIEF**

3 WHEREFORE, Plaintiffs pray that this case be certified and maintained as a class action
4 and for judgment to be entered against Defendant as follows:

- 5 A. Enter an order certifying the proposed Class (and subclasses, if applicable),
6 designating Plaintiffs as the class representative, and designating the undersigned
7 as class counsel;
- 8 B. Enter an order awarding Plaintiffs and the class members their actual damages,
9 treble damages, and/or any other form of monetary relief provided by law, except
10 that no money damages are presently sought for violations of the California
11 Consumers Legal Remedies Act and Consumer Fraud Statutes mentioned herein;
- 12 C. Declare that Defendant is financially responsible for notifying all Class members
13 of the mislabeling and misbranding of the Products;
- 14 D. Declare that Defendant must disgorge, for the benefit of the Class, all or part of the
15 ill-gotten profits it received from the sale of the Products, or order Defendant to
16 make full restitution to Plaintiffs and the members of the Class, except that no
17 money damages are presently sought for violations of the California Consumers
18 Legal Remedies Act;
- 19 E. Defendant shall audit and reassess all prior customer claims regarding the Products,
20 including claims previously denied in whole or in part;
- 21 F. An order awarding Plaintiffs and the Classes pre-judgment and post-judgment
22 interest as allowed under the law;
- 23 G. Grant reasonable attorneys' fees and reimbursement of all costs for the prosecution
24 of this action, including expert witness fees; and
- 25 H. Grant such other and further relief as this Court deems just and appropriate.

26 **JURY DEMAND**

1 Plaintiffs hereby demands a trial by jury on all issues so triable.

2 **Dated: 2021**

Respectfully Submitted,

3
4 Dated: December 17, 2021

**MILBERG COLEMAN BRYSON
PHILLIPS GROSSMAN PLLC**

/s/ Alex R. Straus

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Rado

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CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT

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*Attorneys for the Plaintiffs
and the Proposed Class
Pro hac vice forthcoming

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CIVIL COVER SHEET

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

I. (a) PLAINTIFFS

Bruce Horti, Sandra George, and Jeanette Craig

(b) County of Residence of First Listed Plaintiff (EXCEPT IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES)

(c) Attorneys (Firm Name, Address, and Telephone Number)

Alex R. Straus, Milberg Coleman Bryson Phillips Grossman, PLLC
280 S. Beverly Drive
Beverly Hills, CA 90212

DEFENDANTS

Nestle USA, Inc.

County of Residence of First Listed Defendant (IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES ONLY)

NOTE: IN LAND CONDEMNATION CASES, USE THE LOCATION OF THE TRACT OF LAND INVOLVED.

Attorneys (If Known)

II. BASIS OF JURISDICTION (Place an "X" in One Box Only)

- 1 U.S. Government Plaintiff
2 U.S. Government Defendant
3 Federal Question (U.S. Government Not a Party)
4 Diversity (Indicate Citizenship of Parties in Item III)

III. CITIZENSHIP OF PRINCIPAL PARTIES (Place an "X" in One Box for Plaintiff and One Box for Defendant)

Table with columns for Plaintiff (PTF) and Defendant (DEF) citizenship: Citizen of This State, Citizen of Another State, Citizen or Subject of a Foreign Country, Incorporated or Principal Place of Business In This State, Incorporated and Principal Place of Business In Another State, Foreign Nation.

IV. NATURE OF SUIT (Place an "X" in One Box Only)

Large table with categories: CONTRACT, REAL PROPERTY, TORTS, CIVIL RIGHTS, PRISONER PETITIONS, HABEAS CORPUS, OTHER, FORFEITURE/PENALTY, LABOR, IMMIGRATION, BANKRUPTCY, SOCIAL SECURITY, FEDERAL TAX SUITS, OTHER STATUTES.

V. ORIGIN (Place an "X" in One Box Only)

- 1 Original Proceeding
2 Removed from State Court
3 Remanded from Appellate Court
4 Reinstated or Reopened
5 Transferred from Another District (specify)
6 Multidistrict Litigation-Transfer
8 Multidistrict Litigation-Direct File

VI. CAUSE OF ACTION

Cite the U.S. Civil Statute under which you are filing (Do not cite jurisdictional statutes unless diversity): 28 U.S.C. 1332

Brief description of cause:

The Products are mislabeled, and tricks reasonable consumers into believing that it can treat and prevent diabetes,

VII. REQUESTED IN COMPLAINT:

CHECK IF THIS IS A CLASS ACTION UNDER RULE 23, Fed. R. Civ. P. DEMAND \$

CHECK YES only if demanded in complaint: JURY DEMAND: X Yes No

VIII. RELATED CASE(S), IF ANY (See instructions):

JUDGE

DOCKET NUMBER

IX. DIVISIONAL ASSIGNMENT (Civil Local Rule 3-2)

(Place an "X" in One Box Only) X SAN FRANCISCO/OAKLAND SAN JOSE EUREKA-MCKINLEYVILLE

DATE 12/20/2021

SIGNATURE OF ATTORNEY OF RECORD

/s/ Alex R. Straus

INSTRUCTIONS FOR ATTORNEYS COMPLETING CIVIL COVER SHEET FORM JS-CAND 44

Authority For Civil Cover Sheet. The JS-CAND 44 civil cover sheet and the information contained herein neither replaces nor supplements the filings and service of pleading or other papers as required by law, except as provided by local rules of court. This form, approved in its original form by the Judicial Conference of the United States in September 1974, is required for the Clerk of Court to initiate the civil docket sheet. Consequently, a civil cover sheet is submitted to the Clerk of Court for each civil complaint filed. The attorney filing a case should complete the form as follows:

- I. a) Plaintiffs-Defendants.** Enter names (last, first, middle initial) of plaintiff and defendant. If the plaintiff or defendant is a government agency, use only the full name or standard abbreviations. If the plaintiff or defendant is an official within a government agency, identify first the agency and then the official, giving both name and title.
- b) County of Residence.** For each civil case filed, except U.S. plaintiff cases, enter the name of the county where the first listed plaintiff resides at the time of filing. In U.S. plaintiff cases, enter the name of the county in which the first listed defendant resides at the time of filing. (NOTE: In land condemnation cases, the county of residence of the “defendant” is the location of the tract of land involved.)
- c) Attorneys.** Enter the firm name, address, telephone number, and attorney of record. If there are several attorneys, list them on an attachment, noting in this section “(see attachment).”
- II. Jurisdiction.** The basis of jurisdiction is set forth under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 8(a), which requires that jurisdictions be shown in pleadings. Place an “X” in one of the boxes. If there is more than one basis of jurisdiction, precedence is given in the order shown below.
- (1) United States plaintiff. Jurisdiction based on 28 USC §§ 1345 and 1348. Suits by agencies and officers of the United States are included here.
 - (2) United States defendant. When the plaintiff is suing the United States, its officers or agencies, place an “X” in this box.
 - (3) Federal question. This refers to suits under 28 USC § 1331, where jurisdiction arises under the Constitution of the United States, an amendment to the Constitution, an act of Congress or a treaty of the United States. In cases where the U.S. is a party, the U.S. plaintiff or defendant code takes precedence, and box 1 or 2 should be marked.
 - (4) Diversity of citizenship. This refers to suits under 28 USC § 1332, where parties are citizens of different states. When Box 4 is checked, the citizenship of the different parties must be checked. (See Section III below; **NOTE: federal question actions take precedence over diversity cases.**)
- III. Residence (citizenship) of Principal Parties.** This section of the JS-CAND 44 is to be completed if diversity of citizenship was indicated above. Mark this section for each principal party.
- IV. Nature of Suit.** Place an “X” in the appropriate box. If the nature of suit cannot be determined, be sure the cause of action, in Section VI below, is sufficient to enable the deputy clerk or the statistical clerk(s) in the Administrative Office to determine the nature of suit. If the cause fits more than one nature of suit, select the most definitive.
- V. Origin.** Place an “X” in one of the six boxes.
- (1) Original Proceedings. Cases originating in the United States district courts.
 - (2) Removed from State Court. Proceedings initiated in state courts may be removed to the district courts under Title 28 USC § 1441. When the petition for removal is granted, check this box.
 - (3) Remanded from Appellate Court. Check this box for cases remanded to the district court for further action. Use the date of remand as the filing date.
 - (4) Reinstated or Reopened. Check this box for cases reinstated or reopened in the district court. Use the reopening date as the filing date.
 - (5) Transferred from Another District. For cases transferred under Title 28 USC § 1404(a). Do not use this for within district transfers or multidistrict litigation transfers.
 - (6) Multidistrict Litigation Transfer. Check this box when a multidistrict case is transferred into the district under authority of Title 28 USC § 1407. When this box is checked, do not check (5) above.
 - (8) Multidistrict Litigation Direct File. Check this box when a multidistrict litigation case is filed in the same district as the Master MDL docket. Please note that there is no Origin Code 7. Origin Code 7 was used for historical records and is no longer relevant due to changes in statute.
- VI. Cause of Action.** Report the civil statute directly related to the cause of action and give a brief description of the cause. **Do not cite jurisdictional statutes unless diversity.** Example: U.S. Civil Statute: 47 USC § 553. Brief Description: Unauthorized reception of cable service.
- VII. Requested in Complaint.** Class Action. Place an “X” in this box if you are filing a class action under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 23. Demand. In this space enter the actual dollar amount being demanded or indicate other demand, such as a preliminary injunction. Jury Demand. Check the appropriate box to indicate whether or not a jury is being demanded.
- VIII. Related Cases.** This section of the JS-CAND 44 is used to identify related pending cases, if any. If there are related pending cases, insert the docket numbers and the corresponding judge names for such cases.
- IX. Divisional Assignment.** If the Nature of Suit is under Property Rights or Prisoner Petitions or the matter is a Securities Class Action, leave this section blank. For all other cases, identify the divisional venue according to Civil Local Rule 3-2: “the county in which a substantial part of the events or omissions which give rise to the claim occurred or in which a substantial part of the property that is the subject of the action is situated.”
- Date and Attorney Signature.** Date and sign the civil cover sheet.

1 Alex R. Straus (SBN 321366)
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7 astraus@milberg.com

8 *Attorneys for Plaintiffs and Putative Classes*
9 *Other Counsel on Signature Page*

10 **IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT**
11 **FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA**

12 BRUCE HORTI, EMANUEL ELIVA,
13 SANDRA GEORGE, HOWARD
14 YOSHA, and JEANETTE CRAIG,
15 individually and on behalf of all others
16 similarly situated,

CASE NO. _____

17 Plaintiffs,
18 v.

19 NESTLE USA, INC., a Company

20 Defendant.

21
22 **DECLARATION OF BRUCE HORTI**

23 I, Bruce Horti, declare as follows:

24 1. I am a named plaintiff in the above-captioned litigation.

25 2. I have personal knowledge of the matters set forth below except to those
26 matters stated herein which are based on information and belief, which matters I believe
27 to be true.

Signature: Bruce Horti
Bruce Horti (Dec 17, 2021 13:02 PST)

Email: brucehwfg@yahoo.com

1 3. If called as a witness I could and would competently testify to the
2 matters included herein.

3 4. I reside in Concord, California.

4 5. I am informed and believe that venue is proper in this Court under Civil
5 Code 1780(d) because the Defendant is doing business in this District, and a substantial
6 portion of the events or omissions at issue occurred in this District.

7

8 I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California and
9 the United States that the foregoing is true and correct and that this declaration was
10 executed on December 17, 2021, in Concord, California.

11

Bruce Horti

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Bruce Horti

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Nestle - CRLA Venue Declaration (Horti)

Final Audit Report

2021-12-17

Created:	2021-12-17
By:	Gregory Coleman (rpothier@milberg.com)
Status:	Signed
Transaction ID:	CBJCHBCAABAAQL0P1f76e6WLLTxj3YsR85eClksoN58G

"Nestle - CRLA Venue Declaration (Horti)" History

-  Document created by Gregory Coleman (rpothier@milberg.com)
2021-12-17 - 8:43:13 PM GMT- IP address: 99.10.78.141
-  Document emailed to Bruce Horti (brucehwfg@yahoo.com) for signature
2021-12-17 - 8:45:38 PM GMT
-  Email viewed by Bruce Horti (brucehwfg@yahoo.com)
2021-12-17 - 8:49:21 PM GMT- IP address: 69.147.90.126
-  Document e-signed by Bruce Horti (brucehwfg@yahoo.com)
Signature Date: 2021-12-17 - 9:02:32 PM GMT - Time Source: server- IP address: 98.35.127.76
-  Agreement completed.
2021-12-17 - 9:02:32 PM GMT

Effect of Diabetes-Specific Oral Nutritional Supplements on Postprandial Glycemic Response in Adults with Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus

†Klosterbuer A, †Cekola P, Neutel JM, Jiang X, Cohen SS, †Araujo Torres K
JPEN J Parenter Enteral Nutr 2021;45:S194-195.

Objective:

To determine if a diabetes-specific oral nutritional supplement (DS-ONS) provides improved postprandial blood glucose response relative to a standard ONS in individuals with type 2 diabetes (T2D).

Methods:

- Randomized, crossover clinical trial which enrolled 14 adults with T2D.
- Participants were randomized to receive isocaloric amounts of DS-ONS (BOOST Glucose Control® Nutritional Drink) or Control (Standard ONS) on separate study days, each one week apart. The DS-ONS was higher in protein, fat, and fiber, and lower in carbohydrates and sugars compared to the control. ^ See Table 1 for nutritional information.
- Blood glucose and serum insulin values were measured at baseline and 10, 20, 30, 60, 90, 120, 150, 180, 210 and 240 minutes after consumption and used to calculate the area under the curve (AUC) as well as peak (C_{max}) blood glucose and insulin concentrations for each participant.
- Participants were instructed not to take any diabetes medications before or during the 4-hour study visits.

Results (Figure 1 and Table 2):

- All 14 participants completed the study. Data for two participants were excluded as outliers due to unlikely blood glucose values, leaving 12 individuals included in the analysis (Age: 61 ± 6 years; BMI 28.1 ± 5.7 ; n=7 Female, n=5 Male)
- Glucose: There were no differences in blood glucose levels at baseline ($p > 0.05$). Mean blood glucose AUC and C_{max} for blood glucose were significantly lower for DS-ONS vs. control ($p < 0.01$ for all comparisons).
- Insulin: C_{max} for insulin was significantly lower for DS-ONS vs. control ($p < 0.01$), but there were no differences in insulin AUC, first-phase insulin response ($AUC_{0-30 \text{ min}}$) or insulinogenic index between products.

Table 1. Nutritional Profile of Control and DS-ONS

	Control	DS-ONS
Volume, mL	188	237
Calories	190	190
Protein, g	7.9 (17% TE)	16 (33% TE)
Carbohydrate, g	32 (68% TE)	16 (34% TE)
Sugars, g	16	4
Fiber, g	0	3
Fat, g	3.2 (15% TE)	7 (33% TE)

TE = Total Energy

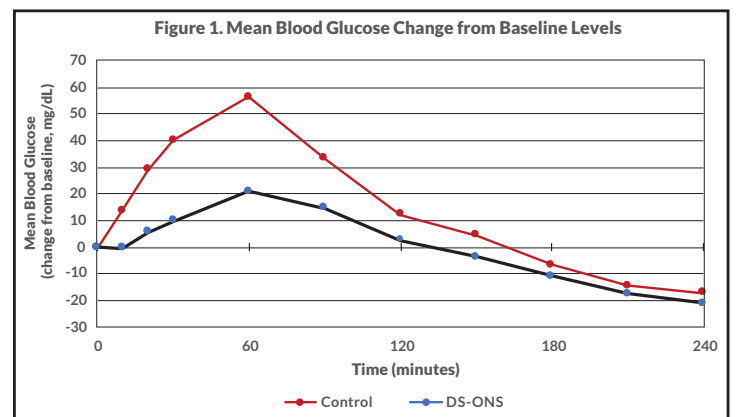


Table 2. Glucose and insulin responses for Control vs. DS-ONS

	Control	DS-ONS
Glucose AUC _{0-240 min} , mg/dL	3515±5205	100±3484*
Glucose C_{max} , mg/dL	189±48	151±30*
Insulin AUC _{0-240 min} , μ IU/mL	1773±2213	680±769
Insulin AUC _{0-30 min} , μ IU/mL	194±224	102±240
Insulin C_{max} , μ IU/mL	37±33	19±22*
Insulinogenic Index, μ IU/mmol	8.4±8.7	14.2±22.6

Values are mean \pm standard deviation; * $p < 0.01$ vs. control
 Pairwise p-values have Bonferroni adjustment for multiple comparisons

Conclusions:

- DS-ONS attenuated the overall blood glucose response and produced lower postprandial blood glucose peaks compared to a standard ONS.
- Specially formulated DS-ONS can be a useful tool to provide nutritional support as part of an overall diabetes management plan in individuals with T2D.

†Nestlé Health Science Employees

^ The original study included separate comparisons of two DS-ONS formulations vs. control. As one formulation is no longer commercially available, this summary was simplified to include only the existing DS-ONS.

Presented at the ASPEN Nutrition Science & Practice Conference, March 22, 2021.
 Summary Prepared by Nestlé Health Science.

The abstract can be accessed online at:
<https://aspenjournals.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1002/jpen.2095>

