	1	MICHAEL J. BIDART #60582	
	2	RICARDO ECHEVERRIA #166049	
	3	STEVEN M. SCHUETZE #143778 SHERNOFF BIDART ECHEVERRIA LLP	
		600 South Indian Hill Boulevard	
	4	Claremont, California 91711	
	5	Telephone: (909) 621-4935	
	6	Facsimile: (909) 625-6915	
	7	Attorneys for Plaintiffs	
	8	Attorneys for Franklins	
	9		
	10	SUPERIOR COURT OF THE	E STATE OF CALIFORNIA
F. 8		IN AND FOR THE COUN	NTY OF LOS ANGELES
AAR	11		
BIDA	12	NEWMARK MERRILL COMPANIES,	Case No.:
LL.	13	INC., a California Company; NMC SOUTH,	
ERNOFF ECHEVE	14	LLC, a California Limited Liability	COMPLAINT AND DEMAND FOR
800		Company; NEWMARK MERRILL	JURY TRIAL
SHE	15	MOUNTAIN STATES, LLC, a California	
01 3	16	Limited Liability Company; NMC	1. BREACH OF THE IMPLIED
薑	17	BROADWAY, LLC, a California Limited Liability Company; CHINO RETAIL, LLC,	COVENANT OF GOOD FAITH AND FAIR DEALING
	18	a California Limited Liability Company;	TAIR DEALING
		CHINO HILLS RETAIL II, LLC, a	2. BREACH OF CONTRACT
	19	California Limited Liability Company;	
	20	NMC ANAHEIM, LLC, a California	
	21	Limited Liability Company; ANAHEIM	
	22	ISLAND PARTNERS, LLC, a California	
	23	Limited Liability Company; RLM FAMILY PROPERTIES, LLC, a California Limited	
		Liability Company; F&F INVESTMENTS,	
	24	LLC, a California Limited Liability	
	25	Company; EAST ANAHEIM	
	26	ACQUISITION, LLC, a California Limited	
		Liability Company; MESA TOWN	
	27	CENTER, LLC, a California Limited	
	28	Liability Company; ANAHEIM FRIES	



2	Liability Company; BRISTOL CHINO II,
	LLC, a California Limited Liability
3	Company; NMC SANTA ANA, LLC, a
4	California Limited Liability Company;
	GINSBORG BOYS, LLC, a California
5	Limited Liability Company; NJL
6	CORONA, LLC, a California Limited
7	Liability Company; FRANK MISSION
	MARKETPLACE, LLC, a California
8	Limited Liability Company; NORWALK
9	TOWN SQUARE MANAGEMENT, INC., a
- 55 N/A-1	California Corporation; JAVID LEVIAN -
10	NORWALK LLC, a California Limited
11	Liability Company; SHOKRAOLAH
12	LEVIAN – NORWALK LLC, a California
	Limited Liability Company; JAMSHID
13	LEVIAN – NORWALK LLC, a California
14	Limited Liability Company;
	MANOOCHEHR LEVIAN – NORWALK
15	LLC, a California Limited Liability
16	Company; LEVIAN FAMILY - NORWALK
17	LLC, a California Limited Liability
17	Company; HEKMATRAVAN FAMILY - a
18	California Limited Liability Company;
19	ARLINGTON SQUARE, L.P., a California
	Limited Partnership; NMC GROVE
20	ONTARIO, LLC, a California Limited
21	Liability Company; NMC GROVE
22	ONTARIO EPL, a Delaware Limited
	Liability Company; NMC GROVE
23	ONTARIO PB, LLC, a Delaware Limited
24	Liability Company; NMC GROVE
0.5	ONTARIO MC, LLC, a Delaware Limited
25	Liability Company; NMC GROVE
26	ONTARIO PDA, LLC, a Delaware Limited
07	Liability Company; SHANE UNIVERSITY,

LLC, a Delaware Limited Liability

Company; NEWMARK UNIVERSITY, LLC,

PARTNERS, LLC, a California Limited



4	Limited Liability Company; CHINO
3	STRATFORD, LLC, an Illinois Limited
4	Liability Company; GMX REAL ESTATE
	GROUP, LLC, an Illinois Limited Liability
5	Company; SHANE STRATFORD, LLC, an
6	Illinois Limited Liability Company; NMC
7	WHITTIER, LLC, a California Limited
	Liability Company; NMC TOWER, LLC, a
8	California Limited Liability Company;
9	WHITTIER GATEWAY, L.P, a California
10	Limited Partnership; PEARL WHITTTIER
10	PAINTER, LLC, a California Limited
11	Liability Company; NMC WHITTIER II,
12	LLC, a California Limited Liability
	Company; NMC COTTONWOOD, LLC, a
13	California Limited Liability Company;
14	SHANE TOWER, LLC, a Delaware Limited
15	Liability Company; NMC BROOMFIELD,
	LLC, a California Limited Liability
16	Company; BROOMFIELD ASSOCIATES,
17	LP, a California Limited Partnership;
	TOWER BROOMFIELD, LLC a Delaware
18	Limited Liability Company; NMC
19	MELROSE PARK, LLC, a California
20	Limited Liability Company; NMC
	MELROSE PARK MANAGER, LLC, a
21	California Limited Liability Company;
22	MELROSE PARK INVESTMENTS L.P., a
23	California Limited Partnership; MELROSE PARK EQUITY, LLC, an Illinois Limited
	Liability Company; MELROSE PARK
24	ASSOCIATES, LLC, a Delaware Limited
25	Liability Company; NMC GROVE
	MELROSE, LLC, a Delaware Limited
26	Liability Company; GMX MELROSE, LLC,
27	an Illinois Limited Liability Company;
28	NMC MELROSE PARK II, LLC, an Illinois

a California Limited Liability Company; NMC STRATFORD, LLC, a Delaware



1	Limited Liability Company; NMC
2	WASHINGTON, LLC, a California Limited
	Liability Company; AU ZONE ARVADA,
3	LLC, a Colorado Limited Liability
4	Company; AU ZONE INVESTMENTS #2,
5	LP, a California Limited Partnership;
3	THOUSAND OAKS MARKETPLACE, LP,
6	a California Limited Partnership; J & J
7	BALDWIN PARK LLC, a Delaware Limited
	Liability Company; NEWMAN CAPITAL
8	TEK, LLC, a Delaware Limited Liability
9	Company; J&J WAREHOUSE LLC, a
10	California Limited Liability Company;
	DEVONSHARE RESEDA, LLC, a California
11	Limited Liability Company; NMC
12	UPLAND, LLC, a California Limited
10	Liability Company; NORWALK
13	FLALLON, LLC, a California Limited
14	Liability Company; TOMO GD LLC, a
15	Delaware Limited Liability Company;
	UPLAND TERRY, LLC, a Delaware
16	Limited Liability Company; SOURCE ASSOCIATES, LLC, a California Limited
17	Liability Company; UPSIDE CRENSHAW
18	HOLDINGS, LLC, a Delaware Limited
19	Liability Company; UPSIDE CIP, LP, a Delaware Limited Partnership; NMMS
20	TWIN PEAKS, LLC, a California Limited
	Liability Company; NMC SOUTHGATE,
21	LLC, a California Limited Liability
22	Company; NMC SOUTHGATE PLAZA,
23	LLC, a California Limited Liability
	Company; NJM RIALTO, LLC, a California
24	Limited Liability Company; NMC
25	PLACENTIA, LLC, a California Limited
26	Liability Company; AU ZONE
	PLACENTIA, LLC, a California Limited
27	Liability Company; AU ZONE MADISON,
28	LLC; a California Limited Liability
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	1	Company; NMC MADISON
	2	MARKETPLACE, LLC, a California Limited Liability Company; TRIANGLE
	3	TOWN CENTER NW, LLC, a Washington
	4	Limited Liability Company; NMC STONY
	5	ISLAND, LLC, a Delaware Limited Liabilit Company,
	6	* *
	7	Plaintiffs,
	8	VS.
	9	
		CERTAIN UNDERWRITERS AT
	10	LLOYD'S LONDON SUBSCRIBING TO
DERB	11	CERTIFICATE NUMBER ARP19021; and
URANCE POLICYHOLDERS	12	DOES 1 through 100, inclusive,
SANCE P	13	Defendants.
NBC.	14	

I.

INTRODUCTION

- Business Interruption coverage is an optional insurance benefit available
 to businesses to minimize their risk and sustain them when a suspension of business
 operations causes a loss of business income. This coverage allows businesses to pay
 continuing operating expenses, additional expenses incurred because of the
 interruption, and supplement their lost business income.
- 2. As California Insurance Commissioner Ricardo Lara stated in a notice on April 14, 2020 to all admitted and non-admitted insurance companies in California, "small and large California businesses purchase Business Interruption insurance to protect against the loss of income and other losses caused by an interruption to the normal operations of the business." (Exhibit 1).

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	3.	Plaintiff NewMark Merrill Companies, Inc., a California Corporation
["N]	MMC"]	manages shopping centers in California and Illinois. Plaintiff NMC South,
LLC	["NM	C South"] manages shopping centers in the San Diego area of California and
in W	ashing	ton. NewMark Merrill Mountain States, LLC ["NMC Mountain States"]
man	ages sh	nopping centers in Colorado.

The Plaintiffs who have an ownership interest in the specific shopping centers ["Owner Plaintiffs"] managed by NMMC, NMC South, and NMC Mountain States are:

> CHINO RETAIL, LLC,; CHINO HILLS RETAIL II, LLC,; NMC ANAHEIM, LLC,; ANAHEIM ISLAND PARTNERS, LLC; RLM FAMILY PROPERTIES, LLC; F&F INVESTMENTS, LLC; EAST ANAHEIM ACQUISITION, LLC; MESA TOWN CENTER, LLC; ANAHEIM FRIES PARTNERS, LLC; BRISTOL CHINO II, LLC; NMC SANTA ANA, LLC; GINSBORG BOYS, LLC; NJL CORONA, LLC; FRANK MISSION MARKETPLACE, LLC; NORWALK TOWN SQUARE MANAGEMENT, INC.; JAVID LEVIAN - NORWALK LLC; SHOKRAOLAH LEVIAN -NORWALK LLC; JAMSHID LEVIAN - NORWALK LLC; MANOOCHEHR LEVIAN - NORWALK LLC; LEVIAN FAMILY -NORWALK LLC; HEKMATRAVAN FAMILY; ARLINGTON SQUARE, L.P.; NMC GROVE ONTARIO, LLC; NMC GROVE ONTARIO EPL; NMC GROVE ONTARIO PB, LLC; NMC GROVE ONTARIO MC, LLC; NMC GROVE ONTARIO PDA, LLC; SHANE UNIVERSITY, LLC; NEWMARK UNIVERSITY, LLC; NMC STRATFORD, LLC; CHINO STRATFORD, LLC; GMX REAL ESTATE GROUP, LLC; SHANE STRATFORD, LLC; NMC WHITTIER, LLC; NMC TOWER, LLC; WHITTIER GATEWAY, L.P.; PEARL WHITTTIER PAINTER, LLC; NMC WHITTIER II, LLC; NMC COTTONWOOD, LLC; SHANE TOWER, LLC; NMC BROOMFIELD, LLC; BROOMFIELD ASSOCIATES, LP; TOWER BROOMFIELD, LLC;

- 5. NMMC, NMC South, NMC Mountain States, and the Owner Plaintiffs will be collectively referred to in this Complaint as "Plaintiffs".
- 6. Plaintiffs purchased, timely paid all premiums, and performed all duties required of them to be performed under a Real Estate America Property Association ["REAPA"] All Risk Property Master insurance policy, certificate number ARP19021 [the "Policy"]. (Exhibit 2). Certain Underwriters of Lloyds of London [the "Underwriters"] is the lead insurer for the Policy. Other participating insurers are identified in Appendix "A" to the Policy, but the extent to which any specific syndicates or other insurers listed in Appendix A provide any share or layer of coverage for this loss is unclear and such insurers will be named as Doe Defendants. Underwriters and Does 1 through 100 will be collectively referred to as Defendants in this Complaint.

- 7. NMMC, NMC South, and NMC Mountain States are named Insureds under the Policy, and the Owner Plaintiffs are insureds under the Policy as subsidiaries, associated or allied companies, corporations, firms, organizations, and any interest the Insured has in any partnership or joint venture in which an Insured has management control or ownership.
- Under an "All Risk" policy, all risks of physical loss or damage are covered unless specifically and unambiguously excluded. Stated differently, all nonexcluded perils are covered.
- 9. The Policy insures Business Interruption loss "resulting from necessary interruption of business conducted by the Insured including all interdependent loss of earnings between or among companies owned or operated by the Insured caused by loss, damage, or destruction by any of the perils covered herein during the term of this policy to real and personal property as covered herein." (Exhibit 2, Appendix B, at p. 7, ¶ 11.)
- 10. The Policy provides a sublimit of coverage for the lesser of \$10,000,000 or 30 days per occurrence per insured when "access to real or personal property is prohibited by order of civil or military authority <u>irrespective of whether the property of the Insured shall have been damaged</u>." (Exhibit 2, Appendix B, at p. 13, ¶ 20(d)(emphasis added).)
- 11. The Policy also provides a sublimit of coverage for the lesser of \$10,000,000 or 30 days per occurrence per insured when "ingress and egress from real or personal property is thereby impaired or hindered <u>irrespective of whether the property of the Insured shall have been damaged</u>." (Exhibit 2, Appendix B, at p. 13, ¶ 20(e)(emphasis added).)
- 12. The Coronavirus ["COVID-19"] originated in China in late 2019, spread to Europe, and eventually came to the United States. On January 30, 2020 the World Health Organization ["W.H.O."] declared a public health emergency of international concern. By March 11, 2020, the W.H.O. made the assessment that COVID-19 could be

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characterized as a pandemic. Starting in the middle of March, states and counties throughout the United States, including the states and counties where Plaintiffs' shopping centers were located, issued governmental orders requiring all non-essential businesses to close. The shopping centers were subject to the specific state and county governmental orders where each was located. The closure of each shopping center based on the governmental orders of the jurisdiction where the shopping center is located constitutes a separate occurrence as defined in the Policy.

- The governmental orders restricted access and/or impaired or hindered egress and ingress to Plaintiffs' properties causing an interruption and suspension to Plaintiffs' business operations resulting in a covered business income loss. Plaintiffs incurred additional losses for extra expenses and soft costs covered under the Policy.
- Engaging in the business of insurance in California imposes upon insurers, including non-admitted carriers, the legal obligation to promptly conduct fair, balanced and thorough investigations of all bases of claims for benefits made by their insureds, with a view toward honoring and promptly paying valid claims. As part of these obligations, an insurance company is obligated to diligently search for and consider evidence that supports coverage of the claimed loss, and in doing so must give at least as much consideration to the interests of its insured as it gives to its own interests.
- 15. During the COVID-19 Pandemic, Commissioner Lara issued a notice after the California Department of Insurance "ha[d] received numerous complaints from businesses, public officials, and other stakeholders asserting that certain insurers, agents, brokers, and insurance company representatives [we]re attempting to dissuade policyholders from filing a notice of claim under its Business Interruption insurance coverage, or refusing to open and investigate these claims upon receipt of a notice of claim" (Exhibit 1, p. 1, emphasis added.)
- The Commissioner's notice reminded insurers facing these claims of the importance of complying with their obligations, citing the California Fair Claims

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Settlement Practices Regulations (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 10, §§ 2695.1 et seq.
("Regulations")). His notice went on to state, "[t]herefore, Insurance Commissioner
Ricardo Lara finds it necessary to issue this Notice to ensure that all agents, brokers,
insurance companies, and other licensees accept, forward, acknowledge, and fairly
investigate all business interruption insurance claims submitted by businesses"
(Exhibit 1, pp. 1-2, emphasis added). The Commissioner stated that "every insurer is
required to conduct and diligently pursue a thorough, fair, and objective investigation
of the reported claim" (Id. at 2).

- 17. The Commissioner further reminded insurers that "[i]f the claim is denied in whole or in part, the insurer is required to communicate the denial in writing to the policyholder listing all the legal and factual bases for such denial (Regulations, § 2695.7(b)(1)). Where the denial of a first party claim is based on a specific statute, applicable law or policy provision, condition, or exclusion, the written denial must include reference to and provide an explanation of the application of the statute, applicable law, or policy provisions, condition, or exclusion to the claim...Regulations, § 2695.7(b)(1)" (Exhibit 1, p. 3, emphasis added).
- 18. Consistent with all of these well-established and non-controversial California insurance claims handling standards, Plaintiffs had the right to rely on Defendants to handle their insurance claims for business interruption losses in a manner consistent with these standards of good faith and fair dealing. Unfortunately, Defendants failed in all respects, and unreasonably and with a callous disregard for the interests of its insureds delayed and denied Plaintiffs' business interruption claim, except as to the sub-limit for Special Perils Business Interruption for Contagious Disease coverage which Defendants continue to unreasonably delay in paying.
- In order to obtain the benefits promised under the Policy and required by California law, Plaintiffs are compelled to institute this lawsuit to pursue all available legal and equitable remedies available to them.

1		II.
2		PARTIES
3	20.	Plaintiff NMMC is, and at all relevant times was, a California corporation,
4	with its prin	ncipal place of business in Woodland Hills, California.
5	21.	Plaintiff NMC South is, and at all relevant times was, a California limited
6	liability corp	poration with its principal place of business in Woodland Hills, California.
7	22.	Plaintiff NMC Mountain States is, and at all relevant times was, a
8	California li	mited liability corporation with its principal place of business in Woodland
9	Hills, Califo	rnia.
10	23.	The Owner Plaintiffs are, and at all relevant times were, organized and
11	doing busin	ess as follows:
12	a.	NMC BROADWAY, LLC is, and at all relevant times was, a California
13	Limit	ted Liability Company with its principal place of business in California.
14	b	CHINO RETAIL, LLC is, and at all relevant times was, a California
15	Limit	ted Liability Company with its principal place of business in California.
16	c.	CHINO HILLS RETAIL II, LLC is, and at all relevant times was, a
17	Califo	ornia Limited Liability Company with its principle place of business in
18	Califo	ornia.
19	d.	NMC ANAHEIM, LLC is, and at all relevant times was, a California
20	Limit	ted Liability Company with its principle place of business in California.
21	e.	ANAHEIM ISLAND PARTNERS, LLC is, and at all relevant times was, a
22	Califo	ornia Limited Liability Company with its principle place of business in
23	Califo	ornia.
24	f.	RLM FAMILY PROPERTIES, LLC is, and at all relevant times was, a
25	Califo	ornia Limited Liability Company with its principle place of business in
26	Califo	ornia.
27	g.	F&F INVESTMENTS, LLC is, and at all relevant times was, a California
28	Limit	ted Liability Company with its principle place of business in California.

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	3	California.	
	4	i. MESA TOWN CENTER, LLC is, and at all relevant times was, a California	
	5	Limited Liability Company with its principle place of business in California.	
	6	j. ANAHEIM FRIES PARTNERS, LLC is, and at all relevant times was, a	
	7	California Limited Liability Company with its principle place of business in	
	8	California.	
	9	k. BRISTOL CHINO II, LLC is, and at all relevant times was, a California	
m	10	Limited Liability Company with its principle place of business in California.	
HOLDER	11	l. NMC SANTA ANA, LLC is, and at all relevant times was, a California	
POLICY	12	Limited Liability Company with its principle place of business in California.	
AWYERS FOR INBURANCE POLICYHOLDERS	13	m. GINSBORG BOYS, LLC is, and at all relevant times was, a California	
DR INBI	14	Limited Liability Company with its principle place of business in California.	
WERE	15	n. NJL CORONA, LLC is, and at all relevant times was, a California Limited	
3	16	Liability Company with its principle place of business in California.	
Ī	17	o. FRANK MISSION MARKETPLACE, LLC is, and at all relevant times was	
	18	a California Limited Liability Company with its principle place of business in	
	19	California.	
	20	p. NORWALK TOWN SQUARE MANAGEMENT, INC. is, and at all	
	21	relevant times was, a California Corporation with its principle place of business	
	22	in California.	
	23	q. JAVID LEVIAN – NORWALK LLC is, and at all relevant times was, a	
	24	California Limited Liability Company with its principle place of business in	
	25	California.	
	26	r. SHOKRAOLAH LEVIAN – NORWALK LLC is, and at all relevant times	
	27	was, a California Limited Liability Company with its principle place of business	
	28	in California.	
		- 12 -	
		COMPLAINT AND DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL	

EAST ANAHEIM ACQUISITION, LLC is, and at all relevant times was, a

California Limited Liability Company with its principle place of business in

	2	California Limited Liability Company with its principle place of business in				
	3	California.				
	4	t. MANOOCHEHR LEVIAN – NORWALK LLC is, and at all relevant times				
	5	was, a California Limited Liability Company with its principle place of business				
	6	in California.				
	7	u. LEVIAN FAMILY - NORWALK LLC is, and at all relevant times was, a				
	8	California Limited Liability Company with its principle place of business in				
	9	California.				
	10	v. HEKMATRAVAN FAMILY is, and at all relevant times was, a California				
ERS FOR INBURANCE POLICYHOLDERS	11	Limited Liability Company with its principle place of business in California.				
POLICY	12	w. ARLINGTON SQUARE, L.P. is, and at all relevant times was, a California				
URANCE	13	Limited Partnership with its principle place of business in California.				
BN NO.	14	x. NMC GROVE ONTARIO, LLC is, and at all relevant times was, a				
WYERE	15	California Limited Liability Company with its principle place of business in				
3	16	California.				
3	17	y. NMC GROVE ONTARIO EPL is, and at all relevant times was, a				
	18	Delaware Limited Liability Company with its principle place of business in				
	19	California.				
	20	z. NMC GROVE ONTARIO PB, LLC is, and at all relevant times was, a				
	21	Delaware Limited Liability Company with its principle place of business in				
	22	California.				
	23	aa. NMC GROVE ONTARIO MC, LLC is, and at all relevant times was, a				
	24	Delaware Limited Liability Company with its principle place of business in				
	25	California.				
	26	bb. NMC GROVE ONTARIO PDA, LLC is, and at all relevant times was, a				
	27	Delaware Limited Liability Company with its principle place of business in				
	28	California.				
		- 13 -				
		COMPLAINT AND DEMAND FOR ILIRY TRIAL				

AMSHID LEVIAN - NORWALK LLC is, and at all relevant times was, a

cc. SHANE UNIVERSITY, LLC is, and at all relevant times was, a Delaware
Limited Liability Company with its principle place of business in Illinois.
dd. NEWMARK UNIVERSITY, LLC is, and at all relevant times was, a
California Limited Liability Company with its principle place of business in
Illinois.
ee. NMC STRATFORD, LLC is, and at all relevant times was, a Delaware
Limited Liability Company with its principle place of business in Illinois.
ff. CHINO STRATFORD, LLC, is, and at all relevant times was, an Illinois
Limited Liability Company with its principle place of business in California.
gg. GMX REAL ESTATE GROUP, LLC is, and at all relevant times was, an
Illinois Limited Liability Company with its principle place of business in
California.
hh. SHANE STRATFORD, LLC is, and at all relevant times was, an Illinois
Limited Liability Company with its principle place of business in Illinois.
ii. NMC WHITTIER, LLC is, and at all relevant times was, a California
Limited Liability Company with its principle place of business in California.
jj. NMC TOWER, LLC is, and at all relevant times was, a California Limited
Liability Company with its principle place of business in California.
kk. WHITTIER GATEWAY, L.P. is, and at all relevant times was, a California
Limited Partnership with its principle place of business in California.
ll. PEARL WHITTTIER PAINTER, LLC is, and at all relevant times was, a
California Limited Liability Company with its principle place of business in
California.
mm. NMC WHITTIER II, LLC is, and at all relevant times was, a California
Limited Liability Company with its principle place of business in California.
nn. NMC COTTONWOOD, LLC is, and at all relevant times was, a California
Limited Liability Company with its principle place of business in Colorado.

	1	oo. SHANE TOWER, LLC is, and at all relevant times was, a Delaware					
	2	Limited Liability Company with its principle place of business in Colorado.					
	3	pp. NMC BROOMFIELD, LLC is, and at all relevant times was, a California					
	4	Limited Liability Company with its principle place of business in Colorado.					
	5	qq. BROOMFIELD ASSOCIATES, LP is, and at all relevant times was, a					
	6	California Limited Partnership with its principle place of Colorado.					
	7	rr. TOWER BROOMFIELD, LLC is, and at all relevant times was, a Delaware					
	8	Limited Liability Company with its principle place of business in Colorado.					
	9	ss. NMC MELROSE PARK, LLC is, and at all relevant times was, a California					
m	10	Limited Liability Company with its principle place of business in Illinois.					
OLDER	11	tt. NMC MELROSE PARK MANAGER, LLC is, and at all relevant times was,					
POLICY	12	a California Limited Liability Company with its principle place of business in					
RANCE	13	Illinois.					
OR NEW	14	uu. MELROSE PARK INVESTMENTS L.P. is, and at all relevant times was, a					
WEREF	15	California Limited Partnership with its principle place of business in Illinois.					
4	16	vv. MELROSE PARK EQUITY, LLC is, and at all relevant times was, an					
i	17	Illinois Limited Liability Company with its principle place of business in Illinois.					
	18	ww. MELROSE PARK ASSOCIATES, LLC is, and at all relevant times was, a					
	19	Delaware Limited Liability Company with its principle place of business in					
	20	Illinois.					
	21	xx. NMC GROVE MELROSE, LLC is, and at all relevant times was, a					
	22	Delaware Limited Liability Company with its principle place of business in					
	23	Illinois.					
	24	yy. GMX MELROSE, LLC is, and at all relevant times was, an Illinois Limited					
	25	Liability Company with its principle place of business in Illinois.					
	26	zz. MELROSE PARK, II, LLC is, and at all relevant times was, an Illinois					
	27	Limited Liability Company with its principle place of business in Illinois.					
	28						

ERNOFF BIDART	ECHEVERRIA	B FOR INSURANCE POLICYHOLDERS
SHE	ы	LAWYERS
	1	=

aaa. N	MC WASHINGTON, LLC is, and at all relevant times was, a California
Limited	Liability Company with its principle place of business in California.
bbb. A	U ZONE ARVADA, LLC is, and at all relevant times was, a Colorado
Limited	Liability Company with its principle place of business in Colorado.
ccc. A	U ZONE INVESTMENTS #2, LP is, and at all relevant times was, a
Californi	ia Limited Partnership with its principle place of business in California.
ddd. T	HOUSAND OAKS MARKETPLACE, LP is, and at all relevant times was
a Califor	rnia Limited Partnership with its principle place of business in California
eee. J	& J BALDWIN PARK LLC, is, and at all relevant times was, a Delaware
Limited	Liability Company with its principle place of business in California.
fff. N	EWMAN CAPITAL TEK, LLC is, and at all relevant times was, a
Delawar	re Limited Liability Company with its principle place of business in
Californi	ia.
ggg. J&	kJ WAREHOUSE LLC is, and at all relevant times was, a California
Limited	Liability Company with its principle place of business in California.
hhh. D	EVONSHARE RESEDA, LLC, is, and at all relevant times was, a
Californi	ia Limited Liability Company with its principle place of business in
Californi	ia.
iii. N	IMC UPLAND, LLC, is, and at all relevant times was, a California
Limited	Liability Company with its principle place of business in California.
jjj. N	ORWALK FLALLON, LLC is, and at all relevant times was, a California
Limited	Liability Company with its principle place of business in California.
kkk. To	OMO GD LLC is, and at all relevant times was, a Delaware Limited
Liability	Company with its principle place of business in California.
III. U	PLAND TERRY, LLC is, and at all relevant times was, a Delaware

Limited Liability Company with its principle place of business in California.

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1	mmm. SOURCE ASSOCIATES, LLC is, and at all relevant times was, a				
2	California Limited Liability Company with its principle place of business in				
3	California.				
4	nnn. UPSIDE CRENSHAW HOLDINGS, LLC is, and at all relevant times was,				
5	a Delaware Limited Liability Company with its principle place of business in				
6	California.				
7	000. UPSIDE CIP, LP is, and at all relevant times was, a Delaware Limited				
8	Partnership with its principle place of business in California.				
9	ppp. NMMS TWIN PEAKS, LLC is, and at all relevant times was, a California				
10	Limited Liability Company with its principle place of business in California.				
11	qqq. NMC SOUTHGATE, LLC is, and at all relevant times was, a California				
12	Limited Liability Company with its principle place of business in California.				
13	rrr. NMC SOUTHGATE PLAZA, LLC is, and at all relevant times was, a				
14	California Limited Liability Company with its principle place of business in				
15	California.				
16	sss. NJM RIALTO, LLC is, and at all relevant times was, a California Limited				
17	Liability Company with its principle place of business in California.				
18	ttt. NMC PLACENTIA, LLC is, and at all relevant times was, a California				
19	Limited Liability Company with its principle place of business in California.				
20	uuu. AU ZONE PLACENTIA, LLC is, and at all relevant times was, a				
21	California Limited Liability Company with its principle place of business in				
22	California.				
23	vvv. AU ZONE MADISON, LLC is, and at all relevant times was, a California				
24	Limited Liability Company with its principle place of business in California.				
25	www. NMC MADISON MARKETPLACE, LLC is, and at all relevant times was,				
26	a California Limited Liability Company with its principle place of business in				
27	California.				
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1	xxx. TRIANGLE TOWN CENTER NW, LLC is, and at all relevant times was, a				
2	Washington Limited Liability Company with its principle place of business in				
3	Washington.				
4	yyy. NMC STONY ISLAND, LLC is, and at all relevant times was, a Delaware				
5	Limited Liability Company with its principle place of business in Illinois.,				
6	24. Certain Underwriters at Lloyd's London subscribing to Certificate				
7	Number ARP19021 is an unincorporated association of syndicates comprised of an				
8	aggregation of numerous members of unknown citizenship. Defendants issued the				
9	Policy in California, and are non-admitted carriers in California.				
10	25. The true names or capacities, whether individual, corporate, associate, or				
11	otherwise, of defendants Does 1 through 100, inclusive, are unknown to Plaintiffs, who				
12	therefore sue said defendants by such fictitious names. Plaintiffs are informed and				
13	believe and based on such information and belief allege that each of the defendants				
14	sued herein as a Doe is legally responsible in some manner for the events and				
15	happenings referred to herein, and will ask leave of this Court to amend this complaint				
16	to insert their true names and capacities in place and instead of the fictitious names				
17	when the same become known to Plaintiffs.				
18	26. Plaintiffs are informed and believe and based thereon allege that at all				
19	times mentioned herein, each of the defendants was the agent, partner, joint venturer,				
20	associate and/or employee of one or more of the other defendants and was acting in the				
21	course and scope of such agency, partnership, joint venture, association and/or				
22	employment when the acts giving rise to this action occurred.				
23					
24	m.				
25	INSURANCE				
26	27. Plaintiffs obtained the Policy with coverage dates from May 31, 2019 to				
27	May 31, 2020. (Exhibit 2, Evidence of Coverage, p. 1). Coverage was extended to June				
28	30, 2020				

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2	named Insu	reds under the Policy. Add	ditionally, any	"subsidiary, associated or allied		
3	company, corporation, firm, organization, and any interest the Insured has in any					
4	partnership or joint venture in which the Insured has management control or ownership					
5	as now constituted or hereafter is acquired, as the respective interests of each may					
6	appear" is a	n Insured. The Owner Plai	intiffs are there	efore Insureds under the Policy.		
7	29.	Plaintiffs timely paid all p	premiums that	were due under the Policy.		
8	30.	In exchange for payment	of the premiu	ms, Defendants agreed to provide		
9	the insuran	ce coverage described in the	e Policy.			
0	31.	The Evidence of Coverag	e states that th	e Coverage is "All Risk Property,		
1	except as sp	ecifically excluded." (Exhil	oit 2, Evidence	of Coverage, p. 1.)		
2	32.	On Page 15, Paragraph 24	of Appendix E	3, the Policy states:		
13		WDEDILG BIGUDED AGA	DICT TI	P - 1 1 - 1 - 1 7		
4				olicy insures against all risks of perty described herein including		
5		general average, salvage,	and all other of	charges on shipments covered		
6		hereunder, except as here (Exhibit 2, Appendix B, p		ed."		
7		(Exhibit 2, Appendix b, p	. 13, 11 24.)			
18	33.	The terms "direct physica	al loss of or da	mage" are not defined in the		
9	Policy.					
20	34.	The Evidence of Coverag	e states the fol	lowing relevant coverages and		
21	sublimits:					
22						
23		"d) \$100,000,000		Contingent Business Interruption		
24				- Per Occurrence		
25		k) Lesser of \$10,000,0	000 or 30 days	Ingress/Egress – Per		
26		1) I asser of \$10,000.0	100 on 20 days	Occurrence per Insured Civil Authority – Per		
27		1) Lesser of \$10,000,0	oo or so days	Occurrence per Insured		
28				and a second control of the second of the se		

Plaintiffs NMMC, NMC South, and NMC Mountain States are separately

	1		q)	\$1,000,000	Special Perils Business	
	2				Interruption [Contagious Disease]	
	3					
	4		u)	\$100,000	Communicable Disease Extra Expense – Per Occurrence"	
	5		(Evh	ibit 2, Evidence of Coverage , p		
	6		(EXII	ibit 2, Evidence of Coverage, p		
	7	35.	The	term "occurrence" is defined in	the Policy as: "Except as hereinafter	
	8	defined, 'los	ss occu	rrence' shall mean accident or	occurrence or series of accidents or	
	9	occurrences	arisin	g out of one event." (Exhibit 2,	Appendix B, p. 17, ¶ 26.)	
	10	36.	The	Policy states the following gran	at of coverage for Business	
Aus	11	Interruption	n:			
Z Z	12		//11	DI ICINIECC INTERDITORION	This policy shall cover the loss	
VER	13	"11. BUSINESS INTERRUPTION - This policy shall cover the loss resulting from necessary interruption of business conducted by the				
ECHEVERRIA "	14		Insu	red including all interdepender	nt loss of earnings between or among	
E	15		2 22 2	[1] (T	ne Insured caused by loss, damage, or ered herein during the term of this	
n s	16			y to real and personal property	그렇게 하면 하지 않는 하는 것이 없는 것이다.	
	17				such loss, damage or destruction this	
	18				ACTUAL LOSS SUSTAINED by the om such interruption of business, but	
	19			not exceeding the reduction i	in gross earnings less charges and	
	20			expenses which do not neces of business."	sarily continue during the interruption	
	21		(Exh	ibit 2, Appendix B, Page 7-8, ¶	11)(Emphasis in original).	
	22					
	23	37.	The	term "interruption" is not defin	ned in the Policy. One definition of	
	24	"interruptio	on" is "	a stoppage or hindering of an a	activity for a time."	
	25	[https://ww	w.mer	riam-webster.com/dictionary/ir	nterruption (last accessed on	
	26	November 1	16, 202	0).]		
	27	38.	The	Policy covers loss of Rental Val	ue/Rental Income:	
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"15. Re	ental Value/Rental Income - This policy shall cover the actual loss
sustained	d by the Insured resulting directly from the necessary untenability
caused b	y loss, damage, or destruction by any of the perils covered herein
during th	ne term of this policy to real or personal property as covered
herein. L	oss settlement shall not exceed the reduction in rental value less
charges a	and expenses which do not necessarily continue during the period
of untena	ability.

- If the Insured is the leasor, for the purposes of this insurance, 'rental value' is defined as the sum of:
 - the total anticipated gross rental income of the described property as furnished and equipped by the insured, and
 - the amount of all charges which are legal obligation of the tenant(s) and which would otherwise be obligations of
 - the fair rental value of any portion of said property which is occupied by the Insured."

(Exhibit 2, Appendix B, p. 10, ¶ 15.)

- The Policy covers "leasehold interest of the Insured as Lessor in excess of the actual rental payable as of the date of loss over the rental value of the Leasee's leased premises (giving due consideration to rental and over-standard tenant's improvement allowances and including any maintenance or operating charges paid by Leasee) during the unexpired term of the Lessee's lease." (Exhibit 2, Appendix B, p. 11, ¶ 17.)
- 40. The Policy covers "leasing commission insofar as they are unearned at the time of loss. In addition, in the event leasing commissions are due and payable upon releasing of the property, the Insured will be entitled to the difference between re-leasing commission paid, minus the leasing commission previously paid for the period when the property is re-leased, until the original lease would have expired." (Exhibit 2, Appendix B, p. 11-12, ¶ 18.)
- The Policy covers "the necessary extra expense, as hereinafter defined, incurred by the Insured caused by loss, damage, or destruction by any of the perils

covered herein during the term of this policy to real and	l personal property as covered
herein.	

- a) The term 'Extra Expense' wherever used in this Policy, is defined as the excess (if any) of the total cost(s) incurred during the period of restoration, chargeable to the operation of the Insured's business, over and above the total cost(s) that would have normally have been incurred to conduct the business during the same period had no loss or damage occurred...."

 (Exhibit 2, Appendix B, Page 9, ¶ 12(a).)
- 42. Additionally, the Policy states that "[t]his policy is extended to cover expenses as are necessarily incurred for the purpose of reducing any loss under this policy, even though such expense may exceed by which the loss under this policy is therefore reduced." (Exhibit 2, Appendix B, Page 9, ¶ 13.)
- 43. The Policy also covers "soft costs" incurred by the Insured caused by loss, damage, or destruction by any of the perils covered by the policy, including "accounting and attorney fees" and "[c]osts and commissions resulting from renegotiating leases which directly result from the covered loss." (Exhibit 2, Appendix B, p. 9, ¶ 14(a)(vii) and 14(a)(viii).)
- 44. The Policy provides for Civil Authority coverage for "the actual loss for a period not to exceed thirty (30) consecutive days when, as a result of a peril insured against, access to real or personal property is prohibited by order of civil or military authority irrespective of whether the property of the Insured shall have been damaged." (Exhibit 2, Appendix B, p. 13, ¶ 20(d), emphasis added.)
- 45. The Policy provides for Ingress/Egress coverage for "the actual loss sustained for a period not to exceed thirty (30) consecutive days when, as a result of a peril insured against, ingress to or egress from real or personal property is thereby impaired or hindered <u>irrespective of whether the property of the Insured shall have been damaged</u>." (Exhibit 2, Appendix B, p. 13, ¶ 20(e), emphasis added.)

	1	46. The Policy states a sublimit of \$1,000,000 for Special Perils Business				
	2	Interruption for Contagious Disease Coverage. The Policy states:				
	3	"c) CONTAGIOUS DISEASE - This policy is extended to insure loss as				
	4	Insured hereunder when there is an interruption or interference with the business of the insured as a consequence of an order by a				
	5	competent public authority due to:				
	6	 i) Infection or contagious disease manifested by any person while on the premises of the insured; 				
	7	ii) Injury or illness sustained by any person arising from or				
	8	traceable to a foreign or injurious matter in food or drink				
	9	provided on the premises of the Insured or the threat thereof: iii) the existence or threat of hazardous conditions either actual or				
	10	suspected at the premises of the Insured."				
YRT SLOW	11	(Exhibit 2, Appendix B, Page 33, ¶ 72(c).)				
A P	12					
E K	13	47. The Policy provides \$100,000 in Extra Expense coverage for				
EV		Communicable Diseases. This coverage states:				
N I	14					
SHERNOFF BIDART ECHEVERRIATE LAWYERS TOR INSURANCE POLICYHOLOGE	15	"This policy covers the extra expense the Insured incurs due to a				
O 3	16	communicable disease event means that a Public Health Authority has ordered that a covered premises be evacuated and disinfected due to the				
嘼	17	outbreak of a communicable disease at the covered premises,				
	18	Communicable disease means any disease caused by a biological agent				
	19	that is transmitted directly or indirectly from one individual to				
		another." (Exhibit 2, Appendix B, Page 34, ¶ 77.)				
	20					
	21	48. Exclusion J in the Policy states:				
	22	"PERILS EXCLUDED – This policy does not insure:				
	23	j) Disease, Infestation, Insect, Animal or Vermin Damage."				
	24	(Exhibit 2, Appendix B, Page 17, ¶ 25j.)				
	25	49. The term "disease" is not defined in the Policy, but all the terms in				
	26	Exclusion J require the actual presence of the excluded peril.				
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COMPLAINT AND DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL

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FACTUAL BACKGROUND

A. Plaintiffs' Business Operations

- Plaintiffs NMMC, NMC South, and NMC Mountain States are separate 50. companies that manage various shopping centers in different locations in the United States, each subject to the governmental orders of the jurisdiction where the shopping centers are located. NMCC manages shopping centers throughout the state of California, and in Illinois. NMC South manages shopping centers primarily in San Diego County, California, but also in the state of Washington. NMC Mountain States manages shopping centers in the state of Colorado. The shopping centers that are managed by Plaintiffs are "allied, managed or owned entities."
- Attached as Exhibit 3 is the list of the shopping center ownership by the Owner Plaintiffs and the shopping centers that are managed by Plaintiffs NMMC, NMC South and NMC Mountain States covered by the Policy.
- The governmental orders issued by various states and counties during the COVID-19 pandemic have restricted access, and/or impaired or hindered the ingress and egress to Plaintiffs' shopping centers. The shopping centers owned by the Owner Plaintiffs and managed by Plaintiffs NMMC, NMC South and NMC Mountain States suffered an interruption in business resulting in, lost rental income from businesses that were unable to operate, and Plaintiffs have incurred and will continue to incur ancillary losses and expenses.
- 53. Additionally, Plaintiffs have lost leasing fees, management fees, development fees, and profit participation from the shopping centers, and have incurred and will incur extra expenses and soft costs as those terms are defined in the Policy.

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B.

The COVID-19 Pandemic

- It has been widely reported that COVID-19 has its origins in Wuhan, China. The first public reports were on December 31, 2019 of an "outbreak of respiratory illness."
- 55. By January 8, 2020, the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention ("CDC") issued warnings to American travelers going to China for a "pneumonia of unknown etiology" (https://emergency.cdc.gov/han/han00424.asp, last accessed November 16, 2020).
- 56. On January 20, 2020, the W.H.O. reported the first confirmed cases outside mainland China in Japan, South Korea and Thailand (https://www.nytimes.com/article/ coronavirus-timeline.html, last accessed October 14, 2020). The following day, on January 21, 2020, the first American COVID-19 case was confirmed in the State of Washington (https://www.cdc.gov/media/releases/2020/p0121-novel-coronavirustravel-case.html, last accessed November 16, 2020).
- During February 2020, COVID-19 began spreading rapidly throughout 57. Europe, with Italy initially becoming the most impacted country. That same month, an increasing number of cases were being reported in the United States, with the largest known initial concentration of cases in the Seattle area of Washington State, where NMC South has shopping centers. The first cluster of COVID-19 cases was reported at a nursing home in Kirkland, Washington in late February, and the first COVID-19 death in the United States was announced on February 28, 2020.
- Published reports state that COVID-19 also continued to spread throughout California during February 2020. In early February, several COVID-19 cases were announced in Northern California. During February, the number of reported COVID-19 cases in California increased. On February 26, 2020, the CDC announced the first reported California COVID-19 case resulting from community spread (https://www.cdc.gov/media/releases/2020/s0226-Covid-19-spread.html, last accessed November 16, 2020).

	59.	As COVID-19 cases continued to increase in certain areas of the United
States	, on M	arch 4, 2020 Congress passed emergency funding of \$8.3 billion to aid in the
imme	diate l	nealth response to COVID-19.

- 60. On March 11, 2020, travel from Europe to the United States was restricted, and the W.H.O. declared COVID-19 a pandemic. The term "pandemic" does not appear anywhere as an excluded peril in this "All Risk" Policy.
- 61. On March 13, 2020, the President of the United States declared a national emergency. Throughout this time, Plaintiffs' shopping centers remained open and their business was not interrupted.

C. Numerous states issue Governmental Orders

62. Numerous states, including California, Illinois, Colorado and Washington, issued governmental orders that restricted the operations of businesses, other than those providing essential services.

a. WASHINGTON

- 63. On February 29, 2020, Governor Jay Inslee of Washington declared a state of emergency. He subsequently issued a "stay-at-home" Proclamation on March 23, 2020 prohibiting personal activities and ordering the cessation of non-essential business operations. On May 4, 2020, Governor Inslee issued Proclamation 20-25.3 continuing all COVID-19 orders until May 31, 2020 with a four stage Phased reopening. Phase One of the reopening allowed low-risk business such as landscaping, vehicle sales, pet walking, retail (curb-side pick-up only), and car washes to reopen. Phase Two allowed. Phase Two allowed in-store retail purchases with health restrictions, barber shops and salons could reopen, restaurants could reopen with 50% capacity and with a table size no larger than five persons.
- 64. Triangle Center NW LLC's shopping center managed by NMC South and in Longview, Washington is located in Cowlitz, County. On May 23, 2020, Cowlitz

County was allowed to enter Phase Two, where it remained until November 15, 2020 when Governor Inslee announced a four week state-wide restrictions.

b. CALIFORNIA

- 65. On March 19, 2020, California Governor Gavin Newsom issued an Executive Order requiring all individuals living in California to stay home or at their place of residence except to visit essential businesses, and permitting people working in "critical infrastructure sectors" to go to work.
- 66. On May 4, 2020, Governor Newsome issued an Executive Order directing all residents to continue to obey State Public health directives. This Order directed State Public Health Officers to establish criteria on reopening lower-risk businesses ("Stage Two") and then allowing reopening of higher-risk business and spaces ("Stage Three").
- 67. On May 7, 2020, the State Public Health Officer responded by issuing an Order allowing local health jurisdictions in the State to begin gradual movement into Stage Two. As part of the Order, the State Public Health Officer set forth criteria and procedures that local jurisdictions would be required to meet in order to progress through Stage Two. One of the requirements is that the local health jurisdiction must have a COVID-19 Containment Plan. This plan includes, among other things, ensuring that essential businesses have "access to key supplies" such as hand sanitizer.
- 68. Shopping centers throughout Los Angeles County are managed by Plaintiff NMMC and owned by certain Owner Plaintiffs as identified in Exhibit 3, and the business that operate in the shopping centers, were subject to governmental orders. Prior to the California statewide stay-at-home order, Los Angeles County issued its first governmental order on March 16, 2020, prohibiting all indoor and outdoor public and private events within a confined space, and the closure of all in person dining at restaurants. On May 13, 2020, Los Angeles County only permitted retailers not in an indoor mall or shopping center to open for curbside pickup as part of the Stage Two reopening. On May 22, 2020, indoor mall curbside pickup was permitted. On May 26, 2020, in-store shopping was permitted at all retail establishments, including at shopping

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centers. On June 19, 2020, personal care facilities such as hair and nail salons were permitted to reopen. On June 27, 2020, Los Angeles County issued an order permitting outside dining at restaurants. Indoor shopping malls in Los Angeles County were ordered closed again in July 13, 2020.

- 69. In Los Angeles County there have been subsequent shut downs and restrictions, including an Order issued on November 28, 2020 that prohibited all indoor and outdoor dining, and limited retail and shopping center to 20 percent occupancy capacity
- 70. Shopping centers throughout Orange County are managed by Plaintiff NMMC and owned by certain Owner Plaintiffs as identified in Exhibit 3, and the business that operate within those shopping centers, were subject to governmental orders. On March 17, 2020 all business except essential businesses were ordered to close in Orange County. On May 23, 2020, the State of California approved the County of Orange's reopening of retail establishments subject to social distancing and sanitizing protocols, and indoor person dining at restaurants at a limited scale. On July 1, 2020 a further order was issued prohibiting indoor in person dining and ordering bars to close starting on July 2, 2020.
- Shopping centers in Venture County are managed by Plaintiff NMMC and owned by certain Owner Plaintiffs as identified in Exhibit 3, and the business that operate within those shopping centers, were subject to governmental orders. Prior to the California statewide stay-at-home order, Ventura County on March 17, 2020 prohibited the operations of in person dining at restaurants, and restricted large gatherings. On May 20, 2020, retail businesses and restaurants were allowed to reopen subject to following the state-mandated COVID protocols.
- Shopping centers in San Bernardino County are managed by Plaintiff NMMC and owned by certain Owner Plaintiffs as identified in Exhibit 3, and the business that operate within those shopping centers, were subject to governmental orders. Non-essential businesses in San Bernardino County were ordered to be closed

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based on the statewide stay-at-home order on March 19, 2020. On May 8, 2020, San Bernardino rescinded all prior COVID local orders. On May 23, 2020, dine-in restaurants, stores, shopping malls and shopping centers in San Bernardino County were permitted by the state of California to reopen subject to compliance with the statemandated safety protocols. On July 2, 2020 all in-person inside dining was prohibited and all bars were ordered to close in San Bernardino County. Indoor shopping malls in San Bernardino County were ordered closed again on July 13, 2020, and only permitted to reopen in early September 2020.

- Shopping centers in Riverside County managed by Plaintiff NMMC and owned by certain Owner Plaintiffs as identified in Exhibit 3, and the business that operate within those shopping centers, were subject to governmental orders. Nonessential businesses in Riverside County were ordered to be closed based on the statewide stay-at-home order on March 19, 2020. On May 22, 2020, the State of California approved Riverside County retail businesses in shopping centers and inperson dining, subject to state-mandated social distancing and sanitizing requirements. Indoor shopping malls and dine-in restaurants and bars in Riverside County were ordered closed again on July 13, 2020, and only permitted to reopen in early September 2020.
- 74. Shopping centers in Sacramento County managed by Plaintiff NMMC and owned by certain Owner Plaintiffs as identified in Exhibit 3, and the business that operate within those shopping centers, were subject to governmental orders. Nonessential businesses in Sacramento County were closed based on the statewide stay-athome order on March 19, 2020. On May 22, 2020, the State of California approved Sacramento County to reopen in-person dining and retail shopping. Shopping centers began reopening shortly thereafter. On July 2, 2020, Sacramento County issued a stayat-home order. Indoor shopping malls and dine-in restaurants and bars in Sacramento County were ordered to remain closed on July 13, 2020, and only permitted to reopen in early September 2020.

75. Shopping centers in San Diego County managed by Plaintiff NMC South and owned by certain Owner Plaintiffs as identified in Exhibit 3, and the business that operate within those shopping centers, were subject to governmental orders. Plaintiff NMC South's shopping centers were subject to San Diego County's governmental orders. In San Diego County non-essential businesses closed based on the statewide stay-at-home order mandated on March 19, 2020. On May 20, 2020, the State of California approved San Diego County to reopen in-person dining and retail shopping. Shopping centers began reopening shortly thereafter.

c. <u>ILLINOIS</u>

- 76. Shopping centers in Illinois managed by Plaintiff NMMC and owned by certain Owner Plaintiffs as identified in Exhibit 3, and the businesses that operate within those shopping centers, were subject to the executive orders issued by Illinois Governor I.B. Pritzker.
- 77. On March 16, 2020, in Governor Pritzker issued an Executive Order 2020-8 prohibiting the service of food inside any business premises and prohibiting public gatherings of more than 100 people. On March 20, 2020, Governor Pritzker issued an Executive Order 2020-10 requiring all individuals living in Illinois to stay at home or at their place of residence, requiring social distancing, prohibiting gatherings of more than 10 people, prohibiting non-essential activities and travel, and ordering non-essential businesses to cease all activities. On April 1, 2020, the "stay at home" order and all COVID-19 orders were extended.
- 78. On April 30, 2020, Governor Pritzker issued a further Executive Order 2020-32 that allowed non-essential stores and businesses to reopen for minimum basic operations. Such minimum basic operations included the minimum necessary activities to maintain the business, the minimum necessary activity to facilitate employees of the business being able to continue to work remotely, and allowing retail operations to fulfill online and telephonic order. The Order requires all essential business and businesses engaged in minimum basic operations to take proactive measures to ensure

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compliance with social distancing requirements. These requirements included ensuring
that hand sanitizer and sanitizing products are readily available for employees and
customers

79. On June 29, 2020, Governor Pritzker issued Executive Order 2020-43 requiring retail business to adhere to safety protocols, and limit capacity to 50 percent and discontinue use of recyclable bags. Restaurants were allowed to offer food and beverages for on-site consumption.

d. COLORADO

- 80. Shopping centers in Colorado managed by Plaintiff NMMC and owned by certain Owner Plaintiffs as identified in Exhibit 3, and the businesses that operate within these shopping malls, were required to follow the executive orders issued in Colorado.
- 81. On March 16, 2020, the Executive Director of the Colorado Department of Public Health & Environment issued a Public Health Order closing bars, restaurants, theaters, etc. through April 30, 2020.
- 82. On March 22, 2020, Colorado Executive Director issued a Public Health Order requiring a reduction of in-person work force by at least 100%.
- 83. On March 25, 2020, Colorado Governor Jared Polis issued an Executive Order that ordered all people to stay at home and ordered all non-essential businesses to close temporarily.
- 84. On April 18, 2020, Colorado Executive Director issued a Public Health Order prohibiting public gatherings of more than 10 people and requiring Social Distancing.
- 85. On April 27, 2020, Governor Polis issued a "safer-at-home" order that permitted certain business to open. Retail businesses outside of Denver were allowed to reopen with limited capacity. On May 9, non-critical retail businesses were allowed to reopen with limited capacity in the Denver area.

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	86.	On May 14, 2020, the Colorado Department of Public Health issued a
Healtl	n order	that allowed to critical business and other sectors of the economy to
resum	e oper	ations including non-critical retail.

87. On May 27, 2020 restaurants were permitted to serve customers for inperson dining

D. Plaintiffs' Business Interruption Claim.

- 88. On April 9, 2020, Plaintiffs submitted a Notice of Loss for their business interruption losses. The Notice of Loss identified shopping center locations, primarily in California, but also in Illinois, Colorado and Washington, which suffered a business interruption. (Exhibit 4.)
- 89. The Notice of Loss identified the governmental orders issued in the various states that prohibited access and/or impaired or hindered ingress and egress to business activities as the cause of loss. The Notice of Loss stated that Plaintiffs suffered a business interruption loss resulting from the governmental orders that restricted business activities resulting in lost rental income, leasing fees, management fees, development fees, and profit participation from the shopping centers. Additionally, the Plaintiffs have incurred extra expenses to operate remotely, for sanitizing and PPE equipment and supplies, and soft costs for legal expenses (not related to making the insurance claim).
- 90. On April 10, 2020, OneSource Claims Management LLC, 6320 Canoga Avenue, Ste. 7100, Woodland Hills, California 91367 ["OneSource"] acknowledged receipt of the claim on behalf of the insurers. Attached as Exhibit 5 is a true and correct copy of the e-mail acknowledging receipt of the claim.
- 91. On April 22, 2020, OneSource sent Plaintiffs a reservation of rights letter, which identified various provisions of the Policy, but did not accept or deny any portion of the claim. (Exhibit 6.) This letter also requested information and documentation regarding the claim.

	1	92.	On May 15, 2020, Plaintiffs sent OneSource a Preliminary Summary of
	2	Losses and	Expenses for April 2020, which included Excel spreadsheets and supporting
	3	documentat	ion. (Exhibit 7) The following losses were documented:
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	5		The total combined loss of rents for the Owner Plaintiffs in April 2020 is \$5,617,212
	6		φ5,017,212
	7		The April 2020 Lost Management Fees:
			1. NMMC - \$93,540.96
	8		2. NMC South - \$42,820.97
	9		3. NMC Mountain States - \$18,201.08
	10		The April 2020 Extra Expenses are as follows:
88			NMMC - \$161,855.28
3070	11		a. PPE and Sanitizers - \$123,130
HADIT	12		b. Legal Fees - \$3,148
D4 35			 Mitigation Related Fed Ex Charges - \$195.07
BRANC	13		d. Remote Access - \$35,382.21
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LAWYERS FOR INBURANCE POLICYHOLDERS	15	93.	Owner Plaintiffs' loss of Rental Income includes tenants that have been
	16	closed as a	result of the governmental orders. Rent has been deferred for some and
Ī	17	abated for o	thers. Some tenants may never reopen and will go out of business and be
_	18	unable to p	ay any past rents that are currently owed.
	19	94.	The loss of Rental Income by Owner Plaintiffs and management fees
	20	claimed by	NMMC, NMC South, and NMC Mountain States are covered under the
	21	Policy as pa	rt of the actual loss for business interruption based on the Civil Authority,
	22	Ingress/Egr	ess and Contagious Diseases coverages.
	23	95.	The costs for personal protective equipment ("PPE") and sanitizing
	24	supplies, m	tigation-related Federal Express Charges, and Remote Access incurred by
	25	Plaintiffs ar	e covered Extra Expenses under the Policy.
	26	96.	The attorney fees listed in the May 15, 2020 by NMMC are covered "Soft
	27	Costs" as th	at term is defined in the Policy.
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97. On June 2, 2020, Plaintiffs provided further responses to Defendants
Requests for Information. Plaintiffs stated that there were no known confirmed COVID-
19 cases at their locations. In addition, Plaintiffs stated the "direct cause for the
disruption of each [location] was the 'stay at home' executive orders issued by the
governors of the States of California, Illinois, Colorado and Washington." Plaintiffs
further stated they were claiming a direct physical loss of or damage to insured
property" because of the presence of SARS CoV-2 ['COVID-19'] in each State and the
resulting illnesses, contamination, and property damage caused by the virus, the
governors of California, Illinois, Colorado and Washington issued executive orders and
the state departments of public health issued public health orders requiring the closure
of retail properties, prohibiting citizens from entering retail tenants, requiring the
employees of the insureds to stay at home, and requiring the implementation and
execution of 'safe distancing' and sanitation measures." Attached as Exhibit 8 is a true
and correct copy of Plaintiffs' responses to all of the initial questions by the insurers in
the April 22, 2020 letter.

- 98. On June 22, 2020, Plaintiffs' counsel, Daniel Zollner, Esq., requested an updated status report. (Exhibit 9, p. 7.)
- 99. On June 23, 2020, OneSource responded stating that there was no definitive answer from the insurers, and it would provide a further timeframe after speaking with the insurers the following week. (Exhibit 9, p. 6.)
- 100. On July 17, 2020, Mr. Zollner sent a further e-mail to OneSource again noting there had been no response or communication received. (Exhibit 9, p. 4-5.)
- 101. On July 22, 2020, OneSource responded by e-mail stating, the "Underwriters acknowledge in principle that certain aspects of the claim may be covered under Paragraph 72(c)(iii) of the Policy - SPECIAL PERILS BUSINESS INTERRUPTION - CONTAGIOUS DISEASE. That provision states: 'This policy shall cover the Actual Loss Sustained resulting from necessary interruption of business conducted by the insured cause by any of the periods listed below ... c)

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CONTAGIOUS DISEASE - This policy is extended to insure loss as Insured hereunder
when there is an interruption or interference with the business of the insured as a
consequence of an order of competent public authority due to: iii) the existence or
threat of hazardous conditions either actual or suspected at the premises of the
Insured." It was also noted that there was a sublimit of \$1,000,000, but that the
Underwriters did not accept or deny coverage at that time and continued to reserve
their rights. (Exhibit 9, p. 2-4.)

- 102. On that same date, July 22, 2020, Mr. Zollner demanded payment of the \$1,000,000 for the Contagious Disease coverage. He also requested a form for the Proof of Loss, which OneSource had first time requested earlier that day. (Exhibit 9, p. 2.)
- 103. On July 28, 2020, OneSource responded that the Underwriters were determining how the Contagious Disease that sublimit applies to Plaintiffs' claim and the amount of the actual loss sustained. (Exhibit 9, p. 2.)
- 104. Defendants continued to unreasonably delay payment of any benefits to Plaintiffs, including on the Contagious Disease coverage.
- 105. On August 12, 2020, OneSource sent a letter stating that "the Insurers continue to evaluate whether and to what extent coverage for the Claim may exist under the Policy. The insurers require additional time in order to properly evaluate whether claims for losses arising out of the COVID-19 pandemic are covered under the Policy." (Exhibit 10.)
- 106. On September 21, 2020, OneSource sent a letter stating the insurers were continuing to evaluate whether and to what extent coverage for the Claim may exist under the Policy. The September 21, 2020 letter is attached as Exhibit 11.
- 107. On October 1, 2020, nearly six months after the Notice of Loss was submitted, OneSource sent a denial letter to Plaintiffs, denying the business interruption claim except as to the Contagious Disease coverage that Defendants finally agreed to pay, subject to the payment being shared among all REAPA Members with

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covered claims. (Exhibit 12.) At this point, no payment has been made nor any determination by Defendants as to a "sharing" formula.

In the denial letter, Defendants adopted their own definition of the terms "direct physical loss of or damage to," which are not defined in the Policy, to provide the basis for denial. Defendants' extrinsic definition, as stated in the denial letter, was that these terms require "some tangible or detectable change to the insured property." (Exhibit 12, p. 6.)

109. In denying the claims for business interruption loss, Defendants interpreted their own Master Policy inconsistently with the terms that were used. Even though the plain language of the Policy expressly states that coverage exists under Civil Authority and Ingress/Egress coverage "irrespective of whether the Property of the Insured shall have been damaged," Defendants unreasonably read into the Policy that "some tangible or detectable change to the insured property" is required. (Id.) Defendants in a footnote claimed that the language in the Civil Authority and Ingress/Egress coverage was used to mean that physical loss of or damage must still occur but need not be on the Insured's property (presumably meaning it would be required to occur somewhere else). This interpretation is contrary to the Policy's plain language, and Defendants are unreasonably attempting to rewrite the Policy to support their interpretation to deny coverage.

Under the plain language of the Policy, the loss of Rental Income, leasehold interests and leasing fees, Extra Expenses and the defined "soft costs" are covered losses under the express grants of coverage for Civil Authority and Ingress/Egress "irrespective of whether the Property of the Insured shall have been damaged."

In the October 1, 2020 denial letter, Defendants also claim that the loss of rental income was not based on the necessary "untenability," even though that term is not defined in the Policy. A definition of an untenantable condition "is a condition of premises rendering them unfit for the purpose for which they were leased, particularly

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where the lease expressly designates the use to be made of the premises.
https://definitions.uslegal.com/u/untenantable-condition/ (last accessed November 16,
2020.) Another definition for "untenantable" is that the Tenant is actually unable to use
any or all of the premises in the normal course of its business.
https://www.lawinsider.com/dictionary/untenantable (last accessed on November 16,
2020.)

- 112. The denial letter also unreasonably claimed that Exclusion "j" for "diseases" applies, even though Defendants simultaneously conceded there was no evidence of the presence of a disease on Plaintiffs' properties. Defendants cannot meet their burden that Exclusion "j" applies.
- 113. Pursuant to Section 2695.7(b)(1) of the California Code of Regulations, Defendants were required to state in their denial letter all the factual, contractual, and legal grounds for denying the claim, thus forfeiting the right to later raise additional grounds to attempt to justify their denial of Plaintiffs' claim.
- 114. Defendants' unreasonable delay in paying Plaintiffs' policy benefits, including the delay in paying the Contagious Disease coverage which Defendants conceded provided coverage, has caused Plaintiffs to suffer further consequential economic losses and damages. Such economic losses and damages include Plaintiffs being required to pay additional lender costs, invest additional equity, and take other steps to finance their properties.
- 115. As a result of Defendants' wrongful denial of Plaintiffs' claim, at a time when the Governmental Orders caused an interruption to their business operations, Plaintiffs have been compelled to retain counsel and pursue this litigation in order to obtain the benefits promised under the Policy.

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	1			FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION	
	2	PLAI	NTIFF	S FOR A FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION AGAINST DEFENDANTS	
	3	CERTAIN UNDERWRITERS AT LLOYD'S LONDON SUBSCRIBING TO			
	4	CERTIFICATE NUMBER ARP19021AND DOES 1 THROUGH 100, INCLUSIVE, FOR			
	5	BREACH OF THE IMPLIED COVENANT OF GOOD FAITH AND FAIR DEALING			
	6	ALLEGE:			
	7	116.	Plain	tiffs incorporate by reference all paragraphs above as if set forth in	
	8	full in this cause of action.			
	9	117. The Underwriters and Does 1 through 100, inclusive, have breached their			
Authorne	10	duty of good faith and fair dealing owed to Plaintiffs in the following respects:			
	11		a.	Unreasonably acting or failing to act in a manner that deprives	
RRI	12			Plaintiffs of the benefits of the Policy;	
ECHEVERRIA***	13		b.	Unreasonably engaging in a pattern and practice of acting or failing	
	14			to act in a manner that deprives their insureds of the benefits of	
	15			policies they issue;	
	16		c.	Unreasonably failing to conduct a prompt, fair, balanced and	
7	17			thorough investigation of all of the bases of Plaintiffs' claims;	
	18		d.	Unreasonably engaging in a pattern and practice of failing to	
	19			conduct a prompt, fair, balanced and thorough investigation of all	
	20			of the bases of claims made under policies they issue;	
	21		e.	Unreasonably failing to diligently search for and consider evidence	
	22			that supports coverage of Plaintiffs' claims;	
	23		f.	Unreasonably engaging in a pattern and practice of failing to	
	24			diligently search for and consider evidence that supports coverage	
	25			of claims;	
	26		g.	Unreasonably failing to conduct an investigation to determine the	
	27			efficient proximate cause (predominant cause) of Plaintiffs' loss;	

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h.	Unreasonably engaging in a pattern and practice of failing to		
	conduct an investigation to determine the efficient proximate cause		
	(predominant cause) on claims made by insureds;		

- Unreasonably failing to give at least as much consideration to the interests of Plaintiffs as they give to their own interests;
- Unreasonably engaging in a pattern and practice of failing to give at least as much consideration to the interests of their insureds as they gives to their own interests;
- Unreasonably placing their own financial interests above the interests of Plaintiffs;
- Unreasonably engaging in a pattern and practice of placing their own financial interests above the interests of their insureds;
- m. Unreasonably failing to comply with the Regulations, including Section 2695.7(b)(1);
- Unreasonably failing to apply the Policy's definitions and terms to determine whether Plaintiffs' claim was covered;
- Unreasonably attempting to add new terms not stated in the Policy in order to deny Plaintiffs' claim;
- Unreasonably delaying payment of the Contagious Disease coverage to Plaintiffs; and
- q. Unreasonably compelling Plaintiffs to institute this action to obtain benefits due under the Policy.
- 118. Plaintiffs are informed and believe, and thereon allege, that the foregoing unreasonable, malicious, oppressive and/or fraudulent misconduct was not limited to the Underwriters' and Does 1 through 100's, inclusive, evaluation of this particular claim, but represents an ongoing pattern and practice, which they apply to all of their policyholders, that is specifically designed by the Underwriters, and Does 1 through

100, inclusive, to earn illicit profits at the expense of their policyholders' rights. This ongoing pattern of conduct constitutes institutional bad faith.

119. The Underwriters and Does 1 through 100, inclusive, institutional bad faith constitutes reprehensible conduct because it is part of a repeated pattern of unfair practices and not an isolated occurrence. The pattern of unfair practices constitutes a conscious course of wrongful conduct that is firmly grounded in the Underwriters' and Does 1 through 100's, inclusive, established company policies and practices. Plaintiffs are informed and believe and thereon allege that the Underwriters and Does 1 through 100, inclusive, have engaged in similar wrongful conduct as to other insureds and that they have substantially increased their profits as a result of causing similar harm to others.

- 120. As a proximate result of the aforementioned conduct of the Underwriters and Does 1 through 100, inclusive, Plaintiffs have suffered, and will continue to suffer in the future, damages under the Policy, plus interest and other economic and consequential damages, for a total amount to be shown at the time of trial.
- 121. As a further proximate result of the aforementioned unreasonable conduct of the Underwriters, and Does 1 through 100, inclusive, Plaintiffs were compelled to retain legal counsel to obtain the benefits due under the Policy. Therefore, the Underwriters and Does 1 through 100, inclusive, are liable to Plaintiffs for the attorneys' fees and costs reasonably necessary and incurred by Plaintiffs in order to obtain the Policy benefits.
- 122. The conduct of the Underwriters and Does 1 through 100, inclusive, was intended by them to cause injury to Plaintiffs, and/or was despicable conduct carried on by them with a willful and conscious disregard of Plaintiffs' rights, subjected Plaintiffs to cruel and unjust hardship in conscious disregard of its rights; and/or constituted an intentional misrepresentation or concealment of a material fact known to the Underwriters and Does 1 through 100, inclusive, with the intention to deprive Plaintiffs of property or legal rights or to otherwise cause injury, such as to constitute malice,

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oppression or fraud under California Civil Code section 3294. Plaintiffs are therefore
entitled to an award of punitive damages in an amount appropriate to punish and se
an example for other similarly situated insurers.

123. The Underwriters' and Does 1 through 100's, inclusive, conduct was undertaken by its corporate officers, directors or managing agents, identified herein as Does 1 through 100, who were responsible for claims supervision and operations, underwriting, communications, and/or decisions; and/or this conduct was authorized by one or more of the Defendants' officers, directors or managing agents, and/or one or more of the Defendants' officers, directors or managing agents knew of the actions and adopted or approved that conduct after it occurred. This conduct was, therefore, undertaken on behalf of the Underwriters and Does 1 through 100, inclusive.

SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION

PLAINTIFFS FOR A SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION AGAINST DEFENDANTS CERTAIN UNDERWRITERS AT LLOYD'S LONDON SUBSCRIBING TO CERTIFICATE NUMBER ARP19021 AND DOES 1 THROUGH 100, INCLUSIVE, FOR BREACH OF CONTRACT ALLEGE:

- 124. Plaintiffs incorporate by reference all paragraphs above as if set forth in full in this cause of action.
- 125. Plaintiffs entered into a contract, the Policy, with the Underwriters and Does 1 through 100, inclusive. The Underwriters and Does 1 through 100, inclusive, owed duties and obligations to Plaintiffs under the Policy.
- Plaintiffs did all of the significant things that the Policy required them to do.
- 127. The Underwriters and Does 1 through 100, inclusive, denial of Plaintiffs' claim is not in accordance with the terms of the Policy and California law.
- 128. As a direct and proximate result of the Underwriters' and Does 1 through 100's, inclusive, conduct and breach of their contractual obligations, Plaintiffs have

1	suffered damages under the Policy in an amount to be determined according to proof at		
2	the time of trial, plus pre-judgment interest pursuant to California Civil Code section		
3	3289(b), and other foreseeable and consequential damages according to proof and in		
4	amounts to be determined at the time of trial.		
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6		PRAYER FOR RELIEF	
7	WHEREFORE, Plaintiffs pray for judgment against Defendants as follows:		
8	AS TO THE FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION AGAINST DEFENDANTS		
9	CERTAIN U	UNDERWRITERS AT LLOYD'S LONDON SUBSCRIBING TO	
10	CERTIFICA	TE NUMBER ARP19021 AND DOES 1 THROUGH 100, INCLUSIVE,	
11	FOR BREAG	CH OF THE IMPLIED COVENANT OF GOOD FAITH AND FAIR	
12	DEALING:		
13	1.	For damages for failure to pay benefits owed under the Policy, plus	
14	interest, in a	sum to be determined at trial;	
15	2.	For prejudgment interest on all damages awarded to Plaintiffs in	
16	accordance	with California Civil Code section 3287;	
17	3.	For attorneys' fees, witness fees, and costs of litigation incurred by	
18	Plaintiffs to	obtain the Policy benefits in an amount to be determined at trial;	
19	4.	For economic and consequential damages arising out of the Underwriters	
20	and Does 1	through 100's, inclusive, unreasonable failure to pay benefits owed under	
21	the Policy;		
22	5.	For punitive and exemplary damages in an amount appropriate to punish	
23	or set an exa	ample of the Underwriters and Does 1 through 100, inclusive;	
24	6.	For costs of suit herein; and	
25	7.	For such other relief as the Court deems just and proper.	
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AS TO THE SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION AGAINST DEFENDANTS