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19 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
20 FOR THE DISTRICT OF ARIZONA

21 ThermoLife International, LLC, an  
22 Arizona limited liability company,

23 Plaintiff,

24 v.

25 American Fitness Wholesalers, L.L.C.,  
26 doing business as A1Supplements, a  
27 Tennessee corporation,

28 Defendant.

Case No.

**COMPLAINT**

(Jury Trial Demanded)

For its Complaint against defendant American Fitness Wholesalers, L.L.C., doing  
business as A1Supplements (“A1”), ThermoLife alleges as follows:

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Scottsdale, Arizona 85251  
(480) 421-1001

**NATURE OF ACTION**

1  
2 1. Plaintiff ThermoLife International, LLC (“ThermoLife”) brings claims  
3 against its competitor, A1, for false advertising, common law unfair competition, false  
4 patent marking, and civil conspiracy. Unfairly competing with ThermoLife in the  
5 Dietary Supplement market, A1 has willfully falsely advertised and sold aromatase  
6 inhibitors<sup>1</sup>, anabolic steroids<sup>2</sup>, and illegal and unsafe drug stimulants<sup>3</sup> as Dietary  
7 Supplements. A1 has deceived consumers on a massive scale into believing that  
8 ingredients which the Food and Drug Administration (“FDA”) has determined are drugs,  
9 are legal, natural, and safe in Dietary Supplements. The truth is, however, **the falsely**  
10 **labeled and falsely advertised products sold by A1 are not Dietary Supplements**  
11 **and they are not safe, not natural, and not legal for sale.**

12 2. Competition in the Dietary Supplement industry is fierce, with each  
13 company seeking to discover and market the next breakthrough product that will help  
14 build muscle, increase performance, and/or decrease fat. Faced with stiff competition,  
15 A1 has sought to boost sales by illegally selling products falsely labeled as Dietary  
16 Supplements that actually contain ingredients that are aromatase inhibitors, anabolic  
17 steroids, and illegal and unsafe drug stimulants. None of the products that contain these  
18 ingredients are legal for sale as Dietary Supplements.

19 3. Worse still, in many of the products A1 falsely advertises and sells on its  
20 website<sup>4</sup>, the illegal drug stimulant ingredients are not even listed on the product label.

21 <sup>1</sup> The ingredients in this category include Arimistane (which is an aromatase  
22 inhibitor); in 2010, the FDA determined that “products containing aromatase inhibitors  
23 have a reasonable probability of resulting in permanent impairment of body structure or  
24 function in at risk consumers.”

24 <sup>2</sup> The ingredients in this category include 1-DHEA and 4-DHEA (prohormones that  
25 convert to testosterone or testosterone derivatives in the body) and other prohormone and  
26 pro-steroid ingredients. The FDA has determined that 1-DHEA and 4-DHEA are not  
27 legal for use in Dietary Supplements and any product that include these ingredients is  
28 “misbranded as a food and/or drug.”

<sup>3</sup> The ingredients in this category include: BMPEA, DMAA, DMHA, DMBA, and  
Methylsynephrine. These ingredients have all been deemed drugs by the FDA.

<sup>4</sup> A1 has sold all of the products identified herein within the past 2 years.

1 Instead, the label falsely lists what has become known in the industry as a “botanical  
2 cover.”<sup>5</sup> As a direct result of A1’s willful false advertising, the consumer has no way of  
3 knowing the serious health risk they are taking.

4 4. Contrary to A1’s false advertising, the FDA has concluded that the  
5 aromatase inhibitors, anabolic steroids, and the illegal drug stimulants in the products  
6 that are the subject of this suit are unsafe, misbranded, adulterated, and/or drugs that are  
7 illegal for sale in Dietary Supplements. A1’s advertising of these drug ingredients as  
8 Dietary Supplements is false on its face and poses a serious health risk to consumers.

9 5. A1 has flooded the market with unsafe products that are not compliant  
10 with the Dietary Supplement Health and Education Act of 1994 (“DSHEA”) or that are  
11 otherwise illegal for sale as Dietary Supplements. While recently the FDA has brought  
12 several enforcement actions against companies that are marketing drug ingredients in  
13 Dietary Supplements, the FDA is simply overwhelmed by the number of manufacturers,  
14 sellers, and products.

15 6. ThermoLife is able to protect its commercial interests where the FDA is  
16 unable to fully protect public health in the Dietary Supplement industry. In *ThermoLife*  
17 *International, LLC v. Gaspari Nutrition, Inc.*, 648 F. Appx 609, 612 (9th Cir. 2016), the  
18 Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals held that, “Lanham Act claims like ThermoLife’s protect  
19 commercial interests by relying on the market expertise of competitors.”

20 7. ThermoLife brings this action to enjoin A1 from continuing to falsely  
21 market the unsafe and illegal products identified herein. ThermoLife also seeks to  
22 recover for the competitive injury that A1 has proximately caused to ThermoLife’s  
23 business through its false advertising, false marking, unfair competition and unlawful

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24 <sup>5</sup> Botanical covers are plant names that are listed in a supplement facts panel to hide  
25 the drugs that are actually included in the product. The use of the botanical cover allows  
26 unscrupulous marketers of Dietary Supplements to claim that the drug(s) that are found  
27 in the product come from a botanical source; but none of the drug compounds listed in  
28 this Complaint actually include any natural material sourced from a botanical. All of the  
drug compounds discussed herein are 100% synthetic, yet falsely listed and/or advertised  
as botanicals or botanical extracts (botanical covers).

1 activity. While falsely advertising illegal and unsafe drug ingredients in “Dietary  
2 Supplements”, A1 has also falsely marketed products as relying on patented  
3 technologies, when in fact the products are not licensed to practice any patented  
4 invention (if they were, they would need a license from ThermoLife to practice  
5 ThermoLife’s patented technology). A1 must be stopped from continuing to profit from  
6 false and misleading statements, and any profit that A1 has already earned from this  
7 misconduct must be disgorged and exemplary damages imposed.

8 **PARTIES, JURISDICTION AND VENUE**

9 8. Plaintiff ThermoLife is an Arizona limited liability company with its  
10 principal place of business in Phoenix, Arizona.

11 9. Defendant American Fitness Wholesalers, L.L.C., doing business as  
12 A1Supplements (“A1”) is a Tennessee limited liability company with its principal place  
13 of business in Louisville, Tennessee. A1 markets and distributes Dietary Supplements  
14 throughout the United States, including in Arizona. Its interactive website,  
15 A1supplements.com, offers for sale and sells the products at issue to Arizona customers  
16 and it ships products to such customers. A1 falsely advertises to Arizona customers and  
17 unfairly competes with ThermoLife in the state. Personal jurisdiction exists under  
18 Arizona's long-arm statute.

19 10. The Court has jurisdiction over Plaintiff’s federal claims under 15 U.S.C.  
20 § 1121 and 28 U.S.C. §§ 1331 and 1338(a). This Court has jurisdiction over Plaintiff’s  
21 state law claims based on 28 U.S.C. §§ 1338(b) and 1367.

22 11. Venue is proper in this district under 28 U.S.C. § 1391(b)-(c), because a  
23 substantial part of the events or omissions giving rise to ThermoLife’s claims occurred  
24 in this district. Venue with respect to A1 is also proper in this district because A1 is  
25 subject to personal jurisdiction in this district.

**FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS**

**THERMOLIFE**

1  
2  
3 12. Ron Kramer (“Kramer”) founded ThermoLife in 1998. Prior to founding  
4 ThermoLife, Kramer opened and operated a Gold’s Gym in Santa Cruz, California.

5 13. In 1998, Kramer founded ThermoLife in order to provide the public with  
6 quality proven supplements.

7 14. ThermoLife currently holds 23 separate and distinct patents that protect its  
8 innovative development and use of ingredients in Dietary Supplements and food  
9 products.

10 15. ThermoLife holds several patents related to the use of amino acids  
11 combined with nitrates to increase athletic performance. For example, ThermoLife’s  
12 U.S. Patent No. 8,178,572 protects and covers “a method for increasing the vasodilative  
13 characteristics of amino acids in a human, the method comprising administering orally to  
14 the human a pharmaceutically effective amount of an amino acid compound consisting  
15 essentially of a nitrate of an amino acid selected from the group consisting of Arginine,  
16 Agmatine, Beta Alanine, Citrulline, Creatine, Glutamine, L-Histidine, Isoleucine,  
17 Leucine, Norvaline, Ornithine, and Valine.”

18 16. ThermoLife holds at least 14 of its patents with more than 450 claims  
19 related to novel uses of these Amino Acid/nitrate compounds and compositions in  
20 Dietary Supplements and food products.

21 17. With few exceptions, anytime an amino acid is combined with nitrate(s)  
22 and sold and marketed to consumers the product relies on ThermoLife’s patented  
23 technology.

24 18. ThermoLife’s patented creatine nitrate has proven exceedingly popular in  
25 the Dietary Supplement market.

26 19. Creatine is sold in many forms and has been used to promote muscle mass  
27 in individuals for decades. Creatine nitrate is a new form of creatine where the creatine  
28 molecule is ionically bound to a nitrate ion. Among its other benefits, the bonding of the

1 creatine with the nitrate increases the solubility of the compound, which is beneficial for  
2 use in Dietary Supplements.

3 20. ThermoLife licenses and sells its patented creatine nitrate for use in  
4 Dietary Supplement products.

5 21. Sourced and licensed from ThermoLife, creatine nitrate and other Amino  
6 Acid Nitrates supplied by ThermoLife are included in many of the top-selling Dietary  
7 Supplements in the world.

8 22. These ingredients are sought after by consumers of Dietary Supplements  
9 looking to gain muscle and increase athletic performance or improve physical  
10 appearance. The “Sports Nutrition” category of Dietary Supplements caters to this  
11 subset of Dietary Supplement consumers.

12 23. As just one example, ThermoLife’s creatine nitrate is the marquee  
13 ingredient in the world’s top-selling pre-workout product: Cellucor’s C4.

14 24. As a result of ThermoLife’s Nitrates’ popularity in the Sports Supplements  
15 market, ThermoLife’s business is tied to the performance of Sports Nutrition products  
16 that rely on ThermoLife’s patented technologies.

17 25. ThermoLife is harmed when consumers are misled into purchasing any  
18 falsely advertised product that competes<sup>6</sup> with any product that contains ingredients that  
19 are sourced from ThermoLife and/or products that are licensed by ThermoLife.

20 26. ThermoLife is harmed when consumers are misled into believing that one  
21 or more of A1's products are patented.

22 27. ThermoLife has an identifiable economic interest in the Dietary  
23 Supplement market, including the Sports Nutrition segment.

24 \_\_\_\_\_  
25 <sup>6</sup> In fact, none of the products identified in this Complaint should have ever  
26 competed in the marketplace with any ThermoLife product or ThermoLife sourced  
27 product; none of the products listed here are “Dietary Supplements.” All of the products  
28 are falsely labeled and illegal for sale as “Dietary Supplements” as each product listed  
here contains one or more drug ingredients rendering the product that contains the  
ingredient(s) adulterated, misbranded, and by law unsafe. Any revenue earned from the  
sale of these illegal products is ill-gotten gains and must be disgorged.

**A1SUPPLEMENTS.COM**

1  
2 28. A1 sells Dietary Supplements wholesale to consumers over the internet.

3 29. The United States Government, through the Food and Drug Administration  
4 and the Department of Justice has repeatedly made clear that Dietary Supplement  
5 product wholesalers and resellers, like A1, are responsible for the advertising on their  
6 website and the legality of the products they sell. As just one example, in 2012, criminal  
7 charges were filed against BodyBuilding.com, LLC and its former officers, for selling  
8 “misbranded drugs” labeled as Dietary Supplements. The charges arose from  
9 Bodybuilding.com, LLC’s sale of five products, manufactured by other companies, that  
10 actually contained drugs. Bodybuilding.com and its former President eventually plead  
11 guilty to these criminal charges. In addition to pleading guilty to criminal charges the  
12 former President was also ordered to personally pay a \$600,000 fine for his part in the  
13 criminal activity and Bodybuilding.com was fined \$7,000,000.00 (twice the \$3.5 million  
14 dollars of misbranded products they sold). Several other companies involved also plead  
15 guilty to corporate felonies for introduction and delivery for introduction of misbranded  
16 drugs into interstate commerce, with the intent to mislead and defraud. A1’s activities  
17 are no different here; except, while Bodybuilding.com was guilty of selling just five  
18 misbranded products, A1 has marked and sold an unbelievable 142 number of products  
19 that contain drugs and are misbranded when labeled as Dietary Supplements.

20 30. A1 advertises that it is “the world’s leading wholesale seller of Dietary  
21 Supplements.”

22 31. According to A1, it is “America’s Favorite Supplement Store.”

23 32. When consumers visit A1’s website, the website recommends certain  
24 supplements based on the sex, age, and goal of the specific customers.<sup>7</sup>

25 33. Every Dietary Supplement that A1 offers and sells is promoted on A1’s  
26 website.

27 34. Upon information and belief, A1 places ads for each specific product on its

28 <sup>7</sup> A1’s website recommends products for use by teen males.



1 own website. Those ads tout the benefits of each of the Dietary Supplements that A1  
2 sells.

3 35. As the leading wholesaler of Dietary Supplements, A1's advertising  
4 content provides credibility for the products that are sold through its website where  
5 consumers believe that only legal and safe products can be sold.

6 36. Upon information and belief, when consumers view an advertisement on  
7 A1's website they understand that A1 is promoting: the use of that product as a Dietary  
8 Supplement; that the Dietary Supplement is legal for sale; and that the Dietary  
9 Supplement is safe.

10 37. Every page of A1's website includes the following disclaimer: "FDA:  
11 These statements have not been evaluated by the Food and Drug Administration. This  
12 product is not intended to diagnose, treat, cure, or prevent any disease." As explained  
13 below, for the products identified below, this statement is false on its face. In fact, the  
14 FDA has evaluated the regulatory status, legality, and safety of the ingredients listed in  
15 this law suit and included in the products listed below and the FDA has determined that  
16 all of the products listed below contain ingredients that are drugs and/or are not legal for  
17 sale as Dietary Supplements because they are adulterated, misbranded, and unsafe.

18 38. A1's website also includes several products that contain ingredients and  
19 technology sourced and/or licensed from ThermoLife. For example, A1 lists "C4",  
20 which includes creatine nitrate, sourced and licensed from ThermoLife, as its top-selling  
21 Pre-Workout.

22 39. While A1 sells and markets several products that include patented creatine  
23 nitrate sourced from ThermoLife, A1 has sold many creatine nitrate products that are not  
24 sourced from ThermoLife. For example, A1's website falsely advertises its APS  
25 Nutrition "Creatine Nitrate" product as including "a vastly superior patented creatine  
26 [referring to creatine nitrate]." But this APS product does not include a "patented  
27 creatine", the patented creatine nitrate in this product is not sourced from ThermoLife.

28



1 40. A1's false advertising of the APS "Creatine Nitrate" product is obvious,  
2 but that just the tip of the iceberg. Each of the products discussed below contains  
3 ingredients that are classified as drugs that are illegal for sale as Dietary Supplements.  
4 Yet each product listed below is falsely advertised by A1 as a Dietary Supplement.  
5 Accordingly, A1 makes specific product claims about each of these products that are  
6 blatantly false.

7 41. One of the top-selling companies on A1's website is Hi-Tech  
8 Pharmaceuticals ("Hi-Tech").<sup>8</sup> On or about September 28, 2017, the United States  
9 Attorney's Office for the Northern District of Georgia filed a First Superseding Criminal  
10 Indictment against defendants Hi-Tech, its Chief Executive Officer, Jared Wheat, and  
11 another Hi-Tech executive. *United States v. Hi-Tech Pharmaceuticals, et al.*, No.1:17-  
12 CR-0229 (N.D. Ga. 2017). The defendants are charged with 18 felony counts, including  
13 introducing misbranded products into interstate commerce.

#### 14 THE ILLEGAL DIETARY SUPPLEMENT INGREDIENTS

15 42. While A1's false statements are readily identifiable as false on their own, a  
16 brief summary of the rules and regulations that govern the sale and marketing of Dietary  
17 Supplements is informative.

18 43. Congress determined which ingredients can be used in Dietary  
19 Supplements when it passed DSHEA in 1994.

20 44. In 21 U.S.C. § 321(ff), DSHEA defines "Dietary Supplements" as follows:

21 The term "Dietary Supplement"—

22 (1) means a product (other than tobacco) intended to  
23 supplement the diet that bears or contains one or more of the  
24 following dietary ingredients:

24 (A) a vitamin; (B) a mineral; (C) an herb or other  
25 botanical; (D) an amino acid; (E) a dietary substance for use  
26 by man to supplement the diet by increasing the total dietary

26 <sup>8</sup> Hi-Tech also does business using names including the following: ALR Industries,  
27 APS Nutrition, Innovative Laboratories, Formutech Nutrition, LG Sciences, iForce  
28 Nutrition, Top Secret Nutrition, Prime Nutrition, Blackstone Labs, Nature's Essentials,  
Genone Laboratories, Advanced Muscle Science, and Sports 1.

1 intake; or (F) a concentrate, metabolite, constituent, extract,  
2 or combination of any ingredient described in clause (A), (B),  
3 (C), (D), or (E);

(2) means a product that—

4 (A) (i) is intended for ingestion in a form described in  
5 section 350(c)(1)(B)(i) of this title; or (ii) complies with  
6 section 350(c)(1)(B)(ii) of this title;

(B) is not represented for use as a conventional food or  
as a sole item of a meal or the diet; and

(C) is labeled as a Dietary Supplement; and

7 (3) does—

8 (A) include an article that is approved as a new drug  
9 under section 355 of this title or licensed as a biologic under  
10 section 262 of title 42 and was, prior to such approval,  
11 certification, or license, marketed as a Dietary Supplement or  
12 as a food unless the Secretary has issued a regulation, after  
13 notice and comment, finding that the article, when used as or  
14 in a Dietary Supplement under the conditions of use and  
15 dosages set forth in the labeling for such Dietary Supplement,  
16 is unlawful under section 342(f) of this title; and

(B) not include—

17 (i) an article that is approved as a new drug  
18 under section 355 of this title, certified as an antibiotic  
19 under section 357 of this title, or licensed as a biologic  
20 under section 262 of title 42, or

21 (ii) an article authorized for investigation as a  
22 new drug, antibiotic, or biological for which  
23 substantial clinical investigations have been instituted  
24 and for which the existence of such investigations has  
25 been made public, which was not before such  
26 approval, certification, licensing, or authorization  
27 marketed as a Dietary Supplement or as a food unless  
28 the Secretary, in the Secretary's discretion, has issued  
a regulation, after notice and comment, finding that the  
article would be lawful under this chapter.

45. Because there is no approval process for Dietary Supplements, prior to  
selling any product as a Dietary Supplement it is the seller's responsibility to ensure that  
the product complies with Federal Regulations, especially 21 U.S.C. § 321(ff).

46. Accordingly, 21 U.S.C. § 321 (ff)(3)(B)(i) specifically prohibits the use of  
any article approved as a drug from being included in a Dietary Supplement, and 21  
U.S.C. § 321(ff)(3)(B)(ii) specifically prohibits the use in Dietary Supplements of “any

1 article authorized for investigation as a new drug, for which substantial clinical  
2 investigations have been instituted and for which the existence of such investigations has  
3 been made public.”

4 47. As the FDA has explained many times, declaring a product a “Dietary  
5 Supplement” that includes ingredients on the label that are not in compliance with  
6 section 321(ff) “causes product[s] marketed as Dietary Supplements to be misbranded  
7 under 403(a)(1) of the Act [21 U.S.C. § 343(a)(1)] in that the labeling is false and  
8 misleading in any particular.”

9 48. While 21 U.S.C. § 321(ff) defines what type of ingredients can and cannot  
10 be included in a “Dietary Supplement”, 21 U.S.C. § 331 describes prohibited acts.

11 49. 21 U.S.C. § 331(a) prohibits “the introduction or delivery for introduction  
12 into interstate commerce any food [or] drug ... that is adulterated or misbranded.”

13 50. 21 U.S.C. § 331(ll) bars the sale of any “food<sup>9</sup> to which has been added a  
14 drug” in interstate commerce that includes any approved drug, or any ingredient upon  
15 which a “substantial clinical investigation has been instituted and made public.”  
16 Products that contain a substance that has been authorized for investigation as a new  
17 drug are outside the definition of a Dietary Supplement set forth in 21 U.S.C. § 321(ff).

18 51. And, as discussed below, products that are adulterated under 21 U.S.C. §  
19 350b are considered unsafe and prohibited from being sold in interstate commerce under  
20 21 U.S.C. § 331(v).

21 52. 21 U.S.C. § 331(d) also bars the “introduction or delivery for introduction  
22 into interstate commerce” of any new drug that does not have the requisite FDA  
23 approval.

24 53. The FDA has declared time and time again, under 21 U.S.C. § 350b,  
25 Dietary Supplements are deemed “adulterated” under 21 U.S.C. § 342(f), and not legal

26  
27 <sup>9</sup> Under 21 U.S.C. § 321(ff)(3)(B)(iii), Dietary Supplements are a sub-category of  
28 foods: “Dietary Supplement shall be deemed to be a food within the meaning of this  
Act.”

1 for sale, unless all of the ingredients included in the Dietary Supplement meet one of the  
2 following two requirements:

3 (i) the dietary supplement contains only dietary  
4 ingredients that have been present in the food supply [since  
5 1994] as an article used for food in a form in which the food has  
6 not been chemically altered; or

7 (ii) there is a history of use or other evidence of safety  
8 establishing that the dietary ingredient when used under the  
9 conditions recommended or suggested in the labeling of the  
10 dietary supplement will reasonably be expected to be safe and, at  
11 least 75 days before being introduced or delivered for  
12 introduction into interstate commerce, the manufacturer or  
13 distributor of the dietary ingredient or dietary supplement  
14 provides the FDA with information, including any citation to  
15 published articles, which is the basis on which the manufacturer  
16 or distributor has concluded that a dietary supplement containing  
17 such dietary ingredient will reasonably be expected to be safe.

18 54. The FDA has also declared that unless a new dietary ingredient (“NDI”)  
19 has a history of use establishing safety (and a New Dietary Ingredient Notification  
20 (“NDIN”) is submitted)<sup>10</sup>, a product that includes the new dietary ingredient is deemed  
21 adulterated under 21 U.S.C. §§ 342(f)(1), 350b and prohibited for sale in interstate  
22 commerce under 21 U.S.C. § 331(a) and (v). As the FDA has explained in numerous  
23 warning letters:

24 In the absence of a history of use or other evidence of safety  
25 establishing ... when used under the conditions recommended  
26 or suggested in the labeling of your product, will reasonably  
27 be expected to be safe, [a Dietary Supplement] is adulterated  
28 under sections 402(f)(1)(B) and 413(a) of the Act [21 U.S.C.  
§§ 342(f)(1)(B) and 350b(a)] because it contains a new  
dietary ingredient for which there is inadequate information

<sup>10</sup> As the FDA’s website explains, “The Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (the FD&C Act) requires that manufacturers and distributors who wish to market Dietary Supplements that contain ‘new dietary ingredients’ notify the Food and Drug Administration about these ingredients.” This notification must take place 75 days before the NDI is sold and the notification must provide sufficient documentation to establish that, “[t]here is a history of use or other evidence of safety establishing that the dietary ingredient when used under the conditions recommended or suggested in the labeling of the Dietary Supplement will reasonably be expected to be safe.” 21 U.S.C. § 350(b).

1 to provide reasonable assurance that such ingredient does not  
2 present a significant or unreasonable risk of illness or injury.  
3 Introduction of such product into interstate commerce is  
4 prohibited under section 301(a) and (v) of the Act [21 U.S.C.  
5 §§ 331(a) and (v)].

6 55. The FDA’s website warns customers about the prevalence of “Fraudulent  
7 Dietary Supplements”:

8 Federal regulators continue to warn consumers about tainted,  
9 dangerous products that are marketed as Dietary  
10 Supplements. These fraudulent products can cause serious  
11 injury or even death.

12 The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has found nearly  
13 300 fraudulent products—promoted mainly for weight loss,  
14 sexual enhancement, and bodybuilding—that contain hidden  
15 or deceptively labeled ingredients, such as

- 16 • the active ingredients in FDA-approved drugs or their  
17 analogs (closely-related drugs)
- 18 • other compounds, such as novel synthetic steroids, that  
19 do not qualify as dietary ingredients

20 “These products are masquerading as Dietary Supplements—  
21 they may look like Dietary Supplements but they are not legal  
22 Dietary Supplements,” says Michael Levy, director of FDA’s  
23 Division of New Drugs and Labeling Compliance. “Some of  
24 these products contain hidden prescription ingredients at  
25 levels much higher than those found in an approved drug  
26 product and are dangerous.”

27 FDA has received numerous reports of harm associated with  
28 the use of these products, including stroke, liver injury,  
kidney failure, heart palpitations, and death.

56. The products A1 sells, identified below, are specific examples of the  
“Fraudulent Dietary Supplements” that the FDA has warned consumers about. A1  
falsely advertises these products as Dietary Supplements. The ingredients found in these  
falsely advertised products have serious side effects and/or pose a significant risk even  
when taken by healthy individuals, yet A1’s false advertising of these illegal, unsafe,  
and forbidden products as “Dietary Supplements” leads consumers to believe that these

1 products contain ingredients that are safe, natural, and legal, when they are not. And,  
2 despite the fact that all of the ingredients identified herein are 100% synthetic drug  
3 ingredients that are manufactured in factories in China, A1 falsely advertises the  
4 products that incorporate these ingredients as “natural.”

5 57. Each of the 142 products falsely advertised and falsely labeled as a Dietary  
6 Supplement identified herein contain ingredients that are properly classified as one or  
7 more of the following: (1) drugs under 21 U.S.C. §§ 321(g), 321(p), & 355; or (2) a New  
8 Dietary Ingredients (NDIs) for which a history of safety has not been established and  
9 which have not gone through the proper regulatory pre-market notification process to  
10 prove the ingredient will be safe if used as directed (New Dietary Ingredient  
11 Notification) under 21 U.S.C. §§ 342(f)(1)(B) & 350b. Accordingly, any product that  
12 contains any of these ingredients is “adulterated” and/or “misbranded.”

### 13 “BOTANICAL COVERS”

14 58. In order to hide the inclusion of drugs in the products sold on A1’s  
15 website, A1 falsely advertises exotic and/or obscure botanical ingredients in the  
16 supplement facts panels of the products it sells. However, the exotic and/or obscure  
17 botanical ingredients are not actually included in the product. The botanical names are  
18 only listed to hide the presence of illegal, synthetic drug ingredients. This deceptive  
19 practice has become known as “botanical covers.”

20 59. In order to deceive consumers, A1 and its partners list exotic and/or  
21 obscure botanical ingredients on their product labels. But, in reality, the products do not  
22 contain any of the exotic and/or obscure botanical ingredients, instead the products  
23 actually include synthetic stimulant drugs, which A1 and its partners then claim are  
24 present in extremely minuscule amounts<sup>11</sup> in the exotic and/or obscure botanicals listed  
25 on the label (but are included in unsafe drug doses in the products). In some cases, A1  
26 and its partners claim that the drugs they put in the products they sell are only found in

27 <sup>11</sup> The manufacturers of these products that actually contain drugs, assert exotic  
28 botanicals contain constituents of known drugs in quantities of only a few parts per  
billion.

1 some species of the exotic and/or obscure botanicals listed on the product label. This  
2 deceptive tactic makes it very difficult for the FDA to prove that the miniscule  
3 constituents that A1 and its partners claim are part of the exotic and/or obscure botanical  
4 are not actually included in the exotic and/or obscure botanicals that are falsely listed on  
5 the product labels in this complaint. Nonetheless, all the drug ingredients falsely  
6 advertised as botanical dietary ingredients in this complaint are illegal for sale in Dietary  
7 Supplements.

8 60. *Acacia rigidula* and *Senegalia berlandieri* are botanical covers listed on  
9 product labels sold by A1. These are species of shrubs native to the Southern United  
10 States and Central Mexico, yet all the alleged *Acacia rigidula* and *Senegalia berlandieri*  
11 ingredients used in the products sold by A1 are synthetically made in factories in China.

12 61. “Geranium extract” or “Geranium oil” is another botanical cover listed on  
13 the product labels sold by A1. When “Geranium” of any sort is listed as an ingredient in  
14 the falsely labeled Dietary Supplement products discussed here, not even 1mg of  
15 geranium extract from a botanical is actually included in any of the products. Instead,  
16 synthetic DMAA, an ingredient the FDA and the courts have determined is an illegal  
17 and unsafe drug stimulant (described below) is included in the product(s).

18 62. When *Acacia rigidula*, Geranium extract, or *Senegalia berlandieri* are  
19 listed in the Supplement Facts panels of the Dietary Supplement products discussed  
20 here, there is not actually any *Acacia rigidula*, Geranium extract, or *Senegalia*  
21 *berlandieri* included in the product. Instead, the product includes one or more of the  
22 illegal drug stimulants identified below.

23 63. The FDA has recently gotten wise to this scheme. On March 7, 2016, the  
24 FDA officially declared that *Acacia rigidula* (the real plant material)—even if it were  
25 used in these products—is not legal for use in Dietary Supplements.

26 64. On March 7, 2016, the FDA issued warning letters to six companies  
27 regarding a total of six products for which the product labeling lists *Acacia rigidula* (*A.*  
28 *rigidula*) as a dietary ingredient.



1           65.    The FDA considers these products to be adulterated because they contain a  
2 New Dietary Ingredient for which a history of safety has not been established. As the  
3 FDA explained, to a company marketing and selling a product that listed *A. rigidula* on  
4 the product label:

5           To the best of FDA’s knowledge, there is no information  
6 demonstrating that *A. rigidula* was lawfully marketed as a  
7 dietary ingredient in the United States before October 15,  
8 1994, nor is there information demonstrating that this  
9 ingredient has been present in the food supply as an article  
10 used for human food in a form in which the food has not been  
11 chemically altered. In the absence of such information, *A.*  
12 *rigidula* is subject to the notification requirement in section  
13 413(a)(2) of the Act [21 U.S.C. § 350b(a)(2)] and 21 CFR  
14 190.6. Because the required notification has not been  
15 submitted, your product is adulterated under sections  
16 402(f)(1)(B) and 413(a) of the Act [21 U.S.C. §§ 342(f)(1)(B)  
17 and 350b(a)]. Even if the required notification had been  
18 submitted, we know of no evidence that would establish that  
19 your product is not adulterated. In the absence of a history of  
20 use or other evidence of safety establishing that *A. rigidula*,  
21 when used under the conditions recommended or suggested in  
22 the labeling of your product, will reasonably be expected to  
23 be safe, “NGN NATURAL generation nutrition ZXT2” is  
24 adulterated under sections 402(f)(1)(B) and 413(a) of the Act  
[21 U.S.C. §§ 342(f)(1)(B) and 350b(a)] because it contains a  
new dietary ingredient for which there is inadequate  
information to provide reasonable assurance that such  
ingredient does not present a significant or unreasonable risk  
of illness or injury. Introduction of such product into  
interstate commerce is prohibited under section 301(a) and  
(v) of the Act [21 U.S.C. § 331(a) and (v)]. To the best of  
FDA’s knowledge, there is no history of use or other  
evidence of safety establishing that *A. rigidula* will  
reasonably be expected to be safe when used as a dietary  
ingredient.

25           66.    Accordingly, while none of the products identified below actually include  
26 any plant material from *Acacia rigidula* (even though it is listed on the label), the FDA  
27 has already determined that *Acacia rigidula* is not legal for use in Dietary Supplements.  
28

1  
2 **THE ILLEGAL DRUG STIMULANTS SOLD AND FALSELY ADVERTISED AS**  
3 **DIETARY SUPPLEMENTS BY A1**

4 **I. DMAA**

5 **A. DMAA IS A DRUG**

6 67. Several of the dangerous and illegal products sold and falsely advertised  
7 on A1's website includes the drug ingredient 1,3-dimethylamylamine,  
8 methylhexanamine, more commonly known as DMAA.

9 68. In order to mask the presence of DMAA in Dietary Supplement products,  
10 A1 sells products that A1 deceitfully advertises on its website as including "geranium  
11 extract" or "Geranabrun (geranium oil extract)", when in fact the product includes a  
12 synthetic drug.<sup>12</sup>

13 69. As explained above, geranium extract is a botanical cover that is not  
14 actually included in these products. Instead, the synthetic material DMAA, which is a  
15 drug that is manufactured in a factory in China, is included in the product.

16 70. The FDA has approved DMAA as a "drug." As such, DMAA does not  
17 meet the definition of a dietary ingredient and can never be included in a Dietary  
18 Supplement under 21 U.S.C. § 321(ff). Accordingly, any product labeled as a Dietary  
19 Supplement that includes the ingredient DMAA on the label is "misbranded" under 21  
20 U.S.C. § 343(a)(1) because: listing a drug (DMAA) as an ingredient in the supplement  
21 facts panel of a Dietary Supplement constitutes "misbranding" "in that the labeling is  
22 false and misleading in any particular"; a drug (DMAA) is not, and cannot be, a dietary  
23 ingredient, thus any Dietary Supplement label that lists DMAA as a dietary ingredient is  
24 both false and misleading, therefore, any product that lists DMAA on the label is  
25 misbranded. Likewise, any product labeled as a Dietary Supplement that contains the

26 <sup>12</sup> Some of the products on A1's website do in fact list 1,3-dimethylamylamine as an  
27 ingredient in the product, but the product write-ups and other advertising by A1 for these  
28 products all suggest that the material is sourced from a botanical, not synthesized in a  
factory in China.

1 drug ingredient DMAA is “adulterated” under 21 U.S.C. §§ 342(f)(1)(b) and 350b  
2 because DMAA (even if it could be a Dietary Ingredient) is a New Dietary Ingredient  
3 (NDI) that (as a drug) has not, and cannot pass the long checklist of regulatory and  
4 safety requirements for a New Dietary Ingredient to become compliant, and legal for use  
5 in a Dietary Supplement. Accordingly, misbranded and adulterated products, like those  
6 that include the drug DMAA, cannot be sold in interstate commerce under 21 U.S.C. §  
7 331(a), which prohibits “the introduction or delivery for introduction into interstate  
8 commerce any food [or] drug ... that is adulterated or misbranded.” Furthermore,  
9 because DMAA is “adulterated” under 21 U.S.C § 350b, any product that contains  
10 DMAA is, by law, unsafe and prohibited for sale under 21 U.S.C. § 331(v), which  
11 prohibits “the introduction or delivery for introduction into interstate commerce of a  
12 Dietary Supplement that is unsafe under section 350b of this title.” Finally, because  
13 DMAA is an approved drug, for which substantial clinical trials have been conducted  
14 and made public, it can never be a dietary ingredient under 21 U.S.C. §§ 321(ff)(3)(B)(i)  
15 and 321(ff)(3)(B)(ii). For this reason as well, any product that includes DMAA is also  
16 prohibited for sale in interstate commerce as a Dietary Supplement under 21 U.S.C. §  
17 331(ll), which prohibits “the introduction or delivery for introduction into interstate  
18 commerce of any food to which has been added a drug approved under section 355 of  
19 this title, or a drug or a biological product for which substantial clinical investigations  
20 have been instituted and for which the existence of such investigations has been made  
21 public.”

22 71. Starting in 1944, Eli Lilly developed and patented DMAA and used it as  
23 an ingredient in a nasal decongestant.

24 72. In 1948, Eli Lilly introduced DMAA as the active ingredient in the  
25 Forthane® inhaler.

26 73. Eli Lilly sold Forthane, containing DMAA, until the 1980s. Several  
27 serious adverse drug reactions were reported, which were directly attributable to  
28 DMAA. In 1983, at the request of Eli Lilly, the FDA withdrew Forthane’s approval.

1 74. Because DMAA was marketed and sold as a drug, and removed from the  
2 market due to its serious side effects, there is a long list of known possible series adverse  
3 reactions from DMAA. These include: Insomnia, Headaches, Tremor, Shortness of  
4 Breath, Panic Attacks, Heat Stroke, Increased Blood Pressure (significant), Hypertension  
5 (in normal individuals), Increased Heart Rate, Increased Rate Pressure Product (Cardiac  
6 Hemodynamic Stress), Tachycardia, Cardiac Dysrhythmia (Irregular Heartbeat), Chest  
7 Pain, Seizures, Convulsions, Heat Stroke, Heart Attack, Cerebral Hemorrhage (Stroke),  
8 Acute Liver Injury and Failure, Rhabdomyolysis, Renal Injury, Nervous System and  
9 Psychiatric Disorders, and, last but not least, Sudden Death.

10 75. In April 2012, the FDA issued several Warning Letters to the  
11 manufacturers of products that included DMAA.

12 76. These warning letters informed Dietary Supplement companies that:

13 DMAA does not qualify as a dietary ingredient under section  
14 201(ff)(1) of the Act because it is not a vitamin; mineral; herb  
15 or other botanical; amino acid; dietary substance for use by  
16 man to supplement the diet by increasing total dietary intake;  
or a concentrate, metabolite, constituent, extract, or  
combination of any aforementioned substance.

17 77. In a warning letter addressed to the manufacture of a product that included  
18 DMAA, the FDA also stated: “DMAA was approved as a drug in 1948 under section  
19 505 of the Act and, to the best of the FDA’s knowledge, was not marketed in food prior  
20 to such approval.”

21 78. Since 2012, the FDA has continued to send companies that manufacture  
22 and sell DMAA related products warning letters. The FDA has ordered the destruction  
23 of thousands of products that illegally included DMAA and it has also seized products  
24 that incorporate this illegal ingredient.

25 79. In a press release, dated July 16, 2013, the FDA stated: “Dietary  
26 Supplements containing DMAA are illegal and the FDA is doing everything within its  
27 authority to remove these products from the market. In 2012, the FDA issued warning  
28 letters to companies notifying them products with DMAA need to be taken off the

1 market or reformulated to remove this substance. Most companies warned are no longer  
2 distributing products with DMAA. While the FDA is working to get these products off  
3 the market, consumers should not buy or use any Dietary Supplement product containing  
4 DMAA.”

5 80. In mid-2013, the FDA seized over \$2,000,000.00 in DMAA-products that  
6 were manufactured and sold by one of A1’s top-selling companies: Hi-Tech  
7 Pharmaceuticals (“Hi-Tech”).

8 81. On November 6, 2013, a Complaint for Forfeiture was filed in United  
9 States District Court for the Northern District of Georgia by the United States of  
10 America alleging that all of Hi-Tech’s products containing DMAA were illegal for sale  
11 in the United States.

12 82. On April 3, 2017, the District Court entered summary judgment against  
13 Hi-Tech. The court’s order “find[s] that DMAA is not a botanical and thus not a dietary  
14 ingredient.” *United States v. Quantities of All Articles of Finished and In-process Foods*,  
15 2017 WL 4456903, \*3 (N.D. Ga. Apr. 3, 2017). The District Court subsequently denied  
16 Hi-Tech's motion for reconsideration. 2017 WL 4475940 (N.D. Ga. June 2, 2017).

17 83. DMAA is banned for use by athletes by the World Anti-Doping Agency  
18 (“WADA”). None of the products listed in this Complaint contain a warning that the  
19 ingredient is banned by the WADA, the NCAA, Olympics, and other legitimate sports  
20 organizations.

21 84. DMAA is known to cause individuals to fail drug tests by testing positive  
22 for amphetamines. None of the products listed in this Complaint include a warning that  
23 they can cause a false positive for recreational drugs.

24 85. DMAA cannot legally be included in any Dietary Supplement, ever,  
25 because it has been “approved as a new drug.” *See* 21 U.S.C. § 321(ff)(3)(B)(i) (Dietary  
26 Supplements may not include “an article that is approved as a new drug”).

27 86. DMAA can also never be legally included in any “Dietary Supplement”  
28 because DMAA is “an article authorized for investigation as a new drug, antibiotic, or

1 biological for which substantial clinical investigations have been instituted and for  
2 which the existence of such investigations has been made public.” *See* 21 U.S.C. §  
3 321(ff)(3)(B)(ii).

4 87. And finally, as stated above, any product that includes DMAA cannot be  
5 sold as a “Dietary Supplement.” Any product labeled as a “Dietary Supplement” that  
6 includes DMAA is:

- 7 ■ misbranded under 21 U.S.C. § 343(a)(1);
- 8 ■ adulterated under 21 U.S.C. § 342(f)(1)(b);
- 9 ■ not legal for sale as a Dietary Supplement under 21 U.S.C. § 331(a)  
10 (because it is adulterated and misbranded);
- 11 ■ unsafe and adulterated under 21 U.S.C. § 350(b);
- 12 ■ prohibited for sale under 21 U.S.C. § 331(v); and
- 13 ■ not legal for sale because it includes an article approved as a drug for  
14 which clinical trials have been made public under 21 U.S.C. § 331(II).

15 88. Any product that includes DMAA cannot reasonably be expected to be  
16 “safe.” DMAA is not safe.

17 89. In addition, the labels and advertising for products that contain DMAA  
18 falsely represent to consumers that the statements made on the label have not been  
19 evaluated by the FDA. In truth, the FDA has evaluated DMAA and determined that  
20 DMAA is a drug and that products labeled as Dietary Supplements that contain DMAA  
21 are not safe, and not legal for sale as Dietary Supplements.

22 **B. A1’s FALSE ADVERTISING OF DMAA PRODUCTS**

23 90. In direct violation of federal law, A1 marketed and sold products labeled  
24 as Dietary Supplements that included DMAA, which competed directly with products  
25 sourced from ThermoLife.

26 91. These products include the following<sup>13</sup>:

27 <sup>13</sup> Screen shots from A1’s website establishing A1’s false marketing of these  
28 supplements are attached as Exhibit A. Exhibit A includes advertising for most of the 142  
products identified in this Complaint.

	<b>Product Manufacturer</b>	<b>Product Name</b>
1	LG Sciences	Adipokinetix
2	Innovative Laboratories	Black Mamba Hyper Rush
3	Hi-Tech Pharmaceuticals	Black Piranha
4	Hi-Tech Pharmaceuticals	Black Widow
5	Chaos and Pain	Cannibal Riot
6	iForce Nutrition	Dexaprine
7	Innovative Laboratories	Diablos ECA Fire Caps
8	Innovative Laboratories	Diablos Hyperburn V-10
9	In Vitro Labs	Dragon Fire
10	Blackstone Labs	Dust Extreme
11	Greymark Pharmaceuticals	DynaDrene
12	NICWL/Hi-Tech Pharmaceuticals	ECA Xtreme
13	Delta Health Products	EPH 100
14	Prime Nutrition	EXO-13
15	Hi-Tech Pharmaceuticals	Fastin
16	Centurion Labz	God of Rage
17	Centurion Labz	God of Rage XXX
18	Innovative Laboratories	HellFire
19	Hi-Tech Pharmaceuticals	HydroxyElite
20	Hi-Tech Pharmaceuticals	Jack'D Up
21	Blackstone Labs	King Cobra
22	Xcel Sports Nutrition (XLSN)	Kranked Pre-Workout
23	Hi-Tech Pharmaceuticals	Lipodrene Elite
24	Hi-Tech Pharmaceuticals	Lipodrene Ephedra
25	Hi-Tech Pharmaceuticals	Lipodrene Hardcore Ephedra
26	Hi-Tech Pharmaceuticals	Lipodrene Xtreme
27	APS Nutrition (APS)	Mesomorph
28	Cloma Pharma Laboratories	Methyldrene Elite
29	Cloma Pharma Laboratories	Methyldrene EPH
30	CTD Sports	Noxipro
31	Hi-Tech Pharmaceuticals	Off the Chain
32	APS Nutrition (APS)	Phenadrine
33	Prime Nutrition	PWO-Max
34	Serious Nutrition Solutions (SNS)	Rapid Fire Take 2
35	Prime Nutrition	Redux
36	Hi-Tech Pharmaceuticals	Stimerex Hardcore
37	Hi-Tech Pharmaceuticals	Stimerex-ES Ephedra
38	Gaspari Nutrition	SuperPump 250
39	Hi-Tech Pharmaceuticals	Synadrene
40	Hi-Tech Pharmaceuticals	Ultimate Orange
41	ALR Industries (ALRI)	Viper Hyperdrive 5.0



Product Manufacturer	Product Name
APS Nutrition (APS)	White Lightning
Innovative Laboratories	Wicked
Hi-Tech Pharmaceuticals	Yellow Scorpion
APS Nutrition (APS)	Yellow Thunder

92. All of the products listed above include the drug ingredient DMAA, yet all of the products have been sold and falsely marketed on A1's website as Dietary Supplements.

93. A1's website includes numerous false and material claims about DMAA and the products A1 sells that include DMAA.

94. As one example, on its website, A1 includes an article titled "DMAA's Descent into Legal Hell." Shockingly, this article documents the FDA's efforts to enforce the law by seizing DMAA products. As the article notes, "Based on the FDA warning letters, one would assume that DMAA would be illegal. ... The FDA has clearly stated that DMAA is not safe."

95. After acknowledging that, according to the FDA, DMAA is not legal for use in Dietary Supplements because it is not safe, A1 then proceeds to explain that one Dietary Supplement manufacture, Hi-Tech, asserts that DMAA is legal. A1 then further notes that Hi-Tech is involved in a lawsuit with the FDA after the FDA seized over \$2,000,000.00 worth of Hi-Tech's DMAA products (referring to the forfeiture case discussed above).

96. The article concludes noting, "Most of you reading this couldn't give a rip about DMAA's legality, you're just concerned with what it does or how it feels following ingestion." The article then goes on to tout the alleged benefits of taking this illegal ingredient.

97. Despite knowing that DMAA is a drug ingredient not legal for sale in a Dietary Supplement, A1 made the conscious decision to profit from its false marketing of DMAA products as Dietary Supplements. Critically, every single reputable Dietary Supplement seller has pulled DMAA products from its offerings.

1           98. By marketing DMAA (a drug) as an ingredient in “Dietary Supplements”  
2 on A1supplements.com, “America’s Favorite Supplement Store”, A1 has created a  
3 serious health risk to consumers. The labels and advertising for the DMAA products  
4 falsely represent to consumers that the statements made have not been evaluated by the  
5 FDA, but, in fact, the FDA has determined that: DMAA is not a dietary ingredient;  
6 products labeled as Dietary Supplements that contain DMAA are illegal; products  
7 labeled as Dietary Supplements that include DMAA are not safe; and DMAA is a drug  
8 that is illegal for sale in Dietary Supplements. Motivated by greed, A1 made the  
9 conscious decision to profit from its false marketing of the DMAA products identified  
10 above. To do so, A1 has made false and material representations to consumers regarding  
11 DMAA and intentionally misled consumers to believe that when the products A1 sells  
12 include DMAA, the ingredient DMAA: (1) has not been evaluated by the FDA; (2) is  
13 legal for sale in a Dietary Supplement; (3) is safe; (4) is natural; and (5) is a Dietary  
14 Ingredient.

15           99. Accordingly, A1’s intentionally mislabeled, misbranded, adulterated,  
16 unsafe, illegal, and falsely advertised products that contain the drug ingredient DMAA  
17 should never have been in the marketplace, nor entitled to any sales. Any revenue earned  
18 from the sale of these misbranded, adulterated, unsafe, and illegal products is ill-gotten  
19 gains and must be disgorged.

## 20 **II. DMHA**

### 21 **A. DMHA IS A DRUG**

22           100. Several products sold and advertised on A1’s website include the drug  
23 ingredient: 2-amino-6-methylheptane, 6-methyl-2-heptanamine, 1,5-  
24 dimethylhexylamine, and 2-aminoisoheptane. These synonyms for this ingredient are all  
25 commonly referred to as DMHA.

26           101. In order to mask the presence of DMHA in Dietary Supplement products,  
27 many of the products that A1 sells include this drug ingredient deceitfully listed as a  
28 botanical (botanical cover) on their product labels.

1 102. Here, the botanical cover is either *Juglans Regia* Extract (Walnut Bark),  
2 *Aconitum Kusnezoffii* Extract, or *Kigelia Africana* Extract. None of those herbs are  
3 included in any of the products identified here; instead, the synthetic material DMHA,  
4 which is a drug manufactured in a factory in China, is included in the product(s).

5 103. The FDA has approved DMHA as a “drug.” As such, DMHA does not  
6 meet the definition of a dietary ingredient and can never be included in a Dietary  
7 Supplement under 21 U.S.C. § 321(ff). Accordingly, any product labeled as a Dietary  
8 Supplement that includes the ingredient DMHA on the label is “misbranded” under 21  
9 U.S.C. § 343(a)(1) because: listing a drug (DMHA) as an ingredient in the supplement  
10 facts panel of a Dietary Supplement constitutes “misbranding” “in that the labeling is  
11 false and misleading in any particular”; a drug (DMHA) is not, and cannot be, a dietary  
12 ingredient, thus any Dietary Supplement label that lists DMHA as a dietary ingredient is  
13 both false and misleading, therefore, any product that lists DMHA on the label is  
14 misbranded. Likewise, any product labeled as a Dietary Supplement that contains the  
15 drug ingredient DMHA is “adulterated” under 21 U.S.C. §§ 342(f)(1)(b) and 350b  
16 because DMHA (even if it could be a Dietary Ingredient) is a New Dietary Ingredient  
17 (NDI) that (as a drug) has not, and cannot pass the long checklist of regulatory and  
18 safety requirements for a New Dietary Ingredient to become compliant, and legal for use  
19 in a Dietary Supplement. Accordingly, misbranded and adulterated products, like those  
20 that include the drug DMHA, cannot be sold in interstate commerce under U.S.C. 21 §  
21 331(a), which prohibits “the introduction or delivery for introduction into interstate  
22 commerce any food [or] drug ... that is adulterated or misbranded.” Furthermore,  
23 because DMHA is “adulterated” under 21 U.S.C. § 350b, any product that contains  
24 DMHA is, by law, unsafe and prohibited for sale under 21 U.S.C. § 331(v), which  
25 prohibits “the introduction or delivery for introduction into interstate commerce of a  
26 Dietary Supplement that is unsafe under section 350b of this title.” Finally, because  
27 DMHA is an approved drug, for which substantial clinical trials have been conducted  
28 and made public, it can never be a dietary ingredient under 21 U.S.C. §§ 321(ff)(3)(B)(i)

1 and 321(ff)(3)(B)(ii). For this reason as well, any product that includes DMHA is also  
2 prohibited for sale in interstate commerce as a Dietary Supplement under 21 U.S.C. §  
3 331(ll), which prohibits “the introduction or delivery for introduction into interstate  
4 commerce of any food to which has been added a drug approved under section 355 of  
5 this title, or a drug or a biological product for which substantial clinical investigations  
6 have been instituted and for which the existence of such investigations has been made  
7 public.”

8 104. The FDA approved DMHA as a new drug in 1946 for use by nasal  
9 administration. The drug company Smith, Kline, and French introduced DMHA as the  
10 active ingredient in the Eskay® Oralator inhaler.

11 105. In 2017, Australia banned the sale of DMHA over the counter.

12 106. Like DMAA, because of DMHA’s prior extensive use as an approved  
13 drug, we know it has several potential very serious adverse side effects, including:  
14 Insomnia, Headaches, Shortness of Breath, Panic Attacks, Tremor, Increased Blood  
15 Pressure), Increased Heart Rate, Increased Rate Pressure Product (Cardiac  
16 Hemodynamic Stress), Tachycardia, Cardiac Dysrhythmia (Irregular Heartbeat), Chest  
17 Pain, Heat Stroke, Heart Attack, Cerebral Hemorrhage (Stroke), Acute Liver Injury and  
18 Failure, Rhabdomyolysis, and Renal Injury.

19 107. DMHA is banned for use by athletes by the WADA. None of the products  
20 contain a warning that the ingredient is banned by the WADA, the NCAA, Olympics,  
21 and other legitimate sports organizations.

22 108. Also, like DMAA, DMHA cannot legally be included in any Dietary  
23 Supplement, ever, because DMHA has been “approved as a new drug.” *See* 21 U.S.C. §  
24 321(ff)(3)(B)(i) (Dietary Supplements may not include “an article that is approved as a  
25 new drug”).

26 109. DMHA can also never be legally included in any “Dietary Supplement”  
27 because DMHA is “an article authorized for investigation as a new drug, antibiotic, or  
28 biological for which substantial clinical investigations have been instituted and for

1 which the existence of such investigations has been made public.” See 21 U.S.C. §  
 2 321(ff)(3)(B)(ii).

3 110. And finally, as stated above, any product that includes DMHA cannot be  
 4 sold as a “Dietary Supplement.” Any product labeled as a “Dietary Supplement” that  
 5 includes DMHA is:

- 6 ■ misbranded under 21 U.S.C. § 343(a)(1);
- 7 ■ adulterated under 21 U.S.C. § 342(f)(1)(b);
- 8 ■ not legal for sale as a Dietary Supplement under 21 U.S.C. § 331(a)  
 9 (because it is “adulterated” and “misbranded”);
- 10 ■ unsafe and adulterated under 21 U.S.C. § 350(b);
- 11 ■ prohibited for sale under 21 U.S.C. § 331(v); and
- 12 ■ not legal for sale because it includes an article approved as a drug for  
 13 which clinical trials have been made public under 21 U.S.C. § 331(l).

14 111. Any product that includes DMHA cannot reasonably be expected to be  
 15 “safe.” DMHA is not safe.

16 112. In addition, the labels and advertising for products that contain DMHA  
 17 falsely represent to consumers that the statements made on the label have not been  
 18 evaluated by the FDA. In truth, the FDA has evaluated DMHA and determined that  
 19 DMHA is a drug. Accordingly, products labeled as Dietary Supplements that contain  
 20 DMHA are not safe, and not legal for sale as Dietary Supplements.

21 **B. A1’s FALSE ADVERTISING OF DMHA PRODUCTS**

22 113. In direct violation of federal law, A1 has marketed and sold products  
 23 labeled as Dietary Supplements that contain DMHA, which compete directly with  
 24 products sourced from ThermoLife.

25 114. These products include the following:

26 <b>Product Manufacturer</b>	<b>Product Name</b>
27 Condemned Labz	Arsyn
28 Olympus Labs	Bloodshr3d
Repp Sports	Broken Arrow

Keresmar & Feltus PLLC  
 7150 East Camelback Road, Suite 285  
 Scottsdale, Arizona 85251  
 (480) 421-1001

<b>Product Manufacturer</b>	<b>Product Name</b>
Chaos and Pain	Cannibal Riot
Steel Supplements	Charged-AF
Condemned Labz	Convict
Xcel Sports Nutrition (XLSN)	Crackhead Xtreme Pre-Workout
Redcon1	Double Tap
In Vitro Labs	Dragon Fire
Blackstone Labs	Dust Extreme
Inspired Nutraceuticals	DVST8 Crimson
Inspired Nutraceuticals	DVST8 White Cut
Metabolic Nutrition	E.S.P. Extreme
InnovaPharm	Enduralean
Killer Labz	Executioner
Prime Nutrition	EXO-13
Killer Labz	Exterminator
Man Sports	Game Day
Sparta Nutrition	Hydra Shred
Hi-Tech Pharmaceuticals	HydroxyElite
Olympus Labs	Ignit3
Inspired Nutraceuticals	KOR
Sparta Nutrition	Kraken
InnovaPharm	Limitless
Outbreak Nutrition	Pathogen
ANS Performance	Rave
Repp Sports	Raze
Olympus Labs	ReIgn
Repp Sports	Reactr
Outbreak Nutrition	Reclaim
Iron Addicts	Sidewalk Kraka
Hi-Tech Pharmaceuticals	Synadrene
Metabolic Nutrition	Synedrex
Redcon1	Total War
GoldStar	Triple X
GoldStar	Viper
Iron Addicts	Will Power

115. All of the products listed above include the drug ingredient DMHA, yet all of the products have been sold and falsely marketed on A1's website as Dietary Supplements.

1 116. A1's website includes numerous false and material claims about DMHA  
2 and the products A1 sells that include DMHA.

3 117. As one example, on its website, in its advertisement for "Kraken", A1  
4 states: "Not many stimulants can par up with banned ingredients, but when you combine  
5 power of Eria Jarensis with DMHA, you have an unparalleled stimulant matrix."  
6 Obviously, this statement is false, since the drug DMHA is in fact prohibited for use in  
7 Dietary Supplements.

8 118. In its advertisement for "Triple X" (another DMHA product), A1 states,  
9 "2-Aminoisoheptane (DMHA) is the new replacement after the FDA's removal of  
10 DMAA from the marketplace. It is an EXTREME stimulant, and has effects very similar  
11 to 1,3 Dimethyamylamine. Triple X is currently the ONLY pre-workout with this crazy  
12 energy enhancing ingredient, and it may not be out for long if the FDA gets wind of it,  
13 so try it today!" Again, A1's advertising statement is false because DMHA is a drug that  
14 is prohibited for use in Dietary Supplements.

15 119. In its advertisement for "Killer Labz Executioner", which includes  
16 DMHA, A1 touts the product as, "Strongest Legal Pre-Workouts Available on Market!"  
17 DMHA though, as A1 knows, is a drug, and is not a "Legal Pre-Workout" product.

18 120. Despite knowing that DMHA is a drug ingredient not legal for sale in a  
19 Dietary Supplement, A1 made the conscious decision to profit from its false marketing  
20 of DMHA products as Dietary Supplements.

21 121. By marketing DMHA (a drug) as an ingredient in "Dietary Supplements"  
22 on A1supplements.com, "America's Favorite Supplement Store", A1 has created a  
23 serious health risk to consumers. The labels and advertising for the DMHA products  
24 falsely represent to consumers that the statements made have not been evaluated by the  
25 FDA, but, in fact, the FDA has determined that DMHA is a drug. Accordingly, products  
26 that include DMHA are not safe and products that contain DMHA are illegal for sale as  
27 Dietary Supplements. Motivated by greed, A1 made the conscious decision to profit  
28 from its false marketing of the DMHA products identified above. To do so, A1 has made



1 false and material representations to consumers regarding DMHA and intentionally  
2 misled consumers to believe that when the products A1 sells include DMHA, the  
3 ingredient DMHA: (1) has not been evaluated by the FDA; (2) is legal for sale in a  
4 Dietary Supplement; (3) is safe; (4) is natural; and (5) is a Dietary Ingredient.

5 122. Accordingly, A1's intentionally mislabeled, misbranded, adulterated,  
6 unsafe, illegal, and falsely advertised products that contain the drug ingredient DMHA  
7 should never have been in the marketplace, nor entitled to any sales. Any revenue earned  
8 from the sale of these misbranded, adulterated, unsafe, and illegal products is ill-gotten  
9 gains and must be disgorged.

#### 10 **IV. BMPEA**

##### 11 **A. BMPEA IS A DRUG**

12 123. Several products sold and advertised on A1's website include the  
13 ingredient: beta-methyl-phenylethylamine, beta-methylphenethylamine, R-beta-  
14 methylphenylethylamine. These synonyms for this ingredient are more commonly  
15 known as "BMPEA."

16 124. In order to mask the presence of BMPEA in Dietary Supplement products,  
17 many of the products that A1 sells include this drug ingredient deceitfully listed as a  
18 botanical (botanical cover) on their product labels.

19 125. Here, the botanical cover is either *Acacia rigidula* or *Senegalia berlandieri*.  
20 Neither of these plant materials is included in any of the products identified here;  
21 instead, the synthetic material BMPEA, which is a drug manufactured in a factory in  
22 China, is included in the product.

23 126. The FDA has determined that BMPEA is not a dietary ingredient. As such,  
24 BMPEA can never be included in a Dietary Supplement under 21 U.S.C. § 321(ff).  
25 Accordingly, any product labeled as a Dietary Supplement that includes the ingredient  
26 BMPEA on the label is "misbranded" under 21 U.S.C. § 343(a)(1) because: listing a  
27 drug (BMPEA) as an ingredient in the supplement facts panel of a Dietary Supplement  
28 constitutes "misbranding" "in that the labeling is false and misleading in any particular";

1 a drug (BMPEA) is not, and cannot be, a dietary ingredient, thus any Dietary  
2 Supplement label that lists BMPEA as a dietary ingredient is both false and misleading,  
3 therefore, any product that lists BMPEA on the label is misbranded. Likewise, any  
4 product labeled as a Dietary Supplement that contains the drug BMPEA is “adulterated”  
5 under 21 U.S.C. §§ 342(f)(1)(b) and 350b because BMPEA (even if it could be a Dietary  
6 Ingredient) is a New Dietary Ingredient (NDI) that has not, and cannot pass the long  
7 checklist of regulatory, and safety requirements for a New Dietary Ingredient to become  
8 compliant, and legal for use in a Dietary Supplement. Accordingly, misbranded and  
9 adulterated products, like those that include the drug BMPEA, cannot be sold in  
10 interstate commerce under U.S.C. 21 § 331(a), which prohibits “the introduction or  
11 delivery for introduction into interstate commerce any food [or] drug, that is adulterated  
12 or misbranded.” Finally, because BMPEA is “adulterated” under 21 U.S.C § 350b, any  
13 product that contains BMPEA is, by law, unsafe and prohibited for sale under 21 U.S.C.  
14 § 331(v), which prohibits “the introduction or delivery for introduction into interstate  
15 commerce of a Dietary Supplement that is unsafe under section 350b of this title.” The  
16 FDA has conclusively determined that BMPEA is not legal for sale in Dietary  
17 Supplements. It has sent warning letters to at least seven different companies that market  
18 and sell Dietary Supplements that include this ingredient.

19 127. As just one example, in an April 22, 2015 warning letter to Better Body  
20 Sports, LLC, the FDA unequivocally stated, “BMPEA is not a dietary ingredient.”  
21 Continuing, the FDA noted, “Declaring BMPEA in your product labeling as a dietary  
22 ingredient causes your product marketed as Dietary Supplement to be misbranded under  
23 section 403(a)(1) of the Act [21 U.S.C. § 343(a)(1)] in that the labeling is false or  
24 misleading in any particular.” Any misbranded product cannot be sold in commerce  
25 under 21 U.S.C. § 331(a)(1).

26 128. And finally, as stated above, any product that includes BMPEA cannot be  
27 sold as a “Dietary Supplement.” Any product labeled as a “Dietary Supplement” that  
28 includes BMPEA is:

- 1 ■ misbranded under 21 U.S.C. § 343(a)(1);
- 2 ■ adulterated under 21 U.S.C. § 342(f)(1)(b);
- 3 ■ not legal for sale as a Dietary Supplement under 21 U.S.C. § 331(a)
- 4 (because it is adulterated and misbranded);
- 5 ■ unsafe and adulterated under 21 U.S.C. § 350(b);
- 6 ■ prohibited for sale under 21 U.S.C. § 331(v); and
- 7 ■ not permitted for sale in interstate commerce under 21 U.S.C. § 331(d).

8 129. Any product that includes BMPEA cannot reasonably be expected to be  
9 “safe.” BMPEA is not safe.

10 130. In addition, the labels and advertising for products that contain BMPEA  
11 falsely represent to consumers that the statements made on the label have not been  
12 evaluated by the FDA. In truth, the FDA has evaluated BMPEA and determined that  
13 BMPEA is not a dietary ingredient and that products labeled as Dietary Supplements  
14 that contain BMPEA are not safe, and not legal for sale as Dietary Supplements.

15 **B. A1’S FALSE ADVERTISING OF BMPEA PRODUCTS**

16 131. In direct violation of federal law, A1 continues to market and sell pre-  
17 workout products labeled as Dietary Supplements that contain BMPEA, which compete  
18 directly with products sourced from ThermoLife.

19 132. These products include the following:

20 <b>Product Manufacturer</b>	<b>Product Name</b>
21 Hi-Tech Pharmaceuticals	Adderex SR
22 Chaos and Pain	Cannibal Ferox
23 Cloma Pharma Laboratories	China White
24 NICWL/Hi-Tech Pharmaceuticals	ECA Xtreme
25 Schwartz Labs	Green Stinger
26 CTD Sports	Hyper Cuts
27 Hi-Tech Pharmaceuticals	Lipodrene
28 Hi-Tech Pharmaceuticals	Lipodrene Hardcore
Hi-Tech Pharmaceuticals	Lipodrene Xtreme
Hi-Tech Pharmaceuticals	N.O. Overload

<b>Product Manufacturer</b>	<b>Product Name</b>
CTD Sports	Noxipro
APS Nutrition (APS)	Phenadrine
Cloma Pharma Laboratories	Razzadrene
Lecheek Nutrition	Speed X3
Hi-Tech Pharmaceuticals	Stimerex Hardcore
Hi-Tech Pharmaceuticals	Stimerex-ES EPH
iForce Nutrition	Thermoxyn
Schwartz Labs	Ultimate Burn
Prosupps	Vanish
ALR Industries (ALRI)	Viper Hyperdrive
ALR Industries (ALRI)	Viper Hyperdrive 5.0
Hi-Tech Pharmaceuticals	Yellow Scorpion
APS Nutrition (APS)	Yellow Thunder

133. All of the products listed above include the drug ingredient BMPEA, yet all of the products have been sold and falsely marketed on A1's website as Dietary Supplements.

134. A1's website includes numerous false and material claims about BMPEA and the products A1 sells that include BMPEA.

135. Despite knowing that BMPEA is not legal for sale as a Dietary Supplement, A1 made the conscious decision to profit from its false marketing of BMPEA products as Dietary Supplements.

136. By marketing BMPEA as an ingredient in "Dietary Supplements" on A1supplements.com, "America's Favorite Supplement Store", A1 has created a serious health risk to consumers. The labels and advertising for the BMPEA products falsely represent to consumers that the statements made have not been evaluated by the FDA, but, in fact, the FDA has determined that BMPEA is not a dietary ingredient and that products that contain BMPEA are misbranded. Motivated by greed, A1 made the conscious decision to profit from its false marketing of the BMPEA products identified above. To do so, A1 has made false and material representations to consumers regarding BMPEA and intentionally misled consumers to believe that when the products A1 sells

1 include BMPEA, the ingredient BMPEA: (1) has not been evaluated by the FDA; (2) is  
2 legal for sale in a Dietary Supplement; (3) is safe; (4) is natural; and (5) is a Dietary  
3 Ingredient.

4 137. Accordingly, A1's intentionally mislabeled, misbranded, adulterated,  
5 unsafe, illegal, and falsely advertised products that contain the drug ingredient BMPEA  
6 should never have been in the marketplace, nor entitled to any sales. Any revenue earned  
7 from the sale of these misbranded, adulterated, unsafe, and illegal products is ill-gotten  
8 gains and must be disgorged.

## 9 **V. METHYLSYNEPHRINE**

### 10 **A. METHYLSYNEPHRINE IS A DRUG**

11 138. Several products sold and advertised on A1's website include the  
12 ingredient: oxilofrine, oxyfrine, oxyephedrine, and 4-[1-hydroxy-  
13 2(methylaminoprpyl)phenol. These synonyms for this ingredient are referred to herein as  
14 "Methylsynephrine." Methylsynephrine is also known also as Suprifin or Carnigen.

15 139. In order to mask the presence of Methylsynephrine in Dietary Supplement  
16 products, many of the products that A1 sells include this drug ingredient deceitfully  
17 listed as a botanical (botanical cover) on their product labels.

18 140. Here, the botanical cover is either *Acacia rigidula* or *Senegalia berlandieri*.  
19 Neither of these plant materials is included in any of the products identified here;  
20 instead, the synthetic material Methylsynephrine, which is a drug manufactured in a  
21 factory in China, is included in the product.

22 141. The FDA has determined that Methylsynephrine is not a dietary  
23 ingredient. As such, Methylsynephrine can never be included in a Dietary Supplement  
24 under 21 U.S.C. § 321(ff). Accordingly, any product labeled as a Dietary Supplement  
25 that includes the ingredient Methylsynephrine on the label is "misbranded" under 21  
26 U.S.C. § 343(a)(1) because: listing a drug (Methylsynephrine) as an ingredient in the  
27 supplement facts panel of a Dietary Supplement constitutes "misbranding" "in that the  
28 labeling is false and misleading in any particular"; a drug (Methylsynephrine) is not, and

1 cannot be, a dietary ingredient, thus any Dietary Supplement label that lists  
2 Methylsynephrine as a dietary ingredient is both false and misleading, therefore, any  
3 product that lists Methylsynephrine on the label is misbranded. Likewise, any product  
4 labeled as a Dietary Supplement that contains the drug ingredient Methylsynephrine is  
5 “adulterated” under 21 U.S.C. §§ 342(f)(1)(b) and 350b because Methylsynephrine  
6 (even if it could be a dietary ingredient) is a New Dietary Ingredient (NDI) that has not,  
7 and cannot, pass the long checklist of regulatory and safety requirements for a New  
8 Dietary Ingredient to become compliant, and legal for use in a Dietary Supplement.  
9 Accordingly, misbranded and adulterated products, like those that include  
10 Methylsynephrine, cannot be sold in interstate commerce under U.S.C. 21 § 331(a),  
11 which prohibits “the introduction or delivery for introduction into interstate commerce  
12 any food, [or] drug, that is adulterated or misbranded.” Furthermore, because  
13 Methylsynephrine is “adulterated” under 21 U.S.C § 350b, any product that contains  
14 Methylsynephrine is, by law, unsafe and prohibited for sale under 21 U.S.C. § 331(v),  
15 which prohibits “the introduction or delivery for introduction into interstate commerce  
16 of a Dietary Supplement that is unsafe under section 350b of this title.” Finally, because  
17 Methylsynephrine is a new drug, for which substantial clinical trials have been  
18 conducted and made public, it can never be a dietary ingredient under 21 U.S.C. §  
19 (ff)(3)(B)(ii). For this reason as well, any product that includes Methylsynephrine is also  
20 prohibited for sale in interstate commerce as a Dietary Supplement under 21 U.S.C. §  
21 331(ll), which prohibits “the introduction or delivery for introduction into interstate  
22 commerce of any food to which has been added a drug approved under section 355 of  
23 this title, or a drug or a biological product for which substantial clinical investigations  
24 have been instituted and for which the existence of such investigations has been made  
25 public.”

26 142. Methylsynephrine is used as the drug Oxilofrine as a treatment for  
27 hypotension in Europe. Medical studies on the use of this drug in Europe have found  
28

1 that it has significant effects on blood pressure and products that contain  
2 Methylsyneprine may present a risk for those with cardiovascular problems.

3 143. Because of the use of this material as a drug in Europe, we know it has  
4 several potential very serious adverse side effects, including: Insomnia, Headaches,  
5 Shortness of Breath, Panic Attacks, Tremor, Increased Blood Pressure, Hypertension (in  
6 normal individuals), Increased Heart Rate, Increased Rate Pressure Product (Cardiac  
7 Hemodynamic Stress), Tachycardia, Cardiac Dysrhythmia (Irregular Heartbeat), Chest  
8 Pain, Heat Stroke, Heart Attack, Cerebral Hemorrhage (Stroke), Acute Liver Injury and  
9 Failure, Rhabdomyolysis, and Renal Injury.

10 144. According to Medwatch.com, the use of Methylsyneprine as Dietary  
11 Supplement has resulted in several adverse event reports filed with the FDA through  
12 July 2016. Individuals that took supplements that contained this material have been  
13 hospitalized. Consistent with the significant side effects demonstrated by the use of this  
14 ingredient as a drug in Europe, the majority of these adverse event reports indicate that  
15 the individual suffered a cardiac-related episode.

16 145. Methylsyneprine is banned for use by athletes in competition by the  
17 WADA. None of the products that incorporate this ingredient contain a warning that the  
18 ingredient is banned by the WADA, the NCAA, Olympics, and other legitimate sports  
19 organizations.

20 146. The Department of Defense has also listed Methylsyneprine as a banned  
21 substance, barring service members from using products that contain this ingredient.

22 147. The FDA has conclusively determined that Methylsyneprine is not legal  
23 for sale in Dietary Supplements. It has sent warning letters to at least six different  
24 companies that market and sell Dietary Supplements that include this ingredient.

25 148. As just one example, in a March 31, 2016 warning letter to NutraClipsa,  
26 Inc., the FDA unequivocally stated:

27 Methylsyneprine is not a vitamin, a mineral, an herb or other  
28 botanical, or an amino acid. In addition, according to our  
research, methylsyneprine is not a dietary substance for use



1 by man to supplement the diet by increasing the total dietary  
 2 intake. Finally, methylsynephrine is not a concentrate,  
 3 metabolite, constituent, extract, or combination of a vitamin;  
 4 mineral; herb or other botanical; amino acid; or dietary  
 5 substance for use by man to supplement the diet by increasing  
 6 the total dietary intake. Accordingly, methylsynephrine is not  
 7 a dietary ingredient within the definition set forth in section  
 8 201(ff)(1) of the Act. ***Declaring methylsynephrine in your  
 product labeling as a dietary ingredient causes your  
 products marketed as dietary supplements to be misbranded  
 under section 403(a)(1) of the Act [21 U.S.C. § 343(a)(1)] in  
 that the labeling is false or misleading in any particular.***

(Emphasis added.)

9 149. And finally, as stated above, any product that includes Methylsynephrine  
 10 cannot be sold as a “Dietary Supplement.” Any product labeled as a “Dietary  
 11 Supplement” that includes Methylsynephrine is:

- 12 ■ misbranded under 21 U.S.C. § 343(a)(1);
- 13 ■ adulterated under 21 U.S.C. § 342(f)(1)(b);
- 14 ■ not legal for sale as a Dietary Supplement under 21 U.S.C. § 331(a)  
 15 (because it is adulterated and misbranded);
- 16 ■ unsafe and adulterated under 21 U.S.C. § 350(b);
- 17 ■ prohibited for sale under 21 U.S.C. § 331(v);
- 18 ■ not legal for sale because it includes an unapproved new drug under 21  
 19 U.S.C. § 355(a); and
- 20 ■ not permitted for sale in interstate commerce under 21 U.S.C. § 331(d).

21  
 22 150. Any product that includes Methylsynephrine cannot reasonably be  
 23 expected to be “safe.” Methylsynephrine is not safe.

24 151. In addition, the labels and advertising for products that contain  
 25 Methylsynephrine falsely represent to consumers that the statements made on the label  
 26 have not been evaluated by the FDA. In truth, the FDA has evaluated Methylsynephrine  
 27 and determined that Methylsynephrine is not a dietary ingredient and that products  
 28

1 labeled as Dietary Supplements that contain Methylsynephrine are not safe, and not legal  
2 for sale as Dietary Supplements.

3 **B. A1'S FALSE ADVERTISING OF METHYLSYNEPHRINE**

4 152. In direct violation of federal law, A1 continues to market and sell products  
5 labeled as Dietary Supplements that contain Methylsynephrine, which compete directly  
6 with products sourced from ThermoLife.

7 153. These products include the following:

8	<b>Product Manufacturer</b>	<b>Product Name</b>
9	Innovative Laboratories	Black Mamba Hyper Rush
10	Hi-Tech Pharmaceuticals	Black Piranha
11	Hi-Tech Pharmaceuticals	Black Widow
12	Chaos and Pain	Cannibal Ferox
13	Cloma Pharma Laboratories	China White
14	Innovative Laboratories	Diablos ECA Fire Caps
15	Innovative Laboratories	Diablos Hyperburn V-10
16	NICWL/Hi-Tech Pharmaceuticals	ECA Xtreme
17	Hi-Tech Pharmaceuticals	Fastin
18	Schwartz Labs	Green Stinger
19	Innovative Laboratories	HellFire
20	Hi-Tech Pharmaceuticals	Lipodrene
21	Hi-Tech Pharmaceuticals	Lipodrene Elite
22	Hi-Tech Pharmaceuticals	Lipodrene Ephedra
23	Hi-Tech Pharmaceuticals	Lipodrene Hardcore Ephedra
24	Hi-Tech Pharmaceuticals	Lipodrene Xtreme
25	APS Nutrition (APS)	Mesomorph V3
26	MuscleMeds	MethylBurn Extreme
27	Cloma Pharma Laboratories	Methylidrene Elite
28	Delta Health Products	Methylzene
	Hi-Tech Pharmaceuticals	N.O. Overload
	Hard Rock Supplements	OxyXtreme
	APS Nutrition (APS)	Phenadrine
	Cloma Pharma Laboratories	Razzadrene
	Prime Nutrition	Redux
	Hi-Tech Pharmaceuticals	Stimerex Hardcore
	Hi-Tech Pharmaceuticals	Stimerex-ES Ephedra
	iForce Nutrition	Thermoxyn
	Extreme Products Group (EPG)	Turnt Up

<b>Product Manufacturer</b>	<b>Product Name</b>
Schwartz Labs	Ultimate Burn
GoldStar	Viper
ALR Industries (ALRI)	Viper Hyperdrive
ALR Industries (ALRI)	Viper Hyperdrive 5.0
Hi-Tech Pharmaceuticals	Yellow Scorpion
APS Nutrition (APS)	Yellow Thunder

154. All of the products listed above include the drug Methysynephrine, yet all of the products have been sold and falsely marketed on A1's website as Dietary Supplements.

155. By marketing Methysynephrine (a drug) as an ingredient in "Dietary Supplements" on A1supplements.com, "America's Favorite Supplement Store", A1 has created a serious health risk to consumers. The labels and advertising for the Methysynephrine products falsely represent to consumers that the statements made have not been evaluated by the FDA, but, in fact, the FDA has determined that: Methysynephrine is not a dietary ingredient; products that contain Methysynephrine are illegal; products that include Methysynephrine are not safe; and, Methysynephrine is a drug that is illegal for sale in Dietary Supplements. Motivated by greed, A1 made the conscious decision to profit from its false marketing of the Methysynephrine products identified above. To do so, A1 has made false and material representations to consumers regarding Methysynephrine and intentionally misled consumers to believe that when the products A1 sells include Methysynephrine, the ingredient Methysynephrine: (1) has not been evaluated by the FDA; (2) is legal for sale in a Dietary Supplement; (3) is safe; (4) is natural; and (5) is a Dietary Ingredient.

156. Accordingly, A1's intentionally mislabeled, misbranded, adulterated, unsafe, illegal, and falsely advertised products that contain the drug ingredient Methysynephrine should never have been in the marketplace, nor entitled to any sales. Any revenue earned from the sale of these misbranded, adulterated, unsafe, and illegal products is ill-gotten gains and must be disgorged.

1 **VI. ISOPROPYLNORSYNERPHRINE**

2 **A. ISOPROPYLNORSYNERPHRINE IS A DRUG**

3 157. Several products sold and advertised on A1's website include the  
4 ingredient: Isopropyloctopamine hydrochloride, isopropyloctopamine, deterenol,  
5 Betaphrine, and dl-M.I.39. These synonyms for this ingredient are more commonly  
6 known as "Isopropylorsyneprine."

7 158. Isopropylorsyneprine is a synthetic drug manufactured in a factory in  
8 China.

9 159. The FDA has determined that Isopropylorsyneprine is a new drug. As  
10 such, Isopropylorsyneprine can never be included in a Dietary Supplement under 21  
11 U.S.C. § 321(ff). Accordingly, any product labeled as a Dietary Supplement that  
12 includes the ingredient Isopropylorsyneprine on the label is "misbranded" under 21  
13 U.S.C. § 343(a)(1) because: listing a drug (Isopropylorsyneprine) as an ingredient in  
14 the supplement facts panel of a Dietary Supplement constitutes "misbranding" "in that  
15 the labeling is false and misleading in any particular"; a drug (Isopropylorsyneprine)  
16 is not, and cannot be, a dietary ingredient, thus any Dietary Supplement label that lists  
17 Isopropylorsyneprine as a dietary ingredient is both false and misleading, therefore,  
18 any product that lists Isopropylorsyneprine on the label is misbranded. Likewise, any  
19 product labeled as a Dietary Supplement that contains the drug ingredient  
20 Isopropylorsyneprine is "adulterated" under 21 U.S.C. §§ 342(f)(1)(b) and 350b  
21 because Isopropylorsyneprine (even if it could be a dietary ingredient) is a New  
22 Dietary Ingredient (NDI) that (as a drug) has not, and cannot pass the long checklist of  
23 regulatory and safety requirements for a New Dietary Ingredient to become compliant,  
24 and legal for use in a Dietary Supplement. Accordingly, misbranded and adulterated  
25 products, like those that include Isopropylorsyneprine, cannot be sold in interstate  
26 commerce under U.S.C. 21 § 331(a), which prohibits "the introduction or delivery for  
27 introduction into interstate commerce any food, drug, that is adulterated or misbranded."  
28 Furthermore, because Isopropylorsyneprine is "adulterated" under 21 U.S.C § 350b,

1 any product that contains Isopropyl-norsynephrine is, by law, unsafe and prohibited for  
2 sale under 21 U.S.C. § 331(v), which prohibits “the introduction or delivery for  
3 introduction into interstate commerce of a Dietary Supplement that is unsafe under  
4 section 350b of this title.” Finally, because Isopropyl-norsynephrine is a “new drug” any  
5 product that includes Isopropyl-norsynephrine is also prohibited for sale in interstate  
6 commerce under 21 U.S.C. § 335(a), and not permitted for sale in interstate commerce  
7 under 21 U.S.C. § 331(d).

8 160. On September 4, 2004, Syntech International, Inc. submitted a “Pre-market  
9 Notification for a New Dietary Ingredient: Betaphrine” to the FDA. This Pre-market  
10 Notification identified Isopropyl-norsynephrine hydrochloride as one of the “chemical  
11 names” for Betaphrine.

12 161. In response to Syntech International, Inc.’s submission, on December 6,  
13 2004, the FDA stated: “FDA has carefully considered the information in your  
14 submission and we have concluded that ‘Betaphrine’ is not a dietary ingredient under 21  
15 U.S.C. 321(ff)(1). Betaphrine appears to be a chemically synthesized substance.”

16 162. The FDA further concluded, “Inasmuch as such product is clearly not a  
17 dietary ingredient, as discussed above, or a conventional food, this is a ‘drug’ under 21  
18 U.S.C. 321(g)(1)(C).”

19 163. Isopropyl-norsynephrine was recently detected in Dietary Supplements that  
20 caused adverse events in consumers in the Netherlands. Adverse effects such as cardiac  
21 arrest, heart palpitations, chest pain, nausea, and headache were reported by the users of  
22 these products.

23 164. Isopropyl-norsynephrine is banned for use by athletes in competition by  
24 WADA. None of the products that incorporate this ingredient contain a warning that the  
25 ingredient is banned by the WADA, the NCAA, Olympics, and other legitimate sports  
26 organizations.

27  
28

1 165. And finally, as stated above, any product that includes  
 2 Isopropyl-norsynephrine cannot be sold as a “Dietary Supplement.” Any product labeled  
 3 as a “Dietary Supplement” that includes Isopropyl-norsynephrine is:

- 4 ■ misbranded under 21 U.S.C. § 343(a)(1);
- 5 ■ adulterated under 21 U.S.C. § 342(f)(1)(b);
- 6 ■ not legal for sale as a Dietary Supplement under 21 U.S.C. § 331(a)  
 7 (because it is “adulterated” and “misbranded”);
- 8 ■ unsafe and adulterated under 21 U.S.C. § 350(b);
- 9 ■ prohibited for sale under 21 U.S.C. § 331(v); and
- 10 ■ not legal for sale because it includes an unapproved new drug under 21  
 11 U.S.C. § 355(a); and
- 12 ■ not permitted for sale in interstate commerce under 21 U.S.C. § 331(d).

13 166. Any product that includes Isopropyl-norsynephrine cannot reasonably be  
 14 expected to be “safe.” Isopropyl-norsynephrine is not safe.

15 167. In addition, the labels and advertising for products that contain  
 16 Isopropyl-norsynephrine falsely represent to consumers that the statements made on the  
 17 label have not been evaluated by the FDA. In truth, the FDA has evaluated  
 18 Isopropyl-norsynephrine and determined that Isopropyl-norsynephrine is a drug.  
 19 Accordingly, products labeled as Dietary Supplements that contain  
 20 Isopropyl-norsynephrine are not safe, and not legal for sale as Dietary Supplements.

21 **B. A1’S FALSE ADVERTISING OF ISOPROPYLNORSYNERPHRINE**  
 22 **PRODUCTS**

23 168. In direct violation of federal law, A1 continues to market and sell Dietary  
 24 Supplements that contain Isopropyl-norsynephrine, which compete directly with products  
 25 sourced from ThermoLife.

26 169. These products include the following:

Product Manufacturer	Product Name
Extreme Products Group (EPG)	Blue Ice

Keresmar & Feltus PLLC  
 7150 East Camelback Road, Suite 285  
 Scottsdale, Arizona 85251  
 (480) 421-1001

<b>Product Manufacturer</b>	<b>Product Name</b>
Chaos and Pain	Cannibal Ferox
Chaos and Pain	Cannibal Riot
Psycho Pharma	Edge of Insanity
Hi-Tech Pharmaceuticals	Fastin
Hi-Tech Pharmaceuticals	Lipodrene Xtreme
APS Nutrition (APS)	Mesomorph V3
Hard Rock Supplements	OxyXtreme
Extreme Products Group (EPG)	Turnt Up
ALR Industries (ALRI)	Viper Hyperdrive
ALR Industries (ALRI)	Viper Hyperdrive 5.0
APS Nutrition (APS)	Yellow Thunder

170. All of the products listed above include the drug Isopropyl-norsynephrine, yet all of the products have been sold and falsely marketed on A1's website as Dietary Supplements.

171. A1's website includes numerous false and material claims about Isopropyl-norsynephrine and the products A1 sells that include Isopropyl-norsynephrine.

172. Despite knowing that Isopropyl-norsynephrine is a drug ingredient that is not legal for sale in a Dietary Supplement, A1 made the conscious decision to profit from its false marketing of Isopropyl-norsynephrine products as Dietary Supplements.

173. By marketing Isopropyl-norsynephrine (a drug) as an ingredient in "Dietary Supplements" on A1supplements.com, "America's Favorite Supplement Store", A1 has created a serious health risk to consumers. The labels and advertising for the Isopropyl-norsynephrine products falsely represent to consumers that the statements made have not been evaluated by the FDA, but, in fact, the FDA has determined that: Isopropyl-norsynephrine is not a dietary ingredient; products that contain Isopropyl-norsynephrine are illegal; products that include Isopropyl-norsynephrine are not safe; and Isopropyl-norsynephrine is a drug that is illegal for sale in Dietary Supplements. Motivated by greed, A1 made the conscious decision to profit from its false marketing of the Isopropyl-norsynephrine products identified above. To do so, A1 has made false and material representations to consumers regarding Isopropyl-norsynephrine and intentionally misled consumers to believe that when the



1 products A1 sells include Isopropylorsynephrine, the ingredient  
2 Isopropylorsynephrine: (1) has not been evaluated by the FDA; (2) is legal for sale in a  
3 Dietary Supplement; (3) is safe; (4) is natural; and (5) is a Dietary Ingredient.

4 174. Accordingly, A1's intentionally mislabeled, misbranded, adulterated,  
5 unsafe, illegal, and falsely advertised products that contain the drug ingredient  
6 Isopropylorsynephrine should never have been in the marketplace, nor entitled to any  
7 sales. Any revenue earned from the sale of these misbranded, adulterated, unsafe, and  
8 illegal products is ill-gotten gains and must be disgorged

9 **THE ILLEGAL AROMATASE INHIBITORS AND ANABOLIC STEROIDS**  
10 **SOLD AND FALSELY ADVERTISED AS DIETARY SUPPLEMENTS BY A1**

11 **I. ARIMISTANE**

12 **A. ARIMISTANE IS A DRUG.**

13 175. Several products sold and marketed on A1's website include the ingredient  
14 androsta 3,5-diene-7, 17-dione, commonly referred to as "Arimistane."

15 176. Arimistane is an aromatase inhibitor.

16 177. Aromatase inhibitors are a class of prescription drugs prescribed for the  
17 treatment of breast cancer in postmenopausal woman.

18 178. Aromatase inhibitors, like Arimistane, are used, by bodybuilders to block  
19 an enzyme called aromatase. Aromatase helps convert testosterone into estrogen. By  
20 blocking aromatase, aromatase inhibitors decrease estrogen, while at the same time  
21 causing the body to increase testosterone production.

22 179. In 2010, the FDA issued warning letters to several Dietary Supplement  
23 companies that were illegally including aromatase inhibitors in products falsely  
24 advertised as Dietary Supplements. Summarizing its own warning letters, in an  
25 advisement to consumers, the FDA explained, "The FDA concludes that products  
26 containing aromatase inhibitors have a reasonable probability of resulting in permanent  
27 impairment of a body structure or function in at risk consumers. The FDA has notified  
28

1 manufactures that these products do not meet the definition of a dietary ingredient and  
2 therefore the product is in violation of provisions of the Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act.”

3 180. The FDA has declared Arimistane a “new drug” as defined by 21 U.S.C. §  
4 321 (p), because “it is not generally recognized as safe and effective.” The introduction  
5 or delivery for introduction, or causing the introduction or delivery for introduction, of  
6 any new drug lacking an FDA-approved new drug application (NDA) is a violation of  
7 21 U.S.C. §§ 331(d) and 355(a). As such, Arimistane does not meet the definition of a  
8 dietary ingredient and can never be included in a Dietary Supplement under 21 U.S.C. §  
9 321(ff). Accordingly, any product labeled as a Dietary Supplement that includes the  
10 ingredient Arimistane on the label is “misbranded” under 21 U.S.C. § 343(a)(1) because:  
11 listing a drug (Arimistane) as an ingredient in the supplement facts panel of a Dietary  
12 Supplement constitutes “misbranding” “in that the labeling is false and misleading in  
13 any particular”; a drug (Arimistane) is not, and cannot be, a dietary ingredient, thus any  
14 Dietary Supplement label that lists Arimistane as a dietary ingredient is both false and  
15 misleading, therefore, any product that lists Arimistane on the label is misbranded.  
16 Likewise, any product labeled as a Dietary Supplement that contains the drug ingredient  
17 Arimistane is “adulterated” under 21 U.S.C. §§ 342(f)(1)(b) and 350b because  
18 Arimistane (even if it could be a dietary ingredient) is a New Dietary Ingredient (NDI)  
19 that (as a drug) has not, and cannot pass the long checklist of regulatory and safety  
20 requirements for a New Dietary Ingredient to become compliant and legal for use in a  
21 Dietary Supplement. Accordingly, misbranded and adulterated products, like those that  
22 include Arimistane, cannot be sold in interstate commerce under U.S.C. 21 § 331(a),  
23 which prohibits “the introduction or delivery for introduction into interstate commerce  
24 any food [or] drug ... that is adulterated or misbranded.” Furthermore, because  
25 Arimistane is “adulterated” under 21 U.S.C § 350b, any product that contains  
26 Arimistane is, by law, unsafe and prohibited for sale under 21 U.S.C. § 331(v), which  
27 prohibits “the introduction or delivery for introduction into interstate commerce of a  
28 Dietary Supplement that is unsafe under section 350b of this title.” Finally, because

1 Arimistane is an unapproved new drug any product that includes Arimistane is also  
2 prohibited for sale in interstate commerce under 21 U.S.C. §§ 335(a) and 21 U.S.C. §  
3 331(d).

4 181. On October 22, 2013, Proprietary Wellness submitted a New Dietary  
5 Ingredient Notification (NDIN) for Arimistane. The FDA responded to that NDIN on  
6 November 27, 2013, stating: “the agency has significant concerns .... [whether] androsta  
7 3,5-diene-7, 17-dione [Arimistane] will reasonably be expected to be safe.” As the FDA  
8 concluded, Arimistane is a not a dietary ingredient.

9 182. More recently, on May 18, 2018, the FDA sent a Warning Letter to  
10 Performance Nutrition Formulators, LLC, directed at the company’s sale of an  
11 Arimistane product. In that letter, the FDA stated: “The ‘Arimistane’ ingredient listed on  
12 your product label, Androsta-3,5-Diene-7,17-Dione, is an aromatase inhibitor and does  
13 not constitute a dietary ingredient under section 201(ff)(1) of the FD&C Act.” The FDA  
14 further explained, “[Arimistane] is a ‘prescription drug’ under section 503(b)(1)(A) of  
15 the FD&C Act [21 U.S.C. § 353(b)(1)(A)], in that because of its toxicity or other  
16 potentiality for harmful effect, or the method of its use, or the collateral measures  
17 necessary to its use, it is not safe for use except under the supervision of a practitioner  
18 licensed by law to administer it.”

19 183. The FDA also indicated that Arimistane is not legal for use in Dietary  
20 Supplements when it sought forfeiture of products that included this ingredient. On  
21 March 19, 2018, the United States of America filed its Amended Verified Complaint for  
22 Forfeiture in the United States District Court for the Northern District of Georgia, Case  
23 No. 1:17-CV-4442, United States of America v. 1,810,490.34 Seized from Touchmark  
24 National Bank Account, et. al. (hereinafter “the Amended Forfeiture Complaint”).

25 184. In paragraph 90 of the Amended Forfeiture Complaint, the United States  
26 listed a set of products that it seized after the “FDA... determined that the following  
27 ingredients contained on the respective Supplement Facts Panel for each of the  
28

[products] is a non-dietary ingredient, thereby rendering each of the [products] a “misbranded food and/or drug.” A cut-and-paste from the Amended Complaint is below:

90. FDA/CFSAN/ODSP determined that the following ingredients contained on the respective Supplement Facts Panel for each of the Defendant Products is a non-dietary ingredient, thereby rendering each of the Defendant Products a misbranded food and/or drug.

PRODUCT NAME	NON-DIETARY INGREDIENT INCLUDED ON LABEL
Helladrol	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 4-Androstene-3b-ol, 17-one</li> <li>• Androsta 3,5-diene-7,17-dione</li> </ul>
Stanabol Depot	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Androstene-3b,7b,17b-triol</li> </ul>
1-Andro	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 3b-hydroxy-5a-androst-1-en-17-one</li> </ul>
Metanabol	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Androsterone</li> <li>• 4-Androstene-3b-ol, 17-one</li> <li>• 1-androstene-3b-ol, 17-one</li> </ul>
Arimiplex	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NAC (N-acetyl Cysteine)</li> <li>• Androsta 3,5-diene-7,17-dione</li> </ul>
Dianabol	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 5-Methoxy-7-isoflavone</li> <li>• 7-Isopropoxyisoflavone</li> <li>• Androsterone</li> </ul>

Arimistane

185. The Amended Forfeiture Complaint makes clear that Arimistane is a “non-dietary ingredient included on the label [of the products].”

186. And finally, as stated above, any product that includes the drug Arimistane cannot be sold as a “Dietary Supplement.” Any product labeled as a “Dietary Supplement” that includes Arimistane is:

- misbranded under 21 U.S.C. § 343(a)(1);
- adulterated under 21 U.S.C. § 342(f)(1)(b);
- not legal for sale as a Dietary Supplement under 21 U.S.C. § 331(a) (because it is “adulterated” and “misbranded”);
- adulterated and unsafe under 21 U.S.C. § 350(b);
- prohibited for sale under 21 U.S.C. § 331(v);
- not legal for sale because it includes an unapproved new drug under 21 U.S.C. § 355(a); and
- not permitted for sale in interstate commerce under 21 U.S.C. § 331(d).

1 187. Any product that includes Arimistane cannot reasonably be expected to be  
2 “safe.” Arimistane is not safe.

3 188. In addition, the labels and advertising for products that contain Arimistane  
4 falsely represent to consumers that the statements made have not been evaluated by the  
5 FDA. In truth, the FDA has evaluated Arimistane and determined that Arimistane is an  
6 unapproved new drug and that products that contain Arimistane are not safe, and not  
7 legal for sale as Dietary Supplements.

8 **B. A1’S FALSE ADVERTISING OF ARIMISTANE PRODUCTS**

9 189. In direct violation of federal law, A1 marketed and sold products that  
10 contain Arimistane falsely labeled as Dietary Supplements. These products unfairly  
11 competed directly with Dietary Supplements sourced from ThermoLife. These products  
12 include the following:

Product Manufacturer	Product Name
Lecheek Nutrition	AD-3
Redcon 1	Aftermath
EPG	Arimestage PCT 50
EPG	Arimezone 50
Olympus Labs	Arimicare Pro
Hi-Tech Pharmaceuticals	Arimiplex
Hi-Tech Pharmaceuticals	Arimistane
Repp Sports	Arimivar
VMI Sports	A-XR PCT
LG Sciences	Battle Hardener Kit
LG Sciences	Cutting Andro Kit
Ironmag Labs	E-Control Rx 2.0
Olympus Labs	Eliminate
Blackstone Labs	Eradicate
Platinum Nutraceuticals	E-Slash
LG Sciences	Form-XT
Innovative Labs	Helladrol
LG Sciences	M1D Andro
Primeval Labs	Mega Test
Man Sports	Nolvadren XT
Gaspari Nutrition	Novadex XT
Hard Rock Supplements	PCT Sustain
Platinum Nutraceuticals	PCT-RX

<b>Product Manufacturer</b>	<b>Product Name</b>
Lecheek Nutrition	P-X4
Repp Sports	R-PCT
EPG	Steel 75
Killer Labz	Terminator-Test
EPG	Testoshred
LG Sciences	Trifecta Kit
Double Dragon Pharma	TST 750

190. All of the products listed above include the drug ingredient Arimistane, yet all of the products have been sold and falsely marketed on A1's website as Dietary Supplements.

191. A1's website includes numerous false and material claims about Arimistane and the products A1 sells that include Arimistane.

192. Despite knowing that Arimistane is a drug that is not legal for sale in a Dietary Supplement, A1 made the conscious decision to profit from its false marketing of Arimistane products as Dietary Supplements.

193. By marketing Arimistane (a drug) as an ingredient in "Dietary Supplements" on A1supplements.com, "America's Favorite Supplement Store", A1 has created a serious health risk to consumers. The labels and advertising for the Arimistane products falsely represent to consumers that the statements made have not been evaluated by the FDA, but, in fact, the FDA has determined that Arimistane is a drug, that Arimistane is not safe, and that Arimistane is illegal for sale in Dietary Supplements. Motivated by greed, A1 made the conscious decision to profit from its false marketing of the Arimistane products identified above. To do so, A1 has made false and material representations to consumers regarding Arimistane and intentionally misled consumers to believe that when the products sold by A1 include Arimistane, the ingredient Arimistane: (1) has not been evaluated by the FDA; (2) is legal for sale in a Dietary Supplement; (3) is safe; (4) is natural; and (5) is a Dietary Ingredient.

194. Accordingly, A1's intentionally mislabeled, misbranded, adulterated, unsafe, illegal, and falsely advertised products that contain the drug ingredient Arimistane should never have been in the marketplace, nor entitled to any sales. Any

1 revenue earned from the sale of these misbranded, adulterated, unsafe, and illegal  
2 products is ill gotten gains and must be disgorged.

3 **II. 1-DHEA**

4 **A. 1-DHEA IS A DRUG.**

5 195. Several products marketed and sold on A1's website included the  
6 ingredient 3bhydroxy-androst-1-ene-17-one, commonly referred to as "1-DHEA."

7 196. 1-DHEA is a prohormone that converts to 1-testosterone (a substance  
8 banned by the DEA in 2005) when ingested.

9 197. 1-DHEA is not a dietary ingredient. On August 29, 2011, Proprietary  
10 Wellness submitted an NDIN for 1-DHEA. The FDA responded to that NDIN on  
11 November 30, 2011, finding 1-DHEA was not a "dietary ingredient" permitted to be  
12 used in a "Dietary Supplement" under 21 U.S.C. § 321(ff) because it was not: "(A) a  
13 vitamin; (B) a mineral; (C) an herb or other botanical; (D) an amino acid; (E) a dietary  
14 substance for use by man to supplement the diet by increasing the total dietary intake; or  
15 (F) a concentrate, metabolite, constituent, extract, or combination of any ingredient  
16 described in clause (A), (B), (C), (D), or (E)." The FDA further concluded that there was  
17 insufficient evidence that a product that included the ingredient 1-DHEA "will  
18 reasonably be expected to be safe."

19 198. As such, 1-DHEA does not meet the definition of a dietary ingredient and  
20 can never be included in a Dietary Supplement under 21 U.S.C. § 321(ff). Accordingly,  
21 any product labeled as a Dietary Supplement that includes the ingredient 1-DHEA on the  
22 label is "misbranded" under 21 U.S.C. § 343(a)(1) because: listing a drug (1-DHEA) as  
23 an ingredient in the supplement facts panel of a Dietary Supplement constitutes  
24 "misbranding" "in that the labeling is false and misleading in any particular"; a drug (1-  
25 DHEA) is not, and cannot be, a dietary ingredient, thus any Dietary Supplement label  
26 that lists 1-DHEA as a dietary ingredient is both false and misleading, therefore, any  
27 product that lists 1-DHEA on the label is misbranded. Likewise, any product labeled as a  
28 Dietary Supplement that contains the drug ingredient 1-DHEA is "adulterated" under 21



1 U.S.C. §§ 342(f)(1)(b) and 350b because 1-DHEA (even if it could be a dietary  
2 ingredient) is a New Dietary Ingredient (NDI) that (as a drug) has not, and cannot pass  
3 the long checklist of regulatory and safety requirements for a New Dietary Ingredient to  
4 become compliant, and legal for use in a Dietary Supplement. Accordingly, misbranded  
5 and adulterated products, like those that include 1-DHEA, cannot be sold in interstate  
6 commerce under U.S.C. 21 § 331(a), which prohibits “the introduction or delivery for  
7 introduction into interstate commerce any food [or] drug ... that is adulterated or  
8 misbranded.” Furthermore, because 1-DHEA is “adulterated” under 21 U.S.C § 350b,  
9 any product that contains 1-DHEA is, by law, unsafe and prohibited for sale under 21  
10 U.S.C. § 331(v), which prohibits “the introduction or delivery for introduction into  
11 interstate commerce of a Dietary Supplement that is unsafe under section 350b of this  
12 title.” Finally, because 1-DHEA is an unapproved new drug any product that includes 1-  
13 DHEA is also prohibited for sale in interstate commerce under 21 U.S.C. § 335(a) and  
14 21 U.S.C. § 331(d).

15 199. After the FDA declared that 1-DHEA was not a dietary ingredient,  
16 Proprietary Wellness, LLC violated the FDA’s directive and sold 1-DHEA products. In  
17 a September 27, 2016 Warning Letter to Proprietary Wellness, LLC, the FDA stated:

18  
19 3b-hydroxy-androst-1-ene-17-one [*1-DHEA*] and ... are not  
20 vitamins, minerals, herbs or other botanicals, or amino acids.  
21 In addition, neither 3b-hydroxy-androst-1-ene-17-one ... are  
22 dietary substances for use by man to supplement the diet by  
23 increasing the total dietary intake. Finally, 3b-  
24 hydroxyandrost-1-ene-17-one and ... are not concentrates,  
25 metabolites, constituents, extracts, or combination of  
26 vitamins; minerals; herbs or other botanicals; amino acids; or  
27 dietary substances for use by man to supplement the diet by  
28 increasing the total dietary intake. Accordingly, 3b-  
hydroxyandrost-1-ene-17-one and ... are not a dietary  
ingredients within the definition set forth in section 201(ff)(1)  
of the Act. ***Declaring these ingredients in your product  
labeling as dietary ingredients causes your products  
marketed as Dietary Supplements to be misbranded under  
section 403(a)(1) of the Act [21 U.S.C. § 343(a)(1)] in that  
the labeling is false or misleading in any particular.***

(Emphasis added.)

200. The FDA also indicated that 1-DHEA was not a legal dietary ingredient in the Amended Forfeiture Complaint. In paragraph 90, the FDA listed “3bhydroxy-androst-1-en-17-one”, which is 1-DHEA, as not a dietary ingredient:

90. FDA/CFSAN/ODSP determined that the following ingredients contained on the respective Supplement Facts Panel for each of the Defendant Products is a non-dietary ingredient, thereby rendering each of the Defendant Products a misbranded food and/or drug.

PRODUCT NAME	NON-DIETARY INGREDIENT INCLUDED ON LABEL
Helladrol	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 4-Androstene-3b-ol, 17-one</li> <li>• Androsta 3,5-diene-7,17-dione</li> </ul>
Stanabol Depot	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Androstene-3b,7b,17b-triol</li> </ul>
1-Andro	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 3b-hydroxy-5a-androst-1-en-17-one</li> </ul>
Metanabol	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Androsterone</li> <li>• 4-Androstene-3b-ol, 17-one</li> <li>• 1-androstene-3b-ol, 17-one</li> </ul>
Arimiplex	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NAC (N-acetyl Cysteine)</li> <li>• Androsta 3,5-diene-7,17-dione</li> </ul>
Dianabol	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 5-Methoxy-7-isoflavone</li> <li>• 7-Isopropoxyisoflavone</li> <li>• Androsterone</li> </ul>

1-DHEA

201. As the Amended Forfeiture Complaint makes clear, any product that contains 1-DHEA is a “misbranded food[s] and/or drug[s].”

202. And finally, as stated above, any product that includes 1-DHEA cannot be sold as a “Dietary Supplement.” Any product labeled as a “Dietary Supplement” that includes 1-DHEA is:

- misbranded under 21 U.S.C. § 343(a)(1);
- adulterated under 21 U.S.C. § 342(f)(1)(b);
- not legal for sale as a Dietary Supplement under 21 U.S.C. § 331(a) (because it is “adulterated” and “misbranded”);
- unsafe and adulterated under 21 U.S.C. § 350(b);
- prohibited for sale under 21 U.S.C. § 331 (v); and



1           206. All of the products listed above include the drug ingredient 1-DHEA, yet  
2 all of the products have been sold and falsely marketed on A1's website as Dietary  
3 Supplements.

4           207. A1's website includes numerous false and material claims about 1-DHEA  
5 and the products A1 sells that include 1-DHEA.

6           208. Despite knowing that 1-DHEA is not legal for sale in a Dietary  
7 Supplement, A1 made the conscious decision to profit from its false marketing of 1-  
8 DHEA products as Dietary Supplements.

9           209. By marketing 1-DHEA (a drug) as an ingredient in "Dietary Supplements"  
10 on A1supplements.com, "America's Favorite Supplement Store", A1 has created a  
11 serious health risk to consumers. The labels and advertising for the 1-DHEA products  
12 falsely represent to consumers that the statements made have not been evaluated by the  
13 FDA, but, in fact, the FDA has determined that: 1-DHEA is not a dietary ingredient;  
14 products labeled as Dietary Supplements that contain 1-DHEA are illegal; products  
15 labeled as Dietary Supplements that include 1-DHEA are not safe; and 1-DHEA is an  
16 unapproved new drug that is illegal for sale in Dietary Supplements. Motivated by greed,  
17 A1 made the conscious decision to profit from its false marketing of the 1-DHEA  
18 products identified above. To do so, A1 has made false and material representations to  
19 consumers regarding 1-DHEA and intentionally misled consumers to believe that when  
20 the products A1 sells include 1-DHEA, the ingredient 1-DHEA: (1) has not been  
21 evaluated by the FDA; (2) is legal for sale in a Dietary Supplement; (3) is safe; (4) is  
22 natural; and (5) is a Dietary Ingredient.

23           210. Accordingly, A1's intentionally mislabeled, misbranded, adulterated,  
24 unsafe, illegal, and falsely advertised products that contain the drug ingredient 1-DHEA  
25 should never have been in the marketplace, nor entitled to any sales. Any revenue earned  
26 from the sale of these misbranded, adulterated, unsafe, and illegal products is ill-gotten  
27 gains and must be disgorged.

28

1 **III. 4-DHEA**

2 **A. 4-DHEA IS A DRUG.**

3 211. Several products sold on A1's website include the ingredient 4-  
4 Androstene-3b-ol, 17-one, which is commonly referred to as "4-DHEA."

5 212. 4-DHEA is a prohormone that converts to 4-androstenediol (a substance  
6 banned by the DEA in 2005) and then to testosterone when ingested.

7 213. 4-DHEA is not a dietary ingredient. On April 20, 2012, Proprietary  
8 Wellness submitted an NDIN for 4-DHEA. The FDA responded to that NDIN on  
9 November 30, 2011, finding 4-DHEA was not a "dietary ingredient" permitted to be  
10 used in a "Dietary Supplement" under 21 U.S.C. § 321(ff) because it was not: "(A) a  
11 vitamin; (B) a mineral; (C) an herb or other botanical; (D) an amino acid; (E) a dietary  
12 substance for use by man to supplement the diet by increasing the total dietary intake; or  
13 (F) a concentrate, metabolite, constituent, extract, or combination of any ingredient  
14 described in clause (A), (B), (C), (D), or (E)." The FDA further concluded that there was  
15 insufficient evidence that a product that included 4-DHEA "will reasonably be expected  
16 to be safe."

17 214. As such, 4-DHEA does not meet the definition of a dietary ingredient and  
18 can never be included in a Dietary Supplement under 21 U.S.C. § 321(ff). Accordingly,  
19 any product labeled as a Dietary Supplement that includes the ingredient 4-DHEA on the  
20 label is "misbranded" under 21 U.S.C. § 343(a)(1) because: listing a drug (4-DHEA) as  
21 an ingredient in the supplement facts panel of a Dietary Supplement constitutes  
22 "misbranding" "in that the labeling is false and misleading in any particular"; a drug (4-  
23 DHEA) is not, and cannot be, a dietary ingredient, thus any Dietary Supplement label  
24 that lists 4-DHEA as a dietary ingredient is both false and misleading, therefore, any  
25 product that lists 4-DHEA on the label is misbranded. Likewise, any product labeled as a  
26 Dietary Supplement that contains the drug ingredient 4-DHEA is "adulterated" under 21  
27 U.S.C. §§ 342(f)(1)(b) and 350b because 4-DHEA (even if it could be a dietary  
28 ingredient) is a New Dietary Ingredient (NDI) that (as a drug) has not, and cannot pass

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1 the long checklist of regulatory and safety requirements for a New Dietary Ingredient to  
 2 become compliant, and legal for use in a Dietary Supplement. Accordingly, misbranded  
 3 and adulterated products, like those that include 4-DHEA, cannot be sold in interstate  
 4 commerce under U.S.C. 21 § 331(a), which prohibits “the introduction or delivery for  
 5 introduction into interstate commerce any food [or] drug ... that is adulterated or  
 6 misbranded.” Furthermore, because 4-DHEA is “adulterated” under 21 U.S.C § 350b,  
 7 any product that contains 4-DHEA is, by law, unsafe and prohibited for sale under 21  
 8 U.S.C. § 331(v), which prohibits “the introduction or delivery for introduction into  
 9 interstate commerce of a Dietary Supplement that is unsafe under section 350b of this  
 10 title.” Finally, because 4-DHEA is an unapproved new drug any product that includes 4-  
 11 DHEA is also prohibited for sale in interstate commerce under 21 U.S.C. § 335(a) and  
 12 21 U.S.C. § 331(d).

13 215. The FDA also indicated that 4-DHEA was not a legal dietary ingredient in  
 14 the Amended Forfeiture Complaint. In paragraph 90, the FDA listed “Androstene-3b-ol,  
 15 17-one”, which is 4-DHEA, as not a dietary ingredient:

16 90. FDA/CFSAN/ODSP determined that the following ingredients contained on  
 17 the respective Supplement Facts Panel for each of the Defendant Products is  
 18 a non-dietary ingredient, thereby rendering each of the Defendant Products a  
 19 misbranded food and/or drug.

PRODUCT NAME	NON-DIETARY INGREDIENT INCLUDED ON LABEL
Helladrol	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 4-Androstene-3b-ol, 17-one</li> <li>• Androsta 3,5-diene-7,17-dione</li> </ul>
Stanabol Depot	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Androstene-3b,7b,17b-triol</li> </ul>
1-Andro	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 3b-hydroxy-5a-androst-1-en-17-one</li> </ul>
Metanabol	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Androsterone</li> <li>• 4-Androstene-3b-ol, 17-one</li> <li>• 1-androstene-3b-ol, 17-one</li> </ul>
Arimiplex	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NAC (N-acetyl Cysteine)</li> <li>• Androsta 3,5-diene-7,17-dione</li> </ul>
Dianabol	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 5-Methoxy-7-isoflavone</li> <li>• 7-Isopropoxyisoflavone</li> <li>• Androsterone</li> </ul>

4-DHEA

1 216. As the Amended Forfeiture Complaint explained, products that contain 4-  
 2 DHEA are “misbranded food[s] and/or drug[s].”

3 217. And finally, as stated above, any product that includes 4-DHEA cannot be  
 4 sold as a “Dietary Supplement.” Any product labeled as a “Dietary Supplement” that  
 5 includes 4-DHEA is:

- 6 ■ misbranded under 21 U.S.C. § 343(a)(1);
- 7 ■ adulterated under 21 U.S.C. § 342(f)(1)(b);
- 8 ■ not legal for sale as a Dietary Supplement under 21 U.S.C. § 331(a)  
 9 (because it is “adulterated” and “misbranded”);
- 10 ■ unsafe and adulterated under 21 U.S.C. § 350(b);
- 11 ■ prohibited for sale under 21 U.S.C. § 331(v);
- 12 ■ not legal for sale because it includes an unapproved new drug under 21  
 13 U.S.C. § 355(a); and
- 14 ■ not permitted for sale in interstate commerce under 21 U.S.C. § 331(d).

15 218. Any product that includes 4-DHEA cannot reasonably be expected to be  
 16 “safe.” 4-DHEA is not safe.

17 219. In addition, the labels and advertising for products that contain 4-DHEA  
 18 falsely represent to consumers that the statements made on the label have not been  
 19 evaluated by the FDA. In truth, the FDA has evaluated 4-DHEA and determined that 4-  
 20 DHEA is an unapproved new drug and that products that contain 4-DHEA are not safe,  
 21 and not legal for sale as Dietary Supplements.

22 **B. A1’S FALSE ADVERTISING OF 4-DHEA PRODUCTS**

23 220. In direct violation of federal law, A1 marketed and sold products that  
 24 contain 4-DHEA falsely labeled as Dietary Supplements. These products unfairly  
 25 competed directly with Dietary Supplements sourced from ThermoLife.

26 221. These products include the following:

27

Product Manufacturer	Product Name
Hi-Tech Pharmaceuticals	1-AD

28



<b>Product Manufacturer</b>	<b>Product Name</b>
LG Sciences	1-Andro
Advanced Muscle	1-Andro
Ironmag Labs	1-Andro RX
Hi-Tech Pharmaceuticals	1-Testosterone
Hi-Tech Pharmaceuticals	Anavar
Primeval Labs	Andro Quad
APS Nutrition	Androbolic 250
EPG	Androzome 1
Blackstone Labs	Chosen 1
LG Sciences	Cutting Andro Kit
Gaspari Nutrition	Halodrol
ALRI	Metanabol
Innovative Labs	Monster Plexx
Hi-Tech Pharmaceuticals	Superdrol

222. All of the products listed above include the drug ingredient 4-DHEA, yet all of products they have been sold and falsely marketed on A1's website as Dietary Supplements.

223. A1's website includes numerous false and material claims about 4-DHEA and the products A1 sells that include 4-DHEA.

224. Despite knowing that the ingredient 4-DHEA is a drug that is not legal for sale in a Dietary Supplement, A1 made the conscious decision to profit from its false marketing of products that contain the drug ingredient 4-DHEA in Dietary Supplements.

225. By marketing 4-DHEA (a drug) as an ingredient in "Dietary Supplements" on A1supplements.com, "America's Favorite Supplement Store", A1 has created a serious health risk to consumers. The labels and advertising for the 4-DHEA products falsely represent to consumers that the statements made have not been evaluated by the FDA, but, in fact, the FDA has determined that: 4-DHEA is not a dietary ingredient; products labeled as Dietary Supplements that contain 4-DHEA are illegal; products labeled as Dietary Supplements that include 4-DHEA are not safe; and 4-DHEA is an unapproved new drug that is illegal for sale in Dietary Supplements. Motivated by greed, A1 made the conscious decision to profit from its false marketing of the 4-DHEA products identified above. To do so, A1 has made false and material representations to

1 consumers regarding 4-DHEA and intentionally misled consumers to believe that when  
2 the products A1 sells include 4-DHEA, the ingredient 4-DHEA: (1) has not been  
3 evaluated by the FDA; (2) is legal for sale in a Dietary Supplement; (3) is safe; (4) is  
4 natural; and (5) is a Dietary Ingredient.

5 226. Accordingly, A1's intentionally mislabeled, misbranded, adulterated,  
6 unsafe, illegal, and falsely advertised products that contain the drug ingredient 4-DHEA  
7 should never have been in the marketplace, nor entitled to any sales. Any revenue earned  
8 from the sale of these misbranded, adulterated, unsafe, and illegal products is ill-gotten  
9 gains and must be disgorged.

10 **FIRST CLAIM FOR RELIEF**

11 **(Lanham Act § 43(a))**

12 227. Plaintiff realleges and incorporates herein by reference each and every  
13 allegation of this Complaint as is fully set forth herein.

14 228. A1 uses, offers for sale, and sells the products at issue in interstate and  
15 foreign commerce and has caused the false statements alleged herein to enter interstate  
16 and foreign commerce.

17 229. In connection with any goods or services, A1 has used one or more words,  
18 terms, names, symbols, or devices, alone or in combination thereof, as well as any false  
19 designations of origin, false or misleading descriptions of fact, or false or misleading  
20 representations of fact in commercial advertising or promotion, and it misrepresents the  
21 nature, characteristics, qualities, or geographic origin of its or another person's goods,  
22 services, or commercial activities.

23 230. As alleged above, A1 has made false statements of fact in commercial  
24 advertisements about the products sold on its website, including the false statements  
25 identified above.

26 231. A1's deception is material and made in bad faith for the purpose of  
27 influencing and deceiving the market, the public, consumers, potential customers and  
28

1 competitors. The deception is likely to influence the purchasing decisions of the public  
2 for whom it was intended and others.

3 232. ThermoLife has suffered a commercial injury to its reputation or sales,  
4 which was directly and proximately caused by A1's false statements and other acts as  
5 alleged above.

6 233. ThermoLife's injury is competitive, i.e., harmful to the ThermoLife's  
7 ability to compete in the Dietary Supplement market.

8 234. By reason of A1's statements and conduct, it has willfully violated § 43(a)  
9 of the Lanham Act, 15 U.S.C. § 1125(a), and ThermoLife has suffered, and will  
10 continue to suffer damage to its business, reputation and good will and has lost sales and  
11 profits that ThermoLife would otherwise have made.

12 235. ThermoLife's Lanham Act claim does not seek to enforce the provisions  
13 of DSHEA through private action. Neither DSHEA nor the Federal Food, Drug and  
14 Cosmetics Act preclude a claim under § 43(a) of the Lanham Act. Further, the FDA has  
15 already addressed the legality of the ingredients included in the products at issue in here;  
16 the FDA declared that the products identified above are improperly marketed as Dietary  
17 Supplements and that those products include materials that are classified as drugs. To  
18 the extent any claim ThermoLife has asserted mentions the DSHEA, it is in relation to  
19 A1's violations of DSHEA that have been affirmed by the FDA. ThermoLife seeks to  
20 hold A1 liable for misleading consumers about the products it sells by informing  
21 consumers that the FDA had not evaluated the statements made about the ingredients in  
22 the products identified above; when, in fact, the FDA has determined that the ingredients  
23 in the products listed are drugs, illegal for use in Dietary Supplements. A1 makes  
24 affirmative false statements related to these products by labeling them as Dietary  
25 Supplements and implying that they are "legal", "natural", and "safe."

26 236. ThermoLife has been irreparably harmed by A1's acts in violation of the  
27 Lanham Act and it has suffered damages in an amount to be determined at trial. Further,  
28

1 A1's conduct as alleged is in bad faith, willful and exceptional, such that ThermoLife is  
2 entitled to an award of treble damages and its attorneys' fees.

3 **SECOND CLAIM FOR RELIEF**

4 **(Common Law Unfair Competition)**

5 237. Plaintiff realleges and incorporates herein by reference each and every  
6 allegation of this Complaint as is fully set forth herein.

7 238. As alleged above, A1 has made false statements of material fact in  
8 commercial advertisements about the products sold on its website, including but not  
9 limited to the false statements identified above.

10 239. Common law unfair competition prevents business conduct that is contrary  
11 to honest practice in commercial matters, including deception.

12 240. ThermoLife has been injured as a result of A1's false statements.

13 241. ThermoLife has suffered a commercial injury based upon a  
14 misrepresentation by A1.

15 242. ThermoLife's injury is competitive, *i.e.*, harmful to the ThermoLife's  
16 ability to compete in the Dietary Supplement market.

17 243. As alleged above, ThermoLife's unfair competition claim does not seek to  
18 enforce the Federal Food Drug and Cosmetics Act and DSHEA through private action  
19 relating to the misbranding of food through false or misleading labeling.

20 244. ThermoLife has been irreparably harmed by A1's acts of unfair  
21 competition and it has suffered damages in an amount to be determined at trial.

22 **THIRD CLAIM FOR RELIEF**

23 **(False Marking 35 U.S.C. § 292)**

24 245. Plaintiff realleges and incorporates herein by reference each and every  
25 allegation of this Complaint as is fully set forth herein.

26 246. ThermoLife currently holds 23 separate and distinct patents that protect its  
27 innovative development and use of ingredients in Dietary Supplements and food  
28 products.

1           247. ThermoLife also holds several patents related to the use of amino acids to  
2 increase athletic performance. For example, ThermoLife’s U.S. Patent No. 8,178,572  
3 protects and covers “a method for increasing the vasodilative characteristics of amino  
4 acids in a human, the method comprising administering orally to the human a  
5 pharmaceutically effective amount of an amino acid compound consisting essentially of  
6 a nitrate of an amino acid selected from the group consisting of Arginine, Agmatine,  
7 Beta Alanine, Citrulline, Creatine, Glutamine, L-Histidine, Isoleucine, Leucine,  
8 Norvaline, Ornithine, and Valine.”

9           248. With few exceptions, anytime an amino acid is combined with nitrate(s)  
10 and sold and marketed to consumers the product relies on ThermoLife’s patented  
11 technology.

12           249. ThermoLife’s patented creatine nitrate has proven exceedingly popular in  
13 the Dietary Supplement market.

14           250. Through its website, A1’s website falsely advertises its products that  
15 include “Creatine Nitrate” as including “a vastly superior patented creatine [referring to  
16 creatine nitrate].”

17           251. Except for its sale of products licensed from ThermoLife, A1 is not  
18 licensed or otherwise authorized to practice any patented invention related to “Creatine  
19 Nitrate.”

20           252. A1 falsely marked their “Creatine Nitrate” products as patented with full  
21 knowledge that A1 does not possess the advertised patent rights under 35 U.S.C. §  
22 292(a).

23           253. ThermoLife has suffered competitive injury as a result of A1’S false  
24 marking and, under 35 U.S.C. § 292(b) is entitled to recover damages adequate to  
25 compensate for the injury in an amount to be proven at trial.

26  
27  
28

**FOURTH CLAIM FOR RELIEF**

**(Civil Conspiracy)**

254. Plaintiff realleges and incorporates herein by reference each and every allegation of this Complaint as is fully set forth herein.

255. At all relevant times, A1 has acted in concert, agreed, combined and conspired for an unlawful purpose or for a lawful purpose by unlawful means, i.e., to engage in false advertising and deceptive practices, with the makers and distributors of the products alleged above.

256. An overt act by one member of the conspiracy is chargeable to all members.

257. The agreement and overt acts were done intentionally and with malice.

258. As a direct and proximate result of the civil conspiracy, ThermoLife has been injured in an amount to be proven at trial in excess of \$75,000, exclusive of interest and costs.

**JURY TRIAL DEMAND**

1. Plaintiff requests a trial by jury on all aspects of the Complaint.

**PRAYER FOR RELIEF**

WHEREFORE, ThermoLife demands judgment against defendants A1 as follows:

- A. For an award disgorging any and all monies earned by A1 in connection with the sale of the products identified above;
- B. For an award of compensatory and/or restitutionary damages in favor of ThermoLife in an amount to be proven at trial;
- C. For an award of treble damages under 15 U.S.C. §§ 1117, 1125(a);
- D. For an award of ThermoLife's attorneys' fees and costs under 15 U.S.C. § 1117, A.R.S. § 13-2314.04, and any applicable law;
- E. For an award of ThermoLife's damages, treble damages, and attorneys' fees under 18 U.S.C. § 1961 *et seq.*

- 1 F. For prejudgment interest on any liquidated sum determined to be due  
2 Plaintiff;
- 3 G. For post-judgment interest on any judgment;
- 4 H. For punitive damages in an amount sufficient to deter A1 from future  
5 wrongful and outrageous conduct;
- 6 I. An Order permanently enjoining, A1 and all those persons in active concert  
7 or participation with them, from making false statements on the internet  
8 about their products and an order requiring A1 and those acting in concert  
9 or participation with them to remove the false statements from the internet  
10 regarding A1's products;
- 11 J. For such other and further relief as the Court deems just and proper.

12 DATED this 21st day of November, 2018.

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