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And	CLERK U.S. DISTRICT COURT
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DADY & GARDNER, P.A.	COLUMN A CALLEDDANA
Jeffery S. Haff (pro hac vice pending)	g)  CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA  BY  DEPUTY
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Attorneys for Plaintiffs	
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UNITED STATES DI	STRICT COURT
UNITED STATES DI CENTRAL DISTRICT	OF CALIFORNIA
CENTRAL DISTRICT	OF CALIFORNIA CV 14 - 02378-1
CENTRAL DISTRICT FULLVIEW CORPORATION, a	
FULLVIEW CORPORATION, a Florida corporation; CRANBROOK	OF CALIFORNIA CV 14 - 02378-1
FULLVIEW CORPORATION, a Florida corporation; CRANBROOK ASSOCIATES, INC., a Missouri corporation; LILLEMO	OF CALIFORNIA  (N 14-02378-1  )* Case No. 4-02378-1  (A 14-02378-1
FULLVIEW CORPORATION, a Florida corporation; CRANBROOK ASSOCIATES, INC., a Missouri corporation; LILLEMO ENTERPRISES, INC., a Minnesota	OF CALIFORNIA  Call 14 - 02378-  Call No. 14 - 02378-  COMPLAINT FOR  1. Declaratory Relief
FULLVIEW CORPORATION, a Florida corporation; CRANBROOK ASSOCIATES, INC., a Missouri corporation; LILLEMO ENTERPRISES, INC., a Minnesota corporation; WESTAFF, LLC, a	OF CALIFORNIA  (N 1 4 - 02378-1  )* Case No. 4 - 02378-1  )  COMPLAINT FOR  )  1. Declaratory Relief  2. Injunctive Relief
FULLVIEW CORPORATION, a Florida corporation; CRANBROOK ASSOCIATES, INC., a Missouri corporation; LILLEMO ENTERPRISES, INC., a Minnesota	OF CALIFORNIA  CALIFORNIA  (California)  California  (California)  Complaint For  Complaint For  1. Declaratory Relief  2. Injunctive Relief  3. Damages
FULLVIEW CORPORATION, a Florida corporation; CRANBROOK ASSOCIATES, INC., a Missouri corporation; LILLEMO ENTERPRISES, INC., a Minnesota corporation; WESTAFF, LLC, a Connecticut limited-liability company; WESTAFF OF CHAMPLAIN VALLEY, INC. a Vermont	OF CALIFORNIA  (N 1 4 - 02378-1  )* Case No. 4 - 02378-1  )  COMPLAINT FOR  )  1. Declaratory Relief  2. Injunctive Relief
FULLVIEW CORPORATION, a Florida corporation; CRANBROOK ASSOCIATES, INC., a Missouri corporation; LILLEMO ENTERPRISES, INC., a Minnesota corporation; WESTAFF, LLC, a Connecticut limited-liability company; WESTAFF OF CHAMPLAIN VALLEY, INC. a Vermont corporation; MOUNT FAMILY	OF CALIFORNIA  (No. 14-02378-1)  Case No. 14-02378-1  Complaint For  1. Declaratory Relief  2. Injunctive Relief  3. Damages  4. Accounting  5. Attorneys' Fees
FULLVIEW CORPORATION, a Florida corporation; CRANBROOK ASSOCIATES, INC., a Missouri corporation; LILLEMO ENTERPRISES, INC., a Minnesota corporation; WESTAFF, LLC, a Connecticut limited-liability company; WESTAFF OF CHAMPLAIN VALLEY, INC. a Vermont corporation; MOUNT FAMILY GROUP, LTD., a Vermont corporation;	OF CALIFORNIA  (N 1 4 - 02378-1  )* Case No. 4 - 02378-1  )  COMPLAINT FOR  )  1. Declaratory Relief  2. Injunctive Relief  3. Damages  4. Accounting
FULLVIEW CORPORATION, a Florida corporation; CRANBROOK ASSOCIATES, INC., a Missouri corporation; LILLEMO ENTERPRISES, INC., a Minnesota corporation; WESTAFF, LLC, a Connecticut limited-liability company; WESTAFF OF CHAMPLAIN VALLEY, INC. a Vermont corporation; MOUNT FAMILY GROUP, LTD., a Vermont corporation; WESTAFF OF CONNECTICUT	OF CALIFORNIA  (No. 14-02378-1)  Case No. 14-02378-1  Complaint For  1. Declaratory Relief  2. Injunctive Relief  3. Damages  4. Accounting  5. Attorneys' Fees
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FULLVIEW CORPORATION, a Florida corporation; CRANBROOK ASSOCIATES, INC., a Missouri corporation; LILLEMO ENTERPRISES, INC., a Minnesota corporation; WESTAFF, LLC, a Connecticut limited-liability company; WESTAFF OF CHAMPLAIN VALLEY, INC. a Vermont corporation; MOUNT FAMILY GROUP, LTD., a Vermont corporation; WESTAFF OF CONNECTICUT RIVER VALLEY, INC., a Vermont corporation; WESTERN GIRL OF NEW ORLEANS, INC., a Louisiana	OF CALIFORNIA  (No. 14-02378-1)  Case No. 14-02378-1  Complaint For  1. Declaratory Relief  2. Injunctive Relief  3. Damages  4. Accounting  5. Attorneys' Fees
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COMPLAINT

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- Valley, Inc. ("River Valley"); Western Girl of New Orleans, Inc. ("Western Girl"); 1
- 2 Friedrich Business Group, Inc. ("FBG"); Western Staff Services of Lansing, Inc.
- ("Lansing"); Western Staff Services of Norwalk, Inc. ("Norwalk"); Tricia M. 3
- Evans ("Evans"); Western Temporary Services of St. Mary's/Greenville, Ohio, 4
- Inc. ("St. Mary's"); Inditemps, Inc. ("Inditemps"); Western Staff Services of 5
- Wytheville, Inc. ("Wytheville"); Temporary Services, Inc. ("Temporary Services") 6
- and Western Staff Services of Columbus, LaGrange and Newnan, Inc. 7
- 8 ("Columbus") (collectively "Plaintiffs") for their complaint against Defendants
- Westaff, USA, Inc. ("Westaff"), Koosharem, LLC and New Koosharem 9
  - Corporation (collectively "Koosharem"), state and allege as follows:

### I. INTRODUCTION

- Defendants and Plaintiffs, at the times relevant hereto, have been involved in a franchise relationship in the temporary staffing industry.
- 2. In connection with this relationship, Defendants, as franchisor, have overcharged Plaintiffs, as franchisees, for, without limitation, workers' compensation claims, workers' compensation insurance, general liability insurance, and administrative costs, among other things.
- The franchise agreements between Defendants and Plaintiffs (collectively 3. "Franchise Agreements") authorized Defendants to withhold from Plaintiffs only the cost of workers' compensation and general liability insurance.
- On information and belief, Defendants have charged Plaintiffs more than the Franchise Agreements authorize for, among other things: (a) the cost of workers' compensation insurance, including, without limitation, charges for uninsured claims; (b) the cost of general-liability insurance; (c) administrative fees; and (d) other amounts that Defendants have taken from Plaintiffs and utilized to benefit their non-franchised businesses.
  - On information and belief, Koosharem, upon acquiring Westaff in 2009, 5.

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also unlawfully converted, for Koosharem's own purposes, monies the Plaintiffs had paid to Westaff to fund a workers' compensation reserve pool.

Plaintiffs now file this action in an attempt to recover the amounts Defendants have overcharged Plaintiffs and converted for Defendants' own purposes, as well as to recover Plaintiffs' reasonable attorneys' fees. Plaintiffs also seek a declaratory judgment establishing the amounts that Defendants can properly charge Plaintiffs on a going-forward basis under the terms of the Franchise Agreements, and temporary and permanent injunctive relief precluding Defendants from overcharging Plaintiffs in the future. Plaintiffs also seek an accounting.

# II. PARTIES

- Fullview is a Florida corporation, with its principal place of business in 7. Hialeah, Florida. Kemp Mobley owns Fullview Corporation. The Mobley family acquired this Westaff franchise in 1975. Kemp Mobley acquired his father's corporation, including the Westaff franchise in 2008. Mobley subsequently assigned the franchise from his father's corporation, Florida Service Systems, Inc., to Fullview. The parties executed the most current franchise agreement between Fullview and the predecessor of Koosharem in 2008. That franchise agreement ("Fullview Franchise Agreement") is attached as **Exhibit A**. The Fullview Franchise Agreement provides an exclusive Westaff territory in the Florida counties of Dade and Broward. Koosharem acquired the rights and obligations of Westaff (USA), Inc. as franchisor under the Fullview Franchise Agreement in approximately 2009. Koosharem remains the franchisor as of the date of this Complaint.
- Cranbrook is a Missouri corporation with its principal place of business in St. Louis, Missouri. Missy Hill owns 51% of Cranbrook and Gregory Hill, Missy's husband, owns 49%. Cranbrook's predecessor, Hill Mid Western Companies, Inc., became a franchisee for Westaff in October 1992. The owners of

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- Hill Mid Western Companies, Inc. changed its name to Cranbrook on December 7, 1992. The parties executed the most current franchise agreement between the predecessor of Cranbrook and the predecessor of Koosharem in 1992. That franchise agreement ("Cranbrook Franchise Agreement") is attached as Exhibit B. The Cranbrook Franchise Agreement provides an exclusive Westaff territory that encompasses the cities of Clayton and St. Louis in Missouri. Koosharem acquired the rights and obligations of Westaff (USA), Inc. as franchisor under the Cranbrook Franchise Agreement in approximately 2009. Koosharem remains the franchisor as of the date of this Complaint.
  - 9. Lillemo Enterprises is a Minnesota corporation with its principal place of business is St. Cloud, Minnesota. Michael Lillemo owns 100% of Lillemo Enterprises. Lillemo Enterprises became a Westaff franchisee in December 2000. The parties executed the most current franchise agreement between Lillemo and the predecessor of Koosharem in 2000. That franchise agreement ("Lillemo Franchise Agreement") is attached hereto as **Exhibit C**. The Lillemo Franchise Agreement provides an exclusive Westaff territory of St. Cloud, Minnesota and the Minnesota counties of Benton, Sherburne, Wright and Meeker. Koosharem acquired the rights and obligations of Westaff (USA), Inc. as franchisor under the Lillemo Franchise Agreement in approximately 2009. Koosharem remains the franchisor as of the date of this Complaint.
  - 10. Corte is a Connecticut limited-liability company, and its members, Lou Corte, Mike Fasulo, and Dan LaPorte, each reside in the state of Connecticut. Corte started operating an independent staffing company called Outsource Solutions in 2004. Corte converted Outsource Solutions into a Westaff franchise in July 2009. Koosharem never offered Corte a written agreement, but the parties have been operating pursuant to terms similar to those employed by other franchisees in the system. The verbal agreement in place between the parties

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provides Corte with an exclusive Westaff territory that encompasses all of Connecticut, and the southern portion of Massachusetts up to Springfield. Koosharem remains the franchisor as of the date of this Complaint.

11. Champlain Valley is a Vermont corporation with its principal place of business in Burlington, Vermont. Mount Family Group is the owner of Champlain Valley. Champlain Valley has four different Westaff franchise agreements. Champlain Valley entered into its first Westaff franchise agreement on December 3, 1990 ("Champlain Valley Franchise Agreement No. 1"), which provides for a territory in Burlington and South Burlington, Vermont, as well as Essex Junction, Vermont and St. Albans, Vermont. Champlain Valley Franchise Agreement No. 1 is attached as **Exhibit D**. Champlain Valley entered into its second Westaff franchise agreement on September 18, 1996 ("Champlain Valley Franchise Agreement No. 2"), which provides for a territory in Plattsburgh, New York. Champlain Valley Franchise Agreement No. 2 is attached as **Exhibit E**. Champlain Valley entered into its third Westaff franchise agreement on February 13, 2003 ("Champlain Valley Franchise Agreement No. 3"), which provides for a territory in St. Johnsbury, Vermont. Champlain Valley Franchise Agreement No. 3 is attached as Exhibit F. Champlain Valley entered into its fourth Westaff Franchise Agreement on January 8, 2007 ("Champlain Valley Franchise Agreement No. 4"), which provided for a territory in Barre, Vermont, and Montpelier, Vermont. Champlain Valley Franchise Agreement No. 4 is attached as **Exhibit G**. Koosharem acquired the rights and obligations of Westaff (USA), Inc. as franchisor under the Champlain Valley Franchise Agreements in approximately 2009. Koosharem remains the franchisor as of the date of this Complaint.

12. Mount Family Group is a Vermont corporation with its principal place of business in Burlington, Vermont. James Mount owns 60% of the company, and Karen Mount owns 40% of the company. As stated above, Mount Family Group

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also owns Champlain Valley. Mount Family Group entered into a Westaff franchise agreement with Westaff on December 28, 1999, which provided for the franchise territory of Albany, Schenectady, Troy, and Colonie, New York ("Mount Franchise Agreement"). The Mount Franchise Agreement is attached as Exhibit **H**. Koosharem acquired the rights and obligations of Westaff (USA), Inc. as franchisor under the Mount Franchise Agreement in approximately 2009. Koosharem remains the franchisor as of the date of this Complaint.

- 13. River Valley is a Vermont corporation with its principal place of business in Burlington, Vermont. James Mount owns 60% of Connecticut River Valley and Karen Mount owns 40% of Connecticut River Valley. Connecticut River Valley executed a Westaff franchise agreement in March 1999 with Koosharem's predecessor ("CRV Franchise Agreement"). The CRV Franchise Agreement is attached as **Exhibit I**. The Franchise Agreement grants a Westaff territory in Claremont, Lebanon and West Lebanon, New Hampshire; White River Junction, Vermont; Lancaster, Littleton and Lincoln, New Hampshire; and Providence, Rhode Island. Koosharem acquired the rights and obligations of Westaff (USA), Inc. as franchisor under Mount Franchise Agreement No. 1 in approximately 2009. Koosharem remains the franchisor as of the date of this Complaint.
- Western Girl is a Louisiana corporation, with its principal place of business in Metairie, Louisiana. Anthony L. Caldarera III owns Western Girl. Western Girl became a franchisee for Westaff in 1958. The parties executed the most current franchise agreement between Western Girl and the predecessor of Koosharem in January, 2001. That franchise agreement (Western Girl Franchise Agreement) is attached as **Exhibit J**. The Western Girl Franchise Agreement provides an exclusive Westaff territory that encompasses metro New Orleans, including the parishes of Orleans, Jefferson, St. Bernard, St. Tammany, Plaquemines, St. Charles, and St. John. Koosharem acquired the rights and

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obligations of Westaff (USA), Inc. as franchisor under the Western Girl Franchise Agreement in approximately 2009. Koosharem remains the franchisor as of the date of this Complaint. FBG is a Wisconsin corporation, with its principal place of business in 15.

Wisconsin. Debbie Friedrich owns 100% of FBG. FBG became a Westaff franchisee in 1993 when it signed a franchise agreement with Koosharem's predecessor ("FBG Franchise Agreement No. 1"). A copy of FBG Franchise Agreement No. 2 is attached as Exhibit K. FBG Franchise Agreement No. 1 provides FGB with an exclusive territory in Milwaukee, Wauwatosa, Waukesha, Brookfield, New Berlin, West Allis, and Menomonee Falls, Wisconsin. On or about June 7, 1996, FBG executed a second franchise agreement with Koosharem's predecessor ("FBG Franchise Agreement No. 2"). FBG Franchise Agreement No. 2 is attached as **Exhibit L**. FBG Franchise Agreement No. 2 provides an exclusive Westaff territory in Appleton, Wisconsin. Koosharem acquired the rights and obligations of Westaff (USA), Inc. as franchisor under both FBG Franchise Agreement No. 1 and FBG Franchise Agreement No. 2 in approximately 2009. Koosharem remains the franchisor as of the date of this Complaint. Koosharem amended FBG's franchise agreements to add territories in Forest Lake and Roseau, Minnesota; plus Menomonee Falls, Balsam Lake and Rice Lake, Wisconsin; and Spirit Lake, Iowa in 2010, with an effective date of 2009.

Lansing is a Michigan corporation with its principal place of business in 16. Lansing, Michigan. Linn M. Back owns 51% of Lansing and her husband, William H. Back, owns 49%. Lansing became a Westaff franchisee in 1996 when it signed a franchise agreement Koosharem's predecessor ("Western Franchise Agreement'). A copy of the Lansing Franchise Agreement is attached as Exhibit M. The agreement provides an exclusive Westaff territory in Lansing and Owosso,

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Michigan. Koosharem acquired the rights and obligations of Westaff (USA), Inc. as franchisor under the Lansing Franchise Agreement in approximately 2009. Koosharem remains the franchisor as of the date of this Complaint.

- Norwalk is an Ohio corporation with its principal place of business in 17. Norwalk, Ohio. John Brooks ("Brooks") owns 70% of Norwalk and Beverly Brooks owns 30% of Norwalk. John Brooks became a Westaff franchisee in 1994. John Brooks later formed Norwalk and it became the franchisee in 1997. Norwalk signed its most-recent franchise agreement with the predecessor of Koosharem in 1997 ("Norwalk Franchise Agreement"). The Norwalk Franchise Agreement is attached as **Exhibit N**. The agreement provides an exclusive Westaff territory for Norwalk, Ohio. Koosharem acquired the rights and obligations of Westaff (USA), Inc. as franchisor under the Lansing Franchise Agreement in approximately 2009. Koosharem remains the franchisor as of the date of this Complaint.
- 18. Evans is an individual who resides in Hawaii. Evans' predecessor, Westaff of Hawaii, Inc. ("WHI") became a Westaff franchisee in 2002, at which time it signed a franchise agreement with Koosharem's predecessor ("Hawaii Franchise Agreement"). The Hawaii Franchise Agreement is attached as Exhibit **O**. The agreement provides an exclusive territory on the Island of Oahu. Koosharem acquired the rights and obligations of Westaff (USA), Inc. as franchisor under the Hawaii Franchise Agreement in approximately 2009. Evans acquired the franchisee and became the successor to the Hawaii Franchise Agreement on November 30, 2009. Koosharem remains the franchisor as of the date of this Complaint.
- St. Mary's is an Ohio corporation with its principal place of business in 19. St. Mary's Ohio. Kenneth Dershaw owns St. Mary's. St. Mary's predecessor became a Westaff franchisee in 1991. St. Mary's in 1997 signed its most-recent agreements with the predecessor of Koosharem ("St. Mary's Franchise

- 20. Inditemps is an Indiana corporation with its principal place of business in Indiana. Thad Hamilton is the majority owner of Inditemps. Thad Hamilton became a Westaff franchisee in 1989, at which time he signed a franchise agreement with Koosharem's predecessor ("Inditemps Franchise Agreement"). The Inditemps Franchise Agreement is attached as **Exhibit Q**. The agreement provides an exclusive Westaff territory in the City of Indianapolis, Indiana. Hamilton later formed Inditemps and operates the franchise agreement, with the franchisor's approval, through Inditemps. Koosharem acquired the rights and obligations of Westaff (USA), Inc. as franchisor under the Inditemps Franchise Agreement in approximately 2009. Koosharem remains the franchisor as of the date of this Complaint.
- 21. Wytheville is a Virginia corporation with its principal place of business in Wytheville, Virginia. Lewis Shelton owns Wytheville. Wytheville became a Westaff franchisee in 2003, at which time it signed a franchise agreement with Koosharem's predecessor ("Wytheville Franchise Agreement"). The Wytheville Franchise Agreement is attached as **Exhibit R**. The agreement provides an exclusive Westaff territory in Wytheville, Marion, and Independence, Virginia. Koosharem acquired the rights and obligations of Westaff (USA), Inc. as

franchisor under the Helena Franchise Agreement in approximately 2009.

2 3 Koosharem remains the franchisor as of the date of this Complaint. Temporary Services is a North Carolina corporation with a principal 22.

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place of business in Durham, North Carolina. Sheila Yearby owns Temporary Services. Sheila Yearby became a Westaff franchisee in 1977. Shortly thereafter

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Yearby transferred the franchise agreement to Temporary Services, with the

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franchisor's approval. The parties executed the most current franchise agreement

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between Temporary Services and the predecessor of Koosharem in 1977. That

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franchise agreement ("Temporary Services Franchise Agreement") is attached

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hereto as **Exhibit S**. The Temporary Services Franchise Agreement provides an

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exclusive Westaff territory of the counties of Durham and Orange, North Carolina.

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Koosharem acquired the rights and obligation of Westaff (USA), Inc. as franchisor

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under the Temporary Services Franchise Agreement in approximately 2009.

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Koosharem remains the franchisor as of the date of this Complaint.

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date of this Complaint.

Columbus is a Georgia corporation with a principal place of business in Columbus, Georgia. Helen Rustin owns 50% of Columbus and Betsy Blankenship

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owns 50% of Columbus. Columbus became a Westaff franchisee in 1995. The

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parties executed the most current franchise agreement between Columbus and the

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predecessor of Koosharem in 1995. That franchise agreement ("Columbus

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Franchise Agreement") is attached hereto as **Exhibit T**. The Columbus Franchise

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Agreement provides an exclusive Westaff territory as stated in the Franchise

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Agreement, including, with certain minor exceptions, Columbus, Georgia; la Grange, Georgia, and Newnan, Georgia. Koosharem acquired the rights and

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obligations of Westaff (USA), Inc. as franchisor under the Columbus Franchise

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Agreement in approximately 2009. Koosharem remains the franchisor as of the

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24. Upon information and belief, Westaff is a California corporation with its

principal place of business at 3820 State Street, Santa Barbara, California.

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25. Upon information and belief, Koosharem, LLC is the parent company of Westaff and is a California limited-liability company with its principal place of

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business at 3820 State Street, Santa Barbara, California. Plaintiffs have no

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knowledge or reason to believe that any of Koosharem, LLC's members are residents or citizens of any of the states in which Plaintiffs, or their members,

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reside.

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26. Upon information and belief, New Koosharem Corporation is the parent company of Koosharem, LLC, and is a California corporation with its principal place of business at 3820 State Street, Santa Barbara, California.

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# III. JURISDICTION AND VENUE

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27. Jurisdiction is proper in this Court pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1332, because there is complete diversity between Plaintiffs and Defendants and the amount in

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controversy for each Plaintiff is reasonably believed to be substantially in excess of

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\$75,000, exclusive of interest and costs. Alternatively or additionally,

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supplemental jurisdiction is proper under 28 U.S.C. § 1367.

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28. Venue is proper in this district, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1391, because a substantial part of the events and omissions giving rise to Plaintiffs' claims

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occurred in this district and Defendants reside in this district.

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29. The Court has personal jurisdiction over all of the Defendants because their corporate headquarters are in California and because they conduct, or have conducted at relevant times, substantial business in California.

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## IV. COMMON BACKGROUND FACTS

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# A. Plaintiffs become Westaff franchisees.

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30. Each of the Plaintiffs, with the exception of Corte, became a Westaff franchisee prior to Koosharem's acquisition of Westaff in 2009.

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31. Each of the Franchise Agreements provides that each of the Plaintiffs

would place temporary employees with businesses who were clients and in need of temporary employees. Each of the Franchise Agreements provides that the franchisor, which, at the time, was generally Westaff, would contract with the clients, bill the clients, and collect payment from the clients. (FBG Franchise Agreement No. 1 at § 2(e).)

- 32. The Franchise Agreements also expressly provide that Westaff would: "meet all payrolls of the temporary employees, including the payment of all payroll taxes, workers' compensation, liability and fidelity bond insurance ... and the handling of all accounting and other details incident to the temporary payroll, including the preparing of the necessary payroll reports and returns."
- (FBG Franchise Agreement No. 1 at 2(c).)
- 33. On a monthly basis, the franchisor then was obligated to determine the "Gross Profit" by deducting from the revenues received certain costs related to placing the temporary employees.
  - 34. The Franchise Agreements all define "Gross Profit" as:
    - e. <u>Definition of Gross Profit</u> Gross profit is defined as gross billings of temporary help or staffing services including any taxes levied thereon for any period <u>less</u> discounts, payroll and other direct labor costs based on Western's payroll cost factors (which include payroll taxes, unemployment insurance, workers' compensation, liability, fidelity bond, bid surety and performance bond insurance, any other insurance required by law, taxes levied on gross billings) and any special expenses (e.g., drug testing, safety equipment and background investigations) required by Western's customers or by law.

(FBG Franchise Agreement No. 2 at § 5.e.)

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35. After subtracting these specific allowed costs, the franchisor then would pay each of the franchisees a certain percentage of that Gross Margin as outlined in each of the franchisee's franchise agreements, and keep the remaining percentage of the gross margin as a franchise "royalty."

### В. Koosharem builds through acquisitions.

- In 1985, Fred Paulson founded the predecessor of Koosharem when he 36. started Select Temporaries, Inc. ("Select Temporaries") in Santa Barbara, California.
- 37. In the 1990s, Select Temporaries began an aggressive growth strategy by purchasing an average of two temporary staffing competitors per year.
- 38. In 2000, Fred Paulson's daughter, Shannon, and her husband, Steve Sorensen, formed Koosharem, and acquired Select Temporaries through a leveraged buyout of Select Temporaries' three stockholders. According to Koosharem's financial records, Koosharem acquired all the outstanding stock of Select Temporaries on July 13, 2000 for \$2.683 million.
- Once under the leadership of the Sorensens, Koosharem continued its 39. predecessor's history of acquisitions. But prior to 2006, when Koosharem acquired the Remedy system, none of Koosharem's acquisitions had been franchisors with franchises.
- 40. One of Koosharem's acquisition strategies has been to purchase competitors with higher workers' compensation costs than those of the businesses Koosharem already operated. By acquiring businesses with high workers' compensation costs, Koosharem was able to quickly reduce the open claims of the acquired businesses and itself capture both the reserve pools the acquired businesses had collected for workers' compensation claims and collateral the acquired businesses had posted with their insurers.
  - This strategy worked wonderfully for Koosharem's many previous 41.

- acquisitions of companies that did not have contractual agreements with franchisees. But when Koosharem employed this same strategy upon its acquisition of Westaff, Koosharem essentially captured for itself the money the franchisees had paid Westaff to cover the costs Westaff incurred, or would incur, in paying the claims and/or costs of insuring the temporary employees each of the Plaintiffs placed.
- 42. On information and belief, Koosharem failed to keep the money the Plaintiffs had paid to Westaff for future workers' compensation claims asserted by the temporary employees each of the Plaintiffs placed, and instead captured that money as a bonus for Koosharem and its owners.
- 43. Making matters worse, and despite stating that one of its objectives in taking over competitors with high workers' compensation costs was to eventually lower the acquired business's workers' compensation costs, Koosharem has failed to accomplish that for the Westaff system on a consistent basis.
- 44. Shortly after Koosharem acquired Westaff, Plaintiffs experienced the same, or slightly increased, workers' compensation charges than they had experienced prior to Koosharem's acquisition, despite the fact that the Plaintiffs had over-funded the workers' compensation reserve pool.
- C. Koosharem greatly increases workers' compensation charges to Plaintiffs.
- 45. As bad as things were at the time of Koosharem's acquisition of Westaff, they eventually became even worse. Koosharem began charging Plaintiffs directly for nearly all of the system's workers' compensation claims.
- 46. Rather than acquiring guaranteed cost workers' compensation insurance (which has no deductible) and then passing the pro-rata cost of that insurance onto the Plaintiffs (as the Franchise Agreements require), Koosharem has primarily self-insured workers' compensation claims by acquiring workers' compensation

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insurance, on information and belief, with a \$500,000 per claim deductible. On information and belief, very few, if any, claims asserted by the temporary employees placed by the Plaintiffs have qualified for such insurance, since the amount of any insurance claim is far less than \$500,000.

- 47. In order to pay for the claims not covered by insurance (i.e., virtually every claim), Koosharem requires the Plaintiffs to make monthly payments to Koosharem based on the billings of the temporary employees each Plaintiff places. These payments fund a cash reserve for both incurred claims and incurred but not reported claims and supposedly represent the ultimate cost of claims and related expenses that have been reported but not settled, and that have incurred but not reported.
- 48. The great majority of the money Koosharem requires each Plaintiff to pay for workers' compensation, therefore, is used by Koosharem to fund this reserve, and not to pay the actual cost of workers compensation insurance as required by the Franchise Agreements.
- 49. On information and belief, Koosharem has used the money the Plaintiffs have paid into the reserve pool to pay claims not for temporary employees placed by each individual Plaintiff (as required by the Franchise Agreements), but, rather, to pay workers compensation claims across its entire system.
- 50. On information and belief, Koosharem also is requiring Plaintiffs to help fund the collateral that Koosharem's excess workers' compensation insurer, Ace, requires Koosharem to carry. Applicable laws require excess workers' compensation insurers such as Ace, which provides coverage for individual claims greater than \$500,000, to pay claims that are less than the deductible if the insured fails to pay. As a result, Ace has in the past required Koosharem to hold a specific amount of cash in an account so that Ace can be certain Koosharem can pay all the claims that are less than \$500,000, which, on information and belief, includes all

but a very small handful of claims.

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requiring Koosharem to increase its cash collateral account by \$25 million. Upon information and belief, the Plaintiffs reasonably believe Ace instituted this

In July 2013, however, Koosharem told the Plaintiffs that Ace was now

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requirement because of Koosharem's deteriorating financial condition and other

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problems it has experienced related to workers' compensation, and which are

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outlined below.

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52. Koosharem required the franchisees in its organization, meaning all the franchisees in Westaff, including all of the Plaintiffs, and the franchisees in the

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only other franchise-based system that Koosharem has acquired, Remedy, to fund

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68% of \$8 million of the Ace collateral account (which was the franchisee share of

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gross profits generated by their temporary employees). As a result of that, and

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perhaps some other factors addressed below, Koosharem increased the Plaintiffs'

14 15 workers' compensation payments by, in some cases, 100%. 53.

Plaintiffs reasonably believe that two separate events have at least played a part in Ace's collateral requirement.

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First, the California State Compensation Insurance Fund, a quasi-public 54.

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nonprofit that sells workers' compensation insurance to California businesses,

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obtained a \$50 million judgment against Koosharem in California state court in

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San Francisco in September 2011.

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The State Compensation Insurance Fund established that Koosharem had 55. underpaid its workers' compensation insurance premiums by \$30 million and

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underreported its payroll to state officials.

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The court ordered Koosharem to pay \$30 million in unpaid premiums, 56. \$18 million in pre-judgment interest, and \$2 million in punitive damages.

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57. Rather than appeal the decision, Koosharem settled the case for just under \$33 million.

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- 58. Second, the Santa Barbara District Attorney arrested Fred Pachon, at one time Koosharem's vice president of risk management, on August 30, 2013 for allegedly embezzling \$700,000 from workers' compensation medical bill invoice payments from January 1, 2008 through December 30, 2012.
- 59. On information and belief, Koosharem has used monies paid by Plaintiffs to cover the workers' compensation claims of the temporary employees each of the Plaintiffs' places to cover the amounts Pachon allegedly embezzled.
- 60. Koosharem also has been charging Plaintiffs, without any contractual authority, \$0.95 per \$100 in wage expenses, to administer Koosharem's workers' compensation program.
  - Defendants have breached their obligations to Plaintiffs by: 61.
  - "Capturing" money the Plaintiffs had paid toward workers' compensation prior to the acquisition;
  - Charging Plaintiffs for uncovered workers' compensation claims;
  - Charging Plaintiffs for the cash collateral escrow fund allegedly required by the umbrella workers' compensation provider;
  - Using money paid by the Plaintiffs to cover the costs of workers' compensation claims by temporary employees not placed by the Plaintiffs;
  - Charging a workers' compensation administrative fee not authorized by the Franchise Agreements:
  - Failing to supervise its own employees administering the workers' compensation reserve pool, and then using Plaintiffs' money to cover the amount embezzled.
- Koosharem overcharges for general liability insurance. D.
- The Franchise Agreements expressly obligate Koosharem to "carry 62. insurance covering [the franchisor's] temporary employees and the liabilities of [the franchisor] in the temporary help or staffing services operation." (FBG

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Franchise Agreement No. 1 at § 4.n.)

- The Franchise Agreements also authorize Koosharem to deduct from the 63. determination of Gross Profits the costs of providing liability insurance for each temporary employee placed by each Plaintiff.
- 64. Despite the obligation to provide such insurance, and despite the fact that Koosharem has been charging each Plaintiff \$0.35 for each \$100 of wage expense for such general liability insurance, Plaintiffs have had to pay money to cover damages caused by the actions of temporary employees Plaintiffs had placed since after Koosharem refused to pay.
- Moreover, Koosharem has admitted that it has included, as part of its \$0.95 per \$100 workers' compensation administrative charge, the \$0.35 per \$100 it also has been charging Plaintiffs for general liability insurance, and thus, doublecharging the Plaintiffs (\$0.35 per \$100 in the workers' compensation charge and another \$0.35 per \$100 in the liability insurance charge).
- 66. Koosharem has breached its obligations to Plaintiffs by failing to secure general liability insurance sufficient to pay for the damages caused by temporary employees placed by Plaintiffs, and by charging Plaintiffs double for general liability insurance.

# LEGAL CLAIMS **COUNT I**

Breach of Contract and the Implied Covenant of Good Faith and Fair Dealing (All Plaintiffs against All Defendants)

Plaintiffs restate and reallege all paragraphs as if fully set forth herein.

67. Plaintiffs have substantially performed all of the material terms, conditions, covenants and promises to be performed on its part under the Franchise Agreements, including full and proper payment of amounts due and owning.

- 68. Defendants have materially and continually breached the Franchise Agreements and the covenant of good faith and fair dealing implied therein as a matter of law, charging Plaintiffs amounts for insurance in excess of the amounts contractually permitted, by using Plaintiffs' funds for purposes other than purchasing insurance for Plaintiffs' temporary employee placements, and committing the other misconduct described in Paragraphs 41 through 66 above.
- 69. As a direct and proximate result of the aforementioned breaches, each Plaintiff has been damaged in an amount in excess of \$75,000, the exact amount to be proven at trial. As a result of Defendants' breaches, and as part of their damages, Plaintiffs are also entitled to the recovery of attorneys' fees associated with this dispute pursuant to the terms of the Franchise Agreements.
- 70. Plaintiffs are also entitled to declaratory relief and preliminary and permanent injunctive relief preventing Defendants from continuing to breach the parties' Franchise Agreements and the covenant of good faith and fair dealing implied therein through Defendants' continuing misconduct.

# **COUNT II**

# **Breach of Fiduciary Duty**

### (All Plaintiffs against All Defendants)

- 71. Plaintiffs entrusted Defendants with large amounts of money with the understanding that such monies would be properly applied for actual insurance costs related to Plaintiffs' temporary employee placements in accordance with the Franchise Agreements and consistent with generally accepted practices in the industry.
- 72. Defendants expressly represented to Plaintiffs that such monies were properly billed and applied in accordance with the Franchise Agreements, and Defendants have not permitted Plaintiffs to verify such billings for themselves.

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- 73. Defendants profited directly and indirectly from its insurance schemes and other misconduct as described above in Paragraphs 38 through 70 above.
- Except by the relief sought herein, Plaintiffs are unable to specifically ascertain to what extent amounts paid to Defendants for insurance were properly billed to Plaintiffs. Only Defendants possess the knowledge and information sufficient to accurately account for monies paid to them by Plaintiffs.
- By virtue of their relationship of trust with Plaintiffs, and Plaintiffs' inability to discovery to what extent that trust was abused, Defendants owe a fiduciary obligation to Plaintiffs, which fiduciary obligation was breached when Defendants misappropriated and misapplied the monies paid by Plaintiffs.
- As a direct and proximate result of the aforementioned breaches, Plaintiffs have been damaged in an amount in excess of \$75,000, the exact amount to be proven at trial. In addition, all the Defendants should have the burden of proof at trial to demonstrate that the monies collected by it from Plaintiffs were billed in accordance with each of the Franchise Agreements,

### **COUNT III**

# **Common Law Conversion**

# (All Plaintiffs against All Defendants)

- By "capturing" Plaintiffs' money, and by unlawfully charging Plaintiffs amounts in excess of the amount authorized by the applicable Franchise Agreements, Defendants converted significant funds from Plaintiffs without lawful justification, thereby depriving Plaintiffs from the use and possession of those funds, and the lawful exercise of dominion and control over those funds, inconsistent with, and in repudiation of, Plaintiffs' rights as lawful owners of those funds.
  - 78. As a result of Defendants' conversion, Plaintiffs have suffered, and are

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entitled to recover, damages in amount reasonably believed to be in excess of \$75,000, exclusive of interest and costs, and in a specific amount to be proved at trial, plus costs and disbursements.

### **COUNT IV**

# Violation of the Minnesota Franchise Act Minn. Stat. § 80C.01, et seq.

## (Lillemo Enterprises and FBG against Defendants)

- 79. Lillemo Enterprises and FBG have a "franchise" relationship with Defendants as defined by the Minnesota Franchise Act in that Defendants sold Lillemo Enterprises and FBG a franchise opportunity as defined by the Minnesota Franchise Act (the "MFA"), Minn. Stat. § 80C.01 *et seq.*
- 80. Defendants are a franchisor as defined by the MFA at Minn. Stat. § 80C.01, subd. 6, because Lillemo Enterprises and FBG had an oral or written agreement:
  - by and which [it was] granted the right to engage in the business of offering or distributing goods or services using the franchisor's trade name, trademark, service mark, logotype, advertising, or other commercial symbol or related characteristics;
  - 2. in which the franchisor and franchisee have a community of interest in the marketing of goods or services at wholesale, retail, by lease, agreement, or otherwise; and
  - 3. for which the franchisee pays, directly or indirectly, a franchisee fee . . ..
- Minn. Stat. § 80C.01, subd. 4.
  - 81. The MFA governs the relationship between the parties because Lillemo

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- Enterprises is a Minnesota limited liability company with its principal place of business in Minnesota and with the actual franchise open in the state of Minnesota, and FBG has been granted a franchise to be located in the state of Minnesota.
- 82. The MFA incorporates an "anti-waiver" provision which specifies that any purported waiver of rights under the Act (e.g., via an integration clause, disclaimers, choice of law clause, or otherwise) is void. Minn. Stat. § 80C.21.
- 83. Defendants, through their actions in connection with the franchises Lillemo Enterprises and FBG, have violated the Minnesota Franchise Act and the regulations (i.e., the "Minnesota Rules") issued pursuant thereto. These actions on the part of Defendants include, but are not limited to, the following:
  - a. Pursuant to Minn. Rule 2860.4400(G), it is a violation of the Minnesota Franchise Act for Defendants to "impose upon a franchisee by contract or rule, whether written or oral, any standard of conduct that is unreasonable. .. " The misconduct of Defendants as described in Paragraphs 38 through 70 above has imposed upon Lillemo Enterprises and FBG an unreasonable standard of conduct.
- 84. Under Minn. Stat. § 80C.17(a), "[a] person who violates any provision of this chapter or any rule or order thereunder shall be liable to the franchisee or subfranchisor who may sue for damages caused thereby, for rescission, or other relief as the court may deem appropriate."
- As a direct and proximate result of Defendants' violations of the Minnesota Franchise Act and the Minnesota Regulations, Lillemo Enterprises and FBG have suffered damages and is entitled to recover its damages from Defendants in an amount to be determined at trial, together with costs, disbursements, and attorneys' fees. See Minn. Stat. § 80C.17, subd. 3 (entitling Lillemo Enterprises and FBG to its actual damages, together with costs and disbursements, plus reasonable attorneys' fees).

### **COUNT V**

# Violation of the Wisconsin Fair Dealership Act Wis. Stat. §135.01, et seq.

### (FBG against Defendants)

Plaintiffs restate and reallege all paragraphs as if fully set forth herein.

- 86. The Wisconsin Fair Dealership Law ("WFDL"), Wis. Stat. § 135.01, et seq., applies to the relationship between FBG and Defendants.
  - 87. FBG is a "dealer" as defined by the WFDL.
  - 88. Defendants granted Plaintiffs a dealership located in Wisconsin.
- 89. The FBG Franchise qualifies as a dealership, as defined by the WFDL, because: (1) it is a contract or agreement between FBG and Defendants; (2) it grants FBG the right to sell goods and services associated with Defendants and/or grants FBG the right to use Defendants' trade name, logo, advertising or other commercial symbols; and (3) FBG and Defendants share a community of interest because there is a continuing financial interest in the operation of the business and/or the marketing of goods and services associated with Defendants.
  - 90. In other words, the FBG Franchise Agreement is a:

    contract or agreement, either expressed or implied, whether oral
    or written, between 2 or more persons, by which a person is
    granted the right to sell or distribute goods or services, or use a
    trade name, trademark, service mark, logotype, advertising or
    other commercial symbol in which there is a community of
    interest in the business of offering, selling or distributing goods
    or services at wholesale, retail, by lease, agreement or
    otherwise.
- Wis. Stat. § 135.02(3)(a).
  - 91. Moreover, the WFDL expressly provides that it shall be "liberally

- construed and applied to promote its underlying remedial purposes and policies." Wis. Stat. § 135.025(1). The WFDL also expressly provides that "[t]he effect of [the WFDL] may not be varied by contract or agreement. Any contract or agreement purporting to do so is void and unenforceable to that extent only." Wis. Stat. § 135.025(3).
- 92. It is a violation of the WFDL for a grantor, such as Defendants, to "substantially change the competitive circumstances of a dealership agreement without good cause." Wis. Stat. § 135.03.
- 93. Good cause is defined by the WFDL to mean a "[f]ailure by a dealer to comply substantially with essential and reasonable requirements imposed upon the dealer by the grantor, or sought to be imposed by the grantor, which requirements are not discriminatory as compared with requirements imposed on other similarly situated dealers either by their terms or in the manner of their enforcement." Wis. Stat. § 135.02(4)(a). "The burden of proving good cause is on the grantor." Wis. Stat. § 135.03.
- 94. Even if a grantor, such as Defendants, has "good cause" to terminate, the WFDL requires the grantor to "provide a dealer at least 90 days' prior written notice of termination, cancellation, nonrenewal or substantial change in competitive circumstances." Wis. Stat. § 135.04.
- 95. The WFDL also provides that "[t]he notice shall state all the reasons for termination, cancellation, nonrenewal or substantial change in competitive circumstances and shall provide that the dealer has 60 days in which to rectify any claimed deficiency." Wis. Stat. § 135.04.
- 96. Here, FBG has complied with the essential and reasonable requirements imposed by the FBG Franchise Agreement, and Defendants' misconduct is in violation of the WFDL because Defendants do not have good cause to change FBG's competitive circumstances, and Defendants failed to comply with the notice

requirements of the WFDL.

97.

The WFDL authorizes a dealer, such as FBG, to seek:

damages sustained by the dealer as a consequence of the
grantor's violation, together with actual costs of the action,
including reasonable actual attorney fees, and the dealer also
may be granted injunctive relief against unlawful termination,
cancellation, nonrenewal or substantial change of competitive
circumstances.

Wis. Stat. § 135.06.

98. FBG is entitled to recover all remedies available under Wis. Stat. § 135.06.

### **COUNT VI**

# Violation of the Hawaii Franchise Investment Law Haw. Rev. Stat. § 482E-1, et seq. (Evans against Defendants)

Plaintiffs restate and reallege all paragraphs as if fully set forth herein.

- 99. Evans and Defendants have a franchise relationship in that Defendants sold Evans's predecessor a franchise opportunity as defined by the Hawaii Franchise Act (the "HFA"), Hawaii Code § 482E-1, et seq.
- 100. Defendants are a franchisor as defined by the HFA at Hawaii Code § 482E-2 because Evans and Defendants have a "franchise" relationship, defined under the HFA as follows:

"Franchise" means an oral or written contract or agreement, either expressed or implied, in which a person grants to another person, a license to use a trade name, service mark, trademark, logotype, or related characteristic in which there is a community interest in the business of offering, selling, or

distributing goods or services at wholesale or retail, leasing, or otherwise, and in which the franchisee is required to pay, directly or indirectly, a franchise fee.

Hawaii Code § 482E-2.

- 101. The HFA governs the relationship between the parties because Evans is a Hawaii resident and with an actual franchise open in the state of Hawaii.
- 102. Under Hawaii Code § 482E-9, unfair or deceptive acts or practices under the HFA are actionable as violations of Hawaii Code § 480.
- 103. Pursuant to Hawaii Code § 482E-6(G), it is a violation of the HFA for Defendants to impose on a franchisee by contract, rule, or regulation, whether written or oral, any unreasonable and arbitrary standard of conduct.
- 104. The misconduct of Defendants as described in Paragraphs 38 through 70 above has imposed upon Evans an unreasonable standard of conduct.
- 105. Defendants have also violated Hawaii Code § 482E-6(B) by unreasonably requiring the workers compensation payments to franchisor when such payments were not reasonably necessary for a lawful purpose.
  - 106. Evans is entitled to all relief available under the HFA.

### **COUNT VII**

# Violation of the Indiana Franchise Relations Act Ind. Code § 23-2-2.7, et seq.

# (St. Mary's and Inditemps against Defendants)

Plaintiffs restate and reallege all paragraphs as if fully set forth herein.

107. The Indiana Franchise Practices Act ("IFPA") governs the relationship between St. Mary's and Defendants because St. Mary's franchise operates in Indiana. The IFPA governs the relationship between Inditemps and Defendants because Inditemps is an Indiana corporation with a principal place of business in Indiana and operates in Indiana. Ind. Code § 23-2-2.7.

108. The IFPA states as follows:

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### IF 23-2-2.7-1

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# Franchise Agreement; unlawful provisions

- Sec. 1. It is unlawful for any franchise agreement entered into between any franchisor and a franchisee who is either a resident of Indiana or a nonresident who will be operating a franchise in Indiana to contain any of the following provisions:
- (1) Requiring goods, supplies, inventories, or services to be purchased exclusively from the franchisor or sources designated by the franchisor where such goods, supplies, inventories, or services of comparable quality are available from sources other than those designated by the franchisor. However, the publication by the franchisor of a list of approved suppliers of goods, supplies, inventories, or service or the requirement that such goods, supplies, inventories, or services comply with specifications and standards prescribed by the franchisor does not constitute designation of a source nor does a reasonable right of the franchisor to disapprove a supplier constitute a designation. This subdivision does not apply to the principal goods, supplies, inventories, or services manufactured or trademarked by the franchisor.

(4) Allowing the franchisor to obtain money, goods, services, or any other benefit from any other person with whom the franchisee does business, on account of, or in relation to, the transaction between the franchisee and the other person, other than for compensation for services rendered by the franchisor,

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unless the benefit is promptly accounted for, and transmitted to the franchisee.

\* \* \*

### IF 23-2-2.7-2

### Franchise agreement; unlawful acts and practices

Sec. 2. It is unlawful for any franchisor who has entered into any franchise agreement with a franchisee who is either a resident of Indiana or a nonresident operating a franchise in Indiana to engage in any of the following acts and practices in relation to the agreement:

- (1) Coercing the franchisee to:
- (i) order or accept delivery of any goods, supplies, inventories, or services which are neither necessary to the operation of the franchise, required by the franchise agreement, required by law, nor voluntarily ordered by the franchisee;

\* \* \*

(6) Obtaining money, goods, services, or any other benefit from any other person with whom the franchisee does business on account of, or in relation to, the transaction between the franchisee and the other person, other than compensation for services rendered by the franchisor, unless the benefit is promptly accounted for, and transmitted to the franchisee.

\* \* \*

(8) Using deceptive advertising or engaging in deceptive acts in connection with the franchise or the franchisor's business.

1	Ind. Code § 23-2-2.7-1 & 2.
2	109. Under the IFPA:
3	IC 23-3-3.7-4
4	Action to recover damages or reform franchise agreement
5	Sec. 4. Any franchisee who is a party to a franchise agreement
6	entered into or renewed after July 1, 1976 which contains any
7	provision set forth in Section of this chapter or who is injured
8	by an unfair act or practice set forth in Section 2 of this chapter
9	may bring an action to recover damages, or reform the franchise
10	agreement.
11	Ind. Code § 23-2-2.7-4.
12	110. The misconduct of Defendants as described in Paragraph 38 through 70
13	above constitute a violation of the following provisions of Indiana law: Ind. Code
14	§ 23-2-2.7(1)(1), 23-2-2.7(1)(4), 23-2.7-2(6) and 23-2-2.7-2(8).
15	111. As a result of Defendants' violation of the IFPA, St. Mary's and
16	Inditemps are entitled to recover their damages, as well as their costs and
17	reasonable attorney's and experts' fees incurred in connection with their efforts to
18	seek redress from Defendants.
19	<u>COUNT VIII</u>
20	Unfair Competition
21	in Violation of California Bus. & Prof. Code § 17200, et seq.
22	(All Plaintiffs against All Defendants)
23	Plaintiffs restate and reallege all paragraphs as if fully set forth herein.
24	112. The conduct of Defendants as herein alleged constitutes unlawful, unfair
25 <sup>-</sup>	or fraudulent business act or practice in violation of the provisions of Sections
26	17200, et seq., of the California Business & Professions Code and the common law
27	of the State of California. Without limitation, Defendants have engaged in the
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1	following unlawful, unfair, and fraudulent conduct:
2	A. "Capturing" money the Plaintiffs had paid toward workers' compensation
3	prior to the acquisition;
4	B. Charging Plaintiffs for uncovered workers' compensation claims;
5.	C. Charging Plaintiffs for the cash collateral escrow fund allegedly required
6	by the umbrella workers' compensation provider;
7	D. Using money paid by the Plaintiffs to cover the costs of workers'
8	compensation claims by temporary employees not placed by the
9	Plaintiffs;
10	E. Charging a workers' compensation administrative fee not authorized by
11	the Franchise Agreements;
12	F. Failing to secure general liability insurance sufficient to pay for the
13	damages caused by temporary employees placed by Plaintiffs, and by
14	charging Plaintiffs double for general liability insurance;
15	G. Failing to supervise its own employees administering the workers'
16	compensation reserve pool, and then using Plaintiffs' money to cover the
17	amount embezzled;
18	H. Breaching fiduciary duties, as set forth in detail in Count II;
19	I. Conversion, as set forth in detail in Count III;
20	J. Violation of the Minnesota Franchise Act (Minn. Stat. § 80C.01, et seq.)
21	as set forth in detail in Count IV;
22	K. Violation of the Wisconsin Fair Dealership Act (Wis. Stat. § 135.01, et
23	seq.), as set forth in detail in Count V;
24	L. Violation of the Hawaii Franchise Investment Law (Haw. Rev. Stat. §
25	482E-1, et seq.), as set forth in detail in Count VI; and
26	M. Violation of the Indiana Franchise Relations Act (Ind. Code § 23-2-2.7,
27	et seq.), as set forth in detail in Count VII.
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- 113. Plaintiffs bring this claim as having suffered injury in fact and have lost money or property as a result of such unfair competition, which money or property is now in the possession of Defendants. Specifically, as set forth above, Defendants have "captured" Plaintiffs' money and unlawfully charged Plaintiffs amounts in excess of the amount authorized by the applicable Franchise Agreements, which amounts are now in the possession of Defendants.
- 114. Pursuant to Cal. Bus. & Prof. Code § 17203, Plaintiffs are entitled to restitution of all monies acquired by means of the acts of unfair competition.
- 115. Defendants' wrongful business practices alleged herein constituted, and continue to constitute, a continuing course of unfair competition that will continue unabated unless and until Defendants' acts are preliminarily and permanently enjoined and restrained by the Court. Pursuant to Cal. Bus. & Prof. Code § 17203, Plaintiffs seek an Order enjoining Defendants from continuing to engage in the foregoing unlawful, unfair, and/or deceptive business practices.

### **COUNT IX**

# **Declaratory Judgment**

### (All Plaintiffs against All Defendants)

- 116. As set forth in more detail above, there is an actual controversy between Plaintiffs and Defendants regarding the parties' legal rights and obligations under the Franchise Agreements.
- 117. Under 28 U.S.C. § 2201 and Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 57, the Court is empowered to grant declaratory relief declaring the rights or other legal relations of the parties to this action.
- 118. Plaintiffs request a declaratory judgment declaring that Defendants' actions, as set forth above, including but not limited to the misconduct described in Paragraphs 41 through 66, are breaches of the parties' Franchise Agreements under

applicable law.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiffs pray for Judgment against Defendants for Plaintiffs' damages in an amount to be proven at trial, including interest, attorneys' fees, and costs, together with a declaration of the rights and obligations of the parties under the terms of the Franchise Agreement, injunctive relief, an accounting of the monies that Defendants have inappropriately "captured" and/or charged in excess of the amount authorized by the applicable Franchise Agreements, and such other and further relief in favor of Plaintiffs or against Defendants as the Court deems just and equitable.

10 Dated: March 21, 2014

BRYANCAVELLE

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# UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

### NOTICE OF ASSIGNMENT TO UNITED STATES JUDGES

This case has been	assigned to District Judge	Dale S. Fisc	her and the assigned
Magistrate Judge is	Charles F. Eick	·	
The case r	number on all documents	filed with the Court shoul	ld read as follows:
	2:14-CV-	-2378-DSF (Ex)	
Pursuant to Genera	al Order 05-07 of the Unit	ed States District Court fo	or the Central District of
California, the Magistrate	Judge has been designated	l to hear discovery related	motions.
All discovery relate	d motions should be noti	ced on the calendar of the	Magistrate Judge.
		Clerk, U. S. Di	istrict Court
		Cicik, O. U. Di	istrict Gourt
March 27, 2014	<u>:                                      </u>	By MDAVIS	· .
Date		Deputy Cle	erk
	NOTIC	E TO COUNSEL	
17 0			fendants (if a removal action is
filed, a copy of this notice n	nust be servea on an plain	ugs).	
Subsequent documents m	nust be filed at the follow	ing location:	
Western Division 312 N. Spring Street, Los Angeles, CA 900		ourth St., Ste 1053	Eastern Division 3470 Twelfth Street, Room 134 Riverside, CA 92501
Failure to file at the prop	er location will result in	your documents being re	turned to you.

AO 440 (Rev. 06/12) Summons in a Civil Action

## UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

for the

Central District of California

FULLVIEW CORPORATION, et al.	) )
Plaintiff(s) V.	} Civil Action CV14-02378-DSF
Westaff (USA), Inc.; Koosharem, LLC; and New Koosharem Corporation	)
Defendant(s)	)

### SUMMONS IN A CIVIL ACTION

To: (Defendant's name and address)

Westaff (USA), Inc. 3820 State Street Santa Barbara, California 93105

A lawsuit has been filed against you.

Within 21 days after service of this summons on you (not counting the day you received it) — or 60 days if you are the United States or a United States agency, or an officer or employee of the United States described in Fed. R. Civ. P. 12 (a)(2) or (3) — you must serve on the plaintiff an answer to the attached complaint or a motion under Rule 12 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure. The answer or motion must be served on the plaintiff or plaintiff's attorney, whose name and address are: Jonathan C. Solish, Esq.

Bryan Cave LLP 120 Broadway, Suite 300 Santa Monica, CA 90401-2386

If you fail to respond, judgment by default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the complaint. You also must file your answer or motion with the court.

MAR 2 7 2014

Signature of Clerk on Danisha Charles

AO 440 (Rev. 06/12) Summons in a Civil Action

## UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

for the

Central District of California

FULLVIEW CORPORATION, et al.	
Plaintiff(s) V.	Civil Action CV14 - 02378-DSF
Westaff (USA), Inc.; Koosharem, LLC; and New Koosharem Corporation	$(\mathcal{L}_{\chi})$
Defendant(s)	) ). )

### SUMMONS IN A CIVIL ACTION

To: (Defendant's name and address)

Koosharem, LIC 3820 State Street Santa Barbara, California 91305

A lawsuit has been filed against you.

Within 21 days after service of this summons on you (not counting the day you received it) — or 60 days if you are the United States or a United States agency, or an officer or employee of the United States described in Fed. R. Civ. P. 12 (a)(2) or (3) — you must serve on the plaintiff an answer to the attached complaint or a motion under Rule 12 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure. The answer or motion must be served on the plaintiff or plaintiff's attorney, whose name and address are: Jonathan C. Solish, Esq.

Bryan Cave LLP 120 Broadway, Suite 300 Santa Monica, CA 90401-2386

If you fail to respond, judgment by default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the complaint. You also must file your answer or motion with the court.

MAR 2 7 2014

Signature of Clerk on Danyla Clark

AO 440 (Rev. 06/12) Summons in a Civil Action

## UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

for the

Central District of California

FULLVIEW CORPORATION, et al.	) )
Plaintiff(s) v.  Westaff (USA), Inc.; Koosharem, LLC; and New Koosharem Corporation	Civil Action ICV 14 - 02378 - DSF (Ex)
Defendant(s)	) )

### SUMMONS IN A CIVIL ACTION

To: (Defendant's name and address)

New Koosharem Corporation 3820 State Street Santa Barbara, California 93105

A lawsuit has been filed against you.

Within 21 days after service of this summons on you (not counting the day you received it) — or 60 days if you are the United States or a United States agency, or an officer or employee of the United States described in Fed. R. Civ. P. 12 (a)(2) or (3) — you must serve on the plaintiff an answer to the attached complaint or a motion under Rule 12 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure. The answer or motion must be served on the plaintiff or plaintiff's attorney, whose name and address are: Jonathan C. Solish, Esq.

Bryan Cave LLP 120 Broadway, Suite 300 Santa Monica, CA 90401-2386

If you fail to respond, judgment by default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the complaint. You also must file your answer or motion with the court.

Date: MAR 2 7 2014

CLERK OF COURT

Signature of Clerk on Danyla Cyta

# UNITED S1 2S DISTRICT COURT, CENTRAL DISTRICT OF C. 4FORNIA CIVIL COVER SHEET

i. (a) PLAINTIFFS ( Che	ck box if you are repre	senting yourself [)	DEFENDANTS	<b>DEFENDANTS</b> ( Check box if you are representing yourself )			
Fullview Corporation, et al.	(See attached list)	·	Westaff (USA), Inc.	Westaff (USA), Inc.; Koosharem LLC; New Koosharem Corporation			
(b) County of Residence	of First Listed Plain	tiff <u>Miami-Dade Co</u>	.,FI County of Reside	nce of First Listed Defen	dant Santa Barbara Co.		
(EXCEPT IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASI	ES)		(IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CAS	ES ONLY)			
(c) Attorneys (Firm Name, representing yourself, pro		•	representing yours	ame, Address and Telephone elf, provide the same infor	mation.		
Jonathan C. Solish, Esq.; Bryan Cave LLP 120 Broadway, Suite 300 Santa Monica, CA 90401-2386; PH: 310-576-2156  Robert Zarco, Esq.; Zarco Einhorn Salkowski & Brito, P.A. Miami Tower; 100 Southeast 2nd Street; Ste. 2700 Miami, Florida 33131-2193 PH: 305-374-5418					700		
II. BASIS OF JURISDIC	TION (Place an X in or	ne box only.)	. CITIZENSHIP OF PR (Place an X in one bo	INCIPAL PARTIES-For D	iversity Cases Only efendant)		
1. U.S. Government Plaintiff	Plaintiff Government Not a Party) of Business in this State						
2. U.S. Government Defendant	4. Diversity (I of Parties in I	ndicate Citizenship Cit	izen of Another State    x izen or Subject of a reign Country	of Business in A			
IV. ORIGIN (Place an X	in one boy only)				<u> </u>		
1 Original 2 i		3. Remanded from	1. Reinstated or 5. Tra		Multi- District		
Proceeding 2.1	State Court $\square$	Appellate Court	Reopened L Dis		tigation		
V. REQUESTED IN COM	IPLAINT: JURY DE	MAND: X Yes	No (Check "Yes" or	nly if demanded in comp	plaint.)		
<b>CLASS ACTION under</b>	F.R.Cv.P. 23:	∕es 🗷 No	MONEY DEMA	NDED IN COMPLAINT:	\$ Excess of \$75,000		
VI. CAUSE OF ACTION	(Cite the U.S. Civil Statut	e under which you are filing	and write a brief statemer	nt of cause. Do not cite jurisdic	ctional statutes unless diversity.)		
Breach of contract, breach	of fiduciary duty, violati	on of various state statute	s.				
VII. NATURE OF SUIT (	Place an X in one bo	x only).			,		
OTHER STATUTES		REAL PROPERTY CONT	IMMIGRATION	PRISONER PETITIONS	PROPERTY RIGHTS		
375 False Claims Act	110 Insurance	240 Torts to Land	462 Naturalization	Habeas Corpus:	820 Copyrights		
400 State	120 Marine	245 Tort Product Liability	☐ Application	463 Alien Detainee	830 Patent		
☐ Reapportionment ☐ 410 Antitrust	130 Miller Act	290 All Other Real	465 Other Immigration Actions	510 Motions to Vacate Sentence	840 Trademark		
430 Banks and Banking	140 Negotiable	Property Property	TORTS	530 General 535 Death Penalty	SOCIAL SECURITY		
450 Commerce/ICC	Instrument 150 Recovery of	PERSONAL INJURY	PERSONAL PROPERTY  370 Other Fraud	Other:	☐ 861 HIA (1395ff) ☐ 862 Black Lung (923)		
☐ Rates/Etc. ☐ 460 Deportation	Overpayment & Enforcement of	310 Airplane	371 Truth in Lending	540 Mandamus/Other	863 DIWC/DIWW (405 (g))		
470 Racketeer Influ-	Judgment	315 Airplane Product Liability	380 Other Personal	550 Civil Rights	864 SSID Title XVI		
enced & Corrupt Org.	☐ 151 Medicare Act	320 Assault, Libel & Slander	Property Damage	555 Prison Condition	865 RSI (405-(g))		
480 Consumer Credit	152 Recovery of Defaulted Student	330 Fed. Employers'	385 Property Damage Product Liability	560 Civil Detainee Conditions of	FEDERAL TAX SUITS		
490 Cable/Sat TV	Loan (Excl. Vet.)	Liability  340 Marine	BANKRUPTCÝ	Confinement	870 Taxes (U.S. Plaintiff or		
850 Securities/Com- modities/Exchange	153 Recovery of	345 Marine Product	422 Appeal 28 USC 158	FORFEITURE/PENALTIY  625 Drug Related	Defendant)  871 IRS-Third Party 26 USC		
890 Other Statutory	Overpayment of Vet. Benefits	Liability	423 Withdrawal 28	Seizure of Property 21	7609		
Actions  891 Agricultural Acts	160 Stockholders' Suits	350 Motor Vehicle 355 Motor Vehicle	USC 157	USC 881 690 Other	•		
893 Environmental	190 Other	Product Liability 360 Other Personal	440 Other Civil Rights				
☐ Matters ☐ 895 Freedom of Info.	Contract	└ Injury	441 Voting	710 Fair Labor Standards Act			
Act	195 Contract Product Liability	362 Personal Injury- Med Malpratice	442 Employment	720 Labor/Mgmt.			
896 Arbitration	🗷 196 Franchise	365 Personal Injury- Product Liability	443 Housing/ Accommodations	Relations 740 Railway Labor Act			
899 Admin. Procedures	REAL PROPERTY	367 Health Care/	445 American with Disabilities-	751 Family and Medical			
Act/Review of Appeal of Agency Decision	210 Land Condemnation	Pharmaceutical Personal Injury	Employment	Leave Act 790 Other Labor			
→ 950 Constitutionality of	220 Foreclosure	Product Liability  368 Asbestos	☐ 446 American with Disabilities-Other	Litigation			
State Statutes	230 Rent Lease & Ejectment	Personal Injury Product Liability	448 Education	791 Employee Ret. Inc. Security Act			
PAR APPLATURE		. F.V 4 /	-0277	0			
FOR OFFICE USE ONLY: CV-71 (11/13)	Case Numbe		COVER SHEET	<b>d</b>	Page 1 of 3		

# UNITED ST. 2S DISTRICT COURT, CENTRAL DISTRICT OF C. 4FORNIA CIVIL COVER SHEET

**VIII. VENUE**: Your answers to the questions below will determine the division of the Court to which this case will most likely be initially assigned. This initial assignment is subject to change, in accordance with the Court's General Orders, upon review by the Court of your Complaint or Notice of Removal.

Question A: Was this case removed from state court?	STATE GASEWASTE	કરોઓરાસીરમાં ફિલ્લો	NIA/OFA	INTIACDIVISIONING	ACD IS:	
Yes 🗷 No	Los Angeles			Western		
If "no, " go to Question B. If "yes," check the	Ventura, Santa Barbara, or San Luis Obispo			Western		
box to the right that applies, enter the corresponding division in response to	☐ Orange			Southern		
Question D, below, and skip to Section IX.	Riverside or San Bernardino			Eastern	<u>-</u>	
Question B: Is the United States, or one of						
its agencies or employees, a party to this action?	→ foll the United States of o	il the United States, or one of its agencies of employees, is a part				
	· A PLAINTIFF?		TANDEHENDANIT	DIVIS	ONIN	
Yes 🗷 No	inencheck the box below for the constitution the constitution the constitution of the properties of the constitution of the co	auntyin Ther	check the box below for the click the majority of PLAINTIFFS	ounty in	CACDIS	
if "no, " go to Question C. If "yes," check the	Los Angeles		: Angeles	Wes	tern ´	
box to the right that applies, enter the corresponding division in response to	Ventura, Santa Barbara, or Sar Obispo		ntura, Santa Barbara, or Sar Ispo	n Luis Wes	tern	
Question D, below, and skip to Section IX.	Orange		ange	Sout	hern	
	Riverside or San Bernardino	RIV	erside or San Bernardino	East	tern .	
	Other	☐ Oti	ner	Wes	tern	
Question C: Location of paintiffs, defendants, and claims? Los Ar (Make only pne selection per row);	A. B.: ngeles* Ventura Santa Barbara; or unty Sant Luis Obispo Counties	C Orange County-	D Riverside or San Bernardino Counties	Bijk Outside the Central District of California	F. Other	
Indicate the location in which a majority of plaintiffs reside:				×		
Indicate the location in which a majority of defendants reside:	×					
Indicate the location in which a majority of claims arose:	×					
	<b>经上海中</b> 种的					
C.1. Is either of the following true? If so, c	heck the one that applies:	C.2. Is either o	f the following true? If so	, check the one that applies	<b>:</b>	
2 or more answers in Column C		2 or n	nore answers in Column D			
only 1 answer in Column C and no	answers in Column D	only 1 answer in Column D and no answers in Column C				
Your case will initially be		Your case will initially be assigned to the				
SOUTHERN DIVI Enter "Southern" in response to	ISION. to Question D, below.	EASTERN DIVISION.  Enter "Eastern" in response to Question D, below.				
If none applies, answer quest	tion C2 to the right.	If none applies, go to the box below.				
		initially be assigned STERN DIVISION.	to the			
Enter "Western" in response to Question D below.						
		· <u>- · </u>		<del> </del>		
Question D: Initial Division7			INITIAL DIM	SION IN CACD		
Enter the initial division determined by Quest	tion A, B, or C above:		We	stern	and the second s	
		-		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		

CV-71 (11/13)

# UNITED S'\ 2S DISTRICT COURT, CENTRAL DISTRICT OF C ... FORNIA CIVIL COVER SHEET

IX(a). IDENTICAL CAS	SES: Has this act	ion been previously filed <b>in this court</b> and dismissed, remanded or closed?	X NO	☐ YES
If yes, list case numb	per(s):			
IX(b). RELATED CASE	<b>S</b> : Have any case	es been previously filed in this court that are related to the present case?	× NO	☐ YES
if yes, list case numb	oer(s):			
Civil cases are deemed r	related if a previo	usly filed case and the present case:		
(Check all boxes that app	ly) 🔲 A. Arise f	rom the same or closely related transactions, happenings, or events; or		
	B. Call fo	r determination of the same or substantially related or similar questions of law and fact	; or	
•	C. For ot	her reasons would entail substantial duplication of labor if heard by different judges; or	ı	•
	D. Involv	e the same patent, trademark or copyright <u>, and</u> one of the factors identified above in a	, b or c also is pre	esent,
other papers as required by	TED LITIGANT) The CV-71 (JS-44) law. This form, ap	Civil Cover Sheet and the information contained herein neither replace nor supplemen proved by the Judicial Conference of the United States in September 1974, is required prose of statistics, venue and initiating the civil docket sheet. (For more detailed instruc	t the filing and se oursuant to Loca	ervice of pleadings or I Rule 3-1 is not filed
Key to Statistical codes relat	ing to Social Secur	ity Cases:		
Nature of Suit Code	Abbreviation	Substantive Statement of Cause of Action		
861	HIA	All claims for health insurance benefits (Medicare) under Title 18, Part A, of the Socia include claims by hospitals, skilled nursing facilities, etc., for certification as provider (42 U.S.C. 1935FF(b))	s of services und	amended. Also, er the program.
862	BL -	All claims for "Black Lung" benefits under Title 4, Part B, of the Federal Coal Mine Hea 923)	ilth and Safety A	ct of 1969. (30 U.S.C.
863	DIWC	All claims filed by insured workers for disability insurance benefits under Title 2 of the all claims filed for child's insurance benefits based on disability. (42 U.S.C. 405 (g))	e Social Security	Act, as amended; plus
863	DIWW.	All claims filed for widows or widowers insurance benefits based on disability under amended. (42 U.S.C. 405 (g))	Title 2 of the Soc	cial Security Act, as
864	SSID	All claims for supplemental security income payments based upon disability filed unamended.	der Title 16 of th	e Social Security Act, a
865	RSI	All claims for retirement (old age) and survivors benefits under Title 2 of the Social Si (42 U.S.C. 405 (g))	ecurity Act, as an	nended.

### **PLAINTIFFS:**

FULLVIEW CORPORATION, a Florida corporation; CRANBROOK ASSOCIATES, INC., a Missouri corporation; LILLEMO ENTERPRISES, INC., a Minnesota corporation; WESTAFF, LLC, a Connecticut limited-liability company; WESTAFF OF CHAMPLAIN VALLEY, INC. a Vermont corporation; MOUNT FAMILY GROUP, LTD., a Vermont corporation; WESTAFF OF CONNECTICUT RIVER VALLEY, INC., a Vermont corporation; WESTERN GIRL OF NEW ORLEANS, INC., a Louisiana corporation; FRIEDRICH BUSINESS GROUP, INC., a Wisconsin corporation; WESTERN STAFF SERVICES OF LANSING, INC., a Michigan corporation; WESTERN STAFF SERVICES OF NORWALK, INC., an Ohio corporation; TRICIA M. EVANS, an individual residing in Hawaii; WESTERN TEMPORARY SERVICES OF ST. MARY'S/GREENEVILLE, OHIO, INC., an Ohio corporation; INDITEMPS, INC., an Indiana corporation; WESTERN STAFF SERVICES OF WYTHEVILLE, INC., a Virginia corporation; TEMPORARY SERVICES, INC., a North Carolina Corporation; WESTERN STAFF SERVICES OF COLUMBUS, LAGRANGE AND NEWNAN, INC., a Georgia Corporation;