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12					
13	SUPERIOR COURT OF THE	HE STATE OF CALIFORNIA			
14					
15	COUNTY OF SAN JOAQUIN (UNLIMITED JURISDICTION)				
16	DANIEL BARRETT, an individual,) Case No.: 39-2013-00298275-CU-STK			
	JAMIE CARPER, an individual,)			
17	STEPHEN FALLS, an individual, JAY FINK, an individual, and) VERIFIED THIRD AMENDED			
18	WALTER HILL, an individual,) COMPLAINT FOR DAMAGES			
19	Distractor.)			
20	Plaintiffs,) 1. VIOLATIONS OF CALIFORNIA) RESTRICTIONS ON UNSOLICITED			
21	v.) COMMERCIAL E-MAIL (Cal. Bus. &			
22	ALL AN HENNING on individual) Prof. Code § 17529.5)			
23	ALLAN HENNING, an individual, DENIRO MARKETING LLC, a California)			
24	limited liability company,	,)			
25	LIVE CHANNELS LLC, a California limited liability company, and				
	hability company, and)			
26	DOES 1-100,)			
27	Defendants.				
28	2 oronamos.	_			
29	COME NOW PLAINTIFFS DANIEL BARRE	ГТ, JAMIE CARPER, STEPHEN FALLS, JAY			
30	FINK, and WALTER HILL and file this Verified Third Amended Complaint for one cause of				
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action against Defendants ALLAN HENNING, DENIRO MARKETING LLC, LIVE CHANNELS LLC, and DOES 1-100 and allege as follows:

I. INTRODUCTION AND SUMMARY OF THE COMPLAINT

- 1. Plaintiffs DANIEL BARRETT, JAMIE CARPER, STEPHEN FALLS, JAY FINK, and WALTER HILL bring this Action against ALLAN HENNING, DENIRO MARKETING LLC, and LIVE CHANNELS LLC dba AdsForSex.com, AmateurMatch.com, Cheaters.net, CheatingHouseWife.com, DatingAffair.com, FindCheaters.com, HookUpBBW.com, LocalCheaters.com, SpeedBoink.com, SpiceOrNice.com, Untrue.com, and XXXDating.com for advertising in unlawful Unsolicited Commercial Email Advertisements (aka "spams") sent to Plaintiffs, as follows:
 - ALLAN HENNING, DENIRO MARKETING LLC, and LIVE CHANNELS
 LLC advertised in at least 21 unlawful spams sent to BARRETT.
 - ALLAN HENNING, DENIRO MARKETING LLC, and LIVE CHANNELS
 LLC advertised in at least 409 unlawful spams sent to CARPER.
 - ALLAN HENNING, DENIRO MARKETING LLC, and LIVE CHANNELS
 LLC advertised in at least 4 unlawful spams sent to FALLS.
 - ALLAN HENNING, DENIRO MARKETING LLC, and LIVE CHANNELS
 LLC advertised in at least 498 unlawful spams sent to FINK.
 - ALLAN HENNING, DENIRO MARKETING LLC, and LIVE CHANNELS
 LLC advertised in at least 26 unlawful spams sent to HILL.
- 2. No Plaintiff ever gave any Defendant "direct consent" (as defined by California law) to receive commercial email advertisements.
- 3. The spams all had materially falsified, misrepresented, and/or forged information in violation of California Business & Professions ("B&P") Code § 17529.5. The unlawful elements of these spams represent willful acts of falsity and deception, rather than clerical errors.
- 4. Plaintiffs suffered damages by receiving the spams. *See*, *e.g.*, B&P Code § 17529(d), (e), (g), (h).
- 5. This Court should award liquidated damages of \$1,000 per email as provided by B&P Code § 17529.5(b)(1)(B)(ii), and not consider any reduction in damages, because Defendants

- failed to implement reasonably effective systems designed to prevent the sending of unlawful spam in violation of the statute.
- 6. This Court should award Plaintiffs their attorneys' fees pursuant to B&P Code § 17529.5(b)(1)(C). *See also* Cal. Code Civ. Proc. § 1021.5, providing for attorneys fees when private parties bear the costs of litigation that confers a benefit on a large class of persons; here

6 by reducing the amount of false and deceptive spam received by California residents.

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II. PARTIES

A. Plaintiffs

- 10 | 7. DANIEL BARRETT ("BARRETT") is now, and at all times relevant has been, an
- 11 | individual residing in the State of California, County of Marin, and a citizen of California.
- 12 | BARRETT ordinarily accesses his email address from California.
- 13 8. JAMIE CARPER ("CARPER") is now, and at all times relevant has been, an individual
- 14 | residing in the State of California, County of San Bernardino, and a citizen of California.
- 15 CARPER ordinarily accesses his email address from California.
- 16 | 9. STEPHEN FALLS ("FALLS") is now, and at all times relevant has been, an individual
- 17 | residing in the State of California, County of Contra Costa, and a citizen of California. FALLS
- 18 ordinarily accesses his email address from California.
- 19 | 10. JAY FINK ("FINK") is now, and at all times relevant has been, an individual residing in
- 20 | the State of California, County of Marin, and a citizen of California. FINK ordinarily accesses
- 21 | his email address from California.
- 22 | 11. WALTER HILL ("HILL") is now, and at all times relevant has been, an individual
- 23 | residing in the State of California, County of Solano, and a citizen of California. HILL
- 24 ordinarily accesses his email address from California.

25 B. Defendants Deniro Marketing LLC, Live Channels LLC, and Allan Henning

- 26 | 12. Plaintiffs are informed and believe and thereon allege that Defendant DENIRO
- 27 MARKETING LLC is currently, and was at all relevant times, a California limited liability
- 28 company headquartered in Stockton, San Joaquin County, California.
- 29 | 13. Plaintiffs are informed and believe and thereon allege that Defendant LIVE CHANNELS
- 30 | LLC is currently, and was at all relevant times, a California limited liability company
- 31 headquartered in Stockton, San Joaquin County, California.

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- 14. Plaintiffs are informed and believe and thereon allege that Defendant ALLAN HENNING is currently, and was at all relevant times, an individual and the sole Member of both DENIRO MARKETING LLC and LIVE CHANNELS LLC, residing in or near Stockton, San Joaquin County, California.
- 15. Plaintiffs are informed and believe and thereon allege that ALLEN HENNING, DENIRO MARKETING LLC, and LIVE CHANNELS LLC share physical assets, personnel, addresses, finances, and intellectual property such that they failed to follow proper corporate formalities, and each is an alter ego of the other. To name but three examples:
 - Plaintiffs are informed and believe and thereon allege that the numerous "frontend" websites all display information from a common database. Nevertheless, DENIRO MARKETING LLC has previously admitted to owning AmateurMatch.com, while at the same time the terms & conditions from FindCheaters.com and LocalCheaters.com both refer to LIVE CHANNELS LLC.
 - Plaintiffs are informed and believe and thereon allege that the numerous websites' 18 U.S.C. § 2257 disclosure statements all referred to the same address in Stockton (before they were changed to an address in Cyprus to make it more difficult for spam recipients to identify them).
 - ALLAN HENNING is the sole Member of both DENIRO MARKETING LLC and LIVE CHANNELS LLC.
- 16. Plaintiffs are informed and believe and thereon allege that ALLAN HENNING controlled the corporate entities of DENIRO MARKETING LLC and LIVE CHANNELS LLC and any and all other nominal companies that purport to own and/or operate the pornographic "adult dating" websites AdsForSex.com, AmateurMatch.com, Cheaters.net, CheatingHouseWife.com, DatingAffair.com, FindCheaters.com, HookUpBBW.com, LocalCheaters.com, SpeedBoink.com, SpiceOrNice.com, Untrue.com, and XXXDating.com, such that the separate personalities of the individual and the business entities no longer exist, and the companies are merely alter-egos of ALLAN HENNING. Plaintiffs are informed and believe that ALLAN HENNING makes decisions on all matters of import to the companies and that the companies exist merely to do his will. Plaintiffs are informed and believe and thereon allege that ALLAN HENNING personally made the decision to utilize the email advertising at issue in this Action.

- 1 | 17. Plaintiffs are informed and believe and thereon allege that ALLAN HENNING controlled
- 2 || the corporate entities of DENIRO MARKETING LLC and LIVE CHANNELS LLC and any and
- 3 | all other nominal companies that purport to own and/or operate the pornographic "adult dating"
- 4 || websites AdsForSex.com, AmateurMatch.com, Cheaters.net, CheatingHouseWife.com,
- 5 | DatingAffair.com, FindCheaters.com, HookUpBBW.com, LocalCheaters.com, SpeedBoink.com,
- 6 | SpiceOrNice.com, Untrue.com, and XXXDating.com, to such an extent that failure to disregard
- 7 || their separate identities would result in fraud or injustice to Plaintiffs. Plaintiffs are informed
- 8 | and believe and thereon allege that ALLAN HENNING has taken steps to move some or all of
- 9 || the companies (and their assets) offshore, for the purpose of evading liability for any court
- 10 order/judgment that might result from this Action.
- 11 | 18. Plaintiffs are informed and believe and thereon allege that ALLAN HENNING
- 12 personally, either on his own or with others, registered or re-registered the domain names for his
- 13 | various websites to foreign addresses to make it more difficult for spam recipients to identify
- 14 | him, DENIRO MARKETING LLC, and/or LIVE CHANNELS LLC as the entities who really
- 15 || control the websites AdsForSex.com, AmateurMatch.com, Cheaters.net,
- 16 || CheatingHouseWife.com, DatingAffair.com, FindCheaters.com, HookUpBBW.com,
- 17 || LocalCheaters.com, SpeedBoink.com, SpiceOrNice.com, Untrue.com, and XXXDating.com.
- 18 | 19. Plaintiffs are informed and believe and thereon allege that ALLAN HENNING
- 19 | undercapitalized Defendants DENIRO MARKETING LLC and LIVE CHANNELS LLC and
- 20 | any and all other nominal companies that purport to own and/or operate the pornographic "adult
- 21 | dating" websites AdsForSex.com, AmateurMatch.com, Cheaters.net, CheatingHouseWife.com,
- 22 | DatingAffair.com, FindCheaters.com, HookUpBBW.com, LocalCheaters.com, SpeedBoink.com,
- 23 | SpiceOrNice.com, Untrue.com, and XXXDating.com, relative to the potential liability that could
- 24 | result from sending thousands, if not millions, of unlawful spams.
- 25 | 20. Plaintiffs are informed and believe and thereon allege that ALLAN HENNING used
- 26 | DENIRO MARKETING LLC and LIVE CHANNELS LLC to deceptively advertise in and/or
- 27 | send millions of unlawful spams containing misleading headers.
- 28 | 21. Plaintiffs hereafter refer to ALLEN HENNING, DENIRO MARKETING LLC, and
- 29 || LIVE CHANNELS LLC and any and all other nominal companies that purport to own and/or
- 30 || operate the pornographic "adult dating" websites AdsForSex.com, AmateurMatch.com,
- 31 | Cheaters.net, CheatingHouseWife.com, DatingAffair.com, FindCheaters.com,

HookUpBBW.com, LocalCheaters.com, SpeedBoink.com, SpiceOrNice.com, Untrue.com, and XXXDating.com, collectively as "HENNING."

22. Plaintiffs are informed and believe and thereon allege that HENNING owns and operates the *AdsForSex.com* website, which describes itself as follows:

AdsForSex.com is the top Adult Personal Ads Website

AdsForSex is adult personals at their absolute best! Search our database of thousands of sex personals and find a date with thousands of hot singles tonight! Adult dating is the most entertaining form of internet dating and you can easily find women and hookup tonight! If you are looking for no-strings-attached relationships, then you need a sex dating site that will allow you to search for local singles in your area. AdsForSex does just that and more. Our video chat room and live webcam shows add to the fun. Post your personal ad and get noticed right away on AdsForSex. We also have a mobile dating website which you can access from your smartphone. Join now!

Home Page, AdsForSex.com (last visited Jan. 22, 2013).

23. Plaintiffs are informed and believe and thereon allege that HENNING owns and operates the *AmateurMatch.com* website, which describes itself as follows:

AmateurMatch.com is the hottest adult dating site on the net!

The number one site for adult dating allows you to search through thousands of sex personal ads in order to find a date quickly. Meet hot singles fast and easy with just a few clicks using our advanced search feature. Contact hundreds of local singles in your area and hookup tonight! Users are able to verify their identity so that you have the greatest chance to find girls looking to get laid tonight. Sex dating is the ultimate way for singles, swingers, and even cheaters to find sex using our adult personal ads.

Home Page, AmateurMatch.com (last visited Jan. 22, 2013).

24. Plaintiffs are informed and believe and thereon allege that HENNING owns and operates the *Cheaters.net* website, which describes itself as follows:

Cheaters.net is the Ultimate Discreet Dating Site for Cheaters

If you are looking to add some adventure to your social life, you have come to the right place. Cheaters.net provides anonymous dating for those looking to have discreet encounters or one night stands. Married dating is more popular than anyone knows because discreet dating is possible through Cheaters.net. Cheaters can find a discreet relationship and have an affair by searching through thousands of profiles local to your area. We also have a mobile cheaters site for users with smart phones, a gay dating website for those leaning that way, and adult personal

ads. Find your no-strings-attached relationship and hookup tonight by creating your profile on Cheaters.net now!

Home Page, *Cheaters.net* (last visited Jan. 22, 2013).

25. Plaintiffs are informed and believe and thereon allege that HENNING owns and operates the *CheatingHouseWife.com* website, which describes itself as follows:

LOOKING FOR A NAUGHTY EXPERIENCE? Join CHEATINGHOUSEWIFE.COM, the #1 place to find a *discreet online fantasy*

Home Page, CheatingHouseWife.com (last visited Mar. 12, 2014).

26. Plaintiffs are informed and believe and thereon allege that HENNING owns and operates the *DatingAffair.com* website, which describes itself as follows:

Having an affair made easy at DatingAffair.com!

Whether you are stuck in a relationship you don't want to be in, are in an open relationship, or are just looking for no-strings-attached, DatingAffair can help you find the discreet encounters you are looking for. Have an affair, experience married dating, or simply find a one-night-stand by searching through our database of thousands of users in your area. Anonymous dating and discreet relationships are accessible with just a few clicks. We also have a dating affair mobile site when you are not at your computer and a gay dating site for those interested. We also offer sex personals on our adult dating site. Join DatingAffair and have an affair tonight!

Home Page, *DatingAffair.com* (last visited Jan. 22, 2013).

27. Plaintiffs are informed and believe and thereon allege that HENNING owns and operates the *FindCheaters.com* website, which describes itself as follows:

Discreet Dating at FindCheaters.com

Looking for excitement, forbidden romance or an anonymous relationship? The best place to find it is FindCheaters.com. Search through thousands of cheaters like yourself looking for a discreet relationship or to have an affair. If you are searching for a one-night stand or a no-strings-attached relationship, you have come to the right place. We use complete discretion and are judgment free. Relationships are complicated but you can find happiness and entertainment through married dating. Search for your discreet encounter tonight! And try our cheaters mobile site in order to keep your browser history clean. You can also take part in the hottest adult personals site on the net.

Home Page, FindCheaters.com (last visited Jan. 22, 2013).

28. Plaintiffs are informed and believe and thereon allege that HENNING owns and operates the *HookupBBW.com* website, which describes itself as follows:

LOOKING TO HOOKUP TONIGHT? Join HookupBBW The #1 Place to Find Your BBW Partner.

Home Page, *HookupBBW.com* (last visited Jan. 22, 2013).

29. Plaintiffs are informed and believe and thereon allege that HENNING owns and operates the *LocalCheaters.com* website, which describes itself as follows:

Cheaters in Your Area at LocalCheaters.com

Add some spice to your life and search for an anonymous date close to your location (but not too close!) Search through thousands of cheaters looking for some on the side. If you are interested in trying a one-night-stand or finding a no-strings-attached discreet relationship, this is the site for you. Find your discreet encounter tonight! And don't forget to try our cheaters mobile site to keep your affairs in your pocket. Also feel free to try the hottest adult webcam shows on the net!

Home Page, LocalCheaters.com (last visited Jan. 22, 2013).

30. Plaintiffs are informed and believe and thereon allege that HENNING owns and operates the *SpeedBoink.com* website, which describes itself as follows:

SpeedBoink.com is adult dating gone wild! Meet singles, couples, or groups in your area who are willing and waiting to explore erotic fantasies with you.

Home Page, *SpeedBoink.com* (last visited Jan. 22, 2013).

31. Plaintiffs are informed and believe and thereon allege that HENNING owns and operates the *SpiceOrNice.com* website, which describes itself as follows:

LOOKING FOR THAT UNIQUE PARTNER? Join SpiceOrNice.com The #1 Place to Meet Singles in Your Area

Home Page, SpiceOrNice.com (last visited Jan. 22, 2013).

32. Plaintiffs are informed and believe and thereon allege that HENNING owns and operates the *Untrue.com* website, which describes itself as follows:

untrue - HAVE AN AFFAIR. WE WON'T TELL.

Home Page, *Untrue.com* (last visited Jan. 22, 2013).

33. Plaintiffs are informed and believe and thereon allege that HENNING owns and operates the *XXXDating.com* website, which describes itself as follows:

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XXXDating is the Adult Dating Leader – Join Today!

XXXDating.com is the leading adult dating site on the internet with thousands of hot singles joining daily. Search through local singles in your area and get laid tonight. Sex dating is the best way for singles to post their adult personals and hookup tonight. Our video chat room allows you to view the cams of tons of hot girls looking to get laid. Sign-up today, post your profile and find a date tonight. XXXDating is your place to meet singles, swingers, or even find cheaters. We also have a mobile adult dating site for your mobile phone and a gay dating site. For the leader in adult dating, join XXXDating today!.

Home Page, XXXDating.com (last visited Jan. 22, 2013).

- Plaintiffs are informed and believe and thereon allege that most, if not all, of the "women" in HENNING's database are fake, and members that receive messages from and send messages to HENNING's "Online Cupids" are in fact communicating with automated scripts, such that HENNING's members will never meet or "hook up" with the "women" that they
- "meet."

C. <u>DOE Defendants</u>

- 35. Plaintiffs do not know the true names or legal capacities of the Defendants sued herein as
- DOES 1 through 100, inclusive, and therefore sue these Defendants under such fictitious names.
- Plaintiffs will amend this Complaint to allege their true names and capacities when ascertained.
- Plaintiffs are informed and believe and thereon allege that each fictitiously named Defendant is
- responsible in some manner for the matters alleged herein, and that Plaintiffs' injuries and
- damages alleged herein were proximately caused by their conduct.

III. JURISDICTION AND VENUE

A. Jurisdiction is Proper in a California Court

- 36. This Court has jurisdiction over the Action because all Parties are located in California,
- all Plaintiffs received the unlawful spams in California, and the amount in controversy exceeds \$25,000.

B. Venue is Proper in San Joaquin County

- 37. Venue is proper in San Joaquin County because all Defendants ALLAN HENNING,
- 29 DENIRO MARKETING LLC, and LIVE CHANNELS LLC are all located in or near Stockton.
 - Code Civ. Proc. §§ 395.

IV. ALMOST ONE THOUSAND UNLAWFUL SPAMS A. The Emails at Issue are "Spams"; Recipients and Counts

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The emails at issue are "commercial email advertisements" because they advertise goods 38. and services.

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The emails are "unsolicited commercial email advertisements" because no Plaintiff ever 39. gave any Defendant "direct consent" to advertise in commercial emails sent to him, nor did any Plaintiff have a "preexisting or current business relationship" with any Defendant.

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BARRETT received 21 spams advertising HENNING at his "California email address." 5 40.

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41. CARPER received 409 spams advertising HENNING at his "California email addresses."

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FALLS received 4 spams advertising HENNING at his "California email address." 42.

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43. FINK received 498 spams advertising HENNING at his "California email addresses."

HILL received 26 spams advertising HENNING at his "California email address."

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¹ "Commercial e-mail advertisement' means any electronic mail message initiated for the 15 purpose of advertising or promoting the lease, sale, rental, gift offer, or other disposition of any 16 property, goods, services, or extension of credit." B&P Code § 17529.1(c). 17 ² "Unsolicited commercial e-mail advertisement' means a commercial e-mail advertisement sent 18 to a recipient who meets both of the following criteria: (1) The recipient has not provided direct consent to receive advertisements from the advertiser. (2) The recipient does not have a 19 preexisting or current business relationship, as defined in subdivision (l), with the advertiser 20 promoting the lease, sale, rental, gift offer, or other disposition of any property, goods, services, or extension of credit." B&P Code § 17529.1(o). 21 22 ³ "Direct consent' means that the recipient has expressly consented to receive e-mail advertisements from the advertiser, either in response to a clear and conspicuous request for the 23 consent or at the recipient's own initiative." B&P Code § 17529.1(d) (emphasis added). 24 ⁴ "Preexisting or current business relationship,' as used in connection with the sending of a 25 commercial e-mail advertisement, means that the recipient has made an inquiry and has provided his or her e-mail address, or has made an application, purchase, or transaction, with or without consideration, regarding products or services offered by the advertiser. []." B&P Code 27 § 17529.1(*l*).

⁵ "California e-mail address' means 1) An e-mail address furnished by an electronic mail service

provider that sends bills for furnishing and maintaining that e-mail address to a mailing address

in this state; 2) An e-mail address ordinarily accessed from a computer located in this state; 3)

An e-mail address furnished to a resident of this state." B&P Code § 17529.1(b).

- 45. Plaintiffs are informed and believe and thereon allege that Defendants sent and/or advertised in thousands or even millions of similar spams received by other California residents.
- 46. Plaintiffs' email addresses play no part in determining whether or not the emails have falsified, misrepresented, forged, misleading, or otherwise deceptive information contained in or accompanying the email headers.
- 47. Plaintiffs' email addresses are confidential for numerous reasons, including, but not limited to, avoiding the risk of retaliation by "mail bombing" (sending massive amounts of email to Plaintiffs' email addresses), "joe jobbing" (sending unlawful email using Plaintiffs' email addresses in the Sender Email Address field as a means of harassment), or sharing of Plaintiffs' email addresses with other unknown parties who might in turn send spam or mail bombs to Plaintiffs or as if from Plaintiffs.
- 48. The spams are unlawful because they include third parties' domain names without permission of the third parties; and/or contain falsified, misrepresented, or forged information in the headers; and/or contain Subject Lines likely to mislead a recipient about the contents or subject matter of the spams, as described in more detail below.
- 49. Exhibit A is a representative HENNING spam and the clickthrough/redirect links to the landing page at *AmateurMatch.com*.

B. Spams Containing a Third Party's Domain Name Without Permission Violate Business & Professions Code § 17529.5(a)(1)

- 50. It is unlawful to advertise in spams that contains a third party's domain name without permission. B&P Code § 17529.5(a)(1).
- 51. The Sender Email Address is part of email headers.
- 52. Some of the spams were sent from email addresses @yahoo.com, such that Yahoo! Inc.'s domain name yahoo.com appears in the spams. For example, FINK received a spam on May 17, 2012 advertising HENNING that purports to have been sent from "Sandra" using the email address jordan.doukasjiym@yahoo.com.⁶
- 53. Yahoo! Inc. prohibits the use of its "computer systems to facilitate the transmission of unsolicited or unauthorized material." Yahoo! Universal Anti-Spam Policy, http://info.yahoo.

⁶ Of course, if the spam were *not* actually sent from *jordan.doukasjiym@yahoo.com* as it appears in the spam, in violation of B&P Code § 17529.5(a)(1), then by definition the headers would contain falsified and forged information in violation of § 17529.5(a)(2).

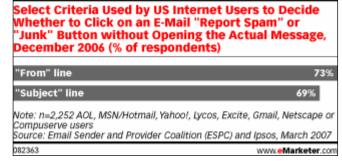
com/legal/us/yahoo/guidelines/spam (last visited Jan. 23, 2013). Therefore, Plaintiffs are informed and believe and thereon allege that Yahoo! Inc. did not and could not have given permission to HENNING or his affiliates to send this spam to FINK.

C. Spams With Generic From Names Misrepresent Who is Advertising in the Spams and Violate Business & Professions Code § 17529.5(a)(2)

- 54. It is unlawful to advertise in spams that contain or are accompanied by falsified, misrepresented, or forged header information. B&P Code § 17529.5(a)(2).
- 55. The From Name field is part of email headers.
- 56. The From Name field, not surprisingly, is supposed to identify who the email is *from*; it is not supposed to be an advertising message. Because computers must use standard protocols in order to communicate, the Internet Engineering Task Force created a collection of "Requests for Comment" ("RFCs") that define the rules that enable email to work. According to RFC 5322 at ¶ 3.6.2 (emphasis in original):

The "From:" field specifies the author(s) of the message, that is, the mailbox(es) of the person(s) or system(s) responsible for the writing of the message. . . . In all cases, the "From:" field SHOULD NOT contain any mailbox that does not belong to the author(s) of the message.

- 57. Plaintiffs do not insist on any *particular* label (e.g., "Deniro Marketing LLC," "Allan Henning," "Amateur Match," "Amateur Match.com," etc.) in the From Name field. Rather, Plaintiffs contend that the text, whatever it is, cannot misrepresent *who* is advertising in the email.
- 58. The From Name is important to an email user, because in almost all email programs, the inbox view only displays a list of emails, showing the From Name, Subject Line, and Send Date. Therefore, even *if* the body of the email identifies the advertiser, the recipient will not know that until s/he has already clicked to open the email.
- 59. Indeed, empirical evidence has demonstrated that the From Name is the *most* important factor email recipients use to determine whether or not an email is spam. *See* eMarketer, E-Mail Open Rates Hinge on 'Subject' Line, *available at*



D. Spams With Sending Domain Names Registered So As To Not Be Readily Traceable to the Sender Violate Business & Professions Code § 17529.5(a)(2)

- 62. It is unlawful to advertise in spams that contain or are accompanied by falsified, misrepresented, or forged header information. B&P Code § 17529.5(a)(2).
- 63. Registration information for the domain names used to send spams is information contained in or accompanying email headers.
- 64. In *Balsam v. Trancos Inc.*, the Court of Appeal held:

[W]here, as in this case, the commercial e-mailer intentionally uses . . . domain names in its headers that neither disclose the true sender's identity on their face nor permit the recipient to readily identify the sender, . . . such header information *is* deceptive and *does* constitute a falsification or misrepresentation of the sender's identity. . . .

Here, the domain names were *not* traceable to the actual sender. The header information is "falsified" or "misrepresented" because Trancos deliberately created it to prevent the recipient from identifying who actually sent the message. an e-mail with a made-up *and untraceable* domain name affirmatively *and falsely* represents the sender has no connection to Trancos.

Allowing commercial e-mailers like Trancos to conceal themselves behind untraceable domain names amplifies the likelihood of Internet fraud and abuse-the very evils for which the Legislature found it necessary to regulate such e-mails when it passed the Anti-spam Law.

We therefore hold, consistent with the trial court's ruling, that header information in a commercial e-mail is falsified or misrepresented for purposes of section 17529.5(a)(2) when it uses a sender domain name that *neither* identifies the actual sender on its face *nor* is readily traceable to the sender using a publicly available online database such as WHOIS.

203 Cal. App. 4th at 1097-1101 (emphasis in original).

- 65. Plaintiffs received unlawful spams advertising HENNING, sent from gibberish domain names that:
 - Did not identify HENNING or the sender on their face, and
 - Were sent from domain names deliberately registered so as to not be readily traceable to the sender,

in violation of B&P Code § 17529.5.

66. For many of the instant spams, the domain names are either proxy-registered or falsely registered such that the domain names are not readily traceable to HENNING or his affiliates.

To name but one example: FINK received a spam advertising HENNING's website AmateurMatch.com, sent from the domain name BeachWindy.com, which is proxy-registered through Contact Privacy Inc.

E. Spams With False and Misleading Subject Lines Violate Business & Professions Code § 17529.5(a)(2) and (a)(3)

- 67. It is unlawful to advertise in spams that contain or are accompanied by falsified, misrepresented, or forged header information. B&P Code § 17529.5(a)(2).
- 68. It is unlawful to advertise in spams with Subject Lines likely to mislead the recipient about a material fact regarding the contents or subject matter of the email. B&P Code § 17529.5(a)(3).
- 69. Plaintiffs received spams advertising HENNING's websites, many of which have Subject Lines that are misleading as to the subject matter of the spams. For example, a reasonable recipient would not know, based on Subject Lines "I found you" and "RE: RE: craigs list post," that the emails are actually advertising HENNING's purported "adult dating" websites.
- 70. Plaintiffs received spams advertising HENNING's websites, many of which have Subject Lines that are false and likely to mislead a recipient into believing that there are actual women in HENNING's database that the recipients could meet by paying to sign up for HENNING's websites. For example:
 - "Looking for a MILF in your area?"
 - "Too Many Hot Girls...Single Guys Needed ASAP"
 - "She Wants a One Night Stand"
 - "These women are looking to have a Discreet Affair"
 - "Meet Real Desperate Housewives That Need Your Help"
 - "We can't make it ANY EASIER toget [sic] LAID tonight"
 - "Want to Date Real Cheating Wives?"
- 71. In fact, Plaintiffs are informed and believe and thereon allege that HENNING's database is mostly, and perhaps entirely, filled with fake profiles that HENNING calls "Online Cupids." These "Online Cupids" are designed to "stimulate conversation with users, in order to encourage further and broader participation in all of our Site's services" i.e., to trick consumers into believing that they might actually meet (and have sex), when this is literally impossible. In fact, HENNING discloses, buried in small print in the middle of a lengthy Terms and Conditions document, that

[O]ur site, while built in the form of a personals service, is an entertainment service. All profiles are provided for the amusement and entertainment of our members and our users.

Member User Agreement for AmateurMatch, http://www.amateurmatch.com/pop.php?page= terms (last visited Jan. 22, 2013). However, there are no disclosures in the initial advertising – the spams – of the true nature of HENNING's websites and its use of "Online Cupids."

F. <u>Defendants are Strictly Liable for Unlawful Spams Sent By Their Affiliates</u>

- 72. Plaintiffs are informed and believe and thereon allege that HENNING contracts with third party "affiliates" (a/k/a "publishers") to advertise *AmateurMatch.com* and his other websites.
- 73. No one forced HENNING to outsource any of his advertising to third party spammers.
- 74. Advertisers such as HENNING are liable for advertising in spams, even if third parties hit the Send button.

There is a need to regulate the advertisers who use spam, as well as the actual spammers because the actual spammers can be difficult to track down due to some return addresses that show up on the display as "unknown" and many others being obvious fakes and they are often located offshore.

The true beneficiaries of spam are the advertisers who benefit from the marketing derived from the advertisements.

Bus. & Prof. Code § 17529(j)(k).

It is unlawful [] to advertise in a commercial email advertisement [] under any of the following circumstances...

Bus. & Prof. Code § 17529.5 (emphasis added). Of course, the affiliates are also liable for sending unlawful spams. *See Trancos*, generally.

75. In *Hypertouch Inc. v. ValueClick Inc. et al*, the court held that advertisers are *strictly liable* for advertising in false and deceptive spams, even if the spams were sent by third parties.

[S]ection 17529.5 makes it unlawful for a person or entity "to advertise in a commercial e-mail advertisement" that contains any of the deceptive statements described in *subdivisions* (a)(1)-(3). Thus, by its plain terms, the statute is not limited to entities that actually send or initiate a deceptive commercial e-mail, but applies more broadly to any entity that advertises in those e-mails.

Thus, like other California statutes prohibiting false or misleading business practices, the statute makes an entity *strictly liable* for advertising in a commercial e-mail that violates the substantive provisions described in section

H. Defendants' Actions Were Willful and Preclude any Reduction in Statutory Damages

81. California law authorizes this Court to award reduced statutory damages:

If the court finds that the defendant established and implemented, with due care, practices and procedures reasonably designed to effectively prevent unsolicited commercial e-mail advertisements that are in violation of this section, the court shall reduce the liquidated damages recoverable under paragraph (1) to a maximum of one hundred dollars (\$100) for each unsolicited commercial e-mail advertisement, or a maximum of one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) per incident.

B&P Code § 17529.5(b)(2). Thus, to secure the reduction, Defendants have the burden of proof to demonstrate not only that they have practices and procedures to prevent unlawful spamming, but also that the practices and procedures are *effective*.

- 82. Plaintiffs are informed and believe and thereon allege that Defendants have not established and implemented, with due care, practices and procedures reasonably designed to effectively prevent unsolicited commercial e-mail advertisements that are in violation of B&P Code § 17529.5.
- 83. Even if Defendants had any practices and procedures to prevent advertising in unlawful spam, such practices and procedures were not reasonably designed so as to be effective.
- 84. Even if Defendants reasonably designed practices and procedures to prevent advertising in unlawful spam, such practices and procedures were not implemented so as to be effective.
- 85. Moreover, Plaintiffs are informed and believe and thereon allege that Defendants intended to deceive recipients of their spam messages through the use of falsified and/or misrepresented information contained in or accompanying the email headers, as described herein.
- 86. From Names and Subject Lines do not write themselves and domain names do not register themselves; the misrepresented information in the email headers are not "clerical errors." Plaintiffs are informed and believe and thereon allege that Defendants went to great lengths to create misrepresented information contained in and accompanying the email headers in order to deceive recipients, Internet Service Providers, and spam filters.
- 87. Plaintiffs are informed and believe and thereon allege that Defendants intended to profit, actually profited, and continue to profit, and were unjustly enriched by, their wrongful conduct as described herein.

- 88. Plaintiffs are informed and believe and thereon allege that DENIRO MARKETING LLC is an adjudged spammer, and has been advertising in unlawful spam for *years*. Plaintiffs are informed and believe and thereon allege that their counsel Daniel Balsam filed at least four small claims lawsuits on his own behalf against DENIRO MARKETING LLC for unlawful spamming in violation of B&P Code § 17529.5. Balsam won every trial and appeal.
 - Balsam v. Deniro Marketing LLC, No. CSM-07-820194 (Super. Ct. Cal. Cty. of San Francisco, June 22, 2007).
 - Balsam v. Deniro Marketing LLC, No. CSM-09-830095 (Super. Ct. Cal. Cty. of San Francisco, Aug. 13, 2009), aff'd (Nov. 6, 2009).
 - Balsam v. Deniro Marketing LLC, No. CSM-10-832549 (Super. Ct. Cal. Cty. of San Francisco, Apr. 12, 2010), aff'd (July 13, 2010)
 - Balsam v. Deniro Marketing LLC, No. CSM-10-833262 (Super. Ct. Cal. Cty. of San Francisco, June 21, 2010), aff'd (Aug. 11, 2010).
- 89. Plaintiffs do *not* attempt to argue collateral estoppel from these small claims judgments.
- 90. However, Plaintiffs point to these judgments as evidence that HENNING has been advertising in unlawful spam for years, and that HENNING has had actual knowledge that it has been advertising in unlawful spam for years, and yet it continues to do so. Therefore, HENNING cannot meet its burden of proof to show that it has effective practices and procedures to prevent advertising in unlawful spam, and HENNING is not entitled to the reduction in statutory damages.

FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION

[Violations of California Restrictions on Unsolicited Commercial Email, California Business & Professions Code § 17529.5] (Against All Defendants)

- 91. Plaintiffs hereby incorporate the foregoing paragraphs as though set forth in full herein.
- 92. Plaintiffs received the spams at issue within one year prior to filing the original Complaint.
- 93. HENNING advertised in, sent, and/or caused to be sent at least 958 unsolicited commercial emails to Plaintiffs' California email addresses, containing third parties' domain names without permission, and/or falsified or misrepresentative information in or accompanying the headers.

- 94. The California Legislature set liquidated damages at One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000) per email.
- 95. Plaintiffs seek reimbursement of attorneys' fees and costs as authorized by B&P Code § 17529.5(b)(1)(C).
- 96. The attorneys' fees provision for a prevailing spam recipient is typical of consumer protection statutes and supported by Code of Civil Procedure § 1021.5. By prosecuting this action, Plaintiffs expect to enforce an important right affecting the public interest and thereby confer a significant benefit on the general public or a large class of persons. The necessity and financial burden of private enforcement is such as to make the award appropriate, and the attorneys' fees should not, in the interest of justice, be paid out of the recovery of damages.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiffs pray for judgment against Defendants as hereinafter set forth.

PRAYER FOR RELIEF

- A. An Order from this Court declaring that Defendants violated B&P Code § 17529.5 by advertising in and sending unlawful spams.
- B. Liquidated damages against Defendants in the amount of \$1,000 per unlawful spam, as authorized by B&P Code § 17529.5(b)(1)(B)(ii), as detailed below:
 - \$21,000 against ALLAN HENNING, DENIRO MARKETING LLC, and LIVE CHANNELS LLC, jointly and severally, for 21 spams received by DANIEL BARRETT.
 - \$409,000 against ALLAN HENNING, DENIRO MARKETING LLC, and LIVE CHANNELS LLC, jointly and severally, for 409 spams received by JAMIE CARPER.
 - 3. \$4,000 against ALLAN HENNING, DENIRO MARKETING LLC, and LIVE CHANNELS LLC, jointly and severally, for 4 spams received by STEPHEN FALLS.
 - 4. \$498,000 against ALLAN HENNING, DENIRO MARKETING LLC, and LIVE CHANNELS LLC, jointly and severally, for 498 spams received by JAY FINK.
 - 5. \$26,000 against ALLAN HENNING, DENIRO MARKETING LLC, and LIVE CHANNELS LLC, jointly and severally, for 26 spams received by WALTER HILL.

1	C.	Attorneys' fees as authorized by B&P Code § 17529.5(b)(1)(C) and Cal. Code of Civil		
2		Procedure § 1021.5 for violations o	f B&P Code § 17529.5.	
3	D.	Disgorgement of all profits derived from unlawful spams directed to California residents;		
4		monies to be turned over to the Unf	fair Competition Law Fund and used by the California	
5		Attorney General to support investi	gations and prosecutions of California's consumer	
6		protection laws.		
7	E.	Costs of suit.		
8	F.	Such other and further relief as the Court deems proper.		
9				
10			THE LAW OFFICES OF DANIEL BALSAM	
11		N 1 10 2011	DV	
12	Date:_	March 13, 2014	BY: DANIEL L. BALSAM	
13			Attorneys for Plaintiffs	
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1 **VERIFICATIONS** 2 The undersigned for himself declares: 3 I am one of the Plaintiffs in the above-entitled Action. I have read the foregoing Third 4 Amended Complaint and know the contents thereof. With respect to the facts and causes of 5 action alleged by me, the same is true by my own knowledge, except as to those matters which 6 are therein stated on information and belief and those paragraphs specifically attributed to other 7 Plaintiffs, and, as to those matters, I believe them to be true. I declare under penalty of perjury 8 under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing is true and correct. 9 10 Date: 11 DANIEL BARRETT 12 The undersigned for himself declares: 13 I am one of the Plaintiffs in the above-entitled Action. I have read the foregoing Third Amended Complaint and know the contents thereof. With respect to the facts and causes of 14 15 action alleged by me, the same is true by my own knowledge, except as to those matters which 16 are therein stated on information and belief and those paragraphs specifically attributed to other Plaintiffs, and, as to those matters, I believe them to be true. I declare under penalty of perjury 17 18 under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing is true and correct. 19 20 Date: 21 JAMIE CARPER 22 The undersigned for himself declares: 23 I am one of the Plaintiffs in the above-entitled Action. I have read the foregoing Third 24 Amended Complaint and know the contents thereof. With respect to the facts and causes of 25 action alleged by me, the same is true by my own knowledge, except as to those matters which 26 are therein stated on information and belief and those paragraphs specifically attributed to other 27 Plaintiffs, and, as to those matters, I believe them to be true. I declare under penalty of perjury 28 under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing is true and correct. 29 30 Date: 31 STEPHEN FALLS

1	The undersigned for himself declares:				
2	I am one of the Plaintiffs in the above-entitled Action. I have read the foregoing Third				
3	Amended Complaint and know the contents thereof. With respect to the facts and causes of				
4	action alleged by me, the same is true by my own knowledge, except as to those matters which				
5	are therein stated on information and belief and those paragraphs specifically attributed to other				
6	Plaintiffs, and, as to those matters, I believe them to be true. I declare under penalty of perjury				
7	under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing is true and correct.				
8					
9	Date:				
10	JAY FINK				
11					
12	The undersigned for himself declares:				
13	I am one of the Plaintiffs in the above-entitled Action. I have read the foregoing Third				
14	Amended Complaint and know the contents thereof. With respect to the facts and causes of				
15	action alleged by me, the same is true by my own knowledge, except as to those matters which				
16	are therein stated on information and belief and those paragraphs specifically attributed to other				
17	Plaintiffs, and, as to those matters, I believe them to be true. I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing is true and correct.				
18	under the laws of the State of Camornia that the foregoing is true and correct.				
19	Date:				
20	WALTER HILL				
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