1	Monique Olivier (Cal. Bar No. 190385)	Jeffrey Lipman (pro hac vice)	
2	monique@os-legal.com	jeff@lipmanlawfirm.com	
2	Christian Schreiber (Cal. Bar No. 245597) christian@os-legal.com	LIPMAN LAW FIRM, P.C. 1454 30th Street, Suite 205	
3	OLIVIER & SCHREIBER LLP	Des Moines, IA 50266	
4	475 14th Street, Suite 250	Tel: (515) 276-3411	
5	Oakland, California 94612		
	Tel: (415) 484-0980	ELECTRONICALLY FILED	
6	Bryce Bell (pro hac vice)	Superior Court of California County of Alameda	
7	bbb@belllawkc.com		
	Mark Schmitz (pro hac vice)	06/21/2022	
8	ms@belllawkc.com	Chad Finke, Executive Officer / Clerk of the Court  By: L. Wiley Deputy	
9	Jenilee Zentrich (pro hac vice) jz@belllawkc.com	By: Deputy	
10	BELL LAW, LLC		
10	2600 Grand Boulevard, Suite 580		
11	Kansas City, MO 64108		
12	Tel: (816) 886-8206		
	Attorneys for Plaintiffs		
13		IF STATE OF CALIFORNIA	
14	SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA		
15	COUNTY OF ALAMEDA		
	UNLIMITED JURISDICTION		
16			
17	MICHAEL BRINKLEY, MIA MINER,	Case No. 22CV008221	
18	LIEUTENANT HODGES, TYSON	Case 110. 220 1 00021	
	ANDERCON DENNIC WILLIAMS		
19	ANDERSON, DENNIS WILLIAMS,	FIRST AMENDED COMPLAINT	
	SHIEDA RIDLEY, CHARZELL		
20	SHIEDA RIDLEY, CHARZELL CLAYBROOKS, KIYO MILLS, CORY	FIRST AMENDED COMPLAINT <u>CLASS ACTION</u>	
	SHIEDA RIDLEY, CHARZELL	CLASS ACTION  1. UNFAIR COMPETITION LAW	
20 21	SHIEDA RIDLEY, CHARZELL CLAYBROOKS, KIYO MILLS, CORY JACOB, TANZANIA SCOTT- BRADFORD, and MAXIMINIO GARCIA, individually and on behalf of all others	CLASS ACTION  1. UNFAIR COMPETITION LAW (BUS. & PROF. CODE § 17200 ET	
	SHIEDA RIDLEY, CHARZELL CLAYBROOKS, KIYO MILLS, CORY JACOB, TANZANIA SCOTT- BRADFORD, and MAXIMINIO GARCIA,	CLASS ACTION  1. UNFAIR COMPETITION LAW (BUS. & PROF. CODE § 17200 ET SEQ.)	
21 22	SHIEDA RIDLEY, CHARZELL CLAYBROOKS, KIYO MILLS, CORY JACOB, TANZANIA SCOTT- BRADFORD, and MAXIMINIO GARCIA, individually and on behalf of all others similarly situated,	CLASS ACTION  1. UNFAIR COMPETITION LAW (BUS. & PROF. CODE § 17200 ET	
21 22 23	SHIEDA RIDLEY, CHARZELL CLAYBROOKS, KIYO MILLS, CORY JACOB, TANZANIA SCOTT- BRADFORD, and MAXIMINIO GARCIA, individually and on behalf of all others	CLASS ACTION  1. UNFAIR COMPETITION LAW (BUS. & PROF. CODE § 17200 ET SEQ.)  2. BED BUG INFESTATIONS (CIV. CODE § 1954.600 ET SEQ.)  3. TENANT HARASSMENT	
21 22	SHIEDA RIDLEY, CHARZELL CLAYBROOKS, KIYO MILLS, CORY JACOB, TANZANIA SCOTT- BRADFORD, and MAXIMINIO GARCIA, individually and on behalf of all others similarly situated,	CLASS ACTION  1. UNFAIR COMPETITION LAW (BUS. & PROF. CODE § 17200 ET SEQ.)  2. BED BUG INFESTATIONS (CIV. CODE § 1954.600 ET SEQ.)  3. TENANT HARASSMENT (OAKLAND ORDINANCE §	
21 22 23	SHIEDA RIDLEY, CHARZELL CLAYBROOKS, KIYO MILLS, CORY JACOB, TANZANIA SCOTT- BRADFORD, and MAXIMINIO GARCIA, individually and on behalf of all others similarly situated,  Plaintiffs,  v.	CLASS ACTION  1. UNFAIR COMPETITION LAW (BUS. & PROF. CODE § 17200 ET SEQ.)  2. BED BUG INFESTATIONS (CIV. CODE § 1954.600 ET SEQ.)  3. TENANT HARASSMENT (OAKLAND ORDINANCE § 8.22.640 ET SEQ.):	
21 22 23 24 25	SHIEDA RIDLEY, CHARZELL CLAYBROOKS, KIYO MILLS, CORY JACOB, TANZANIA SCOTT- BRADFORD, and MAXIMINIO GARCIA, individually and on behalf of all others similarly situated,  Plaintiffs,	CLASS ACTION  1. UNFAIR COMPETITION LAW (BUS. & PROF. CODE § 17200 ET SEQ.)  2. BED BUG INFESTATIONS (CIV. CODE § 1954.600 ET SEQ.)  3. TENANT HARASSMENT (OAKLAND ORDINANCE §	
21 22 23 24	SHIEDA RIDLEY, CHARZELL CLAYBROOKS, KIYO MILLS, CORY JACOB, TANZANIA SCOTT- BRADFORD, and MAXIMINIO GARCIA, individually and on behalf of all others similarly situated,  Plaintiffs,  v.  CLARIDGE HOTEL LLC; CLARIDGE	CLASS ACTION  1. UNFAIR COMPETITION LAW (BUS. & PROF. CODE § 17200 ET SEQ.)  2. BED BUG INFESTATIONS (CIV. CODE § 1954.600 ET SEQ.)  3. TENANT HARASSMENT (OAKLAND ORDINANCE § 8.22.640 ET SEQ.):  4. BREACH OF CONTRACT	

1	8. VIOLATIONS OF CIVIL CODE DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL
2	DEMAND FOR JURI TRIAL
3	
4	
5	
6	
7	
8	
9	
10	
11	
12	
13	
14	
15	
16	
17	
18	
19	
20	
21	
22	
23	
24	
25	
26	
27	
28	
	FIRST AMENDED COMPLAINT

Plaintiffs MICHAEL BRINKLEY, MIA MINER, LIEUTENANT HODGES, TYSON ANDERSON, DENNIS WILLIAMS, SHIEDA RIDLEY, CHARZELL CLAYBROOKS, KIYO MILLS, CORY JACOB, TANZANIA SCOTT-BRADFORD, and MAXIMINIO GARCIA ("Plaintiffs" or "Residents"), individually and on behalf of all others similarly situated, and in the interest of the General Public of the State of California, allege as follows against Defendant Claridge Hotel LLC; Claridge Hotel, L.P., and Does 1-25 (collectively, "Defendants," "Owner," or "Landlord"):

#### <u>INTRODUCTION</u>

- 1. More than 45% of Californians in excess of 17 million people live in rental housing.
- 2. It is the public policy of the State of California and City of Oakland to ensure that renters are able to live in habitable and safe rental units. These rights are enshrined in the Civil Code, and in local ordinances passed in jurisdictions throughout the State, including Oakland.
- 3. Landlords who own rental property in this State and the City of Oakland are required to provide and maintain habitable dwellings and must, among other things, respond to repair requests in a "reasonable" amount of time.
- 4. Plaintiffs are residents of the Claridge Hotel (the "Claridge," "Claridge Hotel," or "Property") at 634 15th Street in Oakland, a six-story building located between the state and federal courts in downtown Oakland. The "Claridge" is a "residential hotel" or a "single room occupancy" ("SRO") building that serves low-income Oaklanders.
- 5. For years, the residents of the Claridge, including Plaintiffs, have been forced to live with bedbug infestations, rodent infestations, horrific odors, broken plumbing, faulty electrical systems, crumbling infrastructure, and scores of unsafe building conditions that Defendants have willfully ignored and refused to remediate.
- 6. Defendants' conduct violates California's Civil Code, Oakland City Ordinances, contract law, the Unfair Competition Law (Cal. Bus. & Prof. Code § 17200 et seq. ("UCL")), and the Consumer Legal Remedies Act (Cal. Civ. Code § 1750 et seq. ("CLRA")).

- 7. Plaintiffs file this action on behalf of a class of current and former residents of the Claridge. They sue to put an end to the slumlord practices of Defendants, remediate the bedbug infestation in their building, and obtain relief from the deplorable conditions at the Claridge.
- 8. Plaintiffs seek injunctive relief, special and punitive damages, and reasonable attorneys' fees and costs.

#### **PARTIES**

- 9. Plaintiff MICHAEL BRINKLEY is an individual over the age of 18 who, at all relevant times, has resided in Oakland, California. Plaintiff Brinkley has lived at the Claridge Hotel from February 2018 to the present.
- 10. Plaintiff MIA MINER is an individual over the age of 18 who, at all relevant times, has resided in Oakland, California. Plaintiff Miner has lived at the Claridge Hotel from December 2014 to the present.
- 11. Plaintiff LIEUTENANT HODGES is an individual over the age of 18 who, at all relevant times, has resided in Oakland, California. Plaintiff Hodges has lived at the Claridge Hotel from September 2017 to the present.
- 12. Plaintiff TYSON ANDERSON is an individual over the age of 18 who, at all relevant times, has resided in Oakland, California. Plaintiff Anderson has lived at the Claridge Hotel from November 2019 to the present.
- 13. Plaintiff DENNIS WILLIAMS is an individual over the age of 18 who, at all relevant times, has resided in Oakland, California. Plaintiff Williams has lived at the Claridge Hotel from October 2018 to the present.
- 14. Plaintiff SHIEDA RIDLEY is an individual over the age of 18 who, at all relevant times, has resided in Oakland, California. Plaintiff Ridley has lived at the Claridge Hotel from March 2016 to the present.
- 15. Plaintiff CHARZELL CLAYBROOKS is an individual over the age of 18 who, at all relevant times, has resided in Oakland, California. Plaintiff Claybrooks has lived at the Claridge Hotel from December 2019 to December 2021.

- 16. Plaintiff KIYO MILLS is an individual over the age of 18 who, at all relevant times, has resided in Oakland, California. Plaintiff Mills has lived at the Claridge Hotel from October 2016 to the present.
- 17. Plaintiff CORY JACOB is an individual over the age of 18 who, at all relevant times, has resided in Oakland, California. Plaintiff Jacob has lived at the Claridge Hotel from December 2017 to the present.
- 18. Plaintiff TANZANIA SCOTT-BRADFORD is an individual over the age of 18 who, at all relevant times, has resided in Oakland, California. Plaintiff Scott-Bradford has lived at the Claridge Hotel from October 2016 to the present.
- 19. Plaintiff MAXIMINIO GARCIA is an individual over the age of 18 who, at all relevant times, has resided in Oakland, California. Plaintiff Garcia has lived at the Claridge Hotel from May 2018 to the present.
- 20. Defendant CLARIDGE HOTEL LLC is a California limited liability company whose principal place of business is in San Francisco, California.
- 21. Defendant CLARIDGE HOTEL, L.P. is a California limited partnership whose principal place of business is in San Francisco, California. Defendant Claridge Hotel, L.P. has two general partners, (1) Homeownership Advocacy and (2) PIP, Inc., which are both California companies.
- 22. Defendants DOES 1 through 25 are persons or entities whose true names and capacities are presently unknown to Plaintiffs, who therefore sue them by such fictitious names. Plaintiffs are informed and believe, and on that basis allege, that each of the fictitiously named defendants perpetrated some or all of the wrongful acts alleged herein, are responsible in some manner for the matters alleged herein and are jointly and severally liable to Plaintiffs. Plaintiffs will seek leave of court to amend this complaint to state the true names and capacities of such fictitiously named defendants when ascertained.
- 23. At all times mentioned herein, each named defendant and each DOE defendant was the agent or employee of each of the other defendants and was acting within the course and

scope of such agency or employment and/or with the knowledge, authority, ratification and consent of the other defendants. Each defendant is jointly and severally liable to Plaintiffs and to the members of the proposed class.

24. Plaintiffs are informed and believe, and based thereon allege, that Defendants, at all relevant times, were the owners and/or landlords of the real property at issue in this matter.

#### **JURISDICTION AND VENUE**

- 25. This Court has personal jurisdiction over each Defendant because they conduct business in this County, the unlawful conduct arises under California law, and each Defendant directed and committed certain of the unlawful acts alleged herein in this County. Furthermore, the Defendants have intentionally and knowingly engaged in acts affecting tenants of Alameda County; have purported to enter into agreements with tenants of Alameda County; have made it foreseeable they would be sued in a court in Alameda County; and/or have otherwise purposely availed themselves of the privilege of doing business and conducting activities in Alameda County.
- 26. Venue is proper in this Court because the acts and/or failures to act alleged herein occurred in Alameda County. Plaintiffs are informed and believe, and on that basis allege, that other Class members reside in and suffered injury in this County.
- 27. This Court has jurisdiction over Plaintiffs' and the Class members' claims because there is no federal question at issue in this action. Plaintiffs are informed and believe, and on that basis allege, that the individual claims of Plaintiffs and the members of the Class defined herein, including each putative Class member's pro-rata share of the requested attorneys' fees and all other requested relief, are under the \$75,000 jurisdictional threshold for federal court, and the aggregate claims, including attorneys' fees and all other requested relief, are less than the \$5 million required to establish federal jurisdiction under the Class Action Fairness Act of 2005.

#### **FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS**

- 28. Plaintiffs are residents of the Claridge Hotel. They are low-income persons with limited economic means who have been subjected to unlawful living conditions in violation of State and local law.
- 29. The Claridge Hotel comprises six floors and contains 203 units (again, the "Claridge," "Claridge Hotel," or "Property").
- 30. On information and belief, Plaintiffs and residents of the Claridge Hotel are provided with a standard residential lease agreement that they must execute before they move in. The residential lease agreement provides in relevant part that the Landlord may provide the resident with a stove, a refrigerator, microwave, and/or blinds. Plaintiffs and residents relied upon this representation and believed that they would have use and enjoyment of these items during their tenancy.
- 31. However, due to Defendants' failure to maintain the Property, including electrical systems necessary for the operation of the stove and refrigerator, Plaintiffs and other residents have been denied the regular and ordinary use of the chattels in their units.
- 32. Plaintiff MICHAEL BRINKLEY has lived at the Claridge Hotel from February 2018 to the present. During his residency at the Claridge, he has suffered from bedbug infestations in his rental unit, which have led to bites all over his body and which have caused him extreme discomfort, as well as psychological and physical medical conditions. He has complained to building management about the conditions at the Property, but his complaints have gone unanswered, and Defendants have failed to address his complaints about unlawful conditions despite being on notice of such.
- 33. During Plaintiff Brinkley's tenancy, he has encountered regular power outages, sometimes multiple outages in a single day, which have denied him use of his stove and refrigerator. Ordinary use of electrical appliances by neighboring units will cause the power to shut off in Plaintiff Brinkley's unit, which makes the stove inoperable and causes the refrigerator to cease working.

- 34. Plaintiff MIA MINER is an individual over the age of 18 who, at all relevant times, has resided in Oakland, California. Plaintiff Miner has lived at the Claridge Hotel from December 2014 to the present.
- 35. Plaintiff LIEUTENANT HODGES is an individual over the age of 18 who, at all relevant times, has resided in Oakland, California. Plaintiff Hodges has lived at the Claridge Hotel from September 2017 to the present.
- 36. Plaintiff TYSON ANDERSON is an individual over the age of 18 who, at all relevant times, has resided in Oakland, California. Plaintiff Anderson has lived at the Claridge Hotel from November 2019 to the present.
- 37. Plaintiff Anderson supplied his own refrigerator. However, the electricity in the building has been unreliable, shutting off multiple times per day, such that Plaintiff's food has spoiled due to the refrigerator shutting off with the power outages.
- 38. Plaintiff DENNIS WILLIAMS is an individual over the age of 18 who, at all relevant times, has resided in Oakland, California. Plaintiff Williams has lived at the Claridge Hotel from October 2018 to the present.
- 39. Plaintiff Williams had a refrigerator in his unit at the time he moved in, but it broke within approximately six months of moving in. Defendants offered to replace the refrigerator with a used refrigerator from another unit but refused to ensure that the new fridge was not infested with cockroaches. After purchasing his own refrigerator, he has experienced frequent power outages that have rendered his refrigerator inoperable and has caused its contents to spoil.
- 40. Plaintiff SHIEDA RIDLEY is an individual over the age of 18 who, at all relevant times, has resided in Oakland, California. Plaintiff Ridley has lived at the Claridge Hotel from March 2016 to the present.
- 41. Plaintiff CHARZELL CLAYBROOKS is an individual over the age of 18 who, at all relevant times, has resided in Oakland, California. Plaintiff Claybrooks has lived at the Claridge Hotel from December 2019 to December 2021.

- 42. Plaintiff KIYO MILLS is an individual over the age of 18 who, at all relevant times, has resided in Oakland, California. Plaintiff Mills has lived at the Claridge Hotel from October 2016 to the present.
- 43. Plaintiff CORY JACOB is an individual over the age of 18 who, at all relevant times, has resided in Oakland, California. Plaintiff Jacob has lived at the Claridge Hotel from December 2017 to the present.
- 44. Plaintiff Jacob's was provided blinds when he moved in. However, his blinds broke in approximately 2018 through no fault of his own, and Defendants have failed to replace them. Plaintiff Jacob was also provided with a refrigerator, which broke shortly after he began living at the Property. Defendants did not provide a new refrigerator.
- 45. Plaintiff TANZANIA SCOTT-BRADFORD is an individual over the age of 18 who, at all relevant times has resided in Oakland, California. Plaintiff Scott-Bradford has lived at the Claridge Hotel from October 2016 to the present.
- 46. Plaintiff MAXIMINIO GARCIA is an individual over the age of 18 who, at all relevant times, has resided in Oakland, California. Plaintiff Garcia has lived at the Claridge Hotel from May 2018 to the present.
- 47. Plaintiff Garcia's agreement provided that his unit would be supplied with a refrigerator, stove and microwave, but he was only provided with a refrigerator. When he requested that a microwave be provided, Defendants refused to provide one for him.
- 48. All Defendants are and were, at all relevant times, an "Owner" and "Landlord"—as defined by Chapter 8.22 of the Oakland, California Code of Ordinances (the "Rent Ordinance")—of the real property located at 634 15th St, Oakland, CA 94612.<sup>1</sup>
- 49. Throughout the class period, the Property has suffered a continuous, building-wide bedbug infestation.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The <u>Code</u> may be found at Oakland, California, CODE OF ORDINANCES, <a href="https://library.municode.com/ca/oakland/codes/code\_of\_ordinances">https://library.municode.com/ca/oakland/codes/code\_of\_ordinances</a> (last visited February 24, 2022).

- 50. Residents and former residents of the property have either had to remain in their infested units due to lack of relocation resources or been forced to relinquish their rent-controlled units in order to obtain safe, healthy and habitable housing.
- 51. The Claridge's units, at all relevant times, were "Rental Units" as defined by the Rent Ordinance.
- 52. Plaintiffs were, at all relevant times, entitled to and afforded all rights under the Rent Ordinance. There has been a years-long, building wide, unabated infestation of bedbugs at the Property. Defendants' have failed to properly manage the infestation or comply with governing laws and ordinances. Among these failures include the failure to perform pest-control maintenance diligently and as required by California and Oakland health and safety laws. *See*, *e.g.*, Cal. Civ. Code § 1954.600 *et seg*.
- 53. The Rent Ordinance, § 8.22.640, prohibits failing "to provide housing services required by contract or by State, County or municipal housing, health or safety laws . . . fail[ure] to perform repairs and maintenance required by contract or by State, County or municipal housing, health or safety laws," and fail[ure] to . . . follow appropriate industry repair, containment or remediation protocols" and "[o]ther repeated acts or omissions of such significance as to substantially interfere with or disturb the comfort, repose, peace or quiet of any persona lawfully entitled to occupy such dwelling and that cause, are likely to cause, or are intended to cause any person . . . to vacate such dwelling unit or to surrender or waive any rights."
- 54. Defendants have failed to comply with California's specific state law regarding the prevention and control of bedbugs, including by:
  - Showing, renting, and leasing premises that Defendants knew had a current bedbug infestation;<sup>2</sup>
  - b. Not providing written notice to prospective tenants and not providing notice to all tenants of or with:

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Cal. Civ. Code § 1954.602(a)

FIRST AMENDED COMPLAINT

#### **CONSUMER STATUTES LIKE THE CLRA APPLY TO RESIDENTIAL LEASES**

- 57. The Consumers Legal Remedies Act, Civil Code section 1750, et seq. (the "CLRA") was designed and enacted to protect consumers from unfair and deceptive business practices. To this end, the CLRA sets forth a list of unfair and deceptive acts and practices in Civil Code section 1770 that are prohibited in any transaction intended to result in the sale or lease of goods or services to a consumer.
- 58. The statute was derived from a model law called the National Consumer Act, which was "a uniform code of principles issued in December 1969." (Andrew Serwin, et al., § 19.02 The History and Origins of the Consumers Legal Remedies Act, California Antitrust and Unfair Competition Law (Feb. 2022).) Based on the NCA, 33 states, including California's CLRA, have adopted Unfair and Deceptive Practices Act ("UDAP") statutes "based in large part on the provisions of the NCA, with enumerated practices similar to those contained in the CLRA." (Id.)
- 59. Other states have applied their version of the consumer protection statutes to residential leases. For example, Pennsylvania's Unfair Trade Practices and Consumer Protection Law ("UTPCPL"), 73 P.S. § § 201-1 –201-9.2, has been applied in a landlord-tenant matter. (*In re Clarkson*, 105 B.R. 266 (Bankr. E.D. Pa. 1989); *accord Aponte v. Aungst*, 82 B.R. 739 (Bankr. E.D. Pa. 1988); *see also Com., by Creamer v. Monumental Properties, Inc.* (Pa. 1974) 329 A.2d 812, 825-26.)
- 60. Minnesota's Prevention of Consumer Fraud Act, Minn. Stat. 325F.69, has also been applied to landlord-tenant matters involving a landlord's conduct in requiring tenants to pay unincurred water bills, unsupported cleaning and damage costs, and nonexistent attorneys' fees. (*Love v. Amsler* (Minn. Ct. App. 1989) 441 N.W.2d 555.)
- 61. Illinois' Consumer Fraud and Deceptive Business Practices Act, Ill.Rev.Stat.1981, ch. 121 ½, § 261 *et seq.*, has been applied to landlord-tenant matters where the agreements "included maintenance of the apartment and grounds, heating and plumbing facilities." (*Carter v. Mueller* (Ill.App. 1 Dist. 1983) 457 N.E.2d 1335, 1342.)

- 62. New Jersey's Consumer Fraud Act, N.J.S.A. 56:8–1 et seq., has been applied to landlord-tenant relationships. (49 Prospect Street Tenants Ass'n v. Sheva Gardens, Inc. (N.J. Super. App. Div. 1988) 547 A.2d 1134, 1142 ["When engaged in the business of providing shelter, present day landlords do not furnish merely four walls, a floor and a ceiling. They have come to supply, and tenants now expect, the physical requisites of a home. An apartment today consists of a variety of goods and services. At a minimum, the necessities of a habitable residence include sufficient heat, and ventilation, adequate light, plumbing and sanitation and proper security and maintenance."].)
- 63. Missouri's Merchandising Practices Act, Mo. Ann. Stat. § 407.025.1, has been applied in the landlord-tenant context in a case involving tenant claims against a landlord who demanded rent monies from despite a harmful bedbug infestation. (*Ostermeier v. Prime Properties Inv. Inc.* (Mo. App. 2019) 589 S.W.3d 1.)
- 64. Wisconsin's Unfair Business Practices Law (Wis. Stat. 100.20) was applied to a landlord tenant relationship for violations of Milwaukee's housing code. (*Weller v. Dept. Ag, Trade and Consumer Protection*, No. 78-813 (Wis Ct. App. 1980) Aff'd 327 N.W.2d 172 (1988).)
- 65. Utah's Consumer Sales Practices Act (UCSPA) has been applied to landlord-tenant relationships where a landlord applied unlawful contract penalties to a residential lease. (Woodhaven Apts v. Washington, 942 P.2d 918 (Utah 1997) and applying the law to a landlord's breach that results in personal injury, property damage, relocation expenses, or other similar injuries. (Wade v. Jobe, 818 P.2d 1066 (Utah 1991).)
- 66. Vermont's Consumer Protection Law, 9 V.S.A. §§ 2451–2462, has been applied to landlord-tenant relationships. (*Bisson v. Ward* (Vt. 1993) 628 A.2d 1256, 1261 ["By renting the apartment, landlords impliedly represented to tenant that the apartment was in compliance with the law. Landlords knew, however, at that time, that the apartment was in violation of health and safety codes.... Landlords knew of the additional deficiencies, yet failed to inform tenant.... We agree ... that the court's findings establish a violation of [the Consumer Protection Law]."].)

#### **CLASS ACTION ALLEGATIONS**

- 67. Plaintiffs incorporate by reference each and every paragraph above as if fully set forth herein.
- 68. Plaintiffs bring this action as a class action pursuant to the UCL, the CLRA and, pursuant to Cal. Civ. Proc. Code § 382, on behalf of the following Class: "All individuals who are current or former residents of the Claridge Hotel from four years prior to the filing of this action through the date of judgment." (the "Class").
- 69. Excluded from the Class are Defendants, their corporate parents, subsidiaries and affiliates, officers and directors, and any entity in which Defendants have a controlling interest, and the legal representatives, successors or assigns thereof.
- 70. Numerosity. The Class is so numerous that joinder of all members is impracticable. Plaintiffs are informed and believe, and on that basis allege, that during the Class period there are thousands of individuals who satisfy the definition of a Class member. Upon information and belief, the Property is comprised of 203 rental units, rendering the Class one of hundreds of individuals, an amount so numerous that joinder of each member is impracticable.
- 71. <u>Ascertainability</u>. The identity of Class members is ascertainable. The exact number of the Class members, currently unknown, can be ascertained through appropriate discovery and/or from records in Defendants' and their agents' possession.

#### 72. Community of Interest.

- a. *Typicality*. Plaintiffs' claims are typical of the Class members' claims. Plaintiffs, like other Class members, were subjected to Defendants' policies and practices that violated California law. Plaintiffs are current or former residents of the Property and their claims all result from the unabated bedbug infestation and Defendants' failures in that regard, as described throughout. Plaintiff's claims were and are typical of those of the Class members.
- b. *Adequacy*. Plaintiffs will fairly and adequately represent and protect the interests of the Class members. There are no conflicts between the representative Plaintiffs and other putative Class members and, were separate claims prosecuted by each individual

member of the Class, this would create a risk of inconsistent or varying adjudications. Plaintiffs' counsel are experienced in complex consumer class actions and will fairly and adequately represent and protect the interests of the Class members.

- c. *Predominance*. Common questions of law and fact predominate and exist as to all members of the Class. These common questions with regard to Defendants' management (or lack thereof) of the bedbug infestations include, but are not necessarily limited to:
  - Whether Defendants violated Cal. Civ. Code § 1954.600 et seq;
  - Whether Defendants violated Oakland, California Ordinance § 8.22.640;
  - Whether Defendants engaged in unfair business practices;
  - Whether Defendants breached the lease contracts with the Plaintiffs and putative class members;
  - Whether Defendants breached their duty to maintain safe and habitable premises;
     and
  - Whether Defendants were unjustly enriched by accepting rental payments for essentially worthless rental units.
- 73. Superiority. Class treatment would benefit the courts and Class members.

  Certification of the Class would provide substantial benefits to the courts and Class members via economies of scale. The damages suffered by individual Class members are relatively small compared to the significant expense and burden of individual prosecution of this litigation. In addition, class certification would obviate the need for unduly duplicative litigation, which might result in inconsistent judgments as to Defendants' practices. As joinder is impracticable, the likelihood of individual putative Class members pursuing individual claims is small and individual class members do not have a significant interest in controlling their separate actions, such that a class action is the superior method for obtaining a fair and efficient adjudication of this controversy.

### 

## 

### 

## 

### 

#### 

#### 

#### 

### 

### 

### 

#### 

#### 

#### 

#### 

#### 

## 

#### 

#### 

#### FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION

## By Plaintiffs and the Class Against Defendants Violations of the Unfair Competition Law (Cal. Bus. & Prof. Code § 17200 et seq.)

- 74. Plaintiffs incorporate by reference all other paragraphs as if they were fully set forth here and further allege as follows.
- 75. The UCL defines unfair competition to include any unlawful, unfair, or fraudulent business act or practice.
- 76. The UCL provides that a court may order injunctive relief and restitution as remedies for any violations of the UCL. The UCL empowers courts "to prevent the use or employment by any person of any practice which constitutes unfair competition," Cal. Bus. & Prof. Code § 17203, and prohibits "any unlawful, unfair or fraudulent business act or practice and unfair, deceptive, untrue or misleading advertising," *id.* § 17200. The UCL provides that a court may enjoin acts of unfair competition and order restitution to affected members of the public.
  - 77. Leasing residential property is a business practice for the purposes of the UCL.
- 78. Defendants have repeatedly and consistently violated Cal. Civ. Code § 1954.600 *et seq.* by failing to provide Plaintiffs and prospective tenants with the requisite notice.
- 79. Defendants have repeatedly and consistently violated Cal. Civ. Code § 1954.600 *et seq.* by failing to respond to Plaintiffs' requests for pest-control treatment.
- 80. Defendants have also rented premises in violation of Cal. Civ. Code § 1942.4 (incorporating Cal. Health & Safety Code § 17920.3), which requires that premises be habitable and free of infestation.
- 81. The UCL applies to residential leases. *People ex rel. City of Santa Monica v. Gabriel* (2010) 186 Cal.App.4th 882, 888.
- 82. Defendants have repeatedly and consistently violated Oakland's ordinance by failing to provide various notices and tenant education, to provide proper pest control inspections, treatments, monitoring and follow-up, and failing to provide required assistance to Plaintiffs.

83.

with no utility.

90 At all relevant times. Plaintiffs could not have

prospective tenants to sign leases and retain existing tenants.

84. These concealments and misrepresentations as to Plaintiffs, Class members and

misrepresenting and concealing the nature, extent, and duration of the infestations to induce

prospective tenants included the affirmative misrepresentation that there was no extant infestation and failure to inform them of the building-wide infestation, even though Defendants knew that there was such an infestation.

Defendants have also engaged in the deceptive business practice of

- 85. The misrepresentations made to Plaintiffs, Class members and prospective residents also included the averment, whether express and/or implied, that the Property's rental units were habitable, when in fact most units and common areas were infested or in danger of becoming infested.
- 86. At all times, Defendants knew or should have known that the widespread nature of the infestation meant that every Claridge unit was either infested or in danger of becoming infested.
- 87. At all times, Defendants' misrepresentations and concealments were likely to deceive Plaintiffs, Class Members and the general public, as Defendants offered rental units to the general public.
- 88. Defendants made these material, false representations to bolster occupancy at the Claridge and thereby benefit financially.
- 89. Defendants' acts of continuing to collect full rental amounts from Plaintiffs and Class members, while concurrently acting to deprive them of the full use and quiet enjoyment of their rental units, was and is an unfair business practice, substantially injurious to consumers and with no utility.
  - 90. At all relevant times, Plaintiffs could not have reasonably avoided their injuries.
- 91. As a direct and proximate result of Defendants' unfair business practices and acts, Plaintiffs have suffered irreparable injury for which there is no adequate remedy at law.

- 92. As a direct and proximate result of Defendants' unfair business practices and acts, Plaintiffs have suffered injury, including lost money and/or property, and Defendants have received an unknown amount of ill-gotten profits that should be disgorged via restitution, as prayed for below.
- 93. As the Claridge remains infested, the Plaintiffs and Class members who therein reside continue to suffer irreparable injury to their health, safety and general well-being in a magnitude that greatly outweighs any conceivable damage to Defendants that could arise from an injunction. Plaintiffs therefore request injunctive relief via an order commanding Defendants to remediate the infestation and comply with all applicable laws, ordinances and codes, now and in the future.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiffs pray, individually and on behalf of the Class, for the relief set forth below.

#### SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION

## By Plaintiffs and the Class Against Defendants Injunctive Relief for Bed Bug Infestations (Cal. Civ. Code § 1954.600, et seq.)

- 94. Plaintiffs incorporate each of the foregoing paragraphs as though fully set forth herein, and further allege as follows.
- 95. Cal. Civ. Code § 1954.602 prohibits landlords from showing, renting and leasing units that a landlord knows to be infested. Knowledge is presumed when infestation is evident upon visual inspection.
- 96. At all relevant times, Defendants had actual and/or constructive knowledge that each unit and common area of the premises was either infested or in danger of becoming infested, such that each unit was either infested or *de facto* infested (i.e., infestation was imminent given, generally, the nature of bed bugs and Defendants' utter failure to control them).
- 97. At all relevant times, in violation of Cal. Civ. Code § 1954.602, Defendants continued to show, rent, and lease units they knew to be infested.

FIRST AMENDED COMPLAINT

- remediation protocols designed to minimize exposure to . . . other building materials with potentially harmful health impacts"; or
- d. "Other repeated acts or omissions of such significance as to substantially interfere with or disturb the comfort, repose, peace or quiet of any person lawfully entitled to occupancy of such dwelling unit and that cause, are likely to cause, or are intended to cause any person lawfully entitled to occupancy of a dwelling unit to vacate such dwelling unit or to surrender or waive any rights in relation to such occupancy."
- 105. Defendants have violated State and local housing, health and safety laws, as set forth in the foregoing paragraphs.
- 106. As a direct and proximate result of Defendants' violations, Plaintiffs have suffered injury, including lost money and/or property, in an amount to be proven at trial.
- 107. As the Claridge remains infested, the Plaintiffs and Class members who therein reside continue to suffer irreparable injury to their health, safety and general well-being in a magnitude that greatly outweighs any conceivable damage to Defendants that could arise from an injunction. Plaintiffs are thereby entitled to equitable relief in the form of an order commanding Defendants to remediate the infestation(s) and comply with all applicable laws, ordinances and codes, now and in the future.
- 108. Pursuant to Oakland Ordinance § 8.22.670 (B), Plaintiffs and Class members are each entitled to three times their actual damages or \$1,000, whichever is greater, due to Defendants' violations of Ordinance § 8.22.640.
- 109. Pursuant to Oakland Ordinance § 8.22.670(D), Plaintiffs and Class members are entitled to attorney's fees and costs in litigating this action.
- 110. Defendants have acted intentionally, willfully, wantonly, and recklessly, with oppression, fraud and malice, and with knowing disregard of the rights, health and safety of Plaintiffs, thereby justifying an award of punitive damages.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiffs pray, individually and on behalf of the Class, for the relief set forth below.

## FOURTH CAUSE OF ACTION By Plaintiffs and The Class Against Defendants Injunctive Relief for Breach of Contract

- 111. Plaintiffs incorporate each of the foregoing paragraphs as though fully set forth herein, and further allege as follows.
- 112. Cal. Civ. Proc. Code § 526 provides that an injunction may be granted where "the plaintiff is entitled to the relief demanded, and the relief, or any part thereof, consists in restraining the commission or continuance of the act complained of, either for a limited period or perpetually." Cal. Civ. Proc. Code § 526(a)(1).
- 113. Section 526 also provides that an injunction may issue where the defendant's conduct "would produce waste, or great or irreparable injury, to a party to the action" and in other situations in which specific performance by a defendant is necessary to prevent an ongoing harm.
- 114. Each Plaintiff and Class member entered into a written lease agreement that had language requiring Defendants to maintain the Claridge's rental units and common areas in a habitable condition.
- 115. Each lease contains an implied warranty of habitability that the Property's premises will be safe and adequate for human habitation.
  - 116. In consideration, Plaintiffs agreed to pay rent as set out in the contract.
- 117. Each Plaintiff and Class member has performed pursuant to such agreement; that is, they paid rent when it was owed.
- 118. As set out above, Defendants have failed to control the building-wide bedbug infestation such that each rental unit, including the common areas, are uninhabitable.
- 119. As a direct and proximate result of Defendants' breach of the lease agreements and violations of the law as alleged herein, Plaintiffs and Class members are entitled to

1	injunctive relief in the form of an order compelling Defendants to perform their obligations	
2	under the law and the lease agreements.	
3	WHEREFORE, Plaintiffs pray, individually and on behalf of the Class, for the relief set	
4	forth below.	
5	FIFTH CAUSE OF ACTION  By Plaintiffs and the Class Against Defendants  Injunctive Relief for Premises Liability	
7	120. Plaintiffs incorporate each of the foregoing paragraphs as though fully set forth	
8	herein, and further allege as follows.	
9	121. At all relevant times, Defendants owed Plaintiffs and the Class members a duty to	
10	maintain the premises such that they were safe and healthful for human habitation.	
11	122. As set out above, Defendants breached their duty to Plaintiffs and Class members.	
12	123. At all times relevant hereto, Defendants knew or should have known of the	
13	unabated, building-wide bedbug infestation that was unsafe and deleterious to Plaintiffs and the	
14	Class members, including to their rights and health.	
15	124. As a direct and proximate result of Defendants' breach of their duty, Plaintiffs and	
16	Class members have suffered injury, including lost money and/or property, in an amount to be	
17	proven at trial.	
18	WHEREFORE, Plaintiffs pray, individually and on behalf the Class, for the relief set	
19	forth below.	
20	SIXTH CAUSE OF ACTION	
21	By Plaintiffs and the Class Against Defendants Unjust Enrichment	
22	125. Plaintiffs incorporate each of the foregoing paragraphs as though fully set forth	
23	herein, and further allege as follows.	
24	126. At all relevant times, as set out above, Defendants collected rents from Plaintiffs	
25	and Class members for Claridge rental units that, being infested by bedbugs and thereby	
26	uninhabitable, had no value.	
27		
	1	

- At all times relevant hereto, Defendants knew or should have known of the Claridge's building-wide infestation and accordant lack of habitability.
- Defendants, therefore, have unjustly received and retained benefits, including rental payments, from each Plaintiff and Class member.
- As a direct and proximate result of Defendants' unjust enrichment, Plaintiffs and the Class members have lost the benefit of their rental payments and are entitled to restitution of

WHEREFORE, Plaintiffs pray, individually and on behalf of the Class, for the relief set

#### SEVENTH CLAIM FOR RELIEF **By Plaintiffs and the Class Against Defendants Violations of Consumer Legal Remedies Act** (Cal. Civ. Code § 1750 et seq.)

- Plaintiffs incorporate each of the foregoing paragraphs as though fully set forth herein, and further alleges as follows.
- The Consumer Legal Remedies Act is a consumer-protection statute that makes it unlawful for businesses and individuals to engage in specified conduct that misleads or defrauds
  - - a. Defendants have owned and operated the Claridge Hotel and have rented units in the building to Plaintiffs and Class members for personal, family or household purposes and, as such, have sold a "service" as defined by Cal. Civ. Code §
    - b. Through the renting of units to Plaintiffs and Class members, Defendants have agreed to provide them with blinds, a stove, a microwave, and/or a refrigerator and, as such, have leased a "good" as defined by Cal. Civ. Code. § 1761(a);
    - c. Plaintiffs and Class members are individuals who have rented apartments, including blinds, a stove, a microwave, and/or a refrigerator, for personal, family

- or household purposes and, as such, are "consumers" as defined in Cal. Civ. Code § 1761(d);
- d. There were agreements between Defendants and Plaintiffs and Class members, pursuant to which those parties performed, such that they constituted "transaction[s]" as that term is defined in Cal. Civ. Code § 1761(e); and
- e. Defendants are "persons" under Cal. Civ. Code § 1761(c).
- 133. In offering apartments for rent, Defendants have misrepresented, and will continue to misrepresent, directly or by implication, that they comply with California law. Defendants' conduct violates § 1770(a) of the CLRA by representing that rental units have the characteristics, uses, and benefits of lawful rental units, which they do not have, and by representing that rental units are of a particular standard, quality, or grade, when they are not. Cal. Civ. Code § 1770(a)(5), (7), (14).
- 134. By virtue of this ongoing practice and course of conduct, Defendants have violated and will continue to violate Cal. Civ. Code § 1954.600 and Oakland City Ordinance § 8.22.640 by representing that the Claridge Hotel is habitable and in compliance with California law. Specifically, Defendants have failed to remediate bedbug infestations, failed to provide required notices about such infestations, and have harassed Plaintiffs for reporting such violations.
- 135. Defendants' violations of the CLRA present a continuing threat to Plaintiffs and the Class in that Defendants continue to engage in the above-referenced acts and practices and, unless enjoined by this Court, will continue to do so.
- Defendants written notice ("Notice") of the violations of Civil Code section 1782(a)(2), Plaintiffs sent Defendants written notice ("Notice") of the violations of Civil Code section 1770 alleged above and provided Defendants with an opportunity to correct or otherwise rectify the problems alleged herein. Defendant has not availed itself of this opportunity. On April 1, 2022, Defendants responded to Plaintiffs' Notice via letter and claimed that "there is ample evidence in our possession which confirms beyond doubt that Claridge has opened a thorough investigation into this matter." No further information was provided.

137. Defendants also stated in response that Claridge had "promptly undertaken" certain		
"pre-cautionary" corrective measures, including completing bed bug killing heat treatments on various		
units; noticing inspection of all units; "conducted repairs for any issues found in units during the		
03/14/22 inspection;" and other purported steps to remedy the violations contained in Plaintiffs'		
Notice.		

- 138. Defendants have failed to remedy the conditions outlined in Plaintiffs' Notice.

  Defendants have also failed to provide proper notice for purported remediation efforts. For example, Defendants forged the signature of Plaintiff Brinkley on a "Prep List for Bed Bugs" notice, which informed him that he will be charged \$150 for a failure to comply with the Notice.
- 139. Accordingly, Plaintiffs seek an order awarding actual damages, equitable relief, as well as an award of attorneys' fees and costs pursuant to Civil Code section 1780, subdivisions (a) and (e).
- 140. Pursuant to § 1780(d) of the CLRA, attached hereto as **EXHIBIT A** is the affidavit averring that this action has been commenced in the proper forum.
- 141. Plaintiffs and Class members are also entitled to an award of attorneys' fees and costs pursuant to Cal. Civ. Code § 1780(d).

WHEREFORE, Plaintiffs pray, individually and on behalf of the Class, for the relief set forth below.

# EIGHTH CLAIM FOR RELIEF By Plaintiffs and the Class Against All Defendants Violations of Civil Code (Cal. Civ. Code § 1942 et seq.)

- 142. Plaintiffs incorporate each of the foregoing paragraphs as though fully set forth herein, and further allege as follows.
- 143. Section 1942.4 prohibits a landlord from demanding rent, collecting rent, issuing a notice of a rent increase, or issuing a three-day notice to pay rent or quit pursuant to subdivision (2) of § 1161 of the Cal. Civ. Proc. Code if (1) the dwelling is untenantable . . . [and] is deemed substandard under § 17920.3 of the Health and Safety Code; (2) a public officer has inspected the

1	Dated: June 21, 2022 Respectfully sui	omitted,	
2	OLIVIER & SC	HREIBER LLP	
3	LIPMAN LAW		
4		0 0	
5	D. Churtin	Schiefer	
6 7	Christian Schre	iber	
8	Attorneys for P	laintiffs	
9		DEMAND FOR HIDN TRALL	
10		DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL	
11	11		
12	Dated: June 21, 2022 Respectfully sul	omitted,	
13	OLIVIER & SC	CHREIBER LLP	
14	LIPMAN LÁW		
15			
16		- Schenfer	
17	II		
18	18 Attorneys for P	laintiffs	
19	19		
20	20		
21	21		
22	22		
23	23		
24	24		
25	25		
26	26		
27	27		

### **EXHIBIT A**

1 AFFIDAVIT OF VENUE BY PLAINTIFF 2 I, Mia Miner, declare: 3 I am the Plaintiff in the above-entitled action. The complaint filed contains claims for 4 violations of the Consumer Legal Remedies Act ("CLRA") against CLARIDGE HOTEL LLC 5 and CLARIDGE HOTEL, L.P.; ("Defendants"). Claridge Hotel LLC is a limited liability company headquartered in San Francisco County. Claridge Hotel L.P. is a limited partnership 6 7 headquartered in San Francisco. 8 I am a resident of Oakland, California, which is in Alameda County. 9 I am informed and believe that Defendants conduct business in Alameda County, and 10 may be sued in this County. 11 My claims arise of out of my rental of a unit at the Claridge Hotel at 634 15th Street, 12 Oakland, CA 94612, and the uninhabitable conditions I have experienced at the Claridge Hotel. I 13 rented this apartment for personal use. I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California and the United 14 15 States that the foregoing Declaration is true and correct and was executed by me on the date below. 16 17 Date: March 1, 2022 18 Mia Miner 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28

AFFIDAVIT OF VENUE BY PLAINTIFF 1 I, Lieutenant Hodges, declare: 2 3 I am the Plaintiff in the above-entitled action. The complaint filed contains claims for 4 violations of the Consumer Legal Remedies Act ("CLRA") against CLARIDGE HOTEL LLC 5 and CLARIDGE HOTEL, L.P.; ("Defendants"). Claridge Hotel LLC is a limited liability company headquartered in San Francisco County. Claridge Hotel L.P. is a limited partnership 6 7 headquartered in San Francisco. 8 I am a resident of Oakland, California, which is in Alameda County. I am informed and believe that Defendants conduct business in Alameda County, and 9 10 may be sued in this County. 11 My claims arise of out of my rental of a unit at the Claridge Hotel at 634 15th Street, 12 Oakland, CA 94612, and the uninhabitable conditions I have experienced at the Claridge Hotel. I 13 rented this apartment for personal use. I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California and the United 14 15 States that the foregoing Declaration is true and correct and was executed by me on the date below. 16 17 18 Date: March 3, 2022 Lieutenant Hodges 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28

EXHIBIT A AFFIDAVIT OF PLAINTIFFS RE VENUE

1	AFFIDAVII OF VENUE BY PLAINTIFF	
2	I, Cory Jacob, declare:	
3	I am the Plaintiff in the above-entitled action. The complaint filed contains claims for	
4	violations of the Consumer Legal Remedies Act ("CLRA") against CLARIDGE HOTEL LLC	
5	and CLARIDGE HOTEL, L.P.; ("Defendants"). Claridge Hotel LLC is a limited liability	
6	company headquartered in San Francisco County. Claridge Hotel L.P. is a limited partnership	
7	headquartered in San Francisco.	
8	I was am a resident of Oakland, California, which is in Alameda County.	
9	I am informed and believe that Defendants conduct business in Alameda County, and	
10	may be sued in this County.	
11	My claims arise of out of my rental of a unit at the Claridge Hotel at 634 15th Street,	
12	Oakland, CA 94612, and the uninhabitable conditions I have experienced at the Claridge Hotel.	
13	rented this apartment for personal use.	
14	I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California and the	
15	United States that the foregoing Declaration is true and correct and was executed by me on the	
16	date below.	
17		
18	Caru Tarah	
19	Date: Feb 28, 2022 Cory Jacob (Feb 28, 2022 10:41 PST)	
20	Cory Jacob	
21		
22		
23		
24		
25		
26		
27		
28		

AFFIDAVIT OF VENUE BY PLAINTIFF 1 2 I, Tanzania Scott-Bradford, declare: 3 I am the Plaintiff in the above-entitled action. The complaint filed contains claims for 4 violations of the Consumer Legal Remedies Act ("CLRA") against CLARIDGE HOTEL LLC 5 and CLARIDGE HOTEL, L.P.; ("Defendants"). Claridge Hotel LLC is a limited liability company headquartered in San Francisco County. Claridge Hotel L.P. is a limited partnership 6 7 headquartered in San Francisco. 8 I am a resident of Oakland, California, which is in Alameda County. 9 I am informed and believe that Defendants conduct business in Alameda County, and 10 may be sued in this County. 11 My claims arise of out of my rental of a unit at the Claridge Hotel at 634 15th Street, 12 Oakland, CA 94612, and the uninhabitable conditions I have experienced at the Claridge Hotel. I 13 rented this apartment for personal use. I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California and the United 14 15 States that the foregoing Declaration is true and correct and was executed by me on the date below. 16 17 Date: March 1, 2022 18 Tanzania Scott-Bradford 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28

#### AFFIDAVIT OF VENUE BY PLAINTIFF

I, Maximinio Garcia, declare:

I am the Plaintiff in the above-entitled action. The complaint filed contains claims for violations of the Consumer Legal Remedies Act ("CLRA") against CLARIDGE HOTEL LLC and CLARIDGE HOTEL, L.P.; ("Defendants"). Claridge Hotel LLC is a limited liability company headquartered in San Francisco County. Claridge Hotel L.P. is a limited partnership headquartered in San Francisco.

I was am a resident of Oakland, California, which is in Alameda County.

I am informed and believe that Defendants conduct business in Alameda County, and may be sued in this County.

My claims arise of out of my rental of a unit at the Claridge Hotel at 634 15th Street, Oakland, CA 94612, and the uninhabitable conditions I have experienced at the Claridge Hotel. I rented this apartment for personal use.

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California and the United States that the foregoing Declaration is true and correct and was executed by me on the date below.

Date: Feb 28, 2022

(	
Marjaiges	(Feb 28, 2022 17:18 PST)

Maximinio Garcia