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11 12 13 14 15	Attorneys for Plaintiff SUSAN A. PITT, Individually, as Successor-In-Interest to MICHAEL A. PITT, Decedent, on Behalf of the Estate of MICHAEL A. PITT, and on Behalf of the Class <b>UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT</b>			
16	NORTHERN DISTR	ICT OF CALIFORNIA		
17		Case No.:		
18 19	Successor-In-Interest to MICHAEL A. PITT, Decedent, on Behalf of the Estate of MICHAEL A. PITT, and on Behalf of the Class,	COMPLAINT FOR: (1) DECLARATORY JUDGMENT		
20	Plaintiff,	AND INJUNCTIVE RELIEF;		
21	VS.	<ul><li>(2) BREACH OF CONTRACT;</li><li>(3) BAD FAITH.</li></ul>		
22	GENERAL AMERICAN LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY, a Missouri Corporation; METROPOLITAN	<ul><li>(3) BAD FAITH;</li><li>(4) VIOLATION OF BUSINESS AND</li></ul>		
23	TOWER LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY, a Delaware Corporation;	PROFESSIONS CODE §§ 17200, et. seq.		
24	and METLIFE GROUP, INC., a New York Corporation	DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL		
25 26	Defendants.			
20				
28				
		ON COMPLAINT		

Plaintiff SUSAN A. PITT, Individually, as Successor-In-Interest to
MICHAEL A. PITT, Decedent, on Behalf of the Estate of MICHAEL A. PITT, and
on Behalf of the Class, make the following allegations against Defendants
GENERAL AMERICAN LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY, a Missouri Corporation
("GALIC"); METROPOLITAN TOWER LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY, a
Delaware Corporation ("TOWER") and METLIFE GROUP, INC., a New York
Corporation ("METLIFE") (collectively, "Defendants") as follows:

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#### I. <u>NATURE OF THE CASE</u>

9 1. Defendants refuse to comply with mandatory provisions of the
10 California Insurance Code as well as California common law regulating the lapse
11 and termination of life insurance policies.

2. Since January 1, 2013, Defendants have systematically and purposely 12 failed to provide certain classes of policy owners proper notices of pending lapse or 13 termination. Defendants have refused to provide required grace periods. They have 14 also failed to notify thousands of policy owners of their right to designate someone 15 to receive critical notices and information regarding life insurance, despite being 16 required to do so on an annual basis. All of these important safeguards are required 17 by, among other sources, California Insurance Code Sections 10113.71 and 18 10113.72.1 19

3. As a result, Defendants have failed to properly evaluate and pay claims
to beneficiaries for policies improperly lapsed or terminated. Indeed, thousands of
policy owners have lost the benefit, value and security of their life insurance, have
been forced into unnecessary reinstatements, and in many instances have lost all
reasonable access to any insurance at all. Ultimately, Defendants have robbed
thousands of their beneficiaries of policy benefits. Moreover, since January 1, 2013,

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<sup>1</sup> Unless otherwise stated, all references to "Section 10113.71" and/or "10113.72" refer to California Insurance Code Sections 10113.71 and/or 10113.72. Sometimes these will be collectively referred to as the "Statutes."

Defendants have become aware of their previous failures and have failed to take
 corrective action.

4. These mandates of California law and the California Insurance Code 3 were put into place to protect Californians and others, primarily seniors and the ill. 4 These Statutes were designed to prevent or lessen the possibility of unintended or 5 uninformed loss of valuable and necessary life insurance for just one missed 6 payment. The Statutes were written to codify existing law regarding lapse and 7 termination of life insurance, requirements requiring strict compliance with 8 applicable law and policy provisions before termination of coverage is effective. 9 The Statutes were also intended to standardize the procedures used in all life 10 insurance when a policyholder fails to make a premium payment and when an 11 insurer attempts to apply provisions of the policy that allow for lapse and 12 termination. These rules are also consistent with the strong public policy of the 13 State to give all policy owners and insured mechanisms to allow for secondary 14 notices of lapse and termination. 15

5. These Statutes were also designed specifically to deal with the unique 16 nature of life insurance. When a potential claim for benefits arises, the policy 17 owner and party responsible for payment of premiums is often the insured, and due 18 to their death, is no longer available to explain the circumstances related to any 19 potential lapse or termination of coverage. The Legislature also recognized that the 20 beneficiary is often unaware of the circumstances related to any lapse of coverage. 21 Rather, the insurer is fully in control of the documentation and requirements for 22 termination of coverage. As such, California requires strict compliance with all 23 statutory and contractual provisions governing termination of an otherwise in-force 24 policy regardless of the nonpayment of premium. 25

6. Plaintiff is a victim of Defendants' failures. She and her decedent's
Estate bring this action to recover for the injuries and damages suffered resulting
from these violations not only in their individual capacities, but also on behalf of

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numerous California policyholders and beneficiaries who have also been denied the 1 benefits of California law. In addition to an award of policy benefits, Plaintiff also 2 requests injunctive relief intended to ensure Defendants' future compliance with 3 these important consumer safeguards and to the greatest extent possible rectify or 4 cure the effects of past failure to comply. 5

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#### II. **PARTIES**

7. Plaintiff SUSAN A. PITT is an individual and widow of Plaintiff's 7 Decedent MICHAEL A. PITT. Plaintiff is and has been a resident of California 8 since 2014. 9

8. MICHAEL A. PITT was Susan's husband. He died in California on 10 May 23, 2018. At the time of his death and at all times relevant herein, Mr. PITT 11 was a California resident. 12

9. Plaintiff pursues these claims and causes of action individually, on her 13 own behalf as the sole beneficiary of the subject Policy; as Executor of the Estate of 14 MICHAEL A. PITT, pursuant to California Code of Civil Procedure Sections 15 377.30, et seq.; as Decedent's successor-in-interest, in compliance with California 16 Code of Civil Procedure Section 377.32; and as the Class representative. Filed 17 herewith and incorporated hereto by this reference is Plaintiff's Declaration 18 pursuant to California Code of Civil Procedure Section 377.32. Plaintiff pursues 19 these claims to the extent they are not held by Mr. PITT. For purposes of this 20 litigation, the Estate of MICHAEL A. PITT is considered a citizen of the state of 21 California. In each of these capacities, Ms. SUSAN A. PITT also pursues these 22 claims on behalf of all others similarly situated as against Defendants herein. 23

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10. Defendant GALIC is a Missouri Corporation. GALIC is licensed to conduct business and does business throughout the State. GALIC is a wholly-25 owned subsidiary of defendant METLIFE. 26

Defendant TOWER is a Delaware Corporation, engaged in business 11. 27 involving the sale and administration of life insurance. TOWER is licensed to 28

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conduct business and does business throughout the state of California. Plaintiff is
informed and believes that TOWER at some time prior to the filing of this action
merged with, absorbed, or otherwise assumed responsibility for Policies sold by
GALIC, including the Policy sold to Mr. PITT. Plaintiff is informed and believes
that GALIC may be sharing and utilizing TOWER's license to continue to do
business in the State of California.

Defendant METLIFE is a New York Corporation, doing business and 12. 7 transacting the business of insurance throughout the State of California and is, 8 amongst other things, an insurance holding company which owns and controls 9 insurance companies, including GALIC, TOWER, as well as those companies 10 hereinafter described as "Affiliated Companies." GALIC, TOWER, and the 11 "Affiliated Companies" include those life insurance companies doing business in 12 the State of California as part of NAIC GROUP #0241, which are involved in the 13 sale, issuance, and delivery of life insurance products and policies in the state of 14 California. At all times relevant herein, METLIFE manages, owns and controls 15 how GALIC and TOWER as well as the Affiliated Companies apply California 16 regulatory laws and authority, including the California Insurance Code, relating to 17 life insurance governed by the laws of California. At all times herein METLIFE is 18 governed by the laws and regulations of the State of California regarding its 19 ownership, supervision, and administration of GALIC, TOWER and the Affiliated 20 Companies. 21

13. Plaintiff is informed and believes and on that basis alleges that, now
and at all times herein mentioned, each Defendant was and is the agent, employee,
employer, servant, representative, partner, and/or co-venturer of each of the other
Defendants and was acting and is acting within the scope of such authority and
relationship and with the knowledge, approval, consent, and ratification of the other
Defendants, as applicable as to each of the transactions, events, or other matters
described here.

III. JURISDICTION AND VENUE

14. This Court has original jurisdiction pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1332(a).
The matter in controversy, exclusive of interest and costs, exceeds the sum or value
of \$75,000, and is between citizens of different States.

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15. Venue is proper in the Northern District of California pursuant to 28 U.S.C. Section 1391(b) through (d), because each Defendant is authorized to conduct business in this District and has intentionally availed itself of the laws and markets within this District; does substantial business in this District; and is subject to personal jurisdiction in this District.

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# IV. THE ENACTMENT AND APPLICABILITY OF <u>INSURANCE CODE SECTIONS 10113.71 AND 10113.72</u>

In 2012, after extensive and open hearings and public consideration, 16. 12 including all major insurance companies doing business in the State, the California 13 Legislature and Governor enacted California Insurance Code Sections 10113.71 and 14 10113.72, which instituted procedural requirements regulating the termination and 15 lapse of life insurance policies. The Statutes were written to avoid unintended 16 forfeitures of life insurance policies primarily being suffered by the elderly and the 17 The Legislature found that there was a significant problem in California with ill. 18 the elderly and the ill in the loss of insurance due to the failure to pay insurance 19 premiums leading to the abrupt loss of coverage that had been paid for many years. 20

17. These Insurance Code provisions, in addition to other statutory 21 provisions and laws in effect as of January 1, 2013, mandate that every life 22 insurance policy in California, including policies that have renewed in the State, 23 shall contain a 60-day grace period, and that the policy shall remain in force during 24 the grace period. Cal. Ins. Code § 10113.71(a). The provisions further required that 25 before an individual life insurance policy is lapsed for nonpayment of premium, a 26 thirty-day written notice of pending lapse or termination must be mailed not only to 27 the policyholder, but also to any individual who had been designated to receive 28

such notice, as well as any person having any interest in the policy. Cal. Ins. Code 1 § 10113.72(c). The insurance company also has to, on an annual basis, notify the 2 policy owner of his or her right to designate other notice recipients. 3 18. Section 10113.71, as enacted, reads as follows: 4 § 10113.71 Grace Period; Notice of pending lapse and 5 termination of policy; Mailing requirement 6 (a) Every life insurance policy issued or delivered in this state shall contain a provision for a grace period of not less than 7 60 days from the premium due date. The 60-day grace period 8 shall not run concurrently with the period of paid coverage. The provision shall provide that the policy shall remain in force during the grace period. 9 (b) (1) A notice of pending lapse and termination of a life 10 insurance policy shall not be effective unless mailed by the insurer to the named policy owner, a designee named pursuant 11 to Section 10113.72 for an individual life insurance policy, and a known assignee or other person having an interest in the 12 individual life insurance policy, at least 30 days prior to the 13 effective date of termination if termination is for nonpayment of premium. 14 (2) This subdivision shall not apply to nonrenewal. 15 (3) Notice shall be given to the policy owner and to the designee by first-class United Sates mail within 30 days after a 16 premium is due and unpaid. However, notices made to assignees pursuant to this section may be done electronically 17 with the consent of the assignee. 18 (c) For purposes of this section, a life insurance policy includes, but is not limited to, an individual life insurance 19 policy and a group life insurance policy, except where otherwise provided. 20 21 Next, Section 10113.72 states: 22 § 10113.72 Right to designate person to receive notice of lapse or termination of policy for nonpayment of 23 premium; Right to change designation; Notice of lapse or termination 24 (a) An individual life insurance policy shall not be issued 25 or delivered in this state until the applicant has been given the right to designate at least one person, in addition to the 26 applicant, to receive notice of lapse or termination of a policy for nonpayment of premium. The insurer shall provide each 27 applicant with a form to make the designation. That form shall provide the opportunity for the applicant to submit the name, 28 address, and telephone number of at least one person, in 6 CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT

addition to the applicant, who is to receive notice of lapse or termination of the policy for nonpayment of premium.

(b) The insurer shall notify the policy owner annually of the right to change the written designation or designate one or more persons. The policy owner may change the designation more often if he or she chooses to do so.

(c) No individual life insurance policy shall lapse or be terminated for nonpayment of premium unless the insurer, at least 30 days prior to the effective date of the lapse or termination, gives notice to the policy owner and to the person or persons designated pursuant to subdivision (a), at the address provided by the policy owner for purposes of receiving notice of lapse or termination. Notice shall be given by first-class United States mail within 30 days after a premium is due and unpaid.

19. These Statutes are regulatory in nature and contain no grandfather 11 provisions limiting the application of the statutes only to policies issued or 12 delivered after January 1, 2013. These provisions were intended to standardize the 13 procedures and notices utilized by life insurers to terminate policies. The Statutes 14 further codified long-standing California law and policy regarding the State's desire 15 to protect policyholders and beneficiaries from loss of insurance resulting from the 16 failure, e.g., to pay a single premium after years of timely payments. These 17 provisions, individually and collectively, were intended to apply to policies in force 18 19 as of January 1, 2013 and thereafter, including those policies that would come within the jurisdiction of the State and regardless of the date of any original 20 issuance. 21

22 20. Importantly, the Statutes expressly provided that no individual life 23 insurance policy would lapse or terminate for "nonpayment of premium" unless 24 there was compliance with all the mandated provisions set forth in the Statutes. 25 California law requiring strict compliance does not relieve or excuse a 26 policyholder's obligation for the payment of premium, but rather mandates that 27 until such notices and procedures are followed, the policy does not lapse, does not

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terminate, and remains in force. The Statutes also do not include any language or 1 indication that substantial compliance with the requirements is adequate. 2

21. The principal supporters of the legislation were groups representing the 3 interests of the elderly and the retired as well as constituents dealing with health 4 concerns. There was no substantive opposition to the legislation during its drafting. 5 Rather, the insurance industry supported these new provisions and accepted that the 6 goal and purpose of the legislation was legitimate and in the best interest of their 7 policyholders and beneficiaries. There was never a public or private dispute that 8 the enactment of provisions codifying a contractual right to a thirty-day written 9 notice, a sixty-day grace period, and an annual right to designate was within the 10 proper exercise of California's regulatory authority. After repeated review, it was 11 determined that enactment of these provisions would have no substantial fiscal or 12 economic ill effect. It was determined that these Statutes support a strong public 13 policy to safeguard consumers' investment in life insurance, and the safety blanket 14 that the insurance provides. 15

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#### **DEFENDANTS' VIOLATIONS OF LAW** V.

22. In 2012, Defendants and each of them, were made fully aware not 17 only of the drafting and enactment of these provisions, but through their own 18 lobbying groups and regulatory advisors, understood how and in what fashion the 19 statutes would apply. Prior to enactment, Defendants made no attempt to object to 20 the enactment of the Statutes. 21

23. Despite knowledge of the Statutes and their mandates, since January 22 1, 2013, Defendants have failed to comply with the Statutes. Plaintiffs are informed 23 and believe Defendants justify their failures by citing the issue or delivery date of 24 the policy (to the extent the policy was first written before January 1, 2013), the 25 state of original issuance (to the extent the policy was first issued outside of 26 California despite, e.g., being renewed in California), or delivery of the policy, or 27 other irrelevant factors. 28

24. The failure of Defendants to comply with these provisions has resulted 1 in, amongst other impacts, the improper lapse, termination and/or forced 2 reinstatement of policies, the loss of the capacity of policyholders to be insured, the 3 denial of actual claims, and the loss of millions in insurance benefits. Plaintiff, as a 4 beneficiary and as a representative of the Estate of Mr. Pitt, has suffered various 5 forms of injury and loss including injury from an improper lapse, improper 6 requirement of reinstatement and termination, and from Defendants' failure to 7 reinstate Mr. Pitt's coverage. 8

9 25. Plaintiff is informed and believes that the failure of Defendants to
10 comply with these statutes as well as the resulting injuries and damages continue to
11 this day.

12 13 VI. PLAINTIFF'S POLICY, LAPSE, TERMINATION, <u>REINSTATEMENT AND DENIAL OF HER CLAIM</u>

In October 2003, MICHAEL A. PITT purchased a \$2,000,000 term life
insurance policy (the "Policy") for the protection of his family. MICHAEL A.
PITT ("Mr. PITT") was the husband of Plaintiff and he named Plaintiff as the sole
beneficiary of the policy. The premiums paid in the purchase and maintenance of
the policy were from the assets of the marriage of Plaintiff and Mr. PITT.

A copy of what Plaintiff believes is a full and correct copy of the 27. 19 Policy is attached as Exhibit "A." Under its express terms, the Policy incorporated 20 and was required to comply with the applicable State law governing the policy. At 21 all times relevant here, the Policy incorporated applicable law found in the 22 California Insurance Code consistent with the provisions of California Insurance 23 Code Section 41. The provisions of the Policy requiring compliance with the laws 24 of the applicable state are consistent with California law as it existed during all 25 relevant times stated herein. As of the date of enactment, these provisions were 26 individually and collectively read into every in-force life insurance policy within 27

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the jurisdiction of California and thereafter were read into every in-force life
insurance policy which thereafter came within the jurisdiction of California.

28. The Policy is described as a "Level Benefit Term Life Insurance 3 Annually Renewable to Age 95." The face amount of the policy was \$2,000,000 4 and the annual premium owed was guaranteed for 20 years from the date of 5 issuance. The "total Premium Payable at Annual Intervals" was \$7,290.00. The 6 "Initial Term" of the policy was one year and ran until October 6, 2004, after which 7 time the Policy renewed each year. The Policy set forth the premiums due for 8 renewal of the policy each year between the date of issuance until the insured 9 reached the age of 95. 10

29. The Policy, as originally issued, provided a "grace period" of thirty 11 days and stated in pertinent part: "Your premium is in default if you do not pay it on 12 or before its due date. We will allow a grace period of 31 days after the premium 13 due date for payment of each premium except the first. A notice will be sent to you, 14 at your last known address and any assignee of record. During this period no 15 interest will be charged on the premium due, and the policy will remain in force. If 16 the insured dies during the grace period, the amount of any unpaid premium due 17 through the date of death will be deduced from the proceeds of the policy. If any 18 premium remains unpaid after the grace period, this policy will cease and become 19 void." See Exhibit "A." The policy had a Date of Issue of October 6, 2003. The 20 Policy specified that it was to renew each year without proof of insurability and that 21 each "renewal will be a term of one year and will begin when the preceding term 22 ends." 23

30. In 2003, when the Policy was initially issued, Plaintiff and Mr. PITT
were residents of the State of Illinois. Plaintiff and Mr. PITT remained residents of
Illinois through each subsequent yearly renewal until 2014 after the Plaintiff and
Plaintiff's Decedent moved to California and became permanent residents of the

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State of California and began to make premium payments to Defendant from the
 State of California.

3 31. As of at least 2014, when the Policy was renewed, and in 2015 and in
2016 and until today, the laws and regulations of the State of California governed
the Policy pursuant to the terms of the policy as well as the laws of the State of
California.

32. In 2014, Mr. PITT notified GALIC in writing of his new residence and 7 mailing address. Thereafter, through 2014 and through his death in 2018, Mr. PITT 8 and Plaintiff communicated in writing with and paid premiums to GALIC from 9 California. From 2014 until the present, neither Plaintiff's Decedent, Plaintiff, nor 10 GALIC undertook any transactions related to or in the State of Illinois. At no time 11 did any of the laws of the State of California conflict with the Policy with the 12 exception that the Policy as originally issued contained a 30-day grace period, 13 whereas as of January 1st, 2013, all policies governed by California law would 14 require a 60-day grace period. Utilization of a 30-day written notice provision or an 15 annual right to designate did not conflict with any term of the Policy, but rather, 16 was consistent with the Policy obligation to give written notice prior to lapse. 17

33. From 2014 through the present, Plaintiff and Mr. PITT lived and 18 owned property in California and have in all ways maintained the Policy and 19 interacted with Defendants from within California. As of Plaintiff's and Mr. 20 PITT's change of residence to California, the State of Illinois ceased having any 21 interest in the subject Policy, including no interest in the procedures and regulation 22 regarding how the Policy was maintained, lapsed, or terminated. In short, at all 23 times from at least 2014, the Policy and the rights of the parties under the Policy 24 were governed by the laws of California. 25

34. Plaintiff is informed and believes that from January 1, 2013 until the
present, Defendants have, as to certain categories of policies, failed to comply with
the provisions of Sections 10113.71 and 10111.72. At no time during 2014, 2015,

2016 or 2017 was Mr. PITT advised in any fashion of his right to designate, of his 1 right to a 30-day notice prior to any effective lapse or termination, or that his policy 2 contained a 60-day grace period. Rather, at various times, Defendants misstated 3 the actual form and type of notice required by law and the terms of the policy, and 4 misinformed Plaintiff and Mr. PITT about the actual grace period in effect. 5 Defendants also withheld and concealed from Plaintiff and Mr. PITT the right to 6 designate and Defendants' previous failure to comply with those provisions. 7 Plaintiff is informed and believes that these failures were part of a general business 8 practice of GALIC of ignoring and misapplying Sections 10113.71 and 10113.72. 9

10 35. Plaintiff is further informed and believes that irrespective of the 11 application of the provisions of Sections 10113.71 and 10113.72, GALIC 12 systematically failed to comply with the terms of the Policy promising a default 13 notice prior to terminating the policy at the end of the contractual 31-day grace 14 period.

36. In January of 2016, after making premium payments consistently for 15 more than 12 years, Plaintiff believes Mr. PITT may have failed to make the one 16 quarterly payment due on January 6, 2016. At this time, Mr. PITT was 67 years old 17 and had begun to suffer from a progressive medical condition which would soon 18 take his life. Prior to this time, GALIC customarily provided written notices of 19 premiums due. But Plaintiff has no record of her or her husband receiving such 20 notices for 2016. Prior to the filing of this suit, Plaintiff requested that GALIC and 21 METLIFE provide such information, but GALIC and METLIFE have produced no 22 evidence of any mailings to Mr. PITT preceding the January 2016 due date. As 23 such, Plaintiff is informed and believes that no notice was mailed to Mr. PITT prior 24 to the January due date. 25

37. On or about February 7, 2016, GALIC terminated the Policy for nonpayment of premium. Internally, and as verified in subsequent correspondence to
Plaintiff and Mr. PITT, Defendants treated the Policy as no longer being in force as

of February 7, 2016, and as having lapsed on January 6, 2016. Had Mr. PITT died
after February 7, 2016, Plaintiff is informed and believes that any claim for benefits
under the Policy would have been denied on the grounds the Policy was not in force
and had been terminated prior to the insured's death.

- Prior to February 7, 2016, GALIC had not in any fashion complied 38. 5 with or attempted to comply with the provisions of Sections 10113.71 or 10113.72. 6 Defendants had not provided any notice of pending lapse or termination. No notice 7 was provided either for the lapse of the policy on January 6, 2016 or the termination 8 of the Policy on February 7, 2016. GALIC also had not honored or given a 60-day 9 grace period as required by Section 10113.71(a). Rather, Defendant terminated the 10 policy half way through the mandatory 60-day grace period. This termination not 11 only violated the terms of the statute, but also constituted a material breach of the 12 contract. Prior to February 7, 2016, Defendants also violated Section 10113.72 by 13 failing to provide notice of a right to designate. Due to each and every violation of 14 these Statutes, the lapse and termination of the Policy was void and ineffective. 15 Defendants failed to substantially or strictly comply with any of the mandates of 16 Sections 10113.71 or 10113.72. 17
- 39. GALIC also failed to comply with the express terms of its own Policy.
  Irrespective of the requirements of Sections 10113.71 and 10113.72, the Policy
  expressly required contractual notice regarding the running of any Grace Period.
  GALIC did not strictly or substantially comply with the express provisions of the
  Policy.
- 40. Each of GALIC's violations were material violations of law and
  material breaches of the Policy, thereby excusing any further performance by Mr.
  PITT of tendering premiums to maintain the Policy in force. Each of Defendants'
  breaches and failures excused Mr. PITT from any obligation to seek or accept any
  form of reinstatement. GALIC was in breach and remained in breach of the Policy
  at all times from at least February 7, 2016 until Mr. PITT's death. As a result of

each and every violation, there was harm and injury to Mr. Pitt as well as,
 ultimately, Plaintiff.

41. Defendants will claim that sometime on or after February 7th, 2016, 3 Mr. PITT received a "Special Courtesy Offer" from GALIC advising that the policy 4 had already lapsed and was terminated. The manner and mode of this transmission 5 is unknown at this time. If sent at all, this notice nonetheless was erroneous. It 6 inaccurately advised Mr. PITT that the Policy had lapsed on January 6, 2016 when 7 in fact it had not lapsed or terminated at all. This notice inaccurately advised Mr. 8 PITT that the grace period had expired, even though the mandated 60-day grace 9 period had not yet expired. These notices were ineffective and did not satisfy 10 Sections 10113.71 or 10113.72. 11

42. The Special Courtesy Offer also violated the terms of the Policy and 12 purported to act as some form of modification of the Policy. The Special Courtesy 13 Offer did not explain the full ramifications of accepting the Offer. Accepting the 14 Offer would have modified the Policy and required Mr. PITT to pay premiums for a 15 period of time when - according to GALIC - there was no insurance in effect. 16 Acceptance of the Special Courtesy Offer would have been considered by 17 Defendants as a "reinstatement" of the Policy, thus granting GALIC certain rights 18 or benefits it would not normally be entitled to. For instance, pursuant to Insurance 19 Code Section 10113.5(a), upon the acceptance of the Special Courtesy Offer, 20 GALIC would have gained the right to contest payment of any policy benefits for a 21 period of two years. As of 2016, the Policy had been in force for more than two 22 years and thus any claim for benefits would not have been subject to any right to 23 GALIC never explained the effect of accepting the Special contest payment. 24 Courtesy Offer to Plaintiffs. This process of offering a "Special Courtesy Offer" 25 was a process uniformly deployed to all class members and policy owners during 26 this time. 27

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1 43. Defendants' Special Courtesy Offer, stating that Mr. Pitt could 2 reinstate the policy if his premium was paid by February 27, 2016, was also parol to 3 the terms of the Policy and did not excuse or satisfy any mandatory provisions of 4 the Policy or the law. At no time was Mr. PITT contractually or otherwise under 5 any duty to accept such offer. Had Mr. PITT accepted the Courtesy Offer, the 6 reinstated policy would have been of lesser value and worth.

44. GALIC demanded that the Pitts accept the Special Courtesy Offer by
February 27, 2016. Despite a request for all documentation regarding any
communications between GALIC and Mr. PITT, GALIC has provided no proof of
mailing or any documentation concerning the Special Courtesy offer. Therefore, it
is uncertain when the Special Courtesy Offer was purportedly mailed and uncertain
when or whether it was received and/or reviewed by Mr. PITT.

45. On or about March 15, 2016, GALIC and METLIFE purportedly 13 mailed a letter to Mr. PITT. This letter advised that the Policy had lapsed and was 14 "now without value." The letter stated that should Mr. PITT wish to reinstate his 15 insurance, he would be required to complete an Application for Reinstatement. This 16 formal reinstatement required Mr. PITT to represent his health condition, which 17 during this period of time, was uncertain and subject to ongoing medical evaluation. 18 In fact, as of this date, under California law and the terms of the Policy, the Policy 19 had not terminated or lapsed, and as such, reinstatement was not necessary and the 20 Policy had value. 21

46. After March 15, 2016, Mr. PITT tendered the sum of \$7,290, the full
policy premiums due for the year 2016.

47. And after March 15, 2016, Mr. PITT submitted an Application for
Reinstatement.

48. On February 10<sup>th</sup>, 2017, GALIC rejected Mr. PITT's application to
reinstate the Policy and payment claiming that the Policy "no longer includes a

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reinstatement provision. Therefore this policy can not [*sic*] be reinstated." No other
 basis for rejection of the premiums and reinstatement request was offered.

49. Prior to his death, Mr. PITT repeatedly advised that he had not
received any Grace Notice required by the terms of the Policy. Defendants never
investigated this assertion and when asked to produce all documentation regarding
their communications with Mr. PITT, they produced no evidence of mailing.

50. On May 23, 2018, Mr. PITT died. On that date, the Policy was still in 7 force. Mr. PITT had not received annual notices required by the Insurance Code 8 Statutes. Mr. PITT had not received 30-day notices of pending lapse or 9 termination. Mr. PITT had not received notice of the 60-day grace period. Mr. 10 PITT had not received a 60-day grace period and the policy had been prematurely 11 and improperly terminated during the statutory grace period. For all of those 12 reasons, the Policy remained in force, and Defendant GALIC was in material 13 breach of contract, excusing any obligation to tender premiums. 14

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51. On August 1, 2018, Plaintiff made a formal claim for benefits.

52. On August 16, 2018, Defendants denied Plaintiff's claim for benefits.
The claim was denied on the sole basis that the Policy terminated and no longer was
in force as a result of a non-payment of premium. No other basis for denial of the
claim has been offered.

53. In presenting her claim for benefits, Plaintiff requested a copy of all
correspondence and writings relating to Defendants' Policy with Mr. PITT and
Defendants have purportedly produced all such records. In short:

a. The records produced by Defendants contain no evidence
that Defendants complied with any provisions of Insurance Code
Sections 10113.71 or 10113.72.

b. The records produced by Defendants contain no evidence
that Defendants provided any grace notice as required by the original
terms of the Policy.

c. The records produced by Defendants contain no actual proof of mailing for any correspondence between Defendants and Mr.
PITT. Plaintiff is informed and believes that Defendants have no proof of mailing any notices to Plaintiff or Mr. PITT complying with the mandates of the Policy and/or the California Insurance Code.

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# VII. CLASS ACTION ALLEGATIONS

7 54. Plaintiff is informed and believes that Defendants have not, since at
8 least January 1, 2013, properly complied with the provisions of Insurance Code
9 Sections 10113.71 and/or 10113.72. Since that time, Defendants have failed to
10 provide these protections to policy owners and their beneficiaries.

55. Plaintiff contends that the handling of the Policy prior to Mr. PITT's
death was consistent with Defendants' standardize policies and procedures.
Defendants have systematically failed to provide a class of policy owners the
protections afforded by Sections 10113.71 and 10113.72.

56. As a matter of standard policy or standard operating procedure,
Defendants have not, since at least January 1, 2013, provided or utilized a
contractual 60-day grace period for many insureds.

57. As a matter of standard policy or standard operating procedure,
Defendants have not, since at least January 1, 2013, provided or utilized compliant
notices of pending lapse and or termination consistent with the provisions of
California law and in particular Sections 10113.71 and 10113.72 for many insureds.

58. Since at least January 1, 2013, Defendants have caused injury and
damage to policy owners, beneficiaries, and persons of interest intended to be
protected by Sections 10113.71 and 10113.72.

59. Plaintiff, in her individual capacity as a beneficiary, and in her capacity
as representative of the Estate of MICHAEL A. PITT, and as the class
representative, brings this action on behalf of all members of the proposed classes
and sub-classes (collectively referred to as "Classes"), as follows:

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# Policy Owner Class

# i. No 60-Day Grace Notice

All past, present, and future owners of Defendants' individual life insurance policies in force on or after January 1, 2013 and governed by Section 10113.71(a), whose policies were or will be terminated or lapsed for non-payment of premium but who were not or will not be first afforded nor advised of their right to a contractual 60-day grace period.

# ii. No 30-Day Notice

All past, present, and future owners of Defendants' individual life insurance policies in force on or after January 1, 2013 and governed by Section 10113.71(b)(1)(3), whose policies were or will be terminated or lapsed for non-payment of premium but who were not given or will not be first given a written 30-day notice of pending lapse or termination.

# 16

# iii. No Right to Designate

All past, present, and future owners of Defendants' individual life insurance policies in force on or after January 1, 2013 and governed by Section 10113.72, whose policies were or will be lapsed or terminated for non-payment of premium, but were not or will not be afforded nor advised of their annual right to designate someone to receive notices of lapse or termination.

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# b. <u>Beneficiary Class: Benefits Not Paid</u>

All past, present, and future beneficiaries of Defendants' individual life insurance policies in force on or after January 1, 2013 and governed by Sections 10113.71 and/or 10113.72, where their policies underwent or will undergo lapse, termination, and/or reinstatement without the policy owner first being afforded notice and 2

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- passage of a 60-day grace period, a 30-day notice, and/or an annual notice of a right to designate, and who were or will not be paid policy benefits.
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60. Subject additional information to obtained through further 4 investigation and discovery, the foregoing definitions of the Classes may be 5 expanded or narrowed by amendment or amended complaint or at the time of 6 moving for class certification. Specifically excluded from the proposed Classes are 7 Defendants, their officers, directors, agents, trustees, parents, children, corporations, 8 trusts, representatives, employees, principals, servants, partners, joint venturers, or 9 entities controlled by the Defendants, the Judge assigned to this action, and any 10 member of the Judge's immediate family. 11

61. Defendants' conduct has imposed a common injury on the members of
the Classes. Defendants have acted, and have refused to act, on grounds generally
applicable to the Classes, which makes final injunctive relief with respect to each
claim as a whole appropriate.

16 62. Plaintiff will and does faithfully represent, and is a member of, each of
17 the Classes.

63. *Numerosity.* The members of the Classes, together and separately, are 18 so numerous that their individual joinder is impracticable. Plaintiff is informed and 19 believes, and on that basis alleges, that the proposed Classes contain hundreds and 20 perhaps thousands of members. The precise number of members in each Class is 21 unknown to Plaintiff. The true number of Class members is known or ascertainable 22 by the Defendants, as are their identities. Thus, Class members may likely be 23 notified of the pendency of this action by first class mail, electronic mail, and/or by 24 published notice. 25

Existence and Predominance of Common Questions and Answers of
 Law and Fact. There is a well-defined community of interest in the questions and
 answers of law and fact involved affecting the members of the Classes. The

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questions and answers of law and fact common to the Classes predominate over
questions and answers affecting only individual class members, including, but not
limited to, the following:

Whether Sections 10113.71 and 10113.72, in whole or in a. 4 part, apply to Defendants' life insurance policies. 5 Have Defendants violated the provisions of Sections b. 6 10113.71 and 10113.72? 7 Are Defendants continuing to refuse to provide the c. 8 protections affording by the provisions of Sections 10113.71 and 9 10113.72? 10 d. Whether Defendants' life insurance policies have been 11 ineffectively lapsed or terminated or subsequently been unnecessarily 12 modified through reinstatement. 13 Whether Defendants are required to provide grace e. 14 periods, timely and proper written notices of pending lapse or pending 15 termination, and provide policyholders a right to designate as set forth 16 in Section 10113.72. 17 f. Should the Court invalidate improper lapses, terminations 18 and/or reinstatements of policies that resulted from Defendants' failure 19 to comply with the Insurance Code? 20 Should Defendants be required to make payments to g. 21 beneficiaries of Policies where the insured has died and the policy was 22 lapsed or terminated in violation of Sections 10113.71 or 10113.72? 23 *Typicality.* Plaintiff's claims are typical of the claims of the members 65. 24 of the respective Classes because Plaintiff and each member of the Classes were 25 victims of the same statutory violations. Further, Plaintiff's claims are typical of 26 the claims of her fellow Class members, which all arise from the same operative 27 28 20

facts involving the Defendants' unlawful violations of Sections 10113.71 and
 10113.72.

66. *Adequacy of Representation.* Plaintiff will fairly and adequately protect the interests of the Classes. Plaintiff has retained counsel highly experienced in handling class action litigation, including that which involves consumer protection from unfair insurance business practices, and Plaintiff intends to prosecute this action vigorously. Plaintiff has no interest adverse or antagonistic to that of the Classes.

67. Superiority. A class action is a superior method for the fair and 9 efficient adjudication of this controversy. The damages or other financial detriment 10 suffered by individual Class members are relatively small compared to the burden 11 and expense that would be expended by individual litigation of their claims against 12 It would thus be virtually impossible for Class members, on an Defendants. 13 individual basis, to obtain effective redress for the wrongs done to them. 14 Furthermore, even if Class members could afford such individualized litigation, the 15 court system could not. Individualized litigation would create the danger of 16 inconsistent or contradictory judgments arising from the same set of facts. 17 Individualized litigation would also increase the delay and expense to all parties and 18 the court system from the issues raised by this action. The class action device 19 provides the benefit of adjudication of these issues in a single proceeding, 20 economies of scale, and comprehensive supervision by a single court, and presents 21 no unusual management difficulties under the circumstances. Moreover, many 22 Class members remain unaware of their rights and without this Class action, would 23 remain unaware of their rights and benefits. 24

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(a) The prosecution of separate actions by individual Class members would create a risk of inconsistent or varying adjudication with

In the alternative, the Classes may also be certified because:

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respect to individual Class members that would establish incompatible standards of conduct for the Defendants;

(b) The prosecution of separate actions by individual class members
would create a risk of adjudications with respect to them that would, as a
practical matter, be dispositive of the interests of other Class members not
parties to the adjudications, or would substantially impair or impede their
ability to protect their interests; and/or

(c) Defendants have acted or refused to act on grounds generally applicable to the Classes, thereby making appropriate final declaratory and/or injunctive relief with respect to the members of the Classes as a whole.

11 69. Unless the Classes are certified, Defendants will retain monies 12 received because of their conduct taken against the members of the Classes and the 13 Plaintiff. Unless a Class-wide injunction is issued, Defendants will continue to 14 commit the violations alleged and members of the Classes will continue to be 15 harmed.

70. Plaintiff knows of no difficulty likely to be encountered in the
management of this litigation that would preclude its maintenance as a Class
Action. Because the action is brought as a Class Action, the Court need only apply
a single set of California laws as they relate to Defendants' violation of Sections
10113.71 and 10113.72.

71. Plaintiff has incurred, and will incur, expenses for attorney's fees and
costs in bringing this action. These attorney's fees and costs are necessary for the
prosecution of this action and will result in a benefit to each of the members of the
Classes.

72. Plaintiff is informed and believes, and based thereon alleges, that
certain members of the Classes are "senior citizens" or "disabled persons" as
defined in California Civil Code Section 1761(f) and (g), and therefore are entitled
to treble damages under California Civil Code Section 3345.

Case 3:18-cv-06609 Document 1 Filed 10/30/18 Page 24 of 34 1 VIII. FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION 2 FOR DECLARATORY JUDGMENT OR RELIEF 3 (By Plaintiff, individually and on Behalf of the Estate of Michael A. Pitt and the Classes) (Against All Defendants) 4 5 73. Plaintiff incorporates by reference each and every allegation contained 6 above. 7 74. Plaintiff PITT, in her individual capacity, as well as in her 8 representative capacity for the Estate of MICHAEL A. PITT, brings this action 9 individually and on behalf of all members of the Classes. 10 **Basis for Relief** 11 A. 75. On January 1, 2013, the California Insurance Code was amended by 12 10113.71 and 10113.72. The provisions of these Statutes were Sections 13 immediately, and thereafter, read into all in-force policies regardless of the date of 14 issuance. 15 76. These statutes and amendments to the California Insurance Code were 16 intended to and do regulate the lapse and termination procedures arising from the 17 nonpayment of premiums which may occur from the date of enactment and 18 thereafter. 19 The amendments were not intended to relieve or waive a 77. 20 policyholder's continuing obligation to pay premiums but operated to keep the 21 policy in force until the policy was properly lapsed or terminated consistent with the 22 statutory provisions which were incorporated into the terms of the policy by law. 23 Each of these statutory requirements were intended to stand alone. 24 78. Forfeiture provisions for nonpayment of premium for life insurance 25 policies are strictly construed against lapse or termination and the law of the state of 26 California disfavors forfeiture of insurance. Forfeitures "are often the means of 27 great oppression and injustice" and "the courts should be liberal in construing the 28  $\overline{23}$ 

transaction in favor of avoiding a forfeiture." (*Ins. Co. v. Norton* (1978) 96 U.S.
 234, 242.) "Forfeiture of a policy will be avoided on any reasonable showing."
 *Klotz v. Old Line Life Ins. Co. of Amer.*, 955 F.Supp. 1183, 1188 (N.D. Cal. 1996).

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# **B.** Declaration of Rights and Obligations

An actual controversy has arisen and now exists between Plaintiff and 79. 5 Defendants concerning their respective rights and duties under the Policy, and as to 6 the rights of the Class of insureds and the beneficiaries Plaintiff represents. 7 Plaintiff contends Sections 10113.71 and 10113.72 apply to all of Defendants' 8 California life insurance policies in force as of or after January 1, 2013, including 9 any policies that were renewed in California on or after January 1, 2013. Plaintiff 10 also contends these Statutes govern the manner and procedure in which life 11 insurance policies can legally be lapsed or terminated as of January 1, 2013, and 12 thereafter. Defendants contend that Sections 10113.71 and 10113.72 do not apply 13 to many categories of their policies, including any policies in existence before 14 January 1, 2013. 15

80. Plaintiff desires a judicial determination of her rights and duties and of
the Class members' rights and duties, and a declaration that Sections 10113.71 and
10113.72 applied as of January 1, 2013, to Defendants' California policies in force
as of or at any time after January 1, 2013.

81. A judicial declaration would advise insureds and their beneficiaries of 20 their rights, and would advise Defendants of its duties to Plaintiff and to Class 21 members concerning policyholders' rights to designate individuals to receive 22 notices of pending lapse and termination and the right to receive notice of, and the 23 ability to properly utilize, the legally required grace period. A judicial declaration 24 is also necessary to determine the validity of any unnecessary reinstatements 25 obtained, to determine whether policies were legally in force at the times of deaths 26 of insureds, and to determine whether beneficiaries were wrongfully denied 27 payment of benefits under their policies. 28

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1	IX. SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION				
1	BREACH OF CONTRACT				
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4	(By Plaintiff, Individually and on Behalf of the Estate of Michael A. Pitt and the Classes) (Against all Defendants)				
5	82. Plaintiff incorporates by reference each and every allegation contained				
6	above.				
7	83. Prior to January 1, 2013, Defendants issued or delivered policies to				
8	Class policy owners or beneficiaries which were in force on January 1, 2013 and				
9	which were or would become governed by the laws of the State of California,				
10	including Sections 10113.71 and10113.72.				
11	84. Defendants breached and continue to breach the express terms of such				
12	policies, as well as the statutory mandates regarding such policies, by, amongst				
13	other things:				
14	(a) Failing to include in such policies and failing to provide a 60-				
15	day grace period for purposes of payment of premiums and lapse and				
16	termination of coverage for nonpayment of premium;				
17	(b) Lapsing and/or Terminating policies before expiration of the 60-				
18	day grace period;				
19	(c) Failing to include in such policies and failing to provide accurate				
20	30-day written notice of pending lapse or termination, consistent with the				
21	provisions of Sections 10113.71 and 10113.72;				
22	(d) Failing to provide proper notice to policyholders on an annual				
23	basis of the policyholders' right to designate individuals to receive notices of				
24	pending lapse or termination;				
25	(e) Failing to provide prompt and timely notice to policyholders of				
26	the application of Sections 10113.71 and 10113.72 and the mandatory				
27	inclusion in policies of the terms and provisions supplied by those Sections;				
28					
	25 CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT				

(f) Lapsing or terminating policies without complying with the terms of the policies which incorporate the provisions of Sections 10113.71 and 10113.72;

(g) Refusing to pay benefits to beneficiaries, despite knowledge and information that Defendants had not strictly complied with the mandatory provisions of Sections 10113.71 and 10113.72;

(h) Improperly requiring reinstatement of policies that had not lapsed or terminated and which were not required or were not subject to reinstatement due to Defendants' violation of Sections 10113.71 and 10113.72; and

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(i) Otherwise failing to fully comply with the provisions of Sections10113.71 and 10113.72 on or after January 1, 2013.

All of the aforementioned conduct, individually and collectively, 85. 13 constitutes material unexcused breaches of the policies. To the extent any 14 contractual obligations, duties, or conditions are imposed on policyholders or on 15 beneficiaries, those obligations, duties, and conditions have been waived and/or 16 Defendants' have been excused due to material breaches. 17 After each material breach, each policy owner was excused from the further 18 tendering of premiums and from any further performance under the terms of the 19 policy, including but not limited to the acceptance of any offer by GALIC of any 20 reinstatement or modification to the policy. 21

86. To the extent any policyholders and/or beneficiaries have failed to
comply with any payment conditions or other conditions for the continuation of
insurance, Defendants are estopped to assert such conditions due to their conduct
and material breaches. Yet, Defendants have done so with respect to Plaintiff and
members of the Classes.

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87. In California, the measure of damage for material breach of a life
 insurance policy is set as the "sum or sums payable in the manner and at the times
 as provided in the policy to person entitled thereto." Cal. Ins. Code § 10111.

4 88. As a legal and proximate result of the conduct described herein, the
5 Classes have suffered direct and foreseeable economic damages, including loss of
6 policy benefits, and allowed interest under the terms of the policy and the law, in a
7 nature and amount to be proven at the time of trial.

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X. <u>THIRD CAUSE OF ACTION</u> BAD FAITH (By Plaintiff Individually)

#### (By Plaintiff, Individually) (Against all Defendants)

11 89. Plaintiff incorporates by reference each and every allegation contained
12 above.

90. At all times herein, Plaintiff was the wife of the insured, the primary
express beneficiary of the Policy, and the individual from whom benefits of the
Policy have been wrongfully withheld. Upon Mr. PITT's death, Plaintiff became
contractually entitled to benefits under the Policy and was to be treated as an
insured under the express and implied terms of the Policy and the laws of the state
of California.

91. At all times mentioned herein, Defendant GALIC and/or TOWER
owed Plaintiff and Mr. PITT an obligation to perform the express and implied
obligations imposed by the Policy, to act in good faith, to deal fairly with Mr. PITT
and Plaintiff, and to not interfere with the insured's and Plaintiff's rights to receive
the benefits of the Policy. The obligations and duties described herein have existed
from the inception of the Policy and continue through the pendency of this action.

92. By its conduct described above, GALIC and/or TOWER have
materially breached the terms and conditions of the Policy and the statutory
mandates of the laws of the state of California by improperly lapsing and
terminating the Policy, thereafter refusing to properly advise Plaintiff of her rights

and of GALIC and/or TOWER's duties and responsibilities, failing to promptly pay 1 the subject claim, and delaying payment of the claim. 2

93. Specifically, Defendants breached the Policy in 2015 and 2016 by 3 failing to advise Mr. PITT of his right to designate under Sections 10113.71 and 4 Thereafter in 2016, Defendants violated Section 10113.71(a) by 10113.72. 5 terminating the policy on February 7<sup>th</sup>, 2016; 30-days into the statutory 60-day 6 grace period. Defendants materially breached the Policy by failing to provide a 7 statutorily required notice of pending lapse as well as the attempted termination. 8 Defendants further materially breached the Policy by failing to advise Mr. PITT of 9 these provisions. Defendants also materially breached the policy by terminating the 10 policy without first providing the required grace notice as required by the express 11 terms of the Policy. 12

94. Defendants also violated the terms of the Policy by failing to comply 13 with the provisions of the Policy that required GALIC to comply with and utilize 14 the laws of the State governing the Policy. From 2014 through Mr. PITT's death 15 and after the denial of the claim, GALIC has failed to comply with that term of the 16 Policy and has specifically ignored its obligations. 17

95. Plaintiff alleges that when Defendants repudiated and unilaterally 18 terminated the Policy, Defendants were aware the Policy was a valid and 19 enforceable contract and required acknowledgment that the Policy was valid and 20 was not subject to termination of coverage, as asserted by Defendants. 21

96. Defendants, at all times relevant herein and to date, breached the 22 covenant of good faith and fair dealing owed to Plaintiff and Mr. PITT by failing to 23 comply with the terms of the Policy, by asserting Policy provisions which did not 24 apply to preclude coverage, by failing to completely investigate their attempts to 25 terminate the Policy, by failing to abide by the Policy and the law regarding written 26 notice of pending lapse and termination and applicable grace periods, by placing 27 Defendants' interests above those of its policyholders, by unreasonably asserting 28

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Policy provisions without considering the actual facts and the law, by 1 misrepresenting Policy terms and conditions, by misrepresenting and applying the 2 law, and by failing to comply with proper industry standards and customs regarding 3 lapse or termination of life insurance policies. 4

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97. Defendants knew or should have known, prior to January 1, 2013, that the provisions Section 10113.71(a) mandate that 60-day grace periods apply to 6 policies issued or delivered prior to January 1, 2013. Despite such knowledge, 7 GALIC refuses, in bad faith and with no good cause, to apply this law to Plaintiff's 8 Policy. 9

98. Defendants knew, or should have known, prior to January 1, 2013, that 10 Section 10113.71: (1) mandated that 60-day grace periods applied to policies in 11 force as of January 1, 2013 regardless of whether the Policy was issued or delivered 12 prior to January 1, 2013; (2) that Sections 10113.71(b)(1) and (b)(3) and 13 10113.72(c) mandated that no lapse or termination is effective unless preceded by 14 timely and proper notices of pending lapse or termination; and (3) that Section 15 10113.71(b) mandates that all policyholders annually receive notice of a right to 16 designate. Defendants know, or should know, that the courts of the state of 17 California are the sole authority for statutory interpretation and that at all times 18 during all pending claims no California court of law has ruled that the Sections 19 10113.71 and 10113.72 did not apply to policies in force as of January 1, 2013 or 20 that these Sections do not apply to policies issued or delivered prior to January 1, 21 2013. Despite such knowledge, GALIC refuses in bad faith and with no good cause 22 to apply this law to Plaintiff's Policy and continues to deny payment of Plaintiff's 23 benefits. 24

99. Despite knowledge of the applicability of these provisions to policies 25 issued before January 1, 2013, and the impropriety of its actions, GALIC made the 26 conscious decision, ratified by its managerial agents, officers, and directors, to 27 unilaterally terminate the Policy for life insurance benefits on these improper 28

grounds, denying Mr. PITT and Plaintiff, Decedent's sole beneficiary, the benefits 1 Mr. PITT bargained for and relied on. GALIC now continues this bad faith denial 2 of benefits without proper cause and in bad faith. 3

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100. GALIC, by and through its officers and directors and other managerial agents, consciously ignored the application of the laws of the state of California 5 regarding such notices and instituted a business practice and course of conduct 6 designed to intentionally violate such provisions. Knowing these provisions were 7 enacted in the state of California to avoid unintended forfeiture of policies, GALIC, 8 by and through its officers, consciously ignored, and continue to consciously 9 ignore, the obligations imposed on GALIC to avoid payment of claims and to 10 continue to maintain the practice of encouraging unintended lapses of policies, as 11 heretofore described. 12

101. Defendants' acts all constitute malice, oppression, and fraud. GALIC 13 and its officers, directors, and managerial agents, have also made repeated 14 intentional misrepresentations and engaged in active concealment, as heretofore 15 discussed, thus constituting deceit and fraud. In performing these acts, GALIC and 16 its officers, directors, and managerial agents participated or ratified active 17 concealment of the rights of insureds with regards to termination of coverage for 18 nonpayment to avoid incurring liabilities and costs associated with compliance with 19 the law. Such conduct was, in fact, malicious, oppressive, and fraudulent, justifying 20 an award of punitive damages against Defendants. 21

102. Plaintiff has suffered and will continue to suffer injuries and damages 22 legally caused by Defendants' past and ongoing failure to uphold the terms of the 23 Plaintiff has also suffered and will continue to suffer consequential Policy. 24 economic injuries in a nature and amount to be proven at the time of the trial. 25 These injuries include emotional distress, concern, anger, and worry concerning the 26 loss of benefits. Plaintiff has also been required to retain legal counsel and has and 27 will continue to incur attorney's fees and expenses in the pursuit of the Policy 28

benefits. Defendant's conduct is the legal cause of the need for these expenditures, 1 for which, along with other actual injuries, damages, and future ongoing injuries 2 and damages, Plaintiff seeks compensation in an amount within the jurisdiction of 3 this Court to be proven at the time of trial. Plaintiff thus seeks full reimbursement 4 of all attorney's fees and expenses incurred to obtain the benefits of the Policy. 5 **FOURTH CAUSE OF ACTION** XI. 6 VIOLATION OF CALIFORNIA BUSINESS 7 & PROFESSIONS CODE §§ 17200, et seq. 8 (By Plaintiff, individually and on Behalf of the Estate of Michael A. Pitt, and the Classes) 9 (Against All Defendants) 10 Plaintiff incorporates by reference each and every allegation contained 103. 11 above. 12 104. Plaintiff brings this claim individually as well as in her representative 13 capacity for the Estate of Michael A. Pitt, and also on behalf of all members of the 14 Classes as necessary. 15 105. California Business and Professions Code Sections 17200, et. seq. 16 ("UCL") prohibit any unlawful, unfair, deceptive, or fraudulent business practice. 17 106. Defendants committed and continue to violate California's UCL, 18 including, but not limited to failing to comply with Sections 10113.71 and 19 10113.72, including by failing to afford insureds, including Plaintiff and Mr. PITT, 20 the requisite 60-day grace period and/or written 30-day notice prior to any lapse or 21 termination, and further, an annual right to designate someone else to also receive 22 notices of pending lapse or termination of coverage. 23 107. The unlawful and unfair business practices described above have 24 proximately caused monetary damages to Plaintiff, the Classes, and to the general 25 public. 26 108. Pursuant to California's UCL, Plaintiff, the general public, and the 27 members of the Classes are entitled to restitution of money or property acquired by 28 31

Defendants by means of such business practices, in amounts yet unknown, but to be
 ascertained at trial.

109. Pursuant to California's UCL, Plaintiff and the members of the Classes
and the general public are entitled to injunctive relief, including public injunctive
relief, against Defendants' ongoing business practices.

6 110. If Defendants are not enjoined from engaging in the unlawful business
7 practices described above, Plaintiff, the Classes, and the general public will be
8 irreparably injured.

9 111. Plaintiff, the general public, and the members of the Classes have no
10 plain, speedy, and adequate remedy at law.

11 112. Defendants, if not enjoined by this Court, will continue to engage in
12 the unlawful business practices described above in violation of the UCL, in
13 derogation of the rights of Plaintiff, the Classes, and the general public.

14 113. Plaintiff's success in this action will result in the enforcement of
15 important rights affecting the public interest by conferring a significant benefit upon
16 the general public.

114. Private enforcement of these rights is necessary as no public agency
has pursued enforcement and the interests Plaintiff seeks to protect are for the
benefit of the general public. Plaintiff is therefore entitled to an award of attorneys'
fees and costs of suit pursuant to, among others, California's UCL, the Common
Fund doctrine, the Public Benefit Doctrine, and California Code of Civil Procedure
Section 1021.5.

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### XII. PRAYER FOR RELIEF

- Plaintiff prays for relief against Defendants, and each of them, as follows:
  - 1. For certification of this action as a Class Action;
  - 2. A declaration of Plaintiff's and the Classes' rights pursuant to the insurance policies issued by Defendants;

	Case	e 3:18-cv-06609 I	Document 1	Filed	10/30/18 Page 34 of 34
1	3.	For an injunction	n to issue ag	gainst I	Defendants, including public injunctive
2		relief;			
3	4.	For the Classes,	economic d	lamage	s according to proof;
4	5.	For Plaintiff indi	ividually, ec	conomi	c and noneconomic damages, punitive
5		and exemplary d	-		
6		-		•	n costs and expenses; and
7	7.	For such other a	nd further re	elief as	this Court deems just and proper.
8		XII	I. <u>DEMAN</u>	ND FO	<u>R JURY TRIAL</u>
9		aintiff hereby req	uests a trial	by jur	У.
10	-	ully submitted:			
11	DATED	: October 30, 20	18		NICHOLAS & TOMASEVIC, LLP
12				By:	/s/ Craig M. Nicholas
13				Dy.	Craig M. Nicholas (SBN 178444) Alex Tomasevic (SBN 245598)
14					Email: <u>cnicholas@nicholaslaw.org</u> Email: <u>atomasevic@nicholaslaw.org</u>
15					Linan. <u>atomasevic @ menorasiaw.org</u>
16 17					WINTERS & ASSOCIATES Jack B. Winters, Jr. (SBN 82998)
18					Georg M. Capielo (SBN 245491) Sarah Ball (SBN 292337)
19					Email: jackbwinters@earthlink.net Email: gcapielo@einsurelaw.com Email: sball@einsurelaw.com
20				Attor	nevs for Plaintiff SUSAN A. PITT.
21				Indivi MICH	dually, as Successor-In-Interest to IAEL A. PITT, Decedent, and on
22				behal	f of the Estate of MICHAEL A. PITT, n Behalf of the Class
23					
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			CLASS AG	33 CTION	COMPLAINT

# **EXHIBIT** A

#### Case 3:18-cv-06609 Document 1-1 Filed 10/30/18 Page 2 of 12

0111	and the second
	LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI 63166 3,422,247 INSURED MICHAEL A PITT
	LEVEL BENEFIT TERM LIFE INSURANCE ANNUALLY RENEWABLE TO AGE 95
	Non-Participating
And a second sec	Face amount payable at death of insured prior to expiration of initial or renewal term. Renewable to age 95 without evidence of insurability. Convertible prior to the Conversion Date shown on the Policy Specifications page. Re-Entry Privilege available, with evidence of insurability. Premiums payable until the end of initial or renewal term, or until prior death of the insured. If the insured dies prior to the expiration of the initial or renewal term, we will pay the face amount to the beneficiary, subject to the provisions of this policy. We must receive proof of the insured's death. Any payment will be subject to all of the provisions and conditions on this and the following pages of this policy.
	RIGHT TO EXAMINE POLICY
	You may return this policy within twenty days after receiving it. It may be delivered or mailed to us or the agent through whom it was purchased, or to any of our agents. The policy will then be deemed void from the start. Any premium paid will be returned.

This policy is a legal contract between the policyowner and General American. PLEASE READ YOUR CONTRACT CAREFULLY. This cover sheet provides only a brief outline of some of the important features of your policy. This cover sheet is not the complete insurance contract and only the actual policy provisions will control. The policy itself sets forth, in detail, the rights and obligations of both you and your insurance company. IT IS, THEREFORE, IMPORTANT THAT YOU READ YOUR POLICY.

Signed for the company at its Home Office, St. Louis, Missouri 63128. (1-800-638-9294)

James D. Gaughan Secretary

obur F enruhan C. Robert Henrikson

tana ana kaona pina tao Ny mandritry dia mampiasa

President

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#### ALPHABETIC GUIDE TO YOUR CONTRACT

S	Section				
6	Assignments				
6	Beneficiary				
6	Change of Owner or Beneficiary				
7	Claims of Creditors				
7	Conformity with Statutes				
7	Contract				
5	Conversion Privilege				
1	Definitions				
2	Grace Period				

7 Incontestability

8 Interest on Proceeds

- Section 7 Misstatement of Age or Sex
- and Corrections
- 6 Owner
- 8 Payment of Policy Benefits

- 2 Payment of Premiums
- 2 Premium Refund at Death 4 Re-Entry Privilege
- 2 Reinstatement
- 3 Renewal Privilege
- 7 Statements in Application 7 Suicide Exclusion

Additional Benefit Riders, Modification and Amendments, if any, and a Copy of the Application are found following the final section.

10003712 (1/2001)

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POLICY SPECIFICATIONS				
INSURED INFORMATION				
Policy Number	3,422,247	Issue Age	9	5
Insured	Michael A Pitt	Sex		Mal
Date of Issue	October 6, 2003	Risk Clas	ssification	Preferre Non'-smoke
BENEFITS-AS SPECIFIED :	N POLICY AND IN ANY	RIDER AT ISSUE	c	
POLICY PLAN Level Benefit Term L: Insurance Annually Renewable to Age 95	fe	FACE AMOUNT \$2,000,000	ANNUAL PREMIUM \$7,290.00	GUARANTEE LEVE PREMIU PERIOD 20 Year
Amendment Rider			.00	0
Fotal Face Amount/Annua	l Premium	\$2,000,000	\$7,290.00	
Fotal Premium Payable a (Includes \$90.00 polic			\$7,290.00	

The due dates of premiums after the first are measured from the Date of Issue and are at the intervals specified above. Premiums reflect non-smoker discounts. These discounts are not guaranteed for any policy on the Insured arising from this policy.

\*Premiums after the first are shown in the Schedule of Renewal Premiums.

POLICY SPECIFICATIONS	3,422,24
IMPORTANT DATES	
Conversion Date	October 6, 201
Expiration Date of Initial Term	October 6, 200
Expiration Date of Guaranteed Level Premium Period	October 6, 202
GUARANTEED INTEREST RATE	
Guaranteed Interest Rate on Proceeds	6.0%

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#### SCHEDULE OF RENEWAL PREMIUMS

LEVEL BENEFIT TERM LIFE	INSURANCE	POLICY
ANNUALLY RENEWABLE TO	AGE 95	NUMBER
		3,422,247

#### INSURING AGE 54

#### ANNUAL PREMIUMS FOR FACE AMOUNT ON POLICY SPECIFICATIONS PAGE

RENEWAL AGES	RENEWABLE TERM PREMIUM	TOTAL ANNUAL PREMIUMS
55	\$7,290.00	\$7,290.00
56	7,290.00	7,290.00
57	7,290.00	7,290.00
58	7,290.00	7,290.00
59	7,290.00	7,290.00
60	7,290.00	7,290.00
61	7,290.00	7,290.00
62	7,290.00	7,290.00
63	7,290.00	7,290.00
64	7,290.00	7,290.00
65	7,290.00	7,290.00
66	7,290.00	7,290.00
67	7,290.00	7,290.00
68	7,290.00	7,290.00
69	7,290.00	7,290.00
70	7,290.00	7,290.00
71	7,290.00	7,290.00
72	7,290.00	7,290.00
73	7,290.00	7,290.00
74	207,530.00	207,530.00
75	231,750.00	231,750.00
76	257,710.00	257,710.00
77	285,210.00	285,210.00
78	313,970.00	313,970.00
79	342,970.00	342,970.00
80	374,770.00	374,770.00
81	410,170.00	410,170.00
82	450,170.00	450,170.00
83	495,250.00	495,250.00
84	544,530.00	544,530.00
85	596,890.00	596,890.00
86	651,290.00	651,290.00
87	707,250.00	707,250.00
88	763,650.00	763,650.00
89	821,250.00	821,250.00

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#### SCHEDULE OF RENEWAL PREMIUMS

LEVEL BEN	EFIT TERM LIFE	INSURANCE	POLICY
ANNUALL	Y RENEWABLE TO	AGE 95	NUMBER
		3	,422,247

#### INSURING AGE 54

#### ANNUAL PREMIUMS FOR FACE AMOUNT ON POLICY SPECIFICATIONS PAGE

RENEWAL AGES	RENEWABLE TERM PREMIUM	TOTAL ANNUAL PREMIUMS
90	\$880,850.00	\$880,850.00
91	943,450.00	943,450.00
92	1,011,090.00	1,011,090.00
93	1,086,610.00	1,086,610.00
94	1,182,690.00	1,182,690.00

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		R.	
	1. DEFINITIONS IN THIS POLICY		
We, Us and Our	General American Life Insurance Company.	Reinstatement	Within three years a
You and Your	The owner of this policy. The owner may be someone other than the insured.		anniversary nearest
	In the application the words "You" and "Your" refer to the proposed insured person(s).		<ol> <li>You submit p standards; and</li> <li>You pay all c</li> </ol>
Insured	The person whose life is insured under this policy as shown on the Policy Specifications page.	· 	annually to the 3. The insured is
Issue Age	The age of the insured as of his or her birthday nearest to the date of issue.		the insured is
Date of Issue	The date of issue is the effective date of the coverage under this policy. The date of issue is shown on the Policy Specifications page. It is also the date from which policy anniversaries, policy years, and premium due dates are measured.		Any application for and of this policy. Subject to the above
Proceeds	The amount payable as a result of the insured's death. This includes:		date we approve reinstatement effect
	<ol> <li>the face amount of the policy, plus</li> <li>any amount payable under an attached rider, plus</li> <li>any premium refund, minus</li> <li>any premium due during the grace period.</li> </ol>	Premium Refund at Death	Any part of a premin will be refunded as any premium waive

#### 2. PREMIUMS AND GRACE PERIOD

Payment of Premiums Premiums Premiums differ the first premium is due as of the date of issue. While the insured is living, premiums after the first must be paid in advance at our Home Office or to an agent of ours upon delivery of a receipt signed by our President or Secretary. You may pay your premiums annually, semiannually, or at other intervals we may establish from time to time. This right is subject to our rates and minimum premium requirement at the date of issue. When the premium for any rider is no longer payable, the total premium will be reduced accordingly. A premium receipt will be furnished upon request if you pay the Home Office.

If this policy is in your possession and you have not paid the first premium, it is not in force. It will be considered that you have the policy for inspection only.

Grace Period Your premium is in default if you do not pay it on or before its due date. We will allow a grace period of 31 days after the premium due date for payment of each premium except the first. A notice will be sent to you, at your last known address, and any assignee of record. During this period no interest will be charged on the premium due, and the policy will remain in force. If the insured dies during the grace period, the amount of any unpaid premium due through the date of death will be deducted from the proceeds of the policy.

If any premium remains unpaid after the grace period, this policy will cease and become void.

10303512 1 (1/2001) Within three years after a default in premium payment, but no later than the policy anniversary nearest the insured's 95th birthday, you may apply for reinstatement if:
 You submit proof satisfactory to us that the insured is insurable by our standards; and

- You pay all overdue premiums with interest at 6% per year compounded annually to the date of reinstatement; and
- The insured is alive on the date we approve the request for reinstatement. If the insured is not alive, such approval is votd and of no effect.

Any application for reinstatement becomes part of the contract of reinstatement and of this policy.

Subject to the above requirements, the effective date of reinstatement will be the date we approve the request for reinstatement. We will advise you of the reinstatement effective date.

Any part of a premium which pays the policy to a date beyond the insured's death will be refunded as part of the policy proceeds. This provision does not apply to any premium waived by a waiver of premium benefit rider.

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#### 3. RENEWAL PRIVILEGE

You may renew this policy without giving us proof that the insured is then insurable by our standards. However, you may not renew this policy beyond the policy anniversary nearest the 95th birthday of the insured. To renew the policy you must pay the proper premium shown on the premium billing notice. The premium must not be paid later than 31 days after the end of each preceding term. Each renewal will be for a term of one year and will begin when the preceding term ends.

If your policy has a waiver of premium rider, and if the insured becomes disabled as defined in such rider, this Renewal Privilege will be applied automatically according to the provisions of such rider.

#### 4. RE-ENTRY PRIVILEGE

At any time after the expiration date of the guaranteed level premium period, you may apply for a new policy of this plan; subject to:

- 1. Proof of insurability acceptable to us; and
- 2. The insured's age not being greater than the maximum issue age for this policy at the time of reentry.

The request for a new policy must be made to us in writing prior to the desired issue date of the new policy. The date of issue of the new policy will be the date of re-entry. The issue age will be the insured's age on the date of re-entry. We will determine the risk classification and approve the amount of insurance based on the evidence of insurability provided. The time periods in the Suicide Exclusions and Incontestability provisions will begin on the date of re-entry. The premiums for the new policy will be based on:

- 1. The premium rates in effect on the issue date of the new policy; and
- 2. The insured's age on the issue date of the new policy.

#### 5. CONVERSION PRIVILEGE

While this policy is inforce, you may exchange this policy in its entirety for a new policy by making a written request prior to the Conversion Date shown on the Policy Specifications page.

The new policy will be a single life policy with cash value offered by us, or an affiliate designated by us, at the date of issue of your new policy. We guarantee that a policy will be made available.

It will be subject to the following provisions:

- 1. The amount converted will not be greater than the face amount of this policy.
- The amount will be subject to the regular company limits on the date of issue of the new policy for the chosen plan of insurance. If the amount to be converted is less than our regular issue limits we may substitute an alternate plan. Regardless of amount, some plan will always be made available.

You do not need to give proof that the insured is then insurable by our standards if the new policy will be issued for the same or lower face amount as this policy and will not have any riders attached. If the face amount of the new policy increases or riders are to be attached to the new policy, then the exchange may be made only if the insured is then insurable. We will use the same underwriting standards as we are then using on applications for new insurance when considering whether the insured is insurable.

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The date of issue of the new policy will be the nearest monthly anniversary of this policy on the date of exchange. You must pay all premiums in accordance with the terms of the new policy. The premium rate for the new policy will be based on the age and sex of the insured and our rates on the date of exchange, and the same risk classification. If available, or the nearest comparable risk classification for this policy.

The time periods in the Suicide Exclusion and Incontestability provisions of the new policy will start with this policy's date of issue. If there is an increase in face amount, the time periods in the Suicide Exclusion and Incontestability provisions will apply only to the increased amount and will be measured from the new policy's date of issue.

If this policy has a Waiver of Premium rider as a part of it and the insured becomes disabled as defined in that rider, the Term Conversion provision of the Waiver of Premium rider will modify the Conversion Privilege section of this policy.

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	6. PERSONS WITH AN INTEREST IN THE POLICY		7. THE CONTRACT	
Owner	The owner is as shown in the application or in any supplemental agreement attached to this policy, unless later changed as provided in this policy. You, as owner, are entitled to all rights provided by this policy, prior to its termination. Ownership may be changed in accordance with the Change of Owner or Beneficiary provision. Any person whose rights of ownership depend upon some future event will not possess any present rights of ownership. If there is more than one owner at a given time, all must exercise the rights of ownership by joint action.	The Cor	premiums. The policy, the which are attached to and of any application for reins and will become part of the any evidence of insurabilit to and made a part of th	cy in consideration of the application and payment of explication for it, any nders or endorsements, copies of made a part of the policy, are the entire contract. A copy tatement will be sent to you for attachment to this policy contract of reinstatement and of this policy. In addition, y required for changes to this policy will also be attached is policy. This policy may be changed by our mutual must be in writing and approved by our President, Vice
Beneficiary	The beneficiary to receive the proceeds in the event of the insured's death is as shown in the application or in any supplemental agreement attached to this policy, unless later changed as provided in the policy. You may change the beneficiary in		conditions, or agreements	ur agents have no authority to alter or modify any terms, of this policy, or to waive any of its provisions.
	accordance with the Change of Owner or Beneficiary provision. Unless otherwise stated, the beneficiary has no rights in this policy before the death of the insured. If there is more than one beneficiary at the death of the insured, each will receive equal payments, unless otherwise provided. Unless you provide otherwise, if a beneficiary dies prior to the insured's death, that beneficiary's share will be paid to the living beneficiaries of that class. The deceased beneficiary's share will be paid in the same proportion as the living beneficiaries' shares. If there are no beneficiaries living when the insured dies, or at the end of any Common Disaster	Conforr with Sta	tutes this policy, the provision w In addition, we reserve the is necessary to cause this federal or state statute, ru for life insurance contracts	cy is in conflict with the laws of the state which govern ill be deemed to be amended to conform with such laws. right to change this policy if we determine that a change s policy to comply with, or give you the benefit of, any le or regulation, including but not limited to requirements s under the Internal Revenue Code, or its regulations or be given the right to reject this change.
	period, the proceeds (commuted if required) will be payable to you, if you are living, or to your estate.	Misstat Age or Correct	Sex and amount payable on the po ons purchased, according to the	insured has been misstated on the application, any licy will be such as the premium paid would have he rate at the date of issue, had the insured's age and
Change of Owner or Beneficiary	During the lifetime of the insured you may change the ownership and beneficiary designations. You must make the change in a form satisfactory to us. If acceptable to us, the change will take effect as of the time you authorized the request, whether or not the insured is living when we receive your request at our			If we make any payment or policy changes in good faith, evidence supplied to us, we will be fully discharged. We any errors in the policy.
	Home Office. The change will be subject to any assignment of this policy or other legal restrictions. It will also be subject to any payment we made or action we took before we received your written notice of the change. We have the right to require the policy for endorsement before we accept the change. If you are also the beneficiary of the policy at the time of the insured's death, you	Stateme Applica	tion be deemed representation Material misstatements wi	e insured or on his or her behalf, or by the applicant, will ins and not warranties, except in the case of fraud. Il not be used to void the policy or deny a claim unless a copy of which is attached to and made a part of the vered.
	may designate some other person to receive the proceeds of the policy within 60 days after the insured's death.	Inconte	in force during the lifetime	licy, except for nonpayment of premium, after it has been of the insured for a period of two years from the date of any reinstatement of this policy, with regard to material
Assignments	We will not be bound by an assignment of the policy or of any interest in it unless: 1. The assignment is made by a written instrument,	, ,	premium, after it has beer	cerning such reinstatement, except for nonpayment of in force during the lifetime of the insured for a period of we approve the reinstatement. This provision will not
	2. You file the original instrument or a certified copy with us at our Home Office,		apply to any rider which co	ontains its own incontestability clause.
	and 3. We send you an acknowledgement.	Suicide Exclusi	on date (or within the maxin policy was delivered, if les	de, while sane or insane, within two years from the issue num period permitted by law of the state in which this ss than two years), the amount payable will be limited to
	We are not responsible for the validity of any transfer or assignment.		the amount of premiums p	aid.
	If a claim is based on an assignment, we may require proof of interest of the claimant. A valid assignment will take precedence over any claim of a revocable beneficiary.	Claims Credito		law, neither the policy nor any payment under it will be ditors or to any legal process.

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#### 8. PAYMENT OF POLICY BENEFITS

Payment	A lump sum payment will be made as provided on the face page. Settlement will be made within two months after receipt of due proof of death.
Interest on Proceeds	We will pay interest on proceeds from the date of the insured's death to the date of payment. Interest will be at an annual rate determined by us, but never less than the Guaranteed Interest Rate on Proceeds shown on the Policy Specifications page or the legal rate of the state which governs this policy, if higher.
Extended	Provisions for settlement of proceeds different from a lump sum payment may only

nt of proceeds different from a lump sum payment may only Provisions be made upon written agreement with us.

#### AMENDMENT OF APPLICATION

Policy Number:	3,422,247	Insured:	MICHAEL	A PITT	
The application	for this policy is amen	ided, as follows:			

REQUEST TO ISSUE ON AN ELITE BASIS IS HEREBY WITHDRAWN

5. ISSUE \$2,000,000 TWENTY YEAR GUARANTEED LEVEL BENEFIT TERM LIFE INSURANCE.

This amendment and the application will be part of this policy.

Dated at (Signature of Proposed Insured - Parent or Guardian of Minor Proposed Insured) \_ year\_ This \_day of \_\_\_ Signature of Additional Adult Insured

\*Signature and address if other than Proposed Insured. If Owner is a Corporation, Partnership, or Trust, an authorized officer, partner, or trustee must sign and state title.

(\*Signature of Applicant/Owner)



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н <b>х</b>	Application for Life Insurance Generál Américan Life Insurance Company St. Louis, Missouri	ORIGINAL
1. Proposed Insured Name (Last, First, Middle)		
(Last, First, Middle)		Gender
Pitt Michae	el A	Female
Social Security # Da	te of Birth (MM/DD/YY) Age (Nearest	Birthday) Birthplace
	54	IL
Home Address (Street, City, State, Zip)	Email Address	Home Phone
	N/A	N/A
Name and Address of Employer	Years Employed	Work Phone
_	20+	
Occupation	Annual Earned Income From Oc	
Money Manager & Partner	s 500Kt	SSM+
2. Beneficiary Provide Full N	ame & Relationship of each to Proposed In Contingent	sured.
Susan Pitt Spouce of Insured	d	
Proposed Insured (Do not designate a Contingent (	Dwner.)	
Other (Provide Full Name, Address, Phone Numbe	rs, Email Address, Date of Birth & Relations	nip of each to Proposed Insured.)
riginal	Contingent	
cial Sccurity or Tax # of Original Owner (Required I	By Law)	
Premium Payor		
Proposed Insured Owner Emp	oloyer 🔲 Other: (Provide Full Name and	Billing Address
7712B 001)	Control Number	38-44-05270

5. Coverage Applied For	Include signe	d and dated illustration.		NALUNDO
Special Issue Date	1	Base Face Amount S	,500 C	00
Plan Level Fr	1110 20	) (elite clas	5)	
Contract Type (UL and VUL)	Option: Le	vel (A) D Increasing (B)		Test (C)
Traditional	Bene	tits and Riders	VU	IL
Waiver of Premium	Waiver of M	onthly Deduction	Waiver of Monthl	v Deduction
Accelerated Benefits (Complete Disclosure.)		pecified Premium (Monthly Premium)	Waiver of Specific	
Decreasing Specified Term II S	Accelerated (Complete 1	Disclosure.)	Guaranteed Surviv Plus S	or Purchase Option
Level Specified Term II \$		Partial Withdrawal	s	on
Premium Additions Rider (Face Amt.)		Survivor Purchase Option	(Complete	App. for each life.)
S Values Plus One Units #	s	on	Accelerated Benet (Complete Disclo	fits
Automatic Purchase Option		plete App. for each life.) al Coverage Term Rider/	Adjustable Benefi	
SYr Guaranteed Survivor Purchase Option	Joint Suppl	emental Coverage Term	Estate Preservatio	n Term Rider
Sonon	Rider S Lifetime Co	verage Rider	S Supplemental Cov	/erage Term Rider/
\$on	Secondary C	-	Joint Supplement	tal Coverage Term
(Complete App. for each life.)		\$	Rider \$ Lifetime Coverage	e Rider
Other\$	Other	\$	Secondary Guaran	
• Other \$	D Other	_\$	Other	S
Other\$			Other	S
			Other	S
			Complete #7 for VUI separate VUL Supple	
6. Premiums and Dividends	<u> </u>	······	1	
lilling		Mode		
Pre-Authorized Check Monthly		Annual	□ Semi-Annual	
Direct Combined Direct (Tra	ditional)	Quarterly	Monthly (List or PA	(Contra)
□ List □ Single Premium (UL	and VUL)			
		Note: Paying your insurance premiums more often than annually (more often than once a year) will cost more than paying them once a year. (Not applicable for UL/VUL pla		ll cost more than
Add to Existing Bill #		Premium Amt. (UL	and VUL) S	· · · · · · · · ·
Dividend Option (if eligible)		Automatic Premium	-	
Pd. Up Addns. (Trad.) Cash			(Traditional)	
Reduce Prem. (Trad.)     Accum. (	Trad.)	Div, Accum.	🖾 Loan	
Inc. Cash Value (UL and VUL)		🗆 Both	Neither	
)67712B /2001)		Casterlikkerk	328-44	- +

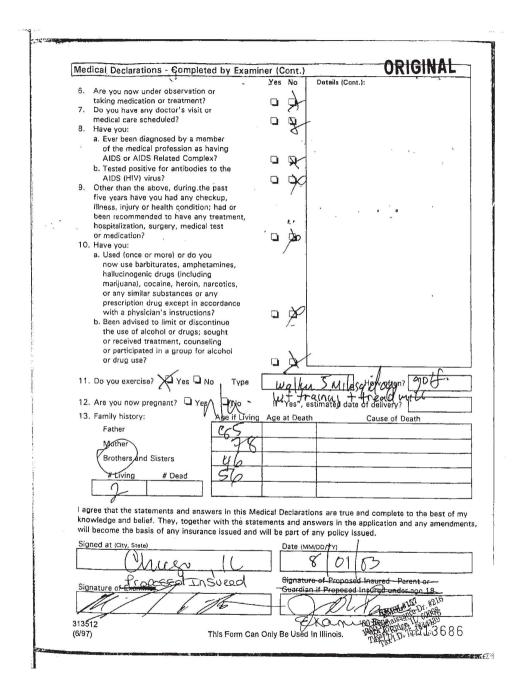
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				ORIGINA	W123		
7. VUL Suitability			4.	0000	6002	<u></u>	
		^			Yes	No	
Have you received a Prospectus/Memo	randum of Under	standing for the po	olicy applied for	? 	0		
Date of Prospectus/Memorandum		-/-//	of any suppleme				
Is a current Customer Information State (If "No", one must be submitted with the		ner in file with the	e selling broker-	dealer?			
Do you understand that: l. The death benefit and cash su	rrender value	vill increase or de	crease denendi	ng on investment expe	rience? 🔲		
<ol><li>There is no guaranteed minin</li></ol>	num death bere	fit or cash surren	der value?				
Do you believe that the policy applied							
I request a copy of the Statement o	Additional Info	mation for the fol	lowing Investme	nt Company(ies):			
8. 🗆 Additional 📈 Altern		e signed and date					1
Provide details including plan, amount	and riders. If Be	neficiary and Own	er other than or	ginal, indicate below.			1
10 yr ta	ran						
/							
9. Other Insurance a. Total Life Insurance now in force or	Proposed Incur	d If "None" ab	ck 🗆				
a. Total care insulance now in force of	Year of	Personal	Business	Accidental Death	Waiver of	Pram	
Company and Policy #	Issue	Ins. Amt.	Ins. Amt.	Amt.		No	
group term		0			1		
If additional space is needed, provide i	formation in "D	etails" below	1	1	Yes		
b. Are you currently applying for life	insurance with a	any other company	?			ART.	
(If "Yes", provide information in c. Will the insurance being applied for			n force annuities	?	п	×	L. L.
d. Will the insurance being applied t policy/contract?	or receive any va	lucs (to pay premi	ums or addition	al payments) from anoth	er 🗖		
If either "c" or "d" is answered "Yes",	circle affected co	overage above or in	idicate in "Detai	ls" below.		70	
Policy/contract number MUST be prov	rided. (Complete	and submit requir	ed replacement	forms.)			
10. General Information							
Have you: (Provide explanation of "Ye a. Ever been declined, postponed, ra			n that applied fo	r?	Yes	No	
b. Any intention to travel or reside or	itside the United	States?				X	
type of aircraft? (If "Yes", comple	te Aviation Supp	lement.)			́ п	- <u>-</u>	
<li>d. Participated in, or do you contemp mountain climbing, or any other si</li>	late participating milar avocation?	in: aeronautics, c	ompetitive racin	ig, underwater or sky di	/ing, □		
e. Ever had a traffic citation for drivi	ng while intoxica	ated or driving und	er the influence	of intoxicants or drugs?		A.	1
f. Within the past three years, had an	y moving vehicle	violation?			-, <u> </u>	15	
Provide Driver's License #				State	LL		
067712B							
4/2001)			Control Nur	nber_ <u>328-</u> 1	+4-05	2701	

11. Details To "Yes" Answers Above/Ad	ditional Information
12. Home Office Endorsements Only	
	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
Declarations	
and complete to the best of my knowledge and b - Knowledge of the agent or medical examiner wi it, or in any supplements or medical reports rece	nd any amendments to it, in any supplements, or made to the medical examiner are true elief and will be the basis of any insurance issued and will be part of any policy issued. Il not be imputed to the Company unless stated in this application or any amendments to ived in the Home Office. No printed provision of this application will be modified or officer at the Home Office. No agent or medical examiner has the authority to make or
<ul> <li>My acceptance of any insurance policy means I</li> <li>If a premium payment is given in exchange for a</li> </ul>	agree to any changes shown in #12, where state law permits Home Office endorsements a Temporary Insurance Agreement (TIA), the Company will be liable only as set forth in
<ul> <li>first full premium is paid and the health and inst.</li> <li>If a policy is issued other than as applied for, in delivered to and accepted by me, the first full pr not changed since the date of this application.</li> <li>The Applicant and agent certify that the Applicant it that any false statement or misrpresentation therein This contract may be subject to taxation as desc CERTIFICATION: Under penalties of perjury (1)</li> <li>The number shown on this form is my corn number to be issued to me); and</li> <li>(2) I am not subject to backup withholding eit am subject to backup withholding as a res am no longer subject to backup withholding as an in backup withholding because of under-reporting</li> </ul>	ribed in the Internal Revenue Code. 1 certify that: rect Taxpayer Identification Number (or, If no number is shown, I am waiting for ther because I have not been notified by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) that I uit of a failure to report all interest or dividends, or the IRS has notified me that I ng. ial #(2) above if you have been notified by the IRS that you are currently subject to interest or dividends on your tax return.** rovision of this deryment other than the certifications required to avoid backup $M = C_{11} C_{12} C_{13} C_{13}$
	Signature, Name and Address of Applicant/ Owner if other than Proposed Insured (If Owner is a Corporation, Partnership or Trust, an authorized officer, partner or trustee must sign and state title.)
I certify that I have truly and accurately recorded o financial need of the Proposed Insured and Owner, application to be a suitable recommendation.	n all parts of this application the information supplied by the Applicant. In light of the the purpose of this sale has been discussed with the Owner, and I believe this
To the best of my knowledge, this is a tep (Complete and submit required replaceme For VUL: Did you deliver the current Prc used printed by General American Life In	ent forms.)
1067712B	Control Number 328-44-0527=

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», · ·	General Američan Life Insurence Company St. Louie, Miseouri	ORIGINAL
ledical Declarations - Completed by		
1. Proposed Insured's Name (Last, First, M	iddle)	Date of Birth (MM/DD/YY)
Michael PIT	r	1940
2. a. Who is the doctor who can give us	he most complete and up to dat	e information concerning your
present health? If "None", chec		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
Name and Address (Street, City, State, Zip		Phone Phone
b. When was this doctor last consulted		
	L UNI	
c. What treatment was given or medic	ation prescribed? If "None", chi	ack Lu '
3. Height Weight Any weight I	oss in the past year? 📋 Yes	1NO
10-1 7.0 If "Yes", r	eason	
<ol> <li>a. Do you use tobacco or nicotine proc</li> </ol>	lucts? Current D Past-date I	ast used Never
b. Type Cigarette:		Chew Dratch/Gum
Amount/Frequency		Criew Patch/Gom
<ul> <li>Approximation of the Approximation of the Approximation</li> </ul>		
<ol><li>Within the last ten years have you had been treated for, or diagnosed as having</li></ol>		question number. Give dates, duration, nd doctors' names and addresses,
a. High blood pressure, chest pain, hea		
attack, or any other disease or disor		
of the heart or circulatory system?		
<ul> <li>Asthma, bronchitis, emphysema, or other disease or disorder of the lunc</li> </ul>		
respiratory system?		
c. Seizures, stroke, headaches, or any		
disease or disorder of the brain or n system?	ervous	
d. Ulcer, colitis, cirrhosis, hepatitis, or	any	
other disease or disorder of the live		3
gallbladder, intestines or stomach? e. Any disease or disorder of the kidne		
bladder, prostate, reproductive orga		
or breasts; sexually transmitted dise		
sugar, albumin, blood or pus in the		
<li>f. Diabetes; disorder of the thyroid or glands, or other endocrine disorders</li>		
g. Arthritis, gout or disorder of the mu		
or bones?		
<ul> <li>h. Cancer, tumor, cyst or disorder of t</li> <li>i. Anemia, or any other disorder of the</li> </ul>		
blood?		
j. Depression, stress, anxiety, or any	other T	
psychological or emotional disorder or symptoms?		
or symptoms:		<u>`</u>
313512 (6/97) This	Form Can Only Be Used In Illinois	s. 013686



LEVEL BENEFIT TERM LIFE INSURANCE ANNUALLY RENEWABLE TO AGE 95

Non-Participating



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	Case 3:18-cv-06609 Document 1-2	Filed 10/30/18 Page 1 of 5
1	NICHOLAS & TOMASEVIC, LLP Craig M. Nicholas (SBN 178444)	
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3	San Diego, California 92101 Tel: (619) 325-0492	
4	Fax: (619) 325-0496 Email: <u>cnicholas@nicholaslaw.org</u>	
5	Email: atomasevic@nicholaslaw.org	
6	WINTERS & ASSOCIATES Jack B. Winters, Jr. (SBN 82998)	
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9	Tel: (619) 234-9000 Fax: (619) 750-0413	
10	Email: jackbwinters@earthlink.net Email: gcapielo@einsurelaw.com	
11	Email: sball@einsurelaw.com	
12	Attorneys for Plaintiff SUSAN A. PITT, Individually, as Successor-In-Interest to	MICHAEL A.
13	PITT, Decedent, on Behalf of the Estate MICHAEL A. PITT, and on Behalf of th	of e Class
14	ινιτέν στα τές	DISTRICT COURT
15 16		DISTRICT COURT
16	NORTHERN DISTR	ICT OF CALIFORNIA
16 17	<b>NORTHERN DISTR</b> SUSAN A. PITT, Individually, as Successor-In-Interest to MICHAEL A.	ICT OF CALIFORNIA Case No.:
16	<b>NORTHERN DISTR</b> SUSAN A. PITT, Individually, as	ICT OF CALIFORNIA Case No.:
16 17 18	NORTHERN DISTR SUSAN A. PITT, Individually, as Successor-In-Interest to MICHAEL A. PITT, Decedent, on Behalf of the Estate of MICHAEL A. PITT, and on Behalf of the Class, Plaintiff,	ICT OF CALIFORNIA Case No.: DECLARATION OF SUSAN A. PITT
16 17 18 19	NORTHERN DISTR SUSAN A. PITT, Individually, as Successor-In-Interest to MICHAEL A. PITT, Decedent, on Behalf of the Estate of MICHAEL A. PITT, and on Behalf of the Class, Plaintiff, vs.	ICT OF CALIFORNIA Case No.: DECLARATION OF SUSAN A. PITT
16 17 18 19 20	NORTHERN DISTR SUSAN A. PITT, Individually, as Successor-In-Interest to MICHAEL A. PITT, Decedent, on Behalf of the Estate of MICHAEL A. PITT, and on Behalf of the Class, Plaintiff, vs. GENERAL AMERICAN LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY, a Missouri	ICT OF CALIFORNIA Case No.: DECLARATION OF SUSAN A. PITT
<ol> <li>16</li> <li>17</li> <li>18</li> <li>19</li> <li>20</li> <li>21</li> </ol>	NORTHERN DISTR SUSAN A. PITT, Individually, as Successor-In-Interest to MICHAEL A. PITT, Decedent, on Behalf of the Estate of MICHAEL A. PITT, and on Behalf of the Class, Plaintiff, vs. GENERAL AMERICAN LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY, a Missouri Corporation; METROPOLITAN TOWER LIFE INSURANCE	ICT OF CALIFORNIA Case No.: DECLARATION OF SUSAN A. PITT
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<ol> <li>16</li> <li>17</li> <li>18</li> <li>19</li> <li>20</li> <li>21</li> <li>22</li> <li>23</li> <li>24</li> <li>25</li> <li>26</li> </ol>	NORTHERN DISTR SUSAN A. PITT, Individually, as Successor-In-Interest to MICHAEL A. PITT, Decedent, on Behalf of the Estate of MICHAEL A. PITT, and on Behalf of the Class, Plaintiff, vs. GENERAL AMERICAN LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY, a Missouri Corporation; METROPOLITAN TOWER LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY, a Delaware Corporation; and METLIFE GROUP, INC., a New York Corporation	ICT OF CALIFORNIA Case No.: DECLARATION OF SUSAN A. PITT

1. I am over the age of 18 years. The facts set forth herein are personally known
to me and, if called upon to testify, I could and would do so competently.
2. I am the wife of Michael A. Pitt, who died on May 23, 2018 in Rancho Santa
Fe, California.
3. No proceeding is now pending in the state of California for administration of
the Estate of Michael A. Pitt.
4. I am one of the successors-in-interest to Michael A. Pitt, as defined in § 377.11
of the Code of Civil Procedure, and succeed to the decedent's interest in the
action.
5. I am authorized by the other successors-in-interest to Michael A. Pitt to act on
their behalf in the above-entitled proceeding.
6. No other person has a superior right to commence the above-entitled
proceeding or to be substituted for Michael A. Pitt in the above-entitled
proceeding.
7. A certified copy of the death certificate for Michael A. Pitt is attached hereto
as Exhibit "1" and incorporated herein by reference.
I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States of
America that the foregoing is true and correct. Executed this $29^{m}$ day of
October, 2018, inRancho Santa California.
SUSAN A. PITT
2

# **EXHIBIT 1**

# COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO

OF

CERTIF

		CER	TIFICATE OF DI	EATH		3201837	009571		
STATE FILE NUME	IER	USE BLACK INK C	TIFICATE OF DI STATE OF CALIFORNA (KILY / NO ERASURES, WHITEOUTS VS-114/FEV 3/06)	S OR ALTOPATIONS		LOCAL REG STR			
1, NAME OF DECEDENT- FIRST (G)	en)			3 LAST (Fa	im ly)				-
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	ves			CAUCASIAN			1		
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DECEDENT'S RESIDENCE (Street		ľ			<u></u>				-1
		i			1 - 1				_/Y_
1, СЛY		2 COUNTY/PROVINCE	23 ZP	CODE 24.	YEARS IN COUN	CA	eign Country		. [
6. INFORMANT'S NAME, RELATION		1	22 WEOGUNATE N	A NO 4000-20 Journe				1	<u>- )</u>
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NDREW 5. NAME OF MOTHER PARENT-FIR	; cT	GEORGE		PITT 37. LAST (BIRTH NA				8. BIRTH STATE	_
S. NAME OF MOTHER PARENT-FIR	-at ,	ELLEN	a A	STERGIOS			1	o, dinin olAl≿	
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County of San Diego -Health & Human Services Agency – 3851 Rosecrans Street. This is to certify that, if bearing the OFFICIAL SEAL OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA, the OFFICIAL SEAL OF SAN DIEGO COUNTY AND THEIR DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES EMBOSSED SEAL, this is a true copy of the ORIGINAL DOCUMENT FILED. This copy not valid unless prepared on engraved border displaying seal and signature of Registrar

ATION OR ERASURE VOIDS THIS CERTIFICATE

Wilma & Water, M.D.

DATE ISSUED:

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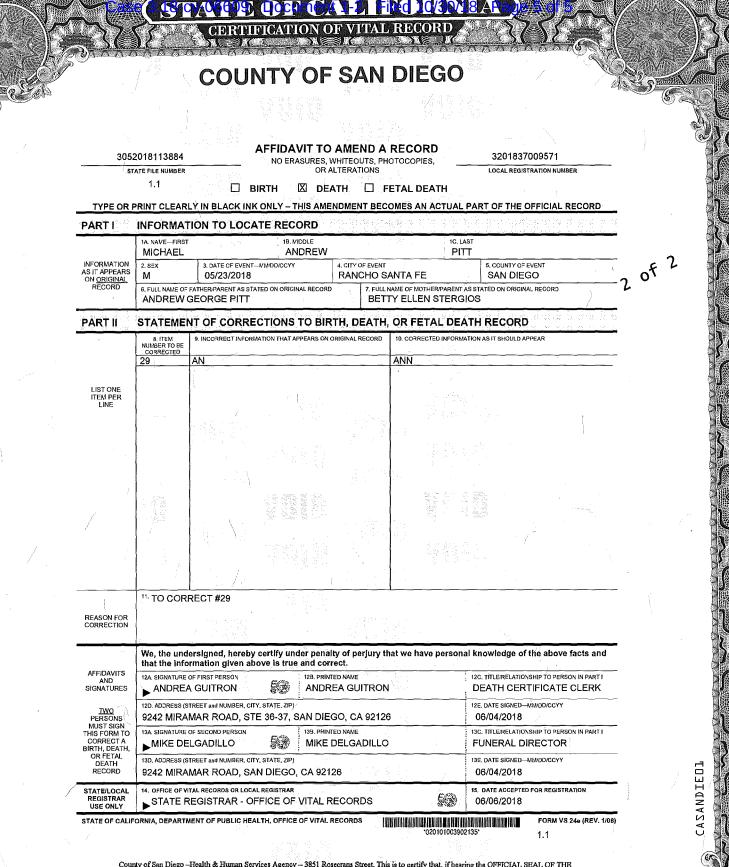
6/6/2018 WILMA J. WOOTEN, M.D., M.P.H. REGISTRAR OF VITAL RECORDS County of San Diego



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County of San Diego –Health & Human Services Agency – 3851 Rosecrans Street. This is to certify that, if bearing the OFFICIAL SEAL OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA, the OFFICIAL SEAL OF SAN DIEGO COUNTY AND THEIR DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES EMBOSSED SEAL, this is a true copy of the ORIGINAL DOCUMENT FILED. This copy not valid unless prepared on engraved border displaying seal and signature of Registrar

ALTERATION OR ERASURE VOIDS THIS CERTIFICATE

Wilma & Water M.D.

DATE ISSUED:

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6/6/2018 WILMA J. WOOTEN, M.D., M.P.H. REGISTRAR OF VITAL RECORDS County of San Diego

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Case 3:18-cv-06609 Document 1, 3 Filed 10/30/18 Page 1 of 2 JS 44 (Rev. 11/15) The JS 44 civil cover sheet and the information contained herein neither replace nor supplement the filing and service of pleadings or other papers as required by law, except as provided by local rules of court. This form, approved by the Judicial Conference of the United States in September 1974, is required for the use of the Clerk of Court for the purpose of initiating the civil docket sheet. *(SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON NEXT PAGE OF THIS FORM.)* I. (a) PLAINTIFFS **DEFENDANTS** SUSAN A. PITT, Individually, as Successor-In-Interest to MICHAEL A. GENERAL AMERICAN LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY, a Missouri Corporation; PITT, Decedent, on Behalf of the Estate of MICHAEL A. PITT, and on METROPOLITAN TOWER LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY, a Delaware Corporation; Behalf of the Class and METLIFE GROUP, INC., a New York Corporation San Diego County, CA (b) County of Residence of First Listed Plaintiff County of Residence of First Listed Defendant (EXCEPT IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES) (IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES ONLY) IN LAND CONDEMNATION CASES, USE THE LOCATION OF THE TRACT OF LAND INVOLVED. NOTE Attorneys (If Known) (c) Attorneys (Firm Name, Address, and Telephone Number) Craig M. Nicholas, Esq. | Alex Tomasevic, Esq. 225 Broadway, Floor 19, San Diego, CA 92101 II. BASIS OF JURISDICTION (Place an "X" in One Box Only) III. CITIZENSHIP OF PRINCIPAL PARTIES (Place an "X" in One Box for Plaintiff and One Box for Defendant) (For Diversity Cases Only) PTF DEF □ 1 U.S. Government □ 3 Federal Ouestion PTF DEF Plaintiff (U.S. Government Not a Party) Citizen of This State **X** 1 □ 1 Incorporated *or* Principal Place **D** 4 □ 4 of Business In This State ¥ 4 Diversity □ 2 U.S. Government Citizen of Another State □ 2 **D** 2 Incorporated and Principal Place **D** 5 **≯** 5 Defendant (Indicate Citizenship of Parties in Item III) of Business In Another State Citizen or Subject of a **3** 3 Foreign Nation **D** 6 Foreign Country NATURE OF SUIT (Place an "X" in One Box Only, FORFEITURE/PENALTY CONTRACT BANKRUPTCY OTHER STATUTES TORTS ★ 110 Insurance PERSONAL INJURY PERSONAL INJURY 625 Drug Related Seizure 422 Appeal 28 USC 158 375 False Claims Act □ 120 Marine □ 310 Airplane □ 365 Personal Injury of Property 21 USC 881 □ 423 Withdrawal 376 Qui Tam (31 USC) □ 130 Miller Act □ 315 Airplane Product Product Liability □ 690 Other 28 USC 157 3729(a)) 140 Negotiable Instrument Liability 367 Health Care/ 400 State Reapportionment PROPERTY RIGHTS 410 Antitrust □ 150 Recovery of Overpayment □ 320 Assault, Libel & Pharmaceutical & Enforcement of Judgmen Slander Personal Injury 820 Copyrights 430 Banks and Banking □ 151 Medicare Act 330 Federal Employers' Product Liability 830 Patent □ 450 Commerce 152 Recovery of Defaulted Liability 368 Asbestos Personal 840 Trademark □ 460 Deportation □ 340 Marine Injury Product 470 Racketeer Influenced and Student Loans (Excludes Veterans) □ 345 Marine Product Liability SOCIAL SECURITY Corrupt Organizations LABOR □ 153 Recovery of Overpayment PERSONAL PROPERTY 480 Consumer Credit Liability 710 Fair Labor Standards ■ 861 HIA (1395ff) □ 350 Motor Vehicle □ 370 Other Fraud □ 490 Cable/Sat TV of Veteran's Benefits Act 862 Black Lung (923) □ 863 DIWC/DIWW (405(g)) 160 Stockholders' Suits □ 355 Motor Vehicle □ 371 Truth in Lending 720 Labor/Management 850 Securities/Commodities/ □ 190 Other Contract Product Liability □ 380 Other Personal Relations 864 SSID Title XVI Exchange 195 Contract Product Liability □ 360 Other Personal Property Damage 740 Railway Labor Act □ 865 RSI (405(g)) 890 Other Statutory Actions □ 196 Franchise Injury 385 Property Damage 751 Family and Medical □ 891 Agricultural Acts 362 Personal Injury -Product Liability Leave Act 893 Environmental Matters Medical Malpractice 790 Other Labor Litigation 895 Freedom of Information PRISONER PETITIONS FEDERAL TAX SUITS REAL PROPERTY CIVIL RIGHTS 791 Employee Retirement Act 440 Other Civil Rights 210 Land Condemnation Habeas Corpus: Income Security Act 870 Taxes (U.S. Plaintiff 896 Arbitration □ 220 Foreclosure □ 441 Voting 463 Alien Detainee □ 899 Administrative Procedure or Defendant) □ 442 Employment 871 IRS Third Party 230 Rent Lease & Ejectment 510 Motions to Vacate Act/Review or Appeal of 240 Torts to Land □ 443 Housing/ Sentence 26 USC 7609 Agency Decision 245 Tort Product Liability Accommodations □ 530 General 950 Constitutionality of 290 All Other Real Property □ 445 Amer. w/Disabilities 535 Death Penalty IMMIGRATION State Statutes 462 Naturalization Application Employment Other: □ 446 Amer. w/Disabilities □ 540 Mandamus & Other 465 Other Immigration □ 550 Civil Rights Other Actions ☐ 448 Education 555 Prison Condition 560 Civil Detainee Conditions of Confinement V. ORIGIN (Place an "X" in One Box Only)  $\mathbf{X}_1$  Original  $\square$  2 Removed from **D** 3 Remanded from □ 4 Reinstated or □ 5 Transferred from □ 6 Multidistrict

Proceeding	State Co	ourt A	ppellate Court	Reopened	Another District (specify)	Litigation				
VI. CAUSE OF ACTION		Cite the U.S. Civil Statute under which you are filing ( <i>Do not cite jurisdictional statutes unless diversity</i> ): 28 U.S.C. 1332 - Diversity								
VI. CAUSE OF A	ACTION	Brief description of cause: Breach of Contract; Bad Faith; and Violation of California Unfair Business Practices Act.								
VII. REQUESTE	ED IN	CHECK IF THIS IS	S A CLASS ACTION	DEMAND \$	(	CHECK YES only if do		complaint:		
COMPLAIN	NT:	UNDER RULE 23,	, F.R.Cv.P.	Unknown	J	JURY DEMAND:	🗙 Yes	🗖 No		
VIII. RELATED IF ANY	CASE(S)	(See instructions):	IUDGE		DOCKI	ET NUMBER				
DATE 10/30/2018			SIGNATURE OF ATTO							
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FOR OFFICE USE ONL	Y									
RECEIPT #	AMOUN	Τ	APPLYING IFP		JUDGE	MAG. JUDGE				

### **INSTRUCTIONS FOR ATTORNEYS COMPLETING CIVIL COVER SHEET FORM JS 44**

Authority For Civil Cover Sheet

The JS 44 civil cover sheet and the information contained herein neither replaces nor supplements the filings and service of pleading or other papers as required by law, except as provided by local rules of court. This form, approved by the Judicial Conference of the United States in September 1974, is required for the use of the Clerk of Court for the purpose of initiating the civil docket sheet. Consequently, a civil cover sheet is submitted to the Clerk of Court for each civil complaint filed. The attorney filing a case should complete the form as follows:

- **I.(a) Plaintiffs-Defendants.** Enter names (last, first, middle initial) of plaintiff and defendant. If the plaintiff or defendant is a government agency, use only the full name or standard abbreviations. If the plaintiff or defendant is an official within a government agency, identify first the agency and then the official, giving both name and title.
- (b) County of Residence. For each civil case filed, except U.S. plaintiff cases, enter the name of the county where the first listed plaintiff resides at the time of filing. In U.S. plaintiff cases, enter the name of the county in which the first listed defendant resides at the time of filing. (NOTE: In land condemnation cases, the county of residence of the "defendant" is the location of the tract of land involved.)
- (c) Attorneys. Enter the firm name, address, telephone number, and attorney of record. If there are several attorneys, list them on an attachment, noting in this section "(see attachment)".

II. Jurisdiction. The basis of jurisdiction is set forth under Rule 8(a), F.R.Cv.P., which requires that jurisdictions be shown in pleadings. Place an "X" in one of the boxes. If there is more than one basis of jurisdiction, precedence is given in the order shown below. United States plaintiff. (1) Jurisdiction based on 28 U.S.C. 1345 and 1348. Suits by agencies and officers of the United States are included here. United States defendant. (2) When the plaintiff is suing the United States, its officers or agencies, place an "X" in this box.

Federal question. (3) This refers to suits under 28 U.S.C. 1331, where jurisdiction arises under the Constitution of the United States, an amendment to the Constitution, an act of Congress or a treaty of the United States. In cases where the U.S. is a party, the U.S. plaintiff or defendant code takes precedence, and box 1 or 2 should be marked.

Diversity of citizenship. (4) This refers to suits under 28 U.S.C. 1332, where parties are citizens of different states. When Box 4 is checked, the citizenship of the different parties must be checked. (See Section III below; **NOTE: federal question actions take precedence over diversity cases.**)

- **III. Residence (citizenship) of Principal Parties.** This section of the JS 44 is to be completed if diversity of citizenship was indicated above. Mark this section for each principal party.
- **IV.** Nature of Suit. Place an "X" in the appropriate box. If the nature of suit cannot be determined, be sure the cause of action, in Section VI below, is sufficient to enable the deputy clerk or the statistical clerk(s) in the Administrative Office to determine the nature of suit. If the cause fits more than one nature of suit, select the most definitive.
- V. Origin. Place an "X" in one of the six boxes.

Original Proceedings. (1) Cases which originate in the United States district courts.

Removed from State Court. (2) Proceedings initiated in state courts may be removed to the district courts under Title 28 U.S.C., Section 1441. When the petition for removal is granted, check this box.

Remanded from Appellate Court. (3) Check this box for cases remanded to the district court for further action. Use the date of remand as the filing date.

Reinstated or Reopened. (4) Check this box for cases reinstated or reopened in the district court. Use the reopening date as the filing date. Transferred from Another District. (5) For cases transferred under Title 28 U.S.C. Section 1404(a). Do not use this for within district transfers or multidistrict litigation transfers.

Multidistrict Litigation. (6) Check this box when a multidistrict case is transferred into the district under authority of Title 28 U.S.C. Section 1407. When this box is checked, do not check (5) above.

- VI. Cause of Action. Report the civil statute directly related to the cause of action and give a brief description of the cause. Do not cite jurisdictional statutes unless diversity. Example: U.S. Civil Statute: 47 USC 553 Brief Description: Unauthorized reception of cable service
- VII. Requested in Complaint. Class Action. Place an "X" in this box if you are filing a class action under Rule 23, F.R.Cv.P. Demand. In this space enter the actual dollar amount being demanded or indicate other demand, such as a preliminary injunction. Jury Demand. Check the appropriate box to indicate whether or not a jury is being demanded.
- VIII. Related Cases. This section of the JS 44 is used to reference related pending cases, if any. If there are related pending cases, insert the docket numbers and the corresponding judge names for such cases.

Date and Attorney Signature. Date and sign the civil cover sheet.

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