BENJAMIN C. MIZER Principal Deputy Assistant Attorney General, Civil Division JONATHAN F. OLIN Deputy Assistant Attorney General MICHAEL S. BLUME Director, Consumer Protection Branch ANDREW E. CLARK **Assistant Director** JACQUELINE BLAESI-FREED jacqueline.m.blaesi-freed@usdoj.gov United States Department of Justice

Consumer PNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Plaintiff,

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19 KFJ MARKETING , LLC , a California 20

v.

Limited Liability Company,

21 SUNLIGHT SOLAR LEADS , LLC, a

22 California Limited Liability Company,

GO GREEN EDUCATION, a California

24 Nonprofit Public Benefit Corporation, 25

FRANCISCO J. SALVAT, individually and as an officer of KFJ Marketing,

LLC; Sunlight Solar Leads, LLC; and Go Green Education, also doing business as 28

Go Green Leads, myleadgroup, and Free

No. 2:16-cv-1643 MWF(AJWx)

AMENDED COMPLAINT FOR CIVIL PENALTIES, PERMANENT INJUNCTION, AND OTHER RELIEF

DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL

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solar panels and installation services. KFJ transacted business in this district. The members of KFJ cancelled its Articles of Organization on March 7, 2016.

- 5. Defendant Sunlight Solar Leads, LLC ("Sunlight") is a California limited liability company with its principal place of business at 31355 Oak Crest Drive, Suite 150, Westlake Village, CA, 91361. Sunlight is a telemarketer that initiates outbound telephone calls to induce consumers to purchase solar panels and installation services. Sunlight transacts or has transacted business in this district.
- 6. Defendant Go Green Education ("Go Green") is a California nonprofit public benefit corporation with its principal place of business at 31355 Oak Crest Drive, Suite 150, Westlake Village, CA, 91361. Go Green is a telemarketer that initiates outbound telephone calls to induce consumers to purchase solar panels and installation services. Go Green transacts or has transacted business in this district.

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COMMON ENTERPRISE

11. Defendants KFJ, Sunlight, and Go Green ("Corporate Defendants") have operated as a common enterprise while engaging in the unlawful acts and practices alleged below. Defendants have conducted business through an interrelated network of companies that have common ownership, managers, employees, business functions, and office locations, and that have commingled funds. Because these Corporate Defendants have operated as a common enterprise, each of them is jointly and severally liable for the acts and practices alleged below. Defendant Francisco J. Salvat has formulated, directed, controlled, had the authority to control or participated in the acts and practices of the Corporate Defendants that constitute the common enterprise.

THE TELEMARKETING SALES RULE AND THE NATIONAL DO NOT CALL REGISTRY

- 12. Congress directed the Commission to prescribe rules prohibiting abusive and deceptive telemarketing acts or practices pursuant to the Telemarketing Act, 15 U.S.C. §§ 6101-6108. The Commission adopted the original TSR in 1995, extensively amended it in 2003, and amended certain provisions thereafter. 16 C.F.R. Part 310.
 - 13. Among other things, the 2003 amendments to the TSR esvelovishe., i

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16. Under the TSR, a "telemarketer" means any person who, in connection with telemarketing, initiates or receives telephone calls to or from a customer or donor. 16 C.F.R. § 310.2(cc). A "seller" means any person who, in connection with a telemarketing transaction, provides, offers to provide, or arranges for others to provide goods or services to the customer in exchange for consideration. *Id.* § 301.2(aa).

17. Under the TSR, "telemarketing" is a plan, program, or campaign that uses one or more telephones and involves more than one interstate telephone call, and is

consumer is authorizing to make robocalls; and (4) the consumer's telephone number and signature. 16 U.S.C. $\S 310.4(b)(1)(v)(A)(i)-(iv)$.

- 21. The TSR prohibits sellers and telemarketers from initiating an outbound telephone call to any person when that person previously has stated that he or she does not wish to receive an outbound telephone call made by or on behalf of the seller whose goods or services are being offered. 16 C.F.R. § 310.4(b)(1)(iii)(A).
 - 22. The TSR requires that sellers and telemarketers transmit or cause to be

Defendants received complaints from consumers who assert they did not 35. 1 2 consent to Defendants' robocalls. 3 VIOLATIONS OF THE TELEMARKETING SALES RULE **Count I** 4 5 Calls to Persons Registered on the National Do Not Call Registry In numerous instances, in connection with telemarketing, Defendants have 6 36. initiated or caused others to initiate an outbound telephone call to a person's telephone 7 8 number on the National Do Not Call Registry in violation of the TSR. 16 C.F.R. § 310.4(b)(1)(iii)(B). 9 10 **Count II** 11 12 37. 13 14 15

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Failure to Honor Entity-Specific Do Not Call Requests

In numerous instances, in connection with telemarketing, Defendants have initiated, or caused others to initiate, an outbound telephone call to a person who has previously stated that he or she does not wish to receive such a call made by or on behalf of the seller whose goods or services are being offered in violation of the TSR. 16 C.F.R. § 310.4(b)(1)(iii)(A).

Count III

Failure to Transmit Caller Identification

38. In numerous instances, in connection with telemarketing, Defendants have failed to transmit, or cause to be transmitted, the telephone number and name of the telemarketer or of the seller to any caller identification service in use by a recipient of a telemarketing call, in violation of the TSR. 16 C.F.R. § 310.4(a)(8).

Count IV

Initiating Unlawful Prerecorded Messages

In numerous instances, in connection with telemarketing, Defendants have 39. made, or caused others to make, outbound telephone calls that delivered prerecorded messages to induce the purchase of good or services when the persons to whom these telephone calls were made had not signed an express agreement, in writing, authorizing

the seller to place prerecorded calls to such person, in violation of the TSR. 16 C.F.R. § 310.4(b)(1)(v)(A). **Count V** Relief Defendants: Julio Salvat and Francisco Salvat 40.

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PRAYER FOR RELIEF WHEREFORE, Plaintiff requests that this Court, as authorized by Sections 5(a), 5(m)(1)(A), and 13(b) of the FTC Act, 15 U.S.C. §§ 45(a), 45(m)(1)(A), 53(b), and pursuant to its own equitable powers: Enter judgment against Defendants and in favor of Plaintiff for each A. violation alleged in this complaint; Award Plaintiff monetary civil penalties from each Defendant for every В. violation of the TSR; Enter a permanent injunction to prevent future violations of the TSR and C. the FTC Act by Defendants; and Award Plaintiff the costs of bringing this action, as well as such other and D. additional relief as the Court may determine to be just and proper. E. Enter an order requiring Relief Defendants Julio Salvat and Francisco Salvat to disgorge all funds and assets distributed to them during Defendant KFJ Marketing LLC's dissolution. **DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL** Plaintiff demands a trial by jury on all issues so triable. Dated: May 13, 2016 Respectfully submitted, Federal Trade Commission FOR THE UNITED STATES OF **AMERICA** OF COUNSEL: BENJAMIN C. MIZER THOMAS N. DAHDOUH Principal Deputy Assistant Attorney **Regional Director** General Western Region Civil Division Sarah E. Schroeder, CA #221528 JONATHAN F. OLIN Alexander E. Reicher, CA #286667 Deputy Assistant Attorney General Sylvia Kundig, CA #172488 Attorneys Federal Trade Commission

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MICHAEL S. BLUME Director Consumer Protection Branch

ANDREW E. CLARK Assistant Director

/s/ Jacqueline Blaesi-Freed JACQUELINE BLAESI-FREED Trial Attorney Consumer Protection Branch U.S. Department of Justice P.O. Box 386 Washington, DC 20044 (202) 353-79 481.8ine Blaesi